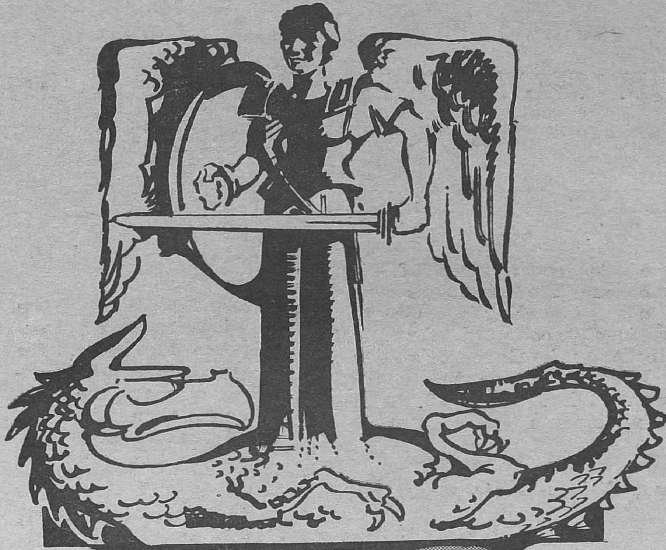


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A MONTHLY BULLETIN RECORDING THE MADRAS WAR EFFORT



BRITAIN: CHINA: INDIA:

VICTORY

RUSSIA:

AMERICA:

VOL. I

No. 8

APRIL 1942

VICTORY

A MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE MADRAS WAR EFFORT

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 to Rupees 2,02,06,669-1-11 on 27th April 1942. The details of the disbursements made were as under:—

Details of disbursements.

	RS.	A.	P.
By His Excellency the Governor's War Charities Appeal Fund prior to the closing of that Fund and to the handing over of the undischursed 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 War Charities Committee earmarked in accordance with the wishes of donors ..	10,55,850	3	2
By Air Ministry, London, for cost of Aircraft for Madras Squadrons ..	1,66,00,000	0	0
By Indian Air Force ..	6,50,000	0	0
By Government of India (Defence Department) for purchase of armoured carriers ..	4,10,000	0	0
By Madras Flying Club o/a Scholarships Trainer Aircraft, Parachutes, and other equipment and for training Flying Instructors, etc. ..	3,08,969	11	1

	RS.	A.	P.
By His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, etc., for Indian Defence Purposes earmarked in accordance with the wishes of donors ..	12,522	15	6
By Relief of Evacuees.	9,840	14	5
By Salvation Army for the entertainment of, and supply of meals to, troops ..	3,000	0	0
By purchase of motor boat and Station wagon from amounts earmarked for M. & S. M. Railway, Royapuram District Armoured Car Fund.	4,500	0	0
	1,93,06,744	9	8

Executive Committee The Executive Committee of the Provincial War Committee met on 22nd April 1942 at the War Cabinet Room, Fort St. George, Madras.

Recruitment: Indian Soldiers' Club The Executive Committee of the Provincial War Committee sanctioned a sum of Rs. 10,000 for starting a club for Indian soldiers, sailors and airmen.

King's Commission The Madras Provincial Selection Board met twice during the month and interviewed 82 candidates for King's Commissions. They selected 28 candidates for Land Forces, 7 Candidates for Indian Air Force and 6 Candidates for the Navy.

Joint War Charities Supply Department The depot remained open all through the month; although a number of workers left on account of the alarm, it did not become necessary to close, particularly as services were urgently required by the hospitals and troops in Madras. Cases

of bandages and dressing were given out from stock, as well as pyjamas and other hospital requisites to the British Military Hospital; lint cotton wool, iodine and syringes were supplied to the troops for first aid, and instruments, hot water bottles and other necessaries to the hospitals. Amenities for the troops were also provided—cigarettes, games, gramophones and records, books and papers. These are all still very much needed, and contributions will be gratefully received. A wireless set was also provided for one remote battery.

As the depot was very much congested with hospital stocks not immediately needed, it seemed advisable to shift some of these for safety. General Moberly agreed to the despatch of some 300 cases of surplus stock to Bombay, and a temporary storage depot was established at Coimbatore and another at the Red Cross Buildings in Egmore. Delivery of material to the working parties was only suspended for a very short time and is now in full swing again.

At the suggestion of the Assistant Director of Recruiting, Poona, arrangements were made to send consignments of amenities to Madras recruits serving in other parts of India. It was proposed to send foodstuffs, games, articles and literature in Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam.

Ladies Auxiliary and Working Party A meeting of the Dindigul Ladies Auxiliary Committee (War Committees) was held on April 15, when the following were co-opted as members of the Committee:—

Mrs. Sundararaj, Mrs. Velayutha Menon, Mrs. Madhava Menon and Mrs. Paramasivam. The members of the Committee agreed to collect clothing and forward it to the President of the Madura District War Committee for distribution among the evacuees.

The Trichinopoly Working Party prepared 4,124 articles of hospital requisites, and 49 pieces of knitted garments.

Trichinopoly also collected about 100 used tennis balls for the use of Indian troops.

In Palamcottah, Tinnevely district, about 1,000 books were collected and forwarded to the Officer-in-charge of the "Amenities for Troops," Bombay.

St. John Ambulance Association A meeting of the Tinnevely branch of St. John Ambulance Association was held on April 9 at the Collector's bungalow.

