

The Catholic Guardian

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

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HIS MAJESTY'S ADDRESS TO THE NATION AND EMPIRE

The King in his Victory Day broadcast to the nation and the Empire on Tuesday night said: "To-day we give thanks to God for our great deliverance. Speaking from our Empire's oldest capital city, war-battered but never for one moment daunted or dismayed—speaking from London, I ask you to join me in the act of thanksgiving. Germany, who drove all Europe into the war, has been finally overcome.

"In the Far East we have yet to deal with the Japanese—a determined and cruel foe. To this we shall turn with the utmost resolve and with all our resources.

"But at this hour, when the dreadful shadow of war has passed far from our hearths and homes in these islands, we may at last make one pause for thanksgiving, and then we must turn our thoughts to the tasks all over the world which peace in Europe brings with it.

"First, let us remember those who will not come back—their constancy and courage in battle, their sacrifices and endurance in the face of a merciless enemy; let us remember the men in all the services, the women in all the services who have laid down their lives. We have come to the end of our tribulation and they are not with us at this moment of our rejoicing.

"Never let us salute in proud gratitude the great host of the living who brought us to victory. I cannot praise them to the measure of each one's service, for in total war the efforts of all rise to the same noble height and all are devoted to the common purpose.

"Armed or unarmed, men and women, you have fought and striven and endured to your utmost. None knows that better than I do, and as your King I thank with full heart those who bore arms so valiantly on land, sea or in the air and all civilians who shouldering their many burdens, carried them unflinchingly and without complaint.

"With these memories in our minds, let us think what it was that upheld us through nearly six years of suffering and peril. The knowledge that everything was at stake: our freedom, our independence, our very existence as a people. But the knowledge also that in defending ourselves we were defending the liberties of the whole world; that our cause was the cause not of this nation only, not of this Empire and Commonwealth only, but of every land where freedom is cherished and law and liberty go hand in hand.

"In the darkest hours we knew that that enslaved and isolated peoples of Europe looked to us; their hopes were our hopes, their confidence confirmed our faith. We knew that if we failed or faltered, the last remaining barrier against world-wide tyranny would have fallen in ruins, but we did not falter and we did not fail.

WE KEPT FAITH

"We kept faith with ourselves and with one another. We kept faith and unity with our great Allies. That faith and unity have carried us to victory through dangers which at times seemed overwhelming.

"So let us resolve to bring to the tasks which lie ahead the same high confidence in our mission. Much hard work awaits us both in the restoration of our own country after the ravages of war and in helping to restore peace and sanity to a shattered world.

President Truman's Broadcast

President Truman, in a broadcast on Wednesday afternoon, said:

"This is a solemn but glorious hour. I only wish Franklin D. Roosevelt had lived to see this day.

"General Eisenhower informs me that the forces of Germany have surrendered to the United Nations. The flags of freedom fly over all Europe.

"For this victory we join in offering our thanks to Providence which has guided and sustained us through dark days of adversity.

"Our rejoicing is sobered and subdued by supreme consciousness of the terrible price we have paid to rid the world of Hitler and his evil band. Let us not forget my fellow Americans, the sorrow and the heartbreak which today abide in the homes of so many of our neighbours—neighbours whose most priceless possession has been rendered as a sacrifice to redeem our liberty.

"We can repay the debt which we owe to our God, to our dead and to our children, only by work—ceaseless devotion to the responsibilities which lie ahead of us.

"If I could give you a single watchword for the coming months that word is—work, work, work. We must work to finish the war. Our victory is but half won. The West is free but the East is still in bondage to the treacherous tyranny of the Japanese. When the last Japanese Division has surrendered unconditionally, then only will our fighting job be done.

"We must work to bind up the wounds of a suffering world—to build an abiding peace, a peace rooted in justice and in law. We can build such a peace only by hard toilsome and painstaking work—by understanding and working with our Allies in peace as we have in war.

"The job ahead is no less urgent and no less difficult than the task which now happily is done. I call upon every American to stick to his post until the last battle is won. Until that day, let no man abandon his post or shaken his efforts.

"And now I want to read to you my formal proclamation of this occasion."

The President then read a proclamation appointing Sunday, May 14th, 1945, to be a Day of Prayer. The proclamation stated: I call upon the people of the United States, whatever their faith, to be united in offering joyful thanks to God for the victory we have won and to pray that He will support us to the end of our present struggle and guide us into the way of peace. I also call upon my countrymen to dedicate this Day of Prayer to the memory of those who have given their lives to make possible our victory."

H. E. THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS AT VE CELEBRATIONS

"I am speaking to the people of Ceylon today on a memorable occasion—memorable not only in Ceylon but throughout the world", said H. E. the Governor in a VE broadcast on Wed. afternoon. "Germany has been defeated and the first phase of the war against the aggressor nations is over. Millions of decent, peace-loving people in war-scarred Britain, in devastated Europe, in America and indeed wherever throughout the world the torch of liberty is still aflame are offering up their grateful thanks that the might of the oppressor has been trampled under foot.

"Let me recall to your memory for a moment some of the words which His Majesty the King used in his broadcast message to his people on September 3rd, 1939: 'We have been forced into a conflict, for we have been called with our Allies to meet a challenge to liberty which, if it were to prevail, would be fatal to any civilized order in the world. His Majesty went on to say that we were fighting against a principal which—stripped of all guise is surely the mere primitive doctrine that Might is Right and, if this principle were established throughout the world the freedom of our homes and country and of the whole British Commonwealth of Nations would be in danger.... This is the ultimate issue which confronts us..... It is to this high purpose that I now call my people at home and my peoples across the seas who will make our cause their own."

