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

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## CATHOLIC UNION OF CEYLON Annual General Meeting

The forty second Annual General Meeting of the Catholic Union of Ceylon was held on Saturday, the 16th December at St. Joseph's College, Borella. The Hon'ble Mr. F. J. Soertsz K. C., the President of the Union, presided and with him were associated Professor W. A. E. Karunaratne, the Vice-President and Mr. C. M. G. de Saram, the Honorary Secretary of the Union.

After the minutes of the forty first Annual General Meeting had been read and confirmed as a correct record, the Hony. Secretary read the annual report and Mr. J. L. Stanislaus, the Hony. Treasurer, submitted the annual statement of accounts.

The President in moving the adoption of the report and accounts said he wished to refer particularly to the work done by the Catholics in opposing the objectionable features of the Report of the Special Committee on Education. "It is difficult to recall to mind in modern times a report which has been more denounced, with bell, book and candle, than this Report," said Mr. Soertsz.

Mr. Soertsz drew attention to the good work done during the year by the Literature Committee of the Colombo Diocesan Union and in doing so referred to the fact that it was now 25 years since the Literature Committee was first appointed by the Catholic Union. Mr. Soertsz felt that reference should be made to the pioneer worker of this Committee, the late Mr. Joseph I. Gnanamattu, who was Hony. Secretary of the Committee from its very inception till 1936. Mr. Gnanamattu will, he said, be remembered for the work he did for the Apostolate of the Catholic Press. Mr. Soertsz complimented the Literature Committee and its Hony. Secretary, Mr. I. V. Ferdinandez, for the present financial position of the Committee.

Mr. L. B. Emmanuel I.S.O. seconded the adoption of the report and accounts, which were put to the meeting and unanimously adopted.

### CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

The Annual Report of the Central Council made reference to the fact that the Council had appointed a sub-committee to consider and report to the Council at an early date on the steps to be taken to safeguard Catholic interests in the New Constitution and as to

whether or not the Council should send a deputation before the Soulbury Commission. The report added that each Diocese had been asked to nominate two representatives to the sub-committee.

### LECTURE

The President in calling upon the Rev. Father Justine Perera to deliver a lecture on "The Catholic Church in the Modern World" conveyed to him the appreciation of the Central Council and of those present at the meeting for so readily agreeing to give the address. Father Justine Perera had, he said, addressed them a few years ago and the Council was reluctant to ask him to do so again so soon but unfortunately two other Reverend Fathers who had been requested to address the meeting were unable to do so and the Secretary had no alternative but to ask Father Justine Perera to come to his rescue.

Father Justine Perera in the course of his lecture referred to various criticisms against the Church by those who had not studied her and knew very little or nothing of her teachings and their implications. Apart from her doctrine of faith and morals, they knew that the Church had a definite code of conduct regarding the use of capital, on international policy and on every aspect of life. With the Reformation, however, there came such a vagueness of doctrine that each man was master of himself and the evils of capitalism in its present form found free play.

With regard to Catholics and internationalism, Fr. Perera said that to Catholics patriotism was a virtue which had inspired many of them to do great things for their country. Fr. Perera next spoke of the great danger with which they were faced today on account of the growing tendency on the part of young men not to think for themselves but to accept the thoughts of modern writers who knew nothing of the real teachings of the Church. The cinema, too, he said, did considerable damage in this direction by its indirect influence on the minds of the young.

Mr. J. J. Fernando (representing the Diocese of Chillaw) proposed a vote of thanks to the Lecturer which was carried with acclamation. The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair proposed by Mr. S. F. Amerasinghe.

## SUMNER WELLES ON PIUS XII

Mr. Sumner Welles, former U. S. Under-Secretary of State, says in his new book, "The Time for Decision"—"While I was awaiting such final word of the outcome of the meeting at Brenner Pass as the Italian Government was disposed to give me, I was received by Pope Pius XII at the Vatican. Subsequently, I was afforded the opportunity of talking with Cardinal Maglione, the Cardinal Secretary of State. The detailed and accurate knowledge of the Holy See of conditions in every part of the world, particularly in the countries of Europe, is proverbial. What perhaps is not so well recognized is the quality of statesman-

ship which, at least in recent years, has distinguished the Vatican's policy. Pope Pius XII possesses that quality in high degree. I found him profoundly saddened by the future he saw shaping so inevitably, and profoundly grieved by the barbarous inhumanity in so many regions of the world. It is, of course, impossible for me to give any indication of the nature of these conversations or of the views expressed to me. I can, however, state that I left the Vatican with the conviction that one of the constructive forces working for the regeneration of mankind will be the present Pope and many of those about him."—*The Examiner*.

