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ENCYCLICAL ON THE MYSTICAL BODY OF CHRIST

(Continued from our last issue.)

UNION IN CHRIST'S LOVE FOR US

Now, the only begotten Son of God embraced us in His infinite knowledge and undying love even before the world began. To give visible, and exquisitely beautiful expression to this love, He took unto Himself in hypostatic union our nature; whence—as Maximus of Turin with a certain unaffected simplicity remarks—"in Christ our own flesh love us."

But the knowledge and love of Our Divine Redeemer, of which we were the object from the first moment of His Incarnation, and more than any human intellect or heart can hope to grasp. For hardly was He conceived in the womb of the Mother of God, when He began to enjoy the vision of the blessed, and in that vision all the members of His Mystical Body were continually and unceasingly present and He embraced them with His redeeming love. O marvellous condescension of divine love for us! O inestimable disposition of limitless charity! In the crib, on the Cross, in the unending glory of the Father, Christ has all the members of the Church present before Him and united to Him in a clearer and more loving way than a mother loves her little one clasped to her breast, than anyone knows and loves himself.

UNION IN PARTICIPATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

You will readily understand from all this, Venerable Brothers, why Paul the Apostle so often writes that Christ is in us and we in Christ. In proof of which there is this other more subtle reason. Christ is in us through His Spirit, Whom He gives to us, and through Whom He acts within us in such a way that all divine activity of the Holy Spirit within our souls must also be attributed to Christ. "If a man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of

His," says the Apostle, "but if Christ be in you... the spirit liveth because of justification."

This communication of the Spirit of Christ is the channel through which flow into all the members of the Church those gifts, powers and extraordinary graces found superabundantly in the Head as in their source, and they are perfected day by day in these members according to the office they may hold in the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ. Thus the Church becomes, as it were, the filling out and complement of the Redeemer, while Christ in a sense attains through the Church a fullness in all things. Here we touch the reason why, to the mind of Augustine, the Mystical Head, Which is Christ, and the Church, which on this earth as another Christ bears His person, constitute one, new Man, in Whom heaven and earth are yoked together in perpetuating the Cross's work of salvation: by Christ we mean the Head and the Body, and whole Christ.

PRECAUTIONS IN STUDY OF THIS MYSTERY

We are well aware that many a veil shrouds this profound truth of our union with the Divine Redeemer and in particular of the Holy Spirit's dwelling within our souls and impedes our power to understand and explain it. This mystery is enveloped in a darkness, rising out of the mental limitations of those who seek to grasp it. But We know, too, that well-directed and earnest study of this doctrine and the clash of diverse opinions and their discussion, provided love of truth and due submission to the Church be the arbiter, will open rich and bright vistas, whose light will help to progress in kindred sacred sciences. Hence We do not censure those who in various ways and with diverse reasonings strain every effort to understand and to clarify the mystery of this our marvellous union with Christ. But let

all agree uncompromisingly on this, if they would not err from truth and from the orthodox teaching of the Church: to reject every kind of mystical union, by which the faithful would in any way pass beyond the sphere of creatures and rashly enter the divine even to the extent of one single attribute of the eternal Godhead being predicated of them as their own. And besides, let all hold this as certain truth, that all these activities are common to the most Blessed Trinity, in so far as they have God as supreme efficient cause.

Let it be observed also that one is treating here of a hidden mystery, which in this earthly exile can never be fully disclosed and grasped, and expressed in human language. The Divine Persons are said to be indwelling inasmuch as They are present to intellectual creatures in a way that lies beyond human comprehension, and are known and loved by them in a purely supernatural manner alone within the deepest sanctuary of the soul. If we would approach at least a little towards perceiving this truth, let us not neglect the method recommended by the Vatican Council in similar cases. Seeking light so as to discern at least partially the hidden things of God, the Council finds it in comparing these mysteries one with the other and with the last end towards which they point.

UNION IN MASS AND COMMUNION

It seems to Us that something would be lacking to what We have thus far proposed concerning this close union of the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ with its Head, if We did not add here a few words on the Holy Eucharistic, wherein this union during this moral life reaches, as it were, a climax.

Through the Eucharistic Sacrifice Christ Our Lord wished to give special evidence to the faithful of our union among ourselves and with our Divine Head, marvellous as it is beyond all

praise. For here the sacred minister act in the person not only of Our Saviour but of the whole Mystical Body and of every one of the faithful. In this act of sacrifice through the hands of the priest, whose word alone has brought the Immaculate Lamb to be present on the altar, the faithful themselves with one desire and one prayer offer It to the Eternal Father—the most acceptable victim of praise and propitiation of the Church's universal needs. And just as the Divine Redeemer, dying on the Cross, offered Himself as Head of the whole human race to the Eternal Father, so "in this pure oblation" He offers not only Himself as Head of the Church to the Heavenly Father, but in Himself His mystical members as well. He embraces them all, even the weak and ailing ones, in the tenderest love of His Heart.

The Sacrament of the Eucharist is itself a striking image of the Church's unity, if we consider how in the bread to be consecrated many grains go to form one substance; and in it the very Author of supernatural grace is given to us, so that through Him we may receive the Spirit of charity, in which we are bidden to live now not our life but the life of Christ, and in all the members of His social Body to love the Redeemer Himself.

If in the sad and anxious days through which we are passing there are many who cling so firmly to Christ the Lord hidden beneath the Eucharistic veils that neither tribulation nor distress nor famine nor nakedness nor danger nor persecution nor the sword can separate them from His love, then undoubtedly Holy Communion, which once again in God's providence is much more frequented even from days of early childhood, may become a source of the courage that makes heroes out of Christians.