"Here in Ceylon the response to His Majesty's appeal was wholehearted. In the early days of the war, when the battle line was still far away, we can proudly recall that, besides building up local Defence and Naval Volunteer Forces, Ceylon was sending its sons overseas to train for service in the Air Force, and to serve with the land forces in the Middle East and was contributing in generous measure to public funds. In the dark and ominous days of 1940 Ceylon did not falter in its belief in the righteousness of our cause and its ultimate victory.

"Looking back now we can see that it was only that unflinching belief, which she shared in common with other members of the British Commonwealth of Nations which saved the world from the unspeakable horrors of Nazi domination. For from it sprang the unconquerable valour of our sailors, soldiers and airmen as they battled against appalling odds.

MORE ACTIVE PART

"With the entry of Japan into the war Ceylon was called upon to play a far more active part. In 1942 it stood as a bastion of the Empire's Eastern defence line. Today it is an important base for offensive operations and the Headquarters of the South East Asia Command.....

"It would be idle to pretend that all this has been achieved without cost to the people of Ceylon nor at a time when others were making such great sacrifices would you, I believe, have wished it otherwise. We have not suffered the acute hardships endured by so many in England, in Europe and in the Far East: apart from two air raids, we here in Ceylon, have suffered little material damage and although the supply lines to our Island have been constantly

menace, we, thanks to the British Navy and the Mercantile Marine, have had to do more than tighten our belts at times. With the fall of Burma our main source of rice was lost and the people of Ceylon had to make do with a rice ration considerably less than their peacetime consumption and have had, too, to accustom themselves to other and new forms of diet.....

"But we must not think, because we are celebrating our victory over Germany today, that the war is over and that tomorrow we can begin to resume our normal life. Here in Ceylon we occupy a key position, and as soon as the Forces till now engaged in Europe can be withdrawn for service in the Far East, the strain on the resources of this Island is likely to increase rather than decrease so long as it remains an important base for offensive operations against Japan.

"What then can we do to help speed up that final victory? For it is very much to our domestic advantage that victory should come quickly. We can bear cheerfully such deprivations and restrictions as the war imposes on us. We can comply with rather than strive to evade those war-time regulations that are designed to ration equitably articles in short supply. We can strive to grow more food and step up our tea and rubber production. We can do our best to see that labour is not exploited, that the man who does a fair day's work gets a fair deal, but that those who are out to make trouble for their own personal aggrandisement receive neither sympathy nor support. We can refrain from idle talk about troops and ships which might be of use to the enemy and we can save our money and invest it in Government funds and not fritter it away on unessential articles at black market prices.

"Ceylon claims that she is both entitled and ready to assume full responsibility for the conduct of her own internal affairs. If she is to throw her full weight into the coming conflict, she must see to it that she provides a stable base from which the armed forces of the Crown can operate with the full assurance that their activities will not be dislocated by any local dissensions.

"In the testing time that lies ahead I am confident that she will seize this opportunity of proving by deeds her eagerness and fitness to discharge her responsibilities as a loyal member of the British Commonwealth of Nations. While therefore Ceylon can proudly join to the full in the common rejoicing of all those who stood staunchly shoulder to shoulder through the darkest days of the conflict that is over, in the midst of our rejoicings let us not forget the blood and tears of those who have given their all to make this day possible, nor the unflinching courage and determination of those great leaders who, under Divine Providence, have led us unflinchingly to that final victory which is now assured. Let us remember too that the shadow of another desperate foe still hovers over us, though now far removed from our shores. With the defeat of Germany one of the partners of the unholy alliance has received a knock-out blow. We cannot rest till a similar fate befalls Japan."



In Loving Memory
of
Pearl Veronica

wife of

Mr. G. K. SwamiNathan

BORN 15TH MAY 1884
DIED 16TH AUG. 1944

Memories are treasures
No one can steal,
Death brings a heartache
No one can heal;
To a beautiful life
Came a beautiful end,
She died as she lived
Everybody's friend.

(Inserted by her loved ones)

A Mass will be said for her soul at the Mortuary Chapel on Wednesday the 16th inst at 7-15 a.m.

Church Calendar

MAY 1945

FRI.	...11	Our Lady of Mercy.
SAT.	...12	S. Pancratius.
SUN.	...13	S. Robert Bel.
MON.	...14	S. Boniface.
TUES.	...15	S. J. B. de la Sal.
WED.	...16	S. Ubald.
THURS.	...17	S. Paschal Bay.
FRI.	...18	S. Venantius.

