

# The Catholic Guardian

ESTABLISHED AS A FORTNIGHTLY, 1876; ISSUED AS A WEEKLY, 1878.

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON.

Telegrams: "GUARDIAN", JAFFNA.

Telephone: NO. 100.

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

Vol. 71, No. 7.

JAFFNA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1946.

PRICE: 10 CENTS.

## HOLY FATHER URGES 'SAVE THE HUNGRY CHILDREN'

In an Encyclical Letter, the Holy Father appeals to Catholics throughout the world to help by their prayers and offerings the millions of children of many countries who are "without the necessities of life and are suffering from cold, hunger and disease."

His Holiness directs every Bishop to assign a day in his diocese "on which public prayers will be offered to appease God's anger and on which, through your priests, you will admonish the faithful of this urgent need and exhort them to support by their prayers, good works and offerings every movement that is directing its forces truly and effectively to the succour of needy and abandoned children."

The Holy Father says:

While the terrible war was raging we used all our powers of persuasion and appeal to bring to a speedy end a conflict which had lasted all too long, and to secure an agreement guaranteeing justice, equity and right.

In the same way, now that the fighting has ceased but peace has not yet been restored, in virtue of our Apostolic Office we are leaving nothing undone to provide timely relief for so many ills and all possible comfort for the accumulated misery which plagues not a few nations.

### LOST AFFECTION

But of the almost countless ills born of the dire struggle, none so hurts or wounds our paternal heart as that which involves a host of innocent chil-

dren, millions of whom, it is estimated, are in many countries without the necessities of life and are suffering from cold, hunger and disease.

Often, too, in their utter dereliction, they feel the want not only of food, clothes and shelter, but also of the affection their tender years so need.

We know, too, that many have, individually or as members of societies and organisations, undertaken to help or are already actively at work. To these, worthy of all praise as they are, we pay due tribute and pray God to bless their activity, their plans for the future and their achievement.

But since help of this kind is entirely inadequate to the immense task, we have deemed it our duty to turn to you and paternally urge you to take to heart the extremely grave plight of these needy children, leaving nothing undone that may contribute to relieve their lot.

We ordain, therefore, that in each of your dioceses you assign a day on which public prayers will be offered to appease God's anger and on which, through your priests, you will admonish the faithful of this urgent need and exhort them to support by their prayers, good works and offerings every movement that is directing its forces truly and effectively to the succour of needy and abandoned children.

This is a problem, of course, which touches all citizens, whatever their views, if only their hearts respond to the appeals of nature and religion.

## CATHOLIC YOUTH MOVEMENT, BOMBAY

Movement has Received "Nihil Obstat" from Archbishop of Bombay.

The C. Y. M. Movement has a great future in Bombay. We have many associations open to Catholics but none where youth works for youth. Yet an association working for youth is both urgent and important, for the future depends so much on how youth is educated and trained to-day.

Take, for instance, political life. Looking around at Indian colleges and student groups, one would imagine that party and communal politics is a preserve in which our young should shine. While parents and the State spend so much on the education of the young our student world thinks out every month a new demonstration, a big procession, a hartal or a holiday. This is a serious sabotage of our educational front towards freedom. For Free India needs first and foremost men of character and education, such as our colleges should turn out. It is no use crying hoarse over the defects of our educational system and yet conniving at student politicians who turn loose on the field of statecraft, half-baked and precocious.

Take elections next. At voting time, boys are bundled into trucks or regimented into processions, loaded with banners and slogans, crying themselves hoarse in the street. They have never seen the candidates perhaps. Things like joint and separate electorates, the constituent assembly and the commonwealth mean nothing precise to them. They are the playthings of a capitalist or communalist, to whom the people and the people's children are only real or

apparent at voting time. What a degradation of the role of youth when it is impressed in its most impressionable period into the services of whom and for what end they know not! A movement that works especially and exclusively for preparing youth for its life-work in public life is an indispensable foundation for every nation; and much more so in India.

Indian Catholics can lead the way. The C.Y.M. can be the model on which an All-India Youth Movement can be built, healthy and democratic, on sound principles, destined to endure. But though the movement has to be confined to Catholic Youth to preserve uniformity of principle on private property, divorce, birth control, prohibition, education, nationalisation, freedom of worship, etc., it must safeguard itself against withdrawing into a narrow communal outlook. The Catholic stands with his fellow Catholics where principles are at stake. But he should be free to follow his political ideology with his fellow Indians as far as public life goes. Thus in the public assemblies, Indian Catholics need not withdraw into a Catholic bloc or separate political entity but should support individually that group which is closest to the Christian outlook. Here then is another reason to eschew active politics in the C.Y.M. Not only is youth still preparing for politics but also politics may split and divide rather than consolidate youth.

But participation in politics and the study of current public affairs are not

## CATHOLICS & FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

STIRRING ADDRESS BY RT. REVD. DR. THOMAS,  
BISHOP OF BANGALORE

(Concluded from last issue.)

