

The

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

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## SPAIN AND ARGENTINA

The agreement signed between Spain and Argentina establishes at Cadiz a free port for the distribution to various points of Western Europe of the meat which will be brought in Argentine refrigerator ships, which the Spaniards, for their part, will build. One of the great main trades between Britain and Argentina, in which Britain was a pioneer, will encounter this increasing competition, because the Argentine Government can, and no doubt will, employ all sorts of ways of assisting its own line.

The announcement was made to hearten the Spanish public immediately after their hopes of participation in the European Recovery Programme had been cruelly and brusquely disappointed. Not for the first time, Argentine can be brought forward to show, what is perfectly true, that Spain is not, in fact, isolated. The talks for a trade agreement with Franco go forward at the moment when it is assumed to be a horrifying suggestion that the countries which all individually are anxious to do as much trade as possible with Spain should accept Spain into their collective plan.

### THE SPANISH REGIME

It is unusual for this journal to find itself in agreement on any point with Dr. Negrin, but we are glad he has disturbed the unanimity of Left-wing opinion, calling for the inclusion of Spain in ERP and declaring in the *New York Herald Tribune* that "to dream of the restoration of the Republic through the starvation and impoverishment of Spain is wrong and bad wishful thinking." It is thinking singularly out of touch with both political and economic realities in Spain. But so, equally, is the policy of *The Observer*, that an approach can be made to the Spanish Army and the Spanish Church, who are apparently to be invited to be asked to turn against the present Government in favour of an *ad hoc* grouping of the more impatient monarchists and the Spanish Socialists who are anti Communist. There is a great effrontery in men proposing now to approach the Spanish Church, who never interested themselves in the least

in defending it or the Spanish Army, with the suggestion that it should depose itself. The ultimate guarantee of political order in Spain, as in Portugal, is the Army, and General Franco, came to power not as a party leader in the manner of Hitler or Mussolini but as the choice of the Army. What is really suggested in all this speculation is that General Franco should disappear from the political scene because he has been too much calumniated in the past by the successful Communist propaganda of ten years ago, before the world was so sadly wise as it is now about legal and democratic Governments, Popular Fronts, International Brigades and Peoples' Democracies.

### THE AFTERMATH OF PROPAGANDA

The Spanish Civil War was primarily a Spanish event, reflecting a special history. There were parties very prominent in it, the Carlists and the Anarchists, who are not found anywhere else in Europe. But the dimensions of the tragedy, and its prolongation, were directly due to the Soviet Union, which was first in the field with tanks and military missions and the International Brigades; and it was the Communists who handled the propaganda for the outside world, who spread the wholly fictitious picture of a moderately progressive and constitutional elected Left-Wing Government being struck down by a dark conspiracy, and it was this story which was accepted so uncritically by the progressives in Britain and America. It still clouds their sight today.

So the absurd position is reached that where the Communists are strong we are prepared to do a great deal to strengthen the anti-Communists, as first Britain and then America have done in Greece and begun to do in Italy. Our Madrid correspondent reported last week how much the Monarchists have lost inside Spain, from the rash promises made to outside opinion to let political party warfare start again. It is realized that with the king there would have come back a movement parallel to that which the Communists and the Nenni Socialists have both been producing in Italy.—*The Tablet*.

## THE CHURCH AND COMMUNISM

### A Low Week Statement from the Hierarchy of England and Wales

"The Catholic Church has always been aware of the legitimate grievances of the working classes. Their cause was upheld by Pope Leo XIII when he issued his famous letter, so justly called 'The Workers' Charter.' But at this time, when there is a growing realization of the evils and dangers inherent in Communism and Communist regimes, we feel it necessary to re-assert certain principles to which the Church has not hesitated to draw attention in the past.

"For the last hundred years, since Pope Pius IX declared in 1846 that the 'infamous doctrine of so-called Communism is absolutely contrary to the natural law itself and if once adopted would utterly destroy the rights, property and possessions of all men and even of society itself,' Pope after Pope has condemned Communism. 'In the doctrine of modern Communism,' says Pope Pius XI, 'there is no room for the idea of God, there is no difference between matter and spirit, between soul and body; there is neither survival of the soul after death nor any hope of a future life.' Then, speaking of man and the family under Communism, the Holy Father says: 'Communism strips man of his liberty and the spiritual principle of moral conduct, robs human personality of all its dignity and removes all the moral restraints that check the eruptions of blind impulse. Further, in man's relations with other individuals Communists hold the principle of absolute equality, reject all divinely constituted authority, including the authority

of the parties.' His Holiness then explains that such a doctrine refuses to human duties any sacred character, and logically makes marriage and the family a purely artificial and civil institution. The notion of an indissoluble marriage tie is repudiated. Communism would seek to emancipate women from the family and the home, and the care of the children devolves upon the State, which demands exclusive rights in the education of the child.

