

The MESSANGER

CEYLON'S CATHOLIC WEEKLY

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★ Rome Synod gives Code of Christian Life for Clergy and Laity

Austerity for Priests: More Responsibility for Laity

A WORD TO
PRIESTS
from the Pope

Synod may be model for the world

THE Holy Father, opening the second day of the Rome Synod, spoke of three characteristics of priestly dignity — the head, the heart and the tongue.

The HEAD: "Today more than ever the need for a good culture is evident. Ignorant or incapable persons cannot and must not be ordained priests." He warned that the utmost caution is required in the choice of books and studies.

He also cautioned that "the abundance of literary production in all fields of knowledge often becomes a temptation for intellectual unsteadiness and for bizarre and odd notions."

The HEART: The highest praise people can give a priest is to define him "a man of heart."

"The heart of a priest must be filled with love just like his mind must be shining with truth and devotion."

But the heart is made of flesh, and "heart and flesh must make the trip together" — at this point Pope John spoke of the importance of celibacy to the priesthood.

The TONGUE: "We have the impression that on the point of control of the tongue we all are more or less sinning. To be able to keep silent and to be able to talk in time and well is a sign of great wisdom and great priestly perfection."

THE first Diocesan Synod to be held in Rome for 500 years, ended last Sunday after a week of intense work, when about 1000 cardinals, bishops, prelates and priests pieced together a new code for the conduct of clergy and laity which, while it will apply only to Rome, will nevertheless, sooner or later, affect the Church in general.

Though the results of the Synod will probably not be known for months, Mgr. Carlo Maccara, secretary of the preparatory commission, has given a glimpse of the future under the code — which will be one of austerity for the clergy, and for the laity clearly-defined boundaries to certain fields of action.

A fortnight ago, as the *Messenger* reported, the bells of all Rome's churches rang out for three days, to herald the Synod. And on the Sunday following, St. John Lateran Basilica — Rome's cathedral and the world's mother church — was packed for the formal opening, as His Holiness Pope John XXIII, amid the pageantry of the Papal Court, led the *Veni Creator* for the success of the Synod.

His Holiness then addressed the congregation for half an hour. Three closed sessions took place from Monday to Wednesday, each pre-

ceded by Mass at which the Pope spoke. On Sunday with solemn ceremony of thanksgiving, the Pope closed the Synod in St. Peter's Basilica.

CHANGES

Rome will be divided into four districts, each with an auxiliary bishop.

These auxiliary bishops will be subordinate to the Cardinal Vicar, who will represent the Pope as Bishop of Rome.

THE LITURGY

New attempts will be made to induce the laity to take a greater part in the liturgical life of the parish. The Epistle and Gospel will be read in the vernacular before the sermon. Clergy are asked to explain the various ceremonies to the people.

Precedence is likely to be given to a communal kind of service rather than an individual one; thus Baptism from now on should take place every Sunday afternoon at the same time for all the recently born babies and with all the parish taking part.

DISCIPLINE

The priests of Rome ought not to smoke in public; ought not to go to any theatrical performances (even when these are considered unobjectionable); ought not to visit cafes.

A Roman priest will in future need the permission of his Superior to run or buy a car.

Sisters and nuns will probably be urged to adapt their dress to modern times. It is emphasised that wide head-coverings and the long and voluminous skirts and sleeves of certain orders and congregations endanger safety when driving a car or van.

Mendicant Orders will in future be forbidden to beg in the streets of

(Continued on page 7)

Vatican opens relations with Turkey

THE Vatican announced last Monday that it has established diplomatic relations with Turkey.

When he was Apostolic Delegate in Turkey, Pope John gained considerable respect and admiration for his encouragement of the use of Turkish in prayers and his order that the Gospel should be read in Turkish.

The first Turkish Ambassador to the Holy See is expected to be the present Ambassador in Athens, Mr. Nurettin Zergin. The Vatican will be represented in Ankara by an Intercuncio, who is expected to be the present Apostolic Delegate, Archbishop Lardone.

Pope, a man of the people

— IKE

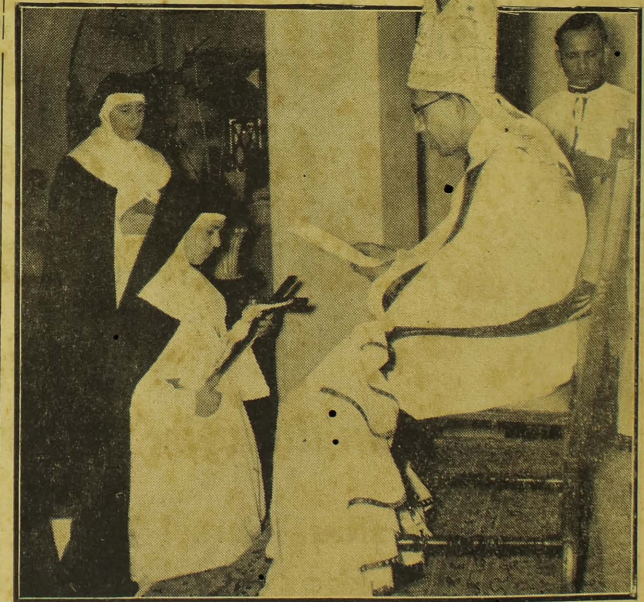
PRESIDENT Eisenhower is reported to have told U.S. senators "The Pope is a man of the people. He told me, 'Mr. President, you've gone a long way from general to President, but I've gone from sergeant (his rank as a First World War chaplain) to Pope'."

★ For Newly-Weds

An Indulgenced Prayer

Three hundred days Indulgence has been granted by the Pope to newly-married couples who kiss the wedding ring and say the prayer: "Know this, O Lord, as we love you we love each other and live according to Your Holy Law."

Ceylon's Dominican Sisters make history



(Photo by S. Param Anantham)

(by a MESSANGER reporter)

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE DOMINICAN SISTERS, FIVE CEYLONESE RECEIVED THE HABIT OF THE RELIGIOUS LIFE IN CEYLON, WHEN HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP, THE MOST REV. DR. THOMAS COORAY, O.M.I., PRESIDED AT A UNIQUE CEREMONY AT ST. THERESA'S CHURCH, THIMBIRIGASYAYA, LAST WEEK.

The church was fully packed when His Grace entered, and the "brides of Christ" came in, shortly after. His Grace the Archbishop then celebrated Mass, and preached a touching sermon on the significance of a religious vocation, and the Church's need for more such lives of dedication.

After Mass, the ceremony gradually unfolded itself in its full beauty. And as the stately ritual proceeded, five

young Ceylonese were invested with the garb of the Congregation of the Dominican Sisters, and the climax was reached when each of them, now in her religious habit, received the crown of roses.

It was the first time that such a ceremony had taken place in Ceylon. For, before then, the ceremony had taken place at the Headquarters of the

Continued on page 7

Easing of Church-State tension in Poland?

PERSONAL talks between Cardinal Wyszynski, Archbishop of Warsaw and Gniezno and Primate of Poland, and Mr. Wladyslaw Gomułka, first secretary of the Polish Communist Party, have been going on in Warsaw. The talks could lead to a definite easing of the tension that has recently been growing more acute in relations between Church and State in Poland.

According to well-informed circles the talks have led to positive results, even though no advance could be made in the case of the new Polish law on birth-control and abortion.

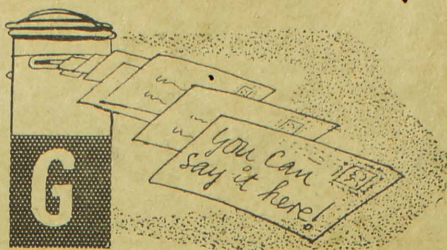
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WEEKLY POST BAG



WHY SPLIT THE VOTE?

REGARDING the forthcoming Elections fixed for the 19th March, 1960, I wish to bring to the notice of your readers the unsatisfactory position whereby candidates, who are pledged to democracy, are clashing with each other under different Parties, as a result of which candidates from a Marxist Party may well be returned. It would indeed be a pity if this were to happen, as the areas in question will be represented by those who are hostile to all religions, particularly Christianity.

At the present time people have to vote for a Party and not for personalities, as was the case hitherto. Owing to the greed for prestige and power displayed by some candidates, the leftists will be assisted to enter Parliament and consequently help to destroy all freedom which the people now enjoy. Therefore, it will be a good thing

these candidates withdraw their candidature in favour of the nominees put forward by recognized and long-standing democratic Parties. In particular, the Independent candidates should agree to stand down in favour of those pledged to a democratic way of life. At the moment the voters are simply being misled by a multiplicity of parties and whether any of these parties could get a sufficient majority to form the next Government is a moot point. The Christians themselves must take the blame if, by their folly, they help the leftists to gain power. It will then be too late and it will indeed be a sad day for all who cherish freedom and democracy in this Island.

Colombo 15.

J. H. S.

St. Nicholas and Ripley

RIPLEY in his second book "Believe it or Not" writes: "St. Nicholas the Bishop of Myra whom we know as Santa Claus, is the Patron Saint of thieves and protector of many shady vocations. Among others he is the patron saint of gangsters. The Knights of Saint Nicholas is another name for the light-fingered gentry. He is the patron saint of pawn-brokers and their emblem is traced to him. Pirates emblazoned his likeness on their flags. Other wards of St. Nicholas are spinsters, sailors, etc."

Is there an atom of truth in this fictitious and hypocritical statement made by this collector of oddities? Can any kind reader shed light on the subject?

Ratmalana.

Geo. P. Solomons.

A Query

REMEMBER in the late 1930's when I was a student of St. Joseph's College, the late Fr. Le Goc introducing a priest who visited Ceylon with a mission to promote the recitation of the "Our Father" followed by saying five times the ejaculation "Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Thy Kingdom Come." I shall be glad if you or any of your readers will let me know:

- (1) The name of this missionary, the country of origin of the mission and the date this priest visited Ceylon.
- (2) The special graces obtained by making this devotion, the purpose of this mission.
- (3) Whether this mission is being perpetuated in our country and, if so, by what organization.

Kingsley Pathiwill.

No. 271, Bloemendhal Road, Colombo 13.

Worth Reading

HOW many people, I wonder, are aware of the existence of that truly excellent book "Other People" by Wingfield Hope. It is a sequel to the author's earlier book "Life Together" and deals with problems facing a new couple's married life.

Charity begins at home but it does not end there. And if the love of husband and wife for each other is not to turn sour, it must expand, it must diffuse itself — even to the ends of the earth like the Love of God. All this and much more, (especially the young couple's duties to "Other People" including the "In-laws") is brought out in this little book, which is fully worth its weight in gold to be read and re-read so that its matter be assimilated to one's own

profit and the profit of "Other People."

Dehiwela.

Eric Van Rooyen.

Osservatore is 100 years old

ON January 1, the *Osservatore* appeared with "Year 100" as its imprint.

Despite this, the *Osservatore's* centenary year does not open until July 1.

Count Dalla Torre, the editor, explains the discrepancy.

He says: "The first copy of our newspaper appeared on July 1, 1861, and naturally the date bar was 'Year 1.'"

"Six months later, on January 1, 1862, the date bar was 'Year 2.'"

"Thus, whereas the *Osservatore* will enter its centenary year on July 1, 1960, it will complete its hundredth year on July 1, 1961."

Pope addresses Catholic Actionists

Co-operation is necessary

THE main task of Catholic Action is to lend helping hands to the Hierarchy in their task of spreading the Kingdom of God on earth and in the souls of men, said Pope John XXIII recently in an address in St. Peter's to 20,000 members of Italy's Catholic Action.

The Pope explicitly emphasized that his remarks applied not merely to Catholic Action in Italy but to the movement throughout the world, and he underlined Catholic Action's subordination under the bishops while also pointing out the necessity for international co-operation.

He quoted Pope Pius XI, who said that a clear distinction from every other religious association and, above all, from civil associations was a mark of Catholic Action. The laity must co-operate in the apostolate of the Hierarchy, passing over transitory differences, since no difficulties could overcome the uniting and co-ordinating power of filial love.

INSTRUCTION

The Pope added that, in order to obtain this spirit of noble obedience and of co-operation, religious formation inside Catholic Action must take the first place. Therefore religious instruction on a high level and spiritual leadership were more important than any technical or organisational problem, because success in these

spheres depended on the power of the inner life.

Besides the mark of *adiutorium* — "help" — Pope John named as a second mark of Catholic Action that of a *speculum*, the mirror of an ordered, disciplined, and harmonious union.

In this lay the secret of an irresistible force of attraction, while the contrary spirit — purely personal and local enterprises, individualism, rigid perseverance in preconceived positions — begot confusion and let valuable time be lost.

As a third mark of Catholic Action the Pope named being a sign for the necessities and needs of the modern age. For this reason members of Catholic Action must bear witness to the beauty of the Gospel and God's interests, as well as defending the dignity, freedom, and rights of man.

"And this one attains through clarity of programme, excellence of methods, and simplicity of speech," concluded the Pope.

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DEHIWALA WILL CELEBRATE JUBILEE

Red Letter Days: 13th and 14th February, 1960

COLOURFUL scenes aflame with splendour and highlighting the rich glory of the Church's ritual will be enacted on the 13th and 14th of February when His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, and His Lordship Rt. Rev. Dr. Leo Nanayakkara, O.S.B., Bishop of Kandy, will officiate at the 125th anniversary celebrations of St. Mary's Church, Dehiwala, assisted by eight priests who were born in Dehiwala and who claim St. Mary's Church as the Parish Church of their childhood. This Jubilee will also mark the revival of the traditional devotions to Our Lady of the Purification.

