

The Catholic Guardian

ESTABLISHED AS A FORTNIGHTLY, 1876; ISSUED AS A WEEKLY, 1878.

Telegrams: "GUARDIAN", JAFFNA.

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON.

Telephone: NO. 100.

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

Vol 69, No. 9.

JAFFNA, FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1944.

PRICE: 10 CENTS.

PIUS XII MAKES AN APPEAL TO NATIONS' LEADERS

The Allocution gives a grave warning to the statesmen and would-be peacemakers of the world. The world is too broken for the application of mere legalism and retribution. The moulders of the future must rise above themselves and rebuild the world in such a way that all peoples can co-operate in the common task with dignity and without disavowing their own traditions.

"Listen to the entreating lesson ringing in your ears from the bloody and ruinous abyss of this gigantic war. It is a warning to all, a trumpet sound of future judgment announcing condemnation and punishment for those who remain deaf to the voice of mankind, which is also the voice of God.

"Your war aims and the consciousness of your power can barely have embraced entire continents and countries; the question, as to the guilt for the present war and the demand for reparations may well induce you to raise your voice.

"To-day, however, the devastation wrought by the present conflict in all fields of life, material and spiritual, has reached such unparalleled gravity and extent, and the danger of its growing, through the prolongation of the war, into nameless horrors for both belligerent groups and for those who, though reluctant, have been swept away by the war appears so dark and menacing to our eye that for the welfare and for the very existence of each and every nation we ask and entrust you; rise above yourselves, above any narrow judgment and calculation, above any pride in military superiority, above any one-sided proclamation of right and justice.

"Admit the existence of unpleasant

facts and teach your peoples to face them with earnestness and fortitude.

"A true peace is not the mathematical result of a proportion of strength, but in its ultimate and deepest significance a moral and juridical act. It cannot indeed be brought about without resorting to force and its very structure must have the support of a fair proportion of force. But the function of this force and its very structure must have the support of a fair proportion of force. But the function of this force, if it wants to remain morally righteous, must be used to defend and protect right, not to lessen and oppress it.

JUSTICE FOR SMALL NATIONS

"There has not perhaps ever been in the history of mankind a time as capable in the present no less of great and beneficial progress as of fatal defects and errors. This time demands imperiously that the war aims and peace programmes should be dictated by the highest moral sense.

"Their sole ultimate aim must be understanding and concord among the belligerent nations—an achievement which will leave to each nation, which is conscious of belonging to the family of States as a whole and of the duties entailed by this, the possibility of associating itself with dignity, without disavowing or destroying itself, to the great future world activity of recovery and reconstruction."

SOPHIA COLLEGE AND "PERSECUTION"

The Archbishop of Bombay in the following passage of his Pastoral refers to the Disaffiliation of Sophia College:

"We have left to the last the matter of the Sophia College, not, of course, because it is not of primary importance but because this pastoral letter is written on tour in Bassein, and only towards the end of that tour did news arrive of the motion for disaffiliation passed by the Senate of Bombay University. While we naturally felt some reluctance to be away from Bombay at such a time, all necessary steps had been taken before departure. The issue we awaited with much interest but with little anxiety, for events had been taking a course which seemed to us the best possible one in the circumstances. We had hardly dared to hope, however, that the fundamental issue of freedom of conscience would have become so transparently clear as the debate has made it to men of goodwill, nor that the shock of realising whether the University was drifting should have restored sanity and courage to so many waverers. Two other notable gains emerge from the event of last Saturday: an overwhelming case has now been made for the impartial inquiry which, under the University Act, the Government may institute before giving the decision reserved to itself; in other circumstances, it might have been more difficult to bring home to the Govern-

ment a clear duty dictated by elementary justice. Now the duty to be met by an inquiry or by other means is clear; moreover, it should be easy.

The second gain is the tremendous contribution to unity made by this challenge to Christian, indeed to human rights. The word "persecution" is one which we have avoided using up to the present, persuaded though we were that it describes with perfect truth the campaign against the College and against Christianity. The word is very liable to misuse, and it is perhaps the fairest test of correct use that protests from all parts of India not only use it freely, but that its use by Indian Christians, noted as a community for patience and moderation, is evidence of a challenge which can no longer be ignored.

We take this opportunity, on behalf of the Catholics of the Archdiocese and especially of the Sophia College Nuns, to thank with deepest gratitude our fellow Catholics from all over India and Ceylon for their prayers and vigorous action given so promptly at the call of their Bishops. They have also given us all an object lesson in unity, a lesson preached to you by us on all occasions, but never before—or we hope, again—from a text furnished by a University."

AMERICAN POLITICS AND GERMAN HOPES

At the darkest period of the war Mr. Churchill pointed out that America not yet belligerent but increasingly active in our support, and quoted the line of A. H. Clough:—

"But westward, look, the land is bright."

