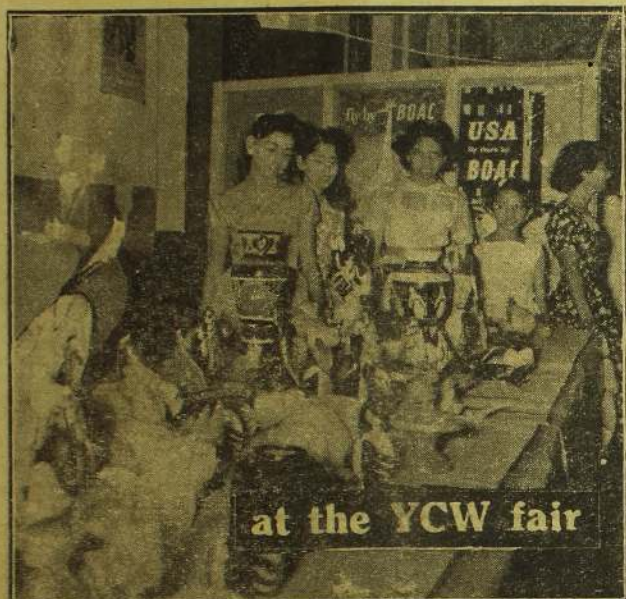


PEOPLE'S VERDICT: Democracy

Y.C.W. WOMEN'S HISTORIC MEETING



at the YCW fair

Photo by R. Wannappa

See report on page 7

(by a MESSENGER reporter)

"CONTRARY to the malicious utterances by fanatics, the Catholic Church has always worked for the betterment of the working man," declared His Lordship the Bishop of Kandy, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Leo Nanayakkara, O.S.B., speaking at the inaugural meeting of the Women's section of the Young Christian Workers held at St. Bridget's Convent, last Sunday.

Continuing, His Lordship stated that in the final analysis, a job was not to be reckoned as a solution to everything but that its attainment should only be a means to an end, that is, of attaining the salvation of one's soul.

Present at the meeting were a number of working girls. Miss Bernadette, secretary of the Women's Section, presided and Misses Pearl Oliver and Carmen addressed the rally in Sinhalese and English respectively. Holy Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Stanislaus Fernando.

SUDAN TO STAMP OUT CHRISTIANITY?

THE SUDAN'S MOSLEM-DOMINATED GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED A POLICY OF GRADUALLY ELIMINATING CHRISTIANITY IN THE COUNTRY, ACCORDING TO SUDANESE AND EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPERS.

There are about 200,000 Catholics among the Sudan's population of eleven million.

Actions taken against the Church include these:

- The government has taken over the Catholic schools of the south and, in defiance of its promise, priests are not allowed entry.
- Twenty missionaries have been expelled in the past three years.
- No expansion of Church foundations has been allowed in the past four years, and no new church or mission residence has been built in this period.
- Not one missionary—priest, brother or nun—has been allowed into the country within this period.

"Red Cardinal" hits out

CARDINAL Lercaro, Archbishop of Bologna, in Italy's "Red Belt," in his Lenten letter condemns the "couldn't-care-less" attitude of Catholics to threats to Faith and morals and the suffering of fellow-Christians.

He condemns their

- **INSENSIBILITY** "which has accompanied for years the continued martyrdom of brothers in the Faith behind the Iron Curtain."

And he attacks their

- **IRRESPONSIBILITY** which allows them to tolerate newspapers, magazines, films, practices and displays of all kinds "which make it impossible for children to preserve innocence, for responsible people to fulfil their duties of educating and for man to retain faith in some values, even human ones."

The Cardinal comments: "The sadness of life today is truly boundless."

not Tyranny

But Marxist threat remains—Right ranks must close

(BY A "MESSENGER" REPORTER)

THE first one-day general elections—and one of the most orderly the country has known—have been concluded and 151 candidates have been elected to sit in the Fourth Parliament. It has been a resounding rejection of the Left and of racial and religious chauvinism.

The leader of the party which obtained the largest number of seats, (Mr. Dudley Senanayake of the U.N.P. with 50 seats) was invited by the Governor-General to form the Government on Monday, and accepted that evening.

The new Cabinet has also been announced already.

An analysis of the results shows that it was the multiplicity of Parties and the bothersome intrusion of "Independent" candidates that contributed largely to the prevention of a clearer verdict from the country.

To a nation that had eagerly looked forward to a period of stability after three years of near chaos, the present situation in Parliament gives rise to some doubt on account of the minority government that has been formed.

ANALYSIS

The "Independents" who had 175 candidates and obtained only 7 seats are to be blamed greatly for this

situation. They polled two and a half lakhs of votes, which could have been far more usefully cast in making a clear decision in favour of one party or another.

There were also ten parties in the field with 73 candidates, but which, although they jointly polled 53,931 votes, did not win a single seat. They thus caused the nation to waste more than half a lakh of votes. These parties are (1) Sinhala Jatika Sangamaya, (2) Ceylon Independent Congress, (3) Udarata Peramuna, (4) Buddhist Republican Party, (5) Ceylon Democratic Congress, (6) Sri Lanka Dharmarajah Party, (7) Tamil speaking Front, (8) Ceylon Socialist Party, Muslim Revolutionary Party, (10) Ceylon Tamil United Front. The last three parties mentioned were "one-man-parties" in that they had only one candidate.

If these three lakhs of wasted votes had been cast for a party, there would have been a more decisive result at the elections.

Apart from this however, the voters have, by all accounts shown themselves to be highly civic-conscious. The poll this time has been the highest on record, in spite of the fact that the transportation of voters had been forbidden.

Of a total of 3,724,507 registered voters, 3,129,246 votes were cast.

A striking feature of the elections was the rejection of Marxist parties by the voters. The three Marxist parties—the Communist Party, the Lanka Sama Samaja Party and the neo-Marxist, M.E.P. led by the communal-Marxist, Mr. Philip Gunawardene—jointly put forward 243 candidates and managed to get only 23 seats. The Communist Party itself got only three seats. But together they polled nearly eight lakhs of votes (795,664) more than the Sri Lanka Freedom Party and about a lakh less than the United National Party.

TWENTY-SIX PER CENT OF THE PEOPLE STILL VOTE FOR THE MARXISTS.

Perhaps the most heartening feature of the elections was the uncertain manner in which the country rejected the rabble-rousing M.E.P. The attempts of this party to plunge the country into a blood-bath to suit the personal and political ambitions of individuals have been foiled.

Cardinal Tardini writes life of Pius XII

CARDINAL Tardini, Vatican Secretary of State, has completed a biography of Pope Pius XII, whom he served for a quarter of a century as unofficial "foreign minister."

It will be remembered that Cardinal Tardini was nominated to the Sacred College by Pius XII, but asked to be allowed to refuse the honour. The Pope reluctantly agreed.

TOMORROW

is

PRESS

SUNDAY

in

KANDY DIOCESE

Trinco's New Jesuit Superior



(from a "Messenger" correspondent)

HISTORY WAS MADE IN TRINCOMALEE ON THE 19TH OF MARCH, WHEN THE VERY REV. FR. EMMANUEL CROWTHER, S.J., WAS APPOINTED SUPERIOR REGULAR FOR THE JESUITS. HE IS THE FIRST CEYLONESE TO FILL THE OFFICE OF A MAJOR SUPERIOR IN THE JESUIT ORDER.

The new Superior Regular is a convert from Protestantism and an old Thomian. Fr. Crowther is known all over the Island as a great educator, a gentleman in the true sense of the term, a true priest of God beloved by all. He entered the Jesuit Order on the 1st of February 1918, and was ordained at Kurseong, India, on the 21st of November 1927.

As Superior Regular, he will have directly under him 36 Priests, 14 Scholastics and 6 Brothers.

Fr. Crowther replaces Fr. J. W. Lange, S.J., who has been the Superior Regular of the Trincomalee Mission since 1952.

On the same day Rev. Fr. J. V. Sommers, S.J., was appointed Rector of St. Joseph's College, Trincomalee.

Pope John goes walking in the rain...

IT was pouring with rain on the last Sunday when Pope John set out on his third Lenten visit to churches on the outskirts of the city. Last year he walked the ancient station churches. This year he decided to go to the new churches that have been built in the last few years in the more densely populated districts.

Last Sunday, he went to the church of Our Lady of Help in the Tibertino. District, a stronghold of Communism.

Cardinal-elect flies to Rome

CARDINAL-ELECT Rufino Santos, Archbishop of Manila, in the Philippines, flew last week to Rome for the consistories at which he will be elevated to the Sacred College.

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 is the 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.

- * Classically simple styling
- * Average (approx.) 36 m.p.g. (ordinary petrol)
- * Body-contoured seats for greater comfort

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



TUCKERS AUTODROME

SANCTIFY YOUR SUNDAY!

MAY I be allowed to mention a way of sanctifying the Sunday, which at the same time will keep in accord with the actual liturgical movement: the holding of the usual Rosary and Benediction (substitute for Vespers and Benediction) service on Sunday afternoon or evening instead of on Sunday morning — as is done in some places — after the Mass. This service would then again invest the purpose for which it began, namely the honouring of Jesus in the Eucharist. Thus would the Sunday begin with the greatest act of worship, Holy Mass, and end with an act of reverence to the Christ who was immolated that morning. Between these two poles, the Christian's keeping holy of the Sunday is healthily spread.

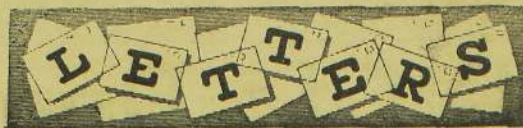
It might then also be a reminder to all, that without the Mass, there is no Tabernacle, no Monstrance, no Real Presence, no Processions of the Blessed Sacrament. Thus would the Mass be easily brought into focus in the minds of many, once the static aspect of the Eucharist (The Real Presence: Sacrament) is shown to depend on its dynamic aspect (Holy Mass: Sacrifice).

In the light of this, one would then

hardly think it proper to append a Benediction service to the Mass, however late the people might be in the morning, and however difficult it might be for them to come again in the afternoon "for another Church service."

The faithful love to sing and to reply to the priest in not-so-difficult

Couldn't one see in the 'silent' Mass and its loud-sounding, appended Benediction, a reversal of values? Should we not more vividly recall that the 'Tantum ergo Sacramentum' follows in importance the *Sacrificium* which makes it possible, and that our song and worship must first be with the Christ who immolates Himself for each and all?



Dropping the appendage of the Benediction is not enough; relegating it to the evening (where it really belongs) is still inadequate. The vacuum must be filled in by active participation in song and prayer.

Would it be too much to hope that such an arrangement would help us realise more and more that, while all other services, including Benediction, are from below, that is from human and ecclesiastical decision, the Mass and it alone is from divine and ecclesiastical command, where we meet not as a mere congregation, but as the Mystical Body of Christ: *Head and Members*, as is shown by the "Dominus Vobiscum" which means: the Lord is with you, much more than the pious optative which we are used to; and as the plural prayers so eloquently signify.

Fr. Michael Rodrigo, O.M.I.
Ampitiya.

School Buses

It is with regret that I have to bring to the notice of the public and the authorities concerned the sad state of affairs prevailing in the School Buses.

As is known, a number of special

buses called "School Buses" are being run for the convenience of school children. On the Chilaw-Negombo line, however, student-passengers don't seem to have much of a chance, due to the impossible overcrowding as a result of carrying non-students. Properly speaking, these buses should and ought to carry only school children, as it is for them that they are operated.

But what actually happens today? It is a common sight to see school girls and boys in these over-crowded buses travelling under unspeakable inconveniences. Some, even girls, are forced to keep standing on the foot-board, while others are being squeezed in somehow or other. The most ridiculous thing is that these very buses are meant to cater to the needs of the school children.

Nearly 1,000 students attend the Madampe Central College. Practically all the students attending the College from the neighbouring villages have to travel in these buses, as they are their only means of travelling. I am sorry to state that the travelling facilities they have are quite insufficient. Here I have to make reference to those rickety, old, dilapidated buses running to Chilaw via Wilattawa. They are liable to go to pieces no sooner they meet with an accident. Besides they are far too small to cope with the large number of children who have to use them. We had expected a better bus service with nationalisation, but the situation seems to have gone from bad to worse.

I trust that the Ceylon Transport Board will arrest this situation forthwith and eradicate these irregularities and malpractices.

Titus Angelo Hilton.

Fatima

HAVING read an article in the current issue of your valuable paper under the heading "Fatima Secret in May," I hope you will kindly allow me to write a few facts con-

cerning the Message of Fatima. I do so for the reason that I have made a close study of this subject from several reliable sources. Judging from all I have learnt, it is in my humble opinion that this message will be made known about the 13th of May.

It was on the 13th of May, 1917, Our Blessed Lady appeared to the three children, Lucy, Jacinta and Francisco, when these children were pasturing their sheep in the plateau of Cova da Iria in the village of Fatima. Our Blessed Lady made five subsequent visits on the 13th of each month, ending on the 13th of October by showing the great miracle of the Sun, known as the Great Solar Phenomenon, to a crowd of over 70,000 people. She also gave this final message before she left. "Ultimately my Immaculate Heart will triumph. Russia will be converted and there will be an Era of Peace to the world."

The second visit of Our Lady on the 13th of June is significant. When Lucy requested Our Lady to take her and her two cousins to Heaven, she replied: "Yes, I will soon take Jacinta and Francisco, but you must remain for some time here. Jesus wishes you to be the means of establishing in the world, the devotion to my Immaculate Heart." "Then shall I remain alone?" she inquired sorrowfully.

"No, my child, I will never abandon you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to Jesus."

The meaning of this message is that Our Blessed Lord is displeased at the state of the world; to pacify Him, Our Lady wanted the following to be done (1) To pray, particularly the Rosary, as many times as possible, (2) Penance, (3) Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, (4) Observance of the Five First Saturdays with the usual devotion attached to it.

It is now left to us to follow them. With regard to the secret itself, there is one thing which Lucy said when questioned some time back. The secret which is to be opened this year will bring woe to some, and joy to others,

Dr. James F. Peries.

Dehiwala.

BISHOP SHEEN SPEAKS

Moderation of Desires



In study: never go beyond one's depths and become conceited.
In success: humility.
In zeal: knowledge.
And in all things, moderation.

