

# The Catholic Guardian

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

Telegrams: "GUARDIAN", JAFFNA.

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON.

Telephone: NO. 100.

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

Vol. 70, No. 9.

JAFFNA, FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1945.

PRICE: 10 CENTS.

## CONDITIONS FOR A HEALTHY DEMOCRACY

BROADCAST OF POPE PIUS XII, DEC. 24, 1944

(Continued from our last issue.)

### THOSE WHO WIELD AUTHORITY

The Democratic State, whether monarchy or republic, must like any other form of Government, be invested with the power to command with real and evident authority. The Absolute Order of living beings, which marks a man as an autonomous individual, that is, as an object of inviolable rights and duties, root and end of social life, also embraces the State as a necessary society, clothed with the authority without which it could neither exist nor live. And if men, in the enjoyment of their personal liberties, were to deny obedience to a superior authority equipped with power to enforce its will, they would, by this very act, undermine the foundation of their own dignity and liberty, by violating, that is, the Absolute Order of things.

As they are established on this same foundation, the individual, the State, and the Government, with their respective rights, are so bound together that they stand or fall together. And since that Absolute Order, in the light of the Christian Faith, cannot have any origin but in a personal God our Creator, it follows that the dignity of man is the dignity of God's image; the dignity of the State is the dignity of the moral community willed by God; the dignity of the political authority is the dignity evolving from its partaking in the authority of God. No form of State can avoid taking cognisance of this intimate and indissoluble connection, least of all democracy. Accordingly, if those who wield authority do not see this, or are more or less determined not to see it, their own authority is shaken to its foundations.

Similarly, if they do not take this relation sufficiently into account and do not recognize their mission to give effect to the Order willed by God, there will be danger that selfish lust for power and vested interests will prevail over the essential need for political and social morality, and that the false appearance of a purely formal democracy may often serve as a mask for what is in reality least democratic.

Only a clear appreciation of the purposes assigned by God to every human society, joined with a deep sense of the sublime duties of social activity, can instil into those entrusted with power to fulfil their own obligations in the legislative, judicial and executive order that consciousness of their own responsibility, that objectivity, impartiality, loyalty, generosity and incorruptibility, without which a democratic Government would find it hard to command the respect and support of the better section of the people. A profound sense of the principles underlying any healthy political and social order in conformity with the norms of right and justice is of special importance to those who, in any form of democratic regime, have as the people's delegates the power to legislate in part or in whole.

### ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

And since the centre of gravity of a normal democracy resides in this popular assembly from which political cur-

rents radiate into every sphere of public life, for good or evil, the question of the high moral standard, practical ability and intellectual capacity of parliamentary disputes is, for every people living under a democratic regime, a question of life and death, of prosperity or decadence, of moral health or perpetual disease. To secure effective action, to win esteem and trust, every legislative body should, as experience shows beyond doubt, gather within it a group of select men spiritually eminent and of strong character, who should look upon themselves as the representatives of the entire people, and not as the spokesmen of a mob, whose wishes even unfortunately prevail over the true needs of the common weal.

As to this group of men, they should not be restricted to any profession or social standing, but should reflect every side of the people's multifarious life; chosen for their firm Christian faith and sound and sure judgment, with a sense of the practical and equitable; true to themselves in all circumstances; of pure and firm principles, with strong and upright proposals to make men above all suitable to muster up the authority that emanates from their untarnished consciences and radiates brightly from them, to be leaders and heads, especially in times when the pressing needs of the moment overpoweringly stir up the impressionable spirit of the people, and when they are more liable to be led astray and get lost; men who, in passionate times of transition, confused by contesting political programmes, hold themselves doubly under the obligation to impart to the people and the State the spiritual antidote of pure vision and perfect kindness, of a completely equitable justice, and thus of a will towards national unity and concord in a sincere spirit of brotherhood; men whose spiritual and moral temperament is sufficiently firm and fecund, to find in themselves—and can induce—the instruments of democracy who know how to put them effectively into practice.

### LIMITATIONS TO STATE AUTHORITY

Where such men are lacking, others come to take their places to make politics a testing-ground for their ambitions and a race for profit for themselves, their caste or class; and in this chase after privileges they lose sight of the true common weal and jeopardise it. A sound democracy, based on the immutable principles of Natural Law and the truth revealed to us, will make a determined stand against those tendencies which attribute to the State and its legislation an unlimited and boundless power, and thus turns democracy—into a system of absolutism.

This State absolutism, not to be confused with absolute monarchy, which is not at issue, clearly consists in the erroneous assumption that the authority of the State is unlimited, and that in face of it—even when it gives free rein

(Continued up.)

## SUCCESSFUL RETREAT PREACHED AT LOURDES TO COMMUNISTS

Lourdes, the town of miracles and strange events, has just ended the two strangest years in its history, the two years since, in November, 1942, the Germans occupied the whole of South France in reply to the Allied landings in North Africa.

