

Schools Take-over: ● 4 accusations ● Proposals for settlement

Archbishop has plans for a final settlement

The Four Accusations

- 1 Children of other denominations receive no religious education in denominational schools.
- 2 Christians are in a favourable position as a result of the past for-eign domination.
- 3 Christians had unlimited resources in building their schools.
- 4 Schools are used as a means of conversion.

Fr. Peyton seeks Rosary in 250,000 Homes

FR. Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., director of the Family Rosary Crusade, is conducting his first crusade in Belgium in the diocese of Bruges. Fifty thousand laymen, 1,150 priests and 6,000 nuns are helping him. Bishop De Smedt wants 250,000 homes pledged to the family rosary this month, four hundredth anniversary of the diocese.

Three proposals mooted

(from a "Messenger" reporter)

"I CHALLENGE anyone to prove that we used our schools as means of conversion. I can say without fear that it has never been our policy and we have not swerved from it," declared His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., in his address at the prize-giving held at Ave Maria Convent, Negombo, last Saturday.

His Grace was pin-pointing the fourth accusation hurled by critics of the assisted denominational schools. Earlier in his address, His Grace effectively squashed three other accusations very often played up to bolster the campaign to bring Catholic educational institutions into State-owned territory.

To the question why non-Catholics were admitted to our institutions, the Archbishop had the plain and outspoken answer: "We did not invite them. Much less, we did not entice them. Even now scores of people write to me saying that they will become Catholics if we can give them a good education. Such letters go to the waste paper basket. We built schools for our Catholics. As others had no schools, we took them in. We shall be only too happy if at least now, others build enough schools for themselves and leave us free to educate our children."

His Grace appealing to the authorities to come to a peaceful settlement, put up three concrete proposals. "Why all this acrimony, we ask? Why cannot we instead get together and find a solution to this problem, without penalising those who have done a service to the country?" asked His Grace.

(Full text of His Grace's address on p. 7).



Ex-slave may be a Saint

THE cause of an African nun, who as a child was sold as a slave, has been discussed by the congregation of Rites in Rome, as a possible saint.

She is Josephine Bakhita and she is the first individual African-born Negro to be a candidate for beatification in modern times.

The 22 martyrs of Uganda were beatified as a group by Pope Benedict XV in 1920.

Both Josephine and her elder sister were sold into slavery as children in Nigeria.

Josephine was bought by the Italian minister in Khartoum. On his return to Italy he gave her into the care of the Canossian nuns who instructed her in the Catholic Faith.

She entered the order in December, 1893, lived a life of conspicuous zeal and religious fervour, and died in February, 1947.

NEWS FROM KERALA

See page 12

Also
Editorial and Current Comment
page 6

BATTICALOA'S "CHURCH OF SILENCE" WEEK

(from Rienze Balthazar, "Messenger" correspondent)

LAST Sunday, the Church of Silence week of the Diocese of Trincomalee came to a grand finale with Catholics going in procession from Puliyanivu, Thandavanveli and Puli-yadikuddah, led by His Lordship Rev. Rt. Dr. Ignatius Glennie, S.J., and meeting at the new Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes one-and-a-half miles away.

There, the Bishop celebrated Mass and in the course of his sermon explained the meaning of the special week of prayer, and urged the faithful to continue daily prayers for the

countries where the faith is being persecuted.

From the 22nd to the 28th instant, it was one continuous chorus of prayer for the Church of Silence, when churches everywhere were fully crowded. The response was overwhelming, and in St. Anthony's Church, Batticaloa, for instance, all pews had to be removed, in order to make room for the vast crowds. Everyday, Mass was followed by the special Stations of the Cross for the "Church of Silence."

A Turkish Blessing for the Pope!

WHEN Pope John received the President of Turkey in audience last month, he spoke in Turkish, repeated the Turkish greeting: "May God watch over you and may roses bloom on your path!" and recalled many pleasant memories of his period as Apostolic Delegate to Turkey.

The visit of the President, said the Pope, and an earlier one made by President Menderes to Pope Pius XII were "living proof" of Turkey's loyal sentiments towards the Holy See.

"These sentiments are mutual and it is a pleasure to us to say so," continued the Pope, who went on to assure the President of the loyalty of the Catholic minority in Turkey.

On the Saturday previous the

Lambs for Holy Father

SHEPHERDS from the mountain region of Abruzzi bringing live lambs, oil, wine and a pair of scissors as gifts to the Holy Father were among 15,000 pilgrims for whom he celebrated Mass in St. Peter's.

The Pope later went to the courtyard of St. Damascus to bless an Italian Red Cross "blood bank" van.

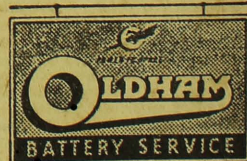
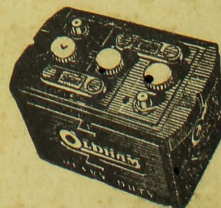
He then visited the Oratory of St. Peter's just outside the Vatican to the cheers of 600 boys and girls of poor families who get food there.

The completion of a busy morning was the broadcasting of a message to Venice and the blessing of a crowd of 20,000 in St. Peter's.

Pope received in private audience Otto von Habsburg, the head of the former Imperial house of Austria, together with his wife.

The Pope also received in solemn audience Prince Rainier of Monaco and his Consort, Princess Grace. When the audience was over, their Royal Highnesses visited the Basilica of St. Peter, and knelt in prayer at the tomb of Pope Pius XII.

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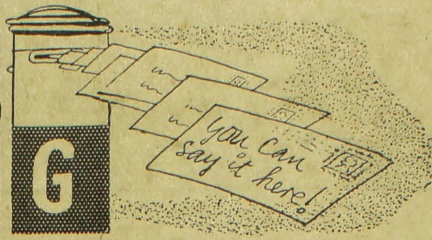
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A Day of Prayer for Children

IN the year 1917, Our Lady appeared to three little children in a small village called Fatima, and exhorted them to pray a great deal and to make sacrifices for sinners. She sent these three little "apostles" to convey her message of warning, exhortation, and reparation to others also and, finally, to the whole world. In other words, Our Lady was pleased to use these three little children as instruments for the conversion of the world, firstly, by making known through them her important message, and secondly, by commanding and encouraging them to pray and to make sacrifices for sinners. Our lady was thus initiating a new apostolate for children.

Children are generally well known for their innocence, simplicity and piety.

"Little children bless everything they touch." These words were uttered by the late Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, during one of those charming incidents related in his life when he gathered little children around him as his Divine Master had done before him. Our Lord himself once said concerning children: "Of such is the kingdom of heaven." And again: "Unless you become as little children, you cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Millions of children dot the earth like little angels. Why not let the whole world reap the benefits of their prayers, especially at such a time as this, when the world stands indicted, guilty of innumerable injustices and fully deserving the just chastisement of God.

I have no doubt that the prayers of these "little angels" offered in union with those of their Angelic Mother, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, will turn the scales of God's mercy on our side.

To me it seems that children are the hope of the world as it stands today, weary of its own excesses and injustices, weary of a purposeless liberty, "a liberty of indifference," desiring a change but yet unable to effect it. The modern world with all its atheism, its quaint ideologies, its false philosophies, its shattered homes and ruined lives, needs a lever and a fulcrum with which to raise it up once again to a full consciousness of the divine.

We stand direly in need of prayer and penance. "Pray, pray a great deal and make sacrifices for sinners." These words of Our Lady of Fatima, re-echoed through the pulpit and the press sound like a clarion call urging us to prayer and penance. Let us then pray, pray a great deal, and combine prayer with penance as requested by Our Lady. And more especially, let the children of the world pray for peace, for the conversion of that unhappy nation Russia, and finally for the conversion of the world. These little apostles could start the reconquest of the world with the powerful weapon of prayer.

For this purpose we could first establish a Day of Prayer and Self-Denial (penance) for all the children of this island. This Day of Prayer and Self-Denial could later be ex-

tended to embrace all the children of the world.

Colombo.

P. R. Ameresekere.

Strands of the Story

FR. Theodore Pieris' parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. John Pieris, are living at "Sancyl," Ampitiya, and Fr. Paul Perera's grandmother is still at "Mornington," Ampitiya, and these people will be able to continue the interesting narrative of Fr. Theodore's. Someone from the Regional Seminary could be sent over there to interview these good people who are full of anecdotes.

When I was in Kandy there was a story prevalent that Fr. Vaz lies buried at Akbar Mosque opposite the Bogambara Jail near the market. Another story of a Muslim saint who lies buried at the mosque near the Asgiriya Railway Gate is also prevalent. If you depute a Sinhalese scholar to interview the Asgiriya and Malwatte chapters to read through their libraries for strands of this story, it would be helpful.

W. L. S. Candappa.

Colombo 9.

House Rent

CONGRATULATIONS and thanks for publishing Catholic Employee's open letter to his Catholic Employer.

A priest-friend who read the letter remarked that he disagreed only on one point — the writer had fixed his House Rent too low, at Rs. 35/- per month! A friend of his living on

the edge of a paddy-field in Nugegoda pays as much as Rs. 70/- for a house minus electric lights!

Eric van Rooyen.

Dehiwala.

Family Pews

THE "have-nots" always allege that the Church is making money on pews and criticise the "haves" for alleged incivility towards intruders who happen to be in the pews at the time the owners come. They shout that all pews should be made free or removed, without pausing to consider the history behind the introduction of pews in churches.

