

# The Catholic Guardian

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JAFFNA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1944.

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## JAFFNA DIOCESAN UNION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## NEW GOVERNOR'S ARRIVAL RECEPTION AND COUNCIL

The times in which we live forces us to take stock of our situation. Forces are arrayed against us to deprive us of our God-given rights and liberties. Up! then and arm yourselves, by an ideal Christian life, to fight them to the bitter end. Tell them boldly, bluntly and valiantly "Thus far and no farther."

This was the clarion call of the Vice-President of the Jaffna Diocesan Union at its Annual General Meeting held on Sunday the 3rd inst. at the Jaffna Catholic Club. The meeting was well attended and was representative of all the different activities of the Union. The Resolutions passed, and the enthusiasm evinced, by one and all present, over every question that came up for consideration, showed clearly that the members were keenly alive to the present position of Catholics in Ceylon, particularly with regard to education. The Resolutions passed are a proof that the Catholics in the North are prepared to put up a bitter fight against everything, that threatens their faith and liberty as Catholics.

In the absence of the President, Chev. S. Arulantham, the Vice-President presided and among those present were representatives of the Parishes of the Diocese.

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed.

A vote of condolence on the death of Revd. Fr. J. B. Poulain, O.M.I., Mr. M. S. Rajakarier, a Vice-President, Messrs. Benjamin David and P. Christopher, Committee members was passed all standing. The Chairman spoke feelingly on their enthusiasm towards the different activities of the Union.

The Report of the General Secretary and of the Secretary of the Provident Society were read and approved.

The following resolutions were then passed unanimously by the House.

1. Proposed by Chev. S. Arulantham and seconded by Mr. P. Q. Christian:

"This Union in meeting assembled takes this occasion to proclaim and to re-affirm the inalienable right of every Christian to live a full Christian life according to his conscience, as directed by the Law of God. It asserts therefore that any attempt on the part of the Government of this country to violate such a fundamental right will meet with determined and uncompromising opposition from every Catholic in the Diocese."

2. Proposed by Mr. Alfred Swampillai and seconded by Mr. Sylvester Machado:

"This Union re-affirms the Catholic belief that the law of God requires Catholic parents to give their children Catholic Education, and that any attempt on the part of the State, to compel by legislation, Catholic parents either directly or indirectly to act otherwise is an invasion of natural rights and would amount to religious persecution."

3. Proposed by Mr. Regis Rajakarier and seconded by Mr. K. D. Jusey Appahamy:

"The Catholic Denominational Schools, Training Schools, and Colleges are a *sine qua non* of Catholic Education and as such the lawful demand that they continue to be and to function as they have done hitherto, is emphatically reiterated by this Union."

4. Proposed by Mr. G. Benedict and seconded by Mr. G. B. Anthony:

"This Union notes with great concern and alarm the anti-Christian Educational policy, advocated by the present Minister of Education, and firmly protests against it."

5. Proposed by Mr. R. J. Paul and seconded by Mr. C. W. D. Alwines:

"As Central Schools are being established by the State, this Union urges that there be Denominational Central Schools also, with the Code-rules similar to those of the State Central Schools."

6. Proposed by Mr. G. S. Puvirajsinghe and seconded by Mr. Emm. Thiruchelvam:

"The following amendment to recommendation I, with regard to Education Reform has been proposed by Mr. Bandaranaike. That in the case of Denominational school only children of that denomination attending it will be taken into account to assess grant. This Union condemns the amendment and protests against it, as it places the State above the parent, and deprives them of the right they possess to send their children to any school of their choice, and urges that all eligible pupils irrespective of their creed be paid grant by the Government."

7. Proposed by Mr. L. Alagaretnam and seconded by Mr. J. A. Dominic:

"A sub-committee consisting of the following be appointed to reorganise the Diocesan Education Society with power to add to their number:—Very Revd. Fr. J. Emilianus Pillai, O.M.I., Revd. Fr. L. A. Singarayer, O.M.I., Chev. S. Arulantham, Mr. V. A. Johnpillai, Mr. G. Benedict, Pandit A. Joseph, Mr. C. W. D. Alwines, Mr. A. J. Selvadurai, Mr. P. Saverimuttu, Mr. A. Gnanapragasam with the Secretary of the Diocesan Union as the convener."

8. Proposed by Mr. S. Francis of Mary and seconded by Mr. M. Roche:

"A committee consisting of Very Rev. Frs. J. Emilianus Pillai, O.M.I., P. M. Francis, O.M.I., T. M. F. Long, O.M.I., Chev. S. Arulantham, Mr. R. J. Paul, the President and the Secretary of the Diocesan Union be appointed to draw up the memorandum to be placed before the Soulbury Commission."

The Chairman concluded "as Catholics as members of a body politic, we have duties and responsibilities—to make our own contribution towards Social, Political and Economic questions of the day. It would be a grave mistake to keep ourselves aloof from problems relating to them."

He then concluded his address with the words quoted at the beginning.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair and with prayers.

His Excellency Sir Henry Mason Moore assumed office as Governor of Ceylon at noon on Monday. His arrival and his swearing-in were shorn of traditional pomp by reason of the war-time conditions under which the ceremony were held.