Excess impairs

Temperance is far more difficult to practise than courage or bravery because it requires far more strength of will. Outward obstacles, like an attack from a robber or a beast, are easy to overcome because the inner part of us offers no resistance and because there is nothing which opposes our desires. But the tendency to excess, whether it be in making money, or giving free rein to passions, rather impairs our freedom, flattens our false independence and makes it difficult to put a bridle on the beast that is running away with us.

But there can be temperance even as regards our emotions such as hope, joy, anger or grief. Mental temperance keeps a balance among the emotions at all times, never being unduly depressed in adversity, nor too elated in prosperity. Apathy is something quite different, and is to be likened to stony ground which is insensitive to the pleasure and pains of life. A man without a smile and without a tear, is hardly a model for humanity.

Making temptation ineffective

Dr. Johnson tells the following story about temperance: When the Roman general, sitting at supper with a plate of turnips before him, was solicited by large promises of gold to betray his trust, he asked the messengers whether he who had supped on turnips was a man likely to sell his country. To him who reduces his senses to obedience, temptation has lost its power; he is able to attend impartially to virtue, and execute her judgments without hesitation.

As the poet Milton has put it:

"If thou wilt observe
The rule of — not too much —
by temperance taught
In what thou eat'st and drink'st,
seeking from thence
Due nourishment, not gluttonous
delight,
Till many years over thy head
return;
So may'st thou live, till like
ripe fruit, thou drop
Into thy mother's lap, or be
with ease
Gathered, not harshly plucked;
in death mature."

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THE Greeks of ancient times spoke much of the virtue of temperance; our modern world rarely refers to it. Temperance is not prohibition; it does not refer necessarily to liquor, nor does it mean the destruction of affections and emotions. It is the virtue which moderates desires, such as eating, sex, and knowing, so that they do not become extreme. In the field of knowledge, there is such a virtue as *studiositas* which is a form of temperance; it means keeping a balance between knowing too little and becoming a low brow, and knowing too much or becoming a high brow. An inscription on the walls of Delphos taught this lesson: "avoid excess."

Forms of Temperance

Affections are not like poisonous plants to be eradicated, but rather as gardens to be cultivated lest they grow into weeds. Lysurgus ordered that all the vines of Sparta be uprooted to prevent anyone from becoming drunk. This was wrong, because nothing that God has made is intrinsically evil; the evil comes from the abuse of created things. Our Blessed Lord did not destroy the fiery temper of Paul. He changed it into the zeal of an Apostle. Magdalen's fires of passion were not crushed; they were transformed into a deep and beautiful spiritual love.

The forms of temperance are manifold:

At all times, self-mastery.
As regards the body, government by reason.

In relation to food, avoid becoming a "victim of circumstance."

In relation to drink, enjoyment with sobriety.

In relation to sex, continence for the unmarried, and the deepening of love among the married.

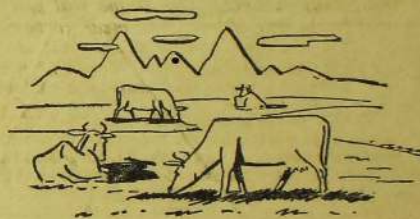
In anger: never let the sun go down on it.

In business: use superfluities to aid the poor.

PURE, SAFE
MILK FOR ALL
PURPOSES



48 CTS.
A PINT



15 PINTS FROM
EVERY 2½ LB.
TIN



NESPRAY
FULL CREAM POWDERED MILK

A NESTLE PRODUCT

If you've planned and saved well enough to give your child the benefits of a college education, you already know something about sacrifice. But it is the type of sacrifice that reflects on you *only* as a good parent. The total picture of a good person goes outside the realm of the immediate family and includes making sacrifices for people we have never met, simply because they are members of God's family.

MISSION PROPAGANDA

MAKE THIS LENT A TIME OF SACRIFICE FOR THE MISSIONS...says the National Director

My dear Friends-of-the-Missions,

It has been some time since I spoke to you last; and since then, how much has happened. And all through these months how generous all of you have been! God bless each of you who has continued to give to the missions, and to bring in new friends who have also joined this vast chorus of love for the Pope's Missions. But so much more still remains to be done! The big thing in this apostolate, as in all else, is perseverance. And therefore, I feel that this season of Lent would be most useful for everyone of us to pause awhile, reflect, take our bearings, and then go ahead with added zest and eagerness for the things of God.

It is nothing new that I wish to place before you for your reflection. Our entire work for the missions, as I've told you before, is built up on a tripod—knowledge of the missions, love of the missions, and finally, sacrifice for the missions. Let us consider each of them briefly.

- **KNOWLEDGE**—we cannot love or work for an ideal which we know nothing about; we cannot sacrifice for something which we do not know. How necessary therefore, it is for all of us to get to know about the missions of the Church—the saga of missionary effort, the new missions being opened, and the vast lands of the missions being crushed out of existence by the cruel hand of a monstrous tyranny that stalks the earth today.
- **LOVE**—but knowledge is only a stepping-stone which must lead on to love, because the true mission spirit is based on the love of God, the kind of love which made St. Paul say "the love of God drives me on." Ours, dear friends, must be a deep, profound, and personal love, which never counts the cost.
- **SACRIFICE**—Deep love should of course lead on to suffering, trial, daily sacrifice. This is the real proof of our love. It must be the type of love that made it possible for Cardinal Stritch to say when, shortly after he was appointed Pro-Prefect of Propaganda, he lost his arm: "Now I know that suffering goes with the Propagation of the Faith in non-Christian lands"; it must

be the kind of love which makes it possible for a young boy who has been bed-ridden these past 4½ years with a painful disease, to tell me whenever I meet him, that it is the love of the missions that keeps him going.

We are in Lent, dear friends—the most appropriate time for each of us to ask ourselves what we are doing about the sacrifice and the suffering that must indeed enter into our life. Soon, we will reach Good Friday—and we shall remember that the story of the Mission-Aid Societies is but the continuation in time of what happened on the first Good Friday.

The question that I am putting to you today, then, is just this:—What am I doing about the missions this Lent? What about my sacrifice and suffering for the Propagation of the Faith? What am I doing without, in order to enrich the missions both with my sacrifice and with what I can thus send in?

Dear friends, it is not yet too late. You can and, please God, you will hear the call of the missions. Don't say that it is beyond you. Far from it. Youth in particular has a terrific potential for sacrifice that has not been tapped. Nazism, Fascism and Communism have all worked on this basis. And as Bishop Sheen points out in his own inimitable way, it would almost seem as if dictators had snatched the Crucifix from our hands, torn the Christ from it, held it aloft and said to the world and to youth in particular: "Take up your cross daily and follow the dictator."

May this year's Lent, dear friends, be your resounding answer to that challenge—an answer which will put Christ back on the cross, which will make each of us kiss that figure on the crucifix, and will take us one step further, uniting ourselves with Him on the cross, through sacrifice that scars and scars the flesh... for the Pope's Missions, which are the continuation of the story what He began.

God love you all!

FR. MANIK MUTTUKUMARU,
National Director.

HOLY CHILDHOOD CORNER

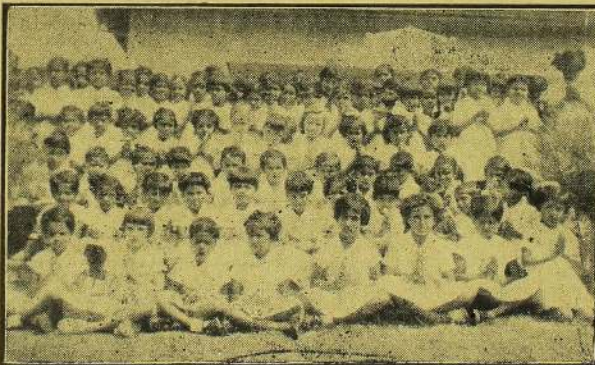
WE HAVE RECEIVED QUITE A NUMBER OF LETTERS FROM VARIOUS GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENTS TELLING US OF THE WORK THEY HAVE BEEN DOING: GOD BLESS YOU, DEAR LITTLE APOSTLES—YOU WHO MUST BE SO PLEASING TO JESUS FOR ALL YOUR GENEROSITY, YOUR PRAYERS, YOUR SACRIFICES, AND YOUR LOVE: KEEP IT ALL UP—KEEP LOVING, PRAYING AND SACRIFICING, AND GROW UP TO BE REAL APOSTLES OF THE POPE'S MISSIONS:!

- The Juniors of Good Shepherd Convent, Panadura inform us that 44 of them were enrolled as members on Holy Childhood Day.

"We are doing our little bit for the Missions in the way of prayer and sacrifice so that we may make up to Jesus for all that the enemies of the Church are doing."

- The Juniors of St. Anthony's Convent, Kandy inform us that "they had lots of new members this year," and in a subsequent letter say:

"We are glad to tell you Father that we had our monthly meeting on the 25th of February, at which we welcomed our new Parish Priest. This year we have collected a lot of sacrifices."



• Members of the Holy Childhood, St. Anthony's Convent, Kandy

Dear children, God bless all of you, your promoters, and your good nuns who teach you to be what you are. Be little apostles of the Missions always.

Your "Love-gifts" have been pouring in...

YES, IT HAS BEEN A SHOWER THESE PAST WEEKS. MAY YOUR GENEROSITY CONTINUE INCREASING—PARTICULARLY AS WE ARE IN LENT, AND BIGGER AND BETTER SACRIFICES CAN AND SHOULD BE MADE. IT WAS THE CROSS THAT REDEEMED THE WORLD; IT IS OUR UNION WITH THE CROSS THAT WILL HELP TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF REDEMPTION.

God bless all of you—and a big "thank you" to the anonymous donors whom we have no way of thanking individually.

Here are a few extracts from the many letters received.

• A Seamstress' offering

"I am one of a large family, and always longed to send something for the missions. At last, by sewing a few clothes, I managed to collect a small amount."

(God love you, dear friend! You are the type the missions need!).

• From a "lapsed contributor"

"Somehow or other, I have

been putting this off, sometimes due to difficulties, often due to sheer procrastination. Now at long last I have made a start and will be a regular contributor."

(For your own sake and for that of the missions, you must henceforth be a generous giver—and no longer a lapsed one, dear friend!).

• Pocket money for God

"This has been a saving from one day's pocket money, and

therefore both of us hope that it will be of use for the Pope's Missions."

(Ah yes, dear friends, your sacrifice is most useful indeed! Lent will bring many more, we feel sure, from you).

• A "Priest-son" for me!

"Having read the Messenger, I thought I must send you something towards the education of a priest-son. I shall keep it up, Father, as often as I can."

(Excellent, dear friend—read what we have to say about those who do this wonderful thing of helping a poor boy to be a priest!).

• A "Servant" for the missions

"We have no servant at home now, and I am doing all the cooking and all the other house-work. So mummy promised me Rs. 15. per month, but I asked only for Rs. 10—of which I am sending you Rs. 5 for a start. I hope to keep sending you more. Father, pray for me to be good."

(Of course, I will, dear friend, God love you for what you are doing! Keep it up, for it is such sacrifice that keeps the missions going).

• Clerks and the missions

"Herewith a combined offering from two clerks working in an

OPUS SANCTI PETRI

Know what that means?

It is the Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle for Indigenous Clergy.

- It was instituted 71 years ago in 1889 with the express intention of fulfilling the great need for indigenous priests in mission lands.
- It is strictly an organization to collect funds for the Holy Father who disposes of them to the various countries according to their needs.
- The National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith is in charge of this as well.

Why not your own Priest?

There is hardly any Catholic father or mother in Ceylon who would not yearn to have a son as a priest.

Perhaps we cannot be priests ourselves; perhaps we have no sons who could be priests or who are called to the priesthood; or perhaps we do not have the means to see to the training of a priest. But God has made it possible for us to share in the priesthood of another—for, we can give our little to help in the education of a priest; we can give our "blood-money" to join with the sacrifices of others, to help in educating a priest. And so, somewhere, some time, we too will have a pair of consecrated hands, lifted up in benediction, offering the Divine Sacrifice, bringing the life of grace and God's love to so many.

THIS IS WHAT THE SOCIETY OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE SETS OUT TO DO. WON'T YOU HELP? WOULD YOU NOT LIKE TO HAVE A "PRIEST-SON"?

Here are your Diocesan Directors

Colombo Archdiocese: Fr. Ignatius Gamlath, Catholic Press, Colombo 8.

Chilaw Diocese: Fr. W. Don Julian, St. Sebastian's College, Madampe.

Galle Diocese: Fr. Terence de Silva, St. Mary's Church, Elpitiya.

Jaffna Diocese: Fr. J. M. Couchouron, O.M.I., St. Patrick's College, Jaffna.

Kandy Diocese: Fr. D. O. Filipponi, O.S.B., St. Therese's Church, Peradeniya.

Trincomalee Diocese: Fr. A. Sellar, St. Sebastian's Church, Batticaloa.

National Director

Fr. Manik Muttukumaru, Archbishop's House, Colombo 8.

FOR ANY INFORMATION, GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OR CONTACT THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR.

Urban Council. God bless you and your work, Father—and may He help us through you."

(What a beautiful wish, and how happily worded indeed! God love you, dear friends—the two of you who have been so regular and so faithful!).

Strands of the Story 233

MIRACLES IN OUR DAY

NO matter the context, the grounds of his conviction or the interests it was meant to serve, our Secretariate can only welcome a certain politician's assurance that the "age of miracles is not past."

More than anyone else we workers for the Cause of a Beatification need that conviction and it can be

ours as long as we keep a firm belief that, not only is God in heaven, but with His Church on earth — most of all when all seems "wrong with the world."

Directly to our point, we may have remarked with some surprise that

be about presenting the records to Holy Church.

Fortunately however for our frailty, God never gives us just how much we deserve or need; His Bounty is always above strict measure and ahead of time.

The signs are that even now (with our devotion below par and Procedure so far from the stage when miracles are absolutely necessary) Our Lord, touched no doubt by the Faith of a few and even more by the weakness of us all, is letting the rumblings from beyond the grave reach us once again. There are favours received once again. If we are appreciative; if we do what we should to gather them up for the Cause; more and even more striking ones will follow until we have the miracles "in black and white" that no man can contest.

Some favours received: To come to facts, here is an extract from a letter from Mr. J. H. Alvares of the Bombay Secretariate: "Just now I have news of two cures, one of lock-jaw, the other of leucoderma" (Bombay, 8-3-60).

