

The Catholic Guardian

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

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HOLY FATHER URGES WOMEN TO TAKE ACTION

The Holy Father, addressing the Italian Catholic Women's Association, said:

Until recent times immaculate feminine purity was the flower and the rule of Italian women. Now, unhappily, in this garden of God, trampled underfoot by the enemy wherever he has advanced, crushing the flower of youth beneath his heel, the bride's majesty has lost its splendour and mothers' tenderness its bloom.

There is no lack of wicked voices to publicise the triumph of divorce over indissoluble matrimony and of voluntary sterility over fertile love.

Only a virgin is worthy of wearing the diadem resplendent with the gems of conjugal loyalty and maternal heroism.

It is for you to create a new generation of young women who will offer the Creator the treasure of their purity at the bridal altar or at her death.

All must be on guard against public corruptors of youthful innocence.

TRANSFORMATION IN THE LIVES OF WOMEN

It is true that all right-thinking adults would fight against immorality in the Press, cinema, theatre and radio.

But their laws must be given soul and life by the young women themselves, who must join the sacred crusade for Christian morality, for the dignity and purity of their minds and hearts, for control of their feelings, for Christian modesty in habits, clothes, speech and conduct, for respect towards parents, and industrious in making their

home life not only tolerable for all but radiant with serenity and joy.

The social position of women has undergone a transformation as rapid as its profound. They have left the quiet of their domestic lives and have gone out into the world, where they now follow the same professions, assume the same responsibilities and the same rights, even in the political sphere, as men.

With the overwhelming rapidity of a torrent, this transformation has broken the bounds which nature and custom have built around women, threatening to deprive them of their most noble dignity and sacred mission—maternity.

'VOTE FOR RIGHTS OF GOD AND RELIGION'

It would be useless to inveigh against this transformation, but one must point out the danger and give guidance.

There are three ways in which the zeal of Catholics can be translated into action: Open professions of faith justice to others, and the correct exercise of political rights.

You have the political right to vote. This right carries with it the duty to vote, the duty to give your vote, not to those candidates or to those lists of candidates who give vague or ambiguous promises, but to those who guarantee that they will respect the rights of God and of religion.

Think well on this, for this is a sacred duty.

With your ballot paper you hold in your hand the supreme interest of your country.

SEVENTH CENTENARY OF THE INSTITUTION OF CORPUS CHRISTI

The Blessed Sacrament will be borne in a procession of boats on the River Meuse when Liege celebrates next week the seventh centenary of the institution of the Feast of Corpus Christi. Several Cardinals, including Cardinal Griffin, are expected to take part in the 15-day celebrations which begin on June 16.

The feast was instituted there in 1246, being extended to the Universal Church 18 years later.

An international congress of sacred music, an international competition for organists, an international choral competition, carillon concert, and a mystery play on the life of St. Julius of Mount Cornillon, who was instrumental in

establishing the feast will form special features of the celebrations.

In the great river procession more than 15 barges will carry tableaux bearing on the feast.

WORKERS' DAY

The whole city will be illuminated for the 15 days. Expenses are expected to total 4,000,000 francs.

One day will be known as Workers' Day when Mass will be offered in the open.

Holland is also playing a big part in the celebrations. From Maastricht a great procession will escort the relics of St. Servatius, a fourth-century Low Countries Bishop, to Liege.

SPAIN'S VICTORY DAY

Spain has held her Victory Day and there have been celebrations and parades in Madrid and in all the principal towns. Perhaps this year more than any other, this day has been important because it has shown beyond any doubt the loyalty of the majority of the people to Franco, who received a tremendous reception in Madrid. But to me this celebration meant something more than that: for in every town of any size an altar was set up in the main square, and, in the presence of the local authorities Mass was celebrated publicly for the souls of those killed in the civil war, while

detachments knelt before the altar in thanksgiving to God for their victory.

It was impossible not to be impressed, or to realize that this was what Spain fought and bled to preserve; because, had the Republic continued a little longer, there would have been no Mass, mainly for want of priests to celebrate it!

THE FALANGE THE TAIL

In the march past after the Mass it was interesting to observe the reception given to the various bodies of troops, and to compare it with the extremely

GANDHI EXTOLLS SPIRIT OF CATHOLIC MISSIONERS

Rome.—His Lordship Bishop Francis T. Roche, S.J., of Tuticorin, India, while announcing in a recent letter his intention of founding a leper settlement in his diocese, quotes a recent statement of Mahatma Gandhi in which he bestows unstinted praise on the devotion of Catholic missionaries and in particular on their heroic work in favour of lepers.

"Leper", the Mahatma declares, "is a word of bad odour. India is perhaps a home of lepers not only to Central Africa. Yet they are as much a part of society as the tallest among us. But the tall absorb our attention though they are the least in need of it. The lot of the lepers who are much in need of attention is studied neglect. It is largely the missionary who, be it said to his credit, bestows care on him.

