

The Catholic Guardian

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

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CEYLON IN THE THROES OF A GENERAL STRIKE

TRAIN DISASTER

GOVERNOR'S BROADCAST

Four passengers were killed and 32 others injured when the Colombo-Jaffna train jumped the rails last Friday morning as it neared Anuradhapura, where railwaymen were among the first to go on strike. Sabotage is feared.

The engine went safely across, but three wagons immediately behind were derailed. Two of these turned over. Two other coaches telescoped into each other.

The strike position is rapidly growing worse. An islandwide railway strike is on. In the harbour the work is completely at a standstill. The entire labour force, except pool labour, were absent on Friday. Gas Company workers have also struck work again.

A Labour Department official said: "Nearly 12,000 workers are on strike. No definite figures are yet available. Our final computation may be more. The situation is changing rapidly."

About 330 Gas Company workers at the Colombo Gas Company, stayed away from work on Friday without any warning, and refused to go back to work unless their grievances were immediately remedied.

MINISTERS MEET

Sir John Howard, the Acting Governor, came back to Colombo on Friday morning and discussed the strike situation with the Board of Ministers in the afternoon at Queen's House.

They discussed an emergency scheme which is now in readiness to be put into operation in the event of a general strike.

The scheme deals in general with the distribution of food, and the protection of life and property.

The Railway Department has arranged to run a restricted service until the situation became normal, but it will probably be impossible to run even this restricted service.

A spokesman of the Ceylon Trade Union Federation told "The Times of Ceylon" on Friday that it had re-iterated certain demands made to the authorities on behalf of the Harbour Workers' Union, the Municipal Workers' Union and the Engineering Workers' Union about five months ago and had also advised the Unions to take independent action in the event of the Government using "black-legs."

The Federation had also informed the South Indian Railway Labour Union and the Cochin and Tuticorin Harbour Workers' Unions about the railway and the harbour strikes in Ceylon and asked them to see that no "black-legs" were imported to Ceylon to put down the strike.

The Engineering Workers' Union at an Executive Committee meeting on Thursday last had decided not to accept any engineering work normally done by the Government workers during the period of the strike. It also resolved to ask the Government to take immediate action to redress the grievances of the strikers.

A deputation from the Ceylon Trade Union Federation saw the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, Mr. Rajah Hewavitarne, on Thursday last

and insisted on his taking immediate steps to bring about a settlement in the strike.

The Chief Secretary, Sir Robert Drayton, has turned down virtually all the demands made by the Government Trade Union Federation. This is the cause of the wave of strikes in government departments.

Sir Robert has also asked officers of the Union to explain their breach of Public Service Regulation 176, in organising a mass meeting at Price Park recently.

This regulation says:—"No Public Officer is allowed to call a public meeting to consider any action of the Government, or to take part in or attend such a meeting, unless he is authorised to do so in his official capacity with a view to discussion and settlement of points in issue with association representing special interests, etc."

Mr. S. F. Amarasingha, G. A. of the North-Central Province, told the "Times" reporter on Saturday night: "All the indications point to pure sabotage in the railway disaster here."

A Railway official said: "The removal of the screws holding the fish plates required special instruments generally used by railwaymen."

Fish plates, screws and nails have been found in the field near the wrecked train. The plates have been sent to the Finger Print Expert.

Four fish plates with nails fastening the rail length to the sleepers, had been removed.

The driver of the train, Mr. S. B. Duckworth, who is in hospital, declared: "The trouble started in Colombo. I asked for Police protection and police men travelled on the engine to Gampaha. I drove slowly to keep a sharp look-out."

Local people are not suspected. Colombo railway strikers are reported to have arrived here on Thursday. The Anuradhapura railway strikers are mostly Colombo men who live beside the railway line near the scene of the disaster.

The Anuradhapura strikers are now being replaced with new men.

Two coal wagons, two sugar wagons and a wagon carrying miscellaneous articles have been reduced to matchwood. Two 3rd class passenger compartments were badly damaged. Three 3rd class passenger compartments, one 1st class sleeping car and one 2nd class compartment were derailed. The iron framework of the wrecked bogies is badly twisted and the wheels are strewn around.

Mr. H. R. Gunawardhana, Transportation Superintendent, A'pura, said that it was a clear case of sabotage.

