

**Rates of Subscription**  
*Eng. Guardian*  
 Yearly Rs. 6-50  
 Half Yearly Rs. 3-50  
*Eng. & Tamil Guardian*  
 Yearly Rs. 10-50  
 Half Yearly Rs. 5-50

# 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 sigilat qui custodit eam."

**Rates of Advertisement**  
 Family Announcements Rs. 5-00 per insertion  
 Order Nisi Rs. 5-00 per 2 insertions  
 Trade Advertisements on Application.

Vol. 73. No. 4.

JAFFNA, FRIDAY JANUARY 30, 1948

PRICE: 10 CENTS.

## 'COMMUNISM APPEALS TO BACKWARD RACES'

—ATTLEE.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, on Friday last followed up the warning to Soviet Russia against "playing with fire in international affairs," given by his Foreign Minister, Mr. Ernest Bevin, on Thursday with another strong attack on Communism.

"We recognise that there is in Communism a dynamic force," he said in winding up the two day debate on foreign affairs in the House of Commons.

"It is a fanatical movement, enlisting the support of people of a certain type of mind or in a certain condition of society and it has become the official creed of a great nation.

"It has but slight appeal to those with experience of Western civilisation, but it does make an appeal to backward peoples who have never known anything better."

Communism had a tremendous driving force. But Britain was not prepared to accept Communism, although she wished to have the friendliest relations with the people of Soviet Russia and with the Communist States.

"We are resolutely opposed to the Communist way of life. The police state is completely repugnant to the people of Western Europe. We shall not try to foist our system on the Soviet Union and equally we demand that they should not attempt to foist theirs on us.

"I am sure Mr. Stalin is enough of a realist to appreciate the complete failure during the difficult inter-war years of the Communist creed to make any effective advance in this country.

"Therefore, he should give up the idea that somehow or other Britain is going to turn to Communism."

Britain, Mr. Attlee said, was opposed to the Communist conception of uniformity. "The essence of democracy is difference of opinion, free discussion, tolerance of other peoples' point of view.

"The world we want to see is one in which there are a number of diverse and different units as compared with the Communist world, in which they try to make Bulgaria and Yugoslavia little copies of Russia.

"If western civilisation is to stand against this ideological assault—I am talking of a war of ideas and not of bombs—it must attain a degree of unity. But any attempt to get uniformity would defeat the very object we have in mind."

Mr. Attlee failed to take up the appeal of his predecessor, Mr. Winston Churchill, that Britain should come to terms with Russia.

He said that although he naturally desired to see all countries turn to democratic socialism, it was not for Britain to interfere.

### 'POLICE VAN'

The nineteenth century conception of a "self-acting anarchic system of private enterprise" was dead today. Another thing which united Western Europe was the recognition of human rights.

"It is curious that there are some would-be Left-Wingers who shut their eyes to the absence of human rights when they look to eastern Europe. These people have no right to claim they are in the van of human progress. The only van they are in is the police van."

"In the field of human rights Russia and the States of Eastern Europe are right at the back end of the queue."—*Times of Ceylon*, 24-1-48.

## "CATHOLICISM FLOURISHES IN THE U.S.A."

### BISHOP ROCHE'S IMPRESSIONS

"When the Holy Father embraced me, I forgot all the cares and difficulties of my pastoral office" said Gabriel Francis T. Roche, S.J., Bishop of Tuticorin, interviewed by a special correspondent of the "New Leader." His Lordship who left India by air for Rome seven months ago returned to Tuticorin on 23rd December after extensive travels in Europe, England, Ireland, and America.

He spoke at length about the Holy Father, whom he found very majestic and stately in his bearing in spite of his cares and pains. He was the providential Pontiff of the time, the needed international figure for this age. The Holy Father was happy to know of the increase in members of the Indian clergy which he prayed would be always holy, learned, and zealous. When the Pope heard of the Bishop's plans for the Diocese, particularly the Leper Asylum the Bishop is building, he said: "I bless all those who aid the great humanitarian work." The highlight of the Bishop's stay in Rome was the canonization of St. John De Britto, at which Portugal acquitted herself with traditional glory.

Another great personality, His Lordship met, was the General of the Society of Jesus, Very Rev. Fr. Janssens who was also a versatile linguist. He was especially interested in the progress of the Missions, in Japan and China in particular. His Lordship was very pleased to find that some Indian nuns of the Dominican Order from Mangalore were lecturers in the colleges of Rome. He was very much impressed by the College de Propaganda Fide, and the College of St. Peter for priests from the missions who do post-graduate studies.

Questioned as to the political conditions in Europe, the Bishop said that the menace of atheistic communism was alarming in Italy, France and even England, but that the Catholic resist-

ance was being organized. The food position in France was appalling but poverty was most apparent in Italy. Plenty of milk was available in England whereas in France milk was very scarce. His Lordship stated that busy preparations are being made for the Holy Year of 1950 and new buildings are being constructed in the Vatican City to accommodate pilgrim bishops and other dignitaries.

