

# The Catholic Guardian

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

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## SOVEREIGN PONTIFF APPEALS FOR UNITY

The Holy Father has made a new appeal to non-Catholic Christians—who already share with Catholics belief in many principles of Divine Truth, particularly belief in the Blessed Trinity and the Divinity of Our Lord—to seek their way into the Church through studying the causes and events of the Reformation.

Writing to the Archbishop of Trent on the celebrations recently held to mark the 400th anniversary of the opening of the historic Council of Trent—which met in the city just two months after the death of Luther and at a time when the Church was facing one of her gravest crises—His Holiness also calls upon Catholics now to reproduce the glorious fruits which resulted from loyal and enthusiastic obedience to the Council's decrees.

It is not enough, says His Holiness, for Catholics to expound and comment upon the Church's laws. With all their strength they must diligently put them into practice.

### DUMB LAWS

His Holiness quotes these words by one of the Bishops at the Council:

"Laws, however excellent, are in themselves dumb. The medicine has long since been mixed and prepared, but in order to combat disease the medicine must be taken and poured through the arteries of the whole body.....No effect will be obtained to the advantage and dignity of Christendom unless each one

makes his own personal contribution."

The assaults upon the Church which called forth the Council and the immense benefits which flowed from it are, says His Holiness, clear evidence to all that the Church may be assailed but never conquered.

"Just as the Church is united to her Divine Founder by the link of intimate immutable love, so the Church is also united with Him in combat and victory. It is a fact that whenever the Barque of Peter is tossed by fierce waves and seems near to sinking, then there appears, in all His power, Christ commanding the winds and the tempest and repeating the Divine admonition: 'Why do you fear, O ye of little faith?' 'Have confidence, I have overcome the world.'"

The background of the Council, continues His Holiness, was an exceedingly threatening picture. Yet in the result, no Council ever exceeded the Council of Trent for excellence and wealth of spiritual results.

"It seemed indeed, that God Himself approved and confirmed what the Council of Trent, sanctified, for, thanks to a new and abundant effusion of divine grace there arose among all peoples and nations of Christianity apostolic men and holy virgins, true models of virtue and industry.

"Perhaps never in the garden of the Church did there bloom so many flowers of sanctity—white for virginity, purple for martyrdom, flame-like for the ardour of charity."

## SOVIET STANDING ACROSS THE ROAD TO THE EMPIRE

Azerbaijan is in North-west Persia. It is in the Russian zone of military occupation. Shortly after Soviet troops, following the signing of the Treaty of 1942, entered the country a party calling itself the Tudeh was formed. This party immediately commenced propaganda against the Persian Government, propaganda which associated itself with Russian aims. Outside the Russian zone it made no headway. In August last year it changed its name to the Democratic Party of Iranian Azerbaijan and proceeded to attack the civil officials, Persian troops and servants of the Persian Government in the territory. The Government centered in Teheran, attempted to send aid to the assaulted authorities.

The Soviet occupying forces, in contradiction of the Treaty of 1942 and the Declaration of the Powers concerning Iran on December 1, 1943, stopped these reinforcements about 150 miles

from the centre of what was in effect the rebellion. Now the "Democratic" forces have set up what is in effect a separate state in Azerbaijan and the Soviet Radio is demanding a change of Government in Teheran which will make it a Soviet puppet state. The leaders of the Azerbaijan separatists are, according to Persian authorities, citizens of the Soviet. The technique of Poland is thus repeated, but this time with a difference to the British, whose interests are, as Mr. Bevin has pointed out, vitally affected.

### INTO TURKEY

Not content with her *fait accompli* in Persia, Russia is demanding an extension of her frontiers into Turkey and the indications are that she contemplates another Soviet puppet in that country. The question arises now—where is Russia going to stop? And

(Continued on Page 6.)

## MONGOL INVASION UNLEASHES SAVAGERY

The situation in Europe to-day "calls for clear-sighted vision, deep study and intrepid confidence," writes the Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, Mgr. McDonald, O.S.B., in his Advent letter.

"We must face the facts squarely. We must resolutely scorn the fallacies and deceptions which have brought civilisation to the brink of ruin.....

"We now realise clearly that those who control the sources of information have for years past, deliberately and of set purpose, deceived the country with fanciful pictures of Russia which bear no relation to fact.

"All that has been so bravely vaunted in the press, of peace, prosperity and progress in this paradise of the working man, is utterly untrue.

"Above all, the priceless privilege of freedom supposed to have been secured by Communist philosophy and a totalitarian regime is now revealed as a gigantic fraud. The truth can no longer be concealed.....

### MONGOL INVASION UNLEASHES SAVAGERY

"The onward rush of the Mongol hordes into Europe has revealed a state of savagery and moral depravity undreamed of in our Western civilisation. Cruelty and barbarism which surpass the worst achievements of Nazi degenerates in Germany are now paraded naked and unashamed before the world.

"Ask our soldiers, ask those who have had first-hand experience of Russian

concentration camps, ask those who have been living on the frontier lines of the Russian armies in Germany, Poland or the East, ask these and you will learn what honest men, many of whom themselves were deceived in the past, think of the condition and conduct of these inhuman masses.

"Do not seek the truth from those who, for interested reasons of what kind soever, have sought to conceal well-established facts, or from those who have allowed themselves to be conducted blindfold through specially selected districts, feasting their imagination the while on dreams of Elysian fields which do not exist in this world, least of all in any territory subject to the tyranny of Moscow.

"Something is radically wrong with the world, and unless that something is sought out, discovered and set right, the future of the human race is too dreadful for the mind of man to contemplate.

### NEGLECT OF GOD ROOT OF EVIL

"Can we doubt for an instant that the root of all the trouble lies in the neglect of God, in the failure to recognise man's duties to his Creator, and in a disregard of the inalienable claims of God on man's allegiance and service?"

"God created man to know Him, love Him and serve Him in this world that he might be happy with Him for ever in the next.

"Unless this truth is once more clearly grasped and translated into

(Continued on Page 6)

## CHURCH FREER IN FRENCH ZONE OF GERMANY

Catholics in the French occupied zone of Germany are freer to promote the Church's interests than in either the American or the British zones, says Dr. Max Jordan, NCWC correspondent in Germany.

The French authorities, in a decree just issued, affirm recognition of the Concordat between the Holy See and the State of Baden. This applies particularly to religious instruction in State schools.

The decree lays down that religious instruction in these schools may be given under ecclesiastical auspices during school hours and not only in "free time." A condition is that parents must state in writing that they wish their children to receive the instruction.

