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

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BRITAIN'S HONOUR IN PERIL IF SHE DESERTS POLAND FOR 'BIG BATTALIONS'

ARCHBISHOP AT MASS FOR WARSAW DECLARES:

In a very outspoken sermon at Mass for the defenders of Warsaw, Archbishop McDonald, O.S.B., declared in regard to Poland that if Britain now, through cowardice, deserts the cause of justice "for the fear of the big battalions," Britain's honour will be flung to the winds and we shall forfeit "the glorious reputation we justly won for ourselves in this war."—London "Universe."

Not merely is Poland in danger of being torn from Poles in defiance of natural law and all moral right, said His Grace, but the very existence of the Polish race is threatened.

"Calling to mind the recent words of the Holy Father to what he styles 'that beloved and ever-loyal nation,'" said His Grace, "we have met in this church today to pray for Poland in its supreme hour of crisis....."

"We stand at the eve of the fifth anniversary of the violation of Poland by the German hordes, an outrage which brought Britain into this world war to implement her solemn pledge to the Polish nation.

"When some days later Poland fell a victim to a cynical attack by Russia our Government assured our gallant ally that Britain and France 'have not forgotten their obligation to her.'"

SUPERHUMAN COURAGE

"We meet here today to pay solemn tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the heroic efforts to free Warsaw from the clutches of unjust aggression. The forces of the underground army have written another brilliant page in the glorious military history of the Polish race.

"In our prayers through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass we pay tribute to those intrepid soldiers and offer the best assistance we may to those who have fallen in the fray. We strive also to bring solace and comfort to those who survive and continue to bear aloft with well-nigh superhuman courage and endurance the standard of their native land.

"From none of our allies has this country received more generous, more loyal, more devoted assistance to the very utmost limit of their power than from the Poles.

"We can never forget how, in the dark days of the battle for Britain, when the civilisation of the entire world was trembling in the balance, the Polish airmen who had escaped to this country at once formed themselves into a fighting force and threw themselves wholeheartedly into the conflict."

"Half of this gallant band fell in the defence of our country, and one in every eight of the German planes which were shot down was destroyed by this valiant company.

"It is not without regret and a sense of shame that I feel that the debt we owe to these allies in this hour of dire distress has not been clearly realised by this country as a whole....."

"Not only have they fought in Poland, but in Norway, France, North Africa, Italy and Normandy they have stood shoulder to shoulder with our British brethren. No army has fought more courageously, none with greater generosity and self-sacrifice.

"All that has been asked of them they have given, and more.

TORN, TORTURED LAND

"In a prodigal expenditure of life the sincerity of their friendship has been proved and the ties which bind them to this country have been cemented by the outpouring of their heart's blood. British officers tell us that the battle of Cassino could not have been won without the heroism and endurance of the Polish and French forces who overcame almost insurmountable difficulties. This victory opened the road for the liberation of Rome and the conquest of Italy.

"It were small wonder if these allies were to feel that the British nation is ready to accept all that is offered at (Continued on Page 4.)

SECURE CHRISTIAN BASIS FOR SOCIETY

Archbishop Lucey, of San Antonio, and the six other Bishops of Texas and Oklahoma, U.S.A., have issued a joint statement calling on their people to co-operate with those of other religions to secure a Christian basis for society.

"The Pontiffs call for a united crusade against the dangers that threaten our common humanity," they say. "They welcome to this crusade 'all who believe in God, those multitudes of just souls, even those alien to the Catholic Faith, those for whom Mother Church laments as separated brethren'....."

ORGANISATION NEEDED

"Having before us the frightful picture of humanity at war against itself, realising the dark uncertainties of tomorrow, conscious of the dreadful evils, spiritual and social, that now press upon our people, remembering most of all the

urgent summons of the Holy See for generous co-operation by men of various faiths, we call upon our people to put away the spirit of apathy in matters social, civic and economic to the end that all of us may work together to re-establish as the basis of human freedom and happiness the law of justice and charity, the law of nature and of nature's God."

War, they point out, cannot build up law or create organised world co-operation. It will neither abolish corruption nor injustice, nor established good will.

"The reconstruction of human society requires affirmative, wholehearted and intelligent study planning and collaboration by men and women who believe in God and love Him. We can co-operate.....without in any way compromising our religious principles or diminishing our loyalty to discipline."

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOOLS

DR. M. C. M. KALEEL IN THE STATE COUNCIL

Dr. M. C. M. Kaleel (Colombo Central): I do not claim, Sir, to be an educational expert, but I have keenly followed the learned speeches that have been made by the previous speakers and taken a great deal of interest in the contents of the Report of the Special Committee of Education, and I would confine myself to some of the recommendations that have been made and the criticisms that have been offered on the Floor of this House.

To begin with, I felt that the mover of this resolution, the Hon. Minister of Education, really spoilt a very good cause by his tirade against the denominational system of education prevalent in the country.

Sir, it is no use condemning missionaries because they have been trying to propagate their religion. I think they would have been failing in the duty if they had just come here and not done their best to see that people were converted. If they have faith in their religions, and if they have a love for their fellow-beings, and if they think that unless their fellow-beings believed what they believed, their fellow-beings would go to perdition, then I think they should do their utmost to see these poor fellow-citizens adopt the same faith as themselves.