The spiritual welfare of children was the prime factor in those early days and the parents considered it imperative that their children should attend Mass with them, sit together with them, recite the same prayers so that the little ones may be trained in the footsteps of the elders and follow them regularly to the altar rails. The toddler and the infant also came to church and they slept on the benches while the service lasted. The bench was a necessity and the Family Pew was thus born.

It was introduced to prevent the children going to one Mass on Sun days and parents to another, in fact promoting what one would call "spiritual apartheid." It also prevented the segregation system in which children go to Communion by themselves and in which even adults go with their societies. The Family Pew is disappearing because of the increasing size of the congregation and the smallness of the churches and no wonder so many in their early teens manifest signs of drifting away from the Sacraments when they lack the guiding hand and example of the parents. Today the parents are not sure that all the members of the family attend Mass on Sundays, because they are not able to sit together in a Family Pew and have a supervision of their charges.

W. L. S. C.

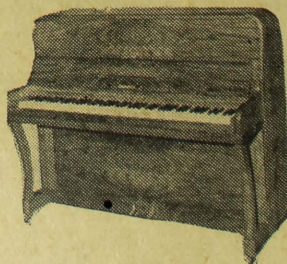
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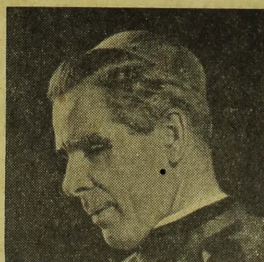
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BISHOP SHEEN SPEAKS

Those who falsely accuse, wound and harass may in the end be the greatest friends of the soul. They who lay crosses on another can be the creative helpers of character. Out of the humiliation and the trial and the crucifixion can come meekness, resignation and closeness to God which could never come from kindness. The violin may not like the musician that pulls and tugs at its strings, but in the end it sees that it all made for the sweetest of melody.

No one can ever be sure if he is consecrated to God unless he has passed through the crucible of suffering. But to gain value from such crosses, one must see that they come not from the hand of man, but from the Father Himself. When Peter wielded his sword in the garden, Our Lord opposed to that sword His cup, saying, "Shall I not drink the cup which the Father gave Me?" All trials when seen as ingredients of a cup which the Father has poured become sweet. When dishonour as well as honour are seen as coming from the hand of God then the human element becomes secondary. God can be thanked for His trials as well as His blessings.

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HONOUR

wear gold medals in the shower. On the contrary, the lark that soars so low; the bird that builds its nest so low; the branches that bear the richest fruit are those which hang closest to the ground; the nightingale sings sweetly, but in the shade and when things are at rest. Paul, after his conversion, wrote that he was not worthy to be called an apostle; thirty years later he wrote to the Ephesians that he was the least of the saints, and then as he approached martyrdom, he told his good friend Timothy that he was the chief of sinners.

That man wears honour best who knows in his own heart that he does not deserve it, and who, in the face of becoming more and more, makes himself less and less. The wise man never vaunts his learning; the real saints are the hardest to recognise, the spurious saints wear placards. Humility is the condition of greatness.

Suffering

But the greatest preventive of honours going to one's head is to have them preceded by adversity and sorrow and tribulation. When James and John asked to be on either side of Our Lord in His Kingdom, He asked them if they could drink of the cup of His Passion. Many a man is called an enemy who is really a friend.

One day the wind said to the keyhole: "See how well I whistle?" "No" the keyhole said to the wind, "you mean how well I whistle." The old woman put a paper in the keyhole and then the keyhole and the wind no longer whistled.

To the people of Corinth, Paul wrote such a message concerning those who boasted of having a certain pre-eminence or honour: "After all, friend, who is it that gives thee this pre-eminence. What powers hast thou that did not come to thee by gift? And if they came to thee by gift, why does thou boast of them, as if there were no gift in question?" As the earth is receptive to the rain, and the sun-flower to the light of the sun, so man is the vessel into which is poured both gifts and honours.

Swellheadedness

Honours, when the truth of receptivity is forgotten, tend to re-swell and inflate the ego. It is one thing for man to wear the purple and another thing for the purple to wear a man. Every human being is like a sponge; some sponges reach a point of saturation very quickly; some humans reach a point where they can absorb no more honours; they get filled very quickly. From that point on, they drip the honour like the sponge drips water. If Daniel, after he was released from the lion's den, went about snapping his suspenders to attract attention, he would have proven himself unworthy of the honour of release.

Humility

It will always be found that the man who has no Ph. D. or who has never worked very hard for a Ph. D. will put more store in an honorary degree than a man who went through blood and sweat and tears to get it. The ass that carried the Egyptian goddess, according to the legend, swelled with the opinion that all those crouches, cringes, bows were made for him. The peacock is beautiful while you look at its feathers, but is ugly when you look at its feet.

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SCHOOLS CONTROVERSY ENDS IN ENGLAND

The Cardinal thanks
the Premier

THE controversy over the schools that has agitated Catholic minds in England for some years now, has been solved. The Schools Bill, giving Catholics much, though not all, of the Government aid they have been demanding; had its first reading in the House of Commons last week. Meanwhile Bishop Beck, who was in the forefront of the Catholic campaign, has paid public tribute to the Minister of Education, and Cardinal Godfrey has thanked the Premier.

Under the new Bill, new Catholic grammar and technical schools will for the first time receive government help — amounting to three-quarters of their cost. The same grant will be made to new secondary modern schools.

The events of the past week

have been the climax of a long and sustained campaign by the Catholics of Britain — which included frequent Days of Prayer, memoranda to government, interviews with the Minister concerned and public meetings.

For the present, the main plea

put forward by Britain's Catholics that an undue burden was being placed on their shoulders, has been eased considerably. The Government has granted 75% of the grant that the Catholic Bishops had asked for.

His Eminence Cardinal Godfrey referring to the settlement said:

"I am happy to say that our negotiations with the Minister of Education have been conducted with a cordiality and consideration which was much appreciated.

"To the Prime Minister and his colleagues we are most grateful for their understanding of our difficulties.

"We have also noted with gratitude the welcome accorded to the proposed measure by the leaders of the other parties."

And Bishop Beck of Salford, the man who was mainly responsible for the entire campaign by the Catholics, has summed up thus:—

"The initiative taken by the present Minister of Education in opening discussions with representatives of the denominations,

as well as with the political parties and the other interests in education is something which deserves the highest praise and for which we cannot be too grateful.

"Although his Education Bill is a very short one, the name of Mr. Geoffrey Lloyd will always be associated by Catholics with this important step."

Church protest at colour bar in sport

EIGHT New Zealand Church leaders have declared in a joint statement that no player should be excluded from the New Zealand Rugby team because of his colour.

If the South African Rugby Union could not give assurances that Maoris would be treated like the other members of the team, no team would be sent to South Africa, they said.

The Churches are the Catholic, Presbyterian, Congregational, Methodist, Baptist, Greek Orthodox, Society of Friends and the Associates Churches of Christ.

VOCATIONS EXHIBITION SEEN BY 102,000

A RECORD closing day attendance of 20,000 people at an Ordination service, at England's recent Religious Vocations Exhibition, brought the total of visitors to 102,000.

In the evening a colourful procession of more than 500 religious, in contrasting habits and carrying the emblems of their orders, led the great crowd to a specially

arranged chapel where Pontifical Benediction had been given each night throughout the week by visiting bishops.

EAST GERMAN REDS BAN PILGRIM BUSES

The Communist authorities in the Soviet Zone of Germany have virtually banned the use of omnibuses for Catholic pilgrimages.

They have probably been motivated in this latest administrative action directed against the Church

by the large numbers of East German Catholics who have been going on pilgrimages in recent months.

Private omnibus contractors are also affected by this latest directive issued by the Soviet Zone Central Directorate for Transport, which is being kept a close secret. For every journey they make they have to obtain permission from the local transport authorities.

It looks as if the Soviet Zone railway system has also issued similar instruction. A recent request for special coaches for a young people's pilgrimage from Dresden to Rosenthal near Kamenitz was refused on the grounds of the "beginning of the holiday season."

Priest's duty to make ceremonies attractive

TO make the Church's services more attractive to the laity is the duty of the priest, Cardinal Siri told clergy attending a diocesan liturgical congress in Genoa.

This could be done through order, fine staging, variety of set-

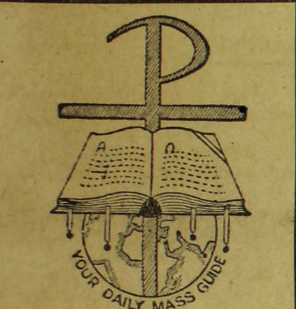
ting and sound, and the development of a community feeling.

With these must go thorough preparation, so that priests, servers and choir perform their parts in well-practised harmony.

Cardinal Siri added: "The care of the church, the draperies, the lighting and the perfection of movement also play their part in the staging of this honest attraction that we must offer the faithful.

"The faithful should not be compelled to see the meaning of the liturgy only with the eyes of the intellect.

"They must be helped by those efforts (of the priests) which bring out the beauty that is already there."



Sunday, 5 July: SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Green. 2nd prayer of St. Antonius. Omit prayer prescribed.

Monday, 6 July: Feria. Mass of the Sunday. Green.

Tuesday, 7 July: Sts. Cyril and Methodius. White.

Wednesday, 8 July: St. Elizabeth. White.

Thursday, 9 July: Feria. Mass of the Sunday. Green.

Friday, 10 July: The Seven Brothers. Red.

Saturday, 11 July: Mass of Our Lady. White. 2nd prayer of St. Pius.

Unless otherwise stated, the prayer prescribed must always be said.

Work starts on the Ecumenical Council

THE preparatory commission formed by the Pope to make arrangements for the Ecumenical Council has held its first major session.