In Ceylon itself, the case is even stronger. On 9th February our Secretariate was put in possession of the following statement received by the Chancellor of the Archdiocese, signed and with due indications of place and date:

"I was at the point of death having a liver abscess. An operation was fixed for 7 p.m. on Saturday, 28 November 1959. Between 4-30 a.m. and 5-45 a.m. that day I was cured by praying to Fr. Joseph Vaz and placing a cutting from his cassock over the place to be operated. The operation was not performed and I was cured."

In the hope that this case would be supported by sufficient evidence to deserve full-dress canonical investigation by His Grace the Archbishop for report to Rome, our Secretariate requested the Parish priest (Chaplain of the Nursing Home concerned) to favour us with a summary statement.

The following reply (10-3-60) has been received:

"Mr. X. X. was very seriously ill in hospital and his life was in danger for many days. His liver had been affected and, if I am not mistaken, it was aspirated twice and, as this proved ineffective and they had felt a lump, the surgeon had decided to operate on him immediately, as that lump was causing serious trouble. The operation had to be postponed for want of blood for transfusion."

"The next morning the patient felt he was cured because he had prayed to Fr. Joseph Vaz; and told the doctor he did not want to stand the operation, as he was cured."

"The doctor examined him, found the lump reduced and reluctantly gave him a postponement of 48 hours."

"The patient however was cured and the operation was not done."

"This fact I was witness to."

Note: the full names of the persons referred to are on file with our Secretariate, besides being known to the Chancellor of the Archdiocese. If we have refrained from mentioning them, it is only because we would like to reserve this to the Canonical Inquiry we are looking forward to from His Grace the Archbishop.

SECRETARIATE WORK

Acknowledged with thanks and filed for action:

(i) Letter from Fr. Tambimuttu, New York (4 March): Weston Observatory holding the line.

(ii) V. M. A. (Kandy, 9-3-60) contacting Prof. Kularatnam for geological report required by Weston Observatory.

(iii) Thos. Statue (10-3-60) rectifying Press, U not V in his name.

(iv) Mr. S. Thommanupillai (4-3-60) suggests reference to National Museum Library (per Mr. Fernando) for geological particulars of sites.

FATHER VAZ FEATURE

whereas Fr. Joseph Vaz's life was "illustrated" with many striking signs of heavenly power, his death has been followed by a silence that gives rise to an easy and early objection: "What miracles have you to carry the Cause through?" To clarify the situation, we must first remember that, though miracles are required to support it, a Decree of Beatification (or Canonisation) directly concerns the holiness of the person's life. The first and essential thing, then, in a Cause is to have on record those facts that establish the person's holiness of life. (For Fr. Vaz's Cause, this is what the Postulator in Rome is still busy about, gathering in the documents in due form).

Miracles come in as evidence that God Himself bears before the Church to the person's holiness. Now, to serve the purpose, even God's evidence must be properly recorded and presented in due form. We can render the miracles ineffective if we fail to record them "canonically" — in the due form required by Holy Church for the purposes of Beatification.

Now, this must certainly be one of the reasons for the "silence" that has settled on the tomb of Fr. Vaz and some other prodigy-working Servants of God (including Fr. Albini of the Oblates). Since miracles accorded at an early stage have been "thrown away" (made to lose their juridical value by not being investigated canonically), Our Lord now "waits to be prayed" — to be prayed with a fervour, insistence and perseverance that will in some measure repair the past.

From a slightly different angle we may state the position thus: Where a person's life bears such evident signs of holiness, God delays His miracles until men have done all they have to do to place the facts of this life before Holy Church. On the other hand, when (as in the case of Little St. Therese) the person's life seems too plain and ordinary to be noticed, God goes ahead with miracles (a shower and a hurricane of them) forcing a full-dress investigation of the facts of that life.

With our Apostle, Fr. Vaz, it is the first case: his life is so glaringly heroic that we should be prepared to wait for miracles until everything has been done that had to

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 MARCH

GENERAL: That the work of preparing for the Ecumenical Council may be fully successful.

MISSIONARY: That family life in Africa may be based on Christian principles.

RADIO LOG

MAR. 26 and 27: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. **THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY** (Sinhalese).

MAR. 27: 9-00 to 9-30 a.m. **CATHOLIC HALF HOUR** (Sinhalese). 9-30 to 10-00 a.m. **CATHOLIC HALF HOUR** (Tamil). 7-00 to 7-30 p.m. **CATHOLIC HOUR PROGRAMME** (English).

APR. 2 to 4: 6-25 to 6-30 a.m. **THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY** (Tamil) — Rev. Fr. D. B. Deva-rajab.

APR. 3: 10-00 to 10-05 a.m. **TALK** (English) — Rev. Fr. Claude Lawrence, O.M.I.

APR. 4 to 10: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. **THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY** (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. Bede Fernando.

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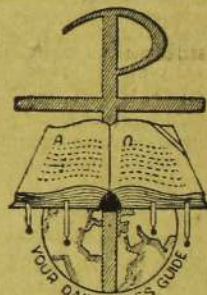
LAETARE SUNDAY

TOMORROW we have that strange anomaly in the Church's liturgy of Laetare Sunday. Right in the middle of the holy season of Lent, the official period of mourning, the Church exhorts us to rejoice! This only shows how solicitous a mother the Church is. It is not that she has forgotten the importance of penance and mortification, for it is she who has imposed them on us. She has told us to remove the flowers from our altars, to reduce the playing of the organ to a bare minimum and to refrain from all external solemnities. But, like any good mother, she is happiest when she sees her children joyful and gay, decked out in their Sunday best, enjoying that prerogative of children of availing themselves, with blissful innocence, of the good things of this world — completely oblivious of the cares and troubles that surround them. So, on this day, the Church gives us a little glimpse once more of the full beauty of the liturgy and seems to say to us, "Carry on now with courage in your practice of penance and mortification. These are the very things that will bring you close to Our Lord." She reminds us that we have true joy and contentment only in proportion to how closely we are united to Our Blessed Saviour.

How much wisdom there is in the saying of the Imitation, "The cross is always ready and everywhere awaits you. You cannot escape it. If you cast off one cross, without doubt you will find another, and perhaps a heavier one." No man is without suffering. It is part of the heritage left to us by our first parents. And yet how differently people accept this common lot of man. Some are crushed and embittered by it. To them the world becomes a wicked place filled with unsympathetic millions all somehow conspiring to intensify their sufferings. In extreme cases, even God is numbered among those who have abandoned them.

Fortunately there are many others who realize that every trial they receive has passed the scrutiny of an ever loving and providential Father. They know that the true value of suffering lies in the effects it has on the soul and the acts of which it is the occasion. With St. Paul they "rejoice in their sufferings... and fill up those things that are wanting of the sufferings of Christ, in my flesh, for His body, which is the Church." Our suffering, accepted in the right spirit, satisfies for our own personal sins and is somehow associated with those of Our Blessed Lord in His redemptive work of expiation and satisfaction. Besides, like gold in a fiery crucible, our souls are purified of any number of false standards of success and happiness. Suffering deepens and strengthens our personalities and gives us a profound insight and a power of sympathy for our neighbour that can be acquired in no other way. How many people are transformed in a crisis of suffering and begin a life of new fervour and new hope! It brings out all that is good in us and raises us to a new height of dignity, of magnanimity, of serenity, of noble moral perfection. In a peculiar way it leads to great happiness and peace. We are and can be truly happy only when our lives are fully in accord with God's detailed plan for us. Since suffering is an integral part of that plan, we can have peace only when we have learned to accept it in the proper spirit. This is the lesson that Our Holy Mother the Church wishes to teach us today when she invites us to rejoice.

John J. Heaney, S.J.



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Sunday, 27 March: **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT.** Violet. Omit prayer prescribed.

Monday, 28 March: Feria. Violet. 2nd prayer of St. Joan.

Tuesday, 29 March: Feria. Violet.

Wednesday, 30 March: Feria. Violet.

Thursday, 31 March: Feria. Violet.

Friday, 1 April: Feria. Violet. (or Mass of First Friday).

Saturday, 2 April: St. Francis. White. 2nd prayer of feria. Or Mass of the feria.

Sunday, 3 April: **PASSION SUNDAY.** Violet. Omit prayer prescribed. Creed. Preface of the Cross.

(Unless otherwise stated, the prayer prescribed is always said, and the Preface is that of Lent.)

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MESSENGER JOURNALISM AWARDS

SECTION 2 POETRY

Metamorphosis

AND the Lord
said unto Man —
"Take ye and eat
for this is my Body:
Take ye and drink
For this is my Blood:"
Man looked up gloatingly
and held His precious Being
in his filthy hands:
He crucified Him.
and
dragged His bloody form
in the mire:
The flock dispersed . . .

In blind agony
they sought a worldly solace.
They marched the streets
with banner unfurled —
They held in their grimy hands
a hammer and sickle,
and sowed the seeds
of hatred:

The seeds grew up abundantly,
entwined about their rugged bod-
ies;
The grips tightened:
They were choked —

With tear-stained eye
they looked up
towards a greying firmament
and saw —
the lacerated form
of Christ,
bleeding profusely:
The blood dripped on their
blistered, manacled hands —
they bowed their heads
in repentance:

In the gathering dusk
they saw the Beacon of Truth
casting its iridescence
on their sinful state:
and now
they retrace their steps,
towards the flock —
beaten, tired and repentant . . .

Maurice Perera.

● We present today a selection from entries received for the feature article, poetry and short story sections respectively, of the Messenger Journalism Awards.

GO TO JOSEPH

JOSEPH is a beautiful name. So is Josephine. The name of St. Joseph is borne by more people, churches, schools and other public institutions than that of any other saint except perhaps Mary. Still, St. Joseph remains one of our forgotten saints.

It is quite like St. Joseph that he should be forgotten. In life he was the humblest of the humble, a poor carpenter in an obscure village; even in Heaven, he seems to relish remaining unknown, never doing anything spectacular, rarely drawing crowds. He permits artists and sculptors to depict him as a much older man than he really was when God chose him to be the husband of Mary. It would appear that he deliberately keeps himself out of the limelight.

Forgotten though he is, St. Joseph never forgets. He has the reputation of never having left a prayer unanswered. If we therefore only pause during this month of March dedicated to him and think, we will realize what an excellent idea it is to remember St. Joseph oftener than we do.

After Our Blessed Mother, St. Joseph has the largest share in the distribution of the favours of Heaven. This is as it should be, for, when God looked for the perfect man on earth to be the husband of the Mother of God, His choice fell on this unknown carpenter. The event is beautifully described by Jacques-Benigne Bossuet. "The time came when God sought a man after His own heart to whose hands He could entrust the thing most dear to Him: the person of His only-begotten Son, the integrity of the Holy Mother, the salvation of the human race, His most sacred purpose, the treasure of heaven and earth. He passed over Jerusalem and the other famous cities, but stopped at Nazareth; and there, in that obscure township, He again chose an unknown man, a poor artisan, Joseph, for an office which the highest angels would feel honoured to undertake."

Again, after Mary, it was St. Joseph who played the most important part in our Redemption. It was he who received into his arms the new-

born Redeemer, watched over His Infancy, toiled with his own hand for His subsistence. We can visualize him fashioning with expert skill wooden toys for the Infant Jesus telling him stories, feeding Him with his own hands, tucking Him into bed and tip-toeing out so as not to disturb His sleep. We can also imagine little Jesus putting His chubby hands round the neck of this simple rugged carpenter. He loved so much and hugging and embracing him with glee and warmth. What a delight Jesus must have taken in helping His foster-father and in complying with his slightest wish! Is Jesus different now from His Nazareth days, and is

By
S. M. J. LOUIS

His love for St. Joseph any the less? Why do we forget St. Joseph in our needs when we have in him such a loving and powerful mediator with God?

... a shining character

St. Joseph can be all things to all men as anyone with an acquaintance with the Litany will know. The shining characteristics of his life were humility, obedience, chastity, justice, patience, prudence and courage. These are the very virtues which have become almost extinct today. In these days of pride, disobedience, impurity, injustice, family dissensions, labour unrest, religious intolerance and hundreds of other spiritual and temporal afflictions, we should fly to St. Joseph, the pattern of all virtues, the ornament of domestic life, consolation of the afflicted and protector of the Holy Church. We should

remember in particular that he is also the patron of a happy death; he died in the arms of Jesus and Mary.

When there was a dreadful famine in Egypt of old, the sovereign of that country referred all his subjects who came to him for relief to Joseph whom he had made governor over all his possessions. Go to Joseph should be our motto too, especially in these difficult times. Every one of us is in need of relief in some form or the other. Tens of thousands of us are haunted by the nightmare of unemployment and poverty. With the spiralling costs of living, almost all of us are faced with the problem of making ends meet. What could be more natural or appropriate than for us to go to St. Joseph, the model of all bread-winners, who in life experienced the chilling effects of poverty and now holds the keys of the granary of Divine Providence? Then, there are so many of us without a roof of our own over our heads, driven from pillar to post by the impossible demands of rapacious landlords. The man for us is Joseph who, when chased out of the inns found a cave for Mary and the Saviour to be born. Another spectre hovering over many homes is insobriety. More people than we think are today in the grip of the demon of drink. Many a father, brother or son is turning out to be the calamity and scandal of his household. St. Joseph, the pattern of sobriety, can obtain the grace to penetrate obdurate hearts and restore peace and security in families if we only go to him for aid and succour. These are also days of juvenile delinquency and defiance of parental authority. Children are being lured away in increasing numbers from the path of virtue and holiness, and in many a home they have become the thorns and not the roses of family life. All of us who are so afflicted should go to St. Joseph, the perfect father of the Perfect Son.

Justice for our land

Is the position any better outside the family unit, in the wider circle of society? Alas, it is very much worse. Justice is meted out only in

our courts of law. Everywhere else it seems to be sacrificed at the altar of power, bluff or expediency. These are times when the undeserving shout the loudest and carry everything away; when the poor are made poorer and the rich become richer by the adoption of nefarious ways and means that cry to high heaven for vengeance; when those who can, feather their own nests and laugh at those who do not help themselves while the going is good; when it is a distinct handicap to allow oneself to

SECTION 1 FEATURE ARTICLE

be guided by one's conscience and remain virtuous and incorruptible. The situation calls for the intervention and intercession of St. Joseph, the most just man that ever lived. Let us call on him in our daily prayers to bring back to this land of ours justice that is so dear to his paternal and loving heart.

