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# The Catholic Guardian

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

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## MARY THE WOMAN OF PROPHECY

In the very dawn of history, the Woman of Prophecy first appears when God rebuking Satan says: "I will put enmity between thee and the woman and between thy seed and her seed."

We may apply St. Paul's argument in another context here also and say "He says not the woman as of many, but the woman as of one." For as there was to be a second Adam who should reverse the sad work of the first, so there would be a second Eve, who would co-operate in the restoration of the human race as Eve co-operated in its ruin.

For good or evil, these two parts of the first and essential division of humanity always act in unison. The primal prophecy indicates not obscurely something of the status and privileges of our Lady which the Church assigns to her. She between whom and Satan there was to be perpetual enmity, was surely conceived immaculate and she without whose co-operation there had been no redemption, may justly be styled co-redemptress, so long as we rightly understand the term and its limitations. For just as original sin is derived from Adam alone as the head of the human race, yet Eve played her part in its ruin, so too Christ is the sole Redeemer, yet Mary's co-operation was a necessary factor in the work of Redemption as ordained by God.

How then did Mary Co-Redemptress contribute to the work of man's Redemption?

Mary predestined to become the mother of the Redeemer, has contributed to the work of man's redemption:—

- (1) By giving her consent—at the Annunciation, Presentation and Crucifixion.
- (2) By preparing the victim, viz., the body and blood of Jesus.
- (3) By sharing Christ's passion.

Her life and suffering was inspired by the same motive and love as those of her son, hence she has subordinately to Christ, yet with Christ, won satisfaction for our sins and merited grace for us.

Mary consented, full of resignation, to become the mother of Him, whom she knew beforehand as the man of sorrow, the most despised of the children of men.

She has nourished and supported the ope, who from all eternity was destined to be the sacrificial Lamb. She has shared most heroically, the sufferings and ignominy of His death on the Cross, remaining under the Cross to the last breath of life of her son.

It is for this reason that God has placed hands of Mary, the whole price of Redemption, all the fruit of Redemption, and all the graces which to the end of times will be given to mankind.

Later Prophets make allusion to Mary the Woman of Promise, under various metaphors—who in union with and dependently on Christ is our Co-Redemptress. She is "the mirror without spot," flawlessly reflecting the perfections of the Deity. She is "the garden enclosed," on which no profane foot has ever trod. In the most beautiful Messianic, 44th Psalm, the Man and Woman of Prophecy are presented side by side in clearest outline. He is "beautiful above the sons of men."

And now the prophet's gaze turns upon another figure. "The Queen stood upon thy right hand in gilded clothing."

The Woman of Prophecy appears

first on the page of history in that tremendous moment when she held in her hands the fate of the entire human race. It must never be forgotten that in all His human works, God acts through free agents; the greatest of all these works, the Redemption of Mankind, is no exception to the rule.

The first woman Eve was instrumental in the fall of mankind. But Mary the Virgin was God's instrument in the execution of His plan of Redemption—in the salvation of mankind by consenting to become the mother of that Saviour, i.e. Co-Redeemer.

Her "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done to me according to thy word," expresses the free acquiescence of her will with God's design in her regard.

Faith less than hers would have faltered, humility less than hers would have quailed. Heroism less than hers would have shrunk back from the acceptance of a dignity so awful at the price of such unutterable pain.

Mind cannot conceive, nor words express the terrifying vastness of creation, and the author of it all was made Man in the Virgin Mary's womb.

The accusation often levelled at Catholics that they allow Mary to usurp the place of God in the exalted worship they accord to her is of its nature absurd.

Mary's is a borrowed lustre, she is so great, because God has drawn her so close to Himself.

Mary by the Incarnation has been made His mother, and when we consider what motherhood implies we see for ourselves that closer union with God is inconceivable for any pure creature.

Many mothers have no share in their son's work, but Mary did share in Her Divine Son's work, i.e., in the Redemption of Mankind.

True, Christ alone redeemed the World, but Mary made the Redemption possible by freely accepting to become the mother of the Redeemer (Luke 1-3). Moreover she greatly advanced the work of Redemption by the example of her virtuous life.

No sin ever stained her soul (Luke 1-28) as Virgin, wife and mother; she is a shining example of all the virtues; especially she is the model of Purity.

She has helped thousands of men and women to combat successfully the demon of impurity by her outstanding example, prayer and intercession.

The Incarnation is an event unthinkably marvellous which has made this little round earth of ours, a mere speck in the fathomless depths of space, the theatre of a Divine drama so astounding that neither the mind of man nor angelic intelligence could ever have conceived it possible. This drama had its beginnings in Mary's sacred work and without Her acquiescence would never have been unfolded.