The Bishop was particularly busy in U.S.A. where he addressed several audiences, as many as six or seven on a Sunday. His lectures included one at Fordham University. Other important places he visited were New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Chicago, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Buffalo. "No country in the world" he said "is so blessed as the U.S.A. There is abundance of food. There are no beggars. Catholicism is very strongly felt in the national life. There is very great interest about India, particularly after the declaration of Independence. The civil disturbance and bloodshed was a blot on the fair name of India. I explained them away as accidental occurrences of a period of transition. Catholic circles kept repeatedly questioning me about the future of Catholicism. I replied that our leaders had assured us that they would safeguard the rights of minorities. Further, I added that we would never be identified with foreigners in the future. The U.S.A. has helped Indian missions very greatly." Archbishop Cushing of Boston is an outstanding figure in the sphere of charity to the missions. I often remarked to my friends that American charity covered a multitude of American sins. But divorce and birth control may prove to be the ruin of this glorious nation. Happily the Catholic Church is waging a successful war against these two cancers."

His Lordship said that France continued to maintain its missionary spirit in spite of the ravages of war, and that a new congregation of priests was formed for apostolate among industrial labour. Knowledge about India, the bishop added, was very meagre. Cardinal Griffin was very democratic and was known as the Archbishop of Tours because of his frequent journeys. Archbishop Downey was ill and work at the Liverpool Cathedral was at a stand still. Devotion to the Mass in Catholic Ireland was phenomenal. Bishop Roche met President John O'Kelly, of Eire, and among others, Frank Duff and Bro. Murray of the Legion of Mary.

Asked about the lessons for India he had learnt from his tours, His Lordship replied that Catholics in the various dioceses must unite, economize and pool their resources as in other countries. "We ought to embark on more works of social service and culture. Hence I have two schemes; one for a Leper Asylum and another for an institute of Tamil Culture. These are not diocesan but are meant to cater for South India, and hence I trust co-operation will be forthcoming from other districts as well. India must have its own Catholic University, or at least a Catholic Institute."

## THIS IS JUSTICE

The following is a summary of Pope Pius XI's encyclical on "THE SOCIAL ORDER."

If the profits of labour plus capital are not meant all for the owners and not all for the workers, for whom are they meant? The profits of labour plus capital are meant to be shared by the owners and the workers since both owners and workers are needed to produce the profits. If the profits of labour plus capital were fairly distributed among owners and workers, the common good would be helped, the individual good would be helped. But in these days profits are not fairly distributed.

### The Freedom of the Workers

Forty years before Pius wrote, LEO said that the workers must be freed. Since then something has been done but not enough. To-day, in some cases conditions are even worse. The profits of capital plus labour are not fairly distributed between the owners

and the workers. Most of the profits go to the owners and very little to the workers. LEO said that every effort should be made to free the workers, enabling them to live decently, supporting their families, not fearing the future. LEO said that the workers could be freed by receiving a just share of the profits, by getting just wages. If their wages are just and they get their share of the profits the workers will be freed by becoming owners themselves of a moderate share of private property.

### Why Must a Man Get a Just Wage?

Every man has the right to live decently. If every man has the right to live decently, every man has the right to the things that allow him to live

decently. The man who gets wages in exchange for his labour has only his wages to allow him to live decently. If the wage a man gets in exchange for his labour is not enough to let him live decently, that wage is less than the value of his labour. The wage a man gets should not be less than the value of his labour. Therefore the wages a man gets should be enough to let him live decently. This is a just wage. Why should a man get a just wage? A man should get a just wage simply because he is a human being with a right to live decently.

(To be Continued)



## NOTICE

The Managing Committee of the Jaffna Diocesan Provident Society Ltd., begs to announce that they are prepared to lend money on property situated within the Urban Council limits at 5 per cent. per annum instead of 6 per cent. per annum from 26th Jan. 1948.

For further particulars apply to :

THE HON. SECRETARY,

Jaffna Diocesan Provident Society Ltd.,  
Catholic Club, Jaffna.

## Church Calendar

JANUARY 1948

FRI. ...30 S. Martina.

SAT. ...31 S. John Bosco.

FEBRUARY 1948

SUN. ...1 Sex.—S. Ignatius.

MON. ...2 S. PURIFICATION.

TUES. ...3 S. Blase.

WED. ...4 S. Andrew C.

THURS. ...5 S. Agatha.

FRI. ...6 S. Titus.

## The Catholic Guardian

JANUARY 30TH 1948

## OUR LADY'S PROCESSION.

Few news-items have ever given such a thrill to our people as the promise given by His Lordship the Bishop in his Septagesima Pastoral that the statue of Our Lady of Madhu will be taken round the parishes in the diocese during the months of March and April.

The processions of the statues of Our Lady of Boulogne and of Our Lady of Fatima have in recent years been working wonders of spiritual renaissance in Europe, beginning from France; now the movement has crossed the Atlantic. It was to be hoped that the Church in the East would follow suit. To the diocese of Jaffna, thanks to His Lordship's decision, falls the honour of inaugurating the movement in the East.

