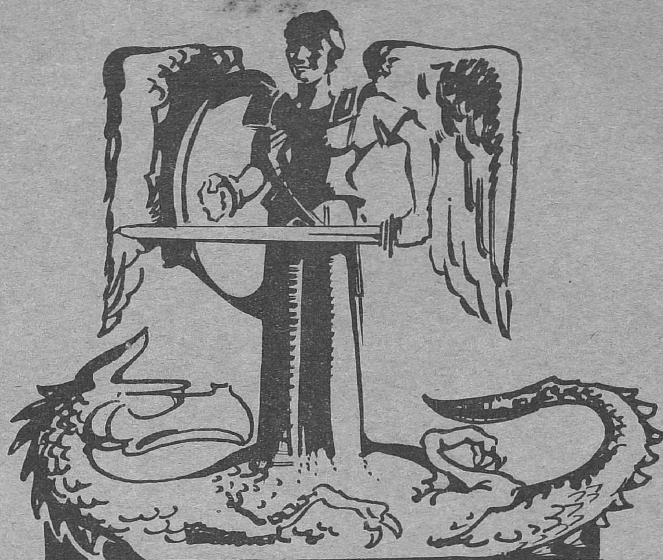


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A MONTHLY BULLETIN RECORDING THE MADRAS WAR EFFORT



BRITAIN: CHINA: INDIA:

**VICTORY**

RUSSIA:

AMERICA:

VOL. I

NO. 7

MARCH 1942

# VICTORY

## A MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE MADRAS WAR EFFORT

### Madras Provincial War Committee

The quarterly meeting of the Madras Provincial War Committee was held at the Banqueting Hall, Government House, Madras, on Friday, March 13. H. E. Sir Arthur Hope presided. Her Excellency Lady Hope and H. H. the Prince of Arcot attended the meeting.

Mr. R. D. Denniston, Chairman, Finance Sub-Committee, said that more than a month ago the remitting of un-earmarked subscriptions to Great Britain was stopped, with the result that approximately Rs. 4 lakhs had accumulated and would be spent (as would all future un-earmarked subscriptions) in this country, for the defence of India for the purchase of fighters, bombers, anti-aircraft guns, ambulances and armoured cars.

Mr. J. Nuttall, Chairman, Provincial Defence Loans Committee, said that subscriptions to all loans amounted to Rs. 5,20,11,955. He appealed to people to lend much larger sums to Government. He criticised hoarding of wealth and said there was need to stimulate saving, in order that, after the war, people would have something to fall back upon during the reconstruction period. The best way to save was to put money into Government Defence Loans.

Sir K. V. Reddi, Chairman of the Recruitment Sub-Committee, in his report, said that recruiting authorities had met no difficulty in getting recruits to the ranks. So far, 19,425 men had been recruited from Madras for the various branches of the army, 2,315 to the technical branches and 1,489 to the clerical grades. Ex-servicemen re-enlisting themselves numbered 512. Due to the indefatigable efforts of Mr. V. Ramakrishna, I.C.S., Madras continued to lead in the matter of technical trainees, Punjab coming next with her trainees numbering 3,388. To the Viceroy's Commissions

125 persons had been directly recruited from this province, while 44 candidates had been recommended for Emergency Commissions in the land forces, 19 in the Air Force and 11 in the Navy.

A detailed scheme for establishing a preparatory Military Training School for candidates between the ages of 17½ and 30 was drawn up and it received full support from the Executive Committee of the Provincial War Committee. Orders had since been received from the Government approving the scheme, though they were not willing to undertake any financial responsibility in the matter.

Rao Bahadur G. A. Natesan, Chairman of the Propaganda Sub-Committee, gave details of the work done by the Committee and said that when the Provincial Committee met last, he had referred to the unanimity

of opinion throughout the country, in spite of appearances to the contrary, that Nazism was the enemy of human liberty, progress and civilisation. Since Japan's entry into the war and the realisation of the grave danger to this country, men of all parties and creeds and

politicians of all shades of opinion had condemned Japanese aggression in unmeasured terms. Throughout the country, there had been an appeal to everyone to resist the enemy at any cost.

Mrs. G. G. Armstrong, Chairman, Joint War Charities Committee, gave an account of the regular daily work of the Depot. Being a supply depot, they had to provide what was wanted, and as the need changed so also did the work. The emphasis now fell, not on shipment of supplies overseas as when the last report was presented, but on the provision of supplies to meet any emergency. In addition to the full shipping stock ready to meet any demands which might suddenly be made, they were accumulating an emergency store, ready to supply local hospitals if the need should arise. They had also undertaken the

### EXPLANATION

The emergency in the middle  
of April accounts for the delay in  
the appearance of this number.

provision of bandages, dressings and other similar requirements of the City A.R.P.

His Excellency the Governor addressing the meeting said that he was extremely gratified at the success of the War Fund and hoped that the Second Crore Day would come round soon. With regard to recruitment, H. E. the Governor said that Madras had been put on the army map again. There was hardly a district in the Presidency which had not contributed its quota, and in fact, many districts had contributed their quotas many times over. The majority of recruits undergoing training in Bangalore were Madrasis. He was profoundly impressed by the bearing of the men.

His Excellency paid a tribute to all who helped in propaganda work. There was much to do in the way of propaganda as a great deal of harm was being done by ignorance and by malice in the City and the Province.