Let us also not forget to pray to St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, to show the light to those misguided persons who vilify the Catholic Church, attribute to it all the ills of the land and promote enmity among the various religions. Like his Divine Son, he understands that they know not what they do; and, as the mirror of patience, he will obtain for us the grace and strength necessary to exercise restraint when provoked.

Yes, let us go to St. Joseph in all our trials, difficulties and afflictions. He who loved Jesus with an inconceivable tenderness has the same love for us who are the brethren of Christ. He is a loving father to us all, as well as to Jesus, and he is waiting for us with outstretched arms at all times. If we only go to him, we shall soon experience the effects of his compassion, fatherly love and immense power with his Divine Son. He is the saint of the present. Go to Joseph.

sorrows away. Finally he raised his head and told her about the sinful life he led far from everything good and noble. He had left this virtuous wife to live among sinful women. But nowhere did he find peace.

"Go to a priest and make a good confession and tonight receive the Prince of Peace," she told him.

He was the first to enter the ward next morning, carrying an outside bouquet of red roses. Through the flowers she beheld his face. It was not necessary to ask him. His face was aglow with the joy of a prodigal who had returned to his father's house.

At two o'clock the nurse on her rounds found Marion with a heavenly smile on her face.

Death like an overflowing stream had swept her away.

MARION'S TASK WAS OVER. SHE WAS IN PARADISE.

THE HOLOCAUST

IT WAS WEDNESDAY. MARION KNELT AT THE FEET OF OUR LADY, IN EARNEST PRAYER.

Outside, nature was awaking from a peaceful slumber, birds were singing merrily, sweet scented flowers were lifting their heads to the warmth of the rising sun. What a contrast to Marion's feelings. For her everything was dead.

"I shall never come back" were her husband's last words as he walked out of the house and out of her life in search of a more exciting life. What had she done to deserve this? Was she not a virtuous woman leading a deeply religious life? Then why this, misery, this disgrace? It was like a bolt from the blue. When she had got over the shock and gathered her wits, she knelt at the feet of her Enthroned King: "How inscrutable are Thy ways O Lord! Thy will be done."

She was a true Christian wife. To her the immortal soul of her husband was more precious than all the transient goods of this earth. She was determined to save his soul from the snares of the enemy.

"Eternal Father I offer thee myself in union with thy suffering Son.

SECTION 4 SHORT STORY

Accept me as a holocaust, save my husband's soul." She had prayed thus for eight long months. The news she received of her husband's life only turned the dagger that had already pierced her heart. But still she prayed with an unflinching, unwavering faith. "Dearest Mother, refuge of sinners, pray for him."

She felt a piercing pain in her chest.

But what was this in comparison to the many shafts aimed at the Divine Heart.

Two months later she was admitted to hospital. The holocaust was accepted. Marion was a cancer patient.

How lovingly she embraced her cross. She had laid down her mortal life to save her husband's immortal soul. "Mother of Sorrows accept my suffering and offer it to Thy Divine Son." Certainly she was heroic, yet her heroism was not that of a simple sort, it was made of sterner stuff. Those around her never knew the suffering she underwent. She was always gentle and kind to all around her. Patients found in her

By
HILDA PERERA

a source of consolation. The staff had every reason to respect her.

Christmas was fast approaching. The world was once again agog with excitement in preparation for the greatest event of the year. Marion too was preparing for the happy event. Not for her the fashions and follies of this world. She felt this was going to be a special Christmas, and so she prayed more fervently.

It was Christmas Eve. The ward was crowded with visitors. Marion closed her eyes. In a few hours more the Christian world would commemorate the birth of the Redeemer. "Oh Lord let not Thy birth be in vain, bring him safely back into the fold."



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SATURDAY, 26th MARCH, 1960

Ceylon's New Prime Minister

THE people have given their verdict — it has been a resounding rejection of extremism in every form (racial, communal and religious), and an equally explicit turning away from every hue of Marxist totalitarianism. The rabble-rousers and the trouble-makers have had their day; the nation has now expressed quite clearly that they are sick of them. The crusaders of hatred and dissension, the men who went about the land raving and ranting, the men who fumed and threatened, have all had their day; the nation has shown in very clear and distinct terms that they are tired and disgusted of them. And so, a long pre-electoral time has ended, with Ceylon's voters taking the correct turn of the road — to democracy and freedom.

It is true that between the democratic parties, there is no clear-cut supremacy, and that neither the U.N.P. nor the S.L.F.P. has an over-all majority, and that, therefore, we are still some distance from the stability which is the crying need of today. But in spite of it all, we feel sure that the entire nation heaved a huge sigh of relief when all the uncertainty ended with the news that Mr. Dudley Senanayake had consented to form the government. But the period of waiting is obviously not over — for the new Prime Minister has still to ensure himself of the first requisite of good government, viz., stability. Here then is a grave obligation not so much on the U.N.P. — for they have declared in no unmistakable terms their solid unity behind their leader — but on the smaller democratic parties. Will they place the country before themselves? Will they think of pulling the country out of the mess that four years' bungling has landed us into? Will smaller Parties, while conscious of their own mission, place the interests of the country first and foremost, and extend their co-operation to the formation of a stable government? In a word, will our new Parliamentarians, even at the cost of some sacrifice, see the desperate plight of the country and learn to think primarily as CEYLONSE?

We need not stress it again, as it has already been said so many times before: the primary need today is for a leader of integrity, with love of country and zeal for the cause, as well as for a government that is stable, united, strong and courageous. Unless the country is given these two — effective leadership and stable government — Ceylon will continue deteriorating towards national ruin, as she has been doing in the past years.

This is why we salute Mr. Dudley Senanayake as he assumes the office of Prime Minister — the doughty son of a patriotic father, from whom the country expects the leadership which it sorely needs. Even during the years of his self-imposed exile from politics, people looked to him as a man of principles; and when he decided to return to the political arena at a time of travail for the country, it was obvious that he did so in the spirit of a mission. Our wish for him is that this spirit will continue to animate him in all that he does; that this respect and regard for him as the symbol of integrity, will continue to be fulfilled as he assumes the reins of office in these difficult times, and under these difficult circumstances.

Already in his first message, soon after his appointment as Prime Minister, Mr. Senanayake struck the correct note when he spoke of the necessity of overcoming the problems confronting him "without sacrificing principle for expediency." This is just what we had expected from a man of his calibre; thank God, he has not belied our hopes. It was again in keeping with his gentlemanly qualities, that one of the first things he did was to hand out a very gracious and much-deserved tribute to the previous Prime Minister, Mr. Dahanayake. It was a bouquet to which every impartial person in Ceylon will gladly contribute — for, contrary to all the prophets of doom, Mr. Dahanayake took his unfortunate defeat like a man of character, accepted the will of the people, and bowed out of the scene; contrary too, to what the prophets expected, Mr. Dahanayake gave the country what he had all along promised: the quietest and cleanest elections in Ceylon's history. The third commendable feature of Mr. Senanayake's appeal is his call to sink all pre-election differences and conflicts, and to work towards the reunification of the nation.

It is good to hear such words again; it does good to every citizen of Lanka to hear such language once more. For the bitter fact must be faced — that re-unification is the greatest need of the hour, for, without that, no progress, no economic stability, no development can go ahead. We have all to learn to think and act primarily as CEYLONSE — and not as members of any single racial group. And unless we are able to do that, and unless we Catholics in particular are able to make this effective contribution to the country in this her hour of need, we may sacrifice and lose "the fruits of freedom."

As Ceylon enters upon a new era — one in which there are immense difficulties, not the least, that of ensuring a stable governmental majority — we lift up our heads to the man who has come forward to lead the nation. We trusted him before; and he proved equal to that trust. The nation trusts him again — but this time when the country is sick and broken and impoverished. We feel confident that if his own Party backs him unitedly, if the country as a whole learns to think in terms of national progress, and if he obtains a stable majority, then he may still be able to reunify the nation as the "Old Man" had done, and thus, to use his own words, "to give this country the peace and stability needed to produce the fruits of freedom."

CURRENT COMMENT

by the Editor

★ The Lesson of the Polls ★ Mr. Dahanayake ★ Political Jingoism rejected ★ R.S.S. & Family Planning

WILL the country get the strong, stable government that it needs so desperately? This is the question on everyone's lips — and everyone keeps hoping and praying for the best. For, the one major fact that has emerged from last Saturday's elections is that although the country voted heavily for democracy, and gave a resounding defeat to the kind of political jingoism that is rearing its ugly head in Ceylon politics, still, the victory has been marred by the uncertainty of the future. Every lover of Ceylon will, doubtless, wish Mr. Dudley Senanayake success in the task that he has undertaken so courageously, despite the serious difficulties confronting him.

Events this week have been tumbling over each other with such frequency that it becomes very difficult for any commentator to do his work. And yet, looking back, one fact remains clear — the political maturity of the Ceylon voter. The orderliness of the elections, the conduct of the voters, the heavy poll (despite fears that the poll would be affected by the limited transport), and the manner in which the voters refused to be beguiled by all the fire and fury of men who pandered to the lowest instincts — these have already drawn encomiums from the world's press.

Barely a few weeks ago, people expressed their fear for the future of democracy in Ceylon which, they felt, was not yet ripe for it. But last Saturday, has shown an entirely different picture.

Perhaps another aspect of the elections is the complete eclipse of that individual called the "Independent candidate" who often drifts with every wind, and seesaws with every whim. This, together with the fact that many of the mushroom parties (there were 23 parties contesting the last elections) were almost totally wiped out, are heartening signs for the future. For if the Party system of government is to work, then public opinion must crystallise round major parties and policies, and not be diverted into a hundred personal and individual channels.

Mr. Dahanayake

THERE is hardly a person whom we have met, whatever might be his walk of life or political hue, who does not feel a genuine sense of regret at the defeat of the last Prime Minister, Mr. Dahanayake, in Galle. It is easy for people to revile; but it may not be so easy to see the good in others. And now, in his hour of defeat, we wish to salute Mr. Dahanayake who, whatever may have been his shortcomings, has made a very definite contribution to the country.

In the past weeks, people spoke much about his blunders; it may be good to think of his achievements as well. One thing is certain — that during his term of office as Prime Minister he fulfilled the two promises which he made to the nation: he gave us the peace and quiet which we sorely needed, and he gave us the quietest, fairest, and most orderly elections the country has ever had. His critics and his enemies both prophesied that he would give us neither; facts have amply disproved those prophecies.

In his election manifesto, he was courageous and spoke out clearly and uncompromisingly on issues which politicians usually prefer to forget. But even more than all these, the nation saw the mettle of the man in his eve-of-election message which stood out in strident contrast with that of certain other political leaders (one of them was

still reeking with threats to his "enemies!"), and in the manner in which he took his defeat.

"Let the best side win," Mr. Dahanayake said before the elections; and when the defeat came, he took it like a sportsman, retired without further ado (contrary to the prophets of gloom), and appealed for co-operation for his successor. It is not surprising then, that Mr. Dudley Senanayake the new Prime Minister, paid him a gracious tribute on "the sportsmanlike and patriotic manner in which he accepted his defeat."

We feel confident that we express the mind of many, his friends and foes alike, in wishing Mr. Dahanayake well. The legislature will certainly be the poorer for losing his colourful personality.

Political Jingoism rejected

THERE can be no surer sign that good sense has prevailed than the rout of Mr. Philip Gunawardene's Party. For weeks, he and his ally haunted the country, proclaiming that victory was in their grasp; that the next government would be theirs; and that immediately that was achieved, all their enemies would be in Welikade jail. The country has given them a ringing answer — only 10 out of their 89 candidates have been returned, and 39 have lost their deposits!

It is a good thing that the racial and religious cries have been relegated to the place where they belong, and that the crusaders of this hot gospel of hate have been given the answer they so richly deserved. It only shows that the average Ceylonese is not the person who would easily be inflamed.

But together with the M.E.P. and their bag of communal and religious tricks, others too have been put out of the scene. The C.P. which made such desperate efforts at Left unity, and at trailing behind the M.E.P., have secured only 3 seats out of 53 candidates, and 33 lost their deposit! All these are clear indications that the country has not forgotten the lesson of Tibet for all the sweet protestations of the Communist Party big-wigs, and that the average voter realises the incompatibility between Communism and any form of religion.

Political jingoism has lost; extremism of every form has been defeated. One can only keep hoping that these victories for the country will be not be frittered away as the months go by.

Ceylon Ambassador & Family Planning

MR. R. S. S. Gunewardene, Ceylon's Ambassador to the United States, is reported to have sent a message to a recent conference on birth control held there.

If we are to form an impression from reports appearing in our national papers, one is left uncertain as to what it is that he is actually pressing for.

Here he is addressing a message to a conference on birth control, and he says that with Ceylon's increasing population, birth control had become "a problem of compelling importance." But having said that much, he proceeds to make some very cogent observations, some of which we feel urged to reproduce here:

"With more employment opportunities provided, more purposeful action directed towards the encouragement of intellectual, recreational and athletic pursuits, in my view great impact can be made on the population problem."

All this has kept us wondering. On the one hand, we read of Lady Rama Rau, President of India's Family Planning Association, addressing the same conference, and talking of "India's strong feeling of reverence for the family" (strange words to come from one who spearheads a campaign, the logical consequence of which would be to destroy the sacredness and the reverence for the family!); and on the other, we see Mr. R. S. S. Gunawardene striking the right note, speaking of economic and other forms of development, rather than of hasty, ill-conceived and suicidal measures of birth control. We would hate to think that there is anything more in the Ceylon Ambassador's statement than what meets the eye, for the very simple reason that the Ceylon Government has not yet adopted birth control (euphemistically called "family planning") as official policy.

We could not be in greater agreement with Ceylon's Ambassador on some of his remarks — for it has been our constant view which we have emphasised on every available occasion that birth control is the way of the coward and the short-sighted; it is the path of those who seek easy solutions and short cuts.

For, it is not the earth's resources that are lacking — and of this, we have offered abundant proof in the past. What is really lacking is their proper distribution, and this is due to man's perversity.

It is time we faced a problem — not ran away from it, offering easy solutions which are no solutions at all.

Food for thought

"OUR Government does not think that God is necessary for government. I believe this country will never prosper if God is given up. I believe, and I am certain, that this country will become prosperous, only when the people become honest, and if only we believe in God." — C. Rajagopalachari, leader of India's Swatantra Party addressing a public meeting at Patna on 21-3-60.

