

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. 72, No. 8.

JAFFNA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1947.

PRICE: 10 CENTS.

Widespread Persecution of the Church Throughout Europe

The Battle for Christianity
Has Been Joined

Will Catholicism Have to Re-Enter the Catacombs?

BELGIUM

Strong Catholic Party

Although in the February general elections last year the Catholic Party polled more votes than any other, the combined opposition of Socialists, Liberals and Communists prevented it from establishing a stable regime and it went into opposition.

To-day the country has a Socialist Premier and a Left Coalition Government.

Belgium's Catholic Party opened its ranks this year to non-Catholics and changed its name to the Christian Social Party. It strongly advocates the return of King Leopold, an attitude that accentuates its opposition to the Left.

Catholic Action is very vigorous. The Young Christian Workers, with a magnificent war record are 100,000 strong and the movement has branches among industrial and agricultural workers, college and university students.

Half of Belgium's families belong to the League for Large Families, which helps struggling parents to acquire a home and assists in the education of their children.

Louvain University, badly damaged in the recent war as it was in the first World War, has no fewer than 7,500 students.

Catholic publications, suppressed by the Germans, are flourishing again.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

More Persecutions Here

In Czechoslovakia the Church is facing violent oppression.

The first blow came soon after the eastern part of the country, containing the Byzantine-Slavonic diocese of Mukacs, was ceded to Russia.

The Russians liquidated the diocese, handed over all its property to the Orthodox Church and imprisoned the Bishop, Mgr. Rbomza.

Meanwhile an attack was launched on the Church in the strongly Catholic country of Slovakia. The schools are now secularised, the religious teachers dismissed and the crucifix is abolished from the class-room.

Two Bishops were arrested and held prisoners for months.

Under the guise of political action the Communists and the Red Army killed hundreds of Catholics and sent between 60,000 and 80,000 to concentration camps or prison.

Last June the Communists won the general election in Bohemia and Moravia, but were heavily defeated in Slovakia. The Government banned any attempt to form a Christian Party.

ALBANIA

Communist-Dominated

The same pattern of events is to be seen in Communist-dominated Albania.

All Catholic schools are closed. Catholic associations, are suppressed. The

Catholic Press is banned. Priests have been shot, imprisoned or expelled. Three priests shot for "treason" last March were tortured before their trial in an attempt to make them give false evidence.

Many churches are now Government offices. The clergy are constantly attacked. Italian missionaries have been expelled.

The Vatican newspaper, "Osservatore Romano," commented last May: "The most elementary civic and human rights have been attacked. Under the pretence of political action the Government has proceeded to the expulsion of missionaries in an effort to hide its hatred of all things religious, and particularly all things Catholic."

GREECE

No Religious Strife

Outsiders, who want a Communist Greece, tell many tales of trouble, but even their inventive minds have not "discovered" religious strife there.

Catholics in Greece, of both the Latin and Eastern Rites, are taking their full share in the restoration of this gallant, faithful nation, just as they played their heroic part in resistance to the invader.

HUNGARY

The Reds Dominate

Overwhelmingly Catholic, Hungary is largely in the grip of Communists.

In this year's general election the Smallholders' (Catholic) Party gained 65 per cent. of the votes and formed the Government. The Communists polled only 15 per cent. of the votes. But with Russian help—and because many of the Catholic M.P.'s are politically inexperienced—the Communists have taken key positions and now exercise a predominant influence.

The Communists maintain a bitter campaign against the Church. By the "land reform" decree the Church is deprived of its property. Its legal rights ceased with the abolition of the old Constitution.

Catholic youth organisations have been dissolved, and the Catholic Press, suppressed by the Germans, is still banned.

To-day Catholic schools are threatened with secularisation, public religious demonstrations suffer from restrictions. Many priests are in prison. At least one Bishop—Mgr. Zadavec, O.F.M., former Forces' Bishop—is in an internment camp.

Cardinal Mindszenty, the Primate, who continues courageously to defend the Church, is the chief target of the Communist assault. Efforts have even been made to turn the rest of the Hierarchy against him.

ITALY

Catholics Are Active

Out of the chaos of Fascist rule and

the unwanted, desperately ruinous war there has emerged a leader who has the respect, admiration and even affection of the majority of the Italian people—Signor Alcide de Gasperi, Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary, a model Catholic layman devoted wholly to his religion and his country's welfare.

In the general election last May, his party, the Christian Democrats, won 8,083,208 votes out of 22,952,880. The Socialists won 4,744,749. The Communists who expected to take second place, were placed third with 4,342,722.

Signor de Gasperi formed a Coalition Government, including the Communists.

The Christian Democrats' poll does not represent the whole Catholic vote. Several other parties include many Catholics, notably Uomo Qualunque (Common Man).

GREATEST FIGURE

This party scored an unexpected success with 1,209,918 votes. Its leader, Signor Giannini, is a recent convert to the Church.

This was not a diplomatic or political conversion: Signor Giannini was baptised, confirmed, made his first Confession and Holy Communion and was married after the election.

In the past few weeks "a second Catholic party" has been set up, the National Christian Party, which objects to Signor de Gasperi's view that it is necessary in present circumstances to include some Communists in the Government. The Vatican newspaper, "Osservatore Romano," knowing Signor de Gasperi and realising the danger of a split in the Christian ranks, has given the new party an unenthusiastic reception.

Unquestionably and by far the greatest personal force in Italy is Pope Pius XII. The day before Italy's general election, His Holiness warned the people—and France, too, which was having its election the same day—that they would be voting for or against Christianity. The next day the Christian Democrats in both countries took the lead.

The lawlessness deliberately encouraged to hamper and beat the Germans in Italy is being carried over into the post-war days in some parts of Italy, taking a violent form of anti-clericalism—anti-Catholicism—which has resulted in the death or disappearance of a considerable number of priests.

On the whole, however, it appears that Italy has learned the terrible lesson from the Fascist and war eras and wishes to practise the Holy Father's motto: "Peace is the work of justice."

RUSSIA

Christian Heroes

Don't call it Godless Russia. It has a title to be called a land of martyrs and living Christian heroes.

Millions in Russia know, love, and serve God. Thousands have died for their faith, Catholic and Orthodox. Tens of thousands are in concentration camps and penal settlements because they refuse to deny God.

The Holy Father, calling on us all to pray for Russia after every Low Mass, had no notion of urging us to pray for a lost cause.

Don't imagine that a few Orthodox leaders in playing up to the dictators are representative of anything like a majority of the Orthodox clergy.

The dictators in the Kremlin are trying to turn the whole world against God. All in good time, in God's time, they will discover that in making so many martyrs they have sown the seeds of a great Christian renaissance.

POLAND

Gallant But Crucified

Cardinal Hinsley in the early months of the war likened Poland's sufferings to those of Our Lord, "crucified between two thieves."

For six years the Church in Poland was most savagely persecuted by Germans and Russians, whose aim was the destruction of the country's Catholicism.

Priests were murdered—2,000 died in Dachau alone—or deported, churches and schools closed, monasteries and seminaries suppressed. Dioceses were left without Bishops, some almost without any clergy.

The end of the war brought no relief. Poland's altered boundaries reduced the Catholic population from 26,000,000 to 19,000,000. Through the Curzon Line, the three Ruthenian dioceses of Lwow, Przemyśl and Stanisławów were given to Russia.

The Communist Warsaw Provisional Government installed by Soviet Russia, repudiated exactly a year ago Poland's Concordat with the Holy See on pretexts which the Holy Father himself described as "outrageous, vain and groundless." This act deprived the Church of all legal safeguards and opened the way to secularist measures, which were not long forthcoming.