"To discover the evil effects of Communist teaching and practice, we should recall the annexation by Soviet Russia of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia, and the setting up of a Communist regime there, against the independence of these nations and contrary to the wishes of the people. We remember also the setting up of the Lublin Committee by Moscow, which has prevented Poland from achieving the freedom for which she fought so gallantly. The peoples of Albania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and, more recently, Hungary and Rumania and Czechoslovakia, are denied their legitimate freedom. Human rights are openly violated, and these nations are deprived of their independence. In the Far East the Communists are preventing citizens of China from settling down to normal, peaceful life; and the Communist Parties in France and Italy are constantly stirring up trouble and trying to cause revolution. Within the last few days we have witnessed Communist attempts to gain control of Berlin.

(Continued on Page 4)

## COMMUNISM IS THE ARCH-ENEMY

"Fascism and Nazism had their day, but Communism remains as the arch-enemy," said Archbishop Downey at a Catholic Young Men's Society demonstration in the Alexandra Theatre, Widenes. "It is essentially atheistic, materialistic and disruptive," said His Grace. "Its atheism does not merely consist in the denial of God.

"It is a positive hatred of God, intense, implacable, like to that which burns in the evil spirits, a hatred which is mobilised and organised for a veritable war."

During the past 25 years, said the Archbishop, there have been two rival philosophies disputing the Church's right to proclaim and apply Christian principles—International Communism and National Stateolatry.

"By National Stateolatry I mean the worship of the State at the expense of the rights and legitimate liberties of the individual, leading ultimately to the deification of the omnipotent State.

"Communism and Stateolatry are not mere social systems for the remedying of social ills; they each embody a new philosophy of life, a new evangel, a new crusade."

In Communism man is just an organic part of the productive mass functioning for the good of the whole at present in the unachieved Utopia promised him, striving by class-warfare to establish the dominance of the proletariat.

all that happened during four years, when convents were the last refuge of Jews, Communists, men of the Maquis and Resistance fighters."

In the interests of Stateolatry race- worship is preached, race-dominance is sought, and a religion of race enthroned.

The ordinary individual is of no account in either of these systems.

"Both are rooted in sheer materialism, both overlook the spiritual and eternal in man; both give rise to oppression and cruelties; both create more and greater evils than they remove.

"We have much to learn from our enemies.

"We would do well, for instance, to imitate the thoroughness of the Communist organisation built up, as it is of closely related cells on the analogy of the living human body, to study its methods of penetration and propaganda and to match within our own ranks the spirit of tireless devotion to the cause.

"We can derive inspiration also from the self-discipline cheerfully undertaken, and the sacrifices bravely borne, by young and old in the interest of Stateolatry.

"Denying the future life, Communism places the last end of man in a purely earthly Utopia fantastic and impossible of realisation, in which the individual will attain to his supreme good as part of the vast machine of a completed socialised society.

"To prepare the way for this 'golden age' Communism labours by every possible means to kindle in every land the flame of Red revolution, in which the proletariat must rise and destroy all other classes, all religious, all morality, all forms of government, all existing culture and institutions."

## A FAKED CHARGE AGAINST CLERGY IN FRANCE

The affair of "The Plot of the Monasteries" is now definitely ended. The last of the Benedictines, Dominicans, Jesuits and Holy Ghost Fathers accused of having hidden alleged collaborators of the Germans and the Vichy Government have been acquitted.

Among the last to be tried—and acquitted—is Dom Marie de Floris, Benedictine Abbot of Calcat.

The very day after some of the acquittals, the French Premier, M. Maurice Schuman, personally decorated the abbot of the Benedictine Abbey of St. Martin at Liguge, where he himself was hidden from the Germans.

M. Schuman hid for 10 days in a cell while the Germans were searching for him. He was guided to safety in Lyons at night by a priest who knew the movements of the Germans.

News of the alleged plot was sprung upon the French people over a year ago.