It was Fr. Faber who pointed out, decades ago, that "if we are to believe the revelations of the saints, God is pressing for a greater, wider and stronger, quite another devotion to His Blessed Mother." We might add with His Lordship in the pastoral under reference, that the revelations of Our Lady in the 19th century and in generous profusion in this our twentieth century have been increasingly insistent on two points, viz., the recitation of the Rosary and the call to personal penance: in fact of course any other kind of penance puts itself out of court immediately. The insistence on penance in some of the more recent manifestations is so marked that it is a clear disjunction—do penance or perish.

The decision to take the statue of Our Lady of Madhu is therefore obviously a well considered one. She is Our Lady of the Rosary and she has always stood for the ascetic ideal that is such a definite trait of our Catholicism. Madhu has never catered for the tripper and is thus in line with the great, the enduring pilgrimages.

The Rosary and penance—these are the dominating motives behind the Procession. The announcement was clearly timed

so that our people might in addition to the normal reasons enter into the spirit of Lent for the success of the Procession which is, in God's plan, to be productive of deep and far-reaching results.

The great lesson that the Europe of to-day has been learning at Our Lady's prompting is that the success of the Procession depends largely on the spiritual preparation preceding it. And there must be reiterated emphasis of the point that this is not to be just another procession. There must be no question of decorations, of music, of fireworks—it must be characterized by a restraint and sobriety that will expunge all such adventitious circumstances.

The issue should be clearly defined so that all should realize that it is a question of living up to the Gospel admonition: "Unless you do penance, you shall all likewise perish." It is a time to take stock of ourselves, such a time as will make the fervent and the not-so-fervent effectually will that there should be more sack-cloth and ashes in the practice of their religion.

## Lenten Regulations

Last year's regulations hold good for this year also. We notify the faithful of the Jaffna Diocese that owing to the present food rationing, enhanced prices of foodstuffs and the difficulty of obtaining them, the dispensation from Fast and Abstinence for the whole time of Lent with the exceptions of Ash Wednesday Abstinence only and Good Friday Fast and Abstinence, and for the rest of the year is hereby granted to all. It is to be observed, however, that the spirit of penance which is the characteristic of this holy season ought not to suffer from this general relaxation. The faithful will make up for it by accepting cheerfully the privations imposed on them by present circumstances, by reciting the Rosary more frequently, by performing the devout exercise of the Stations of the Cross, by attending with greater fervour and regularity the spiritual exercises of the Annual Retreat in their parish, by almsgiving according to their means etc., so that they may obtain from Heaven all the graces they need for a more perfect accomplishment of their duties as Christians.

✠ J. A. Guyomar, O. M. I.,  
Bishop of Jaffna.

## SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY

## Gospel

(St. Luke: Ch. 8: 4-15)

When a great multitude had gathered, and more came flocking to Him out of the cities,

He spoke to them in a parable.

Here is the sower gone out to sow his seed.

And as he sowed,

there were some grains that fell beside the path,

so that they were trodden under foot, and the birds flew down and ate them.

And others fell on the rocks,

where they withered

as soon as they were up,

because they had no moisture.

And some fell among briers, and the briers grew up with them and smothered them,

But others fell where the soil was good, and when these grew up they yielded a hundredfold.

So saying, he cried aloud,

Listen, you that have ears to hear with.

Then His disciples asked Him what this parable meant.

And He told them,

It is granted to you to understand the secret of God's Kingdom; the rest must learn of it by parables, so that they can watch without seeing, and listen without understanding.

The parable means this; the seed is God's word.

Those by the way side hear the word, and then the devil comes and takes it away from their hearts, so that they cannot find faith and be saved.

Those on the rock, are those who entertain the word with joy

as soon as they hear it

and yet have no roots;

they last for a while,

but in time of temptation they fall away.

And the grain that fell among the briers

stands for those who hear it,

and then, going on their way,

are stifled

by the cares, the riches,

and the pleasures of life,

and never reach maturity.

And the grain that fell in good soil stands for those who hear the word, and hold by it with a noble and generous heart,

and endure, and yield a harvest.

## Notes on the Gospel of Sexagesima Sunday

(Communicated.)

1. This day's Gospel suggests a study of the dispositions in which we hear the Word of God preached to us.

2. Before a sermon, we should cleanse our hearts by contrition and have a desire to hear it; during a sermon, we must listen attentively and respectfully; and after a sermon, we must endeavour to practise that we have heard.

3. In today's Gospel, the first class of hearers is the way side audience. By it the message of truth is trodden down or casually brushed aside. The voice of God does not penetrate such souls, for they are indifferent.

4. The second class of hearers is composed of superficial persons. Their religion is merely sentiment. There is no depth to the soil of the heart and there is no healthy spiritual growth.

5. The last class of hearers allow the thorns of care and wealth and pleasure to choke the growth of spirituality.

6. Attention to business is certainly necessary, but this should not be allowed to crowd out the Word of God.

7. Our Lord Himself explains the parable. He is the Sower. The seed is the Word of God. The field is the soul. He leads us to ascertain what kind of ground our heart is and determine what steps are necessary to turn our soul into fertile ground.

