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JAFFNA, FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 1947

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HOW OUR LORD DIED

FACTUAL REPORT BY A SURGEON

By James Lyle Cameron, M. D., F. R. C. S.

Crucifixion was one of the most savagely cruel forms of execution known to man.

The victim was slowly tortured to death.

To his immeasurably excruciating agony was added the most completely humiliating degradation to which any human being could be subjected. Before those who compassed and those who witnessed his execution, his state could not be lowlier.

The objects of this form of execution were to torture, to humiliate and to kill.

The motives actuating undertakings to these ends were hatred, malice, envy, revenge and jealousy: all complete inversions of the noble virtues of love, charity, forbearance, kindness and goodwill.

These evil motives are characterised by a most impelling urgency of purpose, which in its turn demands promptitude and proficiency. Under such conditions it would be expected that the executioners were skilled and proficient individuals who performed their duties swiftly and thoroughly.

THE NAILS Through the Wrists

If any procedure promised a greater degree of suffering for the victim, then, undoubtedly, it would have been adopted. There was one such procedure, namely, increase of tension.

This could easily be obtained by drawing the arms of the victim outwards, towards the horizontal position before the nails were applied and the cross was raised to a vertical position.

There would be limits to this extension as otherwise tension would rise so rapidly that the arms, or at least one arm, would be torn from the body. There is no sound reason for doubting that this did actually happen on occasions, but it would defeat some of the objects of crucifixion, as the victim would die in a very short time.

Conversely, it may be said, the less tension and violence employed the longer would the victim linger before death closed the scene.

The nails holding the hands must have been driven through the wrist, either through the space between the distal ends of the two bones of the forearm, or through the small carpal bones of the hand, at or just beyond the lowest skin crease of the wrist.

Here the tough fibrous tissues are more abundant, run more transversely, and are therefore better suited to holding the nail, which would not be so likely to tear its way out through the tissues when great tension was applied as would have been the case were the nails hammered through the palms of the hands.

The nails in the feet were probably made to pierce through the small tarsal bones of the in-step, just beyond the lower end of the leg or tibial bones. They would have a secure hold in this situation.

RAISED ARMS Violent Injuries

Undoubtedly the nails were provided with a head or expanded portion to prevent the pierced hand or foot from slipping off. This head could easily and advantageously be large, or elongated like the cross stroke of the letter T. The under surface of the head could further be provided with short spikes or teeth projecting downwards.

When the nail was driven well home, this cross piece head would have a very firm compressive grip, adding greatly to the security of its hold.

The nails would tear and lacerate the skin, would pierce, crush or tear apart the bones; would rend, lacerate and pierce joint capsules, tendons, ligaments, blood vessels and nerves.

All of these were violent injuries. They would be indescribably painful.

The effects of pulling, occurring either immediately as the results of powerful traction, or later from the prolonged drag due to the victim being suspended thus for a length of time, would be to throw great stress on the skin of the arms and upper part of the trunk, on the muscles, tendons, nerves, blood vessels, joint capsules and ligaments. The skin would stretch greatly but would probably be the last structure to give way in the case of complete arm evulsion.

The muscle fibres would be lengthened to the utmost of their elasticity and then the fibres would be torn apart, and torn from their attachments to tendons, fibrous coverings and connections with bones.

As the riven muscles gave way, traction would fall upon joint capsules, lacerating them and tearing them from their bony attachments.

THE EFFECTS

Nothing more Painful

Nerves would be rent in places throughout their length and even torn away from the spinal cord. The blood vessels, arteries and veins would be greatly stretched and even rent and ruptured in places.

There would be a considerable stasis or slowing down and derangement of the circulation of the blood throughout the body. The veins returning blood from the limbs would be blocked from pressure due to stretching, obstruction due to laceration, with associated blood clotting, and to the absence of muscular contractions which are the chief power in promoting the venous return circulation.

Meanwhile blood would continue to be pumped along the arteries, and in the arms, being unable to return freely, would burst through the fine capillary vessels directly, or escape from lacerations, and would plough up and further lacerate the tissues.

All of these processes would be violently injurious, hurtful and unspeakably agonising.

There is no process more painful than slow stretching, evulsion and tearing of tissues.

Another important series of mechanical factors would be set in operation.

The arms are attached to the body by several pairs of muscles. Two of these on each side are very large and would receive most of the body weight; they are the two pairs of *Latissimus dorsi*,

A CALL TO CATHOLIC ACTION

HERE'S JOB FOR YOU!

People have very vague and hazy notions about Catholic Action. The term conjures up in their mind things unpleasant such as—preaching in the market places on Sundays; and they assert that they are not built that way. They will not envy those who 'are built that way' but they cannot do such queer things. If Catholic Action is all that they believe to be, they cannot be blamed; but Catholic Action is not only that; it has a crowded programme of actions and those who are built that way and not built that way can find plenty to do in it.

Now, what is Catholic Action. It is the participation of the organized laity, under the direction of the Bishops in the apostolate of the church for the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ on earth. Its aim coincides with that of the Church—to spread the Kingdom of Christ. Its object is to marshal the Catholic forces and chalk out for them a programme of action in every sphere of life.

The command to preach all nations was given to the Church but the Church is a congregation of the faithful. Consequently the command holds good for all the members to preach the Gospel. Now, Catholic Action aims at the establishment of the universal reign of Christ not only through mere preaching of the Gospel, but by numerous other ways.