They are called the fundamental rights, because they are sacred, natural, imprescriptible and inalienable. Each of these rights has a significance of its own, as defined by the American Declaration of Independence and the French Declaration of the Rights of Man and of Citizens. They are sacred because they are the gifts of God and are not derived from human legislators or government; 'natural' in the sense that they are inherent in the personality of man, whose spiritual origin, existence and destiny are unquestionable, imprescriptible in the sense that they are valid for all ages, for all time and for all countries; inalienable for no power on earth can destroy them or lawfully interfere with them. A list of these rights should be incorporated in a written constitution, which should not be modified by the usual changing governments. Courts of justice should also be set up to see that these rights are not infringed by any governmental agency—legislative or executive. Such a constitution will impose strict limitations on legislative authority and lay down principles which must be observed by any party that may be in power. Further, as mere abstract declarations may not be fully effective in safeguarding our legitimate rights, the head of the State should be vested with impartial power for the protection of the interests of religious minorities. On any particular question which may affect our religious liberties and which may be brought before legislatures, the Catholic point of view should be ascertained from recognized authorities or representative organizations or a 2/3 majority of our representatives in the legislatures.

The constitution should provide all necessary safeguards for the protection and development of religious minorities. The State ought not to meddle with the religious convictions of Christians, or of any other religious body. These concern not only the free practice, profession and propagation of faith but also the right to maintain our own schools with assistance from public funds. Freedom of conscience and free profession of religion involve the right to spread it by fair and peaceful means and to have denominational schools in accordance with one's religious Laws. A minority cannot conscientiously submit to the decision of a majority in such a vital matter as religion, which touches the

same thing. In fact the study of current history and of the topical problems of the day is an indispensable part in the education of our children. Where schools and colleges fight shy at teaching what is happening to day outside their portals, the C.Y.M. must make political studies a capital point in its educational programme.

There is a danger to beware of. That of youth movements forgetting their proper sphere and usurping the field of the elders. Talk and study can never make up for experience and maturity. Future history, as in the past, will be written by adults. If youth seeks to write the latter, and relegate age to the postscript, the latter will never be written well, and it will not be worth writing.

deepest springs of human life. "Government by the majority," says G. Lowes Dickinson, "is a convenient means of conducting national affairs, where and in so far as there is a basis of general agreement deeper and more persistent than the variations of surface opinion; but as soon as a primary instinct, whether of self-preservation or of justice, begins to be seriously and continuously outraged, the democratic convention gives way. No minority, for example, even in a compact modern state, either would or ought to submit to a decision of the majority to prohibit the exercise of their religion" ("Public Opinion and Popular Government"—Lowell, p. 42).

If the State claims totalitarian powers and encroaches on the religious ground, we shall make use of all constitutional weapons to fight to the bitter end. There is a sharp distinction between spiritual and temporal powers. Jesus Christ established a kingdom on earth, which He called His Church. He gave her all authority in all that concerns the worship of the one, true God and the salvation of souls. His commission was that the Gospel should be preached to every creature and that all men without distinction of race and language, should enter His Church. This is a fact of cardinal importance not only in religion, but also in history and politics. "The rise of Christianity," wrote the German historian, Von Ranke, "involved the liberation of religion from all political elements. From this followed the growth of a distinct ecclesiastical class with a peculiar constitution. In the separation of the Church from the State consists perhaps the greatest, the most pervading and the most influential peculiarity of all Christian times. The mutual relations of the spiritual and secular powers, their position with regard to each other, form, from this time forward, one of the most important considerations in all history."

The immediate effect of the Reformation in most countries was the attempt on the part of the government to domineer with absolute sway over the spiritual and temporal. That failed and the inevitable result was toleration. The modern State has no religion and the Indian National Congress has included among fundamental rights freedom of conscience for every citizen and "the right freely to profess and practise his religion, subject to public order and morality." In a speech at Shillong on December 18, 1945, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said that "the smaller a community was, if it was a distinctive community and a cultural group, more interest should be taken in protecting it." That is what we ask. Christian missionary effort should not be hampered nor restricted. Christianity is a supernatural religion, containing the revelation of God. It is a code of belief and a rule of conduct, a universal religion, a perfect religion and a visibly organized religion. Its mission is to lead all souls to their eternal destiny and hence we claim the right to discharge our evangelical responsibilities, inherent in the very nature and purpose of Christianity. From the beginning the Church has been a supra-nationalist institution binding all men in one single

(Continued on Page 4)



In Memory

OF

My Beloved Father

**Mr. Pedrupillai Bastiam-  
pillai**

DIED 20TH FEBRUARY, 1935

Dear is the grave, where the loved one is laid,  
Sweet is the memory that never shall fade,  
Flowers may wither, leaves fade and die,  
If others forget never will I.

R. I. P.

(Inserted by his sorrowing son)

Colombo, 5-2-46.

## NOTICE

**VYAGULA PRASANGAM**  
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MANAGER,

St. Joseph's Cath. Press, Jaffna.

