

The Catholic Guardian

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

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U. S. HIERARCHY'S STATEMENT: SOLUTION, A BILL OF RIGHTS

The members of the American Hierarchy, who constitute the Board of the N.C.W.C. and who speak in the name of all the Bishops, have issued a statement in which they ask that a "Bill of International Rights" should be adopted by the Nations and made the condition of active participation in the world peace organisation.

In their statement the Bishops comment very plainly on the many morally disquieting features of present plans, and emphasises the opposition between "Marxian totalitarianism" and Christian-based democracy.

The American Bishops said:

The organisation of the community of nations in an international institute to maintain world peace and to achieve world co-operation will test the fullness of our victory. A sound world organisation is not a Utopian dream. With honest goodwill in all the victors it will be realised, and a new era in international relations will begin. If any one of these refuses its full support or insists on introducing into its charter provisions which radically vitiate it, we shall witness the tragedy, so often recorded in history, of a glorious martial victory largely nullified by sheer political expediency.

SAN FRANCISCO Great-Power Alliance

Experience warns us that unless strong, courageous leaders, with the full support of their peoples, put their hands to this task, there will be no genuine progress in international life. To yield to fear that this thing cannot be done is defeatism. In nations, as well as in individuals, we must indeed face the fact of human weakness, but we must face it to conquer it. We must not accept it in a spirit of paralysing fatalism. An opportunity is here, as in every world crisis, to begin a new era of genuine progress in the community of nations.

Isolationism, whether expressed in the refusal of a nation to assume its obligations in the international community, or masked in the setting up of the sphere of influence in which a great nation surrounds itself, with weak puppet States, or disguised in a balance of power policy, is no answer to the problems, nor indeed to the problems of any nation.

There is, however, danger present at this time that if in the name of realism an attempt is made to substitute for a juridical world institution what is in effect only an alliance of the Great Powers, many nations will take refuge in isolationism. Disillusionment in our country will express itself in the isolationism of the abstentionist.

We fail to see that the voting procedure in the Security Council agreed upon at Yalta is consistent with the sovereign equality of peace-loving nations recognised as basic in the Dumbarton Oaks proposals.

Whatever concessions may, under existing conditions, have to be made to certain nations in view of their power and corresponding responsibility, it seems inequitable and dangerous to give any nation a virtual veto on parity of treatment for all.

It is a manifest denial of the prime attribute of juridical institution to extend the veto to the execution of decisions of the world court to which by explicit provision, all justifiable disputes should be referred and the concession in

question is not even limited to cases directly involving the nation to which it is made.

This makes the Charter give a preferred status not only to the powerful aggressor, but even to any aggressor with a powerful patron.

It is hoped that the Security Council will be made more responsible to the General Assembly, and, at least in time, will become merely its executive committee. It is imperative, too, that there be lodged in the international organisation and ultimately in the World Court the authority to make changes in the past settlements and other treaties which, in view of past mistakes or changed conditions, may be required.

BILL OF RIGHTS

The Best Test

The proposals, as they stand, outline, not the plan for an organisation under law, of the international community, but rather the draft of an alliance between the great victorious Powers for the maintenance of world peace and the promotion of international co-operation in which these Powers definitely refuse to submit themselves in every eventuality to the world authority which they propose to invoke in compelling other nations to maintain world peace.

Sovereign equality among the nations demands that each nation be free in its internal government, and that its juridical personality be recognised in its international relations.

In all history and particularly in modern history dangers to world peace have come from the unjust treatment of minorities, the denial of civil and religious liberties and other infringements in the uniform rights of men.

To relieve these dangers the nations should adopt an Inter-Nation Bill of Rights, in which men and groups everywhere would be guaranteed the full enjoyment of their human rights.

That this is definitely a matter of international concern is evident in the problem now confronting the inter-governmental community in regard to Displaced Persons. If they are reluctant to return to their home lands, it is largely because they cannot look forward to the enjoyment of fundamental human rights under the new tyrannies and control.

Active participation in the international organisation ought to be conditioned by the acceptance of this Bill of Rights.

Will a nation which does not make its own citizens secure in the enjoyment of their human rights work honestly and sincerely for the maintenance of world peace and mutual co-operation in the international community?

POLAND

Disappointing Solution

The solution of the Polish question agreed upon by the representatives of the three great victorious Powers in the Crimea Conference was a disappointing
(Continued on Page 4.)

MAKING THE FRUITS OF VICTORY SECURE

For many of us, Victory Day was clouded by more serious apprehensions than Japan is in a position to cause. "A depression had set in," coming from Moscow. For that reason Mr. Churchill's broadcast on Sunday before was anxiously awaited, and he did not disappoint us. Once again he has shown what a very fine statesman and leader he is. Here is the part of his speech which really matters, and those of us who listened to his words in the early hours of Monday morning felt that the vigil was amply rewarded.

"I wish I could tell you to-night that all our toils and troubles were over..... But on the contrary, I must warn you as I did when I began this five years' task—and no one knew then that it would last so long—that there is still a lot to do and that you must be prepared for further efforts of mind and body and further sacrifices to the great causes if you are not to fall back into the rut of inertia and confusion of aim.

