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A VERY SPIRITED LETTER OF THE BISHOP OF MONTAUBAN

WRITTEN ON THE SUPPRESSION OF SCHOOLS SUBVENTION

"Mesdames, Messieurs: I had thought that with the Germans Nazism had disappeared. Nothing of the kind: the Nazi spirit is abroad in the *mairie* of Montauban. I had thought that racialism had been vomited forth by all Frenchmen. Nothing of the kind: the secularism of certain people creates a sort of secularist racialism, alone enjoying the integrity of rights. I had thought that France had been liberated, that the oppressor had gone. Nothing of the kind: the tyrants from without are replaced by the tyrants from within. I had thought that the Resistance would have no more *raison d'être*. Nothing of the kind: your sectarianism compels a new Resistance to be organized, for the defence of liberty, equality and fraternity. This time again the Resistance will triumph. I had thought that all Frenchmen knew a little of the history of their country. Nothing of the kind: it is not understood that from the fall of the Roman Empire to the French Revolution the Church was the nation's only school-mistress. I had thought that we had memories. Nothing of the kind: there are some who forget that hundreds of Jews and outlaws (*refractaires*) were hidden by the Bishop in the religious houses and *ecoles libres* of his diocese. I had thought that all men developed, in the sense of making progress. Nothing of the kind: instead of advancing you recoil, you go back *'au regime abject'* and to an out-moded past. Truly you lack imagination.

"Defender of the city and of justice I was yesterday and I remain today. Yesterday, when the Germans were committing abominations in the Tarn-et-Garonne, everybody was silent. One single voice was publicly raised. It did not come from London, nor from Algiers, where one was able to speak without any risk. It came down from

Montauriol: the Bishop of Montauban was the only man in the Department to protest against the Germans, to protest face to face, looking the enemy in the eyes. Courage does not consist in being strong before the feeble, but in standing up to those who are powerful in this world when they commit injustice. Yesterday I knew how to run risks in order to defend the oppressed Jews. My courage has not become at all enfeebled in the German prisons, and I remain ready, God helping, to suffer persecution for justice' sake, and, this time, to defend my own faithful.

"We do not ask for any privilege, any favour, any dole. Let the money of all be at the service of all! Catholics pay rates and taxes like everybody else. They wish, like everybody else, to be aided for the education of their children in schools which they have the right to choose. They are not opposed to a modification of the law on free education, but they cannot accept its suppression pure and simple.

"On September 10th the municipality of Montauban acclaimed me. Today it does not know me. It hurts me and offends me. I do not understand, but I forgive. You have found no un-denominational or secularist establishment to organize your municipal canteens. With the exception of one only, your municipal canteens are Catholic houses. I could say to you: if you ignore me, I ignore you—look after your canteens yourselves. That attitude would be logical, but it would not be charitable. Count always, then, on our devotion to all your social works.

"Be good enough to accept, Mesdames et Messieurs, the assurance of my kind regards,

"PIERRE THEAS,
Bishop of Montauban."

PEACE-MAKERS SHOULD LISTEN TO THE HOLY FATHER

Returning to the subject of the Holy Father and the peace-makers, Archbishop Downey in the Liverpool Cathedral Record repeats that it is to be hoped that at the end of the war the voice of the Father of Christendom may at last be heard and heeded.

His Grace says that for the most part critics of the suggestion he made in his Lenten pastoral letter that the Holy See should have some representation at the peace conference "condemned the Pope for not having roundly denounced the Germans for having plunged the world into war and for their barbarities in conducting it, even comparing him unfavourably with Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt. I pointed out that the latter, like myself, do not profess to be neutral, while the Pope as the common Father of Christendom, must necessarily be so.

LEGAL EVIDENCE IS NECESSARY

"We in this country have a firm conviction of the justice of our cause and a sure knowledge that our warfare is against the powers of darkness; but

we are partisan. No so the Holy Father. As the supreme teacher of Christian faith and guardian of Christian morality he has never failed to teach what does or does not constitute a violation of the moral law: but to impute to any nation or individual the moral guilt of a breach of law is a question of fact which can be established only by legal evidence.

"He cannot condemn on partisan or 'ex parte' evidence. He has millions of spiritual subjects fighting on both sides, and he cannot censure either party without first hearing the defence. The evidence needed for a judicial investigation is not at present accessible, and any enquiry instituted by the Pope must needs be judicial.

"However, it is somewhat significant, and calculated to give pause to the critics, that the Pope is made the target of counter-charges. Both the German and Italian press have accused him of pro-Ally, which certain sections in this country and elsewhere denounce him as pro-Fascist. To the unbiased mind

(Continued on Inner Page)

'WE MUST PROTECT FAMILY LIFE FROM STATE INTERFERENCE'

DR. GRIFFIN ADDRESSES SWORD OF THE SPIRIT COUNCIL

"One of the greatest problems I have been trying to solve," said Archbishop Griffin at a meeting of the Sword of the Spirit Council in London on March, "is how far we can sacrifice human liberties for the sake of security. What are the essential human liberties we cannot renounce at any price?"

His Grace suggested that the members of the Sword of the Spirit movement should discuss this question, and remarked: "One of our guiding principles must be how far proposed legislation is in accordance with nature or in opposition to it."

The Archbishop was pointing out that "we have to teach ourselves and others that rights are derived from the human family; in other words, we have got to assert the rights of the individual as against any encroachment on the part of the State. We have also got to protect the family and family life from extensive State interference and control, and here we come up against a very big problem.