The Incarnation is wonderful beyond the power of mind to conceive or words to express, and so is the majesty of that Woman of Prophecy predestined from all eternity to be the Portals of God's entrance in a created nature into the World by Him created in so splendid and awful manner that the soul is dazed and dumb at the contemplation thereof.

St. John speaks in his Apocalypse of the Woman of Prophecy, who brought forth the one Man Child; against whom the devil was wroth and went "to make war against the remnant of her seed,

## WHY LAY MISSIONARIES?

With singular insistence Popes and Bishops continue to urge participation of the laity in Catholic Action, to be co-workers, in fact, in the Apostolate of the Hierarchy. Not alone because the ordained sacerdotal workers are too few but also because laymen, sufficiently equipped for the task, are able to approach people who may refuse audience to a priest because of century-old suspicions that obsess them. Unfortunately, thus far the number of men and women willing and capable to engage in the Apostolate of the Laity is not great. Possibly because we have not yet discovered how to train them for the noble vocation the Church desires to assign to them, or how to organize them for concerted action.

In Marseilles, France, a Dominican friar has lately adopted a policy which may provide the remedy for a situation such as the Church has never before in her history faced. The people the Apostles and their successors met with in Rome and other centres of population in the ancient world, such as Carthage, Alexandria, Athens or Syracuse, were pagans outright. Pagans, moreover, who had begun to doubt the beliefs of their forefathers. And however dangerous the various heresies that attacked the Church in the course of time may have been, those who professed them still had something in common with her. At present the Church everywhere finds men and women in large numbers who have banished God and the idea of supernatural religion from their hearts. They deny even the natural law, professed by all mankind since the dawn of history.

These people have come by their paganism as the result of the teachings of godless philosophers who during the past two hundred years have flourished in such "Christian countries" as England, France and Germany, whence the contagion has been carried all over the world. Industrialism and capitalism, by degrading the working masses, helped to extinguish in the hearts of many faith and hope. Those who approach them with the intention of re-kindling love of God in the hearts of these unfortunate victims of the age of agnosticism and materialism, meet with a cold reception. The very environment in which so many of the poorer classes were born and passed their days was not conducive to faith and morals.

who keep the testimonies of Jesus", this is to say against all the faithful who are so especially His "brethren"; and as He the first born redeemed His brethren by His passion and death, so Mary by her compassion in that self-same act becomes mother of all the redeemed.

We can say that in every grace that mankind has ever received the fore-known intercession of the Woman of Prophecy for the sinful race has been heard and answered.

Human nature in its two constituent parts is now represented in Heaven, for there is risen Jesus, true God and true Man, sovereign Lord of the universe and there also is Mary the Woman of Prophecy assumed by Him body and soul to reign at His right hand, Queen for ever and ever of all Saints and Angels.

[The above lecture was delivered by Miss M. Jaya Marie, M.A., L.T., Botany Professor in Holy Cross College, Trichinopoly, on the 3rd Anniversary of St. Mary's Study Club.]

Hundreds of thousands of men and women have, during the past hundred years, passed their lives oppressed by "monotonous work, dirty work, simplified work, mechanized work, the servile place of labour, insecure tenure of the job, hire and fire, winter unemployment," and suffering degradation by "the ever-found union of the poor district with the crime district, and the restricted district with prostitution." And as if this litany of the sorrows of the poor were not as yet lengthy enough, its author, Carelton H. Parker, writing on "The Casual Labourer," reminds his readers that in addition entire generations of the poor struggled with "the open shop, labour turnover, poverty, the bread-line, the scrap heap, and destitution."

It is not easy for a priest to win the confidence of those who know that for several generations their people have known little else but degradation and misery. Not only their ears but their hearts and their minds too offer resistance to anything a priest may say. It was this difficulty, the result of apathy and mistrust, Father Loew, the Dominican referred to, who has lived among the poor on the waterfront of the Mediterranean seaport for a number of years, found so hard to overcome single-handed. In spite of all efforts and many sacrifices on his part the work bore little fruit until he had found three young women who were willing to share with him the work he was engaged in. They now prepare the soil for the priestly work of the zealous Dominican.

This particular case has been pointed out by noted Catholic publications of France as proof that mission work of this kind to be successful demands the participation of lay people. So thoroughly conservative and orthodox a journal as *La Croix* declares: "The great problem, it seems to us, is not that of priests as missionaries but that of the laity." If Catholic activity is to be complete, a solution for this question must be found. In closing, the article states: "The most zealous and inventive priest can attain nothing if he cannot gather around him a group of lay missionaries, who have decided to occupy common quarters and to give up accustomed comforts and personal amenities." Here may be the answer to the question posed by a distinguished German Jesuit some ten years ago: "Perhaps we need to-day a new religious Order."—*The Examiner*.