Sir Henry and Lady Moore arrived in the afternoon by air and were welcomed to Ceylon by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Geoffrey Layton, and the Officer Administering the Government, Sir Robert Drayton.

After the inspection of the guard the following were presented:

Members of the War Council which includes the Board of Ministers, the General Officer Commanding, the Air Officer Commanding, the Flag Officer, Ceylon, representatives of the Supreme Allied C.-in-C., S.E.A.C., the Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Fleet, the Chief Justice and the Legal Secretary.

Courtesies and formalities over, the Governor-Désigné and Lady Moore drove along a seven mile route, through cheering crowds, to Queen's House. A little later they drove to the State Council.

In the Reception Hall, the Secretary to the Governor read the Commission appointing Sir Henry as Governor of Ceylon, the Chief Justice administered the oath of office and the Governor's Secretary read the Proclamation.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake, leader of the State Council welcomed the Governor in a brief address and the Governor replied.

Mr. Senanayake said: "On behalf of the Ministers, members of the State Council and the people of Ceylon, I have great pleasure in offering Your Excellency and Lady Moore a most cordial welcome to this Island."

"You are no stranger to our Island, having started your career in the Colonial Service in Ceylon and having served here in various capacities for a period of about twelve years."

"Your transfer from the Island in 1922, after a short period of service, to an important post in another Colony, the subsequent appointments you held in the Colonial Service and your present appointment as Governor of Ceylon have shown us the high esteem in which you are held and the confidence placed in you by the Imperial Government."

"Your Excellency's appointment here during such a critical period of the country's political history and at a time when the end of the war is in sight has created in the minds of the public an extraordinary degree of interest, and we have no doubt that the assumption of the duties of your office this morning will mark the inauguration of a new era of progress in Ceylon."

"Your Excellency will not have failed to note the social, economic and political advancements this country has made since the time you left us in 1922. This has been, in no small measure due to the able guidance, wisdom and statesmanship of Your Excellency's predecessors in office, and the happy relations and co-operation that existed between them, the Officers of the State and the representatives of the people."

"It is our earnest hope that during the period of Your Excellency's Governorship, the social advancement and

economic development of the country will be phenomenal, and that it will not be long before Ceylon takes its rightful place in the British Commonwealth of Nations.

"The people in Ceylon have noted with the greatest satisfaction the turn which the war has taken, and we hope that it will not be long before complete victory is achieved by the United Nations."

"In conclusion, may I express the hope that the period Your Excellency and Lady Moore spend among us will be one of great happiness to you and prosperity to the country."

His Excellency the Governor said:

"I should like to thank you, Sir, most sincerely for the kind words of welcome which you have just given to my wife and myself."

"It is true, as you say, that neither of us is new to this Island. Indeed we have many happy memories of the time we have spent here, and I feel that it is not only a great honour but a great privilege and responsibility that I should have been asked at this period to assume the governorship of Ceylon. It will be my sincere endeavour in close co-operation with you, Sir, and the other ministers, to forward the economic and political development of Ceylon, which, I know, is one dear to all your hearts."

"There is one final word that I would say. No one is more alive to the fact that I am in the quarter of a century that has lapsed since I was last here conditions have changed—changed, I am glad to say, in the direction of very great progress and development—and I feel that in assuming my governorship here my first duty will be, as far as possible, to visit the various areas of the Island and to meet as many of the permanent population as I can so that I may make myself more up-to-date with its problems, progress, difficulties and its needs than I could be by reading any literature on the subject."

"You have said, Mr. Senanayake, that you hope that the stay of my wife and myself here in Ceylon will be a happy one. I need hardly say that it is with that aspiration that we are entering upon this great task, and we hope we may with your co-operation be able to do something which will make for the greater prosperity, goodwill and progress of this Island. Thank you."

### New Governor Broadcasts to Ceylon

Broadcasting on Monday night from Queen's House, H.E. Sir Henry Monck-Mason Moore, the new Governor, said: "It is thirty four years ago almost to the day that I first landed in Ceylon as a newly-joined cadet in the Ceylon Civil Service. We had had a severe buffeting in the Bay, and took some seven weeks or so from Tilbury to Colombo."

"Today my wife and I have flown here in three and a half days. But it is not only in the speed of transport and communications that the intervening years have wrought great changes. Ceylon has made rapid strides along the road of political advancement, and I look forward with interest to learning at first hand the details of the progress that has been made in the economic and

(Continued on Inner Page.)



## Catholic Union

**Annual General Meeting**  
The forty-second Annual General Meeting of the Union will be held at St. Joseph's College, Borella on *Saturday*, the 16th December, 1944 at 4.30 p.m. preceded by Benediction at St. Joseph's College Chapel at 4.15 p.m..

### AGENDA :

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting.
2. Business arising out of the minutes.
3. Correspondence.
4. Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts for 1944.
5. Any other business that may be duly brought up for consideration.
6. Lecture.

All Catholic Ladies and Gentlemen are cordially invited.