"While protecting human liberties, we must bear in mind the needs of the individual and the needs of the worker. They must have security in their family life, security of employment and security in their old age."

Insisting upon the rights of the family, the Archbishop said: "The birth of a child is the most natural thing in the world. Nowadays, some people seem to think it abnormal. The best persons to look after the child are the parents and naturally we want the child to have the best that is possible.

"But it is rather alarming to notice that opinion seems to be tending to the view that the child is much better looked after by other people, and that the mothers know little, or less than they, about looking after the child.

"The best way is to help the mother in the home."

His Grace declared that "we must build up personal initiative and responsibility."

In this connection he remarked:

"While we are anxious that everybody should have the best medical treatment, I don't think you and I want that to be administered to us by a State official.

"Nor do we want to have everything provided for us by the State. People don't seem to realise that the State cannot do anything until they get the money from us first."

The Archbishop urged the members to encourage service for others.

"A vote carries with it responsibility. While people frequently complain of what is being done in Parliament, they don't take the trouble to bring their views before their representatives.

"So one of the objects of the Sword movement could be to make Catholics realise that they must take their fair share in politics, in trade unions, in local government, and in national movements.....

"Every White Paper ought to be carefully examined to find out how far it fits in with or offends against the principles of the natural law. Otherwise these White Papers become regulations almost by default."

Commenting on pamphlets the movement has published, the Archbishop

said: "I would like to see one on what the Holy Father has been doing in this war, first for the Jews and secondly for prisoners-of-war. It is a terrible shame to hear people saying that he has done nothing.

"Where should we be in this country with regard to our prisoners in Japan had it not been for the work done by the Vatican? I know several cases where the Holy Father has saved the lives of thousands of Jews."

Speaking of the prospects of membership, His Grace declared: "I am going to do everything in my power to see that the Sword of the Spirit flourishes in the parishes of this diocese, or if that is not possible, in local centres."

CO-OPERATION

On co-operation with other Christian bodies, the Archbishop said: "I am wholeheartedly in support of the arrangement by which the Sword of the Spirit should work on parallel lines in regard to religious issues and have joint co-operation with members of their religious bodies in the social sphere. All men of goodwill ought to unite in trying to restore Christian principles in social matters."

His Grace mentioned that he has had a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury—in reply to his own congratulating Dr. Fisher on his appointment—saying how anxious he is that we should continue this co-operation in the social sphere."

The Archbishop also called attention to a proposal that there should be a Catholic bureau of information in this country.

"It is essential," he said, "that we should have an office where people could get information and make inquiries and which would be a sort of dispersal centre of information to other countries. The Catholics of other countries should be able to receive information from us and to let us know what is happening in their countries, how we can help and the various ways in which this can be done.....

HINSLEY HOUSE

"I feel that the centre of this movement, that is, the inquiry office, should be at the new Hinsley House, towards which money is being sent from all over the country.....

"We shall of course want experts and we shall also want a very good reference library.

"I know how much the Catholics of this country are interested in the suggestion and I think that now is the time to pool our ideas so that we shall be in a position in a few months' time to present a scheme to the Hierarchy."

Calling for help for the Catholic aged, sick and poor, the Archbishop said: "We must not forget the magnificent work done in the past by the Little Sisters of Nazareth, but the accommodation which they have to offer to our Catholic aged and sick people is by no means sufficient and I think that we are anxious that everything possible shall be done to give these people the best of medical attention and the most satisfactory form of life which will approach to the home life of these old people."—*The Universe.*

Church Calendar

MAY 1945

FRI.	...18 S. Venantius.
SAT.	...19 S. Peter Celest.
SUN.	...20 PENTECOST.
MON.	...21 S. Julia.
TUES.	...22 S. Rita.
WED.	...23 S. Desiderius.
THURS.	...24 S. Vincent of Lor.
FRI.	...25 S. Gregory.

The Catholic Guardian

MAY 18TH 1945

PENTECOST

Pentecost ranks second in importance in the liturgical festivals of the Church. The word means fiftieth, that is to say, the fiftieth day after the feast of the Pasch which commemorated the deliverance of the Jews from Egyptian bondage. It is said that after this feast, they assembled in their synagogues for prayer day after day counting the days as first day, second day, third day and so on up to the fiftieth day. This they did to recall the fact that their forefathers were bidden to prepare themselves during a period of fifty days for the promulgation of the Law which took place at Mount Sinai. That event they celebrated annually with great rejoicing when the Jews from all parts of the world filled the city of Jerusalem. It was this very day which the Holy Spirit chose to come down on the Apostles to give them light and courage to promulgate the New Law, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. On this day after receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit the Apostles started their work of preaching and converting and hence the day is also considered the Birthday of the Church and this fact gives additional importance of the feast. But there is a notable difference between this and the other feasts of the liturgical year with the exception of *Corpus Christi*. In those other feasts we commemorate certain events, such as the Death and Resurrection of Christ, which took place once in the past but do not occur again, while in celebrating the feast of Pentecost we not only commemorate an event that took place many centuries ago but we make an act of faith in a marvel that occurs daily and hourly in the Church. True, indeed, it is not outwardly manifested by signs and wonders as was the case when the Holy Spirit came down upon the Apostles. These startling manifestations, which then were needed to strengthen more and more the faith of the Apostles and prove to the world the supernatural character of their mission are no longer necessary. But it is of faith that whenever a child is regenerated in the waters of baptism, whenever one is strengthened in faith in Confirmation, whenever a repentant sinner comes to the tribunal of penance and is absolved the Holy Spirit descending cleanses, sanctifies and strengthens the soul making it His living temple. The present Pope Pius XII in his recent Encyclical on the Mystical Body of Christ says: "If we examine