Although to-day the Church has a limited freedom and some members of the Government even pay lip-service to it, its position is being steadily undermined. The Communist newspapers pour out a continual barrage of condemnation or criticisms of Bishops and clergy.

The Church's tasks are enormous. The restoration of shattered churches and schools is one of the least of its worries. Much worse is the acute shortage of priests and seminary students. The road back to peace is strewn with rocks.

NETHERLANDS

Catholic Premier

In the general election last May the Catholic Party—which is open to other Christians—won 32 of the 100 seats in Parliament. The Prime Minister, Dr. Beel, and four other Ministers—those of Justice, War, Education and Economic Affairs—are Catholics.

Dutch Catholics are organised industrially and socially more thoroughly than any other European country. They have their own trade unions, vocational societies and daily and weekly newspapers. Before the war they had their own radio stations.

The Catholic working people are magnificently loyal to their religious authorities and to the Catholic Unions.

RUMANIA

Great Hopes Delayed

Between the two World Wars Rumania was coming into close and closer friendship with the Church and the Holy See.

This movement was helped considerably, if not actually begun, by the coming into the nation of the population of Transylvanian territory ceded to Rumania after the 1914-18 war. These people were largely Catholics of the Byzantine Rite. Non-Catholics of the same rite, meeting, working and living with them, discovered that they were almost brothers in religion, and splendid patriots, as were the other Catholics of this rite living in other parts of the country.

Non-Catholics saw the Holy See loved the Byzantine Rite and had not the slightest intention of trying to turn them into Latin Catholics, any more than it intended asking the Latin Catholics in
(Continued on Page 3.)

Church Calendar

FEBRUARY 1947

FRI. ... 28 S. Romanus.

MARCH 1947

SAT. ... 1 S. David.

SUN. ... 2 L.—S. Simplicius.

MON. ... 3 S. Marinus.

TUES. ... 4 S. Casimir.

WED. ... 5 S. Roger.

THURS. ... 6 S. Perpetua.

FRI. ... 7 S. Thomas.

The Catholic Guardian

FEBRUARY 28TH 1947

THE LESSON OF LENT

Lent is dominated by Holy Week of which it is an anticipation and for which it is a preparation.

Basically it is at once a recall to reality and the corrective measures implicit in such a call. The reality is the reality that comes to us stark from the pages of the Gospel. That all is not well with man, either individually or collectively. That reformation comes from man's heart, from each individual heart: such reformation goes by the general name of conversion. In one sense all our spiritual life and progress consists of a series of conversions, from spiritual death to life, or from spiritual anaemia to spiritual health or, as in the case of saintly souls, from less vigorous to increasing spiritual health and the vitality that is the inseparable concomitant of such spiritual health.

Reduced to its simplest terms, our life here on earth as the Church, the Gospel and Christ see it, has been given us for one purpose only.

To know God, not with the knowledge of the theologian or philosopher, laudable though such knowledge be, but as one gets to know a dear and valued friend, to know Him with a personal knowledge and to grow steadily in appreciation of God Himself, of His standards and His point of view, to see life steadily and to see it whole as He Himself sees it. The virtue of Faith has been given us for the purpose of this vision.

To love God, again with a personal love based on this personal knowledge, to love Him—incredible as it may seem—as He loves Himself. He enables us to do this by the virtue of Charity and to give ourselves to Him with the completest, most self-oblivious enthusiasm.

Thus man in his essential make-up of mind and heart, exists for this one purpose only, to develop personal knowledge and love of God and to express that ever-developing knowledge and love especially in the particular set of circumstances in which his life and life's work are set. And further, to make this particular set of circumstances increase this knowledge and love. This is what is meant by serving God. It is the Gospel spirit re-lived, re-enacted in every age and in every clime.

To correct our faintness of heart, He has given us the virtue of Hope, of confidence in the strength and helps He provides.

Hope is a most necessary virtue as we have fifth-columnists in our souls ready to open the

gates to the enemy. There is the drag of lower impulses, the weakness of both mind and heart, the tendency to cling to the material, the sensible at the expense of the spiritual and the eternal. The impressive ceremonies of Ash Wednesday remind us that the body we are so inclined to pamper is to be discarded as one discards an overall.

Lent then insists on our getting back to the fundamental revaluation of life's values given us by our Blessed Lord. He Himself has told us that life may be simplified to Yea or Nay. The completest 'Yes' to every demand or hint of God, so that as a holy soul of our times expressed it: 'The sweetest word in the language is Yes'. And a vibrant NO to every prompting of our lower selves. This saying No—self-denial, as deny means to say No—is Lent's special lesson but it is far from being the complete lesson. It is denying of the lower to assist the higher nature, to starve out the brute, the beast that is in the best of us in order to let the God-directed and God-directing impulses have the completest scope.

Self-denial of this nature therefore is the badge of Lent. It is for each of us to decide what practical form it is to take if we are to share in the rich blessings of this particularly Holy season. But it will have been incomplete unless and until it results in an increase of Faith, Hope and Charity by repeated, constantly repeated acts of these glorious, God-given virtues. Then and then only are our lives leading us to know, love and serve God.

STRAWS IN THE WIND

We print elsewhere on this page an extract from the ably worded support given by our contemporary *The Morning Star* to our plea for preserving Jaffna's aerodrome. It is a pleasant duty to thank the writer for this service to the public.

We are reliably informed that Messrs. Tatas are not only willing but anxious to touch down at Jaffna in view of the increasing list of Jaffna passengers. That is one hurdle cleared.

A press notice gives the cheering information that the Jaffna Association is moving in the matter and that it has asked Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, Member for Point Pedro, to press the case.

We understand that the Hon. Mr. A. Mahadeva, Member for Jaffna, has also been approached for his support.

A long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together, and we shall have it.

To the Friends of Fatima-Hill

Those who have been following the progress of Fatima-Hill know what an important share Saint Joseph has been taking in our enterprise. His statue faces our well. It was put there even before the first sod of earth was dug. Under his supernatural supervision we have seen how successfully the work has developed. Improvements must be made to that well, it is true, but we have to be thankful that the sinking of a well in such a difficult place went on so satisfactorily.

We owe then to good Saint Joseph a tribute of gratitude. We intend to bring his statue for the first time inside the little church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the end of a grand procession on his feast day—the 19th of March. This we promised him long ago; it is a promise we must not forget. His Lordship the Bishop has kindly promised to spend the day with us. He will administer the sacrament of Confirmation in the morning and preside at the procession in the evening.

Though we shall give a new abode to Saint Joseph in the church we do not want to separate him from his well which henceforth will be called 'St. Joseph's well.' But his small statue is at the moment standing at the top of a somewhat crude perch. It deserves better. We intend to erect for it a fitting column. We will lay the foundation on the first Wednesday of March, on the 5th of March to be precise. We have thought that some people may be pleased on that occasion to forward some petitions to St. Joseph. If these letters written to one of the most glorious inhabitants of Heaven reach us in time we will carefully enclose them in a big glass and bury them under the column. These written prayers will contribute the corner-stone upon which the column will rest. We do not think it will be amiss to suggest to our friends to send along with their petitions any humble offering they can afford to give. They know for what purpose it will be used. We shall first have to meet the necessary expenses which will enable us to celebrate worthily the feast of the 19th of March. What will remain will go to swell the building fund. Our enterprise cannot thrive without the support of numerous friends. We are amazed to have found them already in such numbers. We cannot doubt that their enthusiastic and devoted faithfulness will favour us till the end.

May Jesus be adored and loved in His Sacred Heart, in His Holy Eucharist at Fatima-Hill!

May the Blessed Virgin Mary be revered and cherished in Her Immaculate Heart, as our Lady of Fatima in this beloved sanctuary!