Cardinal Tardini, Vatican Secretary of State, presided.

The commission is working on the general lines of the subjects to be considered by the Council and is collecting suggestions from the offices of the Roman curia.

The next step will be to send the

material collected to the bishops in all countries and to the theologians and canonists of the Catholic universities.

They will be asked to give their comments, suggestions and advice. The preparatory work is being speeded up as much as possible because later preparations will take longer.

Headquarters of the commission are to be moved shortly to new premises in the Via Conciliazione, close to the Vatican.

Where was Bogambara Lake?

BY all records (including Harvard's narrative, reported last week) Fr. Vaz's Church which is of such vital interest to us today because most probably that is where his holy remains still are, was hard-by the Bogambara Lake.

The problem now, as Mr. Gregory Kurukulasuriya has put it clearly, is for us first of all to reconstruct the map of the lake; for it is definite that the present Kandy Lake was constructed at a period after Fr. Vaz's death.

Further, the original lake has since been drained, its bed has been raised and it is now a built up area. The present Bogambara grounds are likewise a reclaimed area that in Fr. Vaz's time was marshy land adjoining the original lake.

For this very reason, they are a useful sign-post to where the church was: that is, somewhere beyond them.

As a step towards reconstructing the topography of this area as it was in Fr. Vaz's time, Mr. Gregory Kurukulasuriya (G.I.O.M.) has, with admirable patience and shrew-

Strands of the Story 197

ness, got hold of at least three maps of early British days.

No doubt this leaves us still a century away from Fr. Vaz's time and in the interval Kandy certainly underwent many changes of lay-out especially as a result of the wars. But at least these maps show us where Bogambara lake was before it was drained and its bed built on. As our diligent friend points out, it is sufficient to lay a transparent copy of these maps over an up-to-date motoring map of Kandy to see just present roads and buildings overlap the former lake.

All these places are automatically excluded from our list of possible sites of Fr. Vaz's church (and tomb) — for they were then under the waters of the lake. The Mosque is one of them.

Similarly, as we remarked already for

the present Bogambara Grounds, all those places that would then have been on the marshy outskirts of the lake are also disqualified.

FR. VAZ FEATURE

It should not be too hard to say how far inward, towards the present city area would land have been suitable for the building of a church (or in fact any edifice).

Going on those lines, it seems abso-

lutely necessary to conclude that on one boundary of the lake, Hantanne Estate (the first bit of elevated ground beyond the former marsh) is the only feasible site.

We shall pursue this theme; for it now seems to us that we have reached a stage where the only thing that can give the Island as a whole the necessary fillip to become enthusiastic about Father's Cause is the recovery of his holy remains. Then, automatically the whole story will come alive and across the centuries of lost and broken traditions we shall be linked again with our heroic Apostle.

BEATIFICATION FUND

Prayers' Project: celebrations "gratis an intent. Postulatoris": Galle and Trincomalee 11. Total 138.

(N.B. — The Postulator has expressed his admiration for the splendid way the Rev. Fathers are responding to the appeal and giving concrete and practical proof of their loyalty towards their heroic predecessors in the Apostolate).

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 JULY

GENERAL: That from a sense of justice and charity all may co-operate in avoiding road accidents.

MISSIONARY: That the Church's apostolic activities may flourish in Siam.

RADIO LOG

JULY 4 and 5: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. Sulleiman.

JULY 4: 7-00 to 7-30 p.m. CATHOLIC HOUR PROGRAMME.

JULY 11 to JULY 13: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY (Tamil) — F. X. C. Nadarajah, Esq.

JULY 11: 10-00 to 10-05 a.m. TALK (English) — Rev. Fr. Claude Lawrence, O.M.I.

JULY 13 to JULY 19: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY (Sinhalese) — J. Gomes, Esq.

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This month's Mission Page turns the spotlight on all three Pontifical Mission-Aid Societies, through which we in Ceylon have received so much. Perhaps in past months our zeal has been languishing; perhaps our enthusiasm has been falling low. It is time for us to re-think our duties, and to re-start our missionary zeal.

MISSION PAGE

NATIONAL DIRECTOR SPEAKS

It is quite some time, dear friends, since we gave you a few extracts from the many letters that we keep receiving. But there seems to have been a very marked drop in the past months. I wonder why. The old friends keep loyal and generous as ever; but the new ones keep coming in only in dribbles. I keep hoping and praying that the old generosity for the Pope's Missions may never die down. Promoters, it is to you that we look! Your work has to keep going right throughout the year — for everyday is Mission Day, and every week is Mission Week; souls have to be saved always, and not only at certain times of the year. It is a privilege that all of us have been given — the privilege of sharing with the Pope in his great work. Surely, you will not refuse to participate in that?

I hope that in the course of the next month, we will have once again, the old shower of love-gifts for the Missions — for, today the Church needs everyone of her children in a very, very special way indeed. God bless each one of you, my dear friends!

• The Legion does it!

Here's a small gift of love. It comes to you from the poorest of Hendala, who themselves are in sore need of help. A sister legionary had explained to them this great mission of love to the less fortunate than themselves. It was wonderful, how well, in spite of their ignorance (as they are all illiterate) they understood this message and contributed their mite.

(You zealous legionaries, God reward every single one of you who has passed on to others the fire of missionary love — to others who may not otherwise have ever heard of it! This is what I have repeatedly asked the Legion for — to be an instrument of God's love in the work of the Pontifical Mission-Aid Societies. Thank God for what you have done, and please assure your poor but ever-so-generous friends that they too have a very special place in my prayers).

• First salary

Our first salary, Father — half of it — for the Pope's Missions.

(And here's God's blessings, an abundance of them, for both of you).

• A Mission-till at home

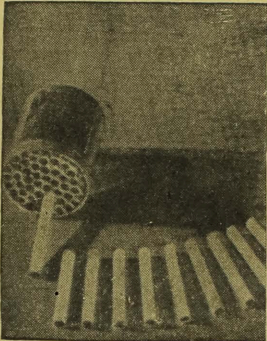
Ever since we heard of the Missions, our family has been saying the prayers every night together. And now, we thought of going beyond prayer; we also have a mission-till at home — and every member of the family puts in what is possible. Here's our collection for the past two months.

(What a grand idea — a missionary family that is praying TOGETHER for the Missions, and now, also sacrificing TOGETHER for the Missions. God love you all! Surely, He's there in the midst of you!)

• Petrol and cigarette savings for you!

Father, we feel sure this is going to tickle you. We were wondering how we were to save for the Missions, and my husband thought

out a novel scheme. Once every week, we were to do without our evening drive; and for one week every month, my husband



goes without his cigarettes. The money thus saved is coming to you for the Missions — our family savings for the Missions.

(God reward both of you and your children! I have had cigarette-money before this for the Missions; but we have never had petrol-savings. Your whole idea is excellent. I do wish you become a missionary-family, and that all of you are members of the Society).

• Vestments for the Missions

Thank you and God love you, to a small but very large-hearted friend who has sent an alb cut out and sewn all by herself for the poor Missions. What joy she will surely have to know that the fruit of her love and her sacrifice is being used daily at the sacred altar!

Why is Sacrifice associated with the Missions?

BECAUSE he who brings the Cross to non-Catholic lands can do so effectively only by himself bearing the Cross. St. Thomas the Apostle has been too much condemned for saying he would not believe unless he could put his fingers in the Hands of Christ and his hand into His Side. He had his own test of redeeming love: the marks of crucifixion lived through and conquered. Every non-Catholic can rightly say to every missionary who carries a cross: "Give me proof that you once were on it before you put me on it."



HOLY CHILDHOOD CORNER

TO YOU

It is some time since we spoke to you, my dear little friends. And in the meanwhile, what have you been doing? Something tells me that you have not forgotten the Holy Father and his Missions — for, the letters which you keep writing in, are so generous indeed, and tell a story of continuous praying and sacrificing for the Missions. I want you, dear children, to think that the Holy Father is doing you a great favour in calling even you, little ones, to share with him in the great work of the Church. You won't refuse, will you? Well, here are just a few of your letters. God bless each and every one of you!

THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR.

★ From St. Anthony's, Kandy.

Dear Father,

We had our Holy Childhood meeting again on Thursday, 4th. After the usual offering of flowers and singing of hymns, three little girls gave us short talks in English, Sinhalese and Tamil on how we should spend this month, the month of the Sacred Heart. We all promised to visit Jesus often and to say the little prayer — Sacred Heart of Jesus Thy Kingdom Come — often. Then our parish priest spoke a few words and gave us the blessing of the little Jesus.

We pray daily for the missions, Father, and are making sacrifices of our pocket money, when the Mission-Till comes around every morning. Please Father bless us and pray for us to be good.

We remain dear Rev. Father,
Your loyal little children,
The Juniors,
St. Anthony's Convent,
Kandy.

(God bless you, my dear little friends! How loyal you have always been to the Pope's Missions! Keep it up, and keep bringing in new friends always!)

★ From Good Shepherd Convent, Kandy.

At long last, a letter from the Junior Boarders written at least two months ago, has reached us. And this is what they say:

Dear Rev. Father,

We wish to join the Holy Childhood. We are attending the Primary School of this Convent and all of us would like to join Our Holy Father's little mission society.

The youngest of us is under 5 and I am 10 years. Mother has a till on her desk in our Boarding and we have put in lots of our pocket money to help Our Holy Father send poor boys to schools and be priests in order that they may stop bad men from hurting Jesus. We also make other sacrifices like eating spinach and bitter gourd — ugh! Please Father write and tell us what else we are to do. Are we to send you all our names, and will you please enrol us? We will send you our mite box money before we go home for Easter holidays. Please pray for us to be good girls and not give trouble to the mothers.