"We must not weaken in any way our efforts or vigilant frame of mind

that is necessary for the completion of the victory. On the Continent we must make sure that the simple and the honourable purpose for which we entered the war will not be brushed aside and the words 'freedom', 'democracy' and 'liberty' are not distorted from their real meaning as we have understood them. There would be little use in punishing the Hitlerites for their crimes if law and justice did not rule and if totalitarian or police governments were to take the place of the German invaders. We seek nothing for ourselves. But we must make sure that those causes which we fought for find recognition at the peace table in facts as well as words, and, above all, we must labour that the world organization which the United Nations are creating at San Francisco does not become an idle name, does not become a shield for the strong and a mockery for the weak. It is the victors who must search their hearts in their glowing hours and be worthy by their nobility of the immense forces that they wield."—*Examiner*.

POPE DENOUNCES NAZISM AS SATANIC

His Holiness Pope Pius XII on Saturday addressed to the College of Cardinals what constituted the first official pronouncement by the Holy See on German National Socialism since Pius XI's encyclical in 1937. The address, in which Hitler is plainly designated as a persecutor, represents the full return by the Pope to the plain speaking of his predecessor.

Recalling his twelve years' official residence in Germany before becoming Pope Pius XII, he said. "We learnt to know the great qualities of the nation and were in personal contact with its leading personalities. We are therefore confident that it may arise again to a new dignity and a new life after banishing the satanic spectre of National Socialism."

The concordat of 1933 in no way implied any approval of National Socialist doctrines but gave the Catholics a trench from which to continue resistance against ever-increasing religious persecution. Describing the persecution the Pope said the Holy See kept on protesting to the German rulers.

"Was it perhaps then possible, by appropriate political devices, to check once for all the unleashing of brute forces to enable the German people to disentangle themselves from the tentacles strangling them? No one can give a definite answer. But nobody can charge the Church with not having in due time exposed the real nature of National Socialism. Whosoever raises a race or people or state, or any specific form of it representative of governmental power, or other fundamental elements of human society to supreme rulership of everything, even of religious values, and defies them with idolatrous practices, perverts and falsifies the order of things created and ordained by God. In the teaching of this encyclical the fundamental opposition between Na-

tional Socialism and the Catholic Church is formulated.

INEXORABLE OPPOSITION

We ourselves never ceased during the war to oppose inexorably the application of the National Socialist doctrine."

The Pope then listed some of the cruelties perpetrated by the Nazis on Catholics and added: "The generous victims who for the last twelve years have offered to Christ and his church the sacrifice of their wealth, their freedom and their lives, lift their hands to God in expiatory offering. May the Just Judge accept it as an atonement for so many crimes committed against humanity as well as against the present and future of their own people."

Persistent Nazi denunciations of the Catholic Church as the enemy of the German people was, said the Pope, "the most honourable testimony to the strong, incessant opposition maintained by the Church against disastrous doctrines and methods."

The Pope said he hoped "an end will be put to that insolence with which the family and domestic hearth have been abused and profaned during the war, for that insolence cries to heaven and has evolved into one of the greatest terrors not only for religion but for harmonious relations between men. It created the stranded, the destitute and the hopeless who are bound to sell masses of revolution and disorder in the hire of tyranny no less despotic than that brought down."

Referring to the notion of a new organisation for peace the Pope said: "All humanity follows anxiously the progress of such a noble enterprise. What human tragedy it would be if it should fail. But the pronouncement by competent and responsible men make us think the victory of right is in view not only as a political aim but also as an aim they consider it their moral duty to attain."
—*Reuter*.

Illavalai Convent, Training College

SELECTION TEST FOR ENTRANCE EXAMINATION OF SEPT. 1945

Teachers and students who wish to be admitted into the Illavalai Convent Training College in January 1946 will be interviewed at the College on Saturday the 23rd of June 1945 at 10 a.m. Candidates will also be tested in (1) Language and Literature (2) Elementary Mathematics and (3) General Intelligence.

Candidates should forward along with their application (1) a character certificate obtained from the Manager of the school last attended (2) a birth certificate and (3) the S.S.C. certificate.

N.B.—Each application form should be duly filled up and stamps to the value of Rs. 7-50 affixed and cancelled by the candidate. The completed application form should be forwarded, by registered post to "The General Manager of R.C. Schools, Bishop's House, Jaffna," so as to reach him not later than Monday the 18th of June 1945. Late applications will be received up to Saturday the 30th June 1945, provided stamps to the value of Rs. 10 are affixed and cancelled.

REV. MOTHER SUPERIOR,
Holy Family Convent,
Illavalai, Tellipalai.
Illavalai, 1-6-1945.

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 21-5-45 to 17-6-45.

Kasaly Dhall 6 oz. Corriander $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Gram Dhall 6 oz. Mathe seed $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Toor Dhall 2 oz. Cummin seed $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Green Gram 2 oz. Fennel seed $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Green Splitpeas 1oz Tamarind 2 "

E. GOONARATNE,
Asst. Govt. Agent (E), Jaffna.
Jaffna 6th June, 1945.

Church Calendar

JUNE 1945

FRI. ...8 SACRED HEART.
SAT. ...9 Most Pure Heart of Mary.
SUN. ...10 3 P. S. Margaret.
MON. ...11 S. Barnabas.
TUES. ...12 S. John Sahgun.
WED. ...13 S. Anthony.
THURS. ...14 S. Basil.
FRI. ...15 S. Germaine.

