

# The Catholic Guardian

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

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## THE RISE OF M. R. P.— A LANDMARK IN HISTORY A CHALLENGE TO COMMUNISM

The rise of the Mouvement Republicain Populaire (M.R.P.) to be one of the three great political parties of France may prove a landmark in history. It establishes and bases on orthodox and genuine spiritual grounds the only possible challenge to Communism on the Continent of Europe to-day. It is true, of course, that Italy, together with a number of smaller countries, possesses strongly entrenched political parties based on Christian allegiance. It is true that such parties are slowly re-appearing in Germany. It is true, too, that in Spain and Portugal there exist Catholic governments.

But for various reasons these facts are by no means so important or significant as the emergence of the M.R.P. in France. Italy and Germany are defeated countries and can scarcely become for some years spear-heads of European political movements—in Italy moreover, the strength of Catholicism is to some extent due to the close, but accidental, relationship between the country and the government of the Church. On the other hand the Catholicism of the Iberian Peninsula expresses a political and social outlook altogether different from the values favoured by the victor Powers.

But France to-day is built on the spirit of the Resistance; it is avowedly intent on wide and radical social reform; it is still the strongest Western Continental Power. That over four million citizens of France should support a Catholic party and thus raise it to the front rank in French political affairs is a development as revolutionary and unexpected as anything which has happened in Europe since the last war.

### ITS SOCIAL PROGRAMME

We say it is revolutionary and unexpected, but we must beware of taking its significance too much for granted. Its real importance lies in the fact that it is a decisive first step towards achieving the salvation of Europe. Whether this promise will be realised depends on many conditions, of which the most important is the future policy of the Party itself.

As Mr. Butler reminded the House in a different connection last week, politics is the art of the possible. In this it differs notably from journalism. M.R.P. is not called upon to convert the world, nor even France, but rather to take careful political steps towards re-establishing, so far as possible, Christian values within the political and social life of the country. However, much we would like to see quicker progress, we would not criticise it for prudent tactics which have indeed already achieved so much.

In the social sphere its programme is not particularly difficult, apart from the specifically Catholic issue of the schools. One of its spokesmen in a pre-election address summed it up as "the liberation of the working classes so that men shall no longer be under the control of money, of production sacrificed for the interests of a class or of a State's power." We are convinced that this road which corresponds to the full teaching of the Encyclicals can become increasingly popular in Europe to-day.

Communism, for all its apparent strength, is on the wane already, for its inner contradiction betray it. Marxist Socialism has been weakened by the progress of Communism, yet the defeat of Communism will tend to unsteady doctrinaire Socialism also which, after all, is its first cousin. There is left the road of energetic social reform against all tyrannies which is, on the whole, the way of our own Labour Party, but which is given a far greater significance when it springs from a coherent spiritual and moral philosophy such as Christianity alone can give. M.R.P. must face more very dirty fighting from the Communists and Socialists who dominate the urban workers of France and the C.G.T. (the French Trade Union Conference), but it need have no fear about an increasing support among the people generally, just as it will receive increasing sympathy from abroad.

### DOUBTS ABOUT ITS FOREIGN POLICY

Much more vexatious is the problem of France's foreign policy. Here, too, we shall do well to remember that politics is the art of the possible, yet there can be great danger in allowing this maxim to suggest compromise which amounts to a betrayal of fundamental principle. For when this happens the very life of a movement must gradually ebb away. M.R.P., through its leader, France's Foreign Secretary, and indeed through General de Gaulle himself, for the Party stands closest to his views, has gone a long way indeed towards compromising essential Christian values. The betrayal of Poland is absolutely indefensible, and the original pro-Russian policy has helped to produce the evil fruits which cover Europe. Nor was the first national aggressiveness, nor the policy in regard to Germany very obviously consonant with Christian principles. It is our view that the whole Christian-Democratic movement on the Continent has been ready for many years to go too far in alliance with Marxist influences in political questions, while standing firm on social ones. And we consider that what is happening to-day fully justifies our view in this regard.

Happily there are signs that these very consequences are causing a marked change in attitude. France, under de Gaulle, is rapidly being forced to seek its strength in the West rather than the East, in Christendom rather than Sovietism. As regards Germany itself and the future shape of Europe there has been change also, but there is room for more. De Gaulle is still without clear ideas about the future of the Reich, and he has not yet accepted the obvious truth that a democratic, but none the less relatively strong Germany is essential for the security and well-being of Europe. He must understand that it is only within the framework of a close union between Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Spain that the internationalisation and the better of European resources, including the Ruhr and the Rhine basin can be achieved.

