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Entries for the Christmas (Dec. 917) Certificate and lower form examinations of the London College of Preceptors close on June 30.

Examination centre will be Jaffna

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JAFFNA, THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1917.

THE CEYLON WAR LOAN AND PREMIUM BONDS.

The Government of Ceylon has at last decided to float a local War Loan for £1,000,000. This loan is over and above the contribution of £1,000,000 provided for by the "War Contribution Ordinance No. 24 of 1915" We published in our last issue a summary of the draft Ordinance to authorize the raising of the War Loan. The loan is limited to one million pounds or Rs. 15,000,000. The interest is fixed at 3 per cent, and the bonds will be for fifty rupees each. In addition to the said interest, but also by way of interest, a sum of Rs. 1,230,000 will be awarded in the form Cf 2,980 premia or prizes ranging in value from Rs. 15,000 each to Rs. 200 each. Of the 300,000 bonds issued, one-tenth or 30,000 bonds are to be redeemed yearly and out of these 298. issued, one-tenth or 30,000 bonds are to be redeemed yearly and out of these 298 will secure prizes. The prizes are determined by drawing of tickets. There will be provided two revolving boxes marked A and B. The box A will contain the numbers of all the bonds issued. The box B will contain 298 discs inscribed with the value of the different prizes. One member of the Committee before whom the drawing is to take place shall draw from the box A a disc while another member shall simultaneously draw a disc from the box B. When 298 discs from each of the boxes are drawn and the prizes determined, boxes are drawn and the prizes determined, the Committee shall draw out haphazard the Committee shall draw out haphazard 29,702 discs from the box A to complete the number 30,000. It will be seen from this that the bonds are to be redeemed to the extent of 30,000 a year and out of these 298 will secure prizes. The chance of winning a prize must therefore increase as each year passes, for though 30,000 bonds are redeemed every year and eliminated from the box A, the prizes in the box B remain at 298 every year. The present scheme has many advantages over the ordinary drawings conducted by Turf Clubs. No one here loses his money, every one gets back his money with an interest, and in addition has a chance of winning a prize of which the highest will be for Rs. 15,000. In order to meet the annual recurring charge consequent on the redemption of 30,000 bonds every year, for 10 years the revenue of the Isade in the second in the redemption of the research in the second in the redemption of the research in the second in the second in the research in the second in the second in the research in the second in year, for 10 years the revenue of the Is-land is to be raised by an increase in the tamp duty and the rate of import duties n certain articles.

The draft ordinance will come up for consideration at the meeting of the regislative Council to be held on the 6th proximo. It is to be hoped that the unsial members who are well acquainted the feelings and the financial reject the people will try to make the more attractive to the publicity contemporaries in the metrote brought out some sections orthy of adoption. The rate lay be raised by an addition. The Indian war loan is per cent. The Ceylon loan,

gives only 4 per cent, including the sum set apart for prizes. It is reasonable therefore, to offer the Ceylon public the same terms as in India. It is well known that in Jafina, and in most parts of Ceylon, the prevailing rate of interest, especially for available preventing the prevail of lon, the prevailing rate of interest, especially for small investments, is between 12 and 24 per cent. But we hope our countrymen will not regard investments in the War Loan in a mere mercenary spirit. Our countrymen have done their part well, in subscribing to the Prince of Wales War Fund and the other funds which have appealed to their patriotism. They should now regard the War Loan also in almost the same light and make up their minds to forego a good portion of up that minds to forego a good portion of the interest they might otherwise earn in private investments.

"He gives twice who gives quickly" said the Maharaja of Bikaneer in his communication to the "London Times," said the Maharaja of Bikaneer in his communication to the "London Times," referring to the political privileges that will be given to India. We too, in Ceylon ardently long for similar privileges from the British Government. The more we make sacrifices in the discharge of our duty to our King and the Empire, the greater and stronger will be the proof of our fitness for political privileges. By giving quickly our gifts become doubly effective. Belated, half-hearted gifts lose their effectiveness. The war has already dragged on long enough. We cannot contemplate without a shudder and a deep sigh, the vast load of misery it must have entailed on millions of our brothers and sisters in Europe. We also regard with the highest admiration the high and pure motive of the allied powers and the matchless heroism of their armies who are sacrificing their all at the altar of human liberty. Our countrymen cannot but see clearly how the most vital interests of our country are bound up with the speedy success of the Allies in this momentons conflict. Let us therefore wake up to the seriousness of in this momentous conflict. Let us therefore wake up to the seriousness of the situation and make our contributions to this sacred cause, in men or in money, as quickly as possible, so as to make them more effective. What is even more immore effective. What is even more important—let us back up our contributions with our united will power, strong, concentrated and holy in its aim, firm in our conviction that by so directing our united will-power we render our service more powerful and effective in its opera-tion against our enemies. render our service

Another point in the loan scheme which deserves to be modified is the provision limiting the bonds to fifty rupees. The point has been already noticed in the press and we have no hesitation in saying that it may be modified so as to reduce the minimum to ten rupees. The change will be a great boon to a very large number of our countrymen with limited means, as it will give them an opportunity to subscribe to the loan.

It may not be inappropriate to mention here how loyally and patriotically our fellow-subjects in India have played their part. From a statement made at a meetpart. From a statement made at a meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council, by the Hon. Sir William Meyer, it would appear that India has placed on active service in the different theatres of the War about 300,000 trained soldiers and also bears the normal cost of their maintenance. The total net contribution made by India towards the cost of these Expeditionary Forces amounts to about £11½ millions. India has also invested in British War Securities about £46½ millions. And now by a resolution of the millions. And now by a resolution of the Supreme Council, India has made the striking contribution of 100 million pounds to the Imperial Government. The raisto the Imperial Government. The raising of the War Loan in India in this connection has met with phenomenal

THE RELIGION OF THE ANCIENT TAMILS.

(By S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar.) PART FOURTH. THE DRAVIDYAN VIEW. CHAPTER XXXIX. THEIR HISTORICAL THEORIES.

THEIR HISTORICAL THEORIES.

History has no doubt a great educative value. Although the Tamils have no history of their own, their ancient literature abounds with such historical facts as will be highly useful to them for purposes of their education. Modern Tamils would not pay any attention to this aspect of their history, but they work hard in building fanciful theories on flimsy grounds, evidently with the objects of satisfying their curiosity. They exhaust their energy in fixing the times of archaic historical facts, and they draw largely from their imagination as regards the succession of events of ancient days. I

cannot say how far these empty theories and fancitul imaginations will be useful to us except to be known as being pos-sessed of a scientific turn of mind.

sessed of a scientific turn of mind.

