

The Catholic Guardian

ESTABLISHED AS A FORTNIGHTLY, 1876: ISSUED AS A WEEKLY, 1878.

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON.

Telegrams: "GUARDIAN", JAFFNA.

Telephone: NO. 100.

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

Vol. 71, No. 34.

JAFFNA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1946.

PRICE: 10 CENTS.

STATE VISIT TO HOLY FATHER OF PRESIDENT & PREMIER OF NEW ITALY

The President and Premier drove to the Vatican accompanied by the Marquess Diana, Italian Ambassador to the Holy See, General Albert, head of the military household, and officials of the household and foreign ministry.

MILITARY HONOURS

Military honours were rendered at the boundary of Italy and the Vatican State. In St. Peter's Square the party were greeted by the Marquess Serafini, Vatican City governor.

The President and his suite entered the Vatican and were escorted from the foot of the Noble Staircase to the Throne Room, where the Holy Father greeted them at the threshold.

The President alone entered with His Holiness. Their conversation lasted 45 minutes. Signor de Gasperi was then admitted. Later the other visitors were introduced to the Holy Father.

After the audience and visit to St. Peter's tomb, the President returned to the Guistiniani Palace, where Cardinal Tedeschini, accompanied by Archbishop Borgognini Duca, Nuncio to Italy, immediately returned the visit.

NEW ERA BEGINS

After welcoming the President and the Premier, His Holiness said:

"A new era is about to begin and Italy, situated between East and West, occupies a place where responsibility escapes no one.

"In the meantime the people, crushed by torment and anguish, await the work of their rulers to bring them from the turbulent present to a more tranquil and inviting future.

"He who is conscious of the greatness of this undertaking and who knows

that if the Lord does not build the house they labour in vain who build it, will lift his eyes and heart to the Giver of all good and invoke His help for the Italian people and for those who have the mission of re-elevating them and leading them from suffering and depression to new dignity and renewed vigour in a peace of truth and justice.

"But how can truth and justice fully prevail where the Supreme Fount of truth and justice and the very name of God is ignored?"

VIGILANCE NEEDED

"In this work of rebirth and reconstruction great vigilance and foresight will be necessary, virile constancy and imperturbable resolution to discern the true from the false, the beneficent from the destroying forces, the means of health from inebriating poisons, and to re-educate the people, whose serenity of judgment might be disturbed by so many sorrowful delusions, to a secure knowledge of what really serves their good and of what might become a well of misfortune.

"On the Church falls an important task to which she is consecrating herself with a fervour the greater as the needs of the people are more compelling.

"It is necessary that the Church shall be assured of that complete liberty of movement and development which derive from the will of its Divine Founder.

"We have full confidence that the people and Government will stake their honour to show that their incorruptible faith and the permanence and truth of the negotiated pacts, received as a heritage from their forebearers, are immutable law to-day and for all times."

THE LATE MR. H. G. WELLS

The death of Mr. Wells has removed from the literary world a figure who had suffered an eclipse for some years and was not too happy in his efforts to stage a come-back. Had he remained what he was in his earlier years, an incomparable story-teller, with a flair for weaving the latest scientific discoveries into his stories, he might have had the undivided worship of millions. He was the Jules Verne of modern times and his scientific romances, with their vivid enthralling descriptions, will live for many a day, while his more pretentious works will be forgotten. But Wells developed another strain; he believed he had been gifted with a Messianic spirit, that he was to be the prophet of the new world which science was creating and in this mood he wrote his "Outline of History" and "Science of Life." The "Outline which had a great popularity, shows forth Wells' remarkable abilities, his vivid imagination, his facility for picturesque phrasing, his intensity, his deft characterization, his capacity to sketch in outline what ought to be a huge picture; but it is not history, as Belloc pointed out at the time of its publication. It is just that conception of history which the middle-headed materialist of to day has to offer; as its foundation you have the Darwinian theory, which has been exploded again and again by scientists of note but which, like all scientific

despotisms, dies hard. Furious when attacked, as he was by many discerning critics who refuse to accept the dominance of matter over mind, Wells went on in the same strain endeavouring to portray the future of mankind on the evolutionary hypothesis of its origin. Of his last book so noted a critic as Sir John Squire could only say that it was the production of an old man's brain and must be accepted as such. Wells' hatred of the Church was almost pathological. When Chesterton was converted he wrote to the *New Witness* that he "hated the Church of Rome but envied her G.K.C." Some two years ago he cut a very ridiculous figure by openly advocating that Rome should be bombed and destroyed. He saw the Church as Public Enemy No. 1 because he perceived that she is the formidable enemy of the determinist conception of life. Wells hated to be opposed; an unhappy marriage and continued ill-health increased his state of irritation and he lashed out in language which a more balanced character would have disdained. Let us hope the dust of controversy will be forgotten in the wonderful entertainment he has provided his readers with. *Kipps*, *Tono Bungay* and *Mr. Polly* will remain when much else that he has written will be consigned to Limbo. His fate will be like that of Canon Doyle: Sherlock

OUR LADY'S COURTESY PROVED BERNADETTE'S TRUTH

It was considered an extraordinary thing by the people of Lourdes, in that famous February of 1858, that Bernadette's Lady should address the little girl from the old *Cachot* in such words as: "Would you do me the favour of coming here for fifteen days?"

Who on earth would say to such a little urchin: "Would you do me the favour"? Exactly: who, on earth, would! It was because the Lady of Lourdes was not of earth that she did; it was because she was the mother of the most gracious Person that ever was that she spoke in such gracious language. Like son, like mother.