Batticaloa Celebrates 300th Novena

(from our correspondent)

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Archdiocese

Oratio Imperata

UNTIL further notice, the oratio imperata continues to be from the Mass of St. Joseph (March 19th) *tamquam pro re gravi simpliciter*.

Vicar-General.

Diocese of Galle

THE following appointments have been made:

Rev. Fr. Joseph Rajapakse, Parish Priest, Matara.

Rev. Fr. R. Leverage, Assistant Parish Priest, Matara.

Vicar-General.

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes at Polgahawela

(from our correspondent)

POLGAHAWELA went gay on Saturday and Sunday when the Catholics celebrated the annual feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Elaborate arrangements had been made by the Catholic Association. A massive pandal was erected at the entrance to the church. Thanks to the untiring efforts of the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Fernando, the Grotto was

given a new look.

Rev. Fr. Don Vincent, assisted by four other fathers, officiated at the Vespers on Saturday night. An inspiring Sermon was preached by the Rev. Fr. Francis Fernando of Rambukkana. After the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, hundreds of devotees from all parts of the district participated in the candle light procession.

On Sunday, the Festive High Mass was sung by Fr. Marcelline Fernando. After Mass and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, there was the customary Almsgiving by the Staff of Udupola Group.

Ceylon's YCW at Malaya

(by a Messenger reporter)

DELEGATES from Ceylon are expected to be present at the first conference of the Young Christian Workers' Movement to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaya.

A campaign to collect funds for the delegates, in the shape of a Fancy Fair, was successfully launched by the Y.C.W. Headquarters. Many branches of the Y.C.W. throughout the island took part in this fair. Puttalam contributed vegetables whilst Nayakakanda and Moratuwa contributed short-eats and woodcrafts respectively.

The pottery and other handicrafts displayed (see picture on page 1) are the joint efforts of the Y.C.W. Women's Section.

Thandavanvely Observes Day of Prayer

(from a "Messenger" correspondent)

THE Parish of Our Lady of Sorrows, Thandavanvely, Batticaloa, observed a day of prayer for the Nation on Sunday, 13th March. After the parochial Mass, the Faithful, including School Children, Members of Pious Associations, Sodalties, Confraternities, Legion of Mary, Crusaders recited the Rosary in turns of half hour. A Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, tastefully decorated, was installed near the main altar. Prayers went up to Heaven for our dear Motherland. The Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. G. E. L. Wambeck imparted Benediction in the evening. The day of Prayer concluded with a special Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour at Aitiyamalai, a pilgrim centre in the Parish.



Lenten Thoughts (4)

THE eyes are darkening now. The horizons gloom toward Calvary. The waxen figure jerks, the head lifts. The lips utter "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken Me?"

After a moment, come the words: "I thirst." He means for souls, but a sponge soaked in wine and myrrh—a vinegary mixture sometimes offered as a futile anaesthetic toward the end—pokes at the divine lips from a spearhead. Weakly, He turns away.

Now, full darkness closes in as the tumbling words, "It is finished," are followed in the space of labouring heart-beats by the quiet, strangely clear, "Father, into thy Hands I commend my Spirit."

A CHANGING NATION

EIGHT years ago, on 22 March 1949, the "father of the nation," D. S. SENANAYAKE died. Since then, much water (as well as blood) has flowed under the bridges.

Throughout the last few years especially, this country has been experimented with, like a guinea pig, leaving a nation scarred with disastrous results.

And now, by the self-same verdict of the people a new Prime Minister takes his place in MR. DUDLEY SENANAYAKE.

Never has a leader been confronted with such stupendous tasks as the new Prime Minister faces today. But this columnist expresses the hope that MR. DUDLEY SENANAYAKE, with the co-operation of his team, will pull this land out of the chaotic quagmire into the sunlight of a healthy prosperity.

For, after all, when everything is said and done, in the final analysis, the problem of our people is the problem of their poverty.

Eradicate their poverty, lighten their day-to-day burdens and you will still see this young nation like a light set upon a hill. Any good that is done in the name of the people must percolate to the masses and not be the privilege of the capitalist only.

As for the inglorious breakdown of the loud speakers Mr. L. H. METTANANDA and Comrade PHILIP GUNAWARDENA, old Robin Hood's mind runs irresistibly to those prophetic words of SIR MIRZA ISMAIL:

"It is never safe or wise to project religion into politics, and allow politics to masquerade in the guise of religion."

EDITORIAL superlatives

A CEYLON magazine that has collected an enviable sheaf of superlatives in its comparatively brief span of eight years is NOVENA NEWS, organ of the Perpetual Novena at All Saints, Borella.

I have just dipped into a 24-page booklet labelled "What they say about it" (a "Novena News" publication) and it sizzles with editorial tributes from far-flung lands.

Editors are seldom prone to superlatives and this castanet of chorus which the Ceylon publication has evoked from Editors abroad adds a lustre to the sphere of Catholic journalism in Lanka. Robin Hood sends a bouquet

of the choicest Parma Violets to the Editor of Ceylon's "Novena News" FR. JOHN HERAT for his conspicuous achievement in just eight years.



RETREAT news

MY reference to the Retreats conducted at Fatima Re-



A Children's Welcome



● His Grace at Hultsdorp.

treat House, Lewella, Kandy has drawn forth some enquiries from interested parties. In response to their requests, here is the complete programme for April:

March 31 night to April 4 morning: Retreat organized by FRANCISCAN TERTIARIES; April 8 evening to April 12 morning: TEACHERS' from ST. BENEDICT'S COLLEGE, Colombo; April 13 evening to April 17 morning: CHRISTIAN WORKERS' MOVEMENT; April 18 to 25: MARIST BROTHERS; April 28 to May 7: JESUIT SCHOLASTICS.



SUNSHINE booklets

IN my mailbag this week was a glorious slice of sunshine! As I ripped open the bulky envelope, there emerged two rays sprouting sunshine: they were (1) a prayer leaflet titled "Novena of Prayer in honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help," and (2) a 32-page booklet with beautiful illustrations and many prayers also in honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

By Spectator

Don Philipppo "I abhor the thup-pahi culture of the L.S.S.P."

Nevertheless, little Philip himself learnt all his lessons in a thuppahi language, in a thuppahi country; he follows to the letter, thuppahi Marx, uses thuppahi soap; rides in thuppahi cars; etc., etc., etc. O tempora! O mores!



Super-Scientists: "Man will go not only to the moon, but also to every other planet and star in the universe."

And then? "Er... er... of course, he will go, ultimately, 6 ft. underneath the turf, and stand before the judgment seat of God!"

The Very Rev. Father Philip Cooray An Appreciation

THE parishioners of Matara mourn today the loss of their beloved Parish Priest—the Rev. Fr. Philip Cooray.

The life of Rev. Fr. Cooray was an exemplary one. He was what a priest should be—a real Christ on earth. He was what a real Catholic should be—a meek and submissive follower of Christ, ever ready to "take up his cross and follow Him"; humbly, patiently and with perfect reconciliation to the Will of God.

His life from the very beginning had been a bitter struggle against sickness and death. When he was called to the priesthood he had his first "death blow"; so serious was his condition that even doctors had given up hopes about him, but God spared him from the clutches of death and sent him to His vineyard. There did he sweat and plough reaping rich harvests for His Master, in spite of the fact that death kept hovering around him. He did not heed his physical ailments, his pain and sufferings. He did not show to others the heavy weight of the cross he carried. He hid it all under a smile and worked with ardent zeal for the greater glory of God.

Father Cooray was a meticulous and methodical worker in spite of his grave illness. He worked hard day and night till he saw every bit of work complete and every duty performed—and all that with the knowledge that death was at his very door—ready to clasp him at any moment. What a noble spirit, what courage, what implicit trust in Providence.

An ideal Parish Priest and a zealous missionary, he worked to "save souls for Christ."

He was a very good organizer too. He had great plans to inaugurate many societies and associations for our Parish but God did not permit him to toil any longer. God took him to his rest.

May Our Lady of the Southern Shrine, under whose protection he spent the last two years of his life, obtain for him from her Divine Son—"Eternal Rest."

Mrs. Joseph Biyanwila.

Matara.

THE GOD OF REASON

by Regis Jolivet. (London: Burns and Oates. Locally available at St. Michael's Bookshop, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 5/60).

GOD is not something that falls under our sensible experience, nor something that can be analyzed under a microscope, yet the existence of God can be proved by means of the same principles which govern the working of our minds and the order of the universe. And Jolivet in a compact book has given us the various arguments that go to prove the existence of God. He first treats of the moral proofs which usually appeal more, since in them both the heart and the mind have their share. Then he passes on to the metaphysical proofs. And finally he gives us the conclusion with regard to the nature

and attributes of God.

The author tries his best to be as concrete as possible in his style, avoiding abstract language. Further, not only does he present clearly and solidly the various positive arguments, but he also faithfully exposes some of the main difficulties raised throughout the centuries against the classical proofs of the existence of God. The fact that such difficulties are attributed to some of the modern French philosophers or to Kant, should not prejudice us, since the same difficulties

have been raised both in the West and in the East, and the clear solution given in this book will hold good both in the West and in the East.

The seriousness of the treatment, the solidity of the arguments, the effort made to meet the modern mind, will reward the thoughtful reader especially in Ceylon where the educated Buddhists officially deny the existence of a Supreme Being.

V. P.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

TWO NEW TITLES

PARENTS everywhere are growing more and more conscious of what should constitute children's reading. This is a healthy sign. A local establishment has even shaped

into being a Children's Bookshop.

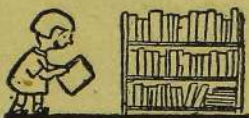
For Catholics, especially, two excellent series of books specifically designed for children are the "Vision" and "Catholic Treasury Book" series which feature innumerable titles with story and modern reader-appeal for teen-agers from 9 upwards.

Two titles just received in Ceylon are "THE URSULINES—Nuns of Adventure" by Harnett T. Kane (Burns and Oates) and "COURAGEOUS CATHERINE" by Sister Raymond Marie (Bruce Publishing Company) both available at St. Michael's Bookshop, 6-10, Jampettah Street, Colombo priced at Rs. 9/60 and Rs. 10/- respectively.

The first traces the growth of the congregation of the Ursulines in a manner that excites the teen-age mind.

The second title deals with the life of a brave girl, faithful to her religion and of her courage in opening up a House for orphans and homeless girls, told with an interest that grips the young mind.

H. P.



More Paulist Publications

SURRENDER TO GOD'S LOVE by Fr. J. P. de Caussade, S.J. Price Rs. 2).

A KEY TO THE STUDY OF THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES by Fr. Iparraguirre, S.J. Price Rs. 1/50).

MY LIFE IS MINE by Mary Beattie. (Price Rs. 1/25).

WE introduce our readers to three more of those excellently got up books at incredibly low prices, which are becoming a regular feature of St. Paul Publications (28-B, Chatham Lines, Allahabad 2, U.P., India). This apostolate of the Paulists is something for which the average man of our countries could never be sufficiently thankful, for spiritual classics and other books which up to now were outside his range, are now placed well within his reach.

"Surrender to God's Love" or as it is sometimes known, "Abandonment to Divine Providence," is read at some time or other of one's life. It needs no introduction whatsoever, beyond saying that it should be made a handbook of everyone who is trying to climb higher in the spiritual life of intimacy with Christ.

The many works on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius are further enriched by the addition of the handy "Key to the Study of the Spiritual Exercises," which has been translated into English by a Jesuit working in Ceylon. It is not, of course, a complete guide, but it serves the useful purpose of being a "key" and a sign-post.

And if, after this rather heavy spiritual fare, young girls are on the look-out for something all their own, "My life is mine" is just the book for them. It contains a series of eminently practical talks to girls on the threshold of life, and deals with subjects which range from boy-friends to flirting, fashions to marriage. It should be excellent and useful reading for girls who are just leaving school.

G.

This is London

by M. Sasek (W. H. Allen, London. Locally available at St. Michael's Bookshop, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 9/35).

HERE is something refreshingly new by way of giving the high lights of a modern city. A famous painter presents his impressions of London with its fog, its beautiful buildings, its historic monuments, etc.—and he uses as his medium pictures painted in the modern style. A luxuriously compiled book which is most pleasing to the eye, it will make a delightful gift for anyone. We would recommend our readers at least to have a glance through this book, which is an entirely new concept in this kind of work.

P.

FOR YOUR



BOOKSHELF CONFESSION

by The Community of St. Severin (London, Geoffrey Chapman. Locally available at St. Michael's Bookshop, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 7/85).

AS the sub-title indicates, this book does indeed give the "meaning and practice of the Sacrament of Penance"—for that is its chief appeal. Here is a book written by a Community of Priests, working in a near-slum area of Paris, whose primary objective has been to bring the sacraments and a full understanding of them to the ordinary and average Christian. In this, it is our humble opinion that they have achieved a certain measure of success in the present work.

Of course, no one would expect an exhaustive work on Confession in a book of 126 pages; but there is something else too which one might not expect to find—a careful relation of Confession to the daily life of the average man; but this is certainly

here in this book.

The pivotal point of this work is a penetrating consideration of the life of Christ and the life of love. Sin therefore, as the authors bring out very well, "is a direct affront to God's love," and penance becomes "a return to this love." That is the general thesis of this book which revolves round Christ and our life in Him. There is a truly refreshing chapter on "Examination of Conscience," which is sure to be useful for everyone, but most of all for those who need to get this part of their spiritual life into correct focus.

All-in-all, we would recommend this as a practical, uplifting and useful work which could be read with much profit.

S.

The Teaching of Christian Doctrine

by Johannes Hofinger, S.J. (St. Paul's Publications, Bombay-Allahabad Price Rs. 3/60 paper. Rs. 5/00 cloth).

THOSE who are familiar with the author's earlier work on this same topic, will need no introduction to the present work—for it is only an abridged and adapted edition of the earlier book which proved such a popular and reliable text-book of catechetics. In fact, the present publication has adapted the earlier work to Indian conditions, and made it available at an incredibly low price.