It is rather amusing to find that in tracing the history of our religion the modernized Tamils of our day proceed entirely on Western material lines, and on the gratuitous presumption that man was originally a savage race. They do not give us any reason for maintaining such a position, nor is it possible to gave any such reason. Ancient nations all over the world had their own legends and a study of these legends would clearly shew that the people of the different periods to which those legends belonged were not savage races. The legends may differ from the literature of the present day in various respects—and this is evidently due to the difference in the types of civilization belonging to the different periods. No endeavour is made at present the No endeavour is made at present to glean the truths that underlie these legends, but they are branded as myths and are rejected wholesale as totally unand are rejected wholesale as totally un-worthy of our consideration. It cannot be denied that the conditions prevailing in a country vary from time to time—and we could clearly see this in the different periods of the English history itself. This difference will be immensely greater when we compare the conditions of difperiods of the English history itself. This difference will be immensely greater when we compare the conditions of different aeons—and it is this difference that is known as the Yuga Darma of the cosmic law of the Hindus. But our modern materialists, with whom the English knowing Tamils of our day try to identify themselves, would not give any consideration to the prevailing conditions or to the type of civilization that belonged to any period, but they very conveniently bury them all under the word myth. The so called myths disclose a state of things largely charged with spiritual ideas; and such a state of things being not in a line with the material condition of our own time, they are rejected as mere fabrications utterly unworthy of our credit! Can we call this a true spirit of Historical research? Conditions of every land change from time to time, and if every thing that undergoes a chance is to be rejected as myth, can we expect to be profited at all by history? History, as it is understood at present, is only a record of events that transpired on material lines, and that too of a period to which our tiny knowledge can extend. Even here, the inferences of a period to which our tiny knowledge can extend. Even here, the inferences that we draw are mere conjectures sug-gested by our material fancy; and yet we hold out these conjectures as unassailable truths in the name of Science and in the name of History! Such is our material conceit!

Progress and decline have their own turns all over the world, but our modern scientists who explore ancient history, build theories on the presumption that the world is just seeing the light of civi-lization after it was created. If there was any civilization prior to the dark age was any civilization prior to the dark age that is just passing away, surely the influence of that civilization would have left its impression on the dark age itself; but our scientists are not prepared to concede any thing like that. They consider it a sacrilege to concede any civilization except our own, and they seem to think that they are the only civilized people, and that they alone have a correct idea of the past and the present—and perhaps of the future too—while our forefathers were all jungle tribes! Our Scientists have great confidence not only in their civilization, but in their infallibility itself! Whatever they put forward in the name zation, but in their infallibility itself! Whatever they put forward in the name of Science and in the name of History has to be accepted as truth, and as nothing but truth! If any one doubts the correctness of any of their theory, he forfeits his claim to be called a civilized person! Such is the method of propagandism of their material creed! But they will themselves admit that many an inference drawn in the name of science and history has often been found subsequently to be quite erroneous. Still their and history has often been found subsequently to be quite erroneous. Still their conviction in the correctness of their inferences is so strong that they want us to give up all our traditional beliefs and swallow their novel theories. I am not speaking of Scientific truths the correctness of which has been verified and found to be quite sound; nor do I speak of the Westerners who have no clear idea of the ancient history of the East I am only ancient history of the East; I am only speaking of our own men who try to ape the Western scientists and build air castthe Western scientists and build air cast-les on slender probabilities from which they drop bombs to demolish the fortress of our traditional beliefs. If this is Sci-ence and if this is History, the sooner it is done away with, the better it will be for our country and for our race! Our modernized Tamils will render the na-tion a signal service if they will desist from inflicting on their nation a serious and a permanent harm in the name of

modern science and in the name of his-

modern science and in the name of historical research.

According to the Religion of the Tamils, the religious and spiritual activities of the world are generally in a descending scale, and this will be seen from the order in which the four Yugas of Kretha, Thrapara and Kali are said to repeat themselves First in order is the Kretha Yuga which is known as the Saththya Yuga in which spiritual activities exhibit themselves in full force. Then comes the Thretha Yuga in which those activities are a fourth less. The third in order is the Thrapara Yuga in which those activities are reduced by half, and in the last or Kali Yuga only a fourth of those activities are reduced by half, and in the last or Kali Yuga only a fourth of those activities are left. The four Yugas repeat themselves in rotation, and although progress is made in the long run, the progress oo made is in a descending order in each cycle—and this, I should think, is fully borne out by the history of the world. If we take any period of the world's history and examine it carefully, we could clearly see that spiritual activities are generally in a descending order—and this is owing to the material propensity of man. There may be several sub-divisions or seasons in a Yuga, and there may be ebb and flow of spiritual activities during these several sub-divisions; but if we take a period as a whole and examine it in the light of religion, we could plainly see that spiritual activities are generally in a descending scale. But our modern scientists, whose view of things cannot extend beyond one of these sub-divisions, jump into the conclusion that originally man had no sense of spirituality, and the idea dawned in his mind only a few thousand years ago. By doing so they commit themselves unawares to the Christian doctrine that man was created only six thousand years ago!

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER.—A refreshing shower of in fell on Tuesday night in several parts of the district.

FEE FOR PASSPORTS.—We understand that it has been decided by Government that on and after June 1st the stamp fee for passports to India including Burma will be reduced from rupoes five to rupee one.

duced from rupees five to rupee one.

MATRIMONIAL — The marriage of Srimathi
Tharumalakshumi Ammal, daughter of Mr.
V A Ramalingam, and grand daughter of the
late Mr. T Visuvanather, Secretary, District
Court, Trincomalee, with Mr. S Sellathurai
of the Provincial Registrar's Office, Jaffna,
nephew of Mr. V Ramalingam, Registrar of
Marriages and Tamil Pundit, Kokuvil, takes
place this noon at the residence of the bride
at Vannarponnai. The bride is a niece of
Mr. V Thampi of the Education Office, Colombo, and sister of Mr. R Shamugaratham
of the tutorial staff of St. Joseph's College
Colombo.

PERSONAL —Mr. V Thampi of the Educa-tion Office, Colombo, arrived in Jaffra on Tuesday morning last on two weeks' leave.