The Lady's courtesy did not stop at forms of address; it was capable of more subtle and more purposeful flights.

On many occasions, in obedience to the promptings of her own heart as well as in obedience to her superiors, Bernadette had asked the Lady her name and the Lady had vouchsafed no reply. It was not until March 25 that she declared herself, and in doing so she made use of a sentence that strikes oddly on the ear. She said: "I am the Immaculate Conception," and thereafter, wise men thumped their brains to find out in what sense the Mother of Christ could so describe herself. That the conception of Our Blessed Lady was immaculate we know; it is a doctrine defined by the Church. But the Church does not teach that Our Lady is her own conception, and her use of such expression leaves room for puzzlement.

Yet it may be that this odd sentence, in which the mother of our Redeemer chose to declare her identity, is no more than an example of that perfect courtesy that must have been the characteristic of the home at Nazareth. The Lady on the rock of Massabielle was not concerned, on that Annunciation Day, to teach Bernadette dogmatic theology; she had quite other and simpler aims.

Observe how her answer to Bernadette's question has two qualities: it is unambiguous and it is improbable.

The words "Immaculate Conception" had been used by Pope Pius IX only four years before when he had defined the doctrine of Our Lady's having been conceived without the stain of original sin; those words thenceforward would become a consecrated expression belonging wholly to Mary and would be used of no other.

And so, when the Lady in answer to Bernadette said: "I am the Immaculate Conception," everybody knew precisely what was meant; it was so unambiguous as to leave no doubt that the little Soubirous girl, reporting what the Lady had said, was claiming on the Lady's behalf that she was the Queen of Heaven herself.

Then why did Our Blessed Lady not say plainly: "I am Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ"? That would have been equally unambiguous. Indeed it would, but it would not have had that other quality of being improbable. The Lady knew very well that there would be people, in Lourdes and elsewhere, ready to affirm that Bernadette was a fraud who was, perhaps, being coached in her part by unscrupulous persons wishing to make profit out of a visionary. Very well; then the Lady, on Bernadette's behalf, would deal with those people in her own simple but most effective way by talking in a fashion that human wisdom would discountenance.

Imagine, for a moment, that Bernadette was the tool of frauds and that the time had come, in their judgment, for the imaginary Lady to give her name; someone suggests that Bernadette should report her as having said: "I am the Immaculate Conception." The suggestion is immediately rejected on the plea that it does not make sense, and some find high sounding title is chosen as a fitting wind-up to the so-called visions. Such might be human wisdom.

Of other sort is the wisdom of Heaven. When Our Blessed Lady spoke as she did, she was careful about two things. She was at pains first to establish her own identity, and to that end she spoke in manner quite unambiguous; and she spoke also in a manner quite improbable because she was at pains, secondly and with such charming courtesy, to demonstrate and safeguard the truthfulness of her not very learned little friend Bernadette Soubirous who, as all were aware, could not out of the abundance of her unlearning have thought of such a sentence.

It was the loyal nature of the Lady and her noble mind bending themselves to protect the beloved.

Like Son, like mother.

VATICAN RADIO ON ECONOMIC ORDER

"Those who are now working out the blueprints of the new order should realize in time that small ownership is a necessary foundation of a lasting order," said Vatican Radio in English. "The right of property means the right of many to own a little, not the right of a few wrongfully to corner the livelihood of millions. Propaganda has long been busy cleverly masking the true nature of property and concentrating attention on the abuse of property, so that the term 'property' has for many almost come to mean the abuse and not the

Holmes remains while the "History of Spiritualism" has been forgotten. So will men read the scientific romances and the political novels of Wells for many years to come.—*The Examiner*.

principle itself. The Church has no wish to support the present state of things as if it were the expression of God's will, or to protect at all costs the rich and the plutocrat against the poor and the have-not. The Church has always been the guardian of the poor and the oppressed against tyranny of the powerful, and has always defended the workers against injustice. The Church wants to see property as it is in God's plan for man—a normal thing for ordinary men to be owners in a small way. She fears to see great riches dominate private and public economy, and innumerable multitudes of men deprived of the security they would get from possessions of their own, ready to serve any party, slaves of any promise of bread and security."

ENGAGEMENT

The engagement of Anton Machado, Jaffna to Angeline Gomes, Negombo is announced and the marriage will take place on Wednesday the 11th Sept. 1946 at St. Mary's Church, Negombo.

Vacancy Asst. Supdt of Food Control Guards.

Wanted applications for one post of Asst. Supdt. of Food Control Guards; salary Rs. 75 plus war allowance. Applications close on 14.9.46. For details please see Govt. Gazette of 6.9.46.

M. SRIKHANTA,
for Deputy Food Controller.

The Kachcheri,
Jaffna, 2nd September, 1946.

Church Calendar

SEPTEMBER 1946

FRI. ...6 S. Eleutherius.
SAT. ...7 S. Regina.
SUN. ...8 13 P.—NATIVITY OF B.V.M.
MON. ...9 S. Gorgonius.
TUES. ...10 S. Nicholas.
WED. ...11 S. Rosalia.
THURS. ...12 S. Hyacinth.
FRI. ...13 Holy Name of Mary.

