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"Nisi Dominus custodierit civitatem frustra vigilat qui custodit eam."

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PEACE? NAZI, ALLIED OR CATHOLIC?

While the battles of the air and in the air approach their climax and feverish activities in both camps are rumoured, the world hears again the voice of the Holy Father.

We are winning the war. Well and good. But what is to be the value of victory? Already the more thoughtful are beginning to see the dangers of the tyrannies and anarchies and disorders of every sort to follow a victory that is not conceived according to God's design. From such disorders only the alternatives of slavery or war can come.

The Pope asks for "a peace which is not founded on fears, on force, on hate, but on righteousness, on truth, on justice and on fraternal charity." And when he asks for such a peace, we Catholics know perfectly well that only such a peace can yield true fruits of any victory.

Anything in the nature of general peace negotiations would be disastrous for Germany at present. The United Nations are in no mood to accept anything that would not be tantamount to a complete defeat for the Axis. This does not mean that the German diplomats are without any hopes. They realise that their one chance is to foster misunderstandings between the Allies and try to deal with them one at a time. And from their point of view it must seem that there is plenty of material for them to work on. They believe that America is essentially disinterested in Europe, except as a field for financial and commercial exploitation and that it is the Japanese war alone which really concerns the Americans. They expect that the political activities preceding next year's Presidential elections will inevitably strengthen these feelings at the expense of the present apparently unnatural American outlook which has been so dependent upon the views and

personality of Roosevelt. And however exaggerated the German hopes may be, it is obvious that, from their point of view, the chances of extracting a reasonable peace must increase rather than decrease during the coming year.

FEAR OF BOLSHEVISM

The "high-ups" in Germany may well attach more importance to the opportunities arising from American politics than to the relations between Russia and the Anglo-Saxon Powers. But the general public must still be expecting a last-minute salvation from this latter quarter. In this country we have always tended to underestimate the present European feeling in regard to Russia. Fantastic as an anti-Bolshevik crusade under Nazi leadership may seem to us, there is no doubt about the reality of the anti-Bolshevik part of it as far as the great majority of European people are concerned. When Hitler talks of victory or annihilation in the cause of saving civilisation from "the barbarism of the 'Yappe'" he undoubtedly succeeds in evoking a moral response that is not very dissimilar from our own response to saving civilisation from the Nazi horde.

It is interesting in this connection to note the way in which feelings in Spain have changed as the Allies strengthen their position. One might have expected a great increase in pro-Allied sentiment combined with a weakening of Franco's position as against the middle way of monarchy. Our latest information from that country that the fear of Russia is becoming the predominant sentiment and that the monarchy is being considered as too weak a compromise to enable Spain to deal with the problems of the future—and this despite an immense improvement in the economic and food situation during the last year.—*Cath. Herald, London.*

A MATTER OF OLD CONTROVERSY

Bishop Gonzi and his appointment as Coadjutor to Archbishop Caruana, Bishop of Malta, were defended in the House of Commons when Mr. Sorensen (Lab., West Leyton)—a minister of the Free Christian Church—questioned the Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Sorensen asked if the appointment was by arrangement with the Governor or the British Government, and if the Colonial Secretary was satisfied that the appointment "is in the interest of the people of Malta."

Col. Stanley replied: "This appointment was made by the Holy See with the concurrence of His Majesty's Government. It will enable Bishop Gonzi to give immediate assistance to the Archbishop, who, I regret to say, has not been in good health for some time. Bishop Gonzi will remain in charge of the See of Gozo as Apostolic Administrator.

Col. Stanley also gave the assurance that the appointment is in the interest of the people of Malta."

Mr. Sorensen: Is the Minister aware that there is other feeling on this matter and that this particular Bishop is not looked upon as being at all sympathetic to the democratic aspirations of the people of Malta?

Dr. Morgan (Lab. Rochdale, a Cath.

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING

The catholicity of the Church in England is well demonstrated these days in Westminster Cathedral. One morning in November at early Mass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel an ebony-black negro knelt at the Communion rail between a Canadian airman and a British sailor. Mass was being said by an English priest and served by a fair-haired Polish soldier. The priest who said the next Mass was a German. His server was a Dutch airman. In a chapel on the south side a Belgian priest was saying his Mass—served by a small knicker-bocked Belgian boy, and in the Lady Chapel an Italian sacristan was busy with brush and dust-pan. At the end of Mass, English, French and Irish accents could be plainly heard in the English prayers.

olic): Is it necessary for questions of this character about a well-known Bishop to be asked by people who know nothing about the subject?

Col. Stanley: This is a matter of old controversy and one to which I have given close attention. It is only fair to the Bishop to state that the Governor of Malta has told me of the complete co-operation which he has had from the Bishop during the difficult times Malta has gone through.

IS CIVIL WAR BEING FOSTERED IN EUROPE?

PROPAGANDA DIVIDING NATIONS

One of the stark post-war dangers is the outbreak of civil war in a number of countries.

These include at least Yugoslavia, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Italy, France and Spain.

Did the Moscow Conference seriously tackle this danger—more especially in respect of those countries where internal dissensions have been fostered or increased as a deliberate matter of policy?

A Special Correspondent, with an unrivaled knowledge of Central Europe and the Balkans, expounds the position and dangers in the case of Yugoslavia and contends that even the B.B.C. has been fostering internal dissension.

A specially interesting point he makes is that "Tito," the formula name of the Communist-Partisans, represents Third International Terrorist Organization.

THOSE WHO ARE NOT COMMUNISTS ARE CLASSED AS REACTIONARIES

It was hoped that after the Moscow Conference the situation with regard to smaller countries enslaved by Hitler and other Axis Powers would be cleared up. It was expected that an encouragement would be given to real patriotic forces to liberate themselves from all Dictators, whether called Fascists, Nazis or Communists.

