

Rates of Subscription
 Eng. Guardian
 Yearly Rs. 6-50
 Half Yearly Rs. 3-50
 Eng. & Tamil Guardian
 Yearly Rs. 10-50
 Half Yearly Rs. 5-50

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."

Fates of Advertisement
 Family Announcements Rs. 5-00 per insertion
 Order Nisi Rs. 5-00 per 2 insertions
 Trade Advertisements on Application.

Vol 72, No. 21.

JAFFNA, FRIDAY JUNE 6, 1947.

PRICE: 10 CENTS.

Poster Campaign Opens Nation-wide Catholic Action Counter-attack

Church Hits Back in Italy

A Country-wide Poster campaign has been launched by Catholic Action in a counter-attack against the assault of Italy's Anti-clericals on the Church, the Vatican and the Holy Father.

The posters, distributed to every parish, are already appearing on walls. They are illustrated and are directed chiefly to the working classes.

The first, entitled "Old Songs," brands anti-clericalism as an "old and gross method by which tyrants have for centuries vainly tried and are trying to destroy Christianity and the Church."

Future posters will teach fundamental doctrines of the Church, including the existence of God, the immortality of the soul and the efficacy of the sacraments.

To support the poster campaign, demonstrations will be staged, at which replies will be made to anti-clerical propaganda.

TOTALITARIANS' AIM

The "Old Songs" poster points out that "totalitarians are not fighting against the Vatican as a foreign State but against Christianity that has defended and will always defend the dignity of man against every form of economic or political slavery."

"The Fascists," it continues, "reacted to the words of the Pontiff, who blamed them for their totalitarianism, by looting and destroying Catholic Action clubs throughout the country."

"Anti-clericalism aims at dividing the masses of workers.

"The Nazis, who imprisoned and deported Cardinals and Bishops and tried to destroy the great Catholic institutions in Germany were the forerunners of the present anti-clerical press. *Bezboznik*, the official newspaper of the godless Bolsheviks, contains pages of instruction and guidance for the anti-clerical press.

41 MILLION

"To day in Italy anti-clericalism is backed by those who wish to rob the citizen of his spiritual and political liberty. But the Italian people are reacting with energy to the obscene and immoral attack of the anti-Christians."

The second poster, entitled "Lay State in Catholic Italy?" gives the following statistics:

In Italy there are 41,000,000 Christians.

Of the 1,022,700 babies born each year, only about 10,000 are not baptised, and these include Jewish infants. Family life is strong and fruitful. Every family has an average of four children.

Of the 5,222,530 children at Italian schools during 1945-46 only 30,000 refused to attend religious instruction.

"In view of these statistics," the poster adds, "does anyone really wish to reduce baptism to a simple inscription in the public register?" In a Christian democracy we cannot go against the will of the people.—(New Leader.)

THE BRAVE CARDINAL

Nowadays, when the people of Belgium have been delivered for a second time within a quarter of a century from the same conqueror, it is interesting to recall a scene that was enacted in the year 1916 in the Cathedral of Sainte-Gudule in Brussels.

The Cathedral was packed on that July day. People had been waiting inside since early morning, for word had come that their Cardinal had defied the German commandant and had travelled to the capital to see his people. A good part of the way he had covered on foot, so it was told.

Brussels had been completely taken over by the invader. German sentries were stationed at all important street intersections, and the iron tramp of the Kaiser's soldiers rang through the city. The occupation had lasted since 1914, and the populace faced the future with despair.

When news spread like wild fire that their Cardinal had dared to challenge the restrictions that had been imposed upon his movements a thrill of hope ran through Belgium. That was why the ancient edifice was so crowded that day.

It seems the Germans also knew of his coming. Their men were massed all around those throngs. The arrogant conquerors believed that the spirit of the nation was almost broken.

Suddenly, a movement ran through all those onlookers. After long waiting, their patience was rewarded.

Slowly the tall figure of the Cardinal, his spare frame cloaked in his scarlet robe, mounted the stairway to the pulpit.

There his serene gaze rested upon all his people.

His voice was heard first in the quiet words of preparation.

Then he spoke clearly to the waiting multitude:

"My children never bend your necks to the conqueror."

It was as if a great bell had sounded a rallying-call.

The red-robed patriot continued, "Never bend your necks! Hold steadfast your faith in God and in the day of your liberation!"

Outside and inside the cathedral walls the Germans were watching and listening. The crowd they surrounded had all they could do to keep from crying out.

At the very end it was too much for them to control.

When the Cardinal came down from the pulpit and moved towards the door, the people suddenly realized he was leaving them to return to Malines.

Who could tell how soon he would be allowed to return? The conqueror might shut him up so that he would never be heard again.

At the thought of such a final farewell, the great multitude could restrain itself no longer.