The Catholic Guardian

SEPTEMBER 6TH 1946

MEANING OF THE GREEK VERDICT

Greece has been in the news of the week in connection with the plebiscite held to decide whether it is to remain a monarchy or to become a republic. Although a small country at the extremity of the Balkan peninsula, by reasons of its strategical position the result of the plebiscite was awaited with much interest and anxiety. Happily for the peace of the country, and we may add, of the world, the people by a vast majority—75% voted for the King. Those who are opposed to the return of the King are the Communists. Their main strength is the support they receive from the Soviets. In Belgium, too, it is the parties of the Left who are against the King and the Leftists seem to think that a republican form of government approaches to the Communist ideal of no-government. The Communists in Greece and their supporters in Russia are greatly disappointed by the outcome of the plebiscite and contest the validity of the voting. They allege that a result so favourable to the King was obtained by terrorism and intimidation. But the Communists should in the last to make such a charge. They are past-masters in creating terrorism and intimidation during elections in order to install Communistic regimes. Their sinister action in Eastern Europe bears out what we say. The British who were greatly concerned in the result of the voting took steps to see that the elections were carried out in a regular way. Not only the British but the peace-loving people of the world have benefitted by the verdict of the Greeks. On the other hand the Soviets are so much disappointed that Reuter cables to say that Molotov was leaving the Paris Conference to consult Stalin and one of the points of discussion, it is inferred, will be the Soviet policy towards Greece and to create an opposition to a right-wing regime in that country.

One can understand the bitter disappointment and anger of Stalin at the turn of events. His aim is world domination for world Communism and a victory in Greece would have greatly facilitated the attainment of his objective. At the moment the Soviets are dominating the Balkan peninsula with the exception of Greece and are aiming at the control of the Dardanelles jointly with the Turks. Turkey has rejected their demand. Had Greece voted for a republic and become a Communist State with Stalin as its real ruler he could with success bring pressure on Turkey and get control of the Straits giving exit from the Black Sea; his next step would be the control of the Persian Gulf giving exit to the Indian Ocean. Thus, Stalin would gain a hold upon the two important lines of world communication and in a sense be the master of the world. The Greek verdict at the polls has balked his sinister ambitions for time but the Communists are not going let Greece to live in peace.

EDITORIAL NOTE

New Electoral Divisions.

The first part of the report of the Delimitation Commission setting out the different constituencies was issued last week-end and has been made official by being proclaimed by the Officer Administering the Government of Ceylon. It provides for 89 divisions five of which are multiple-member constituencies. They are Colombo Central returning three members and other four, each returning two members. It is to be seen how far the position of any of the minority communities gets improved by this device. It was meant for their benefit. We must withhold comment on this first part of the report as the second part wherein the members of the Delimitation Commission give reasons to justify their action is to be made public shortly. In the meantime it is reported that the Muslims are greatly disappointed that their interests have been overlooked. They asked, they say, for twelve seats and have got only four. But, after all, the Muslims are only a religious group. A member of any community could become a Muslim by embracing Islam. Christians too are a religious group. Though they are far more numerous they did not expect to have twelve seats. What their fortunes are is not known, but we are not perturbed. Much will depend on Christians themselves. But what must strike one as strange is that the sympathies of Mr. D. S. Senanayake on this are with the Muslims, and he is the future Prime Minister. Has he not openly declared that politically there are no Muslims, no Tamils, no Burghers, no Europeans in this Island? All are Ceylonese and on this assumption he fought for pure territorial representation. Furthermore, he has sworn that as all are Ceylonese all will be treated exactly alike. Hence, what need there is for sympathies and why the Muslims should be disquieted we cannot understand.

Sunday Gospel Story

The Healing of the Ten Lepers.

"Were not ten made clean?
And where are the nine?"

(Luke XVII, 17)

At a spot far removed from the crowded towns, ten lepers had assembled to meet Christ, the Man who "went about doing good." Common misfortune had drawn them together, for one of them was a Samaritan.

Seeing Jesus turn to go into the town, they hobbled as near as they dared, and together with one accord cried: "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." Jesus saw them and asked them to show themselves to the priests. They heard His command. Though they were not healed, they knew that in doing His bidding they would be rewarded. And behold as they went their limbs became whole and supple. The dread signs of leprosy were gone. They were cured.

They were happy men that evening. In their joy they ran into the village to celebrate their good fortune with friends. Not for the first time in the life of Jesus was the Man who had done this for them forgotten. There was an exception—the Samaritan. He had no friends in this Galilean town to rejoice with. As he realized what had been done to him, his thoughts went back to Him who had cured him. His heart was grateful. He hurried back to thank Jesus.

Jesus had not left the spot. The people were around Him. Into the midst of this throng, shouting his joy as he came, rushed the poor Samaritan. In a moment he was down at the feet of the Master, pouring out his gratitude. Jesus let the good man have his way. Gratitude had not been too common an experience in His life. He would allow Himself this consolation. Still it was a consolation with bitterness attached. He had healed ten; one only had thought of thanking Him; and that one was not of the house of Israel.

And Jesus answering said: "Were not ten made clean? And where are the nine? There is no one found to return and give glory to God but this stranger."

Still the man must have a yet greater reward. In generosity Jesus will never be outdone. He had been healed; his cure should be confirmed. And He said to him: "Arise, go thy way, for thy faith hath made thee whole."

We should learn from this miracle of healing to be grateful for the gifts of God, and to let our thanksgiving be proportioned to our petitions. For, as St. Bernard remarks, "We are importunate in order to receive, we are uneasy until we have received, and when our petitions are heard and answered we are thankless."

(Readings from Archbishop Goodier)

IN MEMORIAM

Fr. Michael Jules Sebastian Blachot, O.M.I.