The then-Socialist Minister of the In-

terior told a Press conference that for weeks the police had been making inquiries about 20 convents, abbeys and other religious houses in and around Paris, seeking alleged collaborators.

The arrest of two priests was used by the Communists to stir up a "scandal."

At that time the Communists were themselves under heavy fire through being involved with Joseph Joanovici, who sold metal to the Germans and tried to protect himself in case the Germans lost, by giving large sums to a Communist Resistance group.

More priests were arrested later and priests were insulted in the streets.

Communists tried to involve the Vatican by "inventing" a Cardinal. They said his name was Cardinal de Courriers. There was no such person.

Fr. Paul Riquet, hero of the Dachau concentration camp, hit back.

Denouncing the anti-clerical campaign, he declared: "Thus we forget



## Church Calendar

MAY 1948

THURS. ...20 S. Bernardine.  
 FRI. ...21 S. Julia.  
 SAT. ...22 S. Rita.  
 SUN. ...23 HOLY TRINITY.  
 MON. ...24 S. Vincent of Ler.  
 TUES. ...25 S. Gregory P.  
 WED. ...26 S. Philip Neri.  
 THURS. ...27 CORPUS CHRISTI.

## The Catholic Guardian

MAY 20TH 1948

## PALESTINE

Events have for some time been heading for a crisis in this unhappy land and the news reaching us throughout this week should have made even the most flippant begin to sense the seriousness of the situation.

War under any circumstances is terrifying. It means the implicit assertion that might is right, it means the abandonment of reason for force, it means that the methods and the morality of the jungle are to prevail. When the war is a religious one, we have the lesson of history that it brings to the surface the worst passions in man. In the war that has just started, fanaticism has already made itself felt and is not likely to abate when one remembers that the God of each side is the God of battles.

Fanatic though he be, the citizen of the new state of Israel, is not quite purblind and if he has entered into a grim struggle it cannot be, in his view, against such overwhelming odds as would strike the casual outsider. That Jewish money and votes count is clear from the rather feverish haste of President Truman to recognize the new state of Israel. Russia, which does not want to be kept out of the Middle East followed post-haste. If this process continues and the Arabs by way of reprisal close down on the supply of oil, there is no faint possibility of keeping the struggle localized. Big business will dictate interference and World War number Three that we all dread will have started.

The alternative is not a pleasant one to contemplate. The intransigence of the Jews has massed against them the Moslem world and they need expect no quarter, not that they will ask for any. Sheer annihilation would seem to be what is awaiting them. It will argue a degree of callousness, revolting to dwell on, in the so-called civilized world if the United Nations do not unitedly at last impose peace.

Callousness and selfishness on the part of the United Nations have been responsible for the failure to get to grips with the underlying problem in time and it is to be hoped that the grim prospects now revealing themselves will induce sobriety of counsel, doggedness in insisting on sanctions against the recalcitrants and the single-minded determination to ensure a just and lasting peace independent of all other extraneous considerations.

It is a sad commentary that the Christian claims to the holy places seem to have gone by default. But one has reason perhaps to be grateful as the

pure-minded champion that we would desire has not appeared on the horizon. We are out of the struggle *qua* Christians but we cannot, if we are to be true to Christian principles, fold our arms and Cain-like repeat that we are not our brother's keeper. Such a degree of detachment argues indifference to the values established by our Master and means a lowering of moral tone leading directly or indirectly but in definite measure to the unleashing of the un- and anti-Christian forces that are leading the world, Gadarene fashion, to the abyss.

## The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

(COMMUNICATED)

The Mystery of the Holy Trinity is the greatest of all mysteries. It is a mystery impenetrable to our human intelligence, incapable of comprehending the infinite. But as the Spirit of Truth has revealed it, we must adore this mystery with the deepest humility, the most tender love, and the most lively gratitude.

To God the Father is attributed omnipotence, and the work of creation. To Him we owe our existence and our preservation. God saw from all eternity other possible beings, who would have served Him better than we have done and glorified Him more. But because He loved us with an everlasting love, He created us rather than them. Love demands love in return. Are we thankful to God for creating us?

The love of God the Son for us has been manifested in a still more striking manner, namely by Redemption, which has not only ransomed us from the slavery of Satan, but has reinstated us in all the rights we had lost by the fall of Adam. He who created us without our aid, He who redeemed us even before we were born, would not save us except with our co-operation. What would be thought, if a king should take the place of a criminal and die in his place, for a crime that the latter had committed. This is what the Son of God has done for each of us. We ought therefore henceforth live only to please and serve Him, who gave His life for us.