Your little children
of the Junior Boarding.

(Dear little ones, what can I say to you, except this — God bless each of you for the wonderful way you are doing so much. Yes, you should all be members of the Holy Childhood. Get in touch with your Diocesan Director and he will do the rest. Keep praying, loving and sacrificing — and you will be doing so very much for the Pope's Missions!)

★ From St. Ursula's, Badulla

We are sending you a big surprise, dear Father — our collections for the Holy Childhood Society. It took us nearly a full year to collect this amount. But we did it gladly for the sake of Baby Jesus. We promise to do more in the future. Please pray for us, Father, that we may be good children.

(What a happy surprise it was, dear girls! Your spirit of sacrifice, of loyalty to the Pope's Missions, is sure to bring great joy to the heart of the Pope. Keep it up, girls! And keep enrolling new members to the Society. Don't forget that. God bless each one of you!)

ALL THOSE IN CHARGE OF THE YOUNG, WE APPEAL TO YOU IN GOD'S NAME, TO LISTEN TO THE CALL OF THE POPE. TELL THE CHILDREN ABOUT THE POPE'S SOCIETY OF THE HOLY CHILDHOOD AND ENROL THEM IN IT!

French M. P's. take up cause of Catholic Schools

WHILE in England, the educational controversy has been satisfactorily settled, in France, the battle goes on. Members of the Parliamentary Association for Freedom of Education, who have a majority in both the French Senate and National Assembly, have issued a statement calling on the government to give more help to Catholic schools.

Pope sees some of his 'old boys'

THE Holy Father recently received in audience 300 "old boys" of a students' hostel that he himself had founded.

His Holiness opened the hostel in Bergamo—it was the first of its kind in Italy—and ran it until 1921.

It gave cheap board and lodging to students demobilised after the first world war.

His Holiness chatted to several of the students of his life in Bergamo before being called to Rome for work in the curia.

At the audience were two former students who had travelled for the occasion from Mexico and Brazil.

The premier, M. Michel Debre, has declared that the government recognises the need for revising the school laws.

Already however, the opposition—Communists, Socialists and anti-clericals have unleashed a violent propaganda barrage.

Throughout France, walls are covered with the posters of the League for the Defence of State Schools, saying that government subsidies to Catholic schools are an intolerable scandal.

The Communist Party has offered to take the lead in a common secularist front against the so-called "clerical offensive."

• Girgaum's Kerala Prayer Week

11-Mile Walking Pilgrimage as act of Reparation

SCHEDULED for Sunday, 5 July 1959, is an eleven-mile walking pilgrimage organized by the National Director of the Union of Prayers for China of Girgaum, Bombay, as an act of reparation for the sufferings of Catholics in Kerala. It climaxes Girgaum's Kerala Prayer Week.

An intensive drive to whip up enthusiasm in the people to do something tangible for Kerala has also resulted in a collection of over Rs. 400/- netted by the Teresian Catholic Teachers' Circle, and which will benefit Kerala's

Catholic teachers in their fight for freedom of education.

Hundreds of children have also made the Way of the Cross and offered prayers and sacrifices for Kerala.

Pontiff sat to artist just to help him on

A FORMER papal diplomat has told the story of how the Holy Father once sat for his portrait to help a struggling young artist.

Mgr. Francesco Galloni was charge d'affaires at the Apostolic Delegation in Bulgaria when Pope John, then Archbishop Roncalli, was the Delegate.

A young artist, Kyril Vassilev, called at Mgr. Galloni's office asking if he might paint the Delegate's portrait.

Archbishop Roncalli received the

young man but explained kindly, that he had not time to spare for sittings and could not afford to commission a portrait.

Vassilev urged that he was just beginning his career and that if he exhibited a portrait of the Apostolic Delegate, other people would have confidence in him.

Archbishop Roncalli, moved by his plea, sat several times.

The artist is now reported to have been offered almost Rs. 700,000 for the portrait.

Friar builds Arab homes

TWENTY-EIGHT Arab families have moved into newly-

built dwellings in Nazareth—the first fruit of an Arab co-operative initiated by a French Franciscan priest, writes Chris Eliou, N.C.W.C. correspondent in Israel.

The 28 families moved into the first 14 of 80 two-family one-storey houses built by the co-operative under the guidance of Fr. Paul Guthier, O.F.M., of Mar-seilles, who arrived in Israel two years ago.

The completion of the first dwelling units was seen here as pointing the way towards solving the plight of some 20,000 Galilean Arabs who left or were ousted from their villages during the 1948 hostilities between Arab and Jewish forces.

Twenty-five Arab villages were demolished or abandoned or forcibly evacuated during the war.

Since then the Arabs—about half of them Christians and the rest Moslems—have been scattered all over Galilee.

Hundreds have been living in rented quarters and some have found temporary refuge in monasteries.

On his arrival here, Fr. Guthier was unhappy about the cramped conditions of the Arabs in their small homes and adobe houses in Nazareth.

He took the lead—he admits only to having been "instrumental"—in establishing the housing co-operative.

Personal

WE request the prayers of our readers for the repose of the soul of Rev. Fr. Martin Gunaratne's mother who died on the 5th of June. R.I.P.

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ROUNDOABOUT

By ROBIN HOOD

"MADONNA" MAKES ITS BOW

Paper for the working-girl

AN attractively-got-up, and altogether delightful four-page paper has just reached us. It is, a paper for the Working Girl. The names behind this venture are all familiar to readers of the Messenger. The Editor is Mr. Harrison Peiris, Assistant Editor of our paper, and the well-known poet. Associated Editresses are Mrs. Iris de Croos (who has a truly characteristically splendid short story in the issue) and Mrs. Annette Swan, both of whom figure quite often in our columns.

This first issue of "Madonna" has set up a very high standard both from point of view of content and production; in fact, it catches the eye immediately. Its only shortcoming is perhaps the lack of material (except for Annette Swan's excellent composition) direct for the working girl. But then, one feels sure that this will be more than remedied in future issues.

This indeed is something for the working-girl to make sure that she gets—and reads. And she had better make sure that she gets it regularly too; a well-produced, delightfully-written paper, free, gratis and for nothing.

One feels that the mind behind the whole scheme must surely be that of an idealist with a fervent love for the cause of the working girl!

Artist Turns Cameraman

EVER since Wendell Wilkie wrote his "One World" and even before, men have been dreaming dreams of the intrinsic unity in diversity as applied to humanity at large. The idea is as old as the sun, but in Ceylon last week it took new wings...

Reggie Candappa whose collection of 203 camera studies was on exhibition at the Wendt Gallery, conveyed this idea with much fecundity and in exquisite manner.

Departmentalized as Children, Parents, Work, Commerce, Waiting ("much of life is waiting... waiting to go on stage, unemployed waiting to find work, waiting for the train," etc.), Play, The way we live, Women, Waterfront, Pageantry, Showpieces, Landscapes, Impressions, the Camera Studies clearly revealed that behind the exterior barriers of caste, colour

or creed, Man was man whether he was watching a ball game in a crowd of 50,000 at Evanston, U.S.A., or waiting for the train at Calcutta or selling things at a Sunday Fair in Ceylon!

In his early boyhood days at St. Joseph's College, Colombo, Reggie Candappa's work was encouraged by J. P. de Fonseka and Rt. Rev. Dr. Edmund Peiris, O.M.I. It is interesting to see yet another facet of his personality now as a gifted Cameraman.

In the collection were also two of his pictures which originally appeared in the Catholic Christmas Annual in 1955.

The Messenger takes special pride in Reggie Candappa's work for he has always been a particularly helpful friend to us in our work, with his artistic talent.

• Cure of Ars

With centenary celebrations of the saintly Parish Priest, the Cure of Ars, in all parts of the world, the English Catholic publishers Burns Oates and Washbourne, have brought out a centenary album presenting a unique and authoritative portrait of the man, his sanctity in words and pictures. This would be a most suitable book for those who are interested—"The Cure of D'Ars: A Pictorial Biography" by Mgr. Rene Fourrey, containing 96 pages of pictures and 96 of text, and priced at 35 shillings.

• Dialogue Mass in Sinhalese

A COMMENDABLE venture of De La Salle Press, Colombo 15, is the proposed publication of a small booklet to be used by children during Holy Mass in Sinhalese.

Printed in black and red, the "Dialogue Mass"—the Latin written in Sinhalese characters

appears in one column while in another of the same page appear prayers of the Mass in Sinhalese.

The booklet is expected to be out in mid July and will be nominally priced at something between 25 to 30 cents.

Mass-produced, booklets like these should be in the hands of every Catholic child and the publishers are to be warmly congratulated on their venture.

• The Mental Patient

EDITORS: Dr. G. P. S. Fernando and R. M. S. de Silva have brought out "The Mental Patient"—published under the auspices of the Voluntary Association for the care of Psychiatric Patients Mental Hospital, Angoda—commemorating the World Mental Health Year already held.

The publication carries a considerable number of authoritative articles from personalities like Dr. A. L. Abeyewardene, Dr. J. S. Perera Abeyawardene, Dr. W. Grillmayr, Dr. E. A. Williams, Dr. G. P. S. Fernando, Dr. M. G. Jayawardena, Dr. (Mrs.) S. Samaraweera, etc.