The election results will not make the achievement of this goal easy, for it is detested by the Communists and frowned on by the majority of the Socialists. These facts may well force M.R.P. to

## SERMON BY MGR. KNOX AT NEWMAN CENTENARY CELEBRATION BEFORE THE ARCHBISHOPS & BISHOPS OF ENG. & WALES

### GREAT IS TRUTH, AND HAS THE MASTERY. III ESDRAS IV.

Very few people know the source of that quotation, although it is one which every Englishman is accustomed to misquote, and to misunderstand. The story—there is no reason whatever to think it is true—is that king Darius had three lords-in-waiting, who argued the question, which was the strongest thing in the world. The first said, Wine; the second, A king; the third, Zorobabel, said, Women; but he added, And yet there is a stronger thing than any of these, Truth. With that, all the company cried out, Great is truth, and has the mastery. They meant, not that truth will sooner or later prevail in men's minds over error; but that truth enjoys an intrinsic sovereignty of its own, more compelling than the lure of pleasure, that the sword of earthly authority, than the glamour of a woman's looks. It beckons to the mind, and the mind, under penalty of abdicating its own nature, must needs follow.

We have met to celebrate Cardinal Newman in the Oratory which was his home; the home of one who was, as every Oratorian must be, a great home-lover. This is not a funeral panegyric. If long keeping of his own fire-side could impress a man's image indelibly on his surroundings, you would say that the Cardinal is waiting for us upstairs; too tired for attendance at the High Mass, we should expect to find him there, at least, in the room where so little has been altered since he took his last journey to Rednal. We are talking about him behind his back; about the thing which happened on October the 9th, 1845—his conversion. What is, precisely, the spiritual event we are discussing? When a soul receives, not in infancy, the grace of faith, two things happen; the Church gains a convert, and the convert gains a Church. Which of those two considerations is uppermost in our minds?

If a preacher stood before you, who could boast that the sunshine of the Catholic faith had lit up his nursery

move cautiously, but the Party will gain nothing by seeking to disguise what must be its goal. Above all to-day Europe needs a Christian leadership prepared to restore real moral values without fear or favour. That leadership must not fear to cause offence by its moral intransigence—and we note with satisfaction, by the way, that the "Observer" has had the courage to say that the War Criminals Trial cannot consider its work completed when it has finished indicting the Germans, even though it weakly confines itself to naming the secondary offenders, Czechs and so-called Poles, instead of the primary.

M.R.P., which must certainly count among its supporters many of the sane and moderate elements in France, can, if it will, play a great role in defending the real values for which the war was fought—values at present critically endangered by enemies not less bitter than those defeated. If it has courage, politically and socially, it will find itself increasingly the focus of men of good-will in the non-Sovietised world—*Cath. Herald, London.*

days, that the same authority which taught him his alphabet had taught him his Hail Mary, that the message of the Gospel had come down to him direct through the preaching of the English Martyrs—then, courtesy would demand that he should sum up for you what the Catholic Church gained, when she gained John Henry Newman. But since you are in the mood to listen to one who worshipped as a schoolboy in that other church of another St. Philip, a mile from here; to one who served the same apprenticeship Newman himself served, of Oxford Anglicanism, held a fellowship in Newman's own College, and watched Newman's snapdragons fade on the walls of it at the beginning of every autumn term—if a convert must speak to you, let him speak of what John Henry Newman gained, when he gained the Catholic Church.

*Loss and Gain, the Story of a Convert*—few of us can look along a row of his works, reading the titles on the backs, without pausing as we meet those words to consider what loss, what gain the author himself experienced. When Newman knelt there, in his Oratory at Littlemore, waiting to hear Destiny knocking at the door, the timid "May I come in?" of Father Dominic, he was forty-four years of age; he died at eighty-nine. And I suppose that, if the moment of grace could be of our choosing, our advice to Protestants would be, "Make your submission to the Church at nineteen or at seventy." "The more than Michal of his youth, the Abishag of his age"—if it were ours to woo the Catholic Church for the sake of her companionship, we should take her either for the inspiration of a whole career, or for the comfort of a lonely old age. To become a convert, as Newman did, at the meridian of your days, is to miss, humanly speaking, the best she has to offer. You are too old to be any longer adaptable; you have made most of your life-long friendship; you have become settled in your habits, and, to a great extent, in your ways of thought. Few men can afford to change their whole setting at that time of life; least of all, John Henry Newman. On the other hand, for you as for other converts the gracious influence of the honeymoon period will fade; you will be disappointed, sometimes, not with the Church, but with the human machinery which represents her, which so often misrepresents her; you will have ups and downs, periods of dryness and of staleness—it will not be with you as it was yesterday and the day before. Few men can welcome life's rebuffs, when they seem to come from the hands of that very institution to which their lives have been dedicated; least of all, John Henry Newman.