The Catholic Guardian

JUNE 8TH 1945

FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART

As we are going to press on the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus we have thought it proper to devote this article to the eminently fitting and pious observance of this day. Holy Church by means of the annual feast reminds us once again of the wonderful love which God has for men and directs our attention to worship and adore the fountain of that love—the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Some persons in their ignorance may charge Catholics with making the Heart of Jesus, God. The Catholic doctrine on this point is that in the Incarnation, our humanity was totally appropriated to and taken possession of by the Personality of the Word of God that is to say, by the Second Person of the ever Blessed Trinity and Christ Jesus has by that very fact been deified and every part of his Sacred Body is deserving of adoration. But the Church has singled out His Heart by His own express

wish for our adoration and love as being the symbol of His immense love for mankind. Hence, the object of our reverent worship is not a mere symbol but the real, living, pulsating Heart of our Divine Lord, the same that was ever full of sympathy with human sorrows, that sent up its piteous pleadings to the Father for mercy upon men; the same Divine Heart that was crushed in Gethsemane under the weight of sorrow, and was pierced with a lance on the Cross; the very same Heart that beats in the breast of the glorified Humanity of Jesus in Heaven. Thus the Sacred Heart of Jesus united with the Divinity is the special object of our worship to-day, the heart being always regarded as the centre and source of all affection. We commemorate, then, in a special manner the love of Him "who having loved His own who are in the world, loved them to the end." In these days of danger and conflict, Catholics to be strong and steadfast must provide themselves with a sure weapon. That weapon is an unswerving loyalty and love to the Person of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now, devotion to the Sacred Heart will most effectively secure to them the possession of that weapon. There is no devotion which appeals with such depth of tenderness and comes home with greater sweetness and with far more intimate persuasiveness than the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. May it spread more widely among the faithful and take possession of their hearts. *Adveniat Regnum Tuum.*

FATHER RECTOR'S SILVER JUBILEE

St. Patrick's College and its Old Boys' Association are going to celebrate with much rejoicing the Sacred Silver Jubilee of the Very Revd. Father T. M. F. Long, O.M.I., M.A., their Rector and President on Thursday next. We seize this occasion to say that we have the greatest pleasure in associating ourselves with this celebration and offering Father Rector our cordial felicitations and good wishes on the happy completion of a quarter-of-a-century of fruitful priestly life and we join him in thanking the good God for this great grace. Happy completion we say because a Sacred Silver Jubilee must lose much of its meaning if due prominence is not given to its real significance and in this respect it may truly be said that Father Long has been setting a fine example of priestliness of character. We in a special manner are indebted to him as an occasional and valued contributor to these columns in pre-war years when his spare moments were not taken up by the duties of a military chaplain and for his words of encouragement spoken half jokingly. Elsewhere in this issue appears a communicated article reviewing Father Long's different activities during the past twenty-five years and that makes it superfluous for us to go over that period once more. To spare space we had to omit the first part which dealt with his predecessors and really formed no part of the review, but we add a few

lines by way of supplementing it.

Father Long came to us in Dec. 1920 from Ireland soon after his ordination with the promise from his Superiors that he would be allowed to return for a University training in order to fit himself better for his future work. Accordingly after about two years' teaching experience at St. Patrick's he proceeded to England in 1923 and joined the University of Cambridge and took his degrees and returned to Jaffna in 1926 to resume his work at the College. On the retirement of Revd. Father Chas. S. Mathews, O.M.I., His Lordship the Bishop appointed Father Long as Rector of St. Patrick's, and Councillor of the Episcopal Curia in April 1936. The appointment was warmly welcomed by all as it gave promise of another long and prosperous period for St. Patrick's. Father Long has now been Rector for about nine years and he has maintained the efficiency and reputation of the College and won the affection and confidence of the boys by his happy mingling of kindness and firmness. The religious side of education, so necessary in these evil days, has received his special attention not only for its own sake but as a necessary factor in the development of character. He has opened a magnificent library and provided the students with all facilities to cultivate the habit of reading. In short, St. Patrick's occupies a large and warm place in the heart of Father Long who has many a plan for its post-war improvements. But his expansive interests let us hope will not confine his activities to the narrow circle of the College. With his charm of manner and magnetic personality which draw to him friends from far and near he is an asset to the country which is responsive to able leadership. May Father Long be spared for many long years of work for God and country. *Ad Multos Annos.*

XXV ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION OF FATHER ABRAHAM

Another Jubilarian whom we are glad to greet this week is the Revd. Father B. Abraham, M.S. Ap., Parish Priest, Karampan, Kayts. We understand his parishioners are celebrating his Sacred Silver Jubilee to-morrow Saturday with much warmth and we were reminded of it last night when an invitation card from the Celebration Committee was put into our hands. We are happy to unite ourselves with his parishioners in offering our hearty congratulations to Father Abraham on his rounding off a quarter century of sacerdotal life and we join in thanking Divine Providence which has watched over him during these years and made him a channel of graces to so many of the faithful. Father Abraham has been serving in several missions with success in spite of poor health and has won the love and esteem of those whom he served by his sympathy and readiness to help. The poor have found in him a kind benefactor. The spontaneous

celebration by his parishioners of his Silver Jubilee is a testimony to the popularity he enjoys among those to whom he was sent to minister. We wish the Jubilarian an abundance of Divine favours and many more years of health and strength to continue his beneficent service for the glory of God and the good of souls. *Ad Multos Annos.*

Theresa Neumann Alive and Unharmd

Theresa Neumann, stigmatised peasant woman, of Konnersreuth, Bavaria, is still alive and unharmd, according to reliable information obtained in Cologne from Catholic sources.