(To be Continued)

THE WAR APPROACHES ROME

The Archbishop of Westminster said: "I wish to ask your prayers for our Holy Father the Pope in this grave hour of trial, that God may preserve him from danger. His position is the most difficult of any man living. But he has nobly upheld the principles of his great predecessors Pope Benedict XV and Pope Pius XI. From the very beginning of his Pontificate the Holy Father has spent himself working for peace. He tried hard to prevent the present world war. He appealed frequently to those who hold the supreme positions in States. His peace points which were proposed in his Christmas address in 1939, his Easter Allocution of 1940, and the telegrams he sent to the sovereigns of the violated States in the same year, make clear his denunciation of the invasion against the will and rights of the smaller and weaker States. His predecessor was outspoken in his denunciation of the Nazi creed. You have only to read his encyclical letter "Mit brennender Sorge" on the condition of the Church in Germany. And if you wish to find his condemnation of the false principles and wrong actions of the Fascist Party in power in Italy in 1931, you have only to read his encyclical letter "Non abbiamo bisogno," sent to the Bishops of Italy. If the Pope speaks, his words are often misconstrued, and

if he is silent he is accused of complicity. No one would envy him his position."

THE TRADITION OF CIVILISED WARFARE

The correspondence in "The Times" initiated by a letter of Archbishop Lord Lang has revolved round a false and unfortunate antithesis: whether it is more important to preserve unique buildings or human lives. Thus crudely formulated, no one is going to demand that other people should hazard their lives for the sake of buildings, although men often do. But the question is really to be seen much more widely. The ends for which we are fighting cannot be separated from the means we use to achieve victory.

The main burden of our propaganda from the beginning has been that we are not a barbarian people delighting in war, but a civilized people fighting to defend the achievements so far won, and therefore conducting even our wars with all sorts of voluntarily accepted and self-imposed restraints. We must be on the watch against the danger of having two standards of morality, one for the enemy and one for ourselves. Those who rightly denounced German air warfare as indiscriminate can hardly

(Continued on Page 4.)

THEN AND NOW

When the war began the Christian conscience of the nation was fully and sincerely persuaded of the rightness of our cause.

To defend our ally, Poland, to stop Nazi Germany's piecemeal conquest of Europe, to challenge a brutal totalitarian philosophy running clean counter to a civilisation founded in respect for the human person—these were aims that justified recourse to hateful war in the eyes of all who were not persuaded that was intrinsically evil.

What has happened in the course of five years' fighting?

We are still fighting Nazism. And if to fight Nazism in 1936 was just, it remains just to-day, for the war has done nothing to cause us to change our view about either the Nazi danger to the world nor about the evil of the Naziist philosophy.

But beyond this—what is the picture that is forming itself?

THE NEW PICTURE

From the conflict a new great European Power is emerging. In its social philosophy that Power can certainly be distinguished in certain respects from the Nazi Power, but in other respects—the points that told on us in 1939—there is too much resemblance. It is a

totalitarian Power; its authority is maintained by a secret police with right of life and death over political critics; its profession is avowedly anti-Christian; its policy towards religion is one of suppression or very partial tolerance under conditions that have nothing to do with what we mean by religious liberty. While that Power fights magnificently and gives us incomparable aid, it also proposes to itself the domination by force and at any cost to others of a large part of Europe, and the limits of its proposed domination are anyone's guess.

Up to date, the Britain which was gladly prepared to sacrifice its blood and its resources to prevent the development of Hitlerian ambitions has not uttered one single word of protest against such principles and plans of its Ally, Soviet Russia. Indeed it is apparently prepared to let another Ally be maimed and neutral States be obliterated in order to clear the ground for this new development. Hardly less surprising is its apparent willingness to encourage this Power to grow to absolute predominance against every tradition of the foreign policy of an Empire spread across the seas.

MEANING OF FREEDOM

Nearer home, Britain indeed still

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Church Calendar

JUNE 1944

FRI. ...2	S. Marcelline.
SAT. ...3	S. Clotilda.
SUN. ...4	HOLY TRINITY.
MON. ...5	S. Boniface.
TUES. ...6	S. Norbert.
WED. ...7	S. Robert.
THURS. ...8	CORPUS CHRISTI.
FRI. ...9	S. Felician.

The Catholic Guardian

JUNE 2ND 1944

A MISCHIEVOUS SPEECH

On Tuesday last Mr. C.W.W. Kannangara introduced his motion on the Educational Reforms, based on the Report of the Special Committee. His speech on the occasion is said to have lasted three and a half hours and he was to resume it on the following day for how many more hours no one could say. By reason of the matter and the manner of his speech it appears to have been an infliction on the audience. From the summarised report as published in the papers, the speech seemed to us muddle-headed. Instead of showing the real merits of his proposals from an educational point of view he started raising the religious cry. There was in it nothing original; it was merely a rehash of what he had been saying up and down the country to rouse up religious feeling. And he wanted people to believe that if he quoted what Father G. S. Perera stated in his book of history he was not raising the religious cry. Mr. Kannangara's cynical disregard for times and circumstances need not surprise us. Father Perera's statement referred to what happened 125 years ago. About the year 1815 when the British became masters of the whole Island, being unable to provide the people of the country with the means of acquiring a knowledge of the English language which they had made the official language, they invited the Protestant Missions to establish schools giving them building sites and grants and favouring them in many other ways. Catholics who were just emerging from the hardships of the penal laws and whose co-religionists were still being persecuted in England were left out in the cold. In striking contrast, far from receiving any favours they were denied even bare justice. Mr. Kannangara's grouching is that while Father Perera refers to this as an injustice done to Catholics he says nothing with regard to Hindus and Buddhists. But there was this big difference. While the Catholics had an organisation to undertake educational work Buddhists and Hindus then had none, nor did they show any desire to shoulder the responsibility. Those who really suffered the injustice were the Catholics and they still feel its ill-effects. For while the Buddhists and Hindus availed themselves of the facilities offered to them to attend in large numbers the schools opened by the Protestant Missions to acquire a knowledge of the official language, the Catholics for conscience' sake