The gods of our times, mechanization and organization, have brought life and death. They have wired up the whole world, established contact throughout, created everywhere the possibility of co-operation, concentration of strength and mutual understanding. At the same time they have trapped the spirit, fettered it, stifled it. They have led man from individualism to collectivism. But with his unguided insight man has so far succeeded in realizing only the evil that is in every collectivism, the negation of the deepest personal values, the negation of the spirit.

One of the most insidious dangers, which beset the Catholics of today, is the temptation to minimize, for the sake of peace, the sharp antagonism to secular standards which the full profession of the Faith demands.



## Church Calendar

NOVEMBER 1947

FRI. ...21 PRESENTATION.  
SAT. ...22 S. Cecily.  
SUN. ...23 26 P.—S. Clement.  
MON. ...24 S. John of Cr.  
TUES. ...25 S. Catherine.  
WED. ...26 S. Leonard.  
THURS. ...27 Miraculous Medal.  
FRI. ...28 S. James.

## The Catholic Guardian

NOVEMBER 21ST 1947

### THE HEALTH OF THE TOWN

We are reliably informed that a D.D.T. unit has been functioning last week in Chivateru and this week in the Colombogam area. We sincerely hope that the news is true. We are not going to put ourselves on the back for having started the agitation some weeks ago. Rather we sincerely congratulate and thank the new Minister of Health for getting down to the solution of what promised to be a terrible problem.

"In those days" the various districts of the Island were graded as malarial or non-malarial and administratively that grading still obtains. True, there are anomalies, as according to the Medical Department's official grading the malarial belt comes as near Jaffna as the Uparu Bridge on the Kandy road. According to the Railway's grading however, Navatkuli is, we are informed, non-malarial. Commonsense would seem to dictate that the Medical ruling should hold.

We are now asking if it is not time that the Medical Department should issue a new grading. Our reason is a very simple and incontrovertible one.

We have been at pains to verify our facts and from a survey of one section of the Urban area of Jaffna we are convinced that the D.D.T. unit has not started functioning a moment too soon and that it must 'do' every house in this section, at least once a month.

Malaria is now endemic and the malarial parasite is now in possession in Chivateru (Nedumkulam Road), in practically the whole area of Colombogam East, in Colombogam West to the Northern side of St. Joseph's Training School and Orphanage and in the Thitty, Karayur. Passayoor is badly affected also but we are not stressing the fact at the moment as it is arguable that the infection may have come in via Pooneryn. The unpalatable fact however is there—malaria is in possession.

The legend, for it is now only a legend, that Jaffna is non-malarial must go. We have deliberately chosen to restrict our survey to the areas adjoining the Uparu Bridge. We find it hard to believe that the areas mentioned are the only ones in the Urban area that are affected. We should welcome facts and figures from areas other than those we have mentioned; we promise to give them all due publicity.

We are concerned that the public should realize that the enemy is within our gates. We insist on the competent authorities giving us all the information necessary and taking every possi-

ble step to check and stamp out this insidious enemy.

The schools must be our first concern. There must be provided a well-planned course of lectures so that knowledge of the disease, its cure and prevention may spread. In at least the areas affected, children must be given paludrine during the rainy season and the school premises must be treated regularly with D.D.T. during the North-East Monsoon.

We are pitching our demands very low. We do so deliberately as we feel that once the campaign is started on the lines indicated, the rest will follow.

From the foregoing it is not such a far cry to Professor Collumbine who is due in Jaffna very soon. We promise him our completest help and we appeal to all schools to further the success of his wholly admirable survey.

### PRAYER FOR RAIN

His Lordship the Bishop requests the Fathers, while the necessity exists, to add the prayer *ad petendam pluviam* at Mass and to ask their people to pray for the same intention.

### LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

#### Gospel

(St. Matthew: Ch. 24: 15-35)

And now, when you see that which the prophet Daniel called the abomination of desolation, set up in the holy place (let him who reads this, recognize what it means), then those who are Judea must take refuge in the mountains; not going down to carry away anything from the house; if they are on the house-top; not going back to pick up a cloak, if they are in the fields.

It will go hard with women who are with child, or have children at the breast, in those days;

and you must pray that your flight may not be in the winter or on the sabbath day,

for there will be distress then such as has not been since the beginning of the world, and can never be again.

There would have been no hope left for any human creature, if the number of those days had not been cut short; for the sake of the elect.

At such a time, if a man tells you, See, here is Christ, or, See, He is here, do not believe him.

There will be false Christs and false prophets, who will rise up and shew great signs and wonders, so that if it were possible, even the elect would be deceived.

Mark well, I have given you warning of it.

If they tell you, then, See, He is here, in the desert, do not stir abroad;

if they tell you, See He is there, in hidden places, do not believe them;

when the Son of Man comes, it will be like the lightning that springs up from the east and flashes across the west.