Little news has reached the outside world for over five years of the famous stigmatic. In November, 1939, she had been living for 12 years with the Most Blessed Sacrament as her only nourishment. Neither had she taken any liquid since receiving the stigmata during the Lenten season of 1926. Yet her strength and weight had not diminished.

In 1937, the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office in Rome formerly asked for an examination and Theresa Neumann willingly gave her written assent, though her father specified certain conditions which he deemed necessary if he was to approve of his ailing daughter's being taken out of the house.

No further steps had been taken up to 1939 and nothing has become known since whether such an examination has taken place.

LOCAL & GENERAL

The Confraternity of the Sacred Heart.—The Annual General Meeting of the members of the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart, S. P. C. Branch, Senior Division was held on Tuesday the 5th inst. at 6 p.m. at the College Hall. There was a large attendance of members and visitors. His Lordship Rt. Revd. Dr. J. A. Guyomar, O.M.I., who presided was ushered in by all present rendering the Papal Anthem. The Hony. Secy. Mr. G.S. Puvirajasinghe submitted the annual report recounting in detail some of the activities of the Society since its inception in 1868. Mr. B. J. Benedict moved the adoption of the report and it was seconded by Mr. S. Francis of Mary.

The Very Revd. Fr. P. M. Francis, O.M.I., Editor, "Catholic Guardian" addressed the meeting on the invocation "Heart of Jesus substantially united to the Word of God, Have Mercy on us." His Lordship delivered an appreciation of the exhaustive exposition of the subject by the learned lecturer dwelling at length on its various aspects. His Lordship also exhorted the members to practise always a true and living faith, love and devotion of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Mr. P. Saverimuttu thanked Fr. Francis on behalf of the members and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to His Lordship for having presided at the Annual General Meeting of the Confraternity. Mr. James Rasiyah seconded the vote of thanks.

A Public Lecture.—Under the auspices of the Jaffna Diocesan Literature Committee Revd. Fr. Xavier S. Thaninayagam, D.D., of Tuticorin Diocese will deliver a lecture on "The Catholic Church in a Changing World" on Sunday 10th inst. at 7 p.m. in the Catholic Club. All are welcome.

New S.V.P. Society, Jaffna.—The inaugural meeting of this conference was held on Sunday 27th inst. at 7 p.m. in Mount Carmel Hall, Jaffna. Mr. R.J. Paul, the president of the Particular Council S.V.P. presided. He traced to those present the history of the Society of the St. Vincent de Paul and said that this society was founded by Fredric Ozanam to visit the poor in their homes and attend to their bodily and spiritual needs. Mr. P. Saverimuttu, the secretary of the Particular Council next addressing them spoke of the objects of these conferences. He said that the qualities of Humility, Unity & Hard-work were the sure signs of the proper

FATHER LONG: HIGH LIGHTS OF A CROWDED CAREER

(COMMUNICATED).

The Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee of Very Revd. Fr. T.M.F. Long, O.M.I., Rector of St. Patrick's College is a fitting occasion to review the work done by the Catholic Priest, not in his narrow circle among Catholics but for the country.

1927 was a memorable year in Fr. Long's career. By August we see him busy organising the Catholics. The first Diocesan Union in Ceylon owed its existence to his efforts. Hardly had the Diocesan Union been formed when the Donoughmore Commission arrived. Fr. Long, though only the Spiritual Director of the Union was a sort of foster-father and had to take a prominent part in rallying the Union to present a powerful case to the Commission on the position of the Catholic minority in the body politic. The next year saw the birth of the Diocesan Provident Society, again the only Society of its kind in the Island for Catholics. From humble beginnings that Society has today a capital of Rs. 115,325-05.

Fr. Long is a man who sees visions and dreams. It is impossible to do anything in this world unless one has a long vision. Fr. Long nursed a project to give the education of the Jaffna boy, an agricultural basis. He was anxious to give the Jaffna boy the opportunities to put his hand to the plough and make a success of it, just as he had made him a success in Malaya and the Government and Mercantile Services as a clerk. After Fr. Long became Rector he launched the Kilinochchi College Farm Scheme. A large tract of about 40 acres was acquired at Kilinochchi and a Farm was opened up. The characteristic of trust, taking a man, especially a man of position on his word was carried by Fr. Long to a fault. He relied too much on the promises of those high up in Government Service and on Ministers. He expected them to fulfil the promises they made him when he opened the Farm. Perhaps he felt that the Ministers would treat Kilinochchi as he did Minneriya. It was a tantalizing vision. The Farm was cultivated for three years and resulted in a dead loss of Rs. 8,000. The Government at that time did not feel that the failure of such a scheme was going to have serious repercussions. The failure of that Farm owing to chilly aloofness of Government proclaimed the fact that if an institution was not able to make a success of agriculture, what chances had an individual. Other schools who would have followed suit felt that agricultural bias was an idle dream. Had one hundredth of the help that Government now gives to agriculture been given then, who knows, the howling wilderness of Kilinochchi may have blossomed as the rose. Perhaps the food problem may not have been so acute. The existence of a big Farm like the one owned by St. Patrick's may have been a model for peasant homesteads.