An application was made to the Provincial Association for recognizing the local branches. Three classes for stretcher drill demonstration were held in the headquarters hospital, Palamcottah. Examinations were conducted by the medical officers for those that have completed the first aid training.

Director of War Publicity's tour

During the month, the Director of War Publicity visited Madura and Tanjore districts and met their War Committees. He opened the Victory Cafe at Kodaikanal, addressed a public meeting at the Victoria Edward Hall, Madura, and inspected the following Village Reading Circles:

Madura district.—Nilakkottai; Batlagundu; Pannaikadu.

Tanjore district.—Manambughavadi; Pillarpatti; Kandiyur.

Publicity Staff

Mr. H. K. Mathews, I.C.S., who was appointed Personal Assistant to the Director of War Publicity, joined duty on April 24, 1942.

Madras District War Committee

The Madras District War Committee organized two meetings which were held on April 2 and 4 at the Y.M.I.A. and Victory House, respectively. Capt. G. L. Guest (Manchester Regiment) addressed the meetings on "War" and "A.R.P. and his experiences in the Battle of Hongkong." In the unavoidable absence of Mr. D. D. Warren, I.C.S., and Mrs. M. N. Clubwalla, M.B.E., Lt.-Col. Ian Cumming, in charge of the S.P.M. Rifles, presided over both the meetings. The lectures were very interesting and were appreciated. The lecture at Victory House was of particular interest to the A.R.P. personnel.

The District War Recruitment Sub-Committee met twice at Victory House in April and recommended 27 candidates out of 37 interviewed for enrolment in the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Two Crore Day

Provincial contributions to His Excellency the Governor's War Fund passing the two crore mark was celebrated all over the Province with great enthusiasm.

At Kurnool, Khan Sahib Gowda Hyder Sahib Bahadur fed about 1,000 poor Muslims that day. In the evening, a procession of school children was taken out and a public meeting held, which was largely attended by officials and non-officials. Speakers at the meeting appealed to the people to continue their war efforts and lend support with men and money.

The congratulatory message of His Excellency the Viceroy to His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope and His Excellency the Governor's message thanking the people of the province were given wide publicity in villages and towns in South Arcot district by beat of tom-tom. Processions were taken out in several places and sweets were distributed to school children. Public meetings were also held and lectures were delivered on war effort. Pujas were performed in temples praying for the victory of the Allies.

In Bellary district, public meetings were held in all important centres when speeches were made in Telugu, Urdu, and Kannada, explaining the present War situation and appealing to the people to support war efforts. In Yemmiganur about 1,000 poor were fed on the occasion.

District Activities Augmenting His Excellency the Governor's War Fund

Mr. Ram Kumar gave benefit performances at Chidambaram and Cuddalore. A sum of Rs. 1,533-11-6 was realized at Chidambaram and Rupees 2,345-10-0 at Cuddalore. "Sakuntala," a drama, was staged by Parry's Sports Club, Cuddalore, the proceeds of which amounted to Rs. 427-8-0.

A musical entertainment was given at Dindigul on April 16.

The American Hospital for Women and Children, Madura, placed boxes for the voluntary gifts of patients. Over a relatively short period, Rs. 23 was collected, which was paid to the War Fund.

In Palamcottah, Tinnevely district, Rupees 132-10-0 was realized from the sales held on 8th and 15th April of the remaining articles of the Fancy Fete (a report of which appeared in the March issue of "Victory"). The total collections amounted to Rs. 1,492-12-0.

A sum of Rs. 1,134-12-0 was realized by the Deputy Tahsildar, Palamcottah, who took hundi collections at the gate of the cattle fair held at Sivalaperi.

In Bellary district, the proprietor of a touring cinema at Rayadrug gave a benefit performance which realised Rs. 34-3-6.

In Guntur district, three benefit dramatic performances were held at Vinukonda, Gurzala and Macherla. A sum of Rs. 13,000 was realized.

Propaganda Meetings Public meetings were held at Srirangam and Trichinopoly which were well attended.

In Trichinopoly town, two mass meetings were held at the Municipal Public Hall and the Town Hall square, respectively, under the presidentship of the District Collector when members of the War Committee addressed the meetings on "War and Our Duty." Intense propaganda was carried on against Fifth-Columnists.

As a result of the air-raid on April 6, by the enemy planes on the harbour at Vizagapatam, there was an exodus of people into inland areas. As they did not return to the town even after several days, Mr. C. H. Masterman, C.I.E., I.C.S., Collector of Vizagapatam, held a public meeting on April 28 in the Town Hall to explain to the public that there was no immediate threat to Vizagapatam

either from the sea or from the air and encourage them to return to the town and live peacefully. Following is an extract from his speech :

"I want to allude to two contradictory rumours, both completely false, which are current in this district. One is that this town is going to be handed over to the Military and all civilians evacuated. That is entirely false. There is no such intention. I think probably this rumour originates from the fact that a few offices have moved out of the town.

"The second rumour which is contradictory to this one but equally false is that the military are all going away from this place and leaving all civilians to the mercy of the enemy. That is not so. If you will read General Wavell's broadcast you will find that his plan for the defence of this coast is to have a striking force ready to move to any threatened point. This is what he said: 'India will be defended by a powerful air striking force which will attack the enemy ships when they approach and by a land striking force which will concentrate rapidly against any threatened point.' That is what happened a few days ago when some troops left this place hurriedly. The threatened point with the Japanese fleet going southwards was then somewhere south of Madras. Consequently, some of the troops which were here were moved quickly southwards. If the threat ever develops here again I have no doubt that troops will be moved back here again.