The love of the Holy Ghost manifests itself in our sanctification and adoption. He cleansed us from original sin in our baptism, filling our souls with sanctifying grace which raises us to the dignity of adopted children and heirs of God and co-heirs of Jesus Christ. He has also sanctified us in our Confirmation and does so also when we partake of the other Sacraments. He lives in our souls as really as Our Lord lives in the tabernacle. What Our Lord is by nature, we are by adoption. We should therefore, love God with all our hearts by avoiding all that could displease Him, and by striving diligently after the perfection of our state in life.

We should honour God the Father by being always His good children, God the Son, by imitating His example by our conduct,

and God the Holy Ghost by listening to His inspirations and employing His grace for our sanctification, so that He may always dwell in us.

## Thoughts for the Month of May

(Continued)

20. Mary is the human Mother of Jesus, and the supernatural Mother of every Christian. Jesus, her first-born, she brought forth without pain; but in giving birth to us her second-born, what agony did she not have to endure!

21. It is at the foot of the cross that Our Lord accomplished His mission upon earth. She then in inconceivable pain brought forth the adopted son for whose guilt Jesus died. As on the day of the Incarnation, the love she had for her God became the love of Jesus, so on the day of Redemption, the love of her Jesus became in her the love of the whole Church. The maternity without pain called for the maternity in tears and in labour.

22. John is not only John, but each of us, since according to the doctrine of the Mystical Body of Christ, we must see in anyone in the state of grace an *alter Christus*. As Jesus is the Head and we are His members, everyone of us has, in the most precise sense of the word, Mary for mother.

23. No sooner had Mary consented to be the Mother of the King of Kings, than she merited by this consent to be made Queen of the world and of all creatures. As Queen she possesses, by right, the whole kingdom of her Son. As angels and men are subject to the empire of God, so are they also under the dominion of Mary.

24. The kingdom of God consists of power and mercy; reserving power to Himself, He yielded the empire of mercy to His mother.

25. St. Thomas says, in his preface to the Canonical Epistles that when the Blessed Virgin conceived the Eternal Word and brought Him forth she obtained half the kingdom of God; so that she is Queen of Mercy, as Jesus Christ is King of Justice.

26. Unlike earthly queens who with their ostentation of majesty inspired terror, this Queen of Mercy shows no severity to those who come to her, but is all sweetness and gentleness.

27. How great should be our confidence in this Queen knowing her great power with God, and that she is so rich and full of mercy. This was revealed by Our Lady herself to St. Bridget: "I am the Queen of Heaven and the Mother of Mercy; I am the joy of the just, the door through which sinners are brought to God."

28. She continued: "There is no sinner on earth so accursed as to be deprived of my mercy; for all, if they receive nothing else through my intercession receive the grace of being less tempted than they would otherwise have been."

29. She adds: "No one is so cast off by God that he will not return to Him and enjoy His mercy, if He invokes my aid. I

am called by all the Mother of Mercy, and truly the mercy of my Son towards men has made me thus merciful towards them."

30. She concludes by saying: "And therefore miserable will be to all eternity, who, in this life, having it in his power to invoke me, who am so compassionate to all, so desirous to assist sinners, is miserable enough not to invoke me, and so is damned."

31. Let us, then, have recourse, to this most merciful queen, if we would be certain of salvation.

C.W.M. Series.

(To be Continued)

## The Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost

The Holy Spirit enriched the Apostles with His sevenfold gifts. Their understanding was no longer darkened, nor were they any more faint-hearted and timid. With unfaltering courage they went forth to proclaim the truths of Christianity, and to preach "Christ Crucified" to the same people who, only a short time before, had been guilty of His death upon the cross. Thousands were converted on the spot; and the Church celebrated her birthday on earth, and extended her mission, from that very day, to the utmost limits of the earth.

There can be no greater happiness on earth, than the privilege of belonging to the True Church. We must become living temples of the Holy Ghost, letting our faith shine forth in our lives. The seven gifts, with which the Holy Ghost enriches us, will produce this effect in our souls.

The Sacrament of Confirmation strengthens us in our faith in the Catholic Church, to live as her children, to propagate the faith according to our strength and ability, and even should God require it of us, to sacrifice life itself rather than be false to its teachings.