To-day, in the darkest period of their ordeal, the Germans find no ray of encouragement when they look eastward; but they discern certain possibilities when they look westward. They hope that American politics will grow more and more contentious and embittered, until the war in Europe is seen as a remote and vexatious complication and no longer as the main business in hand. When they say they will continue to fight "until their enemies deign to make peace," their principal calculation is that if they can resist defensively and make the results of the Allied Western offensive slow and disappointing, the repercussions in American politics in an election year will be to their advantage. It is rather a forlorn hope, because nothing that could happen this summer in America would enlighten the sustained ordeal prepared for the Germans this year; but it might affect favourably their prospects in 1945 if they can maintain their resistance until then.

THE COMINSLAV

Mr. George A. Dondero, a Michigan Congressman, told the House of Representatives recently that the United States vessels carrying lease-lend material to Russia bring back loads of newspapers and pamphlets printed in Moscow in the various Slavonic languages, for distribution among the different Slavonic minorities in the United States. This activity is in the interests of the pan-Slav movement, which has succeeded the Comintern as the machinery by which Russian interests abroad are furthered. Mr. Dondero says that it is called the "Cominslav."

American Croats, Lithuanians, Ruthenians, Ukrainians, Serbs and others are presented with this literature from Moscow; but by far the greater part of it is printed in Polish, for the American Poles. In particular these are given a newspaper printed in Moscow and edited by the busy Wanda Wassilewska herself, called *Walna-Polski*.

Soviet War News has been giving much space to this activity among American Poles just lately; but without mentioning that the impetus comes from Moscow. The illusion of a spontaneous enthusiasm is desired. A number of details are left unmentioned: for example, *Soviet War News* of Dec. 30th was telling how Mayor la Guardia sent a message of greeting to a meeting organized by the National Council of American-Soviet friendship which passed resolutions in favour of Wanda Wassilewska and General Berling's Kosciuszko Division; but it did not mention that Major la Guardia was actually present in person, and among the speakers, at the meeting at Manhattan on the twenty-fifth anniversary of Poland's restoration, which was attended by well over twice the number who came to applaud Wanda Wassilewska, and which affirmed in particular, as it was put by Representative Sumner, or Illinois, that

"we have something better to do with American money than help Stalin or anybody else rule rations, however weak or strong, who prefer to be free."

THE POLISH BOUNDARY QUESTION

It should be clearly realized that the British Government has formally declined to recognize the annexations of Polish territory made by the U.S.S.R. in Sept., 1939. The Russo-Polish Treaty of July, 1941, included a renunciation by the Russian of any Polish territory acquired by them in partnership

(Continued on Page 4.)

FEARS IN POLAND AND THE BALTIC STATES

The international conference from the Baltic States in Central, Asia and Arctic Russia under indescribable conditions. Nor should it be forgotten that Russia still holds at least 150,000 Polish deportees to whom Polish or Red Cross relief has been forbidden. These deportees, also, were terribly treated and their present fate causes the greatest anxiety.

When President Roosevelt and other leaders utter holy words about Christmas-time, one wonders how their tolerance of these barbarities can be squared with their conscience. Soviet Russia does not profess to celebrate Christmas or to express a Christian spirit in its national and international cause. This, at least, is honest. But when Stalin enters into the concert of the great civilised Powers of the world, he could surely review this unpleasant business and tell the world that his troops have received orders to treat as friends and free and independent allies the populations of neighbouring lands who also have suffered heavily in the common cause. We believe he would do this, if his friends pressed him hard enough. We wondered whether they bothered.—

This fear is due to the memory of the deportation of 150,000 civilians

Catholic Herald, London.

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Church Calendar

MARCH 1944

- FRI. ...10 40 Martyrs.
- SAT. ...11 S. Constant
- SUN. ...12 3 Lent. S. Gregory.
- MON. ...16 S. Euphrasia.
- TUES. ...14 S. Matilda.
- WED. ...15 S. Zachary.
- THURS. ...16 S. Julian.
- FRI. ...17 S. Patrick.

The Catholic Guardian

MARCH 10TH 1944

DEATH OF THE SUPERIOR-GENERAL, O. M. I.

On Monday of this week a note was received from the Vicar of Missions which read:

"I feel so sorry to inform you of the sudden death of our beloved Superior-General who according to a cable received to-day expired on February 28, 1944. Please apply for the repose of his soul 'suffragia' according to Art. 362-364-367 of our Rules."

This sad intelligence was received here with deep regret. Only a couple of weeks ago we announced the news that under careful nursing Father General's health had slightly improved but a set back must have intervened to cause a sudden death. During the past two years his health continued to be bad and the disorganisation of the Congregation caused by the war and the consequent anxieties could not but have aggravated his illness and brought about his untimely demise which the whole Congregation of the Oblates deeply mourns to-day. On the reception of the sad news the Office for the dead was recited in choir by the Fathers and the following morning a solemn High Mass of Requiem celebrated by His Lordship Bishop in St. Mary's Cathedral for the repose of the soul of the deceased.