"Religion is their main and only concern; as their very name suggests, they are sent for a purpose—to be heralds of God and of His revelation to mankind. They engage in social work because they see in such work a means of bringing men closer to God, because social injustice is a great evil which offends the just God as much as it harms its human victims. Service of lepers is

very dear to the missionary, and chiefly to the Roman Catholic missionary, because no other service requires so great a spirit of sacrifice. A leper colony calls for high idealism and perfect disinterestedness. The world of politics and newspapers can boast of few heroes of the stature of Father Damian of Molokai but the Catholic Church can show thousands who like Damian have signed away their lives as servants of the lepers. It is well worth inquiring what it is that sustains that heroism."

Bishop Roche has set aside ten acres of land in ideal surroundings in the vicinity of Tuticorin for his leper foundation, which was due for inauguration on March 19, Feast of St. Joseph. According to the plans elaborated in conjunction with Dr. Thomas, a leper specialist, accommodation will be provided at the start for some 25 patients, each of whom will have a small building at his disposition. The initial cost will involve some ten thousand dollars.

At present there are two other Catholic leper colonies in South India, namely at Mangalore and Kumbakonam, but they are over-crowded. Actually some Catholic lepers have had to be sent to non-Catholic institutions.—(Fides).

GERMAN BISHOPS' PASTORAL

Outspoken warnings to the Allied occupation authorities are given by the Hierarchy of Western Germany in their latest joint pastoral letter—the letter signed by Cardinal Frings and eight other Archbishops and Bishops which was withdrawn in the American zone after objections from the Military Government.

The Hierarchy protest particularly against the "revolting proceedings" in the Russian zone, the harsh treatment of people without any investigation as to whether or not they are guilty, the forced labour inflicted on prisoners of war, and the injustice of false "agrarian reform."

They warn the Allies against the menace to peace arising out of the ejection of millions of people—people

without belongings and no means of earning their livelihood—from their homes in Eastern Germany.

The British authorities raised no objection to the letter and it was read in the churches of their zone.

It was withdrawn by the Hierarchy in the American zone "for the sake of good relations." The Bishop of Trier was approached by the French authorities when they learned of the contents of the letter. He acquiesced in the face of official pressure.

Catholics in the United States are protesting vigorously at the American authorities' action.

'NO CENSORSHIP' & 'NO THREATS'

Capt. Dumont Kenny, a Catholic member of the Religious Affairs Office of the U.S. Military Government, said the authorities did not ask for the pastoral to be withdrawn "but simply suggested that some of its criticism of American policy be reconsidered in the light of our observations."

"It is our policy," he added, "that pastorals and other pronouncements by Church authorities shall not be subjected to previous censorship; and of course we did not exercise any threat."

Capt. Kenny stated that "when we pointed out that in our opinion the pastoral contained certain inaccuracies, the Bishops voluntarily withdrew the pastoral."

Dr. Max Jordan, N.C.W.C. special correspondent in Germany, comments:

"The Bishops in drawing up this joint pastoral have but echoed the sentiments not only of German Catholics and many non-Nazi Germans but also those of many American and other Allied officials in Germany, who have felt for a long time that the policies of the occupational powers are open to severe criticism on a good many counts."

cold reception shown to the small Falange detachment which marched in silence at the tail end of all the rest; a fact which only served to confirm my opinion that Falange as a political party is showing every sign of dying a natural death, and that in a few years it will be reduced to nothing more or less than a glorified Boy Scout movement.

Meanwhile, hopes are rising high in Spain, because this year the weather has been very kind and the harvest promises to be very good. If that promise is fulfilled we shall have a chance to see if the opinion of many Spaniards, that the problem in Spain is not so much political as economic, is a true judgment of the situation or not.

The next few months will also most probably bring into full force the law giving a certain percentage of the profits of industry to the workers; and if that happens then the last hope of any restoration of Socialism or the Republic here in Spain will disappear for a long time to come.—Cath. Herald.



In Undying Remembrance

of

James Joseph

Died, St. Anthony's Day, 1945

Aged 61.

Never, Never, shall we forget him.

"Lord Thy Will be done."

(Inserted by his grief stricken aged mother, brothers and sisters).

Colombo, 11.6.46.

Church Calendar

JUNE 1946

FRI. ...14 S. Basil.
SAT. ...15 S. Germaine.
SUN. ...16 HOLY TRINITY.
MON. ...17 S. Marcan.
TUES. ...18 S. Ephrem.
WED. ...19 S. Juliana.
THURS. ...20 CORPUS CHRISTI.
FRI. ...21 S. Aloysius.