"Connected with the rumour that we civilians are to be deserted by the military and left to our fate, is the rumour that before all the troops finally go, the Harbour, and some even say the whole town is to be blown up. This is entirely false. All that is being done as a precautionary measure is to have some explosives ready to blow up any machinery in the Harbour which might be useful to the enemy in the most unlikely event of an invasion here in such large numbers that it could not be resisted. That is a most remote possibility, but precautions must be taken as far as possible for every possibility however remote. Unless that unlikely event happens, there is no intention whatever of blowing up anything.

"Now, I want to say a word about the inconvenience and difficulties of living here at this time. The reason for the reluctance of people to return here and the growing requests for leave from Government servants is not only fear, but these difficulties and inconveniences. I know that the black-out is severe, that it is difficult to get your meals cooked, that people are without cooks and domestic servants, that people are afraid of looting; but these difficulties and inconveniences are nothing as compared with the inconveniences which peoples of other countries have suffered for the last two and a half years. They should certainly not be

enough to drive people out of this town. They are the inevitable results of war and far more difficulties are being experienced in all countries in Europe and in a country like China. These small inconveniences have not scared people away in other countries. I appeal to you not to allow them to scare you. I see no reason why some families should not now return to Vizagapatam which will make the provision of meals easier. As for looting, extra Police are being engaged and everybody's property will be safeguarded as well as possible, but the shop-keepers who leave their shops and flee inland cannot expect much consideration. They should come back themselves and look after their own property.

"I have tried to give you a plain picture of the situation as I know it and I have kept nothing that I know concealed from you. I repeat that there is no immediate threat to this town either from the sea or from the air."

Propaganda meetings were held all over **Salem** district, most of which were addressed by Mr. C. Paravastu Rajagopalachariar. The war film "Armoured Car" was screened at the Balasubramania Talkies, Rasipur, and another war film "Rescue Men" was screened at the Central Talkies, Salem.

At Madanapalle, **Chittoor** district, Mr. Davidson of the Royal Signal Corps addressed two meetings on the "Activities of the Royal Signal Corps." He also addressed a meeting at Pakala on the same subject and held a demonstration.

Members of the Propaganda Sub-Committee carried on propaganda work with zeal and vigour all over **Cuddapah** district. Meetings were held in all important centres.

Twelve propaganda meetings were held in the important centres of the **South Arcot** district. The magic lantern slide "Morale" signed by His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, among other slides, was exhibited in several villages.

In **Guntur** district, Deacon Meshack, Secretary, Slums of India Mission, Madras, carried on propaganda work in Narasaraopet division. The Rev. K. Rajaratnam also addressed several meetings.

In **Kurnool** district forty propaganda meetings were held. Members of the War Committee addressed the meetings. The two propaganda centres at Kurnool worked satisfactorily.

In Kavali division, **Nellore** district, 13 meetings were held. In Kandukur division 11 meetings, 17 meetings in Rapur and Sulurpet taluks of Gudur division and 8 meetings in Nellore division were held. The Education Department carried on propaganda work throughout the district.

A meeting of the Educationists of Kanigiri, was held under the presidentship of the Headmaster, Training School, Kanigiri, when a

resolution was passed to form the members of the Education Department into four groups and that each group should visit at least one village in a month and hold propaganda meetings.

Two special meetings for women were held at Kandukur.

Propaganda meetings were held in all important centres in **Tanjore** district, Pamphlets, leaflets and other War literature were distributed by the Divisional Committees. Appeals were made to the people to support war effort. Magic lantern slides and war films were exhibited in the cinemas at Tanjore, Pattukkottai and Negapatam divisions.

In **Tinnevely** district, propaganda meetings were held in several places. Forty-two magic lantern lectures were delivered. In Tinnevely town alone 27 such lectures were delivered which attracted very large crowds.

War films such as "Passive Resistance" and "Rescue Men" had a good reception at Tinnevely, Koilpatti, and Tuticorin. The District Educational Officer and the District Health Officer arranged a large number of propaganda meetings.

Altogether 212 propaganda meetings were held in **Madura** district, 149 under the auspices of the Revenue Department and 63 under the auspices of the Propaganda Committee.

A war propaganda committee was formed at Kodaikanal with Mr. E. R. Logan, Municipal Chairman, as President.

The war films "War Time Factory," "Made in India," "Young Veterans," and "Seamen in India" and the magic lantern slides "Our Hope" and "Morale" were exhibited in all the cinema theatres in **Anantapur** district.

In **West Godavari** district, the Deputy Inspectors of Schools carried on active propaganda in villages through elementary school teachers.

The Executive Committee of the District War Committee held a meeting on April 11 when a resolution was passed, requesting the Divisional War Committees to form special Sub-Committees to pay special attention to evacuees.

Reading Circles

Reading circles continued to do good work all over the Province. In **Madura** district, 15 new circles were established. At present there are 547 circles functioning throughout the district, "each one" as the Rev. J. M. Hess, editor of the *Madura Bulletin and News-letter* puts it, "an excellent influence in spreading correct war news in its locality." Agricultural demonstrators have made it a point while on tour to visit many of these Reading Circles. Much additional propaganda work has been accomplished in this way.

In Nellore district, the Revenue Divisional Officers reported that Reading Circles were functioning satisfactorily. Another Women's Reading Circle was formed in Podalakur firka of Rapur taluk and a new Reading Circle was formed at Alakanitippa in Sulpurpetaluk.