In 1938 the country discovered that Fr. Long had talents for organization of an entirely different character. The All-Ceylon Industrial Rally the biggest exhibition so far held in the North was launched with Fr. Long as Chief Executive Officer. This office was not a

sinicure, but one with a thousand headaches. It meant quick decisions, an eye for detail, securing co-operation of various interests, squeezing from Government Departments various privileges, talking round heads of Departments who would not step out of the beaten track of precedent and policy. Fr. Long's sweet persuasiveness and tenacity came into play. The Rally was a big success financially and economically. Few realise what a filip that Rally gave to industries in the North. The coir industry which was languishing got new life. The first coir centre in the North was opened owing to Fr. Long's persistent efforts. The Government Coir Demonstrator was housed in the College Boarding house for some time and all the help he needed to contact the people was done. Today there are thriving coir centres in various parts of the peninsula. Jaffna Hindu College paid Fr. Long the compliment by organizing a similar exhibition in 1940. It was a success because the blue prints for an exhibition of this nature were available. Then came the War. Jaffna wanted to signalise its existence in a special manner. The suggestion was made that Jaffna should present a Fighter Plane. To raise a lakh entirely in Jaffna was not an easy work. After sporadic outbursts of enthusiasm, interests flagged almost to zero. A number of people approached Fr. Long and asked him to launch out an Exhibition and Carnival. The Jaffna's Answer Carnival and Exhibition was organised with Fr. Long as Chief Executive Officer. H. E. the Governor declared the Exhibition open. Within a few days the target was reached and Jaffna had the unique honour of sending a Plane to challenge the Luftwaffe.

The War also brought Fr. Long into a sphere, which again would not suit every priest. He became Military Chaplain to the Forces, not only to the European soldier but also to the Askari and the East African. To go every weekend to Diyatalawa and be back again to work at his desk on a Monday morning after 48 hours of travelling week after weeks was a physical feat which only men of Fr. Long's calibre could undertake.

The one great lesson that Fr. Long's many sided career is this. Do not bury your talents. An educationist who deliberately cloisters himself in his school and stands aloof from work which needs his leadership in other spheres is not the best example to the rising generation. What Ceylon lacks today is the spirit of Service. Very many say, "I have got my job to do, and that takes all my time; after my day's work I need a rest." "That is following the path of selfishness. The War has given the lie to that type of attitude. The immense amount of work done by the man or woman after the day's work for years together, especially in England, was responsible for the victory in Europe. An eminent educational writer once said that the best motto for a school-master was "Be what you expect your pupils to be in later life." Fr. Long has given the present and many generations of boys a splendid example in his life which will remain an inspiration for decades

working of these conferences. After six members had been enrolled the President nominated Revd. Fr. L. S. Joseph, O.M.I., as the Spiritual Director with the approval of His Lordship the Bishop of Jaffna and Mr. M. Arulanandam as the President of the Mount Carmel Conference. The newly nominated President thanked in a short speech the representatives of the Particular Council for their presence and encouragement. Then the meeting terminated with the usual prayers.

Personal.—We are glad to learn that Dr. J. Patrick Antony, the eldest son of Mr. T.M. Antony of Jaffna Town, and an Old Boy of St. Patrick's College, who has been Asst. M.O. H. Trinco since last June, is promoted to the Post of M.O. H. Trincomalee Division, from 1st June, 1945, after his special training in Public Health and Anti-malarial work

in the Kalutara Health Unit. We congratulate Dr. Antony on his well-merited promotion.

Northern Food and Crafts Exhibition.—A Food and Crafts Exhibition will be held in the Jaffna Government Central School premises from 21st June to 23rd June. All nine circuits of the Northern Division are participating and the co-operation of all schools is solicited to make the exhibition a success. Many government departments are expected to join in.

Cereals, vegetables, onions, chillies, fruits and yams from school gardens and pupils' home gardens will be on display. The housecraft section will comprise cooking, sick nursing, first aid, child welfare, garments etc. The handicrafts section exhibits will be composed of needlework, ola work, fibre work, coir work, wood work, metal work, tex-

tiles, clay work and fancy works, the chief aim being to create articles out of common local raw materials and indigenous products.

Illustrations of subjects of local life, landscapes, picture composition, designs of order and art designs of Tamils are some suggestions for the Art section. Competition items will be a wall poster depicting schools' food production drive and a modern design in black and white suitable to be adopted for a certificate to be issued to the schools at this exhibition.

There will be two concerts. Short and original playlets, songs, dialogues, dramas on food production or schools' food drive are desirable items for the concerts.

Polish Cardinal.—The Primate of Poland Cardinal Hlond, who is temporarily in Paris, after being released from German internment by the Allies, has sent a telegram to the President of Poland, the Polish Prime Minister and the Minister of Religion and Education, conveying his blessing and warmest feelings. Cardinal Hlond is going to Rome, and after a short stay at the Vatican he intends to go to London on a visit to the President of Poland and the Polish Government.

In a short talk with the newspapermen after his arrival in Paris, Cardinal Hlond said: "Before being deported to Germany I had for two months been held a prisoner by the Gestapo in a flat in Paris whence I was taken direct to Wiedenbrook. The convent nuns treated me very well. I will not speak of other matters. The past must be forgotten. Today we have more important things before us—the common fight for a just cause; in this perspective personal experiences are but trifles."

When expressing gratitude for his release and for the hospitality of the American military authorities with whom he had spent the last week, the Cardinal stated that the Germans had left Wiedenbrook in the night of Holy Saturday.