Their shout was heard as if it were one great voice:

"Vive le roi! Vive monsigneur!"

The sound of those words must have touched the noble Cardinal's heart. He went swiftly forward, turning neither to the right nor to the left. But the people whom he passed saw his cheeks wet with tears.—(The Missionary Servant.)

A Panoramic View of the Catholic World

Denial of Attempted Diplomatic Relations

Vatican Radio denied press reports that negotiations were in progress between Vatican and Poland with a view to diplomatic relations. Diplomatic relations are hampered *ipso facto* by the Polish Communist Government's attitude towards the Vatican and the Concordat.

Prisoners' Gratitude

German prisoners in Ram Ram, Morocco, have by work and self sacrifice collected some 350,000 francs to be sent to the Holy Father in recognition for the help His Holiness rendered to their destitute families in Germany.

Communist "Sermon Spies"

Priests who preach are being reported verbatim by "sermon-spies" who later send their reports to the Communist Government. It is most interesting to note that just recently in Czechoslovakia itself Communists tried and found guilty Nazis who had used this same method. In Moravia Fr S. Trochta, S.C., rector of an institute in Prague and lately a prisoner in several Nazi concentration camps, was held for questioning regarding a spiritual retreat he gave.

Increase in the English Membership of the S.V.P

According to a general report from the world reunion of S.V.P. societies in Paris, England has had the greatest increase in membership of the S.V.P. There are now about 250,000 members.

Queuing up to hear Mass

Visitors to the Isle of Man are surprised at a long queue of people outside St. Mary's church, Douglas. The answer is that the people are waiting for the finish of the previous Mass so that they may hear Mass. Irish visitors especially like to see the hermit cells on the island, because there they see so many Irish names. The Isle of Man for the most part was evangelized by Irish missionaries.

Legion of Honour for British Nun

Mr. W. Churchill's family while visiting France with their father were present when a British nun, Sister Elizabeth, was presented with the Legion of Honour for her bravery during the last two wars.

Damien Day and Russia

Damien's Lepers recently held their *Damien Day* in which they prayed especially for Russia from Hawaii.

Honolulu also on *Damien Day* held special services for the conversion of Russia and prayed for the millions of unfortunates living under Soviet tyranny.

Immorality in Cinema and Press

President De Nicola has received petitions from Italy's National Association for Good Morals urging stricter measures against immorality in cinema and press.—(New Leader.)

The English Hierarchy and World Order

"The Hierarchy of England and Wales say that World Order rests on an acknowledged dependence on God and that they see no hope of the establishment of true peace unless there are changes in the constitution of the United Nations. The promise of peace was made to men of goodwill. This goodwill is the pre-requisite of world order. It can be achieved only through the humble acknowledgement by men of their dependence upon Almighty God. The root cause of all rivalry and discontent is the lack of charity. Political convictions and patriotism are not strong enough to form the foundations of peace and justice. The law of God and the mutual love of members of the human family are alone capable of restoring the broken trust between nations. In these perilous times it is the duty of Catholics, irrespective of their political allegiance, to work together for the common good."

Secret Catholics

Speaking at the Old Xaverian dinner at Liverpool Mr. Justice Lynskey made the following pertinent remarks: "Today, when so many people are materialists it is a matter of considerable importance that men should not disguise the fact that they are Catholics. There are Catholics who do so because it seems it might affect them materially. People who do this are always discovered and earn for themselves the utmost contempt of Catholics and non-Catholics alike. Today there are so many people who have no beliefs at all and are not even atheists. They are purely materialists. It is the duty of Catholics and non-Catholics who have religious beliefs to assert themselves and act as a leaven amongst their fellow-men. There is such a terrible amount of youthful delinquency and adolescent crime because of the absence of religious belief."

Russians are Still Religious

The Russian people are still religious at heart and vast numbers have hung on to their faith. The stories of 3,000 Russians making their Easter duties in Moscow's only Catholic Church illustrates the true position of religion there to-day. Religion is free, but past persecutions have made it extremely difficult to follow. After the revolution the Soviet separated church from State. From 1917 to 1922 there was the first persecution. Then an easing up until the second persecution began in 1919 which closed 1,440 churches in a year. In 1937 a further 1,500 churches were closed. In a little over a year there was a 10,000 decrease in the number of religious associations.

The fear of War caused a reversal. In 1939 Old Russia was brought back to help the morale of the people, and Old Russia included Religion. But Catholicism is attacked because Catholics cannot give their full and undivided allegiance in both spiritual and material matters to one centre. The Catholics of the Byzantine order are persecuted to make them conform to the Orthodox Church.

(Continued on Page 4)

TALAWILA ST. ANNE 1947

FESTIVAL DATES:

17-July 1947—Hoisting of Flagstaff
20-July 1947—First Feast
27-July 1947—Second Feast

Houses.