May Saint Joseph have a glorious place also in our new shrine!

Then Fatima-Hill will be really a new Nazareth, where the ideals of the Holy Family will be understood and be observed in every home. Towards that aim the recommendations of the Popes are leading us in modern times. They are still more necessary in the atomic age we are beginning to enter.

HENRY GESLAND, O.M.I.

An Act of Vandalism

We are indebted to our Catholic contemporary for drawing the attention of the people of Jaffna to an act of what it calls vandalism that is being perpetrated by the authorities. The aerodrome at Palali constructed at an immense cost for war purposes is being dismantled, and the materials of the buildings are being sold for a song. Every one took it for granted that the aerodrome would be retained even after the war for civil use, and would, besides putting Jaffna on the map, prove a boon to the people by providing an easy access to the other parts of the Island and to important Indian centres. Now this destructive process is going on, and, we are afraid, the public is not aware of it.

It may be that Palali is not of much use for imperial purposes in times of peace, but what about its value to the people of the Peninsula? There is the extensive land, fine buildings and other things necessary for an air base, and only planes are wanting. Is it too much to expect our paternal government to spend a fraction of the cost for the benefit of the people? A little thought should persuade the powers-that-be that so much could be achieved for such little cost.

The fact of the matter is that the Jaffna man does not know how to grumble—an act in which his British rulers excel.

Here is a fine opportunity for pushing Jaffna ahead without much trouble and expense. Let the people of Jaffna awake, and make the matter of the Palali aerodrome one of the election issues.—(*Morning Star*, Feb. 21st.)

The Golden Jubilee of Rev. Fr. N. Santiago, O.M.I.

The 16th of February was a red letter day not only in the parochial history of Vathiry church but also in the Jaffna diocese, for on that auspicious day, the parishioners of St. Antony's church, Vathiry and those of St. Mary's church, Karaveddi, the relatives, friends and well-wishers of Rev. Fr. Santiago, O.M.I., celebrated on a grand scale, the Golden Jubilee of his Sacerdotal ordination.

The Jubilarian was born at Vathiry in 1869. He is a lineal descendant of Irani Thandikai Kanagaraya Mudaliyar who suffered martyrdom for the holy Catholic Church during the Dutch persecution, at the Jaffna esplanade. Fr. Santiago has the enviable distinction of being one of the two native priests of the Jaffna diocese privileged to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Sacerdotal ordination.

He entered St. Martin's Seminary, Jaffna, in 1881 from where he attended St. Patrick's College. His College career was a brilliant one and he was one of the bright pupils of Fr. Dunne. He made his profession as an Oblate of Mary Immaculate on Feb. 17th, 1895, and was ordained on the 14th Feb. 1897.

His first mission was Arippe; one year after he was appointed parish-priest of Navanthurai. For about a quarter of a century he was in charge of Mantota, a highly malarial place, where he brought back more than 2,000 schismatics into the true fold by his apostolic labours. There he ministered not only to the spiritual needs and welfare of his parishioners but also to bodily ailments, as a physician. Later he saw service in several parishes: Myliddy, Mandaitivu, Atchuveley and Nallur. And now he is attached to the Jaffna Cathedral.

On the 16th Feb. the Jubilarian who had motored from Jaffna in the company of three priests, was welcomed and garlanded, half a mile away from St. Antony's church, Vathiry. He was taken in procession in a specially decorated car to the accompaniment of native music amidst the firing of crackers all along the route. Pandals were erected to welcome the Jubilarian. He said Mass at 7-30 a.m. at St. Antony's Church, Vathiry. Revd. Fr. M.S. Nalliah, O.M.I. preached an impressive sermon on the dignity of the priesthood and on the sterling qualities of the venerable priest.

After Mass, the Jubilarian was taken in procession to the Sacred Heart School-hall accompanied by many priests who had come from the various parishes to grace the occasion.

Fr. Santiago was seated on a beautifully decorated platform. He was garlanded and welcome songs were sung. An address was read. Speeches were made by Revd. Bro. Bernard, S.S.J., and Mr. Augustine Ponraja on the good work done by the Jubilarian in the Jaffna diocese. Precious presents were made by his relatives. Fr. Santiago thanked all those who were present on that occasion and those who had contributed to the success of the function.

At noon a grand lunch was given to sixteen Priests and four Brothers of St. Joseph's Society.

With the taking of the photo of the priests present there, the function ended.

A WELL-WISHER.

LOCAL & GENERAL

O. M. I. News.—As we go to Press we learn that the first and the most important meeting of the Cardinals to discuss the heroicity of the virtues of Bishop de Mazenod, founder of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, will take place early next month (March).

It is a privilege and a duty to pray daily to the Holy Ghost during the coming fortnight for the furtherance of a cause dear to us by so many claims.

St. Luke's Guild, Colombo.—His Lordship, the Right Revd. Dr. Edmund Peiris, O.M.I., Bishop of Chilaw, will deliver a lecture on "The Historical Christ", on Monday 3rd March, 1947, at 6-30 p.m., at St. Peter's House, General Hospital, Colombo. All are welcome.

Supreme Court.—The criminal sessions of the Supreme Court opened

Widespread Persecution of the Church Throughout Europe

(Continued from Page 1)

Rumania to become Byzantine Catholics.

This new understanding was a prime cause for the conclusion of a concordat. Indeed, relations were so cordial that it seemed to some Catholics that another of those huge national reconciliations to Catholic unity was on the way.

Then came the war, and now Rumania is in the grip of the Soviet Army. The reconciliation is delayed.

GERMANY

Rule of Four

Germany, governed by the Rule of Four, reflects its four divisions the pattern of religious conditions in Britain, France, the United States and Soviet Russia.

In one zone you find British tolerance, goodwill in individuals, occasional bumbling, no apparent desire to hinder, but also no intention to start anything in particular to help with a long-term definite policy for the spiritual and moral regeneration of the people.

Take things as they come, deal with them piecemeal.....that seems to be the idea.

Gains or losses from this attitude cannot be properly assessed. Perhaps, however, it ought to be remarked that this attitude of non-interference and lack of specific interest in religious matters has the advantage of impressing on the German people that their salvation, under God, must come mainly from their own individual and collective efforts.

Last November's local election results in the British zone were clearly-marked consequences of this attitude.

The Christian Democrats polled 6,800,000 votes and Independents 2,718,000. Most of the Independents were unopposed, and as a result secured a disproportionate number of seats—23,343 against the Christian Democrats' 20,621. But many Independents are Catholics. The Communists came last with 694 seats.

The French authorities are generally credited with having the best-run zone. They co-operate with the German religious authorities.

Hence the Christian Democrats polled 1,273,574 votes—nearly as many as all the other parties combined. The Communists' poll was 180,466.

There were none of these parish council elections in the American zone.

The American authorities have a Religious Division in their administrative set-up. Not everywhere and always have then made a success of it. This is hardly to be expected, because Americans in their own country have no experience of official contacts between Church and State.

BLUNDERS BY THE JUNIOR OFFICERS

Now and again a junior American officer, strictly applying his own interpretation of regulations, will make a bad blunder, as in the case of the captain who thought it necessary to invade the Hierarchy's private assembly with an Allied overseer. Higher Authority eventually puts right this sort of thing—but Higher Authority itself is also causing anxiety by saying that German concordats with the Holy See are dead letters.

They assure the Hierarchy that everything will be taken care of, but the Bishops are not sure that the Church, left without definite legal status, is safe from local and regional authorities, German and others, who have no love for Christianity in general and Catholicism in particular.

In the Russian zone the Soviet dictators are behaving just as it pleases them to behave, without reference to anyone's rights or wishes. Christianity must go.