closely this divine principle of life and power given by Christ, in so far as it constitutes the very source of every gift and created grace, we easily see that it is nothing else than the Holy Spirit the Paraclete who proceeds from the Father and the Son, and who is called in a special way 'the Spirit of Christ' or the 'Spirit of the Son.'" It is this Spirit of Christ that has made us adopted sons of God in order that one day "we all beholding the glory of the Lord with open face may be transformed into the same image from glory to glory." The Holy Spirit then is the cause of sanctification and salvation being the channel through which flow into all the members of the Church those gifts, powers and extraordinary graces found superabundantly in Christ Jesus as in their source. As the soul is the principle of our bodily life so is the Holy Spirit the principle of our spiritual life. These considerations should be sufficient to show the vital importance of a special devotion to God the Holy Spirit.

EDITORIAL NOTE

Seat at Peace Table.—There was a lively discussion yesterday in the State Council on the right of Ceylon being represented at the forthcoming Peace Conference. The motion was brought in by the member for Kelaniya and passed by 25 votes to 4. The motion, we think, was all right. Every country was made to suffer in the war and every country is therefore entitled to see how the peace is made lasting. The fact that Ceylon does not enjoy political independence is an accident and should not be a bar to her contribution for a just peace. But Mr. Wanigasekera had a special reason. He said that the message of Buddhism alone could save the world and that message Ceylon could give, counsels of peace. Undoubtedly Buddhism contains humane teaching; that is one of its characteristics. But Christianity has these counsels of peace in abundance. There is nothing anywhere like the Sermon on the Mount to ensure perfect tranquillity, peace and concord. It is not the counsels that are wanting. They are there but they are not put into practice and religion wants not forced but willing obedience. As to Buddhism it has enough to do in Ceylon which has the unenviable notoriety of being one of the most criminal countries in the world.

Peace-Makers Should Listen to the Holy Father

(Continued from Page 1)

these counter-charges cancel each other out. But in any case it must be realised that the Pope cannot effectively pronounce judgment without being invited to do so by the belligerents.

"There seems little likelihood of such a course being adopted especially in view of the happenings after the last war. Among the documents of the Russian Foreign Office published by the Maximalists there was brought to light a secret clause in the Convention of London of April 25, 1915, which reads: 'France, Great Britain and Russia

pledge themselves to support Italy in so far as she may not permit that the representatives of the Holy See exercise diplomatic action for the conclusion of peace and for the settlement of questions connected with the war.

"It fell to the lot of the then Lord Robert Cecil in the House of Commons to give some explanation on behalf of the Foreign Office. He declared that in many ways the Pope 'has earned the gratitude of the British Government and of every person in this country during the war', and that he was excluded from the conference on the ground that no neutral power would be permitted to attend except by general consent. But he said never a word as to why, at the behest of the Government of Italy, the Holy See was singled out in such an objectionable manner."—*Universe*.

The May Festival at Madhu

(By S. A.)

With this year, the May Festival shows every sign that it would soon enter the role of major festivals there. Last year, the pilgrims numbered between 500 and 600. This year, it was over 2,000.

The majority of them came from Naccundankarai, Kochchikadde, Bolawatte, Waikal, Angampitiya and the neighbouring districts. To be in their company, to talk, chat, move and hold converse with them, and especially to pray with them, was in itself, a liberal education in Christian Life, in its noblest sense. Their genuine Faith, Christian charity, child-like simplicity, and devout prayers, cannot fail to remind one, of what one has read about the faithful of the early christian ages. We in Jaffna have many a lesson to learn from them, with regard to community prayer, and Oh! How they pray! More than sermons and books, they draw us nearer to the core of Christian life.

There was a bus service, this time. Fr. Administrator had done, all he could to see to the conveniences of the pilgrims. I am not using the word *comfort*. Who cares for other comforts, in his Mother's house, than those that flow from her maternal heart?

The Retreat this year, was preached by Revd. Fr. S. Emmanuel, O.M.I., of Anuradhapura. He gave it to us all, in full measure, well pressed and flowing over. He was mostly either at the confessional, or somewhere near it. He had walked from Irakkam to Madhu.

One incident which made a deep impression on the minds of the pilgrims, must be mentioned here. One Mr. C.V. Antony, a renter of Lakeside Road, Ragama, sallied forth into the jungle with his gun, at 9 a.m. on Thursday. He failed to return, even after sunset. His wife and six children, were there, weeping, weeping bitterly before the statue of Our Lady—a heart rending sight. The pilgrims wept too. Father preacher called for prayers. All prayed. It was lucky that the old veteran Kannakar Mariampillai was there. He got expert trackers from Palampiddy, some 20 of them to scour the jungles all around far and near. The missing wanderer was brought back on Saturday at 9 a.m., after he had experienced all the horrors of the jungle for two nights and 48 hours. He was found exhausted, munching wild dates and squatting by a bush, three miles away from the shrine. Space does not allow me to dwell on the touching scene I saw, when the wanderer was restored to the bosom of his family. Our Lady of Madhu, had heard the prayers of the pilgrims.