—Mr. R A Naganather, Pensioner, F.M.S., has returned to Jaffna and is staying with his family at Vaddukoddai.

THE ARRACK RENT OF JAFFNA-was bought by Mr. K V Subramaniam for Rs. 278,990. Last year the sum was Rs. 251,555.

by Mr. K V Subramaniam for its 276,590. Last year the sum was Rs. 251,555.

Swami Vedachalam in Colombo.—Last Sunday the Swami iddressed a large and representative audience of 1500 at Sriman Thambyah Mudaliyar's Chatram. The subject was "Uma Mahesvaram" or the fathernood and motherhood of God. In his sweet and ringing voice the Swami lectured for two hours. The summary of the lecture will appear in another issue. The Samarasa Sanmarga Sabha's third anniversary celebrations, and the Saiva Siddhantic and Tamil Literary Conference commence on Saturday next. The Chairman will be Swami Vedachalam. On the first day there will be the Presidential Address and a lecture on the Antiquity of Tamilian Civilisation by Pundit Mylvaganam. On the second day there will be an open lecture on Kumarakurupara Swamikal by Mr. Teyvanayagampillai. The third day lectures will be on Anmalakshanam by Vidvan Thamotharampillai and Divine Love by Mr. Veluppillai. —By Telegram.

The Hon Ms N H M Abbul Cabes.—

Love by Mr. Veluppillai. —By Telegram,
The Hox. Mr. N. H. M. Abdul. Cader.
The complementary dinner to the new Mohammedan Member in the Legislative Council, arranged by the Moorish Community of Colombo—postponed from March last owing to the indisposition of H. E-the Governor at the time—was given on Saturday night at the Public Hall and proved a brilliant success—the arrangements being on an elaborate and lavish scale. Among the guests there cess—the arrangements being on an elaborate and lavish scale. Among the guests there were representatives of every community, while the hosts were present in large numbers. The Volunteer Band under the baton of Sigr. Guidotti discoursed a varied selection of excellent music. The hall was tastefully desorated and brilliantly illuminated. A wealth of flowers was arranged with much tasts. The Hon. Mr. W.M. Abdul Rahiman, J. P., who presided, had the Hon. Mr. N. H.M. Abdul Cader, the chief guest, on his right, while the Hon. Mr. Harry Oreasy sat on the President's lefs. The president, Capt. E W Jayawardene, Mr. M Caesim Ismail, Mr. C P Dias and the Hon Mesers K Balasingam, O C Tilekerebre and H Creasy were the speakers of the evening.

A Hyproplane on the Hooghey.—It is

Jayawardene, Mr. M. Caesim remain.
P Das and the Hon Mesers K. Balasingam,
O C Thickorethe and H. Creasy were the
epeakers of the evening.

A Hydroplane on the Hooghey,—It is
fairly safe to say, says a correspondent in the
Empire, that the Hooghey has never borne
on ise waters any vessel that has travelled at
the rate of thirty miles an hour until quite
recently, when two Mullins Hydroplanes
have been skating along its bosom at a speed
that made every manji who saw them open
his eyes wide indeed. For the Mullins Hydroplane is engaged up to twenty eight miles
an hour on smooth water and with the sert
of tide that runs on the Hooghly she can do
thirty miles with ease and absolutely no
inconvenience to her passengers. In last,
Mr. Milton Brooks, of the Angus Jute Co.
and a friend brought one of these bydroplanes down from the milito Calcutta—a distages of twenty-four miles—in 55 minutes
yesterday morning—a journey that takes anhour and quarter by train and motor.

A 16,000 Acres Reference Case:—A reference case re 26 vinages (16,00 acres), of
Kataragam Kovil came before Mr. Browning,
D J, on the 23 d. The claimants were P B
U.wita Baous, and Nilame of Kataragam
Kovil and 5 others. No claimant was present. The lott-preter Mudallyar submitted
a telegram received from the Basnayaka
Nilame, asking for a postponement, which
the Crown Counsel declined to allow as the
olaimants were specially told to be presont
that day. The formal evidence of Mr. Wait
was recorded and decree was entered for the
Crown declaring the lands Crown and condemaing the claimants to pay costs.

—Badulla Cor., Ceylon Observer.

Was Loan Subscription.—Calcutta, May
23—The Government of Bengal has issued
the following communique:—In view of several complaints that subordinate officers of
the Government base of the Governo in
Council desires to estate for general information that he issued instructions before the
loan opened against any appearance of cempulsion or extravagant and sensational appeads. These instructions have bee

repeated.—M. Mail.

The Germans and the Dead.—The Maharajah of Bikanir makes the following statement regarding the industry carried on by the German Corpse Utilisation Company:—We may be certain that the German authorities are not any more considerate, to say the least, to the remains of fallen foes than to those of their own fighting men. It is, therefore, practically certain that the bodies of British and French soldiers removed from the field of battle by the Germans have modergone like indignities, and also that those of some Indian warriors have been used in the same loathsome way. This atrocity will never be forgotten or forgiven in India, where, without exception of race or caste, g eat reverence is paid to the metal remains of the dead. Among the Hindus and kindred races cremation is generally (though not exclusively) practised, and it is for the very purpose of saving the remains from all possibility of desecration. I can speak not only for the Rajpute, or the Hindus, of which great people they form a part, but for every race and community in India, when I say that nothing can exceed the sense of horror and detestation with which this latest crime of Germany against mankind will be regarded in every part of India

"M. Mail," May 25th.

The Late Mr. R. Kumarasingham — A meeting of the friends and cheers of the late

latest crime of Germany against mankind will be regarded in every part of India

"M. Mail," May 25th.