Archbishop Downey has recovered from his severe illness and spoke at an Irish reunion on St. Patrick's Day. He urged Catholic young men and women to take part in public affairs. "More than ever to-day we need public men of complete integrity and selflessness, men who stand by God's laws, whose word is their bond and whose honour is beyond reproach."

Belgium.—The Belgian Catholic Party has completed its reorganization, has been re-named the Christian National Party, and has chosen as its president M. De Schrijver, who was Deputy Premier in M. Pierlot's Government. The Antwerp newspaper "Het Handelsblad" says the personality of the young president shows that the remodelled Catholic Party is ready to enlist the services of youth.

CORRESPONDENCE

Our Lagoons

To The Editor,

"Catholic Guardian," Jaffna.

Sir,—In 1934 I submitted to the Minister of Agriculture a scheme for the conversion of large lagoons (e.g. Jaffna, Puttalam, Batticaloa) into fresh water lakes. The deep portions of these lakes were to be used as storage tanks for lift irrigation; the shallow portions when they dry up annually in the dry weather were to be used for agriculture and pasture; some portions were to be reserved for fish culture; canals were to be made for irrigation and for providing cheap water transport. The Minister hesitated. No one can blame him as he had already embarked on a vigorous irrigation policy of the conventional type; and did not want to be distracted by what he considered a novel scheme though I held out hopes of better and speedier results at a very small fraction of the cost. Being convinced that the scheme will give handsome profits I offered in 1935 to do all the work at my expense if I got a lease of the lagoon for 50 years on a rental of Rs. 16,000 per annum; the Government was to be at liberty for any reason or no reason to terminate the lease on payment of the money expend-

ed and Rs. 50,000 as compensation. The Minister replied (29.5.35) that this proposal also could not be entertained. Though the then Director of Irrigation expressed the view later in that year that the scheme was feasible and was the best method of providing irrigation for Jaffna nothing was done for years till Mr. Webb was asked to report on a scheme for the Vadamaratchy section of the Jaffna lagoon. In 1942 he submitted a very exhaustive and learned report. He says "Incalculable benefits will be derived by the Peninsula from the construction of the scheme. I use the word "incalculable" advisedly, as conveying both its meanings—that the benefits would be tremendous even though the full extent of them cannot be reckoned out before hand".....I consider it a most excellent proposition and advocate it most strongly." The present Director of Irrigation Mr. Taylor reports "I consider [the scheme will be a boon and blessing to the Jaffna Peninsula.....I recommend the project with every confidence."

Mr. Webb having been asked to report on the Vadamaratchy section does not report on the Elephant Pass Lagoon. He however points out that the Elephant Pass scheme seems to offer possibilities of conversion.....as an extension of this scheme and with even less cost", and compares the main section to the Zuyder Zee reclamation.

I proposed in 1934 that the Elephant Pass Lagoon should be taken up before or along with the Vadamaratchy Lagoon. The Elephant Pass Lagoon which is as big as Minneriya, Giants Tank, Irramaduru and Kalawewa—all four put together can be easily made to feed the Vadamaratchy and Upper Lagoons. Though I am convinced that the proper order is Elephant Pass first, I would not raise the question if it would delay the Vadamaratchy Scheme which Mr. Webb recommended in 1942 "should be put under construction at the earliest possible moment." I would appeal to the Minister and his Committee to make supplementary provision for this work—My offer of 1935 is still open, if Government does not wish to undertake the work.—Yours, etc.

K. BALASINGHAM.

H. E. the Governor at Union College

His Excellency the Governor visited the Union College Industrial Department on the afternoon of Thursday, May 31st. On arrival he was given a rousing reception by the staff and students of the College. After a Guard-of-Honour presented by the scouts the Directors of the College and other prominent visitors were introduced to His Excellency. Later the Principal read an Address which recalled the visits of previous Governors beginning from Sir Arthur Hamilton Gordon in 1886. On that occasion Sir Arthur Gordon offered a generous donation to send Mr. C. K. Yesuthason, a graduate of the Industrial School, to America for training. The useful work done by the Department of Commerce and Industries for the industrial development of the Island and the assistance received by the school from this Department were also gratefully acknowledged in the Address. Mr. Yesuthason, who retired in 1937 after 50 years of meritorious service, was himself present at the reception.

The Address was exquisitely worked on paper made of palmyrah pulp and beautifully framed in palmyrah wood and other parts of the palmyrah palm. The Governor, in reply, expressed great admiration for the workmanship of the Address and said that he and Lady Moore would always treasure this memento. He also expressed his delight at the opportunity of seeing Mr. Yesuthason who, he said: "has indeed proved a very wise investment for this school and for all Ceylon."

His Excellency then went round seeing the various activities of the Industrial Department—printing, book-binding, carpentry and papermaking. He expressed great interest in all that he saw and made special reference to the papermaking department.

The Governor and party then left amidst enthusiastic cheering by the students.

American Hierarchy's Statement

(Continued from Page 1)

ment to all who had built their hopes on the Atlantic Charter. Poland which stood against the Nazi aggressor from the very beginning of the war—Poland which has suffered more than any other nation in the war—Poland which has fought with our arms on every European front—has been forced by her Allies to surrender a very large part of her territory. In apparent exchange it was guaranteed at Yalta that in the reconstructed world there will be a strong, independent Poland with a Government chosen in a free election by its own people.

Pending the action of the people of Poland in a free election, claims were made to set up a provisional regime which would be recognised by the three Great Powers. This provisional Government must not be the creation of a single foreign Power, but the choice of all the parties to the Yalta engagements.