The Victory and Information Bureau at Kandukur turned out useful work.

In Trichinopoly district, the number of Reading Circles increased. The Divisional Committees continued to function satisfactorily.

In South Arcot district, all the 649 Reading Circles continued their useful work satisfactorily. The Revenue Divisional Officers and Tahsildars paid periodical visits to some of these Circles.

In Tanjore district, the 767 Reading Circles were visited regularly by the Revenue Divisional Officers, Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors.

Propaganda Vans The Collector of Bellary in his report for the month says that wide publicity was given to the tour programme of the van in advance, as a result of which the van was given a rousing reception in the villages and village folk assembled in large numbers to see the programme. Films showing the work of Indian soldiers proved very popular.

In Anantapur district, the propaganda van gave exhibitions in 18 villages. Films such as "War Time Factory," "Made in India," "Young Veterans" and "Seamen in India" were much appreciated.

In South Arcot district, the van visited 35 villages. In certain places, meetings were also held along with the show which proved very popular with the public. These meetings were addressed by officials and non-officials.

The propaganda van visited all the important centres in Salem district. Propaganda films had good audiences everywhere.

In Madura district, the propaganda van toured in many villages in Melur taluk. Magic-lantern slides also were exhibited.

In Nellore district, the propaganda van toured in Kavali division. The Tamil films have been replaced by Telugu war shorts.

The propaganda van completed the third tour of the Malabar district. The last tour was very successful, acting as stimulant to recruitment to the army.

In Ramnad district, the District Propaganda Van toured in the Sivaganga, Tirupattur and Tiruvadana taluks and did very valuable propaganda work. The Provincial Propaganda Van was under repair.

In Guntur district, the van finished its tour and left for Bezwada in Kistna district.

The van attracted a large crowd wherever it went and the shows were always well-attended and appreciated.

Altogether, 10 propaganda vans operated during the the month as follows:—

(1) *Van No. MSC. 3438*—(*Simpson's gift van*).—The van completed its tour in the Madurantakam taluk of Chingleput district during the month and was sent at the end of the month to Messrs. Gordon Woodroffe Co., Ltd., Madras, for monthly overhauling and servicing and then left for North Arcot for tour in that district during May 1942. Propagandists selected by the Collector accompanied the van during its tour.

(2) *Van No. 6946*.—Toured in South Arcot for three weeks and in Tanjore for one week.

(3) *Van No. 6947*.—During the whole of the month it toured in the Salem district. In his report the Collector stated that the itinerary was concluded successfully and that in almost all the places visited the Divisional officers and Tahsildars were themselves present. The services of local speakers wherever available were also utilized.

(4) *Van No. 6983*.—Up to 18th April 1942 it toured in the Vizagapatam district and from 19th April 1942 it toured in the East Godavari district.

(5) *Van No. 6984*.—Since the van was constantly giving trouble, it was allotted after repairs exclusively to the Nellore district.

(6) *Van No. 6985*.—As a consequence of the arrangement in paragraph 5 above, this van was allotted to the two other districts of the group, viz., Guntur and Kistna. It therefore worked in Guntur up to 10th April 1942 and in Kistna from 11th April 1942.

(7) *Van No. 7160*.—The van is yet under repair at Madura. The Collector of Ramnad has been asked to expedite the repairs and arrange to put it on the road as soon as possible.

(8) *Van No. 7161*.—In the beginning of April up to the 12th the van toured in the Bellary district and from the 13th it toured in Anantapur district.

(9) *Van No. 7162*.—Up to the 23rd the van toured in the Malabar district. After the monthly servicing at Cannanore, it proceeded to South Kanara for tour for a month in that district.

(10) *Van No. MSC. 7468*.—The new van that was delivered by Messrs. Simpson & Co. on 10th April and which was allotted originally to the city of Madras could not be placed at the disposal of the Collector owing to the black-out restrictions then prevailing. It was therefore allotted to the Chittoor district for propaganda in that district. It is proposed to bring it back to Madras after the completion of its present tour in the district.

In connexion with the National War Front Scheme to be inaugurated shortly two out of the five vans have arrived and these will be allotted to districts after they are fitted up with cinema projectors, magic lanterns, radio, gramophone, etc., for which arrangements have already been made.

Recruitment in the Districts In West Godavari, the Narasapur Divisional War Committee met on April 28 and reviewed the work done by the Committee. Two persons were recruited in Tanuku.

In Madura district, 212 recruits were enlisted by the Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer of Madura and Dindigul.

At a meeting of the Tanjore District Recruitment Sub-Committee, six candidates were recommended for Emergency Commissions in the Civil Pioneer Force. A recruiting party from Deolali selected ten soldier-clerks.

Forty-four men were produced before the Assistant Recruiting Officer, Coimbatore, from Ootacamund for selection.

The Assistant Recruiting Officer, Cocanada, toured in Guntur district. The Recruitment Sub-Committee selected three candidates for Emergency Commissions. The District Selection Committee selected seven candidates as War Technicians. Seventeen candidates were interviewed for appointment as Commissioned Officers in the Civil Pioneer Force.

In Ramnad district, Extra Assistant Recruiting Officers were appointed at Virudunagar and Sivaganga. Four candidates applied for Commissions in the Civil Pioneer Force and two were selected and referred to the Provincial Selection Board. Twenty candidates were selected for training as War Technicians.