Perusing this book, we found an abundance of very useful material, and we feel confident that those engaged in the active apostolate will find it equally or even more profitable. The Archbishop of Hyderabad, Director of the Section for Catechetics and Liturgical Apostolate of the C.B.C.I. says in his very laudatory foreword: "Doctrine, thus presented, will lead to authentic devotion and effective witnessing to Christ through various forms of apostolate"—a sentiment with which we are fully in agreement.

T.

The Drama of the Way of the Cross

by M. Chako, S.J. (St. Paul's Seminary, Tiruchirappalli 1, S. India.)



THIS booklet brings before the reader the Passion of Christ both in prophecy and in its actual realization as depicted in the Gospels. It is rich in food for thought which fosters devotion, and will prove very useful to all who wish to make the Stations of the Cross.

N.C.F.

Biblical Criticism



by Jean Steinman. (London: Burns and Oates. Locally available at St. Michael's Bookshop, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 5/60).

SOME critics have considered the Bible as a mere human book and have subjected it to the same criticism to which they have subjected other books. Other critics have regarded the Bible as a divine book and, in their reverence for the word of God, have abhorred the idea of judging it in a human way.

The Bible is both a divine and a human work. As a divine book, it deserves all the respect and reverence due to the word of God. But as a human book, it carries the imprint of the author and reflects his personal qualities. And it is only by studying the age and the circumstances of the composition of the book, by finding out the literary type to which it belongs, by becoming acquainted with the author and his purpose, that we come to appreciate the word and the message of God to us.

Steinman has given us a very readable book on Bible Criticism. Both the style and the division into a series of short chapters, which themselves are sub-divided into still smaller sections, enable the reader to follow the author with ease and to assimilate every idea. After a brief explanation of what criticism is, the author briefly summarizes the history of Bible Criticism from the earliest centuries of the Christian era up to our own times. In the second part of the book, the author gives us in outline the results of biblical criticism by passing in review all the various books of the Old and the New Testaments. Some may find such results rather disconcerting since they will be obliged to divest themselves of old cherished ideas. But once they have overcome the first impression, their knowledge of the Bible will gain in depth and in breadth. Another result will be the realization that the Bible and the Church have nothing to fear from modern science, be it only the science of literary criticism, but that rather they stand to gain immensely since the author of the Bible and the author of the laws of science are one and the same God in whose work there cannot be contradiction.

V. P.

This Day

by George Scott-Moncrieff. Hollis and Carter, London. Locally available at St. Michael's Bookshop, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13. Price Rs. 7/10).

WHEN we see that all the graces of the world, the good of all the things that we have loved, reside in God, the idea of renouncing the world is no longer an abstract command, a puritanical counsel of defeat, but simply the perfect giving of love and its consummation in the person of love.

A book which has appeared in parts in "The Month" and is introduced by Fr. James Walsh, S.J., needs no other recommendation as far as the Catholic reader is concerned. It would perhaps further a Publisher's interest if all ingenuity were exercised in finding out all the shortcomings of a book; there would soon appear counter-claims, and the book would sell. Following this method one would venture to say that "This Day" is unrealistic and somewhat nebulous and all that, but then not many can face ridicule. And indeed there is nothing unreal or nebulous in "This Day" except perhaps for the mind that, having abdicated all claims to a spiritual and immaterial world is hopelessly browsing in "dust-bins" and "refuses" in the futile attempt of deceiving the real hunger that torments it.

"This Day" is just the common sense view of the man who has lived his life to the full, yet has not grown stale, rather has gathered freshness and ever new vitality as he moved on towards a nightfall which does not portend fear or disillusion, but the fruition of all that life could offer as a preparation for the day that has a dawn but knows no nightfall.

Commonsense may lead to oversimplification which may be as deceiving as the abstruse theories of the schoolman. The quotation given above does simplify all that is implied in renunciation, yet does not oversimplify it: it only helps to accept the implications of renunciation and find in it the secret of a soul yearning. This quotation is taken at random, but from "dawn" to "nightfall" one finds that, deep down in our minds and heart, we shall find the true source of joy that the Creator has laid in our nature.

The author is to be congratulated for the happiness and determination to live one's life fully which his book will offer to many a reader.

R. C.

Christian Attitudes

CHRISTIAN ATTITUDES by Canon Gustave Thils (Sceptre Ltd., Dublin. Price 9/6.)

IN this book Canon Thils, points out the three doctrinal attitudes discernible in the life of the Christians of our times. He clearly sets forth these three attitudes, criticizes them in so far as they fall short of the ideal presented by the Divine Master and gives the reader a method of combining the divine and the human.

Thoughtful reading is necessary if any profit is to be derived from the present publication. Priests, religious and lay apostles should read this volume as a help to understand better the vast field of the Apostolate. It is a book charged with thought-provoking considerations. Suitable for the present day.

N. C. F.

messenger

SCHOOLS-MAG

Vol. 3. No. 8

Saturday, March 26, 1960

FREE

The Schools-Mag Newsreel

• Kandy

MOTHER Gertrude, an Irish nun, dedicated her life sixty years ago, for the cause of Catholic education, answered the call of the missions, came to Ceylon and spent most of her life in Kandy instructing young girls and leading them towards God.

At her Diamond Jubilee celebrations recently I saw her for the first

time. She knelt in front of the altar with hands clasped and eyes radiating with love and courage. With advancing years, face wrinkled and hands trembling she knelt there. Her face glittered with joy and shone with radiance, for she knew that she did her best in the service of God.

His Lordship Bishop Regno offered the Pontifical High Mass. He preached a touching sermon. He said that now young boys and girls were afraid to devote their lives to the service of God, because they feared that it was a life of sacrifice and un-

told hardship. By taking Mother Gertrude as the model, he showed how priestly and religious life would be happy and cheerful, if they only knew that they toil for God—the good and loving master. At the end the Bishop crowned the Bride of Christ with a crown of roses and, as the *Te Deum* was sung, the Bride of Christ went round giving her warm and loving kiss of peace to the members of her religious community.

Tony Vandercone.

St. Sylvester's College,
Kandy.

POPE JOHN XXIII SPEAKS TO THE CHILDREN OF LANKA

★ We were privileged to carry last year a letter written by Pope John XXIII and addressed to children all over the world (Schools-Mag 14 March 1959). During this season of Lent once again the Holy Father addresses you personally...

have the strength to resist the temptations threatening their souls. We are sure that God will not refuse your pleas, because they come from hearts which are pure and dedicated to Him.

Secondly, during Lent, which is a time of penance and sacrifice, you can help them materially by giving them gifts. You might be tempted to say that your offerings are too small to do any good; but when you remember that there are so many of you, you will realize that your contributions, whether clothing, coins, or whatever you give, can amount up to relief supplies of considerable size. Through your beloved Bishops and their organization, you can be very effective in assisting these suffering children. If it were possible We would like to tell you of the many heart-rending appeals which reach Us every day, and which cause Us much sorrow. We feel confident that help will soon reach them, because you have been so generous in the past, and We are certain

that you will try to do your best again this year. Your priests and Sisters will tell you how you can play your part.

These poor suffering children will be able to be happy when they receive your help, and they will pray for you and beseech God to continue to bless you and your families and your country. Christ said whatever you do to the least of these, you do to Him (cf. Math. 25, 40). You can be sure that Our Divine Lord will reward you very liberally in proportion to your generosity in giving.

In order to show Our appreciation and gratitude for your prayers and for the assistance which you have given Us, We extend to you and to your teachers, parents and families Our fatherly blessing as a pledge of copious graces and favours from Our Lord.

From the Vatican, 9th February 1960.

JOHN XXIII.

FOR many years now, at the beginning of Lent, the Vicar of Christ has talked to you and has written to you about the children all over the world who have not been as fortunate as you. We know that you are interested in these children and that you are willing to show your love for them helping them in whatever way you can.

Even today, while you are enjoying the many gifts that God in His Providence has given to you, there are still millions of children who are suffering. Many do not have the proper food to be well; many others have not enough clothing to protect them when the bitter winter comes; and in numberless cases, this is made worse because their homes are little more than shacks and hovels. The reason for this is that many had to flee persecution and they were forced to leave all their belongings behind. In the confusion of war and oppression, many have lost their fathers and mothers and have been deprived of the love of fond parents. They have no homes and no schools such as you have, and often they know very little about God and therefore they have little chance of loving Him.

And so we come to you to encourage you to continue helping your dear friends in Christ. You can do this, first of all, by praying for them; ask God to protect these children and to keep them from sin and its occasions; plead with Him on their behalf that they may

ST. JOSEPH model for Christian Families

WHAT prudence, what discretion, what purity of intention, what perfect unselfishness, what intense love of God and of men symbolises St. Joseph!

St. Joseph

HELP us St. Joseph
In our earthly strife,
Constantly to lead
A pure and blameless life.

Madonna Perera.

St. Bernard's Convent,
Nawalapitiya.



SILENT, modest, pure and just,

TO St. Joseph we go in great trust.

JOSEPH most just, Joseph most meek,

OH HEAR us when thy aid we seek.

SURE of thy help we ever shall be,

EVEN in our greatest difficulty.

PEACE and order to our land restore,

HEAVENLY patron, we praise thee evermore.

Isidora Mackay.

St. Bernard's Convent,
Nawalapitiya.



SAINT Joseph is a saint that anyone can imitate. The Church fully realizes his importance when she constantly tells her children to "Go to St. Joseph."

Saint Joseph, the foster father of Our Lord in His home at Nazareth, and a lover of all children, should be chosen the guardian and pattern of every true Christian family.

Llewellyn Ebert.

St. Joseph's School,
Grandpass.

How humble he must have been, how thoughtful, how kind, how considerate, how wise, how faithful to God's holy commands. Next to Our Lady, it is impossible to suppose that any saint could approach the dignity of St. Joseph.

Never to any of the children of men did death come bereft of its terrors as to St. Joseph. What a beautiful death was St. Joseph's! Nursed in the arms of Jesus and

by
Placidus Gunawardena

Mary, his last hours were one long ecstasy. St. Joseph is also the patriarch of a good death as well as a wonder worker. For him death was only falling asleep to wake in Paradise.

In the life of the Patriarch Joseph there was throughout a correspondence with the life of the foster father of Jesus Christ. The troubles and persecutions of his early life—his long time of patient expectation—his glorious exaltation—his omnipotence with the King—his power to save all who came to him—all these were fulfilled, in St. Joseph. St. Joseph, the spouse of the Blessed Virgin and foster father of Jesus, the divine child, faithfully fulfilled with great humanity his beautiful mission of watching over the Holy Family at Nazareth. Thus he became the guardian of chaste souls and the protector of Christian homes, the model of domestic virtues and of humble daily toil. When we reflect on each of these we are convinced that St. Joseph is a model for us.

Since the 15th century, St. Joseph's feast is kept on March 19th, which liturgical tradition gives as the anniversary of his holy death. In 1621, Gregory XV extended it to the whole Church.

Birthday Corner

26th MARCH — 1st APRIL

March, 26th: Terrence Phillipppulle (Trincomalee), Emerald Sersinghe (Mutwal), T. L. Maximus Fernando (Moratuwa), M. B. Burrows (Colombo 2), Damascene Silva (Moratuwa), Jennifer Motha (Mutwal), Anil O. Peries (Ingiriya), Cecil Joseph Heyn (Colombo 6), Llewellyn Quyn (Colombo 3), U. L. J. Rudolph Perera (Ja-Ela).

March, 27th: C. Callistus Perera (Kandy), Beverly Alexander (Galle), J. Chrysostom Cooray (Moratuwa), Elmo Goonewardene (Dehiwela), A.

SORRY!

It is regretted that the following birthdays were omitted from the Birthday Corner of last week, inadvertently.

21st March: Weinman Carlyle (Mt. Lavinia), Asoka Jayawardene (Kotte), Celia Fernando (Maggona), Benedict Jayasundera (Matugama), Christy E. Perera (Galle), Douglas Fortune (Pettah).

22nd March: Yasmin Herft (Dehiwela), Hilary Seneviratne (Mattakkuliyia), Gyan Wijetunge (Kelaniya), Irama Fernando (Mutwal), Michael Saminaden (Negombo), Primrose Fernando (Ja-Ela), Lovelyst Fonseka (Hendala), Jennifer Perera (Colombo 3), Cuthbert Corera (Peradeniya).

25th March: Tyrone Holdenbotle (Kelaniya), Rita Mary Luchow (Matala), Corinne Collom (Dehiwela), Carmen Webster (Dematagoda), Gabriel Silva (Peradeniya), Winifred Mackay (Kotahena), Sherani Mary Toussaint (Kotahena).

Euphenia Leena (Negombo), Shanthi Samarasinghe (Borella), Florin Croos (Puttalam), Lourdes Joseph (Amptiya), Eleanor Fernandopulle (Kotahena).

Panadura Scouts have an outing



Our picture shows the 41st Scout Troupe of St. Sebastian's English School at their 3-day scout camping held at Christ the King Church premises, Pannipitiya. Rev. Fr. Don Sylvester and the Scouter-in-charge inspects the troupe.

Schools-Mag member wins Music Prize

★
Ceylon's
youngest
candidate...



Schools-Mag Member (No. 3607) PERPETUA ANNE HIRANTHI FERNANDO—whom you see here—obtained honours in the Initial Division of the Trinity College of Music (London) examinations. She was awarded the prize for the youngest candidate in the island to obtain honours in this division. She is 5½ years old.

St. Teresa's House Celebrates

THE 4th of March was a very special day at St. Anthony's Convent, Kandy, as St. Teresa's House celebrated their "House Day" on a lavish scale. Celebrations began with a March Past of sixty of the smartest Teresitans led by their Games Captain and House Captain, who carried aloft the school flag. Then followed a novel Drill Display. "This is the House that Jack built."

There were several exciting Inter-House Sports items. The playground rang with the shouts of the girls from

the three Houses cheering for their respective competitors. A staff item in which even the nuns participated, concluded the sports meet.

The School Hall, was gaily decorated with dark blue streamers and balloons—blue being St. Teresa's House colour. Here we were entertained by the Teresitans to a variety entertainment preceded by the reading of St. Teresa's House Report. The School anthem was sung. The School Captain then called out three cheers for St. Teresa's House, and brought the enjoyable afternoon to a close.

Rosetta Oorloff

St. Anthony's Convent,
Kandy.

• Grandpass

THE 2nd of March was Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the season of Lent. For the girls of St. Joseph's Convent, Grandpass, it was also the beginning of the 3 days annual retreat which was conducted by the Rev. Fr. Gerard Campos. He enlightened us in mind and spirit. He drew us nearer to Christ, reminding us that there is a cross for everyone to bear. Fr. Marcus Manatunga conducted a Retreat in Sinhalese.