Many excellent Catholic institutions doing laudable work exist in India. Any casual observer can see that they seldom or never do preaching in public just as the members of the Catholic Evidence Guild do in England. Every one admires the work of the Legion of Mary, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the Catholic Truth Society, Old Boys' Associations, Sodalties, Boy Scouts' and Girl Guides' Associations, etc. Now the very same institutions can be made to 'collaborate with and adopt the programme of Catholic Action.' Every good they will do then will be Catholic Action.

Catholic Action is as old as the Church. Only the rallying of the Catholic laity is new; it was, of course, the work of Pope Pius XI. He says in a letter: "Especially in our times when the integrity of Faith and customs is always grauelly menaced, and when

priests, because of the scantiness of their number, are powerless to meet the necessities of souls, it is all the more urgent to have recourse to Catholic Action, thanks to which the laity in supplying numerous collaborators to the apostolate comes to the aid of the clergy and supplements its small number." This letter could as well be written in our times and it will perfectly be suitable to the needs of the time here in India. The Churches to make head way here and the task can be easily accomplished if the laity move and act.

I. What is essential to constitute Catholic Action?

Four things are essential: 1. Participation of the laity; 2. Submission to Hierarchy; 3. The Apostolate; and 4. Organisation.

II. Is participation of the laity in the apostolate of the Church necessary?

Laity are auxiliaries and co operators of the clergy; they thus exercise a kind of priesthood. Pope Pius XI says: "The Catholic layman has received from God a call to share actively in the work of saving souls, a call which is really a vocation." Laity can exercise this apostolate in places inaccessible to the priest, such as state assemblies, offices, workshops and non Christian homes.

LIFE IS ACTION

Catholic Action is *being* something before it is *doing* something. Of course, it is often difficult and even impossible in the practical order to determine where *being* ends and *doing* begins, for the two are interdependent; but Catholic Action in spite of its emphasis on "action," that is, *doing* something, is first of all *being* something.

Catholic Action as compared with Catholic activities (clubs, societies, sodalties) emphasizes *being* over *doing* rather than *doing* over *being*. This is an important distinction. You can explain most of these clubs, societies, etc. by telling what the members do or don't do. In the case of Catholic Action, the apostle's do's and don't's are so all-embracing and unlimited that one can only say of him as was said of Christ; he goes about doing good. But what manner of man is it that goes about doing good? The answer is in terms of *being*—what he is

and the two pairs of the pectorales major muscles. Tension would fall especially upon the latter pair—the great pectoral muscles. They are attached at their origins to the anterolateral aspects of many ribs and to the breast bone or sternum, on the one hand and to the front of the humerus or arm bone on the other, and further, as the arms were nailed to the cross on a plane level with the posterior aspect of the victim's body, a tremendous pull would be exerted on the thorax or chest wall in an upward and outward direction, and there would be many important consequences.

"I THIRST"

Death from Shock

The chest wall would be lifted up and its cavity would be expanded to its utmost capacity. The diaphragm would be rendered taut and flattened out.

This pulling out of the diaphragm, by rendering taut the thick muscular crura, would prevent vomiting while the victim

lived, and escape of fluid from the stomach after death. Hence no mention is made in the Gospels of vomiting, which must assuredly have been a most usual association of the suffering of all victims of crucifixion.

Movements of the chest would be greatly limited. The upward thrust of the diaphragm, occurring during normal breathing, would be markedly restricted. As the chest expanded the lungs would dilate to fill the cavity. This would mean a great dilatation of the alveoli or air sacks.

Surrounding each alveolus is a mesh of capillary vessels carrying blood from the arterial to the venous part of the pulmonary or lung blood vessels. The capillaries would be stretched and flattened over the expanded alveoli and also compressed between them. This would dam the pulmonary circulation.

(Continued on Page 4)

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders are invited from recognised Shipping Agencies and Landing Companies in the Jaffna District for the undermentioned services. The tenders should reach the undersigned before 1 p.m. on the 9th September 1947.

2. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable up to 12 noon on 5th September 1947 from the Deputy Food Controller Jaffna from whom all particulars on the subject can be obtained.

3. A deposit of Rs. 100-00 should be made at the Jaffna Kachcheri and a receipt produce in respect of this deposit before any form of tender is issued.

SERVICES

Landing and stacking foodstuffs in the warehouses at Kankesanturai from ships for period (a) 9-9-47 to 30-9-47 (b) 1-10-47 to 31-10-47

Sgd. M. SRIKHANTA
for D. F. C. Jaffna.

Jaffna,
Sept. 2, 1947.

Church Calendar

SEPTEMBER 1947

- FRI. ... 5 Lawrence.
- SAT. ... 6 S. Eleutherius.
- SUN. ... 7 15 P.—S. Regina.
- MON. ... 8 Nat. B. V. M.
- TUES. ... 9 S. Gorgonius.
- WED. ... 10 S. Nicholas.
- THURS. ... 11 S. Hyacinth.
- FRI. ... 12 H. N. of Mary

The Catholic Guardian

SEPTEMBER 5TH 1947

JAFFNA'S VERDICT

This week Jaffna goes to the polls and it is not too much to say that the results of this particular election will very largely decide the shape of things to come in the political world of Ceylon. A campaign of unprecedented intensity is now at its height and yet we are confidently pleading for sanity, generosity and realism.