Apart from that, there is no doubt, as was pointed out by some of the previous speakers, that missionaries have done a great deal of good to this country in the matter of education. At a time when a very small percentage of the population of this country was educated, they went afield and spent their money and did very hard and laborious work to see that schools were started, not only in the cities, but in the outlying provinces and towns as well where the children of the masses were to be educated.

I think what happened was not that the missionaries imposed their religion on the people, but the people themselves were very keen to change their faith and adopt a new religion, because it gave them certain advantages with the Government and in regard to official positions in this country. For the last 100 years, the Government of the country, at least the members of the Government, were all Christians and the people, whether sincerely or not I cannot say, thought that if they changed their religion, changed their names, and changed their habits and customs, they would be able to secure high positions in the Government of the country. They have successfully done so.

That is why the Minister of Education found in the figures he read out that a large number of the high officials professed the religion of the governing classes. But, Sir, that is not peculiar to Ceylon. You find similar conditions all over the world. You find that when the Moghuls invaded India, a large number of Hindus became Muslims because they had the idea that following the faith of the conqueror meant high position and better income for themselves and their children. Similar things have happened not only in England but in other countries also. When Germany was winning, Nazism spread and people took to it seriously. Even in Ceylon some of the methods adopted in dealing with certain matters were really Fascist

methods. Now we find Russia winning the war, and very many Members, we find, are now quoting Russian books about methods to be adopted in various matters.

That is a human weakness, and that is what probably happened in Ceylon. That is why we find a greater proportion of Christians in official circles; but whether they are Christians or Buddhists, we must remember that a large number of them are Sinhalese. I do not know how it is that the Muslims have somehow been left in the lurch in the matter of education. Perhaps they were not so very keen on becoming Government Officials and were satisfied with their own methods of earning their livelihood.

However, Sir, there are very revolutionary changes suggested by the Special Committee on Education. It is true that some of our Ministers have not been successful in putting through everything they wished to. For instance, the Minister of Agriculture and Lands has completely failed to free this country of its dependence for food on other countries. The Hon. Minister of Health, I am sorry to say, has not even succeeded in eradicating one of the chief curses of this country, namely malaria. With regard to the Minister of Home Affairs, I do not know how he is progressing with his various Departments, but every Member will admit that the Police Force is in a very much worse condition than it was a decade ago.

Sir, there has been a great deal of criticism on trifurcation in the post-primary schools. I really do not understand how this trifurcation is going to be given effect to in the post-primary schools. They say that it would not be by competitive examination. If that is so, then, by what other test are they going to decide which of the children are to go to the secondary and senior schools and which are to go to practical schools?

The answer may be that some sort of psychological tests will be carried out on these poor children and that on the decision of the psychologists these children will be directed to the various courses of study. Sir it is a very dangerous thing to depend on psychologists. Psychology is a new science which even they themselves do not understand; they themselves are not agreed as to the method or the results of their investigations. Therefore, if you leave these poor children in the hands of psychologists, to decide as to which courses of study they should be admitted, it would be a very dangerous thing. I know of a psychologist who has a large clinic in Ceylon where he is supposed to cure mentally defective people. I have myself sent a number of people there, but the result was that they came back madder than they were before. Even if these psychologists have a profound knowledge of the subject, it is really not sufficient because it is not a well-developed science.

It is all very well for us to say that some of the teachers could decide as to what the future career of a child is to be, or how best he should take advantage of the studies that are to be mapped (Continued on Page 4.)

Church Calendar

NOVEMBER 1944

RI. ...3 S. W. Efride.
SAT. ...4 S. Charles.
SUN. ...5 23rd Sunday after Pentecost.
Holy Relics.
MON. ...6 S. Leonard.
TUES. ...7 S. Willibrord.
WED. ...8 S. Godfrey.
THURS. ...9 D. H. Red. Bas.
FRI. ...10 S. Andrew.

The Catholic Guardian

NOVEMBER 3RD 1944

THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

The Month of November opened with the Feast of All Saints to be followed next day by the Commemoration of the faithful departed. The one is joyous, the other, sad. We rejoiced with the Saints in Heaven in their glory, we sympathised with the souls in Purgatory in their sufferings. This inter-communication between Heaven, Earth and Purgatory flows from the grand dogma of the Communion of Saints which is part of our Catholic Faith. The Church Triumphant in Heaven, the Church Suffering in Purgatory and the Church Militant on earth—these three branches make the Catholic Church which is the Mystical Body of Christ. Just as the blood circulates from and to the heart all over the body so in the Church there is no division or separation, wrote the late Father Faber. To quote him again, we interchange our merits, we circulate our prayers, we pass on our joys, we make known our troubles, we use each other's satisfactions as they come to hand. We have all sorts of relations with heaven and we know exactly how to manage them. As to Purgatory we have endless practical methods for it and we are quite at home in them. We use beads, medals, crucifixes, holy water, indulgences, sacraments, sacrifices, as naturally as pen, ink and paper, or axe and saw, or spade and rake, for our earthly work. We are not stopped by death; we go beyond it as calmly as possible. We are not separated from our dead. We have manifold relations with Heaven and Purgatory, because we are all of one Household and that is the end of it. But do we make enough practical use of the benefits arising from these valuable relationships? For instance, how little an average Catholic knows of the Saints and yet we are advised to live in the company of Saints if we are not to despair of our fellow-men. A man's opinion of his fellow-men depends to a great extent on the kind of company he keeps. "The longer I live," wrote Goethe, "the more justified I feel in having a profound contempt for my fellow creatures." The more I know of men the better I like my dog, is a French saying. "To consider the world in its length and breadth," wrote Cardinal Newman, "the many races of men, their mutual alienations, their conflicts, the greatness and littleness of men, the defeat of good, the success of evil, the prevail-