Rev. Fr. M. Blachot of holy memory, passed away to his eternal reward on the 21st of April, 1921. Thus 25 years have rolled away since his demise. His is a name redolent with all the fragrance of priestly sanctity, a name lovingly cherished by thousands of Catholics in Jaffna. His brothers in Religion, deeply mourned his death. Their saintly exemplar was gone. The Aloysians shed bitter tears. Their tender Father, and angelic guide had fled beyond the portals of death.

Born at Verney, in the Diocese of Grenoble in France, Michael entered Seminary as a little boy, made his perpetual vows as an Oblate at 22, was ordained priest at 25, came to Jaffna as a missionary at 26, and was sent as priest in charge of Akarapattu at 29, when the ardent and zealous missionary, had that active career, cut short all too suddenly, by falling into a well at dead of night, and that, when he was out to minister to one, at the point of death. He was taken out next day, all but dead.

Inscrutable are the ways of Providence, yet, Fr. Blachot's 40 years of subsequent life of pain and suffering; borne with saintly meekness; the enormous work that he performed from his bed of illness—a veritable Cross to which he remained nailed—for the

salvation of souls, reveal one tremendous fact: that he was a priest of Christ's predilection, called to rare and especial vocation, a vocation within a vocation,—a vocation to offer vicarious suffering, for the salvation of thousands around him.

From his sick bed he was directing hundreds, along the path of virtue. He founded the Confraternity of St. Aloysius for the Altar Boys' was the director of the Apostleship of Prayer, was the Diocesan director of the Confraternities, of the Holy Face, of the Holy Rosary, of the Holy Scapulars, and others. He wrote hundreds of letters every year to the members of these Confraternities, and was assiduous in fostering an ardent devotion to Holy Mass, to Holy Eucharist, to the Holy Souls in Purgatory and a love for spiritual reading. If one should ask me, if Fr. Blachot had performed any miracle while on earth, I should not hesitate to point out, what I have mentioned above, as the greatest miracle of his life. How a stricken, broken invalid could have performed all that, must remain something of a mystery, unless of course, we learn to contemplate that life, in the light of the Cross on Calvary.

The deep love and veneration in which we hold Fr. Blachot's memory, at times prompts us to ask ourselves, whether, a time will ever come, when the sanctity of one, who was popularly known as "The Saint of the North", will ever be recognised by the Church? Well, Holy Mother the Church alone can speak on that. But there is nothing to prevent us, praying in secret for that intention.

S. A.

Mass and Night Vigil at Birth of Nation

The only Catholic country in Asia is now an independent nation. The Republic of the Philippines was formally inaugurated on July 4th, when at Manila the United States' High Commissioner publicly proclaimed the Independence of the Philippines on behalf of President Truman. July 4th is America's own Independence Day. A dependency of the United States since 1898, the Philippines were given a limited form of Independence in 1935.

The proclamation said: "The United States of America hereby withdraws and surrenders all rights of possession, supervision, jurisdiction and control of the sovereignty now existing and exercised by the United States in and over the territory and the people of the Philippines. On behalf of the United States of America, I hereby recognize the Independence of the Philippines as a separate self-governing nation and acknowledge the authority of the Government instituted by the people thereof under the Constitution now in force."

Seventy per cent of the pre war population of 12½ millions professed the Catholic Faith. There are two ecclesiastical provinces, 12 dioceses and 3 prefectures. There is an Apostolic Delegate at Manila.

The birth of the world's newest nation, the Republic of Philippines, was heralded with a night vigil before the Blessed Sacrament in the Manila Quiapo Church, culminating on the first Independence Day with High Mass celebrated by the Apostolic Delegate, Archbishop Piani, and Masses throughout the islands.

The Catholic preparation for Independence Day began several days earlier with Mass Benediction and *Te Deum* in the gymnasium of Santo Tomas University, one of the principal internment camps during the Japanese occupation.

Present at the Mass were President Roxas with members of the Cabinet and the Supreme Court.

During Benediction, Chief Justice Moran read the national prayer commending the Philippines to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary as Patroness of the islands.

Archbishop Reynes of Cebu gave the blessing at the official Independence Day celebrations.

Involving Divine guidance for the new nation, its leaders, friends and benefactors, His Grace pleaded for strength, unity and understanding, the better to keep God's commandments and "to maintain our place among the free

nations and peace-loving people of the world.

CATHOLIC NATION

"As the Stars and Stripes are lowered," he said, "and the Philippine flag is hoisted at last over this sovereign nation, 18,000,000 Filipinos politically have come of age. Eighty-two per cent. of these people, whose loyalty of the world, are loyal children of the Catholic Church.

"With grateful and cheerful hearts we acknowledge this independence as a signal gift of God's unbounded mercy."

Acquaviva and the Great Mogul

By J. Stephen Narayan

Rudolf Acquaviva has been called the most lovable character among Jesuit missionaries in India. He was a friend of Akbar the Great, the most powerful Mogul Emperor in the sixteenth century. He spent three years and a half at the Mogul Court, taking part in the public religious discussions held by the Emperor. Afterwards, on his return to Goa, he was cruelly martyred by some fanatics in a village. He was beatified by Pope Leo XIII.

Father Acquaviva's companion at the Mogul Court, a Spanish Jesuit, wrote, in obedience to their Superior in Goa, a long and detailed account of their experiences. It is the first account of North India written by a European. But the manuscript was discovered only at the beginning of this century in the Anglican Cathedral library in Calcutta. It contains full and fascinating details of Akbar's personal life and character, the splendour of his Court, and Father Acquaviva's religious discussions.