His Excellency commended the gallantry of Indian regiments including the Madras Sappers and Miners who had distinguished themselves in service in the Middle East.

His Excellency paid a tribute to the good work done by the War Charities Committee and thanked all the ladies who took part in it.

With a vote of thanks proposed to His Excellency by Mrs. M. N. Clubwalla, the meeting terminated.

**His Excellency the Governor's War Fund.** The total contribution of His Excellency the Governor's War Fund, including amounts previously collected

for His Excellency the Governor's War Charities Appeal Fund amounted, on 6th April 1942, to Rs. 1,99,19,363-14-8 thus marking an addition of Rs. 6,13,717-15-0 during the month of March 1942. The details as to how the sum was disbursed are shown hereunder:—

|   | RS.      | A. | P. |
|---|----------|----|----|
| By His Excellency the Governor's War Charities Appeal Fund prior to the closing of that Fund and the handing over of the undischarged balance to the Madras Governor's War Fund ... | 2,52,060 | 13 | 6  |
| By the Madras Governor's War Fund:—   |          |    |    |
| To specific charities and to the Joint  |          |    |    |

|  | RS.         | A. | P. |
|--|-------------|----|----|
| War Charities Committee earmarked in accordance with the wishes of donors ....   | 10,16,493   | 7  | 7  |
| To Air Ministry, London, for cost of Aircraft for Madras Squadrons ....  | 1,66,00,000 | 0  | 0  |
| To Indian Air Force.   | 6,50,000    | 0  | 0  |
| To Government of India (Defence Department) for purchase of armoured cars ....   | 4,10,000    | 0  | 0  |
| The Madras Flying Club o/a Scholarships Trainer Aircraft, Parachutes, and other equipment and for training Flying Instructors, etc. ....   | 3,08,969    | 11 | 1  |
| To His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund etc., for Indian Defence Purposes earmarked in accordance with the wishes of donors .... | 12,497      | 15 | 6  |
| To Relief of Air Raid victims in Burma and Malaya  | 1,00,000    | 0  | 0  |
| To Relief of Evacuees ....   | 9,840       | 14 | 5  |
| To Salvation Army for the entertainment of, and supply of meals to, troops.  | 3,000       | 0  | 0  |
| To purchase of motor boat and Station wagon from amount earmarked for M.&S.M. Railway Rayapuram District Armoured Car Fund ....            | 4,500       | 0  | 0  |
|  | 1,93,67,362 | 14 | 1  |

Balance as at close or business on 6th April 1942 ...

|  |   |
|--|---|
| District Activities Augmenting H.E. the Governor's War Fund. | A Telugu drama "Prathapa Rudriyam" was staged at Nellore on China Day, and the amount realised was Rs. 2,058-8-6. Another Telugu drama "Chintamani" was enacted at Kavali on March 21st, the net income of which was Rs. 5,749-6-6. |
|--|---|



Dramas and benefit performances were held in a number of places in South Kanara.

A benefit cinema show was held at Karaikudi, Ramnad District.

A drama was enacted at Repalle, and two cinemas at Tenali gave one benefit performance each in Guntur District.

Cinema artistes, N. S. Krishnan and T. A. Mathuram, gave a benefit stage performance in Trichinopoly, which realised more than Rs. 8,000. A concert was also held.

A magic performance held at Panruti yielded Rs. 537-1-0. Two benefit performances held at Tindivanam and Chidambaram yielded Rs. 1,380 and Rs. 279-12-0, respectively. The Physical Demonstrator of the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Training, Saidapet, gave one benefit performance at Chidambaram. A sum of Rs. 900 was collected at a benefit drama held at Kattumannargudi.

A variety entertainment was held at Palghat, and the amount realised was Rs. 500.

A variety show was held at Anantapur by the students of the Government Secondary and Training School for Women. Rs. 211-8-3 was realised.

In Coimbatore District, a benefit drama was staged at Bhavani which yielded Rs. 569-2-0. Another drama staged at Kollegal realised Rs. 2,497-12-0.

At Ootacamund, a Games Party was held at the Lawley Institute by which Rs. 131-3-0 was realised. Mr. J. A. Davis conducted a football tournament, which yielded Rs. 1,050-13-9.

A Bharata Natyam performance organised by the staff of the Madura Collector's Office, was held at Chintamani Talkies. Rs. 3,500 was realised. The Egmore Dramatic Society gave a dramatic performance at Dindigul.

A Fancy Fete was organised by the ladies of Tinnevely and Palamcottah which yielded Rs. 1,360-2-2.

**H. E. the Governor's tour.** Under the auspices of the North Arcot District War Committee, a public meeting

was held at Vellore on March 10, when H. E. Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, addressed the gathering. In the course of his speech he said :

"I am fully confident that in the final battle of this war absolute victory will be for ourselves and our Allies. I say this without attempting to gloss over the failures that have taken place. It is no use pretending that we can have victory

immediately. We have to march many miles, but we are determined to do so, whatever may befall in the way."

H. E. the Governor thanked the citizens for the donation of Rs. 60,000 and assured

#### VICTORY SHOP, MADRAS

A further contribution of Rs. 1,000 has been received from the 'Victory Shop' making Rs. 4,000 up-to-date. The Shop will open again later in the year if circumstances permit. Meanwhile there are Victory Shops at both Ooty and Kodaikanal with a wide range of articles for sale.

them that every pie would be well-spent for the defence of India and its inhabitants.