GOVERNOR'S BROADCAST

The Acting Governor, Sir John Howard, broadcasting on Saturday night on the strike emergency, assured the public that the Police Force and the Services would do everything possible to provide security and protect the lives and properties of citizens.

Here is Sir John's speech:—"In June of this year Sir Henry

BEING MADE FOOLS OF!

GOD DENYING DICTATOR FOR BED-FELLOW

No one likes to be made a fool of! Hence it is hard to bear with equanimity the unpredictable doings of U.N.O. For the delegates—including our own priceless Dr. Evatt!—are definitely making fools of us, their constituents. We sent them there with the express mandate to make this world livable in. And what do they do? Allow themselves to be made the tools of the one enemy of the Christian order, of the one Power that does not want peace, of the one philosophy dedicated to revolution, violence and bloodshed.

While the whole of Eastern Europe and a good part of Central Europe is being crushed under the gory heel of red oppression, while millions and millions are being bled white of their physical, moral, and spiritual vitality, U.N.O. finds time to worry itself over Spain. We know who gives rise to the fuss, we know who is forever barring the way to a peaceful settlement, and we can have a shrewd guess at why he is doing it! But what is not so clear is why the eminent delegates allow themselves to be bamboozled into being made fools of! Surely they must have eyes to see! Or is it the will to do, that is lacking? Would it be that in the shadow of the smiling, fawning, and acquisitive red bear, they are being jaundiced into abject subjection? Whatever it is, we can be sure that, unless there are drastic changes soon, history will point us out as fools who made a terrific hullabaloo over a mouse peacefully munching a bit of cheese (not ours, at that!), while a bear was going for his life devastating our own garden—in fact, undermining our very house!

I said that no one likes to be made a fool of, and I suppose that is true. But, strange to relate, the other day I was made a fool of—and liked it.

It all began with a piece of news from Spain, which made me squirm with sheepish embarrassment. It concerned Franco. As I read it, I could not down the feeling that the laugh is on us! For, despite the malingering and mud-slinging of our press and radio, the Generalissimo shows that he is miles ahead in the crusade for world peace. Indeed, he creates the impression—not hard to

confirm—that we haven't even started! He gives evidence that, whereas we, through U.N.O. representation, turn to "papa Stalin" for the tune to which our world will dance, he turns to the one Author of peace, the one Source of justice and charity. It is vulgar of me to say this, I know, but I feel that my readers will give me a sympathetic understanding when I express myself thus: no matter how much I close my eyes, I still seem to see Franco snugly thumbing his nose to the rest of the world! Well he might, too! For though he is too much of a gentleman for such vulgarity, there is no denying that that is precisely what we deserve!

After reading the news item, which I will copy without further comment, I think you will agree that the laugh is on us. For if Franco is on God's side who can be against him? And can we who have a God-denying dictator for bed-fellow reasonably claim to be on God's side?

Now for the news that happily makes fools of us all!

"It was a few weeks ago. We had to give an answer to the U.S., and when the Minister brought the note to Franco for his signature, he replied: 'We'll sign that to-morrow.'—'But,' expostulated the Minister, 'this is urgent.'—'Good!' replied the Generalissimo, 'we'll reply to-morrow.'—No sooner was the Minister gone than Franco called in the palace chaplain: 'Please expose the Blessed Sacrament for me,' he told him. 'Then you may retire; I'll let you know when I want Exposition to end.' Franco then knelt before his God in the Holy Eucharist and stayed there in prayer for four hours. The next day he gave his reply to the United States Ambassador. It was well received at Washington, and, indeed, has had all the Foreign Offices on the Continent stumped ever since."

While our U.N.O. delegates look to Moscow, Franco looks to God! No wonder we feel like fools! But no wonder, too, it is a nice feeling this time. There is still hope in a world where a ruler can do a thing like that!—*The Monstrance, Australia.*

A STUDENTS' PILGRIMAGE

More than 3,000 students of the University of Paris—boys and girls from thirty different countries—furnished a striking demonstration of the strength of religious faith among French intellectuals when they marched twenty six miles in a constant downpour a few weeks ago to the ancient Cathedral of Chartres.