In Tinnevely district, 17 candidates were interviewed by the Collector for Commissions in the Civil Pioneer Force, of whom 11 were sent up to appear before the Provincial Selection Board in Madras.

Fifty-two were selected by the District Selection Committee as War Technicians and recommended for training.

The Assistant Recruiting Officer, Tinnevely, enrolled 618 recruits.

In Nellore, the Executive Committee met the Assistant Recruiting Officer on April 20 and discussed with him a scheme to improve recruitment.

A second extra Assistant Recruiting Officer was appointed with his headquarters at Kandukur.

In Kurnool district, 102 men for military and 163 men for the Civil Pioneer Force were

recruited. A recruitment propaganda meeting was held at Cumbam which was attended by more than 2,000 people.

In South Arcot district, 286 men were recruited, besides the 41 directly recruited by the Technical Recruiting Officer in Madras from that district.

The District Selection Committee selected 28 candidates as War Technicians.

In Cuddapah, three were recruited as War Technicians.

In South Kanara, the Recruiting Officer for the Indian Air Force camped at Mangalore and selected 20 recruits out of the 31 candidates who appeared before him. Leaflets on recruitment were printed and distributed all over the district.

The Air Force Recruiting Officer, Madras, selected 43 candidates for the Indian Air Force from Calicut, Tellicherry and Cannanore.

The Recruiting Officer attached to the Record office, Deolali, and the Air Force Recruiting Officer, Madras, together recruited 10 candidates as clerks and three as checkers.

The Extra Technical Recruiting Officer, Coimbatore, selected 26 persons from Palghat as War Technicians.

A Recruiting party recruited 20 candidates from Calicut, Palghat and Cannanore for the Royal Indian Navy. Five candidates were selected by the Collector for Commissioned ranks in the Civil Pioneer Force.

In Salem district, the selection committee selected 20 candidates as War Technicians.

In Trichinopoly district, the Collector selected 26 candidates for the Civil Pioneer Force Emergency Commission. Twenty-five were selected as War Technicians.

Two extra Assistant Recruiting Officers were appointed with their headquarters at Anantapur and Penukonda. The extra Assistant Recruiting Officer, Anantapur, recruited 125 men, of whom 79 men were reported to have been accepted by the Assistant Recruiting Officer, Bangalore. For the Civil Pioneer Force, 113 men were recruited.

Following are the statistics available from reports received:—

1. <i>Royal Indian Navy</i> —		
South Kanara	..	20
2. <i>Emergency Commission</i> —		
Trichinopoly	..	26
Tinnevely	..	11
South Kanara	..	5
Madura	..	2

3. *Recruits to the Army—*

Tinnevelly	..	618
South Arcot	..	327
Madura	..	212
Bellary	..	137
Kurnool	..	102
Anantapur	..	75
Ootacamund	..	44
South Kanara	..	33
West Godavari	..	2

4. *War Technicians—*

Tinnevelly	..	52
Ramnad	..	20
South Arcot	..	28
South Kanara	..	26
Trichinopoly	..	25
Salem	..	20
Cuddapah	..	3

5. *The Indian Air Force—*

South Kanara	..	63
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6. *Civil Pioneer Force—*

Kurnool	..	163
Anantapur	..	113

7. *Commissions in Civil Pioneer Force—*

Ramnad	..	2
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Civil Defence In Calicut, Malabar district, appreciable progress was made in the matter of recruitment and training of A.R.P. personnel, stocking of equipment, distribution of A.R.P. literature, etc. A public meeting was held in Calicut, when the essential features of the A.R.P. scheme were explained to the public.

In Chittoor district, lighting restrictions were brought into force in all places within a radius of 100 miles from the sea coast. Steps were also taken to prevent profiteering in house rent by owners.

A.R.P. Wardens were appointed for each ward in Cuddapah town. Black-out and brown-out lighting restrictions were introduced.

In Salem district, lighting restrictions were introduced within the 100 mile belt of the district.

In South Arcot district, air raid test practices were held at Cuddalore. An air raid demonstration was also held. An A.R.P. meeting was held at Tirukoilur. Lighting restrictions were extended to all the taluks in the district.

The A.R.P. is well-organized in South Arcot district. The following appointments were made in April: One staff officer; one department Superintendent; one Casualty Officer; two medical officers for first aid posts; 36 first-aiders; six stretcher carriers; 69 paid wardens and 210 honorary wardens; 59 messengers; 71 motor-car drivers.

Brown-out was introduced in the place of black-out in Nellore district.

In Tuticorin (Tinnevelly district), three public meetings were held in connexion with A.R.P. With Miss D. R. David as Convener, a public meeting for women was held when the special A.R.P. officer addressed the meeting. Dr. (Miss) Asirvatham of the Government Hospital presided. An A.R.P. Women's Committee was formed with Dr. (Miss) Asirvatham as President and Miss D. R. David as Secretary. A Committee of seven members was also appointed.

The special A.R.P. Warden gave training to the 50 staff Wardens and honorary wardens. The town was divided into five groups. The Civil Assistant Surgeon who is the Casualty Officer, trained the First Aid personnel. Owing to evacuation troubles, the A.R.P. service introduced their own mess.

Fighter Badges In Trichinopoly district, the sale of Fighter badges, Victory seal and pin badges was carried on vigorously. Only one Fighter badge remained unsold.

