

The Hindu Organ.

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HAS THE WIDEST CIRCULATION

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POSTAL TELEGRAPH LEARNERS.

An Examination for the admission of Telegraph learners will be held in December next and applications for admission must be made on or before November 16th 1918.

2. Candidates must be between the ages of 16 and 19 on December 20th 1918 and hold either an Elementary School Leaving Examination or a Cambridge Certificate.

3. Further particulars and copies of the syllabus and forms of application may be obtained from

F. J. SMITH,

Postmaster General

Colombo, General Post Office.

25th October, 1918

LAND FOR SALE.

Under and by virtue of an order of this Court dated October 18, 1918, the undermentioned land belonging to the Estate of the late Chinnappillai daughter of Kathirgamar of Chavakachcheri will be sold by public auction at the spot on Saturday, 9th November, 1918, at 11 a.m.

Land situated at Chavakachcheri called Kaddukkarni in extent 10 Lms. V. C. and 15 Kules and bounded on the east by rail road, north by the property of Morugar Karthikesu, west by road and south by the property of Veluppillai Aiyadurai and shareholders. Of the whole of the land, houses and other appurtenances contained within these boundaries, an undivided extent of 8 Lms. V. C. and 11 Kules with the appurtenances belonging thereto.

For further particulars apply to:

C. R. TAMBIAH,
Proctor, S. C.,
JAFFNA.

NOTICE OF SALE.

I am instructed by the Executors of the Last Will and Testament of the late Ramalingam Kaishid in Testamentary case No. 3580 D C, Jaffna, to sell by Public Auction on Monday, 11th November, 1918, commencing at 3 p.m., at the spots:

1. A piece of land situated at Vannarponnai West called Ponnirappanikkandai in extent 5 Lms. V. C. and 4 and 13/16 kules with its appurtenances and bounded on the East by the property of Seethapathi Ayer Kumarasamy Ayer and Sapapathi Ayer Vaithesupara Kurukkal and lane, on the North by the property of Basalingam Arulampalam, on the West by the property of Anuppillai wife of Sivasubramaniam and shareholders and the property belonging to Pillaiyer Temple and on the South by the property belonging to Pillaiyer Temple and Sapapathi Ayer Vaithesupara Kurukkal.

2. A piece of land situated at Vannarponnai West called Andichipallam in extent 2 Lms. V. C. with its appurtenances and bounded on the East by the aforesaid land and the property of Ramalingam Arulampalam, on the North by the property of Veuvanathar Arumuga Ramalingam and shareholders, on the West by the property of Isperiammal wife of Kaandiah and on the South by the property belonging to Pillaiyer Temple, of this an undivided 3/10 share.

Jaffna,

October 24, 1918.

R. KANTAIYAH,

Commissioner.

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" A. Nagalingam, Ipoh	40	00
" N. Maliveganam, Selangor	18	00
" A. Ponnampalam, K. Kuon	9	00
" S. Thillampalam, Kuala Kangsar	9	00
" A. Aiyasamy, Pahang	7	00
" T. Sivagurunathan, Lower Perak	8	50
" S. Ampalavanar, Dickwella	8	00
" V. Subramaniam, Ipoh	9	00
" S. Munukumarasamy Chettiar, Van-West	6	00
" K. Maliveganam, Van-West	4	50



The Hindu Organ.

JAFFNA, MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1918.

RELIGIOUS INFLUENCE IN POLITICAL PROGRESS.

Every human activity whether for securing domestic felicity or communal and national prosperity must be guided by a religious motive if it should serve its purpose effectively. This is why we find that the Hindu system of social and political duties are embodied in a series of regulations and institutions which are to be observed by all true Hindus as a religious duty. The highest object of all human endeavour is the realization of the spiritual essence of life, and the object of all Hindu legislators was to keep this constantly remembered by every one. The way for the realisation of spiritual bliss taught by the Hindu Seers was regarded as a well-proved and well-tested science even more exact in its conclusions than any of the modern exact sciences. People had an implicit faith in their truth and considered that the experience was attainable with due faith and perseverance. In fact there were hundreds who could bear living testimony to the truth of this spiritual experience in all the different stages that mark the path leading to the final goal of spiritual enlightenment. Religion was therefore the main purpose of life and no one considered it irksome or wearying to practice diligently the exercises that will give one with all certainty the coveted spiritual experience. It is only when religion is thus a living reality and moving force in the life of men that it will be possible to guide their political activities into the right channels. Where this force is absent or weakened by the neglect of religious education of the right type, there is sure to be a decay of spirituality among them and their political progress too must become misdirected.

Many of the evils that mar the course of political life in some countries such as anarchism and the use of violence in political agitation are directly traceable to the weakening of the sobering and steady influence of religion among a section of the educated classes in those countries. The adoption of secularism as the basic principle of the State educational systems of these countries is mainly responsible for these evil influences in politics. In Ceylon the political life of the people has been fortunately free from this taint, though it must also be acknowledged that the people have not been so active even in promoting their normal political development as the people in India and other parts of the Empire. But under any circumstance it is always wise to pursue the right policy in education. Prevention is better than cure. As a result of the political reconstruction that is bound to follow the victorious termination of the war, the Ceylonese too, in common with their kindred nationalities in India, will be given a start in responsible government which is now acknowledged all over the civilized world as an indispensable factor in human progress. In their monumental Report on Constitutional Reforms in India, the Right Honourable the Secretary of State and the Viceroy of India say:—"The inevitable result of education in the history and thought of Europe is the desire for self-determination, and the demand that now meets us from the educated classes of India is no more than the right and natural outcome of the work of a hundred years." This valuable privilege of self-determination will be of positive political benefit only when the recipients are actuated by the spirit of true religion in their activities. Otherwise, the benefit will be only of a negative character and will consist of bitter experiences that will finally lead the people to the true path of national progress based on the religious motive.