## The Catholic Guardian

FEBRUARY 22ND 1946

### CAUSES OF WORLD FAMINE

Mr. Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary, speaking before the General Assembly of the United Nations, drew a dismal picture of the Famine confronting the world and moved a resolution urging all governments to take drastic action to save food, secure adequate collection of crops and increase as much as possible the production of grain. The resolution also calls upon all the governments to publish all available information as to how much they would need themselves and how much they can supply others. On the cause of world shortage of food he made this admission: "Nature has deprived us of rain and restricted our crops. It seems almost as if nature has imposed a penalty upon us for our stupidity in fighting." Nature is an impersonal thing. It cannot think and act. It is the Lord of nature who has imposed the penalty for what Mr. Bevin so rightly calls "our stupidity in fighting." It is well that so soon after mafficking over victories, the fighting should be recognised as stupid. Certain it is that as time goes on, considering the world-wide extent of the havoc wrought by the global war, the erstwhile belligerents on both sides will come to realize more and more that it was not a mere stupidity but a colossal madness they had been engaged in. But granting at present that it was only stupidity, why must the conditions created by it continue indefinitely? They alone are enough after six years of total war to bring about famine. What with stern military occupation of the defeated countries, what with trials of war criminals and heartless transfer of population from one country to another, accompanied with blood and terror, the general disorder, unsettlement and unrest caused by the war, continue. Of the trial of war criminals the Cardinal of Lis-

bon shrewdly remarked that "there are men accused of crimes which certain of their judges have committed. The Christian conscience cannot admit that it is necessary to be on the winning side to pass judgment." Then, there is the U.N.O. with its 'Big Three' and 'Big Five' which is fast becoming a debating society. What else can it honestly claim to be when its many hours of discussions could be set at naught by the veto of a delegate of one of the 'Big Three'? The U.N.O. after doing precious little has closed its sessions in London to meet in New York in September. It is extremely doubtful if the 'United' Nations who cannot agree among themselves, could secure world peace any more than the old League of Nations did. Under these deeply disquieting circumstances is it any wonder that the return of the nations to the fruitful and healing arts of agriculture and industry is made impossible. The result is famine and starvation. Why do the nations, who glory in their Bigness, instead of haggling and bluffing and brow-beating in their struggle to secure the major portion of the spoils of victory, not come to just terms with the vanquished and thus give peace and tranquillity to the world so that the peoples may return to their normal avocations of life and banish the spectre of famine?

### KARAIYUR HOUSING SCHEME

With the full support of his Council, the Chairman, Jaffna U. C. has made an earnest appeal through the Commissioner of Local Government to the Hon. Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike to urge the Board of Ministers to allocate the necessary funds to complete at one stretch the Karaiyur Housing Scheme according to the plans and estimate made by the Government Town Planner. The Chairman's contention is that piece-meal work, as experience has shown, will only defeat the object. The question of clearing the Karaiyur slum and its corollary, the housing scheme dates back to the latter part of the last century and we are approaching closely the middle of the present century. It was mooted and a part of the tidal flat was enclosed for the purpose by Sir William Twynam, and the matter has been hanging fire for over so many years that it would be cruel to the people to delay it any longer. The clearing of the slums and providing houses for the slum dwellers in the country is among the major projects of the post-war developments of the Board of Ministers and they have in reserve the necessary funds. The Board has admitted the principle that being major schemes beyond the capacity of the local bodies they must be financed by the Central Government. The Chairman reinforces this argument by adding that when the local body was established in Jaffna, the slum area was already there through the neglect of the then Government and not through

the fault of any local body and, therefore, the latter body should not be saddled with any part of the expenditure of the housing scheme. The coming Municipality will have enough to do to keep the new area clean and maintain the houses in good condition. The presence of the slum is a menace to the health of the town and no real improvement can be effected as long as the slum is not removed. Overcrowding is the cause of T. B. and various other cases of illness, not to mention infant mortality. The Board of Ministers will subscribe to all this but they think they should not start any major scheme at the tail end of their term of office. We cannot share their view at least regarding the Karaiyur slum. Good part of next year will be taken up with the inauguration of the new government and the particular authority that will be charged with the housing scheme might be totally unacquainted with the subject and hence once more an indefinite delay. We recognise that the cost of building is still high and we do not ask that the building work should be started just now. The Board of Ministers are appealed to to allocate the funds so that as soon as the price of building materials comes down the housing scheme may be proceeded with without any delay. We hope the Board of Ministers will accede to the request of the Jaffna Council.

### BISHOP ROBICHEZ

#### A Child's Tribute

He was a father to his priests; He was a father to his people. His priests and people reciprocated with filial affection and devotion. All of them—from the oldest priest to the youngest member of the Catholic Youth League seeking used stamps—walked into his room as into their father's house. Every one met with a fatherly, resonant "Come in! Come here! Come here!" a smile of welcome that spread across his face and a large heart that understood. He listened to their tales of success or failure, of joy or sorrow. His priests could even argue with him, disagree with him—always as between father and sons. He could once write, "Our dear clergy, regular and secular, of both sexes, have been the object of Our special solicitude. This was for Us a matter of gratitude, as all of them, Fathers, Brothers and Sisters are helping Us so much in Our apostolic work by their filial and devoted co-operation."