## ALL CEYLON TAMIL CONGRESS Special Session

The special session of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress was held at the Jaffna Town Hall on Saturday last.

Over 10,000 people had gathered long before the delegates arrived and an attempt was made by the organisers to hold the meeting in the open, but as the weather was threatening it was decided to pack up the balcony and all the available space behind the platform and on the verandahs, which began to overflow. A large number had to content themselves with standing on the lawn.

Mr. Ponnambalam was brought in procession with Messrs. I. X. Pereira, K. Natesa Iyer and J. Tyagaraja, members of the State Council, from Kokuvil, the furthest end of the Urban Council limit, to the Town Hall, accompanied by hundreds of people. Most of the shops in the Grand Bazaar area and on the Kankesanturai road were closed and all along the route the people garlanded Mr. Ponnambalam and the visitors and shouts of "Ponnambalam ki jai" and "Long live Ponnambalam, the Tamil leader", were raised. Congress banners were carried in front and enthusiasm prevailed throughout the town. Buses and cars streamed in from all parts of Jaffna and hundreds marched to the Town Hall on foot.

Dr. S. Subramaniam, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcoming the delegates from various parts of Ceylon and the large gathering present that day, said he was glad that the progress of the movement had been one of uninterrupted success, which the cause justly deserved.

"It is particularly gratifying to me personally that the great Indian Tamil community has united with the Ceylon Tamil community in this noble movement to preserve our race and to make Ceylon progress in accordance with the highest ideals of disinterested service and democratic equality.

"The Tamil community in Ceylon has made unique contributions to the prosperity, happiness and advancement of Ceylon in all spheres of activities. Without the efforts of the Tamil people Ceylon would not have been in the position which she had attained prior to the introduction of the Donoughmore Constitution.

### ORIGINAL INHABITANTS

"It is necessary to remember that Ceylon was originally inhabited by the Tamils and that for thousands of years we have lived in this country holding sway over the whole island or part of it at various times.

"The present political situation in Ceylon has arisen as a result of the working of the Donoughmore Constitution during the last 15 years.

"We must be thankful to our President, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, for saving us from the yet greater calamity that might have befallen Ceylon in 1938, but for his statesmanlike and timely action. The move on the part of the Board of Ministers and our late Governor to have a still worse constitution imposed on us might have materialised.

After several speakers had spoken Mr. G. G. Ponnampalam addressed the gathering. He said: "I see before me gathered here in thousands my brothers and sisters not only from the different parts of Jaffna but from Colombo, Kandy, Matale, Anuradhapura, Trinco-

malee, Vavuniya, Mannar, Mullaitivu from distant Tirukovil, Batticaloa, Matara, Hatton, and Bandarawela."

"I am deeply grateful for the confidence reposed in me by such representative Tamil leaders from all parts of the Island, and I derive my entire inspiration from your presence in such large numbers at this memorable meeting. And from the looks on your faces I know why you have spontaneously gathered here. The Tamil giant that has been slumbering placidly is awakening from his slumber and will not rest till it is appeased. To change my metaphor, this vast and mammoth gathering is an expression of your determination of Tamilakam to demand its just rights and to ensure for itself a sure future in the political hierarchy of tomorrow.

Ceylon is the original homeland of the Tamils. We were not merely the original settlers but the original rulers of this land, holding sway for centuries from Point Pedro to Dondra, and we acknowledged no rulers and owned no masters till the advent of the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British maritime powers.

"The stones of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa even today speak eloquently of the Tamils," continued Mr. Ponnambalam. "Every stone is a monument to the glory and historicity of the Tamil race, a race which made its way to the Himalayas in the north, to the Chaldees in the west, to Angkovat and the East Indian archipelago.

"The Ceylon branch of this race demands an honourable and honoured position in any future constitution. England cannot and will not, I venture to think, perpetrate another constitution like the present which will be an iniquity and an act of hostility to our ancient race. Any constitution for Ceylon must be based on the recognition of the fundamental structure of society of a number of people living their separate existence, speaking different languages, professing different faiths and pursuing vastly divergent creeds.

"This political and racial heterogeneity was duly appreciated by British administrators and statesmen from very early times. Sir Henry McCallum, the Earl of Crewe, Sir Henry Gollan, Sir William Manning, the Duke of Devonshire and Sir Edward Stubbs all actively participated in enunciating the basis of representation based on non-domination, that no community should be in a position to outvote all other communities put together. No constitution can possibly be acceptable to the Tamils in the future except upon the basis of this fundamental conception.

### NO TROUBLE

"Under the constitution of 1920 to 1931 out of a total of 37 members 18 were Sinhalese and 19 belonged to other minorities. During the whole period there was no single communal division in any debate. Sir Herbert Stanley had to acknowledge this in his despatch to Lord Passfield that ever since the inauguration of the Donoughmore Constitution the communal cry had become a regular feature of the debates from 1931. Communalism in the country has become rampant at all elections. It was so deposed by Governor Stubbs at the opening of the second State Council.