Christian instruction for children has lately been abolished throughout this zone—except in Berlin, where there might be questions from the Western Allies—and Communism, whole and entire, atheistic and materialistic, is being forced upon the people.

Christian people are, however, resisting. Though they know the Communists will not put up with any sort of opposition, the Christian Democrats last November polled 421,768 votes against the Soviet-sponsored Socialist Unity

Party, dominated by the Communists, which was credited with 1,497,777.

HOUSES SEIZED BY BAOR WIVES

The German Hierarchy have, of course put the restoration of Christian family life right at the head of Germany's most urgent tasks. For this reason the Bishop of Aachen has recently strongly criticised the seizure of housing accommodation for British wives and families because it means that the appalling overcrowding, in which decent family living is extremely difficult, is made even worse.

Moreover, this action, says Bishop Van der Velden, undermines confidence in the good intentions of the Allied authorities and plays into the hands of extremists.

A great hope for the rehabilitation of a Germany facing tremendous odds is the Hierarchy—Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops faithful to God and man, brave and tenacious, who have gathered greater strength through the long years of the Nazi regime and the horrors of war.

Cardinal Faulhaber in Munich, and the Lion of Munster, the late Cardinal von Galen, have now received the honour due to them for their heroic leadership—recognition that was denied because the Nazis hid from the world their deeds and words. There are many others to carry on in the same heroic strain.

STORY OF HEROISM YET TO BE HEARD

Yet to be heard in anything like completeness is the story of the tenacity and heroism of countless German priests and laity. Many went to their death under the Nazis; many more would have gone the same way if to their heroism they had not added a great deal of ingenuity in fooling the Gestapo.

French priests are now telling in print some of the stories about the German priests, nuns and laity who risked imprisonment, torture and death to enable Hitler's foreign slaves to live a full and glorious Catholic life. It is one of the finest stories in the Church's history.

YUGOSLAVIA

The Land of Tito

In Yugoslavia the Church is fighting with its back to the wall for bare existence.

During the German occupation it suffered heavily. The persecution has continued and intensified under the regime of Marshal Tito, the Moscow-trained Communist dictator.

More than two thirds of the Bishops have been killed, expelled or imprisoned. The latest victim is Archbishop Stepinac of Zagreb, chief champion of the Church against both Nazi and Communist attacks.

More than 180 priests, 200 religious—nuns included—and tens of thousands of the laity have been murdered. More than 400 priests and hundreds of religious have had to flee the country. Whole provinces have no clergy.

Parish buildings have been confiscated, churches profaned, schools secularised. Religious instruction has been abolished in the schools though, in a referendum, 98 per cent. of the parents voted for it. In its place has been instituted the cult of "Fidelity to Marshal Tito."

The radio and press never cease their vicious propaganda against the Church and clergy. Any lie will do.

In the hope of ending the persecution the Holy Father last October appointed Mgr. Joseph Hurly, Bishop of St. Augustine, Florida, to be Regent of the Papal Nunciature in Belgrade. But the persecution continues. The Church's position worsens.

SPAIN

Chorus of Lies

Who knows any hard facts about present conditions in Spain? They are swamped in tendentious propaganda.

Most of the day-to-day comment in many of the world's newspapers comes from the Soviet radio, Soviet papers, Soviet diplomats, and Soviet "gramophone records" in Communist-infected

countries. These commentators are all hundreds, and some even thousands, of miles removed from the Spanish frontier.

Any assertion, any lie, any piece of imagination will serve their purpose provided it adds to a chorus so loud that people will in the end come to believe that "something must be wrong in Spain." It is an old trick of Hitler's.

We know some facts. It is easy to practise your religion in Spain. The Holy See finds it possible to make agreements with the Spanish Government. The Spanish prisons are not "full to overflowing with political prisoners." Family life is encouraged with fine social schemes.

Two more facts:

Franco defeated the Communists. Soviet Russia is determined that Spain shall pay for this—and pay by the loss of her freedom and her Faith.

PORTUGAL

Changed Nation

Some people say Portugal's regime is Totalitarian. Others say it is Authoritarian. Few if any of the commentators go to Portugal to find out what actually is happening, and all miss the great fact.

The great fact about Portugal is Fatima, where 29 years ago—on the day the present Holy Father was consecrated Bishop—Our Lady, appearing to three peasant children, sent the whole nation to confession with a firm purpose of amendment.

Portugal before Fatima and Portugal after Fatima are different countries—one anti-clerical, chaotic in every department of life; the other, thoroughly Catholic.

The two greatest figures in the restoration of the nation are Cardinal Cerejeira, Patriarch of Lisbon, and the Prime Minister, Dr. Salazar. In their student days they shared rooms at Coimbra University. Both come from humble homes.

SCANDINAVIA

Missionary Lands

Norway and Sweden—and to Denmark too the same remarks may apply—have little Catholic news.

The absence of news is to some extent good; there is no trouble to report. But neither is there an opportunity yet to call attention to outstanding Catholic progress. These are "missionary lands," where in most cities and in the countryside the Church's mission is being established gradually if slowly by hard-working Bishops, priests and nuns.

LUXEMBOURG

Faithful Nation

Here we have a tiny Catholic country, sandwiched between former enemies—and itself made an enemy by the Nazis—which enjoys certainly as much peace as, and probably more than, any European country.

A land of Faith and patriotism.

MISSING

Four countries are missing from this survey—Finland, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. Finland's condition after its second defeat by the Red Army is reputed to be "not so bad as it might be." Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia are never mentioned at the peace meetings. Soviet diplomats won't have them mentioned. Perhaps the reason why they are not mentioned by the representatives of the Western democracies is that they feel too ashamed.—(The Record, Perth, Australia)

indifferent. They think that through pulling strings or corruption or through the influence of some uncle or father-in-law, who is at the top of the ladder, they can easily get a highly paid job. Teachers should stop this highly dangerous sense in children. They should inculcate in them, that only by the sweat of their brows can they earn their bread. The only way to success is to understand the three T's—Time, Thought and Toil—and every teacher should infuse these salutary principles into the minds of children. If they succeed in that, then the teachers have won for the world a greater victory than that won by great leaders like Montgomery or Eisenhower or Mountbatten.

Moral Reconstruction

[Speech delivered by Revd. Fr. C. S. Matthews, O.M.I., in a meeting of the Teachers' Association, Mannar district, on 22-2-1947.]

His Holiness Pope Pius XI. has said that we are fortunate to be born in the first half of the 20th century, because it is a time of momentous and tremendous changes. The war has brought about great changes all over the world and in all spheres of human activities, and the post-war world is full of problems of reconstruction to bring back the world to order and peace. In newspapers we read and from platforms we hear about reconstruction. In State Councils and Parliaments the discussions are on nothing else.

There is the material reconstruction, as a result of the great destruction brought about by the war. Fortunately, Ceylon has practically nothing to do in that line, since only a few bombs were dropped here. Europe has to do a great deal of material reconstruction. The worst affected country is Germany. In the Rhine area 85 per cent. of the houses have been destroyed and thousands of people rendered homeless. England also sustained great damages due to air raids.

Political reconstruction is another great problem facing the world. We hear much about repatriation, rehabilitation, changing and fixing boundaries, imperialism, racial discrimination and a host of other things. Subject nations are throwing off foreign yokes and they clamour for self-rule and swaraj. In India, the British Government has decided to hand over power to Indian hands by June 1948. Ceylon also is progressing towards self-government and the Soulbury Constitution, which will start functioning very soon, will take Ceylon a great way towards independence.