It is where the corpse lies that the eagles will gather. Immediately after the distress of those days,

the sun will be darkened, and the moon will refuse her light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven will rock;

and then the sign of the Son of Man will be seen in heaven;

then it is that all the tribes of the land will mourn,

and they will see the Son of Man coming upon the clouds of heaven, with great power and glory; and He will send out His angels with a loud blast of the trumpet, to gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. The fig tree will teach you a parable; when its branch grows supple and begins to put out leaves, you know that summer is near; so you, when you see all this come about, are to know that it is near, at your very doors.

Believe me, this generation will not have passed, before all this is accomplished. Though heaven and earth should pass away, My words will stand.

### Notes on the Gospel of the Last Sunday After Pentecost (Communicated.)

1. In to-day's Gospel, Our Lord spoke first of the destruction of Jerusalem, which took place, exactly as He foretold, forty years after His Ascension. Then He predicted the end of the world, the time which is known only to God the Father; and lastly He spoke of His own return as Judge with much power and majesty.

2. After the Ascension the Angels appeared to the Apostles and said, that Our Lord would return from heaven someday. That day is the one spoken of in today's Gospel.

3. The first coming of Our Lord into this world was humble. He came as a Babe, asking only for love and protection. He came as the Redeemer of the world, but then, He will appear as Judge, in all His power and majesty to mete out justice.

4. The reasons for a General Judgment are many:—(a) Justice demands it. Both good and bad will be exposed in their true light, before all. (b) When the Book of Life is opened to the world, all will see that God is a Just Judge, in punishing the wicked, who seemingly may have prospered in the world, and rewarding the good, who did not receive their full reward. (c) As His Humanity and Divinity form but one Christ, so body and soul form but one human creature. At the particular Judgment, only the soul is judged. At the final Judgment the body, through which the soul operates will be reunited with the soul, and both will receive their reward or punishment together.

5. During the course of the year Sunday after Sunday, the words of Our Lord have guided us in the way of truth and goodness. Today He Himself has told us what the end of us all will be. It rests with us thus to live so as not to fear His second coming.

6. We can escape damnation, if we repent of our evil ways and receive Him now as our Redeemer. He is rich and abounding in mercy. Soon a time will come when no man can work. Let us therefore do Penance while there is yet time.

7. "Though heaven and earth should pass away My words will stand." "Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it."

8. God has not left us in ignorance. Our salvation is not a matter of blind fate. The choosing is ours. What shall it be? Heaven or Hell for all eternity. Let us implore Our Lord that His sufferings for us may not have been in vain, and that He may not be obliged to condemn us at the end.

9. The signs of the Last Judgment are:—(1) The preaching of the Gospel to the whole world. (2) Great defections from the Faith. (3) The appearance of Anti-Christ. (4) These signs will be indications of the approach of the end of all, but we must remember as Our Lord says, that the day of Judgment is unknown, and that it will come upon us suddenly.

### LOCAL & GENERAL

**The Archbishop Returns.**—His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., arrived on Monday morning from Genoa. He left the Island in April this year as the Ceylon Delegate to the General Chapter of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Rome for the election of a Superior-General.

While in Europe. His Grace toured Holland, Belgium, France, Italy and Ireland. He visited the various Oblate houses of training in search of more missionaries for Ceylon.

His Grace said there was a religious re-awakening in Italy and that the Christian Democratic Party was continually gaining ground. The same was true of France.

**Confraternity of the Sacred Heart.**—The monthly meeting of the members of the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart, S.P.C. Branch, Senior Division will be held on Sunday the 23rd inst. at 5-30 p.m. at the College Hall.

The Revd. Fr. S. Nicholapillai, O.M.I. will speak to the members on "Rome during the Papal Election." Visitors are welcome.

**The Pope's Wedding Present to Princess Elizabeth.**—His Holiness the Pope has sent to Buckingham Palace a set of selected Dresden China-ware as his wedding present to Her Royal Highness.

**Austerity Marks the Royal Wedding.**—Yesterday Princess Elizabeth was married to Philip Mountbatten at Westminster Abbey. Following the tradition of the British Royal Family, who have all along chosen the fortunes, good or evil, of their subjects, the Princess and the Lieutenant were denied the splendour of a fairy-tale wedding.

**Premier Congratulated.**—Presiding at the School of Agriculture Prize Day Celebrations on the 15th inst. at Gannoruwa, Kandy, Sir Henry Moore, the Governor, congratulated the Premier, who was present, on the success of the latter's efforts in securing for Ceylon full responsible status within the British Commonwealth.

"Knowing as I do," said His Excellency, "that the Prime Minister is a farmer first and a politician second, I feel it is a happy coincidence that I should congratulate him here in surroundings dearest to his heart."

Referring to the new Minister for Agriculture Sir Henry said, "The Prime Minister has handed over to his son the portfolio for Agriculture and I have no doubt he will maintain the family tradition of not letting the grass grow under his feet."

