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# The Catholic Guardian

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## THE SCEPTIC OF LOURDES: His Job is to Test "Miracle" Stories

By RITA de MELLO

who recently visited Lourdes on pilgrimage with her husband, Mr. A. S. Mello, President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

In Lourdes, the mountain stronghold of the Catholic faith, Dr. Francois Leuret, one of the most sceptical of men, is always busy.

Dr. Leuret's office is under an arch of the impressive basilica, a bare 100 yards from the famous grotto, renowned for what are described as its thousands of miraculous cures.

Dr. Leuret doubts all miraculous cures. Doubting is his official job. He is the resident physician at Lourdes and chief of the medical bureau. It is his task as an appointee of the Catholic church to see that miracles do not become a glut on the religious market. When an exalted pilgrim rushes into Dr. Leuret's office and proclaims that he has just been cured of a long-suffered affliction, Dr. Leuret calmly strokes his moustache and says: "Prove it."

This attitude on the part of the Church surprises both sceptic and pilgrims; more than 1,000,000 of whom journey annually to this international Catholic shrine. It is more surprising to the hundreds of thousands who come here each year on crutches and litters in hopes of a cure. It is astounding to that handful of ailing pilgrims who every few days leave here, convinced that their condition has improved slightly.

But Lourdes requires objective scientific proof. Patients who assert that they have been cured here must present a complete dossier of their previous medical history. They must show detailed certified statements from physicians who treated them, as well as photos, X-rays and records of laboratory analyses. Then they must submit to further examination by Dr. Leuret and by any of the members of an assisting board of physicians who may join Dr. Leuret and submit independent diagnoses. Visiting physicians, whether Catholic or non-Catholic, are invited to attend these examinations and to study any of the dossiers. The average yearly visits by physicians usually number between 500 and 1,000. The register shows that 130 doctors have already paid visits to the medical bureau this season.

Although Dr. Leuret is himself a devout Catholic, who twice in his youth made the pilgrimage on foot from Bordeaux to Lourdes, he scrupulously avoids referring to any Lourdes cure as a "miracle." Even those cures which have passed his own exacting tests he refers to clinically as "extraordinary" or "baffling," never as "miracles." It is the Catholic church which finally weighs Dr. Leuret's evidence and decides whether to recognise one of his "baffling" cures as an official miracle. But as a layman and a man of science, his testimony is constantly subject to challenge. Dr. Leuret chooses his words with care. He regards himself as a kind of "devil's advocate" and finds that he serves the Church best when he acts as its most sceptical opponent.

Records at the medical bureau list a Dr. de St. Naclou as the first resident physician at Lourdes, but although Dr. St. Naclou served here from 1885 until 1891 there are no documents available

on case histories at Lourdes that go back beyond 1888. Dr. Leuret is now busy moving the old office of the medical bureau to new quarters and is still hunting for X-ray equipment, which has not yet been made available to the bureau, and struggling with masses of unsorted papers which he has inherited and which he hopes will eventually fill some of the gaps in the medical history of Lourdes. Considering that Lourdes first became a religious shrine in 1858, Dr. Leuret points out that there were undoubtedly a great many more Lourdes cures than appear on the records. From the records of the medical bureau direct or who preceded him, however, it appears that the total number of recognised Lourdes cures is somewhat less than 200.

Certain types of cure are automatically rejected by Dr. Leuret and his medical board. Nervous afflictions, for instance, which are too easily subject to cure by suggestion and which often baffle diagnosis, are ruled out, although many such maladies do appear to benefit by the stimulus of a visit to Lourdes. Ailments which show gradual improvement after the patient arrives in Lourdes are also cancelled off the list of the medical board on the ground that gradual cures can be attributed to normal physical causes and medical treatment.

To be considered an authentic "Lourdes cure" the patient must show immediate and striking improvement—a sudden and marked change in his physical condition that cannot be attributed to any process known to science.

Even should improvement in a patient's condition show all of a sudden the "baffling" characteristics demanded by Dr. Leuret on the first visit to Lourdes, it is customary for this news to be stored in the archives in complete secrecy for a period of one year. Then, to be officially accepted and announced to the world at large the former patient must return to Lourdes the following year and submit to another thorough examination by the medical board. If he cannot pay his own passage the Church usually raises the money through his home diocese.

Twenty such probationary patients are scheduled to return to Lourdes this summer. But as some probationers are usually expected to suffer relapse in the interim or neglect to make the return visit, Dr. Leuret cautions that probably not more than a few of that number will be recognised as having been cured at Lourdes in 1946. He will not discuss these cases until they pass the final examination.

Dr. Leuret took over his present functions last March when he was chosen by the Confrerie de St. Luc, a national association of Catholic physicians, and appointed by the bishop of his diocese. Dr. Leuret's appointment, which is a life-time office, makes him the fifth doctor to hold this post. His predecessor, Dr. Auguste Vallet, who had served since 1926, retired from practice last year. Besides acting as resident physician at Lourdes during the season of pilgrimages from June

## CONSECRATION OF THE RIGHT REV. MGR. IGNATIUS GLENNIE

### Grand and Colourful Ceremony

(By Our Special Correspondent)

#### THE CEREMONIAL & EXAMEN

The Consecrating Bishop was the Right Revd. Dr. Oscar Severin, S.J.

The first assistant consecrator was Right Revd. Dr. B. Regno, O.S.B. and the second assistant was Right Revd. Dr. P. Thomas. Very Revd. Fathers Harry L. Crane, S.J. and J. T. Linehan, S.J., attended as Chaplains to the Bishop Elect. The Consecrating Bishop and Assistants having vested, the Consecrator took his place on a faldstool in front of the High Altar. The Senior Assistant addressed the Consecrator as follows:

Most Reverend Father, Our Holy Mother the Catholic Church prays that you raise the Priest present to the Episcopal charge.

Consecrator: Have you the Apostolic Mandate?

Senior Bishop: We have.

Consecrator: Let it be read.

The Papal Bull was then read, The Examen of the Bishop Elect then followed. He was interrogated on important matters of Doctrine and Discipline. The Mass then began. After the Confrater, the Bishop Elect with his Assistants withdrew to his Altar and having vested read the Mass as far as the Gospel. He was then led to the Consecrator who from his Faldstool addressed him:

"It behoves a Bishop to judge, to interpret, to consecrate, to ordain, to offer sacrifice, to baptize and confirm."

The Consecrator rising continued: "Let us pray, dearest brethren, that the loving-kindness of Almighty God may in consideration of the profit of His Church, bestow a plentiful grace on this Bishop Elect." All knelt, the Bishop Elect prostrated himself before the High Altar and the Litany of the Saints was sung. At the conclusion of the Litany the most impressive part of the ceremony took place. The Consecrator placed an open Book of the Gospels upon the shoulders of the Bishop Elect, to signify that though he was to govern others, yet he himself was to be subject to the Law of the Gospel; and immediately the Consecrator and the Assistant Bishops solemnly imposed hands on him, saying:

"RECEIVE THE HOLY GHOST."