American, Canadian, Swiss, Dutch, British, and Irish students joined in the pilgrimage of their French fellow-students. Even the principality of Liechtenstein, one of Europe's smallest countries,

was represented by the daughter of the reigning prince. Fifteen students of Yugoslavia, all of them of the Eastern Orthodox religion, took part in the pilgrimage. Among the pilgrims were a number of sick and paralysed students who were pushed along the road in small vehicles.

The example for the pilgrimage to Chartres was set in the beginning of this century by the French essayist and poet, Charles Peguy, who had lost his faith but came back to Catholicism as a result of his devotion to St. Joan of Arc. He marched fifty-eight miles to venerate the Blessed Virgin at her shrine in Chartres Cathedral, considered France's oldest shrine dedicated to the Mother of God. Fifty-seven students of the University of Paris joined in 1936 in the first of the pilgrimage to Chartres, which have been held each year ever since. The number of pilgrims had increased annually until it has now reached the record of 3,000.

Moore broadcast to the people of Ceylon on the emergency that had arisen as the result of a breakdown in the arrangements that had been made for the transport of food supplies to the Island from overseas. That emergency arose from circumstances over which the people of Ceylon had no control.

(Continued on Inner Page.)

NOTICE

Propagation of the Faith

All correspondence and collections connected with the Society for the Propagation of the Faith is to be sent to:

REVD. FR. C. S. MATTHEWS, O.M.I.,
Bishop's House,
Jaffna.

J. Emilianus Pillai, O.M.I.

Church Calendar

OCTOBER 1946

FRI. ...25 S. Chrysanthus.
SAT. ...26 S. Evaristus.
SUN. ...27 20 P.—CHRIST THE KING.
MON. ...28 S. Jude.
TUES. ...29 S. Narcissus.
WED. ...30 S. Marcellas.
THURS. ...31 S. Quintin.

NOVEMBER 1946

FRI. ...1 ALL SAINTS.

The Catholic Guardian

OCTOBER 25TH 1946

THE KINGSHIP OF CHRIST

The Feast we are going to celebrate on Sunday next proclaims a great truth: the universal and supreme sovereignty of Jesus Christ the Saviour of mankind. He is inseparably God and Man. But it is as Man, as the Redeemer of the human race that we hail Him as the King of kings. "The Lamb that was slain is worthy to receive power and divinity, wisdom and strength and honour; to Him be glory and sovereignty for ever and ever," is the keynote of the feast as sung in the introit of the mass of the day. Holy Church not only proclaims this vital truth but insists that unless that truth becomes the guiding principle of the conduct of individuals as well as of nations there never can be true peace and happiness in this world. But all men do not accept this truth and acknowledge Jesus Christ as their Supreme Lord and Master. Some through ignorance, some for worldly interests, some, again, through pride and ambition have not submitted to His authority. The last class of men as the Jews of old have said: "We will not have this man reign over us." The result has been sad in the extreme. The unparalleled horror of a world-wide war with all the miseries that accompanied it need not be retold here. Although the clash of arms with all the havoc it wrought has ceased, the peace which the long-suffering peoples longed for is not yet in sight. The representatives of nations, who assembled to make peace, without even a word of public recognition of a Supreme Ruler above them and of His laws, cannot possibly bring about peace. The spirit of greed and revenge has inspired much of their haggling, bluffing and brow-beating in their struggle for the spoils of victory. As their discussions extend from day to day, real and sincere peace recedes rather than draws nearer. The scene is being shifted from Paris to New York where the same tragedy is likely to be repeated. One cannot but despair of anything happening that could inspire confidence in the future. But let them sincerely acknowledge the Kingship of Christ and re-

cognise their position as acting in His name; let them be guided by the laws which He has proclaimed and what a wonderful change would come over that assembly and its proceedings. In a short time they would formulate a peace just and durable that would bring happiness and prosperity to a devastated world. The source of salvation for all men is one and the same. Whether as individuals or, banded in families or as States, Christ Jesus is the one source of salvation: "there is no other name under heaven given to men whereby we must be saved." Hence arises the vital importance of the practical bearing of the doctrine of the Kingship of Christ on the lives of individuals and nations. Individuals must be loyal to Him by willingly accepting His teaching and obeying His commands. Rulers of States must acknowledge His Supreme Sovereignty. They must recognise they are only delegates of the Divine King and exercise their power justly as a trust from Jesus Christ while their subjects must look upon them as governing in virtue of a commission received from Christ and render them willing obedience. Only in loyalty to Christ the King of kings on the part of the rulers and the ruled will there be true peace and happiness in the world.