Only teachers who continued religious lessons under the Nazis are allowed to give the instruction. Those who gave up their religion or refused to give instruction on the Old Testament under the Nazis must have the approval of their ecclesiastical superiors before being allowed to teach religion again.

### DIOCESAN PAPERS REAPPEAR

In the French zone more than a dozen Catholic diocesan publications have been re-established. One has a circulation of 12,000.

In both the British and American zones such publications are limited in number.

To promote the better understanding between French and German Catholics a group of French religious is issuing a series of pamphlets under the title "Documents" which are being published by the Catholic firm of Herder. Included in the series are pastoral letters written by German and French Archbishops and Bishops which are not generally known in the respective countries. The French pastoral letters are being printed in German and the German ones in French, so that a large public will become acquainted with both. Also included in the series are the chief addresses of the Holy Father and important editorial from the French and German Catholic Press.

### NEWS SERVICE FOR DIOCESES

Herder's have also been authorised to start a Catholic information service for diocesan newspapers throughout Germany. Chief of this service is Dr. Heinrich Bachmann, former editor of the Berlin Catholic daily paper, "Germania," which was suppressed by the Nazis. Herder's are ready to resume publication of the famous Catholic review, "Stimmen der Zeit," edited by the Jesuits.

The French authorities have also given support to the publication of another series of documents, published under joint Catholic and Protestant auspices, which reveal for the first time important pronouncements by Christian leaders which the Nazis suppressed.

## St. Patrick's College O. B. A., Colombo

A Special Committee Meeting of the above Association will be held at the Regal Theatre, Colombo on Thursday the 7th February 1946 at 5-30 p. m. to make arrangements for the celebrations of the 24th Anniversary and the Old Boys' Day in March next.

Mr. A. Gardiner, the President of the Association will preside.

P. O. Christian

Jaffna 29th January 1946.

## Church Calendar

FEBRUARY 1946

FRI.	...1	S. Ignatius.
SAT.	...2	S. PURIFICATION.
SUN.	...3	4 Ep.—S. Blase.
MON.	...4	S. Andrew C.
TUES.	...5	S. Agatha.
WED.	...6	S. Titus.
THURS.	...7	S. Romuald.
FRI.	...8	S. John Mat.

## The Catholic Guardian

FEBRUARY 1ST 1946

### PROTECTION OF RELIGIOUS RIGHTS

At the important Conference of South-Indian Catholics held in Trichinopoly and presided over by the Archbishop Mathias of Madras, an account of which will be found elsewhere in this issue and read with interest, the earnest thought of the leaders present, both clergy and laity was devoted to the question of the religious rights of Catholics and in what way they could be made secure when political power passes fully into the hands of Indians. As the same question must necessarily agitate the minds of Catholics in Ceylon it is well to know what measures our fellow-Catholics over there have thought best to adopt. In our Memorandum to the Soulbury Commission we stated our religious rights and wanted them to be embodied in the Constitution. But the British Government traditionally fights shy of a written Constitution, apparently unwilling to bind itself to anything very definite being prone to compromises when difficulties arise. Compromises are good in their way but there must be a limit. They never can be tolerated in fundamentals. The safeguards provided in the Soulbury Report to protect religious rights are left to the good pleasure of the one, whoever he be, who happens to be at the time Governor of Ceylon. How unsatisfactory all this is we shall show in a future issue. Now, it is some relief to learn that in the Sapru Committee report, the natural and fundamental rights of minorities including their religious rights are set forth with the view of their incorporation in the Constitution. Their inclusion in the Constitution is all the more necessary in a democracy as the danger of these rights being taken away becomes real. A democratic government is proverbially an unstable government and the most unexpected might happen. Mr. Ruthnaswamy who was here a few weeks ago expressed himself satisfied on the whole with the religious rights as stated in Sapru Committee report, for in

his dissent he asks only that the word 'preach' be replaced by 'propagate' as the latter word could include such forms of religious propaganda as writing, the radio, public meetings etc. which the Committee clearly did not intend to exclude. It is pointed out that the list of fundamental rights drawn up by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India is similar to the claims put forward by the Muslim League and it is argued with excellent reason that if a powerful minority like the Muslims require such elaborate safeguards how much more will a small minority like the Christians need them. The Indian National Congress leaders, too, gave their word a few years ago that they were prepared to incorporate in the Constitution, which they would draw up, the fundamental rights of Christians. If that is done in India, Ceylon politicians cannot but follow suit. And the Constitution that will usher in Dominion Status will be drawn up in this country and that means Catholics must unite, be active and wide awake.

### EDITORIAL NOTES

**The New Acting Minister.**—We have great pleasure in offering our cordial congratulations to Mr. I. X. Pereira on his election as acting Chairman of the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce by 5 to 2 majority. On presentation to H. E. the Governor he becomes automatically the acting Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce. We are sure the choice will be warmly welcomed everywhere. Not only is Mr. Pereira the senior member of the Executive Committee but is also a very successful business man well-known throughout the Island as a gentleman of high character and principles. The Ministry over which he is called upon to preside is a very important and difficult one just at present and the public must feel reassured that a well experienced hand is at the helm.

**World Council of Churches.**—The "Times of Ceylon" of the 28th inst. published a cable to say that a Committee of the World Council of Churches will meet in Geneva this month to prepare plans for the assembly of the World Council of Churches which will represent more than 90 non-Roman Catholic Churches (italics ours). Now, this makes nonsense. The word Catholic admittedly means universal and hence these 90 different Churches fraternising with one another cannot each claim to be Catholic or universal. Only one Church can claim to be universal either actually or potentially. Historically, the term 'Catholic' has remained attached to the Christian Church in communion with the Pope, the successor of St. Peter the Apostle. And from the 16th century the word was used to contrast Protestant Churches with the Catholic Church. In common parlance we still speak of Catholics and Protestants and our hearers know who are meant. In order to pre-

## SOUTH-INDIAN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE DISCUSS FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

On Jan. 15th, the Conference discussed "Fundamental Rights." The Archbishop of Madras, who presided, said that Catholics should formulate their rights clearly, take proper steps to have those rights recognized by a competent authority, and consider how those rights were to be enforced in the day-to-day administration.

A list of fundamental rights had been drawn up by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India and a striking thing about it was its similarity to the claims put forward by the Muslim League. If a powerful minority like the Muslims required such elaborate safeguards, a small minority like the Christians needed them much more. The fact that their claims were similar to those of Muslims did not mean that they saw eye to eye with Muslims in the demand for a separate State or in their attitude to the Indian nation.