It is almost a truism to assert that political freedom based on religion is always an unmixed blessing to a people and that both of them are necessary conditions for human progress. In fact, on a closer examination, religion and politics will be found to be essentially the same, denoting the wise regulation of individual and collective life so as to serve the best interests of those who submit to it. Again, religious practices seek to develop in man the consciousness of the universal self, and politics too has the same end in view in trying to develop in the citizens the consciousness of the communal, national, and international selfishness through their participation in the duties of responsible government. The first or the primary duty of the Government of Ceylon at the present time is to give increased aid to the religious education of the various communities in their respective national lines. The Hindus, Buddhists, Christians and Mohamedans in Ceylon should be each encouraged by the Government to educate their children in their own religious faith, and aggressive institutions whose main purpose is proselytism, and the net result of whose work is the dissemination of irreligious scepticism, should be discouraged, if not suppressed. Though every section may claim supremacy for their own religion, no one section should be given the privilege or the means to disturb the religious faith of the children of another community. Toleration of such conduct, to the detriment of the religions professed by the vast majority of the population, should not be allowed by the Government in the name of religious neutrality. The people of the Island who follow the indigenous religions whose antiquity and greatness no one can dispute, have a right to expect their Government to provide them, or help them liberally with state aid to provide themselves with, the religious education that would be of value to them in guiding their political development in the spirit of their own national religions.

The problem of religious education is one of peculiar importance to Ceylon, for in no other civilized country in the Empire are the children of one religion so largely subject to the proselytising influence of another religionists in their educational institutions, as they are in Ceylon. It is, therefore, we urge on the attention of the authorities that in giving the people of Ceylon their due share of political privileges necessary for their moral and spiritual growth, they should also provide them with the necessary liberty to promote the religious education of their children and protect them in their respective faiths. The Montagu-Chelmsford Report on Indian Reforms contains a paragraph about Missionaries, reserving to the Supreme Government the right to intervene in the event of the newly constituted Councils where Hindu

and Mohamedan elements may predominate, doing anything unjust to their interests. This safeguard is right, as religion fanaticism sometimes carries communities to pass extreme measures. In Ceylon such a contingency is remote.

In this connection we quote here what two eminent Hindus have recently said on the importance of spiritual culture for our national progress. Sir Rabindranath Tagore paid a visit to Coochana on the 18th instant and at a meeting held in his honour he replied to the query what India's contribution was towards world's culture that, "from our standpoint it may be stated that India endeavoured to contribute much to this end, by her symbolic religion and Puranic literature where the idea that the infinite was immanent everywhere was foremost. Unlike most other countries where the finite and the infinite were treated as two different entities, in India there was no such demarcation."

Sir A. Mukerjee in the concluding portion of his Address at the Convocation of the Mysore University delivered on the 19th instant said:—"Though the circumstances of the time have compelled me to devote the main portion of my address to what may be called the intellectual and material side of our activities I do not underrate the supreme value of the spiritual element. But I feel convinced that in an Indian University addressing an Indian audience, it is superfluous for me to impress on my young friends the lesson that whether we turn our eyes to the unfathomed depths of the sea or the boundless regions of space, beyond the things that are seen and temporal are the things that are unseen and eternal."

LOCAL & GENERAL.

THE WEATHER—Rain still holds off. Sowing of paddy has not taken place in several parts of the District owing to want of rain. How scanty the rainfall in Jaffna during this year is will be seen from the fact that till now during the last ten months the rainfall here is only 9.47 inches.

FOOD SUPPLY—The price of a bag of Mutuasamba rice has gone up to Rs. 20. The supply of Akyab and Indian paddy has run very short and cannot last more than a few days. But Lady McCallum is expected to arrive in Jaffna from Akyab before the end of this week with 9000 bags of paddy. Native vessels are expected to arrive here with paddy from Akyab at the end of next month. There is a report to the effect that Lady McCallum will go for another trip to Akyab to bring paddy to Jaffna.

THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO JAFFNA—His Excellency Sir William Henry Manning, our new Governor, is expected to pay his first visit to Jaffna in January next. We understand that he will arrive here on the 15th of that month and make a stay of four days. We need hardly say that His Excellency will be given a warm and loyal reception by the people of this District.

INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS N. P.—Mr. T. S. Thillaiyagaram, the new Inspector of Schools, has arrived here from Batticaloa to relieve Mr. E. H. Vander Wall who leaves for Colombo at the end of this week. It is only regret to say that Mr. Vander Wall has proved himself an able and efficient Inspector. We have no doubt that Mr. Thillaiyagaram will justify his appointment as Inspector of Schools of this important Province. His great tact, abilities and experience will, we feel sure, stand him in good stead to perform the duties of this responsible office to the satisfaction of all parties connected with education here.

THE TWYNAM MUSEUM—The Government has sanctioned the supply of free timber for the building of this institution.

HINDU COLLEGE BOY SCOUTS—The Boy Scouts of the Jaffna Hindu College have offered their services to the Jaffna Social Service League to serve it in any capacity as may be recommended.

RAILWAY FARES TO BE FURTHER INCREASED—Some time back the railway rates were raised by charging the fare of two single journeys for one return fare ticket and also by enhancing the cost of a sleeping berth on the main line trains. In view of difficulties arising from the War, it has been decided further to increase the 1st, 2nd and 3rd class passenger fares on all lines in the island from Nov 1st. The Accounts Staff at Maradana, as well as the various Station Masters on the line, have been directed by the Traffic Manager to draw up a scale of the increased charges adding 1/4 to the existing rates (a fraction of a cent to be taken as a cent). No fare has to exceed 17 cents per mile for 1st class passengers; 8 cents per mile for 2nd class passengers; and 3 cents per mile for 3rd class passengers. All the lists after preparation have to be submitted to the T. M. R. by the 24th instant and will be forwarded for H. E. the Governor's information. Officers have been specially impressed of the urgency of the matter.

RICE FROM RANGOON—A shipment of about 31,000 bags of rice arrived in Colombo from Rangoon on the 25th inst.

MARSHAL JOFFRE—London, Oct. 4.—Marshal Joffre and his wife will arrive in London on Oct. 11th, and will be treated as the guests of the British nation. The celebrations will include an official dinner, a Government luncheon, a gala theatre performance, and several French and American functions.