C. M. ...  
Hony. Secretary  
Negris Building,  
York Street, Fort, Colombo.

## The Catholic Guardian

DECEMBER 8TH 1944

### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Holy Church celebrates to-day the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the ever Blessed Virgin and it is fitting that we should devote these lines to honour our Immaculate Mother who is also the special Patroness of the Congregation of the Oblate Missionaries. Not all have a correct notion of this doctrine of the Immaculate Conception. In the words of the Papal decree it means that "the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ the Saviour of the human race was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin." In an article entitled "The Challenge of Bernadette," Father Woodlock writes alluding to Our Lady's apparitions: "The extremely significant thing in connection with these apparitions is that Our Lady answering the question who she was said: *'I am the Immaculate Conception.'*" It is significant because in the doctrine which constitutes Our Lady's unique distinction and glory among God's creatures on earth, is contained the whole story of the Fall, the Incarnation and the Redemption; all are implicit in that dogma and inseparable from it. That, if Our Lady *did* appear to Bernadette and she named herself as Bernadette said she did, we have a fresh, direct and complete revelation of the whole body of Christian truth in our own day." In support of Bernadette's statement a series of miracles commenced and has continued to this day. McCorsely in his "Outline of Church History," notes that in the first fifty years following 1858 some 4,000 *medically authenticated* miraculous cures were recorded at Lourdes and the writer of the article from which we quoted commenting on this extraordinary record says that it constitutes a challenge to 'Modern Science' of a character totally unprecedented in the history of 'Science' and, moreover, a challenge of the most fundamental kind thrown in the most

directly in the face of modern science. Why? Because it is a tremendous implication contained in the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, God Almighty has wished to prove the authenticity of the apparitions at Lourdes by those supernatural events. By her Immaculate Conception not only was Our Lady free from the stain and guilt and defects of original sin but was adorned with special graces befitting her office as Mother of our Redeemer which made her singular and pre-eminent over all women—according to the salutation of the Angel: blessed art thou amongst women, Bernadette in trying to describe Mary was more beautiful than anything I have ever seen—she has seen her it is impossible to love anything else on earth. "The Immaculate Conception is the key to all our wonderings about our Blessed Lady. It is a summary of all that has been said; it implies other graces. By it the lost standard of Eden is recaptured in the reality of Mary's person and recaptured in a more glorious triumph of nature and grace."

### OUR NEW GOVERNOR

It is our pleasant duty to offer a hearty welcome to H. E. Sir Henry Monck-Mason Moore who arrived on Monday last and assumed Office as Governor of Ceylon. At the swearing-in ceremony His Excellency said: "We are entering upon this great task and we hope we may with your co-operation be able to do something which will make for the greater prosperity, goodwill and progress of this Island." These are significant words. They imply that the new Governor, on the plea of being a constitutional head, will not follow a do-nothing policy but will take a leading part in the administration of the country. His knowledge of the Island, his experience gained in other countries entitles him to do so. We say his knowledge of the Island, for, in this respect he has an advantage over his predecessors. Sir Henry began his official career here as a cadet in the Ceylon Civil Service and served in various capacities both in the judicial and revenue branches and in the Colonial Secretary's office. Older people in Jaffna will remember him as a young officer attached to the local Kachcheri. He had had thus opportunities to come in contact with the people in different parts of Ceylon and of getting to know them, their ways and customs during the twelve years of his stay here. This knowledge will be a valuable asset to him during his regime as Governor. There have, no doubt, been changes since Sir Henry left the Island. Mr. Senanayake in his speech of welcome referred to the social, economic and political advancement, the country had made. That in certain directions there has been progress must be admitted but that is only one side of the picture. His Excellency will bear witness to the fact of the excellent relations that existed between the different com-

munities. Tension was not our disorder. Our disunity has been a never-ending problem. One day one leader would murder and rob another. Life and property are no longer safe. The other day the Chief Justice referred to this as the greatest problem facing the authorities. It is a severe indictment against the administration that in a small country like Ceylon with an equally small population it is unable to suppress crime. War-conditions may have aggravated the evil but even before the war commenced crime-wave was on the rise owing to the legislative changes introduced by the present Board of Ministers. You want a strong Government to cope with the rising tide of crime. This will be the first problem to which His Excellency will have to find a solution. Then, there is the acute educational unrest created by Mr. Kannangara and lastly the question of Constitutional Reforms each of which will demand the attention of His Excellency who by his long experience and statesmanship will no doubt prove himself equal to the task.

### Educational Work of the Catholic Religious Orders

The future was not promising unless the Government was prepared to render to God the things that were God's and to Caesar the things that were Caesar's said Mr. J.H.B. Nihill, Legal Secretary, in his prize-day address at St. Benedict's College, Colombo, on Saturday last.

Mr. Nihill paid a tribute to the Brothers of the Christian schools. Any school run by them was always found to attain a very high level. He sometimes wondered whether this country yet realized the enormous debt it owed to the various orders of the church. These orders had come here not as representatives of a narrow nationalism but as representatives of the church universal bringing with them the right of learning and culture and the principles of true religion.

He emphasised the need for close co-operation between the home and the school. However good a school might be it could not bring its influence to bear on a child unless there was a good home in the background. The combination of a good school and a good home produced satisfactory results. He appealed to all parents to bear that fact in mind.