The strangest of all has been the "invasion" of Lourdes by 2,000 workers from the "Red Belt" of Paris to work in a nearby emergency factory making airplane motors for the German war machine.

Lourdes had never seen their like before. The men were hard, cynical, unbelieving, loud spoken mockers. The girls were the same. An innovation for Lourdes, many of the girls wore trousers.

But nothing is too difficult for Our Lady's Lourdes. Bishop Choquet began his own resistance movement.

The campaign opened with a great mission specially for the war-workers at which four first-class preachers, a Jesuit, a Dominican, a secular priest and a missionary from France's other Communist stronghold, the Lille industrial area, preached in the novel form of dialogue, conversing together in the church.

Their conversations were broadcast through the town from loud-speakers

installed in the streets, particularly the esplanade of the Grotto.

Some of the 2,000 workers went to the church through curiosity. The others and many visitors, numbering about 5,000 stood in the streets to listen, hands in pockets, smoking cigarettes.

### ROAD-SIDE CONVERTS

Gradually, as they lounged, the workers stopped smoking to listen more carefully. As the conferences went on they listened more and more to the simple and interesting instructions on the Catholic religion. Scepticism and mockery were replaced by respect.

On the final day of the mission one of the workers visited the Bishop as deputy for a large group of his comrades.

"We went to the church in the first place with clenched fists," he said. "We will return with joined hands."

These Parisians were not the only unusual visitors to Lourdes during these two years. Many people from Alsace and Lorraine, grouped round the arch-priest of Metz and the Vicar-General of Strasbourg, also lived in the town, maintaining at the Grotto and the sanctuary of the shrine an atmosphere of ardent devotion, thanks to their fervent Catholicism.

## 'REALISM' IN POLITICS IS THREATENING STILL MORE TERRIBLE WAR

Speaking of the dispute between Poland and Russia, Archbishop Griffin said in January that unless "realism" in politics—the cause of the present war—be renounced, "it will cause a further and still more terrible outbreak of war in our own time."

Having referred to the Atlantic Charter, His Grace said that this realism simply means that the pledged word is held to be binding only so long as it serves the immediate material advantage of a nation.

The Allies are assured of a material victory over Germany. "But even more important for us is a moral victory."

Commenting upon national upheavals

to its violent intentions and thus oversteps the confines between good and evil—no appeal to a superior law and its ethical obligations can be admitted. No man, who has the right ideas about the State and the authority with which it is vested in its capacity as guardian of social order, will ever think of infringing on the majesty of positive law, within the sphere which belongs to it by nature. But this majesty of positive law is only inviolable when it conforms to that Absolute Order set up by the Creator and set in a new light by the Gospel revelations. It cannot persist except in so far as it respects the foundations on which human personality, no less than the State and the Government rests. This is the fundamental criterion of every sound form of Government, including democracy. It is the criterion by which the moral values of every particular law should be judged.

in liberated countries. His Grace said: "As in the past, so there will always be those who attempt to seize power for their own wicked purposes, and these are not patriots but traitors to their nation."

### MORAL ISSUE

"Then in August 1941, the United States of America and ourselves gave our acceptance to the principles outlined in the Atlantic Charter. They were noble principles and were applauded in this country and many others as being another Magna Carta, but this time a Magna Carta to determine relations between nations. Our allies, including Russia and Poland, signed this Charter at St. James's Palace on September 29, 1941.

"Now the issue between Poland and Russia is a moral issue. It is, in fact, a question of principle, and whatever solution is arrived at, it ought to be in accordance with the principles of justice and charity which must underlie all international relations. There should be no agreement without the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned.

"Realism in politics, international and national, which means that expediency rather than justice shall be the criterion of policy, is the major cause of the present world conflict. Unless it be renounced it will cause a further and still more terrible outbreak of war in our own time. For realism simply means that the pledged word is held to be binding only so long as it serves the immediate material advantage of a nation.



## Church Calendar

MARCH 1945

FRI. ... 9 S. Francis of R.  
SAT. ... 10 40 Martyrs.  
SUN. ... 11 4 Lent, S. Constant.  
MON. ... 12 S. Gregory.  
TUES. ... 13 S. Euphrasia.  
WED. ... 14 S. Matilda.  
THURS. ... 15 S. Zachary.  
FRI. ... 16 S. Julian.

