

Rates of Subscription
Eng. Guardian
 Yearly Rs. 6-50
 Half Yearly Rs. 3-50
Eng. & Tamil Guardian
 Yearly Rs. 10-50
 Half Yearly Rs. 5-50

The Catholic Guardian

ESTABLISHED AS A FORTNIGHTLY, 1876; ISSUED AS A WEEKLY, 1878.
 REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER IN CEYLON.

Telegrams: "GUARDIAN", JAFFNA.

Telephone: NO. 100.

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

Rates of Advertisement
Family Announcements
 Rs. 5-00 per insertion
Order Nisi
 Rs. 5-00 per 2 insertions
Trade Advertisements on Application

Vol. 73, No. 43

JAFFNA, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 4, 1948

PRICE: 10 CENTS.

The Holy Father Warns Modern Girl

"To-day it is no longer a question of one little lamb out of a hundred which has strayed by chance, while the other ninety-nine remain faithful and stay within the fold. The whole flock is at stake to-day," said the Holy Father addressing at Castel Gandolfo 600 delegates of the Association for the Protection of Young Women.

His Holiness described the modern girl as one "who thinking herself immune to all seductions, deceits and flatteries, is unconsciously their dupe and their slave."

One of the ways His Holiness suggested for ensuring the moral security of girls is the opening of clubs, hostels, restaurants and other institutions.

"But these," he warned, "should not remind the young girls, through their ugliness, austerity and wretched parsimony, of the wartime air-raid shelters.

"They should, on the contrary, give the girls, without luxury, the comfort, charm, expansive intimacy and cheerful entertainment of true family life which will compete effectively with so many dangerous or sinful attractions.

The Holy Father said: The danger to young girls is everywhere. The evil is vast and deep. The danger is all the more imminent inasmuch as often people do not believe in it until a humiliating and apparently humanly irreparable fall occurs.

HOTHOUSE CARE

Ignorance, with frailty, inexperience, light-heartedness, excessive sensibility, disordered imagination, cause double ravages. They render that fall more fearful and less feared.

In the past a young girl, brought up, as it were, in a hothouse, surrounded with anxious care, jealously cloistered in her ingenuousness, risked being the victim of the surprise from the time of her contact with the world and with liberty; the girl of today often lives under the illusion that a different education will make her strong, hardened, immunized, alert to her defence or to a counter-attack.

She confuses with personality and vigour that which is fundamentally nothing but carelessness, imprudence or even effrontery.

She does not want to be convinced that continuous familiarity with the opposite sex, equality of work, way of life and occupation, contained at one time within the limits of strict morality, expose her to the danger of going beyond these limits sooner or later.

THE PITFALLS

In spite of her carefree nature and sometimes even in spite of her masculine mentality, the young girl who passes as "modera" retains, whether she likes it or not, the inborn, indelible characteristics of her sex—imagination, sensitiveness, her tendency if not to foolish vanity, at least quite often to more dangerous coquetry.

She allows herself to be caught in the pitfalls, if she does not hurl herself headlong into them of her own accord.

She has the illusion of experience and thinks that she is superior to the young girls of past generations.

Under an exterior which is one of greater awareness, she is often in reality

less solidly instructed. Her experience is superficial, sufficient to tarnish her delicacy and freshness, but insufficient to keep her on-guard against the tricks and hypocrisies of seducers.

Her experience is, above all negative and affords her neither the grandeur, beauty, nor the wholesome and full joys of the role for which she is destined in the family and in society. The illusion of strength and the force, illusion of experience and prudence—both of them are the fomenters of a presumption which nature, even when well directed, is only too prone to assume.

She believes that she can read everything, see everything, try everything, taste everything without suffering.

DISARMED

The sound, or even hint, of advice arouses her resentment.

The simple suspicion of "protection" makes her revolt—protection, that signifies in her eyes humiliation and enslavement.

She has no doubt that she can dispose of the need for safeguarding her feminine dignity and her noble pride. She has no doubt that she is immune to all seductions, all deceits, flatteries, of which she is unconsciously the dupe and slave.

As well as all this, she is disarmed before danger.

Perhaps she is superstitious. At least, she believes she is keeping to the right way, because she fulfils her superstitious rota, sometimes without understanding, the minimum of religious duties.

She does not perceive the difference between the essential and the secondary because she is receiving automatically and—which may God prevent—unworthily the sacraments.

She has nothing of religion or piety, nothing but a simple veneer of pretended devotion which is without substance, without depth, without doctrine.

THEN THE FALL

Sceptical with regard to the authorized teachings of the Church, she believes blindly what her improvised theologians—female or male companions of her office or shop—tell her of dogma, morality and discipline.

It is often under these conditions that she copes calmly with life.

How quickly she will yield. At first an imprudent act at which she laughs with a light heart.

Then comes concession and she has no scruples against it.

Finally comes the fall—can one say it is the first fall when it has been prepared by such preludes?

Sometimes—alas, without her knowing it, without her taking precautions against it—her heart is already spoiled by so many capitulations, so many secret sins, before the catastrophe reveals to broad daylight the downfall which nevertheless, had a long history.

It is like those magnificent fruits which the worm eats from within and of the corruption of which one is not aware until the moment one opens them to taste their deliciousness.

Thus the scandal. The day on which it breaks out, it brings to the surface

(Continued on Page 4)

Lessons of the First World Council of Churches

Now that most of the delegates to Amsterdam have returned home, the significance and lessons of the first World Council of Churches are beginning to emerge in outline.