At Sancta Maria

THIS a sudden awakening
Burgeoning in my body
Leaving me warmly cold
Treading a fragrant flower-strewn way
Up the sylvan quietude of the hills
A sweetness of the still silence
enters me
A cool breeze faintly fans the flames
Flaring within me.
Amidst peaks soaring heaven-wards

I'm lost in the blue immensities of space.
This idyllic and serene setting
Drifts me towards idle dreams...
The warmth of proximity to something mysterious
Fills me with memories...
Memories that will stay when others fade
For, a new bloom is springing forth
Among the green leaves of old.
Christi Costa.

The Messenger

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SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1959

Kerala

WHILE disturbing events have been taking place in India's Communist-controlled State of Kerala, we have remained silent on the issues involved, although we have indeed attempted to provide our readers with a fairly extensive news-coverage. But we do feel that a very important clarification should be made at this juncture, particularly in view of the sustained campaign initiated by the Kerala Communist government itself, and continued by its faithful friends and allies here.

The entire agitation in Kerala is being presented by these interested parties, as a Catholic campaign to subvert the Communist government; the Catholic Church and its reactionary conservatism, they keep saying, is throwing its full weight into the battle, in a desperate attempt to oust the progressive Communist government now in power.

If this were indeed true, one would feel that the power and the influence of the Catholic Church was something tremendous, and that the Church was not the microscopic nonentity that it is always made out to be! If it were true, one would be amazed that the Church has succeeded in so upsetting the government of Kerala, that the Army and Navy units had to be called out and the Police had to open fire; one would be thoroughly astonished at the extent to which the trouble has spread, the widespread enthusiasm for the anti-government campaign, and even the language in which the Ministers of Red Kerala now speak! Now, in their travail, they refer to Prime Minister Nehru as the "great leader," and even ask for his advice!

Whatever the interested parties may try to maintain, it is generally agreed that the uprising in Kerala State has been a general rising; that the call for the campaign came from the Congress and other opposition parties; and that the Catholic Church, not being a political party, had no share in this. Two other facts, however, are also clear — firstly, that Catholic citizens, while being citizens of Kerala, and sharing with others the same disgust for the "Communist misrule," had the personal freedom to participate in the campaign to oust the Communist government; secondly, that the Catholic Church as a body did certainly take up a very definite and aggressive stand on the Education Bill which the State government was trying to foist on them.

Those who have followed the news published in our paper, would know that the agitation against the Education Bill and its reprehensible totalitarian provisions, commenced some months ago. The Church certainly was and is in the forefront of this campaign, and she means to remain there until satisfactory amendments are made. It was with this objective that the Catholic Schools and the schools of many other groups, decided on the closure move; and it was with this aim that they proclaimed publicly that the schools would continue to remain closed until an adequate settlement is reached.

But to proceed from there to the much wider objective of ousting the Communist government and calling for fresh elections — which indeed are the aims of the Congress and other opposition parties — is an entirely different matter. Leading Catholic Prelates of Kerala have repeatedly denied this calumny against the Church's stand; the deputation of Christian Prelates which met Prime Minister Nehru has reiterated the Church's position, and has contradicted fully the accusations that were made.

People who are interested in the truth and in understanding a situation as it actually exists, will know what the greater part of the world knows — that the Catholic Church, in cooperation with other educational bodies, expressed their very strong and vociferous protests against the Education Bill; that, when every attempt to make the Communist government see reason had failed, they resorted to the ultimate measure of refusing to reopen schools after the last recess; and that, meanwhile, they continued their campaign of agitating — using constitutional and non-violent means, as the Bishops have insisted — against the Education Bill.

The story of the activities of the Kerala Government has however been very different. Catholic areas seem to have received selective and preferential treatment, where shootings were concerned, till finally a Bishop was provoked to make a vehement protest. Catholic schools which had been closed, were sometimes even broken into. If, in the face of these, and innumerable other provocative and unjustifiable actions, the Catholics were expected to remain mute, passive spectators, the government found their error very soon.

Meanwhile, the Catholic Church goes on resisting — not, as some propagandists try to make out, as the real power behind the entire Opposition campaign for the ousting of Kerala's Government, but with the one objective of obtaining redress from the iniquitous provisions of the Education Bill. And in this valiant and heroic stand that the Catholics of Kerala have put up — leading up to the sacrifice of so many lives already — they know, as Archbishop Attipetty of Verapoly very confidently remarked, that they are not alone. Catholics everywhere watch them with sympathy, with admiration, and with that strong feeling of brotherhood which only Catholicism can bring.

CURRENT COMMENT

by the Editor

CAMOUFLAGING A CRISIS?

THE big event of the past week, was of course the Governor-General's Throne Speech. But it was so heavily charged with the tragicomic, that one cannot but bow one's head in shame and alarm, for the sands of time are running out, while everybody else but our legislators seems to be deeply conscious of the desperate situation facing the country.

We have read through the Throne Speech with some care, hoping to the bitter end to find some awareness at least of the gravity, and urgency of the situation confronting the country; but not even the faintest inkling of a silver lining could we find. Instead, there it was, the most lofty, smug and fatuous statement that could be made in the circumstances: the policy for the next session was to be "the ensurment of the successful working of the schemes that have already been completed, the completion of such schemes as are in hand, and the introduction of such new schemes as are considered urgent and important," while avoiding anything that would be "controversial."

The day before, the usual rehearsal for the big event had taken place. On the day itself, by some bitter irony Sri Lanka's legislature was surrounded by some five hundred policemen; barely a mile away a very serious strike threatening every sector of life, was in full swing; and within Parliament itself, only invited guests and no others were permitted — and this, by a government which in its hey-day of rash promises, opened the House to everyone, and gleefully permitted one of the "people" to occupy the Speaker's Chair! In other words, the air was charged with crisis; military men were filling the breach created by the Port strike; food prices were soaring, and food-stuffs were rotting in the harbour.



Such was the atmosphere, when this week's new session of Parliament was inaugurated with full pomp and splendour. And what a damp squib it all was! Pomp, splendour, carefully rehearsed ceremonies on the one hand — and on the other, police and army men all round, tension in the air, and a lofty aloofness at a time heavily charged with crisis.

We expected that the Throne Speech — which is written out by the Prime Minister and read out by the Governor General — would contain at least some awareness of the terrible labour boomering of the government's own creation; we had hoped that there would be a frank, if "agonising re-appraisal" of our headlong rush into economic ruin; we had longed for a sincere and patriotic grappling with the calamitous pandemonium in the Colombo harbour which has affected every sector of the ordinary man's life; and we had frankly expected that now that the scapegoat of irreconcilable elements within the Cabinet was no longer there, some constructive policy would be enunciated. But our hopes — and we daresay, the hopes of many others besides — went crumbling into the dust. Instead of that, we have had an empty and unreal statement of policy, unrelated and unconcerned with the terrible issues facing the country today.

Fireworks in the House

THE expected fireworks' display came off during the subsequent debate in the House. We will not comment on that just now. But in the course of one of the outbursts, the Catholic Church of course had to come into the scene. It seems to have

now become customary for some of our politicians to bring in the customary whipping-boy that is the Church into every one of their major pronouncements.

The fear that was expressed — no, it was a certainty — was that unless something radical were done at the earliest, the country would be in the grips of the Catholic Church! The members of the House were told that there was "a Catholic Action committee branch within the government," and its spokes-men were named; and the most dramatic revelation of all, was that the Prime Minister himself had "fallen a prey to retrogressive forces and to the Catholics" (quotations from the daily press)!

We leave our readers to regale themselves on the terrible fate that awaits this country when the Church has succeeded in its dire plots! It is time that our politicians began realising, that the people to whom they speak also have some brains! On a previous occasion, when somewhat similar accusations were made by the ex-Minister of Agriculture, we threw out a challenge to him. But truth is apparently a minor affair to such persons. May we ask the present revealer of dire plots to substantiate at least one of his charges?

Even the irresponsibility of some politicians should have its limits; and we had thought before this that the very depths had already been reached. Perhaps we were mistaken.

A mischievous campaign

THE Catholic Church has done it again! Wielding its terrible power, and exerting its enormous influence, it has initiated a campaign to harass and, if possible, to oust the "progressive" Communist government of Kerala! Events in Kerala, say these defenders of the Communist faith, are a good example of what may be expected from the Catholic Church in Ceylon as the progressive movement develops.

But, to many others, it is becoming increasingly clearer that the events in Kerala are a good example of what may be expected here in Ceylon from the Communist propaganda machine, as their machinations are revealed and their suppression of freedom is experienced. We have already referred to this charge in our leader today.

Was it the terrible power of the Catholic Church that brought India's Prime Minister Nehru down to Kerala, to see for himself something of the strain and tension? Does anyone really expect people to believe that the Congress party is a virtual prisoner of the Catholic Church, following the dictates of the clergy? And are we being asked to swallow the fact that the mass upsurge in Kerala, and the insistent call for elections by the Congress Executive are all creations of the Catholic Church...?

They keep repeating the big lie that the Catholic offensive was sparked off by the summoning of the "faithful" with the ringing of church bells. The Bishops have denied this completely, and have challenged the Kerala government for even a single proof; so far they have remained most

eloquently silent. They keep insisting that it is the Catholics who provide all the finance and most of the volunteers. If any of our local propagandists were to see the situation on the spot, they might come to know how much of this big finance the Church actually possesses! As for volunteers, do they really ask people to believe that the majority of the volunteers filling the streets and carrying on the anti-government campaign is Catholic?

The usual technique?

WE would like to provide just one instance of the type of propaganda that the Communists are resorting to, quite characteristically, in connection with the Kerala struggle.