The late Father General, the Very Revd. Theodore Laboure was born in Laval, France in 1883 and was 61 at the time of his death. He has left a brilliant record at the Gregorian University, Rome, where he had his ecclesiastical studies gaining a double Doctorate in Philosophy and Theology. He took his vows in 1904 and was ordained priest in 1906. After his ordination he was sent to America where the success he achieved in the posts he held brought him to the notice of the General Administration which appointed him to the responsible office of Provincial of Texas, the second Oblate Province in the United States. Here, again, he made his mark with notable changes for the material and spiritual advance

of this important Province. On the death of the Most Revd. Archbishop Dr. Donatenwill, O.M.I., Superior-General on November 31, 1931, a General Chapter was convened in Rome on the following year and on Sept. 8th, the feast of the Nativity of Our Blessed Lady, the General Chapter elected the Very Revd. Father Theodore Laboure as the Head of the Congregation of Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the sixth in succession to the Founder. The new Superior-General took up his duties with fervour and visited the Oblate Provinces and Vicariates in Canada and the United States, in most countries of Europe and travelled as far as Ceylon to gain personal knowledge of the work that was being done by the missionaries in different parts of the world, to encourage them by his genial presence and direct them aright in the fatherly advice. The Congregation continued to prosper under his rule until the havoc wrought by the war causing dislocation in the administration, dispersion of the members, the destruction of many institutions, all of which must have brought him more suffering than his bodily illness though grave as this was. Our Catholics who are served by the Oblate Fathers will not fail to breathe a prayer for the repose of the soul of their late Superior-General. R. I. P.

POOR RELIEF

There is a motion long overdue before our Urban Council meeting to-day to the effect "that this Council requests the Central Government for a subsidy towards poor relief within the urban area." We are sure the Council will pass this motion unanimously and will take action on it without delay. For want of some kind of agitation the Central Government appears to have forgotten altogether that Jaffna, too, has its quota of the poor and their number is much larger than in many other towns in the Island. And yet there is no provision for a midday meal for poor children in the schools in Jaffna. The free distribution of foodstuffs to the poor families in some other places. The Government of Jaffna must not be allowed to be left out in the cold though the indifference of those who can bring to the notice of the Authorities the dire needs of their poor. There are private charitable organisations but the means at their disposal is totally inadequate to meet the situation.

Last week the State Council voted a million rupees for poor relief. In the discussion that took place in connection with this vote dissatisfaction was expressed at the manner in which the amounts voted annually for poor relief had been administered. It is not known how this sum is divided among the Provinces, how in each of these Provinces the money is distributed. In the administration reports, as far as our experience goes, hardly any mention is made of this. Other agencies



THE LATE SUPERIOR-GENERAL OF THE OBLATES OF MARY IMMACULATE.

which help the poor such as the Conferences of St. Vincent de Paul, the Associations of the Ladies of Charity, the Friend-in-Need Society publish annually their reports giving the amounts spent in charity, how many were helped and what form that help took. Government might well follow this good example and let the public know what is being done for the poor as these too have a real claim on the Government. The Minister of Local Administration said as the vote had now shot up to one million rupees one would expect a proper method of administration of the vote. Quite so. He also thinks that the local bodies should take on themselves this duty of poor relief not only in finding the money. If asked why should local bodies take on themselves this obligation he will probably answer that it is done in England, as if that clinched the argument. However, be fair to him he seems to be of opinion that local bodies are not now in a position to assume the burden and if they are asked to do so, they must be given a subsidy and that is exactly what the motion asks.

Press & Sophia College

The University Senate's decision has had a very unfavorable press. The *Times of India* (Feb. 15th) said in a leading article:

"The course suggested seems to us to be altogether too drastic....We very much doubt the expediency of approaching Government on a matter of such importance with a divided opinion."

On Feb 17th the *Times* published a letter from Sir Chimanlal H. Setalvad pointing out that the two resolutions passed by the Senate were "irreconcilable."

The *Indian Social Reformer* concludes from the second motion that "neither the Senate nor the Syndicate seriously intended the disaffiliation motion to be more than a gesture." An article in the same issue makes this comment:

"The incident is a testimony and a tribute to the dominating influence of the Parsees in the Bombay University as in the Bombay Corporation. As a rule Parsees are inclined to take a liberal, not to say latitudinarian, view on religious and social questions. But they are very sensitive to influences which seem even superficially to affect the solidarity of their own small community. If the two converts had been Hindus, it is certain that there would have been not a ripple to disturb the peace of mind of the Mother Superior or the Senators....Christian Missions have carefully avoided hurting Muslim and, in Bombay, Parsee susceptibilities. Mother Superior Anderson was evidently unaware of this tacit convention. Hence all the pother."