• Gwendolyn Hubert.

Aloma Ludowyke (Colombo 13), Sylvia Nalavansa (Colombo 107), Bernadette Ratnasamy (East Kayts).

March, 28th: Bertha Wijeratne (Nawara Eliya), Linda Epps (Kelaniya), Lorna Cramer (Kelaniya), C. Camillus Gabriel (Mutwal), Camillus Hopwood (Kelaniya), Jerome Hopwood (Kelaniya), Philomena Rasiah (Kelaniya), T. R. Paul (Colombo 9), Josephine R. Fernandez (Colombo 15).

March, 29th: Hiran Fernando (Borella), Joan Perera (Negombo), Maurice Paul (Kandy), Paschal Gunawardene (Negombo), Benildus De Almeida (Kotahena), James Yogarajah (Anuradhapura), Delreen Casiechitty (Kotahena), Ranjit Fonseka (Moratuwa), M. E. Emmeline Feltman (Batticaloa), Josephine Climacus Fernando (Moratuwa).

Continued on page 10



GOODWILL LEATHER WORKS,
881, ALUTMAWATTE Rd, COLOMBO 15

Schools-Mag

Continued from page 9

COMPETITION CORNER

PRIZES

HERE are the winners in the recent "Subject of the Month" Contest:

(1) MORRIS ALWINES of St. Patrick's College, Jaffna ("The Big Book of Real Submarines").

(2) CRYSTAL EDEMA of St. Bernard's Convent, Nawalapitiya ("Black Beauty" by Anna Sewell).

Consolation Prizes are also awarded to the following:

(1) ALEXANDER GUNASEKERA of St. Benedict's College, Kotahena ("School-boy Saint: Dominic Savio" by John Sexton).

(2) GERALDINE KELAART of All Saints' College, Borella ("The 1950 Jubilee: Rome, the Basilicas, the Vatican" by Genesio Turcio).

(3) THECLA PEREIRA of St. Anthony's Convent, Kandy ("A Simple Catholic Dictionary").

(4) PREMIL MASILAMONY of St. Ursula's Convent, Badulla ("A Simple Catholic Dictionary").

(5) CECILIA RATNAM of Ratnapura ("A Simple Catholic Dictionary").

All prize-winners must write in, claiming their prizes and giving their full addresses.

Subject of the month

● THE PRIEST

THE Schools-Mag's new corner "Subject of the Month" is growing popular with our members.

Each month members are asked to write on a particular subject. The topic for this month is "THE PRIEST."

You can write on the Priesthood in general or any aspect of the Priesthood.

Essays should not exceed 150 words in length. Poems should not exceed 20 lines.

All entries close on Thursday, 31 March 1960. They should be addressed to The Editor, Schools-Mag, Catholic Press, Borella.

Send your entries early. Do not wait for the last moment.

Two very special prizes were awarded to the writers of the best essay and best poem respectively.

A selection of the better entries will be published in the Schools-Mag.

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.

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Phone 3661

T'grams Sanmick

THIS IS LENT

LENT is a period for cleansing our souls, By mortification and prayer, And asking forgiveness from God above, And thanking Him for His loving care.

Marietta Tamaris Edema.
St. Bernard's Convent,
Nawalapitiya.

YOUR BIRTHDAYS

(Continued from page 9)

tuwa).

March, 30th: B. Shankaradasan (Dehiwela), H. N. Kodituwakku (Mat-tale), Merle P. Tennekoon (Kotahena), Leonide Dabara (Kandana), Dayan-thie Pieris (Moratuwa), Christopher Wanigasekera (Kandy), Henry See-manpillay (Mathagal), T. Feroze Jainudeen (Badulla), Stanley de Silva (Kelaniya), Eromi Seneviratne (Kotahena).

March, 31st: Guy Lorage (Negombo), Marcus Fernandopulle (Negombo), Jaintha Rambukpotha (Angoda), Hirantha Fernando (Mt. Lavinia), Herbert Oorloff (Colombo 6), Gerard Caspersz (Divulapitiya), Gerard Elders (Borella), Dharni Soza (Negombo), Trixie M. R. Nicholas (Trincomalee), Lourdes Mary (Colombo 2), Indra Fernandopulle (Negombo).

April, 1st: Srilal Fernando (Colombo), Rita Fernando (Kotte), Lester Fernando (Nainamadama), Sheila Barrie (Nawalapitiya), Ann Roosmale Cocq (Nuwara Eliya), Shiral Fernando (Moratuwa).

Agency COLUMN

Calling all prospective Members

- Will all those who send in their enrolment forms make it a point to cut out their coupons neatly, without leaving any jagged ends?
- Write their names and addresses etc. very clearly and legibly?
- Mention their home addresses to which their membership cards will be sent and not the school address only?

Please treat this as very important. Any enrolment form received in future which does not conform to the above rules will be ignored.

News

● Dematagoda

THE 8th of March was a red-letter day in the annals of St. Anthony's Girls' School, Dematagoda when His Grace The Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., Archbishop of Colombo, visited our school.

The girls shouted "Vivat Pastor Bonus" as His Grace entered the school portals. As he wended his way to the school hall Ronald Senn garlanded him with a beautiful garland and Jennifer Jacob offered him a lovely basket of Madonnas. The school choir sang out lustily "Spring Time" as His Grace took his seat. Christobel Kerner read out the address.

His Grace thanked the teachers for their selfless task towards his little flock at Dematagoda. He exhorted the children to be obedient to parents and teachers and the children in their turn promised His Grace to be loyal citizens of Lanka.

Philomena Mathiasz.

ST. MICHAEL'S STUDIO AWARD

SCHOOLS-MAG members have an opportunity of capturing two splendid prizes presented by Mr. Michael Rodriguez for the best poem and best essay submitted by them. Intending competitors may select their own subjects. All entries must be accompanied by a Messenger Journalism Award Coupon (page 7) and clearly marked "ST. MICHAEL'S STUDIO AWARDS" on the top left hand corner of the envelope. They should be addressed to THE EDITOR, THE MESSENGER, CATHOLIC PRESS, BORELLA. The last date for all entries is 31 March 1960.

Uncle Ashley's "Talks to Juniors" is held over

Stations of the Cross

V Simon of Cyrene helps Me

THE soldiers must see now that I have to have help if I am ever going to carry the Cross all the way to Calvary.

Not a person offers; so they grab Simon and make him help.

I need his help, and I need your help too.

I need your help to save souls. Simon finds the Cross easier and lighter as he goes along. So will you—if you embrace it willingly. Remember, I will help you as Simon helps Me.

There are so many souls to save and so few to help them.

How I need more priests and Sisters and Brothers! The work is so vast—the labourers are so few.

I need you... your prayers and sacrifices and penances.

How I need more lay people who will never stop working and praying for the spread of My kingdom on earth.

I should like to think of you as another Simon of Cyrene.

VI Veronica wipes my face

MOST of My friends have run away. They are ashamed of Me—and they're afraid.

I don't look like the One who made the winds and waves obey Him. I don't look like the One who raised the dead and cured the lepers.

My eyes are red and swollen; My face is bruised and streaked with dirt; My hair is all tangled and matted with blood.

But that doesn't stop Veronica. She pushes past the soldiers and comes right up to Me. She waits for Me to bend My head a little. Then very gently she wipes My face with a cool, linen cloth.

How good it feels!

There are so many faces like Mine

in the world today... so many little bodies like yours in hospitals... full of pain... burning with fever.

So many boys and girls like you who are homeless and hungry and cold.

So many boys and girls like you with twisted legs and arms and minds.

So many mothers and dads and nurses wiping their faces with cool, white cloths... as just Veronica wiped Mine. Some day... some face... some friend may need you as I needed Veronica.

"Thank you, Veronica," I said.

"Here—keep this picture of Me on your towel."

VII I Fall Again

EVERYTHING starts to get black. I feel as if I am spinning around. When I come to, the soldiers are helping Me to My feet. They want Me to live till we reach the place where I will be crucified.

They don't know they are helping Me, but they really are. They could have a great reward.

They just don't know what they are doing! They are missing so much.

But you, I have told you that whatever you do for My brothers

you do for Me! Don't you forget. Don't you miss your reward.

And if you have sinned, try to remember Me here on the ground.

Big sins... many sins... may throw you down even after you have been good for a long time.

I am thinking of sinners like that as I lie here in this dry, hot dust.

My voice and My hands will come to lift you up.

You will hear My voice and see My hands in the voice and the hands of a priest.

Classified ADS.

IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the soul of



Boniface Ignatius Perera

Died 31st March 1957

Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord.
O Lord deliver him.
May he rest in peace, Amen.

157, Averiawatte Road,
Wattala.

544



Penny Ferreira

Born 12th September 1949

Died 22nd March 1959

A light is from our household gone
A voice we loved is still
A place is vacant in our home
Which never can be filled.

Inserted by her sorrowing parents,
brothers and sisters.

546



Johanna Tennekoon

Died on the 1st April, 1957

Eternal rest grant unto her, O
Lord, and let perpetual light shine
upon her.

May her soul rest in peace. Amen.

A Requiem Mass will be said for
the repose of her soul on Thursday,
1st April 1960 at 7 a.m. at St.
Anthony's Cathedral, Kandy.

P. C. Tennekoon and children,
4, Gregory's Road.

549

APRIL BRIDES

ON your hand, a shining symbol
brings him near, join your
dreams to his of a memorable
cake structure, plus a photographic
coverage. Home, Church, Honey-
moon contact OREENS, Wasala
Road, Colombo 13.

544

NOTICE

The Procurator General's Office
will be closed on the 5th and 6th
April 1960.

Procurator General,
Archbishop's House

533

THANKSGIVINGS

TO ST. RAYMOND

ST. Raymond Nonnatus was born
in 1200 or 1204 at Portello,
Spain. According to tradition he
was taken from the womb of his
mother, the day following her
death, hence his name "Nonna-
tus" which means "not born."
For this same reason he has been
chosen patron of expectant
mothers.

I have through intercession to
St. Raymond had a safe confine-
ment and in thanksgiving wish to
spread devotion to this Saint. I
will be very glad to send copies
of the devotions to those who
require them.

Mrs. R. D. Bartholomeusz.

C. 3 New Town,
Amparai, E. P.

550

MY grateful thanks to our Lady
of Perpetual Succour and
Pope Pius XII for great
favours received.—E. Anthony.

548

POSITIONS VACANT

EARN Rs. 160 weekly as a spare-
time Sales Representative of
International Catholic Magazine.
Full particulars from No. 505, c/o
Catholic Press, Colombo 8.

505

MILK FOODS

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

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PUROL Medicated Powder and Oint-
ment—the unfailing remedy for
Eczema, Prickly Heat and Tropical
Skin Ailments. Available at all Chem-
ists and the Importers Setrac (Cey-
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Paralysis! Swiss Biochrome
treatment cures permanently. No
operation! No injections! No
pain! Free information! Visit
MEDICAL CLINIC, 42nd Lane,
Wellawatta.

St. BENEDICT'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS' UNION

Calling all Old Boys—

ENCLOSED RETREAT

13th AND 14th APRIL

WILL all those partaking in this
Enclosed Retreat, please for-
ward their names and addresses to-
gether with Rs. 8/- to cover cost of
Board, before the 4th April to the
undersigned, and assemble at the
College premises at 8 a.m. on the
13th April.

Patrick H. de Silva.

Hony. General Secretary.

15th March, 1960.

551

FOR HOLY WEEK

● New office of the Holy Week,
with Gregorian chant—modern
Notation—Rs. 3/50

● Holy week Liturgy Rs. 1/50

● New Holy week in

English Re. 1/-

ST. MICHAEL'S BOOKSHOP,

6-10, Jampettah Street,

Colombo 13.

ORDER ABSOLUTE (In the First Instance) IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO No. 19197/T

In the matter of the Last Will and
Testament of Jeronimus Nazarene
Paiva of 35/4, Joseph Lane, Bamba-
lapitiya in Colombo. —Deceased.

Joseph Rosario Paiva of No. 1,
MacLeod Road, Bambalapitiya in
Colombo. —Petitioner.

This matter coming on for disposal
before J. E. A. Alles, Esquire, Addi-
tional District Judge, Colombo, on
the 16th day of February 1960, in
the presence of Mr. A. Maria Dason,
Proctor on the part of the petitioner
and the affidavit of the petitioner,
dated 16th February, 1960 and the
affidavit of the Notary, dated 16th
February 1960, having been read:

It is ordered that the Last Will
bearing No. 393 dated, 24th March
1948 and the Codicil bearing No. 489
dated 29th November, 1954 both
made by the deceased abovenamed,
and attested by Mr. A. Maria Dason
of Colombo, Notary Public, the
originals of which have been pro-
duced and are now deposited in this
Court, be and the same are hereby
declared proved and that the Peti-
tioner abovenamed is the Executor
named in the said Will, and that he
is hereby declared entitled to have
Probate thereof issued to him ac-
cordingly, on his payment of estate
duty and taking oath of office.

Sgd. J. E. A. Alles,
Additional District Judge.
This 16th February 1960.

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All Saints' Church BORELLA

LENTEN RETREAT

PASSION SUNDAY TO
PALM SUNDAY

April 3 — April 10, 1960

Every day except Wednesday

6.00 a.m. Low Mass
6.30 a.m. Stations
7.00 a.m. Low Mass
6.00 p.m. Rosary, Sermon,
Benediction

The Wednesday Novena Services
are as usual.

JOHN HERAT O.M.I.,
Parish Priest.

555

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.

F.X's GROCERY

Chiver's Strawberry Jam	1 lb. bot	1 80
Chiver's Jelly Crystals	1 lb. pkt.	1 00
Chiver's Orange Marmalade	1 lb. box	1 55
Red Bird Beef Dripping	24 oz. tin	2 55
Italian Corned Beef	15 oz. tin	1 50
Norway Maid Cod Roe	1 lb. tin	1 95
Condensed Tomato Soup	1 oz. tin	1 00
Golden Glory Jam	2 lb. tin	1 55
K. Y. Two Fruits Syrup	1 lb.	1 95
White Peaches in Syrup	1/2 lb. tin	1 60
Chef Ham and Beef Roll	1/2 lb. tin	1 25
Sultanas (Plums)	1 lb. tin	1 40

F. X. Pereira & Sons Ltd.

COLOMBO.