REVOLT OF LABOUR

The general strike of the Trade Unions in Ceylon with all the subversion it forebodes has come as a terrible portent. It was a deliberate and definite challenge to Government. It is to be hoped that the Government, weak as it is, will not capitulate to violence and lawlessness. The strike, it is now learnt, has been settled. That is to be expected. It cannot go on indefinitely. But what the public will want to know is how it has been settled so that there may be some assurance that it will not be repeated so wantonly as it began. This is not to say that the daily paid workers have had no grievance. Relatively they do have. We have condemned as an act of folly the revision of the Salaries at a most inopportune moment and the off-hand way it was carried out. That has caused general discontent and loss of confidence in the Government. Those who were directly responsible for it deserve to be brought to account. But whatever grievance the workmen have had, it did not entitle them to adopt the course they took. There were other ways to right their grievances. But they allowed themselves to be exploited by men who had other aims than to benefit the labourers.

Trade Unions are, no doubt, allowable for certain definite reasons. We have read of Trade Unions in Britain and of their doings. But their counterpart in this country appears to be not of the British but of the Marxian type. The strike they indulged in was revolutionary. They were guilty of sabotage. They wrecked a train causing thereby the death of five persons and serious injury to some twelve or fifteen. With

these unfortunate men they had no quarrel except that they travelled by the train owned by Government. The death-roll might well have gone up to a hundred and the number of the injured, doubled or trebled. But what did they care so long as they could intimidate the Government and paralyze its activities. Such is the Marxian mentality not so much of the misguided men but of their instigators. Marxian as it is, this sort of thing will not be tolerated even in Russia. This poor country is having a foretaste of the blessings of party politics. It is said that the general strike is a trial of strength between the dictatorship of the Right and the dictatorship of the Left striving for mastery. The acting Governor gave a reassuring broadcast which must be followed up by action. Government must maintain its authority unimpaired if it means to preserve law and order. His Excellency spoke truly when he said that a Government that is not able to give its people security of life and property is not worth its name. And we may add that, whatever else there is in a country, if there is not security of life and property it cannot be called a civilized country. That is the test and if that test be applied to Ceylon, however beautiful nature has made it, one must say it has begun during the last few years its steady decline towards barbarism and clamours for a firm and strong Government to put on the brake.

The Pope Speaks to Teachers

"Much of the future is in your power, since you have in your hands the future citizens," the Pope recently told a group of Italian Catholic teachers at Castel Gandolfo, and praised them for the development of their new organisation during the past year. Saying that their motto "Let us save the child" had a more profound meaning at present, His Holiness compared the destruction wrought by the War with that of a hurricane, which blows over, and is followed by calm and the re-appearance of the brilliant rays of the sun. The Pope then spoke about schools without religion. "There is no doubt that this matter represents one of the most serious questions that will be discussed by the Constituent Assembly....there will be two factions, one that uphold a school, Christian and Catholic, and the other proposing a school commonly called the 'lay' school, that is, a school without religion." The Holy Father then went on to show that the lay school has failed in its true scope. "The Christian education, on the other hand, has for almost 2,000 years successfully withstood all trials. It is not significant that now, after the war, when parents got free expression of their desires, by a large majority they asked for their children a Christian school, and a Christian education, and this was asked even by parents who do not profess our Faith?"

RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND OF THE STATE

He then spoke of the rights of the parents, the Church and of the State, in the education of the young. "Let us allow the child to grow in the pure atmosphere of the Christian family, and give it a school which in co-operation with the home and the Church, works for the sound foundation of truth. However, we do not deny the particular right of the State in the matter of education. It is a right bound up with the common good. This common good requires that the State protect and

respect the right to education which belongs to the family and the Church. In keeping with the law of nature and of Christ and the common good, the aim to be followed always is that family, Church and State co-operate in mutual harmony for the instruction and education of youth."

THE TEACHER'S ROLE

He went on to outline the value of the work of each individual teacher, saying that we live in a time of revolution, and some of the younger generation might be tempted to think or to ask themselves what was the value of their own work. No one should allow himself to be disturbed by such deceptive thought.

