

The Ceylon's Catholic Weekly Messenger

Vol. 92 No. 24

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 1960

Registered at the G.P.O.
as a Newspaper.

15 Cts.

General Council: Pope appoints Preparatory Commissions New Step Towards Christian Unity

Invitation to separated Christians

IN the first paragraph of the *Motu Proprio*, establishing the Preparatory Commissions for the Second Vatican Council, the Holy Father on the feast of Pentecost expressed his special interest in Christians still separated from the Holy See.

"From the very beginnings of our Pontificate," the Pope said, "we felt under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, like the flower of an unforeseen spring, the desire to summon a General Council. The truth is that, from this solemn assembly of bishops around the Roman Pontiff, the Church, beloved spouse of Christ, can in these troubled times derive a fresh and fuller splendour and through it also, quicken the hope that those who glory in calling themselves Christian, yet are in separation from the Holy See, may hear the voice of the divine Shepherd and become members of the one Church of Christ."

GOODWILL

Among the many arrangements which the Holy Father made known in the *Motu Proprio* was the establishment of a special Advisory Board or Secretariat "to enable Christians separated from the Holy See to follow the work of the Council and find their way more easily towards the Unity for which Jesus Christ prayed so ardently to His Heavenly Father." This, the Pope said, was to be done "as a token of our affection and goodwill."

Already the Cardinal appointed to preside over this Board has been named by the Pope. It is the German born Jesuit Cardinal Bea, for 13 years confessor to Pope Pius XII.

In the *Motu Proprio*, the Pope recapitulated the various steps he had already taken to prepare for the work of the Council and to make known its special work.

PROPOSALS

"The Ante-Preparatory Commission," the Pope said, "has with great diligence concluded the task entrusted to it. It has made contact with all the Bishops... It has carefully arranged the material contained in more than 2,000 replies which bishops and prelates sent together with messages of goodwill; and it has placed all this at the disposal of the Sacred Congregations of the Roman Curia. The latter have been able, with great advantage, to draw up from the material the proposals put before us."

The Holy Father further explained that he had personally examined with the greatest attention the suggestions and advice of the bishops, the proposals of the Sacred Congregation and the desires and studies of the Universities.

"It now seems clear," the Pope concluded, "with what subjects," taken from the abundant material, the forthcoming Council should busy itself. The time has come to proceed, with the help of God, to the setting up of Preparatory Commissions which will devote themselves to the study of the subjects suitable for discussion during the Council itself.

THE 'TEN'

"These Preparatory Commissions will be made up of cardinals, bishops and clergy noted for their virtue and

Asst. General of Oblates

(Photo by Raymond Wannappa)



The Very Rev. Fr. S. Lucas, O.M.I., Assistant Superior General of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, at the Ratmalana Airport, together with His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo and Mr. Eric Nicolai, Ceylon Manager of K.L.M., just before Fr. Lucas left Ceylon for Rome last Monday. Fr. Lucas was participating in K.L.M. Royal Dutch Airlines' invitation flight in their new Lockheed "Electra" jet prop aircraft which has just been introduced on their Far Eastern Service through Colombo.

POPE JOHN WON'T GO TO MUNICH

ONCE again a German newspaper has published rumours that "the Pope is coming to Munich" for the International Eucharistic Congress this summer and once again the Congress press office has had to issue a denial.

In a recent address, Pope John, recalling that St. Peter had travelled widely, said: "The humble successor of St. Peter cannot personally visit the various regions of the world for which he feels grave solicitude. But all the representatives of the various continents know the way to Rome, capital of the Catholic world."

Genial priest who rules a vast province

(by a "Messenger" reporter)

THE genial, generous and dynamic priest in charge of the Australian Province of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers, the Very Rev. Fr. Leonard McKenna, S.S.S., made a characteristically sudden appearance in Colombo last week. He had hoped to spend Christmas 1959 with his flock in Ceylon. But that dream was shattered by an unfortunate and unavoidable spell in hospital, followed by a period of convalescence during which this man with a boundless energy was reduced to hobbling about on crutches.

But being the sort of person whom nothing whatsoever can keep down, he was soon in the saddle again. His provincialate involves enormous distances—from Toowoomba in Queensland (where the novitiate is) to Colombo, is a good 5,500 miles or more. But distance does not deter Father Leonard, it acts as a stimulus, instead, to a zeal that is nothing less



than Pauline in vision, in range, and in the dynamic driving-power behind it.

His community here, to whom the faithful of Colombo owe so much, are never so happy as when he is with them (incidentally one of them, Bro. Stephen, is the Provincial's younger brother). And this happy family atmosphere is no matter for surprise to anyone who has met Father Leonard—the position of authority he holds is completely overshadowed by his transparent sincerity, his simplicity, his large-hearted sympathy and his absolutely infectious bonhomie. That may sound like a long and flattering litany, but your reporter assures you that it is true.

★ OUT NEXT WEEK JUNE BRIDE'S ISSUE

Principal Contents

- Wedding Belles by Vernon Lawrentsz
- Prayer for the Bride and Bridegroom by Annette Swan
- Bridal Ensembles—specially designed by Yrol Jayewardena
- Advice to June Brides by Iris de Croos



S. A. Govt. attacks Church

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD SEEM TO HAVE LAUNCHED A FRONTAL ATTACK ON THE CHURCH'S NON-RACIAL ATTITUDE AS EXEMPLIFIED IN THE WORKINGS OF THE HIERARCHY.

Recently, Mr. Douglas Smith, an opposition M.P., read a letter in

Parliament at Cape Town which, he said, was sent on March 3 by the Department of Bantu (African) Administration to the South African Churches and which said: "It is conceivable and, in fact, appears almost inevitable that, unless certain precautionary measures are taken, Bantu bishops, or even Bantu ministers, will be placed in a position of authority over European ministers, missionaries, or employees of the Church."

UN-GODLY

Professing Christians, said Mr. Smith, would regard the implications of the letter as "another ungodly interference by the Government in matters of religion."

Certainly the Catholic Church in South Africa would seem to incur the Government's disapproval on this point.

As there are as yet no African bishops in the Anglican Church in South Africa, it seems clear that the Government's warning is addressed to the Catholic Church and is an attempt to persuade the Church to import the principle of *baaskap* (White supremacy) into its Hierarchy.

Australian Bishop dies in London

MGR. Andrew Gerard Tynan, Bishop of Rockhampton, Australia, died suddenly in a hotel in Victoria, London, on Thursday, June 2, while on the way to Rome for his *ad limina* visit. He had only just arrived in Britain together with Archbishop Young of Hobart, Tasmania.

Bishop Tynan, who had been a bishop 14 years, was only 52. He was a much loved and revered bishop by both clergy and laity, and he was largely responsible for the founding of the Catholic Enquiry Centre in Australia.

A Requiem was sung at Westminster Cathedral by Archbishop Young. Cardinal Godfrey presided and gave Absolution.

The bishop's body was flown to Australia for burial.

THE VICTOR LEADS ... OTHERS FOLLOW

A Car's popularity is judged by the sales it makes.

The VAUXHALL VICTOR, Britain's No. 1 Export Car, irrespective of class, price, size or horsepower. Top British seller in U.S.A., CANADA, SWITZERLAND, NORWAY, DENMARK, SWEDEN, PORTUGAL, ETC.

And here's what adds to the appeal of the Victor Series 2.

- * Average (approx.) 36 m.p.g. (ordinary petrol)
- * Synchronesh on all forward gears for easier driving.

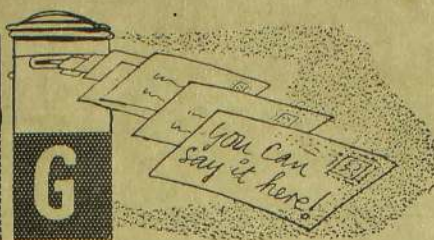
More than ever, it's your kind of car!



TUCKERS AUTODROME

TURN TO BACK PAGE

WEEKLY POST BAG



THE PARISH—vital unit of Catholic life

THE parish is vital to our religious lives because God has created us as social beings. This means that for our spiritual as well as for our material prosperity we are dependent upon one another.

Very seldom could one person erect a church, but a group united as a parish always can. Very seldom are parents able by their own efforts to give a proper Catholic training

to their children, but with the aid of priests and nuns and fellow parishioners supporting a parochial school, they can.

In times of temptation, perplexity and sorrow, we all need the help of others and we find it in the form of direction and comfort given principally by the pastor and priests of our parish.

Indeed the Church, as the saviour

founded it, is a social organization known most truly as the Mystical Body of Christ. The parish is the unit in the Mystical Body of Christ which is closest to the individual Catholic, and through the parish we retain sound and healthy membership in Him Who is our Head. It is important for each Catholic to know to which parish he rightfully belongs.

The good Catholic does not want to make himself an exception to the universal laws of the Church by seeking membership in a parish other than the one in which he lives.

If his own parish is small and poor, he recognizes his duty to help it grow, and does not abandon it in order to attend a more successful parish.

In our island there are various kinds of parishes, which may roughly be classified on the rural, the small town and the large city parishes.

While each type may have its own characteristics and difficulties, in the main they are all conducted in the same way and are confronted with the same problems.

Francis Soris.

Ratnapura.

Re-mailing Catholic papers

READERS of your invaluable paper will no doubt be glad to hear that a free Catholic Paper Re-mailing Service has been inaugurated by us on an island-wide scale with the Centre presently housed at the address given below.

The sole aim of the Movement is to post copies of the *Messenger* and *Gnanartha Pradipaya* to every Catholic family in the Island that cannot afford to buy them. Even the postage incurred thereon will be borne by the Organisation. Thus the service rendered by the Organisation is absolutely free and for that very reason the movement calls for help from those who can afford to help.

Readers can help in five ways:—

(a) By reporting to the Organisation names and addresses of families that do not have the opportunity of reading the Catholic Paper for the reason that they cannot afford to buy them.

(b) By sending to the Centre every week copies of their Catholic papers soon after reading them. (These can either be posted to the Centre or, in the alternative, the Organisation can arrange to collect them at the homes of the donors.)

(c) By sending financial help—it does not matter how small the contribution is—to defray postage. Contributions may also be sent in stamps.

(d) By joining the Organisation and giving their active help in collecting

and posting the papers at the Centre. (For this purpose, readers may apply for membership, stating how they propose to help the Organisation.)

(e) By writing to the Organisation, giving their views and any other useful comments on the movement.

The Organisation has found out in the course of a survey conducted recently that there is a vast number of Catholic families in the Island that are deprived of the blessing of reading the weekly Catholic papers for the simple reason that they cannot afford to buy copies of their own. It was also found that on the contrary the papers that are bought by most of the regular readers are not put to any use once they have been read by them. We therefore hope, through the medium of this Organisation, to distribute these copies that would otherwise go waste, amongst those who cannot afford to buy them themselves.

We are confident that every Catholic will respond in his or her own way to this call which can be summed up appropriately as a call for the Propagation of the Faith. This then is our motto—To every Catholic family, a Catholic Paper.

T. A. Maximus Perera,
Organiser,
Catholic Papers Re-mailing
Service.

"Lourdes,"
Katukurunda,
Moratuwa.

BISHOP SHEEN SPEAKS

TEEN-AGE RESPECT

SOME parents complain that their teen-age children never obey them; other parents deny they have any difficulty on the subject of obedience with their children. Why the difference?

The difference is not always in the children, as is too often assumed; it may lie in the parents. The rebellion against the authority of the elders is not always because teen-agers are opposed to authority, but rather because of those who administer authority. One of the greatest philosophers who ever lived gave this rule in Latin which is worth quoting:

"Ex reverentia praecipiens procedere debet reverentia praecipit."

"The respect that one has for a rule flows from the respect that one has for the one who gives it."

On the subject of music, for example, teen-agers are very willing to accept the authority of a band leader, because they feel he knows his subject and is qualified to speak on it. The teen-age boy will accept the authority of a well-known baseball player on the subject of sports, because he is worthy of respect in that field due to his accomplishments. It was said of the soldiers of Napoleon that if anyone had cut out their hearts, they would have seen his image engraved thereon—so much did they respect his ability as a soldier.



commands respect, disobedience increases. Juvenile delinquency is in direct ratio and proportion to the decline of moral value among the parents. Every defect in character is a defect in obedience. If therefore, the parents of teen-agers are of the type who are intemperate, given to alcoholism, infidelity, quarreling and fighting, what can be expected of the children? If parents are living in a second marriage, with first spouses still living, it is impossible for these parents to say to their children: "You must keep your word and never break it"; the children know they have already broken a word concerning loving unto death. It will not do for alcoholic parents to say: "You must not drink," if the children have seen either of the parents drunk.

Where there is love

Little boys never have any difficulty in accepting the authority of their parents. "My daddy told me" is their final word on any subject. There is a real inner adhesion to him because of the trust reposed in him. Later on, when the little boy becomes a teen-ager, there is not that same spontaneous acceptance of parental authority; there must be added another reason for parental respect, and that is the moral worth of the one who gives it. Where there is love, because of the nobility of the character of the parents, there is always obedience. Our Blessed Lord based obedience on love: "If you love Me, you will keep My Commandments." Before He gave Peter the authority to rule over His lambs and sheep, He asked him three times: "Do you love Me?" Once there was a love admitted for Christ on the basis of His conquest over evil, then there would be no question whatever of obedience to His commands.

When a teacher lacks that moral and intellectual value which

Educating the parents

On the contrary, where the parents give example to their children, obedience is not rendered by the children because of a fear of punishment, but rather because they would not hurt whom they love. This is behind the meaning of the words of St. Augustine: "Ama et fac quod vis": "Love and do whatever you please." The commandment of God: "Thou shalt honour thy father and thy mother" implies honour in the parents. The definition of honour is a recognition of the excellence of someone.

In conclusion, it would be quite wrong always to blame the children for failure to honour their parents. Honour and dishonour, love and aversion, respect and disgust are born in them, according to what they see in the parents. Sometimes it may be the duty of teen-agers to educate their parents. To parents who have not given good example, the teen-agers must be given this counsel: The last generation has failed you; but you must not fail the next generation. (Copyright Reproduction in whole or in part forbidden).

THE SHRINE ON THE HILLS

LARGE CROWDS OF DEVOTEES OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA WILL GATHER TODAY FROM ALL PARTS OF THE ISLAND AT THE ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SHRINE DEDICATED TO THIS SAINT AT WAHACOTTE, A VILLAGE ABOUT 20 MILES NORTH OF MATALE.

In the absence of His Lordship the Bishop of Kandy, Dr. Leo Nanayakkara, O.S.B., who is away from the Island, Bishop Regno will officiate at Vespers this evening and at the High Mass tomorrow morning. He will be assisted by several Missionaries from the Kandy Diocese.

The normally quiet village has put on a garb of festivity, and temporary shops and dwelling houses have come up on the wide expanse of land round about the church.

A LINK WITH THE PORTUGUESE

"Wahacotte," which appears to be a corruption of "Wasala Kotte," means "Castle Gate," and probably the village was so called because it protected a Palace, the traces of which are yet visible. The village is beautifully situated and its climate is dry and mild.