All this new material has been used in the production of **ACQUAVIVA & THE GREAT MOGUL.**

Rs. 5/-

Obtainable at the
CENTRAL BOOK DEPOT,
St. Philip Neri's Church,
Pettah—Colombo.

LOCAL & GENERAL

St. Vincent de Paul Society, Retreat 1946.

—Thirtyfive members followed this Retreat preached by Revd. Fr. J. Nicholas, O.M.I., Warden, St. Patrick's Hostel in St. Martin's Seminary on Saturday and Sunday last. The preacher explained very lucidly how the objects and rules of the Society were greatly helpful in living a true Catholic life. His sermons were impressive, full of practical suggestions and couched in simple Tamil. Revd. Fr. J. Stanislaus who gave the final benediction on Sunday evening stressed the need for a wider circulation of Catholic papers and requested the members to become Apostles in that line too.

The members assembled in the Seminary refectory after the benediction to thank the preacher for his religious talks. Messrs. R.J. Paul, the President, Particular Council, G. B. Antony, J. Mannepillai and D. N. Gregory were the speakers. They also thanked the Bursar, Revd. Fr. Christie Selvaratnam who had lavishly supplied them with their bodily needs.

Revd. Fr. Nicholas in thanking the members for the expression of gratitude exhorted them to persevere in keeping the resolutions they had taken during the retreat. D. G.

Young Men's Catholic Association, Naranthana.—The inaugural meeting of the Young Men's Catholic Association, Naranthana, was convened on Sunday 25th inst. at the R.C. Boy's school, Naranthana under the distinguished patronage of the parish priest, Revd. Fr. H. Veyret, O.M.I.

The chief objects of the Association are the diffusion of Catholic Literature, the amelioration of the social condition of the village and the fostering and uplift in the field of education. A branch association has been formed in Colombo by the young men residing there, for the self-same purposes.

The following have been elected office-bearers of the parent association at Naranthana:
Patron: Parish Priest.

President: Ayur. Dr. James Nicholas, L.T.M. (Madras).

Vice-President: Mr. S. Aseervatham, Teacher.

Joint Secs.: Messrs. G. Pathinather, Head Teacher & B. E. Marianayagam, Teacher.

Joint Treasurers: Messrs. G. Nicholas, Teacher & S. James, Teacher.

Publication of Official Documents.—The draft of a proposed ordinance to provide immunity from civil or criminal proceedings in respect of the publication or reproduction of official documents, has been Gazetted.

The object of the bill is to provide immunity from civil or criminal proceedings to persons concerned in the publication of any official document, which is ordered by the Governor to be published for general information, or in the reproduction, in newspapers, of any such documents or extracts from such documents made for the public benefit and without malice.

Burma Rice.—The first post-war shipment of Burma rice for Ceylon, a consignment of 8,000 tons, due on Sept. 6, but delayed owing to a dock-workers' strike in Rangoon will arrive in a few days.

The sugar position will be strengthened by the arrival of 6,000 tons of white sugar from the United Kingdom towards the middle of this month, while a further shipment of 8,000 tons is due from Mauritius at the end of the month.

Supreme Court.—Mr. Justice Dias, Acting Puisne Justice, and Mr. C. Nagalingam, K.C., Attorney-General, took their oaths on Tuesday in chambers before Mr. Justice Soeretsz, Acting Chief Justice, as Puisne Justice and Acting Puisne Justice.

They were congratulated by Mr. H. H. Basnayake, K.C., Acting Attorney-General, when they mounted their Benches.

Both Courts were crowded and the inner Bar included Mr. M. F. S. Palle, Acting Solicitor-General, several King's Counsel, and Mr. Felix R. Dias, a former Commissioner of Assize, when the Acting Attorney-General addressed Mr. Justice Dias.

Postal Strike to Begin on Sept. 20.—Strike of Sub Postmasters which has been fixed for October 1, has been advanced to Sept. 20, so that effect may be felt throughout the Island, especially among Govt. servants, as all financial transactions of the Central Government for the year close on Sept. 20.

State Council.—The State Council met on Tuesday at 2 p.m. after its adjournment on the passing of the Second Reading of the Appropriation Bill which will be proceeded with in the Committee Stage.

It is learned that Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Leader of the House, is likely to make a statement on the financial situation before the Budget discussion in Committee commences.

Despite opposition by Mr. W. Dahanayake State Council passed Defence and Ceylon Defence Force estimates.

The total Defence vote is Rs. 5,599,267 which includes Defence contribution to the United Kingdom Government of 4½ millions. Defence Force vote is Rs. 511,353.

Mr. Dahanayake said: "I am opposed to good money being voted to allow our oppressors to use the Force against us."

Chief Secretary said: "So long as C. D. F. is mobilized it will be maintained by Imperial Government. Ceylon will make contribution to United Kingdom Government."

Sir Robert anticipated "demobbing" of C. D. F. and the estimates provided in the budget was for the C.D.F. as a peace-time voluntary force.

Council also passed estimate of the Ceylon Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve—Rs. 286,514.

X-Ray Facilities in Remote Hospitals.—The gift of two Mobile X-Ray Vans by the Red Cross Society to the Medical Department has now made it possible for X-Ray facilities to be made available at hospitals even in remote parts of the Island.