Wine, and the king, and women; those are crude terms under which the third book of Esdras would image for us three great appetites of our nature, the love of pleasure, the taste for power, the craving for human affection. To all those appetites we may have to say, "Get behind me," when the paramount claim of truth rules them out of consideration. There are a few more comfortable lives than that of an unmarried Fellow at one of the greystone Univer-

(Continued on Page 4)

## Church Calendar

DECEMBER 1945

FRI. ...14 S. Spiridon.  
SAT. ...15 S. Florence.  
SUN. ...16 3 A.—S. Eusebius.  
MON. ...17 S. Begga.  
TUES. ...18 S. Rufus.  
WED. ...19 S. Nemesion.  
THURS. ...20 S. Petar Can.  
FRI. ...21 S. Thomas.

## The Catholic Guardian

DECEMBER 14TH 1945

### RELIGION OR RELIGIONS?

Mr. E. L. Bradby, Principal of the Royal College speaking at the annual prize-giving at Ladies College, Colombo, referred to the very difficult practical problems that will have to be faced in putting into practice the decision of the State Council regarding introduction of religious instruction in the State system of education in which are included all State-aided denominational schools. Religious instruction, he said, was defined by the Special Committee as instruction in the religion of the parent of the child given by a teacher belonging to the same religion. But without dwelling at length on this aspect of the question he passed on to discuss what he considered a far more fundamental difficulty which he thought concerned every thinking man or woman in this country. It was a difficulty which they were in the habit of shelving, he said, but which the new policy in education would confront them with:—Religion or Religions? He spoke on this topic but our difficulty was to follow him. If we are not mistaken he seemed to us to share the so-called liberal opinion that one religion is as good as another. For, he proceeded to say that "the old idea that one religion was wholly right and another wholly wrong might have been logical in the Middle Ages in Europe when they really believed that if their fellowman was not brought to their way of thinking, he would go to eternal torture in hell and that, therefore, justified in torturing and fighting him in the hope of saving his soul. But such a point of view was obviously incompatible with the democratic way of life and thought in which they believed to-day and which they tried to put into practice." This reminds us of the lament of the Professor of Medieval History at Cambridge Mr. Z. N. Brooke, on the lack of medievalists in the University, the lack of wide interest in the Middle Ages and the lack of good medieval texts and on the emphasis he laid on the value of the study of medieval history. If this study had been given its due place in the British Universities, Mr. Bradby would have modified his statements. In considering the question of the opinions held by men of the Middle Ages we must confine our attention to the views held by the educated section. We do not think the view of that period was that one religion was wholly right and another wholly wrong. No doubt, they did think that Chris-

tianity, which was then identical with the Catholic Church was wholly right as far as the dogmas and morals it taught, but they did not believe that the other religions were wholly wrong. If a religion was wholly wrong no one would believe in it. It is the elements of truth which they contain that bring them adherents. Nor did the medievalists think that unless their fellowman was brought to their way of thinking he would go to hell and therefore tortured him in the hope of saving his soul. Nobody was punished for his private religious opinions if he kept them to himself. Nor did they think that all those outside the Church would go to hell. The Church tells you that no one goes to hell except through his own fault and it would not be his own fault if through his invincible ignorance he fails to fulfill the duty imposed by God of accepting His true religion and living according to it. Teaching. It was a pity that the speaker did not define his conception of religion which has had different meanings with different speakers and writers. It is obviously all important that one must be sure that one has a clear and correct notion of what religion means.

## EDITORIAL NOTE

**Delimitation Commissioners' Task.**—A few paragraphs from the writer of the "Political Notebook" in the *Times of Ceylon* are reproduced in another column as they are both interesting and thought-provoking. The writer pointedly says nobody thought of protesting when the Muslims who are fewer in number are aspiring to have 12 seats but when it was proposed that Catholics should work to secure 4 or 5 members to represent them in the State Council there is objection. Representation is allowed to the Muslims purely on religious grounds and why should it be denied to Catholics. If there are special religious interests to be safeguarded, there must be spokesmen for them in Council. Religious interests are more precious than material interests. The non-Christian representation on which we relied of Catholic interests has not been altogether satisfactory.