**The "Times" on the Agreement.**—Commenting on the Agreements signed by Ceylon and Great Britain on the former being granted full Dominion Status within the British Commonwealth of Nations with the right to secede the "Times of London" says, "The Government of Ceylon concedes to the United Kingdom, such use of its territory as is necessary for imperial defence and though there are some theorists who will represent this as an infringement on the new independence it is as much in Ceylon's own interest as in those of the Commonwealth."

**Colombo Firm Celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Lanka.**—On Sunday the 16th inst. the entire Catholic Staff of Messrs. Brown & Co., Colombo made a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lanka at Tawatte with their families.

The first grotto and the bathing pool at the shrine were built by the members of Messrs. Brown & Co., in 1917.

**Symptom of Sheer Lunacy.**—A report dated Jaffna Friday, and appearing in the "Daily News" of Saturday the 15th inst. has the following comment by the Communist M.P. Mr. Peter Keuneman. "That the Tamils should form a separate political unit and should federate with South India is symptomatic of sheer lunacy. It is a counsel of despair and frustration."

According to Mr. Keuneman the only hope for the Tamils is to co-operate with the progressive sections of the Sinhalese and other communities for winning independence and an expanding economy based on planned industrial and agricultural development on an all-Island basis.

**Ceylon Senator Sees the Pope.**—Dr. Frank Gunasekera who is in Europe at the moment and who is one of the Governor's nominees to the Senate had an audience with His Holiness the Pope in the Papal summer villa. Dr. Gunasekera was deeply impressed by the Pope's depth of wisdom and simplicity of life and attire which was in contrast with the richly plumed attendants in waiting.



**A Lesson in Ethics.**—The New York "Daily News" commenting on the resignation of Dr. Hugh Dalton, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer says that official Washington could learn something of Ethics by a study of Dr. Hugh Dalton's resignation of office as Chancellor of the British Exchequer.

The practice in Washington of handing "advance dope" to "pet newspapermen" had about it "an aroma of unfairness and sour ethics" at best, says the "Daily News."

Commenting on Dalton's successor Sir Stafford Cripps the "New York Times" says that Britain has passed into the hands of the British Statesmen who more than any other may be said to epitomise the underlying spirit of the people—the spirit of self help.

**"Avoid Communal Bodies."**—The Convention of Indian Muslims which met at New Delhi on Saturday the 15th inst. at the invitation of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Minister for Education in the Dominion of India passed a resolution advising "Indian Muslims to avoid the Muslim League and all other communal political organizations and join the Indian Union which stands for democracy and progress."

**Atomic Submarines.**—According to Admiral William H. P. Blandy, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Atlantic Fleet, the U.S. Navy authorities envisage atom-driven submarines which might operate for a year without refuelling and travel submerged at 30 knots.

Admiral Blandy who was in Command of the Bikini atom bomb fleet last year said that the Navy's Bureau of ships had a special section working steadily on the application of atomic energy to naval vessels.

**Italy-Vatican Territorial Agreement.**—An agreement signed in March, 1942, between the Vatican and the Italian Government, whereby certain small areas around the Vatican were to be handed over to the Holy See, thus becoming extra-territorial, was approved by the Italian Cabinet about two weeks ago. At the same time the Vatican released other small areas which ceased to be extra-territorial.

**The Soviet Way.**—When Joe Stalin reported his pipe had been stolen, next morning the Secret Police Chief announced with pride that 12 suspects had been arrested.

"Well," said Joe, "I found the pipe in my other coat, so you can release the lot."

"But we can't," said the police chief in horror, "they've all confessed."

## PICTURES OF THE SACRED HEART

For the convenience of the Missionaries and of our Catholics we have just printed pictures of the Sacred Heart for the Enthronement purposes beautifully coloured. Suitable for framing. Size 16x10.

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## Farewell to the Head-Master of St. Joseph's College, Anuradhapura

The 31st of October 1947 was a very sad day for the students of St. Joseph's College, Anuradhapura, for on that day they had to bid good bye to Mr. Charles Herat, their beloved Head-Master, who for the past 16 years had served the College most loyally in that capacity and had brought it out of insignificance into the lime light of glory.

In recognition of this achievement a group photo of the Staff and students of the College was taken in the morning of the 31st with Mr. Herat in the centre. In the afternoon the boys assembled in the College Hall to fete the parting Head-Master. Mr. Herat was welcomed at the entrance to the Hall by Revd. Fr. B. Deogupillai, M.S. Ap., D.D., L.Ph., B.C.L., the Principal and by the members of the Staff and was conducted amidst the firing of crackers and the loud applause of the boys to a place on the platform specially decked with a canopy for the occasion. When he had been garlanded by the youngest boy of the College, the Revd. Father Principal briefly outlined Mr. Herat's career, his great qualities as teacher and gentleman and the splendid work he had done in the College as Head-Master during the past 16 years. For this he thanked him whole-heartedly and wished him every success in his new post. Then Master Henry Gunasekera, a Senior student voiced in very eloquent words the sentiments of his fellow schoolmates while the monitors of the different classes made a presentation of well chosen gifts from the boys. The sentiments of the Staff were then very ably expressed by the veteran teacher Mr. S. A. Mariampillai. Mr. Francis, another member of the Staff spoke a few words of praise in Sinhalese and got a student to sing some Sinhalese verses he had composed in honour of Mr. Herat. Master C. V. R. Isaacksz then spoke a few words of farewell on behalf of the junior boys of the College.