It was no small undertaking to accommodate the views of hundreds of eminent Churchmen from 148 Christian communions; and as the warm enthusiastic glow of the Conference atmosphere grows fainter those who took part are busily assessing just what was achieved.

Few judicious observers would go so far as to suggest that the lessons of Amsterdam will shortly be heard from non-Catholic pulpits and platforms round the world.

Yet several balanced Anglicans who sat through the crowded sessions in the great *Conoertgebouw*, or took part in the Section Sub-Committees, have expressed to me the belief that "much of practical value has been learnt—and there are steps that can be taken immediately."

Perhaps the most striking fact about the World Council is that it took place at all.

This is not to decry the many divisions between the Christian bodies concerned; rather it is to praise the sincerity, determination and joint awareness of the tremendous tasks that must be shouldered by Christians in the darkening world of the mid-twentieth century.

Any idea, however, that a short cut to a Reunion of the Churches might be forged at Amsterdam was foredoomed. On the ground of basic belief, there was little out of which a kind of "Super-Church" might be built. Which probably accounts for the stern face that has since been set in this country against the founding of a World Church.

The section dealing with the need of evangelism or conversion in the modern world proved somewhat tricky country. Here, as much as anywhere, the dangers of encroaching on the preserves of individual Churches were considerable. As a result, the findings were cautious and even dull. According to one Anglican spokesman I met: "This seemed to me one of the woolliest parts of the Conference."

But it was in Section Three, where the critical problems rising from modern economic and political life came in for searching examination, that the World Council had its most obvious opportunity.

SURPLUS WOMEN

There is a question the male rulers of the world must ask themselves: Can the men of the world afford to risk another war? If the results of a new war were similar to those of the last two wars men may lose their superiority by sheer weight of numbers.

The problem of the numerical preponderance of women was already being felt before the last war, and not only in countries affected by the 1914-18 struggle. In civilized countries generally there tended to be a deficiency of male births. In some less civilized lands the problem was kept under by the murder of female infants.

The problem has become acute in

nity. And, unfortunately, it was here too that fundamental disharmonies in outlook made it difficult for delegates to give an unambiguous lead.

"It staggered me," another Anglican said, "how far apart some of us were. I could understand the immediate absurdity of expecting a native African missionary to denounce the evils of factory civilization and disappearing personal responsibility.

"It was distressing, not to say unedifying, to hear the utilitarian Christianity of some Western representatives. It was strange to hear the natural law being challenged or doubled by official spokesmen of some Churches."

Beyond any doubt, the effort to reconcile conflicting viewpoints cost dear when agreed statements were drafted.

By a process of discreet whittling down, "dangerous" resolutions were made innocuous, and more of the Churches felt able to underwrite what had been finally arrived at. Thus, such arresting problems as Work and Vocation and Man's Rights as a creature of God were dealt with summarily and rather weakly.

Moreover, in the Section on International Affairs, problems like modern warfare and the use of modern weapons like the atomic bomb were skirted with wariness.

The discussion on Communism brought into conflict delegates from East and West of the Iron Curtain. Professor Hromadka, from the University of Prague, carried few people with him in his defence of Czechoslovakia's new rulers; though the subsequent airing of opinions produced some of the liveliest denunciations of the evils and abuses of Capitalism.

When I asked an Anglican clergyman what he thought could be done as a practical follow-up to Amsterdam, this was his reply: "That will depend as usual on the local parish. And certainly the test for us will be in making our beliefs real to every man and woman we meet and know.

"I think we did well to clarify our thoughts on certain problems that are troubling the world. But from my own point of view, Amsterdam was an inspiration. It showed how many Christians everywhere are trying hard to live according to their beliefs."—By Andrew Boyle, in the *Catholic Herald*.

Europe, and especially in Germany. According to a report there is a surplus female population in Germany amounting to 8,000,000. This is accounted for in large measure by the death or imprisonment of six million men who fought in the war.

This makes a truly tragic situation in which it becomes impossible for a large number of women ever to enjoy normal life with a home and family to fulfil their maternal instincts.

Men ruling the nations should ponder this, lest, in a comparatively short time, the days of the matriarchs return, and the patriarchs find themselves jobless. The thought might make for peace.—*Catholic Times*,



IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE

OF

Manuelpillai Bastiampillai

who departed this life.

on

November 8th 1945Thought now with our Lord
and His Holy Mother.Pray, that we too, thy dear ones here
below.May see thy benign countenance in the
land of rest eternal in time to come.Eternal Rest give unto his
Soul, O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon him.

Inserted by his loving wife and children

"Theresa Cottage,"

Main Street, Jaffna, 4-11-48.

A Requiem High Mass will be offered
at St. Mary's Cathedral, Jaffna, on Mon-
day the 8th inst. at 6.30 a.m. for the
repose of the soul of the Late M.
Bastiampillai.

Church Calendar

NOVEMBER 1948

THURS.... 4 S. Charles.
FRI. 5 Holy Relics.
SAT. 6 S. Leonard.
SUN. 7 25 P.—S. Williams.
MON. 8 S. Godfrey.
TUES. 9 D. H. Bed. Bas.
WED. 10 S. Andrew Av.
THURS.... 11 S. Martin C.