The Catholic Guardian

MAY 11TH 1945

THE END OF FIGHTING IN THE WEST

In the forenoon of Tuesday last an official announcement reached Bishop's House that hostilities had ceased in Europe. Our Church bells immediately rang out joyous peals to spread the happy news and by evening public buildings and most of the houses along the Main Street were beflagged. The following evening a parade of scouts and school children, some illumination and a public meeting on the esplanade completed the victory celebration in Jaffna. Great is the victory we are celebrating. The triumph in the West of the United Nations is absolute. Never before has Prussian militarism been brought so low as to be forced to surrender unconditionally with ten million of their fighting men to the mercy of the victors to whom also they handed over their country for control. The cessation of hostilities was indeed a thrice happy event. What else could be more welcome than the good tidings of the lifting of the terrible nightmare of these last five years and eight months during which masses of men urged by their leaders had given themselves over to brutalities of force and to uncontrolled violence of hate. They ranged themselves savagely one against another with the deplorable result that flourishing countries have been laid waste, great cities proud of their monuments utterly ruined, hundreds of thousands of young lives cut down by frightful machines, happy homes thrown into inconsolable grief, many thousands of men, women and children maimed and blinded for life—these and more are the horrors that have come to an end and what human heart will not rejoice at it? That such

things could be possible in this twentieth century, in the height of its material and intellectual progress is a peremptory reminder once more of the imperative need of religion to restrain the evil instincts of fallen man. Delegates are at work at San Francisco adopting measures to banish heinous war for ever from the face of the earth. Will the Council of World Security they are trying to set up keep war out? That will depend on how the framers of it and peace-makers respect the Law of God. Upon that will hinge everything. "Unless the Lord protects the city, they labour in vain who would protect it" says the psalmist. According to a laudable British tradition His Majesty the King and both the Houses of Parliament have decreed a solemn and humble thanksgiving to God for the victory granted to their arms. A similar act of thanksgiving has been proclaimed by the President of the United States. But what of Russia? Though the vast majority of the Russian people are Christians and religious-minded their Government is in the hands of a party, the Communist party, which not only refuses to believe in God but aims at destroying the very idea of God in the world. It is this linking together of governments which necessarily must have an irreconcilable outlook on world-affairs that causes the gravest misgiving in the minds of thinking men regarding future peace and security. The only hope is God's merciful Providence which is able to draw good even out of evil. The cessation of hostilities we are celebrating while ourselves living within the area of actual hostilities. The Japanese war is in progress and in a few weeks it will assume gigantic proportions. This Island being the chief base of operations its inhabitants may have to face greater hardships and inconveniences. If these are to be endured they will be borne with patience but the Authorities must see that what is preventable is not thrust callously on the people.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The Minister and the Letter.

—Dr. C. W. W. Kannangara is reported to have gone to Batticaloa and it is likely enough that he carried with him that letter. When a fortnight ago he came to Jaffna he did not fail to bring it with him and read it to a meeting of Hindus. It will be interesting to know what exactly was his purpose. This letter which is going to prove invaluable to him is alleged to have been written by a Catholic girl student who charged him saying: "you are not playing the game by the Christians, I have prayed to God Almighty to take you away and I trust He will hear my prayer." The writer also is said to have reminded him of the flames of hell, and signed herself Bernadette. Dr. Kannangara must think himself very lucky with such a letter. But has he identified the writer? After the film 'the Song of Bernadette' that was

HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL FOR PRAYER

The Secretariate of State of His Holiness has just sent the following cable to the Apostolic Delegate:—

"Osservatore NINETEENTH April publishes Encyclical calling upon christian people, especially children prayers Blessed Virgin coming month May to obtain relief sufferings caused by war establishment christian peace founded on Justice Charity. Please insure greatest possible diffusion Pontifical Exhortation."

The faithful are earnestly exhorted to fulfil the Holy Father's desire.

a rage for months in Colombo the name of Bernadette would be on the lips of most people and a letter purporting to come from a Catholic girl would be signed Bernadette, whoever the writer may be. What the letter states is true enough that the Minister has not played the game by the Christians. But we have our doubts regarding that letter. We very much suspect it might have been written by one of his friends either to fool the Minister or to make prosper his future electioneering tours. Our advice to Dr. Kannangara is to keep the letter very carefully and read it at every election meeting of Buddhists he will address specially in the villages. Bernadette's letter will be a godsend to him.

THE POPE'S PEACE BROADCAST

"At last this war is over. With our thanks goes a prayer for the end in the Far East also", said His Holiness the Pope in an address—broadcast by the Vatican Radio—which he made from his private study to mark the end of hostilities in Europe.

"The war has piled us chaos and human ruins. The world must now rebuild," he said.

"We look forward to the rapid return of prisoners-of-war and civilian internees to their homes.

"Let us devote ourselves to the cause of the renaissance. The war has sown discord and hate. We must recover faith and unity.

"Kneel before the tombs wherein lie the remains of innumerable human beings who fell in battle, fell victims to inhuman massacres, or fell a prey to hunger and want.

The fallen seem to be pointing a minatory finger at the survivors of this inhuman conflict—beckoning to them saying 'Let the architects of a new and better Europe arise from our bones and the earth upon which we were scattered like seeds of corn.'

"Let a new world arise based on faith, respect for human beings, and common rights for all peoples, and all states, whether big or small, whether weak or strong.

DIFFERENT TASK

"Now the moment has come to rebuild the world. It is certainly difficult but it is also a holy undertaking that awaits you in repairing the immediate and disastrous consequences of the war.

We mean the decay of public order, misery, hunger, brutalizing customs and usage and the lack of discipline among the youths.

"With the lurking threat of death driven from the earth, seas and skies and henceforth assured by the laying down of arms, the life of man, and that which remains to them of private and common possession, can be rededicated. Men can now set free their minds and spirits to the building of peace.

"In considering Europe alone we find ourselves face to face with gigantic problems and difficulties which must be overcome, if we wish to plan the way to true peace—the only peace that can be lasting.

"This indeed cannot flower and prosper, except in an atmosphere of security

and of perfect fidelity, allied with reciprocal trust, mutual understanding and benevolence.