(Continued on Page 4)

A NOVEL SELECTION  
OF  
STORIES  
FOR  
HOME & EVENING  
WEAR  
JUST UNPACKED  
AT  
**DAYARAM'S**  
Main Street, Jaffna.  
VISIT EARLY.]

FOR SALE

Catholic Tamil Almanac 1945

Price per copy  
Postage

Manager,  
St. Joseph's Catholic Press,  
Jaffna.

Karayoor Marriage Provident  
Society Ltd.

The Office of the above Society will  
be closed for New Year Holidays from  
1st January to 7th January 1945 (both  
inclusive).

SECRETARY.

### Church Calendar

DECEMBER 1944

FRI. ...22 S. Zeno  
SAT. ...23 S. Victoria  
SUN. ...24 4A S. Emiliania  
MON. ...25 M. CHRISTMAS  
TUES. ...26 S. Stephen  
WED. ...27 W. St. John  
THURS. ...28 H. Innocents  
FRI. ...29 S. Thomas

### The Catholic Guardian

DECEMBER 22ND 1944

#### CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

As this is the last issue of the Guardian before Christmas we may commence these few lines on the great Festival by wishing our readers a Happy Christmas and all the blessings of this Holy Season. Christmas is a time of joy and there is ample reason for our gladness and cheer if only we reflect on the tremendous significance of what we commemorate. But this real cause of our joy has been forgotten in many Christian lands by being swamped with social festivities, gift-making, eating, drinking, dancing and so on. Thank God, it is not so with our faithful people here who understand the meaning of Christmas and endeavour to observe it in the correct Catholic spirit. We must remember that Christmas stands for three things: the historical fact, the doctrine behind the fact, and the consequences of the doctrine and the fact. The eternal Son of God born of a Virgin Mother came into this world of time—that is the historical fact and there is the revealed doctrine. What are the consequences? A new relationship between man and God; God remaining unchanged but man being raised to a new dignity and relationship. Of this relationship St. John in his sublime exordium to his gospel narrative wrote: "He came unto His own and His own received Him not. But to as many as received Him, He gave them

power to become sons of God who believe in His name, who were born not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." Thus has God Almighty who in a marvellous manner created and ennobled our human nature in the beginning has still more marvellously renewed and made us partakers of His divinity by His eternal Son partaking of our humanity. Christmas, therefore must bring to our mind the establishing of an inconceivably close relationship between ourselves and God. Through the merits of the Babe of Bethlehem we have been enriched with sanctifying grace which entitles us to be called and actually to be the children of God. This is indeed a sublime dignity to which we have been raised. But it brings in its train serious responsibility. *Noblesse oblige*—the noble must act nobly. Let us then approach the Infants Saviour with an overwhelming sense of gratitude and beg of Him to give us His grace in abundance that we may walk worthily of our unspeakably high vocation to which we have been called by His Incarnation.

#### THE TAMIL CONGRESS & THE HOME MINISTER

The special session of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress which was held at the Jaffna Town Hall in the afternoon of Saturday last proved an unparalleled success. Large gatherings had been seen in noted places of pilgrimage but never before at any public meeting in Jaffna had such enormous crowds assembled. They came from every part of the Island fully representing not merely the Ceylon Tamils but all the Tamils in Ceylon. There were over thirty speakers, all men of standing in the community. Perfect order prevailed. The speeches were listened to with intelligent attention and the resolutions were accepted with unanimity. It was clear that the vast audience realised the seriousness of the political situation for the minorities and was stirred to its very depths. Hence the repeated ovations of gratitude to Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam who has so unsparingly been devoting himself in trying to avert the danger. The All-Ceylon Tamil Congress has gained enormously in strength with affiliated associations formed in the different districts of the Northern Peninsula. It is no exaggeration to say that today all Jaffna is definitely and enthusiastically with the Tamil Congress approving and subscribing to its policy. The fundamental of that policy is Balanced Representation expressed in the formula 50:50. Everything else is secondary. Some mischief makers have given this formula a wrong interpretation that the Tamils want all the 50 seats for themselves. That is absurdly false. The formula simply means that if there were to be 100 seats, 50 of these would be allotted to the Sinhalese and the remaining 50 would be distributed among the five minority communities on an agreed basis. This is a perfectly

air and a proposition. Opponents of the only from the times Stuart majority on Constitution who worked out the details of modern democratic machinery of Government felt quite uneasy about the rule of the majority as being a contradiction of democracy. He found some mental relief in the compensating thought that the majority of to-day might become the minority of to-morrow. He was thinking, of course, of political majority and minority. But never would he have consented to embody in a Constitution any principle that would sanction the rule of a racial majority *ad perpetuum*.