His Grace, added that they should put their demand before the Constituent Assembly of the future. They must give a mandate to those who were going to represent them on that Assembly. At the same time they must make it clear that the fate of their rights could not be left to the chance vote of a majority of the Assembly. It should rather take the form of an agreement among the communities concerned.

Mr. M. Ruthnaswami, Vice-Chancellor of Annamalai University, said he was glad to see that the natural and fundamental rights of the minorities were incorporated in the Sapru Committee Report. The incorporation of their rights in the constitution was necessary as under the rule of democracy there was the danger of their fundamental rights being taken away. Mr. Ruthnaswami then moved the following resolutions and it was carried with acclamation:

"This Provincial Conference of Catholics of South India requires that the following fundamental rights be incorporated in the future constitution of India:

"1. The right to profess, practise and propagate their religion in private and in public—this will include the right to convert other people to their religion (subject to the freedom of conscience) and comprising protection to be afforded by the

vent confusion it is very necessary that technical terms should be used to express only their true meaning.

The World Council of Christian Churches meet periodically but so far have not achieved anything striking. They meet, talk and disperse till they meet again. Will they not do far better, if at this turning point in the history of mankind, they hearken to the appeal made to them by His Holiness the Pope to unite with the Mother Church and make Christianity one holy, Catholic and Apostolic as its Divine Founder intended?

State to the churches, cemeteries and other religious and charitable foundations; the right to build churches, and other religious establishments which shall not be subject to the will and pleasure of Governments, but shall be subject only to the requirements of peace and order;

"2. The right to expect and to obtain provision for the proper religious education of their children in State schools and to provide it themselves in their own private schools. State grants in aid to such schools shall not be withheld by reason only of such provision for religious education in such schools;

"3. The right to representation on all public bodies and public services, civil, military, judicial, local, provincial, central, to a minimum extent proportionate to their population;

"4. The right to have their view (to be ascertained from their recognized authorities or representative organizations or by a 2/3 or 3/4 majority of their representatives in Legislatures) prevail in all matters of administration in which their religion, or culture or special rights or liberties are liable to be affected;

"5. The right to an appointment to them of an equitable share of public grants for education, religious or charitable purposes;

"6. The right to have their personal law to regulate their marriages, family relationships and other matters of personal life which are influenced by the religious or moral ideas that prevail among the minorities.

With a view to these rights and liberties being realised it should also be enacted that: The Head of the State in Provinces, Indian States or in India be charged with a special responsibility of seeing that these rights and liberties are enjoyed and not interfered with; and that these rights and liberties, their exercises or denial, shall be within the province and jurisdiction of the Courts of Law from the District and High Courts to the Federal Court."

The Conference which was attended by over 100,000 people, closed with a Eucharistic Procession from St. Mary's Cathedral to the Conference Pandal at Holy Redeemer's Church. The Blessed Sacrament was carried by Archbishop Mathias, who, after a sermon by the Rt. Revd. T. Roche, Bishop of Tuticorin, gave the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The procession was followed by practically the entire Catholic population of Trichinopoly.

### Mr. Ruthnaswami and Sapru Report

The following note of dissent has been appended to the Sapru Committee Report by Mr. M. Ruthnaswami:

I agree to sign this report because on the important questions of the preservation of the political unity of India, the incorporation in the Constitution of certain fundamental rights of indivi-

# Catholic Conference of South India

## Stirring Address of His Grace Archbishop Mathias

"This movement of Catholic Action must become a great National Movement, an All India Movement. All without fear, but with hope and joy, must unite with their whole will and strength to take their places under the banner of Christ, and strive with all their energies and all their resources of mind and body to overthrow the Kingdom of Satan and to extend the Empire of Our Eternal King." (Extract from address of His Grace Dr. Mathias, S. C.)

A distinguished gathering including many priests, nuns, and laymen from all parts of South India mustered strong at the Holy Redeemer's Church compound, Trichinopoly, on January 12th when the Catholic Conference of South India commenced under the Presidency of His Grace the Most Revd. Dr. L. Mathias, S. C., Archbishop of Madras.

### PAPAL FLAG HOISTED BY BISHOP MENDONCA

There was an impressive procession headed by caparisoned elephants from the Clock Tower to the conference pandal.

His Lordship the Rt. Revd. Dr. James Mendonca, Bishop of Trichinopoly, welcoming the gathering, spoke about the need for unity, and for religious freedom, based on true Christian spirit. His Lordship then hoisted the Papal Flag.

### CONFERENCE OPENED BY BISHOP ROCHE

His Lordship the Rt. Revd. T. Roche, Bishop of Tuticorin, opened the Conference. Speaking in Tamil, he said the remedy for these ills of the world lay in the Catholic Church. He appealed to his hearers to lead a Holy Catholic life.

### CIVIC ADDRESS TO DR. MATHIAS, S. C.

Mr. P. R. Thevar, Chairman of the Trichinopoly Municipal Council, presented a civic address to His Grace the Archbishop of Madras. The address referred to the cordial relations existing among Catholics, Hindus and Muslims, and to the labours of the missionaries from the seventeenth century onward for the welfare of the people of South India.

Replying, His Grace Dr. Louis Mathias said he was one with the people in their national aspirations. It was gratifying to him, and the priests and nuns of the Catholic Church to find that the people appreciated the work of their schools, colleges and other institutions in Trichinopoly. Their work was for the glory of God.

The Councillors were then introduced to the Archbishop.

### MESSAGES READ

Messages from H. E. the Apostolic Delegate, various Archbishops, Bishops and others were then read.

### RECEPTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH

Mr S. J. Ratnaswami, Chairman of the reception committee, said: "We are concerned with a philosophy of life or an ultimate view of things upon which our future constitution is to be built. As an illustration, let us take the Declaration of Independence, the basis of American democracy. The Declaration runs thus: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just power from the consent of the governed." We, Catholics in India stand for this Catholic philosophy of life which animates the American constitution. We are opposed to the philosophy of Totalitarianism.

"What is to be our contribution to the public life of our country and the moral foundations of the state in India? It is the promulgation and application of the most evident of the social principles of Christianity, the principles of God's Fatherhood and man's eternal destiny.

### ARCHBISHOP MATHIAS'S SPEECH

His Grace Dr. Louis Mathias then addressed the Conference.

His Grace said the fervour of the early times of Christianity had to revive as the religious fervour, which was the soul of Catholic Action, had all but vanished.