The Late Mr. R. Kumarasingham —A meeting of the friends and others of the late Mr. Kumarasingham (Late of the Chief Accountant and Auditer's Offlice, F. M. S. Railways, Kuala Lumpur) was held at Jalan Simpang, Kuala Lumpur, on Saturday the 12th instant at 7 r. M. to express their heart-felt condolence at his premature death in Jaffna. Mr. S. Muttiah, a personal friend of the departed gentleman and a co-worker with him in many fields of activity occupied the chair. Soveral speakers touched on the varied activities of the deceased while he was in the F. derated Malay States —the important part he played in the formation of the Tamilians' Physical Culture Association, his valuable services to the Vivekananda Ashrama, his nover failing interest in all movements tending to the advancement of the Tamil Community and his high schemes pregnant with intense love for the social up-lift of his fellow-countrymen. Among the speakers were Messrs. N Ponnampalam, R Vytislingam, M Navaratnam, K Arumugam, S Canapathy-pillai, S Saravanamuttoo, K Peristhamby, R Mailvaganam, S M Vasagam, P Chinniah and K Chittampalam. A resolution "That this meeting desires that an expression of their heart-felt condolence at the premature death of Mr. R Kumarasingham be teigraphed to his parents at Jaffna" proposed by Mr. S M Vasagam was unanimously passed in scleem silones. The deceased gentleman belongs to a respectable family at Elavaly, Jaffna, being the son of Mr. Thambinathan Ramanathan of that place. He is the browler of Mr. R Vytialingam, F. I. A Se, and Mr. R Vickramasingham of the Treasury, Ruma Lumpur, and nephew of Mr. S Adehalingam, General Managers's Office, F M S Fallways, Kuala Lumpur. He leave behind him his parents, brothers, sisters and a host of other relations to bemoan his loss.

—Cor.

Y. M. H. A, KOKUVIL.

—The ordinary meeting of this Association was held on Saturday the 26th instant at about 7 r. m., whon Mr. A M Somaskandapillai, Tamil Pundit, gave an address on "Uruthiradoham". The meeting terminated at about 8 30 r. m., with a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

—A Kathapirasankam will be held on Friday the 1st proximo at about 7 p m at the Kandaswamy Temple, close to the Koku-vil Hindu English School Hall. —Cor.

Y. M. H. A., (CENTRAL.)

Jiva Daya Scotion.—At Kondavil no animal slaughter took place last week in three temples. The people have resolved never more to revert to this horrible practice. Many hundred innocent goats and many more fowls have thus been saved. Will the inhabitants of other villages in Jafina emulate the noble example of Kondavil.

this horrible practice. Many hundred innocent goats and many more fowls have thus been saved. Will the inhabitants of other villages in Jaffna emulate the noble example of Kondavil.

Araly.—A third meeting of the leading residents of Araly was held in the Fillayar temple on the 26th instant. There was a very large and enthusiastic gathering. Mudliyar M. S. Ramalingam of the Kachcheri presided and detailed the history of the campaign against animal sacrifice and the devotion with which Mr. H. R. Freeman as G. A. of this Province persuaded the managers of temples to put down the crucl practice of animal slaughter. He also referred to the great interest evinced in the cause by Mr. Horsburgh, the present G. A. and the discussion of the question in the recent Durbar of Headmen. The Mudaliyar announced that the G. A. has instructed the Police not to proscute in cases of clipping off the cars of goats. This announcement was received with applause for many of those present seemed to recollect the conviction and sentence passed upon a man who clipped off the arr of a goat at the Muniyapper temple. The Mudaliyar exhorted the people to desist from the practice. Tuen Mr. C. Arutampalam, addressed the meeting and said it a shame that temple managers who are vegetarians should tolerate such inhuman practice in their temples. He was followed by Mr. C. Rasamayaka Mudliyar, Secretary District Court, who in a most cloquent speech pointed out the evis of the practice and insisted that the practice was not sanctioned by the Shastras. Mr. W. Mulr. Muthuvolupillai who spoke next said that in South India the practice has been given up altogether. Messre. S. Ramalingam and M. S. Eliatamby and S. Sabaratna Mudaliyar addressed next and they were followed by Mr. A. Elyappah, Mr. S. T. Chittimpalam and Maniagar Mutukumaru. The Maniagar instanced the example of Kondavil and called upon the leading men of Araly to follow the example of Kondavilares. At the conclusion of the meeting Brama Sci Arunasala Kurukkal of Vilaveli who had been invit

Yannarponnai.—At Thachchakadavai on the 25th instant a meeting of Saivites was held and addresses were delivered by Messrs. M. S. R. Singhe, B. A., and M. S. Eliatamby, Advocate.

THE JAFFNA LOCAL TOBACCO COMMITTEE.

A meeting of this Committee was held yesterday in the Jaffna Kachcheri under the presidency of Mr. B. Horsburgh, the Government Agent. Mr. Stockdale, the Director of Agriculture, was present and explained the position of affairs in regard to the experimental cultivation of tobacco at Tinnavely, stating that the Department was willing to continue the cultivation and experiment for one or two years more, as Mr. Scherflius has found out by his experiments of three years that White Burley variety of tobacco could be cultivated with profit on a commercial basis, Mr. Sherflius then read his paper on the result of his experiments which we give below. The members having expressed their views on the project, a resolution was passed unanimously approving the continuance of the experiment. It was also resolved to form a Byndicate under the auspices of the Committee, after this year's experiment in the cultivation of the whole area of ten acres with White Burley, with the object of encouraging the cultivation of this variety in the country by the Byndicate undertaking the cultivation themselves and purchasing the tobacco cultivated by others for curing. Another Resolution was passed placing on record the Committee's appreciation of Mr. Scherflius' services as Tobacco Expert. The Government Agent on behalf of the Committee thanked the Director of Agriculture for his presence on the occasion and the great interest he took in promoting the tobacco industry of this District. With a vote of thanks to the Chairman the meeting came to a close at 5 30 p. M. Mr. Scherflius severs his connection with the Department at the end of this month, his term of engagement by the Government having come to a close. The Director, we understand, is in communication with a competent gentleman for the appointment of a successor to Mr. Scherflius.

The following was the Memorandum of Mr. Schermus read at the meeting:—

Any type of tobacco, transferred to a new lo-cality, tends to show either improvement or de-terioration in the third crop, thus indicating its adaptability or unsuitability to the soil or climate. Most of the foreign varieties tried in Jeffan have deteriorated. White Burley is the notable excep-tion. It has not only attained more vigorous

growth, but has improved in quality. We are now able to state definitely that this is, by far, the most peofitable variety that can be grown in this locality. The trash grades of White Burley are well suited for the manufacture of cirgarettes, being bright, mid, good in aroma and burning qualities. The leaf grades, will, in my opinion, meet the requirements of the English marks; it is of medium body, light in colour, sound and of good flavour. White Burley grown by the native mothods, using less cattle manure, should yield about 1000 to 1200 pounds per acre, and with proper curing should bring a rupes per pound. The harvesting should be by the whole plant method, and curing by the air method, in a closed shed, as is done at the tobacco trial grounds. White Burley should not be fermented. One of the most economical methods of manuring, is to grow a crop of sun hemp during the rainy season, to be ploughed under, about ten days prior to transplanting the tobacco. This should be followed by a medium application of commercial manure containing 10 to 12% potash, 8 to 10% phosphoric acid and 8 to 4% nitrogen; at the rate of about 300 to 400 pounds per acre. The Jaffna soil is unasuitable to the production of Flue curing tobacco.