The Consecrator after intoning the *Sursum Corda* recited the following beautiful prayer, the most beautiful and picturesque in the whole ceremonial:—

"It is truly meet and just, right and wholesome, that we should at all times, and in all places give thanks to Thee, Holy Lord, Father Almighty everlasting God, the honour of every dignity which ministers to Thy glory in Holy Orders. O God, who in the privacy of familiar converse, didst, amongst other lessons of heavenly training, instruct Thy servant Moses as to the form of the priestly vesture, and command Aaron, Thy chosen Priest to be clad when offering sacrifices, in mystic garb, that after generations might gain understanding from the customs of preceding ones, and that the knowledge of Thy teachings might fail in no age; as the visible em-

(Continued on Inner Page.)

Trincomalee the finest naval station in the East rose splendidly to the occasion when all sections of the people Catholic and non-Catholic contributed their share to make the Consecration of the Right Revd. Ignatius Glennie, S.J., Rector of the Papal Seminary the grand and memorable event it turned out to be. In other parts of the Island non-Catholics honour such an occasion with their presence but Trincomalee went several steps forward when all sections of the public, Naval, Civil and General gave of their best. From the Commodore of the East Indies Squadron down to the lowest paid labourer in the town all helped. This was the first time a Bishop was to be consecrated in Trincomalee. The Cathedral of St. Mary's was much too small and it was decided to erect a Pavilion on the Big Maidan. A Pavilion to seat 3,000 persons excluding the hundreds of scholastics and priests was a big job for a small town like Trincomalee where building materials are in short supply. The Naval authorities supplied as much material as possible; private contractors also helped. All labourers and skilled artisans gave their services free after their regular hours of work during the day. The whole town was scoured for chairs and somehow more than two thousand chairs were procured. The raised platform at the rear had the high altar, a side altar and a throne for the Bishop Elect. From the persons seated at the very end of the pavilion, to those privileged to seat in front, all had an uninterrupted view of the ceremonies.

#### THE PROCESSION

More than ten thousand persons were present. At 7-30 a.m. a long procession wended its way from St. Joseph's Convent to the Pavilion. Chev. A. Gardiner in the uniform of a Knight of St. Sylvester with drawn sword headed the procession accompanied by two other Knights Prof. Karunaratne and Mr. H.A. Hamer. Then followed a long array of scholastics from the Papal Seminary, Kandy dressed in white with crimson sashes. A large number of priests came behind the scholastics. The Chamberlain of the Cape and Sword Mr. J. P. de Fonseka preceded the four Bishops, the Right Revd. Dr. Oscar Severin, S.J., Bishop of Ranchi, Right Revd. Dr. Bernard Regno, O.S.B., Bishop of Kandy, Right Revd. Dr. Pothacamary Thomas, Bishop of Bangalore, Right Revd. Dr. J. A. Guyomar, O.M.I., Bishop of Jaffna and Abbot Anselm Weerasinghe, O.S.B.

The C.L.I. Band was in attendance.

to October, Dr. Leuret is a general practitioner in Bordeaux and a consulting physician at a Bordeaux hospital, as well as a member of the medical faculty of the University of Bordeaux. He also goes to Paris during the winter months, where he holds the post of Councillor of the Republic. By far the most absorbing of these tasks, he finds, in his work at Lourdes.—*The Illustrated Weekly of India*, Sept. 14, 1947.

# MADHU

## OCTOBER FESTIVAL

The October Festival will take place as usual on the 7th of October, Feast of the Holy Rosary.

Administrator of Madhu Church.

## Church Calendar

SEPTEMBER 1947

FRI. ...26 S. Justina.  
SAT. ...27 S. Damian.  
SUN. ...28 18 P.—S. Wenceslaus.  
MON. ...29 S. Michael.  
TUES. ...30 S. Jerome.

OCTOBER 1947

WED. ... 1 S. Remy.  
THURS. ... 2 Guardian Angels.  
FRI. ... 3 S. Theresa I. J.

## The Catholic Guardian

SEPTEMBER 26TH 1947

### THE NEW BISHOP OF TRINCOMALEE

Last Sunday those who were privileged to be present at Trincomalee witnessed what was perhaps the most impressive ceremony ever seen in Ceylon. We are referring to the episcopal consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. I. T. Glennie, S.J.

Many factors contributed to the impressiveness. There was first of all the deeply moving and beautifully performed ceremony itself. Consecration, the putting aside of a person or a thing exclusively for God, always evokes solemn thoughts and emotions and the consecration of a bishop is in its ceremonial profoundly moving. There is the constant recurrence to the Old Testament priesthood pointing forward and beyond itself: that is the function of a sign. 'When all these things happened to them, it was a symbol of what was to come. There is the emphasis and the all but visible realization of the power and the presence of Christ, the great High-Priest in the fullness of whose priesthood the consecrand is to share. Just before the consecration at the incredibly beautiful preface that realization is most poignant.

There was secondly the very competence itself with which all the ceremonies were observed. There was, to help this, the immense platform to hold all those taking part in the ceremony as well as the many clergy and all the students from the Papal Seminary. It may seem too trifling a point to emphasize here but for some of us the presence of the Seminarians at the new Bishop's invitation and expense was the surest indication of the great hearted sympathy of the new Bishop.

What would have struck even the most casual visitor was the way in which Trincomalee rose to the occasion. The Navy first of all. They saw to the housing of the seminarians, the clergy and bishops: they saw to the huge pandal, the bunting, the lighting. And all sections in Trinco, Christian and non-Christian alike made the function and the occasion their very own.

But there was much, much more. America was there strong and most vividly represented by

the provincial of the New Orleans province, guaranteeing by his presence and confirming by his spoken word after lunch that the New World was coming to the help of the Old. There was the consecrating prelate, Dr. Severin of Ranchi, perhaps the most outstanding missionary prelate of the day—the bishop of Chota-Nagpur—the co-consecrators, the bishops of Kandy and Bangalore. The clergy present represented every diocese of Ceylon, they came from India and having regard to their homelands came from America, France, Belgium, Italy, Ireland and Spain. It was indeed the Catholic consecration of a Catholic Bishop.

We would say that there is, if one may judge from all the signs, a great future ahead for the Bishop and the diocese of Trincomalee. There is vision, there is vibrant confidence and unqualified generosity. Happy is the Bishop with such qualities to rely upon, happy is the diocese he is called upon to rule.

*Ad multos faustissimosque annos.*

## 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Gospel

(St. Matthew: ch. 9: 1—8)

So He took ship across the Sea, and came to His own city.

And now they brought before Him a man who was palsied and bed-ridden; whereupon Jesus, seeing their faith,

Said to the palsied man,

Son, take courage, thy sins are forgiven.

And at this, some of the scribes

Said to themselves,

He is talking blasphemously.

Jesus read their minds, and said,

Why do you cherish wicked thoughts in your hearts?

Tell me, which command is more lightly given,

to say to a man, Thy sins are forgiven, or to say, Rise up, and walk?

And now, to convince you

that the Son of Man has

authority to forgive sins

while He is on earth,

(here He spoke to the palsied man),

Rise up, take thy bed with thee,

and go home.

And he rose up, and went

back to his house,

So that the multitudes were filled with

awe at seeing it,

and praised God for giving

such powers to man.