Our party returned to Madhu Road Station on Monday the 7th at 8 p.m. The Station grounds were full of pilgrims. There were lamps burning under all the trees. The pilgrims were praying, reciting the Rosary, their faces aglow with the light of their Faith.

"The 'Retort Beautiful' was, I think given at an Anglican meeting the other day.

"Said the speaker, 'I cannot accept this Immaculate Conception. I do not believe that the Blessed Virgin would have been so bad a grammarian as to say, *I am the Immaculate Conception*.' "Another gentleman arose and replied, 'I think it must run in the family. Her son said, *I am the Resurrection*.'"

Russian-Victim Poles Renew Polish Life in India

In view of the Polish-Russian crisis and the recent Commons debate your readers may be interested to know something of the Poles in India.

The Archbishop of Bombay, who is indefatigable, has recently been visiting the Polish centres in company with Major Allan, an old Stonyhurst boy, who is representative in India of Unra, and Commandant of the transit camp for Poles in Karachi. The Archbishop has published a small report which makes very interesting reading. The Archbishop was accompanied on his tour by M. Darlewski, the London Polish Government's Delegate for Social Welfare, and M. Gowlawski of the Education Department.

Kolhapur, situated near the capital town of the State of that name, is some few miles south of Poona, and is a Polish city in miniature with a population of some 5,000. The Polish Commandant is very much of a town mayor and is assisted by a corporation. The community embraces educational institutions, scholastic and technical, and carries out many agricultural experiments. The aim kept in view is the training of Polish citizens for the reconstruction of Poland.

The camp is run on the family system with a house for each family. To quote from the Archbishop's report.

"I have never heard anywhere in Europe or in Asia more united fervour than in the prayers and hymns of the Church of St. Andrew Bobola at Kalhapur."

At Mass on the day of the Archbishop's visit 2,000 people crowded the church; nearly all were women, for apart from boys, old men and invalids all Polish males have joined the armed forces.

Panchgani, in the same area but up in the hills not far from Mahabeshwar, and the hill station for Bombay province is well known as a recent retreat of Mr. Gandhi's. It is also the location of a T.B. sanatorium and convalescent home for Polish exiles run by the Daughters of the Cross of Panchgani Convent. Jamnagar in Nawanagar State is a smaller camp than Kolhapur and, being by the sea, caters mainly for children. It owes much to H.H. the Maharajah.

Other institutions exist at Karachi and at Bombay, which is the Polish headquarters in India. All display a remarkable amount of effort and hard work which is much to the credit of these exiles, many of whom have the bitterest recollection of their confinement in Siberia.

To quote the Archbishop's report again: "Truth and justice demand the statement of the fact that the Polish exiles in India are victims of Russian barbarity, and not directly victims of the Germans as was stated falsely."

It is not to be expected, therefore, and I can confirm from my own conversations when I was in the Kolhapur area, that the exiles support in any way the Lublin pretenders.—*CH. London*.

The State Council

After the acting Officers of State had taken their oaths in the State Council on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Leader of the House, moved the following resolution:—

"That this Council desires, on behalf of the people of Ceylon, to tender to His Majesty the King their warm and loyal congratulations on the successful termination of hostilities in Europe, to express their deep admiration of the services of His Majesty's Forces and of the Forces of His Allies and to renew the assurance of their determination to assist, with all the resources at their command, in the prosecution of the war against Japan to a speedy and successful conclusion."

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike seconded.

Mr. J. R. Jayawardene opposed the motion.

Mr. J. R. Jayawardene then moved an

amendment of the motion to read as follows:

"That this Council desires, on behalf of the people of Ceylon, to express satisfaction on the successful termination of hostilities in Europe, to express deep admiration of the contribution of the members of the Armed and other Services which helped in the victory, and gives the assurance of its determination to assist with all the resources at its command in the prosecution of the war against Fascism and Imperialism to a speedy and successful conclusion, so that Ceylon may attain its undoubted heritage of political and economic freedom."

The amendment of the member for Kelaniya was then put to the House and lost by 33 votes to 8, one declining to vote.

The motion was then put to the House and was carried by 35 to 5.

The Speaker notified that H. E. the Governor had reserved the Sri Lanka Bill for His Majesty's pleasure.

Mr. A. P. Jayasuriya moved for the unconditional release of political detainees.

Mr. J. R. Jayawardene and Mr. R. E. Jayatileke stated that they had also given notice of similar motions. Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya called upon the Ministers to table their post-war plans at once.

Mr. J. Tyagaraja (Mannar) asked the Leader of the House whether he had received an invitation from the Secretary of State or other person to visit England.

Mr. J. R. Jayawardene asked whether the Governor had been furnished with a copy of the resolution for making Sinhalese and Tamil the official languages.

Mr. C. H. Collins (Acting Chief Secretary) undertook to give a reply later to Mr. Jayawardene's question.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake in reply to the Member for Mannar said that if there was any information he had to give the House, he would do so. He had no statement to make now.

LOCAL & GENERAL

Feast of Pentecost.—This feast will be celebrated with great solemnity at Our Lady of Miracles next Sunday 20th inst. His Lordship the Bishop will celebrate Pontifical High Mass at 8 a.m. In the evening after the Rosary and a sermon by Revd. Fr. S. Gnana-Prakasam, O.M.I., the annual Procession with the statue of Our Lady will take place followed by Pontifical Vespers and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The added solemnity is in commemoration of the Mannar Martyrs.