DUCHESS RENOUNCES HER ENGLISH LIFE.—Millicent Duchess of Sutherland, who has been living for four years at her hospital in different parts of Northern France, has decided to continue making her home in that country, and is disposing of her property in England, S. Paris, Southampton. The Duchess of Sutherland is credited with having set up one of the best equipped War hospitals in France. For many years she was a leading figure in English Society, and devoted herself to the study of social and labour problems. More recently she has on several occasions publicly expressed a longing for the simple life. "I now live in a cottage in peace and independence," she told an audience just before the War, and at another meeting urged domestic services as a cure for the restlessness of the age, when everybody wanted something they had not got. The Duchess is a gifted woman. She has written a play, and many books; is an artist and musician of merit and has travelled round the world. Her main work has been for the crippled children and her work in the Potteries has an almost international reputation. She is a half sister of the Countess of Warwick.

THE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION.—The Factories Sub-Committee of the Industries Commission met at 2.30 p. m. today in the Office of the Director of Public Works. The Hon. Mr. T. H. Chapman presided. Present:—The Hon. Dr. H. M. Fernando, the Hon. Mr. K. Balasingham, Lieut. Col. E. J. Hayward, Mr. Kelway Bamber and Sir P. Arunachalam. It is understood that the meeting considered the question of establishing Hydro Electric Power in Ceylon. The sitting lasted till a late hour in the afternoon.

BURMA RICE TRADE.—Rangoon, Oct. 21.—At an urgent meeting this afternoon of the Burma Rice Merchants Association, resolutions were passed expressing alarm that interested parties have submitted to the Bombay Government in the garb of public benefit, a scheme to monopolize rice trade and according to a statement by the Assistant Controller the Government are sympathetically considering it. The association strongly condemns any such proposal as unfair to established traders and prejudicial to public interest, and urges upon the Government to consult it in any scheme that may be proposed before sanctioning. The Association records deep and sincere sympathy with the poorer classes and humbly offers the whole of the machinery of its members in respect of buying and shipping in Burma and landing and distributing in Bombay as the Government may be pleased to require.

OBITUARY.—We deeply regret to have to record the death of Mrs. M. Coomarasooriar, widow of the late Mr. M. Coomarasooriar, long time a member of the P. R. C. and mother of Messrs. Siva Coomarasooriar, Land-owning proprietor, and Sathasiva Coomarasooriar, Proprietor S. O., Jaffna, and of Mrs. A. Saravanamuttu, wife of Mr. A. Saravanamuttu, 2nd Interpreter Madalayar, Jaffna. The decease, which occurred last Monday. Our condolences with the members of the bereaved family.

—We deeply regret to record the untimely death of Mrs. Ponnammam Kandiah, wife of Mr. C. Kandiah, of the tutorial Staff of the Jaffna Hindu College, which took place at her residence at Naloria this morning. The deceased lady was a sister of Mr. Sponser Selvadurai, Local Board, Sanitary Inspector, Jaffna, and the daughter-in-law of Mr. P. Cartigesapillai, Tamil Editor "Hindu Organ". She leaves behind her husband and two children (girls) and many other near relations to mourn her loss. We express our sympathy and heartfelt condolences to Mr. Kandiah and others at their sad bereavement.

—We deeply regret to record the sad and untimely death of Miss Navamoni Veeragattipillai, youngest daughter of Mr. S. Veeragattipillai of Tondamannar which took place about a week after the death of her elder sister, Mrs. Elisthamby. The deceased took ill soon after the death of her sister and in spite of the best medical treatment available, passed away on Monday the 21st inst. at the early age of 17. We offer our condolences to the bereaved parents who have lost two daughters within so short a time.

—We regret to record the premature death of Mrs. Jeevaratnammal Arumukam, beloved wife of Mr. G. Arumukam, Clerk, Audit Office, Colombo, which took place on the 19th inst. at Point Pedro. The deceased was down with the prevalent influenza and later on the disease developed into pneumonia affecting both the lungs. She leaves behind her husband, son-in-law, a daughter and two sons and a host of relations to be mourn the loss.

ON THE SICK LIST.—Mr. E. H. Jansen, Office Assistant to our Government Agents, who was seriously laid up with fever, is recovering. Dr. R. L. Spence, who attended on him, has returned to Colombo.

THE POLICE DEPT.—Mr. Lloyd Jones, arrived here last week to take the place of Mr. E. N. Wood, Assistant Superintendent of Police, N. P.

"OUR DAY" 1918: GOVERNMENT SERVANTS CONTRIBUTE RS. 17,500.—Mr. B. V. Casperz, Hony. Secretary of the Government Servants' One Day's Pay Fund has requested the Hon. the Treasurer to forward to Mr. C. H. Collins, Honorary Secretary of the British Red Cross Fund in Ceylon, a cheque for Rs. 17,500 as the contribution from the Government Servants' One Day's Pay Fund to the British Red Cross "Our Day 1918".

A NEW PROCTOR.—Among the gentlemen who have come out successful in the recent Proctors' examination is Pundit K. C. Nathan of Vadukkoddi. He is an old boy of the Vadukkoddi Hindu English Institute, the Jaffna Hindu College, and the St. Joseph's College, Trincomalee. He passed the Calcutta Entrance from the 1st of these in his 14th year. He had a distinguished educational career and has been a teacher in the Hindu College, the Hindu English Institute and the Vidyodaya Institute. He is a Tamil Pundit and is the author of a Tamil Drama and many tracts. We wish him every success in his new profession.

KAISER TAKES REFUGE IN CELLAR.—Geneva, Sep. 27.—The Kaiser while visiting Mannheim during a recent air raid, was obliged to take refuge in a cellar, with his Staff.