Referring to the number of recruits, His Excellency said that Vellore was looked upon as the foremost in recruiting, for it had a great tradition. Six-thousand had been recruited from the district to the army, besides 1,500 ex-service men who were re-enlisted. His Excellency added : "Madrasis make as good soldiers as those in Northern India or in any other part of this country or in the whole world."

All these amounts were contributed to His Excellency the Governor's War Fund.

**Kodaikanal War Activities** The enterprise of local ladies is responsible for the starting of two promising war activities in **Kodaikanal**, in addition to the Red Cross, of which notice has already been published in this journal.

Following the successful lead of Ooty and Madras, a **Victory Shop** has been started in the old library of the Kodai Club, and within a short time a sum of Rs. 1,000 was collected for the British Mercantile Marine. In addition to this, a completely new idea, viz., a **Victory Cafe** was inaugurated at the K.M.U. by Captain G. T. B. Harvey, Director of War Publicity. Here every morning and many afternoons a committee of ladies serve super-'elevenses' at prices only made possible by the fact that the material is collected from well-wishers, and the service (including the washing up!) carried out by the ladies themselves. The first week's takings amounted to over Rs. 250 in one, two and four anna denominations, so that this self-denying ordinance looks like fully justifying itself.

The total number of sewing articles sent to Madras by the **Madura-Ramnad Joint War Charities Committee** amounted to 3423. The **Cosmopolitan** and

**Joint War Charities.**



Garden Clubs have sent a large number of tennis balls, books and magazines.

In Salem, 215 used tennis balls have been collected for the use of the troops overseas. They have been forwarded to the Joint War Charities War Supply Depot, Madras. Coimbatore sent 114 used tennis balls and 93 second-hand books.

**Entertainment Group of Finance Sub-Committee** The Entertainment Group of the Finance Sub-Committee of the Provincial War Committee has ceased to function. The thanks of the Provincial War Committee have been jointly conveyed to the Entertainment Group and its very efficient Honorary Secretary, Mrs. R. T. Dyson. Promoters and organisers of entertainments in aid of His Excellency the Governor's War Fund are requested to apply to the Secretary, Madras Provincial War Committee, "Victory House", Mount Road, Madras, for the several concessions and facilities available for such entertainments. Enquiries relating to production of films in aid of the Governor's War Fund by film stars and producers may also be made to the Secretary.

**War Supplies Committee** A meeting of the Provincial Advisory Committee for War Supplies, Madras, at which the Adviser to H.E. the Governor presided, was held on 23rd February 1942. The Controller of Supplies stated that war orders of the value of nearly two crores of rupees had been placed in South India during the month of January 1942 by the Department of Supply. As usual, textiles headed the list of the orders, and of these some have been placed with the handloom industry, partly experimental and partly for considerable quantities.

The use of coir for tent components has been approved by the Supply Department and as a result orders for about six lakhs of rupees worth of coir were placed with the industry on the West Coast.

Orders for considerable quantities of foot-wear are also being placed, and the capacity of the Madras Province for the manufacture of leather goods and components will be more fully utilised when the new Harness and Saddlery Factory is opened at Madras shortly.

A sample room displaying the various articles in demand, for which it is desired to start and develop production in South India, was opened at Madras by His Excellency the Governor on 16th February 1942. There are nearly 2,000 exhibits in the sample room, and it is expected that this will provide a stimulus to business enterprise in South India.

**Recruitment Sub-Committee** The Recruitment Sub-Committee met on 12-3-'42.

The Government were pleased to grant certain educational concessions to children of soldiers who take part in the present war (vide G. O. No. 272, E. & P. H. dated 16-2-42, summary of which was published in the last issue of "Victory"). In order to give wide publicity to the matter, the Committee resolved to supply copies of this G. O. to the Asst. Technical Recruiting Officer, Pudupet, and to the Chairman, National Service Labour Tribunal.

*Military Training School.*—The Committee accepted the suggestion of the Government of India contained in their letter dated 10-2-'42, regarding this School, and requested the Government of Madras to secure the services of a suitable Retired Military Officer for the Principalship of the School. On the question of payment to the Cadets under training, the Committee was of opinion that provided everything was found for the Cadets such as food, clothing, travelling allowance, etc. there was no necessity to give them any amount in addition.

*The Madras Provincial Selection Board* met on 12th March 1942 and interviewed 41 candidates for King's Commissions. They selected:

|    |                                |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 11 | candidates for Land Forces,    |
| 3  | "    for the Navy,             |
| 7  | "    for the Indian Air Force. |

The members of the Board visited Trichinopoly on 16th March 1942 and selected 3 candidates for Emergency Commissions, from the local College.

*Club for Indian Soldiers and Sailors.*—The Recruitment Sub-Committee made arrangements for a club for the use of Indian soldiers and sailors passing through Madras. They engaged a house in Rundall's Road, Vepery, on a rent of Rs. 85 per mensem, from 1st April, 1942. It was proposed to ask the Madras Hospitality Committee to be good enough to pay the rent out of their funds which were formed by private subscriptions. In addition to the rent, other necessary expenditure would include furniture, kitchen utensils, newspapers, magazines and the salary of a manager. The appointment of a Welfare Officer, who would welcome the soldiers and sailors at the two railway stations, Central and Egmore, and at the Harbour, and who would make it his business to see that the Club and its whereabouts were widely advertised, is under consideration. It is proposed that cost-price charges should be made for refreshments and meals served at the Club.