Bishop Robichez always thought and acted in terms of the Church Universal. He had not a parochial or diocesan mentality. Any good project in any part of the world received his prayers, blessing, encouragement and support. His large heart embraced the whole world. Thus in 1934 he appealed to his people to help Mexico "I know, ourselves we are poor, but let us give to still poorer than ourselves at least the widow's mite, at this time of their extreme need." The same year he collected funds for the earthquake victims of Patna. In 1936 he could write with joy "You must have noticed with pleasure that the Diocese of Trincomalee, though one of the smallest of India and Ceylon by its population, has taken, and, by God's grace, shall maintain, a very honourable rank (the tenth in India and first in Ceylon) for the amount of money collected every year for the Propagation of the Faith."

He was a man of deep faith. He had many sorrows and disappointments in his life especially during the last few years. Even a month before his death he was saddened by the news that one very dear to his heart may be prosecuted for collaboration with the Ger-

mans because of some indiscreet words in an article. But "God's Will!" his guiding star ever kept him calm and confident although his heart was saddened.

He obeyed Papal instructions to the letter. The native clergy of the diocese are what they are today because Bishop Robichez thought with Rome.

He spent himself for his diocese. On his return from an ad limina visit he wrote to his diocesans from Colombo "To your welfare and to the progress of this Diocese of Trincomalee, We intend devoting the rest of Our life: 'libentissime impendam et superimpendam ipse pro animabus vestris' 'I most gladly will spend and be spent myself for your souls' (2 Cor. 12/15).

He died blessing his people. Even a few hours before he breathed his last every priest or layman who entered his room received a blessing. He stopped blessing only when he could no longer move his hand. During his last agony as the crucifix was held in front of his eyes he seized hold of the crucifix and slowly traced the sign of the cross. It was evident he had the whole of his beloved diocese in mind. It was as if he was re-echoing the words he had once written "We impart to all of you, Priests, Brothers, Sisters, Catholics and non-Catholics, an extraordinary and affectionate Apostolic blessing. May this benediction come down from heaven upon your bodies and your souls, upon yourselves, your families, your country."

A Triton among minnows.

We shall not look upon his like again.

F. O. T.

### Four Good Men

One hardly knows which to admire more in this story—the loyalty of three Italian prisoners of war to their religion, or the generosity of their non-Catholic employer.

The three prisoners, all in their early 'twenties, and spoken of as honest and hard-working, were employed on a Midland farm. They asked to be allowed to attend Mass on Sundays.

It was learnt however, that the nearest Catholic Church was five miles away, and as prisoners they could not go beyond the limits of the farm without a guard. Sunday Mass, therefore, seemed to be ruled out.

Unexpectedly, the farmer, a non-Catholic offered himself as their guard, and now each Sunday morning English master and Italian men tramp the 10 miles together.

The prisoners asked a further favour. They went to the farmer's wife and requested her to buy them, out of their earnings, three big candles.

The farmer's wife bought the candles, and the prisoners put them up in the Catholic Church in thanksgiving to God for so good a master and mistress.

### A WREATH

Let me place this wreath over the grave of Mr. P. Q. Christian, and if the colour of the flowers is in any way exaggerated, dear reader, please remember it is the tribute of an afflicted friend to another highly cherished, valued and respected.

"What a tragedy to behold the man with broken limbs now, who, eschewing all modes of conveyance, used to walk the length and breadth of Colombo and its environs, in the service of God, his religion and his Alma Mater", escaped the lips of many a visitor to the bedside of Mr. Christian, as he lay unconscious, his shattered lower limbs enclosed in Plaster of Paris, in Ward 12, General Hospital, Colombo on 7 2 46, after the serious accident that befell him that morning at Dehiwela. He had come on a short visit here, after some years of absence, and he was about to set out to Kotabena, to meet old friends there, to renew old acquaintances and to invite them personally to attend the Committee meeting of St. Patrick's College Old Boys' Association, Colombo, which he had arranged to be held at 5-30 p.m. that day at the Regal Theatre. He was crossing the road from the residence of his nephew, where he was staying, to St. Mary's Church, Dehiwela almost opposite, for a short prayer before proceeding on his mission, when suddenly

he was knocked down by a fastly driven military dispatch motor bike. Even as he lay bleeding and in throbbing pain, his first thoughts were of his soul, and the priest from St. Mary's was rushed in and he administered the Last Sacraments. I looked forward, to meet that very evening at the Committee meeting. Dr. Christian bubbling with life and enthusiasm, alert and active as usual and with his genial smile to everybody. Instead, I received a rude shock to see him brought in, in the forenoon, to the O.P.D., G.H.C., grievously injured. My mind at once flew back to the bleak afternoon of 16th March last year, when Fr. LeGoc was brought in under similar tragic circumstances. Divine Providence in His inscrutable design has permitted violent ends to these good men, in order perhaps to remind forcibly, sinful man, "How uncertain is human life!"

Mr. Christian's whole life could be summed up in one word, namely "Service." Everyone of the several Societies and associations of which he was a member or office-bearer, will now feel the loss of a real 'life wire.' St. Patrick's College Old Boys' Association, Colombo, its Parent Association in Jaffna, and St. Aloysius' Confraternity, there, these in particular, have lost their hardest and wholehearted lay worker and promoter. I have often heard it said that no meeting or function of these Societies, "was complete without Christian." I have also sometimes heard criticisms of our dear departed friend. But they were from arm-chair critics, who would rather see a thing dormant, than encourage a man who was up and doing. Our friend never waited till opportunities to serve came to him, but rather, ran forward to meet them. Such was his character, and it was this trait that brought him to Col-

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**LOCAL & GENERAL**

**Trincomalee.**—The Councillors of the Diocese of Trincomalee have elected the Very Revd. Fr. John T. Linehan, S.J., as the Vicar Capitular.