THE GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.—The Government has appointed a Board of Inquiry to make an investigation of the affairs of the C. G. R. The Board—which consists of the Hon. Mr. H. C. Gollan, K. C., the Attorney-General, the Hon. Mr. A. S. Pagan, C. M. G., Controller of Revenue, and Mr. J. G. Fraser, C. M. G., Government Agent, W. P.—met for the first time at 11 A. M. on the 24th inst. in the Council Chamber. Mr. G. P. Greene, General Manager, C. G. R., and Mr. W. L. Frier, Traffic Manager, C. G. R., were present. Several Senior clerks and Station Masters were summoned before the Board, among them being Messrs. E. T. Garnier, Sydney E. Greve, A. Kumbasiri, Mahadeva and others. The Board sat the whole day with an interval for luncheon.

THE KAISER AND RAVANA, THE DEMON KING OF CEYLON.—A Lahore correspondent telegraphs:—The reports of the rumour of the abdication of the Kaiser and of the acceptance by Germany of President Wilson's terms, coming in the wake of the celebration of the Dusserah festival, has profoundly impressed the popular mind in Lahore, and people have been heard exclaiming at the sight of the symbolical burning of the effigy of Ravana the mythical demon King of Ceylon, that the modern Ravana is also being killed.—"M. Mall." Oct. 21.

BUDDHIST TEMPORALITIES ORDINANCE.—H. E. the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council has been pleased to appoint the undermentioned gentlemen to be a Commission to enquire into the working of the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance and to report thereon with such recommendations as the Commission may deem to be desirable for the amendment of, or the better carrying out of that Ordinance.—Mr. E. B. Denham (Chairman), the Hon. Mr. J. H. Meedeniya, the Hon. Mr. T. B. L. Moonesalle and Mr. W. A. de Silva. Mr. J. R. Toussaint will be Secretary to the Commission.

MADRAS SOAP.—In February last, and also at a subsequent meeting, an attempt was made in the Madras Legislative Council to induce the Government to sell or transfer the Fisheries Department Soap Factory to private enterprise. At present the industry is so small that it might easily be turned into a monopoly, to the detriment of both quality and price, and it would, therefore, be fatal to dispose of the Government factory, for then, as Sir Frederick Nicholson says, there would indeed be a single factory, but not an industry, and Government effort would have merely benefited a few capitalists, who would solely reap the fruits of Government foresight and State effort. This mistaken policy has also (says the "Madras Mail") been avoided in the sale of the factory's products. Although several requests were received from wholesale dealers and from merchants and agents for securing the monopoly of the entire output, these were refused, as it was considered it would lead to "unlawful profiteering and would naturally make our soaps very dear and thus spoil their reputation as being both good and cheap." The factory has been under the supervision of Mr. A. K. Mouton, the Government oil chemist and soap expert, and it was largely owing to his technical skill that its products have attained so wide a reputation. The West Coast coconut oil, with proper blending of other oils, yields a soap of "unsurpassed and generally unequalled purity," and it is now in use not only throughout India but also in England, and on the Palestine and other fronts. During the past twelve months the department received 10,362 letters and 4,893 orders. The profit made was well over Rs. 38,000, and this might easily have been greater but for abnormal circumstances.

INDEMNITY FOR GERMANY.—Amsterdam, Oct. 3.—The second instalment of six million marks paid by Russia in reparation of the indemnity, has reached Berlin. Wagons filled with gold and bank notes travelled from Oresha on (the Danube) under a military guard. [A million is 1,000,000,000. The German mark has depreciated grossly since the War began. It was then worth about 113. The "Vossische Zeitung" says that Russia will pay Germany the indemnity of 480,000,000 partly in gold and partly in rouble bank notes.]

HUN ANROCITIES.—Amsterdam, Sep. 24.—Germany is taking brutal measures to discourage escapes from the Belgian frontier. On Friday German sentries killed six "suspects", including a woman aged 80 years. The victims were done to death with rifle bullets and bayonets in order to save ammunition. On Saturday German soldiers, after stripping some 1,700 Belgians to the waist, flogged them publicly in the market place and left four of them in a dying condition.

INDIAN EDITORS IN LONDON.—London, Oct. 15.—The Indian Editors today were guests of the Ministry of Information. They were taken on a flight in an aeroplane over the metropolis, ascending 3,000 feet, and were much impressed by the experience. They later visited the House of Lords and were entertained to supper by the Institute of Journalists.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—The second of a highly interesting series of lectures by Sir Anton Bartram, K. C., Chief Justice on "The Eastern Question" was delivered on the 23rd instant at the Y. M. C. A. Hall, Colombo, when there was a large gathering, including ladies present. Mr. H. L. de Mel, occupied the chair.

CULTIVATION OF COTTON IN CEYLON.

ENCOURAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.
The following communication was laid on the Press table at the Secretariat on the 23rd inst.:
During recent months there has been a very appreciable rise in the price of raw cotton; the rise of price has taken place in India more especially in the long staple kinds and has been brought about by difficulties of securing supplies of American long staple cotton. The high prices which are now ruling have led to an extended cultivation of cotton in many parts of India, particularly of the Cambodian variety.

While emphasizing that cotton cultivation in India must not be allowed to compete in any way with the growing of food products, vegetables and curries, the Department of Agriculture considers that the present is a favourable opportunity for cotton to be grown in various parts of the colony. Its cultivation is likely to be quite remunerative for the demand for good cotton appears to be assured for the next year at least.

Cultivation on a small scale in Uva and Matale Districts last year gave satisfactory yields and there is evidence that cotton could with advantage be grown in many parts of the Northern, Eastern, Central, North-Central, North-Western and the drier parts of the Southern Provinces.

The essentials of successful cotton cultivation are thorough soil cultivation, careful weeding and careful adoption of remedial measures against pests should they become troublesome. Cotton at the time of flowering and during the setting of the bolls must have suitable climatic condition or otherwise wholesale dropping of flowers and bolls is likely to take place. During this period only light showers are required and any district which is liable to have extreme changes of weather during this particular season of the cotton's growth will only give disappointing results. The drier parts of the colony are therefore the better suited for cotton cultivation.

The present high price of cotton piece goods has led in certain parts of the Central Province to a revival of the weaving industry. Old looms have been repaired and brought into working order again and there is little doubt that if good supplies of locally-grown cotton were available that a further extension of this valuable home industry could be looked for.