of sin—all this is a vision of daze and appal". "Were it not for the Saints" says a modern writer, "I might despair of my fellow-men." It is the Saints who have shown by the splendour of their lives that virtue lies within the grasp of human hands provided that these human hands be fortified by that grace that is offered to all. Plenty of Saints there are. St. John saw them as a vast multitude which 'no man could number.' We must get to know as many of them as we can and get inspiration from their lives. All Saints' Day is the festival of all those Unknown Warriors—those glorious patterns of Christ who constantly remind us of our dignity and destiny. If we wish for concrete examples of how noble man can be, how during his earthly life he can learn to live his daily life with God and how the transformation wrought in the soul by grace really changes life for man, we have only to read the lives of the Saints.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Another Minority"?—The *Hindu Organ* takes exception to the words of Mgr. Edmund Peries Bishop of Chilaw that if the Christian community is treated nastily, as they are threatened to be, with regard to their schools they will as a minority have to place their grievances before the Royal Commission. But this is what every Christian is saying and the Christian community is resolved to do. But our contemporary expresses surprise at what His Lordship said and tells him that the speech of Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara at Katherodai is the only possible answer to his complaint. The *Organ* asks whether there is to be another minority. Why not, if bigots will have it so. It is bigots, racial or religious or both, who create minorities. These are not of the class of spontaneous generation. The *Hindu Organ* ought to have known it. Its faculty of surprise might be morbidly developed but we would give it the advice not to follow the action of the snake which bit the hand that nursed it to life.

U. C. and Dogs.—It is known that our Urban Council is on the verge of bankruptcy. We do not expect from it any extension of the amenities of town life till the end of the war. That is precisely the reason why it should carry out without negligence what it is now in a position to do. For one thing, it can remove the menace of rabies by the strict enforcement of its bye-law as to the registration of dogs. There are hundreds of half-starved dogs roaming about which should be destroyed. They are a potential source of danger. The registration fee, as it is, is ridiculously low. It should be at least doubled and registration strictly enforced. It will be a way of adding to its depleted funds and a saving of the vote annually of some 500 rupees for the destruction of dogs which however are always on the increase.

Indian Christians

With regard to the collaboration between Indian Catholics and Indian Protestants, Mr. Melton explained that he had been in correspondence with Mr. Ruthnaswamy, the newly-elected President of the Catholic Union of India, and Mr. Ruthnaswamy, though he was not in a position to give a definite mandate from the Catholic Union of India as his Managing Committee was not yet formed, stated that his idea of Collaboration was:

1. A Council of Action of Indian Christians should be formed representative of the All-India Council of Indian Christians and of the Catholic Union of India as the organizations representative of the Protestant and Catholic communities of India;
2. The Council should be composed of an equal number of members from each of these two organisations with the President of either as President of the Council of Action in alternate years;
3. The representatives of either organizations may be nominated according to the rules each organization may determine itself;
4. This Council shall meet at least once a year;
5. The members shall hold office for one year;
6. The decisions of the Council shall be binding on either Organization, subject to the right of repudiation by either Organization.

Mr. B. L. Rallia Ram, the Honorary General Secretary, then pointed out that he, too, had received a letter to that effect from Mr. Ruthnaswamy, whereupon the Executive Committee resolved that it welcomed the formation of any responsible association of Roman Catholics which was desirous of closer public co-operation with the All India Council of Indian Christians, and authorized its Honorary General Secretary to take necessary action with a view to further this most desirable object.

A letter from Mr. A. Soares suggesting a small conference of the leaders of Scheduled classes, Christians, Sikhs and Parsis with a view to balance the power now exercised by the two major communities was read, and it was decided that the matter should be placed before the next Annual Conference.

Inauguration of All-Ceylon Tamil Congress

Tamils from Colombo and outstations mustered at the Colombo Town Hall on Sunday morning for the purpose of formally inaugurating the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, M.S.C., presided and moved: "In furtherance of the express desire of all sections of the Tamil people in Ceylon and in deference of resolutions passed at several representative meetings, this public meeting of Tamils from all districts of the Island assembled here inaugurates the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress."

Mr. J. Tyagarajah, M.S.C., seconding, said that it was a memorable day in the history of the Tamil people. An Island-wide organisation to represent the different sections and districts of the Tamils was being formed. It was most gratifying that a long-felt need was being fulfilled at a most critical period of the Island's history. This Association would play an important part in shaping the destiny of Ceylon. It was also about the most progressive and democratic association in the Island.

Mr. K. Balasingham, supporting, said that the most important point for which they were striving was the principle of balanced representation.

It had been asked what justification there was for that demand. Mr. Balasingham said the reforms proposed by the Ministers transferred power from the Secretary of State, the Governor and Executive Committees into the hands of the party in power. After what had been done in the past 13 years, they could not but insist on this weightage for the minorities and demand the franchise for the Indians already in Ceylon who had an undoubted right to it by residence here for five years. They

could not agree to a transfer of power until these conditions were fulfilled.