The celebrations proper will commence on the 5th of February with the customary observance of the nine Novenas preparatory to the celebration of the feast of the Purification. The earliest records available and the traditional belief point to the fact that these Novenas are celebrated by the descendants of the original builders of this church or their near relatives.

The building of this church was completed in 1835 A.D. and was blessed and dedicated to Our Lady of the Purification. On the occasion of the Jubilee it would be fitting that we give mature thought to the wondrous significance of the Purification.

"The Blessed Mother of our Saviour always remaining a spotless Virgin was under no obligation to submit to the traditional Law of Purification. She, however, placed herself within the letter of the Law in the eye of the world, who were yet strangers to her miraculous conception by submitting with great punctuality and exactness to every humbling circumstance which the Law required. Her Humility made her conceal her Dignity and Privilege. Pride indeed proclaims its own advantages and seeks honours not its due. The Humble find delight in Obscurity and abasement. They shun all distinction and esteem."

Devotion and zeal to honour

St. Mary's Church Dehiwala is 125 years old

God by every observance prescribed by his Law prompted Mary to perform this act of religion. Being poor herself, she made the offering of the poor. But her

By
J. A. de Andrado

offering was made with a perfect heart, which is what God chiefly regards in all that is offered to him.

Feelings and sentiments of a similar order, forgetting the mistakes and errors of others, pardoning their faults, if any, should guide all Catholics, particularly the Faithful of Dehiwala, in their attitude towards this Jubilee.

SPIRITUAL RETREAT

Besides the preparatory Novenas, the celebrations will be preceded by a spiritual retreat in English and Sinhalese. The past parishioners and benefactors of the church will be remembered and prayed for at a special Requiem High Mass to be said during the Retreat. Perhaps the most striking portion of a crowded programme will be the Procession fixed for Saturday, February 13, immediately before Vespers. The route of this procession will cover the cardinal points of the church. The historic statue blessed on the day first Mass was said at Dehiwala 125 years ago, will be carried in this Procession by the Leaders of the Novenas.

True to traditional development

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of most Catholic churches in Ceylon, St. Mary's records a very interesting history. It is a church built by very poor men. Endowed with a zeal common to all such poor men, these pioneers built their church with their own hands. They were the architects, they were the engineers, they were also carpenters and masons. That made their miniature edifice more pleasing to God. A prominent client of Our Lady gifted the land. When these poor builders ran short of finances and were unable to complete the building of the church, they raised a loan, mortgaging all their earthly possessions.

Such sacrifices are praiseworthy. While meriting ungrudging recognition, they should be an incentive to give the poor man his rightful place in the church.

At the time of the founding of the church, Dehiwala had only twelve Catholic families. At this very spot where these twelve families assembled every Sunday for the usual devotions, 1,200 families kneel today in silent prayer.

By the year 1851 the Rev. Fr. Mavor, the priest in charge of the mission, realised that the church built in 1835 was too small to house the growing congregation. In a sermon he intimated his intention of demolishing the old church with a view of constructing a larger one. This task of building a more spacious church was undertaken by the Rev. Fr. Bergeretti, well known in engineering circles.

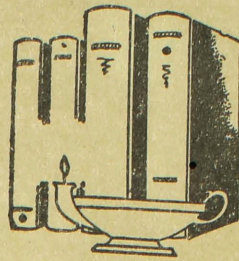
During the period between the demolition of the first church and the completion of the second one, divine services were conducted in a temporary cadjan structure in close proximity to the building under way.

The religious riots of 1880 were a grave impediment to the growth of the church. The cadjan structure was set fire to, adding greatly to the severe inconvenience experienced by the Faithful. Though the resulting loss was great and impeded the building of the church, the devout parishioners set about their task with greater zest and zeal.

On the 30th June 1883, at the request of Rev. Fr. Felix Bergeretti, His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Pagnani, Bishop of Colombo, blessed the new church with a solemnity and grandeur unsurpassed.

During the periods mentioned, Dehiwala had no resident priest as the finances of the mission were insufficient to maintain a priest. On receiving several petitions from the people of Dehiwala requesting a priest, His Grace requested the late Rev. Fr. T. Lagathu to celebrate Mass on Sundays only as an experiment. This venture was a great success. Consequently on 26th January, 1908, Archbishop Anthony Coudert, O. M.I., made Dehiwala a separate Mission with Angulana, Ratmalana and Galkissa attached to it.

Continued on page 11



★ Journalism Prizes ADDITIONAL AWARD

The attention of all competitors is drawn to the revised rules regarding the JOHN LEO DE CROOS MEMORIAL PRIZE and the A. X. MACHADO MEMORIAL AWARD below. An Additional Award—THE ST. MICHAEL'S STUDIO AWARD—is also announced now.

THE MESSENGER in conjunction with the Catholic Press Board is pleased to announce the 1960 MESSENGER JOURNALISM AWARDS for the third year in succession.

Five major Awards are once again offered to readers of this paper:

(1) THE MESSENGER WRITER OF THE YEAR AWARD — for the year's outstanding article with a Catholic background awarded by His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I.

(2) THE J. P. DE FONSEKA AWARD — for the year's outstanding poem with a Catholic setting presented by the Catholic Press.

(3) THE JOHN LEO DE CROOS MEMORIAL PRIZE of Rs. 250/- presented by Shri A. L. J. Croos Raj Chandra for the best essay on the Blessed Virgin. The theme this year will be "Cause of our Joy."

Essays should be within the 1,000-1,500 word range.

This Award carries in addition a prize of Rs. 50/- to the runner-up, also presented by Shri A. L. J. Croos Raj Chandra.

(4) THE A. X. MACHADO MEMORIAL AWARD for the year's best short story presented by Mr. Joachim R. Machado, M.B.E.

Short stories should not exceed 1,000 words in length.

(5) THE ST. MICHAEL'S AWARDS for the year's best article and poem presented by

Mr. Michael Rodriguez. This Contest is open to all Schools-Mag members only.

Entries for the above-mentioned Awards will, from now on, be accepted.

Readers who wish to enter for these Contests are requested to adhere strictly to the Rules enumerated below:

(a) All Entries for these Awards shall clearly specify "Writer of the Year," "Poetry," "Essay," "Short Story" or "Junior Award" on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

(b) Each such entry must have a Messenger Journalism Award Coupon (printed below) with the details clearly filled in and affixed to the individual's entry.

(c) All entries addressed to The Editor, MESSENGER, Catholic Press, Borella must reach him on or before 12 noon on 31 March 1960.

(d) A competitor may take part in one or more of these Awards, and more than one entry may be also sent in by a competitor for any single Award provided each such entry carries a Coupon.

(e) Writers, both Catholic and non-Catholic must write under their own names. Contributions under pseudonyms will not be entertained.

(f) The decision of the Editor of the MESSENGER and of the Catholic Press Board in regard to all matters relating to these Awards shall be final, and no correspondence whatsoever on the subject will be entertained.

1960 MESSENGER JOURNALISM AWARD COUPON No. 2

I submit herewith my entry for the 1960 Messenger Journalism Awards

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SECTION (State here for which of the 5 Awards you are entering).....

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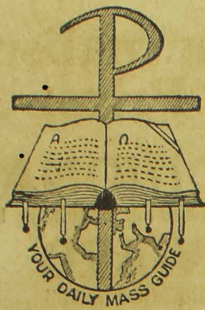
THE POOR CLARES COLETTINES,
Convent of Mary Immaculate, Tewatte, Ragama.

PROGRESS IN PRAYER

by
C. P. M. ABEYSEKERA

IN the early days I used to entice my dog Rexie with tit-bits, by petting him and with loving words. Now it was reached a stage when he huddles close to me not because of any food I give him but simply because I am his loving master.

Most of us attend the Novenas held on Wednesdays at All Saints', Borella, and make known our requests to God. During our spiritual infancy, God rewards our feeble efforts at prayer through healings and immediate answers to them. He has done so in my case and in a larger measure in the case of non-Christians. But as I grow and I reach spiritual maturity, I find He expects from me much more. He expects me to love Him and adore Him simply because He is My Lord. I admit that in the past I had regarded prayer as magic and often substituted the Gift for the Giver. He has sometimes withdrawn his rewards for awhile so that I may get hold of Him and not of the Answer. It is only when I have matured up to a point where He becomes My All in All irrespective of unanswered prayer, poverty sickness, religious persecution and the like that I would really understand the secret of prayer. Then and then only would I be able to carry with me the key to all the treasures which Heaven is waiting to bestow upon me.



Sunday, 7 February: FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY. Green. Creed. Preface of the Trinity.

Monday, 8 February: St. John. White.

Tuesday, 9 February: St. Cyril. White. 2nd prayer of St. Apollonia. Creed.

Wednesday, 10 February: St. Scholastica. White.

Thursday, 11 February: Apparition of the Blessed Virgin at Lourdes. White. Creed. Preface of B.V.M.

Friday, 12 February: The Seven Holy Founders. White.

Saturday, 13 February: Mass of the Blessed Virgin. White.

Sunday, 14 February: SEPTUAGESIMA. Violet. Creed. Preface of the Trinity.

Unless otherwise stated, the prayer prescribed is always said (Archdiocese: from the Mass of March 19th).

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 FEBRUARY

GENERAL: That religion in the Eternal City may revive with fresh fervour through the Synod of Rome.

MISSIONARY: That the Church suffering persecution in China may be effectively upheld by the whole Catholic world being united in prayer and action.

Strands of the Story 226

TV AND TOGETHER—TO THE TOMB

WHILE we obstinately consider the finding of Fr. Vaz's tomb an objective worth all the trouble for itself, we can only rejoice that the quest is sharpening interest in all that concerns his life, his times and the singular mission entrusted to him by Divine Providence.

Evidence of this interest trickles through to our Secretariate from the most unexpected quarters—even from across the seas.

The prize item is no doubt news from Fr. Francis O. Tambimuttu of Trinco, presently at St. Ignatius Rectory, Long Beach, New York, that he is to publish a book on the Church in Ceylon for the *World Horizon* series and means to devote an entire chapter to Fr. Vaz and the Oratorian band of missionaries.

Even better, once this work is over, Fr. Tambimuttu is going to address himself to an assignment from St. Anthony's Guild Press in Patterson, New Jersey, for a teen-agers' life of our Apostle.

And then, still better, Father hopes to get Fr. Keller or some other group to put it over T.V. He is doubtless right when he says: "This heroic priest's life is bound to catch the American imagination."

Imagination the Americans must certainly have with space-ships as their nursery toys. Now while general interest is always a power for a Cause of Beatification, we may allow ourselves to be gently rocked into the hope that American interest will help us even directly with our quest of Father's tomb. Readers must be wondering what has come of our idea of getting Fr. Linehan's Boston College Seismological Team to undertake soundings here for the Tomb slumbering somewhere in Kandy's sub-soil. All we can say is that we have sounded Boston (even through Fr. Superior Regular of Trinco.) but received no responsive signal. With obstinate optimism we now switch our hopes to Fr. Tambimuttu's presence "on the spot." If Fr. Vaz's story ever gets on to Television there and the children of America learn that Boston College has the gadgets to unearth his long-lost tomb, there'll be no rest for Fr. Linehan till he agrees to come out and try.

Meanwhile, with less spectacular tackle our local Knights of the Quest are continuing the probe into every nook and corner of legend and historical lore. It is our firm belief that every gesture counts—less for its immediate "catch" than for its delayed repercussion on the final outcome, which, we never cease to repeat, will be determined by Heaven's intervention—to put it bluntly, by Our Lady's favour.

Specimens of these local contributions are:

(i) a clipping from the "New Leader" (Madras) sent in by

Mr. S. Thommanupillai.

(ii) a communication from Mr. A. J. Blake of Colpetty bolstering his claim that Fr. Vaz lies buried in Trinco with a

FATHER VAZ FEATURE

statement from his septuagenarian friend, Mr. M. Namasiyayam.

This latter, a draughtsman of Trinco, specifies that the tomb Mr. Blake refers to in the big maiden existed over two hundred years ago; that it holds the remains of Muhamadu Casim; but that Fr. Vaz himself may be buried in the Christian cemetery just a few yards away.

Whatever be the immediate material value of these contributions, they certainly light up our story with

the warm glow of human relationship. For, as the letters communicated to us reveal, the question of Fr. Vaz's tomb has re-opened correspondence between these old-timers. "It is a great delight to get letters from good old friends," writes Mr. Namasiyayam to Mr. Blake.

It is just that. Common interest in the Cause of our ancient Apostle has brought to life a "conspiracy" of efforts that is renewing old contacts and forging fresh ones. We are moving together—Prelates, priests and people. Together we must eventually arrive.

ACKNOWLEDGED: Letter from Fr. Postulator, Rome, 8 Jan. 1960. For the Beatification Fund from Mr. N. A. B. Stave: Rs. 5.

Priests' Project (celebration gratis for intentions received by Fr. Postulator); Colombo: 1; Jaffna: 5. Total: 167.

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO No. 19113/T

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of Polpitige Don John Jamader Henry Perera of Chilaw. — Deceased.

Don John Anthony Cyril Methodius Perera of 627, Convent Road, Ragama. — Petitioner.