TRUTH AND CHARITY

"The war has everywhere aroused discord, suspicion and hatred. If therefore the world wishes to regain peace, falsehoods and rancour must vanish, and in their stead truth and charity must reign.

"Above all however in our daily prayers, we should constantly beseech the God of love to fulfil his promise, made by the mouth of the Prophet Ezekiel, 'and I will give them one heart and I will put a new spirit within you and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh and will give them a heart of flesh: that they may walk in my statutes and keep mine ordinances and do them; and they shall be my people and I will be their God.'

"May the Lord deign to create this new spirit in the people, and particularly in the hearts of those in whom he has entrusted the responsibility for the future peace. Then and then only will be reborn a world to avoid the return of the tremendous scourge of war, and there will reign true, stable and universal brotherhood."

Mannar Eucharistic Rally

Telegram from His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

TO THE RT. REV. DR.
J. A. GUYOMAR O. M. I.

Vatican City, 9th April 1945.

Mgr. Guyomar Bishop of Jaffna,

Holy Father gratefully acknowledging filial message devotion homage on occasion of notable commemoration fourth centenary introduction of faith to Mannar and subsequent martyrdom cordially felicitates your Excellency, clergy, faithful. Imparts paternal Apostolic Benediction participants Eucharistic Rally Mannar.

MONSIGNOR MONTINI,
Substitute.

FROM THE DELEGATE APOSTOLIC

Information has reached me of the coming Eucharistic Rally at Mannar, to celebrate the fourth centenary of the introduction of the faith there and of the heroic steadfastness of the first converts in giving their lives for it.

It is indeed an event worthy of special commemoration in which I should like to take part personally. But as that is impossible I ask of your kindness to convey to all present the assurance of my participation in spirit in their joy and happiness in thanking God for the gift of faith and in proposing to lead a life worthy of the glorious Martyrs of Mannar. May their example and memory make us ever more appreciate our holy Catholic Faith and live up to its principles and precepts.

Invoking God's choicest blessings on all present at the Rally and asking them to pray for the Holy Father and for his Representative in these lands.

I remain
Yours devotedly
LEO. P. KIERKELS, C. P.

"Staggering Achievements"

"A record of staggering achievements" is the description given by Mgr. Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, to the accomplishments of the Sword of the Spirit branch in British Guiana, which was founded two years ago by Fr. F. C. Fenn, S.J. In these two

years the branch has established its own weekly radio programme entitled "The Sword on the Air," has its own regular space in the local "Catholic Standard," adopted a nursing home and has completed arrangements for the opening in March of a Catholic hospital—the St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital—which will have an initial capacity of 140 beds.

The foundation of the hospital is largely due to the initiative of Mr. J. Edward de Freitas, an old Stonyhurst boy, who is the new chairman of the branch's executive committee.

The branch has published statements on housing, marriage and the family, and Christian citizenship. Previously it took part, in collaboration with its non-Catholic colleagues on the British Guiana United Christian Front, in the compilation of a statement on Christian Principles of Reconstruction.

The Catholic community recently secured a second representative on the Council of the United Christian Front. He is Mr. P.W. King, who holds various Catholic posts and has acted as Colonial Secretary. In his message to the branch, Archbishop Griffin said:

"Have just read a record of your staggering achievements: Press, radio programme and foundation of hospital. I offer my warmest congratulations. May you go from strength to strength. We are watching with ever-increased admiration your magnificent work in proclaiming Christian principles. Every blessing."

The Women's Franchise in France

French Bishops are urging women to use their new right to vote at the forthcoming municipal elections. Cardinal Gerlier, says a NCWC message, has informed religious that they must not fail to do so; and the Bishop of Limoges, Mgr. Rastouil, has stressed the great difference made by the addition of thirteen million women voters to the ten million men. He recalls the words of Benedict XV who, asked by a prominent English suffragette, "Most Holy Father, do you approve our action?" replied: "Yes, we approve it. We wish to see women voters everywhere." Mgr. Rastouil goes on to say that whenever there was voting in the Middle Ages women were allowed to take part, and that it was the French Revolution which deprived them of the right to do so. Records of the guilds and communes show, he says, that "women's suffrage functioned in many places for the protection of their interests during the most religious epoch of Christianity." He continues:

"A law of Beaumont, in 1182, speaks of the voting right in the assemblies of every widow, a daughter heading a home, or a wife in the absence of the head of the family. Women took part in borough deliberations, and declarations drawn up by the parish assemblies of old frequently terminated with the expression "Who tous et toutes decide and ordain that....." In the thirteenth century Pope Innocent IV granted electoral rights to all human beings, men or women, and whether the latter were widows, wives or single."

Golden Jubilee of Mexico's Greatest Shrine

Mexico's greatest shrine is that of the 400-years-old miraculous picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which stands a few miles out of Mexico City.

There in 1531 Our Lady appeared to a poor Indian and told him of her wish that a great temple might be raised in her honour. To authenticate her request, she imprinted on his blanket a picture of herself and it was that this dispelled the incredulity of the ecclesiastical authorities when the Indian told them of the vision.

A great Basilica now stands on the site of the apparition and over the high altar is the miraculous picture on the blanket, with its colours as bright as though they had been freshly applied.

The picture is a mystery to scientists, who cannot fathom how it was produced.

On October 12 next, the Catholics of Mexico are to celebrate the golden

jubilee of the Pontifical Coronation of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in preparation for which they are now carrying out a programme of special services and meetings.