## The Catholic Guardian

MARCH 9TH 1945

### CRIMEA CONFERENCE

After the Crimea Conference the resolution submitted by the Prime Minister Mr. Churchill to the House of Commons was this: "That this House approves the declaration by the Three Great Powers at the Crimea Conference and in particular welcomes their determination to maintain unity of action not only in achieving the final defeat of the common enemy, but thereafter, in peace as in war." On this resolution Mr. Churchill made as usual a great speech but it failed to carry conviction owing to his reference to the Eastern frontier of Poland and her future government. True it is that the resolution was accepted unanimously at the end, but not on its own merits but owing to the exigencies of the present circumstances. The actual British Government is a coalition Government which has much depleted and weakened the opposition parties; and, further, the question was submitted as one of confidence in the government. Mr. Arthur Greenwood, the Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, complained that while he appreciated the Prime Minister's desire to make it known to the world that Parliament was behind him, why, if his conscience was clear, he should need to insist on a vote of confidence. Bernard Shaw's criticism was sharp and stern. Referring to what Mr. Churchill said of the Crimea Conference he wrote: "The most impudently incredible fairy tale that ever amused the pack of children we politically are. On the Polish question Marshal Stalin was first and the rest nowhere." This is a true description of the whole deplorable business. There was a complete surrender of the "Big Two" to the Big Third thereby rendering themselves very small indeed! Not only on the question of the frontier has Poland been badly treated but worse still, the independence of what is left to her must depend on the good pleasure of the Soviet leader. For, according to Mr. Churchill, the Poles will have the future in their hands provided they honestly follow a policy friendly to Russia. Such a limitation is hardly necessary to be stated in the case of a smaller and weaker country which in her own interest has to follow such a policy unless her life is made intolerable. We fear that is what is going to happen. Mr. Churchill says that "the word of Marshal Stalin and the other Soviet leaders is their bond. No Government stands more to its obligations than the Russian Soviet Government." Has the Premier

conveniently forgotten the broken pledges and treaties?

A number of Communists who have received their training in Moscow are now functioning as the Provisional Government of Poland. The members of this Government will be the nucleus of the so-called Polish Government of National Unity. Now, a broadly based all-parties government is a fetish with the British and this Communist gang of Moscow knows how to fool the outside world. What they have done is to divide themselves into groups and name one group Democrats, another, the Socialists and a third, the Peasant Party and so on. But in reality they are all Communists and pretend to have formed an all-parties Provisional Government. It is these men who will exercise a preponderating influence in the elections of the new Polish Government which before all else must satisfy Stalin. We need no prophet to tell us that under such a Government life in Catholic Poland will become intolerable. Can any honest man find fault with the legitimate Polish Government now in London for declining to have anything to do with this contemptible course of action?

### Royal Commissioners Tour in the North

As announced in our last issue the Reforms Commissioners arrived in Jaffna on Wednesday last. The Jaffna railway station presented an animated scene on Wednesday morning when over a thousand people were present to accord a warm reception to them. The station premises were tastefully decorated by the Tamil Congress. Placards and banners bearing slogans such as "God Save the King", "Welcome to the Reform Commissioners" and "Long live the Tamil leader, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam", were hung on walls and carried by school boys. The engine of the train was also decorated. When the train steamed in there was a burst of oriental music and a great ovation as Lord Soulbury and his colleagues alighted in the company of Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam. They were followed by Messrs. A. Mahadeva, Minister for Home Affairs, J. Tyagaraja, M.S.C. and S. Natesan, M.S.C. Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, G.A., and Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Chairman, U.C. and Dr. S. Subramaniam, President of the Tamil Congress, Jaffna Branch, received the Commissioners. Mr. C. Ponnambalam, the Chairman, garlanded Lord Soulbury and the Vice Chairman, Mr. S. R. Thalasingam garlanded the other members of the Commission. Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam was profusely garlanded by the public. All posed for a photograph and left for King's House amidst great cheering by the crowd.

Starting after breakfast for Kankesanurai, they visited the agricultural farm where they were garlanded and received by Mr. W. P. A. Cooke, Divisional Agricultural Officer and the Principal. At Inuvil Hospital the Director, Dr. Buell and his assistants showed them round. They spent a short time at Ramanathan College, Chunnakam.

At Thellakaddy Farm, Revd. Father Thomas received Lord Soulbury and his colleagues and served them with the fruit wine and biscuits produced by the Rosarian Monks there. From Nelliaddy Junction, the boundary of Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam's constituency, the road to Pt. Pedro was decorated and large and eager crowds gave the visitors a rousing reception. Placards with slogans welcoming the Commissioners and stating that fifty-fifty Tamils are solid behind "G.G." were carried by the public.

At Kaddavey parish, people headed by Gate Mudaliyar G. Subramaniam who garlanded the Commissioners re-

## THE MANNAR EUCHARISTIC RALLY

### ADDRESS TO THE CHILDREN BY HIS LORDSHIP

MY DEAR CHILDREN,

We are going to celebrate on the 22nd of April a double event which stands as a landmark in the religious history of this Island, namely the Fourth Centenary of the introduction of the Christian Faith into Mannar in the time of St. Francis Xavier, and the subsequent martyrdom of the first converts.