Addressing the boys especially he referred to their future prospects in this war torn world. He recalled the air of optimism which prevailed when he left school. He and his schoolmates were told that they were nearing the dawn of a universal peace. They had seen how those hopes were shattered. During the last few years especially, they had all witnessed barbarity unparalleled in history.

The Catholic Church, if the world only listened to it, could provide a beacon to guide suffering humanity to a better world. In 1944 they were all hoping that the post-war world would provide a better state of things. He had not much guarantee that it would be so unless governments and states remembered the first principles which they had forgotten. The difficulty was, he thought, that governments were trying to encroach on fields of activities which were not their proper sphere. Unless they rendered to God the things that were God's and to Caesar the things that were Caesar's the future was not promising.

There was no doubt that the years ahead would be years of great political development and a certain amount of disturbance was bound to occur. During

those years it would be very necessary for all persons who had been trained in the Catholic tradition (whether they were Catholics or non-Catholics) to realize the value of basic human liberties, such as the right to bring up the family, the right to own property and the right to safeguard one's children and to educate them in the way they wanted. They should see that these basic human liberties were not taken away from them.

Mr. Nihill said that it was not true that the Church was opposed to either political or social democracy. The Church, he added, was the first to realize that without law and order there could be no true liberty.

### Governor's Broadcast

(Continued from Page 1).

political development of the Island under its present constitution.

"I feel it is a great honour but also a great responsibility to administer the Government of Ceylon at the present time. 'Lanka' has always been rightly proud of her own long storied past, and justly jealous of the traditions of the Lion race.

"Today not only does she stand on the threshold of further constitutional changes but also finds herself the base and headquarters of the South East Asia Command. To prove herself worthy of these days of great opportunity her leaders are called upon to exercise all their powers of wise statesmanship, and every man and woman to place their full part in their allotted war-time tasks.

### CONSTANT ENDEAVOUR

"It will be my constant and sincere endeavour to further to the utmost the efforts of the Leader and the members of the State Council to insure that Ceylon makes its maximum contribution to the successful prosecution of the war.

"We have just spent a month in war-scarred London, which is still receiving the intermittent but ineffective attentions of the doodle-bug and the rocket bomb. There the individual life of every citizen is harnessed to the super purpose of accelerating the end of the war. Personal sacrifices and restrictions of every kind are a commonplace of everyday life and are cheerfully borne. Here you have been spared the rigours of prolonged and concentrated air attack, but have been subjected to those disturbances in the normal life of the permanent population which are inevitable in a war of this magnitude and inseparable from the presence of large numbers of the fighting forces in your midst.

"I fully appreciate, as I have experienced them elsewhere, the kind of stresses and strains which such a situation creates.

"I know that, thanks to the efforts you have made, these difficulties have been largely surmounted in the past. I for my part will do all in my power to continue that spirit of co-operation between the responsible civil authorities, the Commander-in-Chief and the Heads of the Fighting Services which my predecessor, Sir Andrew Caldecott, so successfully maintained.

"My wife and I have many happy remembrances of this Island, and of the people who live in it. We hope to meet many old friends and to make new ones, and are looking forward to visiting so far as war-time conditions allow all the districts of Ceylon and of seeing once more the many lovely places whose charm and beauty have remained always vivid in our memory."

### FOR OUR GOD-GIVEN RIGHTS AND AGAINST GODLESS EDUCATION

By Chevalier S. Arulanantham

There is much airy talk these days, particularly among third-rate politicians, about the dawn of the Millennium, the coming of New Jerusalem, and a New Order of Life. Poor men! The New Order came long ago, with the advent of Christ. Whoever attempts to introduce any other order, merely helps to bring in chaos into society. Our politicians who are striving to kill Denominational Education, belong to that category.

"When you see a cloud rising out of



the West, presently you say a shower is coming: and so it happeneth: and when ye see the South wind blow you say: There will be heat: and it cometh to pass." In the same way if we read aright the signs of the times, we can never fail to measure fully the extent of the disaster that is threatening us at our very doors. But now they are hidden from your eyes. Quitting metaphorical language and speaking in direct and plain words, I say that the great danger with which we are face to face at present, is the obnoxious State education, that the Government is trying to force on us. The Government of Ceylon has determined to wipe out the Denominational schools, and to force on us the

#### HATED BLESSINGS OF ITS STATE EDUCATION.

In other words, it wants to monopolise education. What has been the history of education in this country? It has a pretty long record; but let me try to put it in a few words. The history, is very much the history of the activities of the Christian missionaries, who have laboured and do labour in Ceylon. Before Government ever took an active part in educating our fore fathers, the missionaries had their little schools in many parts of the country. Then, the Government obtained the help of the missionaries, promised to give them every support and encouraged them to start and carry on as many schools as possible. The Grant-in-Aid System was introduced about seventy years ago. Under the fostering care of these missionaries, and others who followed their example, schools have grown and multiplied, and education has gone on flourishing, and we have now a University in Colombo.