### Distribution of Prizes at St. Xavier's College, Mannar

The distribution of prizes at St. Xavier's College, came off on 8th Dec. 1945, N.Q. Dias Esqr., C.C.S., A.G.A., Mannar, presiding and giving away the prizes. After the Principal, Revd. Fr. A. J. B. Antoninus, O.M.I., had read his report the prizes were distributed to the deserving students. Then the president rising amidst loud applause congratulated the Principal on the success the College had achieved in the course of the year. He said that he had been told Fr. Antoninus was a live wire but his short acquaintance with him made him conclude that Fr. Antoninus was "a vast reservoir of energy. I will describe him as a mighty atom." He advised the students to follow the example of Fr. Antoninus and assured them of success in life. Congratulating the prize winners he said that they had won these prizes by dint of hard work, attention and concentration. These qualities would stand them in good

stead in life and exhorted the students to develop them.

Referring to Free Education, he remarked that he had his own fears about how the country could find money to finance this expensive scheme. He did not know what conditions obtained in Mannar, but in the South, he said, there were parents who could easily pay for the education of their children. Continuing he said that if Free Education was going to lower the standard of efficiency in St. Xavier's owing to insufficient grant it was the duty of the people of Mannar to give financial aid to Fr. Antoninus to enable him to maintain the present standard of efficiency. He wished the College all success.

A Variety Entertainment brought the function to a successful close.

## The Task of the Delimitation Commission

Strangely enough nobody is upset when the Muslims demand an adequate number of seats for themselves or raise objections on the ground that they are seeking to introduce the religious factor into politics. But when in the same issue of this newspaper and on the same page there was published the report of the Catholic meeting in which a speaker said that "they must aim at having at least three or four members, if not more, in the new Parliament," qualms of conscience have visited at least one correspondent.

Here is another interesting contrast. According to the Census of 1921 there were 325,913 Moors and 15,977 Malays, total: 341,890. According to the same Census the Christians numbered 523,066 of whom 400,000 are Catholics. If then the 341,890 Muslims are not unreasonable in expecting 12 seats, the Catholics who number 450,000 are not surely overshooting the mark in expecting "at least three or four members."

Two wrongs not making one right, the objection probably is only to Catholics or Muslims seeking election as such. It would certainly be a grave wrong if any candidates appealed to the voters on the ground of religion.

The Ministers had this contingency in view in their scheme of representation. Their explanatory memorandum stated: "In formulating their tentative proposals, the Ministers agreed that the minority communities ought to have additional weightage, but it was agreed that every member should be elected as a Ceylonese, not as a Sinhalese, a Tamil, a Muslim, a Burgher, an Indian or a European."

The task of the Delimitation Commission will be so to arrange the constituencies as to avoid clashes on communal, caste and religious grounds.

So far as the Catholics are concerned, the Catholic community in the North has given on more than one occasion a splendid example of its ability to rise above crude religious prejudice. On one occasion it was reported that a well-known Catholic was preparing to contest an important Northern constituency. He inquired from those in influence what chance he had of support from his co-religionists. He was bluntly told none. They preferred to be represented by a good Hindu who would undertake to safeguard their interests.

The Catholics in the North are a minority, but they have so well organized themselves that they have become a powerful factor in elections. The candidates whom they support invariably win. With two exceptions these candidates have not been Catholics.

The thing that matters is not whether any particular creed or community has its special representatives in the Council, but whether the member whom they have elected can be trusted to look after their interests and not harm them.

In the present State Council there are two Catholics but these have not been distinguished for their championship of the Catholic cause. One of them went as far as to attack his Church in an important debate. In this attack he received the support of a non-Christian Minister who was elected through the exertions of the Catholics of his constituency, whose interests he solemnly pledged himself to support.

On the other hand, when a mainly Catholic constituency like Chilaw elect-

## Cathedral Corner

Christmas Cards and presents are just now the main anxiety of many people who look ahead to the approaching festive season. We hope that all Catholics will include—in their distribution of tokens of goodwill—a beautiful picture for Our Lady. What She will most appreciate at present is a large parchment picture with the words: "The Government of Ceylon will pay bearer the sum of....."