News has also been received that the General of the Society of Jesus has appointed Father Linehan as Superior Regular of the Jesuits of Trincomalee.

Father Linehan was born at Bloomfield, New Jersey, U.S.A. in 1899. He was a business man before he entered the Society of Jesus. He had also studied law for some time. He was the first American Jesuit to be sent to Trincomalee in 1933. He studied theology at Eughien in Belgium and was ordained priest in the Basilica of Notre Dame de la Treille by Cardinal Lienart in 1937. He is a Master of Arts of Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington.

He has been closely associated with the late Bishop of Trincomalee during the last months of his life as his Procurator and Vicar-General.

**Fr. Long, Rector, St. Patrick's College, Jaffna,** writing from Inchicore, Dublin, on the 1st January, 1946, says that his health has improved and there has been no real sign of a recurrence of malaria. His many pupils and friends will pray for a complete recovery of his health and safe return. He is so glad over the lay apostolic activities of the old boys and he mentions: "I am happy that the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart continues to do such splendid work and I was thrilled at the scale and standard of the Newman Centenary celebrations."

**The Law Society of Ceylon.**—The February Meeting of the Council of The Law Society of Ceylon was held at Trinity Place, Hulstsdorp on Saturday 9th inst. Mr. H. de S. Kularatne, Vice President (Galle) presided.

Members from Colombo, Hatton, Galle, B. Japitiya, Kurunegalle, Nuwara Eliya, Kandy and Gampaha were present.

Among the matters discussed were the Ordinance to Incorporate The Law Society of Ceylon which was stated to be before the Board of Ministers who were awaiting the return of the Legal Secretary and the Financial Secretary; the Budget for 1946 approved subject to certain amendments, fixing of the third Annual General Meeting for 27th July 1946. It was decided to hold the

First Annual Conference of Proctors at Jaffna on a week-end in May or June. Steps were also discussed for securing legislation for increase in Bills of Costs.

**Appointments.**—H. E. the Governor has been pleased, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to appoint Mr. T. J. Joseph to the post of Chief Accountant C.G.R., Colombo with effect from 19th January, 1943. Mr. Joseph is an old boy of St. Patrick's College, Jaffna.

Mr. J. A. S. Johnpillai has been appointed Foreman, Department of Government Electrical Undertakings with effect from 1st Feb. 1946. Mr. Johnpillai is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Johnpillai of "Joyslyn", Mayfield Road, Kotabena and is a very enthusiastic member of the Kotabena Young Men's Catholic Association.

**Selection.**—Mr. A. S. I. Chelvanayagam has been selected as a Sanitary Assistant and is under Training at Kallatara from 23rd Jan. 1946.

**Success in Exam.**—Mr. R. H. S. Philips has passed the Proctors Intermediate Examination held in Dec. last coming out first with honours. Mr. Philips is the youngest son of the late Mr. Albert E. Philips, Sanitary Inspector, Jaffna.

**Pope on Catholic Schools.**—"If in your country there exists the system of obligatory State Schools, Catholics cannot of course renounce the right to their own schools," says His Holiness the Pope, in a letter to the Bishops of Germany, expressing "full approval" of their claim for Catholic schools. "Very sound tradition, the law and the Concordat between the Holy See and Germany demand Catholic schools. The forcible dissolution and oppression of these institutions, which were swept away in the cataclysm of persecution, is an especially convincing proof of their splendid qualification to give a good, Christian education."

**Rationalists Hear Joad.**—The latest "Rationalist Annual" contains some notes by Professor Joad on his present position, ending thus: "If Christianity be true, this stirring of the emotions is nothing but the sound of God knocking at the door of one's heart and pointing out to one the direction in which He would have one turn. They are the voice of God, Who is taking the initiative and calling one to Him. I should like to think that these emotions of mine were, indeed, attributable to such an agency, and with that avowal the cat is out of the bag, and good Rationalists can hold up their hands in horror over yet another good man gone wrong."

**Cardinal at Nuremberg?**—The Nuremberg tribunal has decided to call Mgr. Sapieha, Archbishop of Cracow—a Cardinal designate—as a witness, at the request of counsel defending Dr. Frank, one time Governor General of Poland, who became a Catholic at Nuremberg. The tribunal already has a memorandum by Archbishop Sapieha about Dr. Frank's policy, and correspondence between the Archbishop and Dr. Frank.

**Churches in U.S.**—Of the U. S. population of 135 millions, nearly 60 millions are listed as church members. Here in round numbers are the leading denominations: Roman Catholic 23,400,000, Baptist 14,200,000, Methodist 9,900,000, Lutheran 500,000, Presbyterian 2,800,000, Protestant Episcopal 2,200,000. The Jewish religion counts 4,600,000. There are in all 265 religious bodies!!!