**Recruitment Conference**

The Tinnevely District Recruitment Propaganda Conference and Fighting Forces Rally was held on March 26 at the Centenary Hall, Palamcottah. Lieut.-Col. W. J. Nance, Recruiting Officer, Bangalore, opened the Conference. Sir P. T. Rajan, ex-Minister, presided.

The following resolutions, among others, were passed:

This Conference calls upon all classes of people of India to join the Fighting Forces in large numbers to defeat the Axis Powers.

This Conference resolves to carry on an intensive drive in all parts of the district to attract young men to the Fighting Forces by explaining the prospects and advantages of a military career at meetings held in villages and that each member of the Taluk and District War Committee should enlist as many recruits as possible by his personal efforts and by delivering lectures in schools and colleges on the need for joining the Fighting Forces.

**Recruitment in the Districts** Recruitment to the various services forged ahead all over the Presidency owing to the intensive and extensive propaganda in towns and villages.

In Tinnevely District, out of the 45 candidates who appeared for selection to the Royal Indian Navy, six were selected.

For the Emergency Commission, 8 candidates were recommended from Chingleput, 4 from Calicut, 2 from Anantapur, 2 from Madura and one from Guntur.

Recruits to the Army: Tanjore 857, Tinnevely 531, Guntur 317, S. Arcot 281, Salem 215, Ramnad 124, Kurnool 102, Anantapur 64, Cuddapah 61, Chingleput 47, Ellore 15, Chittoor 5.

War Technicians: Calicut 54, Ramnad 28, Tanjore 19, Salem 16.

In Ramnad District, the propaganda van toured in Aruppukottai, Srivilliputtur and Sattur Taluks.

**Joint War Charities Supply Depot**

The work of this Depot consists much less now in shipping overseas supplies for hospitals and amenities for troops, and much more in meeting local needs. A hospital ship calling at Madras was supplied with garments, dressings, books, games, a gramophone and records; the Indian Military Hospital at St. Thomas' Mount has received from the Depot sterilisers and other surgical equipment as well as hospital garments, bandages and dressings. Cigarettes, sweets, books and games, razors and toilet equipment, writing pads and stamps, as well as pyjamas

have been supplied to soldiers in the General Hospital, Madras, and cigarettes, sweets and playing cards have also been provided for soldiers in the Royapuram Hospital. A wireless set was sent to an A. A. Battery in a lonely post, and woolen garments to meet a request for the Vizagapatam Flotilla, as well as gramophone records and games for the Avadi camp. **The Supply Depot have also undertaken the supply of bandages for the up-country A. R. P. services, having now finished those for the City.** Material is being sent out as far as possible to working parties in the districts where it is to be used, so that each place may make up its own bandages.

**Propaganda Sub-Committee** There was only one meeting of the Propaganda Sub-Committee on 9th March 1942.

The office of the Propaganda Sub-Committee was shifted to the Victory House, Mount Road, where the Director of War Publicity gave the required accommodation on the ground floor.

The poster re: "Rumour to be stamped upon" was approved with the slogan "Rumour is the ally of our Foes—Crush it". Mali's cartoons with the headings "Don't Listen to Rumour" and "Don't Spread Rumour" were approved.

The Committee appointed for the selection of the best Tamil war songs had recommended that the prize be divided among three competitors; hence the Propaganda Sub-Committee increased the prize amount from Rs. 50 to Rs. 75, so that each competitor might get Rs. 25.

**Cochin's Contribution** The Cochin State has already generously contributed a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund towards the cost of a Minesweeper Trawler to be named *H. M. I. S. Cochin*, and has offered to contribute a further Rs. 4 lakhs within the next four months to complete the required sum.

The offer has been gratefully accepted by His Excellency the Crown Representative.

**Malayan Representative in India** The Colonial Office with the concurrence of the Government of India have appointed Mr. W. J. K. Stark, Malayan Emigration Commissioner, Avadi Camp, Madras, as Malayan Representative in India.

Mr. Stark will look after the welfare of Malayan Government servants now resident in India and the dependants in India of Government servants left behind in

Malaya. He will entertain and scrutinize claims from Malayan Government servants in India for payment of salaries, leave salaries, pensions, provident funds and the like. He will also consider claims for financial assistance from dependants in India of officials now in Malaya under enemy occupation. He will in addition supervise the interests of non-Indian evacuees from Malaya.

**Advances to students** In February 1942 the Government sanctioned the payment of advances to students in schools and colleges in this presidency who were dependent for remittances for fees and maintenance on their parents in Malaya or Burma but who could not get such remittances in the present conditions due to the War. The Government have now directed the sanction of payment of these advances to those students also who were dependent for remittances *on their brothers or other relations* in Malaya or Burma. The students concerned should produce evidence of having received remittances from Malaya or Burma previously.

**Buildings and A.R.P.** *Protection of Hospitals.*—

The protection of operation theatres and sandbagging the verandah openings of all the wards of the city hospitals were completed. Blocking up with brick work is being attended to.