The above is by way of preface to demonstrate once more the reasonableness of the claim of the Tamil Congress. Jaffna almost to a man is with the Congress and so are Tamils all over the Island. Under these circumstances can the Hon. Mr. A. Mahadeva stand out of that body? An ordinary Tamil may, if he so chooses, but Mr. Mahadeva as the representative of the Jaffna electorate cannot do so without forfeiting its confidence and losing his character as its representative. The Home Minister himself, it is admitted, does not wish to see his community live in subjection in the new dispensation. And so he, too, had his scheme of balanced representation in 40:60. Its success depended entirely on chance. Even so, it was torpedoed by his Sinhalese colleagues in Council. Was not that enough to make him think furiously? We would ask Mr. Mahadeva to reconsider his position in the light of the fresh developments and put himself right with his community and his great family traditions. Fitted to be a leader of his community how can one think of him following an isolationist policy content to plough his lonely furrow. We admired his manly courage when he differed from his ministerial colleagues and refused to subscribe to their scheme of representation and informed so the Secretary of State. With the same courage he must now make his own the Tamil Congress policy of Balanced Representation and tell the Soulbury Commission, whose present terms of reference are partly due to his action, what the demand of his own Community and of the other Minority Communities is on this most vital question of Representation.

#### Natural Right of Parent

##### To Choose School for Children.

The opinion that the state must respect the fundamental and natural right of the parent to elect to which school he should send his child was expressed by Mr. Justice E. G. P. Jayetileke, K.C., speaking at the 44th annual distribution of prizes of St. Joseph's College, Colombo, held on Saturday last at St. Bridget's Convent Hall, Colombo. Mrs. Jayetileke gave away the prizes.

Mr. Jayetileke said that the Rector should be congratulated on having achieved excellent results under very difficult circumstances. They were, he said,

on the eve of great constitutional and educational reforms and matters affecting Christianity required attention. They would be wanting in duty if they did not take an active interest in the matter.

The proposed reforms would affect prejudicially the interests of Christian schools and the question therefore called for careful consideration. He said they should have confidence in the State Councillors who were men of sound sense and liberal views.

It had to be admitted that the State derived great strength from Christian schools. As they looked around they would see that many of the prominent men in the country had been educated in Christian schools. He included Royal College also among Christian schools as during his time when they assembled every morning the Bible used to be read and prayers offered. In a scheme of educational reform they should avoid introducing anti-religious tendencies. Education of the child belonged to the parent and not to the State.

Addressing the boys, Mr. Jayetileke said the day was coming when those who did not know their Sinhalese or Tamil would be placed in a sorry plight. They had always been told "English, more English and better English". The time had now come when they had to amend that slogan by adding to it more Sinhalese and more Tamil. They could never hope to be elected in any representative body if they did not know their vernaculars.

Speaking of the choice of careers, he said the teachers were the best guides in that respect. He exhorted those who did not have an aptitude for academical training to go back to the land and dig, till and plough. The food produced in Ceylon was not sufficient for a fraction of the population. They should, therefore, produce more food and also save the millions of rupees that were going out of the country. The College had moved in the right direction by opening a farm.

The Rev. Fr. J. Nicholas, O.M.I., asks us to say that he would be thankful for prayers for the repose of the soul of his mother, who died on 17-12-44.

#### LOCAL & GENERAL

**St. Mary's Cathedral, Jaffna.** December 25th, 1944, will be the 150th anniversary of the opening of St. Mary's Cathedral, Jaffna, for Divine Worship. The foundation stone was laid in 1789 and was made ready for use on Christmas Day in 1794 by the Rev. Fr. L. Relbeiro of the Oratory of Goa.

On September 8, 1932 the Right Rev. Dr. J. A. Guymar, O.M.I. Bishop of Jaffna laid the foundation stone of the new cathedral.

**Ordination Postponed.**—The ordination to the Sacred Priesthood of the Rev. Bro. F. J. Stanislaus O.M.I. which was expected to take place on the 27th inst. has to be postponed to a date in January which will be announced later as His Lordship the Bishop will not be able to return to Jaffna before next month.

**Jaffna Diocesan Union.**—A Committee of the Union will be held at the Catholic Club on Saturday the 23rd inst. at 6 p.m.

**Small-pox in Jaffna.**—Small-pox has broken out within the Urban area in Moor Street. There had been 5 deaths and 15 cases so far. The medical authorities with the active co-operation of the Chairman U.C. have taken measures to check the spread of this disease.