The Agricultural Society is able to supply fair supplies of seed of Cambodia cotton for planting purposes and that Society and the Department of Agriculture will undertake to negotiate for the sale of any crops that are grown. Applications for seed or other particulars may be made to the Department of Agriculture or to the Secretary of the Ceylon Agricultural Society, Peradeniya.

INDIAN MUSIC.

The memorial which the people of Narsapur and Bhuvanagiri are said to have sent to the Viceroy, to plead the cause of music in the general scheme of education, is distinctly interesting. It only because it evinces a desire that music shall be taught on more organized lines that it is at present the case. It is hardly true to say that the absence of music from the Universities has "killed the musical talent" in India; for there are many Indian musicians, renowned throughout the length and breadth of their Province, if not of their country, and there are at least as many who care for music and who try after their lights to perform it as we English can boast in our own peculiar variety of the art. The idea of an All India Music Conference shows that India is beginning to awake to the danger that her most graceful art may run, if it is still to follow the old rough and antiquated track of tradition and to remain in the hands of those who can do little more than hand on what they have learnt without research and without originality.

The music of India is, in fact, founded upon a most elaborate system of scales upon which the ragas are based; and from them are developed the kritis and the tanams. This is not the place to enter into a technical description of the music, but there is no doubt that what may seem to the average Englishman a chaotic succession of raga and trilla, without beginning, middle or end, with-

out tune and without any musical meaning, is really a highly finished structure of a delicate, somewhat measure kind, founded according to strict laws, which secure to rival those of the Modern and Persian, and above all pre-eminent in rhythm. It has been said in the authority of no less a musician than Sir C. V. Stanford that "these ragas have been gradually evolved with a very delicate sense of melodic expression. No one who has heard an Indian song fully rendered can have failed to appreciate its infinite (total) subtlety. Each raga gives the singer a vivid and almost personal method of musical expression." It is only our customary ears that make musical people indifferent—Englishmen to Indian music and Indians to European. We say musical people advisedly, because the unmusical, who want only a tune and who can see nothing but boredom in classical music because there is no air, are past praying for, whether they be English or Indian. They do not understand the art and to their credit they do not mind saying so. But to suppose that Indian music is represented by the horrible noises of processions is sheer unpardonable ignorance, comparable to that of the man who might have taken his example of German music from some German band in times now happily gone for ever.

It is a curious fact that the European art which has travelled so far in the direction of harmony can be traced back step by step to the Greeks, that fountain from which all art did flow; and that again upon the same high authority, "the clue to the artistic value of the Greek scale is to be found in the more exotic types of the Indian ragas which remain for us in the modern world the practices of the ancients." The two arts are therefore related, not as sisters, for the European art of the present day is, vastly younger, but as descendants in collateral lines. If we except the violin, which is an importation, and the harmonium, which is a disfigurement, the principal Indian instruments are the vina, the flate (just a hollow piece of wood with holes for the stops) and the drum. These are all primitive and their counterparts can be found in ancient systems long buried, but their flexibility is astonishing in the hands of a capable performer.

India is far too prone to denationalise herself, to adopt Western dress, Western houses, Western speech or Western ideas. Even in what is generally called Art, the art, that is, of painting, she is beginning to adopt Western ideals, but she has never yet shown any general desire to take Indian music to her bosom, and one hopes she never may, for it would be a thousand pities that her own delicate art should be replaced by a poor imitative imitation of something which is foreign to her. It would be nothing less than an unworthy measure of what is her own, and an unworthy prostitution of what is not. We English have done nothing to foster the Indian Art, partly because we do not understand it, partly because of a strange feeling that music is something foreign, and partly perhaps from the higher motive that it is never left to Indians.

It is a strange but melancholy fact that, while in the 18th century Germany produced master after master, and while even in the 19th down to the date of Richard Wagner's death in 1885, she held an unspurred and almost moribund sway over Europe, from the date of the Franco-Prussian war she has only given the world one single musician of first or even second rank, Richard Strauss. The Kings of Germany are not Frederick the Great, or Moltke, or William the Second, or Bach, Mozart, Beethoven and Schumann. Have they lost the lust of power and the struggle for commercial supremacy killed her music? One is almost glad to think that the German of broken faith, of untold cruelty, of unspicable savagery, is not the Germany of divine harmony and song. But let us see to it that, if India is to have commercial prosperity, if she must have her factories, and her markets, her art is not killed by neglect. May we not have flowers as well as vegetables? Can we not grow pineapples as well as cabbages?

The Greeks knew better. They had a god of the music and they had a goddess of wisdom, but in the heads of their most glorious god, the god of the sun, they placed a lyre, and him they made the Grand Master of the Freemasonry of Music—the very Music which lives in India. They invented nine wonderful female divinities and entrusted to them music in the various forms, the rhytmical music of epic, lyric, and sacred poetry, the music of the dance—all in fact that stands for grace of rhythm and of sound. We still admire their sculpture because stone does not die; their music is so as a lost art. But the glory that was Greece consisted not alone of sculpture and of literature; surely a nation which placed music so high could not have been wanting in that art alone. But why need we go to Greece; is it not sufficient that the author of the Apocalypse has pictured heaven as a place where angels are continually engaged in a service of song? Theological interpretations and comments are no business of ours, neither are we concerned with the careless flippancy of the man in the street. The point is that the man who wrote the Apocalypse, searching for some transcendent earthly quality by which he could portray the glories of the Eternal Heaven, found it in music and in music alone.—"The Madras Mail".

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE FEVER PANDAMIC AND DISTRESS AMONG THE PEOPLE.

Dear Sir,
Dealing the prevalence of fever and numerous deaths in Jaffna, there are celebrated ceremonies in Temples as Adishankara, and the feeding of the poor. The latter is not of much advantage to the really poor people who are self respecting, as the low class people thrust themselves forward and gratefully led on such occasions. What we have to do is to seek those who are ashamed to beg and silently suffer distress owing to illness and high prices of food stuffs.