It appears that even now, after the Moscow Conference, all the national forces in Europe who do not sympathise with Communists are classed as reactionaries and accused of co-operating with the enemy. It is only the so-called Partisans, led by Communists, who are accepted as fighting for "freedom."

Who are the Partisans? All the evidence so far shows that at least their leaders are a set of international Communist adventures who very often have nothing to do with the country in which they operate. They have at their disposal the services of the Soviet propa-

ganda machine and are given large financial assistance. They have the use of a number of "secret" broadcasting stations situated on Russian territory, but advertised as if broadcasting from various enslaved countries.

Various Partisan movements are entirely run and directed by "former" leaders of this international revolutionary and terrorist body.

COMMUNISTS DON'T TARRY

When Yugoslavia, for example, was wantonly attacked by Germany it was General Mihailovitch who raised the flag of freedom and gathered around him free men to resist the aggressors. The Communists in Yugoslavia at that time fully co-operated with the Germans in hunting Mihailovitch's men because Russia at that time was Germany's Ally. The Communists entered the anti-German struggle only after Russia had been attacked by the Reich. Communists did not tarry too much to show their true colour. Only four months after they have joined the fight they proclaimed the first Soviet Republic in Central Serbia (Uzice).

It is from this period that the feud between Mihailovitch and the Partisans started.

Soon after these enmities had started Mihailovitch was accused of co-operating with the enemy. These accusations were made by the station "Free Yugoslavia," operating from Tiflis in Russia.

According to reports the Partisans are no longer hiding the fact that they want a "Sovietised Balkans." They all wear the Soviet red star and salute with the raised fist. In each Partisan fighting unit they have a political and a military commissar. The name of the commanding man of Partisans in Yugoslavia has been given as "Tito." The actual person under this title changes quite frequently.

The last "commander" was a certain (Continued on Page 4.)

THE SOVIET AND ISLAM

The Soviet Union, with a changed official policy towards Islam as well as towards Christianity, is extending its influence in the Middle East and indeed throughout Islam, and claims the status of a great Moslem Power as one of the titles to a prominent voice in the deliberations at Algiers. The Moslem counterpart of the Metropolitan Sergius is the Mufti Abdurrahman Rasulev, who has been steadily calling on Russia's 25 million Moslems to support the Red Army and has been raising money for the purchase of tanks with a zeal equal to that which last week brought a medal from Stalin to the Metropolitan of Leningrad.

In quite a short time now the final stretch of railway between Teheran and Tabriz will be completed, and when it is Russia will be in direct rail communication with the Persian Gulf for the first time. Meanwhile, diplomatic relations with Egypt have now been established and envoys are to be exchanged, and discussions are proceeding in Cairo for the establishment of Russian commercial airfields in Egypt. A great politi-

cal awakening is going on in Islam, and the Russians are very much interested in it; but apart from that their interest in North Africa is as a link with France. Hence the arrival of M. Bugomolov in Algiers with so remarkably numerous a staff.

An interesting sidelight on the Soviet bid for the ear of Islam is provided by the very strong Communist Party in French North Africa. The weekly newspaper, *Liberte*, which since July it has been allowed to publish in Algiers, constantly claims to be the only North African paper with any substantial following among the Moslems, whose plea for equality of political and economic status it strongly upholds. The Communists say theirs is the only political organization of which Arabs and Kabyles are members on an equal footing with Europeans, and make "A bold Moslem policy" a main plank in their platform.

This is quite a new departure; for before the war the Communists in French North Africa were always associated with the Jews rather than with the Moslems.—*The Tablet.*

Church Calendar

FEBRUARY 1944

FRI. ... Rev. C.
SAT. ... gatha
SUN. ... S. Titus.
MON. ... omuald.
TUES. ... S. John Mat.
WED. ... S. Cyril.
THURS. ... S. Scolastica.
FRI. ... 11 App. Lourdes.

The Catholic Guardian

FEBRUARY 4TH 1944

SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT

A lively newspaper discussion was a noticeable feature of the *Morning Star* of Friday last between the Rev. Mr. James S. Mather and the Editor. Mr. Mather complained that the *Star's* adverse comments on his criticism of the Report of the Special Committee on Education was based on an inaccurate account published in the Colombo papers and cited some passages from it as proof. As these are singularly descriptive they may as well be transferred here for the benefit of our readers:

"The Report seems to me like a plate of rice placed before a man who is hungry, but on examination he finds it contains more stones and filth, than rice. The country has long been hungry for Educational reforms, but the report is most disappointing.

"It contains several attractive points but they are like the piece of prawn in a fisherman's net. The report is cleverly worded, and sounds sweet. We must be careful not to be deluded by some of the recommendations."

The Editor makes the following defence:

"To recommend the mother tongue as the medium of education, to remedy the exclusive imparting of literary education and provide for practical education, to suggest the provision of equal opportunity for all by making education free and above all to decide that denominational education should be continued and that education with a religious background is necessary: if these things can be called a 'plate of stones,' one may be forgiven when one characterises it as exaggeration. No doubt there is a little gravel mixed up with the 'rice' and there is an appreciably large stone in the shape of the Trust Ordinance, but on the whole we should be thankful that so much 'rice' has been provided."