**Soulbury Arrives in Colombo.**—The Governor's office announces that the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to visit Ceylon in connection with the question of Constitutional Reform, with Lord Soulbury as Chairman, is expected to arrive in the Island to-day.

**Prize-Giving at St. Patrick's.**—This interesting function came off on Wednesday the 20th inst. The large hall was crowded with the parents of pupils, friends and well-wishers. Mr. Advocate N. Nadarajah, K.C., an Old Boy of the College presided and Mrs.

Nadarajah gave away the prizes. The Rector, Very Rev. Father T. M. F. Long O. M. I. read his annual report. The chairman made a notable speech. There were musical items followed by a humorous play parodying the Ceylon parchment for honours and titles. Rector's report will appear in next issue.

**The Press**—St. Joseph's Catholic Prss will be closed for New Year from Saturday the 30th instant to Monday the 8th January 1945. Hence there will be no issue of the Catholic Guardian on Friday the 5th January.

**Five Oblates Murdered.**—Five missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate were murdered by the Gestapo at their house at La Brosse Montceaux, near Paris, in July, it is now announced in Paris.

Questioned by the Germans regarding hidden arms, the whole community remained silent, whereupon the officer picked out five, two priest-professors, two student brothers and one lay brother who, after further questioning, were machine-gunned before the community and their bodies thrown into a well.

The other 85 Oblates were moved to the Compiegne concentration camp.

**Maharajah at the Vatican**—The Maharajah of Patiala, who was accompanied by the First Secretary of the British Legation to the Holy See and several Allied officers, was received in audience by the Pope in October.

**Pope and Jews.**—When the Jews in Rome were ordered by the Germans to pay an immense fine, the Vatican gave them money to help them to pay it. This fact has been made public by Prof. M. Loret, the Polish Government's delegate in Italy during the war. He told also of a Catholic hospital which hid several dozen Jews during the German occupation.

**Lebanon Republic.**—The first Lebanese Minister appointed to London, M. Kamil Shamun, is a Catholic, of the Maronite Rite. The Maronites have Mass in Arabic, their mother tongue. The new Minister is accompanied by his wife and two sons.

**English Liturgists.**—Bishop Dwy, the Bishop of the Forces, has become a member of the English Liturgy Society, and has given permission for the fact to be publicised. This Society, recently formed, is working for a greater use of the vernacular in the Liturgy. Experiences of chaplains have probably convinced the Bishop of the need for this. Work is going forward satisfactorily on the preparation of an English version of the Rites of Baptism, Churching, Marriage and Burials.

**Chaplains' Heroism.**—An American chaplain, Fr. John Washington, who was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart, went down with a torpedoed troopship in the North Atlantic after giving his lifebelt to a soldier who had none. Those in the boats, looking back, saw their chaplain kneeling on the deck in prayer, then the ship was gone.

The Purple Heart has also been awarded to another chaplain, Fr. Clement Falter. The men had tried to persuade him to wait until a bridgehead was established before he went ashore in North Africa, but he insisted on going with the first barge. Before the barge reached the shore it was struck by a shell and Fr. Falter was killed instantly.

**Africa's Finest Mission.**—Forty-two years ago there was not a single Catholic in the whole of Nyasaland; today there is a Catholic population of 200,000 in the two Vicariates—Nyasa and Shire—that cover the territory, said the Vicar Apostolic of Nyasa, when recently in London on his way home to Canada. Out of its slender resources the Vicariate supports its charitable institutions with very little external aid. Mgr. Julien hopes that he will succeed in his mission to bring back to Nyasaland more white nuns.

**King Honours Canadian Nuns**—The Earl of Athlone, Governor-General of Canada, on the opening day of the Victory Conference in Quebec, visited the Hotel Dieu, where he decorated Mother Ste. Jeanne de Chantal, Superior of the hospital with the insignia of a member of the Order of the

British Empire. The general name of the Sisters is the Hospital.

**Plan for Education.**—A joint statement signed by Catholic, Jewish and Protestant leaders has been issued in the U.S.A. It is an international office for education as one of the world's paramount post-war needs.

This is not to be a world dictatorship in education, they say, but rather a permanent means of collaboration between all countries in educational matters, and would also serve as an antidote to the harm that has been done by the deliberate corruption of culture by the Axis countries.

Even though we triumph over the Axis powers, our civilisation is safe only "to the extent that we can infuse human lives and institutions with ethical and spiritual purposes."

**Russian Committee of Religious Affairs.**—Much speculation has been aroused by the announcement from the Kremlin that the Soviet Government has established a Committee of Religious Affairs for the stated purpose of handling matters between all creeds and the Government.

While interest in the announcement was lively, the general tendency was to withhold judgment on the Soviet move until more specific information was received and definite evidence given of a practical plan of procedure.