8. Our chief task in life is to remove all those obstacles, which prevent the soul from bearing the fruit of the virtuous life.

9. These obstacles consist of sin, ignorance and concupiscence: (a) Mortal sin is the primary evil of the soul. Only weeds can grow in such a soul. (b) Ignorance is an obstruction to the soul preventing the seed from taking root, and (c) Concupiscence is also an obstacle.

10. We hear, read and meditate superficially the Word of God. The Divine seed finds no moisture or root in our hearts; they are over-grown with the thorns of cares, riches and lusts, so that the seed of the divine word is choked up and neither grows nor bears fruit.

11. To cultivate the garden of the soul, we must humble ourselves, ask for forgiveness. Penance and mortification, frequent confession and Holy Communion will help us.

## ORATIO IMPERATA

From the 1st Feb. to 2nd May the Rev. Fathers will recite the prayer *Pro remissione peccatorum pro re gravi simpliciter* in place of the prayer *ad petendam pluviam*.

## CEYLON INDEPENDENCE DAY

## CATHOLIC CELEBRATIONS

His Lordship the Bishop has directed that the following observances be carried out in the Diocese on February 4th, Ceylon Independence Day.

1. The pealing of Bells, *more festivo*, for five minutes, in all the churches, at 6 a.m. on February 4th.

2. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, with *Te Deum* and *Veni Creator*, in all the Churches and Chapels, at a suitable hour preferably in the morning.

School celebrations, in keeping with the occasion, are in the hands of the parish priests and district Superiors who are desired by His Lordship to make their own arrangements with a view to making Catholic participation in the public celebrations as full as possible.



## Holy Father on Catholic Action

Must be "Believing, Vibrant, Holy"

Catholic Action must be "believing, vibrant, holy," the Holy Father told 3,000 Catholic Action youth members when he addressed them on Jan. 4.

"Believing in social peace, the economic well-being of their country and respect for the personal liberty of man and his rights as a citizen.

"Vibrant and alert as the Church, which does not merely live in her glorious past but lives to-day for men on earth.

"Holy in so far as they respect their parents, the authorities, the experience of age, womanhood, and all that goes to make man humane.

"You may," added His Holiness, "realise your aims by means of the various measures morally open to you and which right puts into your hands, but you must always respect the human person, even in your adversary."

## Indian Christian Governor of Bombay

Having gone to press much earlier than usual owing to the Christmas holidays, we were unable to report last week the welcome news of the appointment of Raja Sir Maharaaj Singh as successor to Sir John Colville as Governor of Bombay. The selection of an Indian Christian for the post came as a Christmas gift to the Indian Christian



community of the Province, although it was surely not for the purpose of giving us pleasure that the appointment was made. While in the new constitution governorships have ceased to carry responsibility and in consequence demand no talent or ability from those who fill them, yet the dignity of the office requires that it be held by distinguished persons. As a matter of fact the several governors so far appointed have been persons of great name and. Sir Maharaj Singh is one more on the list. It is no little tribute to his worth that, though belonging to a community, insignificant in numbers and political influence, and entirely ignored in the epochal changes that have taken place, he should nevertheless have been chosen as Governor of one of the premier Provinces of India.—*Examiner*.

## Blue-Print for an Ideal Judiciary

Replying to an address of farewell by the Advocate-General of Madras, Mr. Justice Chandrasekara Aiyar, a retiring Judge of the Madras High Court said on the 21st inst.: "Much of the stability of the Government depends on the existence of a competent and fearless Judiciary inspiring confidence in the minds of the public by the soundness of its conclusions and their freedom from prejudice or bias. Men of culture, high character and lofty attainments must man the highest courts in the land, for it is only then that standards will be set up and examples furnished which will elevate and purify, not merely the legal atmosphere in the courts of law and justice, but also the general level of society in the much wider sphere around. Recruitment to the High Court Bench must not be in terms of sectional, class, credal or regional representation, but only from the standpoint of securing absolutely the best men available from the bar, or the subordinate judicial service without the consideration of whether they are Telugus or Tamils, Brahmans or non-Brahmins, Muslims or Christians."

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT & REQUEST

Rev. Fr. S.A. Goanapragasam, Parish Priest, Chempianpattu, Pallai, requests the prayers of his brother priests and others who sympathize with him for the repose of the soul of his beloved mother ANNA ANTONY who departed this life on 24-1-48.

He also wishes to thank the Revd. Fathers and Brothers, relatives and friends who attended the funeral and prayed for the repose of the soul of his mother.

## LOCAL & GENERAL

**Vatican.**—Vatican Radio ridicules an allegation of Moscow papers that imply that Catholics in Austria are hatching an anti-Communist State. Moscow papers however have not said anything about Communists in Russia, Jugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Hungary.....striving to set up anti-Catholic blocs: they do not say that they hold Catholics as the worst enemies of Communism.