His Holiness then pointed out that the future lies in the hands of teachers. "Much of the future is in your power, since you have in your hands the future citizens....They, the children of today, will know how to rule and fashion the future for the greatest good of the human family, if they come to the work with healthy bodies and mind, and as honest citizens and good Christians. Now this depends essentially on your influence, for, after the home, nothing has such a lasting influence on the minds of the young as the school." Their work would be more difficult now, because they would have to take the place of parents, who through difficulties, could not fulfil their duties.

Governor's Broadcast

(Continued from page 1)

THROES OF CRISIS

"Four months later, as your acting Governor, I make my appearance at the microphone to warn you that we are now living in the throes of another crisis.

"This crisis is not the outcome of circumstances over which we have no control, but arises from the fact that a large number of workers, mostly Government employees (some employed in the essential work of unloading foodships from overseas and others engaged in transporting such food to various parts of the Island for the purposes of consumption) have struck work.

"I also wish to tell you what the Government are doing to deal with this emergency and how you, the law abiding people of Ceylon, can help in the task that confronts the authorities.

"A large number of the workers out on strike are members of an association called the Government Trade Union Federation. This Federation is recognized by the Government under Public Service Regulations which provide machinery for the investigation of grievances.

"If such grievances exist, the Public Service Regulations provide that the proper authority for enquiring into them is the Chief Secretary or Financial Secretary.

"This Federation has no right to call a strike of Government employees. Its members, however, have come out on strike.

"So also machinery exists for the investigation into the grievances of those workers who are not Government employees. These workers have also struck without having recourse to this machinery.

OFFER OF REDRESS

"If those who are out on strike whether Government or private employees return to work at once, any legitimate grievances which will exist with regard to their conditions of service will be considered by the machinery set up and authorised for that purpose. If there are any anomalies in their conditions of service that require rectification these anomalies are not of such a nature as to justify their action in striking work which is essential for the life of the community.

"You are all aware of the dangers that are created when workmen come out on strike. Passions are inflamed, riots and disorders are liable to take place. You have a striking example on Thursday night of the sort of thing that happens in such circumstances.

"Sabotage occurred on the railway. A portion of the line was removed near Anuradhapura with the result that the Jaffna night train was derailed. So far there are four deaths as the result of

this incident and several persons have been seriously injured.

"This is one of the first fruits of strike action and those who called the strike cannot escape responsibility.

"Until the crisis is over the railway department has been forced to limit its services to the running of trains during the daytime. So you see how the action of the strikers and those who have encouraged them to strike has already led to the loss of innocent lives.

GOVERNMENT'S PLAN

"You will naturally want to know what action the Government is taking to deal with this emergency.

"The first duty of a Government worthy of the name is to take every step to ensure the maintenance of order. Or in other words to give security and protect the life and property of each individual citizen.

"As far as lies within their power the Police Force will perform this duty and will also endeavour to protect workers from those who endeavour to intimidate them and prevent their return to work.

"I am also glad to tell you that the Service Chiefs in the Island have done their utmost to help the Government in this crisis with the resources that are at their disposal.

"The next duty of the Government is to ensure the effective distribution of food. This will be given priority so far as the transportation system in Ceylon is concerned. If as the result of pursuing this aim the general public suffer inconvenience I hope that the sufferers will bear in mind what is the paramount duty of the authorities.

"In conclusion I would remind the general public that in this crisis each individual citizen who has the well being of the community at heart can play his part.

"You will ask what you can do. First of all be calm, and refrain from spreading unauthorised reports and rumours. Do not give way to panic, but proceed with your normal avocation as if no emergency existed.

"Next I would ask you to give all the assistance you can to the police and other authorities on whom rests the responsibility of maintaining order.

"Exercise all possible economy in the use of electricity, gas, food, water and petrol.

"Some of you may have the opportunity of talking with those misguided persons who have thought fit to come out on strike. Remind them of the harm they are causing to innocent and law abiding members of the community. Tell them that, if the return to work at once their proper grievances will receive investigation by the appropriate and responsible authorities.

"In this connection I may say if those who are now striking return to work at once they will not lose their jobs.

"In connection with the strikers' demands which have appeared in the press you will have observed that some of them seem to relate to matters which have nothing to do with their conditions of service; for instance one of the demands is for the repeal of the Soulbury Constitution.