had to deny themselves the worldly honours and emoluments which a knowledge of English offered them. Even when Catholics after sustained fight had obtained equality of treatment for all the communities and the denominational system was established, the Buddhists and Hindus were slow to take advantage of it. The reason for their apathy was that the financial assistance given by Government was not even sufficient to pay the teachers—not to speak of meeting the costs of the sites and school buildings and their maintenance. Funds had to be found from their own pockets and that they were not willing to do. At the least for the last 75 years they were on equal footing and if they had not made up for their initial disadvantage as the Catholics have done they are to blame themselves. But Mr. Kannangara's line of argument is this: The British Government had been unjust to us Buddhists a century ago. But as we cannot retaliate upon the British, let us take our revenge, now that we have power, on the Christians by destroying their schools!!!

BOOK NOTICE

The Little Crusade of the Sacred Heart

We have received from the Sacred Heart Bureau, Jaffna, a tiny booklet "The Guide for the Promoters of the Little Crusade of the Sacred Heart." With the publication of two other booklets, "The Crusader's Short Catechism," and "Organisation and Ceremonial," this Guide for the Crusade Promoters, we understand, completes to a certain extent the Little Crusade literature. The present booklet seems to have been composed carefully, and so, His Lordship the Bishop, in his *Approbation* given at the beginning, is pleased to say: "The directions contained in this little Guide for the Promoters of the Little Crusade of the Sacred Heart form a splendid plan for the spiritual and apostolic training of children. I am convinced that the Promoters of the Little Crusade, and Teachers generally, will find it greatly beneficial to themselves if they carry on their work on the lines indicated in the Guide. This is what we call genuine Catholic Action Work."

We compliment the Promoters of the Little Crusade who have already succeeded in enrolling 25,000 Crusaders. The Sacred Heart Bureau, Jaffna, will gladly supply, we understand, a free copy of the new Guide to any Head of a Catholic Institution who will apply for same.

TRINITY IN UNITY

Many outside the Faith are puzzled how Catholics could believe that 1+1+1=1, in relation to the Trinity. They should realise that Catholics know that 1+1+1=3, but that 1 x 1 x 1 remains unity. The dictionary defines the word trinity as "a whole consisting of three parts." The three parts go to form one whole and not three.

I do not wish to take the role of an apologist on the question of the doctrine of the Blessed Trinity. This truth was revealed to us by God Himself through the Incarnation. In the Trinity, there are Three Persons, the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost, all of one nature—a Trinity in Unity.

But it is interesting to see how this idea of Trinity in Unity is manifested in nature. The image of the Trinity is impressed on everything. Even Science will have to reckon with Christian dogma. Matter itself is a trinity in unity; it is length multiplied by breadth, multiplied by depth. Take the elements of any science and there is a trinity in unity. Take Geometry. What is a line, but an "initial point, a final point and a

generating movement which unites the two." The seven colours of the rainbow resolve themselves into three when analysed. The seven notes of the musical scale lean on three fundamental notes which produce the perfect chord.

Catholic Apologists take the equilateral triangle as the best human means of representing the Trinity. The equilateral triangle consists of three equal sides forming one space content, thus representing the Three Persons of the Holy Trinity, all sharing one nature.

The story goes that when St. Patrick was explaining the doctrines of Catholicism to King Leaghair, monarch of all Ireland, the king is said to have asked the Saint for an example to explain to him how there could be Three Persons in the One God. It was then, that St. Patrick picked up the shamrock and pointed to the three leaves with one stem.

A certain writer speaking of the Holy Trinity says, "Unity without multiplicity precludes intelligence, for to know implies thought; and without a duality of subject and object, thought is impossible," and adds that the "subject and object of Divine Intelligence and love must be within the Divine nature, a Trinity in Unity, producing in itself that co-existence of variety in simplicity, that harmonious plurality in unity, which is the source of all beauty and all thought."

V. A. P.

Mr. Tyagaraja's Speech on Making Sinhalese to be Official Language

Mr. Tyagaraja: I did not intend to speak on this motion. But after listening to the remarks made by the hon. Member for Matale (Mr. Aluwihare), who unfortunately is not in his seat at the moment, I desire to make a few observations.

The hon. Member for Matale (Mr. Aluwihare) said that national unity and cohesion can be produced if Sinhalese is the official language in this country. The hon. Member even went to the extent of stating that really Tamils in the North had Sinhalese blood and the Sinhalese in the South had Tamil blood.

I am very much astonished to listen to the theories he propounded and the sentiments he expressed. I fail to see how national unity or national cohesion can be brought about by suppressing one of the languages spoken by, at least 2,000,000 people in this country.

The mover of this motion also stated that on second thoughts he desired to amend his motion by including Tamil as an official language in this country. But he expressed certain misgivings even in regard to his second thoughts. He said that he feared that if Tamil is made an official language in this country it might occupy a place of predominance, a higher status than Sinhalese, as Tamil is spoken by 40,000,000 people across the seas in South India.

It seems to me that the attitude taken by these Members is most unreasonable as they clearly desire to make Sinhalese the only official language.