Sanity will reveal itself during the election in restraint above all. It would be a thousand pities if one single upward incident should mar the harmony of the day. Disagreements there may be, legitimate disagreement but there is no justification for anything disagreeable in word or deed. The Northern capital owes that much to itself and to the country at large.

That sanity will manifest itself in the result we confidently plead and hope. Our much vaunted plain living and high thinking will not be in evidence if the North alone is to endorse communalism and thereby rouse antagonisms in which we and we alone are the only conceivable victims. We shall in popular phrase be merely shooting our neck's out and asking for it. That we shall get it if we so insist is as plain as a pike-staff.

The logic of facts is therefore what must be emphasised. That the Tamils should histrionically gird themselves to take on all comers, may, to the unthinking appear magnificent, but to conclude the famous quotation, it is not war. We are in no position to make or maintain war. Our tradition in Ceylon politics is not war but rather it is a tradition of leadership based on our intrinsic worth. This worth has always been conceded by the people in the south and it is a sorry reflection on recent developments that we hear so much about Tamil leadership, an antagonistic leadership without the big battalions to make it effective.

The historian in the future will dwell on Jaffna's decision this week. He will point out that despite the most energetic and capable propaganda the people of Jaffna stood firm, that their sanity, their realism, their generosity and their solidarity staked the claim for their place in the sun and that even histrionics could not induce them to follow leadership into the desert.

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Gospel

(St. Luke: Ch. 7: 11-17)

And now it happened that He was going into a city called Nain, attended by His disciples and by a great multitude of people. And just as He drew near the gate of the city, a dead man was being carried out to his burial; the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a crowd of folk from the city went with her.

When the Lord saw her, He had pity on her, and said, Do not weep. Then He went up and put His hand on the bier; and those who were carrying it stood still. And He said,

Young man, I say to thee, rise up. And the dead man sat up and spoke; and Jesus gave him back to his mother. They were all overcome with awe, and said, praising God, A great prophet has risen up among us; God has visited His people. And this story of Him was noised abroad throughout the whole of Judea and all the country round.

Parliamentary General Election Results

The following are the election results to date:

POINT PEDRO	
Mr. T. Ramalingam (TC)	10,396
Mr. S. Tharmakulasingham (LSSP)	6,103
Mr. V. Suppiah (I)	3,897
Mr. P. Kandiah (C)	3,492
Spoilt	446
Majority	4,288
Total polled	24,339
Number of registered voters	41,682
DAMBADENIYA	
Mr. R. G. Senanayake (UNP)	11,705
Mr. R. M. P. Y. Sri Wimalaratne (I)	3,436
Spoilt	197
Majority	8,269
Total polled	15,338
Number of registered voters	33,314
NIVITIGALA	
Mr. D. F. Hettiaratchy (LSSB)	5,626
Mr. Jayaweera Kuruppu (UNP)	5,602
Mr. J. P. Delgoda (I)	1,130
Mr. C. E. Perera	309
Spoilt	242
Total polled	12,909
Majority	24
Number of registered voters	28,486
BATTICALOA	
Mr. A. Sinnelebbe (U.N.P.)	4,740
Mr. K. V. M. Subramaniam (I.)	3,395
Mr. R. B. Kadramar (I.)	2,313
Mr. N. S. Rasiah (I.)	2,236
Mr. N. Rasiah (I.)	714
Spoilt	324
Majority	1,345
Total polled	13,722
Registered No. of voters	27,499
KOPAY	
Mr. C. Vanniasingham (T. G.)	9,619
Mr. S. Rajaratnam (U. N. P.)	5,266
Mr. C. Ragnathan (I)	1,447
Spoilt	276
Majority	4,353
Total polled	16,608
Registered No. of voters	32,999

Episcopal Consecration

The Consecration of the Right Revd. Dr. Ignatius Gennie, S. J. will take place at Trincomalee at 7.30 a. m. on Sunday 21st September 1947, in a sanctuary erected on the Big Maidan. The Consecrating Prelate will be His Lordship the Right Reverend Dr. Oscar Sevrin, S. J. Bishop of Ranchi, assisted by His Lordship the Right Revd. Dr. D. Bernard Regno, O. S. B., Bishop of Kandy and His Lordship the Right Revd. Dr. Thomas Pothakamury D. D. Bishop of Bangalore.

There will be ample accommodation for all near the sanctuary. Special seats will be reserved for the Clergy, for the Brothers and the Nuns. Some seats will be reserved on application clearly stating name and address, made in writing to the Reception Committee, St. Mary's Cathedral, Trincomalee, on or before Wednesday 10th September requests for cards will be entertained and dealt with in strict rotation. Not more than 5 cards may be given to any one family. It will not be possible to consider requests made orally or later than the 10th September.

There will be Pontifical Benediction in St. Mary's Cathedral at 4.30 p. m. and a Public Reception at 5.30 p. m. on the Big Maidan.

The Priests who intend to come to Trincomalee are requested to inform as soon as possible the Parish Priest of St. Mary's Cathedral. All are expected to bring with them surplice and biretta, amice and purificatory, and to wear white cassock for Mass and for the Consecration service. The Nuns are requested to inform Rev. Mother Superior, A. C., St. Joseph's Convent Trincomalee, as soon as possible.