We heard some good people give an excuse for postponing their donation that they had invested all their savings in War Savings Certificates. Our friends will be pleased to hear that War or National Savings Certificates are transferable and need not be cashed now. All that is required is an endorsement as follows: "Transferred to the Chairman, Cathedral Building Fund, Jaffna."

These will be gratefully acknowledged, not at their present value, but at their value when they mature. Thus a certificate for Rs. 85-00 will be considered as a donation of Rs. 100-00, as it will be worth that much five years after purchase.

### DIMENSIONS OF THE NEW CATHEDRAL

This is a topic on which parishioners often speak and on which they seek reliable information. It is admitted that the new Cathedral will probably be the largest religious place of worship in Ceylon. If this assumption is not correct, we shall be glad to retract our statement. We have heard that it was probably as large as Westminster Cathedral. This is certainly false, but it will not be a distant competitor. The following figures are interesting:

	WEST. CAT.	JAFFNA CAT.
Area covered	54000 sq. ft.	37518 sq. ft.
Width of nave	64 ft.	52 ft.
Total internal length	342 ft.	274 ft.

The campanile of Westminster however is 273 feet high and will throw our own campanile completely in the shade as plans now at hand provide for a campanile of 110 feet. C. S. M.

and a non Catholic Christian in the person of Mr. G.C.S. Corea, it has had no cause for complaint. Chilaw is convinced that it could not have found a worthier representative. Mr. Corea is a fair-minded Member and a capable Minister.

In the long run it does not really matter what particular communal, caste or religious label a candidate bears. Provided he is an honest and conscientious man anxious to be fair to all, he will make a good Member.

## LOCAL & GENERAL

**St. Aloysius' Confraternity.**—A Requiem Mass will be said for the repose of the soul of Mr. G.A.T. Soosai-pillai at 6-15 a.m. in the Confraternity Chapel on the 17th inst.

**Bank of Ceylon.**—The net profit for the year made by this Bank amounted to Rs. 388,258. The Directors state that they have ample liquid funds available and they will carefully consider any propositions which are submitted to them for financial assistance.

The millions of rupees which are held by the Ceylon Bank in its vaults and by the other Banks in Ceylon could, in their opinion, be profitably employed by the Government to the advantage of themselves and the Banks in Ceylon.

**Farewell Function.**—A very pleasant function took place at the Jaffna Rest-House on Monday last when Mr. X. Emmanuel, the Senior Asst. Post Master, Jaffna was entertained at dinner by his brother officers on the eve of his departure to Nannu-Oya as Post Master. Covers were laid for 25. Mr. J.R. Fry, the Chief Post Master who presided paid a glowing tribute of the sterling qualities of the departing officer and the efficient manner he discharged his duties to the satisfaction of all. Mr. Emmanuel thanked them and said that his duties as a Supervising Officer were considerably lessened by their co-operation. Mr. Emmanuel was then shouldered high to the strain "For he is a jolly good fellow" sung by all present.

**P.W.D. Office, Jaffna.**—The Ceylon "Daily News" learns that it is proposed to remove the P.W.D. Office at Jaffna to Vavuniya. Vavuniya is said to be rapidly growing in importance and is also favourably situated geographically for the administration of the Division in which Anuradhapura is to be included.

**Mr. D. S. Senanayake's Visit to Australia.**—The Board of Ministers at its meeting on Monday agreed to accept the proposal that Mr. D. S. Senanayake, the Leader of the State Council and Minister of Agriculture and Lands, should visit Australia in response to the invitation of the Prime Minister of Australia to discuss matters connected with post-war trade between Australia and this country.

Mr. Senanayake, it is understood, will leave for Australia some time after the publication of the Order-in-Council with regard to the new Constitution.

**For Air Talks in India.**—Mr. J. L. Kotelawala, Minister of Communications and Works, will leave for India on the 18th inst. to confer with the Indian Government regarding the co-ordination of air policy between Ceylon and India. He will be accompanied by Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, the Financial Secretary and Mr. C. H. Bradley, the Director of Civil Aviation.

**Excise Revenue.**—The Revenue under this head shows a phenomenal increase. In 1939-40 it was Rs. 7,792,634-72, in 1944-45, it was estimated at Rs. 26,162,000 and the 1945-46, the estimate is Rs. 28,500,000.