The *Reformer* tells the Parsees in effect that the root of their trouble is that their religion lacks spirituality:

"Two or three years ago a Parsee High Priest broadcast on the Bombay Radio the startling proposition that the Zoroastrian faith inculcated the doctrine of a comfortable life as a cardinal article. If he was right, Zoroastrianism is a civilisation and not a religion....An American Professor, during his visit to Bombay, formed the impression that among Parsees the rich man was the great man."—*Examiner*.

LOCAL & GENERAL

St. Patrick's College.—The Feast of St. Patrick and Old Boys' Day will be celebrated on Friday the 17th inst. with High Mass and Benediction at 7-30 a.m. and an Inter-House Sports, Garden Party and the O.B.A. Annual General Meeting in the evening.

The usual Triduum will be held in the College Chapel at 7-00 p.m. on Tuesday the 14th to Thursday 16th inclusive.

S.S.C. English Examination Results.—St. Patrick's College: M. L. Emmanuel, D. P. Francis-Xavier (t), J.I. John Pillai and K. Pancharatnam.

St. Henry's College, Havalai: T. Arulpragasam, G. Marianayagampillai, (py), V. Sanmugam, N. Senthilval Rajah, K. S. Nadasan, K. Visvaratnam and E. Kathirkamatnamby.

St. Xavier's College, Mannar: Chelliah, P. Figurado, T. K. Arasaratnam, G. G. S. Ponniah and P. R. Vrasapillai.

St. Anthony's College, Kayts: A. Alexander (e) and S. Ambrose.

Havala! Convent English School : Sister Mary Angela (t), A. Kandiah (e), E. N. Ponnudurai and I. Thambipillai.

Exemption from Matriculation.—St. Patrick's : M. Emmanuel, M.M. Francis, B.A.E. Marianayagam.

St. Henry's : V. E. Antony, V. Gunanayagam, S. E. Canagasoorier, G. M. Aroghanampilli.

Holy Family, Jaffna : R. C. Anandappa, F. D. I. Anthonipillai, A. Gawthamadasa, D.T.W. Tampoe.

A.R.P. for Schools.—A meeting of Headmasters and Principals of Valigam West was held at the A.R.P. Centre, Manipay on the 1st of March. The Rev. Fr. Chas. S. Matthews, O.M.I., A.R.P. Controller, presided. Mr. C. Thiagarajah, Chief Air Raid Warden explained the objects for which the meeting was convened and briefly outlined the proposed Internal A.R.P. Scheme for Schools. Several items of importance were discussed. It was the opinion of the meeting that an A.R.P. Instructor should conduct refresher course in First Aid etc. in Schools in the area.

A Cassava Root of Record Length.—When the Cassava plot of the Manipay Hindu College garden was harvested on the 24th of Feb., a cassava root 7½ feet long and 10½ lbs. by weight was lifted.

Free Mid-day Meal for School Children.—It is understood that the Board of Ministers has given a ruling with regard to the free midday meal provided for School children at Government expense.

A sum of Rs. 3,500,000 is provided in the Budget for the current financial year for this purpose.

The Executive Committee of Education, it is learned, recently recommended a substantial increase of this vote by increasing the rate per head by two cts. The total increase of the vote, if this recommendation were adopted, would be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 1,500,000.

The Executive Committee had also recommended that all both in the Sinhalese and Tamil as well as in the English elementary schools should be given the free midday meal.

The Board of Ministers, it is learned, has disagreed with the proposal of the Executive Committee, and has decided that all children in the Sinhalese and Tamil elementary schools should be given the free midday meal, but that in the English elementary schools only children whose parents are unable to find the midday meal for their school going children should be fed at Government expense.

Kandyans and the Reforms.—A resolution rejecting, on behalf of the inhabitants of the Kandyan Provinces, proposals for a reformed Constitution made by the Board of Ministers on the ground that the directions of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Board of Ministers were in contravention of the Kandyan Treaty of 1815 was passed at a public meeting held on the occasion of the celebration of the anniversary of the Convention of March 2, 1815.

Grain Harvest.—Untimely rains in several parts of the Island have adversely affected crops and it is feared that as much as a third of the grain harvest has been seriously endangered, if it is not already lost.

Jaffna Health League.—The 22nd Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna Health League was held on Monday March 6th 1944 in the Ladies Recreation grounds, Chundikul.

Mrs. James Joseph presided and Mrs. Lewis Subramaniam read the Annual Report. Mrs. Thuraiappah presented the statement of accounts. Dr. Miss. Kochi, Dr. Thuraiappah and the Chairman spoke commenting on the annual report. In spite of the War conditions the activities of the League were carried on successfully in the Karaiyoor and Moor Street Clinics. Resolutions were passed at this meeting drawing the attention of the Government for the need of a model Maternity Home at Karaiyoor and other important matters.