Your hearts ought to be filled with gratitude to God for the imparting of the gift of Faith to your forefathers; like a mustard seed, that faith from humble beginnings has later developed into a big tree, now sheltering the thousands of children and grown-ups in the Mannar District. Secondly, the example of these first Christians who shortly after their baptism, were massacred in hatred of the faith, calls also for grateful acknowledgment on our part for the lesson of fortitude and loyalty to the Faith they have left us.

As we are under obligation to God for all his mercies we shall offer our thanks for the above blessings by the celebration of a Eucharistic Rally, that is, we shall dedicate a whole day to the glorification of Jesus living with us under the veil of the Sacrament and, with Him, through Him and in Him, we shall place before the throne of God the tribute of our praises and our thanks.

At the same time, dear children, you will pray to Jesus for your own intentions, for your parents and relations, for the Diocese and for the Church in Ceylon. Such prayers as they are more fervent than usual, will be more pleasing and powerful with God.

### Preparation for the Rally

A Eucharistic Rally bears a similarity to those religious festivities we celebrate during the year, X'mas, Easter, Corpus Xti, The Sacred Heart, The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin etc., every one of which is preceded by special days of intercession and prayer, by Novenas

received the party at an exquisitely decorated pandal.

Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam thanked the Commissioners on behalf of the residents. Before going to the Pt. Pedro Resthouse, the Commissioners passed the Puloly Hindu English School and were garlanded.

Mr. Walton, retired Vice-Principal, Hartley College, addressing the Commissioners said he hoped that they would be given not a selfish government but self-government where it will be possible for all communities to live in peace, order and contentment.

On their return to town then attended a Garden Party in the beautiful "Park" at the Kachcheri and from there they drove to the dinner given in their honour at the Town Hall by Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Chairman, Jaffna Urban Council. There was dancing and music. Covers were laid for eighty which made a goodly company. Mr. C. Ponnambalam in a finely worded speech proposed the toast of the Commissioners and Lord Soulbury replied. The whole function may be described as brilliantly successful. The two speeches will be printed in our next issue.

Bishop's House,  
Jaffna, 1st March, 1945.

or by a long preparation, including also days of penance. People cannot hope to reap a good harvest unless they have cultivated their fields, strengthened the fences and pulled out the weeds. So also, with a spiritual harvest. The benefits which you will derive from the Eucharistic Rally will be in proportion to the care you have taken to make ready for their reception. What are you expected to do?

### Prayer

Prayer is the first means at your disposal to secure the success of the Eucharistic Rally. Just think of those showers of rain that fall on the crops just before paddy is fully ripe; what a blessing they prove to the farmer. In the same way, if you pray, you will help every undertaking of the Rally to come off well, you will contribute to the happiness of all present, to the success of the children's parade, and the singing of the High Mass, of the Eucharistic Procession, so that everybody in the end will carry away not only a pleasant recollection of the day but also many Spiritual favours. Above all, Our Lord will be glorified. How? By the general display of filial devotion and piety of the children and the faithful on that great occasion.

### Devotion to the Eucharist

You will seize this opportunity to revive in your souls a genuine devotion to Our Blessed Lord in the Holy Eucharist. Listen: Do you at times think of the great privilege which is yours, of the presence of God in your midst; He is hidden to our eyes—it is true—but he is none the less really and truly present on our altars, the same Jesus who used to call the little children to Him when He was on earth and who said to His disciples: "Suffer the little children to come to me and forbid them not, for the Kingdom of Heaven is for such." Matt. XIX 14. From the recess of the tabernacle He addresses you the same invitation: "Come to me.....I am the bread of life.....I am the living bread which came down from heaven.....I am the way, the truth and the life....."

On the Rally Day, during the Solemn Mass, during the great procession, you will hear more clearly still the same pressing words: "Come to me".—You cannot leave that call unanswered because it is the call of Jesus. Like young Samuel in his sleep when he heard the voice of God, you will say "Speak Lord, because thy servant heareth."

Now, what is the desire, the earnest desire of Our Lord: that you should know Him, and love Him, consequently that you should know your Catechism well, that you should attend Mass regularly—every day if possible—that you should receive Him in Holy Communion as often as you can, and, that you should induce others to do the same. That you should think of Him,



## COMPOSITE CABINET

## SOME DOUBTS ANSWERED

By DR. E. M. V. NAGANATHAN

In the Reforms proposals submitted by the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress a composite executive is envisaged. The first objection in the minds of certain thinkers has been that the proposal makes it statutorily obligatory for the various sections and groups in the Legislature to form a Coalition Government.

Voluntary Coalition Governments are not unknown, but a compulsory Coalition Cabinet is obviously a new idea for which there is apparently no precedent. In the democracy of Switzerland a Composite Executive is always formed—though not by compulsory statutory rule yet by force of convention which is just as compulsory and just as obligatory as the sanction of the Law. In fact, laws can in some ways be circumvented but conventions never. It can, therefore, be considered that the Swiss model of democracy also contains within it an edict for the formation of a compulsory Coalition Executive.