During the reign of Rajasingha, the King of Sitawaka, who usurped the Kandyan throne, a prince of the former dynasty, Yamasingha by name, who was baptized in Goa under the name of Don Philip, returned to the Kandyan kingdom and, with the help of the Portuguese, was acclaimed King of Wahacotte. When Don Philip

died and the throne was seized by Vimala Dharma Suriya, Don Philip's son, Don Joao, was forced to flee to Wahacotte and finally to Portugal, where he became a Catholic priest (De Queyro: *Conquista*). Thus Wahacotte is not only linked with the Portuguese but with the first and only Catholic King of Kandy and with the first Kandyan to become a Catholic priest.

The first Portuguese settlers in Wahacotte were captives of the Kandyan King. They married Sinhalese wives and the present inhabitants can be traced back to them.

THE STATUE OF ST. ANTHONY

When the Portuguese came to settle down in Wahacotte, they had with them a small statue (about six inches in height) of St. Anthony whom they venerated as their protector in turbulent times. For fear of persecution they offered prayers in their huts in secret to St. Anthony. Reference to this statue is thus made by Simon Casie Chetty in his *Sketch of the Rise and Progress of the Catholic Church in Ceylon*:

"The statue of St. Anthony, belonging to the Church of

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

By Spectator

Vimala Perera, on Petticoat Government: "Man is a fool by rule." Gone are the days when woman was considered the 'weaker sex.' This is indeed the era of Petticoat Government!"

Hemin, Hemin! Vimala! Please wait till after July 20, to shout 'Long Live, Petticoat Government!'

J. C. T. Kotelawala: "These (the S.L.F.P.) were the people who stated they would preserve democracy. They were the bribe takers who refused to appoint a Bribery Commission!"

Good old Jack! And still, he has stepped down from Badulla, to make room for one of their tribe! Cherchez la femme?

H. F. Perera on Spiritualism: "These so-called good and practising Catholics seem to find nothing objectionable and detrimental to Catholic doctrine to resort to these superstitions and dangerous practices."

Wait a bit. This isn't the whole bag of tricks! For most of us, among all ologies and isms, astrology is 'primus inter pares.' We won't say 'sho' to a crow without first consulting our pet astrologer! News to you?

Sooty Banda: "Today, if you want to fool the morbid public, you have to secure the services of an experienced sob sister!"

Think it will work again? "Nar", said a shrewd Scotsman. "Ah hae me doots!"

Christopher Sansoni (14 yrs.): "If I become Prime Minister, I will chase out of the Cabinet all Ministers who will just talk about language and religion. I shall make it a point to improve living conditions of the people . . ."

Bravo, Christopher! Bravo! Grow up, sonnie, grow up soon! You're just the leader we need to steer the good ship 'Sri Lanka' safely, through these twin perils of Scylla and Charybdis!

Sir John: "I am sorry this poor widow is being ruined by these young fellows who think that they are the cat's whiskers in politics!"

In fact, Sir John, they are only the cat's paws!

Kandy, was confiscated by the King of Kandy when he expelled the Catholics from his dominions. But soon afterwards plague and famine broke out in the Kingdom, and Kirtisiri Rajasingha (1747-1780), thinking it was retribution from Heaven for his cruelties to the Catholics, restored the statue to the Catholic colony of Wahacotte and gave them permission to build a church.

Even the Buddhists of the area have a great regard for the statue of St. Anthony, which has been an incessant source of benefit to them. It is reported how on the occasion of a severe drought in the Kandhapahala Korale, the villagers had recourse to their patron, St. Anthony, when the severe drought ended. The grateful villagers brought gifts to the Shrine of St. Anthony in solemn procession, accompanied by hewisi (beating of tom-toms), etc. Since then the Catholics of Wahacotte have been granted the right to have hewisi for their church festivities, although this right was a jealously guarded privilege of Royalty.

SCENE OF FR. VAZ'S LABOURS

The Catholic Faith, firmly planted in that soil, survived the severest persecutions, due to the labours of the Oratorian Fathers, chiefly those of Venerable Joseph Vaz and Fr. Jacome

Continued on page 14

That they may be one

THE BLOCK ROSARY

and how it all began

DURING THE WAR WASHINGTON, D.C., IN AMERICA, WAS ONE OF THE DARKEST OF BLACKED-OUT CITIES. NOW, PORCH LIGHTS BURN BRIGHTLY ALL OVER THE CITY EVERY NIGHT, BLOCK BY BLOCK, BEACONS SUMMONING NEIGHBOURS, CATHOLIC AND NON-CATHOLIC ALIKE, TO PRAY THE ROSARY. THEY PRAY THAT NEVER AGAIN MAY IT BECOME NECESSARY TO DARKEN THEIR HOMES AND STREETS IN PROTECTION FROM SWIFT DEATH FROM THE AIR.

In many blocks the neighbours got together and said the Rosary nightly during October, month of the Holy Rosary, and agreed to continue saying it nightly during Advent, Lent, and in May, month of the Blessed Virgin; during the rest of the year they said it weekly. In many instances, though, the October nightly block Rosary has become the family Rosary, with one or another member of the family in prayer every night.

As the block Rosary spread in Washington, so is it spreading from the nation's capital to the rest of the world.

found the response quick and enthusiastic. The first night there were 20 persons present, Catholics and non-Catholics. A Catholic neighbour led the Rosary that night, and there was some

~~~~~ by ~~~~~  
**Mary Tinley Daly**  
~~~~~

hesitancy in the responses, but enough Catholics were present to carry on.

All over Washington

The next night the same 20, and five more, came. All embarrassment had worn off by this time. Responses were devout and fervent as another

"I don't know a thing about the Catholic Church," one neighbour told him, "but for a long time I have been praying for world peace, and I'm glad to have an opportunity to pray with others. Makes it more — well, satisfying, if you know what I mean?"

This sense of satisfaction, of union with others in prayer, seems to be the feeling common to all who join block Rosaries.

"Let's not stop it just because October is over," begged one Protestant woman.

And so it spread

"I'd like to keep it up, too," said another non-Catholic. "I always thought Catholics rattled off their prayers, but now that I understand the meaning of the Rosary I love the meditation of

A young woman...

So quickly, almost spontaneously, did the block Rosary idea blanket Washington, it was somewhat difficult to trace its origin. One reason for this, no doubt, was the originator's reluctance to accept personal acclaim for the idea, a young woman who refused me permission to use her name. She merely said that in view of the world situation, she decided she would like to do something toward world peace, instead of "just worrying about it."

She thought the most constructive thing would be prayer, and that it would be a good idea to ask others to join her. October, the month of the Rosary, was approaching; neighbours, even though she didn't know them personally, were near at hand.

Accordingly, on the last Sunday of September, she called at every house in her block — both sides of the street — and asked the various families, Catholics, Protestants and people with no religious affiliation, whether they would come to her house every evening during October to recite the Rosary for the general intentions of the conversion of Russia and the peace of the world. Other special intentions were up to the individual.

...found ready response

Of course, she had to explain the Rosary to some, and tell them of the devotion Catholics have for that particular form of prayer.

"We'd like to pray with you for world peace," she was told at the non-Catholic homes, "but we have no rosaries."

"That's easy," she laughed. "You'll find your rosary waiting for you at my house any evening you want to come, at eight sharp."

Rather to her surprise, she



neighbour led the prayers. So it went, night after night, all during October. Sometimes the hostess would invite a priest to be present, and he would lead.

From all over Washington, people come and pray, and then go on to their evening engagements. There are no formalities. About five minutes before eight they all come, many of them people never seen before. Since it takes only eight minutes, they are all gone by 8:15. Quite often, especially on Sunday nights, neighbours bring their guests with them, and often the guests live in other blocks. They like the idea and take it home with them.

United in Prayer

In one block the young man who started the idea found that he had to explain the Rosary over and over to various non-Catholic neighbours, but when they understood they were enthusiastic.

each decade."

Family prayer or neighbourhood prayer — they both have the same result of easing strained nerves by union with others in supplication to God. One of the appeals of the block Rosary is that people of all ages and all walks of life do come and do enjoy it. One evening when Msgr. John J. Reilly, director of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, led the Rosary at one of the houses, a little nine-year-old boy followed it closely and listened afterwards while the people chatted with the monsignor.

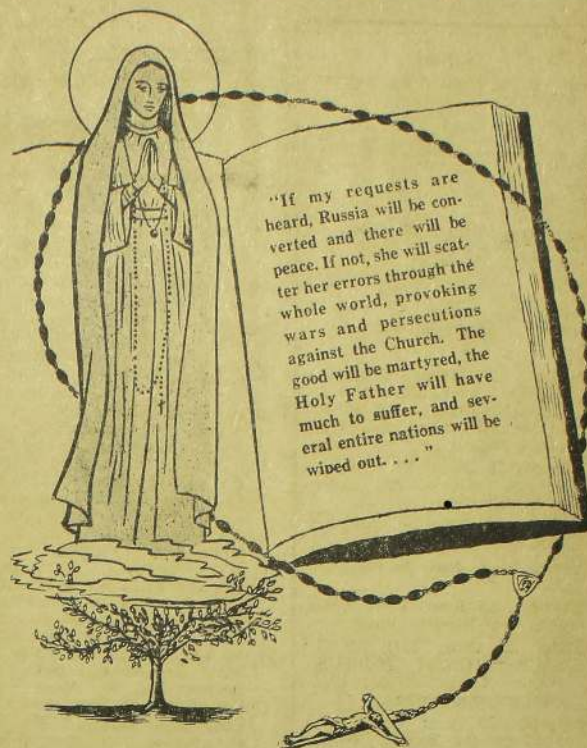
"You should-a come," he told his mother when he went home. "A man from Mexico said the prayers."

"How did you know he was from Mexico?" his mother asked. "That was easy," he said. "They kept calling him *Senor*."

Non-Catholics too

One hostess was surprised to find in her home a young woman who had walked many blocks to attend.

"I hope you don't mind," the young woman said with a trace of an accent. "I'm not a Catholic and I don't even live in your block — but when I heard of it I just had to come. You see, I am from Holland, where I lived all during the war, with bombings every night. Life is so wonderful here in this country that I want to pray that the awful nightmare of war will never come again. When you've lived through a war — well,



"If my requests are heard, Russia will be converted and there will be peace. If not, she will scatter her errors through the whole world, provoking wars and persecutions against the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, and several entire nations will be wiped out. . . ."

In the light of Our Lady's requests at Fatima, the Block Rosary assumes a deeper significance. For, at Fatima, Our Lady said: "Say the Rosary every day, to obtain peace for the world . . . Pray, pray a great deal and make sacrifices for sinners, for many souls go to hell because they have no one to make sacrifices and pray for them."

The souls lost are the souls of our neighbours, and they are lost because we have not heeded Mary's message. As we kneel then each week to pray the Rosary, we may be stretching our rope of prayer as a rope of salvation to a soul on the brink of hell. Such is the power of prayer. There is no other power on earth even in this atomic age that can reach that soul.

it's a comfort to pray for peace and to know that others are praying, too."

After her first visit, this young woman bought herself a rosary and made the trip on foot every night to join the prayers. Non-Catholics, like this girl, sometimes even more than Catholics, are realizing the solace of united prayer and they like the form of the Rosary.

A misnomer

Aside from its spiritual value one of the most encouraging by-products is the neighbourliness engendered. People who have lived near one another for years and who have had merely a nodding acquaintance become real friends through this union in prayer for something vital to all.

As a matter of fact, the term *block Rosary* is somewhat of a misnomer; rather, it is a neighbourhood Rosary, for when one block starts it, people come from blocks around, perhaps hesitant to start one themselves, but eager to join.

Worth the effort

One young man, after attending the Rosary sessions, happened to mention the fact to a group of boys whose football team he was coaching.

"Say, mister," said one of the boys, "why can't we do that every day after practice?"

From that day on, 13 young boys, grubby after gridiron practice, knelt every afternoon to say the Rosary before they went home to supper. So enthusiastic were these pre-drafts that they aroused their parents' interest, and soon the 13 sets of parents, some of them non-Catholics, were meeting to say the Rosary. It is simple, really (that is part of the charm of it), but anyone who starts a block Rosary feels well repaid for his effort.

AWAY with BLEMISHES



Skin troubles like spots, rashes, acne do not heal unless you get at the germs beneath your skin. Leela Sandal Ointment kills germs that cause common skin troubles. The antiseptic agent in sandal balm helps damaged tissues and restore the skin back to its natural health. Buy a bottle of Leela Sandal Ointment today. It is invisible on the skin and so soothing.

LEELA SANDAL OINTMENT

AVAILABLE AT ALL GOOD STORES
M. P. GOMEZ & CO LTD

ONLY THE BEST

is good enough for liturgical use. The Poor Clares supply the finest Altar Breads. Orders can be executed by post.

Write to:

POOR CLARES COLETTINES,
Convent of Mary Immaculate,
Tewatte, Ragama.

CACHETS M

RELIEVES
BLEEDING & PROTUDING

PILES

Available at

Pettah Pharmacy

23, Dam St., Colombo
Telephone 7213.



Sunday, 19 June: SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Green. 2nd Prayer of St. Juliana. Creed. Pref. of the Trinity.

Monday, 20 June: Mass of the Sunday. Green. 2nd Prayer of St. Silverius.

Tuesday, 21 June: St. Aloysius Gonzaga. White.

Wednesday, 22 June: St. Paulinus. White.

Thursday, 23 June: Vigil of St. John the Baptist. Violet.

Friday, 24 June: THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS. White. Creed. Proper Pref. Omit prayer prescribed.

Saturday, 25 June: Nativity of St. John the Baptist. White. Creed. Omit prayer prescribed.

Sunday, 26 June: THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Green. 2nd Prayer of St. John and Paul. Creed. Pref. of the Trinity.

• Unless otherwise stated the prayer prescribed is said daily.

"QUEENS"

Queens Goodwill Leather Works. For Bible covers, Prayer-book covers, Rosary cases etc. Travel bags as per your design made in Plastic, canvas, or Vinyl.

Queens Confectioners Ltd. Manufacturers of Quality lozenges, under hygienic conditions and from the most nutrient raw materials.

Queens Radio and Television Corporation. For quick and efficient repairs to your Radios, Tape-recorders, amplifiers and all other Domestic utility appliances contact us. We also specialise in rewinding motors, Generators, Dynamos etc.

"QUEENS"

796, 861, Alutawatte Road, Mutwal, Colombo 15. Phone 4511 and 4512. Showrooms: 20B, Turret Road, Colpetty, Colombo 3. Phone 3050.

Artificial Plastic Flowers and Foliage

A large range of roses, carnations, daisies, sweet peas, orchids, gladioli, geraniums, asparagus leaves, ivy branches, etc., etc., have arrived from Italy.

They are washable and give natural smell

Available from:

Messrs J.L. CARWALLIO, Main Street, Colombo
THE PALM RESTAURANT, " " "
J. S. FERNANDO, Borella
STEPHEN LIVERA, Negombo
ANTHONY STORES, Kurunegala
FANCY HOUSE, Jaffna

Sole Distributors:

RODRIGO & FERNANDO

PRINCE STREET, COLOMBO 11.

DIAL 3661

Strands of the Story 244

LOOSE ENDS

WITH a succession of broad canvases on our major project of discovering the lost Tomb of our 17th century Apostle, Fr. Joseph Vaz, we need a lull like this to tie up the loose ends.