Handbooks explaining the Rite of the Consecration will be on sale at the Cathedral and at the Maidan. Trincomalee, 27-8-47.

Notes on the Gospel of the 15th Sunday After Pentecost (Communicated.)

1. The spectacle described in today's Gospel shows us death as a Christian should consider it. It is the end of all earthly glory, riches and sensual pleasures.
2. Would that we, meditate daily on death. How different our lives will be then. We should so live, that we have no reason to fear death.
3. Death will surely come, it will come soon; it will separate us from all that is earthly; it will seal our fate for eternity.
4. Our Lord told the widow not to weep, to intimate to her that He would restore her Son to her, and at the same time to teach us that we should not mourn and weep to excess for the dead, as others, who have no hope of resurrection.
5. The consoling truth of our resurrection should make us "weep not" "As in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive. This body is sown in corruption, it shall rise in incorruption."
6. Yes, indeed, we shall all rise after death, but not all glorious. Some will rise for eternal glory, others for eternal reprobation. We shall die, as we live.
7. When we see the tenderness of the Heart of Jesus for a stranger, who had asked nothing from Him, ought we not blush at our want of confidence in Him? Is it not doing an injury to the Heart of Jesus to think that He will do less for the life of the soul, than that of the body.
8. It was because He had pity on the mother, that Jesus raised the dead youth. Let us therefore always implore the intercession our Blessed Mother, when we desire to obtain any great favour, and then we will feel redoubled confidence. Our Lord undoubtedly thought of His own Mother, following Him to the tomb, when He worked this miracle.
9. God is continually working miracles of power and goodness, both in the order of nature and grace. We must, like the people of Nain show our gratitude by praising and blessing God.
10. By "a great prophet" the people meant a great teacher sent by God. Our Lord was Prophet, Priest, and

King. In the Mass, He exercises His three offices: (a) Prophet, up to the Offertory; teaching by Psalms, prophecy and Gospel. (b) Priest, in the sacrifice itself, from the Offertory to the "little Elevation," (c) King, from Pater Noster to the end, reigning by Holy Communion.

11. The three offices are united also in our Lady. She is Prophet e. g. in the Magnificat Priestess, on Calvary, and Queen, in Heaven.

12. The death of Jairus' daughter represents Venial Sin, Jesus then said: "the damsel is not dead but sleepeth" but here, we have a picture of Mortal Sin. Our Lord foresaw in this dead youth the death of the sinner, and in the affliction of the Mother, the grief which the Church would suffer over the spiritual loss of so many of her children.

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin

One of the greatest events, since the creation of Adam that the earth had witnessed was the birth of Our Lady. She was given to the earth at a time when the world was all wrapped in the darkness of paganism; even the chosen people, ungrateful to God and forgetful of the divine promises, maintained only certain external observances of the Law, quite inadequate to give spiritual life. For the fulfilment of His designs, the Most High had chosen from all eternity a creature whom He predestinated to the sublime dignity of the Mother of the Word, and likewise to be the recipient of all those prerogatives of nature and grace which so high an office requires. For this cause God willed to raise this privileged creature not only above all men but also above all choirs of angels.

Among the few families of the Jews of the time who looked forward to the coming of the Messias and led a holy and spiritual life were the parents of Our Lady, St. Joachim and St. Anne. Descended from the tribe of Juda, and members of the Royal family of David, the holy pair selected by God to participate in the carrying out of His designs, for the immediate preparation to the mystery of the Redemption, lived for twenty years in poverty and without children. They prayed earnestly as all good Jews of the time for the speedy coming of the Messias. Their continual prayer was rewarded at last, when like the dawn of the day our Blessed Queen appeared on earth to illumine it with a new light of faith and love; for Mary's birth announced the near approach of the Sun of Justice, who would scatter the shades of death and show to man the path to heaven. The miracle-mystery so unparalleled wrought in St. Anne consists in this great truth; that Our Lady, in the first moment of her conception, by a special grace, and by the virtue of the merits of her Son, was preserved from the stain of original sin. Mary at the time of her birth was not only without spot, but she also possessed grace in a much superior degree to that which our first parents received, on the first moment of their formation in the earthly paradise. The grace of sanctification Mary was then adorned with, surpassed, the grace of the highest Seraphim, and was superior to the degree of sanctity attained by all the saints put together. Her birth was a cause of joy and blessing to the whole universe, to the angels whose Queen she was to be, to the holy souls whose liberator she would become, to the whole human race whose restorer and mother, she would prove. She is our Queen, our Deliverer, our Blessed Mother. She is the dispenser of the infinite merits of her Son's Death and Passion.

The name of Mary mean three things: sovereignty, bitterness and resistance; three ideas, which represent the principal prerogatives of our glorious Queen. In the first place Mary, by becoming the mother of God became also the Sovereign and mistress of the whole universe. Furthermore, since she was destined by God to co-operate with her Son in the ransom of the human race, she had to suffer the greatest torments which a creature ever endured. Lastly by virtue of her Immaculate Conception she was the first person to shake off

the yoke of the evil one, and thus in her own person to offer to God the first fruits of the Redemption. The most holy name of Mary joined to those of Jesus and Joseph, possesses a hidden power, which puts to flight the demon and fills the souls of those who utter them in loving faith with consolation and hope. The saintly Pope Pius X. has given seven years indulgence for devoutly uttering or even thinking of the three holy names of Jesus, Mary and Joseph each time. Let us therefore pronounce or think of these three holy names with faith, hope and reverence and spread devotion to the same.