- Hettiaratchige Dona Odella Perera of Bandirippuwa.
- Don Paul Gurusinghe.
- Don Terence Gurusinghe.
- Dona Christina Gurusinghe, a minor by her Guardian-ad-litem.
- D. G. Gurusinghe all of Waragoda.
- Don Ranjit Willathgamuwa.
- Dona Selena Willathgamuwa.
- Dona Manel Willathgamuwa.
- Don Justin Willathgamuwa, a minor by his Guardian-ad-litem.
- Mrs. Dona Alexander Theodora Willathgamuwa all of Old Road, Kelaniya.
- Edirisuriyage Stanley Perera.
- Edirisuriyage Hilton Perera.
- Edirisuriyage Shirley Perera.
- Edirisuriyage Neville Perera.
- Edirisuriyage Merril Perera.
- Edirisuriyage Norma Perera.
- Edirisuriyage Lloyd Perera (the 15th respondent to 17th respondent are minors by their Guardian-ad-litem).
- E. C. P. Perera, Station Master, Talpe.
- Mrs. Dorothy Beatrice de Silva of Talpe. — Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before J. E. A. Alles, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Colombo, on the 16th day of December, 1959, in the presence of Mr. C. St. J. Puvimannasinghe, Proctor, on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 15th December 1959 and the affidavit of the witnesses dated 15th December 1959, having been read:

It is ordered that the Last Will and Testament made by the deceased abovenamed and dated 27th October 1950 and witnessed by five witnesses, be and the same is hereby declared proved and that the petitioner abovenamed is the Executor named therein, and that he is hereby declared entitled to have Probate thereof issued to him accordingly, unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 25th day of February 1960, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

1960

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It is further ordered that the 5th respondent abovenamed be and he is hereby declared appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 4th respondent minor abovenamed, and that the 10th respondent abovenamed be appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 9th respondent minor abovenamed; and that the 18th respondent abovenamed be and he is hereby declared appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 15th to 17th minor respondents abovenamed, unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 25th day of February 1960, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. J. E. A. Alles,
Additional District Judge.
This 16th day of December 1959.

Office: 282, Hulstsdorf, Colombo.
Residence: "St. Margaret's",
Hendala, Wattala.

H. J. H. Milroy Fonseka,
Proctor, Supreme Court
and Notary Public.

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO No. 19145/T

In the matter of the Intestate Estate and effects of the late Anna Elizabeth Ranasinghe nee Dias of 17/2, Church Road, Wattala in the Ragam Pattu of Alutcuru Korale. — Deceased.

Charles Jerome Ranasinghe of 17/2, Church Road, Wattala. — Petitioner.

- AND
- Dodwell Silva Ranasinghe.
 - Anastasia Irangani Jayamanna nee Ranasinghe.
 - Michael Ranjit Ranasinghe.
 - Mary Indrani Ranasinghe.
 - Charudaleka Constance Ranasinghe.
 - Mary Sirima Ranasinghe.
 - Mary Nilangani Ranasinghe, all of No. 17/2, Church Road, Wattala, the 3rd to 7th are minors appearing by their Guardian-ad-litem, the abovenamed 1st Respondent. — Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before J. E. A. Alles, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Colombo, on the 12th day of January, 1960, in the presence of Mr. H. J. H. Milroy Fonseka, Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner, dated 12th January 1960, having been read:

It is ordered that the 1st respondent abovenamed be and he is hereby declared appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the 3rd to 7th minor respondents abovenamed.

It is further ordered that the petitioner abovenamed be and he is hereby declared entitled as the eldest son of the deceased abovenamed to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased, issued to him accordingly, unless the respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 10th day of March, 1960, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. J. E. A. Alles,
Additional District Judge.
This 12th day of January, 1960.

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FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND ITS ABUSE...

IN one of the most frankly worded and severely critical statements ever made on the Press by a Pope, the Holy Father has—

- called for laws to curb the abuse of freedom of the Press;
- told Catholics that they have a duty to shun publications that harm the religious and moral well-being of a community;
- told Catholics that when criticising the Press they should not be afraid of the charge that they are scrupulous or that they exaggerate. All they should fear in this respect is the sin of omission.

Pope John, who was addressing Italian Catholic jurists taking part in their national congress, revealed that he is an avid reader of newspapers and made it clear that he had drawn the impressions expressed in the speech from that fact.

When he had finished his address he told the jurists that the expression of deep concern regarding Press abuses had "given Us some relief, like a person who has rid himself of a great burden weighing on his soul."

GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT

His Holiness began his address by saying that the problem of freedom of the Press "is one of the truly crucial points of today's social life." He added that it is a matter to which he has given much thought for many years, but especially since his election to the papacy.

He recalled his youth and how he had been reared in a tradition that was always open to a knowledge of the true and beautiful. He said he could not remember ever having been offended in his youth by "disconcerting visions, words or accounts."

This, he went on, he considers a tribute to the forthrightness, honesty and delicacy of the conscience of his people. He noted, moreover, that the days of his youth were those "tempestuous and polemical times" following the Italian seizure of the Papal States, when conditions for many Catholics were less favourable than they are today.

POISON

With the memory of his youth in his mind, he asked: "How can the Pope remain indifferent when confronted with the spread of news, advertising and historical fiction which have nothing to do with instruction or honest information?"

"Does his heart not suffer at the thought of the poison that is administered with unrestrained detail to so many innocent people and to youth in their inexperience and the confusion of their adolescent years with accounts, exposes

and illustrations which have nothing to do with the knowledge of truth and the love of what is good and the vision of what is beautiful, but which indeed are clearly excluded from them?"

SCANDAL

He repeated the words of Christ as a clear warning to purveyors of such a Press:—

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it were better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.

"Woe to the world because of scandals! For it must needs be that scandals come, but woe to the man through whom scandal does come" (18 Matt. 6, 7).

He said that a free Press must discipline itself and conform to the divine laws which are reflected in human laws, in the same way that a free man must discipline himself and conform to positive precepts which forbid him doing harm to the freedom, goods and life of his neighbour.

He declared: "It is not lawful for the Press, under the pretext that it must be free, to assail daily and systematically the religious and moral well-being of humanity. All financial and news considerations must be subordinated to these basic laws."

DEFORMING PUBLIC OPINION

He said that, while a free Press must inform the public and even sometimes form public opinion, it cannot be left free to "deform public opinion."

He stated openly that "it is not the love of knowledge, culture and truth that guides certain pens, but the unhealthy fire of certain passions and the immoderate desire for notoriety and gain which

An avid reader of newspapers, Pope John XX-III speaks of the problem of freedom of the Press as one of the truly crucial points of today's social life.

puts aside the insistent appeals of conscience." He continues:—

"Can it be lawful for someone blatantly to offer details and descriptions to a... curiosity which should be reserved to police laboratories and the courts? Is it ever lawful to allow criminal deeds to become the occasion and incentive to vice, when it would be better to throw a veil of pity over these crimes?"

ADVERTISING

"Advertising itself, especially in particular fields, following evil rules, has assumed disconcerting and frightening aspects that cannot be justified except by a deliberate intention of arousing passions and swaying decision without concern for the wounds left on souls.

"Attentive examination of this painful situation must therefore lead responsible authorities to a logical and dutiful conclusion: That there must be certain limitations on the exercise of freedom of the Press.

"And these limitations must be



- Basic laws for Free Press
- Defamation of public opinion
- Harmful trends in Advertising
- What Catholics can do about it...

strictly determined on by law... so that such a deliberate, important and decisive field for the future of every nation may not be left to the mercy of improvisation, or feeble self-control, of which so much has been said—or worse, to the mercy of bad faith and

deceit."

It was primarily up to Catholics to make every effort to create a decent Press, the Pope said.

They "should not buy, or give credit to, or favour, or even name the errant Press."

IN VIETNAM TODAY

VIETNAM HAS THE SECOND LARGEST PROPORTION OF CATHOLICS IN ALL ASIA. WITH ITS TWO MILLION CATHOLICS AND DESPITE THE NON-CHRISTIAN MAJORITY THE COUNTRY APPEARS TO BE ENTIRELY MARY-CENTRED...

TWO million Catholics in Vietnam have a special invocation: it is "Duc Me." When a Vietnamese says *Duc Me* he does not refer to any Lady, but "Our Lady."

In Vietnam, the title has been garnished with many variations. There is "Duc Me Lo Duc," Our Lady of Lourdes; "Duc Me Phatima," Our Lady of Fatima; "Duc Me Hang Cui Giup," Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Whatever be the mode of reference and in spite of the country's non-Christian majority, Vietnam appears to be totally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin.

This fact is borne out by the popularity of the Rosary, the holding of numerous and colourful processions in her honour each year, such as that in May in which she is garlanded with flowers. In Vietnam not only girls but even boys are baptised "Maria."

ROSARY RIVER

Bui Chu is a river south-east of Hanoi, now under the control of the Communists. It is traditionally known as the "Con Song Man Coi," or the "Rosary River." This is because the Catholic population who used to crowd that area were invariably observed to be fingering their rosary beads when they boarded sampans (small river boats) to cross the river to market.

There is a Vietnamese legend which claims that Our Lady appeared twice in Vietnam, and has performed at least one visible miracle.

The first apparition was said to be at La Vang, some 32 kilometres north of Hue, the old imperial capital, and took place in 1798. The second was in 1885 at another village called Tra Kieu.

In 1798 the Vietnamese Emperor Can Thinhh initiated punitive expedi-

tions against Catholic villages in the north of Central Vietnam. Fleeing the attacking soldiers, the beleaguered Christians sought refuge in a desolate region in Quang Tri province, (near the 17th Parallel which today divides the Communist North from the Free South Vietnam).

Once there, they prayed for Our Lady's protection, and one day, in answer to their supplications, Our Lady suddenly appeared at the foot of a banyan tree and addressed words of consolation to them. She also pointed out what herbs to use to cure their diseases and as a result marvellous recoveries were obtained.

The second apparition, the Filipino Research student and journalist Mr. Maximo V. Soliven says, is of exceptional interest since the story is attributed not to Catholics but their persecutors:

Almost a century after the miracle of La Vang, during one of the ever recurrent repressions which plagued the Church until almost the end of the nineteenth century, another expedition was dispatched against the Catholics. In Tra Kieu, were elements of the harassed Christians regrouped and resisted their attackers, the assaulting forces brought up cannon and proceeded to shell the village. All at once, the soldiers conducting the siege caught sight of what they described as "a very beautiful lady in a white gown" standing on the roof of the village church.

WHILE SHE STOOD THERE, THEY REPORTED, ALTHOUGH THE CHURCH WAS A SCANT ONE HUNDRED METRES AWAY, THEY FOUND IT IMPOSSIBLE

• Spotlight on the Church in Vietnam by Mark Samaranayake

TO HIT THE BUILDING WITH THEIR CANNON FIRE.

RECENT INCIDENT

The third and final incident is of more recent vintage. It was alleged to have occurred in either 1950 or 1951 at the time the Communist Viet Minh forces were engaged in an attempt to stamp out Catholicism in the province of Ben Tre. At a village known as La Ma, a statue of the Virgin was cast into the mud and abandoned. Some time later, however, it was rescued by a faithful Catholic and concealed in his garden. When the statue was taken out of the mud, the story goes as narrated by Mr. Soliven in the Vietnam Press bulletin during the Marian Congress held in Saigon last year, the paint was neither corroded nor washed away by the damp and the soil.

As weeks went by, it underwent a strange transformation. Although no cleaning or re-painting had been done on it, the original colours began to return even more brightly than before.

"Fact or fancy? Whatever they may be, they are a splendid token of a singular fact. Not only have the Vietnamese a special place in their hearts for Our Lady, but it may well be true that Our Lady has a special place in her heart for Vietnam," as stated by Mr. Soliven.

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SATURDAY, 6th FEBRUARY, 1960

THE PRESS—informing or deforming public opinion?

WE give considerable prominence today to an address by His Holiness the Pope to a Congress of Italian Jurists on the subject of the Freedom of the Press. We do so with the hope that it will make our readers realise that everyone of us, howsoever humble, has obligations on this serious matter, the shirking of which could very well be tantamount to a serious sin of omission against society as a whole. It is time that all of us realised that there are sins not only of commission, but of omission as well; it is time too that we realised that tragic gravity of merely sitting back with arms folded, loftily critical, while not making any positive contribution ourselves. The Pope makes a very strong point in the address: what are we as individuals, and as a group doing about the abuse of the freedom of the press? It is a question that has been put to us squarely; and hence it is one that we can no longer shirk. Each of us must have an answer—and each of us must act, before it is too late.

His Holiness began the address by saying that the freedom of the Press is "one of the truly crucial points of today's social life." We here in Ceylon, who have gone through so many vicissitudes with regard to the Press, could not be in greater agreement. For what is it that we have experienced ourselves? On the one hand, a Press that has often betrayed the high ideals of its lofty vocation; that has prostituted truth for the sake of expediency; that has jettisoned even morality for the sake of high finance; that has exalted crime and made something repellent appear attractive and popular; and has increased and magnified, and sometimes even fanned, non-existent grievances, thus making a bad situation worse. But on the other hand, we have also experienced the whip-lash coming down on the Press—first the late Mr. Bandaranaike's Press censorship, and in recent months, the far more complete and over-all press-gag by his successor in office, Mr. Dahanayake. The more one thinks, the more one realises, that in our little country, the drama of the Press is being enacted in a most vivid manner, and that therefore, we who are citizens of this land have all the greater responsibility to be vigilant, to realise the obligations and the duties which none of us could shirk.

The Pope put it very succinctly when he pointed out that while a free Press must inform the public and even sometimes form public opinion, it cannot be left free to "deform public opinion." That really is the crux of the problem facing the pressman in the modern world—for the power he wields is tremendous with the influence of the printed word today, and the temptation to prostitute his power for baser ends is also something very real. We hope to be pardoned if we repeat here two of the perils which the Pope makes express mention of.