The Catholic Guardian

NOVEMBER 4TH 1948

THE HOLY SOULS

The month of November is meant, in the Church's intention, to stress the doctrine of Purgatory and therewith quite a number of co-related doctrines and the devotional practices deriving from them.

In itself the doctrine of Purgatory, as St. Thomas, and St. Augustine before him, points out is tantamount to a spiritual law of gravity. We make our own weight and at death the draw is either Godwards or self-wards. If it is Godwards, it may be complete or not so complete, i.e. with some element of self left unsundered. He would be temerarious who would say of anyone that death found every element of self completely surrendered in him. As nothing defiled can see God the function of Purgatory is to cleanse such souls of minor defilements arising from undue assertion of the sinful self. And there is nothing the self shrinks from as from suffering. It is a painful process, involving as does all cleansing a certain element of destruction.

It is not for us to attempt to fathom the mercy or the justice of God but we may take it that the normal soul has at death to face its period of purgation. There are those who will admit only Heaven and Hell but they make of the latter a temporary abode so that they have no right to cavil at their teaching on Purgatory.

The month of November is meant to stress the allied doctrine of the brotherhood of men, that we are our brothers' keepers. It is a doctrine that imposes responsibilities but above all gives great consolation. Properly

understood it means that the deepest instinct of the bereaved viz., the desire to do something effectual for the dear deceased, can be satisfied. We know how St. Augustine prayed all his life for the repose of the soul of his mother, St. Monica.

Devotion to the Holy Souls has therefore always been a doctrine and a practice dear to Catholic hearts and countries. It means *living* the doctrine of the Communion of Saints, realizing—the fact is incontrovertible—that we can actually feel closer to the dear departed than we could when they were alive, helping God's friends and satisfying the obligations we may have contracted towards them when they were on earth and expressing our gratitude towards God and them.

It is then a devotion the very reverse of dismal. It is the practical assertion of our immortality, that we have not here a lasting city, that the time will come, please God, when we shall no longer look at confused reflections in a mirror, but shall see God face to face, for we shall be like Him.

It is a tremendous obligation as it will be a tremendous consolation and source of strength when our turn comes to find that we have many friends at court interceding for us who have helped them by our prayers and sacrifices to attain more speedily the happiness they enjoy.

Papal Victory is Assured

The Holy Father's optimism in the midst of the gathering storm in Europe was reflected in a speech by the Apostolic Delegate to the Cantenian Association in London on the anniversary of the Battle of Lepanto.

Archbishop Godfrey recalled the picture of Pope Pius V going to the window of his room during the battle of Lepanto and saying—though the fighting was far away—"The battle is won!"

"We too are certain that the fight will be won this time," said His Grace.

"We do not know when we may cry 'Victory!' but we do know there will be victory."

"Meanwhile, there is much to be done. We must pray."

"Some people are surprised by the Holy Father's constant repetition of the need for prayer. Those people have their values all wrong."

"The truth is that the greatest force in the world is prayer."

"However mighty the adversary may seem to be, no matter what the peril and however great the perplexities, there is always the over-riding Providence of God."

OPTIMISTIC SOUL

"When one thinks of that, it is impossible for us to be despondent."

"The Catholic soul is optimistic. We keep our hearts uplifted and we lift up our hands in prayer. Doing this, we support the Holy Father in all his difficulties."

"My message to you this evening," said Archbishop Godfrey "is the message of Cardinal Newman."

"Wax fierce in the cause of the Lord!"

Then adapting Xenophon, His Grace, speaking with unusual vigour, said:

"So bear yourselves now, that in the coming years, whatever they may bring, you may tell yourself that victory is due to you—due to you for what you have done for the Church and for the nation, due to you for what you have done to uphold the principles of the Catholic Faith."

In the battle of Lepanto, a sea battle fought on October 7, 1571, the Christian League formed mainly by the efforts

of Pope Pius V, defeated the Turks who were threatening to overrun Christian civilisation.

Father Peter Pillai Condemns Class War

The Very Rev. Fr. Peter A. Pillai, O.M.I., speaking at the Phoenix Tea Gardens on last Friday evening on "Some of the Implications of Independence" mentioned what he called two very controversial matters affecting public servants.

Father Pillai said: "Government servants are working very hard to safeguard their rights. But, unfortunately, there has been too much tension, too great a spirit of battle, and too great antagonism. We must realise that our rulers are no longer foreigners, but people sent up to the seats of Government by ourselves, by a purely democratic method, which is entirely under our own control. It seems to me that there is no need for the degree of heat that has been engendered, if we realise that. There should be a method of arriving at a peaceful solution by discussion and compromise."

"There should be a spirit of greater co-operation. There should be no need to think that our employers are out to hurt us. In the case of Government servants, since the employers are sent up to govern by our own votes, and since the policies they adopt have to be endorsed by public opinion by the method of the vote, it seems to me that without indulging in so-called class-war and class opposition, we should try to solve this problem by the methods of compromise and persuasion."

WHITLEY COUNCILS

"There is another controversial matter. I know that the clerks have by a great majority rejected the proposals for establishing Whitley Councils. May I humbly suggest that the Whitley Councils be given a trial. It is not proposed as a permanent measure to be adopted for all time. Here is an offer made by the Government, which we have ourselves set up, and which has already done a great deal for Ceylon. I cannot see why you cannot accept it for the time being and work it; if it fails and you convince the Government and convince us, the voters, we shall see that the Government is turned out and a new one formed. People like us, who are not in the battle but who are sincerely interested in the welfare of the country, cannot see clearly that the clerks are fighting for something which is for the welfare of the country. An offer is made, you do not accept the bona fides of the Government. Accept the offer and work it; and if the results are not satisfactory, we shall support the formation of a Government that will give you justice."