In Britain, Parliamentary Constitution is mainly based on conventions. These conventions have the same force and sanction as any statutory law. When the British self government colonies like Australia adopted ad hoc a form of Parliamentary Government on the lines of the British model, they were obliged to codify the statutes what had been observed as Parliamentary Conventions in England. Therefore no violence is done to the principle of constitutional practice if the Swiss model (with necessary variations to suit local conditions) is codified into statutory regulations for the future constitution of Ceylon.

Secondly, to those who have been nurtured and reared up in the ideals of the Unitary Cabinet System of Great Britain the idea of a composite cabinet may seem strange and unnatural, but it is the considered opinion of the All-Ceylon Tamil Congress that what has been found suitable for a politically homogeneous country like Britain would be most unsuited and pernicious in its application to a heterogeneously populated country like Ceylon. In Ceylon, India and other countries with a heterogeneous population, self government can be truly self-government (for all the

inhabitants) only if all the various peoples and races of the country have a share in the Government,—then alone will the dictum of Abraham Lincoln: the Government of the people, by the people, for the people, be realised, otherwise it would be a Government by one section of the people alone! For a composite nation like ours made up of several races it is most apposite that a composite cabinet should function as the Executive, at least till such time as a bona-fide political party system comes into being in this country.

The provision in our constitution of a Unitary Cabinet will, in the absence of political parties, make it incumbent on the Representative of the King always to send for the leader of the largest communal group in the Legislature and, therefore, of the majority race, to form the Government! A Cabinet formed on such lines can be nothing more than an Oligarchic Communal Caucus! A few majority members will, no doubt, be incorporated into the Cabinet, but these men would be nothing more than the toadies and flunkies of the racial dictator and his group.

It is said that under the British Parliamentary Cabinet System the English people put all their eggs into one basket and then watch that basket. In a heterogeneous country like India and Ceylon such a system would mean that all the people would be forced to put their eggs into the basket of the most powerful member and thereafter have no power to even watch that basket!

In the United States of America and other democracies the power of the Executive is distributed under what is known as the multiple agency system. Under the British System, however, power is nominally concentrated in the Cabinet, but by a process of evolution power has come to be vested almost entirely in the hands of the Prime Minister; but the British genius for political restraint and their experience in Parliamentary practice coupled with the power of public opinion and party discipline act as automatic checks against the development of despotism and Oligarchic Government in Britain.

(Continued on Page 4)

that you should visit Him.

## Self-Denial

Is there anything else that you can do which would greatly please Him?—Yes, acts of self-denial, that is, small acts of penance and mortification, suitable to your age, as your teachers will explain to you. Perhaps you remember the story of little Peter who used to get up early every morning in order to attend Mass and receive Communion, because he wanted to bring back his father to the practice of his religious duties. It must have cost him a good deal but he kept his resolution. That is one way of doing. Some children have a bad temper, they quarrel with others, some are selfish and want everything for themselves, others are jealous or lazy and so on. What a fine opportunity they have to gather up merits by fighting their defects. What better offering can they make to Our Blessed Lord than victories over their natural inclinations and their selfishness.

## Be Apostles

To remind you of these recommendations I shall sum them up in one word: Service, which expresses your duties to God and to your neighbour. Consider yourselves to be in God's service; he is your Creator, your Master, and your Father. Worship Him, love Him and obey Him.

Consider yourselves as being engaged in your neighbour's service also. In other words, be serviceable to all, do everyone a good turn whenever you have an opportunity. Your life then will be useful and meritorious.

Do not imagine that because you are young everything is due to you and that you have no duty to others. You have parents, relations, teachers, friends, school companions and others. How do you think would little Jesus have behaved in your place. Would He have asked them to bring Him all their good things or would He not rather have tried to make them happy, by doing all sorts of acts of kindness to them?—He would. Imitate Him.

You see what means you have got to use if you want to be ready for the Eucharistic Rally and enjoy its benefits. Pray, love the Eucharist. Practice self-denial—Be Apostles, these are the conditions on which you should enter the service of your Heavenly King; these are the dispositions in which you should appear on the day of the Rally, and, I am sure Our Lord will turn that day for you into a day of blessings and happiness.

Yours Affectionately in Xto.,

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

## LOCAL &amp; GENERAL

**St. Patrick's Day.**—The feast of St. Patrick will be celebrated as usual at the College Chapel with the "Triduum" commencing at 7 p.m. on the 14th inst.; there will be the High Mass and Benediction on the 17th at 7-30 a.m. All Old Boys are kindly requested to attend the Feast. There will be no Old Boys' Day celebrations on the Feast Day in view of the Rector's Jubilee celebrations coming off in June this year.

**Textile Coupons.**—The textile coupon system will come into force on April 1. The coupons being marketable and not liable to be rendered invalid by transfer, the allottees themselves must receive the coupons personally or by their representatives authorised in writing to receive such coupons on their behalf. Consumers or their authorised representatives who fail to call for their coupons on the appointed day are liable to forfeit their coupons altogether. After April 1 no cloth can be purchased without coupons.