**The New Delhi Cathedral.**—His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate consecrated the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, New Delhi which took place on the 8th inst., the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The New Delhi Cathedral, it will be remembered, was built through the exertions mainly of Revd. Fr. Luke, O.F.M. Cap., of the Agra Archdiocese, in which New Delhi was then included. The present Archbishop of Delhi-Simla cleared off the big debt remaining on the Cathedral, a necessary preliminary to its consecration.

**Catholic Appointed Governor.**—Lieut. General Sir A.E. Nye, K.B.E., C.B., M.C., who has been appointed to be Governor of Madras, is, like the present Governor, Sir Arthur Hope, a Catholic. He was promoted from the ranks in the first World War, after winning the Military Cross. He became full Colonel in 1939, and in 1940 was appointed Director of Staff Duties at the War Office, and the following year Vice-Chief of the Imperial General Staff. He was married in 1939.

**Requiem for Dead Cardinals.**—The Pope presided and twenty Cardinals attended the Requiem for the three Cardinals who have died during the year, Cardinals Seredi, Bertram and MacRory. The Catafalque was a small model of a tomb. The Mass was celebrated by Cardinal Fumasoni-Biondi.

**Pro-Vichy Bishops Resign.**—Three French prelates have resigned their sees in consequence of criticism of their attitude during the German occupation. They are Mgr. de la Villerabel, Archbishop of Aix en Provence, and the Bishops of Arras and Mende, Mgr. Dutoit and Mgr. Autury.

**Penicillin and "DDT" for the Missions.**—Supplies sent by the Catholic Medical Mission Board in New York to missionaries throughout the world will in future include supplies of the new insecticide "DDT" and penicillin, requests for which have been pouring in.

The Catholic hospital in the Urundi vicariate now possesses one of the few "iron lungs" in Africa. It was sent to the Vicar Apostolic by the Daughters of Mary, Help of the Sick.

**Servicemen Who Want to be Missionaries.**—More than 200 Servicemen are in touch with the Maryknoll Fathers' headquarters at Maryknoll, New York, where, on their discharge, they wish to train as missionaries.

**Lived on Grass & Tree Shoots.**—Prices rocketed so much in Burma under Japanese occupation that in order to feed his mission a Salesian priest had to sell everything down to the pencil—which brought the fantastic price of £2

—and the last sheet of paper, which sold for 6s. a sheet.

The priest, Fr. Alessi, S.C., who went to Mandalay in 1939 to found the first Salesian mission in Burma, writes:

"We had to live for three years on stale old rice, grass and shoots of trees, and to buy rice for the people we had to sell everything down to the last shirt.

"One small loaf of bread was costing £2 10s., one yard of ordinary cloth £15, one quinine injection £17, one pound of Epsom salt £16, one hair-cutting machine (presumably clippers) £350, one cycle tyre £150, and so on."

The mission was in the centre of four military objectives and had 149 air raids. One quarter received 200 bombs. Several buildings were destroyed completely.

In the 14-day battle for Mandalay the mission was under shellfire for eight days. One priest was killed and four wounded.

Three men of the mission were murdered by the Japanese.

The mission has been looking after refugees, sometimes as many as 1,000 some 64 of whom died owing to lack of medicines and food.

Now the missionaries are trying to patch buildings with matting and thatch.

"When it rains," says Fr. Alessi, "the only thing to do is to wait for the rain to end."

## CORRESPONDENCE

### Nationalists or Slaves?

Sir,—I am writing with your permission to express my utter disgust at the contemptible exhibition of slave mentality that was staged in the Jaffna Town Hall by a number of Tamils who had the hardihood to call themselves nationalists. They deserved to be called Tamil slaves. This shameful movement is led by a number of lawyers mostly proctors of whom Jaffna has doubly too many. To dive a little into psychology to explain their action, they are in the habit of daily waiting for something to turn up for their own profit in the shape of fees and have habitually become keenly self-interested men. It is self-interest that has slanted their self-respect and has made them willing to be little puppies content with the crumbs that may fall from their masters' tables. Shame on them. Tamil people must be warned not to be misled by them. That a few men in order to feather their own nests should betray the interests of a whole community is criminal. If Sir P. Ramanathan were alive he would flog them severely. The conduct of the Tamil representatives in the State Council is the blackest of betrayal.

A TRUE TAMIL.

10th December, '45.

### Political Attitude of Tamils

Sir,—An attempt is being made in Jaffna to decry Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam's services to the Tamil community.