Our President has pledged to see that in the efface of a permanent Polish Government the people of Poland be guaranteed their right of a free secret ballot.

THE BALTIC STATES Ominous Silence

In reading the official reports on current peace discussions, we are struck by the ominous silence of the three Great Powers on Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia.

Contrary to the protests of our Government four years ago and the assurance of Soviet authorities even before that time, but indications are that they will be incorporated without free consent in an alien system of government. Sympathy of all lovers of freedom goes out to them in their distress.

We hope that when the final peace treaty is framed and approved, it will not be recorded that our own country condoned the enslavement of these freedom-loving nations. We hope, too, that our Government will discharge its full responsibility in re-establishing all the liberated nations of Europe under genuine democratic régimes which will accord to all their citizens the full enjoyment of their human rights and open to them an era of prosperity.—C. H., London.

Advocate Refuses to Apologise

Mr. P. Ragupathy, advocate, and Mr. V. Subramaniam, proctor, both of Jaffna appeared before the Court of Criminal Appeal, before Mr. Justice Soertz, Mr. Justice Keuneman, and Mr. Justice Wijewardene on Saturday last on notice issued by the Court in connexion with two appeals from the Jaffna Assizes.

Mr. W. H. Perera with Mr. V. K. Kandasamy, appeared for Mr. Subramaniam and Mr. Ragupathy appeared in person.

Mr. Perera said that his client was prepared to apologise and Mr. Subramaniam apologised: "I express my regret to Your Lordships," he said, "for all passages in the petition of appeal which cast improper reflections on His Lordship who presided at the trial and I tender my apology to Your Lordships."

The Court accepted the apology and Mr. Justice Soertz told Mr. Subramaniam that when he instructed counsel to draft a petition of appeal it was necessary that he should assure himself of what the contents of it were.

"You ought to realise," said Mr. Justice Soertz, "that the counsel you employ not only can draft a petition of appeal according to law but also can draft a petition of appeal according to the dictates and requirements of decency."

Mr. Ragupathy said that he conducted the case for Karthigesu and in the course of the trial the presiding judge put leading questions to witnesses which His Lordship was entitled to do. The result of those leading questions was that it enabled witnesses to shape their evidence.

Mr. Justice Soertz: Do you persist in saying that you were quite right or

justified or are you going to apologise and express regret? Answer that simple question. You must not think that every advocate who thinks his advocacy irresistible and finds that he has not got the result he was seeking to get has the right to turn round and be offensive to the Bench.

"I submit," said Mr. Ragupathy, "that I am in duty bound to bring to the notice of Your Lordships in the Court of Appeal what I considered was necessary."

"But you have done that in very offensive terms," said Mr. Justice Soertz. "There is another petition of appeal drafted by you in which you were even more offensive. I don't want you to make a speech at this stage. I understand you stand by your statement. If so, we will give you a date and fix the matter for inquiry."

Mr. Ragupathy: I stand by that statement, but if Your Lordship thinks that the language is offensive....."

Mr. Justice Soertz: "It is not for us to say so. It is for you to realise whether it is offensive or not. We are asking you your attitude in this matter."

Mr. Ragupathy said that he stood by what he had stated.

Mr. Justice Soertz: "You are not prepared to express regret and apologise to the Bench! Are you prepared or not?"

Mr. Ragupathy: "I am not aware of any wrong I have done."

Mr. Justice Soertz: Notice will be served on you and the inquiry will be held in due course. We have nothing more to say to you.

The Court then adjourned.

"Reaction" in the Balkans

Those who have insisted that it was patriotic and progressive to back the Left in the Balkans and reactionary to express misgivings about our policy they must now be wondering (if they are honest) whether they were justified. The position has become very curious. In Yugoslavia and Greece there is a deliberate bid, in the name of liberation and anti-Fascism, to establish Left totalitarianism with managed single-list one-party elections. In Yugoslavia considerable pains are being taken to disguise the reality. But an analysis in the "Observer" of the methods employed leads to the conclusion: "It appears, therefore, that the only party which, as such, can claim representation in the Government is the Communist Party, which controls the Movement of National Liberation." We know that in Greece the Communist bid reached such a danger-point that we have been forced to attack the very elements which we had armed for resistance, and a revolutionary general, like Plastiras, shows himself more uncompromising in regard to E.L.A.S. than the Allies.—Cath. Herald, London.

Telegraphic Summary of News

BELSEN "OUTCOME OF MATERIALISM"

The Archbishop of Westminster, Dr. Bernard Griffin, speaking at Hull (Yorkshire) on Sunday said: "Communism, because it is directly opposed to the belief of God, is intrinsically evil." But, he added: "I am not one of those who believe that East and West cannot live at peace. Still less am I a cartoon cleric who is haunted by the Bolshevik bogey."

The Archbishop said that materialists who decided that "religion was nothing but opium for the suffering workers of the world" were responsible for the Belsen & Dachau concentration camps.

"If the authority of God is denied, the only possible substitute—if order is to be preserved—is the authority of the ruling politicians. If they have disposed of God they have to create a new god in the State. The Almighty State can no more exist without secret police

and concentration camps than men can live without food and air.

The merest glance at the records of the 20th century Totalitarian States will show you that, whether dictatorship is of the Left or of the Right, communal irresponsibility becomes the order of the day."