The services are being held at the request of the Bishops on the 12th of each month and their intention is the obtaining, through Our Lady's intercession, of close union, concord and fraternity among all the Latin-American nations.

In addition, every parish is holding "Eucharistic days" in honour of Our Lord, in each Catholic home the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is being enthroned and all the dioceses are holding inter-parochial congresses.

Notice to Correspondents

The account of May Festival at Madhu and Ve Day Celebration N.M.V. will appear in our next issue.

LOCAL & GENERAL

Thanksgiving Day.—Sunday the 13th inst. will be observed as a Day of Solemn Thanksgiving and Thanksgiving Services will take place on that Day in all our Churches to thank God for victory.

At the Cathedral His Lordship the Bishop will officiate at the Service which will commence at 5 p.m. when Te Deum will be sung.

Diocese of Galle.—His Lordship the Bishop of Galle has appointed as his Vicar-General the Very Rev. Fr. G. Giordano S. J., the Very Rev. Fr. S. G. Perera S. J., having resigned owing to continued ill-health.

Sacred Heart Confraternity, S.P.C. Branch.—The monthly meeting of the above Confraternity was held on Sunday the 6th inst. at 6-30 p.m. in the College Hall with Very Revd. Fr. T.M.F. Long, O.M.I., the president, in the chair. The chief item of the day was a lecture by Revd. Fr. B. E. Alfred, O.M.I., on "Heart of Jesus of Infinite Majesty." His lecture was both interesting and exhaustive. A vote of thanks was ably proposed by Mr. B. A. Berchmans and was suitably seconded by Mr. L. R. Allagaratnam.

A Public Lecture.—Under the auspices of the Jaffna Diocesan Union Literature Committee, Very Revd. Fr. T.M.F. Long, O.M.I., will deliver a lecture on "The Prospects of Christianity in Ceylon" on Sunday 13th inst. at 6-30 p.m. in the Jaffna Catholic Club.

Obituary.—We greatly regret to learn of the death, on Tuesday last of Rev. Fr. F. Bonnel, S. J., of the Diocese of Trincomalee, former Vicar-General, Superior of the Mission and Rector of St. Michael's College, Batticaloa. He was 79 years of age. R. I. P.

A Memorable Centenary.—This year on August 14th the Sylvestrine Benedictines of Kandy will celebrate the Centenary of their first coming to Ceylon.—C. C. M.

Sinhalese in Committee.—The Executive Committee of Home Affairs has gone a step further in the introduction of Sinhalese and Tamil as official languages and its meetings are now held partly in Sinhalese.

The first meeting in Sinhalese was held last week when even the Minister, Mr. A. Mahadeva, is stated to have spoken in Sinhalese, on the draft estimates of the Ministry.

The Home Committee, it may be mentioned, has already instructed all departments under its supervision to issue their notices in the three languages—English, Sinhalese and Tamil.

Acting Officers of State.—Sir Robert Drayton, Chief Secretary, will leave for England for a short holiday and Mr. C. H. Collins, Deputy Chief Secretary, will act for him.

Mr. Collins will take his place in the State Council on Tuesday as an Officer of State.

A State Council record will thus be created in that all three Officers of State will be on leave at the same time and the acting officers will take their oath on the same day. Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, of course, has been appointed to the permanent office of Financial Secretary, but he will be acting in that capacity until the retirement of Mr. H. J. Huxham, who is now on leave preparatory to the event.

Mill Strike Ends.—The strike at the Wellawatte Spinning and Weaving Mills has been called off. Many of the strikers have gone back to work and the remaining few are also expected to resume work within the next few days. The strike began on March 27th.

An Incident in the House of Lords

The Bishop of Chichester, who spoke next, deserves also to be mentioned, although for different reasons. After remarking finely that All Souls College at Oxford is perhaps the noblest war memorial in England, and quoting the words of the pious founder, which made his intentions so crystal-clear ("that they shall pray for the souls of Henry V, the Duke of Clarence and other Lords and Lieges of England... and for the souls of the faithful departed"), the Bishop then went on to advocate the foundation of another college "in memory of the fallen of this war." Noble lords at this point held their breath. Were they, in this latter day, going to be confronted with the spectacle of a Bishop of the Anglican Church standing up in his place and advocating the doctrine of Purgatory? But no: all was well. Just as the reverend gentleman got up to the jump, so to speak, he did an adroit swerve, and so once more ran out—from the spectators' point of view a disappointment, even although the form was not unknown to them. This new college, he continued, "would have its religious side," there would be a church or chapel "as the focus of inspiration," but as a memorial the whole thing would be "communal rather than ecclesiastical." We are down to earth once more.

Franklin Roosevelt

As President of the U.S.A., while the world was at war. Franklin Roosevelt wielded a greater accretion of political and military power than any other human being has ever done. Judged by that measure alone, he will always occupy a commanding place in the annals of world history. He is one of the immortals. But the historian of the future, as he looks back on these years of 1940, and marks how they water-shed between two epochs, will have to probe more deeply to understand and appraise the influence of Franklin Roosevelt.

To an outside observer living through these years of crisis, it seems that the basic quality of greatness lies in this: that when Christian civilization was in mortal peril of being submerged, he understood that the American way of life and its survival were inextricably involved, and in addition he possessed the political sagacity which enabled him to lead the American nation to thorough-going acceptance of the worldwide responsibilities attaching to its internal achievement and its splendid heritage.