"Do not allow yourselves to be made a catspaw by those who want class opposition. We do not want classes. If you think in terms of one country, one people, all brothers working for the same cause, we shall bear less of so-called classes. It is about time that we ruled out of court those who are attempting to poison our life by bringing in class opposition and class antagonism. The emphasis must be on unity, on harmony, on the endeavour to give the Government credit for good intentions till it is proved otherwise, and then turn it out."

The Madras Educational Bill

The objectionable features of the Educational Institutions (Requisition of Property) Bill introduced by the Government of Madras, are clearly and forcibly brought out in the resolution passed at the annual general meeting of the Catholic Association of South Kanara, held on the 25th of September. The Resolution points out:

1. The Bill excludes appeal to the Civil Courts against the decisions of the Departmental Executive.

2. It does not specifically restrict itself to the conditions of corruption and falsification of accounts, under

which recognition of a school may be withdrawn.

3. Article 12 of the Madras Educational Regulations invests the Director with undefined and almost unlimited powers with regard to the withdrawal of recognition from schools. The new Bill further empowers him to requisition the property of schools whose recognition has thus been withdrawn.

4. Ample provision exists in the Penal Code for the punishment of parties guilty of corrupt practices.

5. The requisition of educational buildings in addition to withdrawal of recognition is too heavy a penalty for falsification of accounts and similar corrupt practices.

6. The requisitioning of educational buildings, when they are Church property as they often are, is opposed to the provisions of the Canon Law forbidding the alienation of Church property.

7. The Bill goes counter to the provision made in the Draft Constitution of the Union of India, Article 23 (3) Section A: "The minorities, whether based on religion, community or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice."

8. The Bill does not offer to managements of educational institutions whose recognition is withdrawn, the choice of utilising their buildings for other charitable or humanitarian purposes.

9. The effect of the Bill is to hamper the further spread of education by private managements.

Other objections to the Bill are raised in a joint protest issued by the Bishops of Madras Province. Among these may be noted:

1. Under the Madras Educational rules Government already possesses sufficient power to punish recalcitrant managers: grants can be cut or withdrawn if a particular school fails to comply with the regulations.

2. The provisions of the Bill impose a penalty not only on the management, but also on the pupils.

3. The Bill places tremendous powers in the hands of Government. In the event of Socialists and Communists coming into power they will have a handle ready provided to seize the property of private educational agencies.

4. The Bill interferes with the right of Bishops to engage themselves in educational activities which are a part of their spiritual effort for the welfare of the Christian community.

It is on these grounds that the Catholics of Madras ask that the Bill be dropped or suitably amended. And it will be a sad commentary on India's new won independence if the Madras Government turns a deaf ear to this reasonable request of the Catholic community.

LOCAL & GENERAL

Macbeth cum Matches.—St. Patrick's College, Jaffna has had the most crowded week-end of all from Friday to Monday last. The boys put on Macbeth and it drew crowded houses on all the three nights of the performance. The standard attained by the boys was excellent. It is a pleasure to congratulate the producers.

The Football matches were played on St. Martin's Green on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. It is more than a pleasure to congratulate the Old Josephians who gave the football fans of Jaffna such an excellent display in spite of their defeats on all days. Victory or defeat, they played the game.

"Truth and Justice" shall be Our Guide.—Mr. Don Stephen Senanayake, Prime Minister of Ceylon, said in a broadcast that Ceylon intended to use her new freedom "to improve her own conditions, to bring herself with all possible speed to the level of nations that had been freed while she still remained a colony."

Mr. Senanayake's speech was one of a series recorded by Dominion Prime Ministers who attended the Commonwealth Conference, for the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Ceylon would endeavour "in relation with other nations to assist to the utmost of her ability to maintain the peace of the world."

"At international deliberations she will be guided solely by truth and justice unmoved by considerations of either favour or fear."

Country Rice Fetches Rs. 1.25 A Measure.—Locally grown country rice is now fetching Rs. 1.25 per measure in the market. Cultivators are making the most of the situation consequent on the crop failure of considerable extents of paddy land, due to the recent drought.

It is reliably learned that Government does not intend to control the price of country rice.

Ceylon as Venue of Next Premiers' Conference.—Ceylon can expect a record number of distinguished visitors in Colombo about next May.

I understand that proposals are far forward for holding another Conference of Commonwealth Premiers and Foreign Affairs Ministers in about six months' time, and that Ceylon has agreed upon as the meeting place.

This would be the first of more frequent Commonwealth meetings, the desirability of which found general agreement at the Downing Street talks. —*Ceylon Observer.*

Education for Citizenship.—Education for citizenship must be preserved safe from efforts to make it an instrument of Government propaganda, said the Very Rev. Fr. Peter A. Pillai, O.M.I., Rector of St. Joseph's College, Colombo, speaking at a conference of teachers organized by the Kandy Teachers' Association on "Education for Citizenship in Free Ceylon through our Secondary Schools."

The terrible examples of Hitlerite Germany, Fascist Italy and Bolshevik Russia should be a warning we should never forget.

First Municipal Councillor of Jaffna.—Mr. P. Caspillai, Proctor, was declared elected unopposed for the Columbuturai Ward of the newly formed Municipal Council of Jaffna when nominations received for five out of the 15 wards of the Council on Saturday last.