In Tinnevelly district, sums of Rs. 30 and Rs. 120 were realized by the Tahsildars of Srivaikuntam and Tenkasi, respectively, by the sale of Fighter badges. So far, Rs. 440 has been realized by the sale of Fighter badges.

In Ootacamund, Rs. 199-12-0 was realized, being the sale proceeds of 20 Fighter badges.

Victory Pin Badges In Salem, there was a great demand for Victory pin badges and 500 more were indented for.

In Ootacamund Rs. 26 was realized by the sale of these badges.

Pin badges bearing the portrait of Their Majesties the King and Queen were supplied to the Director of Public Instruction for sale among school children. The Director of Public Instruction had already sold about 5,000 badges and he sent a further indent for 10,000 which was supplied to him.

The "V" pin badges continued to be sold in the districts. During the month of April, Rs. 398-13-0 was realised from the districts by sale of these badges. As it was apprehended that the Collectors may not be able to sell the total number indented for by them, they were asked to scrutinize their demand and furnish actual requirements.

Salvage and Waste Collections In Tinnevelly district, the Scrap Iron and Steel and Waste Paper Sub-Committee met on April 24. The following was the collection for the month under review:

The Tahsildars of Tinnevelly and Tenkasi, 112 lb. of scrap iron each; the Tahsildar of Tiruchendur and the Deputy Tahsildars of Sattankulam and Anjengo, 7 lb. of scrap iron each. In waste paper collection, the Tahsildar of Tinnevelly, 580 lb.; the Tahsildar of Tenkasi, 6 gunny bags; the Tahsildar of Tiruchendur, 9 gunny bags; the Deputy Tahsildar of

Sattankulam, 38 seers and 2 buckets; the Deputy Tahsildar of Anjengo, 2 bags. The Tahsildar of Tiruchendur realized a sum of Rs. 35-4-0 from sale of 8 gunny bags of waste paper to the Punalur Mills.

In Trichinopoly district, the salvage committee was very active, making periodical collections of scrap paper, scrap iron, etc.

In Ootacamund, Rs. 100 was realized from the sale of salvage.

Public Works Department *Static water-supply.*—The construction of water-supply tanks in different parts of the Madras City was well in hand during the month and about 30 tanks have been completed. One experimental tank by guniting process without reinforcement has been constructed and another is in progress. If this proves successful, several tanks will be constructed in the city.

Vigorous effort is being made to provide blast and splinter proof protection to different wardens' posts in the Madras Fortress Area numbering about 350.

Street shelters and trenches.—The construction of brick-lined trenches in different parts of the city is almost completed as programmed and construction of street shelters is pushed through as vigorously as possible.

General.—Due to evacuation scare during this month, the labour population left the city, which hindered the good progress in A.R.P. works. The work had to be continued by inducement of extra wages, etc.

The Agricultural Department *Finance.*—A sum of Rs. 65-2-3 was donated by the members of this department towards His Excellency the Governor's War Fund. Defence Savings Certificates and stamps were purchased for Rs. 122-4-0 and a sum of Rs. 218 was contributed towards the Defence Provident Fund Account. Attempts are being made to encourage the organization of more defence savings groups.

Propaganda.—The same activities of the District Agricultural Officer and the Agricultural Demonstrators as for the previous month were continued this month also. The present war situation was explained to the ryots and they were taught to be calm and collected and not to get panicky by wild rumours. Stress was specially laid on the importance of growing food crops and to allow more area for that purpose than for non-food crops.

Recruitment.—The District Agricultural Officer, Trichinopoly, recommended two men for the army from Karur taluk. Mr. James Colaco, Officiating Farm Manager, Promological Station, Coonoor, has been selected for the King's Emergency Commission and is awaiting final orders. On the recommendation of one of the Agricultural Demonstrators of the Calicut Circle, one was sent to Bangalore for Jamadarship and two as mechanics to Cannanore.

Civil Defence.—Several of the members of the department have been trained in the A.R.P. measures.

Entertainment.—The Agricultural Demonstrator, Coonoor, conducted war propaganda lectures with magic-lantern slides lent by the District War Committee in seven villages of Kotagiri Firka. During the two Agricultural exhibitions held at Tadpatri and Hindupur, war slides were also exhibited. In Salem district a large gathering of ryots was taken to the Tiruchengode taluk to attend the Governor's War Fund Day and to see a cinema show on the war.

Local Administration Department The Personal Assistant, the Deputy Inspector, Northern Range, and a number of clerks of this department continued subscribing to the Defence Savings Provident Fund. Four members of the staff of the Deputy Inspector's office, Northern Range, have joined the system of purchase of defence savings stamps monthly. Collections were also made from members of the staff drawing a pay of less than Rs. 100 and remitted to the credit of His Excellency the Governor's War Fund.

Companies Department A clerk in the office of the Assistant Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies, Coimbatore, was selected as a temporary clerk in the office of the Field Controller of Military Accounts, Poona.

Educational Concessions to Soldiers' Children The Government have extended the grant of the educational concessions sanctioned to the children of soldiers, to brothers and sisters of soldiers provided they are solely dependant on the soldiers and are too poor to continue their studies without the concessions. In the case of Marumakkathayam families, if the soldier himself has no children eligible for the concessions, the concessions may be granted to one nominee of the soldier provided the nominee is a member of the Marumakkathayam family to which the soldier belongs and is too poor to continue his or her studies without the concessions. In every case, the applicant for the concession should produce a certificate signed by an officer of the Revenue Department not lower in rank than a Deputy Tahsildar or Sub-Magistrate that he or she is eligible for the concession in accordance with these orders.