These Vans are complete X-Ray units in themselves fitted up with an X-Ray plant generator, a developing tank and a dark room making it possible for the X-Ray pictures to be taken, developed and produced in a few minutes. The vans are sent to hospitals over fifty miles from Colombo for groups of ten or more patients to be X'Rayed.

St. John's Ambulance Association.—The following boys from S.P.C. have passed the First-Aid Examination: Mr. A. Antony, Probationary Cadet Superintendent was the instructor. A. Arulpragasam, N. John, A. Pedrupillai, N. Kulendran, C. A. Antony, A. Rasiyah, C. Pakiajeevar, C. Pakianesar, F. J. Panaras, G. C. Sebastian, J. George, A. E. A. Joseph, A. F. Xavier, P. Vethanayagam, S. Kankes, M. Kathirgamathan, J. M. Thiruchelvam, J. Archilles, J. Alfred, J. Antony, M. Balasingham & L. Christian.

Muslim League to Appeal to Russia?—The appointment of "a powerful delegation by the All-India Muslim League to proceed immediately to Russia to place its case and secure her support to the cause of the Indian Muslims before the U.N.O." is suggested in a resolution which is likely to be discussed at a meeting of the Sind Provincial Muslim League Council to be held on Sept. 8.

The resolution which has been tabled by Mr. Yusuf Abdulla Haroon, says the Indian Muslims have been let down by the British Government; who had gone back upon their pledges and have wilfully and deliberately ignored the just claims of the Muslims of India in their attempt to solve the Indian Deadlock.

Danger to Aborigines.—Professor Gilbert Murray, the famous scholar and advocate of international co-operation for peace, in a letter to "The Times" London protests against the British rocket-bomb tests in Australia endangering the natives in the Central Australian reservation.

Prof. Murray concludes: "This reversion towards our worst tradition is profoundly shocking and can still be prevented."

Arab Delegation's Tribute to Holy Father.—Amin Bey, the leader, stated that they had been charmed by the way in which the Holy Father had received them.

He expressed his admiration for the precise knowledge of Near East problems displayed by the Holy Father, and the satisfaction of himself and the other delegates at the attention which had been shown by the Vatican authorities during their stay in Rome.

The delegates, who had gone to discuss the Palestine question, were accompanied by Mgr. Berico, of the S. Congregation of the Oriental Church. The audience lasted half an hour.

The Holy Father presented his visitors with a medal commemorating the recent Consistory and a printed declaration expressing the views of the Holy See on the Palestine question.

Negro Catholics.—There are some 314,000 Negro Catholics and 100,000 Indian Catholics in the United States to-day according to statistics of the Commission for Catholic Missions among the Coloured People and Indians.

Cinema Hall at Chundikuli

Office of the Urban Council, Jaffna 3rd Sept. 1945.

Sir,—With reference to your letter dated 29th Aug. 1946, I enclose herewith copies of letters addressed to Mr. C. S. Ratnasabapathy for your information.

Yours faithfully,
C. PONNAMBALAM,
Chairman U.C.

The Secretary,
The Cathedral Parish Union,
St. Mary's Cathedral, Jaffna.

EXPRESS

Office of the Urban Council, Jaffna, 22-8-46.

With reference to your building application dated 17th Aug. 1946 I have to state that I approved the plan as I have to do so according to law as the plan does not contravene the Provision of the Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance. But I have to inform you that I may not grant licence to run a theatre in the said building as it is opposite a College and Church and the people on the locality are objecting to a theatre being established at the said site.

Sgd. C. PONNAMBALAM,
Chairman U.C.
Mr. C. S. Ratnasabapathy,
No. 43, Stanley Road, Jaffna.

REGISTERED EXPRESS

Office of the Urban Council, Jaffna, 3rd Sept. 1946.

In continuation of my letter No. B.A. 237/46 of 22nd August 1946, I have to state that I have received protest from the Member for Chundikully Ward and the Church authorities against the erection of a Cinema Hall on the site proposed.

Therefore I request you not to start building operations as in view of the aforesaid protest I have decided not to grant you licence for running a Cinema.

Sgd. C. PONNAMBALAM,
Chairman U.C.
Mr. C. S. Ratnasabapathy,
No. 43, Stanley Road, Jaffna.

WEDDING

The marriage took place on Wednesday, the 28th August, at the Church of Our Lady of Refuge, Jaffna, Revd. Fr. S. Vanderkone, O.M.I., officiating, of Miss Mary Ida Jayamany, daughter of Mr. J. G. Aloysius and Mrs. Aloysius and Mr. S. A. Francis Xavier of the Co-operative Department, Jaffna, third son of Mr. S. Anthonypillai, retired Vidan, Suruvil, Kayts and of Mrs. Anthonypillai. After the service a reception was held at "Jaya Lodge" the residence of the bride. In the evening the bridegroom's parents gave a reception to the new couple at their residence at Suruvil, Kayts.

FOR SALE

Best Ft. Pen Ink in 4 oz. bot.
Punching Machine for Office use.
Cheetah Varnish Paint & Dietsy
Hurricane Lantern of various sizes.

Obtainable from:

The Little Flower
Trading Co.
102, Main Street,
JAFFNA.

FOR SALE

Austin 10 Saloon Z 9000 series.
Apply: C. VEERASINGHAM,
Alladi, Urelu South,
Chunnakkam.

Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
In the matter of the intestate estate of Sivasampu Mailvaganam of Kokuvil West.

Deceased.
Testamentary } No. 584
Jurisdiction }
Selliath Subramaniam of Anaicottai,
Petitioner.