*Shelters for Civil Population.*—(a) Several trenches brick-lined and unlined have been completed and work on several others have been taken up.

(b) 200 street shelters (covered) have been proposed for Madras and a sum of Rs. 3,00,000 has been approved by Government. Arrangements have been made to start work on 50 of them.

*Execution of Works.*—The A. R. P. Division has been expanded with two more divisions with Assistant Engineers for speedy execution of works.

**Urgent demands for thermometers** Owing to urgent demands for thermometers, the depletion of stocks and anticipated delays in obtaining

supplies from overseas, a request has been made by the Department of Supply of the Government of India for the salvaging of broken glass thermometer tubings for the manufacture of thermometers by the Mathematical Instrument Office, Calcutta. The most suitable thermometer tubing for this purpose is the tubing of long-stem thermometers, which can be adjusted and re-employed for the fabrication of short-stem thermometers. It is also necessary to salvage all metal cases and metal scales

from unserviceable or broken thermometers. Heads of Government and non-Government institutions, non-official salvage and other committees, are requested to co-operate in this matter by collecting all such broken thermometers, metal cases and metal scales and sending them direct to the Superintendent, Mathematical Instrument Office, 15 Wood Street, Calcutta, as early as possible and at periodical intervals on the first day of each quarter.

**Warning against Profiteering**

Complaints were received by the Government, of profiteering in the Madras City by brick manufacturers.

Investigation showed that the rise in prices in recent months was to a great extent unjustifiable, especially in the case of stock bricks. Before considering further steps, the Government issued a warning to brick manufacturers against undue profiteering and the inconveniences that might be caused to them if the Government were forced to interfere and control prices. They were advised in their own interests to keep down prices at reasonable levels and thereby avoid irksome controls.

**Civil Defence Measures** The A. R. P. scheme for Mandapam-Dhanushkodi area in Ramnad District is working satisfactorily. Lighting restrictions have been imposed in all important towns in this district.

Civic Guards have been formed in Guntur District. Applications are being received for enlistment in the Civil Pioneer Force.

Lighting restrictions have been brought into force in Chittoor, Tirupati, Pakala, Tiruchanur and Renigunta in Chittoor District. On account of the crowding in of evacuees, steps are being taken to prevent profiteering in house rent.

In Madras, vigorous efforts are being made to provide street shelters in all congested areas.

Lighting restrictions have been introduced in Nellore, Gudur and certain villages adjoining the Bitragunta and Donakonda railway stations in Nellore District.

A special A. R. P. officer has been appointed for Cuddalore, S. Arcot District. Slit trenches are being constructed.

The A. R. P. scheme for Negapatam, Tanjore District, has been approved by the Government and recruitment of the personnel of the services is in progress.

Lighting restrictions have been extended to Undi and Akidu in W. Godavari District.

A. R. P. arrangements are progressing



satisfactorily in Cochin, Calicut, Telli-cherry and Cannanore in Malabar District. First Aid personnel and wardens are being recruited in Cochin.

The special A.R.P. officer for Tuticorin (Tinnevely District) has taken charge. An A. R. P. Committee of 15 members has been constituted.

**China Day** China Day was celebrated all over the Presidency on 7th March.

In Madras, a public meeting was held at the Victoria Public Hall, under the presidency of Sir George Boag, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., Chief Adviser to H. E. the Governor, in the unavoidable absence of H. E. the Governor. Her Excellency Lady Hope attended the meeting and addressed the gathering. Prominent among the other speakers were Mrs. M. N. Clubwalla, M.B.E., Dr. G. S. Arundale and E. V. Ramaswami Periyar.

Processions of Chinese people in their national dress with Chinese flags, singing their national songs, marched through the important centres of Madras. Almost all the Chinese people resident in the City attended the meeting. Before the proceedings began, there were a few items of English and Indian music.

Mrs. Clubwalla presented H. E. Lady Hope with a picture of the banner presented by Madame Chiang Kai-shek to the women of India.

The meeting terminated with the singing of Chinese and British National Anthems.

In Tinnevely and Palamcottah, processions and meetings were held in all important places, and sweets were distributed to school children. Voluntary contributions amounted to Rs. 458-12-3. The proprietor of a cinema company at Kovilpatti, Sankarankoil Taluq, Tinnevely District, gave Rs. 50 as donation. At Veppenkadu, Trichendur Taluq, Tinnevely District, Rs. 40-1-6 was collected at a benefit performance.

In S. Kanara, Rs. 550 was realised by subscriptions and sale of China flags.

China Day was celebrated throughout Madura District with great enthusiasm. At Madura, a mass meeting was held presided over by Mr. J. R. Bett, District Collector, when Sir P. T. Rajan, the Rev. J. M. Hess, Principal of the American College, Mr. N. R. Krishnaswami Iyengar and Dr. Sing Lunn addressed the meeting.

Guntur District celebrated China Day by holding meetings and collecting subscriptions. A benefit drama was enacted at Repalle, and two cinemas at Tenali gave away the receipts of one performance.

China Day was celebrated throughout Chittoor District. A number of meetings were held.

Rs. 690-7-3 was collected in Chingleput District. Meetings were held in all important places. The poor were fed and sweets were distributed to children.

Kurnool District collected Rs. 2,519-14-4. Meetings were held in all important villages.