- (1) A few Houses are available
- (2) Bookings close on 30-6-47
- (3) Prior authority is necessary to occupy any building.

Travelling.

- (1) Bus Terminus will be at PALAKKUDA
- (2) Motor Vehicles running from Palakkuda to Talawila will use the special Route allotted to them.

Food.

- (1) Please bring your food Rations.
- (2) Fish, Meat and Vegetables will be available at the Camp.

Camp.

- (1) Please avoid occupying any "No Camping Area"
- (2) Keep the premises and neighbourhood clean and tidy
- (3) Camp Regulations should be strictly adhered to.

Payments.

- (1) Money Orders and Postal Orders should be made payable at KALPITIYA Post Office.
- (2) Payment by Cheque should be avoided as much as possible.
- (3) Early payments will be greatly appreciated.

Church.

- (1) Always remember that the Church is a Place of Worship.
- (2) Church Verandhas should not be used for any mundane purpose.
- (3) Fresh flowers to adorn the altars will be always welcome.

General.

- (1) Beware of Thieves.
- (2) Be prepared to face slight inconveniences.
- (3) Remember that a Pilgrimage is An Act of Devotion and not a time for Merry Making.

THE PARISH PRIEST,
Talawila, Etalalai.

Church Calendar

JUNE 1947

FRI. ...5 S. Norbert.
SAT. ...7 S. Robert.
SUN. ...8 2 P.—St. William.
MON. ...9 S. Felician.
TUES. ...10 S. Margaret.
WED. ...11 S. Barnabas.
THURS. ...12 S. John of S. Facund.
FRI. ...13 SACRED HEART.

The Catholic Guardian

JUNE 6TH 1947

THE STRIKE EPIDEMIC

We are presenting a precipitation of some fundamental thoughts on strikes.

A strike is a means used by his employees to bring pressure to bear on a recalcitrant employer whose purse is hit by the stoppage of work. He may thus be forced into compliance.

A strike is therefore like war: it means the breakdown of civilized methods and a reversion to the principle of force. Force is never under any circumstances the happiest arbitrator.

Strikes are like war too in this that they are justifiable only when the cause is just and all other methods have been tried and have failed. They are not to be entered on lightly. Irresponsibility under this head is particularly reprehensible.

The sympathetic strike is a weapon to be used more sparingly still. Its ultimate justification rests on the ground that the general public in part or wholly is concerned to bring pressure on the original recalcitrant employer.

A general strike is a different kettle of fish entirely. It means two very different things. It

means in general Socialistic theory the prelude to civil war, the unleashing of lawlessness. But it also means holding the pistol not at the head of an employer but at the head of the whole community. As in war, the misery devolving on the general public is great; from the point of view of the strike theory the acuter that misery, the better for the end the strike has in view. *The helplessness and misery of the community is therefore directly willed*; at the very least it ought to have been foreseen if the strike is not utterly reckless. Therein lies its menace.

If that menace is deliberately organized and engineered by bodies or individuals whose whole policy is professedly disruptive and who take their cue from abroad then the ghastly situation emerges that both strikers and the general public are being unwittingly used as pawns, blind, helpless pawns in a game dictated by foreign agencies and implemented by the docile instruments of foreign interests.

Nobody can view such a situation and development with complacency. Our people are being misled. They are being used as cannon fodder. No government can sit down calmly before such a challenge.

But it is not government alone that is concerned. If the strikers or rather their manipulators are deprived of public sympathy, their game is up. That is the lesson that sticks out a mile from the General Strike in England in 1926.

The attitude of the nation was that it was not pronouncing on the merits or demerits of the strike but that it was not going to allow itself to be bludgeoned into tame acceptance of anything and everything the strikers demanded. Let the strikers return to their work and their grievances would be investigated sympathetically and immediately. Thus the General Strike of 1926 was ended by the public spirit of the people of Britain. The moral is obvious.

It is up to all of us to-day to see, at the very lowest, that the food-rationing and distributing system, at least works. Are we going to stand by passively and see our people starve in the furtherance of an ideology and tactics inspired and directed from abroad? We are shaking off one imperialism but are we going to submit like dumb driven animals to the imposition of a much worse imperialism involving the corrosion of soul and body? Our object is not the servile state.

One last point. If, as we sincerely believe, the strikers are being completely misled and misguided, the remedy will consist not in vindictive action against them individually or collectively. The villains of the piece working behind the scenes are indicated. But—and it is a very operative *but*—it is up to their dupes to come to a realization of the position and to make such realization manifest by their actions.

It requires courage to do this, the courage of conviction.