CWM-SERIES.

Where Jesus Reigns, Mary must be Queen!

Father Matteo has always insisted that the Enthronement of the S. Heart should not be just a passing ceremony, but rather the starting point of a daily earnest endeavour to bring our home and all its members more fully under Our Lord's rule. Then only can we claim that Jesus is our unseen guest, the head of the family and king of our home.

The enthronement, then, lays on us the duty of a whole series of acts by which to safeguard Our Lord's rights over the home and render his kingship secure. There will be the frequent renewal of consecration, the keeping of the First Friday, Communions of fervour and reparation.

Nothing, however, can be more effective than to give Mary the guardian ship of our enthronement, for in the Divine Plan Mary has charge of Jesus and His interests.

"Enthroned" families were not slow to realise this and from the start the "Hail Holy Queen" crowned the consecration ceremony.

Recent developments, however, force us to lay greater emphasis on the part Mary must play in the Enthronement Crusade.

The stupendous happenings at Fatima (Portugal) have at length drawn the attention of the world. It has taken thirty years, but Our Lady's message delivered to the little children Lucy, Hyacinth and Francis, has at last reached the Head and Heart of the Church.

The Holy Father now makes it his own and appeals to the world to turn to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as to the one salvation of the world in the present crisis.

Devout and attentive souls have heeded the call. A great Marian Crusade has been started, with a view to leading the world to the Immaculate Heart in a spirit of prayer and repentance. The practical means (specified by Mary herself) are the Rosary and keeping of the First Saturday.

Headquarters of the Enthronement Crusade now issue an appeal to all consecrated homes to place themselves in the front-line of this campaign. Where Jesus reigns, Mary must be Queen! Side-by-side with the Sacred Heart there must be honoured the Immaculate Heart of His Mother!

Elaborate arguments are not needed. For all those who have understood the earlier Message of the Sacred Heart, Mary's claims are clear.

Act.
The point is for us to act—to act promptly, vigorously and with sustained determination.

In the name of our allegiance to the Sacred Heart let us take up at once the devotion Mary asks of us.

In future we must tick off two dates in our diary or desk-calendar—along with the First Friday; the following day or First Saturday. The Friday, for the Sacred, Loving, Agonising Heart of Jesus; the Saturday for the Immaculate, tender, Compassionate Heart of Mary.

Let us make a start.
22nd inst. Octave Day of the Assumption, has been fixed by the Holy Father for the feast of the Immaculate Heart. Let all enthroned families observe it as an "obligation day of love." If we have so far been slow to take the Fatima message seriously, let us make a start on this feast day and

PLEDGE OURSELVES TO MARY
BY ALL OUR LOVE FOR JESUS.

C. W. M. S. H. Bureau.
(Ceylon).

LOCAL & GENERAL

Jaffna Election.—We have just received the result of the counting: Mr. G. G. Ponnampalam gets 14324 votes; Mr. Mahadeva polled 5,224. Mr. Ponnampalam wins by a majority of 9,100. There were 133 spoilt votes.

St. Patrick's College.—Christmas term begins on the 9th inst. Boarders are expected to return on the 8th evening.

Holy Family Convent.—The English School re-opens on the 15th inst. instead of the 8th as previously arranged.

A Musical Prodigy from Madras.—Miss Olive Kailasam who gained great fame as a musical prodigy at the age of eight has again taken the Indian Press by storm. Two recitals in Bombay have earned for her great praise. Our critic writes: "For the last ten years we have heard Violinists and Violinists. But to my memory there hasn't been one so talented and brilliant, so young and yet so capable of touching great heights as Olive Kailasam the 13 year old prodigy from Madras..... India can be justly proud of this child genius.....who promises to blame a trail or glory for herself and this Country." It is reported that she will be soon sent to Europe by the Indian Government.

Satyagraha in Hyderabad.—The Hyderabad Government does not seem to view with favour the carrying of the Indian Dominion's tricolour flag in its Dominions. Several arrests have been made of the Congress men carrying the Indian flag in, procession and crying Indian Dominion slogans from the 15th of August onwards.

Governors' Salaries Reduced.—The Salaries of Governors have been reduced by the India (Provisional constitution) Order except in the case of the Governorships of Bombay and Madras while Colville and Nye are staying on.

Before the 15th of August the Governors of Bombay, Madras and Bengal and the United Provinces received Rs. 120,000 per annum, the Governorships of the Punjab and Bihar carried a salary of Rs. 100,000, Central Provinces paid its Governor Rs. 72,000 and Assam and Orissa Rs. 66,000 each. The New Order brings down the salary of all the Governors uniformly to Rs. 66,000 with exceptions quoted in the case of Bombay and Madras.

Commemorative Stamps.—Four new constitution commemorative pictorial stamps are to be issued on the day the Parliament is ceremoniously opened.