Then what happens? An edict comes forth like a bolt from the blue. The old order must change and give place to the new. They were good workmen, those missionaries, but nevertheless their services are not wanted any more. With one stroke of the pen and a sardonic smile, the authorities want to blow them out. That is what the Government calls its policy. But I call this policy,

#### UNJUST, UNGRATEFUL, MISTAKEN, ILL-CONSIDERED & IGNORANT.

It is unjust, because it deprives us of our elementary right—the right of educating our children. Our children are ours, not the State's. The right to educate them belongs to us. To tell us not to educate our children just as we like, is even more absurd than telling us not to beget them. It is unjust, because it violates our consciences. Our consciences tell us that we should obey God rather than man. The Canon Law of the Church insists on Catholics educating their children in Catholic schools, under Catholic teachers, in a Catholic atmosphere. The State knows it, and even then, says nay. We know whom to obey. It is unjust, because, it breaks a solemn promise, solemnly made. By the Royal Proclamation, dated 29th Sept., 1799, Freedom of Conscience was granted to us as British subjects. This present policy runs counter to that. If we consent to these absurd proposals, made by shortsighted politicians, to-morrow they may coolly pull our ears and tell us "Now, my good fellow, it is high time that you hand over to us, your houses, your families, your servants and your property." You perhaps smile. Why, what is there to prevent them? Does the State think, that we would part so easily with a right, which Archbishop Bonjean of revered memory obtained for us at such a great cost? Or are those great promises then made to the Catholic Church, now so many scraps of paper? I say that it is an ungrateful policy. It needs no explanation. He who runs may read, "Ingratitude, thou marble-hearted fiend," "How sharper than a serpent's tooth is ingratitude." It is a mistaken and ignorant policy. It would put back the hands of the educational clock. The whole sordid policy reminds me strongly of the first Witch in *Macbeth*:

And like a rat without a tail,  
I'll do, I'll do, and I'll do.

And what after all has the State to offer us in place of Catholic education? Jaffna is rightly said to be the Athens of Ceylon. There

is such a third knowledge and of Jaffna. We know anything education. "Go, Our Lord to the Church; and how well the Church has fulfilled that part of her obligation is fully borne out by the testimony of History. The Catholic Church has been and is

#### THE GREATEST EDUCATOR OF THE WORLD

The greatest and the oldest Universities of Europe are hers—Paris, Louvain, Padua, Bologna, Heidelberg, Salamanca, Oxford and Cambridge. The Saxons in England were taught their letters, manners, morals and religion, by Irish Catholic Monks. Oxford and Cambridge are alas! at present in the hands of Protestants, thanks to Henry VIII, the greatest robber of Church property.

Further, State education means godless education in godless schools, where religion would have no home, where physical culture would be well attended to, but the soul starved, where the intellect would be sharpened, but man's moral growth left uncared for. Such schools would make Ceylon in the long run, another Bolshevik Russia, and bring into this fair land of ours, all the ills that Europe is heir to at present—Europe which sowed the wind of godless education broadcast in arrogance and blindness, is reaping the whirlwind of chronic disorder, war and unrest, in sorrow and tears. With such an education our children may become, strong like the brute elephant, and as clever as the devil, with the keenest of intellects, but what guarantee is there to prevent them from becoming sharp villains, thorough libertines and artful knaves—in short colossal moral wrecks. The first Great Teacher was God Almighty. He taught our first parents what was good. He taught them morals. Another teacher slyly entered the Garden of Eden. He is the most wicked teacher and the greatest misleader the world has. He appealed to Eve's intellect and behold the fruits thereof. We too would be misleading our children, if we consent to give them a godless education.

To conclude, seek not the uncertain riches which a State education may confer on your children, but seek for them wealth from the untold treasures of the Church, which would secure to them eternal riches in heaven. Do not make them holocausts on the altars of ungodliness. The Babylonians of old sacrificed their children to Moloch by burning them before his shrine. Do not imitate them. Do not be cowards. Like the Crusaders of old, fight for your sacred rights; but

#### FIGHT FOR THEM CONSTITUTIONALLY AND VALIANTLY.

You know how Christ loved the little ones. Your love for them, I know is limitless. They are asking for bread. Will you give them stones? Shall we look on with folded hands, while great dangers threaten them? Shall the labours of our great Apostle St. Francis Xavier and our own dear Venerable Father Joseph Vaz go to naught? Shall our Missionaries, the Goanese Fathers, the French Fathers, have laboured for us in vain? I still distinctly hear in imagination, the lion-roar of mighty Bonjean who valiantly fought for the Catholic cause. The boar, that would destroy the flourishing vineyard, that they planted with such assiduous care, and watered with their own life blood, must be driven away at any cost. Wake up Catholics. Think of your posterity for hundreds of years to come. Do you not see them in imagination standing in their thousands and millions, in the nurseries "in the infinite meadows of heaven," and holding up their tiny hands and imploring you with sad looks and insistent voices, to have mercy on them—on their souls?

Up then! It is your duty now, to approach the Soulbury Commission in defence of your sacred rights. We Catholics are the most law-abiding citizens. We pay our taxes as others do, and we pay good cash. Our notes bear the image and inscription of our

valiant, cl... VI. The... Ceylon has always... justice, and... It is very much... appeal, from a Ministry that is drunk and reeling with power, to the Commission, sober and solid. We have every reason to rest assured, that British justice will firmly assert itself in behalf of the Rights and Freedom of every man.