"NIGHT ADORATION IN THE HOME"

THE Night Adoration Movement is a sub-section of the Work of the
Enthronement of the Sacred Heart which has its Headquarters at
Colombo. Rev. Fr. Claude Lawrence is in charge of it.
Of the Night Adoration Movement, the Director is at the Ceylon National
Seminary, Ampitiya. Diocesan Directors for each of the Dioceses send
their quarterly reports to him.

● A Catechism for those interested in it

What can I do about it?

Perhaps you are one of those
who are tired of being told of
what is wrong in the world and
want to remedy the situation.
If so, here is an opportunity:
Night Adoration in the Home.

What is it?

Night Adoration is an Hour of
Adoration made once a month
between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6
a.m. on any night of your choice.
It is an Hour of Reparation to the
Sacred Heart for the countless
sins that are being committed
everywhere, day and night.

Where is it made?

It is made in the Adorer's own
home, even in a bedroom, before
a statue of the Sacred Heart. It
may also be made in Presbyteries,
Seminaries, Convents, Boarding
Schools, Hospitals, Nurses'
Homes, Hostels, etc. It is gene-
rally made before the Statue or
Picture of the Sacred Heart En-
throned in the Home.

How is it made?

(1) No special prayers are
necessary. All that is required
is for the Adorer to watch during
One Hour with the Sacred Heart
and to try to love and console
Him.

(2) It is good for Adorers to
unite themselves with the Priests
who are celebrating Holy Mass
throughout the world. They
may use the Missal, or any prayer
book. Or they may just pray
from their hearts and unite them-
selves with Jesus, Who is for-
saken, forgotten and insulted
who is now, in a way, in chain,
behind the Iron Curtain or the
Bamboo Curtain.

(3) The Rosary or any other
Marian prayers, may be intro-
duced in keeping with the spirit of
Reparation and Adoration.

(4) There is no need to kneel
all the time. The Adoration may
be made sitting, at least, for
some proportion of the time.
Aged persons and invalids may
make it in bed. It is often a great
comfort to the sick and suffering.

Must the whole family make it?

No. Individuals may make it
alone, though many families do
make it together, either in the
form of the Family Holy Hour,
or by arranging the hours so that
at least one member of the house-
hold is watching from 9 p.m. to
6 a.m., according to the size of
the family. The younger folk
may take the more difficult hours,
if they so wish, and that's an act
of charity.

Parents may make it together,
sometimes young married couples
watch with Jesus, to sanctify their
married life, and there are thou-
sands of generous children the
world over who make this beau-
tiful act of Loving Reparation.

In some Parishes, Groups of
Adorers so arrange that there are
at least 31/30 families doing the
Adoration, one a night.

Abraham, Isaac, Aaron and Reu-
ben owned a clothing store. They
all went out for a dinner together.
As they were seated at the table
Senior Abie suddenly cried out:

"My goodness, I forgot to lock
the safe."

Reuben, the youngest, calmly re-
plied: "So what? We're all here,
aren't we?" —Catholic Fireside.

But what is the use of Night Adoration?

It consoles the Sacred Heart
and brings countless blessings to
those who make it. It helps to
'pay the ransom' for the strayed
sheep and the lapsed, thus bring-
ing them back to Christ. One
woman in this way won back her
husband after 19 years. A
school-girl, by her Night Adora-
tion, brought about her father's
conversion, after he had been
away from the Sacraments for
twenty years. It brings to the
Home the spirit of prayer and
penance, which alas many homes
seem to have lost today. They
seem to be always asking for the
goods of this world and, forget-
ting that Providence exists, they
forget Reparation for their in-
numerable sins of bad temper,
back-biting, and hasty judgments.

It sanctifies the home, the
parish and the parishioners. It
helps to bring about the social
reign of the Sacred Heart through-
out the world. It saves the homes
of the nation.

What must I do?

If you feel that the Sacred
Heart is asking you to become a
Night Adorer in your Home,
send in your name to the National
Centre at Ampitiya Seminary.
You do not bind yourself under
pain of sin. For your Night
(Hour) of Adoration you may
choose a movable date, such as
First Friday, or First Sunday, or
else a fixed date, or even leave it
free to the Secretary at the Na-
tional Centre to fix your hour.
Tell others about this devotion.

Father Mateo ss.cc., the Found-
er of the Work, has written a
special Holy Hour Book for
Adorers in the Home. A copy
of this book and leaflets and
application forms will be sent on
application (Book: 45 cts, inclu-
sive postage).

IN CEYLON THE NIGHT
ADORATION MOVEMENT
IS GATHERING STRENGTH.
WE NOW HAVE OVER 8,000
NIGHT ADORERS. LAST
YEAR ALONE OVER 300
JOINED THE RANKS, AM-
ONG THEM WORKERS AND
OFFICERS OF DEPART-
MENTS.

What are the indulgences granted to Night Adorers?

A plenary indulgence, under
the ordinary conditions:

- (a) on the day of Enrolment;
- (b) each time the members
make their adoration;
- (c) at the hour of death, their
supreme hour of adoration.

There is no necessity to renew
enrolment every year. Once re-
gistered, a member belongs to
the movement for life, unless in
the case of formal withdrawal.

Now, think all this over and see
what you can do to please Jesus,
the King of Love.

The National Centre
of the N.A.H. Movement,
National Seminary,
Ampitiya.

IN one parish, a sister invited her

little Grade 3's to write her a
letter about what they were going to
be when they grew up. One letter
brought both a smile and a tear. The
author wished to be "either a Priest
or a Pope." There was a postscript
"Bie the wae, kep it a sikrit bout
me wanting to be a Priest." —Catho-
lic Digest.

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THEY TALK OF PEACE, RELAXATION & RELIGIOUS FREEDOM BUT RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION GOES ON AS BEFORE

"...freedom replaced by slavery, love by exploitation"

News Snippets

VIENNA'S Catholic Action movement, through its Medical Society, has sent two doctors to work in missions of the Lilongwe diocese in Nyasaland.

The society has received eight applications for missionary doctors from dioceses in Africa and Asia.

THE Vatican daily *Osservatore Romano* has made another appeal for the life of Caryl Chessman. It made the point that 12 years' consideration before taking a man's life was, if anything, "a matter of honour and example."

"But," it added, "one does not know a crime for which the sentence is 12 years in jail plus death."

VATICAN City is to issue on April 7 a set of six stamps marking World Refugee Year, and another series on April 11, commemorating last year's temporary translation from Rome to Venice of the body of St. Pius X.

IF, during Mr. Krushchev's visit to France, Dijon is still in his itinerary he will be greeted by the mayor — in a cassock.

For the mayor is 84-year-old Fr. Felix Kir, a famous Resistance leader and the country's oldest M.P.

France's bishops asked all Catholics to try to avoid meeting Mr. Krushchev.

But Fr. Kir has to meet him if he comes — it is his duty as civic head of the town.

CARITAS, Austria's national Catholic charities organisation, has given about Rs. 21,000 to help Tibetan refugees.

THE Holy See is among 89 Governments invited to attend the second United Nations conference on the law of the sea.

The conference opened in Geneva, on the 17th instant.

FR. Eric J. Green, parish priest of St. David and St. Patrick, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, has been unanimously chosen by the Council as the town's next mayor.

His mayoress will be Mrs. Llewellyn, whose father-in-law has been mayor several times.

FOR the first time in Britain, the Good Friday afternoon Liturgy will be seen by television this year. Associated Rediffusion will broadcast it for one hour or so from Westminster Cathedral.

Public anger—and Sex Magazines go off the bookstands

PUBLIC bookstalls in Belfast, North Ireland, which sold sex magazines and other filthy reading matter, got a shaking-up last week — and it was the indignation of the public that was responsible.

Warnings against the magazines — described as the worst ever to enter the city — were issued in many churches, Catholic and Protestant.

As public disgust mounted the magazines began to disappear from shop windows and display racks. One of the chief offenders put up its shutters.

Last week there were protests against the magazines in the

...and in Czechoslovakia

A PRAGUE newspaper states that Mgr. Ladislav Hlad has been sentenced in Czechoslovakia to nine years imprisonment for secretly exercising the functions of a Catholic Bishop in that country without Government approval. Mgr. Hlad is listed in the *Annuario Pontificio*, as Titular Bishop of Cediae. The Czech newspaper says that Mgr. Hlad was consecrated secretly, that he encouraged students to study for the priesthood in private instead of at State seminaries, and that he then ordained them.

NEWS has just come from two entirely different parts of the Communist World that in Red China and in Yugoslavia the anti-religious campaign is raging as before. In Yugoslavia, a Bishop, 2 priests and 2 laymen have been sentenced to prison, and in Shanghai a Bishop was condemned to 20 years' imprisonment on the eve of St. Joseph's feast.

★ Yugoslavia

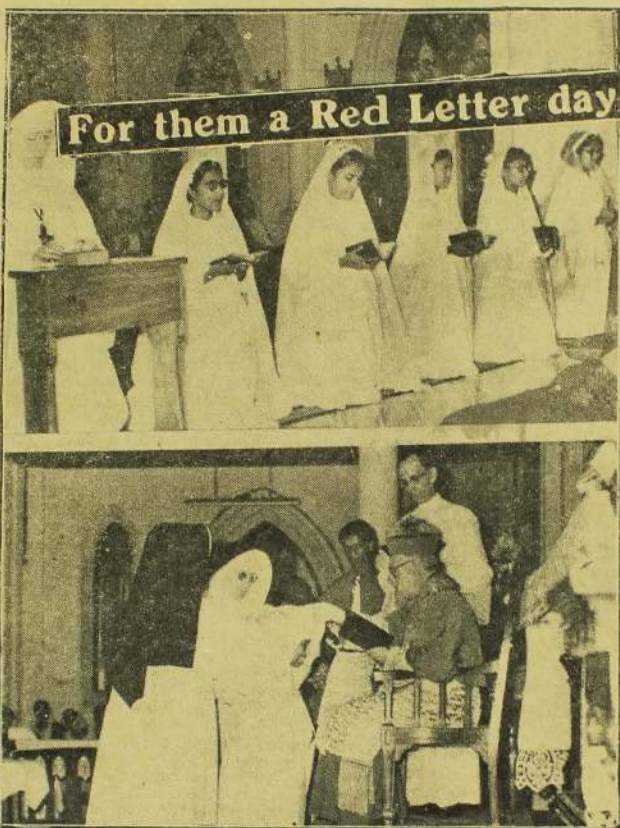
The trial of the 57-year-old

Mgr. Smiljan Cekada, Bishop of Skopje, for alleged "illicit trade," together with two priests and

Galle's clothing ceremony

(from our Galle correspondent)

THE Sacred Heart Convent, Galle, presented a fervent scene on 17 March when five postulants from the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary went through their "clothing ceremony" in the presence of a large crowd of the faithful.



● Pictures show scenes at the recent "clothing ceremony" of five Postulants. His Lordship the Bishop of Galle, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Nicholas Laudadio, S.J., officiated.

Picture by B. Fraser.

Pontiff praises the submissive Worker-Priests

IN a letter to Cardinal Feltrin of Paris, the Holy Father praises the submission made to their superiors by France's priest-workers

when they were disbanded on the Holy See's instructions.

The priests were ordered to give up their full-time work as manual labourers and return to their parishes or religious houses.

Of the future of the Church's mission to the workers, His Holiness writes: "We have no doubt that the bishops, rightly anxious, will solve the anguishing problem of what the right methods should be."

The Pope made an apparent reference to the secularist reaction to the French government's recent law giving direct financial help to Church schools.

He said: "We are sure you yourself, as well as the other bishops, will keep vigilant watch so that Catholics may obtain justice and receive substantial help, and that students — a magnificent hope of the Church — are not deprived of suitable religious

The postulants were Misses Mavis George, Therese Pillai, Bridget Cooray, Rosalie Anthony and Shanthie Goonetilleke.

To the strains of the hymn "O Gloriosa Virginum" the five postulants were led in procession by their Community.

His Lordship the Bishop of Galle, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Nicholas Laudadio, S.J., celebrated Holy Mass.

The ceremony concluded with the new Novices: Sr. Marie Chrysostom, Mary Nileema, Mary Rolande, Mary Hyacintha and Mary Gregory holding lighted candles being conducted out by the entire Community.

Cardinal defends Parsons

PROTESTANT chaplains in the U.S. Forces have been defended by Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, and military vicar for Catholic troops.

A U.S. Air Force manual recently said Communist influence existed in certain Protestant Churches.

Cardinal Spellman said he had long admired the dedicated loyalty of Protestant chaplains to the United States and its principles.

He deeply deplored it if any unfair deductions from general accusations reflected on the loyalty of Protestant chaplains or the loyalty of the general body of ministers they represented.

PRINCESS GRACE INVITED TO PLAY OUR LADY

PRINCESS Grace of Monaco has been asked to return to the screen — to play the part of Our Lady in "King of Kings," a film on the life of Our Lord.

Jaime Prades, the film's Spanish co-producer, said that the Holy Father's recent encouragement to the film and the co-operation to be given by the Church in Spain gave

them hope that Princess Grace would accept.

Casting has not been completed and no one has yet been chosen to play the part of Our Lord.

Before her marriage Princess Grace was film star Grace Kelly.

Pope John encourages vernacular

AFTER attending a Lenten service at the Church of Our Lady of Help in Rome's populous Tiburtino district, Pope John thanked the vast crowds for their welcome but added an admonition to "fill the church every Sunday, even when the Pope isn't there."

To show how deeply concerned the Church is to get closer to the faithful, most of whom know no Latin, Pope John said that he is doing everything possible to promote the use of the vernacular for as many as possible of the Church's ceremonies, and to keep Latin for the time and places where nothing else will do. These things must come "slowly," he said.

Cardinal to lead students in 12-mile March

CARDINAL Cicognani, secretary of the Sacred Congregation for the Eastern Church, will lead students of all nations on a twelve-mile pilgrimage on May 8 from Bolsena to Orvieto in Italy.

The intention of the pilgrimage is the return of all separated brethren to the true Church.

The pilgrimage, an annual one, commemorates the 13th century, miracle of Bolsena, in which a consecrated Host shed drops of blood to convince a doubting celebrant of the truth of the doctrine of the Real Presence.

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