Many, even among good Catholics, considered religion as a purely private affair, and thus isolating themselves from the general interests of Christianity, left to the Ecclesiastical Hierarchy or to the Clergy the care to defend those interests.

"Laicism or Secularism, to-day is stronger than ever. It is a menace which may lead our civilisation back to paganism," His Grace declared.

"Modern Governments try their best to organise themselves along secular lines away from religious concepts. The work of Salvation inaugurated by Our Divine Redeemer is at stake. The malice of the world and of men has endangered it. Materialism, laicism and naturalism, bequeathed to the world by the so-called reformers of the sixteenth century, by separating religion from morals, and both religion morals from social, economic and political life, have in the words of the English Economist, Tawney, 'emptied religion of the social contents and society of its soul'.

"The Church of Christ realises the gravity of the situation and the importance of the interests at stake and She turns towards all her children and sends to them her greatest and most urgent S. O. S.

"She warns them that their isolationism or their apathetic abstentionism is a sin of omission and a sin of complicity with her adversaries. She exhorts all the faithful to form a bloc round the Hierarchy, like the first Christians round the Apostles, to participate in the Hierarchical Apostolate, in re-enthroning Christ in the minds and hearts of men, in re-establishing His Kingdom in human society, in the sincere renewal of the Christian spirit in private and public life, in the union of all the organised forces, for the affirmation, diffusion, realization and defence of Catholic principles, in the individual, family and social life, according to the teachings of the Church, the directions of the Holy See and in dependence on competent Ecclesiastical Authorities."

After referring to the appeal of Pope Pius IX and his successors to all Christians to write and work with zeal and courage as the Christians of the first generations did. His Grace said, the heart of a Father like that of Pius XI would not remain untouched by the state of modern society. He felt, the need the absolute necessity of a renewal of the apostolic spirit among the faithful.

"The necessity of a general Catholic organisation was felt and emphasised by many Catholic leaders in India for the last thirty years.

"The long-desired All-India Catholic Action organisation is now a *fait accompli*. The union of all organised Catholic forces will soon be a reality to the great advantage of the Catholic community and of the Church in India. The Laity must move; the Laity must act; the Laity must conquer. Our duty is to revive the zeal of the first Christians and to organise a new apostolic crusade. The Church in India has organised the means of action; She has given the lead and also the leaders who will co-ordinate and guide all those of goodwill in a common action for the triumph of God and of His Church."

This movement of Catholic Action must become a great National movement an All-India Movement. All without fear, but with hope and joy, must unite with their whole will and strength, to take their places under the banner of Christ, and strive with all their energies and all their resources of mind and body to overthrow the kingdom of Satan and to extend the Empire of Our Eternal King."

### TO LET

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## St. Sebastian's Church, Hultsdorf

1843 CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS—1945

"Haec Est Ecclesia Sancto Sebastiano Dicata A. D. 1843," inscribed on the facade of the above Church, reminds that this noble edifice, under the protection of St. Sebastian, has now stood for a century and more in the heart of the Metropolis, ministering to the spiritual needs of generations of Catholics and others who worshipped in it. What a grand old age! What a glorious record! What a unique moment for clients of St. Sebastian to brim with joy and delight and to join in a *Te Deum* of praise and thanksgiving to God and to their dear Saint.

Owing to the war, the centenary celebrations were postponed for better times. Once the situation cleared up, the parishioners of St. Sebastian's inspired and led by their Parish Priest, mustered strong to celebrate the event on the 20th January—the Feast Day of St. Sebastian—which happily fell on a Sunday this year. They spared neither pains nor money and that within a short notice, to honour the occasion in a truly Catholic manner. It was rightly decided to eschew all unnecessary pomp and show and to have a Mission, to form the core of the celebrations, preached preparatory to the Feast. Thanks to the energy and untiring efforts of the Revd. Fr. Vincent Weerakkody O.M.I., the Parish Priest, a Triduum was preached in Sinhalese from 14th to the 16th inst. and a Triduum in English from 17th to 19th inst., by Revd. Fr. Leo Perera of St. Cathedral. To say that the church was filled nightly to overflowing is an understatement. We were happy in the choice of the preacher. He was practical, to the point, and never tiring. His sermons in English, on the last three days, on "The purpose for which man was created," "Happy the Man who has Faith," and "Supernatural Grace," were characterised by precision, earnestness and persuasion. Hardly a retreatant would have been left unmoved to a close self survey of his life and to mend for the future.

On the night of Saturday the 19th inst., the Altars, the facade and the entrance to the Church premises, were brilliantly lit with multi-coloured electric jets. The main altar was wreathed in flowers. It was a delightful spectacle to behold. It was a solemn moment, and a hushed silence reigned, when after the Sermon, the Lord Abbot of Kandy, The Right Reverend Don Anselm Weerasinghe O.S.B., walked in state from the Mission House, to the Church, to preside at Vespers. At the close of the Vespers, the Lord Abbot imparted the Pontifical Blessing and gave Benediction.

Sunday the 20th inst. broke fine and clear. Already devotees of St. Sebastian have begun to gather from far and near. There was a Low Mass at 6 a.m. The High Mass was at 8-30 a.m. and the Lord Abbot officiated. Fr. Leo Perera preached a paenegyric on St. Sebastian. He called on his hearers especially the young folks of the parish, perhaps the Catholic leaders of tomorrow, to stand up for God and His Religion, as St. Sebastian did of old. The times were not normal. There were perils for our Church, for our institutions and for our country. Vigilant action and dauntless faith in and manifestation of Catholic principles and morals were necessary to overcome the powers of darkness. General Communion was followed, by almsgiving at the end of Mass.

The climax of the celebrations was reached in the evening when a mammoth Torch Light Procession with the statue of St. Sebastian, left the Church at 7 p.m. It wended its way through some of the Small Pox stricken spots and covered a distance of more than a mile. Final Benediction and Supplication to St. Sebastian, and every one of the crowd, returned home, imbued with the joyous spirit that he or she has contributed in however small a degree to the Glory of God and His Sainly Servant. There is no doubt that St. Sebastian will intercede to preserve his clients in Hultsdorf and elsewhere from the dire Small Pox infection and to save the City from a major calamity, as He has protected them in similar contingencies before. J. C. P. General Hospital, Colombo, 22-1-46.

## Genuflexion: A Token of our Faith

All the faithful going to Church for holy Mass or any other religious exercise, ought to behave themselves so irreproachably that one may, by the mere look of them, realise that their piety is a well made genuflexion.