"Can you conceive of this demand being a legitimate object of strike action. Do you think that this demand has emerged from the brain of someone other than a worker and that there is some political purpose behind it?

"I would ask you to impress on these misguided workers that, while the improvement of their pay and conditions is a legitimate demand, they should not let themselves become the prey of others who are exploiting them for political purposes and persuading them to put forward demands which have no relation to their conditions of service.

"I feel confident that the country will not tolerate the actions now being taken in the so-called interests of the workers and that the firm action of the authorities and commonsense of the community at large will enable it to emerge unscathed from the present crisis.

LOCAL & GENERAL

S.V.P., Jaffna.—The Third quarterly meeting of the Conferences of St. Vincent de Paul Society, Jaffna, will be held on next Sunday, 27th inst. in St. Charles' School Hall immediately after the Cathedral Benediction. All the

Spiritual directors, members of the Conferences and benefactors are kindly requested to be present.

Obituary.—As we were printing we received the sad news that fortified by the last rites of the Church after two months illness Mr. F.A. Tisseverasinghe, Bar-at-Law, died last night at Colombo despite the best medical treatment.

The Parents' Day at A'pura.—On Friday the 18th October, 1946 a Parents' Day was held at the Tamil School of the Holy Family Convent, Anuradhapura, Mr. N. Krishnadasan, District Judge, presided.

There was a Fancy Bazaar which he opened. Many people patronised the bazaar. At 5 p.m. the District Judge was garlanded and welcomed with a song. Then the report was read by Mr. S.A. Mariampillai. The District Judge distributed the prizes and speaking in Tamil praised the work of the school and the benefits parents would derive from the free school.

Then the Parish Priest thanked the Judge in a few well chosen words. The children staged a small play entitled "A Rose Girl" with a number of variety entertainments.

N.P.T.A.—At a Special General Meeting of the Northern Province Teachers' Association held at the Jaffna Central College Hall, it was decided that the following resolutions be urged upon the Conversion Committee:

1. That in the case of teachers at present in B and C Scale Schools the Conversion Rules should be so relaxed as to enable them to secure parity of salary with Teachers in A Scale Schools.
2. That in the case of all new entrants at present in A, B and C Scale Schools the Conversion Rules should be so relaxed as to enable them to secure parity of salary with the Old Entrant Teachers in A Scale Schools.
3. That in the case of teachers to whom salary scales have not been provided and where salary scales provided contain obvious and inherent anomalies the Conversion Committee should if necessary by reference to the Board of Ministers provide suitable scales and rectify the anomalies.—Cor.

More Wheat Flour from America.—The National Catholic Welfare Conference of America has very generously sent to His Grace the Archbishop of Bombay a further shipment of 249,600 lbs. wheat flour. His Lordship the Bishop Auxiliary has made this over to the Government of Bombay for distribution in the scarcity areas. The Prime Minister, Mr. Kher, in accepting the offer says: "The National Catholic Welfare Conference and Catholics in Bombay are indeed setting an excellent example of humanitarian work which is bound to be appreciated all over India."

Mangalore.—The Hon'ble Minister for Education has written to Fr. William F. Sequiera, S. J., Head-Master, St. Aloysius' College, Mangalore, asking him to represent his minimum requirements as the Director has the power to give exemption when necessary. Fr. Sequiera wrote in reply:

(1) To permit English as the medium of instruction for Form IV for the school year 1946-47 only. (2) To permit English in one section of each of the classes IV and V and in one section of each of the Forms I to III. (3) In view of Hindi becoming the national language of India, and of its usefulness to pupils in later life, to permit Hindi as an additional medium of instruction in place of Kannada to such pupils as desire it.

Madras Govt's Official Bills.—Among the official Bills proposed to be introduced by the Madras Government in the ensuing session of the Legislative Assembly, two are of great importance to the Hindu community. One proposes to confer on women the right to inherit agricultural land. The other Bill proposes to prohibit the practice of dedication of women to Hindu deities, idols, and objects of worship in temples and religious institutions.

Siam.—According to a contract, Britain has agreed to sell to the Siamese Govt. the railway known as "Death Railway" linking Burma and Siam for a sum of £ 1,500,000 (6,000,000 dollars) together with rail equipment, 65 locomotives, 1,125 wagons, 47 lorries, and other stocks. By the end of the current month the 2,000 British troops now guarding the railway will evacuate with all the British troops in Siam.