- Vs.
1. Satkunadevy daughter of Thambipillai of Anaicottai.
2. Thambipillai Nadarajah of Anaicottai a minor appearing by his guardian ad litem.
3. Namasiyavam Sivasampu of Anaicottai.

Respondents.
This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esq., District Judge of Jaffna on the 23rd of July 1946 in the presence of Mr. S. Tirunavukkarasu Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the petition and affidavit of the Petitioner dated 15th day of July 1946 having been read:

It is ordered that the 3rd Respondent be appointed guardian ad litem over the 2nd Respondent minor and that letters of administration of the estate of the said deceased be granted to the Petitioner unless the Respondents or any other person interested shall on or before the 20th day of September 1946 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 23rd day of July 1946.
Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,
District Judge.

NOTICE

Foreign Liquor Tavern Sale, Mannar Town 1946-47.

Notice is hereby given that the sale of Foreign Liquor Tavern in Mannar Town, will take place on 11th September 1946. Tenders should reach the Kachcheri, Mannar, before 10.00 a.m. on that date.

Further particulars can be obtained on application at the Mannar Kachcheri.

Assistant Government Agent,
N.
The Kachcheri,
Mannar,
September 2, 1946.

INDIAN NEWS

NEHRU CABINET INSTALLED IN OFFICE

The Indian Interim Government assumed office on Monday at 11 a.m.

Headed by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, six Congress leaders arrived at the Viceroy's House shortly before 11 to take the oath of allegiance, of office and of secrecy in the Council room.

Shortly after the ceremony the Viceroy and members of the new Government came out to meet the Press. They were then taken to the Secretariat, where they were introduced to the members of the staff, after which they went to their respective Departments.

Sardar Baldev Singh, Sir Shafaat Ahmed Khan, Mr. Chakravarti Raja gopalachari, Dr. John Matthai and Mr. C. H. Babha were unable to be present. Pandit Nehru took charge of their portfolios until they are able to take charge themselves.

On the eve of taking office, Pandit Nehru in a statement thanks his friends in India and overseas for their greetings and good wishes on the formation of a Provisional Government, and says:

"I feel in no mood to congratulate myself or the others, for we have yet to reach our goal and the path is still difficult.

"Though unused to prayer, it is in a prayerful mood that I approach this task, fervently hoping for the co-operation of all my countrymen in facing the difficulties ahead.

"I regret deeply that the Muslim League has chosen a difficult path. We shall continue to hope for their co-operation and the door will always be open.

"This business concerns all, and we would be unworthy of the people's confidence if we functioned in a narrow way, seeking the good of particular groups or parties and forgetting the larger good of the nation.

"My colleagues and I go forward as Indians, thinking of India and working for India's freedom and the emancipation of the masses. We have answered the call of destiny, which has conspired to test us, with courage and faith in India's future. The dream of India's freedom beckons to us and seems to be nearer realisation. May we prove worthy servants of India and her people."

Buddhists Invite Bishop To Speak in Temple

Bishop Ready, CSC, of Columbus, U.S.A., who with Bishop O'Hara of Buffalo, is now investigating the position of the Church in Japan, speaking, in an ancient Kyoto temple, told a group of Buddhist abbots of the message of peace he has brought with him from the Holy Father.

The Bishop spoke in the temple at the invitation of the abbots, who represented Japan's leading Buddhist sects.

"We would like to have your advice on present conditions," Abbot Hashimoto, of Nishi Honganji Temple, told Bishop O'Hara. "We would be very glad to co-operate with the Catholic Church in the struggle against evil in the modern world."

Then as 20 Buddhist leaders sat attentively with us in the long dark-timbered, matted-floored temple room, Bishop O'Hara told them:

"I have come here as a Catholic. I have been sent here to bring to all of you Japanese people a message of peace from the Pope, a message I want to deliver in the very words of Christ: 'Peace I leave with you. Not as the world giveth do I give unto you.'

Bishop O'Hara asked the Buddhist leaders in the name of the fundamental virtues to which Buddhists and Catholics are devoted, to form a common front against materialism and immorality.

"We appeal especially to you," the Bishop said, "to stress the importance of respecting the rights of the family as the basic unit of society. Anti-human and immoral doctrines now are spreading all over the world in an effort to impose divorce and birth control on mankind. These two ideologies are absolutely against human nature and Divine Law."

Count Otani, of the Nishi Honganji sect, replied: "We are most glad to hear the Pope's great message of peace. Inspired parish leaders of Japan's Buddhists, though differing with Catholics in belief, agree with them regarding the evils now prevailing.

Spokesmen for the Higashi, Honganji and Shingon sects also welcomed the Bishop's address. A Shingon abbot told how pre-war Japanese followers of Shinto and Buddhism put complete faith in their gods.

FAITH SHAKEN

"Now, after Japan's defeat, their religious sentiments are shaken," he said. "They have found their religion insufficient. Listening to Your Excellency we are encouraged to renew our interest in spiritual things."

After the conference, Count Otani presented gifts to the Bishop and all the Buddhists, were photographed with their Catholic visitors in the temple courtyard.

Bishop Ready reached Kyoto the day after the conference. He had been visiting in Nagoya and Osaka.

Kyoto is the headquarters of the Prefecture of Kyoto which is entrusted to the Maryknoll Missioners. It is also the capital city of Japan's Buddhists. The Honganji sect of Buddhists, numbers 12,000,000 and the Shingon sect numbers 9 million.—(NCWC.)