- (1) Six-cents depicting the Parliament House: Colours, ultramarine and black.
- (2) Ten-cents, showing Adam's Peak: Colours, vermilion, black and orange yellow.
- (3) Fifteen-cent, Kandy (Dalada maligawa) Colours, light purple and myrtle.
- (4) Twenty five cent, Anuradhapura (Ruanwelisaya): Colours, apple green and yellow.

Flood Havoc in the Colombo Area.—The number of houses destroyed by the flood in the Colombo area is estimated at 10,000 and the number of persons rendered homeless is 5,000. The number of villages affected is 103 along the banks of the Kelani Ganga 30 miles up the river to a depth of 5 miles on either side, causing a loss of 650,000 bushels of paddy and ruining about 55,000 acres.

Roman Ruins near Pondicherry.—What promises to be another indisputable confirmation of Roman trade with the Tamils is the ruins of a Roman factory discovered at Arrikamedu, about five miles from the French settlement of Pondicherry. The excavations were begun by a lay-brother of the Order of St. Gabriel, and later continued by Dr. Mortimer Wheeler, Director of Archeology in India. At present the French Foreign Ministry has taken direct control of the excavations there. Several Roman coins, precious stones, pottery with ancient Tamil writing, and other interesting objects have been found. The Romans

seem to have had a commercial depot there as early as the first or second century B. C.

Bishop's Statement on Peace in Industry.—An official statement by the Standing Committee of the Catholic Bishops of Australia on the urgent problem of industrial disorder and the necessity for social harmony will be issued on Social Justice Sunday, which will be observed throughout the Commonwealth on September 7. The title of the Statement will be "Peace in Industry".

It will be signed by 11 members of the Hierarchy, headed by Cardinal Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney.

An indication of the scope of the statement has been given by a review of its text-plan. This covers: The Catholic Church and Trade Unions; the Right to Strike; the Communist Objective in the Trade Union Movement; the Industrial Power of the Communist Party; Coercive Measures of Communism in Trade Union Movement; the Political Strike, the Communist Programme; Necessity for Social Peace, and the responsibility of all sections of the community.

Social Justice Sunday was instituted in 1940. Each year since then a statement applying Catholic social principles to Australian conditions has been issued at all Catholic churches throughout the nation and made the subject of special sermons and address.

"Five Free Cities" will Form Future French India.—According to a statement made by M. Moutet, the French Colonial Minister, French India with its 3,400,000 people would become an establishment of five free cities within the French Union. The free cities would be Pondicherry, Karaikal, Chandernagore, Mahe and Yanam. The Communists seem to be hostile to this plan while the members of the Congress Party following the suggestions of Ghandhi and Pundit Nehru are ready to accept it.

Requiem for Great Australian Cricket Captain.—Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Joseph's Church, Wollabra, Sydney, Australia on July 15, for the repose of the soul of the late Warwick Windridge Armstrong, one of the greatest captains and one of the greatest all-round cricketers Australia has produced.

Mr. Armstrong began his Test career in 1901-2. When he made his last appearance in 1920-1 he had played in 42 games against England and had represented Australia more times than any other player except S. E. Gregory. He led the Australian team which won all five Tests in Australia in 1920-1, and later in 1921 captained the Australian team which retained the Ashes in England. In each of his four tours in England he made more than 1,000 runs, and in each of three tours took more than 100 wickets.

Slovak Priest Gets 12 Years.—Charged with being a member of Mgr. Tiso's Parliament and of propagating the former regime in his newspaper, Fr. Francis Jankovitch, parish priest of the Slovak mining town of Banska Stiavnica, has been sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment at Bratislava by the National Court. The Court was told that Fr. Jankovitch worked effectively to improve the lot of the miners and their families.

\$21,602,000,000 Worth Gold Stocks.—The Gold stocks of the United States on Saturday Aug. 9 was worth \$21,602,000,000—the highest since March 15, 1944.

District Judges to try Impersonators.—According to an amendment in the Election Ordinance a District Judge is to try cases of impersonation in future instead of a magistrate as has been the practice hitherto. Every case of impersonation will be forwarded to a District Court for trial and sentence after the inquiry is concluded will be passed in the Magistrate Court.

Ceylon Dolls sell in the United States.—Ceylon dolls dressed in the uniform of Kandyan chiefs and Kumarihamis are having a big sale in the United States. The commercial enterprise is so successful that about 100 dolls are sent to the U. S. every month. Kalutara hats and baskets are another selling line. Regular supplies are despatched to Australia.

Three lakh Donation by India.

—A message received by the Board of Ministers on Aug. 29 states that the Government of India have decided to contribute Rs. 3 lakhs to the Governor's Flood Relief Fund as a mark of their sympathy with the Ceylonese afflicted by the floods. Arrangements are being made to make the payment immediately. Today the Fund stands at Rs.

A fifty-foot fall.—While returning after election duty Sub-Inspector C. Thavarajah of the Badulla Police was thrown off his motor bicycle. He fell down a precipice 50 feet deep and was picked up unconscious. He is now out of danger and is being treated at the Haputale Hospital.

Dunlop Director Dead.—Sir Harold Kenward, Director of the Dunlop Rubber Company Limited died suddenly on Thursday Aug. 28th on Board the Queen Elizabeth bound for the United States. Sir Harold was a past President of the motor manufacturers and traders Association.