The members decided to celebrate the Silver Jubilee by providing the League with a Jubilee Home which will also be a model clinic. The office-bearers and

the Committee for the new year were duly elected.

"Rycena" for Rice.—A new grain which is a product of wheat, with its gluten removed has been discovered to be an excellent substitute for rice & will be shortly available for purchase by the public in regulated quantities.

It has officially been ascertained that the claims made for "rycena" as an excellent substitute for unpolished rice and an improvement on polished rice are substantiated by the testimony of Government dieticians in Australia where this prepared product of wheat is said to have already proved to be the base for over a dozen varieties of food preparations.

Instructions are to be issued shortly with regard to the correct methods of cooking the new grain.

Education Bill.—It is understood from the "Daily News" that the Board of Ministers has decided by a majority that the report of the Executive Committee of Education embodying the recommendations of the Special Committee should be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the State Council to enable discussion thereon without the prior approval of the Board of Ministers as required by Article 57 of the State Council Order-in-Council.

This decision, it is learned, was arrived at by the Board of Ministers at its meeting on Monday in the absence of two of the Ministers—the Leader of the State Council and the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce.

According to the Report of the Financial Secretary, who had consulted the Director of Education in formulating his views, the total cost of giving effect to the recommendations of the Special Committee would be over Rs. 40,000,000 which, together with the present expenditure on education, amounting to Rs. 27,658,036 in the current financial year, would bring the total education vote to a figure between Rs. 68,000,000 and Rs. 69,000,000 or more than half of the annual normal revenue of the Island which is estimated at approximately Rs. 125,000,000.

C.C.B. Camp at Jaffna.—The annual Junior Cadet camp was held for the first time in Jaffna at St. Patrick's College, from 3rd to 5th March. 225 cadets from Ananda (two platoons), Nalanda (two platoons), Zahira and St. Benedict's (two platoons)—all of the crack B company of the Ceylon Cadet Battalion and the Jaffna platoons—St. John's and St. Patrick's of the F company took part in the following competitions : (a) Platoon and section training, (b) Physical training, (c) Sports and (d) First Aid. St. Patrick's was adjudged the best platoon in the whole camp, by the Commanding Officer Lt. Col. R.J.F. Mendis, E.D., Capt. T. Suhayb (Asst. Adjut.) and Capt. R. W. Jayawickrema (Q.M.). Capt. E. W. P. Samarasinghe, Company Commander, F Coy., was O.C. camp. The Senior Cadets of St. Patrick's ran a very successful canteen. The Colombians left Jaffna and St. Patrick's College with very happy memories.

The Simple Life.—On all sides it is being said that the simple life imposed by the war has resulted in a better standard of national health.

This is also borne out by the testimony of Fr. Edward Garesche, S.J., who is both priest and doctor, written from a Japanese prison camp.

Fr. Garesche's enforced simplicity of life is, however, carried to much greater extremes than ours.

For well over a year he has not tasted meat, sugar, milk, tea or coffee. Nor has he used soap nor taken a bath.

His diet consists of boiled corn meal, boiled wheat which has not been "denatured," rice, plenty of green vegetables and occasional eggs.

Instead of a bath he spends the first ten minutes of his morning doing simple gymnastics and follows them with a brisk rub with a wet towel, with the temperature around freezing point.

His verdict : "I have never felt better."

Fr. Garesche lives a busy life in his prison camp. Apart from carrying out his duties as a priest he is also the camp's doctor and his surgery has saved many lives.

His operating theatre is the sacristy of a chapel, his operating table an old altar and he sterilises his instruments by the simple process of boiling them. To date, he has had no cases of infection.

Fr. Garesche was doing medical-missionary work in China when he was captured by the Japanese occupying forces. He is president of the Catholic Medical Mission Board, New York and a fine writer.

Mgr. Mannix and Il Duce.—Ever a man who insists on proclaiming what he believes to be the truth, Archbishop Mannix, in a speech to Italians in Melbourne, has been speaking his mind about Mussolini. His Grace was commenting upon the removal of Il Duce. He said :

"I was never a whole hearted supporter of his policy or of his principles. I am the more free to say, therefore, that in my opinion history will call him one of the big men of the century. Like many other big men, he seems to have failed. But Italy will rise again, I hope, fall back into the hands of Mussolini found himself. I can only pray to God to save our country and that he has achieved for his country and his people."

BATTICALOA

PRIZE-DAY AT ST. TERESA'S CONVENT.

St. Teresa's Convent, Batticaloa, held its annual prize-distribution on Saturday 4th inst. The elite of Batticaloa were there to show their appreciation of the work of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary for the orphans. Among those present were His Lordship Dr. Gaston Robichez, S.J., Bishop of Trincomalee, who distributed the prizes, Justice F. J. Soorts, and Mrs. Soerts, and Mr. V. Coomaraswamy, G.A., Eastern Province.