The Catholic Guardian

JUNE 14TH 1946

ELECTIONS IN WESTERN EUROPE

The outcome of the recent elections in Western Europe is of such supreme importance for the peace and tranquility not only of Europe but of the world that we may be permitted to recall what *Reuter* has told us a few days ago in order to emphasise it. It was indeed heartening news that the results at the polls were very satisfactory from a Catholic viewpoint. The countries concerned were Belgium, Holland, Italy and France. And in each of these countries the parties for moderation have done well and a much needed check was administered to the extremists. In fact, Socialists and particularly the Communists in order to gain some advantage were prepared to moderate a few of their extremist aims but to no purpose. The Catholic parties in all these countries have more than held their own as they have gained an increase of seats. The best results were obtained in Holland and the Catholic Government is already functioning there. Whether the Catholic parties in all these countries will have a working majority, it is difficult to say as the Leftists are still to be reckoned with and may combine. These results in Western Europe were so arresting that *Reuter* told us that London political observers had begun to comment that the much talked of "Western Bloc" might after all become a reality, but with the Vatican as its centre instead of socialist Britain. In that case they say, Catholic political organisations of varying descriptions will be the strongest parties in Holland, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Austria, Southern Germany and Italy. Why not include Spain and Portugal, two eminently Catholic countries who would be only too anxious to join the Bloc. What an inspiring and a hopeful vista does not this open up of enduring peace for a stricken and war-weary

world? But only a couple of weeks ago, things were not so bright and promising. A dark cloud hung ominously over Europe. The political sky was so menacing that the Holy Father had to take the unusual step to intervene and utter a grave warning to the people of France and Italy on the eve of their elections. He told them that the time had come; they must choose either God or the devil. These were not the very words of the Holy Father but they boil down to this. The warning was taken to heart and even the very indifferent citizen who never cared to use his vote went to the polls and cast his vote for the candidate who stood for God and country. Earlier the Bishops and priests, too, in their pastorals and sermons urged on their people their paramount duty to vote and to vote for the good and true. No doubt, encouraged by these results the clergy, instead of keeping aloof as they formerly did, will in future display a lively interest and give their peoples correct guidance in time of the elections. In modern times it is at the hustings that battles have to be fought and won for God and country. What a terrible disaster it would have been for Europe with its Eastern portions under the heels of the tyrant, if the same fate had befallen the progressive Western parts. It is the happy turn in the elections that has averted the calamity which would have enveloped the whole of that continent in stygian darkness.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The Divine Right of Majorities.—Once upon a time the theory of the divine rights of kings was in vogue in England and courtiers helped to spread it for their own benefit. There were no Catholics at Court then; they were under penal laws; Even if they had been free they could not admit that theory in the sense in which it was understood. It meant that the king was all powerful and could do what he liked. In modern times that theory has been replaced by another, namely, the divine right of majorities. This is the British contribution to modern political thought. If asked from where the majorities got the right no satisfactory answer is forthcoming. But the so-called majorities are in truth often small minorities. For example, the Communist tyrannies in Russia and elsewhere are the work of small minorities who by skillful propaganda pretend to make them appear as the will of the majority. Even if it were so, the will of the majority cannot make what is wrong to become right. If the British people will keep this theory to themselves we have no quarrel with them but they thrust it on countries where it must work havoc. But there seems to be no way of getting over it. English party-politicians swear by it because it is their only hope of coming into power in turn. If the Labour Party is now in power it owes its power to this theory and if the Conservatives hope

to get back again into power they will achieve it through this theory. So that, British party-politicians guard it as a sacred thing. However, it will be instructive to read and re-read the following thoughtful criticism of the London *Tablet*, a high-class journal, to which some of the best thinkers in England contribute:

"We have brought with us a political idea that divides instead of uniting, that must and does spread apprehension—the idea of majority rule, simple, crude and sovereign, forever incalculable, the minorities forever waiting and wondering what new idea may appear in the majority programme, and, if carried, may be called 'the sacred will of the people.' We have brought this idea and tried to plant the institutions to realize it, as though it were the only form guaranteeing national or personal liberty, when our own liberties derive from a different tradition in which the law is the central institution, and in which the theoretical omnipotence of Parliament has been, in fact, up to now, most carefully, justly and effectively circumscribed."

A recent insane application of this theory was in Italy where a comparatively small majority decided the fate of the monarchy in that country. Such an important constitutional question like that should call for at the lowest a 75% majority. It is then that one may say the people wanted a republic. As it was, they were divided almost half and half. And the consequence is riots and burnings and murders. We fear a republic will not guarantee a stable government there. Strangely enough, the British press, says *Reuter*, is pleased with the turn of events in Italy. Why?

A New Client of St. Joseph

The Editor,

"Catholic Guardian", Jaffna.