**Enumeration on April 4th.**—For the food ration books of the fifth series an Island-wide enumeration on the lines of that of April 16th, 1943, has been arranged to take place on April 4th.

It is desired by the food authorities that everyone should make an effort to remain at his residence between 6 p.m. and midnight on that day. New house-holders' list forms will be delivered at every single premise a few days before the enumeration and, after completion by the householders, will be collected by the enumerators appointed for the purpose of doing actual checking on April 4th. The lists should be filled in by the chief occupiers and should include the names of all persons normally resident in their houses.

Ration books will, in the first instance, be issued only to those persons who have been enumerated at their permanent addresses. The issue of ration books to persons marked absent at their permanent address but enumerated elsewhere will necessarily have to await the "transfer" of their enumeration to the permanent address.

**Sacred Heart Confraternity.**—The monthly meeting of the Junior Members of the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart, S.P.C. branch was held on Sunday the 4th inst. at 5 p.m. in the Meeting Hall. Mr. P. Saverimuttu, the Moderator, presided. The election of office-bearers for the current year was gone through and it resulted as follows: Spiritual Director: Very Revd. Fr. T.M.F. Long, O.M.I., M.A. President: L. Keil Vice-President: S. Chellappah, Secretary: S. Joseph, Treasurer: Louis Paul, Banner-bearer: A.R. Peter, Medal Distributor: V. A. Swampillai, Reporter: R.E. Thambiratnam.

Rev. Fr. S. Nicholappillai, O.M.I., then delivered an interesting and instructive lecture on 'Jesus King of Love' with ample illustrations from both the Old and the New Testament.

A vote of thanks to the learned lecturer was proposed by V. A. Swampillai and seconded by A. S. Vanigasooriyar. The meeting terminated with the moderator's comments and the Sub Tuum.

**Personal.**—Mr. N. Velupillai, Chief Clerk, Ratnapura Kachcheri, has been appointed Additional Administrative Assistant to the Director of Commerce and Industries Colombo, with effect from 1st April, 1945. He was Maniagar, Valikamam North and East (Chunnakam) and Vadamaradchi (Point Pedro) respectively before he reverted to his General Clerical Service.

**Food Supplies.**—Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Civil Defence and Food Commissioner, returned on Thursday before last after his visit to India to carry out negotiations with the Indian Government regarding the Island's food supplies.

Asked whether his mission had been successful, Sir Oliver replied that the Indian authorities, both Provincial and Central, were very sympathetic and helpful.

"We shall be doing a great deal better in 1945 in regard to all our supplies," he added.

**Double Summer Time.**—Double Summer Time in Britain this year will be from April 2 to July 15. Double

Summer Time is two hours ahead of Greenwich.

**More Penicillin will be Available.**—It is understood that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has informed the Ceylon Government that production of penicillin in the United Kingdom has been increased and larger quantities of the drug can be provided for the Colonies to enable its use with less restriction than has been hitherto necessary.

The Ministry of Health will shortly place tenders for the Islands full requirements of the drug with the Crown Agents.

**Personal.**—Dr. N. M. Vanniasinghe who proceeded to Madras and Bombay flew over to London has returned to Jaffna.

He has been elected a Member of the Institute of Public Administration (Eng.) and has also been presented with a medal by the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene (Lond.)

## CORRESPONDENCE

## Editorial Chaff

To The Editor,

"Catholic Guardian," Jaffna.

Sir,—I have read that editorial chaff, in the *Observer* of the 3rd instant, entitled *Stalin's Word*, in which the Editor of the Jaffna *Catholic Guardian* is taken to task regarding what he expressed about the Polish question. To defend the Editor of the *Guardian*, is not my object here. He needs no one to do it for him. But the *Observer's* arrant observation, "in Jaffna of all places on the map", requires a bit of comment.

Stung by the exposure of his ignorance, about the History of Poland, the Editor of the *Observer* takes refuge in cheap jibes. The Editor, J.C.G. referred to well authenticated facts in Modern European History. The *Observer's* reply amounts to this: Away with facts in History. Whatever the Big Three do, is just. He might well have stopped there. But he loses his balance and writes in the strain of "Can anything good come out of Jaffna? His is an attempt to make his readers infer, that the bigger the place, the greater is the knowledge; the broader the paper, the greater the wisdom! In so many words, he appears to blurt out, "You are in Jaffna, you know nothing; I am in Colombo; ergo, I am omniscient."

All that cheap jibe about Jaffna, is the result of confused thinking or bad manners, or frayed nerves. The obvious antidote to the first is "Back to school"; to the second "Off to the head teacher"; to the third, complete "Rest cure." This comes from Jaffna and may taste a little bitter. I enclose my card.