First, asked the Pope, why this glorification of vice in the Press of today? Why this going into lurid details of crime, and this publication of details which should be reserved to police stations and law courts? "Is it ever lawful," asked His Holiness, "to allow criminal deeds to become the occasion and incentive to vice?" How very apposite this warning is to our own country, when in certain sections of the Press, far too much prominence is given to sordid details of the lowest and basest form of crime. Of course, we do admit that it makes news; but it makes for ruin as well—ruin of the hearts and souls of youth who are in the painful process of being built up and moulded for life.

The Pope went on to raise still another aspect of the duty of the Press, when he pin-pointed the ever-increasing problem of advertising, which, he said, especially in particular fields "has assumed disconcerting and frightening aspects that cannot be justified except by a deliberate intention of rousing passions and swaying decision without concern for the wounds left on souls." Already before Pope John XXIII spoke of this, his immediate predecessor in office, Pope Pius XII of revered memory, addressed himself to this particular evil on a number of occasions, and frequently he made very serious appeals to all those engaged in the work of the press.

We ourselves, in our own small way, have tried in the past to take the Papal message, and to focus the minds of our readers on this question. Can anyone of us [say truthfully that the propaganda-machine of the press is being used for the health of youth and of the nation, when it comes to a matter of film-advertising? Can we say that the cinema advertising has always been on the side of building up, and not on the side of breaking down? We can hardly forget some utterly revolting and disgusting advertising which appeared some years ago even in a national daily, when it was advertising a Sinhalese film. Unless the men who matter, the men who control the cinema, and above all the men who control the Press, cry a halt to this kind of shameful lowering of all ideals and all standards of decency, it will surely be too late to do anything at all.

We have taken up two of the Pope's warnings; but there are many more; and there also are many more evils resulting from a Press which may be completely regardless of principles and ideals. The defamation of public opinion must stop; harmful trends in advertising must be curbed; but above all, the Catholic—and still more specially, the lay apostle—must realise that he or she has a very definite obligation to discharge. For, as the Pope said, the Catholic has a duty to shun publications that harm the religious and moral well-being of a community—and there is an abundance of this kind of cheap, filthy, debasing filth, that is so easily available in Ceylon today. But the Pope went further: he told Catholics that, when criticising the Press, they should not be afraid of the oft-repeated shibboleth that they are scrupulous or that they exaggerate.

Every single Catholic has to be vigilant—for each individual can and must discharge his duty. Let us not wait for organisations to start; the individual has already before him a sacred charge. To be blissfully inactive, would be a serious sin of omission, towards society as a whole.

MARXISM

CERTAIN references in the recent New Year Message of His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo appear to have been misunderstood in certain quarters. It is not generally realised that Marxism is a tremendous anti-religious force. It is the inveterate foe of all religions, including Buddhism. This is crystal clear from the writings of the founders and exponents of the gospel according to Karl Marx.

"The people," says Karl Marx, "cannot be really happy until it has been deprived of illusory happiness by the abolition of religion." Lenin, whilst endorsing Marx, states the official attitude of Marxism to religion: "The Philosophy of Social Democracy is based on scientific socialism, i.e., on Marxism. As Marx and Engels frequently declared, the philosophic basis of Marxism is dialectical materialism, a materialism which is absolutely atheistic and strongly hostile to all religion. . . . Religion is the opium of the people," said Marx, and this thought is the cornerstone of the whole Marxian philosophy on the question of religion. Marxism regards all religions and churches, all religious organisations, as organs of bourgeois reaction. We must combat religion—this is the A B C of Marxism. The Marxist must be an enemy of religion and definitely hostile to all religion."

Stalin, in an interview with an American Labour Delegation, declared his position on religion: "The Party cannot be neutral in regard to religion. Marxists who hinder the broadest development of anti-religious propaganda have no place in the ranks of the Party.

In their fight against religion, the Marxists have treated Buddhism and Christianity as the twin pillars of Capitalism: "Behind every ikon of Christ and behind every statue of the Buddha is seen lurking the barbarous spectre of Capitalism." (Berdyaev, the Russian philosopher). Therefore destroy both.

Marx jeers at Hinduism: "That religion is at once a religion of sensualised exuberance and a religion of self-torturing asceticism, a religion of the Lingam and of the Juggernaut." (Letters on India).

It has been recently stated in a local paper that the Marxists are not anti-religious now. The following quotations culled from authoritative sources would indicate the present attitude of Marxism towards religion, particularly Buddhism:

"Soviet science alone was able to expose correctly the roots, the historical road, and the reactionary character of Buddhism, and to show its real role in the exploitation of the toiling masses. The toiling masses, which are learning more and more the advanced progressive ideas of a scientific world outlook, oppose the reactionary ideas of Buddhism, as well as of other religions." (Large Soviet Encyclopaedia, Vol. 6, 1951, p. 288.)

"The philosophy of Marxism, which is the guiding light for Chinese leaders, is a negation of the Buddha's fellowship based on love and non-violence, and unending pursuit of knowledge." (Sathia Wati, Buddhist Scholar, in the "Hinduism Times" of November 12, 1954.)

"The Chinese Marxists in their drive to stamp out Buddhism in Tibet did not allow monks freedom of religious activities; rituals inside the monasteries were restricted and youngsters were not allowed to join monasteries." (Dalai Lama's letter to Nehru, "Ceylon Daily News," 18-4-59.)

"The Protestant and Catholic religions are not the only ones to suffer a campaign aiming at their extinction, but the Moslem and Buddhist faiths are also regarded as 'enemies of the State,' the treatment accorded each being adapted to domestic circumstances and the propaganda requirements of the Reds in their international relations. The government has made short and brutal shift of the Buddhist monks, arresting them wholesale and sending them to labour camps." (Dr. Hunter "The Black Book on Red China.")

"WE MARXISTS, ARE MATERIALISTS. OUR GOAL IS TO MAKE RELIGION DISAPPEAR." (Sanzo Nozaka, Leader of the Japanese Communists, in an interview with P. O'Connor, N.C.W.C., Correspondent.)

"To overcome religion and superstitious ideas we must destroy the roots from which religions stem. We depend neither on the gift of God nor on Buddha's mercy for our happiness." (Peking "Daily Worker," November

28, 1956.)

Frank Clune, noted writer and publicist, spent several months in Formosa and Hong Kong recently interviewing Buddhist and Taoist monks, Christian priests and others who had actually suffered imprisonment, torture and the suppression of their religious activities in the



—The Enemy of All Religions

name of "freedom of religion" in Soviet China.

"In 1949, when the Reds seized power," says Clune, "there were 800,000 Buddhist monasteries and nunneries in China, with a total of four and a half million Buddhist monks and nuns, serving as spiritual

by gifts from the faithful, or in some cases partly by rents from lands bequeathed in bygone centuries for the upkeep of the temples.

"There was no hierarchy or organised central control of Buddhism in China. Each local temple or monastery was self-governing but

by J. A. A. de SILVA

leaders or teachers of more than half the population of China.

"The Buddhist votaries lived chiefly in small monasteries attached to temples in the villages and towns. They were vowed to chastity, poverty and meditation, and were supported

advanced teachers sometimes went for further studies to Burma, etc.

"Under the cloak of double talk the Chinese Communists have been systematically liquidating Buddhism in China for nine years. By the

Continued on page 7

THIS IS A RESUME OF THE PREVIOUS ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN THE MESSENGER IN ITS ISSUE OF 23 JANUARY 1960 . . .

REFLECTIONS

IN spite of all I have said on the fundamental nature of civic consciousness and on the seriousness of the duty to vote, it might still seem to many that the obligation derives its seriousness merely from the fact that by not exercising your choice you may contribute towards the election of an undesirable individual who might abuse the public office he holds and act in a manner detrimental to the common good, thereby really desecrating the highest chamber of authority in the land.

Indeed this argument is a fairly compelling one, and might well stir many a lethargic citizen into action. And yet to my mind it casts, as it were, a negative light upon the whole matter—not only because it begins with the negative

This isn't true

People who find the Church only a subject for criticism, imagine (and they do not hesitate to tell the whole world so) that when she says you must vote, she is merely fram-

.. on Civic Consciousness

by H. S. PERERA

fact of not voting, but also because it involves a negative approach to the entire problem. For it could give rise to the belief that it is all a question of circumstances, that if in a particular situation there was no danger of an undesirable candidate being returned, then one need not go to the polls at all.

To the man who adopts this line of thinking, voting itself is not the exercise of a cherished right (to secure which thousands have thought it fit to shed their very blood), but a sort of necessary evil, one of these unfortunate things that one is, however, obliged to do in a desperate predicament. If a man cast his vote in this spirit, he cannot be really considered an effective member of the community, for he is content merely to comply with the letter of the law. In other words, in a democracy the obligation to vote is a primary one, as primary as the right to citizenship itself, although of course attendant circumstances might render the obligation heavier on one occasion than on another. I would go further and say that if the virtue of civic consciousness were universally practised, there would be no need to refer to voting as an obligation; one would refer to it only as a right; when a right is recognised and valued, there is no doubt as to whether it must be exercised or not; there is no need for permission.

ing an ad hoc regulation to counter the possibility of active anti-religionists coming into power, just as Government Agents promulgate certain laws under the Cattle Ordinance when Anthrax is discovered. They think that in fact the Church is not interested in the inherent fundamental right to vote any more than it is in English County Cricket. This is not true.

To begin with, the Church does not impose an obligation where it does not recognise a right. From the first moments of her dynamic foundation, she has regarded the activity of the Christian as a citizen as seriously as his conduct as a son of God, and in fact all her teaching has been directed to establish the essential unity between these two concepts, and this with so much vigour as to make the Evangelist John say with a terrifying simplicity "If anyone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar. For how can he who does not love his brother whom he sees, love God, whom he does not see?" The concept of a man as a member of society is nothing new to the Church. It is as old as the concept of Charity, for it is one

Continued on page 7

Kandy Bishop addresses Jaffna audience

(from our correspondent)

"IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO TRY TO ACCOMMODATE THE TENETS OF OUR FAITH TO SUIT OUR CONVENIENCES," SAID HIS LORDSHIP RT. REV. DR. LEO NAYAYAKKARA, O.S.B., BISHOP OF KANDY, IN THE COURSE OF AN INFORMAL ADDRESS TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR LADY OF REFUGEE READING CIRCLE, JAFFNA, RECENTLY.

On arrival, His Lordship was met by Mr. Alfred Swamipillai, the President, and garlanded by Mr. Regis Rajakarier.

His Lordship gave what he himself described to be an informal talk on modernistic interpretations of life. He deprecated the very facile assumptions adopted by a large number of modern youth in respect of God, Religion and the State. The laws of morality, said His Lordship, are the same for all time and it would be foolish to try to accommodate the ideals of life and the tenets of our Faith to suit our convenience, our whims and our fancies. He therefore entered a strong plea for the observance of the Laws of the Church and the cultivation of a clean and honest conscience. No better guide can be found for modern youth than the teachings of the One, Holy and Apostolic Church of God.

Mr. T. J. Emmanuel proposed a hearty vote of thanks which was seconded by Miss Matilda Thuraisingham.

Pallansena Patrician Meeting

THE Patrician Meeting of the Pallansena Group took place on Sunday, the 23rd January. Mr. S. A. Rosa gave a talk on "Are all Religions the Same?" Rev. Fr. Joseph Perera was the priest-speaker. There was a good audience and a lively discussion.

Attendance at Fatima Dispensary increases

(from a MESSENGER Reporter)

THE two-months-old Fatima Clinic and Dispensary situated, at 98, Cotta Road, Borella, was a hive of activity when I visited it again one day last week.

In addition to the services rendered by the full-time Doctor, a

number of specialists are conducting separate Clinics, the Eye-Clinic, Dental Clinic, etc.

I understand the Services of these specialists are donated freely. Most strikingly obvious was the increased number of patients seeking treatment at these daily Clinics.

The Fatima Clinic and Dispensary is open daily from 8 to 12 in the mornings and from 4 to 9 in the evenings on week days. On Sundays it is open from 9 to 11.

First-time Dominican Ceremony in Ceylon



Pictures taken at last week's unique ceremony (story on front page) show the five Ceylonese arriving, and (below) the "brides of Christ" after the clothing ceremony.



Tomorrow
Our Lady of Lanka festivities at Tewatte.

Photos by S. Param Anantham

★ NEXT WEEK'S FILM

"Theologically sound, reverent in treatment"

— Legion of Decency

THE NUN'S STORY

LET me sound a note of warning to those who will be seeing "The Nun's Story" to be shown at the Liberty in Colombo. In God's world there are no duplicates. No two persons can therefore be expected to see eye to eye in every detail and reach an unsplit, unanimous verdict on the film.

So many men, so many opinions. This is only one man's opinion, the opinion also, I will add, of a convert to the Faith.

The Catholic who sees this film will be well advised, I believe, to bear in mind that this is not the story of a vocation (as the title seems to implicate) but of one girl who lacked the fundamental rock-bottom of a vocation who, nevertheless, made a most commendable attempt to strive for the true sublimity of it. It is the portrayal of a superb try to scale the heights, a superb failure.

Initially, there seems to be here, I think, a confusion in the title itself: would it not have been more correct, more happily worded "An Ex-Nun's Story?"

Basically, this is clearly brought out in the story of the Belgian girl who longs to become a nursing missionary nun. Her doctor-father is doubtful of the genuineness of the vocation but on her wish takes her to the mother house, as a postulant.