Dear Revd. Father,

Please allow me a little space to make it publicly known how readily St. Joseph responds to our prayers and requests when all human efforts and intercession to other saints appear apparently unavailable. For over 1½ years I have been praying to many a Saint and had recourse to all possible human agencies for realising an object in view. Finally I had almost given up the matter as impossible. Happily, on the 23rd of March, 1946, I came by a copy of the "Guardian" of 15-3-46 wherein a contributor had pointed out that he had been advised by a priest to turn to St. Joseph when intercession to other Saints remained unanswered. March being the month devoted to St. Joseph, I was glad to have come across this suggestion and gladder still that there were 9 days left during the month of March for me to make a novena to St. Joseph. In all earnest I proceeded with the novena. The month came to an end but there was no sign of any response. To my great surprise during the first week of April I received a letter from the authorities almost acceding to my request and in the following week the matter had been finalised as desired by me. What was more than a surprise to me was that the letter had been dated 30-3-46, on the 8th day of the novena I had been making, although it reached me on the 4th of April having been posted on the 2nd April. Dear reader you will realise that there is something extraordinary with regard to the dating of the letter on 30-3-46 and reaching me only on 4-4-46. Certainly St. Joseph had been at the back of it all.

Dear reader when you think that your case is impossible, turn to St. Joseph and you will feel how wise you have been in so doing.—Yours etc.,

"SINNER."

Teachers in Meeting Protest Against the "Differential" Treatment Accorded to Them

A largely attended public meeting of Teachers, Managers of Schools and leading public men of Jaffna was held at the Jaffna Town Hall on Saturday evening.

Mr. C. Muttucumaraswamy Pillai presided and explaining the object of the meeting said that they were gathered in such large numbers to condemn the differential treatment accorded to teachers in the recommendations of the Salaries Committee. The Government had committed a grave blunder and all of us interested in Education must strive unitedly till the blunder was rectified.

Mr. S. Rajaratnam former Member of Legislative Council in moving a resolution condemning the salaries proposed for teachers as detrimental to the cause of Education and grossly unjust by the teachers said that he was grieved that teachers were not paid a salary commensurate with the present cost of living. He further deplored that at a time when they were reviving the national languages and seeking to adopt the mother tongue as the medium of instruction the Salaries Committee had recommended a most humiliating scale of salaries for Pundits and Vernacular teachers.

Revd. J. S. Mather in seconding the resolution said that the teachers were an army of men working for the social progress of the country and the salary scheme had made it impossible for them to secure men worthy of the task imposed on them.

Revd. Father L.A. Singarayer, O.M.I., supporting said that the salaries scheme was a great stumbling block to the educational progress of the Island. It was unfortunate that Government had made the teaching profession so unattractive that persons took up to it as a last resort. The teaching profession required the best brains and it cannot secure them without adequate remuneration. The resolution was unanimously passed.

Mr. S. R. Kanaganayagam, Advocate, in proposing a resolution requesting the Board of Ministers to remedy the grievances of teachers by taking suitable steps to provide a just and equitable scale of salaries said that it was universally admitted that in and out of the State Council that teachers had not got a square deal at the hands of the Salaries Committee. Sir Oliver had assured that the proper stage to remedy anomalies or make amendments was in the Budget. They should therefore press their claims before the Board of Ministers and incorporate in the budget a more equitable scheme of salaries. Their Unions should be strengthened and they should carry on an Island-wide agitation that would compel the State Council to recognise their just demands.

Mr. K. Kandiah in seconding said that they must all unite and make State Councillors feel they cannot ignore the teachers with impunity.

Pundit S. R. Kandaswamy said that they should insist on Sir Oliver's pledge to rectify anomalies at budget stage being implemented.

The resolution was unanimously passed.

Mr. J. C. Amerasingham proposing a resolution requesting His Excellency the Governor for an Arbitration Board to adjudicate on the grievances of teachers said that a worthy standard of National Education cannot be maintained unless teachers are paid adequately.

Mr. S. Swaminathan seconding strongly criticised the State Councillors for their apathy.

Mr. A. E. Tamber said that 30,060 teachers should band themselves into a powerful Trade Union to fight for their rights and not depend on the whims and fancies of the Ministers and State Councillors.

Messrs. A. Joseph, P. Ragupathy, Advocate, S. Ambikaipakar and S. Kanapathipillai offered comments after the resolution was passed. Mr. S. Natesan, M.S.C., on being invited to speak said that the Executive Committee of Education was most anxious that the Sinhalese and Tamil teachers should be given a scale of salaries commensurate with the importance of their work in the new Scheme of Education, but the recom-

mentation made by the Executive Committee was ignored by the Salaries Committee. It would be most deplorable he said, if educational progress were to receive a set back at this stage by the failure of the State to redress legitimate grievances of the teachers. But he would assure them that the Members of the State Council would avert such a crisis. He had given notice of a motion requesting the Board of Ministers to redress the grievances of teachers before the next budget was introduced. He hoped that the motion would be debated on Wednesday next and that the Board of Ministers would take timely action.