Mr. Sam. W. Stephens, of Batticaloa, said that the Tamils should join together otherwise they would lose their opportunity. He said that 30,000 acres were lying fallow in Batticaloa, but the Minister took no action. If ever he visited Batticaloa, the Minister listened to all they had to say and forgot the whole thing soon as he left the place. The Minister was only concerned about Minneriya.

The people in Batticaloa were united and gave their whole-hearted support to the Congress. He warned his hearers not to be misled by an isolated incident or two, which was magnified by those bent on mischief. If they surrendered their rights they would allow themselves to go into degradation.

Mr. Asirvathan, of Ratnapura, said he had experienced nothing but kindness and goodwill from his Sinhalese brethren. He was the first Tamil Proctor in Ratnapura. But the Tamils need not make an apology for meeting that day.

Mr. T. Chelliah Pillai, of Pt. Pedro, said the Tamils for several centuries had been a ruling race. Today they had to fight hard very for existence. When they ruled they had harmed nobody. They had been just and fair.

Mr. Gnanasekaram, of Kandy, said that the Tamils would always perpetuate the tradition of living in friendship with the Sinhalese. They were out for the effective removal of political domination. Even among the Sinhalese there was political domination. They wanted a form of true democratic government with non-domination and balanced representation.

Several other speeches were made by members representing various sections of the Tamil community and the motion was put to the house and carried.

Letters and telegrams which included messages from Dewan Bahadur I. X. Pereira and Mr. K. Natesa Iyer were announced.

The Constitution of Congress was then taken up Clause by Clause and approved.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam was elected first President of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress and garlanded.

Dr. E. M. V. Naganathan, Mr. G. R. Motha and Mr. S. Sivasubramaniam were elected Joint Secretaries.

Dewan Bahadur I.X. Pereira and Mr. J. Tyagaraja, M.S.C., were elected Senior Treasurers.

A General Council and a Working Committee were also elected.

Notice of motions were referred to the Subjects Committee to be brought up at the plenary sessions of Congress.

LOCAL & GENERAL

A Requiem.—A High Mass of Requiem will be celebrated to-morrow morning at 7.15 in St. Mary's Cathedral for the repose of souls of the deceased Bishops and Priests of the Jaffna Diocese. The Vicar-General will officiate.

The Confraternity of the Sacred Heart.—A meeting of the members of the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart, St. Patrick's College Branch (Senior Division) was held on Sunday 29th Oct. at 5 p.m. in the College Hall. The Very Revd. Fr. T. M. F. Long, O.M.I., the President presided. Mr. G. S. Puvirajasinghe was elected Hon. Secretary. The meeting decided to hold the monthly meetings on the Sunday evening following the First Friday of every month in the College Hall.

The next meeting will be held on Sunday the 5th inst. at 6.30 p.m. The meeting will be open to visitors.

Very Revd. Fr. T. M. F. Long, the President will address the members on "The Meaning of the Devotion to the Sacred Heart." This will be an introductory talk to a series of addresses on the invocations in the Litany of the Sacred Heart.

Reforms Committee.—The reforms conference of the members of the State Council will meet on next Wednesday afternoon in the State Council building.

The main business at this, probably their last, meeting is to consider the following motion of Mr. P. de S. Kularatne:

"This conference agrees that in a constitution with a unicameral legislature providing for full self-government for Ceylon under a Cabinet system as ordinarily understood the representation shall be as follows:—

- (a) 60 territorial seats in which the Sinhalese will have a major voice in the election of representatives;
- (b) 30 territorial seats in which the Ceylon Tamils, Muslims or Indians will have a major voice in the election of representatives;
- (c) seven seats to provide for the representation of Burghers and Europeans."

Mr. Simon Abeywickreme has given notice of an amendment deleting the words appearing after "representation shall be as follows," and substituting the following words: "60 territorial seats for the Sinhalese community; and (b) 40 territorial seats for all the other communities."

Mr. J. R. Jayawardene in an amendment urges the boycott of the Reforms Commission before agreeing to representation as proposed by Mr. Kularatne.

Mr. A.R.A. Razik urges in an amendment that at least 12 seats in a Council of 100 should be reserved for the Ceylon Moors.

A New Judge.—Mr. A. R. H. Canekaratne, K.C., took his oaths as Commissioner of Assize and presided on Wednesday, Nov. 1st.

Nine Cases of Small-Pox.—Six cases of small-pox have been reported from Udapussellawa, and three from Colombo. All measures are being taken by the Medical Department to trace the source.

Sir Oliver Leaves for Britain.—Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Ceylon's Civil Defence and Food Commissioner, who returned on Saturday from his Australian food mission, left for England sooner than he expected. As indicated earlier, Sir Oliver has to obtain the sanction of the British Food and War Transport Ministries for the arrangement he has made in Australia.

It is possible that Sir Oliver will visit Canada before returning to Ceylon.

Indian Representative.—Mr. M. S. Aney, the Government of India's Representative in Ceylon, is expected to meet the Viceroy, says an Associated Press of India message from New Delhi. He has planned to leave for Ceylon on Nov. 11. Consultations here since his arrival are believed to be related to the forthcoming constitutional inquiry in Ceylon, with special reference to the Indian community's case.