A party, say of members of the Y. M. H. A. if entrusted with funds from temple and other collections, can very well go about and afford relief to the really in want.
I am, yours truly,
A HINDU.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

The War.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

F. M. Sir D. Haig reports:—There was sharp fighting at night and in the early morning for the possession of Amerval which was captured on the 20th. We repulsed determined attempts to regain the village. The enemy in the morning unsuccessfully attempted to drive in the advanced guards in the neighbourhood of Cambrai-Bavi road. We took a few prisoners. We continue to progress Eastward and Northward of Dinan despite considerable opposition. We are within two miles of Valenciennes and reached the general line of La Sautaine St. Amant Bony-Fainy-angles. We held the West bank of the Scheldt and for several miles Northward of Pontschin and North Westward of Tournal.

London, Oct. 21.

A British and Belgian communique says:—Pressure was maintained on the front. The Germans in their hurried retreat in the North abandoned all the coastal guns, some of them intact. The French across the Lys repulsed violent counter attacks and improved the bridge heads. The British reached the Scheldt between Ballent and Sellahe. We advanced a mile between the Scheldt and the Lys despite lively resistance.

Amsterdam.—The "Hollandsche" Rosendal correspondent states that the Germans are feverishly preparing for the Military evacuation of Brussels.

Flushing.—A hundred German soldiers from the batteries on the Belgian coast have arrived and will be interned. Many more are expected.

Before the evacuating of Bruges the Germans seriously damaged the docks dynamited the locks, and blocked the canal by sinking destroyers and submarines. Roubaix and Tourcoing suffered the usual cruel treatment at the hands of the Germans. Not content with destroying the station, bridges, footbridges and cranes in Roubaix they blew up the water mains, imposed a fine of 600,000 francs and seized the Municipal coffers containing 750,000 francs. They rendered useless or removed to Germany all the machinery of the mills in Tourcoing, Roubaix and Lille. Indeed inhabitants of all the occupied towns have the same stories to tell of robbery, cruelty, terrorism and destruction.

London, Oct. 20.

F. M. Sir D. Haig reports:—This morning's attack by the British forced the passage of the Belle River between Le Cateau and Dinan. Having captured the villages in the river valley and driven the enemy from Solesmes, we fought up the slopes Eastward of the Sella and established ourselves on the high ground overlooking the Harpue valley. We encountered determined opposition, especially at Solesmes and St. Puyhon. We overcame this opposition after hard fighting and repulsed a number of counter attacks. This operation was carried out in heavy rain. We took 2,000 prisoners and some guns. Our advanced troops are within two miles of Tonnat and in contact with the enemy Eastward of the general line Denain Bois des-Eclottes-Landais-Mouchin-Marquoin.

London, Oct. 21.

A British Belgian communique says:—The Germans were forced to withdraw on the whole front. The Belgians established themselves along the Deynze-Eelco Canal, their left resting on the Dutch frontier. They occupied Knesselare, Atich, Adegem, Bellem and Ussel. The French, despite floods caused by the Germans, crossed the Lys and established bridgeheads. The Second British Army despite strong resistance and broken communications crossed the Lys on its whole front. Its right reached the outskirts of Pecq. Ten British have captured 8,209 prisoners and 169 guns since Oct. 14th.

A French communique says:—We extended our positions between the Oise and the Serre. We crossed the Chantred brook Eastward of Verneuill and obtained a footing in the ridges West of Grandpre, maintaining the gains despite violent counter attacks. We reached the outskirts of Perron East of Vouziers. We progressed in the region of Handevies and Falsais, capturing 20 guns.

A Belgian communique says:—We continued the pursuit of the enemy, hastening his rearguards. The Cavalry frequently charged the machine-guns, capturing prisoners, guns and machine-guns. Towards the North the Cavalry are advancing along the Dutch frontier. Southwards we are over twenty kilometres Eastward of Bruges, liberating numerous villages and crossing the line Moerkkerke-Maldegem Urel-Aeltri. Considerable booty was captured, including numerous coastal guns, including a long range gun, undamaged, which had bombarded Dunkirk.

F. M. Sir D. Haig reports:—Sunday's prisoners Northward of Le Cateau exceed 3,000. The enemy's positions along the Belle, of great natural strength, are held resolutely. English, Scottish and Welsh Divisions launched an attack at 2 a. m. in most unfavourable weather. Continuous rain rendered the enemy advance extremely difficult.

The fighting was heavy all day long, the enemy offering strong resistance in the villages and along the railway. In overcoming this resistance great assistance was rendered at certain points by tanks which crossed the flooded river at an early hour. As soon as the Aisne river was secured a number of bridges were rapidly constructed under heavy fire from hostile Artillery and machine-guns, enabling our guns closely to follow the infantry and effectively support them at short range. Local operations closed on certain points where the enemy was still resisting in the evening, and a counter attack from the direction of Romeris was beaten off with heavy loss. Advanced troops Northward of Dinan continue to advance and are in contact with the enemy and nearing St. Amant and the line of the Scheldt Northward of Tournal.

London, Oct. 28

Paris.—Along the whole front from the Dutch frontier to Saathler behind the waterways. The French have crossed the Lys at two points, and the British have succeeded in forming a bridge head at Fag on the Scheldt. Tournal is half surrounded, and Valenciennes has been evacuated. A German retreat to the Meuse would involve the loss of Brussels, Antwerp and the Southern

Belgian coalfields. On the Serre front the French met the attack of seven Divisions and forced a new German retreat. Czecho-Slovak troops took part.

London, Oct. 21.

Reuter's American Headquarters correspondent says:—Throughout the winter the Germans are to be subjected to a campaign of violence. They will be given no breathing spell to recuperate their forces and replenish supplies. 75 per cent. of the whole Western front offers no real obstacle to a continuance of the fight.

London, Oct. 25.

Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, writing on Oct. 25th, says: By midday we penetrated in today's attack to a depth of nearly three miles on a front of about seventeen, and reached Eastward of Balmeis forest, to the Western bank of the Scheldt.

Amsterdam.—The "Telegraph" announces that the evacuation of Ghent is in full swing. The last boats are hastily being towed down the canal to Selzele.