Several of our correspondents have, in fact, reason to "grouse and grumble"; today we shall endeavour to get even with them.

First of all is the Bombay Propaganda Centre whose Fr. Alvares very kindly invited us to make use of available space in the Bombay "Examiner" of 16th April for an article on the Cause in Ceylon, by way of marking Fr. Vaz's Birthday (21st. April). Our silence must have disconcerted good Fr. Alvares and his fellow-workers. The fact is we immediately contacted members of our own team and it was settled that the article would be sent off in time — for 8th April, as required. Unfortunately, our writer tells us that at the last minute he failed to get his notes into form. So Bombay was disappointed and Fr. Vaz's Cause missed a good opportunity for some major publicity. We hope this belated explanation will be accepted and that Bombay Centre will forgive us for being such poor reporters about the work that fills our minds and hands.

We think we are justified in claiming that our hands are full, though things are still in the planning stage. No doubt we are still some distance away from having Weston team on the spot with their seismic apparatus or the Rheinisches Landesmuseum here with a "Geohm" for resistivity surveying. Still, there are so many things to be done even now with

your hands — writing is one; and when you happen to be short of hands, even tying the string round a packet of papers can keep your fingers busy.

Then there is Fr. Claude Daly's suggestion that would also require some "scrounging" around. Anything coming from Muttur (where Father is the Priest in

where we want to find Fr. Vaz's tomb.

In fact, Muttur sets us a different task. Fr. Daly's latest card was to tell us: "Be sure to send one of those aerial photos of Kandy to Fr. Linehan at Weston. If he himself can't read such photo maps, he knows somebody who can."

We can only turn our eyes of pleading to our "G.I.O.M." (what a strange resemblance with the "Geohm" mentioned above.) So far we have only one aerial map and that is going round the Convents to rouse the Sisters' interest and put their prayers to purpose. Eventually the map will be ready for Fr. Linehan, for the Sisters are bound to keep it safe even with its journeyings. But to send Weston a copy right now, we must either get this photo copied or hope for another copy from the magic G. I.O.M.

From Kandy our valiant V.M.A. is silent for a while; but all you who know about it are sure to join him in his happy domestic occurrence. He deserves it for all his hard work for the Cause.

Father Vaz Feature

charge) is particularly welcome, because Muttur is nothing other than the historic Kottiyar directly connected with Fr. Vaz's missionary journeys. What we first hoped to get off Muttur was a clue to what kind of structure Fr. Vaz's church and tomb at Kandy must have been like. The reason for our hope was that we understood that Kottiyar still had the tomb intact in which Fr. Vaz laid his disciple Fr. Mello and that with the tomb there were also remnants of the church of the time.

On this point the information supplied by Fr. Daly (12th and 13th Nov. 1959) rather dashed our hopes. The tomb of Fr. Mello is still there, but not as Fr. Vaz left it. With successive building operations Fr. Mello's remains have been exhumed and reburied more than once. In fact it looks as if this happened within eleven years of Father's death. For, Fr. Daly has found a reference that gives 1717 as the date of the building of the church. In any case this church (close to Fr. Vaz's times, though not the one he saw) has long since disappeared.

There is however a faint glimmer of hope for us. Fr. Daly reports that several bricks of the old church have been turned up by the plough. In fact in 1929 (according to one of Fr. Daly's informants) the foundations were still discernible.

Now, granted all this, how far would we be able to judge from the remnants at Kottiyar (Muttur) what kind of materials Fr. Vaz would have used for a church at Kandy about the same time. In any case, we would thank Muttur to let us have a careful description of the bricks and foundations. What were they made of? What size were they? Everything in fact that might help us to tell Weston Observatory what kind of underground structures there might be in Kandy

CONCISE INTERMEDIATE PHYSICS

(Parts I and II in one volume)

Written by:
Members, Physics Staff of St. Joseph's College, Tiruchirappalli.

Contents about Dynamics, Statics, Hydrostatics, Heat, Magnetism, Electricity, Sound and Light.

New Revised edition with Diagrams and Graphs to illustrate principles involved are a special feature of the present volume.

Special prices for Schools, Colleges, Convents etc. etc.
Price each copy Rs. 8/50.
(Packing free; Postage extra.)

Distributors:

S. A. FERNANDO,

Post Box 16,
NUWARA ELIYA.

Of Special Interest

to Parish Priests and Superiors of Religious Institutions.

THE POOR CLARES

invite orders for vestments, cassocks, church linen and paintings—such as Stations of the Cross.

Send your inquiries to
The Poor Clares Colettines,
Convent of Mary Immaculate,
Tewatte, Ragama.

THE BEST IN PIANOFORTES and ORGANS that last for generations



- "MOUTRIE"
- "BROADWOOD"
- "BRINSMEAD"
- "WELMAR"

Solid Mahogany Casework

Fully Tropicalised.

also Reed Organs and Baby Organs

WELMAR PIANO & ORGAN AGENCY,

Agent,
M. CADERAMANPULLE
171, St. James Street
Colombo 15, Phone 79597

GENUINE PACKAMAC RAINCOAT

Toughness tested
folds into a
handy size

English Raincoats of a superior quality not to be compared with ordinary plastic raincoats.

Men's sizes 46, 48, 50 and 52

Goodwood 25-00
Du Luxe 19-00
Ladies' size 18-50

F. X. Pereira & Sons Ltd.
COLOMBO

COLOMBO CASKET COMPANY LIMITED

824, MARADANA ROAD, COLOMBO 10.

MORTICIANS
MONUMENTALISTS
FLORISTS
EMBALMERS Etc.

Day and Night Service

Telephone 94035

MORNING OFFERING

DIVINE Heart of Jesus, I offer Thee, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, all my prayers, works and sufferings of this day, in reparation for our sins and for all the intentions for which Thou dost offer Thyself continually in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. I offer them in particular for the intentions of the Apostleship of Prayer and for those proposed by the Holy Father for this month.

INTENTIONS FOR JUNE

GENERAL: That the Faithful may earnestly implore the help of the Holy Spirit to restore the union of all Christians in one true Faith and Church.

MISSIONARY: That with Catholic co-operation spiritual as well as material help may be given to under-developed countries.

RADIO LOG

JUNE 18 and 19: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. John Gomes.

JUNE 19: 7-00 to 7-30 p.m. CATHOLIC HOUR PROGRAMME (English).

JUNE 25: 10-00 to 10-05 a.m. TALK (English) — Rev. Fr. Claude Lawrence, O.M.I.

JUNE 26: 9-00 to 9-30 a.m. CATHOLIC HALF HOUR (Sinhalese).

JUNE 27 to JULY 3: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. Don Sylvester.

NEW STRENGTH AND VITALITY

TESTRONES

MAKE A NEW MAN OF YOU

Available at

Pettah Pharmacy

23, Dam St., Colombo.

Telephone 7213.

869

DERMITAB

SKIN TONIC TABLETS

for lustrous clear skin.

Available at

PETTAH PHARMACY

23, Dam St., Colombo

Telephone 7213

867

The Grand Old Man of Archbishop's House turns seventy-five

ENTERING upon its seventy-fifth year last week and forging steadily and triumphantly ahead of the Psalmist's moderate "three score and ten," he was very bashful about it all when one of Robin Hood's specially commissioned spies asked him to confirm the report.

The reference is to one of Ceylon's best-known priests, a man who probably holds a record for length of service in each of two capacities — as private secretary to a former Arch-

FR. MANIK MUTTUKUMARU, "neither represented the majority of Buddhists, who are peaceful, good and friendly people nor do they reflect the opinions of the true followers of the Buddha."

Buddhists themselves and converts among them, have sometimes remarked that they were attracted to the Church by the charitable manner in which the Messenger answered charges against Catholicism by its enemies.



● Fr. Felician Fernando is seen here with His Grace

bishop of Colombo and as Chaplain to the Colombo Group of hospitals.

Though it has been rumoured (possibly by friends who thought they would have a little fun at his expense!) that he was suspected of being a German spy during World War I — on the strength of his alleged Germanic appearance — and was almost taken into custody, no more cherubically and angelically innocent face can one visualize.

He might well have been the hero of *The Innocence of Father Brown* — so far as the innocence went, but not, of course, in respect of any astute powers of detection.

His many friends will be wishing him many more years — *ad multos annos* — and that he will long continue to be a source of edification and joy to them.

By now, you ought to have guessed that he could be no other than the Grand Old Man of Archbishop's House, FR. FELICIAN FERNANDO, O.M.I.

Messenger Editor in London

THE Catholic Herald of 10 June carries an interview one of its reporters has had with the Editor of the Messenger, FR. MANIK MUTTUKUMARU, who is just now in London.

FR. MANIK MUTTUKUMARU is reported as saying that all sane and sensible people would be only too happy about a genuine revival of Buddhism in the island.

Whereas what is mistaken by a few misguided people for a revival, is really a spirit of animosity against other religions — but that would be a travesty of Buddhism, of the teachings of the "Compassionate One."

The Editor of the Messenger went on to say that he would certainly like to see a re-dedication of people to the doctrine of "Maitriya," of compassion, which is the cornerstone of Buddhism.

Then the followers of the different religions in Ceylon would live in harmony, each living and preaching and teaching his own faith, but with no hostility towards others and in an atmosphere of peace.

"The vociferous elements that attacked the Church," stated

Indian dancer in Ceylon

HAILED as one of the great Kathak dancers living, MISS MAYA RAO is scheduled to give a recital at the Lionel Wendt Theatre on 26 June at 6-30 p.m.

She will also be giving a lecture demonstration of her art for school children, I understand, on a later date.

Radio listeners of orient programmes would have often heard MISS RAO singing Indian folk and devotional songs which are a series of recordings she made when on her last visit to this country.

She studied under SHAMBU MAHARAJ, acknowledged to be the greatest living Kathak teacher.

Prince of Music

REPORTS reaching me from many lovers of good Music give strong indications that the CATHOLIC CHORAL SOCIETY concert scheduled for 2 July (see Roundabout 4 June) will probably be the "Concert of the year" among local groups.

The music of PALESTRINA will be heavily featured in the programme. Spurred on by MAID MARIAN'S comment that GIOVANNI PIERLUIGI DA PALESTRINA was the greatest composer of liturgical music of all time, old Robin Hood went scurrying in search of



● Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

more facts for readers of this column. Itemized below are choice morsels from his findings:

A manuscript in the Vatican states how the young PIERLUIGI sang in the streets of Rome while selling the products of his parents' farm when the Choir Master of Santa Maria Maggiore heard him and took him in hand.

In 1551 he was entrusted with the direction and musical formation of the Choir boys at St. Peter's, Rome.

In 1554 POPE JULIUS III rewarded him with the appointment as a member of the papal chapel, in contravention of the rules governing that body whereby membership was held only by those in Holy Orders.

This raised a hue and cry

among fellow-members. The papal singers obviously did not appreciate the motive of the Pope which was to ensure for the gifted young man the essential leisure to compose.

Besides sacred madrigals, motets, psalms and hymns in praise of the Blessed Virgin, and Masses, he produced twenty-nine motets on words from the



"Canticum of Canticles" which earned for him the title of "Prince of Music."

Included in the CATHOLIC CHORAL SOCIETY concert will be Palestrina's "Solemn Magnificat," "Ave Maria," "Pueri Hebraeorum," "Surrexit Paster Bonus" and "Tenebrae factae sunt."

His maiden bow

Dancer from Rasanjali Art Group



THE picture above shows MR. CHRISTIE FERNANDO of Duwa who captured the hearts of a big audience at the Moratuwa Town Hall on 4 June.

He is a pupil of the Kandy dancer of repute: HEEN BABA.

The variety Entertainment was sponsored by RASANJALI, the up-and-coming Art Group.

Sweets for the sweet?

ROBIN Hood's reference to the Peterite Carnival — FUN-O-RAMA — in last week's Roundabout has drawn forth more details of the coming grand times.

A super Olympic Basket Ball Court has just been completed where the All-Ceylon Basket Ball Tournament will be played, flood-lit, at St. Peter's.

Aren't there sweets for the sweet, you ask me? MAID MARIAN reports that the Cakes and Sweets Stall run by MRS. E. L. F. DE MEL, judging from the operations

Tell me! is this a record?



FIVE children in a Ceylon family group of ten are toilers in the Vineyard of the Lord. Does this constitute a record? — that's the question Robin Hood poses this week.

Take a look at the picture: standing (left to right) are FR. THEODORE A. PIERIS, parish priest of Nawalapitiya and prolific pen-pusher in the Messenger; REV. SISTER MARY ANGELA of St. Joseph's Home for the Aged, Negombo; REV. SISTER MARY HERMINE of Good Shepherd

Convent, Panadura; REV. BRO. REGINALD ALOYSIUS now studying for the Priesthood at Aquinas University and seated, REV. SISTER MARY EDEL of Sacred Heart Convent, Galle.

With this family quintette are their happy and blessed parents, MR. AND MRS. D. M. W. J. PIERIS.

Now living in peaceful retirement, in rural Ampitiya, MR. D. M. W. J. PIERIS was once a School-master.

of Our Lady with a Prayer for the persecuted in China?

If you are, send a self-addressed envelope with a 4-cent stamp to MASTER BENJAMIN, C/o. FR. RECTOR, St. Joseph's Minor Seminary, 200/21, Mt. St. Joseph, Peradeniya Road, Kandy for your free copy.

A new J. P.

RECENTLY appointed a Justice of the Peace for the Judicial District of Panadura, MR. D. H. L. DE SILVA

of Moratuwa is a prominent social worker and is President of that premier social institution, the Moratuwa Friend-in-need Society.

In the early days MR. D. H. L. DE SILVA was a well-known cricketer, and he still takes an abiding interest in sports activities in his home town.



● Mr D.H.L. de Silva

A Catholic who takes an energetic part in Catholic activities, it was mainly through his efforts as President of the Jubilee Committee of Sts. Peter and Paul's Church, Lunawa, that the Church was renovated last year.

DEADLINE

Matter intended for publication in Roundabout should be submitted to Robin Hood for consideration by Tuesday noon the latest.

Sixty years service

COMING from a long line of Muppets, MR. D. S. PERERA of Muruthana completed recently, sixty years of service to St. Anthony's Church, Muruthana.

A well-known social worker, MR. D. S. PERERA was also President of Muruthana Co-operative and Rural Development Societies respectively for a considerable number of years.

He has also represented his village in the Othara Palatha Village Committee.

He is an uncle of FR. THOMAS and MATHEW THAMEL.

Free Prayer Cards

ARE you interested in having a beautifully coloured picture

The Messenger

THE CATHOLIC PRESS, COLOMBO 8, Tele. 9984

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Yearly .. Rs. 9-00
Half-Yearly .. Rs. 4-50
Single Copy .. Cts. 15
(Inclusive of Postage)

SATURDAY, 18th June, 1960

THE TRUTH SHALL PREVAIL

WHILST we would have preferred, in the full blaze of the liturgical celebration of *Corpus Christi*, to dwell on the positive, sublimer and much happier subject of the Eucharist, we feel constrained by circumstances to devote this space today to a few final remarks on a topic we have taken up alongside this column in *Current Comment* — which, we suggest, might usefully be read first, however unusual such a suggestion may appear.