Confraternity of Sacred Heart.—The Revd. Fr. O'Mahony, C.S.S.R., will give a special conference on—God the Father of Heaven, Have Mercy on Us—to the Senior members of S.P.C. Branch on Friday the 25th inst. at 5 p.m. at the College Hall. All visitors are welcome.

Public Lecture.—Under the auspices of the Jaffna Diocesan Union, Literature Committee, Very Revd. Fr. T.M.F. Long, O.M.I., M.A., delivered on Sunday 13th inst. at 6.30 p.m. in the Catholic Club premises a very inspiring and informative lecture on "The Prospects of Christianity in Ceylon." Mr. V. Joseph, retired District Judge, presided. The lecturer dwelt on the various aspects of Christianity in Ceylon and suggested several useful ways and means of improving the lives of Christians in Ceylon. He said that one effective method to achieve this was a United Christian Front. The lecture though exhaustive kept the whole audience spell bound. A few questions asked by those present from the lecturer were suitably answered.

A vote of thanks was proposed to the learned lecturer in a delightful speech by Mr. S.S. Edward, B.A. (Lond.) War Savings Superintendent, N.D. and was seconded by Mr. L. R. Allagaratnam.

Anuradhapura.—The Annual General Meeting of the Catholic Association, was held in the school hall on Sunday the 13th instant at 6 p.m. Mr. Quentin Fernando, the District Judge, presided. Chevalier S. Arulanatham addressed the association on "Action this day, with Christ and His Saints." The attendance was fairly good. A

hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer.

The election of office-bearers resulted as follows:—President: Mr. Quentin Fernando, District Judge. Vice-Presidents: Mr. Chas. Herat, Head Master St. Joseph's College, Mr. P. Fonseka, C.C.S., Mr. Joseph Miranda, Mr. J. D. Slegers. Hon. Sec.: Mr. L. A. Deva-sagayam, Asst. Sec. Mr. L.C.P. Seneviratna.

St. Joseph's Church, Atchuvely.—At the request of the parishioners of St. Joseph's Church, Atchuvely, His Lordship the Bishop has been pleased to appoint Mr. A. Gardiner as the President Moopu of the said church.

Mr. Gardiner has already been functioning as the President of the Atchuvely Catholic Social Service League for the past two years.

North-Ceylon National League, Ve-Day Celebrations.—A social to celebrate Victory in Europe was held under the auspices of the Northern National League, Dr. N. M. Vanniasinghe, President of the League, moved a vote of congratulation which was cabled to His Majesty the King-Emperor. The message pledged loyalty and offered congratulation on the termination of the War in Europe and expressed the hope that a stable world peace would be established.

Asst. Commissioners of Local Govt.—The names of the candidates approved by the Executive Committee of Local Administration for the nine new posts of Asst. Commissioners of Local Government have now been approved by the Public Service Commission. They are:—Messrs. T.B. Dissanayake, P.A. Uduwala, A. Mahatantri, W. J. Fernando, D. A. Jayasinghe, L. A.B. Rajakaruna, D. Rajendra, L. W. F. Fernando and C. Suriyakumaran.

The VE Day and the Children of Our Lady of Refuge.—Three little boys celebrated the VE-Day in a unique fashion; dressed in gorgeous garbs of eastern princes and mounted on white steeds three boys of Our Lady of Refuge parish went in a procession to the Residency singing songs specially composed for the occasion. The celebration closed at midnight at the parish priest's residence. Their effort was highly appreciated.

VE-Day Celebration.—The C.D. C. Milk Centres at Chundikuli celebrated the Victory by feeding the children at the 3 centres of Chundikuli. The biggest crowd was at the St. John's Church centre. Each child was given one bun, rice cakes and plantain fruits. Several parents were present and Mr. Lewis Subramaniam spoke explaining the meaning of VE-Day. Mr. C. Ponnambalam, Chairman U.C. and Mr. S. N. Nadarajah of Jaffna Apothecaries kindly contributed towards the cost of this feeding.

Death After Swallowing Gold.—At a post-mortem examination of the body of a man from Chiviateru who had recently returned from a visit to South India it was revealed that in his intestines there were 32 pieces of globoid gold, valued at a little over Rs. 3,000.

The man in the doctor's opinion, had died of gangrene of the small intestines by swallowing gold, the weight of which must be 32 tolas.

Chief Secretary on Leave.—The official announcement was made on Saturday last that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to allow Sir Robert H. Drayton, the Chief Secretary, leave out of the Island and appointed Mr. C. H. Collins, Deputy Chief Secretary to act as Chief Secretary until further orders.

Breach of Trust.—After an eight days' trial, Mr. Earl Wijeyewardene, Additional District Judge of Jaffna found Mr. K. Aiyadurai, Proctor and former Chairman of the Jaffna U.C., guilty of having, between July 2, 1943 and Aug. 1943, committed criminal breach of trust of a cheque for Rs. 1,000 given to him by Dr. S. Subramaniam, retired Provincial Surgeon, in his capacity as Chairman of the Urban Council to be utilised for the establishment of a public park in Jaffna. The Judge sentenced the accused to pay a fine of Rs. 500 and imprisonment till the rising of the Court. In the event of an appeal he is to furnish bail in Rs. 1,000.