Mr. Caspillai is thus Jaffna's first Municipal Councillor.

Mr. S. N. Rajah, Assistant Election Officer acted as Returning Officer.

The candidates are:

Fort Ward: Mr. R. R. Nalliah and Mr. G. D. Rajah (Tamil Congress).

St. James Ward: Mr. J. Patrick, (T.C.), Mr. P. M. John, (T.C.), and Mr. T. M. Antony (Independent).

Cathedral Ward: Mr. E. K. Nevins Selvadurai (T.C.) and Mr. D. James (Independent).

Koilyathodam Ward: Mr. N. S. Samuel (T.C.) and Mr. J. Sebastiampillai (T.C.)

Columbuturai Ward: Mr. P. Caspillai.

Member for Kayts Retains his Seat.—A divisional Bench of three Judges consisting of the Acting Chief Justice, Justice Windham and Justice Canakarathne has reversed the findings of Justice Basanayake who declared the election of Mr. A. L. Thambiyah to the Kayts constituency void on the ground that Mr. Thambiyah was in receipt of indirect benefit of a contract with the Government. On the finding of Mr. Justice Basanayake a number of actions against Senators and M.P.s were filed and the Elections Order in Council had to be amended permitting appeals in Election cases on a point of Law.

Agricultural Producers' Co-operative Union Ltd.—The Annual General Meeting of the Northern Division Agricultural Producers' Co-operative Union Ltd., Jaffna, for the year 1947 was held recently at the Office of the Asst. Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Jaffna. Delegates from 15 Co-operative Agricultural Production and Sales Societies and the Asst. Registrar were present.

Rules and By-laws were framed to suit the changing Government conditions connected with its drive towards the Producer Co-operative Movement. A programme of work for the ensuing year and a Budget for the year 1949 were adopted.

The following office-bearers were elected to hold office till the next Annual General Meeting:—

President: W. P. A. Cooke Esqr., B.Sc. (Agri. Econ.)

Vice-President: Mud. M. Krishner, J.P.

Hony. Secretary: N. T. Sivagnanam, Proctor S.C.

Hony. Treasurer: E. P. Rasiyah Esq. Mr. V. R. Murugasu, the first Hony. Secretary of the Union and later appointed as the Secretary, has now been appointed as the Executive Secretary of the Union.

Municipal Courts for Jaffna, Nuwara Eliya and Kurunegala.—Arising out of the impending elevation of these three Urban Councils to Municipal status, the Minister of Health and Local Government is in communication with the Ministry of Justice about the establishment of Municipal Courts and Municipal Magistrates in these three towns in conformity with the requirements of the Municipal Councils Ordinance.

Also to conform to the Ordinance, the Local Government Service Commission has been requested to arrange for the appointment of Municipal Commissioners to the towns.

A point that remains indeterminate is with regard to the management of the resthouses at Kurunegala and Jaffna. These are now managed by the Urban Councils, but Municipal Councils have no authority under the Ordinance to engage in business of this description. The question to be decided is whether the resthouse should be handed over to the Tourist Bureau or whether the Municipal Councils Ordinance should be amended to allow of the new Councils continuing to run the resthouses.

Finance Minister's Warning.—The need for the exercise of care and economy in the preparation of draft estimates for the next financial year, 1949-50, is emphasized by the Ministry of Finance in a statement to all the heads of Departments.

A warning is uttered of a possible reduction in revenue in the next financial year, and all heads of departments are requested to take heed of the financial position being likely to be difficult.

"It is, therefore, imperative," stresses the Ministry, "that rigid economies should be exercised wherever possible, and the greatest caution adopted in creating fresh liabilities for the government."

"In particular," adds the Ministry, "the creation of new posts which are not strictly necessary and the retention of existing posts which can be dispensed with, must be avoided."

Substitutes for Rice.—Grain experts believe that in the coming year India, Malaya, Ceylon and other Asiatic importing countries can get as much grain as they can pay for. They will, however, get less rice than they like, though probably more than might have been expected in the present disturbed conditions in the countries which normally export rice.

But the rice deficit is outweighed many times over by the world supplies of other grains. The marginal shortage of dollars may be more important than the marginal shortage of rice.

Extension at the Air-port.—The macadamized 1,800-yard runway at Ratmalana Airport is to be extended by 200 yards in the direction of the main road to enable the Skymasters, which Air-Ceylon will buy from America, to take off or land on their Australia-Ceylon flights.

The new service will be inaugurated two months hence.

Sir John Kotelawala, Minister for Transport and Works, and others inspected the runway on Oct. 23 and has given instructions that the extension should be ready by the end of December.

"No Chance of War."—Pandit Nehru told an audience of 1,000 at India House in London on Oct. 21: "I do not think there is any chance of war."

He added that he thought the world would eventually have to accept Mahatma Gandhi's fundamental principle of non-violence. Pandit Nehru spoke at a reception given in his honour by Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, Indian High Commissioner in London. Indian and British guests packed several reception rooms.

Primate of Poland Dead.—Cardinal August Hlond, the 67-year-old Primate of Poland, died at Warsaw on Oct. 22 after a ten days' illness. Cardinal Hlond had been Primate of Poland since 1923.

He spent the war years in exile returning to his country in 1945.