The teachers have very little to do or nothing to do with material or political reconstruction. There is the most important moral reconstruction, the responsibility for which rests heavily upon the shoulders of teachers. The war has lowered and shattered all the moral standards of the world. In Ceylon, the moral standard is 50 per cent below than that of the pre-war days. This is all the more true of our school children. The teachers are not only mere teachers or instructors but they must be educators too. It is their duty to make the rising generation good members of society and religion, and honest and worthy citizens of tomorrow.

Honesty is lamentably lacking in children now. The respect for others' property is fast disappearing. The affluence and lawlessness of the war days and the change that came by the cessation of war, the malicious propaganda of the Communists and the fraud of the black-market they see every day around them are some of the factors which have undermined the honesty of children. Recently, four cases of school children stealing and being charged in the courts, were reported in the papers. In one case a school boy stole a cycle, in another a watch, in another a fountain pen and in another a bag of books. Ten years back such things were unheard of in Ceylon. It is the duty of teachers to reinstate honesty and truthfulness in children.

Another duty of teachers is to reinstate the law of sex in children. For children, sexual pleasures are forbidden both by the law of nature and the law of religion. Sexual degeneration in children is due to some of the modern developments. One reason is the indiscriminate reading of books. Bookstalls are flooded with books on sex and love, which one gets for a few cents or even for nothing. The cinema is another factor. When the motion picture was invented, it was expected that it would be a great boon to the world. But it degenerated into a money-making business and all kinds of obscene and immoral pictures are exhibited on the screen now-a-days. Still another factor is the bad example set by the soldiers, both European and native during the war. Unless children preserve purity of body and mind, their success is out of the question.

Another defect with school children now-a-days is that they have lost the sense of work. They are lazy and

(Continued under Col. 3.)

Letters to the Editor

The Minister on Religious Education

Sir,—Section 29 (1) of the New Education Ordinance runs as follows: "Subject as herein after provided, instruction in the religion of the parent of each pupil in Government schools shall be given to that pupil, as part of his course of studies in the School, by a person who is an adherent of that religion and who has been approved by the Director".

Adherent according to the Oxford Dictionary is one who is connected with or is a supporter of a party etc. Does being connected with a religion imply that one is capable of teaching that religion? A Buddhist may do all that is required of him by Buddhism, does that imply that he is versed enough in the tenets of Buddhism, to teach Buddhism to the young idea? But the Minister says that the teacher must be approved by the Director. By what standard is the Director to give his approval? The Director may be a Mormon or a Holy Roller or a Plymouth Brother who knows no more of Buddhism than the Man in the Moon, yet he is made the Supreme authority in Buddhism and given licence to approve of a teacher in Buddhism. Does the minister really know what he is about when he introduces this section into his new Ordinance?

Then the section goes on "Provided however that (1) instruction in a particular religion need not be given in a Government School where there are not more than fifteen pupils whose parents are of that religion." So according to the Minister only more than 15 pupils are to be saved. Less than 15 souls can go to Hell for all he cares. Man has been created to know God, love Him, and serve Him in this life so that he may be with God for Eternity. It is the supreme right of every individual to be taught his religion, so that he may fulfil his vocation in this

life, and the Minister of Education wants to deny this right to the individual. The Minister seems to hold that an immortal soul is of no account. No one will object what opinion he holds of his own soul, but he certainly has no right or authority to hold another man's soul of no account. The Minister's idea seems to be that as the public is against a Godless Education, he can give some sort of slipshod education in religion and satisfy the public. When will the Minister realise that he cannot fool the public all the time?

Section 29 subsection (2) says "the principal or any person for the time being in charge of a Government School or an assisted school shall not require or permit a pupil of the school to attend, in the school or in any hostel of the school, or in any chapel or place of worship situated within the premises of the school, any instruction in, or any worship or observance connected with, a religion which is not the religion of the parent of the pupil". May I point out to the Minister that a school run by a denomination is a school run for the education of the children belonging to that particular denomination. The same applies to a hostel run by the denominational body. Although the school and or hostel is run primarily for that particular denomination if children of other denominations apply for entrance, they are admitted as a matter of grace. The school may be assisted by a Government and the Minister may frame rules for the school, but is the hostel assisted by any sort of grant? Definitely not. And when the hostel is not assisted in any way, by what right does the Minister seek to lay down the law? In no Catholic hostel will a non-catholic be compelled to attend "instruction in, or any worship or observance connected with" the Catholic religion. But if a non catholic pupil, of his own accord, were to seek to attend instruction in or any worship or observance connected with the Catholic religion, a Catholic cannot object as he knows that he has no right to curb

the freedom of the individual. The freedom of the individual is sacred and no power has the right to interfere with that unless the freedom were to lead to the commission of a crime. And the freedom to get instruction in a religion is certainly no crime. The desire to obtain religious knowledge comes from the grace of God and to resist or interfere with the workings of this grace is a sin. But, of course, the Minister of Education is ignorant of such a grace.

Or was the Minister thinking of orphanages when he used the word "hostel" in the amendment? If he did, it only shows his muddle-headedness, for orphanages do not come under his Ministry (Deo gratias) and surely the Minister concerned is not going to take orders from the Hon. Minister of Education.

The Minister of Education is probably labouring under the idea that he is the dictator of a totalitarian state, his state being the Education department. But unlike the dumb sheep of a totalitarian state, the parents of Ceylon are rather vociferous and they will have their say and the dictator will not have it all his own way even for the sake of being returned as a member of the New Parliament.

I wonder why the Minister who is so dead set against religion, especially the Christian religion and more particularly the Catholic religion, has not cast off the name of Christopher, a name so soundly Christian and Catholic? or does he cling to it to hoodwink Christians outside dear old Lanka?

Batticaloa,
20-2-47.

I. T. S. CROWTHER.

OBITUARY

VERY REVD. FR. S. MARIAN S. J.

The Very Revd. Fr. S. Marian S.J., one of the most distinguished sons of Batticaloa and of St. Michael's College,

died at St. Michael's College on February 17.

Born in 1886, after the usual preliminary Tamil education, he was admitted to St. Michael's School, as it then was where he received his entire English education. He gained admittance to the Papal Seminary, Kandy, where as a contemporary of the famous Bishop Thomas of Bangalore, his life-long friend, he proved to be one of its most brilliant and popular alumni. After his ordination in 1913, he worked at Batticaloa but soon left in 1916 to join the Jesuit novitiate at Shembaganur.

Such was the brilliance of his career at Kandy that his studies in the Society of Jesus were much curtailed, and after a few months each at Shembaganur, Kurseong and Ranchi and the necessary lapse of time, he was admitted to his last vows in 1928. As a Jesuit priest, he held almost every possible post—Vicar-General, General Manager of Schools, Principal of St. Michael's College and of St. Joseph's College, Trincomalee, Parish Priest of Batticaloa and Minister and Procurator of St. Michael's College.

A man of sound common sense and solid spirituality, he was held in high esteem as a counsellor by the Bishop of Trincomalee, who crowned a life of useful service to the Diocese and the Mission by appointing him his Vicar General. The last three years of his life were not the least meritorious, when he won universal admiration by his uncomplaining and even cheerful acceptance of his enforced inactivity due to a stroke.

There was a very large gathering to do him honour at the funeral. The services both at the Church and at the grave side were conducted by Very Revd. Father John T. Linehan, S.J., Vicar Capitular, assisted by Revd. Fr. E. Crowther, S.J., Revd. Fr. F. O. Thambimuttu and the clergy of the whole of Batticaloa District.

R. I. P.

CHEMISTS

Over 50 Years

IN THE DRUG AND DISPENSING TRADE!