REASONS FOR HIS GREATNESS

Yet even so we do not account him one of the great men of all time on the ground that cold intellectual statesmanship caused him to lead the United States into playing the full role of a world power. That would not explain why Englishmen in every town and village, and citizens in all parts of the British Commonwealth felt the shock of personal loss when they heard the news of his death. Nor is that grief to be explained by remembrance of the fact that Roosevelt retained his faith in Britain when she stood almost alone against triumphant barbarism. The core of the matter was his humanity which in domestic affairs made him natural champion of the under-dog and caused him to approach international problems from the view-point of the human race as one family in which, if one member suffers, all suffer. He acted under the profound conviction that that was sound politics and also sound economics.

In a letter to the "Times" a correspondent has rightly said that there has been no such manifestation of personal sorrow throughout the British people since a British sovereign or any statesman but the American President died. I can recall no comparable case in history of any other two nations. The

affectionate esteem in which he was held among the peoples of the British Commonwealth was both a tribute to his personal character and also a mark of like-mindedness which exists between them and the American people concerning the fundamental principles upon which international security and well-being should be built after the war. The statesmanship and personality of President Roosevelt will be absent from the San Francisco Conference but his inspiration will be there—as President Truman has already affirmed—in potent measure. The world has need of it.—*Weekly Air News Letter.*

Cathedral Building Fund

I acknowledge with thanks the following contributions:

	No. of Inst.	Rs.	Cts.
Late Miss Ponnu Lysa Martyn	27	1	00
Miss Margaret Gregory	64	10	00
Mrs. Anna Joseph		5	00
Dr St. John Puvirajasinghe	74	25	00
Mite-box Collection		5	51
Mrs. M. B. Francis	60	6	00
Mr. C. Joseph	51	10	00
Mrs. Mary J. Berchmans	14	1	00
Margaret Manuel	16	1	00
Mrs. A. S. Vanigasuriya	14	10	00
Mr. Joachim Fernandez	27	1	50
Mrs. Eliz. Joseph	56	1	00
Late Miss Ponnu Lysa Martyn	28	1	00
Late Mr. M. T. Francis	13	1	00
Mrs. G. A. Amirthanayagam	11	1	00
T. Jos. Rajar		2	00
Mr. D. Raymond		2	00
C. Joseph	52	10	00
Miss A. Annamuttu	47	8	00
Dr. St. John Puvirajasinghe	75	25	00
Mite Box Collection		10	90
Mr. P. Mariampillai		10	00
Mrs. Elizabeth Zebadai		1	00
Mr. S. James		1	00
Late Mrs. Susan Johnpillai	55	20	00
Mrs. A. S. Vanigasooria	15	10	00
Mr. Joachim Fernandez	28	1	50
Chev. S. Arulanatham	38	5	00
Mrs. Elizabeth Joseph	57	1	00
Late Mr. M. T. Francis	19	1	00
Late Miss Ponnu Lysa Martyn	29	1	00
Mrs. M. J. Berchmans	15	1	00
M. Manuelpillai	17	1	00
Mr. M. Emmanuel Rasiiah		6	00
P. Gnanapragasam	88	14	00
Miss Margaret Gregory	65	5	00
Mite Box Collection		9	10
Mr. C. Joseph	53	10	00
Dr. St. John Puvirajasinghe	76	25	00
Mrs. Pricilla Charles		1	00
Mr. S. Gnanapragasam		50	00
Mr. G. A. Amirthanayagam	12	1	00
Mrs. A. S. Vanigasuriya	16	10	10
Mr. Joachim Fernandez	29	1	50
Chev. S. Arulanatham	39	5	00
Late Mrs. Susan Johnpillai	56	10	00
Mrs. Eliz. Joseph	58	1	00
Late Miss Ponnu Lysa Martyn	30	1	00
Mr. M. T. Francis	20	1	00
Late Mr. Ben. David	22	5	00
Mrs. T. Joseph Rajar		2	00
Mrs. Annamma Saverimuttu		1	00
Mr. Quentin Fernando		22	00
H. A. Tissera		1	00
M. S. N. Dias		4	00
Vincent Fernando		5	00
Miss Margaret Gregory	66	5	00
Mite Box Collection		12	13
Mr. C. Joseph	54	10	00
Dr. St. John Puvirajasinghe	77	25	00
Mrs. M. B. Francis	61	4	00
Mr. J. Hillarion	76	1	51
Mrs. Susan Johnpillai	57	10	00
Mrs. G. A. Amirthanayagam	13	1	00
Mrs. A. S. Vanigasuriya	17	10	00

(To Be Continued)

S. G. HILARY, O.M.I.,
Parish Priest,
St. Mary's Cathedral.

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Telegraphic Summary of News

"CEASE FIRE" ORDER TO ALL U-BOATS

An official announcement that the war against Germany is ended is expected in San Francisco at any time now.

The German Radio on Sunday night broadcast a special broadcast from the new Fuehrer [who is believed to be in Norway] Grand Admiral Doenitz, asking the crews of all German ships to abstain from any acts of violence and stating that they were forbidden to scuttle ships or render them unseaworthy.

The German-controlled Flensburg Radio reported on Monday that Grand Admiral Doenitz has ordered all U-boats to cease activity. The "cease fire" order to U-boat commanders was given in an Order-of-the-day on Saturday, the Radio says.