The first gift of the Holy Ghost is "Fear of the Lord", which so disposes of our hearts that we entertain no fear except of God and the possibility of offending Him by sin. The second gift is "Piety", which leads us to a state of perpetual prayer, offering all our actions and thoughts to God. The third gift of the Holy Ghost is "Knowledge", through which we become thoroughly impressed with the truth, that the great affair of our eternal salvation should first rank in our estimation. The fourth gift, with which we are favoured by the Holy Ghost, is "Counsel". This gift floods the soul with celestial light to discern what is pleasing to God in the various circumstances of life. The Christian who receives this gift is blessed with that peace which the world cannot give. The fifth gift is "Fortitude", which enables us to bear patiently all the crosses of this life and to fulfil the duties of our state of life. The sixth gift which the Holy Spirit offers us is "Understanding", which enables us to look at and judge everything through the light of Holy Faith and to live accordingly. Finally, the seventh gift is the gift of "Wisdom", which is the gift of



From the very depths of our hearts let us pray to the Holy Ghost during this octave with grateful hearts for all these graces and employ them with persevering fervour for our salvation. Let us with the Church repeat often: "O God, Thou who on this day didst instruct the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Ghost, grant us by the same spirit, to have a right judgment in all things, and even more to rejoice in His consolation, through Jesus Christ Our Lord."

C.W.M. Series.

### Island's First Marian Congress.

The new Dakota covered the return journey in 100 minutes.

**Food Loss now 125 Million.**— K. Alvapillai, Food Commissioner, said on Saturday the 15th inst. that the department, in the last six years, 1942 to 1947 had incurred losses ap-

We regret to inform our readers that news has just reached Bishop's House, that Very Rev. Fr. Hilaire Balmes, O.M.I., First Assistant General died yesterday, 19th inst. R. I. P.

Of 24 persons who have so far been operated upon, the doctors report that 12 have been sent home cured. Ten of these are now at work. None died as a result of the operation.

As the bridal couple came out of the Sacristy they were profusely garlanded by Messieurs and Mesdames B. A. Retnasinghem, B. S. Antonipillai and J. N. Rajaretnam. The bride and the bridegroom were taken in procession to "Gregory Lodge" the residence of the bride on *Nilapavadai* while native musicians poured forth strains of joyous music. The visitors were served with refreshments. Chevalier S. Arulanantham, Mr. A. Gnanaprasadam, Editor *Pathukavalan*, Dr. A. B. C. Doray and Mr. P. S. Gnanaprasadam felicitated the couple and eulogised the two families united by the holy bond of matrimony. Mr. P. S. Nicholas, the father of the bride thanked all those present.

The people of Bengal are often reproached with being emotionally prompt to listen to tales of woe. On this occasion they saw through the game of the mischief-mongers who played on public sentiment. People realised that there was no case for officials to strike, and that this strike of theirs was in a category by itself. A government servant is not in the same position as an employee in a private firm; he is in one of the essential services and has undertaken not to impair the administration which is vital to civil peace and order. His work does not only concern him and his superior officers, but it is of direct interest to the public. He is not like a shoemaker who would fail to produce a few pairs of shoes for possible buyers; his services are necessary to the smooth running of the running of the country, and his remissness is certain to affect law-abiding citizens who have a right to efficient administration. A combination of public servants to upset government services is bound to cause incalculable damage to the common good, and can best be compared to a mutiny in the armed forces. The firmness of the authorities was fully justified.—*The New Review*, May 1948.



## The Church and Communism

(Continued from Page 1.)

"It is clear from these events that Communism, in denying God, denies the rights of man and by seeking revolution and anarchy is opposed to the peaceful settlement of world affairs.

"We are faced with a great challenge. That challenge is whether we are for God or against God. No Catholic can be a Communist, nor a Communist a Catholic. We accept the challenge. Here are some principles and methods by which it can be met:—

"1. Because we believe in the existence of God and in His divine providence over all men, there can be no solution to the problem without God. Man is made by God and for God and his final happiness is to be with God for all eternity.

"2. Man's human rights are derived from God and not from the State.

"3. 'Man has a duty to love God and, through loving God, to love his neighbour.

"4. Our daily lives must be based on the precept of the love of our neighbour, which must include all men throughout the world.