Now, should we not say that the Report of the Special Committee is an intriguing document. Twelve out of the eighteen members forming the Committee, in signing the report, have appended riders and dissents, one has refused to sign it. The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Associations while welcoming it have made a number of exceptions and so have the many Associations of Teachers. The Christian Churches both Catholic and Protestant express themselves as prepared to cooperate with Government in its endeavour to promote education in the country and in that spirit accept the Report but with definite reservations. All these exceptions are made, doubtless, on reasoned basis and if all these are excluded, we wonder how much of the Report will remain. However, it has generally been welcomed and that is why we say that it is an intriguing document. Rev. Mather himself admits several attractive points in it. It is cleverly worded and sounds sweet he says, but we

must be careful not to be deluded by some of the recommendations. While agreeing with his warning we do not think we could accept the remedy he suggests. "The wisest thing the State Council would do", he suggests, "is without rejecting the report to ask the Secretary of State to appoint a Commission from abroad consisting of two or three experts on Education to deal with the subject and to refer this report to it to make any use of it the Special Commission may find it possible to do." We must confess that we have not much faith in the experts from abroad because, strangers as they are, they will not be able to adapt their knowledge to the needs of the country. There are intelligent men and women here to solve this problem for us if it is taken up with honesty of purpose and not with the aim of carrying on a sort of anti-Christian vendetta. The trouble with the Report is its atmosphere of insincerity. The concessions made to the denominationalists appear to have been forced out of the Minister and his group who, it is feared, are secretly planning to nullify them, if not just now, at some time later. The teaching of religion in State schools, the anxiety about religious background, and even the generosity displayed in free education, have all the same end in view. The key to this scheming is to be found in the Trust Ordinance which was furtively, so to say, appended to the Report. The *Guardian* has all along been for free education in English up to a certain stage. The Catholic Hierarchy while accepting free education in principle had to add the proviso that it be not made an excuse for excessive State control.

EDITORIAL NOTE

India and Religious Liberty.

—We note with satisfaction, says the *Examiner*, that the Hindu Mahasabha "Charter of Rights" Committee made the following recommendations:—

"Freedom of belief and worship shall be guaranteed to each religious community living in the country, and to each religious community every person belonging to that community shall have the right to preach and practice his religion as he may choose, subject only to public order and morality."

The Indian National Congress is a political body while the Hindu Mahasabha is a politico-religious organisation wielding much influence. It is well for the liberalising of Hindu thought its Charter of Rights Committee should have made the above recommendations. It remains to be seen whether the Mahasabha will accept them. If every person belonging to a religious community shall have the right to preach, then persons not of that community may lawfully listen to him and if they are so inclined to accept his teaching they must be allowed to do so without let or hindrance. Without this right one cannot be said to enjoy freedom of belief and worship, one of the essential freedoms of man. And yet a dark cloud of fierce fanaticism hangs

over the Bombay University of all places, because two girls out of hundreds embraced Catholicism in the College of Sophia affiliated to that University. One girl became a Catholic while in the College, the other, after she had left it; but in either case it was established that the authorities of the College had nothing directly to do with their conversion. In both cases it was a voluntary act on the part of the girls. But it is one of the easiest things in the world for a partisan Committee to make out that the case was the other way about and so has it happened. The result of the inquiry was reported to the Senate which has convened a meeting of its members for the 12th inst. to decide whether the Sophia College should be disaffiliated or not. The decision may be adverse to the College, because as a very superior educational Institution it has raised a great deal of jealousy. But it is not its good name that is at stake but that of the Bombay University.

O.M.I. NEWS

OCTOBER 1943.

From various sources we receive news of our Superior-General. The latest is from Rev. Fr. Balmes through Vatican Radio received on 22nd Sept:

"Father General thanks to extreme care is better but his eyes are always tired. Continue to pray for him."

Prisoners' news—Rev. Fr. Lariviere prisoner in Germany is the chaplain of 350 Catholics scattered in five camps.

Rev. Fr. Gerard Boulanger prisoner in Germany is well and also Rev. Fr. Paul Juneau and Bernard Danois, O.M.I.

French Province—Rev. Fr. Luc Miville is the Secretary of the Very Rev. Father General at Ecully—Rev. Fr. Trebaol is now in Paris in the chapel of our former General House, as Spiritual Director of the Domestic Servants Confraternity.

Rev. Fr. Morin Bernard for 3 years a prisoner in Germany has come back to France.

Rome—Writing in April 1943 Rev. Fr. Pietsch, O.M.I. now 70 years old, says: I am completely better after my operation. We are pretty well here. Food restrictions are tolerable. Our community at Rome consists of Rev. Fr. Leyendecker, Thiel, Perbal-Dindinger, Rommerskirchen, with 11 Scholastics, 3 Lay Brothers, 4 Religious Sisters look after us and our house.

Roviano is occupied by the army except the first floor and our chapel.

Belgian Dutch Province—Scholasticate and Novitiate are full with many vocations. They manage to live.

Mgr. Bossard, Prefect Apostolic of d'Ipamu, Congo says that everything is normal. We have now 8 centres of Missions. A normal school was just opened at Mwi Lambongo—very necessary to supply teachers to our schools is very flourishing. We have 5 students at the Regional Great Seminary. From Vatican radio we get home news for instance that Rev. Fr. Bigonville is dead in Belgium that La Panne is abandoned by the Oblates and that food supply is scarce.

German Province—Rev. Fr. Betker has lost at war already 30 Oblates of his Province as far as he can ascertain.

Natal Vicariate—Rev. Fr. Kerutret O.M.I. writes on May 10th 1943: We had on March 11 the blessing of the new Scholasticate house of Prestbury. The staff consists of the Moderator Rev. Fr. Viallard, Professors Holland and Noland. We have 4 Scholastics. We have at Roma Basutoland 10 Juni-ovists. Mgr. Dellale is pretty well but getting pretty old too.