### Notes on the Gospel of the 18th Sunday After Pentecost (Communicated.)

1. The miracle narrated in today's Gospel was performed by our Lord in proof of His power to forgive sins; and therefore we should have the Sacrament of Penance in mind all through the Gospel.

2. Our Lord did not heal the palsied man, until He had forgiven his sins. By this, He teaches that sins are often the cause of our bodily sicknesses, and that if we sincerely repent, God will be likely to remove these evils from us.

3. Our Lord came on earth, to restore spiritual life. He cured the man, to prove that He had the power also to cure the leprosy of the soul, when He declared: "thy sins are forgiven thee". He gave the sinful woman a similar assurance, in identical words.

4. What our Lord did for His followers, He also provided for the rest of mankind to the end of the world. After promising St. Peter the keys of the Kingdom of heaven with power later to all the Apostles He said: "Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them". Here we have the formal institution of the Sacrament of Penance.

5. "Jesus read their minds". Our Lord sees our thoughts also; and of

course our sins of thought must be repented of and confessed, just as much as our sinful actions.

6. "Rise up, take up thy bed and go home". A picture of three stages in our conversion from sin: first our rise, in a good confession; secondly, our correspondence with the graces that come from absolution; and thirdly, a lasting perseverance merited by these precious co-operations with God.

7. St. Luke says "the man went away glorifying God". This is a reminder to make a fervent thanksgiving after confession.

8. Protestants maintain that there should be no intermediary between God and one's conscience, that we should confess directly and secretly to God alone. To this, St. Augustine replied: "to obtain forgiveness of sins, one must do what Jesus prescribed and that is CONFESSION."

## Consecration of the Right Rev. Mgr. Ignatius Glennie, S.J.

(Continued from Page 1.)

blem won the reverence of our elders, so our experience of the reality is still more trustworthy than those obscure foreshadowings. For the garb of that elder Priesthood prefigured the adornment of our souls, and with us the Pontifical dignity is set off not by gaudiness of vesture but by excellence of soul. Nay even the priestly ornaments, which in those days dazzled the eyes of the carnal-minded, were meant to inculcate the virtues of which they were the emblems. Do Thou then, we beseech Thee, O Lord, bestow on Thy servant, whom Thou hast called to minister as high-priest the grace that what those garments prefigured, by sheen of gold, flashing of gems, and cunning of varied embroidery, may shine forth in his conversation and actions. Fulfil in Thy chosen Priest the perfection of Thy service, and having decked him with the ornaments of the supreme dignity, do Thou sanctify him with the out-pouring of the unction from above."

The head of the Bishop Elect was then bound with a long napkin and the Consecrator turning to the altar intoned the *Veni Creator Spiritus*.

### ANointing

After the first verse the Consecrator rose, and while the choir sang the other verses he anointed the head of the Bishop Elect with Holy Chrism, in token of his authority and dignity as prince of the church saying to him:—

"May it (the Holy Chrism) plentifully flow upon his head, may it reach his lips, may it descend to every part of his body, that the power of Thy Spirit may fill his inner man, and compass him around without. May constant faith, pure love, true peace, abound within him. By Thy gift, may his feet be beauteous in announcing peace, in bearing good tidings of Thy mercies. Grant him O Lord, the ministry of reconciliation, in word, and in deed, and in the power of signs and wonders. May his speech and preaching be not in the persuasive words of the wisdom of man, but in the showing forth of the Spirit and of power. Bestow on him, O Lord, the keys of the kingdom of heaven, that he may meekly use, and not boast of the power Thou givest him for edification and not for destruction. Whatever he shall bind on earth may it be bound in Heaven, and whatever he shall loose on earth, may it be loosed in Heaven. Whose sins he shall retain, may they be retained; and whose sins he shall remit, do Thou remit them. Let him that curses him be accursed, and may he that blesses him be filled with blessings. Let him be that faithful and prudent servant whom Thou, Lord, mayest set over Thy household, that he may give them food in due season. May he be in care unwearied, in spirit fervent, hating pride; and a lover of humility and truth, which may he never forsake by yielding either to flattery or menace. Let him not put light for darkness, or darkness for light, or call evil good and good evil. May he be a debtor both to the wise and unwise, that he may gain fruit from the progress of all.

Grant to him, O Lord, the Episcopal chair to rule Thy church, and the people committed to his charge. Be thou unto him authority, power and steadfastness. Multiply upon him Thy blessing and Thy grace, that by Thy gift he may be able ever to prevail with Thy mercy, and through Thy grace may be faithful."



THE NEW BISHOP OF TRINCOMALEE

While an Antiphon and Psalm 132 were sung the consecrator anointed the hands of the Bishop-Elect with holy Chrism to show that he had received the power of blessing and of consecrating.

### INVESTITURE

The Investiture followed the anointing. The consecrator joined the hands of the Bishop-Elect and bound them with a napkin. He then presented him with his Pastoral staff, the emblem of his charge as the shepherd of his flock. The ring was blessed by the consecrator and put on the third finger of the right hand of the new Bishop, the Consecrator saying:—

"Receive this Ring, the signet of faith, that adorned with faith, undefiled, thou mayest without blame, guard the Bride of God, which is His Holy Church."

The Consecrator next gave the new Bishop the Book of the Gospels saying:—

"Receive the Gospel and go and preach to the people entrusted to thee; for God is able to increase His grace in thee, who lives and reigns unto the ages of ages." The newly consecrated Bishop accompanied by his Assistants and attendants withdrew to his Altar. His hands were cleansed.

### OFFERTORY

After the Credo and the Offertory the consecrator sat on his faldstool in front of the Altar, and the newly consecrated Bishop presented his offerings: two lighted torches, two loaves of bread and two barrels of wine, which are symbols of the Sacrifice of the New Law of which the Bishop is a High Priest, for the Episcopate is the perfection of the Priesthood. Having received the offerings the consecrator turned to the Altar, and the newly consecrated Bishop standing with his Assistants at the Epistle corner of the Altar said the rest of the Mass with the consecrator-word for word.

### ENTHRONEMENT

After the *Ite Missa est* was said the consecrating Bishop blessed the Mitre of the new Bishop and placed it on his head saying:—

"We set on the head of this Bishop, O Lord, Thy Champion, the helmet of defence and of salvation, that with comely face and with his head armed with the horns of either Testament, he may appear terrible to the gainsayers of the truth, and may become their vigorous assailant, through the abundant gift of thy grace, who didst make the face of Thy servant Moses, to

(Continued on Page 3 Col. 1.)

Party	Candi- dates	Seats sought	Seats won	Seats lost	Deposits forfeited	Polled by winners	Polled by losers	Total Polled
U.N.P.	98	76	42	34	18	487,851	256,203	744,054
L.S.S.P.	28	28	10	18	3	101,763	102,257	204,020
B.L.P.	10	10	5	5	2	96,142	17,051	113,193
Communist	13	13	3	10	6	37,363	32,988	70,661
Independent	175	75	20	55	92	153,556	343,455	497,011
Ind. Socialists	7	7	1	6	1	19,753	22,557	42,310
Tamil Congress	9	9	7	2	0	75,251	7,248	82,499
Indian Congress	7	7	6	1	0	70,893	1,337	72,230
Labour	9	9	1	8	7	23,470	15,462	38,932
Swaraj	3	3	0	3	3	—	1,393	1,393
United Lanka	2	2	0	2	1	—	3,953	3,953
								* 44,353
Total voting strength in polled electorates :								3,420,536
Total number of candidates :								360
Former M.S.C's defeated (including three Ministers) :								22
Former M.S.C's returned (including four Ministers) :								23
[The House of Representatives will consist of 95 elected and 6 nominated members].								