Indian claims Against Japanese Ships Persons who may have any claims against Japanese ships, ship-owners or charterers or concerning cargoes on such ships, are advised that full particulars of those claims should be reported at an early date to Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie & Co., Calcutta, who are the agents in India of the Enemy Shipping Claims Committee, London.

**Prince of
Wales' Royal
Indian
Military
College**

Candidates desirous of entering the Prince of Wales' Royal Indian Military College at Dehra Dun, are advised to submit their applications through the Collectors of the districts in which they ordinarily reside. They must have attained the age of 11 years and be under 12 years on the date of the commencement of the term, that is on August 1, 1942. The age-limit has, however, been relaxed in the case of British European boys, and as a temporary measure for the duration of the war, and in order to assist parents of evacuee boys approaching military age the Governor-General in Council has sanctioned their admission to the college between the ages of 15-18 years.

**Reorganiza-
tion of
Military
commands**

It has been found necessary to organize the system of military commands in India in order to make it more suitable for operational requirements and to relieve higher commanders of as much administrative responsibility as possible.

With the approval of the Secretary of State, the Governor-General in Council has decided that the existing distribution of the Army in India into Northern, Eastern and Southern commands and Western (Independent) District will be discontinued for the duration of the war, and that the Army will be organized into :—

- North-Western Army,
- Eastern Army,
- Southern Army,
- Central Command.

The detailed division of these formations will be :

(a) *North-Western Army*.—This Army, with its headquarters at Rawalpindi, will consist of :

(i) the existing Peshawar, Kohat, Waziristan and Rawalpindi Districts, with responsibility for Kashmir and the Gilgit and Chitral Agencies,

(ii) the existing Western (Independent) District (less Sind District) which will be re-named Baluchistan District.

(b) *Eastern Army*.—This army, with its headquarters at Ranchi, will be responsible for the area covered by the late Presidency and Assam Military Districts, only.

(c) *Southern Army*.—This army, with its advanced headquarters at Bangalore, will consist of :

(i) the existing Madras District, the headquarters of which will be moved to Wellington; a new headquarters Bangalore Area will be formed within this district;

(ii) Bombay District, with its headquarters at Poona, comprising the present Poona (Independent) Area and the civil districts of Ahmednagar, East Khandesh, West Khandesh, Nasik, Surat, Thana and Colaba;

(iii) the existing Deccan (Independent) Area less the civil district of Ahmednagar.

(d) *Central Command*.—This command, with its headquarters at Agra, will consist of :

(i) the existing Sind, Lahore, Lucknow and Meerut Districts, with possibly some modifications in the boundaries of these districts, other than Sind, details of which are under consideration;

(ii) the existing Jubbulpore (Independent) Area; and the Mhow Area which will become an independent area and absorb that portion of the existing Bombay District which has not been included in the new Bombay District—vide paragraph 3 (c) (ii) above.

The following is the programme for putting this reorganization into operation :

First phase to take effect from the 21st April 1942.

(a) The abolition of the headquarters of—Northern Command, Eastern Command, Southern Command, Western (Independent) District.

(b) The formation of the headquarters of—North-Western Army, Eastern Army, Southern Army, Baluchistan District, Bangalore Area.

Until the third phase is adopted the following temporary arrangements will be made :

Lahore District will remain under headquarters, North-Western Army. Sind district will remain under headquarters, Baluchistan District. Meerut and Lucknow Districts will remain under headquarters, Eastern Army. Jubbulpore (Independent) Area will remain under headquarters, Southern Army. Mhow Area will remain under headquarters, Bombay District.

(c) Headquarters, Madras District, will move to Wellington, and headquarters, Bombay District, will move to Poona.

Second phase to take effect from the 1st May 1942.

Formation of headquarters, Central Command.

Third phase to take effect from the 15th May 1942.

Central Command will take over—

Lahore District—from North-Western Army.

Sind District—from Baluchistan District.

Meerut and Lucknow District—from Eastern Army.

Jubbulpore (Independent) Area—from Southern Army.

Mhow (Independent) Area—from Bombay District.

Identity discs for civil population

The Government of India's scheme for the issue of identity discs for the civil population has been accepted by a number of Provinces. This system of personal identification is common place in countries liable to air attack. Possession of a disc ensures compensation and pensions for dependents of air-raid victims; in the absence of a disc, it might prove difficult for dependents to substantiate a claim. Compensation for dependents can, therefore, be ensured for one anna—the suggested price of a disc. The Government of India are manufacturing the discs centrally and distributing them in bulk to Provincial Governments.

The discs are covered with red cellulose paint and bored with two holes, so that they can either be hung round the neck or tied to the wrist or arm. They have been subjected to exhaustive scientific tests in the Government Test House at Alipore and have been found in every way suitable for this purpose. The discs are stamped with a series of numbers from 1 to 9,999, each series of numbers being preceded by a letter of the alphabet. Each alphabetical series, therefore, covers roughly 260,000 discs. Below the serial number is stamped a Roman numeral. As Roman numerals are illimitable, this system allows of any number of discs being issued and the Roman numeral, read together with the letter of the alphabet, indicates at once the exact area to which an identity disc refers.

Lists are furnished to all Provincial Governments of the areas to which identity discs are issued and the distinguishing Roman numerals and letters of the alphabet and serial numbers of the issues.