The subject under consideration is a local weekly news sheet which describes itself as a "Ceylon News Review", and has for title a term rather reminiscent of Rome — of the ancient Roman office of *Tribune of the Roman people*. In fact the name evokes, to anyone at all familiar with Roman history, and as we explain at some length in *Current Comment*, several amusing and significant parallels and contrasts.

It would seem as if the men behind this News Review were determined, with a persistence that is almost painful, to display all the evidence they could possibly produce to prove that they are possessed of a one-track mind. The result is that all the news, every single item of it, is made to fit somehow into the straight-jacket of their preconceived ideology.

As if this were not enough, they give further proof of their real complexion, by making the news fit into their mould at any cost, with a reckless disregard for the truth. Facts are suppressed or modified and fiction is pressed into service, in so obvious a manner as to give the impression that they really and truly live up to the maxim: "If the facts do not fit in with the hypothesis, so much the worse for the facts."

Even the most cursory glance at their news sheet makes one thing perfectly clear; it literally hits the reader in the eye — the people responsible for this strange journalistic venture have the Catholic Church on the brain, and to an extent that sends them into a state of unrelieved delirium. The only other possible explanation, and one that would be very much in keeping with the book of rules, is that this concentration on the Catholic Church is not the result of a condition bordering on *delirium tremens*, but is planned, calculated and deliberate.

If that should be so, it is done in so thorough-going and flat-footed a fashion as would make even the Marxists blush. On second thoughts we should, however, withdraw that last statement; for nothing in the world would embarrass the Marxists, those expert two-facers and quick-change artistes who, in the phrase of the poet, but in a sense not even envisaged by him, are "born to blush unseen."

These determined efforts to drag the Catholic Church in at any cost, are sometimes so lacking in even the barest semblance of plausibility, that one wonders whether some illiterate compositor has standing instructions to just insert the words "Catholic," "Catholic Church" and "Catholic Action" after every so many lines, irrespective of whether it makes sense or not.

There is a lack of finesse here for which we would, if we were the Marxist high command, take the editors of the Ceylon News Review severely to task. But for this finer point, however, the similarity of the thought-processes of the Marxist gang and of our rabid news sheet is nothing short of startling: the same methods, the same lies, the same objectives. Is this a remarkable instance of two minds with but a single thought, or is it, rather, a case of one mind thinking aloud at Communist Party Headquarters — wherever that may be?

Of course everybody knows that lies are part of the Marxist stock-in-trade, and that lying is justified according to the Marxist code so long as it promotes the cause. But may we be permitted to suggest, in all good faith, that some attempt be made to make the lies sound a little more plausible.

The Ceylon News Review's bizarre and grotesque stories about the role of the Catholic Church in shaping events in this country, are of a variety that leaves Baron Munchausen in the shade. Nothing whatsoever would seem to happen in Ceylon, whether in reality or only in the vivid and fertile imagination of the fiction writers who are on the editorial staff of this amazing newspaper, but the Catholic Church is behind it — so long as the event in question is sufficiently discreditable. Those in charge of operations would be well advised to dismiss the entire staff and turn them over to a short-story magazine which is bound to be a real money-spinner; that would be a practical way of subsidizing the News Review.

A story purporting to be factual should have some semblance, at least, of verisimilitude. To fail in this regard can only result in the reader feeling insulted, or in his concluding that the writer is a mental patient, manifesting the worst symptoms of the delusional phase of insanity.

Fanaticism directed against the Catholic Church is far from being a rare and uncommon phenomenon. There is ample evidence of it all over the world. India, for instance, has a fair quota of anti-Catholic fanatics — witness the preposterous Niyogi Report which dealt with the charges of proselytisation and political activity made against the Christians of Madhya Pradesh. Nevertheless, the majority of a country's citizens, whatever their personal prejudices may be, are open to reason. Hence sanity prevails in the end — unless the fanatics gain control of the Government.

Thus when a bill seeking to restrict political activity by Catholics, was presented to the Indian Parliament last month, it was defeated. Only eight members voted in favour of the bill, and all eight of them were Communists.

In any case, the Catholic Church has a habit of surviving the most violent attacks, and of going tranquilly on her way. She has done so for nearly two thousand years. And she has been able to do so, not because of any extraordinary resources, or by reason of her organizational strength. Her resources are often pitifully slender, and the defects in her organization are frankly lamented by Catholics more than by anyone else. The reason why she ultimately triumphs over every onslaught is not to be sought amongst the usual human factors that make for strength and survival. It lies in the supernatural life she receives from her Divine Founder Who was crucified, died, and was buried — but rose again on the third day.

CURRENT COMMENT

by the Editor

Organized Hypocrisy

WE intend to comment today on a contemporary news sheet with a Roman name—Roman in name, but far from Roman Catholic. For it is violently anti-Roman Catholic in tone and tenor; indeed it is so fanatically and fantastically so, as to forfeit any right to be considered objective and impartial. In fact, it would seem to have abandoned the attempt to maintain even an appearance of objectivity and impartiality.

THE general critique we are about to embark upon may tend to rile the people at whom it is directed; but then the truth is not always pleasant.

The weekly eight-page news sheet we refer to, describes itself as a Ceylon News Review. There is nothing majestically Roman or dignified about it — whether in its lay-out, typographical presentation or content. It is a drab and dull affair, and is becoming duller and more boring every week, with its ceaseless and monotonous repetition of the same theme. And yet it has, as we have said, taken to itself an old Roman title.

Of course, in contemporary usage the word it chooses for title has come to mean a popular leader or demagogue, and could even therefore serve as the title of a newspaper that fulfills, or claims to fulfill, the same function.

"Tribunes of the People"

BUT it is an interesting and curious fact that the name was originally used, in Roman times, to designate certain officers whose task it was to protect the liberties of the people against the senate and the consuls.

The power of these magistrates of the people was, at first, slight enough and their office was deemed mean and servile. But by their ceaseless efforts, by harranguing and inflaming the populace, by intrigue, these officers gradually increased their power till it became almost absolute.

Their power became so formidable that they could summon assemblies, propose laws, and stop the consultations of the senate. Their approbation became necessary to confirm the decrees of the senate. They became a tribunal of last appeal, and were even able to abolish senatorial decrees by the mere use of the word *veto*, *I forbid* — a practice which, it is interesting to recall, became, in our own times, almost a persistent and pernicious habit with the Russian delegation at the United Nations' Security Council.

The senators soon began to repent of having consented to elect magistrates who wielded such dictatorial powers, and who caused far greater troubles than those which they were at first created to silence.

Their number, originally two, was raised to five, and ultimately to ten. There was only one chink (how strangely appropriate that word is in our own day, when used with a capital "C") in their tribunitary armour — their resolutions were of no effect unless they were unanimous.

Power corrupts

THE senators took advantage of this, and drove their wedge in here. They gained one of them over by bribes, and thus paralysed the rest. In spite of the fact that their office was created for the express purpose of preventing corruption and injustice, they still remained human beings, and were as subject to avarice and other weaknesses as the rest of mankind.

There is a lesson for us here — at least for those of us who are so naive as to think that the moment a particular system of

government comes into power, there will be an end of graft and grab and injustice and corruption, and we shall have a veritable paradise upon earth. Systems may change, but human nature remains the same. To transfer ownership from capitalists to communists does not solve any problems — the latter are not necessarily any more immune from human defects than are the former.

This might well seem to be a long, rambling and irrelevant introduction. But it is far more relevant than one might at first think. Just as these officers in the old Roman days considered themselves sacrosanct (in fact the people did begin to refer to them as *sacrosancti*) and a final tribunal of appeal, so does the paper in question, which goes by a similar name, and arrogates to itself the same powers of ultimate and infallible judgment.

The voice of Truth?

IF the group behind it were all that impartial and omniscient and infallible, it is strange that while it does not profess to represent religious or other sectional interests, the common sense of the common people has not yet come to recognize it, after all these years, as the lone but authentic voice of truth as against the lying propaganda of vested interests. Had the common people come to recognize it as such, it should by now have an enormous circulation, and should therefore be in a position to use better newsprint, and better type, and have a better "get up" generally.

It should, after all this long while, have been able to reach a standard of journalistic and typographical excellence in keeping with the excellence of the cause it professes to serve—for the citizens of this country, who are no fools, would have come to realize that here at last was a genuine champion of truth and justice, and would have hailed it with enthusiasm and resounding acclaim. Instead of which it still continues to be what, in the interests of truth we are constrained to call, even while remaining within the bounds of charity, a "rag" in every sense of the word.

Uniform Pattern

We are not at all surprised at the failure of this particular news sheet in this respect. It puts on an air of omniscience that assumes extravagant, preposterous and truly fantastic proportions. It claims to give you inside information. And it proceeds to give you all the inside information. It knows everything. It does not merely tell you what was *probably* the real story behind an event. It tells you, in every single instance, what it really was. It out-Sherlock Holmeses Sherlock Holmes (or Hercule Poirot, or Charlie Chan, or whoever your hero is). Of course, by over playing its hand like this, it only succeeds in defeating its own purpose.

There is yet another curious thing about this paper. Even a desultory reading of any two or three disparate issues will reveal at once a certain pattern — a systematic, monotonous, repetitious pattern. It is the same

story, and not always even garbed in different form and style, told over and over again, *ad nauseam*.

This sameness of pattern should already make one think. There is one organization that has a method and a technique that is absolutely and utterly thorough, and worked out to the last detail. It has only one weakness — a dead uniformity of pattern. And that organization is known as the Communist Party.

Faithful Stooze

If further confirmation were wanted, one has only to take its line on the major Communist issues, especially those in which the Communists have a bad case with its weak points showing all over. To take just two of them. Our news sheet, our "Ceylon News Review," defends Khrushchev's blustering tactics at the Paris Summit Conference and after. Though Comrade Nikita's calculated hysteria was painfully obvious, though his mud-slinging act was a total and obvious failure because, as one commentator said, it was the kind of mud that sticks to the thrower's hand rather than to the victim's face, our News Review, with all the plain and disgusting obsequiousness of a stooze, proceeded to build up, to the best of its bluffing ability, a case for Khrushchev and the Marxists.

The conscience of the entire world was shocked by China's rape of Tibet and its violation of Indian territorial rights. But the Ceylon News Review unblushingly turns out an *apologia* on behalf of imperialist China.



Harassed Editors

THERE must be very few occupations that make for so harassed an existence as editing a newspaper. But this is one of those truths which is learnt by experience alone. That is why we suspect that this consoling rhyme, of unknown authorship, which we came across the other day, must surely have been written by some poor, desperate newspaper editor.

An editor knocked at the Pearly Gates,

His face was scarred and cold,
He stood before the man of fate
For admission to the fold.

"What have you done?" St. Peter asked

"To gain admission here?"

"I've been an editor, sir," he said

"For many and many a year."

The Pearly Gates swung open wide,

St. Peter touched the bell —

"Come in," he said, "and choose your harp."

You've had your share of hell."

We hope that covers ex-editors and acting editors as well. But we had better start taking lessons in the sublime and celestial art of playing the harp — because though we have played many parts in our time, we have never yet played a harp!



Optimism is the cheerful attitude of mind that enables a kettle to sing though it is in hot water up to its neck!

JAFFNA: RED MASS AND SOCIAL

(from our Jaffna correspondent)

SUNDAY, 5th June, the feast of Pentecost, was truly a red-letter day for the Catholics of Jaffna, for, on this day Red Mass was celebrated for the fifth year in succession in the Church of Our Lady of Refuge at Adaikalamatha under the auspices of the Reading Circle of the parish. The celebrations this year were conducted with solemnity and grandeur and the vast church was filled to capacity with hundreds of worshippers from all parishes of Jaffna Town.

The celebrations began with a procession of lawyers, Government officials and others from the presbytery to the Church. The church and its precincts were tastefully decorated for the occasion, the predominating colours being red and gold. At 7 o'clock, High Mass was sung by Rev. Fr. L. J. Augustine, O.M.I., Parish Priest of St. Mary's Cathedral, Jaffna, who also

preached an inspiring sermon on the significance of the feast.

HISTORY — A CALL TO ACTION

After Mass, those assembled repaired to the Parish School Hall where a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Proctor Alfred Swampillai, President of the Reading Circle, who extended a welcome to those present.



Miss Mylvaganam speaking

Sacred Heart Feast at Elpitiya

(from our Elpitiya correspondent)

THE Annual Feast of the Sacred Heart was celebrated in a fitting manner at St. Mary's Church, Elpitiya, on 12 June. The estate workers from the surrounding estates turned up in full strength in special buses.

The previous night, after Vespers and procession, a Grand Variety Entertainment was staged by the students of St. Mary's College, Elpitiya.

A special feature of this show was a sensational innovation by the students — "Rahas Pareeksaka."

He was followed by Mr. W. B. Canagaratne, Proctor, who in a felicitous speech traced the milestones in the history of the forty-year old Reading Circle.

Mr. A. Lazarus, Surveyor, then delivered a stirring address on the Catholic Apostolate. The last speaker was Rev. Father S. A. Swampillai, Parish Priest of the Church of Our Lady of Refuge and Spiritual Director of the Reading Circle, to whose prudent guidance and untiring efforts the Reading Circle owes its present flourishing condition. He thanked all those present for their encouragement and exhorted the members to even greater efforts and sacrifices.

A social followed and the celebrations were brought to a close with a vote of thanks proposed by Miss Rita Mylvaganam.

Messenger Meditorials

Reparation to the Sacred Heart

DURING the octave of Corpus Christi 1675, Our Lord said to St. Margaret Mary, "See the Heart which has so loved men that it has spared itself nothing, even to being exhausted and consumed to prove to them its love; and in return I receive from most men only ingratitude by their irreverences and sacrileges and by the coldness and contempt they show towards Me in this Sacrament of Love."

It was this same St. Margaret Mary, a humble nun of the Visitation Order, that Our Lord chose as the chief instrument in propagating the devotion to His Sacred Heart. Our late Holy Father, Pius XII, in his encyclical "Haurietis Aquas," repeatedly stressed that the physical Heart of Christ is the perfect natural symbol of the Saviour's love for the human race.

Christ Himself gave us the norm for measuring true love: "Greater love than this no man has, than He gives his life for his friends." Every Christian knows that extent to which Our Lord gave of His life. From the very first instant of his conception to the last breath on Calvary he "poured Himself out" for the salvation of mankind. The labours in the carpenter shop of Nazareth, the enervating apostolic journeys through the Holy Land, the excruciating sufferings of His passion and death; all were countless profits of the love He had for us.

It is through devotion to His Sacred Heart that He invites us to make some return of love. Some people feel that this devotion is mere sentimentality. Some even think that making reparation for the wounded love of Our Lord is a task reserved exclusively for contemplative religious and hermits. It may only be that such souls are afraid to face this devotion squarely and to accept its consequences. When by saying and living the 'Morning Offering,' we offer to the Sacred Heart all our prayers, works and sufferings — that difficult day in the office or shop, the throbbings of an ached tooth or headache, etc. — this will hardly lead to sentimentality. The many sacrifices made throughout the day in observing the Ten Commandments, or, especially the efforts we have to make to do more than what is strictly required of us, e.g. attendance at daily Mass, will lead to a strong, mature love of Our Saviour. It is extremely rare that God would have a man transported out of the normal pattern of his life to serve Him in extraordinary circumstances. Make no mistake about it. The invitation to make reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the coldness and indifference of the great mass of humanity was directed by Our Blessed Lord to YOU. What is YOUR answer?