#### LOCAL & GENERAL

**Confraternity of the Sacred Heart.**—The monthly meeting of the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart, St. Patrick's College Branch (Senior Division) was held on Sunday the 3rd inst. at 5-30 p.m. in the College Hall. Revd. Fr. B.A. John, O.M.I., the Vice-Rector presided.

There was a good attendance of Senior and Junior members. Mr. L. R. Alagaratnam, Mr. N.E.M. Chubbim, Mr. R. D. Bandaranaike are said to have got infuriated over the questions and after the meeting abused Mr. Ponnambalam in filthy language and attempted to assault him with the assistance of some of their colleagues. An authentic and full statement from the Councillors concerned should immediately be made available to the public so that people may take necessary action.

Yours truly,  
FREE SPEECH.  
Colombo, 6th Dec., 1944.

**Propagation of Faith**  
**Jaffna Diocese—1944**  
(Continued from our last issue.)

4TH LIST.

32. Chunnakam Parish	39 88	
A.P.F. Members	37 50	
Sch. teach. & pup.	4 15	81 53
33. Urany Parish	16 25	
A.P.F. Members	40 00	56 25
34. Myliddy Parish	30 00	
Sch. teach. & pup.	10 00	40 00
35. Pachilaipally Parish	35 00	
A.P.F. Members	12 00	
Sch. teach. & pup.	10 50	57 50
36. Passaiyoor Parish	15 25	
Sch. teach. & pup.	25 00	40 25
37. Vadiri Parish	24 50	
A.P.F. Members	7 00	
Tamil School teach. and pupils	17 00	
Sacred H. College	12 00	60 50
38. Ilavalai St. Henry's College staff & pup.	65 00	65 00
39. Ilavalai Parish	6 00	6 00
40. Jaffna Tamil Convent	30 00	30 00
2nd inst.		
	437 03	
Previously acknowledged	4,027 06	
Total	4,464 09	

**AGENDA:**  
1. Minutes.  
2. Royal Commission on Constitutional Reforms.  
3. Textile Control.  
4. Election of new members.  
5. Any other business of which due notice is given.

**Stricter Quarantine Proposals.**—Proposals for a greater surveillance of passengers and longer detention at a quarantine camp are being examined by the Minister of Health following the introduction of small-pox from India to Ceylon on recent occasions.

**New Puisne Judge.**—A Press communique issued by the Governor's Office on Saturday notifies that His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. Aian Edward Percival Rose, Puisne Judge, Supreme Court, Palestine, to be a Puisne Justice of the Supreme Court of Ceylon.

Mr. Rose, M.A., L.L.B. (Cantab), who is 45, was educated at Aldenham School and Trinity College, Cambridge. He gained a 2nd Class Hons. in the Law Tripos at Cambridge in 1921.

**Co-operatives Threaten to Close Down.**—Many co operative societies throughout the Island have become desperate and threatened to close down unless government improves the supply position in regard to essential commodities. Their complaint is that allocation to co operative societies of food and clothing appears generous on paper but in reality the societies are worse off than private traders.

Mr. G. de Souza, Registrar of Co-operative Societies interviewed stated that the societies had a legitimate grievance and he had taken up their cause with the various authorities with a view to obtaining for the societies their just due.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

##### Violence in Council Chamber

The Editor, "Catholic Guardian," Jaffna.  
Dear Sir,—All genuine lovers of liberty of speech and freedom should take immediate note of an incident that is said to have happened in the State Council last evening arising indirectly out of the issue of petrol to the All Ceylon Tamil Congress. It seems certain questions concerning the issue of petrol to other parties and for electioneering purposes by Mr. G.G. Ponnambalam, Mr. R. D. Bandaranaike and Mr. P. N. Senanayake are said to have got infuriated over the questions and after the meeting abused Mr. Ponnambalam in filthy language and attempted to assault him with the assistance of some of their colleagues. An authentic and full statement from the Councillors concerned should immediately be made available to the public so that people may take necessary action.

Yours truly,  
FREE SPEECH.  
Colombo, 6th Dec., 1944.

#### Propagation of Faith

##### Jaffna Diocese—1944

(Continued from our last issue.)

4TH LIST.		
32. Chunnakam Parish	39 88	
A.P.F. Members	37 50	
Sch. teach. & pup.	4 15	81 53
33. Urany Parish	16 25	
A.P.F. Members	40 00	56 25
34. Myliddy Parish	30 00	
Sch. teach. & pup.	10 00	40 00
35. Pachilaipally Parish	35 00	
A.P.F. Members	12 00	
Sch. teach. & pup.	10 50	57 50
36. Passaiyoor Parish	15 25	
Sch. teach. & pup.	25 00	40 25
37. Vadiri Parish	24 50	
A.P.F. Members	7 00	
Tamil School teach. and pupils	17 00	
Sacred H. College	12 00	60 50
38. Ilavalai St. Henry's College staff & pup.	65 00	65 00
39. Ilavalai Parish	6 00	6 00
40. Jaffna Tamil Convent	30 00	30 00
2nd inst.		
	437 03	
Previously acknowledged	4,027 06	
Total	4,464 09	

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St. Joseph's Catholic Press, Jaffna.

#### TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are invited for erecting a parapet wall 835 ft. long & 6 ft. high with suitable foundation. Material to be used Coral stones and lime. Now is the best time to collect materials.

Tenders to reach the Revd. Fr. Parish Priest, R.C. Mission, Vankalai.

#### Rationing of Sugar

The Minister for Agriculture & Lands has decided that the sugar ration to consumers throughout the Island should be fixed at  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. per head per week to residents in Urban areas and  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb per head per week to residents in rural areas.

This increase will come into force in the Jaffna District with effect from 4-12-44.

R. CHINTAMANI,  
Ag. Asst. Govt. Agent (E); Jaffna,  
Jaffna, 5th Dec. 1944.



## SANDS OF TIME RUNNING

By Blunt in the "Times"

The pledge of self-government for Ceylon in internal affairs means virtually that the next chapter of reforms will be the last in which the Imperial Government will have any hand in writing.

Ceylon will not be entirely cut adrift from the United Kingdom the Government of which will retain control of defence and external relations.

The Governor (or Governor-General) would also have the right of reserving Bills relating to the Royal prerogative, the rights and property of British subjects not residing in the Island, and the trade and shipping of any part of the Commonwealth; any legislative measures which had evoked serious opposition in his opinion were to be reserved; involve oppression or injury to any community; and also to the currency.

The Governor's reserve powers are not lightly used and even those who are planning for domination believe that they are likely to fall into desuetude. Whereas the Donoughmore reforms were a half or three-quarter way instalment the Soulbury reforms, by granting self-government in all matters of internal civil administration, will practically mark the end of the journey.

### THEIR LAST CHANCE

I may be wrong, but I suggest that the British Government once having granted this degree of self-government will find it extremely difficult to intervene in Ceylon affairs even although the country was grossly mismanaged and on the verge of bankruptcy.

I also take it that if there were to be any further reforms or adjustment of the Government system it could only be effected by reason of the good offices of the Ceylonese politicians in power. Future adjustments in the constitution could be made without as much as "by your leave" to the Imperial Government and, of course, alterations in the constitution made in the future might as readily be oppressive in their nature as ameliorative.

In short, we must regard the next reforms as being final and irrevocable.

To the minorities, therefore, the result of the examination of the reforms question by the Soulbury Commission is a matter of vital and decisive importance much more so than to the majority community who, being a majority, can at least hope that their future will be in their own hands to make or mar for themselves. After the next constitution is promulgated there can be no turning back for the minorities, so this is the last chance they have to assert themselves and to ensure that the new constitution will at least be tolerable to them and desperately to demand that the new Ceylon will provide political equity.

And the sands of time are running fast. In a matter of weeks the Soulbury Commission will have left Britain and it probably will not waste much time on the waters.

In an ideal State ruled by wise and good men the average person could go about his affairs without realising that there was such a thing as politics.

In the world as it stands today, however, anyone in any country who does not take an interest in politics is extremely foolish since politics affects every aspect of individual's life for good or ill.

In Ceylon, where the most important decision of a hundred years is soon to be made, it is crass ideology for any person or group of persons to allow matters to take their own course. Everything is bound up with politics: decisions made by politicians can create inconvenience and difficulties for the private individual. In cases they can take away his means of livelihood or levy so much tribute from him that the zest goes out of life. Political decisions can also be beneficial and can be an inspiring source of great importance.

It is for everyone to take an interest in politics, to see that the right sort of people are set to make the right sort of decisions.

### A SOLID FRONT

As I have said before, the sands of

time are running fast. It is made as to the community should be under the demand balanced or parity representation. The plea must apply with even greater force to the Muslim community and to that insignificant numerical section of it, the Malays, who wish to carve out their own niche in the political structure.

If we can have a solid front represented by all the minorities on this one point of balanced representation, there is every chance that it will be granted. This solid front can be created.

It should form the basis of co-operation in the future as between the European community and the other minorities and also between the minorities and the majority community.

There can be no minority community can hope or seek to dominate the majority. When it is there can be no domination over all the community. The best possible for the friendly political co-operation in the future. To me it seems inexplicable that the Sinhalese should fail to appreciate this. Even if they secure power and use it with full guile and force they are not going to do much good for the country when they have two million resentful minorities always in opposition.

Light and reason may not, however, descend on the Sinhalese community so it is up to the others, and particularly the Europeans, who perhaps have the most to lose, to assert themselves in full strength to ensure that the new constitution will provide for political equity as between the communities, which is the only way of providing political equality for individuals of all communities.

## Telegraphic Summary of News

### 'SCORCHED EARTH' IN SAAR AREA

The Wehrmacht has started to scorch the country east of the Saar river—the first time the German High Command has ever ravaged the Reich itself. When General Patton's U.S. 3rd Army on Sunday entered Niederlimberg (4 miles northwest of Saarlautern) they found it empty and almost razed by fire.

### SAARBRUCKEN NOW ONLY SIX-AND-A-HALF MILES AWAY

Reports from Reuter state that in the Saar sector, General Patton's U.S. 3rd Army have won half of Saarlautern (or Saarlouis) town, are 6½ miles from Saarbrücken and have entered the Reich at a fresh point south of Saarlautern, thus extending their front inside Germany to 35 miles.