It is seldom necessary to shade tobacco nurseries, or the young seedlings that are transplant-

soil is unsurance to the production of Fine curing tobacco.

It is seldom necessary to shade tobacco nurseries, or the young seedlings that are transplanted in Docember or January. It is better to mulch the ground, after watering the young plants, and plants watered only once, in three or four days, start growing more quickly than plants watered three times daily. When channel watering is begun, frequent shallow cultivations, conserve the moisture and the watering will not have to be done so often.

The manure experiments should be carried on for another year before we are able to state definitely the exact requirements of the soil.

Chlorine results will have to be stated later as

Chlorine results will have to be stated later as reports on all the analyses have not yet been received.

Signed B. F. SCHERFFIUS.

Report on the seedlings analysed has just been received. Nos. 7 and 8 were the same in total Chlorine in dry matter. 7 was Jaffna soil from old ground chemical manures and tulip leaves. 8 was Peradeniya soil with no manures but grown at my bungalow from seed. All the results tend to indicate that the Chlorine is coming from the atmosphere. This may also account for the improvement in the burning qualities of this year's crop—being grown earlier, it had matured before the Southwest began, which is our most direct wind from the sea.

B. F. S.

THE KARATIVOE Y. M. H. A.

Under the auspices of the above Association a lecture on "Religion" was delivered by Mr. M. SabharetnaSingam, B. A., Headmaster, Jaffna Hindu College, on Saturday the 26th instant. The meeting commenced sharp at 6 30 p. M. with the singing of Devaram. After the prayer was over, there was a Bajanai for about half an hour. After which, the lecture began. It lasted for about 2 hours and was a very interesting one. After the lecture, remarks were offered by the following members:—Mossrs. A. Arumugampillai, Proctor, M. Siampoo, Local Manager of the Karaitivoe Hindu English School, T. Nagamuttu, Tamil Pundit, S. Valuppillai, S. Thillaiampalam, Tamil Teacher, S. Ampalam, Tamil Teacher, S. Ampalam, Tamil Teacher, S. Ramakrishna Ayer, D. A., Head Master, Karaitivoe Hindu English School.

It was resolved to make the K. Y. M. H. A. Under the auspices of the above Association a

It was resolved to make the K. Y. M. H. A. a branch of the Jaffaa Y. M. H. A. (Central.). Then the following gendemen were elected efficers for the ensuing year:—

President: Mr. S. Ramakrishna Ayer, B. A., Head Master,

Vice Presidents: Messrs. A. Arumugampillai, Proctor, and A. Veerakathippillai, Teacher,

Secretary: Mr. K. S. Mahesa Sarma, Teacher. Assistant Secretary: Mr. K. Kathiravalu, Teacher.

Treasurer: Mr. R. Kandiah, Teacher.

Asst. Treasurer: Mr. V. Valuppillai, Teacher.

Committee Members: Messrs, M. Siampco, Local Macager, S. Valuppillai, PanchadcharaAyer, Tamil Teacher, and Master K. Kandiah, and S. Subramaniyam.

When the election was over, the meeting ter-inated at about 9.30 P. M. with the singing of —Cor, Devaram.

TAMIL NEW YEAR (PINGHALA) CELEBRATION.

PUBLIC MEETING AT THE TOWN HALL, K. LUMPUR.

A mass meeting of the Tamils of Kuala Lum-pur, Kajang and other out-stations in Eclanger was held at the Town Hall, Kuala Lumpur, on Friday the 13th April, 1917, on the occasion of their New Year celebration.

their New Year coloristion.

The spacious hall was nearly full and the audience was highly representative of all sections of the community—tudian and Ceylonese, Hindu and Ontatian. The presence of National Volunteers dressed in pure Tamil attitre and ready for any service expected of them intensified the National character of the meeting.

A little before 5 30 p. M., Dr. E. Tampiah Mac Intyre M. D., the President-elect, arrived and was escorted to she data in procession where he was garlanded by the Secretary.

The proceedings—which were conducted in Tamil—commenced at 5-30 p. M. The Secretary, Mr. V. Kantan Fillst, then explained the object of the meeting and formally invited Dr. Tampiah MacIntyre to occupy the chair.

Macintyre to occupy the chair.

The President rising amidst loud applause addressed the importance of celebrating that day, the unitying influence it was bound to effect in the commantly as a whole and the importance of the issues artsing from the delibrations of such insulating. He deprecated the depleted idea of every low short-signised Christians who were not wort for egard that as the New Year's Day of the whole Taint Community but as that of the

Hi alus alone. He could conceive of no reason why the day of lebrated by the Tamils for generations past should be now considered by the Christians to be shorn of its greatness and importance. Their religious convictions could not in any way influence them to discount their inheritance of the high developed science of astronomy from their revered forefathers. The musings of the preachers of these donationalising doctrines would never receive the approbation of high souled Tamil Christians who were extremely proud of the community they belonged to and regarded with respect the developments and achievements of their ancestors in the arts, science and philosophy. With union and organised work among sil sections of the community, he hoped that the right of Tamil representation in the Federal Council would be recognised by the Government.

Mr. S. Sinnaduralpillai, then, gave an illuminating address on times.

would be recognised by the Government.

Mr. S. Sinnaduraipillai, then gave an illuminating address on "The New Year" in the course of which he drew interesting comparisons between the Tamil and other New Years. Viewing from an astronomical point of view, he said, the Tamis far excelled other nationalities in the method of reckoning the New Year, and their method was quite perfect.

An impressive and elequent speech on "Patriotism" was next delivered Mr. Aruliah Barnabas who also embellished his learned address with appropriate quotations from many Eastern and Western thinkers.

Mr. T. Samugampillai, late Head Master of the Vivekanavda Tamil School, then followed with an able address on "The Tamils" ("Sib sed with an able address on "The Tamils" ("Sib sed with an able address on The Tamils"). The next speaker, Mr. T. K. Swaminathan,

The next speaker, Mr. T. K. Swaminathan, Editor of the "Indian Emigrant", Madras, gave a stirring address on the subject of "Union". He said that there was great want of union among his follow-countrymen and that union alone was bound to make their prayers heard and conduce to their material development. He concluded by saying,

ng,
"Nought shall make us rue
If India to herself do rest but true".