*-Times of Ceylon.*

## LOCAL &amp; GENERAL

(Continued from Page 5)

**Four Nations buy Siam Rice.**

According to British Information Service, Britain has paid Siam £8,610,109 for rice received since the end of the Japanese war. United States purchases through various organisations totalled £2,558,584 while India spent £331,338 and China £1,088,000.

**Deaf Mute Speaks and Paralyzed walks as the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima Passes.**

Two cures have been reported as the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima passed through Spain on its way to Rome. A deaf mute recovered hearing and speech and a 60-year-old woman, Manuel Lopez Armendia, is said to have been completely cured of paralysis of the right leg and of loss of voice.

The previous cure was reported from Valladolid, where 18-year-old Carminda Fernandez Roman, who had been deaf and dumb and half paralysed for 14 months, following an attack of meningitis, suddenly was able to move, hear and speak while attending Mass offered before the Fatima Statue.

**Miraculous Medal Nun Canonized.**—Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul from Britain and Ireland were among the tens of thousands of pilgrims in St. Peter's to see the canonization of their co-religious, Blessed Catherine Laboure, to whom Our Lady revealed the Miraculous Medal.

His Holiness has fixed December 31—the day of her death in 1876—as St. Catherine's feast.

**Sally Ann puts away her Irons.**

—Twelve-year-old Sally Ann O'Leary, the American crippled girl who made a flying pilgrimage to Lourdes, has discarded the leg irons she used to wear. She now walks unaided.

**Psychological Revolution in Russia.**

—A tremendous psychological revolution is taking place in Soviet Russia to-day with at least 90 per cent. of the Russian people opposed to the Communist régime, said observers from resistance movements in Soviet occupied countries at a study week for priests at Notre Dame University, Indiana. Names of the resistance men cannot be disclosed because they have relatives in Soviet areas. After the war, said the observers, young Russians who had fought in the Red Army felt that they had won the war for the Allies. Discovering that Europe's standard of living is much higher than Russia's, they have turned against the Communist régime. So many are the widespread instances in Russia in which soldiers returning from Europe have executed members of the Communist régime, that now no Russian soldier who fought in Europe is permitted to carry a gun. Speaking of the people as a whole, the observers pointed out that the average Russian is fundamentally a very good person. Their crude direct way of life is due to their being deprived of the liberties and spiritual values of life.

**Religion Taken to the People.**

—Motor-missionaries equipped like the Southwark Travelling Mission in England are taking the Faith to remote hamlets in the vast Limoges diocese, the most Communistic region in France. The 473 parishes in the diocese are widely scattered. Each of the parish embraces no less than 102 hamlets. Some of them are too far from the centre of the parish to be regularly visited by the parish priest, who often has charge of two or three parishes at one time. The people have gradually fallen away from the Church; they no longer attend services. Many children are not baptised. Anti religious propaganda has played havoc. The first two motor-missionaries, Oblates of Mary Immaculate, began work this year. They bought an old van and equipped it with a kitchen, two beds, tables and chairs. They usually stop at the centre of a village and ask for a meeting place. They visit all families, inviting them to the gathering. They show films, give a talk, ask questions. Attendances vary between 15 and 30 people. If the atmosphere is favourable they ask that a prayer be said in unison. If the atmosphere seems even more favourable, they ask the people to come to an interpreted Mass the next day. Sometimes there

are confessions and Holy Communion. According to the welcome received, the missionaries remain one, two or three days in the village. The Bishop of Limoges hopes to send more motor-missionaries on the road in the near future.

**Monkeys for Medical Research.**

—About 400 monkeys are being taken to the United States from Calcutta by "s.s. Trawallard" which arrived at Madras harbour on September 9 en route to New York. A firm in New York, has it learnt, purchased them for the purpose of Medical research.

**Cures at 'Ordinary' Nun's Tomb.**

—The healing of a Hindu leper is among the many miraculous cures claimed by pilgrims at the tomb in Bharanagar, in the Changanacherry diocese of Travancore, South India, of Sister Alphonse, a 35-year-old Clarist nun who died last year.

Bishop Kalacherry of Changanacherry relates that the leper arrived at the tomb, untied his bandages and found the ulcers healed.

Another reported cure is that of a boy crippled with a foot deformity which a medical board certified as incurable. After praying at the tomb he was able to walk.

Hundreds of pilgrims, including Hindus and Brahmans, visit the tomb daily.

Sister Alphonse suffered illness throughout her religious life. Beyond patient endurance, no extraordinary virtues were noticed in her.

**Notable Convert.**

—Dr. Henry S. Lucas, Professor of History since 1921 at the University of Washington, Seattle, has been received into the Church. Attributing his conversion to his study of history, Prof. Lucas said: "The Catholic Church's very existence and continuity challenge the interest of one who makes thoughtful study of history."

**Empress fulfils a Vow.**

—When the Empress of Ethiopia went into exile during the Italian invasion of her country, she made a vow that if she were permitted to return she would give her crown for the statue of Our Lady in the Nativity Church in Bethlehem. A special Ethiopian mission has now been to Bethlehem and placed the bejewelled crown at the statue's feet.

**Polish Priest on Trial in Warsaw.**

—All Catholics, and the clergy in particular, in Poland, are watching with interest and apprehension the course of a trial which opened in Warsaw.

Fr. Leop. Pawlina, former head of Caritas, the great charitable organisation is among three persons accused of gathering information for the Polish underground. He has pleaded guilty.

The trial is being conducted before a military court by a Colonel Klimowicki who has presided over many political trials and it is expected that this is but the prelude to a number of trials involving priests.

With Fr. Pawlina are accused the editor of Gazeta Ludowa and a former sergeant of the Security Police. Fr. Pawlina with a number of other priests was arrested early in July shortly after Cardinal Griffin's visit to Poland.

**Mission Ship to the Rescue.**

—A supply ship of Oblate Missionaries in the sparsely peopled regions of Hudson Bay, the Regina Polaris, is now standing by, laden with stores to relieve the marooned inhabitants of scattered Canadian Government outposts in the Far North.

Following the recent grounding of the Government supply ship, Nascope, a second vessel is believed to have been lost in the Hudson Strait. Eighty-five passengers and crew of the Nascope were taken to Cape Dorset, whose normal white population is six persons, before being transhipped to Port Churchill.

This double blow to Government emergency relief measures has been causing concern to the authorities, since both supply ships were making their annual store-carrying cruise.

**Ban on Processions Lifted.**

—Mgr. Dubourg, Archbishop of Besancon, has won his case against the local municipality. The Council of State has annulled the decree of 1927 of the municipality which forbids the holding of processions within the municipal limits.