I would like, in passing, to point out that in a country like Switzerland—in certain cantons—there are 2 official languages spoken—French and German in some cantons; Italian and German in some cantons, and French and Italian in others; so that a bilingual system is in force in a country like Switzerland where two distinct communities live together peacefully and harmoniously, speaking two different languages.

The mover of this motion is prepared to concede that we might have Tamil as an official language. But other members, particularly the hon. Member for Matale (Mr. Aluwihare), are not prepared to concede that much. In view of that I am sorry that I cannot support the motion before this House. It is an unreasonable motion, as it seeks the suppression of a language spoken by 2 million people.

The mover himself suggested an amendment to his motion which I find the majority of the House was not prepared to accept. So that the motion as it stands seeks the suppression of a language spoken by a very large section

of the people of this Island and, on the other hand, if it is given effect to, it would result in making a language spoken by only one section of the people the official language of this country. I am afraid that I cannot subscribe to the principle underlying the motion and I propose to vote against this motion.

If you have not done so yet, during this month of June, Consecrate yourself and your Family to the Sacred Heart.

By so doing you will respond to the explicit demand of Our Lord. He had promised that He would bless in abundance all those who consecrate themselves to Him. He promised in like manner to bless the houses of those families where the image of His Sacred Heart shall be exposed and honoured.

The booklet about the Enthronement ceremony, etc., may be got from "Sacred Heart Bureau," Bishop's House, Jaffna. Price per copy, with postage, 10 cts.

LOCAL & GENERAL

Judicial.—Mr. H. A. De Silva, District Judge, Kurunegala, assumed duties yesterday as District Judge, Jaffna, relieving Mr. James Joseph who is retiring.

Mr. J. Mervyn Fonseka, K.C., Solicitor-General, will act as Attorney-General from yesterday as Mr. M. W. H. de Silva, K.C., Attorney-General is going on leave.

Mr. R.R. Crossette Thambiah, Senior Crown Counsel, will act as Solicitor-General.

Sir Baron Jayatilaka Dies on his Way to Ceylon.—The news was received with regret this morning that on his way home to Ceylon by air on Wednesday Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Representative of Ceylon in India, died at Bangalore at the age of 76.

Sir Baron had fallen seriously ill, suffering from heart disease, at Mussoorie, a health resort in North India where he had gone from New Delhi for a few days' rest. Arrangements were made to bring him immediately to Ceylon in an ambulance plane. At 11 a.m. on Wednesday when the first and only stop on the way to Colombo was made at Bangalore, the doctor found that Sir Baron's condition had gravely deteriorated. Fifteen minutes after the landing, Sir Baron breathed his last.

Till the arrival of the plane in Colombo in the afternoon, the news of Sir Baron's death was not known in Ceylon.

Sir Baron's body was immediately removed to his residence, "Chitralatha," Nikape, Dehiwala. Cremation takes place to-morrow evening.

In the State Council that afternoon Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Leader of the House, moved a vote of condolence on the death of Sir Baron Jayatilaka and also moved the adjournment of the House.

A Clash Averted.—By the prompt action taken by the Maniagar of the Islands, Mr. S. S. Santhipillai a threatened clash between the fishermen of Karaiyer and the Thimilars of Velanai on fishing rights was averted this week. On receipt of information the Maniagar sent immediately two Constables and the Krama Vidanes of Allaipiddi and Velanai East to the spot and their presence served to prevent a breach of the peace. The Maniagar's prompt action deserves commendation.

Police Officer's Services Appreciated by Manipay.—At a public meeting of the residents of Manipay Parish on 30-5-44 presided over by Mr. C. Thiagarajah, Chairman, V.C., tributes were paid to the good work of Mr. A. S. de Silva, O.I.C., Anaicodai Police Station, on the eve of his transfer from the area on promotion as sub-Inspector of Police. A resolution was unanimously passed appreciating the efficient services rendered for the area by Mr. Silva.

Mr. K. Chornalingam, Dr. S. G. C. Mills, Mr. S. Muthukumarasamy, Mr. V. Kanapathipillai and Mr. A. Chelliah addressed the meeting.

The Treasury Statement.—There has been an excess of revenue—

over expenditure amounting to Rs. 40,350,259 for the period October, 1943, to April 1944.

The latest Treasury statement reveals that the revenue for the seven months was Rs. 147,575,988 against an expenditure of Rs. 107,225,729.

The excess of revenue over expenditure for the corresponding period last year was Rs. 24,498,994.

The revenue for April was Rs. 21,867,464 and the expenditure Rs. 14,956,302.

Customs again led the revenue figures for the seven months of the current financial year, the amount being Rs. 51,882,548.

Income tax, estate duty, stamps and excess profits duty brought in Rs. 48,436,122 and excise and salt Rs. 14,856,548.

The biggest item of expenditure was Rs. 16,226,462 on education, or Rs. 2,451,799 more than during the corresponding period last year. The amount spent on education during April was Rs. 2,280,955 against Rs. 1,721,623 in April, 1943.

Defence expenditure (excluding the transfer of Rs. 20 million to loan fund expenditure) for period October, 1943 to April, 1944, was Rs. 13,834,278.

The gain on the railway applied to the payment of arrears of annuities was Rs. 1,406,000 in April, 1944, and Rs. 9,518,000 during the period October, 1943 to April, 1944.

F.M.O. and M.O.H. Designations.—The Executive Committee of Health has approved of the designation Field Medical Officer to Medical Officer of Health without prejudice to the policy that wherever practicable public health and curative functions might be combined in the officers.