Italian Province—For the last 2 years Rev. Fr. Vincenzo De Luca is in charge of the local jail where he says 2 Masses every Sunday. Thanks to his apostolic zeal the atmosphere of the jail is altogether changed. He has

many confessions, communions and conversions specially among women. The jail is situated at Pescara now mentioned in war news.

Spanish Vice-Province—Thanks to our Argentine Oblates who sent us 14 tons of food supply, and the United States supplying us with church vestments our Vice-Province is getting on well. The Juniorate is now at Las Arenas. Excellent results a Malaga, deaws was just opened in the suburbs of Madrid.

Rev. Fr. Marcos is appointed a member of the National Council of Spain for foreign missions.

Canadian Province—On the 8th of Sept, 1943 feast of Our Lady Mgr. Charbonneau, Archbishop of Montreal, blessed a new house of Retreats at Ville la Salle in the presence of Rev. Fr. A. Desnoyers and Rev. Fr. G. Marchand, Provincial. Our Oblate Lay Brothers are responsible for this building. The staff consists of Rev. Fr. S. Chenevert, director and Rev. Frs. Tremblay, Charbonneau, Dandenault as preachers.

Rev. Fr. Lelievre, O.M.I., indefatigable apostle of the gospel and of the Sacred Heart and of the young men, kept recently the 40th anniversary of his apostolate in Canada, particularly at St. Sauveur de Quebec. Since 1932 more than 40,000 men have benefitted by the Retreats given by Rev. Fr. Lelievre, O.M.I.

St. Peter De New-Westminster—Flin, a parish in the Vicariate of Keewatin has just been entrusted to the Province of St. Peter of New Westminster. Rev. Fr. Malloy is the Parish Priest.

Province of Manitoba—Rev. Fr. A. Veilleux is appointed Superior of the Juniorate of St. Boniface.

Vicariate of Grouard—On June 9th last, was blessed the new hospital of Holy Cross of Spirit River, Alberta, by Rev. Fr. Beuglet, pro-Vicar. The hospital will be in charge of the Grey Nuns.

Vicariate of Mackenzie—The former mission of McPherson, mission of the Loucheux, Mackenzie, explored in 1860 by Rev. Fr. Grollier and established definitely by Fr. Giroux in 1890 and closed in 1896 is to-day being re-opened at the request of the Indians. Rev. Fr. L. Coty will be the missionary.

Pilamayo—Rev. Fr. Gietzen implores the help of benefactors to build a church in Paraguay. Better results would be obtained among the pagans of Paraguay if they could meet in a church instead of a shed.

Philippines—According to Radio Vatican of July 1943 all the [Oblate Priest missionaries in the Philippines are safe but interned as prisoners.

Haiti—Mgr. Collignon, O.M.I. has returned from U.S. with a contingent of religious, Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, and St. Francis of Assisi, all valuable recruits for his diocese.

The Catholic Union of Ceylon

OFFICE-BEARERS & VIGILANCE COMMITTEE FOR 1944

At the first meeting of the Central Council of the Catholic Union of Ceylon held on Friday the 28th Jan. with Professor W. A. E. Karunaratne, the Vice-President, in the Chair, the following office-bearers and Committee were elected for the year 1944:—

Hony. Secretary:—Mr. C. M. G. de Saram (re-elected).

Hony. Treasurer:—Mr. J. L. Stanislaus (re-elected).

Vigilance and Civic Defence Committee:—The Very Rev. Fathers M. J. Le Goc, O.M.I., J. A. Jomoays, O.M.I., E. Gaspard, S.J., S. Marian, S.J., D. J. Anthony, O.M.I. and Peter A. Pillai, O.M.I., the Rev. Fathers D. J. Nicholas Perera and J. B. Gregory, O.M.I., Dewan Bahadur I. X. Pereira, M.S.C., Dr. C. J. C. de Silva, Messrs. James P. Fernando, E. de La Harpe, T. A. de Mel, E. J. Cooray, L. B. Emmanuel, E. B. Wickramanayake, D. J. B. Kuruppu, L. J. D. Fernando, G. A. Fernando, Anthony Jayamanne and C. M. G. de Saram (Hony. Secretary) with power to co-opt.

The Hon'ble Mr. F. J. Soertsz, K.C. and Professor W. A. E. Karunaratne

continue as President and Vice-President respectively of the Union, having been elected in 1942 for a period of three years.



OBLATE NECROLOGY

- Died 16th May 1943, aged 52, Revd. Fr. Charles Kael of the "Sudetes" Province.
- Died ?? aged 85, Revd. Fr. Hieronymus Trevien of the 2nd Province of France.
- Died 10th September 1943, aged 72, Lay Brother Antony Ballweg of the Vicariate of "Keewatin" (Beauvel).
- Died 14th September 1943, aged 75, Lay Brother Stephen Cado of the Vicariate of Basutoland.
- Died 28th September 1943, aged 75, Revd. Fr. Charles Byrne of the Province of Anglo-Hebernica.
- Died 1st October 1943, aged 63, Revd. Fr. Achiteus Auclair, of the Province of Alberta-Saskatchewan (Prince-Albert).

LOCAL & GENERAL

A pura Catholic Association.—The monthly meeting of the Anuradha pura Catholic Association met on the 23rd inst. to discuss the new Reform proposals on the Education Report with Mr. Quentin Fernando, the District Judge in the Chair. Mr. Charles Herat, Headmaster, St. Joseph's College, Anuradhapura delivered a lecture on the Education Report. The lecturer demonstrated his lecture with charts. He also advocated Free Education and was generally in favour of the Report. Comments were also offered by Messrs. L. Devasagayam, A. Pancras and the President.

War Savings Movement in Jaffna.—As a result of an address given by the Commissioner, War Savings Movement, to students and teachers of St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, on Thursday last five Savings Groups were formed with a total membership of 665.