Sunday Within the Octave of Corpus Christi

Gospel

There was a man that gave a great supper
And sent out many invitations.
And when the time came for his supper,
He sent one of his own servants
Telling the invited guests to come,
For all was now ready.
And all of them, with one accord,
began making excuses.
I have bought a farm,
the first said to him,
And I must needs go and look over it;
I pray thee, count me excused.
And another said,
I have bought five pair of oxen,
And I am on my way to
make trial of them;
I pray thee, count me excused.
And another said, I have married a wife,
And so I am unable to come.
The servant came back
and told his master all this,
Whereupon the host fell into a rage,
And said to his servant,
Quick, go out into the streets
and lanes of the city;
Bring in the poor, the cripples,
the blind and the lame.
And when the servant told him,
Sir, all has been done
according to thy command,
But there is room left still,
The master said to the servant,
Go out into the highways
and the hedges,
And give them no choice but to come in,
That so my house may be filled.
I tell you,
None of those who were first invited
Shall taste of my supper.
(St. Luke: 14, 16-24.)

Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament

Last Thursday the whole Catholic world celebrated the feast of "Corpus Christi". From apostolic times, the church has celebrated the institution of the Holy Eucharist on Maundy Thursday in Holy Week. But since the church, at that season is occupied with the consideration of our Lord's Passion, it was desirable that another day should be set apart as the Feast of the Most Blessed Sacrament. St. Juliana, a holy religious of Leige, was commissioned in a vision by our Lord Himself to use her influence with the ecclesiastical authorities, for the introduction of this Feast, and Pope Urban IV who knew the saint personally, when he was Archdeacon at Leige commanded the celebration of the Feast on the Thursday following the first Sunday after Pentecost. One of the reasons that induced the Pope to introduce the Feast was to stem the heresy of Berengarius.

Devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament implies not only the ordinary knowledge of the Sacrament, which we learnt at school in our penny Catechism, but the pains we take by reading and studying and by our frequent meditations on the mystery. It implies also affection for the Sacrament, above all for Him, the Author of the Sacrament, Who is really present under the Sacramental veil; for the ceremony of Benediction, for the Church, the Altar, the Tabernacle, for the Priest who is ordained chiefly to administer the Sacrament.

Most Catholics, because of ignorance, lukewarmness, or shyness even, do not visit our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament as often as they should, nor receive Him frequently in Holy Communion. Let the few of us who are really devoted to our Sacramental Lord, by our example and prayers gradually influence others to seek this Holy repast. We should acquire more knowledge of this Mystery. How bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ will for ever be the "mysterium fidei", but the fact that they are so changed need seem to be a mystery only to those who do not take the trouble to study it. We should know the sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel in which our Lord fore-told that He would institute It and we should know the Chapters of the Gospel which narrate the events of the Last Supper, as also St. Paul's words on the revelation of this Sacrament in his letter to the

Corinthians. We should also study books on the Mass and on the Holy Eucharist.

The contemporaries of our Lord saw and conversed with Him. Although we are born centuries afterwards, yet, we see and hear Him by Faith. Our visits to the Most Blessed Sacrament are as real or rather more real and effective than it would be, were we living with Him when He lived at Nazareth. If we had only the Faith that we actually possess, our visits would not be more often then, than now. It is the same loving Saviour, with the same kind Heart, the same zeal for our good, who once abode in Nazareth, and now abides in the Tabernacle. Just because He has made Himself so easily accessible to us do we forget Him and appreciate His generosity less. He will receive us now as He would then. He is there only for our sakes. If we are really devoted to our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament, we can with joyous expectation look forward, when our life draws to a close, to meet as our Judge, Him with whom we have dealt during our life as our Friend.
C.W.M. Series. V. T.

O BEATA NOX!

O beata nox! O happy night! So sings the Deacon in the name of the Church when he blesses the big Pascal Candle on Holy Saturday.

If it is true that the spirit of darkness inspires wicked men to follow the evil ways of night, if it is true that the enemy of "the good man who sowed his field with clean seed" came "while all the world was asleep and scattered tares among the wheat", if it is true that it is under the cover of night and darkness that a great multitude of sins are perpetrated, it is also true that the Church of God has every reason to bless with the Deacon of Holy Saturday an innumerable number of nights.

With the psalmist we repeat to this day: "I meditated in the night within my own heart." In the night I have remembered thy name, O Lord, and have kept thy love. "I rose at midnight to give praise to thee for the judgments of thy justification."

At Christmas we remember the night when Jesus was born, on Maundy Thursday the night when He suffered His agony while the disciples were asleep. We learn that so many monks and a white army of Virgins rise at night to sing Matins. We learn that among so many saints, our St. Francis Xavier used to walk alone at night along some beaches of the East, and in the stillness of the night offered his burning love to his Lord and Master. Saint Gemma Galgani, who died not very long ago, could not sleep at times but she could pray. Oh! what a prayer was her prayer at such moments. She could not forget it and near her death she could exclaim: "Oh, Jesus! how sweet were these nights!"