Yours truly,  
JAFFNA.Main Street,  
6-3-45, Jaffna.

## Temporary Clerks

Applications are invited for the posts of temporary clerks to be stationed at Kilinochchi.

Qualifications: J. S. C. (English) or equivalent.

Salary: Rs. 1-70 per day plus war allowance at Government rates.

Applications should be addressed to the A.G.A. (E), Jaffna and should reach him before 17-3-45.

E. GOONERATNE,  
A.G.A. (E), Jaffna.

Jaffna, 1-3-45.

## Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs

The undermentioned commodities will be issued in the Jaffna District to all consumers except those served by Co-operative Stores on the basis of the rations given below for the period 26th Feb. to 25th March, 1945.

Kasaly Dhall 3 oz.	Garlic ½ oz.
Blue peas 3 oz.	Coriander ½ oz.
Toor Dhall 2 oz.	Cumin seed ½ "
Tumeric ½ oz.	Fennel seed ½ oz.
Mathe seed ½ oz.	

E. GOONERATNE,  
Asst. Govt. Agent (E),  
Jaffna, 20th Feb. 1945.



## COMPOSITE CABINET

(Continued from Page 3).

A little reflection will show us how very unsuitable and pernicious such an arrangement would be in countries like Ceylon where the restraining influence of public opinion, party discipline and parliamentary traditions are absolutely lacking in our political life.

A third doubt which has arisen in the minds of competent authorities has been the fear that a composite cabinet may lead to the formation of unstable governments. Under the 1935 Government of India Act, various Coalition Cabinets have been very stable and very successful even though they were apparently (on paper not as stable as the Government formed in the provinces where the Congress party had an absolute majority).

It is the experience of the last 14 years that the Executive in Ceylon tends to be far too stable. A little instability or rather the possibility of the formation of a parallel Government in the same Legislature would be a spur and a motivating force for our local Ministers to govern more efficiently and more democratically. The possibility to be guarded against Ceylon is not the fear of unstable Executives but the enthronement of too stable and too permanent an Oligarchic Caucus in power. It would be to us a happy relief if our Ministers did not feel themselves permanently harnessed in office and, therefore, felt less inclined to conduct themselves like petty despots and pocket dictators.

Even in England stable Governments with overwhelming majorities have on the average been less successful and less democratic than those Governments which enjoyed a precarious majority. During the days of Irish participation in English politics no Government in England was really stable. The Whigs and the Tories were often dependent on the very doubtful help or opposition of the Irish to carry on their parliamentary business. Even today in Britain nobody can be absolutely sure until after a general election has taken place and until after the results are announced whether a stable Government will come into office or not. There is no provision in the British Parliamentary conventions to ensure the return of a stable Government into power! In fact, such provision would be the very negation of democracy and would be nothing but an attempt to perpetuate an Oligarchic System of the people.

It is my considered opinion that the question whether a Government (which may be subsequently formed) would be stable or not, is not a consideration that should seriously trouble the minds of Constitution Makers and thinkers. On the other hand, to all earnest minds it should appear essential that the various racial elements that go to make up our composite nation should be compelled to co-operate in forming the Government of our country. We have to build up a parliamentary tradition in this land inhabited by many races, and it must necessarily be a tradition of co-operation and compromise between the various races. It is only on such lines that the unification of the races, real freedom and the rule of all the people by all the people for all the people can develop on our shores. I have no doubt that if we are allotted to make mistakes and learn by error that after many unseemly years of strife and struggle all the peoples of this country and India would eventually find by bitter experience that only on the lines of co-operation of all the races and only by the method of compromise, accommodation and comradeship can they carry on a Government successfully. But why should we learn from the mistakes and experience of others and thereby save ourselves the unnecessary suffering and perhaps the renewed subjection of our country by another foreign matter. As I said before we have to build up a tradition which is on that lines that will suit our makeup, just as the British have built up the tradition of the unitary responsible cabinet system in their own country to suit their traditional two-party-system, their genius and their national characteristics. It would be a fatal mistake to transplant into Ceylon and India constitutional forms which might have functioned ex-

remely well in Britain, but have failed even 20 miles across the straits in the French Republic and which will certainly be deemed to disastrous failure on our own shores.

(To be Continued)

## Northern Province Teachers' Association

A special general meeting of the N.P. T.A. was held on Saturday the 17th Feb. at 10.30 a.m. in the Jaffna Central College Hall. The President, Mr. J. C. Charles, moved a vote of condolence on the sudden death of Mr. H. S. Perera. In the course of his remarks Mr. Charles paid a glowing tribute to Mr. Perera's labours in the field of educational research and to his valuable contribution to the educational progress of the Island. The late Mr. Perera was the first national to be appointed Director of Education, and doubtless he was one of the best officers that occupied that high post in Ceylon. Teachers should be particularly proud of him, said Mr. Charles, as Mr. Perera himself began his career as a teacher. The vote was passed in the usual manner, and the Secretary was requested to send a copy of the resolution to Mrs. H.S. Perera.