The Commissioner also succeeded in forming Savings Groups at the Jaffna Co-operative Central Bank and the V.V.C. Centre, Jaffna.

Meetings were held at the Manipay V.V.C. Centre, Hartley College, Point Pedro, Jaffna Kachcheri and the Urban Council Office, Jaffna.

At the meeting in Jaffna, the Chairman, U.C., Mr. C. Ponnambalam, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Savings Committee.

The Commissioner also addressed a meeting of Chief Headmen at the Kachcheri. The meeting was presided over by the Govt. Agent.

June Matriculation Results.—St. Patrick's: First Division: J. J. G. Amirthanayagam. Second Division: C. F. Bartholomousz, J. Bartlett (Ref.), I. David, M. Emmanuel, A. Karunakar, C. Kumarasamy, G. Kulasekerampillai (Ref.), S. Kunentbiram (Ref.), D. Mahadevan, C. Masillamani (Ref.), N. Natesan, P. L. Patrick, L. G. Peries, P. Poorasa (Ref.), K. Rarasaratnam, V. Rasasundaram, R. Segarajasingam, M. Simiampillai (Ref.), K. Somasundram, P. Tharumaretnam, A. Vaithianather (Ref.) and T. K. Shakespeare.

Holy Family Convent, Jaffna: Second Division: F. D. Iranganie Anthonipillai, Catherine A. Muttuthamby, Rajasvry Nagalingam, Manimakalathy Namasivayam, E. Juanita J. Sebastiampillai and Rosy C. Anandappa (Ref.).

St. Henry's: Second Division: C. Balakrishnan, B. R. Clive, M.S. Nicholapillai, K. Rajasingam, V. Satkunayagam and S. Suntharalingam.

Case Against Police.—The Jaffna Police conspiracy case, in which Police Sergeant Arulappah and Mr. S. G. de Zoysa, A.S.P., are the accused, which was adjourned has been resumed to-day. Mr. M. Balasundram, who is defending the first accused is continuing his ad-

dress. It is hoped the Judge would deliver his verdict to-morrow.

New Chairman for U. C. Negombo.—Mr. M. Joseph of Maris Stella College, who was re-elected to represent Ward No. 2 in the Negombo Urban Council has been elected Chairman for 1944-46. He is an old boy of St. Patrick's College and the second son of the late Mr. A. Manuelpillai of our town. We wish him all success.

Obituary.—The death took place on the 15th January at Uduvil of Mr. T. C. Chelliah. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. Subramaniam Udayar of Pandaterruppu. Mr. Charles had his education at Jaffna College and went to India where he was for some years the Headmaster of the C.M.S. English School at Karachi. He then became a Catholic and was for many years the Headmaster of the R.C. School at Mandalay, Burma. After his retirement he returned to Jaffna three years ago. He was 83 years of age at the time of his death. He had three brothers and three sisters. One of his sisters was the late Mrs. Eliathamby the wife of the late Rev. Eliathamby. The funeral took place on the next day at Silalai burial ground. A service was held at St. Mary's Church at Silalai. Our Vicar-General assisted by other priests officiated.

12,000 Divorces Every Year.—Mr. Richard O'Sullivan, K.C., chairman of the Catholic Social Guild and of the Sword of the Spirit, has stated that divorces in England, which before the war numbered between 2,000 and 3,000 have now increased to about 12,000 a year. In most cases divorces is by mutual consent, he said; marriage is now a "least at will" and the degradation of marriage results in degradation in the status of the parent.

72 Years a Nun.—Sister Xavier, first native girl to be received into the Congregation of the Holy Family, has died in the Roma Mission, Basutoland, at the age of 90, after 72 years in the Order. She remained working up to the day of her death.

Catholic Population in India.—For the first time in its history, India to-day has more than 4,000,000 Catholics, according to Fr. J. C. Hoopert, Jesuit statistician.

His figures are: India, 4,055,151; Ceylon, 445,698, Burma, 139,832.

The Catholic population increased by 33 per cent, in the past 10 years, while the general increase of the population was 15 per cent.

Catholics of the Syrian rite increased by 56 per cent.

Monsignor the General.—Major General Thomas Megan, the new head of the Chinese Wartime Social Service Corps, is a priest—Mgr. Megan, American Prefect of Apostolic of Sin Siang.

General Chiang Kai-shek gave him the post and the military rank after hearing of Mgr. Megan's work—after he had escaped into the mountains from Japanese invaded territory—in the front-line guerrilla area. The Corps, a branch of the Chinese Army, organises schools, medical units and war information centres. Many of its religious and lay members have sacrificed their lives.

Mgr. Megan has accepted his new responsibilities but does not use his military title.

Lay Theologian.—The 150th anniversary of St. Edmund's College, Old Hall, Ware, has coincided with the arrival of an American Catholic paper, "Our Sunday Visitor," in which Mr. Maisie Ward Sheed writes about her celebrated grandfather, William George Ward, who though a layman and married, taught philosophy to the seminary students there.

He was appointed by Cardinal Wiseman not because there was no priest available but because in the Cardinal's view he was the best man for the post.

Some people who disapproved appealed to Pope Pius IX. His Holiness supported Wiseman, saying that he did not see how the reception of a sacrament that he himself could not receive would make Ward less capable of teaching theology.

South Indians in Italy.—From building bridges and laying down miles of road Tamils, Telugus and Malayalis, members of an Indian engineer unit somewhere in Italy, have now gone in for the erection of a self-contained rest camp for the men of the Eighth Army.

When complete the camp will house several thousand troops and will have many new features including a new theatre, a cinema, a NAAFI, restaurants, reading and writing rooms, etc.