Those of us who were present at Fatima-Hill on the 12th evening of last month had a happy night. Father Balasundram had prepared the souls for these hours of adoration by well followed sermons during the previous days. The full rosary was explained and sung before the Blessed Sacrament exposed. In the Pandateruppu wilderness, beyond the old Irksa Muruku tree which inspired awe and superstitious terror only two years ago before our Our Lady of Fatima had inspired that spot, while the moon was strongly and deliciously blowing, from our humble shrine of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, fervent prayers ascended towards the throne of God.

Portuguese pilgrims at Fatima saw at times a miraculous rain of roses. We did not witness such prodigies here but we are sure that this night of quiet and pious devotion will bring abundant blessings for our dear Tamil land.

I thank all those who were present for the religious spirit in which they spent that happy night. I praise their courage. I learn that a good number of them remained before the Blessed Sacrament from evening till morning.

Witnessing all this, we proudly feel that our Tamil Catholics, our Fatima-Hill friends, will fulfil beyond expectation a sentence we find in one of the columns of the last "Ceylon Catholic

Messenger"; "The Pandaterruppu shrine stands for Ceylon's most practical acceptance of the message brought to the world by Portugal's twentieth century Madonna."

This sentence is not vain praise, it is a very serious encouragement, it is a programme. Let us follow it. Let each of us do his best to help in the erection of a worthy shrine to our "Madonna."

A friend who did not sign his letter sent me not long ago a small sum but the words he wrote were infinitely pleasing to me. This donation was two rupees

"For Fatima-Hill, the Mount of Faith As humble offering to keep the fire of devotion burning"

Many thanks, dear friend! Like the faithful of the Middle Ages, great builders of Cathedrals, some have brought some stones for the shrine. It is not the last I feel sure.

When I write these lines in the room of our Fatima shed I can hear the workers starting to improve our temporary chapel. We will do the necessary bit to protect it against white ants and fire. We have a terrible fear of these two enemies. The white ants may cause great damage slowly but surely. A spark of fire may destroy in some minutes the greatest part of our efforts.

These details will catch the eye of many sympathetic souls. We are sure they will be only too glad to come to our help, to have this occasion to do good.

And I hope, in a day not too distant, that they will be rewarded and rejoice when the first stone of the future shrine of Pandaterruppu will be laid by our Bishop.

Let the prayers of all bring to us this happiness as soon as possible.

HENRI GESLAND, O.M.I.

LOCAL & GENERAL

Feast of the Sacred Heart.

The feast of the Sacred Heart will be celebrated by the members of the Sacred Heart Confraternity, St. Patrick's College Branch, Senior Division on Friday 13th inst.

The programme will be as follows:—

9th Monday 6 p.m. Annual General Meeting. Speaker: Very Revd. Fr. G. A. Gurusamy, O.M.I.

10th, 11th, 12th. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 6 p.m. Triduum in the College Chapel (Sermon and Benediction.)

13th Friday 6 p.m. High Mass and Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

8—9 a.m. Guard of Honour by the Senior Members.

Feast of St. Antony, Passeyur.

The Annual Feast of St. Antony will be celebrated at St. Antony's Church, Passeyur on the 13th inst. The following information is for the benefit of the clients of St. Antony.

June 12th—7 a.m. Solemn High Mass of the Blessed Sacrament.

4-30 p.m. Pontifical Vespers of the Blessed Sacrament. Procession of the Blessed Sacrament.

13th—7 a.m. Pontifical High Mass.

Early Dissolution.

The State Council is likely to be dissolved on July 2—eight days before the scheduled time. It is understood that the Ministers holding the various portfolios are making arrangements to entertain the members of their respective Committees to a farewell lunch.

University to Flower in Jaffna College

Addressing a gathering of Old Boys at Badulla, Revd. S. K. Bunker, Principal, Jaffna College, Vaddukkoddai said that Degree classes would soon be started at Jaffna College. The University Department which will be separated from the School Department will be placed under four or five Science professors from the United States and England.

Jaffna Tamil to be B.B.C. Tamil Announcer

Mr. S. Sivapathasundaram, the Colombo Broadcasting Station's Senior Tamil Announcer, has accepted the post offered to him by the B.B.C. as a Tamil Assistant in the Eastern Service. Mr. Sivapathasundaram has signed a contract for one year. He will be paid a minimum sala-

ry of £530 a year and £250 as expatriation allowance. The passage to and from Britain will be paid by the B.B.C.

Land Army Does not Attract the Unemployed—There are about 500 vacancies for Sevakas in the land army at present. But neither the ex-servicemen nor the unemployed who have registered themselves in the Employment Exchanges seem keen on enrolling themselves as Sevakas.