Mr. H. W. R. Weerasooriya, Crown

Counsel, prosecuted, while the accused was defended by Mr. G. Crossette Thambiah with Messrs. S. Thambidurai, M. Balasundaram, S. Sooransangan & V. Sittampalam, instructed by Messrs. C. D. Singharatnam, M. Mathiapparanam and V. M. Saravanamuttu. Mr. Aiyadurai is appealing.

Indian Shipping Company in London.—An Indian shipping company, owned and managed by Indians, is to be established in London, and it is understood that the Board of Trade has granted permission for its registration. The new company will be named the Indian Union Steamship Co. Ltd., with a capital of £100,000. One of the members of the Board of Directors will be English but the capital will be wholly Indian. The object of the new company will be to trade along the Indian coast as well as on the deep-sea routes. The company proposes to acquire tankers for private hire.

Mr. S. Mahadeva Recommended.—The Executive Committee of Communications and Works decided on Tuesday to recommend the appointment of Mr. S. Mahadeva, Deputy Director of Public Works, as Director when Mr. C. H. Bradley, the present head of the Department, retires in a short time.

Mr. Mahadeva has many scientific papers to his credit and is a member of the Institute of Civil Engineers and the Institute of Water Engineers, a Fellow of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and a Fellow of the Institute of Sanitary Engineers where he obtained first place in the world and was awarded the medal of the Institute.

Another Villundi Crisis.—Monday before last the body of a depressed class man was cremated at the Villundi crematorium without the knowledge of the Vellalas and without a permit having been obtained from the Police or the Urban Council.

On Sunday the news spread that the depressed class people wanted to perform the ash-removing ceremony and a large crowd of "high" caste people gathered at the crematorium. Later, a conference was held at G.A.'s residence after which Mr. Ponnambalam, Chairman, U.C., and Maniagar Appadurai motored to the Villundi crematorium, where a crowd of 1,000 "high" caste people were present. Mr. Ponnambalam tried to persuade them to allow the ashes to be removed without ceremony.

Later, the Chairman sent for representatives of the depressed classes and said that he would take one of them with him and have the ashes removed without any ceremony at the spot. The representatives of the depressed classes insisted on the ceremony and did not want to remove the ashes, and went away.

1950: Holy Year.—Rome has already begun preparations for the solemnization of the Anno Santo, 1950. A vast "House of Pilgrimage," in which all who come to the Eternal City may obtain in case of necessity cheap lodging, care, and information, will be founded.

New Translations for the Breviary.—The Holy Father has issued a *motu proprio* permitting the clergy to use in the Breviary the new translations of the psalms which have been made direct from the Hebrew.

Papal Envoy to Holland.—Archbishop Giobbi, whom the Germans obliged to leave The Hague when they invaded the Netherlands in 1940, has arrived in London by air from Rome to resume his mission as Papal Inter-Nuncio accredited to the Dutch Government.

His Excellency is staying as the guest of Archbishop Godfrey at the Apostolic Delegation at Wimbledon. He has already made contact with the Dutch Government.

His coming to London is a continuation of his mission and has not necessitated a re-appointment. Neither the Holy See nor the Dutch Government wished to interrupt it: it was the Germans who objected to his presence in Holland.

Relations between the Vatican and Holland have in fact been strengthened during the war by the appointment last year of a Dutch Minister to the Holy See. He is Jonkheer Van Weede, formerly Chef de Cabinet to the Foreign Minister.

Russia Gains a Soviet While Benes Remains Silent

A National Committee, elected by itself, and under Soviet influence, has decided to make Sub-carpathic Ruthenia into part of the U.S.S.R. This Czechoslovak territory was assured to Czechoslovakia by the London Treaty signed by Dr. Benes and the Russians.

The messages to London, actually despatched by the National Committee while Mr. Frantisek Nemeš, Dr. Benes' appointed Governor of Sub-carpathic Ruthenia, on his way to confer with the Soviet Foreign Minister, M. Molotov, have so far been kept secret by Dr. Benes. I have received the following information from one who was recently in the "freed territory."

The population of the area is almost exclusively composed of Catholics of the Eastern Rite, but it is reported that the Orthodox Bishop of Khust has asked to be admitted to the mission controlled by the Patriarch in Moscow. Since the Orthodox Church in Ruthenia was created by the Benes' Government as a political manoeuvre against the united Catholics the tactical scope of Red Imperialism can be implied from this move.

Dear Bernadette,

Do you pray to God to take away such a great patriot as Dr. Kannangara? Oh no! Don't do that.

He is a great Buddhist saint. I would like to have him canonized immediately. It's a pity I haven't a cannon.

Your loving friend,
MISS JETTY.

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Telegraphic Summary of News

ENGLISH DECREED OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IN GERMANY

The Flensburg Radio said on Sunday that decrees issued by the Allied Military Government include those for the dissolution of the National Socialist Party and the establishment of English as the official language.

Among the Nazi laws dissolved are those prohibiting the organisation of political parties and the Hitler Youth Act. The curfew has been ordered for all German nationals between 8.30 p.m. G.M.T. and 4.30 a.m. until Tuesday and between 8.45 p.m. and 4 a.m. after that date.

A meeting shortly between Mr. Churchill, President Truman and Marshal Stalin was forecast by Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to Washington, speaking to Californian legislators at Los Angeles.