**The Confraternity of the Sacred Heart.** St. Patrick's College Branch, Senior Division. The members of the Confraternity assembled in the College Library on Saturday the 24th inst. at 6-30 p.m. to tender their felicitations to their President, the Very Rev. Fr. T.M.F. Long, O.M.I., on the occasion of his patronal feast. It came off in the form of a social. Mr. C.W.D. Alwines voiced the sentiments of the members and Fr. Long thanked them and referred at length to his new project concerning the college building that he intends starting in the near future.

**Knighthood for Mr. Nibill.**—Mr. J. H. B. Nibill, former Legal Secretary of Ceylon and now Chief Justice, Kenya, has been made a Knight Bachelor. He was appointed Puisne Justice, Ceylon, in 1938 and Legal Secretary in July, 1942. He left Ceylon on October 21, 1946.

**"Temple Trees of Ten Lakhs."**—"Temple Trees", the residence of the former Colonial Secretary, later of the Chief Secretary and at present the residence of the Prime Minister is to cost the tax-payer nearly ten lakhs. This amount will cover the repairs and renovations and the compulsory acquisition of the property adjoining the Premier's residence. The property which is to be acquired was originally estimated at Rs. 175,000 but it is to be paid Rs. 275,000 in view of the loss to business to the mechanical laundry housed therein.

**The Feast of St. Sebastian Notchigama.**—The Patronal feast of the church dedicated to St. Sebastian was celebrated with great devotion at Notchigama on Sunday the 25th inst. A number of pilgrims from far and near had come in such numbers that the little church was crowded to capacity. At 8.30 a.m., the Parish Priest Rev. Fr. S. Emmanuel O.M.I., offered the festive Mass.

Two families stationed near the church entertained the pilgrims to a 'Kiribath' breakfast.

**Happy End to a Thorny Issue.**—The Union Jack will be the official National Flag of Ceylon, until a new flag is devised by the special committee and is thereafter made the official flag by means of an Act of Parliament.

The Lion Flag, however, will be used for the Freedom Week celebrations as a "symbol" of transfer of power. It will not be "hoisted" but "unfurled" by the Duke of Gloucester outside the Assembly Hall, but this will not be part of the Parliamentary proceedings.—"Times of Ceylon" Jan. 28.

**The Personnel of the National Flag Committee.**—The following are the members of the Committee proposed by the Prime Minister to devise a National Flag acceptable to all the communities:—Messrs. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, G. G. Ponnambalam, J. L. Kotelawala, S. Nadesan, J. R. Jayawardene, T. B. Jayah and Dr. L. A. Rajapakse.

Referring to the Lion Flag the Premier said: "If there is any district which is against hoisting the Lion Flag I shall order that it should not be hoisted. I do not want the Lion Flag to be an eyesore to anybody anywhere."

**Nanu Oya Rail Smash.**—Two deaths and 27 persons were injured as the result of a rail smash that occurred at Nanu Oya on Friday night, the 23rd inst. At the magisterial inquiry Mr. T. A. K. Gunasekera, the officer-in-charge complained that he had been on continuous duty for 14 hours and though he had applied for relief, no relief was forth coming. The accident was due to the train running into a wrong line and smashing into some trolleys.

**Rome Burned While Nero Fiddled.**—Representatives of the Pakistan and the Indian Dominions are busy framing charges one against the other and replying to them at the U.N.O. Security Council, Lake Success, U.S.A. In India thousands of armed raiders equipped with machine guns and mortars have penetrated four to five miles into Jammu territory, in South Kashmir, near the Punjab border. Villages are said to have been burned and refugees are said to be streaming into Jammu City, the winter capital of Kashmir.

**Examination Results.**—News has been received from Calcutta that Mr. P. M. Vethanayagam of the Government Training College, Palaly, has been successful in his examination for the B.A. degree of the Calcutta University with distinctions. Mr. Vethanayagam is an old boy of St. Patrick's College and a First Class Trained Teacher of long experience.

—We are glad to learn that Mr. R. J. Pathirana of the Metropolitan Bar, has been successful in the Inter-Laws examination held in Ceylon by the London University last year. Mr. Pathirana is an old boy of St. Patrick's College Jaffna and is the second son of Mr. Charles Pathirana, a dentist of over thirty years' repute in Jaffna.

—Mr. W. Wijanathan, the son of Mr. Hallock Wijanathan (Retd.) Municipal Engineer, Colombo has been successful in Criminal Law in the Hilary Bar Examination of the Inns of Courts, London. Mr. Wijanathan is an old boy of St. Patrick's College.

**"Oliver to Ask for More."**—Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Leader of the Upper House, during the debate on the second reading of the Profits Tax Bill, told the House to be prepared for more and more doses of taxation. In June the Government would come to them with further taxation which would include rents and interest.

**London Matriculation to Sing its Swan-song.**—According to a Government notification in the Daily Press the authorities have decided that the London Matriculation Examination to be held in June 1948 will be the last. The examination as such will no more be held in Ceylon. However, students have been provided with facilities to obtain an exemption from that examination through the Ceylon Senior Certificate.