LOCAL & GENERAL

Governor Going on Leave.—A Press communique issued by the Governor's Office on Monday states that His Excellency the Governor "will be proceeding on leave for a period not exceeding six months about the middle of July. During his absence the Chief Justice will administer the Government."

The communique adds that a "further announcement as to the actual date of departure of His Excellency and Lady Moore will be made later."

On previous occasions when the Governor has been away from the Island his duties have been done by the Chief Secretary.

A Noted Tamil Scientist.—Perhaps the first Ceylonese to be associated with the research work being conducted in England in connection with the Atomic Energy is Mr. K. Kandiah, the Ceylon Government University Scholar in Mathematics of 1936, who has, after a brilliant career at Cambridge, been appointed to be the Head of the Instruments and Electronics Section of the Atomic Energy Research Section to be established at Didcot by the British Government.

During the war, he turned down an invitation to proceed to Canada on very secret work in connection with Atomic Energy owing to certain difficulties in his way.

Mr. Kandiah's appointment as head of the Instruments and Electronics section of the Atomic Energy Research Station which is to be set up by the British Government, is considered a high tribute to his achievement in this field.

A Promotion.—Mr. S. Thommanpillai B.Sc. (Econ) has been promoted as an Accountant and attached to the Medical Department. He acted as a Temporary Accountant continuously from June 8, 1942 in the same department. He is an Old Boy of St. Patrick's College, Jaffna.

Dissatisfaction Over 'Middle' Salaries.—The Public Services League has resolved to take steps to send a deputation to the Secretary of State for the Colonies to make representation regarding "the inadequate and inappropriate salaries proposed for various officers of the middle services"—officers not graded in the Civil List, unless immediate redress is granted.

They resent that they have only benefited to the extent of the paltry sum of Rs. 15 per month when in fact they were responsible for a scheme which added to the higher classes Rs. 500 per month and a war allowance of another Rs. 100 aggregating in all to Rs. 600.

Indian Politics.—Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru, addressing the General Council of the All-India States' Peoples' Conference on June 8, referred to the "explosive background in the Indian States" and reaffirmed the objective of the Conference as responsible Government in the States under the aegis of the ruler as the constitutional head, but made clear that "the only ultimate rights we recognise are the rights of the people."

"That objective continue till it is changed", Pundit Nehru said, speaking in Hindustani. "The immediate problems before us are:

- (1) The making of the Indian constitution.
- (2) Arrangements for the interim period.
- (3) The democratisation of the States to bring them up to the common level of the rest of India."

Italy Proclaimed Republic.—Italian Premier Alcide de Gasperi declared on Monday night that Italian

Republic had been "proclaimed" and that King Umberto expected to leave the country today or tomorrow.

He made this statement after Supreme Court had announced results of "institutional" referendum in Monte Citorio Palace before the whole Government, a number of Italy's ex-premiers and a representative gathering of Italian political world.

Final figures were: 12,672,000 for Republic; 10,688,904 for Monarchy.

Tidal Well Starts Work.—Saturday a large crowd of people from Puttur, Kopay, Atchuvdy, Neervely, Sirrupid dy and Jaffna town watched the ceremonial opening by the Government Agent of the five-month experimental pumping of the Tidal Well—an apparently inexhaustible spring for irrigating the neighbouring district.

Two trailer pumps worked for two hours and drew off 500,000 gallons of water but the water level stood unchanged. This agrees with an earlier attempt in 1896 by a Government officer and a report says that though three pumps put out a prodigious quantity of water for 48 hours they did not reduce the apparent contents of the well.

A concrete channel of a length of 2,200 feet and a mud one of one mile have been built to irrigate the neighbouring lands and fields and steps have been taken to bring under cultivation 1,000 acres with water pumped out from this well.

A later report says that though the water level remained unchanged fresh water at the top was greatly reduced and it is feared that the scheme may not prove a success. The depth of the well is said to be 165 ft.

Manipay Desires Town Council.—"That in view of the fact Manipay is urban in character by reason of its development and its amenities and the high standard of efficiency achieved by it in local administration, the Manipay Parish Social Service League is of opinion that Manipay rightly deserves a Town Council and that H. E. the Governor be kindly requested to proclaim Manipay a Town in terms of the Town Council Ordinance."

Holy Father Helps Ex-Soldier Students.—The Holy Father has given 10,000 Swiss francs to help impoverished Polish ex-Servicemen studying in Switzerland.

The students are members of the Polish division which crossed the Swiss border after stubborn fighting during the invasion of France. Hundreds enrolled at Swiss schools, 240 at Fribourg Catholic University. Up to the end of the war they were helped by the Swiss Government.