As he himself says: "I can see you poor and chaste, Gabrielle, but for such a stubborn girl to take a vow of obedience . . ." and he expresses the warning: "Remember there would be no failure if you decide this is not the life for you."

And ultimately, she leaves the Order (many years after her final vows) with ecclesiastical permission. So much for the story.

Obviously, discussions and arguments will stem from the film. What will be its impact on the girl who wants to enter the religious life? Is it a fair presentation of the convent life? In this regard it does seem a pity that the film depicts the religious life as extreme-

by
HARRISON PEIRIS

ly gloomy, whereas in point of fact there are many Orders where the austerity is not so predominantly marked.

Once these hurdles are cleared, I have no hesitation in stating my view: it is only the cynic who will be disappointed with "The Nun's Story" thereby living up to that excellent definition of the cynic as a man who knows the price of everything but who does not know the value of anything!

For the first time in the history of the cinema we have here convent life presented reverently, in good taste and rare sensitivity, with an over-all impact that is profoundly and emotionally uplifting.

It is worth observing too that Fr. Gardner, S.J., literary editor of "America," was advisor on religious matters for this film when the unit was on location in Belgium. The interiors were filmed in Rome. Throughout, the film is theologically sound, it has been confirmed.

As Sister Luke, Audrey Hepburn gives a monumental performance. Equally convincing are Dame Edith Evans, Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Patricia Collinge, Ruth White, Mildred Dunnock, Beatrice Straight, Margaret Phillips and Barbara O'Neil. Together with the two principal male roles, Dean Jagger and Peter Finch, the cast leaves nothing to be desired.

A triumph in cinematic art, "The Nun's Story" reveals a new awareness in spirituality by Holly-

CIVIC CONSCIOUSNESS

(Continued from page 6)

with it. It is not for an empty boast that Paul, one time persecutor, tent-maker and apostle of us Gentiles, refers more than once to his Roman citizenship. If voting is the concrete expression of one's civic consciousness at a highly effective and significant level, and if civic consciousness is nothing short of charity, and if charity is the burden of her song, how can it be said that it is only at certain times that the Church is concerned that the Catholic citizen should vote. If indeed the Church has taken special pains to remind us of this duty during the last decade or so, it is no reflection on the Church, nor an admission that the morality of her teaching on this matter is meant to cover only these recent years, but a pointer to the dismal fact that in spite of all the so-called reverence we profess we have for Democracy, in spite of all our chatter and argument about politics, a large number of us peacefully forget our prime duty and surrender a fundamental

right. The gravity of a duty may be measured also in terms of the results of its neglect; the greatness of a right in terms of the results of its exercise. That being the case, is the Church to keep silent?

Vehicle of good

Voting, then, is not just a means of warding off dangers; it is a positive vehicle of good. It cannot surely be that you are charitable only when your neighbour is in danger. Your duty is to love him as much even when he is strong safe and happy. In fact, it is easier to love the man in such a condition, for love is a bright and laughing companion, rarer and more welcome than the sombre nurse of pity. The ideal of pity is to see that there is no need for pity; that of Love is its sheer fulfillment.

Joseph took his wife at the height of her pregnancy over many miles of difficult roads to be enrolled at Bethlehem. The carpenter did this not because he was afraid of Tiberius Caesar, nor because he didn't like the recorded numerical strength of the Roman Empire to be less by two, but simply because he recognised that as citizens they should give their names in. Whereas many of us consider going a mere hundred yards to a polling booth, and that not just to enter our names but to make our choice of the country's rulers, an inconvenience.

The half-truth

Even after we recognise the importance of voting and our effective role in the vast field of charity that is politics, we can still end up in a mess, clutching at half-truths. I request at this point the liberty to generalise. The intellectual evil of our time is not so much falsehood as the half-truth. In these days of sophistication and cynicism, falsehood is easily shown up; it has a loud and gross character. But half-truths are subtle, soft spoken and well mannered. In previous times the devil could easily prosper with horns, cloven feet, tail, scales, darkness and other such grotesque and macabre trappings; today he requires lineaments more alluring. A half-truth is not necessarily a deliberate concealment of the whole truth. Quite often it is born out of the tendency to simplify, the failure to examine a question completely,

MARXISM

(Continued from page 6)

policy of 'Agrarian Reform,' lands belonging to Buddhist temples and monasteries have been confiscated. This left the monks and nuns with no means of support, and they were then compelled to engage in 'production labour' which meant that they had no time left for their religious duties.

"Next the Communists formed a bogus 'Buddhist Federation' to 'reform' Buddhism and create internal schisms and dissensions, aimed at destroying Buddhism from within. "Thousands of monasteries have been closed or taken over by the Village Committees in the name of 'the People' to serve as Communist Party meeting rooms. As the Buddhists have no central organisation, the Communists were able to attack them locally, to destroy Buddhism by 'the Death of a Thousand Cuts.'"

It will thus be seen that anti-religion is ingrained in the Marxist system and all those who have made a study of the subject are completely convinced, and have proved that there has been no change in this respect at all.

wood. Thank God in a sphere already overcrowded with much that is undesirable and a glut of inanities, this attempt shows what Hollywood can achieve.

Dalugama honours Patron

DALUGAMA went gay last week-end for the celebration of the feast of their Patron, St. Francis de Sales. This year it included the Golden Jubilee of the Annavi, Mr. G. D. Jeremias, who was the annavi of this church since 29th January 1910.

The preparatory novenas for the feast were conducted by the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. P. Rinchon, O.M.I. On Saturday Solemn Vespers was sung by Very Rev. Fr. C. Reymann, O.M.I., Vicar-General, after which a presentation was made by him to the jubilarian.

Dominican Sisters

Continued from page 1

the Congregation at Malta. For the Congregation, it was a red-letter day; for the five persons most intimately concerned, it was the day of their lives. They were now Sister Mary Dominic (Miss Philomena Tiruchelvam), Sister Mary Catherine (Miss Agnes Silva), Sister Mary Agnes (Miss Caroline Ramanayake), Sister Mary Pauline (Miss Bernadine Perera), and Sister Mary Imelda (Miss Mignonne Fonseka).

After the clothing ceremony was over, another touching ceremony was gone through—the Profession Ceremony of Sister Mary Virginia, who pronounced her vows for life. She then received the crown of thorns.

The eventful day was brought to a close with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and the singing of the Te Deum.

Rome Synod

Continued from page 1

The laity have their share of the new regulations; The Romans are reminded of their special obligation as citizens of the city where Christ's representative has his seat.

Tourists are warned that they should not injure the sacred character of the city by their behaviour.

All, particularly those in responsible positions, are urged—under threat of excommunication—to oppose the passing of laws and regulations that injure the Catholic Faith.

On the other side, the clergy are warned to give obedience to the head of the state and the secular authorities. Criticism should be made with moderation.

Of particular political interest at the present day is the warning that no Catholic may believe he is able to serve at one and the same time God and His enemies, the Church and its persecutors.

Excommunication may fall on those who vote for parties which, without themselves being atheistic or heretical, support atheistic or heretical parties.

the initial exhilaration of discovering something which prevents efforts to complete the discovery; the apparent innocence from which it springs, makes it all the more misleading, and the field of politics is, more than any other, replete with half-truths. How else can one explain the political thought and conduct of so many people who we know are good and sincere? At this stage we might as well examine a half-truth or two, and that we hope to do next week.

HOUSEHOLD Hints

Narrow-necked Vases or Decanters

Most of us have a vase or a decanter with a neck too narrow to get a mop inside and we helplessly watch the interior becoming more and more stained. Mix some coarse salt with a little vinegar, pour inside, shake well and rinse with water. It will soon be sparkling clean.

Ink Stains

Ink stains on linen may be removed with lemon. Dip half a lemon into boiling water, sprinkle the cut part with salt, then rub the stains with it and they will soon disappear.

Discoloured Aluminium Saucepans

Prevent discolouration of the aluminium saucepan to which you boil eggs by adding a little milk to the water after boiling.

Whipped Cream

To prevent whipped cream from going watery, dissolve a little gelatine in two teaspoons of water and whip it. This will stand for hours and remain firm.

A Frieze of Wallpaper

A frieze of wall-paper reduces the height of a room. If your room is already low, keep your walls plain.

F.X's Grocery

- WIDE SELECTION
- FRESHNESS
- ECONOMY

Australian Finest Beef Dripping "Red Bird," 24 oz. tin	2 75
Australian Beef, Boneless Brisket	2 00
Sardines, "Silver King," 3 3/4 oz.	0 45
Peaches in Syrup, "Seiko," 1 lb. tin	1 75
Pears in Syrup, "Seiko," 1 lb. tin	1 85
Oranges in Syrup, Golden Mandarin, 11 oz.	1 40
Danish Bacon, Sliced lb.	4 20

F. X. Pereira & Sons Ltd.

COLOMBO.

• A peep into the Montessori methods

Play way in Education



Montessori is a household word in Ceylon today. It was a Catholic woman, Miss Lena Wickremaratne, who first introduced the methods of Dr. Maria Montessori into this country, now widely adopted. Below is an eye-witness account of the Institute she shaped into being...

DO-you know that the ingenious Pythagoras' theorem becomes an amazingly simple thing to a little child if it is presented sensorially? Believe it or not, youngsters of five plus are being grounded today in such perplexing subjects as biology, mathematics, history, grammar and geography as I discovered for myself last week when I stepped into the A. M. I. Montessori Centre in Nimalka Gardens, off Kollupitiya.

Nearly two hundred boys and girls, and every one of them seemed to be visibly fascinated on many thrilling voyages of discoveries. Surrounded by pictorial charts, jig-saw puzzles and other easy-to-

by
ROBIN HOOD

use apparatus, they were not merely picking up knowledge, but they thoroughly enjoyed doing so.

Teachers, I observed, met with a warm, intelligent, joyful response from boys and girls of the primary school stage. The years between six and twelve are the most receptive, they told me, if studies are presented sensorially.

Shapes and forms in various colours on cards are presented to the young fold so that later, Geometry to them is no bug-bear. The primary school age, from 6 to 12 years, I was told, is the "golden period of learning."

Stiff botanical names such as stamen, ovate, petal, cordate, sagittate, were zestfully picked up and without any exhaustion at the primary level.

I witnessed a demonstration of the decimal system on a board apparatus, by a teacher, which was most revealing.

Directress of the Centre is Miss Lena Wickremaratne. In 1944 this centre—the pioneer in the field—was inaugurated by the late Dr. Maria Montessori. Miss Lena Wickremaratne has been closely associated with the originator of the Montessori Method since 1941 in directing a Pre-School Centre, School, and Teacher training, first in Adyar, Madras, and then in Kodaikanal, in South India.

The Centre is now established as a Pre-School Centre, recognized Secondary School—The

Marilyn High School, an Occupational Centre for Retarded and Mentally Handicapped Children, and a Montessori Training Institute for Teachers and Nursery class personnel.

The problem of overcrowding in Colombo is being solved by the establishment of a residential Senior School and College for Teachers, fully equipped with all amenities and apparatus, in Kandy. It will serve as a model Centre for the further development of the Montessori Method.

An innovation this year is the launching of Discussion Sessions for parents and others interested in Child Psychology and education of the young.

TEN MINUTES OF YOUR DAY

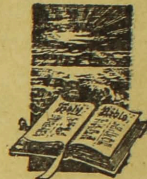
Food for thought

I WONDER how many of us, who daily read the "Ave," noticed this message on Christmas day. "How helpful it would be to read the Gospels for five or ten minutes a day; seeing daily the Way, the Truth and the Life, our lives will surely seem easier."

"Catholics are not allowed to read the Bible." Thus, flauntingly say our non-Catholic friends to us. It is true we are not competent enough to read and interpret the Holy Bible without help. But the Gospels are simple and straightforward. Our Lord knew His listeners were babes in spirit just as many of us are now, though we grow "in stature" in worldly wisdom. Therefore, the greatest of all teachers, expounded the Truth in parables and simple sayings, which are worth reading and pondering over. Why, some of us think we are so familiar with the Gospels, that we do not

By
R. P.

even want to follow in the Missal, the Gospel for the day, during Mass! "It is really worth while," I say to myself, "to take the message from 'Ave' and ponder on the Gospel passages daily."



Some of us have studied the Gospels for public examinations in days gone by and we feel we know everything. But when we read them over and over again, as we grow older, new light shines and we feel we are closer to the Master.

I decided to read the Gospels right through once again. I like to pass on a thought that came to me as I read a verse in the sixteenth chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew. "Get behind me Satan. Thou art a scandal to me," says our Lord. He must have said those words with great concern for St. Peter. When He spoke of His Passion, none of His disciples seemed to be able to share with His depth of agony. Peter chides Him and says "Far be it from Thee O Lord" and Our Lord perhaps sees Satan speaking with Peter's lips. "Get behind me Satan." He separated the devil and Peter and placed Himself in between. The action was, and is, wholly characteristic. We should make far fewer blunders, if only we remembered that "He to rescue me from danger, interposed His Precious Blood." Many a time during the day or night, we are in danger. If we only cry "Save Lord, we perish," He calms us by saying "Peace, be still," "Get behind me Satan." The Saviour stands between. We look into His face and all is well with us.

The Charms of Womanhood



Picture by RALEX

Marriage Lore

REMEMBER that if thou marry for beauty, thou bindest thyself all thy life for that which perchance will neither last nor please thee one year; and when thou hast it, it will be to thee of no price at all; for the desire dieth when it is attained, and the affection perisheth when it is satisfied. — Sir W. Raleigh.

Hasty marriage seldom proveth well. — Shakespeare.