**Petrol to be de Controlled.**—The Ministry of Transport and Works proposes to do away with petrol control from the 1st of February as a tentative measure. It is expected that this de-control measure will give ample supplies of petrol to motor car owners to participate in the Independence celebrations without a check on their movements. It is also expected to put an end to the use of forged petrol coupons which has been very much on the increase lately.

**Ceylon Girl's Wedding Present to Princess.**—Gladys de Waas, 12, a school girl of the Kotschena Convent, Colombo, sent a medal of the Blessed Virgin Mary as her Wedding present to Princess Elizabeth. H.R.H. the Princess has sent the donor a message of thanks through her lady-in-waiting.

**U.S.A.**—Bishop Greco of Alexandria, Louisiana, dedicated a church to St. Cabrini early this month. The Bishop when a small boy had met and spoken with the Saint. She had asked him what he wanted to be and said he would go far in the priesthood.

**600 Eyes for Eye-Bank.**—The Eye-Bank for sight restoration, Inc., disclosed that in the last two years, the Americans have donated 600 eyes and 90 per cent. of them were used for grafting.

Eye-bank officials said that because of the new hope generated by recent research, special eye clinics have sprung up over the United States and affiliated eye-banks have been established in Boston and New Orleans.

## S.S.C. Religious Knowledge Examination

Candidates for the S.S.C. may from this year offer Religious Knowledge as one of the subjects for the Govt. Examination. The following syllabus has been approved by the Department:—

### SYLLABUS IN CHRISTIANITY FOR ROMAN CATHOLICS

Questions must be selected from each of the Parts I, II and III.

### THE LIFE OF CHRIST

#### PART I.

This is to be studied from the four Gospels harmonized in one narrative. Detailed geographical information is not expected, but the map of the Holy Land in relation to events in the Gospel narrative should be studied. Special attention should be paid to the fatherhood of God in relation to man, and to the stages in the foundation of the Church by Christ.

Books recommended for guidance are: (a) "The Saviour" by C. Bulcke, S.J. (English). (b) "Lokalokaya" by Very Rev. Fr. D. J. Anthony, O.M.I. (Sinhalese). (c) Any suitable book—(Tamil) e.g. Very Rev. Fr. GnanaPrakasara's Life of Christ.

#### PART II.

Either (a) The Ten Commandments of God.

The standard of knowledge expected may be gathered from the book entitled "My Catholic Faith" by Morrow.

or (b) "A Map of Life", being a simple study of the Catholic Faith by F. J. Sheed.

#### PART III.

Either (a) The main outline of the history of the Church in the first three centuries.

Special stress should be laid on the obstacles to and the causes of the suc-

cess of the Church in these three centuries.

or (b) A study of the Acts of the Apostles, Part I, i.e. Chapters I to XIII Verse 17.

## WEDDING

### ARASARATNAM—SANDRASAGRA.

A quite wedding was solemnised on Wednesday the 21st inst. at St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya by the Parish Priest, the parties being Mr. Lucien Arasaratnam, Planter, Mampuri, the only son of Mudaliyar C. Arasaratnam of "Lakeside", Puttalam and Miss Annapoorni Sabina Sandrasagra the second daughter of the late Mudaliyar E. R. Sandrasagra and Mrs. Sandrasagra. Messrs. Abraham Gardiner and Victor Rajakarier were the attesting witnesses. There was a large gathering of relations and friends both at the Church and at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Rajakarier, where the reception was held. In the afternoon a grand lunch was served to the relations, after which the bride and bridegroom left for their honeymoon. On Saturday the 24th inst. Mudaliyar Arasaratnam held a reception at his bungalow "Lakeside", Puttalam for the home coming of the bride and bridegroom.

## NOTICE

### THE JAFFNA DIOCESAN PROVIDENT SOCIETY

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Jaffna Diocesan Union held on the 11th of January, 1948, it was resolved to amend the rules of the Provident Society and a sub-Committee was appointed to revise the rules and suggest amendments. The members and other Catholics interested in the welfare of the Provident Society are kindly requested to send in their suggestions in writing to the Hony. Secretary, Jaffna Diocesan Provident Society, Catholic Club, Jaffna.

### Notice of Loss of Bond No. K. 1978

### COMMERCIAL FINE FORESTS LTD.

The above company having been requested to issue a new Forestry Bond Certificate in lieu of Certificate for Bond No. K. 1978 of series "C" in the name of SOOSAI JOHN ANTONY FERNANDO of Main Street, Jaffna, Ceylon, notice is hereby given that the said Company doth hereby revoke all representations made by it in respect of the said certificate and will proceed to deal with the application for a new certificate thirty days after the date of publication of this notice.

Dated this 23rd day of January 1948.

Harold Elliott, Secretary,  
COMMERCIAL FINE FORESTS LTD.  
Registered Office,  
Colonial Mutual Building,  
Queen Street, Auckland,  
NEW ZEALAND.