John J. Heaney, S.J.

Religious Clothing at Mattakkuliya

(by a "Messenger" correspondent)

THE moment of hushed expectancy had come. It was the hour of fulfilment of life's supreme ambition, of total and complete dedication of one's life to God: "Lord I offer myself to Thee this day as Thy servant for evermore."

Three young postulants, among whom was one from Ceylon — Infanta Elizabeth Fonseka of Hendala, the others being from India — put on the garb of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary last Monday, 13 June, at a very impressive ceremony held at Our Lady's Novitiate, Mattakkuliya.

The Religious Clothing ceremony was performed by Very Rev. Fr. Nereus C. Fernando.

Before clothing them with the religious habit, Fr. Nereus briefed the novices in a soul-stirring sermon on the sense of dedication they should have in carrying out the work ahead of them for the cause of Christ and His Church.



Fr. Joe de Mel addressing the students (see news report on p. 12)

Y.C.S. RALLY

Father Mateo and Night Adoration

IN June last year, the Rev. Father Henry Systemans, ss. cc., Superior General of the Fathers of the Sacred Hearts, visited Father Mateo Crawley-Boevey, ss. cc., Founder of the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart and Night Adoration in the Home, in Valparaiso, Chile. Through him, the ailing Father Mateo sent a message to all his friends: "Tell them Father

Mateo 'preaches' from his bed; that he insists strongly on Night Adoration in the Home, the most

of Jesus, made in a spirit of reparation at night, the hour of darkness."

~~~~~  
by ~~~~~  
**Stephen A. Silva**

~~~~~  
beautiful flowering of his work. Night Adoration is true family prayer, in union with the Heart

"Our Blessed Mother and Corpus Christi"

OF all the feasts of Our Lord, Corpus Christi most readily brings to mind Mary as our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament. The very Name "Feast of the Body of Christ" summons up the memory of her who gave the Son of God the human body through which He worked our salvation.

Having become our brother, Jesus could and did offer up to God in our name adequate reparation for our sins. He also merited for us immense treasures of Grace, which He chooses to apply to our souls chiefly through the Sacraments.

Foremost among these is that Sacrament whereby He mystically renews the Sacrifice of His Body and Blood and comes in person to each soul.

UNIVERSAL MEDIATRIX

All this Christ was enabled to do for us because Mary co-operated in the plan of His great love, and consented to becoming His Mother.

In return for her co-operation, Mary received the merciful dispensation of the graces acquired by Jesus. She became our Universal Mediatrix.

OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

But since all graces are applied to us directly or indirectly through the Eucharist, surely we should call her Our Lady

of the Blessed Sacrament to express our gratitude, first for having given us the Christ of the Eucharist; and for the continuance of this gift through Mass and Communion.

The principal foundation of this power of Mary is the union of her will with that of her Son. God, having determined to

~~~~~  
By ~~~~~  
**Francis Soris**

~~~~~  
seek Mary's consent to His plan for our salvation, continues this work together with her. His plans are eternal and do not change.

And so, just as there was in the Sacrifice of the Cross but one will common to Jesus and Mary, so at Mass where this same Sacrifice is renewed, it is the same will that still offers it.

IT IS THE MASS THAT MATTERS

~~~~~  
June, the Month of the Sacred Heart, should be dedicated to sincere efforts to realize better the love of Our Lord for us. A proper understanding of the Mass — the renewal of Our Lord's supreme Sacrifice for us — will help us to practise devotion to the Sacred Heart in its pure form much as Mary did, by an ever closer union of our will to God's adorable Will.

~~~~~  
On another occasion, Father Mateo sent this message: "Allow me to suggest something very beautiful that will furnish you and many others with the means of offering to the Sacred Heart of the King Jesus a most acceptable act of reparation. We have been speaking of penitential love. In this spirit have the courage to light the lamp of nocturnal adoration in your own home and in many other homes. This means that you will watch one hour at night, before the image of the Sacred Heart as you would before the Tabernacle. I dare to say that it is the Saviour Himself who asks for this loving vigil, to console and to comfort Him for the dreadful agony He suffered in the Garden of Gethsemani. Despite predictions to the contrary, this appeal has had everywhere an astonishing success. The army of nocturnal adorers in the home is already very large and exceedingly faithful. The reason is that it is made up of choice souls, "stars," so to speak, shining, as they love and praise Our Lord, in the middle of a dark night, the time of sin and crime. To this crusade give your names and, above all, your hearts: you will never regret it. At the moment of your own agony when you will be too weak to call Him, Jesus Himself will come to sustain you in His arms. Then, pressing you to His Heart, He will carry you in this fiery chariot from this land of exile to your true country. There, the One whom you consoled by your adoration and reparation will be your Judge."

OFFICIAL NOTICE

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI AT KOTAHENA

HIS Grace the Archbishop will preside at the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena on Sunday 19th June at 4 p.m. His Grace desires that all the Priests of Colombo City and the suburbs take part in this Procession.

FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART 24th JUNE

His Grace the Archbishop will sing a Pontifical High Mass at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena at 6 p.m. on Friday 24th June.

NOTICE

The Catholic Press will be closed on Friday, 24 June, the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Advertisers are informed that the closing time for classified advertisements in the next issue will be noon on Tuesday, June 21.

1960 MESSENGER JOURNALISM AWARDS COUPON No. 20

I submit herewith my entry for the 1960 Messenger Journalism Awards

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

SECTION (State here for which of the 6 Awards you are entering).....

BOOK PAGE

Faith — Personal Encounter between Man and God

MANY LEARNED BOOKS HAVE BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE CHRISTIAN'S BELIEF IN GOD, DEMONSTRATING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF IT — THAT IT IS NOT, FOR INSTANCE, A "BLIND FAITH," BUT A FAITH BASED FOUR-SQUARE AND SOLIDLY ON REASON. AS MANY BOOKS, AND PERHAPS EVEN MORE LEARNED ONES, HAVE BEEN WRITTEN ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE ACT OF FAITH.

Here is yet another volume on the same subject. I agree that it could, and in fact would, be called a learned book. But it is a very different sort of book. It is original. It is penetrating and profound. It is stimulating. It is entitled, in the English translation, *I Believe*,* and is by Father Jean Mouroux.

I could not possibly say that this book, for all its interest, reads like a novel; or that it would be easy reading for any and every Catholic. But it would be a pity if the thoughtful Catholic should be put off from reading it for fear that it is a heavy theological treatise that is meant only for the professional theologian.

The average Catholic is, as a rule, much too afraid of doctrine. And yet God's doctrine is meant for God's people. St. Paul did not hesitate to preach some of the most profound doctrines of Christianity to tanners, and dockers, and people who worshipped money or pleasure.

To many a Catholic the nature of faith is in the realm of the recondite and the mysterious, and he is content to leave it there. Even the more intelligent and the better-informed Catholic thinks of it in terms of an intellectual act, an assent to divine truths which we accept because God has revealed them.

What is so interesting and so valuable about Fr. Mouroux's *I Believe* is that it is a study of the

by
Fr. Justin Perera

personal structure of Christian faith. Faith is viewed as a *personal act, a personal encounter between a human being and God.*

St. Thomas Aquinas had already said about faith generally: "Every-one who believes, assents to some-one's words; and thus, in any form of belief, it seems that it is the person to whose words the assent is given, who is of principal importance and, as it were, the end . . ."

In the case of divine faith, it is not just a collection of truths, but God Himself who is the object of our faith. And the means whereby we attain to this faith is the Person of the Divine Word, Jesus Christ. And the source of faith is, once more, God Himself.

The uniqueness of Christianity, after all, consists in the fact that the Truth to be believed, and the Goodness to be desired or loved, are identified with a Person — God, Who is infinite Truth and Infinite Goodness and Infinite Beauty. To believe in God, and to love Him, amount to this — to accept Him, to give ourselves over wholly to Him.

One remembers St. John's Prologue: "to as many as received Him, He gave the power to become the children of God — to those that believe in His name." To receive Him; to believe in His name. This is not just a matter of intellectual assent. This is a vital communication between persons.

To believe — the first step whereby we see that Christ is God, and so to accept Him as such, and accept all this truth involves. It is a first step at which one cannot stop. There follow total acceptance of this divine Person, and total self-giving of ourselves to Him; in other words, communion,

possession.

Here on earth the vision is imperfect — we see as in a glass, darkly, yet we see, — and the possession is limited and can, such is human perversity, be lost at any moment. But if the vision, and communion and possession are sustained to the end — then will come the final vision, the vision splendid and beatific, which is itself supreme communion, and possession.

Such is the wealth of thought that underlies the concept of faith in God, and one feels thankful to Fr. Mouroux for his book which is a help towards this deeper, truer understanding of the act of faith.

* **I BELIEVE. The Personal Structure of Faith** by Jean Mouroux. Translated by Michael Turner. Geoffrey Chapman, London. Available locally at St. Michael's Bookshop, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 7/85.

Smile at your own risk!

by Joseph T. Mc Gloin, S.J. The Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee. Available locally at St. Michael's Book Shop, Jampettah Street, Colombo. Price Rs. 14/75.

In *Smile at Your Own Risk* Fr. Mc Gloin deals with one phase of Jesuit activity, namely that of High School Teaching. Incidentally some of their multifarious activities coupled with incident and anecdote are touched on in passing and lend adventurous interest to the book. But it is mainly a clear enunciation of what is so characteristically Jesuit in education that their alumni and past pupils bear throughout life the distinctive stamp of Jesuit schooling.

How this *esprit*, peculiarly their own, is developed and fostered in their teaching methods, psychological approach, discipline and extra curricular activities, is ably presented by Fr. Mc Gloin, himself a veteran high school teacher.

His subject is no laughing matter although he treats it with exquisite humour. His frequent footnotes full of buoyant laughter could easily support contents of weightier matter.

V. L.

LOUISE de MARILLAC

by J. Calvet. Published by Geoffrey Chapman, London. Available locally at St. Michael's Book Shop, Jampettah Street, Colombo. Price Rs. 13/50.



de Marillac, gathering and evaluating material from every available source.

The drama of St. Louise is set in the soul, and all the more poignant for being interior. It is the story of a bitter spiritual struggle to find her true vocation. She is tortured with over-anxiety and scrupulosity, and it takes a Vincent de Paul to teach her that the Lord will be served in joy and gladness of heart.

At long last she finds the joy of living in co-operating with the many charitable activities of St. Vincent de Paul which included the foundation of the Ladies of Charity.

The book is a portrait rather than plain biography as it presents not merely a character who had a profound effect on social and religious history but a person whose intimate thoughts have been revealed to us and whose appeal to us is better on the personal plane than in the context of history, although connection and historical background are carefully provided.

V. L.

CHILDREN'S BOOKSHELF

Mother Cabrini Alfred of Wessex

Missionary to the World

by Frances Parkinson Keyes. Published by Farrar, Straus and Cudahy, New York. Available locally at St. Michael's Book Shop, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 9/35.

Every new addition to Vision Books — a teen-age series of biographies for the age group 9 to 15 — in which the volume under review appears, must be considered



ed a landmark in literature for the young.

The story of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Mother Cabrini for short, is told by Frances Parkinson Keyes with an enthusiasm calculated to fire the young imagination. Frances has always been an inflammatory name. The first name of the authoress must have influenced her choice of a subject. Many a tender anecdote is introduced which cannot fail to captivate the young. She is a modern saint and that fact too has a special appeal to children.

Mother Cabrini was the founder of the Order of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart. Its astounding growth and worldwide ramifications in so brief a space of time derive from the founder's sanctity and zeal. She was canonized in 1946 and is the United States' first citizen-saint. This book embraces the globe in its vision and manner of presentation.

V. L.

Saints for Boys and Girls

Story by Catherine Beebe and pictures by Robb Beebe. Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee. Available locally at St. Michael's Bookshop, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 7/50.

WHEN I received this book and the other under review today, they reminded me of the prize books the children bring home. The best way to try out the merits of children's books is to test them on the children themselves. I read them three widely differing stories, that of St. Michael the Archangel, Blessed Imelda and St. Anthony of Padua. They were, I noted, equally appreciative of all three. Catherine and Robb Beebe know how to captivate the child mind however diversified the subjects may be. As for me, I was completely engrossed in the book that the children accused me of selfishly reading it silently, instead of aloud for their general benefit. It is a book that helps knit the family closer together and edges everyday life with a sublime purpose. Needless to say it is a grand thing to have about the house where there are children.

V. L.

by Frank Morris. Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee. Available locally at St. Michael's Bookshop, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 10/-.

FRANK Morris has quickened dull history with the breath of life. The Danes provide Alfred enough action and heroic episodes to enrapture the heart of any schoolboy. It has only to be put within reach of a boy and it will be avidly read from cover to cover.

The publishers blurb sums up the King, whom we remember only by the burnt cakes, thus: "A great leader and warrior, he was also a Christian who made his religion the centre of his life, and a scholar who built schools so that even the lowliest peasant could learn to read and write." Perfectly true, but it does sound a paltry summary before the motive force of Christianity as exemplified so richly in Morris' Alfred come to life. This book must be given a place in every library for boys.

V. L.

PARENTS who are in search of good and pleasingly presented reading material for their children will find two titles, which have just arrived in this country, the answer to their search.

The first is a suspense-packed adventure with a direct appeal to boys. Not that the girls will not like it either, for the heroine in "PRAIRIE VENTURE" by L. V. Jacks (*The Bruce Publishing Co.*) — available locally for Rs. 14/75 at St. Michael's Bookshop, 6, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13 — is a daring young girl who lands right in the middle of an intrigue that scares off many men!

The story is a detailed account of life in Colorado seventy years ago and, need I tell you, there's exciting reading for everybody here?

A GOOD biography for any teen-ager is provided in "THE THUNDERMAKER" by William M. Lamers (*The Bruce Publishing Co.*) and also available locally at St. Michael's Bookshop, 6, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13 for Rs. 10/-.

It traces the colourful events in the life of Thomas Francis Meagher, a fiery young leader in the Irish rebellion, and later the famous leader of the Irish Brigade which created history as the famous 69th in Union Army annals.

Both titles are bound in hard covers with colourful jackets and they carry lively black-and-white sketches illustrating the stories. Both titles bear the imprint of "Catholic Treasury Book" Series.

H. P.

Moral Science

WRITTEN specifically for the Indian Schoolboy, WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD by R. H. Lesser (*St. Paul Publications*), and obtainable from 28-B, Chatham Lines, Allahabad 2, V.P., India for Re. 1/- is a course in moral science.

Excellent treated, it caters to the moral needs of students in the age group for which it is primarily written, that is, the last four years of school.

This first volume is to be followed soon by three others in the series.

H. P.

THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT

By Andre Retif, S.J. A Faith and Fact Book. Burns and Oates, London. Available at St. Michael's Bookshop, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 5/25.