**Catholic Women Condemn Euthanasia.**

—Euthanasia, the movement avouring the mercy killing of incur-

able sick people, was condemned by the National Catholic Women Union at their 1947 meeting in Chicago.

A resolution asserted that at the present time some doctors and others who consider themselves to be "humanitarians" were campaigning for the legalising of euthanasia.

In assailing such proposals, the resolution declared: "Almighty God is the creator of the universe and its one Supreme Lord and Master," adding: "The life of each single individual is a creation of God and supreme mastery over life belongs to God. The advocates of euthanasia disregard the supernatural destiny of man and the role which suffering can and does play in the achievement of sanctity."—Observer Sept. 21.

**Prof. Shirras' Tribute to Holy Father.**

—Prof. George Findly Shirras, British expert in economics, recently had a half-hour private audience with the Holy Father.

Speaking "as a good Protestant" to a British Association meeting in Dundee about His Holiness, Prof. Shirras remarked:

"I would say that he is about the best informed man in Europe."

**Russia can Overrun Europe in Two Days.**

—An article in the "Armoured Cavalry Journal" states that Russia could probably invade and occupy the whole of Western Europe against the resistance of the present American and British troops in a matter of 48 hours. Continuing further the writer, Major Steward said: "It can be stated that the Russian army stands today as the best trained and is more nearly prepared for actual combat than any army in the world."

**Vatican View On Holy Places.**

—The importance and interest attached by the Catholic Church to the problem of the Holy Places in Palestine is demonstrated by the Pope's Apostolic Letter to the Minister General of the Friars Minor, Father Pacific Perantoni on the 4th centenary of the Pontifical Constitution for the Custody of the Holy Land and of the entry into possession of the Franciscans of the Sanctuary of Bethlehem.

In his Letter, His Holiness records the great work done by the Franciscans during the past six centuries in eastern areas in the fields of education, assistance, medicine and religion.

He also recalls the enormous sacrifices demanded of the Franciscan monks for the custody of the Holy Places of Palestine and the benefits to the whole world accruing from the help they have always given to pilgrims coming from every part of the world.

It is expected that, following the issue of this Apostolic Letter, other letters will be written by Cardinal Salotti, Protector of the Order of the Friars Minor and by Cardinal Eugene Tisserant, Secretary of the congregation of the Eastern Church.—Observer Sept. 20.

**Natal's Snake Farm.**

—A £5,000 snake farm at Doonside on the Natal south coast, established by Mr. D. C. Fitz-Simons, Director of the Durban Snake Park, has begun production to ensure increased supplies of snake venom.

The venom is sent to the Rietfontein Laboratories in Johannesburg for conversion into all types of sera and vaccines. Not all the venom collected, however, is put to this purpose.

In various forms it is employed to a certain extent in the treatment of black-water fever, haemophilia, and other conditions of excessive bleeding, and in the treatment of epilepsy.

Attempts are also to be made to hatch snake eggs by incubation. If they succeed, an unending supply of reptiles for "milking" purposes will be available.

Covering approximately an acre of cleared bush, the farm is surrounded by a 5-foot fence capped by a shield to prevent the snakes from escaping into the outside undergrowth. The eight compartments inside the wall include three "milking" pens, a laboratory, a breeding pen, a hatchery, and a "sick bay."

The remaining compartments will be occupied by cobras, ringhals and other species of venomous snakes. Ponds, which contain frogs, and an ample supply of mice and rats, specially bred on the farm, will yield the "inmates" plenty of food.—Observer Sept. 21.

## Communist Atrocity in Yugoslavia

## Blood-Curdling Report

The Vatican newspaper, "Osservatore Romano," publishes the following detailed account, reported by the Trieste correspondent of the Italian "Risorgimento," of the Communist atrocity at Lanischie, in Yugoslav-occupied Istria, where Fr. Miro Buselich was beheaded and Mgr. Jacob Ukmar savagely beaten and left for dead:

The attack was long prepared and was the direct result of orders received to conduct a campaign against the Catholic Church.

"At Lanischie the people gathered for the confirmation of children at about 7-30 p. m. Half-an-hour later the arrival of a band of devil-possessed Communists was heralded. They were shouting for Tito and the Popular Party.

"The villagers at once sent into the Church the children and their godmothers while the men gathered round the church to prevent the entry of the disturbers. These first tried to dance the 'kolo' then shouting in the Slav tongue 'To the attack!' they charged the peasants who vigorously defended themselves with sticks, pickhandles and spades.

"Several people had been hurt when from the church there came the sound of liturgical singing to drown the shouts of the attackers and calm the children.

"Eventually, the village folk won and the mob drew off, camping about a mile from the last houses.

## KEEP DOOR CLOSED

"Calm being restored, the Confirmation proceeded and the children and their godparents left the church. The men escorted Mgr. Ukmar, Fr. Buselich, and Fr. Cek to the presbytery where they urged them not to open the door to anyone. Then they went away, certain that the Communists would not return.

The Communists, however, were merely awaiting the Popular Guard militia. Towards 11 p. m. a truck arrived containing five militiamen, who were greeted with joyful cheers by the Communists.

"Escorting the militiamen's truck, the Communists again entered the village and came to the presbytery.

"Just then a sumptuous automobile displaying a Trieste badge arrived unexpectedly. Inside was a child for a Confirmation and the child's godmother.

"The woman alighted and knocked on the presbytery door, calling out that there was a child to be confirmed. From a window on the first floor, Fr. Cek asked the militia guards' permission to see the woman and when the guards agreed, he came downstairs and opened the door.

## THE ATTACK

"The Communists, numbering about 150, had been waiting for this moment. They hurled themselves at the doorway, rushed into the house, slaughtered Fr. Buselich and gravely wounded Mgr. Ukmar.

The motorcar with the Trieste markings drove away at high speed. The militia took no action against the assassins, but fired in the air to intimidate them.

"In a little while the Communists came out of the presbytery. One of them, Ivanovich, aged about 27, from the neighbourhood, replaced a large knife in his belt and extended his arms all reddened with blood. It was the knife which had cut off the head of Fr. Buselich.

"The assassins finally took themselves off and the militiamen, going into the presbytery and inspecting the scene of the crime, came out again closing the door. One of them said: 'One is dead; one has the head almost torn from his body!'

(Continued from Page 2.)

shine after familiar converse with Thee, and didst adorn it with the resplendent horns of Thy brightness and Thy truth, and didst command the Mitre to be set on the head of Aaron Thy high-priest."

The Consecrator proceeded to bless the Gloves and then put them on the hands of the new Bishop.

Then the Consecrator leading the new Bishop by the right hand and the Senior Assistant by the left solemnly enthroned him. His Pastoral Staff was handed to him and returning to the Altar the Consecrator intoned the "Te Deum." While the "Te Deum" was being sung newly-consecrated Bishop went down the Pavilion giving his blessing to the faithful.

The Consecrator and the Assistant Bishops retired to the Gospel side of the Altar and the newly-consecrated Bishop advanced in full Pontificals to the middle of the Altar and gave his Solemn Benediction.

#### HOMAGE

After the blessing, he knelt at the Epistle side of the Altar and facing the Consecrator saluted him on his knees three times saying "Unto many years."