The following resolution was then proposed by Mr. W. Ponnudurai.

The following resolution was then proposed by Mr. W. Ponnudurai.

"That the Tamil inhabitants of Kuala Lompur in public assembly tender their respectful thanks to the Government for having accepted their offer of service as volunteers—the first offer made by any community in the Federated Malay States after the out break of war, an offer which was utilised by their being first enrolled as special constables and subsequently as a separate unit in the newly created Malayen Volunteer Infantry, thus furnishing them with an opportunity to manifest in a practical manner their loyalty to the King Emperor."

In bringing the proposal before the meeting, Mr. Ponnudurai explained the origin and development of the Volunteer movement in Kuala Lumpur and bayond. Continuing he spoke of the rare opportunity afforded them to display the dormant military instincts of the Tamilian race, who were denied the privilege of bearing arms for some time. He appealed to the young men to immediately enlist themselves in the Tamil Platoon and fill up a few vacancies that yet remained.

The resolution was ably seconded by Mr. N. V. Visuvalingampillai and was unanimously carried wish acclamation.

The Secretary then proposed that a Carmittee to consist of Dr. E. Tampian MacLayea. Messra M. Cumarasamypillai, R. D. Ramasamypillai, C. A. Veluppillai, N. V. Visuvalingampillai and W. Ponnudurai and Secretary of the Tamilians Physical Carture Association who shall be (excents) the Secretary of the Committee to formed to be in charge of arrangements for next year's celebration. This was seconded by Mr. S. Muttiahpillai and was duly carried.

After the closing remarks from the Chairman the meeting which was in every respect an unpre-

After the closing remarks from the Chairman the meeting which was in every respect an unprecedented one concluded at about 7.15 g. M. — Cor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE VELLALA VILLAGER.

Sir,

From a perusal of Mr. D. M. Weigel's letter which appeared in your issue of 21st instant, with a well deserved rebuke in your editorial column, no one can fail to come to the conclusion that Mr. Weigel had made an ergogious blunder in making a hasty pronouncement of the character of the Vellala Villager. While repudiating the prejudiced opinion of Mr. Weigel as untenable and unworthy of notice, one cannot fail to mark in it a lamentable display ignorance of Eastern people and their ideals.

Mr. Weigel, with his broad mindedness, instead of complimenting the Vellala Villager for his firmness in abstanting from an immoral attractive occupation, had taken the painful step to make absurd deautoriation which is not even conductive to his own interest. Mr. Weigel's failure to understand that the Jafina people with spiritual ideals will prefer starvation and death to a mere material gain by engaging in immoral occupations is attributable to his hasty decision and rash judgment.

To form a correct judgment of Mr. Weigel's mentality and merceovary attitude in launching forth such untenable arguments about the Vellala Villager is within the compreheusion of even school boy.

Mr. Weigel concluded his letter with an appeal to the leaders of the community to make every endeavour to encourage the Vellala Villager to practice the profession of toddy drawing. The Vellala Villager did not wait Mr. Weigel's arrival to make the profession of toddy drawing. The Vellala Villager did not wait Mr. Weigel's arrival to make the profession of toddy drawing. The Vellala Villager did not wait Mr. Weigel's arrival to make the profession of toddy drawing. The Vellala Villager to practice the profession of toddy drawing. The Vellala Villager to provide the welfare of humanity at large.

Sir, Mr. Weigel had often made public affront in ganzal with regard to the peasants of the

sir, Mr. Weigel had often made public affront in general with regard to the peasants of the Noren in the house of the hous

Angulana, 25th, May 1917,

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

THE BRITISH FRONT.

London, May 25.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says:—We drove off a local night attack South Eastward of Fontaine-les-Crois. We heavily repulsed a raid North-Eastward of Arleux. We captured a further portion of the front tronch system in the morning South-Eastward of Loos. The counter attack failed. We successfully raided Southward of Armentieres and Westward of Messines.

F. M. Sir J. D. Haig reports:—Reciprocal Attillery work was active, particularly on the left bank of the Scarpe and in the neighbourhood of Loos. There was much air fighting on Thursday. Seven German aeroplanes were brought down and five were driven down. Six of ours are

F.-M. Sir J. D. Haig reports:—The line was advanced slightly today Westward and North-Westward of Fontaine-les Croiselles. We carried out a successful raid in the early morning North, Westward of Wytschaete and secured prisoners. Many air reconnaissances and bombing raids were carried out on Friday. Five German aeroplanes were brought down and five driven down. Five of ours are missing.

London, May 27.

of ours are missing.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says:—We gained further ground in the neighbourhood of Fontaine-les-Croiselles. There were patrol encounters near Crajeni River; we took a few prisoners. In air fighting yesterday we brought took three German aeroplanes and drove down eight others. Four of ours are missing.

THE PALESTINE FIGHTING.

In the Commons Mr. Macpherson stated that we were in close touch with the Turkish main position at Geza, which had been extended by a series of trenches and redoubts for eleven miles South East of Geza. The Turks, reinforced, made good use of the natural obstacles. Their position was of great natural strength as the left flank was protected by broken and waterless country. In view of these conditions our progress was necessarily slow. There has been no ecrious fighting since April 19th. We, however, continued to gain ground and organised a consolidated position.

BLOWS AT SUBMARINES.

London, May 25.

In the Commons Mr. Lloyd George announced that more effective blows had been delivered against submarines in the past three weeks than in any previous corresponding period in the War. ERENCH SUBMARINE LOSSES.

London, May 25

London, May 25.

Paris (Official.)—For the week ending May 20th the arrivals were 991 and sailings 1,018. Sinkings above 1,600 tons one, below two. Unsuccessfully attacked three.

OVERSEAS AEROPLANES.

OVERSEAS AEROPLANES.

London, May 24.

Mr. Waker Long, at the annual meeting of the Overseas Cittle, handed over to the Flying Corps the cheme of the purchase of the hundredth accoplane of the purchase of the hundredth accoplane of the Overseas. It was explained that since the cheque had been received Durban and Shanghai had provided additional machines. Mr. Long, after paying a tribute in glowing terms to the Air Service, alluded to the Colories. He said that there were those in this country, even today, who failed to recognise any of the Overseas Dominions and who were blind to the postbilities of the British Empire. Some of the Empire's greatest possibilities were to be found in the most distant parts. If the Empire was going to be what it ought to be, namely, the most united, self reliant and peace leving in the world, our people must realise its immense potentialities in the more distant possessions, the immensity of which few of us today could realise. The days of lip service to the Overseas Dominions had gone. The testimony of regard that the British Government had received during the War from the native races had touched him to the very heart. Many such testimonies had been received, thanking us for their release from German rule.