Since then he had been concerned in discussions on relations between the Church and the State and after visiting Rome in January this year summoned Catholic Bishops for a secret conference.

In a pastoral letter in May he appealed to Poland's youth to reject materialism and to act for the Church, the nation and the Catholic spirit of the past.

Truman President a Second Time.—As we go to press we understand that Mr. Harry S. Truman has been re-elected President of the United States.

The voting was as follows:—
Mr. Harry S. Truman 20,308,873
Mr. Thomas Dewey 18,700,581
Mr. Truman had 304 Electoral votes and Mr. Dewey 189.

Persecution in Poland.—About 100 priests and religious are believed to be in prison as a result of the Communist Government's new drive against the Church in Poland. Catholics are reacting to the persecution by packing the churches, spreading Catholic literature, generously supporting the Church's welfare organizations and subscribing with "astounding" charity for the rebuilding of war-wrecked churches. At a recent pilgrimage to the national shrine at Czestochowa more than 500,000 people besought the intercession of Our Lady, Queen of Poland. Vocations to the priesthood and the religious life continue to increase.

"Pilgrim Virgin" Honoured.—The flags of eight lands shadowed by Communism were carried in procession in the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows, Chicago, during a special service there in honour of the "Pilgrim Virgin" statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Behind each flag walked 12 natives of the country dressed in national costume. As the organ intoned the national anthem a flag-bearer came forward and dipped the flag in salute. The lands represented were the Ukraine, Poland, China, Slovakia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bohemia and Lithuania.

America's Latest Warship.—The United States warship, "Des Moines", the first of an entirely new class of 17,000-ton heavy cruisers, will be commissioned in about three weeks, the United States Navy announced on Oct. 27.

She will be the first warship to mount completely automatic, rapid fire eight-inch guns, capable of firing at battle ranges approximately four times faster than any of the same or larger calibre. In addition to her main eight inch batteries, the "Des Moines" carries twelve dual purpose five-inch guns and an anti-aircraft battery of twenty three-inch guns.

She will be manned by a crew of over 1,000, and four turbines will drive her at a speed of 30 knots.

The only cruisers in the world heavier than the new warship are the American 27,000-ton battle cruisers of the Alaska class.

Confessional Snoop.—The Yugoslav Parliament has approved regulations on criminal procedure and the penal code which, it is reported, "will make it possible for priests to testify against a defendant on the basis of information obtained in the confessional."

Details of the statute affecting the clergy have not been given to the Press. It was not read in Parliament.

MATRIMONIAL

A quiet, but pretty wedding took place on Wednesday the 27th October, 1948 at 7 a.m. in St. Mary's Cathedral.

The contracting parties being Mr. S. M. Edward Selvaretnam of the Trincomalee Naval Office and Miss Jessie Mary Josephine, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Xavierpillai, retired Sub editor of (C.G.) pensioner, Jaffna. The marriage was solemnized by Rev. Fr. S. J. Vedanayagam, O.M.I., Parish Priest, Mirusuvil, uncle of the bridegroom, the attesting witnesses were the uncles of the bride Messrs. B. J. Benedict and B. A. Dominic, pensioners.

After the "Koorai" ceremony at the bride's residence, many relations and

friends wished the new couple long life, happiness and prosperity.

Many presents and congratulations were received from outstations.

Letters to the Editor

The National Languages

Sir,—There are at present, many pointers in the right direction. The utterance of Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, the Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, is useful and instructive. Sir Lakshmanaswami's opinion appears to be shared by many other Indian leaders and thinkers, one of whom is the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University, Dr. C. R. Reddy. In an interview granted by him recently, Dr. Reddy observes as follows:—

"Personally as a result of my recent tour I have come to the conclusion that it would be wrong to displace English in the manner that some of our sentimental friends desire to do. English today is a world language. It has supplanted French."

"It would be to the advantage of India to see that her nationalism is duly adjusted to the higher order of internationalism in culture, sciences, diplomacy, industry and commerce and for this purpose I would rather go slow with projects for throwing English overboard."

If it is felt that India, despite her great population, international influence, resources, industrial development, cultural legacy and attainments would do well to retain the use of the English language, we on our part might with advantage consider and reconsider the matter several times before we decide to give up English.

The mere fact that English is not a language indigenous to the country need not by itself determine the question whether we are to continue to make use of it in the future or not. In a matter of greater import than that of language, namely in religion, the people of Ceylon have accepted as a settled fact, the existence, continuance and promotion of faiths which are not indigenous to Ceylon, viz. Christianity and Islam.

The opinions expressed by Sir Charles Collins, Mr. Mosley one of our former Judges of the Supreme Court, and Rev. Father Long, all reported in your paper recently contain practical and sound points which merit consideration by the public including the committee appointed by the Minister of Justice.

The way could be found to retain English and at the same time give the national languages their due place of honour in our national life. Such a course is not beyond the genius and capacity of the people of Ceylon who have regained their Independence in a unique manner.

Even as we are striving to find a via media between extreme political ideologies, we must attempt to evolve a via media in the matter of the languages for our future use. I have heard it mentioned that before the outbreak of the war even Japan with her high degree of fervent nationalism generally published official documents in three languages, Japanese, English and French. I am referring to this illustration merely as an instance of how the language problem has been tackled elsewhere.

Many will heartily concur with the wish that the present Government should take steps to review the position.