Processions and public meetings marked the celebrations throughout Nellore District.

Collections in Trichinopoly District amounted to Rs. 500.

Hundi collections were taken throughout S. Arcot District.

Subscriptions amounting to Rs. 1,141-0-6 were collected in Tanjore District.

A sum of Rs. 1,028-5-0 was collected in Salem District.

West Godavari District collected Rs. 25,049-8-7. Public meetings were held in all important places and processions taken out.

Anantapur District collected Rs. 146 and Ootacamund Rs. 3,653-9-6.

#### **Diseased Beg- gars in Fortress Area**

The Government have directed that all beggars in the Madras Fortress area who are suffering from any contagious or loathsome disease shall remove themselves to places outside the said area within one week from 14th March 1942, and that if any such beggar after such period is found in any public street, road or thoroughfare or any place of public resort within the area, he shall be liable to be removed by a police officer to any place outside the said area or to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Krishnampet or the Alipuram Jail, Bellary. Contagious or loathsome disease shall, for the purpose of this order, mean leprosy, tuberculosis, venereal disease, ringworm, scabies, tumours, open sores and such other diseases as may be notified by Government from time to time as contagious or loathsome disease.

#### **Price Control**

In view of the increasing Governmental responsibility for the control of prices and for ensuring the availability of supplies, the Government of India have decided that Price Control Officers should be appointed in each province.

The Madras Government have decided that the Special Officer for the purpose should be, to begin with, a part-time officer. His duties in the first instance will be as follows: (1) to submit proposals at once to give effect to the recommendations of the Grain Price Enquiry Committee, (2) to

consider all problems connected with price control referred to him by the Government and make enquiries and submit recommendations, (3) to be in touch with and co-ordinate price control measures taken in different areas subject to the general control of the Government, and (4) to watch the trend of prices and supplies by close liaison with the trade, the public, the railway, shipping and other authorities and heads of departments concerned and submit proposals to the Government for the control or regulation of prices and stocks or himself take emergent action, if deemed necessary, for which latter purpose he will be given all powers relating to price control under the Defence of India Rules to the extent to which the Provincial Governments are empowered in accordance with the conditions of the delegations made or rulings given by the Central Government.

Rao Bahadur S. G. Grubb has been appointed as Special Officer for Prices in addition to his duties as Provincial Rationing Officer.

**Medical Appointments** The Government of Madras have informed the Surgeon-General that they have no

objection to the employment of women doctors temporarily to fill the following posts during the present emergency where the Surgeon-General finds that women doctors are suitable for the purpose:—

(1) Civil Assistant Surgeons (Men's section).

(2) Sub-Assistant Surgeons (Men's section).

(3) House Surgeons and House Physicians (Men).

Government have also emphasised the necessity of employing retired men doctors to the fullest extent.

**Madras Cholera Relief Unit for Burma** A fine example of the manner in which red tape is being cut and decisions taken promptly has been furnished by the medical authorities in Madras.

On the 6th March notice was received by express telegram from the Central Government that a Cholera Relief Unit was urgently needed to work along the Burma coast. Many cases of cholera were reported, and Madras was asked to supply a party of about 20, to include 4 doctors together with necessary medical equipment and medicines.

Things moved rapidly. The necessary personnel were secured by wire and trunk telephone, and they, realising the urgency of the call, left their work without delay and came straight to Madras. Those on tour did not even return for clothes, but

purchased new ones on arrival in Madras. A party of 18 was thus mustered, of which 5 were doctors. It was led by a District Health Officer of outstanding ability, supported by a second class Health Officer and other medical personnel specially skilled in bacteriological work, and in cholera in particular. But perhaps even more surprising was the speed with which supplies were obtained. 75,000 doses of cholera vaccine and phage with large supplies of permanganate, bleaching powder and all other necessary drugs were rapidly procured, and the party and its supplies sailed from Madras on March the 8 some 48 hours from the time of receiving the message, although this period included a Saturday afternoon and a Sunday. Not only was organisation rapid and effective, but the spirit of urgency was responded to most readily by all who contributed to the despatch of the party.

In this connection, the following extracts from the Surgeon-General's speech delivered at a meeting of medical men and nurses held at the Madras Medical College on 14th March 1942, will be read with interest:—

"Last week-end, a second request was made by the Government of India for a Madras Cholera Relief Unit to leave immediately for Burma within 2½ days, one of which was a Saturday and the other a Sunday. Its object was to render assistance to some 40,000 Indian Refugees amongst whom many cases of cholera had already occurred. A splendid Unit, 18 strong, under the leadership of Dr. E. S. Reddy, B.A., L.M.S., District Health Officer, Kistna, sailed from Madras Harbour on Sunday, 8th March, with 5 doctors, including 2 of the Public Health Department, being specialists in the prevention of diseases, and three of the Medical Department, one having special bacteriological training, and one having practical experience in the modern treatment of cholera. With this party was sent a ton of bleaching powder and much potassium permanganate, for disinfecting the water supplies and thus limiting the spread of the cholera epidemic, 75,000 doses of anti-cholera vaccine to protect those not yet infected, 150 lbs. of anti-cholera mixture, 50,000 tablets of potassium permanganate, anti-cholera bacteriophage, and other essential medicines being more than sufficient to treat 5,000 cholera cases. The rapid organisation and equipment of these two efficient units is evidence of that magnificent spirit of service which is always to be found in the Madras Presidency."