PURITY ACCURACY and RELIABILITY

ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS WHICH WE ENDEAVOUR AT ALL COSTS TO MAINTAIN, AND TO THOSE OF OUR CUSTOMERS WHO HAVE NOT YET DONE SO, WE SHOULD SAY—SEND US YOUR ORDERS.

THE BENEFIT OF THIS CONSOLIDATED EXPERIENCE IS NOW AT YOUR SERVICE

DISPENSARY OPEN AT ALL HOURS

The Jaffna Apothecaries Co.

CHEMISTS AND

DRUGGISTS

SINCE 1890

JAFFNA APOTHECARIES

JAFFNA APOTHECARIES

in Jaffna on Monday the 4th inst. with Sir Francis Soerits, K.C., Senior Puisne Judge presiding. His Lordship attended Divine Service at St. Mary's Cathedral before opening the sessions. There are altogether 20 cases on the calendar, of which 13 are for murder.

Farewell to the Retiring G. A.—As reported in these columns a few weeks ago the Public of Jaffna accorded Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, C.C.S., the retiring G.A., and Mrs. Coomaraswamy a fitting farewell function at the Town Hall Lawn on Saturday the 22nd in the evening. Coming at the end of a series of such functions the Saturday's one was the crowning peak of all. Dr. Subramaniam J. P. presided at a full and representative gathering which included His Lordship, the Bishop of Jaffna, Lady Ramanathan and Mr. and Mrs. S. Natesan, a special choir from the Hindu Ladies College sang a welcome song and an illuminated address was read and presented by Mr. M. Karalasingham one of the Joint Secretaries of the Reception Committee. Speaking of the sterling qualities of the retiring G. A. the president emphasised the fact that Mr. Coomaraswamy was every inch and fibre a son of the soil having been born, bred, educated and having served the best part of his life in Jaffna. "The Jaffnese ought to be legitimately proud of him," said Dr. Subramaniam.

Very Revd. Father T. M. F. Long, O.M.I., Rector, S.P.C., speaking next said, that Mr. Coomaraswamy's golden character was tested in the fiery furnace of serving in the land of his birth amidst his kith and kin. It was the fire that was found wanting and not the gold in the make up of the retiring G. A. Both as District Judge and as Government Agent in Jaffna for over fifteen years not even the Jaffna critic had the least thing to say against Mr. Coomaraswamy's judicial temperament of his ability, honesty and integrity as an administrator. Mr. Coomaraswamy was called upon to do a difficult job and he had acquitted himself most admirably.

Mr. J. V. Chelliah who followed Fr. Long said that a man is judged by what he says, does and is. Tested by these probes no flow can be discovered in Mr. Coomaraswamy. Mr. S. D. Thampoe who concluded the list of speakers implored Mr. Coomaraswamy not to degrade himself by dabbling in politics. He urged him to take a lead in serving the country by inaugurating an anti-crime movement instead of courting a constituency which contained the risk of leading one into quicksands or quagmires. Every one was of opinion that Mrs. Coomaraswamy was the *Sakti* behind the G. A.'s success.

New Palace of Justice at Hultsdorp.—The Minister of Communications and works Col. J. L. Kotelawala has announced a scheme for the construction of new courts at Hultsdorp with General Office accommodation and quarters at a cost of 4½ million rupees. Neither the legal Secretary nor the highlights of the legal profession are in favour of the project since it is felt that a criminal area like Hultsdorp is not the place for the Island's premier seat of Justice.

The Inter-Zonal Cricket Match.—The Cricket Match which was played between the North Zone and South Zone team on the Central College Grounds on Friday and Saturday the 21st and 22nd inst. ended in a victory for the visitors by 7 wickets. The North Zone was Captained by A. J. D. N. Selvadurai, the South Zone by Dr. M. C. Bultjens.

Colombo Council's Finances.—The Finance position of the Colombo Municipal Council is causing concern to its Commissioner. Between the Revenue and the Expenditure estimated for 1947 there is expected to be a balance of only Rs. 223 for civic amenities, the establishment charges consuming the rest. Unless drastic retrenchment is taken in hand the prospects for the future are not too bright.

Independence Day.—In a lecture delivered at the Y. M. B. A. Colombo Dr. Paul E. Peiris mentioned that the treaty between the British and the Sinhalese handing over the Government of Ceylon to the British was signed on the 10th of March, and therefore he felt that Independence Day be celebrated on the 10th instead of the 2nd of March. He also said

that the words "Audience Hall" should be replaced by "Magul Maduwa".

There seems to be a popular feeling that Independence Day ought to be the date of the opening of the New Parliament.

A Play to Commemorate the Opening of the Parliament.—A play entitled "Pilame Talawe" written in Sinhalese by Mr. Stephen Silva and translated into English will be staged in Colombo to commemorate the inauguration of the Parliament. Actors and actresses from all communities are to take part in it. Miss Althya Youngman, Managing Directress of the Comedy Opera Company of San Francisco will assist Mr. Silva in the production of the play.

Nomination Board to Name U. N. P. Candidates.—A Nomination Board of twelve members was elected to select candidates to stand for Parliamentary elections under the U. N. P. ticket with Mr. D. S. Senanayake as the chief. Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike the chairman of the U. N. P. Finance Committee aims at a target of Rs. 500,000 as election Funds. Two members of the party may contest the same seat; in which case no aid will be given to them from the party funds. Col. Kotelawala has done and is continuing to do colossal propaganda work for the party.

A New Market for Ceylon Gems.—Dr. and Mrs. A. A. Boon of Switzerland are on a tour to Ceylon, Kashmir, Burma and French Indo-China with a view to buying gems to be used in the Swiss manufacture of watches, clocks, scientific apparatus, and precision machinery. They are of opinion, after visiting Ratnapura, Galle and Pelmadulla, that Ceylon can supply them with the necessary stones.

Conference of Government Agents.—Mr. Alan Rose, Legal Secretary held a Conference of Government Agents to discuss the details of polling at the forth-coming General Elections to Parliament. The question of maintaining order is also being vigorously pursued by the ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with the Inspector General of Police. The Legal Secretary is to be asked to tighten up the Dangerous Knives' Ordinance so as to minimise unruliness and its repercussions when election fever runs high.

Anti-smuggling drive in Jaffna.—The C. I. D. and the Headquarters Police, Jaffna have launched an anti-smuggling drive in Jaffna to prevent the smuggling of dope, paddy, rice and other grains into the peninsula. During the past three weeks Mr. E. F. K. Jonklas, assisted by armed patrols has seized thousands of rupees worth of paddy and other grains in addition to opium.

World's Dam Expert to visit Ceylon.—The Ministry of Agriculture and Lands has invited Mr. J. L. Savage the world famous expert on high dams and the architect of the Boulder Dam across the Colorado, North America to report on the major projects to be undertaken by the Irrigation Department. At present Mr. Savage is in India designing and advising on some of the largest irrigation and hydro-electric projects in that country. When he comes here he will examine the designs prepared by Mr. R. Kahawita, Designs' Engineer, Irrigation Department and advise on the 100 ft. high dam across the Walawe Ganga and on the 140 ft. high dam across the Gal-Oya. Both dams are expected to open up immense possibilities in agriculture and hydro-electric power when completed. The dry areas of the Southern and Eastern provinces will be converted into smiling fields of peace and plenty.

Ceylon Trade Delegation and World Tour.—Instead of appointing Trade Representatives to each important country the Board of Ministers has approved of sending a Trade Delegation to visit the important countries of the world and report on the possibilities of extending Ceylon's Trade with the countries visited. The Delegation will consist of three officials and three business men and the countries they propose to visit are Soviet Russia, the United Kingdom, Canada, North and

South America, Australia, China and Japan.