A prominent Communist daily newspaper, *Janayugom* (People's Age) printed in Quilon, displayed a report that a Carmelite priest, Fr. Gilbert, had organised volunteers to be set loose in the guise of Catholic priests "to stir religious feelings" during the current campaign. The report went on to say that the priest was using the premises of his Technical Institute for "secret meetings" to train the a ged volunteers.

Fr. Gilbe threatened to institute a libel action against the Editor of *Janayugom*. When the editor received a legal notice and saw that the priest was in earnest, he retracted the libellous report! ... So much for Communist truth, their tactics, and the canard about volunteers!

Catholic demands

IN this connection, it would be interesting to clarify what precisely the Catholic demands are, especially when a local paper tries to make out that we suppress the real nature of the struggle, which is the emancipation of the teacher!

Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregoris, O.I.C., of Trivandrum, who is a member of the Education Committee of the Kerala Catholic Bishops' Conference, mentioned some of the amendments to the educational Bill which the Catholic Bishops have asked for in their joint pastoral:

1. "The appointment of teachers by the Public Service Commission as laid down in the education act is objectionable to us and must be amended."
2. "The Managers of private schools must be given effective power to administer their schools."
3. "The Managers must be given power of control of the discipline over the teachers and staff."

We fail to see what is particularly "political" in these demands. ... The fact of course remains, that the uprising in Kerala, coming so soon after the tragedy of Tibet, is a most upsetting factor for the Communist propaganda-machine especially as they have tried to adopt the holier-than-thou attitude in South East Asia; we understand too, that in these embarrassing circumstances, they are likely to resort to any means at all to cloak their own discomfiture and embarrassment. But even in such a situation, falsehood can never be excused.

● The Schools-take-over

THE 4 ACCUSATIONS AGAINST US

Archbishop answers critics

We reproduce below the full text of His Grace's address delivered at Ave Maria Convent, Negombo last week.

YOU have listened to an interesting report and you can yourselves see by merely looking around, the good work that is being done at Ave Maria. In my own mind one thought came uppermost. Can Ceylon be happier, brighter, better, for the absence of institutions like this?

It is not an idle question. For there has been of late, and there still continues to be a relentless campaign to absorb institutions of this nature into a soul-less, life-less, God-less system of a governmental system of education. I mean the campaign against assisté denominational schools.

Strange reasons are adduced in support of this campaign. The strangest one is that of the need of religious instruction. The children of other denominations, they say, receive no religious education in denominational schools. Let us therefore have government schools. It beats me to understand this logic. Religious education is not mere religious tuition. Like moral education it is a training in a way of life. Without a religious atmosphere such training is not possible. Now, where many religions are in question, is it possible to have this religious atmosphere of each different religion in one and the same institution? Would it not be rather confusion worse confounded? Or is the alternative to create the religious atmosphere of the majority alone? This is what is done in the denominational schools. But where as a good denominational school with living religious principles can create a sound moral background on the natural law which is common to all human beings, it may very much be doubted if a soul-less, religion-less state school can create even this minimum of a sound moral atmosphere. Experience seems to strengthen rather than dispel our doubt.

There is a further danger. If the teaching of religion is to depend on the state, with the change of views of each governing party, the policy regarding religion will have to change. And if an ungodly or materialistic government comes into power, then it will be the end of all religion. Tibet is a sad example.

The real solution

The real solution is for each religion that sincerely cares for religious education to have its own denominational schools for its children.

Another reason put forward repeatedly is that we Christians are in a favourable position as a result of the past foreign domination. So, to give all equal opportunities, let us make all schools state institutions.

This is an objection which has been refuted again and again, at least as far as we Catholics are concerned. Whatever advantages the coastal Catholics may have had under the Portuguese, was more than destroyed under the Dutch persecution. When the British came in, we were in a worse plight than even the Buddhists. The Buddhists still had their temples, pirivena schools, temple lands, etc., at least in the major part of the Island. The Catholics had nearly all their places of worship and schools destroyed and their very

religious worship penalised. The British indeed gave freedom of conscience. But they gave no support for Catholic schools. Thus, after nearly 50 years of British rule, the Catholics had only about 60 paltry village schools for which no government aid whatever was given. The Government aided only the established schools of the Anglican Church. It was only after 1870, after a long battle by Archbishop Bonjean, that the principle of assisted denominational schools was accepted by the government, and that the government began to aid denominational schools. It was only after that period that our schools began to develop in any appreciable way. But this right was extended not only to Catholics but to all religionists: Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims, Christians. All these had the same opportunities. But while we made the best use of the means, others remained indifferent. Should we be blamed for that? Had the Christians also remained indifferent, would Ceylon have attained that degree of literacy which she enjoys today? And had an elite not been educated in sufficient numbers, would Ceylon have obtained her independence of which we all are proud today?

The bank of hard work

But they say that the Christians had unlimited resources. Another of those generalisations without much foundation. As far as we Catholics are concerned, the Dutch had left no latifundia in the possession of the Catholics when they had destroyed or confiscated even their very churches. Under the British, this position was not improved. It was only during the last 15 or 20 years that we were able to get a few hundred acres of land to support our institutions. And what are those few hundred acres compared with the thousands owned by the Buddhist temples? According to official accounts, the temple lands of the Kandyan areas alone amount to

over 375,000 acres. If these lands had been well administered, what vast means would have been at their disposal for education! To develop our schools, we had no large credits in banks, except in the bank of hardwork, and self-sacrifice.

And even after the system of Assisted Schools was established, it was not all plain sailing for us. Archbishop Bonjean complains bitterly against a government system that attracted the best teachers from our schools to governmental institutions: by holding out to them higher salaries and better prospects in life. Some vestiges of this exist even in our own day. He also complains of the attempts of the government to handicap or even prevent our schools by the establishment of rival state schools and preventing our children from withdrawing from such schools to go to our own.

On the other hand, sincere attempts that the government made to improve the Pirivena schools failed because of the lack of co-operation. This is what Mr. Green the Director of Education writes:

"It is a great pity that every effort to turn them to more modern lines has failed, through no fault of mine, but through inveterate conservatism of the most obsolete type" (Adm. Rep. 1889, p. 3).

Proselytism?

The final accusation is that of proselytism. This again is a wild accusation, as false as it is wild. I challenge anyone to prove that we used our schools as means of conversion. If some misguided individual in some rare instances, descended to this, I can say without fear that it has never been our policy. Our policy is well enunciated by Archbishop Bonjean:

"Our position in regard to education is this. Proselytising non-Catholic children in our schools by holding out to them the bait of secular education is no part of our system of evangelisation; Schools are with us neither THE nor A proper means for the conversion to our faith of non-Catholic children, but only a necessary agency for the instruction of those who are either already Catholic, or have made up their mind to

STUDENTS AND TEACHERS HONOUR TEACHERS-SAINT

(from our correspondent)

A UNIQUE ceremony, full of the colour of festivity, marked the celebrations connected with the feast of St. John Baptist de la Salle, Patron of Teachers and the Model of Youth, on Sunday the 28th June at St. Anne's Church, Kurunegala.

A large number of students and teachers had gathered at the church to assist at the special High Mass, which was sung by Rt. Rev. Mgr. Michael Perera, General Manager of Schools and Vicar General of the Chilaw Diocese.

"Suffer little children to come unto me, for their's is the kingdom of heaven" said Mgr. Perera during the course of his sermon to the large congregation. "The world to-day is torn asunder with scandal and corruption. Little children fall a prey to the vile ways of the elders. It is up to you my dear teachers to give these children all assistance in growing up to walk on the right road of innocence and purity. Be cognizant of the fact that you are responsible for the child while he is in the classroom.

•And it is your behaviour and good example, more than your instructions, that is to be of profit to the child" Mgr. Perera continued.

The choir in attendance at this High Mass was that of St. Anne's College with Miss Maureen Pieris at the organ and Rev. Bro. Ladislaus conducting the singing. The beautiful rendering of Gounod's "Ave Maria" by Mr. Harold Batcho highlighted the celebrations.

After the High Mass several teachers of the Holy Family Convent, Kurunegala and those from St. Anne's College, Kurunegala and from the other Catholic Schools in the Kurunegala District were entertained to tea at St. Anne's College by the Brothers.

Mass rally in honour of Teachers' Patron

(from a "Messenger" correspondent)

LARGE numbers of teachers and teaching religious were present at a mass rally of Catholic teachers held last Sunday at De Mazenod College, Kandana.

Speaking from the chair at the rally, the Very Rev. Fr. D. J. Anthony, O.M.I. said: "Many of these modern theories in education which are much in vogue today, are not so modern as they are thought to be. In fact, a perusal of the works of St. De La Salle shows that most of them had been advocated by him and by his followers, the De La Salle Brothers, who have used them with great success in many parts of the world."

Celebrations commenced with Mass, said by Rev. Fr. Philip Dissanayake, O.M.I., General Manager of Schools. In the course of his sermon, he spoke

of the pioneering attempts of St. De La Salle in founding an Order of Catholic Teachers, and said that it was fitting that he should be honoured as the Patron Saint of Catholic teachers.

At the Rally, Rev. Bro. Alban, F.S.C., read a Paper on the achievements of St. De La Salle as an educationist. The name of De La Salle, he said, has now been immortalised as one of the leading educationists in the world.

Messrs. M. J. H. Senaratne and Moses Perera also spoke. At the end of the proceedings, the Rev. Bro. Oliver, Director, De Mazenod College, entertained the gathering to a tea party.

Moratuwa News

(from our correspondent)

THE Catholic Actionists of Moratuwa observed a "Day of Recollection" at the Convent of Our Lady of Victories, Moratuwa, recently.