Rising amidst loud applause and cheers Mr. Herat thanked the Revd. Fr. Principal, the teachers and students for the beautiful sentiments expressed and stressed the fact that, if he had achieved any success as Head-Master of the College, that was not solely due to his efforts but due also to the ready co-operation he received from the Staff and students alike. The celebrations came to a close with three hearty cheers to Mr. Herat.

Later in the afternoon the students of the Senior Form entertained Mr. Herat, their Class Master, at a tea party and presented him with a small gift and a photo of the class as souvenirs.

At night the Principal and the Staff with Mr. and Mrs. Herat were entertained at dinner in the Grand Hotel by some of the Old Pupils who had studied under Mr. Herat. On Sunday the 2nd of November Mr. Herat left A'pura to take up duties as Head-Master of the Government Central School at Hingurakgoda.

(This matter was held over from our last issue for want of space).

## OBITUARY

MR. J. R. PETER

On Thursday the 13th inst. Mr. J. R. Peter died in Colombo after a short illness.

He had been ailing for years so that the end was not as unexpected as it might otherwise have seemed. He received all the rites of the Church before his death.

Mr. Peter was one of the most successful business men Jaffna has produced so that he was known all over the Island. When he left St. Patrick's he started as he himself would have put it 'on the ground floor' and gradually built up a first-class business.

He took a lively interest in Church matters and charities but what distinguished him above all was his devotion to Our Lady of Madhu. He never missed the July festival and his brain was ever active devising ways of improving Madhu itself. He was a life-long and generous benefactor.

We tender our sincerest sympathies to his family and relatives.

## Tamil Congress Changes Its Base?

The Jaffna Esplanade, the lung of the Northern capital between the congested Grand Bazaar and Karaiyur sections of the town was the venue of a public meeting to welcome the Tamil Congress M.P.'s and listen to their messages to the Tamil people on Sunday the 16th inst. Mr. S.J.V. Chelvanayagam, K.C., M.P. (Kankasanturai) said that "The Tamils should be congratulated on hav-

ing decided to preserve their dignity and self respect which were better than small economic advantages."

Mr. C. Vanniasingham, M.P. (Kopay) "Before Parliament could sit down to business, certain secret agreements had been signed by the Government. This savoured of backdoor methods and tactics."

Mr. K. Kanagaratnam, M.P. (Vaddukoddai). "There are far too many Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries and other office holders for a small country like Ceylon."

Mr. S. Sivapalan, M.P. (Trincomalee). "In the matter of food the Northern and Eastern Provinces could be self-supporting and with proper development they could feed the other provinces as well."

Mr. G.G. Ponnambalam, M.P. (Jaffna). "Trincomalee harbour, the most important Naval base in the East, is also a Tamil Congress base."

## Letters to the Editor

### Issue of Independence Bill

Sir,—The Ceylon Independence Bill raises and involves important issues. The first is whether the substance and purport of the Bill makes or is likely to make Ceylon a self-governing nation again. The second is whether the Bill has the approval of the country, a matter to be decided by the voting at the forthcoming meeting of the House of Representatives. The motion that has been tabled in this connection is in the name of the Prime Minister and would involve a matter of confidence in the present Government. The right to secede from the British Commonwealth, the right to terminate the agreements entered into regarding Defence, External Affairs and the Public Services and the right to remain neutral in the event of Britain being involved in war, are fundamental and significant rights which have not been excluded by the Bill and which are necessary from the point of view of Ceylon.

These being the cardinal features of the arrangement, the issue is narrowed down to the only point as to whether the agreements entered into by the Government of Ceylon on behalf of the people with the British Government are in the interests of our country, as far as the present is concerned. Freedom from external aggression and internal security are required for Ceylon. If our country is to achieve these two objects, the agreements now entered into are not only useful but indispensable for the present.