Religion is shown by stamping, above the serial number on the disc, letters such as 'H' for Hindu, 'M' for Muslim, 'P' for Parsis, 'S' for Sikh, 'J' for Jain, 'JE' for Jew and so on.

The stamping of the discs is left to Provincial Governments as any attempt to do this at the Centre would complicate supply problems. Arrangements for sale of the discs are being made by the Provincial Governments through agencies such as:—

Post offices, Police stations, Sub-Registry offices, Local Self-Government bodies, large shops, managers of large industrial concerns, railways, as regards railway employees and their families, and air-rail wardens, by house-to-house visits.

As each identity disc is sold, a chalan in duplicate is to be filled up (by the purchaser, if literate, or if not, by the selling agent), giving the following information in block capitals:

- (i) Number of disc and religious marking
- (ii) Name and address of persons to whom issued.
- (iii) Father's or husband's name.
- (iv) Caste or sect within main religion.
- (v) Name and address of the next kin.

One carbon copy is to be kept for record and accounts purposes by the vendor and the original sent to the local Air-Raid Precautions authorities for filling in their Civil Defence Information Bureau.

As these chalans are of the greatest importance, it has been suggested to Provincial Governments that they should have them made out in triplicate and have the original and one carbon copy sent to them in order that the copies can be kept in some place of safety outside the danger areas, in case the originals are destroyed.

Provincial Governments will arrange for the printing and distribution of the chalans.

From the chalan, the local Civil Defence Information Bureau can enter in its casualty lists the name and address of the persons to whom the disc had belonged and take any other steps to inform relatives which Provincial Governments may prescribe.

When a chalan indicates that the next of kin of a casualty is a serving soldier, particulars of the casualty will be forwarded as soon as possible to the nearest Military District Headquarters, who will inform the serving soldier.

Re-employment of Retired Matrons and Sisters The Government have authorized the Surgeon-General to re-employ retired hospital matrons and sisters in the Madras Medical Subordinate Service during the continuance of the War whenever the interests of public service require such re-employment. The re-employment will in every case be subject to physical fitness and will not be for a period exceeding one year at a time. On re-employment, the retired matrons and sisters will be granted the pay which they last drew in their substantive appointment at the time of retirement *minus* their pension. These will be eligible also for the allowance and other concessions admissible to matrons and sisters.

"Standies" in buses In October 1941, the Government permitted saloon type centre-aisle buses running on roads in the Madras City and suburban areas to carry a reasonable number of standing passengers without involving the owners in extra taxation. They have now directed that

those concessions should be extended generally to any type of bus running anywhere in the province, subject to the following limits :

In stage carriages which are permitted to carry.	Not more than.
10 to 14 passengers ..	2 standing passengers shall be allowed.
14 to 19 ..	3 do.
20 to 24 ..	4 do.
25 passengers and above.	5 do.

Relief to Weavers of Madura town The Collector of Madura submitted a scheme for giving relief to the weavers of Madura Town on co-operative lines in consultation with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies who proposed that the Government should make a grant of Rs. 9,000 for adapting 1,800 looms to weave new material for which there is a demand. The Registrar also proposed that the Government should indemnify the Madura-Ramnad Co-operative Central Bank against business losses on account of financing the Madura Weavers' Co-operative Society through which the scheme of relief will be worked. The Government have accepted these proposals. They have also requested the Registrar to render the society all possible assistance for the successful working of the scheme and have ordered that where possible, war orders should be allotted to the society for execution.

Assets in India of Residents in Burma Debts due to creditors resident in occupied Burma and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands need not be reported or paid to the Custodian of Enemy Property, except when the creditors are subjects of a State at war with His Majesty or are concerns owned or controlled by such subjects.

Dual Rear Wheel Lorries Government announce that 300 dual rear wheel lorries are required immediately for defence purposes. They must be in good condition, with a strong load

carrying body and with a permissible rear axle weight of not less than 10,500 pounds. Drivers are also required at the rate of two drivers per lorry, with one cleaner. Hire will be paid at the rate of Rs. 325 per month for 1940-41 vehicles and at Rs. 275 per month for earlier models, on the basis of a monthly mileage of 2,000 miles. A bonus at the rate of one anna per mile will be paid for any mileage in excess of 2,000. Drivers will be paid good pay according to experience, with a bonus for a monthly mileage in excess of 1,000 miles.

Owners and drivers willing to offer their vehicles and services should apply at once to the Collectors of any of the following districts :—

Malabar, South Kanara, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, North Arcot, Chingleput, Chittoor, Bellary, Kurnool, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Guntur and Kistna.

Evacuees from Overseas In Trichinopoly, evacuees from overseas were fed at Government cost. The District Board sanctioned Rs. 2,000 and the Municipal Council Rs. 2,000 for the purpose. A sum of Rs. 23-12-5 was received from the Young Women's Christian Association as the proceeds of Easter song services towards that object. During the month of April, 26 evacuees were given loans, amounting to Rs. 2,465-14-0.

Following is number of evacuees, their caste and the amount of financial assistance given :

	NO.	RS.	A.	P.
Anglo-Indians and Europeans ..	4	860	14	0
Muslims ..	1	40	0	0
Indian Christians ..	4	556	0	0
Other Indians ..	17	1,009	0	0
		2,465 14 0		

In Nellore, a Telugu drama "Chitra Naliyam" was staged for the benefit of Burma evacuees.