The Soviet newspaper "Izvestia", announcing the setting up of the Committee of Religious Affairs said it was created for "realization of relations" between the Government of the U.S.S.R. and "religious beliefs—Armenian, Gregorian, Jewish, Mohammedan, Buddhist, Old Russian, Roman Catholic, and Protestant."

**A Slippery Customer**  
Taken from the article "Thumbnail Impressions"  
By John Blunt in the "Times"

To many Dr. C. W. W. Kannangara figures as the arch fiend of the Board of Ministers, particularly to those who are opposed heart and soul to his education policy. Personally, I can perceive that a Ceylon Minister of Education might seek to secularise the Government policy of education without the motive of waging war on creeds other than the one he espouses. Such an attempt was made in great Britain and was very successful but that the Government felt it desirable to give way to the strongly pressed views of the Roman Catholics in favour of separate schools.

However, Dr. Kannangara's background is all wrong for the task of pushing a policy of secular education for the Island. Son of Christians and educated at a Christian school, he became a Buddhist convert and thus provides ammunition for those who shoot at him for ingratitude and for seeking to destroy the denominational schools.

My own objection to Dr. Kannangara is that I cannot have confidence in a man who for the sake of political argument serves out selected items from the truth and is a pastmaster in misrepresentation by suppression or clever manipulation.

Two instances of this come to my mind. One was when in the State Council in order to give an example of how Christian schools run their affairs he produced the balance sheet of St. Thomas's College. After reading a set of figures from this balance sheet he proceeded to expatiate on a further set of figures which presumably came from the same source. He was immediately taken to task by a member who knew the facts and the figures, and he then blandly explained that he was giving a purely hypothetical case.

The other case is when he failed to disclose to the State Council, in discussing the Arasadi affair, that a deputation had seen him in order to withdraw the Methodist offer of sale and that a definite letter of withdrawal had been sent.

Dr. Kannangara strikes me as being a slippery customer.

**Catholic Bookshops**

The Market Press Bookshop made the suggestion here not long ago that some kind of organization was needed among Catholic booksellers in this country. Here is a letter signed "Catholic Bookseller" which has appeared in the English "Catholic Herald":

"Sir,—Some interesting figures have just been published regarding the distribution of Communist literature in this country. There are now 39 bookshops in England, Scotland and Wales under the control of the Communist Party. Most of them trade as 'People's Bookshops.' The annual turnover appears to be £148,000 for 1942. ('Publisher's Circular', July 1).

"How do we Catholics compare with this? How many Catholic Bookshops are there in this country? How many Catholic booksellers? Is there any sort of association of Catholic booksellers? If not, would it not be a good idea to form one to ensure a wider distribution of books by Catholics? Many excellent Catholic books are published which never reach the general public. An association of Catholic booksellers could perhaps arrange for wider publicity for these. It could also, perhaps, arrange for better supplies of books by Catholic authors from non-Catholic publishers.

"The small-town bookshop has come into its own during the war, and here is an opportunity for a Catholic bookseller to fight the rising tide of paganism by bringing to the notice of the general public the Catholic and Christian view of things that really matter."

**Propagation of Faith**

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

6TH LIST			
40	Kayts Parish	107	55
	A.P.F. Members	28	00
	Boys and Girls'		
	Sch. Teach. & pup.	35	41
			170
50	Pesalai Parish	63	66
	Sch. Teach. & pup.	56	00
			119
51	Mirusuvil Parish	18	48
	School	4	50
	Pokatty School	1	50
	Klaly School	2	00
			26
52	Adampan School	4	00
			4
53	St. Patrick's College		
	2nd Inst.	70	92
	Staff	42	00
			112
54	Vadiri Parish		
	2nd Inst.	10	52
			10
55	Arippu Parish	28	00
	Sch. Teach. & pup.	15	00
			43
			00
			487
			54
	Previously acknowledge	5,560	85
			6,048
			39

Mannar, Vankalai, Adampan and Karampan Centres are kindly requested to send their returns at once.  
S. G. H.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**The Sale of Meat.**