THIS excellent and encyclopaedic series of volumes on the *Res Catholica*, what might be called the Catholic thing or the Catholic affair, has been mentioned in these review columns before and commended. This volume in particular might be said to be about the Catholic Affair, of the spirit that makes it what it is. The very word "Catholic," from being used by Greek writers to indicate that which is universal, has come to be the name by which the Church is known. In the Church there is an amazing diversity of races and types and rites and prayers and customs. The Catholic faith, as Fr. Retif says, is appropriate and adaptable to all epochs, all nations, all ages, all conditions, all mentalities. Nothing human is foreign to her. Hers is a gift of life and salvation to all men — but the gift is from Christ, and *is* Christ: Christ, who though God became man for us, and continues to be the King of the Universe and the Lord of ages. And it is in Him that Catholic diversity finds its unique and ineffable unity. But the Catholic or universal spirit must live in every Christian. The author ends his book with these beautiful words: "We have something to learn from all Catholics, we must embrace them all in the same love, we must have for all the solicitude of the Church in their regard, the love of God, the tenderness of Christ."

J. E. A. P.

SCHOOLS MAG

Vol. 3 No. 19
18 June 1960

★ She's the youngest Schools-Mag member



Lucille Barthelot youngest member at St. Anthony's Convent, Kandy, poses for our cameraman. She is 3 1/2 years of age.

Schools-Mag Reporters...

SODALISTS FOR THE FIRST TIME

★ S. Therese Fernandopulle reporting from Negombo

THE Sodality of Our Lady was inaugurated for the first time at Ave Maria Convent, Negombo on 31 May.

Spear-heading the great day were weeks of preparation in the form of talks, meetings, discussions and novenas.

35 ENROLLED

Mass was said by Rev. Fr. Director in the Convent chapel at 10 o'clock. 35 candidates as well as the school-girls participated.

The enrollment took place after Mass. Father Director delivered an inspiring sermon. The

day came to a close with the election of office-bearers.

Ave Maria Convent, Negombo.

Winners in the 110x4 Relay

Picture shows the winners of the 110x4 Relay (John House) change the baton at the recently held sports meet of Sri Lanka Training College, Bolawalana.

Spelling bee contest

(from a Schools-Mag reporter)

BOYS of St. Benedict's College, Kotahena scored a victory over the girls of All Saints' College, Borella in the first round of the recent Inter-School "Spell-out-the-words" contest sponsored by the Schools Service of Radio Ceylon.

Much interest was evinced in the Contest. Benedictines scored 9 points as against the All Saints' score of 6.



Very Rev. Fr. D. J. Anthony, O.M.I., Rector and Manager, gave away the prizes. (Picture by W. H. Silva).

A Thought FOR THE WEEK

YOUTH

Youth is no time for despair and despondency. Christian and Catholic youth least of all must yield to such temptation. To the middle-aged and elderly, ours may appear to be a darkening world. But to youth illumined by Christ, the Light of the World, it is a darkness which must flee before the Sun of Justice. Is not theirs the song written by a gallant young man of their number for the feast of the Epiphany?

*I bring you earth and Adam's sin,
And the long folds of a Virgin's gown;
New life, new love, and will to win
In victory an unsurpassing crown.*

J. J. Coyne.

Roundup

13-year old Editor

Frank Allen of St. Bede's grammar school, Bradford, was recently appointed editor of "The White Rose," the bulletin of the Yorkshire Federation of Esperantists.

And Frank is not yet 14!

As well as Esperanto, which he took up a year ago, Frank studies French, Latin and Greek, and he is also interested in archaeology.

Formosa's first Catholic school

Formosa's first Catholic primary school has been opened by priests of the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The new school joins the present Catholic school system of five high schools, one college and a university.

Teachers' International Congress

The World Union of Catholic Teachers will hold its fourth international congress at Bruges, Belgium, from August 9 to 12. The congress will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the union's foundation in Rome. The World Union of Catholic Teachers consists of 79 teachers' organizations from 60 countries.

Radar for school

A Rs. 3,000 radar system to help curb vandalism has been bought by Montreal (Canada) Catholic School Commission. The radar, with an effective range of 250 sq. ft., will effectively cope with vandals.

School-teacher honoured

The star ballerina of the Paris Opera decorated her old school-teacher, Sister Alphonsine, with a government medal for service to education.

Lycette Darsonval went to her native village of St. Martin-du-Bois to give the award to the nun, who has completed 50 years of teaching.

THE Children's Story

Grumblers

AN Eastern prince, called Abgebublet, much disturbed by constant reports of displeasure on the part of his people, set apart a day when each might come to air his grievance.

The first to arrive was an old man, who thought that the palace was a big place, very luxurious and comfortable and his home only a small hut. Why couldn't he live in a palace?

"Very well, you can," said Abgebublet, "but you must understand, of course, that it is necessary to keep the rules of Courts and good breeding here."

The next was a woman who kept a fruit-stall in the street, and she asked for the removal of the stall adjoining hers which sold old clothes. She said it was very dirty and a disgrace to the streets. The necessary permission was given.

Another was a rich man who said he loved Abgebublet, and he wanted one hundred slaves imprisoned because they had spoken evil of the Prince. Him, Abgebublet disposed of at once.

"That they speak evil of me," he said, "I grant you. But am I evil? No. Will they make me evil? No. I am the same whatever they say; therefore what they say is of no importance."

The rich man bowed, and was contented.

At last came a dirty old sailor-man who kept a somewhat dilapidated boat on the river which ran through the city. The boat was called the Moon Flower, and he was extremely

proud of he nevertheless the master of the harbour at the river's mouth refused to allow him a permit to put her out to sea. A careful man, he had a reputation to sustain, and he did what was wise. Few but the old sailor, blinded by his love for his ancient craft, would have thought of putting such a patched-up ruin out of her moorings in the river, and none would have sent her to sea.

But to its owner each old plank nailed on with rusting nails was a friend. He begged to be allowed to sail her outside the harbour.

"Why," asked the Prince, "will they not give you this permission?"

"Because they are jealous of my old boat, sire. I say she's a good craft; I am her skipper and I should know."

"You certainly shall know," said Abgebublet. "I will grant your request."

Some time after the Lord Chamberlain made a report on the results. First, it appeared that the old man who came to live in the palace found he could not have his goat to live with him as he did in his hut. Also, he had to wash and have meals at regular hours. He had found all the points most objectionable, and had left after the first day for what he called freedom and his hut.

The old woman of the fruit-stall found she got no customers when the adjoining stall was removed. The people really came for the garments, which were necessities, and spent their

AMPITIYA SCHOOL'S SUCCESS

● N. M. Pamunugama reporting from Ampitiya

AMPITIYA R. C. M. S. School won the Championship Shield in Kandy district inter schools sports meet which was held on 30th May at Peradeniya University grounds.

Mr. Leslie Handunge, Lecturer at the University of Ceylon presided.

The table of Results follows: Under 19 Boys Drill 1st Place Ampitiya, R.C.M.S. Under 16 Boys Drill 1st Place Ampitiya R.C.M.S. Under 16 girls Drill 2nd Place Ampitiya R.C.M.S. Under 16 110x4 Relay 1st Place Ampitiya R.C.M.S. Under 19 440x4 Relay 1st Place Ampitiya R.C.M.S.

few remaining cents on a melon or a mango.

"Wasn't there another case?" inquired the Prince. "What about the sailorman and his old boat?"

(See next page)

Song to Mary

HOW shall I sing Thy praise
O Mary?
Spotless Spouse of the Holy Ghost,
Our tainted nature's solitary
boast;
Holy, Immaculate, Virgin Mary.

Thy beauty surpasses the moon,
Thy purity radiant doth shine,
Thy humility who can define?
Sweet Mother to us what a boon.

The angels prostrate before Thee,
For Queen of Heaven's court
Thou art,
From Thy presence they ne'er
depart,
Thy loving face they yearn to see.

Martyrs and virgins surround
Thee,

Dispenser of graces Thou art;
Ruler over the Sacred Heart,
From sin and hell deliver me.

Man's never-failing friend Thou art,
Ask Mother for graces for me,
Jesus will never refuse Thee;
Help us from Him ne'er to part.

Janua Caeli, Mother mine,
Open the gates of Paradise,
Prove that it will be a surprise,
To be with Thee and Jesus mine.

Thecla Pereira.

St. Anthony's Convent,
Kandy.

Birthdays

JUNE 18th—24th

A happy birthday to the following members who celebrate their birthdays this week:

JUNE 18th

Antoinette F. Joseph (Demata-goda), P. Indreswaran (Bambalapitiya), Antony J. Leitan (Kotahena), Marguerite Foenander (Kalubowila), Emil Ferreira (Kotahena), Shiranee Jayasinghe (Nugegoda), Godwin de Mel (Moratuwa), Christopher A. Weeraratne (Hatton), Ryle de Lima (Nawala), Gloria Gunawardene (Puwakpitiya), Maureen Samarasinghe (Colombo 14), Joan Young (Colombo 15), Manel Perera (Kegalle), Therese Visvanathan (Kalmunai), Dayanitha Fernando (Kalturata), Geraldine de Selve (Talawakelle).

JUNE 19th

Therese Patterson (Dehiwela), Perpetua Fernando (Moratuwa), Anne Taleyratne (Colombo 15), M. Juliana Hakel (Maradana), S. Jesudasani (Colombo 6), Jean De Visser (Colombo 13), Juliana Perera (Dehiwela), Bonny Sebastian (Hewaheta), Dearine L. Victoria (Wellawatte), Maureen Grand (Colombo 14), Dorita Nugara (Dehiwela), Daijan Nugara (Dehiwela), Monica M. Perera (Hendala), M. Esther Fernando (Colombo 15), Anna Kroenemberg (Kotahena), Jeyarani Mary Deva-sagayam (Wellawatte).

JUNE 20th

Nalinie de Silva (Moratuwa), Carmen Ratnam (Kandy), D. Wesley Rabendrathe (Jaffna), Christopher Livera (Colombo), Gratian Jones (Ragama), Vivette Leonard (Wattala), Royce Fernandopulle (Kotahena), Sylvia Alwis (Mutwal), Delreen Nugara (Dehiwela), K. Anna C. Perera (Ampitiya), Susila V. Saverimuttu (Colombo 4), Therese Pon-nurajah (Lunawa), Margaret Soris (Ratnapura), Maxwell Anandappa (Colombo 13), Lucy Corera (Nuwara Eliya), Sylvia Alwis (Kotahena), M. F. Jayalath Fernando (Moratuwa), Hyacinth de Alwis (Kochchikade).

JUNE 21st

Lucille Don (Nugegoda), Crystal Therese Edema (Nawalapitiya), Madonna Pereira (Nawalapitiya), A. C. Nanayakkara (Kandy), Clive Rodrigo (Colombo 6), Kantha Muttukumaru (Colombo 7), Sunimal A. Perera (Matale), Luke Ratnayake (Kegalle), Dayanjanie Gunawardene (Maradana), Mahindralal Jayawardene (Colombo 8), Christopher de Jong (Dehiwela), D. W. G. Alexius Rangalla (Avissawella).

The jewelled madonna

JEWELLED Madonna, dazzling in gold and blue,
With a crown of rare gems of every colour on you,
How majestic and bright is the glow on your queenly face,
Like the morning sun spreading its golden rays.

With spangled curtains and flowers of every hue,
How splendid is your shrine to every body's view,
Grateful hearts throng from far and near,
To offer their love and homage to a Mother so dear.

Bless all maidens and make them resemble thee,
In their thoughts, speech, and actions to imitate thee,
Succour them in time of temptation, lest they fall,
Guard them perpetually till life's evening shadows fall.

Clarinda Bastians,
Good Shepherd Convent,
Kotahena.

I love you!

FLOWER of God's garden,
Prettier every day,
I love you, Mother Mary,
More than words can say.
Madonna Perera.
St. Bernard's Convent,
Nawalapitiya.

For Mary

EVEN though I'm only eleven,
I know I've got a place in heaven.
Mary my mother loves me I know
She guides my steps wherever I go.
Someday I'll join this beautiful Queen
Who keeps my soul so pure and clean;
I'll thank her then for all she's done
For then the battle will be won.
Carmen Vanderwall.

JUNE 22nd

Krishantha Perera (Galle), Pajjilun Perera (Grandpass), Monica de Silva (Nugegoda), Brian Weerasinghe (Mt. Lavinia), Bernadette Silva (Kalturata), Donald Van Langenburg (Nawala), Ruth Edwards (Nugegoda), Gloria Warkale (Kalturata), Maurille Ranasinghe (Hendala), Doreen Hopwood (Kelaniya), Upali Sahabandu (Mutwal), Angrid Anne Powell (Havelock Town), Shereen de Silva (Colombo 15), Antoinette de Silva (Amparai), Chandra Perera (Colombo 4), Gillian Berenger (Kandy), Rosemary Decker (Wedamulla), Ingram Miranda (Negombo), Rodney Van Dort (Colombo 6).

JUNE 23rd

L. Andrew Silva (Moratuwa), Shanthi Dalpathado (Negombo), Premani Fonseka (Wadduwa), Ingrid Barthelot (Batticaloa), Parakrama de Alwis (Colombo 13), Puspaha Fernando (Colombo 13), Ethel de Rosairo (Kandy), Sarojini Mariampillai (Colombo 6).

JUNE 24th

L. A. Carmen Direkze (Dehiwela), Rosemarie Perera (Mt. Lavinia), Antoinette Don Paul (Dalugama), John Perera (Dematagoda), Maurice de Silva (Colombo), Mary Dias (Puttalam), Trevine David (Mt. Lavinia), Virginia Gunawardene (Dehiwela), Chandra Anselm Perera (Wellawatte).

Schools-Mag Enrolment Form

NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
SCHOOL.....
DATE AND YEAR OF BIRTH.....

Cut this out and post the completed form to the Editor, SCHOOLS-MAG, Catholic Press, Borella, to get your Membership card and number.



Schools-Mag

Mirthquake

Teacher: Now Johnny, tell me how would you punctuate this sentence: I saw a ten-rupee cheque in the pavement.

Johnny: I'd make a dash after it!

Sent by Annie Core.



Talks to Teen-Agers

The Offertory

By
Uncle
Ashley

My dear children,
Just before the Offertory the Catechumens (those under instruction for Baptism) were dismissed and only the Faithful remained in the Church for the rest of the Mass.

In the days of old at the Offertory the people brought to the altar their gifts of bread, wine, wax, incense, honey, fruit and milk. The wine was used for the Sacrifice but the

rest was the share of the poor and the clergy.

Today, there is no such presentation of gifts but we must keep the spirit of the offertory first by offering ourselves, our joys and sorrows; prayer and work, nay all we have and are; secondly by formulating our intentions.

After the host is offered on the paten the priest makes a sign of the Cross with the paten over the

corporal to remind us that in early times the loaves of bread were placed on the Altar in the form of a Cross . . .

As the priest offers the host and wine let us offer our intentions and ourselves.

May the good Lord bless and help you. Always in Jesus.

UNCLE ASHLEY

● **The Feast day of St. Aloysius Gonzaga falls on 21 June. This article on the Saint who should be intimately known by all our members, is written by a guest writer specially for the Schools-Mag columns.**

ST: ALOYSIUS GONZAGA

A PLAIN, SIMPLE COFFIN WAS LOWERED INTO THE VAULT OF THE CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION IN ROME, ON 22ND JUNE 1591. IT BORE A BRIEF INSCRIPTION:—"ALOYSIUS GONZAGA. SCHOLASTIC OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS."