One of the chief signs of exterior piety is a well made genuflexion.

We are taught that, in order to genuflect properly, one should bend the right knee bringing it down to the ground close to the left foot. When entering or leaving a church where the Blessed Sacrament is exposed genuflexion should be made with both bended knees.

Genuflexion must be made reverently, deliberately and even leisurely. When you genuflect your eyes should not wander about but should be fixed on the Tabernacle. In God's house it is the offering of homage and adoration of both body and soul, due to the humanity and divinity of Jesus Christ present in the Tabernacle.

No Christian is exempted from the duty. Every man and woman, the young and the old, ought to genuflect when entering and leaving the Church.

Several Popes, among whom we find Pius IX and Leo XIII, and many Bishops have repeatedly reminded the faithful of that duty.

Let Catholics always remember that they ought to genuflect: 1° whenever they enter or leave a church in which the Blessed Sacrament is reserved; 2° each time they pass across an altar where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved; 3° whenever they receive Holy Communion.

We hope all the readers of this will note these directions carefully and will faithfully observe them. Nothing is small in the service of our Lord.

We also hope that all teachers will drill their young charges in the duty of genuflexion, and will insist that it be made thoughtfully, reverently and gravely.

## The Jaffna Diocesan Provident Society, Ltd.

### DEATH DONATIONS

A sum of Rs. 4,321-65 was paid out in death donations to the nominees of the following deceased members:—

1. Gregory Jacob Culas of Venkalai, Grade 2 No. 643. Contributed Rs. 119-00, Donation Rs. 875-70.
2. Adiriampillai Anthonypillai of Kayts, Grade 3 No. 108. Contributed Rs. 96-25, Donation Rs. 546-30.
3. Arokiam Joseph Culas of Venkalai, Grade 2 No. 397. Contributed Rs. 189-00, Donation Rs. 916-20.
4. Thomai Thomasial Pieris of Pelsalai, Grade 2 No. 224. Contributed Rs. 194-00, Donation Rs. 914-95.
5. Rapiellipillai Loppiah of Jaffna, Grade 3 No. 685. Contributed Rs. 53-00, Donation Rs. 540-25.
6. Mariamma wife of Michaelpillai of Jaffna, Grade 3 No. 383. Contributed Rs. 88-50, Donation Rs. 542-85.
7. Mark Vaithy Anthony of Kaladdy, Point-Pedro, Grade 3 No. 186. Contributed Rs. 97-75, Donation Rs. 551-45.
8. Soosai Pavilu of Ilavalai, Grade 3 No. 132. Contributed Rs. 98-50, Donation Rs. 559-90.
9. Isabelpillai Sypriampillai of Muttur, Grade 2 No. 66. Contributed Rs. 205-00, Donation Rs. 931-55.
10. L. Celestin Croos of Venkalai, Grade 2 No. 396. Contributed Rs. 197-00, Donation Rs. 921-65.
11. S. Rayappu Peter of Ilavalai, Grade 2 No. 103. Contributed Rs. 202-25, Donation Rs. 920-85.



duals and corporations, the formation of the Constituent Assembly, parity between Hindus and Muslims in the Legislatures and the Constituent Assembly, Federation as the only possible system of Government for India, I am with the majority of the Committee. But as I think that the decisions of the majority on some of these questions and others require, some modifications, I shall sign the report with the following reservations.

"With regard to the Fundamental Right No. 4 on page 241 of the draft report which runs as follows: 'All inhabitants shall be free to preach their religion....' I do not know why the word 'propagate' which is found in Mr. Rallia Ram's note was omitted. I would ask for 'propagate' being substituted for 'preach' as it could not have been the intention of the Committee to exclude such forms of religious propaganda as writing, the cinema, the radio, public meetings, etc.

"While welcoming the acceptance of the principle of parity between Hindus (other than Scheduled Classes) and Muslims in the Legislature and consequently in the executive of the Union, I am afraid that to make it dependent on the Muslims surrendering separate electorates is to take away with one hand what the Committee is giving with another. It is for the Muslims to give up separate electorates when they have learned to place confidence in a general electorate. Parity must be an unconditional grant. And I believe the principle of parity should be extended to the other group of minorities including Scheduled Classes, Sikhs, Indian Christians and Anglo-Indians. I would ask, as I asked in my note to the Committee which has not been included among the memorandum published by the Committee for 1/3 of the seats on the Legislature and in the Executive of the Union to be given to Hindus, 1/3 to Muslims and 1/3 to the other minorities. The distribution of representation that I ask for will produce a much more balanced Legislature and Executive than the one accepted by the majority of the Committee and it would give the minorities a sense of confidence and security in the new constitution."

## THE JAFFNA CELL OF THE CATHOLIC WORKERS' MOVEMENT

ORIGIN:—The C. W. M. was started in New Zealand with the intention of making it a world-wide movement with headquarters in London. With the approval of our Hierarchy it was established in Ceylon with a Central Bureau in Colombo. The Jaffna Cell was brought into being by our Very Revd. Fr. Administrator who on New Year's Day appointed its Director and requested the clergy and the laity of our diocese to cooperate with the Director.

AIMS:—The general aim is contained in the motto of the Cell: "Lux in tenebris" i. e., to be bearer of Christ's light to all around. The particular aims are:

- (1) to unite into an efficient force all Catholic writers,
- (2) to produce Catholic Literature to suit local needs,
- (3) to instil the habit of good reading,
- (4) to confirm the faith of Catholics and to enlighten non-Catholics,
- (5) to combat secularism in economic, social and political life.

MEANS:—The means of the Cell are to help the existing organisations of a similar nature, and to inaugurate new ones as the movement develops with the assistance of Divine Providence and with the co-operation of the clergy and laity of our Diocese. For the time being the chief means are:

- (1) to begin, subject to the approval of the respective Editors, various new features on the Tamil and the English "Guardian" e. g. (a) *Essays* depicting the Catholic viewpoint of economic, social and political problems, (b) *Short Stories*, or descriptions of *Typical Characters* in order to put down abuses and to foster good Catholic customs, (c) *Parishes' Bulletin* giving interesting information about the various parishes, (d) *Women's Forum* giving the views and news of special interest to women, (e) *Children's Platform* giving publicity to literary attempts of children, (f)

*Question Box or Short Plays or Dialogues* treating some aspect of Catholic doctrine or morality; (2) to contribute articles, subject to the approval of the Editor, to the Family Library Tracts;

(3) to get more subscribers to the Catholic Papers and to the Family Library Tracts;

(4) to publish pamphlets and to sell them;

(5) to watch for erroneous views about Catholic matters in the non-Catholic or the secular papers, and to correct them promptly by letters to the Editor.