MONTY: "NOW LET US WIN THE PEACE"

A call to win the peace as they won the German War was made by Field-Marshal Montgomery in a message on Tuesday to all ranks under his Command in the 21st Army Group.

Asking his men to remember those of their comrades who gave their lives that others might have freedom, Field-Marshal Montgomery said: "Let us not forget what we owe to our Russian and American Allies. This great Allied team has achieved much in war. May it achieve even more and more in peace. Without doubt great problems lie ahead. There is much work for each one of us.

"Few Commanders could have had such loyal service as you have given me. I thank each of you from the bottom of my heart.

Let us embark on what lies ahead, full of joy and optimism.

"We have won the German War. Let us now win the peace."

RUSSIAN V-DAY TODAY AS SURRENDER IS RATIFIED

While Britain and the Allied world celebrated VE-Day on Tuesday with joy and thanksgiving, the Moscow Radio early on Wednesday morning announced the final signing of Unconditional Surrender by Germans and that Wednesday would be Victory Day in Soviet Russia.

Moscow had not previously announced the ending of the war in Europe to the Soviet people. The Soviet capital received its first news of the Allies' total victory on Tuesday evening through the publication by a Moscow newspaper of a Reuter report of Count Schwerin von Krosigk's Flensburg speech which announced the German capitulation.

SURRENDER COMPLETE

A special communique from S.H.A.E.F. on Tuesday said: "All the German land, sea and air forces in Europe were unconditionally surrendered to the Allied Expeditionary Force, and simultaneously, to the Soviet High Command at 1-41 a.m. (Central European Time), May 7th.

"The surrender terms, which will become effective at 11-01 p.m. (Central European Time), May 8th were signed by an officer of the German Command.

"The Allied Expeditionary Forces have been ordered to cease offensive operations but will maintain their present positions until the surrender becomes effective."

SURRENDER DESCRIBES

The actual surrender came before dawn on Tuesday and the negotiators on the Allied side were headed by Lieut. General Walter Bedell Smith (General Eisenhower's Chief of Staff), and on the German side by General Gustaf Jodl (Chief of Staff to the German Army) reports Reuter.

The Supreme Commander himself did not see the German delegates until the surrender ceremony was completed. When he did, he asked the Germans sternly if they fully understood the terms of surrender and if they were

prepared to carry them out. They said they were.

General Jodl snapped to attention and spoke (as General Eisenhower laid aside the gold-topped fountain pen with which he signed the documents) and said: "I want to say a word." He spoke in English but then continued in German saying: "General, with this signature the people and the German Armed Forces are, for better or worse, delivered into the victor's hands. In this war, which has lasted more than five years, both have achieved and suffered more than perhaps any other people in the world. In this hour, I can only express the hope that the victor will treat them with generosity."

There was no reply to his remarks and he left the room.

A STRANGE SCENE

It was a strange scene, almost drab and commonplace in view of the momentous nature of the occasion. The room at General Eisenhower's Advance Headquarters was in a red-bricked industrial college of Rheims. Round the walls were war maps on which the Germans could well see the hopelessness of the military situation. In the centre of the room was a plain, uncovered and cracked table 20 feet long. At the head of the table were two empty chairs.

The Germans wore grey green uniforms and full decorations. When they saluted they used the regular German military salute and not the Nazi salute.

GERMAN FLEET MAY BE USED AGAINST JAPAN

The remnants of the German Fleet to be surrendered to the Allies may be used to fight the Japanese instead of lying idle with prize crews on board.

Allied Navy men are now on the way to the various ports of Europe to take over the ships and, if necessary, render them ineffective as fighting units.

The German Navy today consists of two cruisers (the Prince Eugen and the Nurnburg) probably a dozen destroyers, and approximately 300 submarines.

ADMIRALTY ORDERS

The Admiralty announce that the following orders have been issued for the surrender of the German Fleet:

"All German and German controlled warships, auxiliaries, merchant ships and other craft at sea, are being ordered to report their position in plain language to the nearest Allied wireless telegraph station, and are being given orders to proceed to such Allied ports as directed. They will remain in these ports until further directions are received.

"All warships, auxiliaries, merchant ships and other craft in harbour are being ordered to remain in harbour.

U-boats at sea are being ordered to surface and to fly the Black Flag or pennant and to report their position in plain language to the nearest Allied wireless telegraph station. They will then proceed on the surface to such port as they may be directed.

"All warships and merchant ships, whether in port or at sea, are being instructed to train all weapons fore and aft. Breech blocks are to be removed from the guns and torpedo tubes are to be unloaded.

"In harbour, all ammunition, explosives, torpedo warheads and all portable weapons are to be landed.

"All personnel will be ordered to remain either on board their ships or in their establishments until other directions are received."

WILL RUSSIA BACK OUT OF YALTA AGREEMENT?

British newspapers are uneasy over the present state of relations between Russia and the Western Powers. "The Manchester Guardian" goes so far as to say that it is forced to the conclusion that Marshal Stalin and M. Molotov have decided that the Crimean Declaration is unworkable and that, in future, they will act independently in all the countries within their sphere of influence.

"The Manchester Guardian" also says that news of the breaking off of the Polish talks at San Francisco will be received with dismay, though it is difficult to see what else Mr. Anthony Eden and Mr. Edward Stettinus could have done,

"It is not only the Polish question itself that is at stake but the whole of the Crimean Declaration and the relations between the Russian and Western Powers which are about to be fully tested in the joint administration of Germany and Austria.