The preacher of the day was Very Rev. Fr. Nereus Fernando, who dwelt at length on the importance of an apostolic laity in the parish who should work hand in hand with the priest. He also stressed the fact that primarily Catholic Actionists should be fully spiritualized.

susceptibilities in matters of conscience?

The Archbishop went on to make the following proposals:—

1. Denominational schools for those who desire them — now and for the future.
2. For others — government schools.
3. For those who are still in our schools of other religions, a certain time-limit within which to adjust themselves.

At the conclusion of his address, His Grace recalled the heroic opposition to the Dutch governor by the Negombo people and said: "DO NOT TOUCH OUR SCHOOLS. We shall resist even unto blood!"

ARTISTS!

Your last chance to Win Rs. 150

HERE'S your chance to kill two birds with one stone—to do a good turn to the Missions, and to help yourself to a substantial prize.

Ours is a POSTER COMPETITION—to select the best poster for display all over the Island on Mission Sunday this year. Therefore—

1. It must convey the message of Mission Sunday—the missionary apostolate of the Church, the role of the laity, etc.
2. All designs submitted must conform to the size 22 in. by 16 in.
3. There should be no text, but since the posters are needed in each of the three languages, sufficient space should be left at the bottom for the words: "Mission Sunday," or its equivalent in the other two languages.
4. Space should also be left for an inset to get in the words: "Prayer, alms, sacrifice" or its equivalent in the other two languages.

• And now for the prizes and conditions of the competition.

1. Anyone may send in any number of entries, which should be addressed to:—
The National Director,
Society for the Propagation of the Faith,
Archbishop's House,
Colombo 8.
2. Two cash prizes are offered—first prize Rs. 100; second Rs. 50.

FINAL CLOSING DATE, 11 JULY

Classified Ads.

Advertisement copy must reach this office before 12 noon each Wednesday.

IN MEMORIAM



Rev. Fr. J. B. Gregory O.M.I.
Died: 6th July 1955

He gave much, he asked little.
Remember him in your prayers.

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Dominic Mary John Corea
Died: 7th June 1959

A Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of his soul at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena, on Wednesday, 8th July at 7 a.m.

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

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A. C. M. Gooneratne
(Merwin)

Land Commissioner's Dept.
Died 20 June 1959

Eternal rest give unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in Peace. — Amen.

3rd Bolawalana,
Negombo.

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Leonorus Tilaka Fernandopulle

Born 1st July 1927
Died 14th Nov. 1946

Affectionately remembered by his mammy and sisters on his birthday.

Mrs. B. Fernandopulle,
Morukuliya Estate,
Dankotuwa.

349

Mrs. C. A. D. J. Tennekoon
Died: 1-4-1959

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. — Amen.

A Requiem High Mass will be sung at St. Anthony's Cathedral, Kandy, on 6-7-1959 at 6-45 a.m.

Please pray for the repose of her soul.
4, Gregory Road,
Kandy.

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Of your charity, pray for the repose of the soul of

Miss Teresa Mary Ludgarde
(Tilla) De Jong

youngest daughter of the late Chevalier Philip T. de Jong and Mrs. Rosaline de Jong, and dearly beloved sister of Mrs. Greta de Jong D'Aberra.

Died: 20th June 1959.

No. 8, Pinwatta Road,
Dehiwela.

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25TH ANNIVERSARY
4-7-34 — 4-7-59

A Requiem High Mass will be offered for the repose of the soul of Mariammal Silva, beloved mother of late Mancius Paiva, of Matala, Heliodore Paiva, and of Revd. Mother Odelia Mary, Dolours Convent Trichinopoly, at St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, on Monday, the 6th July, at 6-30 a.m.

Kind prayers and presence of friends and relations earnestly solicited.

St. Benedict's,
Arthur's Place,
Bambalapitiya.

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THANKSGIVING

MY grateful thanks to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mother of Perpetual Succour and St. Jude for favour received.
Helen, Kelaniya.

347

MY grateful thanks to Pope Pius XII for a favour received.
C. J. E. D.

339

MY grateful thanks to Mother of Perpetual Succour and St. Gerard Majella for answering my prayers for a safe confinement.
E. R. S.

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MY grateful thanks to St. Anthony, St. Jude, Blessed Martin de Porres, Pope Pius X, and Pope Pius XII for great favour received.—Mrs. A. P.

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I offer thee thanks, O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, for Your mercy in saving me from a very difficult situation in my official capacity. From the beginning of the month dedicated to Your Sacred Heart I started a Novena and prayed to You fervently. In the daily prayers I was gaining hope on Your Divine powers as was evidenced in the examples given in the booklet entitled "Month of the Sacred Heart." At last it was on the 24th day of June when Your Divine Heart triumphed over all human efforts which were working against me. My grateful thanks, O Most Sacred Heart. I am now happy back in the same position I was. I make this publication as promised.
A Client of the Sacred Heart.

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MARRIAGE

MISS Rita Hapuaratchy (Organist) St. Anne's Church, Wattala and of the Tutorial Staff, St. Anne's Girls' English School, Wattala, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Hapuaratchy married Mr. Don Bernard Suraweera of the Dept. of Probation and Child Care Services, son of Mr. and Mrs. Suraweera Don Marcelin on the 27th of June 1959 at St. Anne's Church, Wattala.

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INVITATION

MISS C. Pietersz of the C.T.O. and Lucian B. de Silva of Lee Hedges & Co., Ltd., Colombo, will be pleased to see all relations and friends at their marriage at All Saints' Church, Borella, on Saturday, 11th July 1959, at 8 a.m. No individual invitations please. 47, Hill Street, Kotahena.

WANTED

CATHOLIC middle age couple no children require annexe or share from a Catholic home with separate entrance and all facilities near Dehiwela or Wellawatte Church, by the end of August. Rent not more than Rs. 40/- willing to give 3 months advance.

No. 352, c/o Catholic Press, Colombo 8.

SPORTS

Badminton Rackets 1/50 onwards, Nets 3/00 onwards Shuttlecocks -50 to 1/25 Footballs with Bladders 5/50 onwards Volley Balls 9/50 onwards Nets 4/50 onwards Cricket Bats 2/00 onwards Cricket Balls 2/25 onwards Wickets 1/25 onwards Tennis Balls 1/25 onwards Tennikoit Rings 3/50 Air Guns 40/00 48/00 and 75/00. Dias Brothers, 501, Maradana Road Colombo.

343

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) Ltd., 291/1, 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) Ltd., 291/1, 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) Ltd., 291/1, Gaffoor Building, Fort, Colombo.

BYLOOS Eau de Cologne—the unfailing friend of school-children. Rids the head of lice, Nits, Dandruff, and all invisible germs. Available at all Chemists and the Importers, Setrac (Ceylon) Ltd., 291/1, Gaffoor Building, Fort, Colombo.

ASTHMA! Catarrh! Tonsillitis! Permanent Cure! Not temporary Relief! Swiss Treatment! No Injections! No Operation! Free Information! Visit Medical Clinic, 42nd Lane, Wellawatta.

FOR PEN-FRIENDS

JOIN the Association of Ceylonese and Foreign Pen-friends. Members throughout the world. Club bulletin "Ceylon Hobbyist." Membership Fee: Students Re. 1/- others Rs. 2/-. Full details from Secretary, 110, The Langpatha Road, Wattala.

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CHURCH FEASTS

Feast of St. Pius X

(Friend of the Poor)

HORAGOLLA, (Marawila Mission)
11th July: Vespers at 7-30 p.m.

12th July:
Low Masses at 5-30, 6 & 6-30 a.m.
High Mass at 8 a.m.

Rev. Fr. C. Senanayake,
Parish Priest.

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SS. Peter and Paul Church, Lunawa, Celebrates Diamond Jubilee

Seventh-Fifth (75) Jubilee Programme
1884 — 1959

2 July: Hoisting of Flagstaff. Novenas begin.

5-10 July: Retreat. Daily at 7 p.m. Preacher Rev. Fr. James Dalpadado O.M.I.

11 July — Saturday: Vespers presided by Very Rev. Fr. Chas. Reymann Vicar-General, Archdiocese.

12 July — Sunday: 8 a.m. Reception to His Grace Archbishop of Colombo at Lunawa Junction — Conducted in procession to Church.

8-30 a.m. Pontifical High Mass, Sermon preached by Rev. Fr. Bede Fernando.

5 p.m. Procession with Jubilee Statue. Route of Procession: Charles de Soysa Road via Rawatawatta Junction via Galle Road via St. Joseph's Road and Uyana Road.

Parish Priest,
Lunawa.

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POLONNARUWA

has no church not even a land for a church but she is happy amidst untold difficulties to celebrate the Feast of her queen:

THE QUEEN OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY
on 19th Sunday, July 1959

Programme of the Feast

July 5-19th: A Mission will be preached by Oblate Fathers.

July 10th: Novenas begin.

July 15th: 7-30 p.m. Pontifical Vespers by His Excellency Rt. Revd. Dr. Ignatius Glennie S.J., Bishop of Trincomalee.

July 19th: From 5 a.m. to 8 a.m. Low Masses. At 8 a.m. Pontifical High Mass.

N.B.—Prayers are kindly solicited from all for the success of this Mission.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Parish Priest,
Polonnaruwa.

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WHEREVER YOU ARE
OR
WHEREVER YOU GO
EVERYBODY TALKS ABOUT
S. A. FERNANDO'S

FLOWERS

Buy good value
Buy with confidence
Buy S. A. Fernando's

FLOWERS

You can buy more but you can not buy better.