Is Tuberculosis Hereditary?—"It is as curable as any of the infectious diseases, but if it is not cured in its early stages it becomes the most deadly," says a new booklet issued by the Irish Red Cross Society. "There is a popular belief that Tuberculosis is hereditary. This belief is little more than a superstition. You do not inherit Tuberculosis. You catch it in a very similar way to the way in which you catch a cold; but only one out of every hundred who catch Tuberculosis develops the disease Tuberculosis. We must therefore concentrate on two things: preventing infection, and preventing the development of the disease after infection..." Each person who is infected with Tuberculosis, if he persists in refusing to take strict precaution, will be responsible ultimately for the disease and death of about six other persons."

Pope's Hebrew Blessing.—When he found on asking him that a soldier among a number of Allied troops was a Jew from Palestine, the Pope gave him his blessing in Hebrew, using the priestly blessing "Yevorechecha Adonai Veyishmercha" ("The Lord bless thee and keep thee"), states the "Jewish Chronicle."

41 Nations Represented at Vatican.—With the re-establishment of bi-lateral relations between the Holy See and Holland, 41 nations now have representatives at the Vatican. There are 13 ambassadors, 26 ministers, two special representatives (from U.S. and Japan).

A Famous Convert.—The death is reported at the age of 75 of Dr. Fred-

rick Joseph Kinsman, former Episcopalian Bishop of Delaware, U.S., who caused a sensation when he became a Catholic in 1919. He wrote a book about his conversion. His father, mother and sister followed him into the Church. R. I. P.

Al Smith.—The well-known U.S. Catholic, Mr. Alfred Smith, former Governor of New York and Presidential candidate, died on Oct. 4th. R.I.P.

Portugal.—Former Queen Amelia has donated a chalice to a new church to be erected in Lisbon, dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It will be in thanksgiving for Portugal's escape from recent wars.

Priests for New Guinea.—Twenty young priests of the Society of the Divine Word received their mission crosses from the Archbishop of Chicago on Aug. 6th. The U.S. State Department has granted them permission to go to New Guinea, where they will assist in rebuilding the missions destroyed by war.

CORRESPONDENCE

Jaffna Association and the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress

The Editor, "Catholic Guardian," Jaffna.

Sir,—It appears desirable to draw the attention of the public to the relationship between the Jaffna Association and the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress, to avoid any misunderstanding. At the inaugural business meeting of the Congress held on Sunday last at the Colombo Town Hall, some of the speakers expressed the view that there had been no *Island-wide organisation in the past* to look after the interests of the Tamils. Mr. J. Tyagaraja, M.S.C., who seconded the resolution for the formation of the Congress, referred to the fact that there had been no *All Ceylon Association* hitherto. None of the speakers, however, denied the existence in the past of local organisations to safeguard the interests of the Tamils. On the contrary, Mr. Tyagaraja made specific reference to the *Jaffna Association as the "most notable organisation" that has worked for the advancement of the Tamil cause.*

As has been correctly observed, the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress and the Jaffna Association have the same objects in view and are both pledged to the principles of non-domination and balanced representation. There could be no disagreement between the two bodies, especially as they are working for the same goal and the same ideals. A good number of the members of the Jaffna Association are members of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress. In like manner, several of the organisers of the Tamil Congress are members of the Jaffna Association as you are no doubt aware. The President of the Congress, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, is a life member of the Jaffna Association and was actively associated with Dr. Isaac Thambyah, Mr. N. Chelvadurai, Mudaliyar R. C. Proctor and other leading members of the Jaffna Association in resurrecting this Association some years back and working whole-heartedly for its advancement after the considerable period of inactivity which it had undergone. It is a very significant fact that for the first time in the history of the Jaffna Association, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, the present President of the Congress, was chosen as the delegate of the Jaffna Association to Whitehall some years back to make representations to the Secretary of State in person on behalf of the Tamil community. This was the first occasion on which the Association sent a delegate to London to press its demands in person. These representations were, to some extent, successful and the Royal Commission due shortly in Ceylon is one of the results of these representations. Dr. Naganathan (who is a Hensman) and one of the Secretaries of the Congress, is also a member of the Jaffna Association, which was founded by his illustrious kinsman the late Mr. James Hensman, and is walking faithfully in the footsteps of the members of his family. Further, it may be noted that most of the Vice-Presidents of the Jaffna Association—the Presidentship being vacant at the moment—are members of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress.

I am sure that the promoters of the Tamil Congress do fully appreciate the invaluable services rendered by the Jaffna Association. Mr. Tyagaraja made special reference to the importance of the work done by the Jaffna Association in the interests of the Tamil community. It is desirable that the two bodies work independently for the same object and towards the same goal. The Jaffna Association, by virtue of its great services in the past and being the oldest political Association in Ceylon, should continue to have a separate existence without being merged in the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress. You would remember that there are organisations in India like the Madras Maha Jana Sabha and other bodies which are working for the same object as the Indian National Congress without being merged in the larger body. Provincial and local associations are also necessary to further the interests of the Tamils. In fact, the object of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress is to spread throughout Ceylon the very same ideals and principles for which the Jaffna Association has so long and so generously trusted that no Tamil should be lost and that the Tamils should continue to stand united in their demands for reforms. If this requirement is taken heed of by the Tamil community and acted upon with earnestness and promptitude, the interests both of the Tamils and the people of Ceylon will be best served.