**Jesuit Missions in Japan.**—General MacArthur has ordered the lifting of the freeze on funds of German Jesuit missionaries in Japan. The move is in accordance with the Allies' policy of fostering religious activity in Japan. It will facilitate the extension of work in the Hiroshima diocese and at the Catholic University in Tokyo.

**Mysore's Papal Knight.**—His Holiness the Pope has conferred the title of Knight Grand Commander of the Order of St. Gregory on Sir T. Thumboo Chetty, Private Secretary to the Maharaja of Mysore, who received his knighthood from the King at the New Year. Sir T. Thumboo Chetty has done much for the new diocese of Mysore, and is the father of the well-known violinist.

**Lisieux.**—An Argentine Bishop has

given 1,000,000 francs for the Reconstruction of Lisieux in Normandy where heavy fighting took place shortly after D-Day.

**Warsaw and Polish Children.** UNRRA has informed the Polish Red Cross in Germany that it cannot allow the transport of Polish orphans to Eire owing to objections by Warsaw Government representatives, who, it is stated, fear the danger of "clericalism" in Ireland. The children are in the British and American zones in Germany. The control commission in the British zone had given permission for the sending of the first 500 children. The Polish cruiser "Conrad" was ready to take them. Arrangements had been made with the Irish Red Cross for the children to have a Polish and religious education.

It is feared that the transport of Polish children to Switzerland will be banned on similar grounds.

**Muslims Disapprove.**—The proposed reforms in Travancore have met the disapproval of Muslims there. The Travancore State Muslim League have declared (reports the "Hindu") that the legitimate rights of Muslims are not satisfied in the reforms. The League looks with concern on an Executive not responsible to the Legislature and also the vesting of overriding powers in the Dewan, Head of the Executive.

"It is strange," says the League's Organizing Committee, "and disappointing to find that the Govt. of Travancore have in the name of progress adopted a really retrograde measure."

**Nehru's Appeal to Indian Christians.**—In the course of his appeal to the Indian Christians of U. P. to vote for the two Congress candidates who are standing for election to the U. P. Legislative Assembly from the special Christian Constituency, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru observes:

"I am astonished to read some of the propaganda that is being issued by or on behalf of the opponents the Congress candidates. This is either due to colossal ignorance or deliberate misrepresentation. The cry of religion in danger is used when everybody knows that the fundamental creed of the Congress is freedom of religion and all that goes with it. Christians form the third largest religious group in the country and it is absurd for anyone to imagine that their religious or other rights can be suppressed or ignored."

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The Members of the family of the late Mr. P.Q. Christian, sincerely thank all their friends and relations who attended the funeral and those who kindly sent floral tributes and messages of condolence.

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ON

**SATURDAY 16TH MARCH, 1946**

**Cathedral Corner**

We are pleased to be able to publish today the first results of the drive for collecting funds for the new Cathedral for school children. The chairman had the advantage of meeting all the Vernacular Teachers at Malhu in October last and of addressing them on the plans of His Lordship the Bishop for the success of the undertaking. In his pastoral letter on the subject His Lordship insisted on collections being made in schools all over the diocese. The chairman felt that he had convinced the teachers that the new Cathedral, being a common church, the Bishop's official church and the mother of all the churches of the diocese, it behooved all the Catholics to help to build it. The results so far as they go are encouraging. The collection of over one thousand rupees from young persons in three months is a consoling proof of goodwill, organisation and sacrifice in many quarters. We regret that certain schools being busy with subscriptions for local needs and for the propagation of the faith were not able to organise their collections for our fund in time before closing for the holidays. We feel confident that they are doing so now and that the amount we shall publish about Easter for the 1st quarter of 1946 will be double of the present one. It would be invidious to offer praise to anybody in particular, as numbers, social conditions of the parents and local resources vary with different places, but we cannot help congratulating the girls on their splendid achievement. We hope to witness a keen emulation between boys and girls, each type of school endeavouring every term to secure place of pride. We note that in some schools the teachers send their own offering with that of their pupils. It is a good practice which will encourage the children to tread the way of their masters.

**Donations from Catholic Schools to the Cathedral Building Fund (4th Quarter 1945)**

BOYS' OR MIXED SCHOOLS

	Rs. cts.
Puthukudyirrupu	4 64
Matalam	2 96
Mannar Boys	5 00
Painter's Street	3 00
Thalvupadu	3 00
St. Joseph's College, A'oura	28 00
(Mr. C. Herat 10 00, Mr. Rijanayagam 6 00, Messrs. S. A. Mariampillai, J. Anthomipillai, L. A. Devasagayam 4-00 each).	
St. Charles' Jaffna	54 00
Charapady Delft	1 00
Mavilturai "	1 30
Naducurichy "	3 00
S. Xavier's College	50 00
Mathakal Billing.	2 00
St. Anthony's College	57 25
St. Patrick's College	17 72
St. Henry's College	65 00
<b>Total :</b>	<b>298 47</b>

**GIRLS' SCHOOLS**

Holy Family Convent English School, Jaffna	170 00
Naducurichy, Delft	9 00
Convent School, Mullaitivu	30 00
Atchuvely	4 50
Ilavalai English	107 75
" Practising	35 00
Jaffna Convent Tamil	100 35
Kalatty (P.P.)	6 15
Pt. Pedro St. Thomas	12 12
Karampan English	10 00
Kayts	12 00
Naranthanai	20 00
Myliddy	9 00
Mannar	3 50
Venkalai	9 00
<b>Total :</b>	<b>533 37</b>

Grand-Total for all schools for the 4th Quarter of 1945: 836 84  
N. B.—The sum of Rs 250-00 donated by the ladies of the Training School of Ilavalai was already published in the "Guardian" of 12-10-45—so that the real total for all schools exceeds Rs. 1,000-00.