Where will they Shop?—Not a day passes without some theft of huge magnitude being reported. From Galle comes the news of Rs. 60,000 worth of jewellery being stolen from the house of Mr. N. W. A. de Silva. Mr. Silva had been to India leaving the house locked and the keys with his sister who lived next door. It will be recalled that the former Air Chief of Ceylon regretted the fact that the lovely island of Ceylon was marred by thieves.

Negombo Blaze.—Originating from a coffee boutique a fire gutting about 30 houses of various types at Kattiduwa near the mouth of the Negombo Lagoon is reported. The R. A. F. firefighters from Katunayaka rushed to the spot on being informed by the Chairman, Urban Council, Negombo and brought the fire under control. Much livestock in the form of dogs, fowls and pigs were lost. The actual loss of property is not yet estimated. Relief work among the distressed is being done by the members of the R. A. F. and the Urban Council. About 60 families have been rendered homeless.

Flash from the Gallery.—When Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, M.S.C., Pt. Pedro was speaking on the Karaiyur Slum clearance vote, a white-clad visitor from the Gallery held forth calling the blessings of Lord Vishnu on Lanka. He was immediately shown out.

Bonus to Triplets.—The Executive Committee of Health has approved of the granting of bonuses to triplets. The mother of the triplets is to be given Rs. 100/- at the end of the first month and Rs. 25/- at the end of each month if the triplets survive. It has been calculated that one in 8,000 cases are triplets. Few of the children survive owing to the inability of the parents to give them proper nourishment.

Grant to Green Hospital, Manipay.—On the application of the Director of the Green Memorial Hospital Manipay for a grant of Rs. 300,000 for equipment and extensions the Ministry of Health has approved of a grant of Rs. 150,000.

The Minister of Education is a Law Unto Himself.—The Minister of Education who got a vote for Rs. 299, 977 through for the propose of purchasing a mansion "Heywood" Horton Place, to house the Government Girls' School proposes to pay a rent of Rs. 1,000/- per mensem where as the assessed rent is Rs. 400/-. Mr. A. F. Molamure (Balangoda) pointed out that such payment was a violation of the Rent Restriction Ordinance.

M. P.'s Tribute to Ceylon's Financial Secretary.—During a debate on Ceylon's new trade policy in the House of Commons Mr. Walker Fletcher (Con.) M. P. for Bury paid a glowing tribute to Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Financial Secretary of Ceylon. To quote Mr. Fletcher, "Ceylon has one of those splendid new Asiatic Governments with a genius, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke behind it. He is man who has spent his life interested in commodities and, as far as commodities are concerned, we have to accept what he says with great weight, because, from every angle he has a first hand knowledge of commodities. He is the leading man behind the Government."

Vice-regal Change.Lord Wavell is laying down the office of Viceroy at the end of this month. Lord Louis Mountbatten succeeds him. On his retirement Lord Wavell is to be made an Earl.

"Saviour of Ceylon" at a Presentation Ceremony.—Wing Commander L. J. Burchall of Ontario who warned the British naval units of the approach of the Japanese fleet towards Ceylon took part in a ceremony in which Lord Louis Mountbatten presented a Japanese sword to Canada as tribute to the thousands of Canadian personnel who served under him during his tenure of office as Supreme Allied Commander in South-East Asia.

Three Radio Sets a Minute.—After ten years of research Mr. John Sargrove a 40-year old London inventor claims to have perfected a robot process

by which a radio receiver set can be manufactured in 20 seconds. This invention is bound to revolutionize radio receiver trade both on the technical as well as on the economic sides.

America's Oldest University.—The Harvard University, Massachusetts, sets, boasts of an unbroken history of 300 years. According to an old legend Robert Harvard, the man who lent his name to the University was married to Katherine Rogers of Stratford with Shakespeare, the dramatist helping in the romance.

Wonders of the Whale.—Whales are not only the biggest creatures in the world but there has never been any creature bigger than the Whale. A baby blue whale weighs as much as an elephant and a yearling weighs about 40 tons. Being a mammal it suckles its young with very rich milk. If whales could be tamed and milked a herd of whales would supply the whole world with butter. Now they are boiled down for their oil which enters into the preparation of margarine.

Acknowledgement and Request.—"Fathers Louis Joseph and Stanislaus and relations wish to express their deep gratitude to all the Rev. Fathers, friends and sympathisers who attended the funeral of their beloved mother yesterday evening. They also request the Rev. Fathers and all good friends to pray for the repose of the soul of their dear mother."

Do You Know Series XVIII of CATHOLIC DOCTRINE

1. What do the letters A.M.G.D. stand for?
2. What is a burse?
3. What are the six liturgical colours used for Mass vestments?
4. What is the Viaticum?
5. What lesson do we learn from the Parable of Talents Matt. 25: 11-30?
6. How does the priest forgive sin?
7. What does the word Pope signify?
8. What is a manipule?
9. Who wrote the Imitation of Christ?
10. Who was the greatest defender of the divine maternity of Mary at the Council of Ephesus?

(For Answers See Below)

Do You Know Series XVIII

1. They stand for Ad Maiorem Gloriam Dei i.e. for the greater glory of God.
2. The burse is a square bag or container, like a flat pocket book, designated to hold the Corporal when it is carried to and from the altar.
3. White, Red, Green, Violet, Rose & Black.
4. Communion administered to the dying.
5. The talents are God's graces. The slothful servants who fail to use God's graces to their advantage, will be punished in the next life.
6. The priest forgives sins by the power of God when he pronounces the words of absolution.
7. The word Pope signifies father.
8. Vestment worn on the arm by the ministers of the Mass.
9. Thomas A' Kempis.
10. St. Cyril of Alexandria.

OBITUARY

We regret to record the sad and untimely death, at the age of 37, of Mr. V. J. Johnpulle on the 21st inst. He was for some time the popular Chief Clerk at the Palaly Air-Ministry Works Department. The deceased was an old Boy of St. Patrick's College where he distinguished himself in the playing field, more particularly as Cricket Captain; he was known as the 'Local Bradman.' Mr. Razor Smith, the great Cricket Coach wrote that 'Johnpulle and his brother Aseervatham were not second to any two brothers in Cricket in the Island.' Johnpulle was a good mixer and his cheerful, amiable and helpful disposition had won him many ardent friends even after his school career. He leaves behind his young wife and three little children with a host of relatives and friends to bemoan their great loss. R. I. P.

History Behind the News

THE LAST OF THE ROMANS,

the Emperor Constantine Paleologus, was killed on the steps of the Church of St. Sophia when the Turks captured Constantinople in the year 1453. And Constantinople "the hub on which the great trade routes to the East converge, the dominant strategic point in the Eastern Mediterranean, the gateway of the Black Sea, the meeting place of East and West has never ceased to play a large part in the affairs of Europe." The Slav Colosseum would like to plant his feet firmly on either side of the Bosphorus but Turkey, once the largest Empire in the world, and then 'the sick man of Europe', but now rejuvenated by Mustapha Kemal Pascha bars the way to Soviet ambition.

THE TRAGEDY OF THE TURK

is that, unlike the Norseman, he has never been more than a conqueror who exploited his possessions without touching either the hearts or the lives of his subject peoples. Once master of the Balkan Peninsula, he never troubled to assimilate its peoples or bothered to rule them effectively. Corruption and luxury had so enervated his generals and statesmen that, when the Greeks and the Serbs, the Rumanians and the Bulgarians, one after another threw off the hated yoke of masters alien to them in race and religion, Turkey was powerless to save her Empire from the inevitable collapse. But the economic and political interests of the Great Powers made it impossible for them to and by without taking a hand in the grouping of forces in the Eastern Mediterranean.