Yours truly,
S. SIVASUBRAMANIAM,
Joint Secretary, All-Ceylon Tamil Congress.

The Feast of Our Lady of Rosary at Sinna Madhu

The celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Rosary at Sinna Madhu on the first Sunday of Oct. has been an annual event for the last 30 years. Dr. S. S. Innasitamby of Sillalai, a devout client of Our Lady has been sparing no pains to make this feast worthy of the Divine Mother. It has turned out to be a very popular feast attracting a large number of pilgrims from all parts of the peninsula. We are glad to note that this year's celebrations surpassed all the previous ones in grandeur and solemnity. The roar of cannons from the very early morning of Saturday announced to the faithful the beginning of the solemn festivities at the shrine. The Church draped in flags and festoons of blue and white presented a very pleasing appearance. By the evening long streams of pilgrims arrived at the shrine from all parts of Jaffna and thronged the church. It was indeed a touching sight to see the vast concourse of pilgrims raising their voices in prayer and supplication to their Heavenly Mother, with burning faith and devotion. Revd. Fr. H. Veyret, O.M.I., the new parish priest sung the Vespers which was followed by the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. On Sunday the Solemn High Mass was sung by the parish priest who preached a very impressive sermon on the significance of the day and exhorted the faithful to have a deep and abiding love for the Blessed Virgin. Then followed the grand procession which was a new feature in this year's celebrations. The miraculous statue of Our Lady of Rosary was placed on a tastefully decorated "Saroli" and taken round in a solemn procession in the midst of soul stirring devotional hymns ably rendered by devotees from Sillalai. The grand celebrations were brought to a close with the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the evening. Revd. Fr. H. Veyret, O.M.I., the parish priest of the shrine thanked Dr. S. P. E. Innasitamby and his people for their unsparing efforts to make the feast a unique event in the annals of the shrine.

A PILGRIM.

OBITUARY

THE LATE MR. M. S. RAJAKARIER

A link with the past has been broken by the death of Mr. M. S. Rajakarier which took place in Twynam Ward of the Civil Hospital, Jaffna on Friday the 27th Oct. 1944 at the ripe old age of 76.

In spite of his personal sufferings brought about by his severe and prolonged illness he bore his trial with patience and fortitude and passed away

in peace with the consolations of his faith. His only daughter and other relations were constantly by his sick bed so that when the end came, it was more like peaceful slumber than death.

He was the scion of an ancient and highly respected family in the North being the eldest son of the late Mr. S. Manuelpillai Rajakarier well and widely known as a thriving Merchant and Planter. The deceased claimed relationship on his father's and mother's side with the leading families in Mathagal, Karamban and Naranthanai and a lineal descendant of Rajendra Mudaliyar who came from Mantote riding on a tusker on his way to Mathagal where he married a sister-in law of Saverimuttu Mudaliyar.

Born on the 2nd February, 1868 he received his early education at St. Patrick's College and finished his course at the Royal College, Colombo. On leaving school he became a Planter and assisted his father in his business. He was one of the Vice-Presidents of the Catholic Club, the Jaffna Diocesan Union and of the St. Patrick's College O.B.A., and a Committee member of the Jaffna Friend-in-Need Society. As a mark of respect the Catholic Club was closed on the day of his demise.

When the Local Board was first established in Jaffna it was divided into three Wards and Mr. Rajakarier was elected to represent Ward No. 1. The late Messrs. A. Sabapathy, Editor, "Hindu Organ" and A. Cathiravelu, Crown Proctor were elected to represent Wards Nos. 2 and 3 respectively. Despite a natural reserve he made enduring friendships and all those who had anything to do with him appreciated the qualities of the man. By his death the Catholic community in general and the Church of Our Lady of Refuge in particular has become poorer.

The funeral which took place the following evening was numerously attended. A short service was held in the house by the Very Revd. Fr. P. M. Francis, O.M.I. The procession headed by the cross-bearer and acolytes consisted of the altar boys, the students of St. Martyn's Seminary with their cassocks and the members of the Sacred Heart Confraternity carrying their banner, wended its way to the Church of Our Lady of Refuge. The "Miserere" and other hymns from the office of the dead were chanted by the Revd. Frs. P. M. Francis, O.M.I., J. F. Xavier, O.M.I., V. Huctin, O.M.I., A. S. Singarayer, O.M.I., E. Forzy, O.M.I., and the Seminarists. At the Church which was draped with black streamers and beautifully lit up with electric lights. Very Revd. Fr. F. M. Bizien, O.M.I., officiated. Revd. Fr. Xavier, the P. Priest assisted by the Revd. Frs. T. M. F. Long, O.M.I. and B. A. John, O.M.I., conducted the service at the graveside and pronounced the last benediction. As the coffin was lowered into the grave the mournful hymn "Nearer my God to Thee" was feelingly rendered by the choir of St. Martyn's Seminary.

The pall-bearers were:—Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, the G.A., Mr. J. A. E. Alles, Magistrate, Dr. P. R. Thambugala and Mudaliyar S. S. Santhipillai, Maniagar of the Islands.