CHAS. S. MATTHEWS, O.M.I.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The Editor of "Saththia Veda Pathukavalan" and his children thank the Jersey, the Brothers and all friends who attended the funeral of his wife and who sent messages of sympathy.

## Catholics and Fundamental Rights

(Continued from Page 1)

brotherhood. The Christian Faith robs no man of his nation or his family or his culture. It has not attempted nor will ever attempt to make a German of a Frenchman, nor a Bengali of a Punjabi. The organized unity of Catholicism has never stood in the way of the ties that bind one to one's nation or minimised the value of patriotism. The authority and influence of the Church have been a most efficacious safeguard of the civil power. Any effort on her part to make Christ and His message more widely known and accepted, far from being a disturbing element, will be for the common good and the best interests of the people of every land.

We claim, therefore, the right not only to profess and practise our religion but also to preach and propagate it. We convert no one who is not sincerely convinced of the truth of Christianity and who does not freely ask for admission into the Church. Coercion is absolutely foreign to the very nature and spirit of Christianity. Mere freedom to practise our Faith unhindered will never meet the rights of our religion. The word "propagate" must also be included in the clause guaranteeing freedom of conscience. We are not asking this right as an exclusive privilege for ourselves but for every creed. In view of the controversy raised during the last three years in the matter of conversions, and the omission of the word "propagate" in the Sapru recommendations concerning religion, we have reason to be apprehensive and we want this right to be incorporated in the constitution. The Sapru Committee was composed of outstanding personalities representing all communities and creeds but belonging to no political party. There were former Judges of High Courts of different provinces, former members of the Viceroy's Executive Council, former ministers of Indian States, Vice-Chancellors of Universities, members of the central and provincial legislatures, Professors, Editors and Ex-Mayors. They studied various points of view and made their recommendations. The Christian Associations, Catholic and Protestant, and Christian Leaders in their replies wanted religious rights and liberties embodied in the Constitution itself. The minorities sub-committee recommended that freedom of religion should include the right to "preach and propagate" one's religion, but the non-Christian members opposed it and the word "propagate" was eliminated by the General Committee in their final findings and recommendations.

If politicians of a moderate school of political thought, leaders fully interested in reconciling conflicting views of various parties and religious groups, definitely oppose religious propaganda, is it surprising that the Christian Community should be filled with feelings of disquiet and apprehension?

We further claim the right to have our own schools and colleges, to teach our religion in them to our children and to receive financial assistance in proportion to our educational activities. The right to educate is primarily the right of parents. And parents desire their children to be educated in accordance with their religious convictions.

We know from history and experience that the major sections of our countrymen have a method of harassing us, on the grounds of religion, without a penal edict ever finding a place in the statute book. Our fears that the transfer of power from the hands of the British to those of the major elements of the population, who differ from us in ideals and outlook, will be detrimental to our religious interest can be dispelled only by definite constitutional guarantees for the protection of minority rights. It is a matter of supreme importance that the full enjoyment of our religious and cultural rights should not be interfered with in any constitution that may be framed for India. The basic principles of the constitution should include a declaration of these rights so as to create a sense of security in the Christian minority of the nation.

## A WREATH

(Continued from Inner Page)

ombo to resuscitate the S.P.C., O.B.A., and he met with his untimely demise. I cannot better pay a tribute to his services than by quoting from a letter I received last week from the Rector St. Patrick's College, "Our Christian is gone but his memory will live, and the cause for which he laboured so much is not going to fail. For more than twenty five years he had been the life and soul of the Old Boys' Association in Colombo, and he had devoted most of his time to the benefit of the Association. The Old Boys will now appreciate his work more than ever before and will be grateful to him."

His was a life of intense activity. I remember his agitation in the Press and advocacy in meetings and elsewhere, to secure Maundy Thursday as a Public Holiday. Due to his incentive and ceaseless efforts, the Day was gazetted a Public Holiday. He was a fluent and versatile writer to the Press, secular and religious alike. His reminiscences were pleasant and informative. His writings were marked by neat language, clearness of vision, precision, persuasion and a deep concern for the voiceless and the poor. His last letter to the "Guardian" on "Wanted An Additional Mental Hospital", which appeared on the day of his death, revealed his grasp of local conditions and needs of the times, and his innate good spirit to help the helplessly mentally deranged.

His contemporaries in the Survey Department, may speak of his efficiency and high sense of duty. Others may speak of him, as an edifying churchman, who always stood up for Catholic rights and principles. Suffice for me to add, that he was a friend, genuine and true, whose word was as good as his bond. He radiated cheerfulness and confidence wherever he went, and no amount of difficulty will deter him from seeing through, a good cause. May it be said to his eternal credit, that "the richness of his heart enabled him to do some good deed or deeds which would help his fellow-men." He was a true Christian. R. I. P.