Rs. 12 a Bushel Demanded.—At a well-attended public meeting convened by Mr. K. Don Sugathadasa, Chairman of the Village Committee of Dehivini Palata, and presided over by Mr. K. D. David Perera, President of the Uva Village Committee Conferences and Chairman of the Udupalata V.C., the paddy growers of Udukinda emphatically protested against the Government's attitude towards them.

Of the eight resolutions passed one suggested that the price of paddy should be raised to at least Rs. 12.

Notice of Motions.—Mr. J. Tyagaraja gave notice of this following motions when he took his oaths and it will be moved at an early date:

1. That this Council is of opinion that immediate steps should be taken to establish the tree tax system in the Mannar-Vavuniya-Mullaitivu area with view to mitigating the evils of collective drinking and with a view to preventing the exploitation of the masses by a few individuals.

2. That this Council is of opinion that a Town Council should be established in Mannar in place of the present Sanitary Board and that the necessary legislation should be introduced without delay.

3. That this Council is of opinion that a Dispensary should be established in the villake of Errukkalampidy (Mannar) as early as possible.

4. That this Council is of opinion that a Government English School should be established in Mullaitivu.

5. That this Council is of opinion that a new building should be erected for a hospital in Mullaitivu as the present building is quite unsuitable.

Social Service Commission.—The Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce has decided that Dr. Ivor Jennings (Chairman), Mr. N. E. Weerasooriya, the Very Revd. Fr. Peter Pillai, O.M.I. and Dr. Das Gupta be appointed a commission on social services.

The terms of reference to be suggested are: to survey the existing social assistance and allied services within the purview of the Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce, including statutory provision for workmen's compensation and maternity benefits, and to make recommendations with a view to their co-ordination, extension and improvements.

Food Expert in Ceylon.—Dr. William Clyde, Colonial Office Food

Adviser, is once again in the Island. On the last occasion when he was in Ceylon he made a study of local food problems in relation to stocks and supplies and helped the authorities with advice. His present visit is to see whether his suggestions have proved effective.

Holy Oils Decree.—The S. Congregation of Rites has issued a decree permitting the continued use of holy oils which were blessed in 1943 in places where it is now difficult to obtain olive oil.

Fixed Easter.—There is actually a Fixed Easter Act on the Statute Book; the Bill was passed by the House of Lords and Commons in 1928. However, it had a provision that the Act was not to come into operation until there was a Royal proclamation to that effect; it was generally recognised that the change could not be made without the consent of the religious bodies.

Towards the end of 1929 the Government approached the Holy See on the matter. The reply was unfavourable, the Vatican holding that the question was untimely.

The Government also consulted many countries on the scheme to divide the year into 13 months of 28 days, the new month to be called "Sol" and the 365th day "Year Day."

Replies came very slowly. In June, 1931, the Foreign Secretary (Mr. Arthur Henderson) stated that even then two countries, Greece and Latvia, had yet to answer.

Germany was one of the countries which considered the question primarily one to be settled by the Church rather than the State: the others were Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Lithuania, Yugo-Slavia, Bulgaria, Austria, Rumania and Belgium.

Italy, France, Holland, and Portugal referred the question to committees.

Chile Bishops.—The Bishops of Chile have appealed to Mr. Churchill, President Roosevelt and Herr Hitler to save Rome from becoming a battlefield.

"The Catholic Hierarchy of Chile respectfully ask your Government," says the letter to the belligerents, "to devise a means of keeping Rome out of the struggle, thus saving a priceless heritage of all time and all people, for which history and the present generation will be eternally grateful.

"We are sending a similar message to the opposing belligerent."

The messages are signed by the Archbishops of Santiago, Concepcion and Serena.

Cardinal in Paris Prison.—Cardinal Hlond, Primate of Poland, is a prisoner at Fresnes, just outside Paris, a Vatican inquiry has ascertained from the German authorities, according to a Chiasso (Italian Frontier) message to "La Suisse," quoted by Reuter.

No reason has been given for the arrest of the Cardinal, who has been sent from a monastery in Upper Savoy where he had been staying. From there he visited Rome and was received by the Holy Father.

Soviet Attack on Vatican.—The New York State Legislature has passed a resolution deploring the action of the Soviet Government paper "Izvestia" in declaring that the Vatican is pro-Fascist, says the New York correspondent of "The Times", London.

The resolution was passed by a unanimous vote of the Senate, concurring in a resolution passed by the Assembly. The resolution points out that both the present Pope and his predecessors have condemned Fascism and Nazism in both public and private declarations, some of which go as far back as 1931.

"Izvestia's" statement is called "an unfortunate accusation against any reflection upon the loyalty, patriotism and devotion to freedom and democracy" of more than 30,000,000 Catholics in the United States and more than 3,000,000 Catholics in New York itself.

The Legislature further deplors that "this statement of the Soviet Government was delivered at a time when the Government of the United States is bending every effort to promote world amity and peace regardless of race, colour or creed in order that Nazism, Fascism and all forms of government subversive to human liberty may be totally defeated and exterminated from human society."

Two Million Rosaries for U.S. Troops.—The 2,000,000th rosaries to be provided for the U.S. Forces since Pearl Harbour were blessed by Archbishop Ciochani, Apostolic Delegate, at a ceremony at the Delegation in Washington.

The National Catholic Community Service, which gave the rosaries, has also shipped more than 1,000,000 missals, 3,000,000 prayer books and pamphlets and 1,000,000 medals.

Choir Boy Sings own Composition.—Choir boy of St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, 12 year old Raymond Newton composed his own music for *O Salutaris, Tantum Ergo and Adoremus* and was allowed to sing them at the Christmas Benediction in the Cathedral. He is a pupil of the Oratory Preparatory School, Edgbaston.