Aloysius was born into a princely family. His father was the Marquis of Castiglione Gonzaga. His mother was the Countess of Tana Santana. He was born on 9 March 1568.

CHILDHOOD

As a child, Aloysius had never been naughty; he was a model of tranquillity, patience and contentment. He had shown signs of innate piety from his childhood and his good mother failed not to foster this tendency and encourage him in it.

Charity and compassion for the poor ultimately led him to his untimely death at the age of 23 years. His sanctity began

Perfect model for the youth of the world

measure by all this and thought themselves important and great on that account, Aloysius could not help saying:—

"How could we pride ourselves about our high birth? What really is the difference between the dust of a prince and that of a pauper? . . . The enjoyments of this life are so short, and those that indulge in them have to suffer for it during life and after death."

Italy. Even the Papal Throne was not spared. Death sought its victims with terrifying speed. Three popes died within one year and four months. Christian

charity sought to struggle against this famine and pestilence and relieve the distress by every possible means. Aloysius went about the sick and needy and it was on such a mission of Mercy, that he saw a man forsaken in the streets. He carried this man on his shoulders and attended to him at the hospital. Thus he himself contacted the germ of the mortal disease and he was confined to bed on 3rd March 1591. Four months later he was no more. This holy life ended with a holy death. His feast day is on 21st June. Aloysius presents a picture of the greatest renunciation, austerity and self-denial, in the midst of the world's joys. Certainly, he is a perfect model for our youth and students.

The essence of holiness consists in the possession of sanctifying grace. Aloysius received this precious grace at his baptism and he valued and treasured this sanctity above everything else. This sanctity of his was his real nobility, beauty, prestige and riches. This sanctifying grace we all receive; but in the case of Aloysius the difference was, that he guarded his sanctity by fleeing from the world.

Aloysius is:—
"The Youth who wealth and courts despised,
His spotless mind above to raise;
Who, every rising thought chastised,
'Tis Aloysius claims our lays."

Aloysius was the son of a prince. How many pleasures of life and enjoyments stood at his door and were practically forced on him; yet he rejected them with sternness and resolution. He knew how to live poor in the midst of riches, how to be abstemious in the midst of luxury, unnoticed in the midst of honours.

Famine and pestilence stalked

QUESTION BOX

Do children grow faster at some times of the year?

Children, taken altogether grow at the same rate at all times of the year, or at all events, most careful measurements of large numbers of children over a period of years have failed to show the growth at any one season is greater than at another. But there is a curious justification for the belief that some children grow faster in the spring, because it has been found that after an attack of infectious illness, such as measles, or even bad colds, children on their recovery, make a spurt in their growth. These spurts are more likely to take place in the spring because it is at the turn of the year that children are beginning to recover from winter colds or infectious illnesses.

★
WHY do people hang the horse shoes?

There used to be many people (and I wouldn't be surprised if there are still some) who thought that if they found a horse shoe and hang it up over their door they would be lucky. This is just a silly superstition. It dates back to very ancient times when people used to try to discover the future by means of lucky

numbers and calculations. From the earliest times seven was considered a lucky number, because it is used so much in the Bible, and anything found that had seven holes or seven spots was considered to bring good fortune to the finder. A horse shoe usually has seven small holes, and so it was supposed to keep away witches from the home or stable. No one now, of course, would be silly enough as to think that a horse shoe could bring luck.

★
WHY does a lawyer wear a wig and gown?

The practice of the law was, in the Middle Ages, confined to the clergy, who of course wore their characteristic dress, consisting of a kind of cassock and hood. When laymen began to act as lawyers they wore a gown very similar to that of the clergy, and as a compromise between the monastic hood and the tonsure, or clean-shaven heads of the clergy, they wore what was called a coif, a kind of cap. This cap was originally made of linen, but later was made of silk; and when the general custom of wearing wigs came in during the seventeenth century, the coif gave way to the wig in the dress

of lawyers. Of course the gown and wig have both changed in shape from time to time.

★
Why does a crab move sideways?

A crab can move sideways because its claws are set on either side of its shell, and it is convenient to this shell-fish, or crustacean, to haul itself along by them to left or right when in a hurry to avoid enemies or capture its prey. But a crab does not always move sideways. It can move forward or backward with equal ease.

St. Michael's Studio Award Entry

A Little Child Shall Lead

DUSK was falling. The street lamps were being lighted. A woman was seated on a sofa in the drawing room, embroidering a garment. She was barely thirty, but sorrow's cruel hand had left a deep trace on her haggard face. She looked towards the door whenever she heard footsteps. She put down her sewing and heaved a sigh. . . . "Another night of waiting. Dear God, bring him back soon." Her prayer was interrupted by the prattle of the children in the room. . . . "Mummy, Christine says that she is not going to write to Santa for toys this year. I hope you posted my letter, for I do want a doll as big as myself." Quickly, the mother caught the little one in her arms. . . . "Yes, darling, Santa will send you the doll. But, Christine, don't you want that piano?" "No Ma, I have written a letter to Baby Jesus for my Christmas gift. When it comes, you'll see." "Alright dear. Now it's time for bed. So say your prayers first." The two little ones went on their knees. "Goodnight Jesus. Bless Mummy, bless Daddy, and bring him back safe." The mother kissed them goodnight and tucked them in bed.

She went back to the drawing room to keep her lonely vigil. She lowered the lights, and rested her head on the sofa. Then she gave vent to the tears which she had hidden from the little ones. They flowed freely down her cheeks; she recounted the days of loneliness, and the nights of anguish she had spent for nearly eight years now. The hours dragged heavily on. The clock was chiming twelve. She heard footsteps outside. Quickly, she ran to the door and opened it. "Ah John, you're late again. I have been up all this time waiting for you." An angry voice retorted, "Why didn't you go to bed, you silly woman? How can you expect a man to return earlier, when he takes a little recreation with his friends after a hard day's work? Surely, I know how to take care of myself, and get to bed." She brushed aside a tear and went up to her room.

. . . . It was Christmas Eve. Christine helped her mother to decorate the tree. A little crib was arranged in a corner of the drawing room. There were lights all round it. The house was ready for the little

Jesus. Their hearts too were ready. Ah! yes, but for one. It was getting dark now, the lights of the neighbouring houses began to glimmer. The strains of music, and joyous carols were heard all around. Christine begged of her mother, to allow her to run up to the church, just across the road. The mother tried to dissuade the child. It was too cold outside. She would catch a chill. Besides, she had to go to bed, to be up in time for the midnight Mass. The little one pleaded, and she yielded to her entreaties, bidding her return soon.

The girl hurried on to the street. The sky was heavy with stars. She shed a soft radiance on the roofs and the tree tops. She tightened her shawl, as the flakes began to fall thick, turning the road into a silver

His wife was standing on the doorstep of the house, looking out for the child. He put the child down and threw his arms round the woman, into whose face he had not looked for eight years. Hot tears streamed down his cheeks. No words were exchanged. There was no time for anything, for the church bells were pealing, inviting all to the midnight Mass. With the child between them they hurried off to church. As the organ pealed the "Gloria," they knew that the little Jesus had brought them peace. Christine shed silent tears of joy, when she saw Mummy and Daddy approach the Communion rails.

When they reached home after the Mass, warm embraces were exchanged. They awoke little Marion. She clutched the golden haired doll in Santa's

A SHORT STORY

ribbon, for the stars shied their glory on the snow. When she reached the church steps, she

By

GERALDINE
KELAART

saw a long queue of people waiting outside the confessional. Unmindful of everybody, she went up the aisle and knelt at the altar rails. With her little head buried in her hands, she sobbed, "Jesus, soon it will be midnight; I have not got my gift as yet." . . . "Here, she was interrupted by louder sobs behind her. Turning round, she saw a man, bending over the pew. She darted up to him. "Daddy, you're weeping." "Yes, little one, Dad's thinking of the sins of many years. . . they are frightening." She whispered to him: "Don't be afraid Dad. Go into that box there and the priest will help you." "He obeyed the child. When he returned a few minutes later, his face told the child that everything was alright. After a fervent thanksgiving, they left the church. Out in the street, the man lifted the child in his arms.

stocking, and jumped for joy. The Christmas candle was lit and all sat down to table. The pudding was being served, when Daddy, rather thoughtfully, left table. The mother looked at Christine. She had her fears. . . . Was he going back to his old self? But they were soon dispelled, when Daddy returned with a large parcel under his arm. He put it before Christine saying, "Open it, little girl." The wrapping was soon removed, and there was a lovely piano with shining keys. Marion's voice, rang out, "So Christ wrote to Santa after all."

When they left the table, the whole family knelt before the crib to thank the Infant Jesus for all his gifts. Then Christine played a tune on the piano, whilst Mummy and Daddy sang: "Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is still . . ."

Yes, so it really was; they were enveloped in a wonderful peace, and they knew that a little child had brought them that peace.

All Saints' College, Borella.



Dear Editor,
The "Schools-Mag" is really a nice one with its splendid talks by Uncle Ashley and exquisite contributions by the students. On Saturday I eagerly await the post-man for my copy of the Messenger; so interesting is the "Schools-Mag."

I am a senior student of St. Xavier's College, Mannar which is conducted by the Christian Brothers.
J. B. H. Alegacone.

Dear Editor,
Kindly enrol me and all my friends in the Schools-Mag. We hope to write regularly to this interesting Magazine.
Hilton N.

A PRAYER TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD

GOOD Shepherd let me not wander away,
In thy true fold make me always stay,
Night and day watch over me I pray,
And in thy sacramental pasture feed me everyday.

Bring the lost ones back into thy fold,
Take them entirely out of the enemy's hold,
Let them not perish in the darkness and the cold,
But grant them light of faith and blessings untold.

Clarinda Bastians,
Good Shepherd Convent,
Kotahena.

A Sister was telling the class how Lot's wife turned into a pillar of salt.

"That's nothing," said little Johnny.

"My mother looked back when she was driving the car and turned into the National Bank."

Children's Story

(Continued)

The Lord Chamberlain bowed. "Sire, he has been no more seen or heard since he left the river in his boat."

"Ah!" said the Prince. "To grant people's wishes often silences them forever."

Classified ADS.

IN MEMORIAM

13TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



Mary Violet Peiris

Born: 13-2-26. Married: 12-6-47. Died: 8-10-47.

"A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth." Eccl.

"Have patience Finian. Trust in God. I leave you only to die. Even after death I will be by your side. Let God's will be done." Viola.

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give You my heart and my soul." (7 years' Indulgence).

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord,

And let perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace. Amen.

J. Finian Peiris.

866 574, Galle Road, Colombo 3.



M. Bastiampulle

Died 3rd June 1958

"Memories are treasures
No one can steal
Death leaves a heartache
No one can heal."

A Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of his soul on 18th June at 7 a.m., at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena.

Inserted by his sorrowing wife and loved ones.

St. Mary's Road,
Mattakkuliya.

811



Vincent Benjamin De Kanwe

Born: 18th April 1906.
Died: 22nd March 1960.

Eternal rest grant into him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

A Requiem High Mass will be sung on 23rd June.

Fondly remembered by Sister Flora, husband and children.

870



H. H. De Fonseka

Born 24th March 1911
Died 20th June 1959

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord And let perpetual light shine upon him
May he rest in peace. Amen.

No. 269, Dalugama,
Kelaniya. 885

Lawrence Justin De'Croos

Died 21-6-49

Juliana Thecla De'Croos

Died 21-6-59

893



A. C. M. Gooneratne
(Merwin)

Born 20.6.33

Died 20.6.59

The call was sudden, the shock severe,
We never thought such grief was near.

We loved you dearly, but the Lord loved you more,
Safe in perfect peace in His arms you be.

Fondly remembered by your sorrowing parents and sisters.

"Rokvit,"
Bolawalana, Negombo. 903

THANKSGIVINGS

OUR grateful thanks to Almighty God for a special favour received through the intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour.
Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Perera 865

MY grateful thanks to the Sacred Heart, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, St. Rita and St. Joseph for a great favour received.
L. M. S., Kotte. 874

OUR heartfelt thanks to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mother of Perpetual Succour, St. Joseph, St. Anthony, St. Christopher for our miraculous escape in our recent motor accident. Rosairos. 889

IN thanksgiving to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, St. Jude for a safe confinement.
Delima 879

LONG delayed but grateful thanks to dear St. Jude for a great favour received.—E. B. 882

BOARD & LODGING

FINAL Year Law Student requires board and lodging. Willing to coach children. Apply No. 873, c/o Catholic Press, Colombo 8. 887

ORDER ABSOLUTE (IN THE FIRST INSTANCE) IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO

No. 19294/T.

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of the Late BERNARD BASTIANS of No. 13, Mayfield Road, Kotahena, Colombo.—Deceased.

1. Joseph Anthony Bastians of No. 13, Mayfield Road, Kotahena, Colombo, and

2. Basil Austin Chitty of Prince of Wales Avenue, Moratuwa.—Petitioners.

This matter coming on for disposal before J. E. A. Alles, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Colombo, on the 4th day of May 1960, in the presence of M/s. Gunaratnam and James, Proctors on the part of the Petitioners and the Affidavit of the Petitioners dated 3rd day of May 1960, and the Affidavit of the Witnesses and Notary dated 29th day of April 1960, having been read:

It is ordered that the Last Will and Testament bearing No. 36 made by the deceased above-named on the 9th day of February 1960 and attested by Sinniah Velupillai Gunaratnam, Notary Public of Colombo, the original of which has been deposited in this Court be and the same is hereby declared proved and the Petitioners are the executors named therein and that they are hereby declared entitled to have Probate thereof issued to them accordingly, on their payment of estate duty and taking Oath of Office.

Sgd. J. E. A. Alles,
Additional District Judge.

This 4th day of May 1960.
853

GOLDEN JUBILEE MASS — WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

MR. and Mrs. D. M. Martin
Pieris invite all friends and relations for the Jubilee Mass at 8 a.m. on the 2nd July at St. Anthony's Cathedral, Kandy. "Town View," Katukelle, Kandy. 895

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

MR. L. M. de Zoysa of Ragama, thanks the Rt. Rev. Dr. Edmund Peiris, O.M.I., Bishop of Chilaw, and all the Reverend Fathers, relations and friends who attended the wedding of his daughter Assuntha and sent congratulatory messages and presents.

L. M. de Zoysa,
"Roslin Villa,"
Ragama.

891

BOARD AND APARTMENTS

Wanted

ROOM in respectable home with meals, preferably Galle Road, Kotahena or Borella. Silva, P.O. Box 1276, Colombo. 897

FOR three long agonising months I suffered from many bodily ailments and consulted a number of specialists, but it seemed to be all of no avail. I then turned confidently to Our Lady. I have since made a quick recovery, and without the aid of drugs. For this great favour I am humbly thankful to Our Blessed Lady.

A servant of Our Lady,
W. D. Meraya,
"Shanti Shriya,"
Uswetakeiyawa.

887

GOLDEN WEDDING

JOSEPH GOMEZ
22-6-1910

RITAMMAL VALDARIZ
22-6-1960

A Thanksgiving Service will be held at the Church of Our Lady of Snows, Tuticorin, S. India on 22-6-1960 at 6-30 a.m.