"5. We must be apostles of Christian social justice. There is, therefore, an obligation on both employers and workers to know the social teaching of the Church, and to see that such teaching is put into practice. Social justice demands that working men receive a wage that will enable them to secure appropriate sustenance for themselves and for their families. Social justice also demands that a worker shall do an honest day's work.

"6. We urge Catholic employers to take an active part in their own associations, and to see that the principles of social justice guide the activities of industry and commerce. We urge our Catholic workers to join their appropriate trade unions and associations and to take an active part in them and so help to infuse a Christian spirit into all their activities. In order that they may be well informed on the principles of social justice, we appeal to Catholic working men and women to join their diocesan Association of Catholic Trade-Unionists wherever such may be established. We highly commend the Young Christian Workers' movement, and similar organizations which strive to bring the principles of our holy Faith and a sense of vocation into daily work.

"Finally, we commend our cause to Almighty God, and in humble prayer ask His divine assistance."—*The Tablet*.

## Behind the Easier Relations in Berlin

The process of eliminating political nonconformity continues inexorably in the Soviet zone of Germany. Attention has been distracted from this by the international crisis in Berlin. But its principal feature now is the reduction of the Christian Democratic Union, along the same lines as the reduction of opposition groups in other countries of Eastern Europe. That is to say, the party is not banned or excluded; it is transformed by the elimination of all its spokesmen who will not surrender their integrity under threats, leaving a rump of the cowed and adding to these newcomers who choose to call themselves Christian Democrats. There has to be a Christian Democratic Union, because such a large part of the population looks to it. As in the device of disguising Communism inside the Socialist Unity Party in Poland, the Communists are afraid of the effect of their own reputation. So also in Italy, where the great value of Signor Nenni is that he serves as a stalking horse. The Italian Communists, on March 9th, decided to defray all the election expenses of Nenni's Socialists because they judge their funds to be more profitably laid out in the propaganda of "fellow travellers" than in their own.

If fellow travellers did not exist they would have to be invented. They are being invented on a massive scale throughout Eastern Europe. In the Soviet zone of Germany what are pre-

sented as local Christian Democratic Committees are shouting the slogans of Moscow, denouncing the Western Powers and the European Recovery Programme. But the real mind of German Christian Democrats was shown at the Conference that has been meeting at Regensburg (Ratisbon), in the American zone, between March 31st and April 4th.

This was a Conference called by the Institute of Political and Social Science that was founded just over a year ago in the University of Fribourg. An international movement has grown up in connection with this Institute, under the presidency of Dr. Scherer, a Swiss National Councillor, and the guidance of the Bishop of St. Gallen, Mgr. Meile—a movement comparable to the *Nouvelles Equipes Internationales*, but concerned more with the theoretical than with the practical side of politics. The theme of this Conference was "The Political Order: Federalism and the United States of Europe." Thirteen nations were represented, and Cardinal Faulhaber came from Munich. The proceedings served to emphasise the great absurdity of pretending that Jakob Kaiser does not speak for the Christian Democrats of Eastern Germany, and that Christian minds there differ so strikingly from those of other Christian Democrats not only in Germany but throughout the free world.—*The Tablet*.

## Local & General

(Continued from Page 3)

**Dutch Queen to Abdicate.**—Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands announced in a broadcast to the nation on Wednesday the 12th inst. that she would abdicate "at the beginning of September" in favour of Princess Juliana.

She said it was only at the "urgent request" of Princess Juliana that she had postponed transferring the throne to her until after August 31—the Queen's 68th birthday—and the celebration of her 50-year reign.

**Cardinal Fulfills Pledge.**—Cardinal Spellman announces that he has been able to fulfil the pledge he gave last May to spend £6,250,000 on church, school, hospital and other building work in the New York diocese. Work already contracted for totals about £4,122,000. Another £1,600,000 worth of work will be started soon. A further £640,000 worth is expected to start later this year. Altogether, there are 29 plans in the present Catholic building programme.

Two of the largest are the new Alfred E. Smith Memorial at St. Vincent's Hospital, costing about £1,500,000 and the Archbishop Stepinac High School, costing about £1,050,000.