"Now that it is over in Europe," said Lord Halifax, England will use its full might & will be sailing with you & marching shoulder to shoulder with you in the Pacific war. All of us should look upon that war as a long, hard struggle and govern our actions accordingly."

Differences at the San Francisco Conference were being ironed out, Lord Halifax added, but "whatever is done in San Francisco can be improved later as the structure for maintaining peace begins to operate."

TRUMAN'S PLEDGE

The unofficial but authoritative "Army and Navy Journal" (Washington) declares that President Truman opened the door to a Japanese request for peace with his VE-Day message stating that unconditional surrender could not mean the destruction of the Japanese people.

"It is hardly like that he would have made this pledge without prior knowledge of Britain, and it is known that Moscow was advised it," the paper says.

"In both countries the forbearance of the United States appears to have been welcomed in part because their peoples want world peace and in part because their respective interests call for the continuance of Japan, which, deprived of power to make an aggressive attack, will at the same time be a measurable balance in the Far East and a customer for foreign goods."

KING LEOPOLD UNABLE TO RETURN IMMEDIATELY

The following communique was issued after Saturday night's Cabinet's meeting: "The Ministers who, together with the Prince Regent, got in touch with King Leopold in Austrian territory, have returned to Brussels. The King in a letter addressed to his brother, Prince Regent Charles, informed him that as a result of his captivity the state of his health did not allow him to return immediately to Belgium. The King therefore asked his brother to continue the mission with which he had been entrusted. The Prince Regent remained with the King."

Last month the Belgian Communists and Socialists indicated that they desired his abdication and the position was discussed by the Belgian Cabinet.

KING LEOPOLD "REALLY ILL"

"King Leopold is really ill—it is by no means a 'diplomatic' illness," the Premier M. Van Acker, told a Press Conference on Sunday.

REPORT OF SOVIET DEMAND FOR MANCHURIA

The possibility of Russia emerging as one of the major Colonial Powers for the first time in history faced the world leaders on May 12 as diplomatic experts closely examined Russia's surprise amendments to the United States trusteeship proposals (writes Paul Scott Rankine, Reuter's Special Correspondent).

There are unconfirmed reports that M. Molotov discussed with President Truman in Washington the allocation of certain territories in the Pacific to Russia. There are also unconfirmed reports emanating from London that Russia sought the following changes:

- (1) Soviet occupation of Manchuria as former enemy territory;
- (2) A Soviet Protectorate over Korea;
- (3) The return of territories and properties ceded to the Japanese after the Russo-Japanese war;
- (4) The allocation in some form or another of Formosa to Soviet control.

IMPORTANCE OF PROPOSALS

The importance of Russia's trusteeship proposals is that they are the first official document in which Russia, without naming Japan, demands a voice—and a very powerful voice—in this disposal and control of territories to be taken away from Japan after her defeat.

"QUIT TRIESTE" REQUEST TO TITO

Europe's post-war problems are rapidly taking shape and in some cases are already assuming formidable dimensions—barely a week after the official end of the war against Germany.

Tuesday morning two London newspapers, the "Daily Mail" and the "Daily Express," give great prominence to reports that Marshal Tito has been formally requested by the British and U.S. Governments to withdraw all his Forces from Trieste.

U.S. TO HAVE FULL SAY

With Trieste looming as one of the Allies' biggest and most immediate problems, Reuter's correspondent in Washington reported on Tuesday that diplomatic observers feel that the United States intend to have a full say in any drawing of Europe's boundaries.

The British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden (adds the correspondent) is confidently believed on Tuesday to have impressed upon President Truman the need for an immediate meeting of "the Big Three" to thrash out relations which no one pretends to have improved during the San Francisco Conference.

AUSTRIA'S "INDEPENDENCE"

Apart from the dominating question of Poland and the Trieste issue, there is the problem of Austria to be settled.

The U.S. State Department, says the correspondent, on Tuesday refused to comment on the Declaration of Independence by the Austrian Provisional Government but pointed out that Britain and America had already been firm in their non recognition of that body.

As to the question of Germany, some quarters in Washington are disturbed at what appears to be a lack of co-operation among the various Occupying authorities.

One European diplomatic, the correspondent says, summed up the situation thus: "The war is only beginning" was never more true than it is of Europe today."

In this connexion, the political tendencies of Post-war France which are now becoming apparent will have important effects on the future of Europe.

Reuter's special correspondent in Paris reports that a trend towards the Left is revealed by the results of the second ballot in the French municipal elections. An unofficial analysis of the first results shows that Socialists, Communists and Radicals are well to lead in that order, and the Paris Press unanimously appraised the known results as confirmation of a swing to the Left and of triumph for the ideas of Resistance and for General de Gaulle.

LUBLIN UNDETERRED BY NON-RECOGNITION

Mr. Churchill may be asked, when Parliament meets on Tuesday about his broadcast warning that the words freedom, democracy and liberation must not be distorted. This is interpreted in some parliamentary circles as referring to events in Poland, Rumania and Austria.

It is felt that further postponement of the Polish settlement can only increase the difficulties. One such issue, now arising is the demand by the Lublin Government for the extradition of war criminals who are to be tried by the Poles. Another is the participation of the Lublin Government in the occupation of German territory without it being recognised by either Britain or America.

The Danzig Free State has been incorporated into Poland by decree.