General Hospital, J. C. P.  
Colombo, 17-2-46.



Arriving Shortly the Famous "CROWN" Brand Tiles

WHICH YOU ALL EXPECTED FOR A LONG TIME.

A LARGE CONSIGNMENT IS EXPECTED

BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

E. TIRUCHELVAM,  
Main Street, Jaffna. Phone 52.

### Auction Sale

On instructions received we shall offer for sale by public auction at the Royal Engineers Yard, Jaffna, adjoining Customs premises commencing at 9-30 a.m. on Monday March 4th 1946, War Dept. Stores consisting of concrete bricks, square blocks, weight blocks, flat and ridge tiles, Sommerfeld Track rolls, Mild steel sheets, Palmyra rafters, reapers & window frames, jungle sticks, scantlings fire bricks, belts and nuts, cadjan lead sheets, pig lead, Steel mild rods, iron pipes, corrugated tanks, glue, canvas, hard cement, corrugated black iron sheets, asbestos sheets, empty cement bags and etc. etc.

Further particulars from:

William Mather & Sons,  
Auctioneers.

### Tenders for Washing Contract

TENDERS are invited for the following services at Royal Air Force Station, Kankasanturai:

Washing of AIRMENS' CLOTHING for the period 1st April, 1946 to 1st April, 1947.

FORMS OF TENDER may be obtained from O.C., R.A.F. Station, Kankasanturai, ON APPLICATION.

Tender Forms are to be returned not later than 10 O'CLOCK 10TH MARCH, 1946.

### All are Screaming for Wopsy

ADVENTURES OF A GUARDING ANGEL CHILDREN THRIVE ON IT

Rs. 1-50

FROM CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB, AMPITIYA KANDY.

### THE JAFFNA URBAN COUNCIL NOTICE

OFFERS AND TERMS are invited for surveying and demarcating building limits of roads used or intended to be used for vehicular traffic and streets and back lanes used or intended to be used for foot traffic within the administrative limits of the Jaffna Urban Council and for ascertaining and recording the value of buildings, boundary walls, gateways etc., situated within the building limits as required by Section 87 (2) of Ordinance No. 61 of 1939.

Offers and/or terms should reach me not later than 12 noon on 16-3-46.

## SPECIFY 'UMBRELLA MARK'

De-Aired Calicut Tiles for your new building

The weight of Tiles has been reduced without impairing their strength, so that our tiles have now the largest covering area to weight ratio of any one in the market.

The Tiles meet the requirements of those who need full protection from wind and rain, and have satisfactorily passed all tests made on them.

PLEASE BOOK YOUR REQUIREMENTS EARLY  
Shipment expected next week

Sole Agents :- J. CHERUBIM & BROTHER,  
MAIN STREET, JAFFNA.

IMPORTED DIRECT FROM  
BOND STREET, LONDON.  
MODERN—SMART—CHIC  
Fifth Avenue Face Powder—De-Luxe

Gives Smart Women the radiant youthful bloom that defies sun, wind and rain. Finest of Fine Powders, it goes on smoothly—and stays on.—Fifth Avenue gives the delicate allure of sheer Natural Beauty.—In Natural, Rachel, Peach, Rose.  
FIFTH AVENUE FACE POWDER—DE-LUXE.

The Jaffna Apothecaries Company,  
WHERE SMART PEOPLE SHOP.

EAGLE STAR  
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One of the Strongest Companies  
in the World.

BUSINESS TRANSACTED

MOTOR VEHICLE (all classes) MARINE, FIRE,  
FIDELITY GUARANTEE, BURGLARY, THEFT  
AND/OR LOSS OF CASH IN TRANSIT ETC.

Chief Agents: - J. Cherubim & Brother, Jaffna

Further particulars may be obtained from the Office of the Council.

C. PONNAMBALAM,  
Chairman, U. C., Jaffna.

Jaffna, 16-2-1946.

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

In the matter of the estate and effects of Kanthar Chelliah of Karainagar North.

Deceased.

Tesamentary Jurisdiction } No. 520

Manickam widow of Kanthar Chelliah of Karainagar North.

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Chelliah Seyalarupavan of Karainagar North.
2. Chelva Iswaryammah daughter of Chelliah of do.
3. Chellamuttu daughter of Chelliah of do.
4. Jayamalar daughter of Chelliah of do.
5. Chelliah Selvathambo of do.
6. Chelliah Selvasamy of do.
7. Velan Kanagasabai of do.

Respondents.

The 1st to 6th respondents are minors appearing by their proposed guardian-ad-litem the 7th respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 24th day of January 1946 in the presence of Mr. P. Casipillai, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner dated 12th January 1946 having been read:

It is ordered that the abovenamed 7th Respondent be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minors the abovenamed 1st to 6th Respondents and that letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased issued to the petitioner unless the respondents or others shall on or before the 22nd day of Feb. 1946 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 24th day of January 1946.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,  
District Judge.