Very Revd. Fr. E. Crowe, S.J., Rector of St. Michael's Convent, read the report on behalf of the Mother Superior. The school recorded 90 per cent. success in the public examinations. It published a magazine to link the past and present pupils. Its needle work was highly appreciated.

The pupils took part in a variety entertainment which showed in practice the high standard attained at the convent. The tiny tots of the kindergarten demonstrated in action song all that need be done in an air raid.

Very Revd. Fr. S. Marian, S.J., Vicar-General, said that the convent was like the leaven of the Gospel leavening, through the poor orphans, the surrounding villages and preparing good housewives and mothers. He wished the Minister of Education was there to see the good work done and to see if the convent was proselytising.

Mr. V. Coomaraswamy praised the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary and said that St. Teresa's orphanage was equal of any he knew in the island. He praised its needle work and appreciated all over Ceylon. He said that the convent was a great admirer of Catholic education, especially the sacrifice of the Catholic nuns.—Cor.

OBITUARY

MRS. MERCY SUGIRTHARATNAM SAMUEL

The funeral of Mrs. Mercy Sugirtharatnam Samuel nee Newton, beloved wife of Mr. S. C. Samuel of the Ceylon Hardware Stores, Colombo, took place on Wednesday 1st. March 1944 at the General Cemetery Kanatte.

The chief mourners were Mr. S. C. Samuel (husband), Misses : Pearl Ratnarane, Ruby Ratnadevi, Beatrice Ratnajothi and Elizabeth Ratnamalar (daughters), Masters : Peter Ratnarajah and Daniel Ratnadeva (sons), Mrs. C. Newton (mother), Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Aiyadore (brother-in-law and sister) Mr. and Mrs. Victor Newton (brother and sister-in-law) and Mr. Arthur Newton (brother).

Before the cortege left her residence at Silver Smith Street, Colombo, a service was held by the Rev. H. Abel. The Rev. Derik Karunaratne, assisted by Rev. H. Abel and Rev. A. B. Kanagaratnam officiated at the graveside. The

choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Mutuwal was in attendance.

A large and representative gathering was present both at the residence and at the graveside. The funeral procession was headed by the members of the entire staff of the Ceylon Hardware Stores, carrying floral wreaths. The pall-bearers were Dr. T. Sivaprasadam, Mr. G. Crossette Tambyah, Retired D.J., Mr. S. Mahadeva, Asst. Director of Public Works, Mr. A. Sabaratnam, Accountant C.G.R., Mr. J. Tambyah Bartlett Proctor S.C., and Mr. R. Dorasamy, Head Shroff, Eastern Bank, Ltd.

MR. SAMUEL WINN GUNERATNAM COONANAYAKAM

There passed away at "She-Devi-Walavu" Kondavil at noon on Friday the 3rd, March, 1944 in his 66th year Mr. Samuel Winn Guneratnam Coonanayakam, popularly known as "Coonam", late of The National Bank of India Ltd. Nuwara Eliya Branch where he served 42 years of faithful service and retired recently on account of failing health.

Funeral took place the following day, when Canon S. S. Somasundaram conducted the service assisted by the Archdeacon of Jaffna and the Rev. V. B. Muttuvella in the house and the Rev. J. T. Arulanatham at the Graveside and interred at the Kookuvil Church cemetery and was largely attended. Several wreaths were placed on the grave.

He leaves behind his wife, mother, brother and sister and a host of others to mourn. We offer our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family. May his soul rest in peace.—Cor.

Ramakrishna Mission—Vivekananda Society Appeal for Bengal Distress Relief

A sum of Rs. 32,816-21 has so far been collected for the Bengal Distress Relief Fund started by the Ramakrishna Mission and the Vivekananda Society. The above includes a sum of Rs. 250 contributed by the Tamil Recreation and Dramatic Club, Wellawatte, out of the proceeds of a play staged by them.

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(Ceylon Branch)

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Following Books in press :—

- Bellecio's Spiritual Exercises
- Cross & Crisis—Fulton Sheen (out)
- Declaration of Dependence—F. Sheen
- Moral Universe
- Victims of Mamertine—O'Reilly
- St. Rudolf Acquaviva—Gruber
- Freedom under God—F. Sheen
- Glories of Mary
- Meditation—Vercurse
- St. Gemma Galgani
- Martyrs of Colisium—O'Reilly
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American Politics and German Hopes

(Continued from Page 1.)

ship with Germany. The Russians may say this Treaty has lapsed, but it remains true that Mr. Eden handed to both parties at the time a Note saying:

"His Majesty's Government does not recognize any territorial changes which have been effected in Poland since Aug. 1939."

Since we clearly recognized the frontiers of Poland as they were before that date, the formal position now is that we recognize them still.