Thus concluded a memorable ceremony which left a lasting impression on all present. No one regretted having come to Trincomalee to be present at such a grand and impressive ceremonial.

#### THE CHOIR

A word of praise to the choir will not be out of place. A picked band of scholastics from the Papal Seminary formed the Choir. Owing to the poor acoustics in the Pavilion the singing did not seem so impressive but at the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the evening at St. Mary's the Choir was at its best.

#### RECEPTION

Rain which had threatened to mar the morning's ceremony came down and spoilt all the plans of the Reception Committee. The small school hall of St. Joseph's was taxed to capacity. Capt. Canagasasingham and Mudir. M. Santiapillai voiced the sentiments of the Catholics of Trincomalee and Batticaloa. His Lordship Dr. Glennie replied.

#### TO CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOYS AND GIRLS

December will see the end of another school year and many Catholic boys and girls will reach a turning-point in their lives. The Road of Life will lie open before them and they will ask themselves the momentous question: What career shall I embrace? It will be well for them if at the time of the great decision they also ask themselves: What does God want me to do? It may be that they will hear the Divine command: "Go ye also into My vineyard."

Boys and girls of 11 to 20 years of age can prepare now to answer the call. Good character, average intelligence, sound health and a generous zeal for God's glory—these are the essential requirements.

#### LOCAL & GENERAL

**Bishop of Ranchi pays a Flying Visit to Jaffna.**—His Lordship Dr. Severin, S.J., Bishop of Ranchi, arrived in Jaffna late on Monday evening, the 22nd inst. and left on the 23rd evening for Colombo. He visited the Rosarian Monastery at Thologatty.

It is a matter of deep regret that he could not spare the time to address the public on the thrilling work in his diocese. We should all have loved to hear about Chota-Nagpur.

**The Royal Wedding.**—The invitation list for Princess Elizabeth's wedding is now being compiled. The Duke of Windsor, it would appear, will not attend the wedding since the invitation is not extended to his wife.

**Civil Aviation and Jaffna.**—The following communique was broadcast in English, Sinhalese and Tamil on the 5th and the 6th September:—

"The emergency air services operated by the Department of Civil Aviation from Colombo to Trincomalee and Kankesanthurai will be suspended with effect

from Sunday, 7th September. The last service will be operated on Saturday, 6th September, according to schedule.

A further communique regarding the operation of a regular air service between Colombo, Trincomalee and Kankesanthurai will be issued shortly."

We understand that the discontinuance was due to the fact that the personnel for the emergency service was borrowed from India. In about a week's time, it would appear, there will be a regular service covering Colombo, Kankesanthurai and Trincomalee. In about 4 weeks time there should be a regular service operated by the Ceylon Government linking up Colombo and Madras and touching down at Kankesanthurai.

This should be welcome news for our readers who will remember our agitation some months ago for precisely such services.

**Personal.**—Mr. J. A. J. Tisseveerasinghe, Proctor, Main Street, Jaffna, has, we understand, been made a Justice of the Peace for the Judicial Division of Jaffna. We are glad to congratulate him on the honour conferred upon him.

—Mr. P. Saverimuttu, B.A., M.R.S.T. (Lond.) of the Staff of St. Patrick's College, Jaffna is leaving Jaffna today on study leave to England. He intends to do research work in Educational Psychology in the University of London before sitting for his M.A. in Education. We wish him *bon voyage* and a safe return.

#### Two Election Petitions Filed.

Two election petitions were filed in the Supreme Court on Friday, Sept. 19. The first was by Mr. A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate, Jaffna, the losing Tamil Congress candidate at the General Election for the constituency of Kayts. He alleges that Mr. Alfred Thambiayah (Ind.) the elected member was enjoying benefits from Government through contract or contracts at the time of his election and that the offence of bribery and corruption was committed in connection with the election.

In the second petition, a voter, Mr. S. Karnolis de Silva, of Kiriketiya, Ambalangoda, challenges the election of Mr. P. H. Wm. de Silva on a charge of treating and using hiring cars for the purpose of conveying voters to the polls.

**The Tamil Congressite and the Sama Samajist.**—When the results of the election for the Kankesanthurai seat in Parliament were announced on Wednesday the 17th inst. Mr. P. Nagalingam who ran second ventured a word of advice to the successful candidate Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayagam, K.C. Mr. Nagalingam asked the winner not to lend his support to a Government sponsored by the U.N.P. since the Propaganda of the Tamil Congress had always been directed against the U.N.P. In his reply Mr. Chelvanayagam said that he would not be guided by the advice of any Sama Samajist but would at all times follow the direction of the Tamil Congress.

**The Independents to Play the Role of King-makers?**—On the invitation of Mr. C. Suntheralingam the Independents seem to threaten to form a new party. "If we form a party," one of them said to the Sunday "Times" correspondent, "we are in the fortunate position of being able to make or unmake the Government."

**Abduction and Kidnapping of Polling Agents.**—Two polling agents of Mr. Beligamman, a candidate for the Mawanella seat, are reported to have been kidnapped while the polling was in progress. One Andris Appu Mudalali, a polling agent of Mr. Premalal Kumarasiri, Member of Parliament for Hakmana is alleged to have been abducted by four men and one woman against whom a charge has been preferred before the Matara Magistrate. The accused who were produced in Court pleaded not guilty and were allowed bail in Rs. 500 each.

**An Election Precaution.**—All toddy and arrack taverns, bars and liquor shops, in the Municipal area of Colombo were sealed up by the Excise Inspectors on Sept. 19, and they were not to open till Tuesday Sept. 23 as the Police were of opinion that there would be less trouble during the elections for the Colombo constituencies if voters could not indulge in strong drinks.

**Prisons Suffer from Housing Shortage.**—Emergency temporary accommodation is to be provided in Kandy

and Wallfada prisons in view of the increase of crime brought about by the disturbed conditions prevailing in the Island partly due to the General Election. One of the principal causes of the present over-crowding of the prisons is said to be the very heavy increase in admissions of unconvicted prisoners.

**From Flood to Fire.**—Two hundred flood refugees were rendered homeless when a serious outbreak of fire occurred on the night of Thursday, Sept. 18 at St. Mary's road, Mattakuly. The flames spread so rapidly that before the Fire Brigade could arrive on the scene forty huts occupied by the flood refugees were razed to the ground. Arson is suspected.

**Dominion Status by February.**—Speaking from the chair at a Public Meeting held in support of the candidature of Mr. T. B. Jayah for the Colombo Central seat in the Parliament Mr. D. S. Senanayake, the leader of the United National Party said on Thursday Sept. 18, "It gives me great pleasure as the leader of the United National Party to state that by the beginning of February 1948, we shall be able to attain Dominion Status; and we have to bear in mind that this attainment of Independence was made possible not only by the years of patient and patriotic endeavour we have devoted towards attaining that freedom from foreign rule, but by the whole-hearted support given by other communities who have made this country their home and worked with us unitedly."

**Social Club a Training Centre for Impersonation.**—From the revelations coming to light as a result of the raid made on a social club by Mr. J. W. L. Attygalle, Superintendent of Police C.I.D. we understand that he has seized documents that contained an obvious scheme for impersonation at the Colombo elections. Half a dozen sheets of paper containing the names of various persons who were to proceed as impersonators together with sums paid to each of them are also said to have been discovered. A man named Albert has been taken into custody.