Prisoners escape from a moving Train.—Three prisoners were removed from the Wellawatte court by two jail guards and while the train was passing by Rhineland Place, Kollupitiya the prisoners are said to have jumped out of the moving train and made their escape. The Police are making inquiries.

Personal.—Dr. E. P. Canagasabai, of Vannarponnai, Jaffna has been appointed as a Divisional Surgeon in the St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas (Ceylon District) Dr. Canagasabai has for some years been functioning as Lecturer and Examiner of Cadets and Adults of the local Division of the Ambulance Corps.

Miss Padmini Eliyatamby, daughter of Mr. S. N. Eliyatamby, I. E. S. (retd.) is leaving for England by the *Worcestershire* having been selected by the Medical Department to undergo a training in message and medical gymnastics and medical electricity.

Ceylon Observer.

Planes for European Evacuees from the Punjab.—The British Overseas Airways Corporation and the Scottish Airlines are to send every available plane to the troubled areas of India for the evacuation of European personnel from the scene of "massacre and pillage, misery and destruction, rape and torture."

Eight Hundred to be Beatified.—Causes for Beatification number about 800, representing most countries and persons of all ranks and stations. It is believed that many beatifications will take place during the Holy Year 1950.

Catholic Film in Chinese.—The first film produced in China since the war is a Catholic one called *The Sacred City* portraying a Missionary and his flock during the terrible war. The director and producer of the film did their best to be reverent to the Catholic theme.

Irish Patriot Honoured.—Honouring the memory of the great liberator, Daniel O'Connell, towering figure and dynamic personality who inspired and led the fight for Catholic Emancipation in the British Parliament, all Eire joined in a four-day celebration marking the 100th anniversary of the death of the Irish patriot.

Noted Historian Shot Dead.—Communists broke into a presbytery in a Coration village and shot Fr. Emerica Gasic, noted historian. No arrests were made afterwards and the newspapers were forbidden to publish the affair. Fr. Gasic never took part in politics.

ANNOUNCEMENT

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HOW OUR LORD DIED

(Continued from Page 1.)

The pulmonary arteries would distend, the right side of the heart would become dilated to an extreme degree.

Back pressure would, in turn, fall upon the superior and inferior *venae cavae*, the great veins from the upper and lower parts of the body respectively, returning blood to the right side of the heart. These veins in their turn would be extremely distended.

As the respiratory movements of the chest would in consequence be greatly restricted, there would be a retardation of blood flow in the pulmonary veins and great distension of these.

A large portion of all of the blood in the whole body would be semi-stagnant in the chest. It would remain fluid for a considerable time after death.

The processes just described would cause extreme, agonising discomfort, and a feeling of being slowly smothered to death.

What would be the general effect of all this injury on the crucified person, and why should he die?

The answer is: he would die from shock, and occasionally from the complications or associated conditions of shock.

Shock, or surgical shock, is a term applied to a well known condition. It is a state of bodily collapse with disorder or derangement of the functions of different organs.

The blood pressure falls, the heart beat becomes rapid and feeble, and sometimes irregular; the body temperature falls; the pupils dilate; the mouth becomes dry, the thirst extreme.

THE THIEVES Their Sudden Death

Absorption of fluids, by the intestines is diminished and may cease altogether, and the intestines become distended. Kidney function of output of poisonous products is decreased and may be entirely arrested.

From all injured tissues a poisonous histamine-like substance is liberated into the blood, causing capillary stasis and leakage with resultant depletion of circulating fluids—i.e., impoverishment of the blood.

Shock markedly diminishes the functions of the nervous system: reflex actions are deranged or even arrested. Sensitiveness decreases, and when the injury is very sudden and violent, pain may not be felt.

Consciousness, however, is usually maintained and the mind may be fairly clear to the end, but tends to become torpid and apathetic.

Shock is produced by any painful injury, and increased by anxiety, fear, loss of blood, or chilling of the body due to exposure to cold. Any addition of these, or of further injury, increases the collapse and may be sufficient to cause death.

For example, the straightening or attempted splinting of a badly crushed, wrenched, or fractured limb, preparatory to removal of the wounded person, or the smallest attempt at repair of a bad wound, when shock is already pronounced, may occasion a fatal result.

Hence the swiftly fatal result of the breaking of the legs of the crucified thieves so confidently expected by the demanding Jews. This comes later.

Continuation of the original injuries, such as leaving the crucified person hanging, would increase shock until the victim died.

There are certain most important complications or added disorders which may occur in association with a state of shock and hasten or render more sure a fatal result.

Among the most important are: Cessation of kidney function, acute oedema or congestion of the lungs, embolism or the stopping up of the vessels of the heart or lungs with a clot of blood, great intestinal distension, or, finally and of great importance, acute dilatation of the stomach.

The two first complications generally occur in elderly persons. The last is usually seen in persons in the prime of life.

Acute dilatation of the stomach is a rapidly fatal complication of surgical shock, even of a moderate degree. It most commonly occurs after abdominal injuries or even operations. But it has been seen following the crushing of a hand or arm, foot or leg, bullet wound, or burn, or indeed after any injury or wound. It may come on after many hours or several days, or it may arise precipitately in a few minutes.

If unrelieved, it causes death in a matter of minutes, or in a few hours, depending upon the degree and precipitance of the condition.

In acute dilatation, the stomach is unbelievably distended, even filling the whole abdomen, and, thrusting the diaphragm upwards, bulging into the chest cavity.