These hard-working sappers from South India had formerly constructed a swimming bath, an ordnance depot and a waterworks.

Catholic Schools in West Indies.—Catholic schools in St. Lucia, British West Indies, are facing the same threat as Catholic schools in Britain, and Archbishop Finbar Ryan, O.P., Archbishop of Port of Spain, has issued a Pastoral Letter rejecting as unacceptable to Catholics a "Memorandum on Education" issued by the Comptroller for Development and welfare.

This document, similar to the British White Paper is, says the Archbishop, "vitiated by principles....at variance with the age-old traditions of the Christian education of youth, constantly and consistently maintained by the Catholic Church."

Calling attention to the inconsistency of "totalitarian" political theory in this document while the Allies are fighting against "that theory and its practical consequences," His Grace re-echoes the words of the English Hierarchy: "We shall not give up our schools."

CORRESPONDENCE

The Correct Pronunciation

The Editor, "Catholic Guardian," Jaffna.

I do not know if it is the function of newspapers to teach pronunciation to their readers. If it is, will you, please, allow me to tell some of your readers that the "a" of ration is pronounced by English people as the "a" of rat, pat. Out here, good many of your people pronounce: "Ration book" as the "a" of rate, fate, gate.

SCHOOL MASTER.

Jaffna, 1-2-44.

KAYTS

A large assembly of farmers met the Chief Headman of the Islands, Mr. S. Saanthiapillai on the occasion of a special visit he made to the area in connection with propaganda work about the Internal Purchase Scheme.

He persuaded those present that it was in the interest of their landless brethren they must submit to the visitations of the headmen for the purpose of estimating the yield of their fields; and also that they must obtain the coupons for the paddy they give in payment to the labourers in their fields.

WEDDING

BASTIAMPILLAI—SEBASTIAMPILLAI

St. Lawrence's Church, Wellawatte, was the scene of a pretty wedding on Saturday the 15th January, 1944, when Mr. J.F.X. Bastiampillai of the Income Tax Department led to the altar Miss Mary Bridget Sebastiampillai, daughter of Mr. G. Sebastiampillai, Storekeeper of Messrs. Liptons Ltd. The church was specially decorated for the occasion with up-country flowers and presented a unique appearance.

The bride who was given away by her father was attended by Misses Francisca Sebastiampillai and Theresa Chellar as bridesmaids, Misses Babani Leo and Yoga Leo as flower girls and Mas. George Chellar as page boy.

The bridegroom was supported by Mr. Victor J. J. Newton as bestman and Mr. Victor E. Bastiampillai as groomsman.

Revd. Fr. A. Ratnayake, O.M.I. sang the nuptial High Mass and blessed the marriage.

Messrs. P. Amirthalingam and H. Thambimuttu were the attesting witnesses.

There was a large and distinguished gathering at the reception held at No. 17, 32nd Lane, Wellawatte at which Mr. C. A. Spelding, Asst. Commissioner of Income Tax proposed the toast of the new couple.

The bridegroom is a nephew of Revd. Fr. S. GnanaPrakasam, O.M.I. and a grandson of the late Mr. Thambimuttupillai of Atchuveley of "San markapothini.")

NOTICE

INTERNAL PURCHASE SCHEME

By virtue of the powers vested in me by Regulations 37 of the Defence (Miscellaneous) Regulations, the Defence (Purchase of Foodstuffs) Regulations 1942 and the Defence (Paddy cultivation) Regulations, I Richard Morgan Davies, Government Agent, Northern Province and Deputy Food Controller, Jaffna District, do hereby direct that every cultivator, owner, shareholder or other person having interest in any paddy field situated within the Revenue District of Jaffna:—

(i) Shall give 10 days notice of the harvesting of the 1943-44 Kalapokam crop to the Village Headman of the area in which the paddy field is situated.

(ii) Shall not remove any paddy from the threshing floor until a record of such paddy is taken by the Village Headman of the area in which the paddy field is situated.

(iii) May remove the paddy thereafter from the threshing floor to his barn or place of storage situated within the same Chief Headman's division on a written pass obtained from the Village Headman of the area.

(iv) Shall retain the paddy on the threshing floor until the requisite number of coupons are collected by the Village Headman of the area.

2. Removal of paddy outside any Chief Headman's division and within the Jaffna District is possible only on a permit issued by the Chief Headman concerned or the Land Officer, Kilinochchi.

R. M. DAVIES,
Government Agent, N.P. and
Deputy Food Controller, Jaffna.

The Kachcheri, Jaffna,
Jan. 27, 1944.

NOTICE

Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs in Jaffna District.

Arrangements has been made to distribute the undermentioned articles to consumers through their Authorised distributors from 7-2-44 to 13-2-44 (both days inclusive).

1. Red onions 6 oz. per head.
2. Coriander $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per head.
3. Cummin seed or Fennel seed or Mathe seed $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per head.

2. Consumers are advised to draw their ration of the above articles along with their ration of other commodities.

(Sgd.) E.B. TISSEVERASINGHE,
for Deputy Food Controller,
Jaffna, 3 Feb. 1944.

NOTICE

Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs in Jaffna District.

Arrangements have been made to distribute red onions at 4 ozs. per coupon holder not attached to a co-operative store from Monday, the 31st inst. to 6th February 1944 (both days inclusive).

2. Consumers are advised to draw their ration of the above commodity along with their ration of other commodities.

(Sgd.) E.B. TISSEVERASINGHE,
for Deputy Food Controller, N.P.
Jaffna, 26-1-1944.



Is Civil War Being Fostered in Europe?