**Tamil Encyclopaedia.**—The preparation schemes for collection of material for a Tamil Encyclopaedia has now been taken on hand by the sponsors of the proposed work. This is expected to be done in close consultation with the Government and the Madras and the Annamalai Universities. The appeal of the Minister for Education, Madras for a one lakh fund has brought in donation to the extent of Rs. 87,000.

**Roll of Precedence in Parliament.**—A scroll capable of being folded will be kept in the Parliament when it is inaugurated in the middle part of October. The Speaker will be the first to sign his name on it after he takes the oath of allegiance. The other members will be sworn in by the Speaker beginning with the Prime Minister and each member will sign the scroll immediately after swearing in on the date of his taking the oath.

**Craze for Western Degrees Criticized.**—Dr. C. E. Godakumbara, the new Assistant Archaeological Commissioner who returned to the Island after a four years' stay in England said, "It is unnecessary for students in Ceylon to go all the way to England and Europe to obtain Degrees in Oriental Languages, when scholars in these subjects in the West intend to further their studies in Ceylon and India. Research work is necessary for the student in Oriental Languages but it is not necessary for him to adhere to the present craze for rushing off to Europe for research work before he has completed his course of studies in Ceylon and India."

**Banish the Usurper Language.**—Writing in his weekly paper "Harijan" Mahatma Gandhi urged Government action without delay to "banish the English language as a cultural usurper, as we successfully banished the political rule of the English usurper." He said that unless the Government of India took care English was likely to usurp the place of Hindustani, which he wanted to be the inter-provincial language of India.

**3,600 tons of Rice from Burma.**—The Bibby liner "Herefordshire" which arrived in Colombo from Ran-

goon on Thursday the 18th brought 3,000 tons of rice and 600 tons of other cargo. She took away 3,750 tons of Ceylon tea to the United Kingdom ports.

(Continued on Page 4.)

#### FINANCIAL NEWS

The Managing Committee of The Jaffna Diocesan Provident Society Ltd. beg to announce that they are prepared to lend money on property situated within the Urban Council limits at 6 per cent. per annum instead of 7 per cent. per annum as has hitherto been the rate.

For further particulars apply to:—

THE HON. SECRETARY,  
Jaffna Diocesan Provident Society Ltd.  
Catholic Club, Jaffna.

#### THE RATIONING SCHEME

A special issue of flour is being made to wholesale dealers for direct retail sale outside the rationing scheme at the controlled prices. Consumers who are in need of flour over and above the ration are requested to avail themselves of this opportunity of obtaining flour outside the ration.

R. CHINTAMANY,  
for D. F. C.

The Kachcheri,  
Jaffna, Sept. 22, 1947.

#### THE JAFFNA URBAN COUNCIL

##### NOTICE

Tenders are hereby invited for the lease of the undermentioned Markets, Gala and Bus-stand for one year beginning from 1st January 1948.

Tenders for the first and sixth leases are to be made upon forms which will be supplied upon a deposit of Rs. 500 for each form at this Office. In the case of the 2nd, 3rd and the 4th, a deposit of Rs. 250 will be required, in the case of the other five a deposit of Rs. 50 will be required. In the case of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th Leases a further sum of Rs. 150 should be deposited as cost of Stamps and Notarial Fees for the purpose of entering into a Notarial Bond in order that Tender forms may be issued.

Tenders must be in sealed envelopes marked "Tender for lease of market etc." on the left hand top corner of the envelope and addressed to the Chairman, Urban Council, Jaffna, and should reach this Office not later than 12 noon Friday 24th October.

Separate Offers must be made for the different leases.

The tenderer selected by the Council will be required to deposit within three days of such selection 1/3 of the amount. The balance amount to cover up the full tendered amount in respect of the 5th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th leases, should be paid on or before 1st Dec. 1947. The tenderer selected in respect of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th leases, should enter into a Notarial Bond paying stamps and Notarial Fees in addition to Rs. 150 already deposited on or before 1-12-1947.

The balance amount to be paid in eight equal instalments on or before the 15th of each month, the first such payment to be made on or before the 15th January 1948 subject to the conditions of lease, copies of which are posted at this Office.

Should he fail to make deposits and enter into the Notarial Bond as stated above his deposit will be forfeited and the rent will be resold.

The Council reserves to itself the right to reject any or all the tenders without any question.

Any further information can be obtained from the Secretary.

There will be no reduction in the rate of rents obtaining at present in the markets. The Chairman has power to allocate specified places inside the Market premises for different kinds of trades and the Renter & Sub-lessees are bound by the decision of the Chairman.

##### Markets Referred to:—

1. Grand Bazaar (excluding the tin sheds and the space of land between the road and the entire tin sheds) and Sherbert Stalls and Book Stalls are excluded.
2. The Fish market near Grand Bazaar (including Pannaiturai where fish is sold).
3. Small Bazaar (excluding all meat stalls).
4. The Sengunthar market inclusive of the two rooms).
5. The Chiviataru Market including Passayur Beach where Fish is sold (excluding the room).
6. Grand Bazaar Gala including the Bus-stand at Grand Bazaar.
7. The Thaddatharu Santhai (excluding the Junction of Sivapragasam Road with Carpenters Lane where Vegetable and Fish are sold) and the western portion of Thaddatharu Market in extent 5 fms. leased out to Mr. K. Thillaiampalam is excluded.
8. The Muthirai Santhai.
9. The Colombuturai Market.
10. The Navanturai Market.

C. PONNAMBALAM,  
Chairman, U. C., Jaffna.  
Office of the Urban Council,  
Jaffna 20th Sept. 1947.

## THE SHOWDOWN

At last it has come. Sooner or later, the Kremlin was bound to take such decisive action that only the most devoted of the dialectic Fundamentalists could continue to deceive themselves. The Russian Enigma is now a joke, like Hitler's Secret Weapon. The last month of the Enigma were sad for the devotee. Like an aged beguety living in a room of mirrors, the devotee was confronted at every turn by the image of decay, repulsiveness and the approach of death. But the farce is now played, the fripperies of self delusion have been put away and the Enigma has no friends left outside the official enigmatic party, except Mr. D. N. Pritt.

Mr. Pritt thinks there is a good deal to be said for Mr. Molotov's point of view. Of course, there is a great deal to be said for Mr. Molotov's point of view, but not for what Mr. Molotov said, or would care to have said for him. Mr. Molotov was anxious to play out the farce for some years more, till Europe collapsed into death and Communism, and he is naturally angry that the curtain has been run down at an unfavourable time, when there are no Communists in the Governments of Belgium, France or Italy, and the Opposition of anti-Communists is finding some heart and consistency. The Marshall Plan (or, rather, tentative suggestion), gave Mr. Molotov three choices. He could accept the plan, and then proceed to wreck its operations from inside, following Russian tactics in the United Nations. He could raise questions and objections and haggle over procedure, like a boxer hanging on for the last bell. He could turn the offer down flat.