## TENDER NOTICE

Tenders will be received by the Government Agent, Northern Province, up to 12 noon on Tuesday February 19, 1948 for the construction of a Masonry regulator to Keerai Vaikkal in Maravanpulavu in Tenmaradachchi, Revenue Officer's Division, N.P. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable on application from the Kachcheri, Jaffna, where all particulars can be obtained. Tender forms will be issued up to 12 noon on Saturday February 14, 1948 only on production of receipt for Rs. 25 deposited for each form at the Jaffna Kachcheri.

Tenders will be received by the Government Agent, Northern Province, up to 12 noon on February 17, 1948, for the construction of a Masonry regulator in Araly South in Valikamam West Divisional Revenue Officer's Division, N.P. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable on application from the Kachcheri, Jaffna, where all particulars can be obtained. Tender forms will be issued up to 12 noon on February 14, 1948 only on production of receipt for Rs. 25 deposited for each form at the Jaffna Kachcheri.



## Jaffna Tamils and Their Future

A Speech Delivered by the  
Chairman, Professor  
F. H. V. Gulasekharan

at the reception accorded to the Tamil Congress M.P.'s, by the Tamils of Colombo.

We are assembled here today to welcome the Members of Parliament who represent the electorate in the Jaffna Peninsula and the electoral division of Trincomalee.

We, the Ceylon Tamils, wherever we may be, look to Jaffna as our Home—our mother country. Those of us who live in Colombo are therefore deeply interested in the northern electorates. The large gathering of Tamils in Colombo present here this evening is a testimony, if testimony were needed, to the confidence we have in the Members of Parliament from the North.

### COMMUNAL PARTY UNDESIRABLE

It is idle to pretend that we are all in complete agreement with the political views of these Members of Parliament. But it is correct to state that these Members enjoy the confidence even of those who disagree with their views.

It was only quite recently that I wrote to the Press criticizing the general policy of these Members of Parliament. You may therefore be surprised to see me in this chair. It was only after much hesitation that I accepted the invitation. I had made it quite clear to the Reception Committee that I belong to no political party and that I continue to hold the opinion that it is neither desirable nor profitable to have a Tamil party in Parliament.

A communal Tamil party of at most 10 members in a House of 101 members must inevitably find itself in a wilderness of its own. In spite of this difference of opinion, I have a great personal regard for the Members of Parliament whom we are honouring this evening. They are my friends and some of them are my old pupils. It gives me therefore great pleasure to partake in this reception.

### THE NEED FOR A CENTRE PARTY

This is a social and friendly function at which any further criticism of our guests will be out of place. I am sure, however, that they will not take it amiss if I stress the need in this country, at this juncture, for a new political party—a centre party—remote from the capitalists who resist all changes, and not too near the leftists who preach varying degrees of revolution. In fact, if we exclude the few Nawabs of Cinnamon Gardens and the blackmarket profiteers of yesterday, there is hardly any capitalist among the Tamils. I assure you, for example, I am not a capitalist. I have no capital!

The middle and poorer classes of all communities in Ceylon form the backbone and by far the largest majority in the country. It is they who should have the predominant voice in the administration of the country. The leaders of the Tamil community should therefore explore in conjunction with the leaders of other communities the possibility of forming a new non-communal political party—call it the Democratic Socialist party, if you like. The salvation of this country depends on the successful organization and conduct of such a party.

### RESPONSIVE CO-OPERATION, CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM AND COMMUNAL HARMONY

In the meantime, the Members of Parliament from the North can render effective service to the Country and their community by responsive co-operation with the Government and by constructive criticism. These members represent not themselves but the electorates which returned them to Parliament. The electorates will be disappointed if their representatives waste their talents in obstruction and opposition for the mere love of opposition.

We in Ceylon are apt to forget the simple fact that ours is an insignificantly small country. If we look at a large-sized school map of the world, we shall find that a mere red dot, and nothing more, indicates the position of Ceylon.

People of diverse interests who live in large countries of Europe and America are able to solve their problems and to live in peace and amity. Surely, it should not be impossible for the six millions of people living in Ceylon, divided into four or five different communities, to sink their differences and live in harmony.

### THE COMMUNAL PROBLEM

One will be a hypocrite if one does not frankly admit that communal problems do exist in Ceylon. Our business is to solve these problems and not complicate them by accentuating whatever little communal differences there are. These problems are not beyond solution. I have lived nearly 30 years in Colombo and I assure you Ladies and Gentlemen, that I have not at any time seen any visible sign of communal hatred in the South, nor do I believe that there exists any such hatred in the North.

It will help the Tamil people to get a correct perspective of their position in Ceylon if they cease to imagine that Ceylon is an Island attached to the Continent of Jaffna.

At the same time, a great deal of misunderstanding will be avoided if the people in the South do not even unwittingly behave as if Ceylon is theirs and theirs only and as if the Jaffna Peninsula were an unwanted appendage whose people have no claim whatever to a share in the administration of the Island. The manner in which the Board of Ministers was constituted in 1935 and the composition of the present Cabinet have certainly given the people in the North the impression that they are being studiously ignored by the South.