G.C.S.U Men Interdicted.—About 20 members of the General Clerical Service Union have been interdicted from duty for having been convicts of the public meeting on the Galle Face, Colombo, on May 28. This meeting was a direct breach of Public Service Regulation 176. At this meeting speeches defying the policy of the Government and intended to incite disaffection in the public service were made.

Strike Situation.—Strikes which are cropping up all over the Island have concentrated themselves in Colombo. At the time of writing about 9,000 men have downed tools and the following companies are affected. Messrs. Walker Sons & Co. Ltd, the Oil Companies, the Gas Company, the Motor Engineering Workers, Tea and Rubber Companies, Chalmers' Groceries, Apothecaries and Whittalls (Printing Sections.) There seems to be a likelihood of further strikes in sympathy that might even take the proportions of a General Strike. The majority of the clerks at the Secretariat left their desks on May 30.

Comparative Decrease of Revenue.—From the Treasury returns it is clear that revenue exceeded expenditure by Rs. 44,141,499 during the last seven months of the current financial year. But the revenue for the corresponding period last year was Rs. 58,176,900. At this rate vanishing point can be reached in less than five years and the bankruptcy prophesied by an eminent K.C. will soon be upon us.

Taxi-Stand Thugs Responsible for Thefts.—The Inspector General of Police Mr. R. Aluvihare is of opinion that the unsatisfactory type of hiring car drivers and the thugs loitering about the taxi-stands are responsible for many of the city thefts. He recommends many methods successfully used in Indian cities like Madras and Delhi which he recently visited, for introduction into Ceylon. In Madras taxi-drivers are licensed by the Police only after searching enquiries into their antecedents.

A Bogie in the Batticaloa Train Burnt—A first and second class bogie in the Batticaloa train was burnt as the result of a spark from the engine falling on the seats. Fortunately the compartments were empty and consequently no loss of life is reported.

Education Bill.—Speaking from the chair on May 29 Sir Mohamed Macan Marikar said at the annual general meeting of the Ceylon Muslim Educational Society Ltd. that he welcomed the passing of the Education Bill in its amended form which would enable them to spread their educational and cultural work in other parts of the country. The two schools conducted by the society were run at a loss for want of their own buildings.

Heroism of a Woman.—How a woman armed herself with a sword and dealt a severe blow to one of the four members of a gang possessed with revolvers is reported from Swarapola, Kesbawa Police area. It would appear that K. Helena Peiris and her husband were disturbed one night by strange noises. Lighting a bottle lamp they went out into the garden to find out the cause of the noise when the husband was attacked by the gangsters. Then the woman rushed into the house and coming back with a sword hacked one of the assailants with it. The assailants opened fire on the woman but fled at the first sign of battle. The heroic woman sustained shot injuries and has been admitted into the General Hospital.

Indian Scholarships to African Students.—On a request by African leaders to Pandit Nehru, President of the Interim Government in India, the Government of India has awarded five scholarships to deserving students from East Africa to prosecute their studies in any one of the Indian Universities up to the degree or diploma standards. Each scholarship will be worth Rs. 200 per month.

ANNOUNCEMENT

A Branch Establishment of the
PREMIER BAKERY will be opened at
Kankesanturai on 11th June 1947 at
Premises No. 210, JAFFNA—KKS.
Main Road.

Patronage Solicited.

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Rs. 10,000 for Independence Bell

—Mr. Haridas Majumdar, leader of the Nationalist party in Bengal legislature has offered Rs. 10,000 for a gun metal Independence bell to be made. This bell will be rung on the day India gets her Independence and on each anniversary of Independence day. The American Independence bell now kept in Philadelphia that rang in American Independence gave the idea to Mr. Majumdar.

Allama Mashriqi—While India labours under the direction of three leaders the British, Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Mohamed Ali Jinnah with their respective political ideologies a fourth one has crept into the news in the person of Allama Mashriqi—the Wise Man of the East—who preaches a different gospel. He advises the Indian people to revolt against Jinnah and Gandhi and start a revolution against the British. Allama Mashriqi whose real name is Inayatulla Khan is a Fascist at heart and a Nazi in activities.

India's Sterling Balances in England.

—The Indian Delegation for the forthcoming discussions on the sterling balances will leave for London, political developments permitting, in the latter half of June. Mr. Ananthasayanam Iyengar, M.L.A. (Central) speaking on the scaling down of the sterling balances said, "The talk of the scaling down of the sterling balances is an act of treachery and betrayal of the interests of India. Had India been independent, she could have insisted on payment then and there by gold and capital goods. To spread payments over fifty years is equally unjust since the balances were the result of the squeezing out of goods and commodities within a brief span of three or four years. India's representatives should insist on repayment within five or ten years. Britain could also transfer to India some of the assets of her nationals in India and abroad.