Among many other reasons why we must all greatly hope that Stalin will not ride roughshod over these Polish claims are the serious effects in the United States, where there are strong forces waiting to oppose the Administration's policy of endeavouring to work as closely as possible with Britain and Russia and the smaller allied nations. There will not be wanting American publicists to seize the first occasion for proclaiming that Europe is but a jungle in which the strong prey upon the weak; that America was well out of the last League, and should avoid any contacts in a thieves' kitchen.—*The Tablet*.

WAR REVIEW

By J. C. W. Rock—5 3 44

Two small nations have to make an important decision. One is Finland, and the other Turkey. Finland is now in a perilous position as the result of Russian successes in the northern sector of the eastern front. As we mentioned a few Sundays back, the German defeat in the northern sector exposes Finland to an all-out Russian attack—the protection of Germany except for 7 divisions is being removed from Finland—and the peace feelers referred to in a previous commentary have now passed beyond the stage of peace feelers. They are definite armistice terms before the Finnish Government for consideration. Negotiations are going on between Finland and Russia. This is primarily a Russian question although in terms of her agreement with Great Britain she has consulted Great Britain who has full knowledge of the preferred armistice. Finland is confronted with very much the same dilemma which faced Italy. She is anxious to get out of the war but she finds it difficult to do so as long as there are German troops on Finnish soil. With the German troops within her borders she cannot deliver the goods unless the Germans are forcibly expelled, or voluntarily withdrawn. If she consents to the Russian terms and if the Germans fail to withdraw, Finland will become, like Italy, a battleground between the Germans and Russians, as Italy became a battleground between the British army and Germany. At present, however, the Finns are anxious to reduce the severity of the armistice terms as far as possible. The general opinion, however, is that the Russian terms are moderate and conciliatory and that Finland would be unwise to reject this.

The other small nation—Turkey—has to make a rather different decision, relying on the hope that whoever wins she will not lose. Turkey seems to be somewhat unnerved by the events that are happening around her. One deterring factor is the evidence of destruction which has been wrought upon other countries involved in the war. The other is the uncertainty as to the possibility of British forces arriving in time to avert anything in the nature of a major disaster, and the certainty that the Germans will not be slow to inflict the heaviest punishment upon Turkey if she openly joined the Allies. Turkey, in fact, is in very much the same wavering position as the other States—such as Bulgaria—who have not taken an active part in the fighting. It may be that Turkey, although convinced that Germany is doomed to defeat, wishes to join in her own time, choosing her own moment. It may be that she is conscious that Germany is still full of fight and capable of delivering heavy blows which a desperate man is capable of dealing.

Germany, too, has got to make an important decision, or has made it already. Germany, in fact, has passed through three stages in this tremendous struggle. It bears a close resemblance to a heavy-weight championship. In the first stage Germany dealt what looked like knock-out blows to all comers and second to be on the verge of being unbeaten champion. In the first stage she had Russia at the ring side looking on as an interested spectator. Holland, Belgium and France were felled—one after the other. In the second stage she was called upon to make a definite decision—she had to choose whether to join hands with Russia in order to gain time for striking a decisive blow against her still undefeated enemies. It would have suited her well if Russia had been ready to accept the bait and supplied the sinews of war while Germany administered the knock-out blow to Britain. When overtures to Stalin failed, she appealed to Britain and thus we had the remarkable episode of Hess flying to Britain and proffering a friendly overture. Britain would unite in an attack on Russia. This overture having failed, as we know, made the fatal decision. Then came the decisive moment when Hitler tried the Polish gambit. This is a gambit in which he was able to work on two lines. One move was to rake up or invent the story that Polish officers had been brutally executed at Katyn by the Russians. The second was played when the Russians approached the borders of Poland. This too has failed because the logic of facts has established that it is to the interest of Poland to join hands with Russia. Hitler, like the heavy-weight champion referred to, has, in fact, been trying everything that bluff and diplomacy could do. He has worked his gambit from time to time and in his last speech he has expressed his view of the situation, and rather subtly suggests that it would be to the interests of Britain and her Allies to leave him to deal with Russia. His view is that there is no place in Europe for Britain and America and that Europe must be ruled by Europeans—preferably Germany and Britain. This suggestion appears to be the provocation that evolved the 'Pravda' report of secret overtures to Britain, but this cloud of suspicion soon evaporated. The other alternative was Germany and Russia vs. Britain America. That, too, did not work. The answer to the manoeuvres of Germany is that Russia will not join her because she had a heavy score to pay off on account of the incredible atrocities of Germany on Russian soil and Britain will not join her because she (Germany) has clearly shown that it has become impossible to live on peaceful terms side by side with Germany. Germany has therefore a third decision to make and she seems to have made that decision. That is to fight on in the hope of gaining a draw. Here the comparison to the heavy-weight fighter is again opposite. At present, many looked the winner all right but she has had several knock-outs in their punishment, but she is still fighting, and now that she has turned the other cheek she must fight for a draw. It is to be the plan of her campaign since August last year. This is the purpose of her elastic defence—to gain time to take up new defensive positions. This is the explanation of the stubborn fight which she is putting up in Italy. The landing at the Anzio bridgehead gave a hope that the presence of Allied forces in the rear would cause a speedy retreat of the German army, but there is no appreciable advance and although the Germans have failed at the third attempt to smash the Anglo-American bridgehead, and although they have brought more troops into Italy, there has been no substantial gain either way and the armies are more or less level on points.