The prayers of friends and relations will be gratefully appreciated. Inserted by their loving sons, daughters, and in-laws.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Gomez, Colombo 2.

Mr. Joseph Devotta, Colombo 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Packade, Colombo 15.

Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Fernandez, Tuticorin — S. India.

Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Fernandez, Tuticorin — S. India.

Mr. and Mrs. James Fernando, Colombo 13.

Miss Siriyaupham Gomez, Tuticorin — S. India.

Mr. Rosario Gomez, Tuticorin — S. India.

Mr. Xavier Gomez, Tuticorin — S. India.

34, Kerecote Street,
Tuticorin, S. India.

WAHACOTTE

Continued from page 2

Gonsalves. When Fr. Vaz came to Wahacotte at the end of the 17th century, he found the poor Catholics still strong in their Faith. They assembled for prayer in a hut which during the day was used as a cattle shed to ward off suspicion. The site of this shed in which Fr. Vaz said Mass is still marked by a mound of earth and a granite cross which stands near the spot and which is about one hundred yards from the present church. On the feast day, the miraculous statue of St. Anthony, which is carried in procession round the village, is halted at this spot for the people to pray for the souls of the founders of the church at Wahacotte.



This year marks the 3rd centenary of the first Catholic colony founded in Wahacotte, which was really when the Faith was established in the Diocese of Kandy. It is an event worth celebrating by the whole Diocese, and by the Mission of Wahacotte in particular. The Parish Priest has suggested that a statue of Venerable Joseph Vaz be erected in the church premises. Such a statue together with a chapel, right there in the heart of Sri Lanka, will constitute a memorial worthy of the Apostle of Ceylon.

I. V. F.

MEDICAL

PUROL Medicated Powder and Ointment — the unfailing remedy for Eczema, Prickly Heat and Tropical Skin Ailments. Available at all Chemists and the Importers Setrac (Ceylon) 29 1/1, Gaffoor Building, Fort, Colombo.

DAMPO Vapour Rub and Nose Drops — the magic cure for colds, chills, body pains, rheumatism and quick relief for Asthma, Hay Fever. Available at all Chemists and the Importers, Setrac (Ceylon) 29 1/1, Gaffoor Building, Fort, Colombo.

BYLOOS Eau de Cologne — the unfailing friend of school-children. Rids the head of lice, Nits, Dandruff, and all invisible germs. Available at all Chemists and the Importers, Setrac (Ceylon) 29 1/1, Gaffoor Building, Fort, Colombo.

ASTHMA ! catarrh ! stomach disorders ! Swiss treatment ends suffering permanently. No injections ! Free information ! visit **MEDICAL CLINIC**, 42nd Lane, Wellawatte.

MILK FOODS

"NOMAD" Brand Fullcream Milk Powder — thousands have acclaimed "Nomad" as the best milk from the Country of Milk — Holland. You'll love it too when you taste "Nomad." Rich, delicious and economical. Available at all good stores chemists and the importers. Setrac (Ceylon) 29 1/1, Gaffoor Building, Fort, Colombo.

Feast of the Holy Rosary

WELLA CHURCH
(Mattakotuwa Mission)

2nd July Annual Feast
1st July at 7 p.m. Pontifical
Vespers.

Parish Priest,
Mattakotuwa.

877

"ANTONIAN FUN FAIR" 1960

I have great pleasure in thanking all patrons, benefactors, parishioners, friends and well-wishers for their help and presence in making this Fair a success.

God Bless.

Parish Priest.

St. Anthony's Church,
Dematagoda.
18-6-60.

883

Legion News

(from a "Messenger" correspondent)

THE Annual Acies function of the Legion of Mary Tamil Speaking Praesidia under the Pariharamatha Curia was held at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena, on Sunday, 22 May 1960. A large gathering of active and auxiliary members from 15 Praesidia, including 2 praesidia from Avissawell and 2 from Horana, participated. At 3 p.m. the ceremony commenced with a hymn to the Holy Spirit. After the opening prayers, Rev. Fr. Edwin Fernando, O.M.I., addressed the gathering in Tamil on the significance of the occasion. Then the Spiritual Director, Rev. Fr. Robert Fernando O.M.I. and Rev. Fr. Raymond Peries, went up to the Legion Standard and renewed their Legion Promise. Two by two the Legionaries followed and pledged their loyalty to Mary. The Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament and the hymn "Thanthom Uruthi Vakku" brought the ceremony to a close.

Reception to New Priest

(from a "Messenger" correspondent)

ON Saturday the 4th of June at 5 p.m., Rev. Fr. Terence Lyanage of Kochchikade, who was recently ordained, was received by the Parish Priest and other priests present and also by the Catholics gathered on this occasion to assist at his First Mass in his parish church. Fr. Terence is the son of the Late Mr. and Mrs. D. Alexander Lyanage of Kochchikade. At 7-30 p.m. the new priest chanted Vespers, assisted by Rev. Frs. Berard, O.M.I., Anthony Padidilian, O.M.I., Anthony Fernando, O.M.I., and Oscar Abeyratne. On Sunday, as it was the feast of the church, the new priest sang High Mass assisted by Rev. Frs. Anthony Padidilian and Artie Ameratunga as deacon and sub-deacon. Very Rev. Fr. P. C. Fernando-pulle was the Master of Ceremonies. Rev. Fr. Martin Gunaratne, O.M.I., preached the sermon of the day. After High Mass the new priest was given a reception by the parishioners of the Mission. An address paper was read and a group photograph taken. Mr. Quintin Fernando, M.P. for Negombo, and Rev. Fr. Anthony Fernando also spoke. The new priest, after thanking them all, urged the parents to send their children to the priesthood as there was a dearth of priests at the present day.

There were many priests present at the Mass. A reception to all relations and friends was held at the residence of Fr. Lyanage's uncle.

Asian Magazine in Australia

AUSTRALIA publishes a wealth of Catholic publications that are official organs of religious orders, confraternities and various other Catholic organisations. These supplement the work of the Catholic newspapers published weekly, or at other intervals.

A new one has been started in Sydney — one that will bring to its readers an authentic breath of Asian Catholicism. Called "The East Wind," the new magazine is a newspaper for "Australians and their Asian friends."

It is published by the Chinese Catholics of Sydney, with the assistance of Rev. Father Paschal Chang, O.F.M., Chaplain to the Chinese Catholics in Sydney.

THE POPE HONOURS AN EDITOR

MR. James Kelleher, editor of Sydney's *Catholic Weekly*, was one of eight men invested with the insignia of Knight Commander of St. Gregory by Cardinal Gilroy in St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, recently.

906

800 STUDENTS FROM 30 SCHOOLS CELEBRATE YCS INTERNATIONAL DAY

Young students can help create new world

CEYLON STUDENTS CENSURE APARTHEID POLICY

EIGHT hundred students, representing over thirty schools throughout the island, unanimously passed a resolution strongly censuring South Africa's prevalent Apartheid and Ceylon's similar genocidal tendencies manifested in recent times, at St. Joseph's College on 12 June.

The text of the resolution read: "We, assembled in the unity of Christ, on the occasion of the celebration of International Day which symbolizes the unity of the nations, condemn and censure with sorrow, for the reason that it denies a basic principle of Christianity, the brotherhood of man — (1) the Policy of Apartheid prevalent in the Union of South Africa and (2) the similar genocidal tendency manifested in the caste and racial barriers that exist in our country, and we resolve, through the campaigns of our movement, to break down these barriers and build a new nation to the glory of God."

Christian Unity

Continued from page 1

learning, both secular and regular, chosen from different parts of the world and thus again expressing the catholicity of the Church."

The Holy Father then announced the names of the ten Preparatory Commissions which he was establishing, each to be presided over by a cardinal. Other Preparatory Commissions may be added by the Pope, if the need arises.

The ten are as follows:—

1. The Theological Commission to deal with Scripture, Tradition, the Faith and its practice.
2. The Commission for the discipline of the Clergy and Faithful.
3. The Commission of the Bishops and of diocesan government.
4. The Commission of Religious.
5. The Commission for the discipline of the Sacraments.
6. The Commission of the Sacred Liturgy.
7. The Commission of Studies and Seminaries.
8. The Commission of the Eastern Churches.
9. The Commission for the Missions.
10. The Commission of the Lay Apostolate, with special reference to Catholic Action in the religious and social fields.

In addition to the ten Preparatory Commissions, special secretariats will be established, including the above-mentioned Board for separated Christians.

They will include a secretariat to deal with questions touching modern means of communicating ideas, as through the press, radio, television, cinema, etc.

There will also be secretariats to see to the economic and technical aspects of the holding of the Council itself.

The Holy Father's *Motu Proprio* ended with the announcement that a Central Commission, presided over by himself or a cardinal in his name, will be set up.

The task of the Central Commission will be to follow the course of the labours of the other commissions and, if need be, to co-ordinate them.

The Commission will report directly to the Pope, who will make the final decisions as to which matters should be treated in the General Council itself. Its secretary will be secretary general.

Unique gesture at the Mass

(FROM A "MESSENGER" CORRESPONDENT)

"A NEW world can be built, a world of peace, universal love, brotherhood. To build this new world of peace is the first task of the young student; the older generation often thinks it impossible, but we believe it possible," declared Rev. Fr. H. Haas, addressing a mammoth assembly of over 800 students drawn from 30 schools at the YCS International Day celebrations held last Sunday at St. Joseph's College, Colombo.

Continuing, Fr. Haas who was principal speaker for the day, issued a stirring call to those assembled to help create the new world of unity according to Christ, both in the class room as well as in the wide world outside it.

Earlier, the National Chaplain, Rev. Fr. Joe de Mel, celebrated Holy Mass, which spear-headed the days activities.

Unique gesture

A unique gesture at the Mass was seen in the offertory procession when boys and girls carrying flags of twenty nations placed them on either side of the altar, signifying the unity of nations in the bonded love of Christ, offering Himself up for the love of mankind.

Immediately behind the flag-bearers followed two students with Bread and Wine for the Consecration.

General assembly

Addressing the leaders who were

presented with badges by their President, Anthony Fernando, the National Chaplain pin-pointed the great responsibilities devolving on student apostles as witnesses to Christ.



Mr. Arthur Van Langenberg speaking at the Rally. Seated behind him is Fr. Haas

Y. C. S. Work Camp at Talawila

(from our Wennappuwa correspondent)

THE Y.C.S. Movement in the Chilaw Diocese held its second work camp at St. Anne's, Talawila. Members from eight groups took part in it, including Antony Fernando, National President, and members from groups from the Archdiocese. As the camp was meant for the formation of leaders, only group leaders took part in it and so the participants were restricted to forty. Among those who helped the boys were Rev. Fr. Oscar Abeyaratne and Rev. Fr. Ernest Poruthota.

MISSION OF THE LAITY

(from E. B., "Messenger" correspondent)

IN an eloquent and stirring talk to the members of the Missionary Union of the Clergy at the National Seminary, Fr. Ignatius Pinto, O.M.I., stressed the fact that laymen are active co-operators in the mission of the Church. They are not just the object of a priest's mission, rather they have a mission to perform themselves, which is a necessary and compelling consequence of their reception of the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.

A hundred years ago, said Fr. Pinto, the mention of the "Lay Apostolate" in the rich and full sense in which we understand it today would have astonished people, but recently, with the excellent lead given by the Popes and the Hierarchies of many countries, the lay apostolate is becoming the watchword of the day, together with the doctrine of the Mystical Body of Christ, wherein the laymen find their true position, and the necessity of being true disciples of Christ. No statement illustrates the reality of this truth better, said he, than the opening words of the late Pope Pius XII to the Congress of Laymen in October 1957: "If a layman be elected Pope and accepts the

office of the priesthood, he will have all the powers of the Papacy, even before he has been ordained a priest."

Speaking of anticlericalism, he said that exaggerated and false consciousness of clerical dignity sometimes led to this unwholesome reaction. The priest, by actual ordination and power of the missionary injunction, has an inherent and specific command to teach and baptize, to be totally at the service of mankind. Therefore any unreal sense of superiority, or ivory tower isolation, can be very damaging.

He cautioned the Brothers against underestimating the capacity of the layman, and advised them, if at any moment they were tempted to undervalue the layman, to think of the sober and cherished fact that the Blessed Virgin, who is above all the saints in heaven, was only a humble Jewish maiden, and not a cloistered religious. St. Joseph, the greatest of Saints, was a poor carpenter, not a priest.

In conclusion he said that priest and laymen must work together, for the salvation of souls and establishment of the Kingdom of God.

Fr. Joe de Mel stressed the development of the spiritual life as a necessary prerequisite of would-be student apostles. He exhorted them to carry the light of Christ's truth to their neighbours.

Discussion groups

There were a number of lively discussions among student groups, centering round the unity of the student apostolate and other problems.

Proceedings were brought to a close with an eloquent talk on the importance of character formation by the chief guest for the day, Mr. Arthur Van Langenberg.

"I see the future leaders of this country right before me in this youthful assembly," stated Mr. Van Langenberg.

"Leadership requires strength of character and it is necessary to integrate the physical, emotional and mental elements that constitute human personality, through the cultivation of solid virtue," said the speaker.

A delightful and warmly appreciated variety entertainment put over by the "Rasanjali" Group rang down the curtain on the day's Rally.

Thandavanvely's Marian Fervour

(from a Batticaloa correspondent)

● CLOSING OF MONTH OF MAY

THE characteristic Marian devotion of the people of Thandavanvely was in evidence once more when the parishioners celebrated the end of the month of May Devotions with a grand candle-light procession. The various Sodalties, the Legion of Mary and other pious associations of the Parish took part in the procession with their banners. Right through the procession numberless rosaries were recited. The sermon was preached by Rev. Fr. T. Selvaraj of Manresa "Retreat House." Solemn Vespers and Benediction followed. The Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. G. E. L. Wambeck, consecrated the entire parish to the Queen of May.

● ACIES FUNCTION

SOLEMNITY and devotion were the highlights of the Annual Acies function of the Batticaloa Curia held on Sunday, 5th June 1960, at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Thandavanvely. Legionaries, both active and auxiliary, of the Praesidia attached to both the Parishes of Thandavanvely and Puliyanivu were present in large numbers.

After the opening prayers Rev. Fr. C. E. L. Wambeck, the Spiritual Director of the Thandavanvely Praesidium, addressed the gathering in Tamil on the significance of the occasion. Then followed a very impressive scene when the priests, nuns and the Legionaries went up to the Legion Standard and renewed their Legion promises. After the recitation of the Catena, Mgr. Jerome D'Sa, the Spiritual Director of the Curia, addressed the Legionaries in English. This was followed by the Corporate Act of Consecration.

Benediction followed and the closing prayers of the Legion were recited. The function came to a close with the gathering singing in Tamil the praises of the Legion Queen.

low up the work for the benefit of their community.

More than through any talks or theoretical discussion, the work camp proved a help to the student to discover his own world and his obligations in the Mystical Body of Christ. This was the unanimous conclusion of the leaders.

The last discussion prepared for the work in the local groups. A Camp Fire with the villagers was the joyful end of the camp at St. Anne's.

On their way home the group broke journey at Bishop's House, where they were entertained to lunch. His Lordship the Bishop of Chilaw thanked the boys and gave them his blessing.