GERMAN PEACE REPLY.

London, Oct. 21.

A wireless German official message says that Germany's reply to President Wilson is as follows:—

"In accepting the proposal for the evacuation of the occupied territories the German Government has started from the assumption that the procedure of this evacuation, and the conditions of the Armistice, should be left to the judgment of the Military advisers, and the actual standard of power of both sides on the field must form the basis of arrangements safeguarding and guaranteeing the standard. The German Government suggests to the President that an opportunity should be arranged for fixing the details. It trusts the President will approve of no demand irreconcilable with the honour of the German people, and with the opening of the way to a Peace of justice. The German Government protests against the reproach of illegal and inhumane actions made against the German land and sea forces, and thus against the German people.

For covering a retreat destructions always will be necessary, and are so far permitted by International Law. German troops under the strictest instructions spare private property, and exercise care for the population to the best of their ability. Where transgressions occur despite these instructions, the guilty are punished. The German Government forthrightly denies that the Navy in sinking ships ever purposely destroyed life boats with passengers. Government proposals regarding all these charges that the facts be cleared up by Neutral commissions. In order to avoid anything hampering the work of Peace the German Government has despatched orders to all submarine commanders precluding the torpedoing of passenger ships, without, however, for technical reasons being able to guarantee that the Orders will reach every single submarine at sea before its return.

As a fundamental condition of Peace the President prescribes the destruction of every arbitrary power that can separately, secretly and of its own single choice disturb the Peace of the world. To this the German Government replies that hitherto the representation of the people in the German Empire was not endowed with any influence on the formation of the Government. The Constitution did not provide for a concurrence of the representation of the people in the decisions of Peace or War. These conditions just now have undergone a fundamental change. The new Government has been formed in complete accordance with the wishes (2 principles) of the representation of the people, based on equal universal, secret and direct franchise. The leaders of the great Parties in the Reichstag are members of this Government. In the future no Government can take or continue office without possessing the confidence of the majority of the Reichstag.

The responsibility of the Chancellor of the Empire to the representation of the people is being legally developed and safeguarded. The first act of the new Government has been to lay before the Reichstag a Bill to alter the Constitution of the Empire in order to require the consent of the representation of the people for decisions of War or Peace. The permanence of the new system is, however, guaranteed not only by Constitutional safeguards, but also by the unshakable determination of the German people, whose vast majority stands behind these reforms and demands their energetic continuance. The President's question, with whom he said the Government associated with him against Germany are dealing, is, therefore, answered in a clear and unequivocal manner by the statement that the offer of Peace and an Armistice emanates from a Government which is free from any arbitrary or irresponsible influence, and is supported by the approval of the overwhelming majority of the German people.—Signed Hoff, Berlin, Oct. 20.

Washington.—After the publication of the German Reply, Mr. Poindexter, Republican, introduced a joint resolution, proposing that Congress should forbid further negotiations by the United States with Germany until the German Military forces surrendered unconditionally.

Amsterdam.—Herr Maximilian Harden, addressing several thousands of people in Berlin, declared that the Kaiser must shoulder the cross of seeking Peace, based on the enemy Military superiority, and must thereafter be shorn of despotic powers.

Paris.—Parliamentary circles and the Press regard the German reply as willfully equivocal and tortuous, especially as regards the Armistice. They do not consider the proffered constitutional reforms as a guarantee of duration.

New York.—The United States Press calls the German reply a clumsy effort to gain time. The vast majority of the papers urge that unconditional surrender is the only possible basis of Peace.

Commenting on Germany's reply to President Will the "Daily Chronicle" says:—The reply is obviously unacceptible. The suggestion that an Armistice should be based on the "status quo" does not lack impudence. The only terms we can offer must correspond to the certainty of our victory. The note seems to be a piece of diplomatic buckraming, making a stage in the path of our order.

The "Daily News," questioning whether Germany is only playing for time, says:—The guarantees demanded by the Allies' Military and Naval authorities would furnish a practical test of Germany's sincerity, and the power of her Military rulers.

The "Morning Post" says:—Those cavaliers, desperadoes, cut-throats, pirates and breakers of covenants have the extraordinary impudence to protest against the charge of illegality and inhumanity, and brazenly propose to court enquiry. The Allies can see the business through themselves.

"Daily Telegraph" says:—The studious vagueness of the Note shows that Germany desires us to go on talking. We demand definite acts like the abandonment of fortresses and the surrender of warships. It is time an end was put to negotiations which must be without result, so long as Germany is in her present mood.

The "Daily Express" says:—Germany has tacitly admitted defeat. It is for the Allies to discover whether her desire for Peace is strong enough to impel her to pay the Allied price.

The "Daily Mail" says:—This is no reply at all. Diplomacy seldom had to deal with such a puny and incoherent mixture. Germany can prove her sincerity by sending a "Parliamentaire" with a white flag to Foch and Admiral Weyers.

"The Times" says:—The document is a monument of insincerity, made ostentatious and deliberate untruth. It will not change the conditions which the United States and her Allies are inexorably determined to impose.

GERMAN DESTROYERS ON THE FLANDERS COAST.

London, Oct. 21.

Dr. Macnamara in the House of Commons stated there was good reason to believe all the German destroyers and torpedo boats at O'land and Zeebrugge escaped to Germany. Everything possible was done to intercept them, but the vessels were able to make the passage in the darkness by Dutch waters.

Mr. Houston asked:—Did the vessels escape up the Scheldt to Antwerp—No reply was given.

BRITISH PRISONERS IN GERMANY.

London, Oct. 21.

In the Commons Mr. Hope stated 5,862 British officers and 142,987 men were prisoners in Germany.

THE KING AND PEACE.

London, Oct. 21.

Addressing the Delegates of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference at Buckingham Palace, the King said:—Victory is within our reach. We are all agreed it must be complete and decisive.

IMPORTANT SPEECH BY GERMAN CHANCELLOR.

London, Oct. 23.