SAN FRANCISCO EXPECTS BIG THREE "V" MEETING

A meeting between President Truman, Mr. Winston Churchill and Marshal Stalin is expected by United Nations' diplomats at San Francisco to be arranged soon, (an Associated Press of America despatch from San Francisco reported on Tuesday). They believe that only a gathering of the Big Three, probably in the European area, can solve some of the urgent problems arising from the defeat of Germany, the despatch said.

LONDON POLES DENY RUSSIAN CHARGES

The Polish Government in London on Sunday night described as "a complete fabrication" the accusation that the 16 Polish leaders whom the Russians have arrested carried out sabotage activities directed against the Soviet armed forces.

The arrests, as disclosed officially in San Francisco on Saturday night, have led to the breakdown of the talks between the British and the Americans on the one hand and the Russians on the other, on the dispute over the reorganization of the Polish Government which was set up at Lublin and has since been recognised by Russia.

The London Polish Government's statement says that the arrested Poles were told by the Soviet Colonel Pimenov when he invited them to have talks with the Soviet Colonel-General Ivanov) that he guaranteed their personal safety under his word of honour as an officer.

SOVIET-POLISH PACT RATIFIED

The Moscow radio states that the Soviet-Polish 20-year agreement was ratified in Warsaw on Saturday.

LATIN AMERICANS TRIP SAN FRANCISCO

The Latin American delegation have suggested they may leave the World Security Conference immediately unless the United Nations specifically recognise the Pan-American Act of Chapultepec in the New Charter.

The suggestion was contained in a memorandum submitted on Tuesday night by the Mexican delegation to Mr. Edward Stettinus, Mr. Anthony Eden, M. Molotov and M. Bidault.

[The Chapultepec Act provides for the regional use of force by the American nations in case of aggression during a war].

CARDINAL'S TALK WITH EX-DUCE

The Cardinal of Milan, Ildefonso Schuster, reconstructed to Reuter's correspondent on Friday last the private conversation he had with Mussolini immediately before the latter's flight from the city—when Mussolini tried to cross the Swiss frontier dressed as an ordinary German soldier but was recognised by a Customs official and was executed by patriots at Como, shortly afterwards.

The Cardinal said: "For me, Mussolini was a soul to save. We talked for over an hour. Mussolini declared himself ready to dissolve the army and retire personally with three thousand Valtellina. I pointed out that this meant prolonging fighting. He said it would be for only a short time."

When the Cardinal expressed doubt whether even 3,000 would follow him, Mussolini helplessly conceded this.

UTTERLY DEPRESSED

The Cardinal resumed: "He was utterly depressed. I said: Mussolini, repent your sins and prepare for the sad days which have been sent by God as an opportunity for expiation. Follow Napoleon's example. Pius VII used his offices for Napoleon. Pius XII will endeavour to mitigate your lot."

Mussolini then spoke admirably about the British and observed that the Germans had sacrificed 15,000,000 lives, the Russians millions, and the British only 266,000, besides 300,000 colonials.

Asked if he considered Mussolini penitent, the Cardinal said: "He was not a penitent's condition. He was too dejected and far from religious belief. It might have been possible to work on him, but the time was lacking."

The Cardinal, however, presented to Mussolini his own Life of Saint Benedict and recommended mediation.

The Cardinal will shortly publish a White Book covering transactions with the Fascists and the Germans.

MUSSOLINI'S LAST "PATCH UP" EFFORTS

I learn on good authority that Mussolini on April 24th tried to negotiate with the Milan Socialist Party with a view to fusing the Fascist Republicans with that Party.

He visited an old Socialist friend named Silvestri and told him that he (Mussolini) was first and foremost a Republican and proposed forming a common front between the Socialist Action Party and the Republican Fascists against the Royalists.

Silvestri sent Mussolini's proposal to his party. This incident helped the Liberation Movement to decide that the time for an insurrection was ripe.

GERMAN JEWS DO NOT WANT TO RETURN

Jews from Germany prefer to live anywhere else in the world rather than in that country—"the graveyard of their families," says a statement issued by the Association of Jewish Refugees in Great Britain.

"There are no bonds left between them and Germany. In their overwhelming majority they have no desire to return to the country where these atrocities were committed and be compelled to live among the people who perpetrated the murder of Jews or convicted in these crimes."

EQUALITY OF THE RACES

The Government of India's amendments of the World Charter was issued on Saturday and propose this declaration among the list of "purposes" of the World Organisation—"To promote recognition of fundamental human rights for all men and women, irrespective of race, colour or creed, in all nations and in all international relations and associations, one with another.

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Testamentary } No. 387

Jurisdiction } No. 387

T. Peter Damian of Naranthana.

Petitioner

Vs.

1. D. Joseph Xavier Mutunayagam and

2. Soosai Pillai Thomas of do.

Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before H. A. de Silva Esq., District Judge, Jaffna on the 14th day of March 1945 in the presence of Mr. A. Kanagasabai, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the abovesaid petitioner dated 9th March, 1945, having been read:

It is further declared that the said 2nd Respondent be appointed guardian-ad-litem over the minor the 1st respondent and that the said Petitioner be declared entitled to have letters of administration to the estate of the said intestate as her lawful husband and directing that letters of administration be issued to unless the respondent or other person or persons interested shall on or before the 16th day of May 1945 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 14th day of March 1945.

(Sgd.) H. A. DE SILVA

District Judge.