A New J. P.—Dr. E. P. Canagasabay has been made a J.P. and there will be a public reception to him in appreciation of the honour conferred on him at 5.30 p.m. on Saturday 15th June at the Hindu Ladies' College, Vannarponnai.

Exciseman Killed.—Excise Inspector E. M. Gooneratne, of Maharama, was stabbed to death on Saturday at Homagama.

He was on a raid when he was set upon by a man, Mr. Gooneratne was killed on the spot.

His assailant took to his heels and has not yet been traced.

Muslims Accept.—After a two-day meeting in New Delhi, the All-India Muslim League approved the British Cabinet Mission's constitutional proposals by a large majority, only 13 out of a house of more than 300 voting against it.

The Muslim League's acceptance of the British plan is described by the press in Britain as a wise and statesmanlike decision, and hopes are expressed that the Indian National Congress will also accept a compromise.

"The Daily Telegraph" says: "What is recognised is that within the Mission's proposals there is the substance of Pakistan by the provision for alteration of the Constitution after ten years."

Paying Wards Continue.—The Executive Committee of Health have revised their opinion that paying wards in hospitals should be abolished.

They have now arrived at these decisions:

1. All Out-door treatment including specialised forms of treatment, such as deep-ray therapy should be free to all.
2. Treatment in non-paying wards should be free.

3. Fees should continue to be charged in paying wards.

A motion to this effect will be brought up in the State Council soon. Until these proposals are approved, deep-ray therapy charges recommended by the Financial Secretary will be made.

New Guinea.—Bishop Leo Scharmach, Msc., Vicar Apostolic of Rabaul, New Guinea, "freed from a Japanese concentration camp, was asked whether any of the 170,000 Japanese in the territory ought to be given preferred treatment by the Allies. He singled out two. One, a barber on the Rabaul coast before the war, went to the convent, where seven Sisters remained, and stood guard, gun in hand, to prevent any molestation. The other was a Japanese army doctor who managed to slip medicinal supplies to the interned missionaries despite orders to the contrary.

OBITUARY

We recommend to the prayers of our readers the soul of the mother of Lay Brother Vincent Siejka of the Archdiocese who died on the 10th Feb. 1945 at at Bottrop, Westfalen.

CORRESPONDENCE

Jaffna Islands Constituency

Sir,—While the Delimitation Commission is considering the question of dividing the Provinces in Ceylon into Electorates according to certain principles laid down, in such a way that the interests of the people are best served, I wish to point out that there is in the Jaffna Districts a unique area, which deserves special consideration.

There are eight Islands off the Jaffna Peninsula with a total population according to the latest Census returns 53,000. Of these Islands Karainagar connected for more than 50 years by a causeway with the mainland may be considered as part of it physically. Further, due to this connection Karainagar has developed educationally and economically and is in advance of the other Islands. For this important reason Karainagar should be included in the Electorate with which it is contiguous on the mainland.

For another and more important reason it should be excluded from the Islands Electorate. These Islands more than any other place in the whole Country have to be given the consideration mentioned on page 126 of the Soulbury Commission's Report 13 (3)—"in dividing a Province into electoral districts the Delimitation Commission..... shall also take into account the transport facilities of the Province, its physical features etc."

Now these Islands seven in number lying within an area approximately 500 sq. miles are separated from one another, with very inadequate and irregular means of transport. Even what is available is made infinitely more difficult by both the South West and the North East Monsoons when at their height.

Means of communication are very unsatisfactory and irregular. There is no telegraphic communication except for Kayts. Sometimes owing to inclement weather it takes days to go from one Island to another. A tour of all the Islands in normal weather will take more than a week.

Further, Sir, the population itself of the seven Islands (exclusive of Karainagar) is about 41,000. To this number must be added 10%, for a very large number of members of the permanent population are out of the Islands and there are no outsiders resident there. With this 10% added, the population will be 45,000, which, considering the physical features and the inadequacy of means of transport and communication, deserve a Seat by themselves in the Parliament.

It may be pointed out that the average population for an electorate in the Northern Province is 53,000 (population of N. P. 480,000 into 9 electorates) and the "real" population of the seven Islands, excluding Karainagar, will be 45,000 for an area of 500 sq. miles. Again considering the circumstances mentioned above this difference of 8,000 within an area of 500 sq. miles should

be conceded and these seven Islands treated as a Unit for electoral purposes.

As it has been clearly shown here these seven Islands (excluding Karainagar) are similar in all conditions physical and economical and suffer from the same disabilities in the matter of transport and communication and rationally will make one Unit. None of the conditions or disabilities apply to Karainagar, which is easily absorbed with the mainland, without any disadvantage to itself and much benefit to the other seven Islands.

In fact according to the recommendations of the Soulbury Commission and in the best interest of the people of these Islands two Seats should be allocated for this backward area teeming with physical and economical difficulties and obstacles to development.