Sir,  
Cicero had a very apt saying "Summum jus, summa injuria"—The rigour of the law may be extreme injustice. This is applicable to the zealous activities of a Price Control Inspector in Jaffna. On the 6th a large Boarding Establishment in Jaffna has asked the butcher to send them 15 lbs. of meat. The meat was being despatched when a Price Control Inspector met the boy

meat and after the usual ruling that not more than one individual could be purchased at a time by any individual. Following the boy's objection whether the meat was really meant for the particular Boarding Establishment, he ordered the meat to be taken back to the market, remarking that a permit is necessary for more than two pounds. The inmates of the Boarding House in question had to go on short rations for the day, thanks to the zeal of this minion of the law. No one denies that there is a regulation about two pounds of beef or mutton per person. But imagine the plight of a family of ten or twelve inmates. Have they all got to go in a procession to the market if they wish to get more than two pounds. I say that this is another method of encouraging the Black Market. It may sound a paradox, but here is the modus operandi of the Black Marketeer. He will get a number of non-meat eaters to present themselves at the meat stall and buy two pounds each. Here I am, a family man with twelve members and I need six pounds. I can get only two pounds, unless I am prepared to send my wife and daughters to get two pounds each. To save time and trouble I would tell one of those agents of the Black Market to get me some beef paying 10 or 15 cents extra per pound.

"But why not apply and get a Permit from the Deputy Food Controller as they do in Colombo," may be the poser which the Price Control Inspector may propound. Yes, I can do that, but don't you forget that the moment people get wind of permits, Kanthan and Kanapathy, Velan and Murugan who don't eat meat and don't have the money to buy the meat will also arm themselves with permits and a Black Market will flourish. This is the ruse that is going on today in Colombo under the very eyes of all the Price Control Department and they are powerless to check it.

If this particular Price Control Inspector is anxious to make his mark and justify his existence, here is a tip. Let him go to Grand Bazaar. There are more than twelve stalls inside the Bazaar selling dhal, tamarind, coriander, chillies, matches and all controlled articles at three and four times the control rates. Let him bring some of these traders to book and check their activities instead of creating a how Black Market in Meat and Mutton owing to his zealous efforts.

A CITIZEN  
Jaffna, 18-12-44.

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A smart and energetic assistant Accountant with organising ability willing to serve in Colombo. Knowledge of Company accounts, laws relating to Companies, Partnerships, Income Tax, etc. and experience under a Registered Auditor, Ceylon or India, would be essential. Applications from others who do not comply with the above requirements will not be considered. Apply enclosing two recent testimonials stating whether married or single and salary required.

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**TENDER NOTICE**

Tenders are invited for erecting a parapet wall 835 ft. long & 6ft. 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. Patish Priest, R.C. Mission, Vankalai.

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(Continued from page 2)

"Tamil representatives of the State Council, encouraged by the Sinhalese leaders, we remained out whilst they pursued the one objective of further concentrating power in their own hands. Within one year of the inauguration of the State Council they started debates on constitutional reforms and became impugned with the Governor and the Secretary of State for the Colonies for immediate reforms at a time when we were out of Council and when we wanted a fresh nomination day. There was no Sinhalese leader or minister to support us or give us a helping hand. They in fact felt the gesture of the boycott should be encouraged while they continued in the saddle of power.

"After the Tamils entered the Council, like a hardy annual the ministers' memorandum was forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and none of these reforms was ever made known to the minorities or debated.

"More recently the Secretary of State in May, 1943, declared that there would be full internal self-government for Ceylon. We were never consulted on this with regard to our place in the constitution or with regard to our share and when I demanded that this should be debated, Mr. Senanayake with his characteristic impertinence spoke of presenting the finished product to us, a product manufactured in England and finished by him.

**ZERO HOUR**

"In the matter of reforms there has been uniformly an unsympathetic attitude manifested by the Sinhalese leaders and ministers, yet we are told that the zero hour has nearly arrived and that a settlement should be arrived at. Mr. Mahadeva tried to make out that his friends, the ministers, would give the Tamils of the low-country twenty seats if we renounced our claim for balanced representation. This was completely and flatly contradicted at the unofficial reforms committee meeting on November 8th.

"It will be well for Mr. Mahadeva to remember the circumstance in which his illustrious father had to secede from the National Congress and founded the Tamil Mahajana Sabha in Jaffna. Later when the Tamils and the Sinhalese signed the pact they were jettisoned by successive National Congress Presidents. The history of broken pledges and gross betrayal by the Sinhalese leaders is well known to you all.

"I therefore now appeal to the Tamil community to stand united, firm in the faith they have on themselves as manifested in meetings and culminating in today's proceedings, and to see that the Tamil representatives honour their election pledge as the only condition precedent to the just recognition of their rights."

Mr. J. G. Rajakulendran, M.S.C., Mr. K. Natesa Iyer, M.S.C., Mr. K. Balasingham and Mr. S. Seetharana Iyer, President of the Jaffna District Committee of the Ceylon Indian Congress, all spoke in support of the resolution.

Mr. A. V. Kulasingham moved: "This special session of the All-Ceylon

Tamil Congress and its members and supporters and the members of district associations in the electoral area in particular to demand from their representatives in Council honourable adherence to their election pledges and a definite undertaking to promote the aims and objects, and implement the political demands of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress." Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Chairman of the Urban Council of Jaffna seconded.