### AN UNDIVIDED ESTATE

The truth is that Ceylon belongs as much to the North as to the South. Ceylon is a vast estate owned by six millions of people of different races and communities. The shares are undivided. The estate has its plantations, paddy fields, etc. No one single community has the exclusive right of ownership of these plantations. The income is shared by all communities. The estate has visiting agents—101 of them.

If these visiting agents do not pull their weight together, the Estate will not pay; it will have to be pawned or mortgaged and once more sold to foreigners. Let us therefore adjust our petty differences and live as members of a family taking care not to alienate our Estate once again. Let each community extend its goodwill to the other communities.

### A JAFFNA TAMIL PRIME MINISTER

As you are aware, England, Wales and Scotland constitute the United Kingdom. The three countries have a common Parliament. Have they not got on peacefully together for over three centuries? Have not Scotsmen played important roles in the British Parliament? Have they not been even Prime Ministers of England?

Is there any valid reason why the Tamils, the Scotsmen of Ceylon should not play an equally important part in the Ceylon Parliament? Why should we not visualize the time when an M.P. from the North may become the Prime Minister of Ceylon, even though in such a contingency it would become necessary to add a Hindu Shrine or a Christian Chapel to the existing shrine in the precincts of "Temple Trees."

The future therefore is not so gloomy as the present position forebodes.

### TWO IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS

Our Members of Parliament have two immediate problems to tackle:— firstly, the problem of a national flag; secondly, the problem of a national language.

I prefer not to dwell on these controversial topics. But let me express the hope that common sense will prevail and that a flag will be designed which will symbolise a United Lanka.

With regard to a National Language, let us trust that nationalism in the South will never run so wild as to demand ONE NATION—ONE FAITH—ONE LANGUAGE.

Let us earnestly hope that neither the Sinhalese language nor the Tamil language will ever be obliterated in Ceylon, and that English will continue as the vehicle of thought, knowledge and culture in and out of Ceylon, apart from being a world language for purposes of trade and commerce.

### TAMIL M.P.'s.

Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, let us turn to our guests whom we are honouring to-night:—

It will greatly embarrass Mr. Ponnambalam if I refer to his remarkable ability and his unrivalled oratorical powers or recount his many doughty deeds for the Tamil Cause. Ramanathan, Arunachalam, Kanagasabai, Sabapathy—yes, these were great giants who raised the political status of the Tamils in Ceylon. But it is not an exaggeration if I assert that within living memory no Tamil politician has made the sacrifices Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam has made for the Tamil Cause. No man has been misrepresented and vilified to the extent he has been. Had he cared to feather his own nest at the expense of his community, he would today be very near the top of the legal or political ladder. But he has steadfastly stood by the Tamil people.

It is true that he has at times taken false steps and failed to achieve his object. Even the best of chess players make false moves and get check-mated. Yet, he appears to me to be the one man who is in every respect competent to lead us. Our confidence in him has not been shaken. A wise leader adapts his tactics to suit changing conditions. I have not the slightest doubt that Mr. Ponnambalam will review the present position from all angles and make the best use of his own talents and those of his team-mates.

In Mr. Chelvanayagam, Mr. Ponnambalam has a loyal and faithful lieutenant. If I were to take an examination paper on General Knowledge and had to answer the question "who is the greatest Tamil gentleman in Ceylon today?" I would close my eyes and write down "S.J.V. Chelvanayagam." I have yet to meet a man in Ceylon of any

community who doubts Mr. Chelvanayagam's honesty, integrity and sincerity. My only adverse criticism of him is that he is too frank to be a successful politician.

In Mr. K. Kanagaratnam we have a peace-loving gentleman of moderate views whose only fault is his anxiety not to displease anybody. While Mr. Chelvanayagam is a good Christian Soul, Mr. Kanagaratnam is a Hindu Sannyasi who would, if he could, emulate even Mahatma Gandhi. His wide knowledge and experience of Governmental affairs make him an asset to Parliament.

Mr. Sivapalan and I are children of the same mother—Jaffna Central College. He has had the same early training as I have had. Is it then any wonder, Ladies and Gentlemen, that Mr. Sivapalan has leapt into fame? He and the other colts of Mr. Ponnambalam's team—I refer to Messrs. Vanniasingam, Ramalingam and Kumaraswamy—as judged by their performances at net practice, are full of promise. They should do well in future test matches.

The baby of the team is the member for my own native constituency—Chavakachechi. If he will learn to curb his youthful exuberance and not indulge in long spells of body-line attack, he should one day be one of the best debaters in Parliament.

I extend to these gentlemen a hearty welcome on behalf of all present here to-night.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Accounts of Weddings, Funerals etc., will be published only in the case of subscribers and those who give announcements of family occurrences in our paper.—Manager, C.G.

We beg to announce to our numerous patrons that we have been appointed agents by Messrs. Wijayarathna & Co., Booksellers and Stationers, Colombo.

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