But happy they, the happiest of their kind, whom gently stars unite; and in one fate their hearts, their fortunes, and their beings blend! — Thomson.

A good wife is like the ivy which beautifies the building to which it clings, twining its tendrils more

lovingly as time converts the ancient edifice into a ruin. — Johnson.

The happiness of married life depends upon making small sacrifices with readiness and cheerfulness. — Selden.

Not the marriage of convenience, nor the marriage of reason, but the marriage of love. All other marriage, with vows so solemn, with intimacy so close, is but acted falsehood and varnished sin. — Bulwer.

A happy marriage is a new beginning of life, a new starting point for happiness and usefulness. — A. P. Stanley.

If you would have the nuptial union last, let virtue be the bond that ties it fast. — Rowe.

WOMEN'S-MAG

I am a regular reader of the Messenger. I am a Catholic and I am interested in the Women's-Mag.

NAME (Miss/Mrs.).....

ADDRESS.....

messenger SCHOOLS-MAG

Vol. 3, No. 1 Saturday, February 6, 1960 FREE

★ Schools-Mag opens another chapter

ANNUAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING WORK

WITH this edition, the SCHOOLS-MAG unfolds yet another chapter; it opens its third volume. As announced earlier, for the first time in its 2-year-old story, bound volumes of the last 50 Editions of the SCHOOLS-MAG under one cover have been made available.

Applications have been coming in steadily for these sets and those who are desirous of getting them are advised to send in their application forms (see below) early, to avoid disappointment.

SCHOOLS-MAG MEMBERS

KNOW YOUR ANSWER

WHAT is the difference between the words 'sister' and 'nun' as applied to religious women?

In ordinary conversation the words sister and nun are used interchangeably to designate any woman who has made religious profession, or who has at least been received into the novitiate in which she will make preparation for the religious life. More strictly, however, the word 'nun' applies to those who belong to communities in which solemn vows are taken, or whose members lead a contemplative rather than an active life. The word 'sister' applies to all other religious women.



By
Uncle
Ashley

TALKS WITH JUNIORS SECOND PRAYER AT THE FOOT of THE ALTAR

My dear children,

The second prayer at the foot of the Altar is the Confiteor.

We have all to be sincere before God — Priest and layman; we are all sinners in God's sight and there is no need deceiving ourselves denying hard realities. Thus the priest bending low acknowledges his sinfulness and beats his breast thrice for his three-fold sins of thought, word and deed. The priest is still bent low when the congregation assures him by invoking Divine Pity in the "Misereatur tui." May God Almighty have mercy on Thee and forgive thee thy sins.

The congregation next confesses, following the priest's example.

This confession of sins before the Eucharistic meal is of the greatest antiquity. I wonder if you know that there is an old, old

document called the "DIDACHE" ("Teaching of the Apostles"). It is a collection of instructions given by the apostles to the first Christians. In this document we read "on the Lord's day you meet — break bread, and give thanks, having first confessed your sins."

This confession reminds us that we must be clean to offer the sacrifice. And, dear friends, let us school ourselves to follow the Mass with the priest, reciting the prayers with him and entering into the spirit of the prayers recited.

Our Confiteor well said and well meant will keep us humble all through the day for we are all miserable sinners, and we have nothing to boast of.

Always in Jesus and Mary,

Uncle Ashley

Subject of the month

THE SCHOOLS-MAG introduces a new Corner today. It is labeled "SUBJECT OF THE MONTH."

Each month you will be set a different subject and members are invited to write an essay or a poem on it.

Essays should not exceed 150 words in length while a poem should be confined to no more than 20 lines. The subject for this month is "THE NUN."

All entries close on the last day of each month. For this first subject the closing date is Monday, 29 February 1960.

Address all entries to the Editor, SCHOOLS-MAG, Catholic Press, Borella.

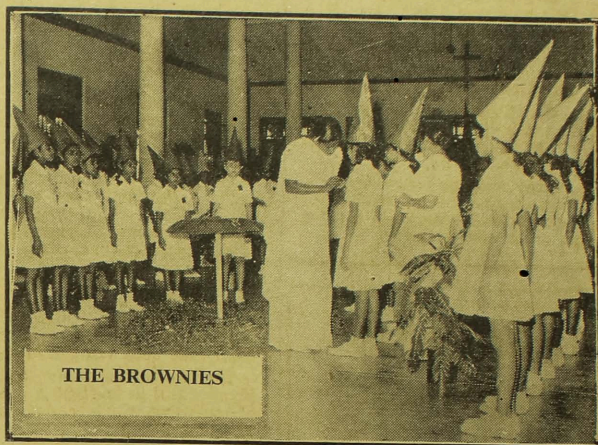
Send your entries early and don't wait for the last date.

Two very special prizes will be awarded to the writer of the best essay and poem each month.

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

BRIGHT IDEAS

We thank Chintha Peiris for her novel suggestions, which we mean to take up soon. Would she send us her address please? —EDITOR.



● Miss Julia de Silva, Division Commissioner, Girl Guides, Kandy, enrolling the Brownies of the Good Shepherd Convent, Kandy. They are Brownies of the 10th Kandy Pack.

SPECIAL NEW YEAR OFFER TO SCHOOLS-MAG MEMBERS, LIBRARIANS, NEW READERS.

Schools-Mag members, librarians and new readers can now obtain a complete set of the SCHOOLS-MAG (50 consecutive issues from 3rd January 1959 to 30th January 1960 strongly and handsomely bound. Only 50 sets are available and orders should be placed immediately.

Keep safe your bound volumes of the SCHOOLS-MAG. These handsomely bound sets will be treasured possessions in the years to come. In each of these sets you will find a most useful source of information on Religion, Education and Recreation. Each set is a fund of bright ideas to draw on for writing essays, and crammed with interesting items on science, sports and hobbies. Your own work is featured, with your photographs and birthdays. These sets will help you in many ways and you will take great delight in thumbing your way through these pages.

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PLEASE NOTE: This offer is obtainable direct from the Publishers: THE CATHOLIC PRESS, BORELLA only, and not through the trade. Please fill in order form below and send it early to THE EDITOR, SCHOOLS-MAG, CATHOLIC PRESS, BORELLA.

I wish you to reserve a copy of the Schools-Mag bound set for me.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

Members' Parade

2701 — 2750

2701. Mary Therese Frances Nicholas (Nugegoda), 2702. Joseph Nimal de Silva (Colombo 14), 2703. Suranjani Peiris (Moratuwa), 2704. Cecil Joseph Heyn (Colombo), 2705. Cyril Ignatius Loyola Nicholas (Nugegoda), 2706. Shanthie Tilkeeratne (Colombo), 2707. Ranjanie Marce Virginia Perera (Kochchikade), 2708. C. Anthony Medurapulle (Kirillapone), 2709. Manonmani R. Candappa (Dehiwela), 2710. Aloysius Martin de Porres Nicholas (Nugegoda).

2711. Jessie Bolling (Matale), 2712. Kyle Conrad de Lima (Nawala), 2713. Joseph Anthony Milroy Gonsal (Wattala), 2714. Mary Anne Bernadine Nicholas (Nugegoda), 2715. J. Primrose Fernando (Ja-Ela), 2716. Sujera Benedict Nugera (Ragama), 2717. Shiranie Dissanayake (Boralesgamuwa), 2718. Eardley Perera (Kalutara), 2719. Elmo P. Casie Chitty (Colombo 13), 2720. Maureen Rajakarier (Kandy).

2721. Anthony Jinadasa (Colombo), 13), 2722. Marie Joseph (Angoda), 2723. Maureen Abraham (Dematagoda), 2724. Marie Indira Fernando-pulle (Kochchikade), 2725. Carmen Webster (Dematagoda), 2726. Therese Pereira (Kolonnawa), 2727. Barbara de Silva (Colombo 9), 2728. Kasturi Joseph (Hunupitiya), 2729. Vijitha Dissanayake (Boralesgamuwa), 2730. Prema Siribaddana (Mirihana).

2731. Priscilla Kumarasamy (Dematagoda), 2732. Ramona Rodrigo (Mirihana), 2733. Charmaine Thim-biripola (Wellawatte), 2734. Maureen Silva (Etul Kotte), 2735. Mohan Jayasuriya (Manning Town), 2736. Manel Perera (Nugegoda), 2737. Lidwin De Silva (Dematagoda), 2738. Vincent Francis (Nugegoda), 2739. Sunimal Edirisinghe (Negombo), 2740. Vivian Saverymutupulle (Colombo 13).

2741. Amela Wijesinghe (Angoda), 2742. Winifred Wannappa (Wattala).

Continued on page 10

Well Said

LIVE TO SOME PURPOSE!

WE are ever thankful to God for His manifold mercies in preserving this School for many years and in helping us to maintain the great Catholic ideals of Love, Truth and Honour, thereby embellishing the Catholic Womanhood of Wattala with these triple gems.

As under the benign influence and tender care of our Heavenly Patroness, grew up Mary, the perfect woman, so under the same patronage have grown many generations of girls of St. Anne's, in age, wisdom, knowledge and the fear of God, having before their minds the example of her who is so aptly called 'the purest of creatures, sweet Mother, sweet Maid.'

In a world of changing values, in a world of shifting ideals, it is schools like ours which have to preserve untainted the true beauty of womanhood, nurtured and nourished not by false values of ambition or power, of wealth or worldly pleasures, but by the higher, truer and more lasting values of Virtue and Honour. This is the work of St. Anne's Girls' School, Wattala, and it shall be her future goal as well.

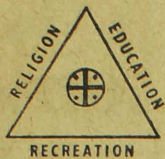
"The soul of goodness escapes from any set of circumstances" says Emerson. It is rightly so in an Institution like ours which endeavours to bring forth to its fullest expression the creative element in a child. The achievements of our pupils in the past may not be so well known as those of other great institutions in the island, but in our own way we have striven to keep pace with the march of time in maintaining standards of which we are legitimately proud.

As the years roll by, the vision of our future becomes clearer and more definite and the ends for which we struggle through all the changes of time and circumstances become realised in the life and character of every girl who passes through the portals of St. Anne's and takes her place with the vast multitude of men and women in the world.

Let the voice of St. Anne's re-echo in the heart of every loyal pupil, young and old,

'Live to some purpose,
Make thy life a gift of use to thee,
A joy, a good, a golden hope,
A Heavenly argosy.'

(from St. Anne's Magazine Jubilee Number) NEXT: Nihil Obstat by Fr. Marcelline Jayekody, O.M.I.)



Schools-Mag

Continued from page 9

ST. FRANCIS of SALES

FRANCIS was born of noble and pious parents near Ancey, in 1567 and was a brilliant student at Paris and at Padua. On his return from Italy he gave up the career which his father had marked out for him in the service of the State, and became instead a priest.

When the Duke of Savoy had resolved to restore the Church in the chablais, Francis offered himself for the work, and set out on foot with his Bible and Breviary and one companion, his cousin Louis of Sales.

It was a work of hardship, privation and danger. Enemies heaped insult on him and threatened him

with death. But nothing could daunt him, and ere long the Church blossomed forth into a second spring. It is stated that he converted 72,000 Calvinists.

He was then compelled by the Pope to become co-adjutor Bishop of Geneva, and succeeded to the See in 1602.

As Bishop he was universally loved, and his gentleness and sweetness won all hearts. With the efforts of St. Jane Frances of Chantal he founded at anancy the Order of the Visitation, which soon spread over Europe. His numerous writings were profound and simple, marked by a tender unction and a sweet quaintness. He died at Lyons on December 28th, 1662. His body rests at Ancey.

You will catch more flies, St. Francis used to say, with a spoonful of honey than with a hundred barrels of vinegar.

Here, boys and girls, is a saint to remember. Always look up to this great saint, St. Francis of Sales, for his gentleness.

St. Francis used to say: "Were there anything better or fairer on earth than gentleness, Jesus Christ would have taught it to us; and yet He has given us only two lessons to learn of Him — meekness and humility of heart."

St. Joseph's Schools, Grandpass.

wardene (Puwakpitiya), Errol Perera (Kirillapone), Lourdes A. M. R. Leon (Gagama), Bernadette Jansz (Nugegoda), Trixie de Silva (Amparai).

Feb. 9th: Yvonne Pathinather (Kotahena), Nihal L. P. Ratnayake (Colombo 13), N. L. P. Ratnayake (Kotahena), W. E. Malcolm Fernando (Puttalam), Nihal Vilathgamuwa (Anuradhapura), Bryan Noyahr (Colombo 13), Prasanne Perera (Colombo 9), Charmaine Thimbiripola (Colombo 6), Therese Douglas (Mutwal), Henry Gerreyn (Mutwal).

Feb. 10th: Scholastica Fonseka (Moratuwa), Charmaine Rozairo (Colombo 13), Philomena Kodikara (Matara), Ge'nyette Brown (Colombo 4), Francis D'Almeida (Kotahena), Jean Juriansz (Raimalana), Lakshman Fernando (Colombo), Tan Pereira (Negombo), Nimal Perera (Colombo 4), Ramona Senn (Grandpass), Marlene Elsie P. Santiago (Negombo), Rosemary Poovi Fernando (Negombo).

Feb. 11th: Bernadette Gibson (Galle), Stephanie Fernando (Moratuwa), Christy Jayasuriya (Moratuwa), Bernadette Assy (Trincomalee), Therese Melanie Bolonne (Yatyantota), N. Wickramasinghe (Galle), Siromi

AGONY 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.