S. SIVASUBRAMANIAM.
Colombo, 25th Oct., 1948.

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I gratefully acknowledge receipt of sum of Rs. 2,060/- from Station Master C.S. Nayagam of Pathavathai (Ilavai) being collected by him from Singapore friends towards the building Fund of the Church of Our Lady of Fatima—Pandateruppu, (Jaffna).

A Thanksgiving High Mass followed by Procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was celebrated in Her Shrine, the Sanctuary of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Fatima Giri, Pandateruppu on Saturday the 30th of October, 1948 in favour of all the subscribers concerned at his express request.

REV. FR. GESLAND, O.M.I.
30-10-48.

The Holy Father Warns Modern Girl

(Continued from Page 1.)

from behind the brilliant but deceptive and crumbling front the rottenness concealed until then.

Almost a miracle is necessary now to cure it. More often, thank God, the heart of the young girl is not so damaged. It is only weakened, tarnished, dangerously ill, mortally wounded, perhaps, but it is not satisfied with remaining in sin and abjection. The girl groans under its weight. She wavers between giving way and rising up, between yielding and remorse.

She still fights (though her fight is now weaker and weaker) before she abandons herself finally to the temptation. Before she reaches this state, you see her prostrated by discouragement and moral defeat, her evil counsellors.

If then support fails her, she completes in her defeat her spiritual ruin, or else she struggles and in her fight she hides her crime by a new crime, to save appearances, or finally throwing aside all restraint, she renounces entirely her attempts to lift herself above the slavery of infamous exploitation.

Many of the "professionals of vice" started their career in no other way than this.

Poor child! What need she had for protection to safeguard herself while there was still time. What does she need now to sustain herself, to rise up, to rehabilitate herself in a new life? There is the task, the holy but heavy and difficult task, which you take upon your shoulders in your Christian and supernatural charity.

Our encouragement will never be lacking, nor will the aid of God be lacking.

LOVE NEEDED

Speaking of the institutions which should be opened for girls, the Holy Father said:

A girl must find there, even if she does not seek it herself, the nurture of intellectual, artistic, social and spiritual culture. She must have at her disposal libraries, lectures, classes, not only of a moral and religious character, but also of a domestic, practical nature which will enable her to prepare for a future wholesome and happy life.

To promote and carry on such a large enterprise, much zeal, intelligence, love is needed.

The most fearful obstacle, perhaps, to your work is not the hostility of the enemies of God and the soul, or the libertines who see their victims snatched away, or the traffickers who enrich themselves without shame with what is called "white slavery."

What is stranger is that it is necessary for you to conquer the indifference, the carelessness, even the irony of people who think they are Christians, even convinced and practical Catholics.

To take the bandage from their eyes to make them conscious of the gravity of the evil and of their responsibility, to awaken their interest, win their sympathy, obtain their aid, in whatever form possible, that is not the least important nor the least arduous of your tasks.

Reception to Senator A.B. Rajendra in Trincomalee

On the 9th and 10 ulto., a grand reception was given to Senator Madaliyar A. B. Rajendra by the residents of Trincomalee on the occasion of his visit to that district.

On Saturday 9th ulto. at 4 p.m. he was received by Capt. A. C. Canagasingham, Messrs. Sivapalan, M.P., Aboobucker, M.P., S. M. M. Manickarajah, Chairman, U.C., and several others close to the Buddhist Temple and was conducted amidst native music and the firing of crackers, in a long procession, in which thousands of people took part, to the Rest House. He was garlanded profusely.

On Sunday 10th ulto. an enthusiastic reception was given to the Senator by

the residents of Nilaveli. The people brought to his notice, in their address, their disabilities. He exhorted them to be united and to work for the common good of the community. He also promised to have their disabilities removed at the earliest opportunity.

In the evening a garden party was held at the Rest House which was attended by the elite of Trincomalee. Later a public meeting was held under the presidentship of Mr. Manickarajah, Pundit Saravanamuttu of the Trincomalee Hindu College, Mr. K. Pillai and Capt. Canagasingham addressed the gathering and told them that social discriminations could not continue and that they should educate themselves to live peacefully with their neighbours.

Senator Rajendra rising amidst applause made an eloquent and stirring speech in which he dwelt at length on the inequality of man. He said that in early times each and every man had to perform certain work for the good of the community which was essential and that any work, be it of any nature, did not mean to lower the status of any man. As days passed, those who were in the majority and held power, divided the workers into various classes and thus the present divisions were caused resulting in distinctions and dissensions which they should endeavour to end for all time.

Independence and freedom are the birth right of every citizen in their native land. Freedom could not be the right of a few. They should therefore realize that there could not be independence and freedom without their own effort to achieve them. Therefore it was necessary that they should educate themselves and their children for the improvement of their economic status. As far as he could see, he said, the people were anxious to live and let live. He appealed to them to unite and to work smoothly for their uplift.

The chairman in his address said that he would take steps to have the temples opened for all and that he would do everything in his power to implement the instructions issued to him in the recent circular of the Minister of Health and Local Administration regarding tea-rooms, eating-houses etc.

Similar receptions were held at Thambalakamam and other places. The Senator paid a visit to the Govt. School at Thambalakamam and the Rural Hospital. He also paid a visit to the Trincomalee Hospital and to the Kachcheri. A special show in the Ganesan Theatre was held in the Senator's honour.

This Vale of Tears

Why does God allow...? That is the question that men ask when faced with the ever-growing volume of trouble that weighs on the world to-day. Why does God allow it? Why does He not put an end to it all?