Revenue Inquiry Requested

On a resolution moved by the vice-Chairman of the Matale Urban Council, the Conference of Urban Councils, which concluded its two-day annual session at Moratuwa on Saturday, decided to recommend to Government that before further responsibilities were thrown on urban councils a commission, consisting at least of one expert, should be appointed by Government to inquire into: (a) local taxation; (b) incidence of local taxation with special reference to the poor; (c) taxpaying capacity; (d) sources of revenue other than rates, taxes and duties; (e) the services of a national character which the councils could undertake according to the taxpaying capacity and other available sources of revenue without any detriment to the proper carrying of essential services, until at least a good stage of development on these essential things was reached; (f) the question of what further grants and powers Government should offer urban councils?

The conference agreed on the suggestion of the Commissioner of Local Government to place the accounts of urban councils on an "income and expenditure" basis (a departure from the present "receipts and payments" basis) from next year.

It was resolved on two motions submitted by the Kurunegala and Matale councils, to request Government to delete Section 7 (2) (f) of the Urban Councils' Ordinance No. 61 of 1939 or in the alternative to bring it into line with the Municipal Council's Ordinance, in regard to the payment of taxes and fixing March 30 as the date for the commencement of the preparation of voters' lists.

The Matale resolution suggesting that applicants to the Supreme Court who challenge the validity of urban council elections should deposit as security amounts sufficient to meet all costs was lost.

Mr. Austin Fernando, of Negombo, moved: "that urban council chairmen should be placed in the Essential Services category for the purpose of distribution of tyres, petrol, etc." Mr. P. Nadarajah, of Jaffna, seconded.—Carried. Muhandiram D.S.C. Umagiliya, Chairman of the Kolonnawa Council, moved three resolutions to the effect that local bodies should make their own arrangements to obtain the services of competent consulting engineers in connexion with half-yearly inspection of lighting schemes. Mr. Anthony J. M. de Silva, (Chairman of the Hatton-Dikoya Urban Council), seconded.—Carried.

Mr. Anthony J. M. de Silva moved that urban council chairmen should be appointed Deputy Food Controllers in their respective areas. Muhandiram Umagiliya seconded.—Carried.

At the annual general meeting of the association of urban councils, the following office-bearers were elected:—President: Mr. R. E. de S. Jayasundera, (Chairman of the Kurunegala Council); Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. J. P. Salgadoe, Executive Committee; The President, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer and the chairmen of Kolonnawa, Jaffna, Chilaw, Hatton-Dikoya and Nawalapitiya councils. Mr. J. P. Salgadoe was elected Hon. Editor of the "Urban Council Gazette."

Mr. J. Goonewardene was refused permission to move a resolution de-

manding the "immediate release" of the Sama Samajist detenus. Mr. R. P. Fernando's motion supporting the Special Education Committee's report was also disallowed.

Mr. E. P. Fernando, of the Surveyor-General's office, exhibited a model of an automatic voting machine. The Commissioner of Local Government asked Mr. Fernando to arrange a demonstration at his office which would be attended by the Minister and the Executive Committee.

Cathedral Building Fund

(Continued from our last issue.)

	No. of Insl.	Rs	Cts.
Mr. A. S. Vanigasurair	6	10	00
„ Emmanuel Patrick	3	1	00
Mrs. Margaret Manuel	6	1	00
Mr. Gnanapragasam Johnpillai	27	1	00
Mrs. G. A. Amirthanayagam	2	2	00
Mr. N. A. Saverimuttu	2	1	00
„ A. Saverimuttu	12	2	00
„ M. E. Rasiah	6	1	00
„ M. T. James Rasiah	41	2	50
„ M. Bastiampillai	16	1	00
Mrs. T. Joseph Raja	6	2	00
„ Lily Mary Josephine Pakiam			2 00
Mr. Noel Gregory	50	3	00
Mrs. Marypillai Lovel	12	3	00
Mr. K. K. Joachimpillai	7	5	60
Mrs. Sellam Paul		5	50
„ Josephine Victoria Santiap.		4	65
„ Christina Sinnatamby	5	5	55
Mr. V. M. Joseph	2	3	00
Mrs. Veronica Swaminathan	17	1	00
Mr. P. Nicholas Rasiah	5	5	00
Mrs. Margaret Manuel	7	1	00
„ Mary Josephine Berchmans	5	1	00
Mr. Ben. David	11	5	00
„ Joachim Fernandez	13	1	50
Mrs. Sazan Johnpillai	44	20	00
Mr. P. Gnanapragasam	83	10	00
„ A. L. Cyprian	10	10	00
Mrs. A. Nathan	1	1	00
Mr. D. James	27	2	00
„ A. S. Francis of Mary	18	1	00
„ C.W.D. Alwines	12	2	50
„ S. Francis	10	5	00
„ S. C. Lawrence	9	1	00
„ M. Jacob	10	2	50
„ A. S. Arulanatham	9	1	00
„ Quentin Fernando	1	25	00
„ C. Joseph	43	10	00
„ James Christian	16	2	00
„ B. G. Benedict	3	5	00
„ P. Ignatius	3	2	50
„ R. P. Perera	2	2	00
„ A. Gnanapragasam	17	2	50
Mrs. Daisy Francis	21	1	00
Miss Margaret Gregory	57	6	00
Mrs. N. S. Soosaipillai	4	0	00
„ N. S. Soosaipillai	2	0	00
Mr. D. Manuel	2	0	00
A Catholic			1 00
Dr. Geo. W. Puvimannasinghe	12	100	00
Chev. S. Arulanatham	28	5	00
Mrs. N. A. Saverimuttu	3	1	00
„ Mary Elizabeth Joseph	43	1	00
Late Miss Ponnulysa Martyn	16	1	00
Late Mr. M. T. Francis	6	1	00
Mr. M. T. James Rasiah	42	2	50
„ Lawrence Keil	9	1	00
„ Claude Keil	8	1	00
„ M. Bastiampillai	17	1	00
Mrs. A. C. Nalliah	5	5	00
Mrs. Annamma Saverimuttu	13	1	00
Mr. A. Saverimuttu	13	2	00
Mrs. T. Joseph Raja	7	2	00
Mr. J. Emm. Patrick	4	1	00

Total 1,291 59
Amount previously acknowledged 98,864 32

Total 100,155 91
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Parish Priest,
St. Mary's Cathedral.