Fires in France and England.

—As a result of fire breaking out in a cartridge factory where several thousand barrels of waste cotton were stored much loss to property was caused in the fire swept area of Saint Owen, Paris and hundreds of people were rendered homeless. Seven fire brigades were called into action.

—Sandringham heath close to the Royal Estate blazed into fire over a 300 acre area. Although the breeze fanned the fire into major proportions the Royal Estate fire brigade directed by the King's Chief Fire Officer and assisted by the workers on the estate brought the fire under control.

On the Death of Anton. M. Peter, R.I.P.

Anton M. Peter was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Peter of Mathakal and was born on 24th February, 1925. He crowned a brilliant College career by passing the Senior School Certificate and the London Matriculation Examinations from St. Henry's, Havelai, and thereafter, followed a course in Science for two years at Jaffna College. In October 1945 he joined the Co-operative Department as a sub-inspector and worked, first in Jaffna, and later at Mannar. On 26th April, 1947 he happened to be on duty at Mullikulam, a remote village 42 miles from Mannar. After holding a meeting and looking into the accounts of a Co-operative Store there, he went at 3 p.m. for a sea-bathe with a friend. As he had another meeting to attend in the afternoon, he avoided a safe detour to return and made straight for the shore when he stepped into an eddy and came by his tragic end. His body was brought later to his house at Mathakal and laid to rest at St. Antony's Burial Ground amidst unprecedented scenes of gloom and mourning.

He belonged to an ancient family of Mathakal. His genial personality, amiability, earnestness and infectious enthusiasm made him an undisputed leader of, and an example to the youth of whatever place he happened to be in. He was deeply religious and was in the forefront of Catholic Action. He had his faults, but then they were in reality exaggerated virtues. He was charitable to the point of forgetting and foregoing his bare and simple needs. He also had a passion for personal cleanliness. Always fresh, neat and crisp, he avoided with religious scrupulousness anything that savoured of uncleanness or disorder.

Although he had been in the service of Government for only 18 months, he was full of promise and impressed his brother officers and superiors by his remarkable intelligence, keenness, efficiency and integrity. While yet a boy he displayed wonderful originality and constructive ability.

It is heartrending to think that a life of such promise should have been cut off in the flower of youth—and in such tragic circumstances. One cannot sympathise too deeply with his inconsolable parents, brothers and sisters, and other relations and friends to all of whom the shock has been so sudden, severe and poignant.

His Excellency the Governor Preaches Sanity in Action

Clerical Servants are Victims of 'Men with Sinister Aims'

His Excellency the Governor, in his broadcast address from the Colombo Station on Monday night, said his message was primarily directed to members of the Government Clerical Service because he believed some of them might be in real doubt as to where their duty lay.

But he hoped that what he had to say might help other Government servants and employees of private firms to consider their position and responsibilities as citizens of Ceylon, at the very time when she was on the eve of becoming free to settle her own internal affairs without outside interference.

"The quarrel, if you like so to call it, between the General Clerical Service Union and the Government is a quite simple one, but it seems more than doubtful, if many of the members—particularly in outstations—know what the real issue is," he said. "Neither the Board of Ministers nor myself have denied trade union rights to Government servants for all time. What we have said is that the present moment, when the State Council has only a month or so to live, is not the right time to tackle so important a question.

"Legislation to clarify the position would clearly be essential. It is obvious therefore that any legislation passed now could not be regarded as permanent, as it would be entirely competent for the new Parliament to revise or rescind it.

"The proper and democratic course, therefore, is for those members of the Clerical Service, who wish to attain those rights, to press for them by constitutional methods and by registering their votes at the next election for those candidates who are willing to support them.

"In the meantime, I have taken on my own responsibility urgent steps to institute at once the principle of conciliation machinery and collective bargaining by the inauguration of Whitley Councils.

"Trade Union rights are not a prerequisite of Whitley Councils, but whether experience may show that their concession is subsequently desirable or not, there is much spade work to be done before either system can be made operative.

"To expedite the work I have obtained the services of an acknowledged expert on the subject on the staff side, and it has been my hope that the executive of the General Clerical Service Union would have shown their practical appreciation of the problems involved by co-operating with the Government now without prejudice to the trade union issue.

A Conspiracy

"This they have flatly refused to do, but stuck stubbornly to their demand for the immediate grant of the same trade union rights as are enjoyed by Government servants in the United Kingdom. They have gone further and in their endeavour to force the hand of the Government in this matter have enlisted the aid of the leaders of political parties who have made no secret of the fact that it is their deliberate policy by the use of the strike weapon to try to paralyse all essential Government and other activities, and thus render the Government incapable of performing its elementary duty of preserving law and order and maintaining services essential to the life of the community.