ORGANIZATION:—All Catholics who wish to contribute articles etc. can become members. Those who subscribe a fixed amount in return for getting the Family Library Tracts and the C. W. M. pamphlets become the supporters of the movement. Those who make special donations to help the inauguration of the movement become its founders. Later on, committees and office-bearers may be appointed or elected as they become necessary. For the present let those who wish to become members send their essays, stories, letters, questions, news items, short plays etc., to the address given below.

REV. FR. B. WM. JESUTHASAN, O.M.I.,  
Director, J. C., C. W. M.,  
Myliddy, Kankasanturai.

## LOCAL & GENERAL

**The Jaffna Urban Council.**—As the preliminaries for the establishment of a Municipality in Jaffna will not be ready in time it is learnt that the Executive Committee has decided to extend the life of the present Council by one year.

**Tamil Congress.**—A Conference of Committee Members and Workers of the All Ceylon Tamil Congress will be held in the Jaffna Town Hall, commencing at 4-30 p.m., on Saturday February 2, 1946, to discuss the Present Political Situation and the Future Work of the Congress.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, the President of the Congress, will preside.

**Delimitation Commission.**—It is understood that the following have been invited to be the members of the Delimitation Commission for the demarcating of constituencies under the new Constitution:—

Mr. L.M.D. de Silva, K.C., Mr. N. Nadarajah, K.C., and Mr. H. Jansz, the retired Land Commissioner.

**Temporary Changes in Legal Dept.**—Mr. H. H. Basnayake and Mr. M. F. S. Pulle on Monday assumed duties as acting Attorney-General and acting Solicitor-General respectively, following the appointment of Mr. C. Nagalingam, acting Attorney-General to be acting Legal Secretary.

**Daring Theft on Night Train.**—A gang of thieves succeeded in getting into two waggons of the night train from Colombo to Jaffna and began throwing out the goods while accomplices are said to have picked them up, and hidden them among the trees and scrub skirting the rail road. The fall of a fairly large package with a heavy thud is stated to have arrested the attention of the Guard who brought the train to a halt. Two men armed with daggers are reported to have been seen running away from the rail road towards the surrounding scrub. They could not be identified. It is presumed that these two men were among those who had been in the waggons throwing out the goods. Investigations are being made by the Railway Police.

**Excess of Revenue.**—There was an excess of revenue over expenditure amounting to Rs. 28 million in the first three months of the present financial year, according to a Treasury statement issued last Tuesday.

The revenue from October to December, 1945, was Rs. 87,089,454, and the expenditure Rs. 58,682,792. In the corresponding period of 1944, the excess of revenue over expenditure was only Rs. 20 million, the revenue being Rs. 70,992,519, and the expenditure Rs. 50,773,620.

**Personal.**—Mr. Joseph St. George of Archvely left by the "Sibajak" on Tuesday for London to complete his law studies at the Inner Temple.

**Ceylon Indian Congress Protest "Hartal."**—At a meeting of the

Working Committee of the Ceylon Indian Congress held at Katiyresan College, Nawalapitiya, on Saturday, with the President, Mr. S. Thondaman, in the chair, a number of resolutions were passed condemning the Soulbury Report and protesting against the proposals adumbrated in the White Paper.

It was also decided to observe "Hartal" on February 12 in order to protest against the injustice to the Indian community."

**University of Ceylon.**—Dr. B. A. Baptist, Mr. P. Kandiah and Very Revd. Fr. Peter Pillai O.M.I., have been elected to the University Court by the registered graduates.

**No Discrimination.**—Mr. J. L. Kotelawala, Minister of Communications and Works, in offering his tribute of praise to the new D. P. W., Mr. S. Mahadeva at the reception given to him said that of the 16,000 officers in the departments under his (speakers) control there was not a single officer who had such a sense of patriotism and who was able to do the work entrusted to him at minimum cost as Mr. Mahadeva.

Continuing, he said: "I can assure you that it never strikes me what nationality I belong to unless I am reminded of it (Applause). Who can tell me that I have not Tamil blood in me or who can tell you that you have not Sinhalese blood in you? We have lived together for over 2,000 years and we are all one people (Loud applause)."

**A Lesson for Dr. Kannangara.**—The 19th Indian ("Dagger") Division's literacy drive has already achieved a great success. More than 2,181 illiterate men have received instruction during the last three months in vernacular languages.

Every unit in the division regularly sends candidates for the third class examinations. In one month 218 candidates passed the examinations. At the moment, there are 3,120 candidates under instruction for certificates of education.

**India takes up Atomic Search.**—A committee has been formed under Dr. H. J. Bhabha as Chairman to explore the raw materials of India that are capable of producing atomic energy. The committee will seek out means of conserving the energy and will be in touch with similar organizations in other countries.

Another committee has been set up to examine Beryllium and its master alloy.

Scientific research is getting a great push in the country.

**Pandit Nehru on Travancore.**—In the course of a statement on the deliberations of the Princes' Chamber Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said that though Travancore was a progressive State in many ways, still it has suppressed individual liberty.

**Nuncio for Salvador and Guatemala.**—Archbishop Castellani, O. P. M., formerly Apostolic Delegate at Addis Ababa, has been appointed by the Holy See as Papal Nuncio in Salvador and Guatemala.

**Greenland.**—The remains of Benedictine monasteries and convents have been discovered in South Greenland by Herr Veboack, who has been excavating there for the National Museum of Copenhagen.

Herr Veboack worked all the summer and autumn in the Inliahaap district where traces of a medieval church and graveyard were found in 1932. Working with great difficulty, he has excavated not only the ruins of religious houses, built of large granite boulders, but also skeletons and pieces of clothing.

It is thought that the remains date from an early Scandinavian civilisation when three or four thousand settlers went to Greenland, the colony later dying out.

**Maurice Baring.**—The Hon. M. Baring, poet, critic, essayist, dramatist, as well as soldier, airman, diplomat, and artist has passed away after a long illness in Beaufort Castle, Beaulieu, Invernesshire, Scotland. For many years he was at the British Embassy in Paris, Denmark, Russia, and Rome. In 1909 he was received into the Church. He was a Wing-Commander of the R. A. F. in 1918. It was he who said: "I was received into the Church on the eve of Candlemas, and it is perhaps the only act in my life which I am quite certain, I have never regretted."