RAPACIOUS RUSSIA

was only too ready to seize the opportunity to help herself. But England with her trading interests and her concern in the Isthmus of Suez and the Red Sea as possible routes to the East and India because of the impact of Balkan nationalism on her own Slav population, and her interests in the free navigation of the Danube, and France with designs on Egypt as a possible foothold in the Eastern Mediterranean—all these Powers intervened on behalf of their favoured protagonists and made a solution to what Lord Mosley called "that shifting, intractable tangle of conflicting interests, rival peoples and antagonistic faith which is veiled under the easy name of the Eastern Question" very difficult. And thus from the beginning of the 19th century the Balkans became the cock-pit of Europe—the witches' cauldron in which the Great Powers of Europe have brewed the devil's own mixture to poison the peace of Europe and the World for a hundred years and more.

TURKEY RAN THE GAUNTLET

of five wars with Russia to maintain her control of the Dardanelles. In 1806, the Treaty of Tilsit was in effect almost a partition of Europe between the Czar and Napoleon and Russia was given a free hand against her traditional foe. In 1828 Russia intervened on behalf of the Greeks and drove the Turks back on Constantinople and secured Greek independence. The intransigent attitude of the Czar in 1853 when Napoleon III demanded that the care of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem and the Church of the Nativity at Bethlehem should be once more handed to the care of the French Catholic priests precipitated a crisis and in the Crimean War which followed both France and England fought on the side of Turkey. The State of Bulgaria was created at the end of the Russo-Turkish War of 1878 and only the threat of war with England and Austria halted the Russian advance. In World War No. 1 Russia was on the side of the Allies and the Treaty of Lausanne ordered the demilitarization of the Dardanelles. However Turkish sovereignty over the Straits was restored by the Convention of Montreux in July 20th of the same year and she was allowed to fortify the Dardanelles. In a war in which she should be a belligerent she had the right of control but in time of peace the warships and merchant vessels of the Black Sea Powers, and the merchant vessels of all other nations, were to have the unrestricted use of the Straits. Warships of the non-Black Sea Powers

could transit the Dardanelles only with Turkey's permission. It is this Convention which the U.S.S.R. now seeks to revise to her own advantage.

(To be Continued)

JAFFNA COLLEGE

Classes preparing students for the London B. A. and B. Sc. General examination in June, 1949, will be formed at Jaffna College in July, 1947. The following subjects may be offered: English, Latin, Tamil, European History, Philosophy, Theology, Pure and Applied Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry.

Classes preparing for the London Intermediate Arts and Science examinations, as in the past, will be formed the first week in July.

Inquiries and requests for application forms for the above classes should be addressed before 15th, May, 1947, to the Principal, Jaffna College (Degree Classes), Vaddukoddai.

S. K. Bunker,
Principal.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Sinnathamby Maruthamuthu of Vaddukoddai East.

Testamentary } No. 659
Jurisdiction }
Maruthamuthu Mahesan of Vaddukoddai East.

Vs.

Annamah widow of Sinnathamby Maruthamuthu of Vaddukoddai East.

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the above-named petitioner coming on for disposal before R.R. Selvadurai Esqr. District Judge, Jaffna on the 23rd day of January 1947 in the presence of Messrs. Aboobucker & Sultan, Proctors on the part of the petitioner and his affidavit dated 23rd January 1947 having been read:

It is ordered that Letters of administration to the estate of the abovenamed Petitioner as the sole heir and son of the abovenamed deceased unless the Respondent or any other person or persons interested shall appear before this Court on the 26th day of February 1946 at 10 a.m. and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

The 23rd day of January, 1947.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge

Drawn by
Sgd. Aboobucker & Sultan
Proctors for Petr.

TENDER NOTICE

The Government Agent, Northern Province, Jaffna will receive tenders up to 12 noon on Tuesday March 11, 1947 for the construction of a masonry regulator and strengthening the tank bund of Mankulam in Pallali, N.P. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable from the Govt. Agent on a deposit of Rs. 50 for each form. Further particulars could be had from him.

GUARDIAN SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	English, Tamil.	Eng. & Tamil
Yearly	6-50	5-50 10-50
Half Yearly	3-50	3-00 5-50

Postage Free.

Subscription Payable in Advance.

THE MANAGER,
St. Joseph's Catholic Press, Jaffna.



Use Crown Brand Tiles,
for they are the best
in the market, and
remember that they are
Gold Medalist.

English Portland Cement available in packets of 112 lbs.

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

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

In the matter of the Estate of the Pedrupillai Quintin Christian of 3rd Cross Street in Jaffna.

Deceased.

Testamentary } No. 614
Jurisdiction }
Mary Christian widow of P. Q. Christian of 3rd Cross Street in Jaffna.

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Helen Rasammah Swampillai
2. Agnes Ponnammah Everts both of Jaffna Town
3. May Joseph wife of
4. S. Joseph of Supreme Court, Ipoh
5. Pius Chrysostom of 64, Robinson Road, Singapore
6. J. E. T. Christopher of Jaffna Town
7. Primrose Elayathamby wife of
8. S. W. S. Elayathamby of Galle
9. P. J. Constantine of Jaffna Town.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esqr., District Judge of Jaffna, on the 28th day of October 1946 in the presence of Mr. W. B. Canagaratna Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased abovenamed be granted to the petitioner abovenamed as widow of the deceased unless the Respondents or any other person or persons interested in the subject matter appear before this Court on the 27th day of January 1947 and show cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 28th day of October, 1946.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge.

27-1-47.—Time and a showing cause intended to 10-3-47.
Sgd. R. R. Selvadurai.

Elephant Brand "R" MARK Calicut Pattern Tiles.

Three main reasons why these tiles are preferred by many:—

1. Light as asbestos roofing yet sound as bronze.
2. Even in prolonged rain, oozeiness is comparatively negligible, thus a roof of these tiles without ceiling is not at all worrisome.
3. The covering capacity is automatically increased as the brims of these tiles are reinforced and widened.

Patronised for its quality and durability by Government and private building contractors and individuals all over in India and Ceylon.

The price is moderate yet gives more than 100% value for the purchaser.

Importers & Stockists.

Joseph Machado & Sons,
MAIN STREET, JAFFNA.

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

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

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

(Incorporated in Canada in 1865 as a limited Company)

HEAD OFFICE:—MONTREAL.

BRANCH OFFICE:—Lloyd's Buildings, Fort, Colombo

The LARGEST purely LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY within the BRITISH EMPIRE, with Branches all over the world.

OUR ASSETS EXCEED £260,000,000/- Sterling.

The following types of policies are available from us:—

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| (1) Endowment Policies | (2) Marriage Dowry Policies |
| (3) Educational Policies | (4) Family Income Policies |
| (5) Pension or Retirement Income Policies | (6) Three Stage Policies |

The "Sun Life of Canada" Policy-Contract is by far the BEST POLICY-CONTRACT that any Life Assurance Company can offer to its Policy-holders.

Our Policy-Contract incorporates all the BEST & LATEST FEATURES in Life Assurance, thereby giving every single policy-holder of ours the maximum possible benefits and facilities at the minimum possible cost.

Write now for particulars, or contact me if possible, at "INDRA VASA," HOSPITAL ROAD, JAFFNA.

My Colombo Address:

P. O. Box 28, Colombo.

R. WIJAYA INDRA,

Agent.

EAGLE STAR

Insurance Company Ltd., London.

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

Printed and Published for the Proprietor by BASTIAMPILLAI SANTIAGOEPILLAI residing at 39, Main Street, Jaffna, at St. Joseph's Catholic Press, Catholic Mission Premises, Main Street, Jaffna, on Friday the 28th February, 1947.