Birthday Corner

FEB. 6th — 12th

Feb. 6th: Yvonne Diaz (Moratuwa), Victor B. Fernando (Moratuwa), F. Victoria Abraham (Bandarawela), Mystica St. Clare Perera (Kandy), Selvendran Victoria (Matale), Blaise Lowe (Colombo 15), Kanthie Perera (Kotte), Melody Anne Caspersz (Peradeniya), Nihal De Croos (Negombo), Rosita N. Croos Fernando (Chilaw), Angella Wijesinghe (Kollonawa), Princy Dilumini (Maradana), Titus Joseph Fonseka (Moratuwa).

Feb. 7th: Sheila Liyanduru (Kandy), Ranjit Perera (Colombo 6), Ianthe Balding (Raimalana), W. Bartholomeusz (Dehiwela), Ruth G. Samarantunge (Galle), Russell Le Marchant (Bambalapitiya), Bernadette, Anandappa (Kotahena), Miriam Dircckze (Dehiwela), Walter Oorloff (Kandy), Trevor Joseph (Colombo 4), Joan Van Sanden (Nuwara Eliya).

Feb. 8th: Lionel Alwis (Nugegoda), Benedict de Silva (Mt. Lavinia), Lincoln Hettiarachy (Moratuwa), Mount Carmel Abraham (Bandarawela), R. Anne Benzie (Gampola), Ruby Guna-

Members Parade

Continued from page 9

2743. M. Indranie Perera (Mutwal), 2744. Rukmanie Wijegunawardena, (Rajagiriya), 2745. Nancy Fernando-pulle (Kotahena), 2746. Barbara Krause (Gothatuwa), 2747. Carmen Munasinghe (Awulagama), 2748. Philomena Perera (Gampaha), 2749. Savitri R. Candappa (Dehiwela), 2750. Mary Annarance Bastianpillai (Jaffna). (To be continued).

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.

THY KINGDOM COME

WHEN Jesus taught us how to pray he made it clear that for the Kingdom of God to be established on earth we must be prepared to accept without question or doubt the perfection of the Divine will and wisdom.

He taught us in The Lord's Prayer that in God's creation there is a perfection in the centre of everything. Man was created in the image of God's likeness and Jesus admonished us that we should aim at perfection, even as our Heavenly Father is perfect. He stressed that we should unceasingly reach out towards this inward perfection.

This perfection of God's creation

is symbolized in Divine and Eternal Love. There should be no difficulty in permitting our lives to be directed by His Divine wisdom if in all things we commune with God in prayer, with that simple, unquestioning, guileless innocence and faith of little children: for has not Jesus said "of such is the Kingdom of Heaven?"

BINDING FORCE

The Fatherhood of God is revealed through Jesus in the brotherhood of



Dear Editor,

I am sending herewith enrolment forms of my friends and myself. I have been reading the Schools-Mag for a long time. I like to be a member of it.

Priyadharsini Navaratnam, St. Xavier's Girls' English School, Mannar.

(Dear Priyadharsini, we have received the fifteen enrolment forms you have sent and you will all get your membership cards in due course. A warm welcome to everybody. Write to us frequently. — Editor).

The apple of my eye

THE Greengrocer answered the Telephone. "I sent my little son to your shop for three pounds of apples" said a voice at the other end of the line, "and I find on weighing them that you've only sent two and a half pounds."

"Madam," said the Greengrocer "my scales are regularly inspected and are correct. Have you weighed your little son?"

Sent by Anthea Loos, Good Shepherd Convent, Kotahena.

THE IDEAL GIRL

MODEST, gentle, sweet, demure, Fair as a lily and as pure, She looks at life with open eyes, Knows good from evil and decries, Keeps her heart young and unstained, Close to Mother Mary she remains. Prayerful, prudent, thoughtful, true, Her creed is not to preach but do. From the shadow of evil she keeps apart Guarding with care her snow-white heart. For the entire world with its vain pretence She will not give her innocence.

CHRISTINE DIAS.

Convent of Our Lady of Victories, Moratuwa.

WONDERS OF SPACE

THE MOON AND THE PLANETS

by Maurice Peiris



THE Moon is a huge ball of stone that circles round the Earth, while the Earth and eight other similar spheres revolve round the Sun. These spheres that revolve round the Sun are called Planets, and the Earth is one of them, thus making a total of nine planets. The names of these nine planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. The Sun and the Planets (together with other less important bodies which will be described later) make up what is called the "Solar System" (Sol, in Latin, is the Sun).

Unlike the Sun and stars which are self-luminous, the planets do not emit light of their own. The planets are visible to us because they shine by means of sunlight that falls on them and gets reflected back to us. The Moon is visible to us for the same reason.

The Orbits of the Planets

The nine planets go round the Sun in nine separate paths or "orbits" which lie in the same plane but at different distances from the Sun. All the planets travel in the same direction — that is, from West to East. If we could have a view of the Solar System from a position high above the North Pole, the planets would be seen moving counter-clockwise. The orbits, however, are not perfect circles, but ellipses — that is, elongated into oval shapes. Therefore each of the planets has a point in its orbit where the planet is nearest to,

and another point at which the planet is furthest from, the Sun. These "nearest" and "farthest" points in the orbit of a planet are called the "perihelion" and "aphelion" points respectively. In the case of the Moon the corresponding two points in its orbit round the Earth are called "perigee" and "apogee."

Some planetary orbits are more elliptical than the others — Mercury's orbit being much the most elliptical of all. So Mercury can be about 28 million miles when nearest to the Sun, and about 43 million miles when at its greatest distance. The mean distances between the Sun and Planets are: — Mercury: 36 million miles; Venus: 67 million miles; Earth: 93 million miles; Mars: 141 million miles; Jupiter: 483 million miles; Saturn: 886 million miles; Uranus: 1,728 million miles; Neptune: 2,792 million miles; and Pluto: 3,666 million miles.

Eighty-Eight Days make a Year!

We know that 365 days make an year on Earth which takes about that amount of time to complete one revolution round the Sun. But each of the other planets take different numbers of days to complete their revolutions round the Sun. Reckoning time by "our" days, Mercury takes only 88 days for each revolution round the Sun. Thus the length of the year varies from planet to planet, if by "year" we mean the time taken for a planet to complete a revolution round the sun. Calculated by "our" days on Earth, the lengths of the "years" on each of the other planets are: Venus: 225 days; Mars: 687 days; Jupiter: 12 years; Saturn: 30 years; Uranus: 84 years; Neptune: 165 and Pluto: 247 years!

Jupiter and Saturn

Jupiter is the biggest planet with

a diameter of about 88,000 miles compared to the Earth's 7,000 miles. Next in size comes Saturn with a diameter of 75,100 miles; then Neptune with a diameter of 33,000 miles; and Uranus with a diameter of 30,900 miles. Venus, with a diameter of 7,600 miles, is almost as big as the Earth, while the smallest planet is Mercury with a diameter of 3,000 miles. The diameter of Mars is 4,200 miles.

Saturn has two rings, inner and outer, encircling the planet like an endless rainbow. This makes it a beautiful object to behold through the telescope or by photography.

Satellites in the Sky

Like the Earth which has a moon going round it, the other planets too have "moons" of their own. It is well to remember here that a body which revolves round a planet is a "satellite" while a body that goes round the Sun is called a planet. That is why the early "sputniks" were called "satellites" because they were put up in space to circle round the planet Earth, while a Russian rocket was called the "Tenth Planet" because it went circling round the sun after failing to hit the Moon. Thus it will be seen that "Moon" is the name of the natural satellite that goes round the Earth. Names have also been given to the natural satellites of the other planets (Deimos and Phobos of Mars; Io, Europa, Ganymede, etc., of Jupiter; Titan of Saturn; and so forth) although yet it is the common practice to refer to such satellites as "moons." Force of habit is strong even among astronomers.

Compared with the Earth which has one moon, the planet Mars has two moons, Jupiter has 12 moons, Saturn has 9, Uranus has 5, and Neptune has 2 moons. Mercury and Venus have no moons. (Now it is my turn to ask to be excused for making the same mistake of calling them "moons".)

Next week: Mountains on the Moon; Craters and Maria; Lunar and Solar eclipses, etc.

Waiter: "Hey, where do you think you're going with those spoons?"
 Customer: "Doctor's orders."
 Waiter: "What do you mean?"
 Customer: "See what he's got written on the side of this bottle: Take two teaspoons after each meal."
 Sent by Majella Gomez.

Amerasekera (Dehiwela).

Feb. 12th: Lourdes D'Almeida (Kotahena), A. M. J. Thomas (Matale), Carmen Thiele (Mutwal), Rita Stephen (Kotahena), Joyce Perera (Kandy), A. S. S. R. Ravindraraj (Batticaloa), Enid Keil (Puttalam), Ranjani Megawarne (Hendala), Joseph Fernando (India), Rosemarie Variath (Colombo 5), Meryc Tilkeeratne (Veyangoda), Mary K. S. D. Perera (Mutwal), Sita Jayawardene (Kelaniya), Kenneth Holmes (Dehiwela).

**Classified
ADS**

IN MEMORIAM

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY



Joseph Philip Motha
Died 8th February 1935

A Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of his soul on Monday, the 8th February 1960, at 6.30 a.m. at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Ragama.

Please pray for his soul.
Affectionately remembered by his wife and children.
"Mount Fatima,"
Tewatte Road,
Ragama. 300

25TH ANNIVERSARY

John Gabriel de Zilva
Died 9th February 1935

A Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of his soul on Tuesday, 9th February, 1960 at 6.45 a.m. at St. Anthony's Cathedral, Kandy.

Please pray for his soul.
Affectionately remembered by his sons, daughters and daughters-in-law.
"Marianton,"
157, Peradeniya Road,
Kandy. 347



S. Jaganathan Pillai
Died: 8th February 1959

A silent thought brings many a tear
Of a loving son we loved so dear
His kindly ways, his smiling face
No one on earth can take his place.

May he rest in peace.
Fondly remembered by his parents and brothers.

A Requiem High Mass will be offered for his soul at St. Mary's Cathedral, Trincomalee on 8.2.60. 349, Italian Camp, Trincomalee. 355

Roslyn Miliana Peiris
Died: 8th February 1950

Beloved wife of T. R. S. Peiris and beloved mother of Rev. Mother Mary Wilhelmina of St. Joseph's Convent, Negombo.

Eternal rest give unto her, O Lord
And let perpetual light shine upon her.
May she rest in peace.

A Requiem High Mass will be sung on 8-2-1960 at 6.15 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, Katukurunda, Moratuwa.

Inserted by her sorrowing husband and children Eslin, Danny, Margaret, Victor, Lilian, Benjamin, Moratuwa. 360

Of your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of
M. G. Gomez

(of Balangoda)
Died 14th February 1956

Masses will be said for his soul at St. Joseph's Church, Balangoda on 15th inst. at 6.30 a.m. and at St. Mary's Bambalapitiya on 19th inst. at 6.30 a.m.
R. I. P. 352

Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of the soul of late **Mr. Stephen Corera** at 7 a.m. on Friday the 12th February, at St. Lucia's Cathedral.
19, Green Lane,
Kotahena. 364

THANKSGIVINGS

MY heartfelt thanks to Pope Pius XII, Sister Alphonsa, St. Anthony, St. Sebastian, St. Hugo, St. Jude, St. Blaise, Miraculous Infant Jesus of Prague and Blessed Martin de Porres for favours granted. **L. R.** 345

THANKSGIVING MASS

THANKSGIVING High Mass at 7 a.m. will be celebrated on 11th February, 1960 at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena for favours received.
L. R. C. Perera.

"The Rosary,"
No. 16, Veluvane Terrace,
Colombo 9. 348

FINANCIAL

WILL any kind Lady or Gentleman help responsible officer with Rs. 1500/-. Security transfer car. Urgent. Details on contact. No. 346, c/o Catholic Press, Colombo 8.

RELIGIOUS CLOTHING

OUR daughter, **NILMA**, will receive the Holy Habit of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd of Angers on February 8th, 1960 at the Convent Chapel, Nayakakande. We solicit the prayers of all our friends and relations and would be pleased to see them at the Nayakakande Convent on that day at 9.30 a.m.

Dr. & Mrs. Stanley G. Abeyasingha.
"The Chalet,"
Piachaud Gardens,
Kandy. 301

MILK FOODS

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

MEDICAL

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

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

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

PARALYSIS! High Blood Pressure! Gastric Disorders! Asthma! Catarrh! Modern Scientific Swiss treatment cures permanently! Free information! Visit Medical Clinic, 42nd Lane, Wellawatte. 358

FOUR CONDITIONS FOR USING NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Indiscriminate Atomic Bombing Is Immoral

IN no circumstances would it be morally justifiable to use the atomic bomb indiscriminately, Bishop Rusch, apostolic administrator of Innsbruck-Feldkirch, said in Vienna.

Atomic weapons, he added, could be justified only under the following four conditions:

1. The war must be a strictly defensive one against an unjust attack.
2. The basic values of an entire nation, such as the Christian faith and Christian way of life, must be at stake.
3. The effects of the atomic weapon must be controllable.
4. Atomic weapons can be resorted to only if no other sufficient means of defence is available.

Bishop Rusch particularly stressed the "control" of the weapon.

Its indiscriminate use would simply be a method of annihilation.

Archbishop opposes bomb test

ARCHBISHOP Guerry of Cambrai last Monday signed an appeal against the Sahara nuclear test, which is sponsored by the French Federation Against Atomic Armament.

The appeal said: "By giving a magnanimous example in renouncing the proposed test, France could convince certain powerful nations, proud and jealous of their nuclear monopoly, that they should renounce selfish possession and engage themselves resolutely in peaceful ends and in sharing scientific benefits."