AUSTRIA'S PEACE TERMS.

AUSTRIA'S PEACE TERMS.

London, May 28.

Amsterdam.—The German correspondent of the Tyd declares that at the Conferences of Herr Von Bestmann-Hollweg and Count Czernin was discussed the Austrian Emperor's offer of Peace to Russia including the restoration of Poland, the freedom of the Dardanelles and a Loan to Russia,

POPE IMPRESSED.

Amsterdam.—The Tyd Rome correspondent says the Pope is favourably considering the new Austrian Peace move.

NEW ZEPPELIN BOMBS.

The Zappelins on Thursday used bombs of extraordinary power. Craters were formed thirty feet broad and ten feet deep. A bomb rooted up an oak twenty yards from the spot where it fell and destroyed the undergrowth on a wide area. One Zeppelin lowered an observation car.

U. S. A. AND MUNITIONS.

London, May 24.

The War Cabinet has decided to discontinue the crection of a large explosives factory at Bristol owing to the entry of the United States into the War.

NEW FIELD-MARSHAL.

London, May 24.

The King has handed Sir Charles Egerton the Field Marshal's baton.

THE STOPPAGE OF RACING.

d Curzon in the Lords at the reason the ter suggested the postponement of the decigarding the stoppage of racing was that success in grappling with submarinism that the food situation in the next six r two months.

EMPIRE DAY CELEBRATIONS.

EMPIRE DAY CELEBRATIONS.

London, May 25.

Empire Day was never more solemnly celebrated than yesterday in Great Britain. The occasion everywhere was utilized to impress the nation of the necessity of a universal movement of self defence against submarine piracy. The King's Proclamation exhorting Food self-denial was read from the steps of the Town Halls in the presence of Municipal digutaries to large crowds, many of whom afterwards signed a voluntary ration pledge. There were also the customary demonstrations in the schools Their Majeaties visited the Royal Overseas Officers' Club in Fall Mail and held a reception, afterwards informally conversing with many Dominions' officers. A notable participants to the celebrations was General Snuts, who addressed two gatherings of members of War Clubs and the Women's United Services League at Marylbone and Stepney, respectively.

AUSTRALIA AND CEYLON TEA.

WHAT MALAYA HAS DONE.

WHAT MALAYA HAS DONE,

London, May 25.

(Official).—The Straits Settlements which last year provided by new taxation a contribution of two hundreds thousand sterling annually for 10 years to the British Government has new legislated for imposing a special War tax on the basis of income which is expected to yield over a bundred thousand annually in addition. The Colony has also been paying one-fifth of its ordinary revenue to the War Office as a Military Contribution, and is raising a local loan of six per cent for War purposes. The loan is now nearly two-and-a half millions. These contributions exclude the Malay States graats.

Gambia has given ten thousand for Electrical

Gambia has given ten thousand for Flying Corps aeroplanes.

IMPERIAL WAR CONFERENCE BLUE BOOK,

IMPERIAL WAR CONFERENCE
BLUE BOOK.

London, May 24.

A Blue Book of 163 pages of the proceedings of the Imperial War Conference has been issued. It contains the resolutions already cabled, extracts, minutes and a number of papers laid before the Conference, notably memorandum on emigration from India to the Dominions which was presented by the Indian representatives, and which the Conference recommended to the favourable consideration of the Governments concerned. The memorandum suggests the following basis of agreement. First, as regards Indians already permanently settled in the Dominions they should be allowed to bring in wives (subject to the rule of monogamy) and minor children, and in other respects should not be less privileged than Japanese settled immigrants. Secondly, future admissions of Indians for labour or settlement should, if possible, he regulated on lines similar to and not less favourable than those governing the admission any other Asiatic race. Third, if this is impossible there might be reciprocal treatment in India and each Dominion of itumigration for the purposes of labour or perment settlement. If the Dominion is determined to exclude these two classes of immigration from India, India should be free to do the same as regards that exclusion in either case was not for the motive of race prejudices, but as the outcome of different economic conditions. Fourth, along with such exclusion reciprocal arrangements would be made for granting full facilities for admission of tourists, students and the lake, and for business visits entailing temporary residence, so long as this residence was not for labour purposes, or for permanent settlement.

BRITISH PRISONELS IN FIRING LINE.

BRITISH PRISONERS IN FIRING LINE

BRITISH PRISONERS IN FIRING LINE:

Allahabad, May 25.

Pioneer special cables dated London, 23rd May, state:—Letters have been recently received from a number of British prisoners, saying they are being employed under Russian fire near Riga and are told this is a reprisal for the similar employment of Germans in France. Lord Newton stated in the House of Lords last night that the Germans had given us to understand they would at once withdraw British prisoners from the Eastern front, but they had since sent 500 men to work in the trenches there. The Germans stated in January no British were employed near the German lines in the West, but in April three men escaped and stated that hundreds had been so employed since November. Government had demanded the withdrawal of these men and Lord Newton hoped if the demand was not conceded the Cabinet would take most drastic action.

THE WESTERN OFFENSIVE

THE WESTERN OFFENSIVE.

Allahabad, May 25.

A correspondent at the front states that prisoners dug out of the recent Hindenburg Line near Fontsine, although not badly nourished, were utterly exhausted by fatigue. They describe the German front line as being in a constant state of tension, so many of our attacks having been made in darkness or in the early morning or evening. The troops are not allowed to sleep for nights and are compelled to keep their equipment and grenades ready. Between three and five in the morning they stand at the exits of their dug outs ready to rush up and man the trenches at a moment's notice. They get what eleep they can during the day.

POSSIBLE AUSTRIAN.

POSSIBLE AUSTRIAN RETREAT.

Allahabad, May 25.

The Daily Telegraph's Rome correspondent says that the Austrians, deprived of their chief point d'appui on the Isonzo, have established their right wing on heights of the Forest of Ternova whore they have prepared a fresh formidable line of defence. At a Council of War at Latbach the Emperor Karl presiding, a strategic retreat, similar to that of You Hindenburg in France, was discussed. The enemy since the bombardment of Gorlzia have abandoned all hopes of retaking the town.