### ITALIAN REDS WAYLAY ROME'S ROYALISTS.

Rioting swayed through the central Roman streets adjoining the Quiriny Theatre at noon on Sunday when armed squads of Communist and other Republican youths lay in wait for similar groups of Royalists emerging from the first big Royalist meeting held in liberated Rome.

Mounted carabinieri rode into the crowds after police on foot had failed to disperse them. Groups of Republicans, including one or two armed with wooden hammers and other primitive weapons, attacked the Monarchist ringleaders who had to be rescued by the police.

### ROME PRESS COMMENT

The British attitude with regard to Count Sforza has caused newspaper comment to take an increasingly critical turn against Britain. Some Left Wing writers suggest that Britain might as well form a puppet Government for Italy instead of subjecting Italian politicians to trying to discover combinations acceptable to Britain.

### BONOMI BUOYANT

Signor Ivanoe Bonomi appeared to be assured of success in winning his new Government on Monday when the Socialists withdrew their ban against his premiership, provided he carried out the

Six-Pan  
policy.

GREK

Follow  
the Greek

E.A.M.

Movements

the Military

from 7 p.m.

MOSCOW LUNCHEON

The Moscow

Sunday night

Saturday gave

General de Gaulle

Foreign Minister,

The luncheon

was attended by

the Soviet Foreign

Commissar (M. Molotov),

and other members

of the Soviet Govern-

ment.

FRANCO'S 284 REPRIVES

General Franco

has reprived 284

people under sentence

in various parts

of Spain, including

108 in Madrid.

WORLD TRADE UNION RALLY

Representatives of

British, American

and Russian trade

unions met in private

on Monday as a

preparatory committee

to arrange for the

World Trade Union

Conference which is

opening in London

on Feb. 6th.

PERSIA STIFFENS OIL POLICY

An important develop-

ment in the

Persian oil question

is announced from

Teheran, states Randal

Neale (Reuter's

diplomatic correspondent).

The Persian Parliament

has adopted a

private member's Bill

prohibiting all

oil concessions

by any Persian Govern-

ment to any foreign

Government or

company in future.

Exploitation, though

not the sale of

Persian oil resources,

must henceforward

in all cases remain

in Persian hands.

Further, no Persian

Government may

negotiate for sale to

foreigners of Per-

sian oil production

without consulting

Parliament.

This goes further

than the position

taken by the late

Government of Mr.

Mohammed Saad

which was simply

that no new oil

concession should

be granted to a

foreign Government

or company

until after the war.

## ARMY. RECRUITING

### Royal Army Service Corps and Ceylon Defence Force

A Recruiting Officer will tour the Jaffna Peninsula towards the end of December, 1944.

He will register the names of those who wish to join up. They will be called up during January 1945.

He will be at the following places on the dates and at the time stated below:

**Jaffna Town**—At the Urban Council Hall from 8.30 to 4.30 p.m. on the 28th, 29th and 30th December, 1944.

**Chavakachcheri**—At the Rest House from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on the 29th December, 1944.

**Point Pedro**—At the Rest House from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on the 30th December, 1944.

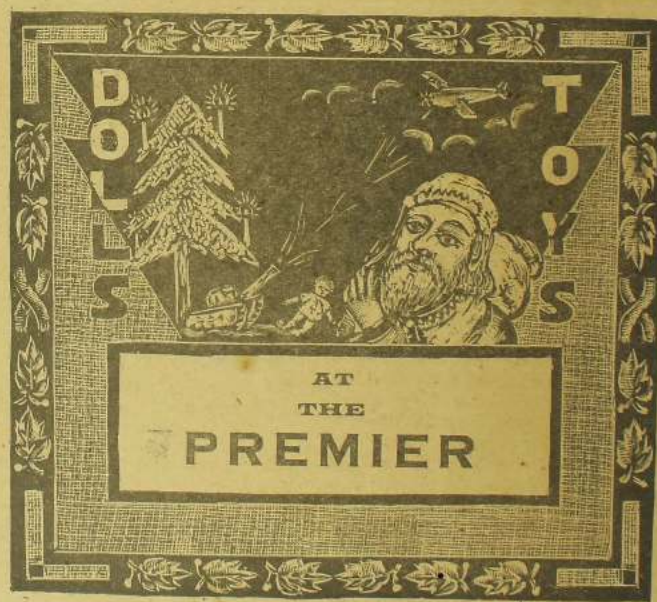
**Tellipalai**—At Union College from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on the 31st December, 1944.

An education in English is not essential but only a good education in the recruit's own language.

Recruits must be over 19 years of age for the R.A.S.C. and over 18 for the C.D.F.—be in good health and have a good physique.

Those who wish to join the R.A.S.C. must be prepared to go overseas. This is an excellent opportunity for the youth of Jaffna to see something of the world. They will be taught English and this will be useful to them after the war.

**Chief Recruiting Officer,  
Ceylon.**



DOLLS OF "WONDERLAND"  
WAR MACHINE REPLICAS.  
EDUCATIONAL GADGETS  
BABY'S ROCKING HORSES & TANKS  
PULL ALONG ANIMALS.  
Etc., Etc.

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