The Archbishop added: "One danger, more pressing than another in our country, is that we shall allow the State to become too powerful."

"There is the danger lest the encroachment of the State be so gradual that citizens lose their liberties before they know them to be in jeopardy."

But the Archbishop was "very far from preaching unrestrained and unrestricted individualism." He said: "Then, competition of every sort is uncontrolled by the community itself and the sufferer is always the poor man and the little man."

DE GAULLE READY TO NEGOTIATE

France is ready for negotiations for a settlement covering the whole of the eastern Arab world—not only Syria and Lebanon.

This declaration was made by General de Gaulle at a Press conference in Paris on Saturday, during which he accused "numerous British agents" in the Levant of stirring up anti-French agitation; the Syrian police of attacking French posts with British weapons; and Britain of keeping 600,000 troops in the Levant while the French have withdrawn their troops to the Western Desert leaving only about 5,000 men in the area.

Stating that the French Government had ordered their troops to cease fire on May 30, General de Gaulle pointed out: "It was only the next day that I received from Mr. Churchill the message which had been read an hour earlier by Mr. Anthony Eden in the House of Commons. This message in no way altered or will alter our attitude."

"In the common interest I did not consider it necessary to reply to this message. The situation was very serious and it would be monstrously absurd if bloodshed occurred between the Allies" (General de Gaulle chose instead to issue a public statement in regard to Mr. Churchill's Note).

HIS VIEWPOINT

Explaining the problem facing France, General de Gaulle said that while Egypt, Iraq and Palestine existed as political and geographical entities, it was difficult to pretend that Syria, by herself, was either. Nevertheless, all the characteristics of independence had been given the Levant States and what France now sought were certain bases, similar to those held by Britain and the United States, and treaties settling outstanding questions such as those connected with France's very considerable cultural and economic interests.

The French Delegate-General (General Beynet) had put proposals on these lines to Syria and Lebanon on May 8th, but was told it was impossible to negotiate. Attacks by armed bands had followed immediately.

WILL ENFORCE RESPECT

"The whole question should be considered from the viewpoint of international co-operation," declared General de Gaulle. "The French view is that the question might provide an opportunity for international co-operation as envisaged at San Francisco. Deep friendship unites the French and British peoples, but we must finish the dictates and crises. It is by international co-operation that this question must be settled."

"Let there be no mistake about it. The whole French people are united around the Government to ensure that its interests and dignity are respected and, if necessary, to enforce that respect."

WHEN WILL ALLIES LEAVE PERSIA?

Consultations are taking place between Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union to concert policies in reply to the request from the Persian Gov-

ernment for the evacuation of British, United States and Soviet troops from Persia.

It is emphasised in Persian quarters that the treaty between Iran and the Big Three, which followed the Allied occupation of the country in January, 1942, stipulated specifically that the country should be evacuated "not later" than six months after the end of the war against Germany and her associates. It is also the Persian viewpoint that this did not imply the war against Japan as at the time of the treaty the Allies wanted Persian facilities only for the purpose of sending lease lend supplies to Russia.

There is no official indication yet of what the Allies will reply to the Persian demand, but well-informed quarters believe that the British and United States Governments will react sympathetically to the request to evacuate their troops.

RUSSIA FOR VETO RIGHT

The long-awaited reply from Moscow, received on Friday night, stands firmly on the preservation of the full veto right by the great powers, it is learned authoritatively. So far from making any concession to the small powers' claim it represents a toughening of the Yalta formula.

The reply came as a disappointment to the Big Five meeting. After a two hours' conference the five leaders arranged to meet on Saturday and thereafter daily or even twice daily to clear up controversies and speed up the completion of the conference.

SUDDEN RECALL OF SOVIET DELEGATE

The sudden recall to Moscow of one of the principal Soviet delegates, M. A. Sobolev, puzzled the United Nations' Conference on Sunday.

Instructions for his return were received, it is believed in San Francisco, at the same time as Moscow's rejection of the interpretation of the Yalta formula that had been drafted by the "Big Five" committee. M. Sobolev represented Russia on this Committee.

A Russian spokesman saying that M. Sobolev left on Friday declined to comment on reasons for his recall. It is not known whether his departure is connected with his participation in the draft, which apparently went too far for Moscow in softening the power of veto decisions which is to be given to the "Big Five" in the International Security Council.

President Truman's trip to address the projected final plenary session of the San Francisco Conference, roundabout June 6th, has been postponed owing to the delay in the Conference's progress but the President will make the trip whenever the Conference does wind up.

Co-operative Wholesale Establishment

ISSUE OF TEXTILES TO CO-OPERATIVE STORES

The Textile Depots of the Co-operative Wholesale Establishment in Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Jaffna, Matara and Batticaloa, will be closed for all business from Friday, 1st June, 1945, to Saturday 9th June, 1945, for the purpose of price marking and stocktaking.

C. RAGUNATHAN,
for Commissioner of Co-operative Development.

Colombo, 29-5-45.

Campaign for the Diffusion of Catholic Literature

A MILLION pamphlets must be sold before this year closes. 10% commission is allowed to ALL CATHOLIC ACTIONISTS interested in the diffusion of CATHOLIC LITERATURE.

The war will be over soon and your income will quickly dwindle. Families can supplement their income by earning this commission on the sale of our literature.

Write at once to the Hon'y. Secy., CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB (Ceylon Branch), AMPITIYA, KANDY.