**Truman's Envoy at the Vatican.**—Mr. Myron Taylor, President Truman's special envoy to the Holy see, handed a letter from the President to the Pope during his 45 minutes audience with His Holiness on the 5th of last month. Mr. Taylor arrived in Rome from the United States, after stopping at Lisbon and Madrid, where he met General Franco. He is expected to stay in Rome two or three months—much longer than any previous visit—and his wife is expected from America in the next few days. Mr. Taylor's trip to Rome, the first in six months, caused speculation in view of the Italian general elections beginning April 18, but it was stated that the visit was merely routine. The Rome Newspaper *Quotidiano* commented that Mr. Taylor's return to Rome "is definite proof that he is firmly in his post and that the hostility of some groups of Protestants in the United States is an isolated stand of no practical importance." This referred to the recently-formed Protestant organisation, in Washington, which has protested strongly against the maintenance of such diplomatic relations between the United States and the Vatican.

**Fatima Priest Dies.**—Fr. Agostinho Ferreira, assistant at Fatima's parish church during the apparitions of Our Lady in 1917, has died.

**Peace Based on Moral Law.**—"Absolute peace throughout the world

can be achieved only by world-wide adoption of the moral law, based on the existence of God as the Creator of all," Dr. Waldemar Gurian, Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame, told the Chicago Institute for Religious and Social Studies in Chicago.

**Communists at Work.**—Bishop Paul Hugenobler, Swiss Prefect Apostolic of Tsitsihar, Manchuria, has been sentenced by a Communist court to 12 years' imprisonment. Eleven other members of the Tsitsihar mission received sentences ranging from three to 12 years. Among them were Swiss and German priests.

The Bishop's nephew, Fr. Joseph Hugenobler, has arrived in Peiping with other missionaries from Switzerland. On the day he arrived he heard over the Communist radio that his uncle had been sentenced to 12 years.

**Mr. George Marshall Attends Mass.**—Before the Pan-American Conference opened in Bogota, Colombia, all the delegates, including Mr. George Marshall, U.S. Secretary of State, attended a Mass of the Holy Ghost in the city's centuries-old cathedral.

This is believed to be the first time in modern history that such an important conference has opened with Mass in the presence of all the delegates, who belong to different creeds and political parties.

The Holy Father, through Mgr. Tardini, Secretary of the Sacred Congregation for Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs, voiced his best wishes for the success of the conference.

**Dictionary of 620 Catholic Authors.**—A biographical dictionary of 620 contemporary authors who profess the Catholic Faith in all parts of the world, will be issued by St. Mary's Abbey Press, Newark.

The 812-page volume, containing 620

biographical sketches and 600 photographic portraits, is scheduled for publication this month, according to the editor, the Very Rev. Matthew Hoehn, O.S.B., prior of St. Mary's Abbey, Newark, N. J. Father Hoehn, who holds a degree of Bachelor of Library Science from Columbia University, said he had spent eight years collecting and preparing material for the book.

## TENDER NOTICE

### CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY

The Chairman, Way & Works Head Office Tender Board, will receive at the Chief Engineer's Office, C.G.R., Macallum Road, Maradana, tenders up to 12 noon on Friday 4th June, 1948 for the construction of One Set of Workmen's Dwellings at 7 miles 37 chains, Matale Line (Katugastota).

For further particulars, please see Government Gazette of 7-5-48.

Sgd. W. A. SHAW,  
Chief Engineer, C.G.R.

Chief Engineer's Office,  
Way & Works, C.G.R.,  
Maradana.

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The Chairman, Way & Works Head Office Tender Board, will receive, at the Chief Engineer's Office, C.G.R., Maradana, tenders up to 12 noon on Friday, 4th June, 1948, for the construction of Two Sets of Workmen's Dwellings near 3 miles 26 chains Matale Line (Kandy).

For further particulars, please see Government Gazette of 7-5-48.

Sgd. W. A. SHAW,  
Chief Engineer, C.G.R.

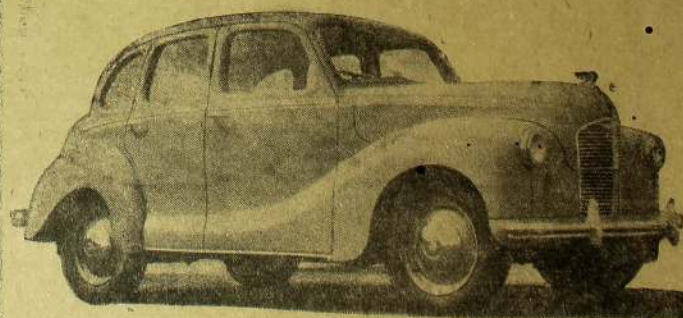
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