### Salvage and Waste Collections

An unusually large and successful waste drive was conducted in Dindigul and the waste paper collections alone came to more than three tons. Ninety-one bags of waste were collected in Melur of which nearly two tons were waste paper. One large lorry load of waste paper and metal was collected at Palni. The sale of waste paper, scrap, etc. amounted to Rs. 183-6-10.

In Tinnevely District, the Tahsildar of Koilpatti sold scrap iron for Rs. 49-4-0 and sent 107 lbs. of waste paper to the Punalur Mills. The Tahsildar of Tinnevely realized a sum of Rs. 44-15-3 from the sale of 574 lbs. of waste paper and Rs. 1-8-0 from the sale of scrap iron. At Tangasseri and Anjengo, the scrap iron collected by school children was sold for Rs. 26-8-0. The Tahsildar of Sankarancoil collected 162 lbs. of waste paper, the Deputy Tahsildar of Sattankulam and the Tahsildar of Tenkasi collected two bags of waste paper each. Volunteers have been called for by the Tahsildar, Tinnevely, for house to house collection of waste paper in the towns of Palamcottah and Tinnevely.

Eight maunds of scrap iron were collected in Salem District.

### Propaganda meetings.

In Ramnad District, the Executive Committee of the District War Committee held a meeting and decided to intensify war propaganda in villages.

The Rev. K. Rajaratnam of Guntur and Deacon Manasseh of the Slums of India Mission, Madras, toured in Guntur District and addressed several public meetings.

Propaganda meetings were held in Chandragiri Taluq and Tirupathi in Chittoor District.

Mass meetings 32 in number were held at Conjeevaram and Madurantakam Taluqs in Chingleput District. Most of these meetings were addressed by Mr. C. Paravastu Rajagopalachariar.

In Kurnool District, 45 propaganda meetings were held. The propaganda centre in Rutherford Home, Kurnool Town, is working satisfactorily. In the other propaganda centre in the town, namely, the premises of the Co-operative Central Bank, a radio has been installed which is attracting large crowds of people.

In Nellore District, 14 meetings were held in Kavali Division, 28 in Kandukur Division, 20 in Nellore Division and 22 in Gudur Division. A special meeting for women was held in Rapur.

Meetings were held in 12 centres in the South Arcot District.

Mr. K. M. Balasubramaniam of Madras addressed a large number of meetings in Coimbatore District.

Meetings were also held in Tanjore, Salem, W. Godavary District, Calicut, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Madura, Ootacamund and Tinnevely.

**Propaganda Vans** Nine Propaganda Vans operated during the month.

(1) *Van No. MSC. 3438.* (Simpson's gift van). Messrs. Simpson & Co. discontinued bearing the maintenance charges of this van with effect from 1st March 1942. Before the Director of War Publicity took the van over, it was found necessary that certain repairs should be done. When this was completed, the van was allotted to the North Arcot—Chingleput-Chittoor group. It was sent to the Collector of Chingleput on 28th March 1942 for tour in his district.

(2) *Van No. MSC. 6946.* The van was under repair till the 9th March at Trichinopoly. From the 10th up to 22nd, it toured in that district and visited about 32 places during the period. From the 22nd till the end of the month it toured in the South Arcot district.

(3) *Van No. MSC. 6947* toured the whole of the month in the Nilgiris. After the monthly overhauling and servicing was done, at the end of the month at Ootacamund, it left for Salem for tour in April.

(4) *Van No. MSC. 6983.* At the request of the Collector of Vizagapatam, the van was allowed to tour for two months in that district for intensive propaganda. It toured the whole of this month in the Vizagapatam district.

(5) *Van No. MSC. 6984.* At the end of February, the van developed engine trouble and had to be brought down to Madras from North Arcot district for repairs. After repairs, it has been allotted exclusively to the district of Nellore.

(6) *Van No. MSC. 6985.* After the usual period of rest in the commencement of the month, it toured in the Nellore district till the 10th March visiting about 40 places. It proceeded to Guntur on the 11th for tour in that district during the rest of the month.

(7) *Van No. MSC. 7160.* The van was under repair at Madura during the whole of the month.

(8) *Van No. MSC. 7161.* Till the 20th March the van toured in the Cuddapah district. From 21st March 1942 it toured in the Bellary district. Two propagandists selected by the Collector of Cuddapah



toured with the van during its tour in the district. At one of the exhibitions, the Collector was also present. The Collector of Kurnool reports that the propaganda tour of the van was so successful that at a demonstration of war propaganda reels in the van, two young men volunteered themselves for war service on the spot.

(9) *Van No. MSC. 7162*. During the first half of the month the van was in the South Kanara district. It proceeded to Malabar thereafter.

**Pin Badges** The pin badges bearing the portrait of Their Majesties the King and Queen continued to be popular among school children. The Director of Public Instruction was supplied with large numbers of them for distribution to schools for sale to students. The V pin badge has also become increasingly popular among the public, with the result that 5,000 badges supplied to Collectors were sold quickly in the districts and there is still a large demand for them. Arrangements are being made to supply these badges to districts from which indents have been received. These badges augment the War Fund also and the sale proceeds are being credited to the respective district account.