CHANDRAPAL,

Colombo, 7-6-46.

OBITUARY

MR. B. MARTYN

We regret to record the death of Mr. B. Martyn, the beloved father of Mr. B. M. Joseph Ponrajah of St. Benedict's College, Colombo, on the 6th of May, 1946. Fortified by the last Sacraments of the Church and surrounded by his near and dear ones he breathed peacefully his last at the age of sixty five after ailing for some months from a virulent attack of Phthisis.

The funeral took place on Friday 7-6-46. The service in the house was performed by Very Revd. Fr. J. F. Xavier, O.M.I., Parish Priest, Mathagal. Headed by a vast crowd, the cortege first reached St. Anthony's where Very Revd. Fr. J. F. Xavier assisted by Revd. Frs. H. Geslandes, O.M.I., L. A. Singarayer, O.M.I., J. Singarayer O.M.I. and P. Alfred conducted the service at the Church. The same Fathers officiated at the grave side.

Mr. Martyn was a well known government contractor at Malaya. He was one of the first batch that arrived in Ceylon from Malaya soon after the cessation of hostilities. A large hearted person as he was he never failed to help gladly and abundantly his relatives down in life.

He leaves behind besides his beloved son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Joseph Ponrajah, his two sisters and brother-in-laws, Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnpillai and Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Lopiab, brother-in-laws and sister-in laws, Dr. and Mrs. S. M. Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. S. Peter and Dr. S.S. Innasiamby of Sillalai to bemoan his death. R.I.P.

Britain and Her Empire Celebrate Hard-won Allied Victory

People of Britain on Saturday celebrated their Victory—after six years of total war—with the most brilliant spectacle of pomp and power ever staged in that country.

Standing at the saluting base in The Mall, the King—accompanied by the Queen and the Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret—took the salute from 21,000 men and women drawn from the fighting services and civilian war workers who had assembled from all parts of the Empire.

With them marched contingents from Britain's war-time Allies, including men and women representatives from Ceylon.

The two great columns, one on foot and one mechanised, which joined up for the final march past the King were almost nine miles long and covered routes through London of more than 20 miles.

The parade was in two parts. One was a marching column, with representatives from every part of the Empire and British forces.

The other was a mechanised column, including every sort of war vehicle from the multi-wheeled tank transporter to the humble jeep, led by cars filled with Commanders whose names have become household words.

The two columns followed different routes through the city and converged outside the Houses of Parliament, from where they proceeded up to the saluting base in the Mall, where the King took the salute.

Why Pamela Frankau Became a Catholic

Giving the second talk in a "Why I became a Catholic" series at Foyle's Art Room, London, Miss Pamela Frankau, novelist daughter of the novelist, said that after leaving school, she (then an Anglican) dropped church-going and came to regard prayer merely as "a telephone service in time of need." At twenty she decided to become an atheist. Eighteen months later, however, she had found it was like trying to live without eating. Pangs of hunger asserted themselves. She then looked at the Catholic Church, and saw it as an institution that had weathered crises which would have wrecked any business in ten minutes. She was attracted by the idea of the community of the faithful.

But she didn't want to be taught what to think. This left her in the position of the man who despised engineering text-books yet tried to build a bridge. Still, she did not want to go to the expert. Instead, she returned to the stage of a religion without a Church. The Catholic Church was too big, made too many demands. "So I decided not to open an account with her." There followed a period of despair until she went to New York. There, in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Miss Frankau paused before a statue of St. Antony, the saint who she regarded as useful for finding lost umbrellas. St. Antony, said Miss Frankau, found something else for her—her lost courage. Then, having returned home to London, she received a shock. A Protestant clergyman asked her: "What do you think is wrong with the Church? Where do we fail?" She felt the world crumbling under her feet—and thought of that other Church, that enormous, implacable thing. I went humbly and knocked at the door.

It was also a shock when she found that the Catholic Church was not waiting with grabbing hands to pull in every possible convert and that she would have to undergo at least three months instruction.

It was at this period that Miss Frankau read Abbot Marmion's "Christ, the Life of the Soul." That completed her conversion "All the tangled skeins had been unravelled and the rough ways made plain."—*Examiner*.

Distribution of Cane Jaggery (Sakkarai)

Cane jaggery is available for issue to bona fide consumers. Applications for the commodity should be made to me immediately.

M. SRIKHANTA,
A.G.A. (E).

Jaffna, 5th June, 1946

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NOTICE

All persons having any claim against the Estate of the late P. Q. Christian of "Leo Lodge" 3rd Cross Street, Jaffna, or who owe money to the said Estate of the said P. Q. Christian, are hereby requested to notify such claims or pay any such moneys to me the undersigned on or before the 30th June 1946 after which date no claims will be entertained.