"Such a challenge must be squarely met by any Government worthy of the name, whatever its political creed may be, and as an old member of the Ceylon Civil Service myself I cannot believe that the large majority of the clerical service in Ceylon have so far forgotten their old traditions of loyalty as to become parties to such a conspiracy.

Conveners 'Trapped'

"Indeed, the enquiry into the events of the last few days reveals that some at least of the published conveners of the Galle Face meeting were trapped into the giving of their signatures,

while it appears at least doubtful if in any case those signatures were appended after consultation with and the full approval of the Associations concerned.

"As already announced by the Chief Secretary, individual enquiries are being urgently conducted, so that those concerned may be given the earliest possible opportunity of exonerating themselves. Some have already been so exonerated.

"Naturally, the slogan 'victimisation' is having to work overtime at the moment, but I would seriously suggest to members of the Clerical Service that they have woken up, perhaps too late, to find themselves the unwilling victims of able men whose sinister purpose is to create in this Island such widespread disorders that clerical work in common with all other forms of Government activity would become impossible.

Open Intimidation

"That is the position that must squarely be faced, and must be faced now. Tomorrow, many clerical servants will have to make their choice, and I have no doubt what it will be, if it is a free choice. They would come back to work; but many are afraid to do so owing to the methods of open intimidation that are being employed.

"The police are aware of this and are taking special steps to afford protection to officers proceeding to and from their places of duty and to prosecute with the utmost rigour any offenders who are guilty of intimidation.

"I wish to take this opportunity of acknowledging the many offers of assistance and messages of support that have been received from all quarters and which make it clear beyond doubt that all responsible sections of the public are solidly behind the Government in this matter.

"I thank all those who have offered personal assistance; the Government will certainly make use of their services should it become necessary.

"In conclusion, I appeal to all members of the Clerical Services to attend their offices without fail tomorrow morning and to show thereby that they are conscious of their duty to their country and are determined to maintain the high traditions and reputation which the Clerical Services have enjoyed in the past."—*The Times of Ceylon.*

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A Panoramic View of the Catholic World

(Continued from Page 1)

Atonement for War Crime

As a public confession of war guilt on behalf of the German people, more than 200,000 men of the Archdiocese of Cologne are taking part in a six months' pilgrimage bearing a huge wooden cross weighing two tons. It is being carried from parish to parish taking in 115 parishes.

The crusade began at Krefeld. It will end on Sept. 28 at Aachen Cathedral where the cross will remain as a permanent memorial. Called the "Cross of the men of 1947" it also reminds the population that there is no salvation but in the cross.

As they walk the men from the various parishes pray for a just and merciful peace. A book is being carried which each parish priest signs and to which he applies the parish seal.

The Cross was designed by Prof. Anton Wendling of Aachen, widely known in Germany as a prominent Catholic artist, who, before the war designed many of the flags and banners of Catholic associations which were subsequently banned by the Nazis."—*The Universe.*

Professor and Two Sons Become Friars

A Japanese professor who received the grace of vocation through the atomic bombing of Nagasaki is now Bro. Peter of the Franciscan Conventual Community in the bombed city. Two of his sons became brothers with him. The professor's wife and daughter were lost in the atomic explosion.

Priest Stabbed at Altar Rails

A former marine named Don Laurentz aged 26 was charged by New Orleans Police for stabbing Fr. James Courtney, S.J., four times with a pocket knife. As Fr. Courtney was about to give Holy Communion at the Jesuit Church at Sunday Mass the attack took place at the Altar rails. After an emergency operation the priest's condition was reported to be fair. Eight men beat the attacker to the floor. He refused to make any other statement than that he was a non-Catholic.—*New Leader.*

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

In the matter of the Estate of the late Christopher Patrick Aseervatham of Martyn's Road, Jaffna.

Deceased.

Testamentary } No. 696
Jurisdiction }
John Mutiah Aseervatham of Temple Road, Jaffna.

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. A. E. Tisseverasinghe and wife.
2. Mary Aseervatham of Education Office, Colombo.
3. A. E. Puvamanasinghe and wife.
4. Regina Aseervatham of Government Treasury, Colombo.
5. A. E. Tambar and wife
6. Mabel Aseervatham of Main Street, Jaffna and
7. J. E. F. Aseervatham, Secy. Y.M.C.A. Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esq., District Judge, Jaffna, on the 15th day of May 1947, in the

presence of Mr. R. Emerson, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the abovenamed petitioner dated 25th April 1947 having been read:

It is further declared that the said Petitioner be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration of the estate of the deceased and the same be issued to him accordingly unless the respondents or others interested shall on or before the 19th day of June, 1947 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 15th day of May 1947.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge.

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