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Then and Now

(Continued from Page 1.)

stands nominally for the freedom and independence of other nations, but there is an increasing tendency to limit that freedom and independence to formulate approved by what is called public opinion. There are many shrewd guesses about as to the kind of freedom and independence that will be allowed to Spain, Italy and the Latin republics of America—and that freedom is certainly not the kind in which the religious traditions of those countries will best flourish. Indeed it is the kind which in Italy brought the Fascist reaction. Perhaps accidentally, but certainly most unfortunately, we now find ourselves engaged in a campaign whose effect is to threaten the capital of Christendom and to destroy the greatest monuments of Western civilisation and this without deriving benefits that to the layman's eye counterbalance such losses. Peculiarly tragic are the Rome raids with the appalling risk run of injuring the Pope himself.

Lastly, within our own country, we can but observe how the continuance of war is steadily leading to the acceptance and encouragement of a technique of life in which the person, the family, the smaller societies and associations will count for less and less, and the State for more and more. So far from the spiritual quality which manifested itself in 1939 emerging as an ideal shaping our own social relations and modifying the advent of technocracy, we are witnessing the process of conferring ever greater powers on the State without any insistence on compensating safeguards for the person and the personal-spiritual outlook which is the stuff of Christianity. Small blame to those who are beginning to wonder whether the post-war Britain will defer so greatly from the ideology we fight!

OUR REAL CAUSE

We cannot doubt that the position is a morally anxious one. We are pledged to defeat Hitler's Germany. Let that main issue be separated off from the rest, and let it be purified, first, by our making it clear that we have no part or parcel in the new aggressive power-politics, whoever may be responsible for them, and, second, by devoting our reformist energies to giving each and every citizen a square deal for his soul as well as for his body.—*Catholic Herald, London.*

The War Approaches Rome

(Continued from Page 1)

pass to a quite uncritical satisfaction at the number of tons cascaded in a few minutes on Germany now. We cannot attack the German vandalism and indifferences in southern Italy, an indifference which would be defended with the argument that German lives must take precedence of Italian stones, if we proclaim that the same principle is the only valid one.

In innumerable ways, to make war in a humane and civilized manner—to care for the enemy wounded, to accept the surrender of prisoners, to seek to minimize danger and even hardship to civilians—does very often, perhaps generally, involve an army in more risks than would be incurred if none of these good things were done. But the armies of civilized States, to their greater honour, incur these risks, because it is necessary to win inside a certain tradition and setting, if victory is to be the beginning of better and not of worse things.—*The Tablet.*

Opening of Co-operative Textile Establishment

At the opening of the Town Co-operative Textile Wholesale Establishment on Saturday last, Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, Govt. Agent said:—

It is really a great pleasure to be here to-day even though I have come here in place of your permanent G.A. I am glad to be back again in the midst of my old friends and as co-operators your-

self I think I can count on your good co-operation in the discharge of my duties. I am one of you and you can always depend upon me to do my best to promote any good movement which is in the interest of this country.

As regards the co-operative movement, I am still a great believer in the co-operative movement. After I went to Badulla I did my best to open co-operative stores in Badulla and any co-operative movement is welcomed and it will receive my full support. The remedy for the existing evils lies in the co-operative movement. It is true that Government cannot undertake the trade of the country. But at a time like this, it is unfair for the trader to exploit the present situation for his own benefit. There may be a few hundreds who can pay exorbitant prices; but there are thousands of poor people who cannot pay as the few rich people. If there are no people who want to pay high prices, I am sure there will be no black market in the country. Therefore in the interest of the poor people of this country, it is very necessary that the few rich people should be stopped from paying high prices and thereby stop the black market.

It is indeed a great pleasure to me to open this Co-operative Textile Wholesale Establishment to-day.

COUNTER MEASURES AGAINST THE APPROACHING INVASION

To sum up. The general and valid conclusion is that the Germans are caught on the horns of a dilemma. Their dependence on the resources of conquered satellite territories has compelled them to defend far flung battle fronts when their diminishing manpower called insistently for withdrawal and concentration. In the coming months they will be caught widely (and therefore weakly) extended. For that reason they are bound to make a supreme effort to defeat the invaders or at least to effect a stalemate in the west before the Russians get at their vitals on the other side. German propaganda in support of a compromise peace with the British Commonwealth and United States has not ceased. Nor will it, for it is their only hope. A survey of the manpower situation is encouraging enough in that it clearly indicates the enemy will stick at nothing and will use the pick of his troops to defeat and bog down the forthcoming invasion. A review of their preparations and precautions in occupied countries provide ample illustration of that point.

NORWAY

In Norway the Germans have for a time been engaged in building additional airfields and elaborate concrete fortifications along the coast and (it is interesting to note) near the Swedish frontier. About a month ago they mobilised 8,000 Norwegians in the northern countries for work on fortifications. All men between the ages of 18 and 55 were conscripted; medical certificates were not accepted as reasons for exemptions. In some cases people who were seriously ill were conscripted and were sent home again in a dying condition.