Copenhagen.—In the course of a speech to the reassembled Reichstag the Chancellor said the whole German people was anxious to hear Government's views on the prospects of the success of the Peace effort. The President's first answer to the German Government's Peace move said the Chancellor has brought the question of a Peace of justice, or a Peace of violence, to the forefront in all countries. The Chancellor hoped that Dr. Wilson's next answer would set doubts at rest. Until then the German people would have to prepare for both eventualities: that the enemy Governments were anxious either for War, in which case the Germans would fight defensively with all the force of a people driven to the last extremity, or for going to the Conference table.

In the latter case the German people were entitled to ask what a Peace based on President Wilson's conditions meant for Germany's future. That was a question of stupendous import, for it was not Germany's strength which would decide what was right, but the decision would result from what was thought right in free discussion with their opponents. That was a great effort for a proud people accustomed to victory. It had represented to him that the acceptance of President Wilson's conditions would mean submission of the questions of legality to an anti-German Court of Justice. If that was so, why, asked the Chancellor, did the extreme apostles of force in the Entente for a Council Chamber as the guilty feared a Court of Justice? Continuing, the Chancellor said that the essence of Mr. Wilson's programme was a League of Nations, which meant the abandonment of unqualified national independence and sovereignty, both by Germany and the others. If the Germans maintained as fundamental that national egoism which till recently had been dominant, the bitterness thereby engendered would cripple them for generations. They must comprehend that the significance of a frightful War was victory for the idea of justice, and if they submitted to this idea, they would find therein a cure for their present wounds, and a reservoir of future strength.

When he advocated a League of Nations as a source of consolation and new force, he did not deny that heavy opposition must needs be overcome before the idea could be realised. Whatever the next few days or weeks brought, whether War or Peace, the German people would best be prepared for either by carrying out the Government's programme and definitely breaking away from the old system. The Chancellor then proceeded to outline the Prussian franchise and Imperial Government reforms by which the Reichstag shared the responsibility with the Chancellor for the Imperial policy. A measure of autonomy for Alsace-Lorraine was also outlined. The Chancellor said that the reform measures included a Bill for altering the Imperial Constitution in order to embody the fundamental idea of the new form of Government. This Bill would give the Reichstag as the House of the People's Representatives joint responsibility for deciding Peace or War (hears), but not till the League of Nations took practical shape and abolished secret treaties. The Chancellor dealt at length with the modifications of Military rule and amnesties for political prisoners which were already decreed. The Chancellor emphasized that these measures were proposed by the Kaiser. Thus the Chancellor's new form of Government harmonised with constitutional precedent. He anticipated criticisms of the political changes, but he welcomed them because opposition was the breath of Parliamentary life. He asserted that he and his colleagues were manly in their purpose of giving the German people political authority. The Chancellor concluded by extolling the Army which was people to defend superior forces, appealing to the people to defend their soldiers against unjust charges, and to give the Army the men, material and food it needed.

AMERICAN TRIBUTE TO THE BRITISH NAVY.

London, Oct. 23.

Thirty million people, attending Trafalgar Day celebrations throughout the United States, paid

a resolution, paying a tribute to the stupendous services of the British Navy to the Allies. The resolution says:—"Understanding the full significance of the part the British Navy has been privileged to play in liberating the world from autocracy and misrule, and appreciating particularly its gallant and efficient work in transporting and conveying American men and supplies with so little loss, as to constitute an achievement which must stand for ever among the most glorious in the annals of the great War, we, the people of America, numbering over thirty million, assembled in our Churches, theatres, Lodges and other meeting places, desire that this expression of our lasting gratitude and enduring esteem be conveyed to the Officers and men of the British Navy and the peoples of the British Empire."

THE GERMAN COLONIES.

London, Oct. 25.

Speaking at the Australian and New Zealand luncheon club in London, Mr. Baifour alluded to the question of the German Colonies. It was absolutely essential, he said, that the British Empire's communications should remain safe. If the German Colonies were returned, what security was there that the original possessors would not use them as bases for practical warfare? He could see no answer to this question than that in no circumstances was it consistent with the safety and securing the Unity of the Empire that the Colonies be returned to Germany. (Applause.) This was not a selfish and Imperialistic doctrine. It was one in which the interests of the world were almost as much concerned as the interests of the Empire itself. If we were to remain a united Empire, it was absolutely necessary that the ways whereby the component parts communicate with each other should never again be at the mercy of an unscrupulous Power. (Cheers)

BRITISH SHIPPING LOSSES.

London, Oct. 23.

The Admiralty announces that British merchant tonnage losses in September totalled 152,000 gross, and Allied and Neutral combined 88,000. The aggregate constitutes the lowest monthly sinkings since August 1918, and is below that of the year's monthly average. The total losses for 3 months ended Sept. 30th is 893,000, compared with 984,000 in the previous quarter and a million and a half tons in the corresponding quarter last year.

The sinkings of steamships exceeding 500 gross tons between the United Kingdom and Oversea ports, excluding cross-Channel traffic, was 74 million tons in September.

PEACE TALK.

London, Oct. 23.

Reuter is informed that the Allied Governments are unanimous as regards the terms on which it is possible to negotiate an Armistice. The terms must include guarantees as regards Sea Power the Allies consider of first importance. President Wilson never assumed that the evacuation of the occupied territories was the only condition precedent to an Armistice as the Germans have always argued.

London, Oct. 24.

Amsterdam.—The "Frankfurter Zeitung" elucidates the ambiguous first paragraph in the German Note by saying that President Wilson now possesses the opportunity, by arranging a time and place, to give his representatives of the Armies of both sides an opportunity of discussing the arranging of an Armistice.

THE ARMISTICE.

London, Oct. 24.

The Daily Mail says that Government is collecting the views of representatives of the Dominions concerning the Armistice terms as they affect their home interests and their troops in Europe.

PARLIAMENT AND AUSTRIA.

London, Oct. 23.

In the Commons reply to Mr. Joynson Hicks Mr. Hope stated that Government had informed Austria the sternest reprisals would be immediately taken if British airmen were put to death for dropping leaflets in enemy lines. (Cheers.)

—The Ceylon Observer.

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