Mr. Sam Stephens, a delegate from Batticaloa, in supporting the resolution said that they of the Eastern Province were calling a meeting very soon to ask Mr. Nalliah, their member in Council, to declare what policy he is going to adopt with regard to minority problems. Woe unto him if he broke his election pledges.

**Dr. Elwin's Controversy**

What a Hindu Paper writes with regard to the leading Statement made by Dr. Elwin on Conversions.

Under this title the Nagpur Hitavada of Nov. 23rd has this very significant editorial statement:

"We have so far been silent on the various allegations which our esteemed friend Dr. Elwin has made against the Catholic missionaries. Our silence was due to a desire to investigate the matter thoroughly to the extent to which it was possible for us to do at this distance from Mandla. We have discussed the matter with those who have been to Mandla and worked there and such evidence as we have been able to gather is not strong to justify the contention of Dr. Elwin that mass-conversions are going on in Mandla. Things might have happened in the distant past about which at this time reliable evidence is not available. We are speaking of the present and the immediate past and such picture as has emerged from our investigations does not bear the colours of Dr. Elwin's canvass. It is somewhat strange, and this point has often struck us, that Dr. Elwin should have brought up the allegations after such a lapse of time and that his allegations should not have been supported by such evidence which would strike any judicial investigation as adequate. We do not desire to dwell further on the subject. As the matter concerns the Catholic missionaries and Dr. Elwin and as we have given considerable publicity to the subject, we must at this stage disclose, in fairness to both sides, the results of our investigations such as they are. There is no need for continuing the controversy any further which has already become embittered on account of the feelings and passions involved on either side and we trust that the matter would be allowed to rest there."

Here we have the Hindu editor of a Hindu paper, who claims Dr. Elwin as a friend and admits that he has "given considerable publicity" to "Dr. Elwin's controversy," now admitting that after personal investigation he finds that Dr. Elwin has misrepresented the situation: "such picture as has emerged from our investigations does not bear the colours of Dr. Elwin's canvass."

**Mr. G. Schuster and the Vatican**

Mr. G. Schuster, President of Hunter College, New York, recalled in a recent broadcast now Pope Pius XI during Hitler's visit to the Vatican before the war. Mr. Schuster says that a few days previously he was himself given the MS of the address delivered over the Vatican Radio when Austria was seized. The Papal Secretariat was afraid that it might not be safe unless placed in American custody. Nearly five years earlier he had also been given by Cardinal Faulhaber a message warning America of how sinister was the growing danger of Nazi creed. And even before 1930 reports had been sent to the United States "from circles close to the Vatican" conveying the real fears of the Holy See concerning the Fascist regime. "It is a simple matter of fact," says Mr. Schuster, "that the Vatican judged all the totalitarian movements at their true significance."

Should you want to etch a design on glass, moisten the glass first with vinegar, then draw the design or write with an aluminium point, such as a pointed piece of aluminium wire. Fine particles of the metal will adhere to the glass and cannot be rubbed off again, even by brisk rubbing, once the glass is dry.

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**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.

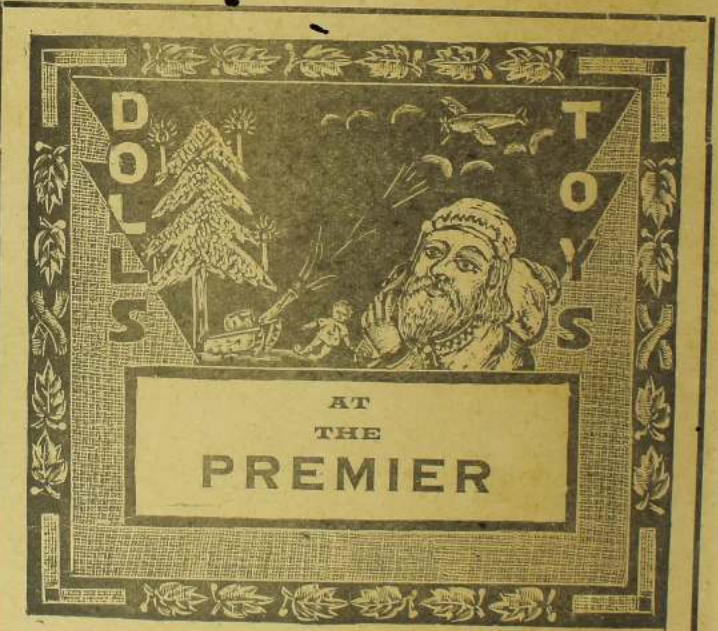
**Tellipalai**—At Union College from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on the 31st December, 1944.

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.**



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