Japan.—The Constitution Revision Bill which deprives the Emperor of most of his power, prerogatives, and estates and calls for sovereignty resting with the people was passed by the Japanese House of Representatives on Oct. 7. The new constitution will become law six months after promulgation by an imperial decree expected to be issued on Nov. 3.

General of the Dominicans.—Fr. Emmanuel Suarez, O. P., has been elected General of the Dominicans. He is a linguist and one of the great canonists of the world.

A New Convert.—Lady Denham, a daughter of the first Lord Redesdale, was recently received into the Church at Olney, Bucks, by Fr. T. D. Walters.

Lady Denham and her family are the present owners of the Mansion House, Weston Underwood, Bucks. This house and estate belonged to the Throckmorton family until the beginning of the present century and was a Mass centre for Catholics during the Penal days.

The Tyburn Pilgrimage.—The traditional London pilgrimage to Tyburn, the site of the gallows where many British martyrs were executed, has been resumed this year. London Catholics, reciting the Rosary and singing hymns, followed the long route from the site of Newgate prison past St. Paul's Cathedral taken by the martyrs on their march to death.

The annual pilgrimages were given up during the war years, but Mgr. John H. Filmer, head of the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom (the Church Extension Society in Britain), which organises the pilgrimage, kept up the tradition by making the pilgrimage alone.

Nun's Medical Research.—Sister Margaret, a nun on the staff of the Research College at Columbus has discovered a cure for ulcers, boils and carbuncles.

C.T.S. of England.—The Catholic Truth Society of England has a record membership this year of 18,845, and its publications for the past twelve months have sold over 1,400,000 copies. The film library of the society has circulated, in the same period, some 1,373 films.

Christianity and Japan.—Wataru Narahasi, a Cabinet Minister, declared: "Christianity alone can save Japan, Shintoism and Buddhism are dead religions. My people are starving for a vital religion." The former Prime Minister of Japan has died a Catholic. He was detained as a war prisoner and suffered from tuberculosis. Perceiving his end was near, he asked Fr. Flanjar, a French Missionary, to instruct and baptize him.

Atom Bombs.—In his weekly radio talk Drew Pearson disclosed that U. S. A. has sent atom bombs to England where they are being stored for any international emergency. This has however, been denied by the War Minister.

Cures Through the Intercession of St. Anne.—A number of cures and grants of favours have been reported by pilgrims who attended the celebrations marking the Feast of St. Anne de Beaupre at her famous shrine in Quebec. Thirty thousand pilgrims assisted at the annual ceremony of the blessing of the sick held at the conclusion of the services.

Russian Conversions.—Of three hundred Russian refugees in a camp at Lecce, in the South of Italy, about a hundred have been received into the Church by an Italian priest of the Byzantine Rite, who is working among them. When the Bishop of Ugento celebrated Mass recently in the camp for the intention of obtaining Our Lady's intercession for the people of Russia, a choir of the new Russian Catholics sang the Creed, and other prayers in the Byzantine Liturgy. The chapel at the camp is dedicated to "Our Lady of the Ends of the Earth."

Miracles at Lourdes.—The miraculous cures of two pilgrims at Lourdes have been acknowledged by the Bureau of Medical Authentication in Paris, after a thorough examination by numerous doctors.

Thirteen other seemingly miraculous cures were reported during the 1946 pilgrimage. However, no official declaration will be given until after observation.

Do You Know Series I of CATHOLIC DOCTRINE

1. What feast is celebrated on 26th April?
2. Who declared the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin a Dogma of Faith?
3. When was the First Apparition of Our Lady at Lourdes?
4. To whom were the revelations of the Sacred Heart made?
5. To whom was the Scapular of Mount Carmel given?
6. What is the Special Devotion during this month?
7. Who wrote the Imitation of Christ?
8. Who founded the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?
9. When was the first apparition of Our Lady at Fatima?
10. Who is the Pope of Catholic Action?

See Answers Below

10. Pope Pius XI.
9. May 13, 1917.
8. Frederick Ozanam.
7. Thomas à Kempis.
6. The Holy Rosary.
5. St. Simon Stock.
4. St. Margaret Mary Alacoque.
3. 11th Feb. 1858.
2. Pope Pius IX.
1. Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

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