**Canadian Wheat Gift to Vatican.**—The 7,000-ton Canadian freighter "Highland Park" on December left Montreal for Rome with a gift of 20 tons of wheat from Canadian Catholics to the Holy Father, says Reuter.

The shipment, the first of its kind to leave Canada, was blessed by the Bishop of Montreal before sailing.

## SILVER JUBILEE

(Kurunegale 1921—Anuradhapura 1946)

of Charles Herat Esq., Head Master, St. Joseph's College, Anuradhapura

Mr. Charles Herat after completing his scholastic career at St. Joseph's College, Colombo, was taken into the staff of St. Anne's English School, Kurunegale, by the late Rt. Revd. Dr. P. Marque, O.M.I., who was then the Manager of that School, on 3rd February, 1921. Barely a year passed before he was taken in to undergo a two year course of training for teachers, on the successful completion of which he took up appointment again at St. Anne's as the Senior Asst. Master in which capacity he soon forged himself to the forefront of all the affairs connected with the school.

He left St. Anne's in January, 1932 to take up duties as Head Master, St. Joseph's College, Anuradhapura. In both schools, his work produced extremely satisfactory results at the public examinations and at the annual inspections, winning high encomiums from all the Inspecting Officers. He had stamped himself deep in the hearts of all pupils who came under his tutelage by his inspiring teaching, his painstaking and ever abiding interest in his pupils and forthright and gentlemanly influence.

From the very inception of the Anuradhapura Catholic Association, he was its moving spirit just as he had been one of the most active members of the Kurunegale Catholic Association. He is a social worker of unostentatious manners as the poor and needy at Anuradhapura had learnt to feel. His work in this connection is very edifying. A Catholic to the very core, he diffuses the Catholic spirit to all who contact him.

Government too had recognised his invaluable work when they appointed him visitor to the Prisons. His fellow Bilingual Trained teachers paid him no less a tribute when they unanimously elected him to preside at their assembly at Kandy and to present their case before the Education Ministry's Executive Councillors. No greater tribute could be paid to him than to see the greatest in the Province to the least in the land flocking to his bedside to offer their sympathies and to cheer him up in his recent misfortune.

We wish this gentleman teacher many more years to labour amongst us. We invoke the Almighty God to bestow on him and his family the choicest blessings of good health and long prosperity.

## The Late Mudaliyar A. Muthuveloe

Mudaliyar Muthuveloe was keeping good health since his retirement and, hence his sudden and unexpected death, came as a deep shock to the members of his own family and to the circle of his relations and friends. In the early hours of Tuesday, 22nd January 1946, Beatrice, his youngest daughter and wife of Proctor, John Patrick, supported her dying father in her loving arms and, weeping, heard the last rattles die down his throat in his 81st year, at her residence, "Thiraviva Vasa," 4th Cross Street, Jaffna. The following day, the remains of the late Mudaliyar which reposed in a coffin of polished satin, was removed to the burial ground at Vilundi, on a hearse drawn by two white steeds and was cremated with great pomp and ceremony, in the presence of a large and representative gathering. Messrs. C. Ponnampalam, Chairman, U. C., Jaffna, Sam Sabapathy, S. Patanjali, and C. Nadarajah acted as pall bearers.

Mourn him not son and daughters, sons in law, grand children and niece. He waits on the Eternal shores... waiting...praying...blessing you. God fill the void which he has made in your hearts, in your homes! J. N.

## Soviet Standing Across the Road to Empire

(Continued from page 1)

no one knows except those who should be prepared to cry halt, and the only news of these gentlemen we have at the moment is that they attended the ballet in Moscow last Sunday. But an indication of Russia's immediate objectives may be gained from the outbreak of "anti-Semitism" which is reported from Poland. The crimes against the Jews have been laid at the door of the scape-goat Polish Home Army, which, despite the fact that Poland is rigorously garrisoned by the Red Army, has apparently the freedom to range where it will and commit atrocities which are directly contradicted by its policy to the Jews and by the orders of its erstwhile commander, General Bor Komorowski.

According to the "Daily Telegraph" Military Correspondent thousands of Jews are leaving Poland, in well-organised groups; these people are well fed, they have plenty of money and they "make no bones" about their destination; which, they say, is Palestine. This correspondent makes no bones of his scepticism of the story that these bands are flying from persecution. What then are they flying from—or rather what are they going to do in Palestine? The Soviet Government is responsible for their despatch. Their future is a matter for conjecture. But surely it will be linked with the country which has fed, clothed, and sent them on their way to the Promised Land. It should also be noted, in view of the vicious modern tendency towards anti-Semitism, that there is no guarantee that all these people are Jews.

Every angle of vision on the Soviet's advance in the Middle East suggests it is preparing to straddle the road to the Empire. Azerbaijan again we repeat may be the Rhineland.

### THE PLAN AND MR. BYRNES

The Soviet plan then we see appears to be the creation of a belt which will divide Britain from the Empire and enrich the U.S.S.R. by the acquisition of the oil wealth of the Middle East. That Mr. Bevin is aware of the possibilities is plain from his recent speeches. That he will make a proper stand for the maintenance of those free nations whose friendship made the free interchange of troops and commodities during the war possible, is also plain. But what of Mr. Byrnes? This question brings us back to Wendell Wilkie's conception of "one world." Such a world is only possible if the citizens of Britain and America are prepared to make sacrifices in order to maintain the world which is the repository of their faith.

If one country, at the expense of the world conception, is prepared to make concessions to Russia which endangers the other, so that trade will expand quickly in one obvious direction, we will find ourselves divided again. The world divide has sinister corollaries in these days, particularly in the field of Foreign Affairs. There can be only one stand for America and Britain in Azerbaijan. The stand of "one world," global morality, the Law of Nations. They can find it set out in pamphlets which can be purchased at the Catholic Truth Society stalls in any Catholic church. The bell is tolling now in Persia and it tolls for more than the Turks and Persians.—*Cath. Herald, London.*

## To Avert Europe's Ruin

(Continued from Page 1)

action by all the peoples of the earth, there can be no doubt that the agony and anguish suffered during the years of warfare will pale into insignificance before the deluge of suffering which will descend upon the world in the near future.

"Britain has saved civilisation. Had our forces failed in the Battle of Britain, nothing is more certain than that civilisation would have perished. Now again Britain is called upon to play a leading part to restore religion, which alone can save society, to its rightful place among the nations. Let us try to realise some of our responsibilities in this regard.