The programme of the A.C.U.T. Silver Jubilee celebrations in August this year was placed before the house. Mr. Charles and Mr. K. Nesiiah, the President of the A.C.U.T., spoke on the good work done by the Union during the twenty five years of its existence, and urged on the members to contribute liberally towards the expenses of the celebrations. Reference was also made to the inauguration of the A.C.U.T. Building Fund with a view to having its own Secretariat, Library and Hostels so that the Union may be in a better position to safeguard the interests of the teacher.

The rates of subscription submitted by the Executive Council were then discussed.

The Executive Council which met the same day recommended (a) that the classification of Inter-Arts and Inter-Science men as uncertificated teachers be suspended and (b) that the Department withdraw its ruling whereby schools are prevented from being placed on their appropriate scale, A or B.

## Increased Chillies Ration

The Chillies ration throughout the Island for the period 26-2-45 to 25-3-45, will be one ounce per head per week. Every consumer in Ceylon should receive one ounce of Chillies per week during this period from the Authorised Distributor or the Co-operative Store from which he now receives rice and sugar.

E. GOONARATNE,  
Asst. Govt. Agent (E), Jaffna.

## Order Nisi

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary } No. 343  
Jurisdiction }

In the matter of the estate of the late Kanthar Supramaniam of Karainagar North.

Deceased.  
Supramaniam Nalliah of Karainagar North.  
Petitioner.

Vs.

1. S. Nadarajah of F.M.S.
- Minor 2, S. Rasiiah, Manager, Sittampalam Theatre, Anuradhapura.
3. Thangamuthu widow of Ambalavanar Kasinather of Karainagar North.

This matter coming on for disposal before H. A. de Silva, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 21st day of Nov. 1944 in the presence of Mr. W.B. Canagaratna, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit and petition of the petitioner having been read. It is ordered that the abovenamed 3rd respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor the 2nd respondent and that Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovenamed deceased be granted to the petitioner unless the respondents shall appear before this Court on the 22nd day of January 1945 and show cause to the contrary to the satisfaction of this Court.

The 21st day of November 1944.

(Sgd.) H. A. DE SILVA,  
District Judge.

Order Nisi extended to 20-3-45.

Sgd. H. A. DE SILVA,  
District Judge.

## Order Absolute

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary } No. 354  
Jurisdiction }

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the late Emmanuel Joseph of Jaffna Town.

Deceased.  
Antony Wilfred Joseph of Jaffna now at Colombo.

Petitioner.

This matter coming on for final disposal before H. A. de Silva, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 3rd February, 1945 in the presence of Mr. W. B. Canagaratna, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner and the witnesses to the Last Will having been read, it is ordered that the Petitioner as sole Legatee of the abovenamed deceased be declared entitled to have probate of the Last Will & Testament of the abovenamed deceased and directing that such probate be and it is here-

by issued to the petitioner accordingly.

Sgd. A. V. KULASINGAM,  
Acting District Judge.

## NOTICE

## SUPPLY OF ELECTRICALLY BAKED BREAD

Arrangements have been made for the daily supply of electrically baked bread of good quality from Colombo to residents in Jaffna.

Application forms for the purpose and other particulars could be obtained from  
SUNBEAMS,  
General Merchants.

Main Street,  
Jaffna, Feb. 28, 1945.

N. B.—Will those to whom application forms have already been posted, please return same as early as possible.

# Bang it Sells!

## LADIES' PARASOLS

at  
Regulated Prices

PRINTED &amp; SPOTTED each Rs. 20-50

MULTICOLOURED each Rs. 23-00

(all fast colours)

STOCKS LIMITED

PREMIER STORES,  
MAIN STREET — JAFFNA.

\*\*\*\*\*

Which is the most fashionable Drink

Some say Claretta

Others cocktails.....but lately there has been a definite revival of that old favourite VITTO FRUIT WINE SYRUP—it is zestful appetising drink—and it is good for you

THE VITTO PRODUCTS Co.

Telegrams: "VITPRO" Dehiwala

\*\*\*\*\*

## ANNOUNCEMENT :-

BOON  
TO THE CUSTOMERS  
Expected Shortly—Large Stocks  
OF  
CHEAP TEXTILES  
SUITINGS, SHIRTINGS, SAREES,  
SARONGS, DRESS-MATERIALS,  
VESTIES, SHAWLS Etc.

AT  
DAYARAM'S  
54, MAIN STREET, JAFFNA.  
Watch for the Date

Printed and Published for the Proprietor by BASTIAMPILLAI SANTIAGOEPILLAI residing at 39, Main Street, Jaffna, at St. Joseph's Catholic Press, Catholic Mission Premises Main Street, Jaffna, on Friday the 9th March, 1945.