W. B. CANAGARATNA,
Proctor for Administratrix, the
Widow of the late P. Q. Christian.
Jaffna, 4th June 1946.

FOR SALE

A house with 12 lachams of land, bearing assessment No. 99/2, near the Railway Station, Jaffna.

Apply to:

MRS. C. A. BARTLETT,
No. 48, 41st Lane,
Wellawatta.

NOTICE

Pilgrims who intend to visit Madhu for the forthcoming festival are warned that owing to prevailing food conditions, they are likely to encounter serious difficulties in securing food. They are hereby advised to bring with them all their requirements of rice and flour on permits which should be obtained from the Deputy Food Controller of their area. They should also bring the coconuts and the subsidiary foodstuffs which they would require.

N. Q. DIAS,
Asst. Govt. Agent, & Deputy
Food Controller, Mannar District.
4th June, 1946.

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Order Nisi Declaring Will Proved

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
In the matter of the Last will and Testament of the late Ilaiathamby Kandiah Hyppolyte, of Elalai.
Deceased.

Testamentary } No. 533
Jurisdiction }
Rev. Father S. S. Villavarasingham of Chunnakam presently of Jaffna Town. Petitioner.

Vs.
1. Ilaiathamby Rasiah
2. Ilaiathamby Rasaratnam
3. Anne Ponnammah wife of
4. Immanuel Muttutamy and
5. Ilaiathamby Thambiah all of Elalai.

Respondents.
This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esqr., District Judge, Jaffna, on the 15th day of March 1946 in the presence of Mr. W. B. Canagaratna Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner abovenamed and of the witnesses dated respectively 11th day of March 1946 having been read:

It is ordered that the Will of the abovenamed deceased dated 31st December 1940 and attested by S. T. Rajaratnam Notary Public under No. 581 be and the same is hereby declared proved unless the Respondents shall appear before this Court on the 20th day of June 1946 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 20th day of May 1946,
Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.
In the matter of the Estate of the late Bernardpillai Joachimpillai of Cathedral Street in Jaffna.
Deceased.

Testamentary } No. 122
Jurisdiction }

(Dead) Victoriapillai widow of Bernardpillai Joachimpillai of Cathedral Street in Jaffna.

Original Petitioner,
Joachimpillai Arulnayakam Dominic of Cathedral Street in Jaffna.

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Joachimpillai Francis Benedict
2. Joachimpillai Simon Joseph and
3. Joachimpillai Benjamin Victor, all of Cathedral Street in Jaffna.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esqr., District Judge of Jaffna on the 3rd of May 1946 in the presence of Mr. Vital A. Moses, Proctor on the part of the petitioner abovenamed and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 12th day of March 1946 having been read:

It is ordered that the petitioner be and he is hereby declared entitled as the eldest son and one of the heirs of the deceased abovenamed to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased issued to him unless the Respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 21st day of June 1946 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge.

Order Absolute in the First Instance

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of Elizabeth Muttamma wife of Antonipillai Bastiampillai of Chundikuly Jaffna.

Deceased

Testamentary } No. 549

Jurisdiction } Antonipillai Bastiampillai of Chundikuly Jaffna.

Petitioner.
This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esqr., District Judge of Jaffna on the 30th day of April 1946 in the presence of Mr. Vital A. Moses, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner abovenamed and the affidavit of the Petitioner and that of the attesting Notary and witnesses both dated 30th April 1946 having been read:

It is ordered that the Last Will of the deceased abovenamed dated 11th September 1943 now deposited in this Court be and the same is hereby declared proved and that the Petitioner is the Executor named in the said Will and that Probate thereof be accordingly be issued to him.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge.

REVISED SCALE OF RATIONS

The ration table to be followed from 10-6-46 (52nd week of rationing of 5th series) until further intimation will be as follows:—

Class :	Rice or Paddy	Meas.	Meas.	Meas.	Meas.	Meas.	Meas.	Meas.	Meas.
Infant	$\frac{1}{2}$	or	1	&	$\frac{1}{2}$	&	$\frac{3}{8}$	or	$\frac{3}{8}$
Child	$\frac{3}{4}$	or	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	&	$\frac{3}{8}$	&	9/16	or	9/16
Ordinary	1	or	2	&	$\frac{1}{2}$	&	$\frac{3}{4}$	or	$\frac{3}{4}$
Male Worker	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	or	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	&	$\frac{3}{4}$	&	15/16	or	15/16

M. SRIKHANTA,

for Deputy Food Controller, Jaffna.

The Kachcheri, Jaffna, 7th June, 1946.

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De-Aired Calicut Tiles for your new building

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

Printed and Published for the Proprietor by BASTIAMPILLAI SANTIAGOPIILLAI residing at 39, Main Street, Jaffna, at St. Joseph's Catholic Press, Catholic Mission Premises Main Street, Jaffna, on Friday the 14th June, 1946.