## RECENT HORRORS PUNISHMENT FOR SIN

"God is angry with the world, and the horrors of the past years are God's punishment for sin.....

"During the past five years of war countless men, women, yea and children have accepted their sufferings, shed their blood and given their lives in cheerful sacrifice for the love of God. Their number is known to Him alone. As in the case of the martyrs of old, their blood has fertilised the soil and scattered the good seed.

"It only remains for us to play our part in creating suitable conditions under which the seed may germinate and bring forth an abundant harvest of souls for heaven.....

"The trumpet of heaven now resounds throughout the entire world summoning all who believe in God and love His Holy Name to unite in defence of His honour and that of His Holy Church. The battle waged in heaven of old between the Archangel Michael and Lucifer is now being joined once more on earth."

## Telegraphic Summary of News

### WHEN CEYLON GAVE ALLIES ANXIOUS DAYS

Mr. Churchill pointed out that the Japanese had already destroyed or captured six British and Indian divisions or their equivalent. Australia feared an immediate invasion and alternatively the "Japanese may invade India." Mr. Churchill stressed the ability of the Japanese to overrun a large part of India and to conduct air raids on defenceless Indian cities.

"After the virtual annihilation of the British, Dutch and U. S. light forces in Javanese waters and the loss of Singapore, Java and Sumatra, we naturally considered Ceylon as the key point we had to hold.

Accordingly Admiral Somerville took station south-east of Ceylon, where he would be most likely to encounter the enemy. There was no sign of the enemy and it became necessary for the fleet to go back to refuel.

"The Admiral came to the conclusion that the intelligence which had led him to expect a Japanese naval advance into the Indian Ocean was faulty.

### RAIDS ON CEYLON

"The fleet was dispersed. No sooner had this been done than news came of a large Japanese fleet steering northwards towards Ceylon. A fresh rendezvous of the British forces was fixed.

"At daylight on April 5 the Japanese Air Force attacked Colombo. Admiral Somerville thought the Cornwall and Dorsetshire were safely at sea, but they were sighted by enemy reconnaissance planes and sunk in about a quarter of an hour by attacks from 40 to 60 fighter aircraft.

"In view of the evident forces being employed by the Japanese Admiral Somerville—with the full approval of the Admiralty—withdraw into the wastes of the Indian Ocean.

"A seaborne invasion of Ceylon seemed imminent, but instead the Japanese raided Trincomalee, caught the Hermes, and inflicted very heavy losses of nearly 100,000 tons upon our shipping in the Bay of Bengal."

Summing up about the position in that theatre of war at that time Mr. Churchill said: The unpleasant fact remains that for the present the enemy has effective command of the Bay of Bengal.

"Ceylon is an objective which would be most valuable to him and it is there that we are most ill-prepared."

He added a hopeful note to his portrayal of the gravity of the situation by saying: "Our hope is that it will not be long before we have a fleet in the Indian Ocean well supported by seaborne and shore-based aircraft which will be sufficiently powerful to challenge any major detachment of the Japanese Navy."

### M. FELIX GOVIN COMPLETES HIS CABINET

M. Felix Gousin has now completed his Cabinet. He himself is to be not

only head of the Government but Minister of National Defence, just as General Charles de Gaulle was

The new Government consists of twenty Ministers and four Under-Secretaries of State as compared with twenty-two Ministers in de Gaulle's Cabinet. It contains six Communists, seven Socialists, six M. R. P. and one non-party man.

### OFFICIAL LIST

The following is the official list of the new Cabinet:—

Vice-President: M. Maurice Thorez (Communist); Minister of State: M. Francisque Gay (M. R. P.); Foreign Minister: M. George Bidault (M. R. P.); Minister of Finance and National Economy: M. Andre Philips; Minister of Armies: M. Edmond Michelet (M.R.P.); Minister of Armaments: E. Charles Tillon (Communist); Interior: M. Andre le Groquer (Socialist); Industrial Production: M. Marcel Paul (Communist) Labour: M. Ambroise Croizat (Communist); Agriculture: M. Pierre Tanguy-Pringent (Socialist); Justice: M. Pierre Tietgen (M. R. P.); Colonies: M. Marius Moutet (Socialist); Education: M. Marcel Naegelen (Socialist); Transport and Public Works: M. Jules Moch (Socialist) Health and Population: M. Robert Pringent (M. R. P.); Reconstruction: M. Francois Billoux (Communist); Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones: M. Jean Letourneau (M. R. P.); Information (Secretary of State attached to M. Gouin's office): M. Gaston Defferre (Socialist) Ex-Combatants: M. Laurent Casanova (Communist).

### FOUNDER OF NEWSPAPERS

M. Gay, aged 60, is the founder of the newspaper "Laube," which he refused to publish under the Vichy regime. He played a leading role in the French Press "purge" after the liberation.

M. Billoux, Minister of National Economy in General de Gaulle's Cabinet, sees his Ministry abolished, but takes over that of reconstruction from M. Raoul Dautry, who drops out.

M. Moutet played a considerable part in the Socialist Party before the war. His predecessor at the Ministry of Colonies was M. Jacques Soustelle, whose party—(Republican Socialist Resistance)—is no longer represented in the Government.

M. Naegelen is the Socialist Mayor of Strasbourg. He takes the Ministry of Education in place of M. Paul Giacobbi (Radical Socialist), the Radicals having refused to join the present Government.

Two Ministers without portfolio have been dropped. They are M. Vincent Auriol (Socialist) and M. Couis Jacquinet (Moderate Republican).

### WHY RUSSIA TOOK OVER THE KURILE ISLANDS

The Moscow Radio on Sunday night quoted a Soviet News Agency report that in the Yalta agreement, signed in February 1945 by Generalissimo Stalin, Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt it was definitely stated that after victory over Japan, the Kurile Islands (stretching northwards from Japan to Kamchatka Peninsula in North-East Asia) would be turned over to the Soviet Union, together with the southern part of Sakhalin Islands.

The Soviet News Agency said that it was authorised to make it clear that Mr. Dean Acheson, United States Acting Secretary of State, was mistaken in the speech he made recently on the question of the Kurile Islands. It added that the Yalta agreement on the Kuriles, was not published at the time for understandable reasons.

### CEYLON SAVINGS BANK

#### Rate of Interest

It is hereby notified by the Directors of the Ceylon Savings Bank, that the rate of interest to be paid to depositors under rule 3 for the year 1946 will be 2½ per cent.

LESLIE V. COORAY, Secretary.

January 12th 1946.

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Manager. Managing Director.

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