FERTER AND Possession of the country and president and presid

BAID ON SOUTH EAST OF ENGLAND,

London, May 26.

(Official).—A large squadron of enemy aircraft, about sixbeen, attacked South East England between 5 for M. and 6 30 f. M. yesterday evening. Bombs were dropped in a number of places, Nearly all the damage occurred in one town where the bombs fell in the streets, causing considerable causalties among springer. Bombs were killed of which 27 were women and 23 children. 174 were injured of which 49 were women and 19 children. Our aeroplanes pursued them and Naval aeroplanes from Dankink engaged the returning raiders. The Admiralty reports that three of the enemy aeroplanes were shot down.

The Admiralty states that Naval aeroplanes attacked the aerodrome at 8t. Donis Westram yes becasy morning dropped many bombs. Our machines in the evening engaged overseas several of the enemy aircraft returning from the raid on England. In the engagement between one British and three hostile exceplanes in mid Channel one of the latter was destroyed. Two large twinningined hostile machines were shet down in the course of several encounters off the Beignand coast. All of ours returned safely.

The air raiders flew at a great altitude and crossed the town where the town.

course of several encounters off the Belgian coast. All of ours returned safely.

The air raidors flew at a great altitude and crossed the town where the most damage was done in formations of five bombing continuously. There was much damage done to property in the residential part. Butchers and bootmakers, shops were demolished and the eccupants of the latter killed. The worst damage occurred in the busy business thoroughfare thronged with people where a very large number of bombs were dropped, killing 16 women and 8 men and 9 children and injuring 22 persons. It is estimated fifty bombs were dropped. The raiders as they departed were severely engaged over the Channel. An eyewitness heard heavy firing and saw two paculiar looking aeroplanes maneauving at a great height with shells bursting round them. One machine suddenly nose dived as though hit. Later heavy firing was heard seaward. Other reports indicate the raiders covered a wide area, penetrating some distance inland, scattering bombs promiseurously.

AMERICAN CONTINGENTS IN FRANCE.

Reuter's French Headquarters correspondent says the first American fighting unit, consisting of a section of motor transport, has gone to the front. The men are practically all undergraduates. Several other units are in training in France for early combatant service and consist chiefly of college men, most of whom have been serving hitherto as ambulance men.

THE NEW RUSSIA.

London, May 26,
Petrograd.—General Russky has arrived after
relinquishing command. He spoke hopefully of
the improving morale of the troops and eays
fraternising with the enemy is stopped.

A FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

London, May 27.

Moscow.—A congress of Mussulman Delegates from all parts of Russia has passed a resolution by 446 to 271 in favour of a Federal Republic of Russia.

THE FRENCH FRONT.

London, May 25.

London, May 25.

A French communique says:—On Chemin des
Dames there was great mutual Artillery activity
in the region North-West of Braye en Laonnais,
especially towards the Pantheon. Eastward we
carried out a completely successful operation
against a portion of Chevreux Wood despite energetic resistance. We discovered many corps in
electers that our heavy Artillery had destroyed.

ebelters that our heavy Artillery had destroyed.

London, May 26,
Paris (Official).—After a most violent bombardment North-West of Bray-en-Laonnais three
strong German columns assaulted the salient
North of Chemin-des Dames and succeeded, after
sangimary losses, in gaining a lodgment at some
points in an advanced trench. Immediate counter attacks recaptured most of these. We
brought back 55 prisoners and two machine-guns

London, May 27.

A French communique says:—A German attempt North of Laffaux Mill failed under fre.
Four German aeroplanes were brought down. Our air squadrons dropped three tons of bombs on Military establishments and factories, causing several fires, one most violent. We also heavily bombed an aerodrome at Colmar and Sissone and an organisation in the region of Laon.

London, May 28.

A French communique says:—In Champagne the enemy launched two attacks on Teton, the last succeeding in penetrating the lines. He was completely ejected. A third attack on Casque was broken down. There was Artillery activity in Champagne.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

London, May 25,

An Italian official despatch says:—The battle is still raging from the sea to Playa. Our troops fought through the labyrinth of fortifications, stubbornly defended by strong and well trained forces. The total taken prisoner on Wednesday and Thursday was 10,245, including 316 officers. We drove back the enemy to a line Southward of Jamiano. We extended the positions Northward of Jamiano to the outskirts of Versic. Violent counter-attacks on the Southern Carsa and the Monte Cucco Vodice area failed with heavy losses. Our aircraft effectively bombed the station, Santa Lucia of Tolmino. Three enemy machines were brought down.

20,000 Prisoners in a Forthight,
London, May 26.

London, May 26

London, May 26.
Au Italian official despatch says:—Heavy fighting continues on the Carco. We carried another strongly fortified position, taking 3,500 prisoners and also a network of tronches from the mouth of the Timavo River to Feast, Eastward of Jamiano and took possession of the heights between Flondar and Modeazza. The enemy's defences Eastward of Boscomalo were broken and the tronches around Caetagnavizza taken. We extended our positions on the hill Northward of Tivoli and drove back the enemy in the Vodice area with heavy loss. The number of priseners taken on the Julian front since May 14th is 22,419, including 487 officers. ing 487 officers.

SUBMARINISM.

London, May 26.

Paris.—The Chamber has discussed submarinism. The Minister of Marine agreed with Mr. Lloyd George and Lord Miliner that submarines will not beat us. With the captured tonnege and the tonnege purchased and con-tracted, the Alied and Neutral bonnege at the beginning of 1917 was about the same as at the commencement of the War. The total losses for the first four months of 1917 might be put at 2½ milion tons. Taking into account the rate of construction, without being unduly optimistic, our losses for the year, if the submarine warfare continued with the same intensity, would be 4½ million tons and our total over forty million. With the Allier restricting imports, we can, with the present tonnage, meet the requirements of the country and resume the transport of War Material. The Minister pointed out that the einkings of May up to the 23rd showed a marked decrease, being only 290,000 tons. He gave statistics, showing that the German blockade had nover been effective since the French ports had received all the ships they could accomodate. These had brought everything that was needed to the country. During March 4,200,000 tons of goods had entered French ports and during April 4,300,000 tons. On the other hand practically nothing had entered German ports. The Minister described the defences regainst submarines, including improved armament, patrols, the training of merchant officers as gunners and the establishment of wireless aviation stations, on the coasts. All French merchantmen would be armed by October.

—The Ceylon Observer.

NOTICE.

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