Would you permit me to state that faith in Mr. Ponnambalam's leadership remains unshaken among the vast majority of the people in Jaffna in spite of the cacaphony of a handful of self-seeking men. The people are deeply grateful for his services.

The more determined fight for the minorities remains to be fought on the floor of the new Parliament and in the country. It is hoped that Mr. Ponnambalam's genius at organisation will be shown to advantage in the ensuing fight. The people will then know how to treat the pseudo-patriots who stood with one foot in the camp of the opponents and one in the Tamil camp feigning service to both.—Yours etc., Jaffna, 12-12-45. P. Q. CHRISTIAN.

## OBITUARY

### THE LATE ROSAMMA MICHAEL-PILLAI

There passed away to her eternal reward at the ripe old age of seventy-six, Rosamma, widow of B. Michaelpillai Singathamby, at the home of her brother, Mr. S. Augustine (Teacher, St. Patrick's) at the Convent Street, Jaffna. After some months of illness, consequent on age, she died peacefully on the

evening of the 5th inst. surrounded by her son, brothers and the nearest of kin, and fully prepared to meet her Creator.

The deceased was a great-grand daughter of Sanjuampillai Kasarpillai of Karampan, of highly ancient and respectable lineage. One cannot but recall to mind the Valiant Woman of the Gospel, as one thinks of the departed old lady—kind, prudent, neighbourly, of sturdy faith and uncalculating charity. The passing away of that old and valiant type of woman is a distinct loss to society.

The funeral which was conducted with great solemnity, the following day evening 6th inst., was attended by a very large gathering of kins-folk and friends from all parts of the town. Rev. Frs. E. Forzy, O.M.I., B. Deogupillai, and L. Joseph, O.M.I., officiated at the house & in the Cathedral. The Rev. Frs. G. A. Gurusamy, O.M.I., (Superior), B.A. John, O.M.I., Acting Rector, S.P.C. and S.G. Hilary, O.M.I., attended the funeral service at the Cathedral. The last blessing over the grave was pronounced by Fr. Forzy.

The principal mourners are, her only son Mr. M. P. Mariampillai (Ponnu) of "Resdyn", Kotabena, and Mrs. Mariampillai and children, and the brothers of the deceased, Messrs S. Manuelpillai, Joseph and Augustine, and Mrs. Augustine and children, to all of whom great sympathy is extended. R. I. P.

## The Law Society of Ceylon

The Monthly Meeting of the Council of the Law Society of Ceylon was held at Trinity Place, Hultsdorf on Saturday 8th inst. The President, Mr. S. J. C. Kadigamar, presided.

Members from Colombo, Hatton, Negombo, Gampaha, Kegalle, Chilaw, Kalutara and Balapitiya were present.

Among the matters discussed and decided upon were the following:—Financial Statement, Budget for 1946, Incorporation, Recommendation of Proctors for Apprenticeship Panel of the Council of Legal Education, Attorney General's Circular to Crown Proctors and the summoning of a Conference of Crown Proctors by the President, Adoption by the State Council of the motion of Mr. H. de Z. Siriwardene, M.S.C., and member of the Council of the Law Society, re appointment of Masters in Chambers.

## Co-operative Wholesale Establishment—Christmas Vacation

All the depots of the Co-operative Wholesale Establishment, both in Colombo and outstations, will be closed for issue of goods to Co-operative Societies during the Christmas vacation (24th December 1945 to 2nd January 1946 inclusive).

Issues of Malted Milk on emergency medical prescription will, however, be made throughout the vacation except on Christmas day (25th December 1945) and New Year's Day (1st January 1946).

G. DE SOYZA,  
Commissioner for Co-operative  
Development.

Colombo, 7-12-45.

## CENSUS 1946

### FEMALE ENUMERATORS

Wanted female enumerators for Censuses 1946. Training between 15 December 1945 and 15 January 1946. Allowance of Rs. 1-70 per day without travelling to candidates normally resident in town and Rs. 2-50 per day with travelling expenses to others during training. Monetary bonuses and/or certificates of merit for satisfactory enumeration work. Intelligent and educated females from Jaffna District only shall apply. Applications close on 14 December 1945. For further particulars apply to the Commissioner of Census, Kacheri, Jaffna.

COMMISSIONER OF CENSUS.  
Jaffna, 4-12-45.