The first choice offered many attractive opportunities, not least that it added greatly to the chance that Congress would refuse to play; but the disadvantages were evidently too great to be faced. Sabotage from inside demanded at least a face of international co-operation, and the paranoiacs of the Kremlin could not bring themselves to allow even one foreign foot to cross the borders of their ideological Tibet. There was a further disadvantage that may have weighed even more heavily. If the satellite States are forbidden to accept American help or European co-operation, the satellite governments will be even more unpopular than they are at the moment, and their present unpopularity imposes a heavy diplomatic and military strain on Russia. But the Kremlin calculates that it will be possible to control the hunger and the hopes of the satellites, as a brutal master can whistle his starved dog away from a tempting meal. But the most brutal of masters would find it more than doubly hard to whistle his dog off, once it has started on its meal. By the time these words appear, much more will be known about the response of the satellites, but it may be taken for granted that the Kremlin will not allow full and free co-operation, because it cannot.

The second choice also had many attractions for the Russians. If they had been able to spin out negotiations, with every variation of their famous mistrust, they might have disgusted the European nations, and would certainly have disgusted America. Unfortunately for Mr. Molotov mistrust has proved infectious. It attacked Messrs. Bevin and Bidault in a violent form, and they insisted that Mr. Molotov must say either "Yes" or "No," and say it quickly. Mr. Molotov said "No" and departed with a rattle of thunder.

It is not surprising if Mr. Molotov is annoyed, because, if the Marshall Plan comes to anything and if Western Europe reaches a cohesive purpose and some modest prosperity, Stalin may be as embarrassed with his territorial gains as Napoleon was, and for the same reason—they are too little for safety and too big for comfort. Can the crippled and devastated Russian State afford the diversion of energy which is necessary to hold down the unwilling populations of Eastern Europe. Russia can not, but equally Russia cannot afford to retreat. The Russian conception of foreign policy is necessarily dynamic. The further West the Russian conquests extend, the less hope there is, and therefore the less

resistance, in the countries near to Russia's frontiers. If the whole of Europe fell under Communist authority, Stalin might enjoy some peace of mind, but when a large part is still free and has hope of regaining vigour, uneasy will lie the head that wears so many crowns. That is why hopes of a tacit accommodation between East and West are flimsy indeed. For Stalin it is "Forward" now, or "Back" in the years to come. There is no equilibrium, because his position is seriously disadvantageous, and may become desperately so. Only one thing will check Russian expansionism, and that is intimidation. Even a realist will admit that it is better to postpone disaster than invite it straight away.

If Stalin reviews the diplomatic campaigns of the last two years with any understanding of what has happened, he must be driven to the painful conclusion that Molotov could do with a purging. Hopelessly inferior to the West in organisation, intelligence, wealth and equipment, Russia had a paralysing advantage, like the touch of a magic wand, in the honest admiration of many millions outside her borders, and the total infatuation of many millions more. But Russian policy and Russian bad manners first weakened and then destroyed the profitable illusions of her friends. It was a typical case of the effects of paranoia. A paranoiac cannot keep friends. He makes an enemy out of every friend who does not accede at once and without reserve to everything he demands, and, as there is no limit to his demands, there is no limit to his capacity for losing friends. It is said that Stalin studies Machiavelli. If he does, it is like a bull studying china.

It is to be expected that the Communist forces in the West will now be called on for a final effort, for the one last push that will give them the overthrow. It will be all-in fighting, with nothing barred. But, if the enemies of Communism show intelligence and vigour they need not fear the issue. Messrs. Molotov and Stalin have not so much overplayed their hand as claimed the stakes before the hand was played. There are critical days ahead, but the crisis can be surmounted. It is already time that we were thinking of the counter attack.—*Round the World.*

## MEN OF THE WORLD MARSHAL TITO

In the innocent days before 1914, a favourite performer on the variety stage was a chimpanzee called Consol. Consol wore clothes, smoked and drank like a man, and performed many other remarkable tricks with a great air of assurance. Audiences developed an affection for Consol, but they did not know that Consol was not one chimpanzee but a series. Chimpanzees are delicate creatures. When one Consol died another was substituted and nobody was any the wiser. The essence of Consol, the continuity, was a routine of motions and grimaces.

It is the same with Marshal Tito. Some have claimed that the man who now goes through the motions and makes the grimaces is not the man who was first trained and conditioned for the part. They say that the first Tito was killed, and that the reigning dictator is a substitute.

This is very likely untrue, but the truth or falsity of the story is a matter of indifference. For Tito is simply an appointee, a nominal holder of the Kremlin's shares. He carries out orders from afar and meets the demands of his masters. He is a Pro-Consol.

The living Tito is certainly a Moscow-trained Communist. It is said that his name is Broz, and

that he fought for Communism in Spain. He (or his predecessor) certainly fought for Communism in Yugoslavia—for Communism, not for Yugoslavia: it was only after the German attack on Russia that Tito appeared in the field.

How much damage he succeeded in doing to the Germans is open to serious question. His radio station, situated in Russian territory, poured out a flood of boastful lies which apparently deceived the Western war leaders. He brought ruin and dire vengeance on the country by guerilla attacks which were ferociously punished. Russia gained something from Tito's diversionary activities, and Yugoslavia lost enormously. Once, the Germans broke up his organisation by a parachute sloop and nearly caught Tito himself. He found refuge on an island, but his radio still went bravely on. In return for Western support, he gave his word not to introduce Communism into Yugoslavia. It goes without saying that he broke his word. He is a Communist.

If the Western forces had invaded Yugoslavia, Tito would have disappeared from history, but they were over-persuaded by Stalin and, as a result, Tito was installed by the Russians. He showed neither scruple nor mercy in dealing with his opponents. Archbishop Stepinac was convicted on forged evidence, supported by tortured witnesses. Mihailovich was shot after a trial that was a public parade of whipped-up hatred. All the dismal story of Russia has been repeated in Yugoslavia with closer exactitude than anywhere else, and Tito has been not least faithful in his inveterate hostility to Britain and the United States, the countries to which he owes his survival. Yugoslavia is an enemy State.

Jugoslavia is interesting because it is now in the position of total servility to which Stalin hopes to bring Poland in the course of time. But Tito himself is not interesting. It is said that his physical appetites are enormous, and it may be that his ambition is equally so. Rule over a Balkan Confederation might be a very tempting prospect for a man who could forget the source and the terms of his power. But the wider his rule extends, the greater becomes his dependence upon Russia.

He is now conducting Russia's war against Greece with every kind of dishonour and treachery. It is a dangerous game that he is playing, and if Tito was really a soldier in Spain, he has much food for musing in his memory of what Stalin did when the game became too risky. He pulled out and left his unsuccessful nominees to find their own way over the Pyrenees. If Stalin should discover that the risk of war is serious, he will not pull Marshal Tito's chestnuts out of the fire. The Communist quisling everywhere is in the position of a spy—if he is trapped, he will be disowned.

It is not at all impossible that we may live to see an upsurge against Communism, even in the East. If that should come, Tito might find it hard to get to Moscow, and he well knows that his people are capable of terrible vengeance. He appears to be a dull and sordid man, but his end may be dramatic enough.—*Round the World.*

## HINDI & URDU

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Tamil or Malayalam.

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