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Telegraphic Summary of War News

APPEAL FOR ROME
The Archbishop of Quebec and Cardinal Rodrigue of Villeneuve, on behalf of the Roman Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of Canada, on Sunday made a

"supreme appeal" that Rome should be spared. The appeal was addressed to the "authorities responsible for the conduct of the war."

PARTITIONING OF THE ITALIAN FLEET

Marshal Badoglio has asked the Allied representatives for urgent details about President Roosevelt's statement that some Italian warships are to be transferred to Russia. An official Italian Government communique states that Marshal Badoglio has asked for the "most complete and urgent necessary details, reserving the right to act accordingly." Although President Roosevelt's statement about the partitioning of the Italian fleet for use by the navies of the Three Big Powers appears to have come as a complete surprise, it is learned in Allied circles that intimations pointing to the probability of some such decision had been previously communicated to the Italians. Whatever has in fact been said to the Italians, there is no doubt that Badoglio Government circles have lately cherished the warm hope that they would be allowed to bring their own fleet back into the fighting service alongside the Allies, possibly against Japan.

U.S. CONSTITUTION HIGHLIGHT

The Senate, by a vote of 72 to 14, has overridden President Roosevelt's veto of the \$2,300,000,000 tax bill, thus making it law. The House on the 24th of February overrode the veto by 299 to 95.

Under the American system, any bill must pass both houses of Congress by a simple majority and then it is sent to the President for his signature or veto. If vetoed, the bill goes back to Congress and a two-thirds majority is required in both the Senate and the House of Representatives to offset the veto.

The administration has asked for a \$10,500,000,000 tax bill. During the debate, Senator Alben W. Barkley, of Kentucky, Senate majority leader, denounced the President's veto as an attack on the integrity of Congress.

SEA AND AIR MAILS

Major Henderson, Financial Secretary to the War Office, told the House of Commons on Friday last that the average transit time for sea mails to India from the date of despatch from a Home postal centre to an overseas base had fallen from 75 to 53 days and air letters from 22 to 10½ days.

NEW SOVIET BREAK-THROUGH

The Red Army has captured Izyaslavl. Izyaslavl is twelve miles southwest of Shepetovka on the railway to Tarnopol.

The capture is announced in an order-of-the-day on Sunday night in which Marshal Stalin also reports a new break-through 120 miles wide and up to 30 miles deep on the first Ukrainian front.

AFRICAN TROOPS REVOLT

It is officially revealed that African troops in the Lulabourg area revolted on February 20 because they objected to vaccination as "mass murder." Some troops barricaded themselves in their own camps; others went home to their villages. The Commander of the troops, mustered all European women and children in the church for protection, but there were no incidents of casualties. A small amount of looting of European premises was checked by Africans who remained loyal. Reinforcements arrived the next day when some of the leaders of the revolt surrendered to be followed shortly afterwards by all the others. The area is now completely calm and confidence has been restored among the soldiers.

BURMA JAPS AMBUSHED

A successful ambush on the enemy's supply route on the main Burma front and continued progress by Chinese troops are reported in last Saturday's Southeast Asia Command communique.

Malabar Relief Fund

	Rs. cts.
Previously acknowledged	1,469 06
Bro. S. Pethurupillai, Kayts,	
St Antony's Tamil School	5 38
Mathalan-Mullaitivu Parish	10 00
Mrs. Margaret Roman, Urany	10 00
Total	1,494 44
Previously remitted	1,200 00
Sent by cheque on 4-3-44 to His Lordship the Bishop of Calicut	200 00
Balance	94 44
P. SAVERIMUTTU, Hon. Secy., Particular Council, S.V.P., Jaffna.	

FOR SALE

Tyre and tube Vulcanizer. Good condition. Rs. 400/- or nearest offer. Seen at 61, Main Street, Jaffna.

NOTICE

All applications for permits to transport country rice or country paddy must be made hereafter to the Assistant Government Agent of the area in which the applicant is resident, no matter where the paddy field is situated. The application must be accompanied by a return on form D.F.C. 34 in duplicate, copies of which can be had on application from the Assistant Government Agent of the area.

This does not in any way abrogate the notice dated 29-2-44 previously issued by me under Regulation 7 of the Defence (Purchase of foodstuffs) Regulations requiring particulars of crops in the Jaffna District to be furnished to me within six weeks of the publication of that notice.

R. M. DAVIES,
Government Agent, N.P.

Jaffna Kachcheri,
3rd March, 1944.

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.

CEYLON 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.