## SELECTIONS

AT THEIR BEST

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**Sermon Preached by  
Mgr. Knox**

(Continued from Page 1)  
sities. To Newman, comfort did not mean much; but I think the mere routine of a familiar life was very dear to him; if he kissed the door-posts of his meagre cottage at Littlemore when he went away, it was because they stood for something that had become a matter of custom with him, something he had grown into—he was not fond of moving. To leave the atmosphere in which he had been nurtured would have meant a wrench for him, even if there had been nothing else. But there was, much else. He must leave behind him that position of dominance in a world of thought, which comes to few men, and is all the more treasured because it is so rare. And he must make up his mind to the Parting of Friends.  
(To be Continued)

**Improvements to Vallapiddi Channel in Thunnalai**

The Asst. Govt. Agent (E) Jaffna will receive sealed tenders up to 12 noon on Tuesday 18th December, 1945 for the above service.

2. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable on application from the A.G. A. (E) Jaffna from whom all particulars on the subject can be obtained.

3. A cash deposit of Rs. 10 should be made at the Jaffna Kachcheri to the credit of the A.G.A. (E) Jaffna and the Kachcheri receipt produced before any tender form can be issued.

4. The successful tenderer will be required to furnish a security deposit of Rs. 50 before signing the agreement.

Sgd. E. GOONERATNE,  
A.G.A. (E), Jaffna.  
5th December, 1945.

**TENDER NOTICE**

The Asst. Govt. Agent (E) Jaffna will receive sealed tenders up to 12 noon on Thursday 20th December, 1945 for constructing a bund to protect fields from influx of sea water through Sangupiddy Dike in Chavakachcheri South.

2. Tenders should be made on forms obtainable on application from the A.G. A. (E) Jaffna from whom all particulars on the subject can be obtained.

3. A cash deposit of Rs. 50 should be made at the Jaffna Kachcheri to the credit of the A.G.A. (E) Jaffna and the Kachcheri receipt produced before any tender form can be issued.

4. The successful tenderer will be required to furnish a security deposit of Rs. 500 before signing the agreement.

E. GOONERATNE,  
A.G.A. (E), Jaffna.  
5th December, 1945.

**Order Nisi**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

In the matter of the estate of the late Manuelpillai Bastiampillai of Chundicuty, Jaffna.

Deceased.

Testamentary } No. 503

Jurisdiction }  
Selvanayagam Vincent Pax Bastiampillai of Chundicuty, Jaffna.

Petitioner.

Vs.

- 1. Theresamma widow of Manuelpillai Bastiampillai
- 2. Thomas Perinpanayagam Bastiampillai
- 3. Mary Bridget Rosamalar Bastiampillai
- 4. Regina Lilymalar Bastiampillai &
- 5. Manuelpillai Joseph all of Chundicuty, Jaffna

Minors } Respondents.  
This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai, Esquire, District Judge, Jaffna on the 10th day of December 1945 in the presence of Mr. W. B. Canagaratna Proctor on the part of the Petitioner abovenamed; and the affidavit of the said Petitioner dated 8th December 1945, having read:

It is ordered that the 5th Respondent abovenamed be and he is hereby declared appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the minors the 3rd and 4th Respondents abovenamed and the Petitioner abovenamed do hereby declared entitled, as the heir of the deceased to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased issued to him accordingly, unless the Respondents abovenamed or any person or persons interested shall on or before the 16th day of January 1946 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

Jaffna this 10th day of December 1945.  
Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,  
District Judge.

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St. Patrick's College, Jaffna.  
or call at No. 1, S.P.C. Road, Jaffna.

**Order Nisi**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

In the matter of the estate and effects of the late Antinipillai wife of Xavier Bastiampillai of Karampan.

Deceased.

Testamentary } No. 502

Jurisdiction }  
Annammah widow of T. Saverimuttu of Karamban.

Petitioner.

Vs.

Xavier Bastiampillai now of Puttalam.  
Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before R. R. Selvadurai Esqr., District Judge, Jaffna on the 1st December 1945 in the presence of Mr. James, Proctor for petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner having been read:

It is ordered that the petitioner be declared entitled to have letters of administration to the estate of the said intestate as sole heir unless the respondent or any other person shall appear before this court on the 18th of December 1945 and state objection or show cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 1st day of December 1945.

Sgd. R. R. SELVADURAI,  
District Judge.

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E. GOONERATNE,  
for Deputy Food Controller, Jaffna.  
The Kachcheri,  
Jaffna, 28th Nov., 1945.

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