"WHY I BECAME A CATHOLIC"

Mr. A. C. F. Beales, Lecturer at King's College, London, and prominent member of the Sword of the Spirit Movement said that he was brought up as an Anglican but in a rather unattached sort of way with nothing doctrinal or dogmatic about it. At 15 years of age he had reached the stage of "contemptuous indifference" which lasted until 1934, an indifference in which none of the religious problems bothered him because he thought they had not the slightest importance. He came to know two Catholics, one his fiancée and the other Fr. John O'Brien at Twickenham, who had been a close friend of her family from youth.

Something "providential" then happened to him. After the university course he was unemployed for a year. He had plenty of time of reflection and started "reading himself into the Catholic Church." But during the whole twelve months he was never "got-at" by his Catholic friends for which he was grateful. He had read Newman's "Apologia" but did not see in it much more than a brilliant piece of writing, but now read it again, this time with a different effect. Newman, however, had the advantage over him in that he started with the conviction of the existence of God. This was Mr. Beales's first hurdle.

"Then I went through that large series of pamphlets which I called the Catholic Truth Society's two-penny dreadfuls," he said. They took him much farther and deeper. Still pursuing the trail he tackled the great French writer, Etienne Gilson and that led him to St. Thomas Aquinas. He went through the famous five proofs which convinced him intellectually, but he had to probe further and it brought him to the problem—was Christ God? The Divinity of Christ was the second hurdle.

He went back to Newman who had said that the book that had helped him was Dr. Paley's "Views of the Evidences of Christianity." From Paley, Mr. Beales went to the Gospels themselves. He read them carefully night after night and emerged from that reading utterly convinced that either Christ was what He said He was—God Incarnate or else He was mad. Renan's argument that Christ was merely a good man was inadmissible. Then came the third hurdle. "When you have established the existence of God and the Divinity of Christ the thing that matters most is whether the Catholic Church is the Church of Christ," said Mr. Beales. He had learned enough to know that it would have to be the Catholic Church or nothing. Newman had made that perfectly clear.

But if a Pope contradicted what a previous Pope had said? He looked

up a long list of disputed cases but found only two or three, including Honorius and Liberius, came into the doubtful category. On these two cases he completely satisfied himself that the charges were not substantiated. By now he had got over his three main hurdles and he decided he must do something about it. But he was not ready for the jump. Everybody who had come into the Church had some great difficulty. His was Pacifism. He had written a book on the organized peace movement and he could not reconcile the Church's attitude on War. Again he had recourse to Aquinas. He found there the answer to the problem of a just war. His difficulty was solved and he made his way to Fr. Nagel of Brentford. "He put into my hand the toughest and most difficult book I have ever read in my life—the penny catechism," said Mr. Beales. He was received into the Church by that priest.

Books and Magazines

Text books are still rare. But send us a list of whatever books or periodicals you require from Colombo. No single firm may supply all of them. But our men will comb Colombo for them,

Do not hesitate to send us your inquiries about anything you want from Colombo, be it a watch, a fountain pen, a tie, kerchief, shoes, articles toilet, tinned provisions, confectionery, cutlery, or hardware—anything. Give us a trial.

THE KASARINE,

3, Rampart Lane,
Etul Kotte, Kotte.

Post-War Reconstruction Stand by the Bible

HOLY BIBLE
DOUAY VERSION

Rs. 20/-

Rs. 25/- large edition

Instalment plan open to members. Only few copies are available.

CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB,
(Ceylon Branch)
Ampitiya—Kandy.

Trade & Transport Co.

Building & Transport Contractors, Importers & Exporters, Auctioneers & Brokers & Agents.

236, Hospital Road,
Grand Bazaar, Jaffna.

AGENTS:—Feroke: KERALA brand (Best Calicut Tiles)

Improved Model & First Class quality.

Agents:—

LANKA LIFE ASSURANCE LIMITED

Purely Ceylonese Institution run on co-operative principles. OBTAIN all that is desirable in Life Assurance in a company of your own.

REPRESENTATIVES:—

CEYLON MOTOR INSURANCE ASSOCIATION LTD. Third party gross annual premium Rs. 32/50. Ordinance Liability Rs. 25/- subject to usual rebates.

STOCKS NOW AVAILABLE

ALLEN and HANBURYS
PREPARATIONS

CASTOR OIL SACCHARIN TABLETS
COD LIVER OIL THROAT PASTILLES
COD LIVER & MALT EXTRACT
BYNIN AMARA CHEMICAL FOOD
BYNO HYPOPHOSPHATES EASTONS SYRUP

AND MANY OTHER LINES

The Jaffna Apothecaries Co.,

DISPENSING CHEMISTS,

OVER 50 YEARS IN THE DRUG TRADE.

EAGLE STAR

Insurance Company Ltd., London.

One of the Strongest Companies in the World.

BUSINESS TRANSACTED

MOTOR VEHICLE (all classes) MARINE, FIRE, FIDELITY GUARANTEE, BURGLARY, THEFT AND/OR LOSS OF CASH IN TRANSIT ETC.

Chief Agents: - J. Cherubim & Brother, Jaffna

SPECIFY 'UMBRELLA MARK'

De-Aired Calicut Tiles for your new building

The weight of Tiles has been reduced without impairing their strength, so that our tiles have now the largest covering area to weight ratio of any one in the market.

The Tiles meet the requirements of those who need full protection from wind and rain, and have satisfactorily passed all tests made on them.

PLEASE BOOK YOUR REQUIREMENTS EARLY

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