The Government of Ceylon under the leadership of Mr. Senanayake is entitled to credit for making the arrangement for the transfer of power into our hands. The best thing possible in the circumstances has been done. It is very doubtful whether anything better could have been done. The matter has been handled by a person who more than any other living Ceylonese has steadfastly, unflinchingly, adroitly and firmly fought against British Power for the cause of Ceylon's National Independence. He has all along the line achieved success in this fight for freedom, whatever defects in the internal administration of the country he may have been responsible for either directly or indirectly, or whatever complaints there may be against his handling of the question of inter-communal relationship. It is almost certain that if others had been in Mr. Senanayake's place at the helm of affairs, we should not have obtained what we have got under the Independence Bill, and that too, through peaceful and non-violent means, retaining goodwill with Britain and other units of the British Commonwealth and her Allied Powers and without internal strife.

Years ago when I was a student I listened to the inspiring words of Sir P. Arunachalam delivered in measured and earnest tones at the inaugural meeting of the Ceylon National Congress referred to the dreams of his own undergraduate days about a self-governing Ceylon. Those words reflected the ideas and sentiments that were then in the minds of many of us students, who were moved by the examples of Ireland and India in their efforts to achieve independence. These two countries have more or less achieved their national ambitions, and today Ceylon is almost ach-

ieving her ideal by getting the substance of Independence through the Independence Bill.

It is trusted that the discussion in Parliament will tend to clarify and strengthen Ceylon's position under the treaty and that the same wise leadership will be available for a substantial period of time to enable us to consolidate our position and national interests, both internally and externally.

Yours truly,  
S. SIVASUBRAMANIAM,  
156, Hultsdorff, Colombo.  
15th November, 1947.

## CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY NOTICE

The Railway Level Crossing at 67 miles 16 chains, Coast Line, on the Bussa to Ebadoda cart road leading from Colombo to Galle main road, will be totally closed for vehicular traffic from 10 p.m. on 29-11-47 till 4 a.m. on 30-11-47 for effecting repairs.  
J. E. S. BODGER,  
General Manager.

## Shell Petrol Supply at the Jaffna Esplanade Filling Station

We have pleasure in announcing to our patrons, well wishers and the general public that we have been offered and that we have accepted the Agency for the supply of Shell Petrol and Petroleum Products from the Petrol Pumping Station at the Jaffna Esplanade adjoining the Regal Theatre.

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13th November 1947.

## AUCTION SALE

184 logs of Palu, Satin and Margosa will be sold by Auction on Monday 24th November, 1947 commencing from 9 a.m. at the Forest Department Timber Depot, Jaffna Customs, Jaffna. Further particulars of the sale can be had from the Divisional Forest Officer, Northern Division, Jaffna.

H. E. C. LUSHINGTON,  
Conservator of Forests.  
Colombo, 5th Nov., 1947.

## TENDER NOTICE

The Deputy Food Controller, Jaffna will receive tenders up to 12 noon on Tuesday the 2nd December 1947 for the purchase of torn and un-serviceable "C" Grade Empty Gunny Bags at the Supply Stations in Jaffna District.

Tenders should be made on Forms obtainable on application to the Deputy Food Controller, Jaffna from whom all particulars on the subject can be obtained.

R. CHINTAMANY,  
14-11-47. for D. F. C. Jaffna,

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## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the under-mentioned Railway Footpaths and Footbridges will be closed to the public for the 24 hours from 12 midnight on Monday, December 1st to 12 midnight on Tuesday, December 2nd, 1947.

## COLOMBO

(1) Floor's lane footbridge and the path to the labourers' quarters at Maligawatte leading from School Lane.

(2) All Railway roads at Mount Mary.

## MAIN LINE

(3) Footpath over Kelani Bridge.

(4) Road from level crossing to Commercial Company's Mills between sidings at Hunupitiya.

(5) Footpath leading from Mabola-Averiawatte Road to Hunupitiya Station.

(6) Footpath leading from Bujamuwahalt to Pallemorugama.

(7) Footpath leading from Bujamuwahalt to Kandabena.

(8) Footbridge over the Railway at Gampaha Station.

(9) Footpath between 22 miles 30 chains and 22 miles 45 chains Veyangoda.

(10) Footpath on south of Railway to bridge at Rambukkana.

(11) Footbridge over the Railway at Kadugannawa Station between Alagalla Road and platform stairway.

(12) Footbridge south end of Nawalapitiya Station.

(13) Footbridge at the south end of Hatton Station.

(14) The two short cuts to Talawakelle Station from near the Police Station and near the Engineering Works Road.

(15) Short cut steps from Main Road to Talawakelle Station.

(16) Sub-way between Badulla Road and Punagala Road at Bandarawela Station.

## UDAPUSSELLAWA RAILWAY

(17) Path from Ragalla Station to Bazaar.

## COAST LINE

(18) Path on the north of Bambalapitiya Station running alongside the Railway on the landward side from 6th Lane to Bambalapitiya Station Approach Road.

(19) Path on the south of Bambalapitiya Station running alongside the Railway on the landward side from 12th Lane to Bambalapitiya Station Approach Road.