**Motor Fighter Badges** In Tinnevely District, Rs. 390 was realized from the sale of these badges.

With only four remaining, all the badges have been sold in Trichinopoly District.

**"V" and Pin Badges** In Salem District, 100 pin badges were sold and a sum of Rs. 25 was realized.

Since these pin badges proved very popular with school children, 500 more were indented for.

In South Arcot, 50 pin badges were sold.

In Trichinopoly, 200 "V" badges were received and distributed for sale.

War propaganda meetings were held all over the Presidency in towns and villages.

**Seal of Victory Labels** The sale of Seal of Victory labels is not encouraging.

There is still a good lot to be sold out. Efforts are being made to clear the balance of stock by approaching all the leading firms and gazetted officers.

**Press Advertisements** There are at present 20 Newspapers publishing the Governor's War Fund advertisements in different languages.

Besides this, opportunity is also availed of for inserting free space advertisements donated by the leading firms, banks and commercial concerns like the Imperial Bank

of India, the Chartered Bank, and the Burmah Shell in the various newspapers, bulletins and journals.

**Reading Circles** New Reading Circles, 532 in number, have been formed in Madura District.

In Tanjore District, 767 circles have been formed, one in every village having a population of more than 1,000 people.

The 649 circles in South Arcot are working satisfactorily.

**Publicity Staff** To cope with the increased volume of work in the War Publicity Department, a separate Press Section was opened, to be in complete charge of the publication of the weekly war journals, "Victory" monthly, etc. and a Journalist Editor and an Advertisement Editor were appointed.

**Madras Blood Bank** The provision of a Blood Bank is a most essential feature of the modern treatment

of war casualties. Large reserves of plasma are necessary to treat the casualties which may result from enemy action.

One thing everybody should keep in mind is that no person in normal health will suffer any inconvenience from the gift of blood. In some cases, it may even be beneficial to the donors.

The quantity removed is only 10 oz. of blood which yields  $4\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of plasma. About 15 oz. are required for the treatment of a case. So more than three gifts of blood are required to treat one case.

Plasma should not be confused with transfusion of blood. The process of blood-taking is painless and produces no disability.

There is no age limit. Even blood taken from donors with malarial infection is suitable for plasma.

The Madras Blood Bank, it is a matter for regret to note, has not received appreciable response from the public.

**At Margaret Ward, General Hospital, Madras, bleeding is done every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.**

**No previous appointment is necessary.**

Arrangements for taking blood in clubs, offices, banks, private residences, etc. can be made. Intending donors should write to the Organising Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society, Monteith Road, Madras, or to the Director, King Institute, Guindy.

Her Excellency Lady Hope and many Government officials and non-officials have already given their quota of blood for this great humanitarian purpose.

**Mofussil Blood Banks** Mofussil Blood Banks have been opened at King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, Erskine Hospital, Madura and the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor. Donors will be welcome at all these Centres.

**A Donor's Experience** A blood-donor, writing about his experience in *The Times of India*, Bombay, says: I arrived by appointment at the Red Cross office and was attended to with the greatest punctuality. I left in something under 20 minutes, and it should be noted that this first visit included an initial medical examination. **As regards the actual blood giving, there was no pain at all**, apart from that caused by the prick of a needle, if such can be called pain. Nothing occurred to upset the most squeamish or to embarrass the most fastidious. **I saw not so much as a speck of blood.**

"When it was over, I walked half a mile, in the midday sun, had my usual luncheon, and then carried on with my day's work. I felt completely normal. When I am called again, as I hope I shall be, I shall give the matter no more thought than if I were going to have my hair cut."

**M. S. M. Ry. Rayapuram District War Committee** We gladly record the following summary of patriotic activity on the part of the Rayapuram District War Committee of the Madras & Southern Mahratta Railway. This Committee was formed in November 1940 and its objects were:—

- (i) to stimulate and encourage the Indian Defence Savings movement, and
- (ii) gifts of financial assistance towards the prosecution of the War.

Since its inception, the Railway staff of the Rayapuram District have contributed Rs. 11,960, in the purchase of Defence Savings Certificates.

The financial assistance given for the prosecution of the War has, till the end of April 1942, amounted to Rs. 11,236-11-1. This sum has been accumulated by voluntary subscriptions from staff, and sums of money collected by the holding of entertainments at the Railway Institutes, and by the holding of Raffles in which prizes have been given by payment in kind.

From these collections, the following disbursements have been made:—

|   | RS.   | A. | P. |
|---|-------|----|----|
| The 'Mail' War Plane Fund ...   | 257   | 5  | 0  |
| H. E. The Governor's War Fund (Unallocated) ...   | 1,180 | 5  | 6  |
| For the purchase of a motor launch, a station wagon, and a motor car for the use of The Madras Guards ... | 6,600 | 0  | 0  |
| Total ...   | 8,037 | 10 | 6  |

The original object of the Rayapuram District War Committee was to purchase an Armoured Car or a Bren Gun Carrier, but as such articles were impossible to obtain, the Committee decided to assist the Defence of India requirements and particularly the defence of Madras.

A balance of Rs. 3,199-0-7 is still in hand, and another sum of Rs. 1,024 is under remittance to the Imperial Bank, and these sums will be utilised to purchase necessary requirements for the defence of Madras.