The chief mourners are:—Mr. Victor B. Rajakarier, Colombo Magistrate (son), Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Swampillai (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. Reginald T. Rajakarier (son and daughter-in-law), Mrs. P. E. Francis (sister), Mrs. G. Nicholas (niece), Mr. and Mrs. Regis Rajakarier (brother and sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Selvadurai (nephew and niece), Mr. and Mrs. B. Benjamin (nephew and niece) to whom and to the other relatives we offer our heartfelt sympathies. R. I. P.

A NOVEL SELECTION

OF
COTTON SAREES!
FOR
HOME & EVENING
WEAR
JUST UNPACKED
AT
DAYARAM'S
Main Street, Jaffna.
VISIT EARLY.

Britain's Honour in Poland

(Continued from Page 1)

such tremendous cost but grudges to make adequate contribution in return....

"Today we meet in this Cathedral to offer the Holy Sacrifice and to pray earnestly to God for the liberation and restoration of this torn and tortured land. We implore God to guide our leaders to secure for it that justice without which no sure and lasting peace is possible for the nations of Europe.

"We have experienced the manifest intervention of God on our behalf on the beaches of Dunkirk, in the battle for Britain.

"Are we now going to waver in our confidence and through cowardice desert the cause of justice for fear of the big battalions? Such a course would fling our honour to the winds and forfeit for us the glorious reputation we have justly won for ourselves in this war.

JUSTICE

"I appeal therefore in all earnestness to everyone here present in this church who believes in God, to all who love Poland, to anyone who has the slightest regard for justice, to join us in prayer that the silver wings of Poland which through centuries have carried the fame of her greatness to all the world may now, as the wings of the dove of peace, bear to the four corners of the universe the message that Poland has once more been restored to her rightful place among the nations of the earth."

Tribute to Christian Mission Schools

(Continued from Page 1).

out for him. But as has been pointed out earlier, there are cases where a child has been found intellectually backward in one particular subject, in its earlier years, but has developed into a sort of a genius later on, in the subject in which he was backward.

Coming to the proposals of the Hon. Minister, to start with we have the suggestion that State schools should exist side by side with denominational schools. That indeed is a very good suggestion, in spite of the fact that the Hon. Minister himself appears to be opposed to the existence of denominational schools. My own experience of State schools is that they have never come up to the standard of the various denominational schools. It is, I think, a good thing to have State schools existing side by side with denominational schools, as that will provide competition between two classes of schools. By that means the standard of the State schools could be raised, instead of levelling down the standard of the denominational schools.

Then, I have already touched on the subject of religious instruction. We should not interfere in the least with the religious training that is given in these denominational schools. The missionaries, as I pointed out, will be failing in their duty if they do not teach their own religion to the students who come to them, whether they belong to their own religion or to some other religion. But if the students prefer to change their religion, it is not the fault of the Missionaries who conduct these schools.

The fact of the matter is that these Missionaries do not, as a rule, admit boys of other denominations, nor do they try to force their religion on them. That is not correct. I might mention here my own experience. When I was a very small child, I lived in a Catholic area, and the first school I tried to enter was a Catholic school, the De La Salle School; when my father took me there, he was told, "We do not admit Mohammedan boys to our school." That was their system, and that Catholic school refused to admit Muslim boys into it.

At that time there was not a single Muslim boy in that particular school. Later on, of course, on account of certain departmental rules, they were forced to admit some students of other denominations.

This particular rule did not apply to the Buddhist boys; somehow, they welcomed Buddhist boys. The ban was only on Muslim boys.

Then I came to St. Benedict's College. There too many Muslim boys were not

admitted. They were told, "Our classes are full," or some such reason was given, when we knew very well that students who went with us, our own friends and neighbours, had no difficulty in getting admitted to Catholic schools. So when I say that we must not in any way impose any restrictions on these denominational schools, I say so not because I have any gratitude for these particular Catholic institutions; if anything, I should have a grievance against them. Well, that is perhaps one of the reasons why Muslims find themselves so much behind the other communities in the matter of education.

At St. Thomas' they had a peculiar way of admitting students. The Warden used to sit there, and any boy who went to him was selected until the classes were full; the rest were simply driven out. At St. Thomas', Catholic boys were refused admission.....

Telegraphic Summary

of News

MR. CHURCHILL AND GENERAL ELECTION

Mr. Churchill in moving the second reading of the Prolongation of Parliament Bill, in the House of Commons on Tuesday, said (reports Reuter): "In asking for another year, I doubt very much if Parliament will last so long. There are powerful factors of uncertainty which pull in opposite directions or from different angles.

"Meetings of various Parties composing the coalition, are to take place shortly before and shortly after Christmas. While we cannot at all forecast what will occur, we certainly cannot exclude the possibility that the desire to return to the Party system will be strongly expressed.

"On the other hand, we cannot tell when the war against Nazi Germany will definitely ended or will fall into the guerilla stage. I am confident that all organised Parties will see that business through the very end.

"From every quarter, it seems that the civil population are plunged in dull apathy, and certainly anyone who stirs against the police would be shot or decapitated. Therefore, I cannot place any dependence on a political uprising in Germany."

PREMIER MEETS SOVIET TRADE UNIONISTS

The Prime Minister, accompanied by Mr. Herbert Morrison, on Monday received at No. 10, Downing Street, members of the Soviet delegation who have been visiting England for meetings of Anglo-Soviet trade union committees.