(20) Path on the south of Wellawatte Station running alongside the Railway from 6th mile (Railway mileage) to Wellawatte Station Approach Road.

(21) Footpath between Ridgeway Flats and Charlemont Road, including the footbridge over the Wellawatte channel.

(22) Footpath running alongside Railway boundary north of Dehiwela Station, excepting between Station Approach Road and entrance to 'Oxenbourne'.

(23) Footpath south of Dehiwela Station running alongside Railway boundary to the Station Approach Road.

(24) Footpath leading from Ratmalana to new level crossing at south end of station of land side.

(25) The path on the north and south side of Angulana Station on the sea side of the Railway.

(26) Footpath at 15m. 40c. south side of Egoda Uyana Station leading to sea beach.

(27) Footpath in front of Station Master's Bungalow at Egoda Uyana Station leading to Station Approach Rd.

(28) Footpath over Panadure Bridge.

(29) Footpath under south end of Panadure Railway Bridge.

(30) The Goods Shed Road between level crossings at North and South ends of Panadure Station.

(31) Footpath from Sea Beach Road, Panadure to Panadure Railway Station.

(32) Footpath at South end of Bambalapitiya Station.

(33) All private roads at New Railway Workshops, Ratmalana.

(34) Footpath at the North end of Ambalangoda Station Yard crossing the tracks and leading to Wellegoda Village.

## KELANI VALLEY LINE

(35) Footpath at West end of South side of Nugegoda Station omitting the path leased to the Urban Council under Bond No. 3435.

## NORTHERN LINE

(36) All Railway Roads at Anuradhapura.

(37) Overhead Bridge, Jaffna Station.  
J. E. S. PODGER,  
General Manager,  
Colombo 8th Nov. 1947.

## Order Absolute Declaring Will Proved, &amp;c.

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Chevalier Philip Moses deceased, of Jaffna Town.

Testamentary Jurisdiction } No. 804

This matter coming on for final determination before R. R. Selvadurai Esq., District Judge Jaffna on the 7th day of November 1947, in the presence of Mr. F. L. T. Martyn Proctor and the affidavits of the Petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the order of this Court made on the 7th day of November, 1947, be made absolute, and that Probate of the Will of the said deceased be issued to the Petitioner.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,  
District Judge

Drawn by: Sgd. F. L. T. Martyn,  
13-11-47. Proctor for Petitioner.

## ORDER NISI

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Vaithy Joseph of Chundikuly, Jaffna.

Deceased.

Testamentary Jurisdiction } No. 790

Cecilia widow of Vaithy Joseph Johnpillai of Chundikuly, Jaffna.

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Vaithy Joseph Gnanapiragasam
2. Vaithy Joseph Aservatham and
3. Vaithy Joseph Cecilia all of do.

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the petitioner praying that the last will dated 20th Jan. 1946 filed of record be declared proved and that the petitioner be as executor named therein declared entitled to have letters of administration with the will annexed, coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 20th Oct., 1947 in the presence of Mr. F. L. T. Martyn Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner:

It is ordered that the last will filed of record be declared proved and that the petitioner be as executor named therein declared entitled to have letters of administration with the will annexed unless the respondents abovenamed shall show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary on or before the 24th day of November 1947 at 10 a.m.

This 5th day of November, 1947.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,  
District Judge.

## ORDER NISI

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

In the matter of the intestate estate of the late Saverimuttu Gnanapragasam of Chundikuly, Jaffna.

Deceased.

Testamentary Jurisdiction } No. 781

Arokkiam widow of S. Gnanapragasam of Chundikuly, Jaffna.

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Gnanapragasam . Thuraisingam
2. Gnanapragasam Lila
3. Gnanapragasam Rani
4. Gnanapragasam Rajasinghe
5. Gnanapragasam Ruby
6. Gnanapragasam Ratnasingam
7. Gnanapragasam Gil. Jayasingam

The 2nd to 7th respondents are minors appearing by their guardian-ad-litem the 8th respondent.

8. P. S. Nicholans all of Main Street, Chundikuly, Jaffna.

Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the petitioner praying that the 8th respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the 2nd to 7th respondents and that the petitioner as widow of the deceased declared entitled to administer the estate of the deceased abovenamed and that letters of administration issued to her accordingly, coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 8th day of October, 1947 in the presence of Mr. F. L. T. Martyn, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the 8th respondent be and he is hereby appointed guardian-ad-litem over the 2nd to 7th respondents, that the petitioner as widow of the deceased declared entitled to administer the estate of the said deceased and letters of administration issued to her accordingly, unless the respondents abovenamed or any others shall show sufficient cause to the contrary on or before the 31st day of Oct. 1947, at 10 a.m.

This 27th day of Oct. 1947.

Sgd. G. C. T. A. DE SILVA,  
District Judge.

Time to show cause extended till 21-11-47.

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