The decision of the Lublin Government to send a thousand Poles to Frankfurt-on-Oder clearly shows their intention to proceed with or without Western recognition.

100 DEAD IN RIOTS

More than a hundred people were killed and many others injured in Algeria at Setif (near Constantine) last week, a statement from the French Minister of Interior disclosed on Tuesday night. A wheat shortage was used by agitators to provoke riots.

CHAPULTEPEO AGREEMENT

Practical agreement between the Great Powers and Latin American leaders has been reached on the "Chapultepeco vs. Dumbarton Oaks" controversy, I was authoritatively informed on Tuesday (cables Paul Scott Rankine).

It preserves the Chapultepeco system (which treats an attack on one Republic as an attack on all) without damaging the authority of the International Security Council.

GOERING "FIRST FOR TRIAL"

Captured Nazi leaders are to be treated in all cases with appropriate sternness according to a statement issued on Monday by General Eisenhower.

At the same time, the Luxembourg Radio announced that Hermann Goering—who shook hands with his captor, General Robert J. Stack, Asst. Commander of the U.S. 36th Division—is to be the first Nazi leader to be brought to trial by the Allied Commission for the investigation of War Crimes.

General Eisenhower's statement emphasized that drastic measures were being taken to prevent captured Nazi and high German officials being given "friendly" treatment.

"Any such incidents have been a direct violation of my express and long-standing orders" he said.

LIDICE ONE CHARGE

The charges against Goering, brought by Czechoslovakia and Poland, include (says the Luxembourg Radio) responsibility for the mass slaughter at Lidice, when a whole village was wiped out as well as for the murder of Czech students after a demonstration on the Czechoslovak National Day in 1939.

Goering is also accused of being responsible for the death of thousands of Czechs who were tortured to death in concentration camps.

He is further accused of having drafted the plans under which hundreds of thousands of foreign workers were taken as slave labourers to Germany.

10,000 DUTCH ARRESTS

Vidkun Quisling, the Norwegian Nazi leader, when he presented himself for arrest at the Oslo police station, was given the treatment of a common prisoner, said the Danish Radio on Tuesday. He was irritated when ordered to undress. "Am I really supposed to be treated like an ordinary prisoner?" he asked.

"You are a highly extraordinary prisoner," was the dry answer.

Holland too is rounding up collaborators. Ten thousand Dutch Nazis have been arrested in Amsterdam, said a Netherlands News Agency report.

HITLER'S DEATH—CHURCHILL'S OPINION

Mr. Churchill in rejecting a suggestion that formal Victory parades and celebrations should be held before the end of the Japanese War, told the House of Commons on Tuesday: "Our brief rejoicings and celebrations are over and we must now turn again to difficult and unpleasant tasks, including the defeat of Japan."

When Mr. Will Thorne (Labour) asked if it were not possible that the surrender of Japan would be celebrated between now and Christmas, Mr. Churchill evaded a direct answer with: "We will all do justice to them—the celebrations."

To an enquiry whether a conference between himself, President Truman and Marshal Stalin was contemplated in the near future Mr. Churchill said: "I devoutly hope so. It would be very odd," he added amid laughter, "if such a long and fierce war ended without any settlement, even among the victors."

THE HITLER RIDDLE

Mr. Churchill was next asked if the Government was satisfied beyond all shadow of doubt that Hitler was dead. Mr. Churchill said he knew no more than what he had read in the newspapers and, therefore, only had his own opinion to go by.

When members asked what his opinion was, Mr. Churchill replied amid laughter: "I must say I am enclitic to general opinion."

There was more amusement, when in reply to Commander O. Locker-Lampson (Conservative), who asked if it were fact that Hitler was being harboured by Mr. De Valera at the moment, Mr. Churchill declared: "I will have enquiries made."

EIRE CRITICISED

There was criticism by some Conservative members at the fact that the Secretary of Eire's Department of External Affairs and not the Minister himself called on the British Representative in Dublin, to apologise for the breaking of windows; and the British representative for Queen's University, Belfast (Northern Ireland), asked why the Minister did not make a call in view of the fact that he had found the time to call at the German Legation and express sympathy at the death of Hitler.

Mr. P. V. Emrys-Evans, Under-Secretary for the Dominions, said he did not know the reason.

Earl Winterton (Conservative) wanted the British representative in Dublin to be instructed to refuse to accept apologies "from minor officials of the Eire Government" in future, but there was no further Government reply.

PART OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA "TO JOIN U.S.S.R."

An autonomous government has been formed in the sub-Carpathian Ukraine of Czechoslovakia and seeks union with the Soviet Union, although at the moment it is still recognising the authority of the Czechoslovak Government, according to news reaching the Czechoslovak Press Bureau.

Meanwhile, the dispute over the Yugoslav occupation of Trieste, which has presented Europe with its first post-war settlement problem, was no nearer to solution on Tuesday.

RUSSIANS END ALL FIGHTING

Tuesday night's Soviet communique consists of only one sentence. "The surrender of all German prisoners of all the fronts has been completed."

PLANS SET FOR GIANT RAIDS ON JAP HOMELAND

While the campaigns in the Philippines and in Okinawa island, to secure air bases for new and heavier blows, are nearing completion, Reuter's special New York correspondent reports that high-ranking Allied Air Chiefs in the Pacific have just concluded an important conference at which, it is believed plans were made for intensifying the air bombardment of the Jap mainland.

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