DEWEY SO SURE

Mr. Thomas Dewey, starting the last week of his campaign as Republican Presidential candidate, indicated at Buffalo (New York) on Tuesday night that he had no doubt of the result. He referred to himself three times in the first few words as "your future President."

FRANCO "CANNOT LAST MUCH LONGER"

Harold King (Reuter's special correspondent) states that the Congress of Spanish Republicans in France, which is scheduled to meet at Toulouse some time this week, may have important consequences for the future of Spain. Among the 100,000 old Spanish refugees in France there is confident expectation that General Franco cannot last much longer and one school favours calling a Constituent Assembly which would proclaim a Third Spanish Republic. The other favours the return to the constitution of the Republic of 1936 which was suppressed by Franco.

SPANISH PARTISANS CAPTURED

French Military and Civil Officials announced at a meeting with the Spanish authorities at Los Arones on the border that urgent and severe measures would be taken to restore order on the Spanish frontier.

Fighting is reported between Spanish partisan forces and Spanish Government troops in the An valley in about two feet of snow. About 480 partisans have been captured, it is semi-officially stated in Madrid. The Government sent

reinforcements and a final decisive push appears imminent.

HITLER RUSHING UP LAST RESERVES

The Moscow Radio on Saturday night said that Hitler, after a conference with his Staff, had decided to rush the remaining reserves of his East Prussian Heer Guard into the battle and bring up reserves from Danzig, Breslau and Central Germany.

CABINET CRISIS REPORTED IN CANADA

The "Ottawa Journal" reports that a Cabinet crisis has developed over the question of service overseas of 75,000 men belonging to the Home Army, which may result in the resignation of several Cabinet Ministers, including the Defence Minister (Mr. James Ralston) who has just returned from the battle-fronts.

PERSIA'S OIL REFUSAL ANNOYS SOVIET

The Moscow Radio quotes a Teheran announcement by the Soviet Vice-Commissar for Foreign Affairs (M. Kavtzaradze) that the Persian Government's decision not to consider the Soviet Government's request for oil concessions in northern Persia, until after the war, had been received "extremely unfavourably in Soviet circles."

ONLY TWO OF 60 JAP WARSHIPS ABLE TO ESCAPE UNHARMED

Amplifying reports—although still subject to revision as more information is received—indicate an overwhelming victory, says a 1,100-word communique from Admiral Chester Nimitz, C-in-C. Pacific Fleet, who announces that the Japanese losses in the recent battle off the Philippines are 24 ships sunk; 13 so severely damaged that they may have sunk; and 21 damaged. Six American vessels were lost.

"The Japanese fleet has been decisively defeated and routed. The Second Battle of the Philippines Sea ranks as one of the major sea battles in World War No. 2 in the Pacific."

24,000 JAP CASUALTIES

General MacArthur's communique on Monday said that American troops advanced up the Leyte valley to within 10 miles of the west coast.

The Japanese casualties for the first ten days' operations in Leyte and Samar islands are estimated to be 24,000 against 706 Americans killed, 270 missing and 2,245 wounded.

A raging typhoon, with winds up to 70 miles per hour, is interfering with all the operations.

JAP BOASTS RUIN OF OWN FLEET

A correspondent with the American Fleet in the Philippines Sea reports: Fantastic reports sent out by Japanese aviators about the great damage they had done to the American Fleet may have seduced Japan's Imperial Fleet into battle, according to Rear-Admiral Roberts Carney, Chief of Staff to Admiral Halsey. He said that there was a possibility that Japanese Navy Headquarters and Japanese radio stations were taken in by these reports.

JAPS BOMB COX'S BAZAR

A Press communique (reported by the Associated Press of India) states: "On the evening of October 28th, enemy aircraft dropped a number of bombs over Cox's Bazar. First reports indicate that only slight damage was caused and no casualties were sustained." (Cox's Bazar is a small port, now a British supply base for the Burma operations, about 50 miles south of Chittagong).

GANDHI'S FAST THREAT

It is understood that Mr. Gandhi, who has written a number of letters on the subject, intends to begin his fast only as a last resort if he fails to attain his object by other means.

NATIONAL SAVINGS WEEK

11th to 18th November, 1944.

Help yourself, help the War effort and help your country by investing your surplus money during NATIONAL SAVINGS WEEK in the Ceylon Government Loans and Ceylon Savings Certificates.

Island-Wide Target

Rs. 25,000,000 in Savings Certificates and Ceylon Govt. Loans

Savings Certificate Target

Jaffna Town	Rs. 3,000,000
Jaffna District	Rs. 25,000
Point Pedro	Rs. 35,000
Manipay	Rs. 40,000
	Rs. 25,000

Savings Certificates are sold at all Post Offices, Kachcheries, Banks, Offices of Divisional Revenue Officers, and Chief Headmen, and can be purchased through a Sub-Post Office and through Authorised Helpers and Village Headmen.

Please see that you obtain a receipt for every payment made to an Authorised Helper and Village Headmen and that you perfect and sign an application form P. O.S.C. 1 or P. O. S. C. 2 (Minor).

Every Authorised Helper and Village Headmen will wear a badge, giving his or her name and signed by the Chairman, Savings Committee of the District or Town.

HELP TO HIT YOUR DISTRICT TARGET.

Times Building, Colombo.

COMMISSIONER, WAR SAVINGS MOVEMENT.