THE LOW COUNTRIES

The Germans are evidently anxious that everyone (including their own people) should realize exactly how difficult a sea-borne invasion of Holland would be. Detailed accounts of flooding have been appearing in the German press and in a broadcast talk for the past month. Instead of the usual method of deep inundation by a sudden onrush of water, it is explained that a system of gradual shallow flooding has been adopted which turns the ground into "sludge." "In February," writes the "Munchner Neueste Nachrichten," "evacuation of districts to be flooded began; very soon water streamed into the first folder. It was done by zones according to stipulated periods. Hardly had one high-packed cart left the village, the last cow been driven off the field and the last potato stacks been cleared out, than the rich marshy soil disappeared under a shining wet surface. Flooded areas are no longer land but they are not yet sea."

Prominence has been given to reports of war correspondents who watched the anti-invasion exercises. Vehicles, guns and tanks, floundered hopelessly in the flooded areas." Equipment carried by troops has been ruined; it has been found impossible for "even the shallowest boats and landing craft to make any progress." The declared purpose of flooding is threefold—(1) to support the coastal defence system, (2) to limit the operations of invading airborne troops and (3) to create a water belt around particularly important places and strong points. Special attention, it is declared, has been paid to the defence of Rotterdam.

According to a Stuttgart paper the extent of the present flooding is larger than ever before in Holland's history. If this is the case it is possible that about half of the total area of the country is now under water. Fresh-water inundation inland does not do serious damage to the soil but sea water in the coastal provinces will render it infertile for a considerable period. The area under sea water may be extensive for all the islands of Zeeland have been evacuated. Apart from the misery and hardship inflicted on evacuated farms the Dutch will be hard put to it to feed themselves this year. Their resistance to the enemy is, as always, resolute and well organized.

BELGIUM

In Belgium the coastal area forms part of the much advertised "Atlantic wall." After the recent inspection by Field Marshal Von Runstedt the German controlled paper "Brusseller Zeitung" impressed on readers the tremendous strength of concrete and other defence works along the coast which it claimed were proof against the heaviest bombing. "If," the article continues, "the construction of a strong second line at varying distances behind the coastal defence zone has been ordered, this is in order to be prepared for any eventuality, however unlikely; above all, so that any parachutists dropped behind the Atlantic wall can be mastered as quickly as possible in the hinterland. An unbroken circle of defences has been set up around important towns with natural or artificial tank obstacles and traps, street barriers etc., supported by river and canal systems reinforced by heavy minefields."

Rommel who seems to be a sort of Inspector-General of anti-invasion defences acting in an advisory capacity to Runstedt, spends his time in continual tours of the Atlantic wall. It is noticeable that in almost all reports of his exhortations to German troops he combines extolling of the immense strength of the defensive zone with warnings that the threat from air borne troops in their rear must be kept in mind night and day.

Since the Allied invasion of Italy frantic efforts have been made to build a similar "wall" along the Riviera. According to the Geneva paper "Illustré" about 150,000 civilians have been evacuated from the Mediterranean coast and tens of thousands of navvies, "improvised masons," have been employed on works as forced labour. "The population of the Riviera can only see the sea through barbed wire and concrete battlements."

FRANCE

Swiss observers are unanimous in reporting that France is in the grip of a reign of fear and terror. Most of the preliminary dirty work is being carried out by the renegade French "Militia" under the brutal Darmand who in Vichy has become a French Himmler. "For some weeks," writes the Gazette "De Lausanne" day and night, at any time, often without motive, searches, inquiries and questionings take place without ceasing although the Wehrmacht willingly leave the cruellest tasks to Darmand's agents. The militiamen do not show any consideration for their compatriots, even women and old people, so that they are as much hated as the Gestapo agents. They are especially feared in factories where they act as masters." "It is," concludes this paper, "a reign of fear and terror. The population (in Belfort district) fears everything from future invasion and bombardment."

That is one side of the picture, due partly to the methods of Laval and his Vichy Government, partly to mental and physical exhaustion over three years of semi-starvation. The other side is that of a nation-wide resistance movement, perfectly organized and awaiting the signal. Its spirit is excellently illustrated by a fighting article which appeared in the underground publication "Liberation" on the 1st May. Philippe Henriot, Secretary General of information in the Vichy Government, had given a broadcast in which he painted a horrifying picture of what would happen to the French people in the event of an Allied invasion. This is how "Liberation" epitomised the broadcast:—"His object is to make Frenchmen understand that the Anglo-American landing, which cannot now be delayed, will be the signal for unqualified horrors. Bombing everywhere, a series of massacres and systematic destruction by the attackers—to which there will necessarily be 'European' counter measures, the most inoffensive of which will be confiscation of the transport system to the exclusive benefit of the army of occupation. Thus famine will be added to ruins and hecatombs; in urban centres Frenchmen, deprived of water, gas, electricity and food will die in packets, in the light of fires and in the crash of explosions. The summary recommendation which can be presumed in this one directive—is flight! The main object is to frighten. This is in fact the sole object.—*Weekly Air News Letter.*

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NOTICE

Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs in Jaffna District.

Arrangements have been made to distribute the currystuffs mentioned below at the rates specified against each commodity to each consumer not attached to a Co-operative retail store from Monday, the 5th June to 11th June 1944 (both days inclusive).

1. Coriander ½ oz. per head.
 2. Tamarind ½ oz. per head.
 3. Red onion 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 G. A., N. P.