The stomach is filled with water, which is clear in the early stages, and in very acute cases arising suddenly.

Later, or in cases of less precipitance, it becomes turbid, and in addition there may be some gas.

THE GOSPELS Eye-Witness Evidence

The relationship between injury, shock and acute dilatation of the stomach, and the reasons why it happens in some cases of shock and not in others, are quite unknown. It is extremely liable to be completely overlooked.

Persons suffering from acute dilatation of the stomach almost invariably die in the same way.

There is an insatiable torturing thirst. Often there is vomiting, often none.

There is a great distress of body and mind: breathing is laboured and difficult; consciousness is unimpaired, and the mind remains clear and active to the last. The person knows that he is dying; makes intelligent statements, and may dispose of family affairs or bid farewell to those present in attendance.

Then, perhaps with a last cry or utterance, the head drops, the mouth falls open, the eyes remain unclosed, the whole body relaxes and becomes still, no evidence of heart-beat remains, and all signs of life vanish.

I write from personal observations. Let us consider the death of Our Divine Lord as described by St. John and St. Mark.

St. John writes (chap. xix. 28—36): And now Jesus knew well that all was achieved which the scripture demanded for its accomplishment and He said, I am thirsty. There was a jar there full of vinegar; so they filled a sponge with the vinegar and put it on a stick of hyssop, and brought it close to His mouth. Jesus drank the vinegar and said, It is achieved, then bowed His head and yielded up His spirit.

The Jews would not let the bodies remain crucified on the Sabbath because that Sabbath day was a solemn one; and since it was now the eve, they asked Pilate that the bodies might have their legs broken, and be taken away. And so the soldiers came and broke the legs both of the one and of the other there were crucified with Him; but when they came to Jesus, and found Him already dead, they did not break His legs, but one of the soldiers opened His side with a spear: and immediately blood and water flowed out.

He who saw it has borne his witness; and his witness is worthy of trust. He tells what he knows to be the truth.

St. John has written from personal observation.....

Let us consider briefly some paragraphs by St. Mark. He writes (chap. xv. 43—46):

And now it was already evening: and because it was the day of preparation that is, the day before the Sabbath, a rich councillor named Joseph of Aramthea, one of those who waited for God's kingdom, boldly went to Pilate, and asked to have the Body of Jesus. Pilate, astonished that He should have died so soon, called the Centurion to him, to ask if He was dead already, and when he had heard the Centurion's report, gave Joseph the Body.

Here is good evidence that Our Divine Lord died unexpectedly soon.

This is a clear indication that a fatal complication had suddenly developed. That fatal complication could only have been acute dilatation of the stomach.

The post-mortem dealing with the Sacred Body of Our Divine Lord completely substantiates this conclusion. St. John, the eye-witness, writes (chap. xix. 1—34):

But one of the soldiers opened His side with a spear; and immediately blood and water flowed out.

THE SPEAR Proof of Death

The soldier was a Roman; he would be well trained, proficient, and would know his duty. He would know which part of the body to pierce in order that he might obtain a speedily fatal result or ensure that the victim was undeniably dead.

He would thrust through the left side of the chest a little below the centre. Here he would penetrate the heart and the great blood vessels at their origin, and also the lung on the side.

The soldier, standing below our crucified Lord as He hung on the cross, would thrust upwards under the left ribs. The broad, clean cutting, two-edged spear-head would enter the left side of the upper abdomen, would open the greatly distended stomach, would pierce the diaphragm, would cut, wide open, the heart and great blood vessels, arteries and veins—now fully distended with blood, a considerable proportion of all the blood in the body, and would lacerate the lung.

The wound would be large enough to thrust the open hand into it.

Blood from the greatly engorged veins, pulmonary vessel and dilated right side of the heart, together with water from the acutely dilated stomach, would flow forth in abundance.

The whole event as described by St. John must, indeed, have happened, for no writer could have presented in such coherent detail so recognisable an event, unless he or someone had actually witnessed its occurrence.

Moreover, another point is undeniably settled for all time.

No question or doubt of Our Lord's actual bodily death can ever be raised. This spear-thrust would have ensured death as certainly as would decapitation, and as unequivocally and irrevocably as would utter bodily dismemberment.

THE MOTIVE Immeasurable Love

Furthermore, the true humanity of our Divine Lord can never be denied or disputed. He was in every way a man. He died as any natural and normal man would have died under similar circumstances and conditions.

It is inconceivable that greater suffering could have been procured and endured. If greater agony had been produced, it would have caused death to occur sooner.

Truly His body was broken, His flesh was rent, His blood was shed.

Our Divine Lord accepted and endured the supreme and lastful measure of suffering.

It is not presumed here for one moment that these violent injuries had, necessarily, because of their destructive nature, any dominion over our Divine Lord's human body and life.....Our Divine Lord of His own free and unfettered will, yielded Himself to the processes of death by crucifixion, letting nature take its course, under these conditions and circumstances.

And finally, what was the motive which impelled our Saviour to accept and endure this shameful humiliation, this indescribable suffering and death—all freely and voluntarily?

It was LOVE.

It was the inconceivable, incomparable, immeasurable, the infinitely sweet and ineffably tender, love of God; the love of God for mortal man.—*The Universe*, July 25, 1947.



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