The Archbishop is the first French religious leader to declare himself opposed to the test.

Inland Revenue Dept. Catholic Guild Excursion

(by a "Messenger" correspondent)

ON Sunday, the 29th November 1959, Inland Revenue Guildsmen and their families spent the day at Pitipane, off Negombo.

A bus load of participants left Colombo at 9 a.m. and on arrival at Negombo were conveyed across the blue lagoon in three motor launches. They were welcomed by the Parish Priest of Pitipane, Rev. Fr. Charles. Holy Mass was offered at 11-30 a.m. at Pitipane and a good number received Holy Communion.

In the absence of Rev. Fr. Stanislaus Fernando, the Chaplain of the Group, due to ill health, Rev. Fr. Mervyn Weerakkody conducted the services for the day and also delivered an interesting lecture.

DAY OF TRIUMPH

DANIEL Serasinghe the rich land-lord sat in his armchair smoking his pipe, sending clouds of smoke into the thin air. It gave him much pleasure to see them form exotic patterns in the ceiling.

In a corner of the sprawling verandah sat his seven year old son Joseph on a mat with his numerous toys. He was not playing, but was buried

in deep thought. In spite of all the toys he had, he felt lonely and miserable. He was a self-confident, de-

Doreen Fonseka

termined little boy who lived in an imaginary world of his own. This compensated for his lack of playmates, above all his mother. She had died when he was but an year old.

In pensive mood

Little Joe's pensive mood caught his father's eye.

"Son, why don't you play? Don't you like the train set?"

had a deep impact and it caught Daniel off his guard. He could not give an instantaneous reply.

Little Joe did not wait for an immediate answer,

"Luke says it is Christ's Birthday tomorrow. The teacher too said so. What present will you give Him? Daddy, he says the church is beautifully decorated. There is Babe Jesus in the crib. Please daddy take me to church. Luke's mother said that Mummy used to go everyday. Why don't we go?"

Daniel patted his son's head and paced up and down the huge room.

"Daddy, will you go with me to church tonight?"

"You know, it is not possible to go today. I am expecting some guests. Now son, go out and play," he ordered him.

OUR LADY OF LANKA TEWATTE

TAMIL FESTIVAL
13th and 14th February
Novenas from February 9th at 6 p.m.
Saturday, 13th: Vespers at 7 p.m.
Sunday, 14th: High Mass at 8-30 a.m.
Procession.
All the Rev. Fathers are cordially invited.
Administrator.

Nattandiya Grotto Feast - Lourdes

13th Saturday:
Candle Light Procession 6.30 p.m. followed by Pontifical Vespers
14th Sunday:
5 a.m. Early Masses
7 a.m. High Mass
Special Train to Nattandiya, Special Buses arranged.
Parish Priest, Nattandiya. 349

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

OF THE Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Kalutara

February, 13th Saturday:
6-30 p.m. Rosary.
7 p.m. Pontifical Vespers and Sermon by His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I.
8-30 p.m. Candle Light Procession and Blessing with the Statue. Fireworks and Water Feast.

February, 14th Sunday:
From 5 to 7 a.m. Low Masses.
7 a.m. Pontifical High Mass and Sermon by His Lordship Rt. Rev. Dr. Leo Nanayakkara, O.S.B., Bishop of Kandy. Special bus and train service will be available for pilgrims.
Henry Rodrigo, O.M.I., Parish Priest, Kalutara. 358



"It's very nice daddy, thank you for the lovely gift."

"But daddy..." he hesitated for a moment.

"Yes son, go on, what is wrong. Have you broken it?"

"No daddy!" replied the son.

"Then what is worrying you?"

He got up quickly, ran to his father, put his arms around his neck and said "Daddy, why don't we go to church like Luke next door?" The words

Daniel was one of those very clever men who are cynics too. His actions were always questionable. He always arrived at wrong conclusions. He toyed with religion. He had never entered a church since the day he led Rita his wife down the aisle. He now recalled the promises he had made to his wife on her death-bed... but he had denied their only son his faith.

There was much anticipation in the household in anticipation of the honoured guests and little Joe was completely forgotten. He quietly crept to his room and prayed in his own childish way: "O Jesus make daddy take me to church. I want to see You."

A son speaks

When the guests departed, the boy crept up to his father.

"Father, take me to church. It is Christ's Birthday."

The father explained "It is nearly midnight now and it is cold outside. Go and sleep."

"If only mummy was alive..." the child broke down and we bitterly.

It happened quickly, without any warning. A great lump came to his
Continued on page 12

DEHIWELA JUBILEE

Continued from page 3

The late Rev. Fr. Tarmunede, O. M.I., was appointed first parish priest.

Steady progress marked the growth of the church during the years that followed, particularly during the administration of the Parish by Mgr. P. Don Peter, the late Very Rev. Fr. Theobald de Silva and Rev. Fr. Romauld Fernando, O.M.I., when priest and parishioner worked assiduously for the greater glory of God and our heavenly Mother.

Y.C.W. TEAMS BREAK THROUGH FETTERS OF "SLAVERY"

ANOTHER READERS' QUIZ

In response to numerous requests from our readers who seem to have liked the Messenger Pictorial Quiz, we are bringing them yet another. No prizes are offered!



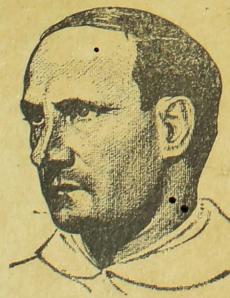
Can you spot this well-known Fleet Street Editor who sent a special message to Ceylon's Messenger on the occasion of its 90th Anniversary of continuous publication?



Here is a famous sitgamic. Can you name her?



This is a biblical character from a film revived in Ceylon last year and which ran to capacity houses. Remember its title?



Who is this Dominican who won the Nobel Prize? (Answers to the above will appear on this page next week).

SEVENTY teenagers are trudging through remote areas of mountainous Chile, in South America, to bring the Church's social teaching and a better standard of living to poor farm workers, who live in what amounts to slavery.

They are Young Christian Workers, who eat what is offered to them and sleep wherever they can find shelter.

The average farm worker lives like generations of his family before him in sub-human conditions on a big estate.

His chances of education and advancement depend almost entirely on the land-owner.

Mgr. Rafael Larrain, of Santiago, whose family fortune comes from the land, has tackled the problem.

A Catholic family gave him a piece of land with some buildings and a chapel at St. Anne's, not far from Santiago.

On this he started the Young Christian Workers movement in Chile.

After a 10-week training course, boys and girls spend three weeks of every month travelling through territory they have been assigned.

The fourth week they return to the training centre for further instructions and advice. Every three months they spend a week with their families.

Canonisation after Easter

THE canonisation is to take place shortly after Easter of Bl. Juan de Ribera, Archbishop of Valencia, who was appointed by King Philip III as Viceroy and Captain General of Valencia.

Cardinal Tardini gives Television talk on General Council

FOR the first time in history, a Cardinal Secretary of State was interviewed on Television, when Cardinal Tardini was interviewed by the Editor of the French daily newspaper, La Croix, last week.

The Cardinal made some important comments on the aims and work of the forthcoming General Council of the Church in the course of his interview, which we summarise below for the benefit of Messenger readers.

Q. What is the aim of the Council?

A. Mainly ecclesiastical discipline, modifications of Canon Law, the ways of Catholic life — in other words, a practical rather than a doctrinal Council.

Q. On the question of Christian unity, will heads and representatives of separated Churches assist at the Council?

Indian Archbishop Suggests 5-year Plan for Every Parish 3000 HOUSES FOR THE POOR

A FIVE-YEAR PLAN WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF PROVIDING HOMES FOR THE HOMELESS IN EVERY PARISH, HAS SPARKED OFF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN NEIGHBOURING INDIA, THE MESSENGER LEARNS.

"There may not be any parish incapable of building at least one house per year for the poor; many parishes are in a position to build five houses," states the originator of the Plan — the Archbishop of Changanacherry, the Most Rev. Dr. Mathew Karukatt, in a Pastoral recently addressed to the faithful.

Referring to the acute financial conditions prevalent in certain parishes, the Archbishop points out that the onus of the house-building programme was not finance only. He suggests the donating of timber, tiles and other materials required and the pooling of labour given freely in the cause.

"All people, including the wealthy and the educated, should deem it most honourable and charitable to contribute manual labour in building a house for a poor man," declares the Archbishop.

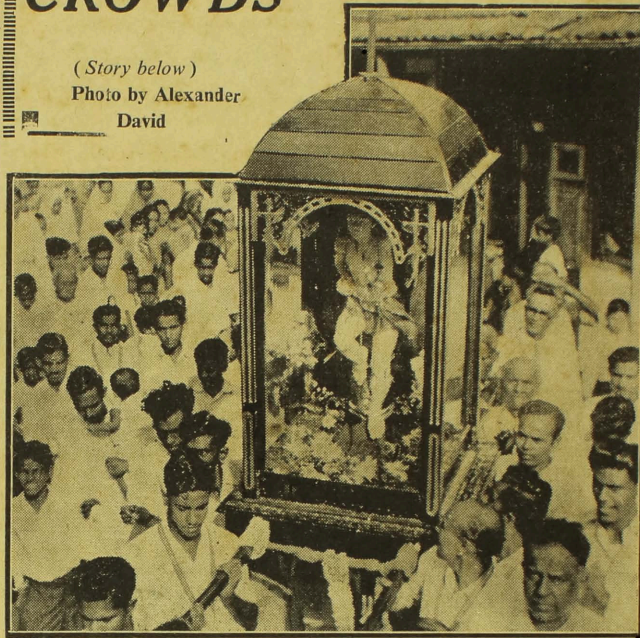
As a first step towards the accomplishment of the project, the formation of a committee with the Parish Priest as President, is advocated.

Each house is to have two bedrooms, a kitchen and a broad verandah, as the main components.

It is estimated that on an average of five houses per year in every parish, a total of 3,000 houses would have been built at the end of the first 5-year stage.

ST. SEBASTIAN'S FEAST DRAWS CROWDS

(Story below)
Photo by Alexander David



Scenes of Splendour at St. Sebastian's Feast

(from our correspondent)

THE Annual Feast of St. Sebastian, the Warrior Saint, was celebrated at St. Sebastian's miraculous shrine, Lockgate Lane, Colombo, on Sunday, the 31st January, 1960.

A large concourse of pilgrims from far and near thronged the little church for the festive High Mass which was sung by Rev. Fr. A. Martin, O.M.I.

After Mass and Benediction the statue of the saint was taken in procession along the gaily decorated streets in great splendour.

ASSOCIATION MEETING

The 59th Annual General Meeting of the St. Sebastian Association was held after the procession presided over by the Chaplain, Fr. Martin.

The following Office-bearers for the year were re-elected: Vice-Patron: Mr. Lucian de Alwis, President: Mr. D. M. Karunayake, Vice-President: Mr. W. A. Fernando, Secretary: Mr. Leo Mortier, Vice-Secretary: Mr. Stan-

ley Fernando, Treasurer: Mr. H. S. Fernando, Vice-Treasurer: Mr. W. L. Wickramasinghe, Manager: Mr. Alex David.

TEEN-AGE DANCERS ARE CATHOLIC ACTIONISTS

FORTY-FOUR teen-age Philippine dancers, now in London, are staunchly Catholic girls who are anxious to meet English Catholic Actionists.

ONE OF THEM, CHRISTINA MATIAS, WAS "MISS PHILIPPINES, 1959." SHE REFUSED TO GO TO LONDON FOR THE FINAL LINE-UP OF BEAUTY QUEENS, BECAUSE 'SHE DID NOT LIKE PARADING IN A SWIM-SUIT.

Being undergraduates, and hoping in their turn to enter professional life, many of them are engaged in an apostolate which is suited to condi-

A. Canon Law enjoins that they cannot participate; but they could come as observers, since we have nothing to hide.

Q. What will be the role of the bishops?

A. Two thousand five hundred letters have been sent to them and 2,000 answers received. At the Vatican Council there were only 250. Many topics will be discussed.

Q. What of the response of Catholic Universities and faculties?

A. They are delayed until Easter because the full exposition of matters to be treated, according to the suggestions sent, will be needed.

Q. Does the preparatory task seem endless?

A. No; we have already nearly finished the study of the bishops' replies, and by July we hope to have dealt with the Universities.

First African Bishop at 37

THIRTY-SEVEN years old Mgr. Bernardin Gantin has been appointed the first African archbishop.

He is now Archbishop of Cotonou in the new West African Republic of Dahomey which is associated with the French commonwealth.

Archbishop Gantin was born in Pakou, Dahomey. He was ordained in 1951 and became a bishop in 1957.

Short Story

Continued from page 11

throat and he swallowed hard. A huge tear rested in the corner of his eye. He lifted his hand and automatically wiped it away. The other hand held little Joe's hands.

He was still holding his son's hand as they went into the church. The church was aglow with lights. The crib was beautifully lit. Red and blue lights flickered. The huge star over the stable was very bright and little bulbs concealed on the roof lit the interior. The shepherds were there in humble adoration. It was midnight now, the church bells pealed out long and merrily, announcing the birth of the Saviour born to the world.

...and a cold heart melts

Together they knelt down before the stable and prayed. He almost heard his son whisper to the Infant Prince of Peace:

"A happy birthday to You, dear Jesus, I will always remember Your birthday. Make daddy remember You, too."

Daniel got up and stood very still looking down at his son. It was indeed a day to remember — a brief respite for him, for he felt the comforts of a Christmas Mass, felt the joys of all the past Christmas days he had missed.