(Continued from Page 1.)
 Brozovic, a Hungarian born in Croatia and trained in the Comintern terrorist school. It is reported that only a few weeks ago he has been replaced by someone else. The word "Tito" is composed of the first letters of the words "Third International Terrorist Organisation," a section of the former Comintern.

THE B.B.C.'S PART

It is not only the Soviets who are rendering full aid to the Partisans in their propaganda through the station "Free Yugoslavia." The Yugoslav section of the B.B.C. appears to be fully co-operating in helping this terrorist organisation. Their broadcasts for the last two months in particular were entirely devoted to the interpretation and even open support of almost exclusively Partisan Communist policy. In these broadcasts open attacks are launched not only against General Mihailovitch but also against the Yugoslav Government in exile.

When one listens to special programmes given daily at 8 p.m. in Serbo-Croat, as well as to some other special talks, one gets the impression of listening to a broadcasting station which has not at heart the interests of the kingdom of Yugoslavia and the Yugoslav people.—*Catholic Herald, London.*

The Jaffna Diocesan Provident Society Ltd.

Sixteenth Annual Report of the Year ended 31st Oct., 1943

The Managing Committee of the Jaffna Diocesan Provident Society Ltd., begs to present its sixteenth annual report.

MEMBERSHIP:—There were 1,123 members at the beginning of the year, while 36 new members were admitted, the Society lost 14 by death, thus bringing the total membership on Oct. 1943 to 1,145. The distribution of these members is as follows:—

First grade 93; Second grade 543; Third grade 509.

DEATH DONATION:—A sum of Rs. 6,030-40 was paid out in death donation to the nominees of the following deceased members:—

	Rs.	Cts.
1. Thommai Pedro of Klaly, Grade 3 No. 753. Contributed Rs.132-00. Donation	589	55
2. Annamma Thavithu of Vavuniya, Grade 2 No. 884. Contributed Rs. 168-25. Donation	908	10
3. Uthamy Santhia of Kulamankal, Grade 1 No. 117. Contributed Rs. 349-50. Donation	1,146	90
4. Davidu Anthony of Chunnakam, Grade 3 No. 749. Contributed Rs. 209-50. Donation	663	85
5. Anasy Mark of Alvai, Pt. Pedro, Grade 3 No. 169. Contributed Rs. 85-75. Donation	549	25
6. Davidu Luvisa of Kulamankal, Grade 3 No. 517. Contributed Rs. 68-50. Donation	546	80
7. Nicholapillai Marcellin of Mirusuvil, Grade 2 No.459. Contributed Rs. 154-00. Donation	886	55
8. Murggar Philippu of Jaffna, Grade 3 No. 587. Contributed Rs. 59-00. Donation	543	40

FINANCE:—

Balance on 1st. Nov. 1942	103,185	18
Contribution during the year	11,598	50
Interest	1,406	61
Total	116,190	29

EXPENSES:—

1. Salary and Wages	962	00
2. Stamps	75	00
3. Rent	150	00
4. Commission	9	35
5. Advertising and Conveyance	12	00
6. Printing	13	91
7. Office Requisites and Stationery	94	05
8. Death Donations	6,030	40

9. Auditor's fee	125	00
10. Super Tax on Interest	195	57
Total	7,667	28
Balance on 31st Oct. 1943:		
Mercantile Bank of India Ltd.	29,260	52
Ceylon Savings Bank	5,779	11
Ceylon Savings Certificates	14,940	00
Mercantile Bank of India Ltd. (Bombay)	50,403	12
On Investments	8,100	00
In hand	40	26
Total	108,523	01

MEETINGS:—Six Committee meetings were held during the year and the attendance at the meetings was satisfactory.

CONCLUSION:—The year under review has been one of steady and sustained progress. The members' contributions amounted to Rs. 11,598-50. It is again an increase on that of the previous year. Rs. 6,030-50 were paid out as death donations. The interests earned during the year were not much owing to the fact that even now 90% of our funds are locked up in banks and in Government Securities for want of safer investments.

The Society records its deep appreciation of the very valuable services rendered by the late Mr. B. Joachimpillai who was its Treasurer from the inception. It is not too much to say that he was the cornerstone of the Society. His tact and the confidence he created among the members of the Society is the chief cause of the success of this institution.

The management offers its thanks to the Priests of the Diocese for their silent and useful work on behalf of the Society.

For and on behalf of the Managing Committee,
A. J. SELVADURAL,
 Secretary.

WAR REVIEW

By Dr. E. M. V. Naganathan
 on Sun. the 30th Jan.

The week's war news can be appropriately entitled "A Tale of Two Cities"—Leningrad and Rome.

It is a curious coincidence that both these Towns are associated with the Name of St. Peter.

Leningrad till comparatively recently was known as St. Petersburg and later as Petrograd, while the eternal city of Rome has been the seat of St. Peter and his ecclesiastical descendants for well-nigh 200 years.... The story of Leningrad claims our prior attention. The Noble and Peerless defence of Leningrad will fire the imagination of youth and aged alike and stir the hearts of mankind as long as the human race shall live.

No siege in all History can compare to that of Leningrad. Before the siege began the Northern Armies of Russia had been systematically defeated by Hitler's captured columns, the beaten remnants of the Northern Russian armies were largely withdrawn east of Leningrad in an endeavour to preserve them intact, for in these early dark days of the German invasion, the Russian High Command's main preoccupation was to save their armies (whatever the cost) from being encircled and destroyed,—and so but for a few thousand troops the main armies were withdrawn from Leningrad. But the common men and women of Leningrad and the children too, stepped into the breach.... They built, they dug and they mined—new fortifications in depth to reinforce Leningrad's military defences. They worked night and day in their factories to turn out weapons and new devices of defence, they armed themselves and they drilled themselves into perhaps the most invincible army the world has ever known. No community of people has ever undergone such hunger, cold, privation and death and no other town has ever been bombarded so long and so savagely by artillery or bombed so systematically from the air as Leningrad has been.