He could. Of course He could. But to do so would be to deprive man of free will. God gave the world life and light, he gave man a law to live by and intelligence sufficient to appreciate the law. He gave man the liberty to act in accordance with, or contrary to the law. He left man freedom.

But obviously if there were a law and that law were broken then sanctions of some kind had to follow. It would be a ridiculous state of affairs if there were a law, and yet it made no difference whether the law were kept or broken.

So sanctions had to follow the breaking of the law; and the sanctions were to serve not only as punishment for any breach of the law but also as a warning to direct the transgressor back to the path of law and rectitude. So while God could prevent the painful consequences of broken laws He does not ordinarily do so. The pains and troubles of the world are not, thereby, His doing, they are the results of man's own nefarious acts.

The pains and problems which beset men should be the red light which calls a halt in their stupid law-breaking actions. Just as a stomach ache is a warning against green apples, so are wars the warning against larger deprivations.

But men seem to lust for power, and the lessons of history are lost on them. They bring pain and misery on the world and are so shocked that things are allowed that they deny the existence of God. Instead of remedying their conduct they deny the law which they are breaking.

To-day the world is full of troubles; millions of men and women are homeless and helpless refugees chased from their birthplaces by men who refused to recognize the sacredness of personal rights. Millions more languish in labour camps and prisons because the men who have the power to put them there recognize no law but their own greed.

There are rumours of war and threats of war-weapons more terrible than any that have yet been used. It was not God who invented the atomic bomb, or the "block-buster", or the rocket or the buzz bomb. It is not God who is piling up bombs loaded with germs to spread disease among men. It is man himself who is doing these things, who is working out his own destruction in his own obstinate way. It is man who disregards, of his own free will, the commandments to honour his God, and to respect his neighbour, his neighbour's goods and good name.

The remedy for the evils that harass men is not to gloss over the troubles of the hour but to trace them back to their sources and to alter the actions which gave rise to the pain. Thou shalt not kill! Do the nations' leaders stop to consider that? If they did no one of them would ever start a war. The aggressor is to blame for man's troubles. The lust for power is the curse that hangs over the world. Yet what doth it profit a man if he gain the world and suffer the loss of his own soul? That is the heart-searching question for Stalin, Molotov and every other leader who seeks to extend his power. One day there will have to be a reckoning.

Meanwhile with horrid brutalities men make this fair earth a vale of tears, and then ask, why does God allow it?—*Catholic Times.*

GENERAL CLERICAL SERVICE UNION—JAFFNA BRANCH

Special General Meeting to consider P. S. R. 208B

On Saturday 6th Nov. 1948 at 2 p.m.

at the Headman's Rest—

opposite the Kachcheri, Jaffna.

All members are urged to be present.

Members of other services

are also invited.

C. JEEVARAJAM,
Secretary.

THE ROSS INSTITUTE

On September 16, 1932, Sir Ronald Ross died at the Institute which bears his name. This scientist, thanks to his discoveries in connection with malaria, gained the gratitude of the entire world

in the fight against malaria and made his name immortal in the annals of medical science.

Although from the early days of the world's history malaria was one of the most dreaded diseases, it was not until the end of last century that men got a general idea of the nature of the malady and the way in which it is transmitted. Sir Ronald Ross was the man who discovered that the contamination of malaria is effected by a special mosquito, Anopheles, which by sucking the blood of a malarial subject, together with the parasites in the blood, becomes capable of inoculating a healthy person with these parasites.

This discovery can be considered as one of the most outstanding that has ever been made in the medical sphere, for it has brought about an alteration in the lives of millions of people. In fact, from that moment, the question of malaria has been the subject of the most exhaustive research.

Many important results have already been obtained, but, nevertheless, research work is always being carried out, and one of the most important organizations dealing with these questions is the Ross Institute in London. This institute, which is maintained by voluntary contributions, does everything in its power to forward the study of malaria, and has the collaboration of some of the most competent authorities on tropical hygiene and the fight against malaria, as for instance, Sir Malcolm Watson.

One of the principal questions with which the Ross Institute deals is the distribution of quinine to populations suffering from malaria. Great progress has been made by the establishment of the short quinine treatment, considered by the Malaria Commission of the League of Nations to be the best method of treatment, especially because the duration of the treatment is reduced to from 5 to 7 days during which period a daily dose of 15-20 grains of quinine should be taken. After-treatments are not given, but the relapses are treated in the same way. For prevention the Commission recommends a daily dose of 6 grains of quinine during the whole malarial season.

The Ross Institute continues in a most efficient way to carry on the work of the man to whom it owes its name.
M. Eng. No. 16.

TENDER NOTICE

CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY

The Chairman, Way & Works Head Office Tender Board, will receive, at the Chief Engineer's Office, C.G.R., MacCallum Road, Maradana tenders up to 2-30 p.m. on Friday, November 12, 1948 for the construction of Three Bungalows at Trincomalee for the Railway Staff.

For further particulars, please see Government Gazette of 22nd October, 1948.

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

Chief Engineer's Office,
Way & Works, C.G.R.,
P. O. Box No. 370,
Colombo.

READY FOR SALE

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Printed and Published for the Proprietor by BASTIAMPILLAI SANTIAGOPILLAI residing at 39, Main Street, Jaffna, at St. Joseph's Catholic Press, Catholic Mission Premises, Main Street, Jaffna, on Thursday the 4th November, 1948.