The glorious defence of Moscow and the undying epic of Stalingrad were achieved by the flower of the Russian armies but the Transcendent Triumph of the defence of Leningrad was enacted

almost wholly by the common people of the town. Let us also remember the unparalleled heroism and efficiency of the stranded sailors and marines of the Russian Navy who fighting outside their own element, the sea—constituted themselves with unbreakable iron frame work of Leningrad's successful defence and so we salute the brave men, women and children of Leningrad on this day of their complete deliverance from the throttling grasp of the German, ironing around them. When the present Russian offensives started (late last Summer), and the German armies were forced to retreat; German military commentators and even their official communiques spoke of "shortening their lines." To-day the Germans actually defend a line which is longer than they had ever to defend before even in the days when their armies stood before Stalingrad as they had penetrated deep into the Caucasus Mountains. Russia (as I pointed out in an earlier review) is a flat undulating country, offering little or no natural defence. It can be made use of or improved upon by an army. The best possible defence line both for its shortness in length as well as for its geographical defence advantages was a line roughly north to south from Leningrad in the Baltic to Tagonrog in the sea of Azor.

This line which had the additional military advantage of excellent communications, especially the existence of three parallel lines of Railways running from north to south behind it, was fortified in depth by the Germans with their usual efficiency and thoroughness. The German armies had held this line more or less intact against the two previous Russian winter offensives. But the last Soviet offensive which started in the late summer of last year has seen it crumble completely, all except in the north near Leningrad, where the boggy marshlands, woods, lakes and streams, prevented large scale troop movements from taking place. But now the hard frost of Midwinter had made the ground firm enough for even tanks and heavy artillery to be manoeuvred with ease.

The German retreat from Leningrad therefore means the breaking of the last remaining part of the organised and perfected lines of defence the German armies had held in Russia. The retreat from Leningrad is going to be a very difficult manoeuvre for the Germans. There is only one miserable Railway and one unpretentious road leading westwards from Leningrad—and the Germans have to travel westward in their retreat through the former Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania).

Danube Satellites

The great weight which the Germans are obliged to give in their planning to the need for excluding Allied forces from the Danube countries can be more fully appreciated by reference to their internal situation.

ROUMANIA'S PLIGHT

In Roumania nervous tension is increasing daily. Neutral travellers report that the roads leading from northern and eastern areas are packed with thousands of civilians and their

vehicles, moving away from the growing threat of the Russian invasion. The resulting congestion of the road is intensified by the ban which has been placed on railway travel except for official purposes. Marshal Antonescu and his Government confine themselves to the argument that, having thrown in their lot with Germany, there is no course open except to stand by that decision. Their relations with the Germans remain cordial and the recent acute conflict with Hungary over the partition of Transylvania appears to have been smoothed over under German pressure, but there is no general reconciliation; the Roumanians are actually aware that, while their own forces have been cut up to pieces in fighting against Russia, the Hungarian army is intact. There is a plentiful crop of rumours that Dr. Maniu and the opposition are about to seize power and arrange for surrender. They should be treated with reserve, for the Roumanians are well aware that the first real sign of a "Badoglio" move would result in the instant establishment of a regime of terror under Horia Sima and the Iron Guard thugs who are held in high esteem in Germany. For all practical purposes the Germans are already in military control of the country, particularly its railways, ports and oilfields.—*Weekly Air News Letter*

NOTICE

ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS

WANTED men for training as CLERKS, STOREKEEPERS and DRIVERS in the R.A.S.C. Good pay and prospects and OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR PROMOTION TO COMMISSIONED RANK in the R.A.S.C. Candidates should be between 19 and 40 years of age, physically fit and willing to serve overseas. Those to be trained as Clerks and Storekeepers should be educated up to the 6th Standard in English while those wishing to become Drivers are only required to speak, read and write English.

Proof of age may be required by the Recruiting Officer. Family allowances will be issued only after marriage and birth certificates of children are produced.

Daily rate of pay on enlistment is Rs. 2-00 per day and family allowances.

Maternity Benefits will be paid in all cases under usual conditions.

CEYLONESE ROYAL ARTILLERY FOR SERVICE IN CEYLON

English educated youths are wanted for this Unit. Large numbers of such men are now serving the guns defending our own coasts.

MORE ARE WANTED

We require a satisfactory standard of English which is not high.

Daily rate of pay on enlistment is Rs. 1-33 per day with family allowance.

Candidates should be between 11 and 35 years of age with a minimum height of 5 feet 3 inches.

Applicants for the above units should apply personally at the Central Recruiting Office, 399, Galle Road, Colpetty, on any week day between 8-30 a.m. and 12 noon, bringing with them their RICE RATION BOOKS.

Chief Recruiting Officer, Ceylon.

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

The R.A.F. requires well educated young men for Civilian duties in Jaffna.

PAY:—Rs. 60/- per month plus Government War Allowance.

LEAVE:—15 days per annum on full pay.

QUALIFICATIONS:—(i) J.S.C. (with English) or S.S.C. (ii) Age 18—40 years.

The R.A.F. Recruiting Officer will interview applicants, who must produce their School Certificates, at:—

The R.H., KKS. — Feb. 8th—9 a.m.—12 Noon.

The R.H., JAFFNA — " —2 p.m.— 5 p.m.

The R.H., JAFFNA — Feb. 9th—9 a.m.—12 Noon.

The R.H., KKS. — " —2 p.m.— 5 p.m.