S. A. FERNANDO
PREMIER FLORIST

Post Box 16
NUWARA ELIYA.

Wire: "Fatima," N'Ellya.

Dist: 283 (Extension to residence).

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO

No. 18724/Testamentary

In the matter of the intestate Estate of Mrs. Hope De Silva; Wijeratne of Wellawatte. — (Deceased).

Eldred de S. Wijeratne of 66, Rajasinghe Road, Wellawatte. — Petitioner.

AND

1. Aloy Leonard Joseph de S. Wijeratne of Stag Lane, Thimbirigasyaya;

2. Eymard Mark Joseph de S. Wijeratne;

3. Ignatius Anthony de S. Wijeratne;

4. Marie Celine de S. Wijeratne being a minor by her Guardian-ad-litem the 5th Respondent all of 66, Rajasinghe Road, Wellawatte; and

5. Singhe Caldera of Pagoda Road, Wellawatte. — Respondents

This matter coming on for disposal before V. Siva Supramaniam, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Colombo, on the 2nd day of April 1959 in the presence of L. Senaratne, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated 23rd March 1959 having been read.

It is ordered that the Petitioner abovenamed be and he is hereby declared entitled as the widower of the deceased abovenamed to have letters of administration to the estate of the deceased issue to him accordingly.

It is further ordered that the 5th Respondent abovenamed be and he is hereby declared appointed Guardian-ad-litem on the 4th Respondent (minor) abovenamed, unless the Respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 21st day of May 1959 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. V. Siva Supramaniam,
Additional District Judge.
This 2nd day of April 1959.

The date for showing cause against the foregoing order nisi is extended to the 6th day of August 1959.

Sgd. V. Siva Supramaniam,
Additional District Judge.

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Your hair is your most distinctive asset and grey hairs need bother you no longer. RUBY BRAND GREY HAIR SPECIFIC effects an immediate lasting cure without trouble or injury. Apply as directed and you will have the thrill of seeing the lustre sheen and natural colour come back to your tresses immediately. Be warned against substitutes. Insist on RUBY BRAND GREY HAIR SPECIFIC and be satisfied.

M. P. COMEZ & CO
LTD.
COLOMBO.

messenger SCHOOLS-MAG

Vol. 2 No. 20

Saturday, 4th Jul, 1959

FREE

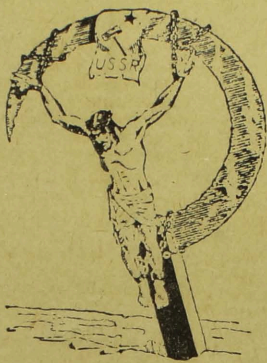
Recently the Schools-Mag spotlighted the evils of Communism. Today we carry a letter written by a young Chinese girl, formerly of Sacred Heart Convent in Shanghai, to a girl-friend in Japan, that speaks for itself. This heart-rending letter will inspire Schools-Mag members to live their Faith courageously. And should ever the day dawn when Communists start their persecution in this island too, may they draw courage from this letter to follow in the footsteps of this Chinese girl...

WITH DEATH BEFORE ME

"When you receive this letter, I shall already be in prison. I go on the 14th. Don't forget that glorious day. All my things are gone except these pictures. I could not bear to destroy them, so please keep them for me or give them back to the people in them... All details about me, I have asked Reverend Mother Fitzgerald to tell you.

"Today I said good-bye to Reverend Mother Fitzgerald, for I am afraid I shall not be there to go to the station to see her off. When we kissed, I felt overwhelmed with sadness. My mind is empty; there is nothing left now but heaven, nothing else.

"I have been questioned several times—the first time for nine hours, the second for three hours, and yesterday for five hours. It is painful indeed to bear it. Mary is sick through worrying over me and is now in the Sacred Heart Hospital. Please pray for us. It is all too painful, too painful. You cannot imagine it. Several of my friends betrayed me. Pray and do penance for them. Most of the priests and bishops whom you know have been taken. Please pray for them that they may have the courage to be martyrs. My only problem is my family. When my parents saw my name in the paper, they fell on their knees before me and begged me to turn traitor. O God! It is the first time I realized what suffering is!



"I have nothing to leave to you and to the Mothers who love me so dearly—but my love in return. Give my love before my death to all of them. Even with death before me, I prefer it to eternal death, to leaving my faith. Sing alleluia with me!"

Birthday Corner

JULY 4th—10th

July 4: Malini Machado (Jaffna), Brian Offen (Kandy), Neemal Fernando (Kandy).

July 5: Thangam Croos Moraes (Negombo), Antoinette Van Drien (Dehiwela), Terence Wickramasinghe (Kegalle), P. Kanaga-Perumal (Kaduganawa), Olympe Vanderstraten (Ragama).

July 6: Rajah Phillips (Colombo 4), Priya de Silva (Kandy), Thomas de Silva (Peradeniya), Shirani Machado (Jaffna), Marie Perera (Matale), Titus Silva (Kelaniya).

July 7: Deline Raux (Kandy), Cletus Fernando (Moratuwa), Monti Gabriel (Nugegoda), Cyril Ernest (Negombo), Prithee Wijeyaratne (Marawila), Jayarane Coonghe (Negombo), Aloysius Roberts (Matale), Yvonne Anton (Etalai), Charmaine Rayel (Colombo 6), Fatima Wanasinghe (Bawalana), Rukmani Bhagwandas (Colombo 4), Rosemarie Weerasinghe (Matale), Noeline Jayasinghe (Kallitara), Antony Abeyratne (Negombo), Lidwin de Silva (Dematagoda).

July 8: Ranjitha Dias (Wattala), Nihal Casiechetty (Hendala), Bryan Christoffelsz (Colombo), Lakshman Dissanayake (Colombo 15).

July 9: Kenneth Arndt (Koswatte), S. Wickramasinghe (Kegalle), Pushparanee Fernando (Negombo), Deirdre Fernando (Colombo 15), Percival Morris (Mutwal), Srilee Weerasinghe (Mt. Lavinia), Angela Tissaweerasinghe (Batticaloa), Rita Morais (Dehiwela), Cynthia Archibald (Waragoda), Rohan Fernando (Colombo 15).

July 10: Phyllis Dias (Nugegoda), E. Balasunderan (Colombo), Chandranee de Silva (Moratuwa), R. V. A. Navaratne (Matale), Bertie Tissaweerasinghe (Batticaloa), Penelope Ebert (Kandy), Nelun de Alwis Paranawithana (Haputale), Jennifer Herft (Dehiwela), Melita Soya (Borella), Selvarajah Perumal (Kotahena), Maureen Abraham (Colombo).



THE GREATEST BOOK I EVER READ

ONCE while searching for a book to read, I suddenly came across one titled: "The Greatest Story Ever Told."

"The Greatest Story Ever Told." These words made me think hard. What sort of story can this one be like? Something about crime? Adventure? Or can it be...? The

By
Morris Alwines
who wins the book prize for the week's
PEN-GEM

next moment I had turned over the pages of this book, and to my surprise I read: "This is the story of Jesus." It was strange, that I who was looking for a book packed with adventure, should come to pick out a book about Jesus! But it was strangest, that I did not put it away. I made up my mind, and I started reading right away.

It was only after I had completed the book, that I realised that it was the greatest story-book I had ever read.

Fulton Oursler, the author of this excellent book needs little introduction, for nearly all of us have heard about him. He was more than a mere writer of books. He was also a well-known editor, lecturer and playwright. He is the author of a great number of books, out of which many have gained immense popularity as "best sellers." It will also be remembered that it was this particular gentleman who started the popular radio programme: "The Greatest Story Ever Told."

To get down to the story in the book, it can be said that for all who have been bored by modern fiction, this book will certainly afford a strong sense of vigour. This book, which is one of the best of its kind, is penned in an admirable simplicity. The author, not merely conveys to the reader the story of Christ and His message to the world, but takes the reader on an imaginary journey—from the manger in Bethlehem to the Cross at Calvary—from Christ's Nativity to His destination... death upon a cross!

In the latter part of the book, where the author presents the moving episodes of the carrying of the Cross and the Crucifixion, the reader cannot help being drawn back into the past to witness Christ soaked in blood and sweat trudging along with a mighty cross, on His way to Calvary. For a moment you are reading between those lines—your mind reflects upon that event which took place more than two thousand years back, but which you too have to perform in your own life—the nume-

GIRLS! the feast day of your own Patron Saint falls on 9 July. This week Uncle Ashley writes about....

St. Maria Goretti

My dear children,

On the 9th of July we shall be celebrating the feast of one of our two dear Patrons of the Schools-Mag, MARIA GORETTI... the teen-age saint.

Even as we are proud of little Maria, and we sing her glories and bless her name, we could offer her no better homage than emulate her example, imitate her purity and her burning love of God.

The secret of Maria's courage and heroism was her tremendous love of God from her little days. "If Maria faced the 'stiletto' with courage and determination; if Maria could challenge Alexander with uncompromising words; if Maria could bear with patience the butchery of an impassioned villain; if Maria could forgive her murderer with a smile on her lips, it was because she loved God more than anything else in the world.

Maria did nothing big till she faced martyrdom on a sunny July afternoon. She worked no miracles; preached no sermons; practised no generous mortifications; engaged in no long fasts, but she loved God and lived only to please Him.

Her love of God was something vigorously active and dynamic. Sin had no place in her little life because it displeased the God whom she loved. Sin had no charm for her for she was charmed with the beauty of God. Poverty did neither grieve nor depress her, for it was the lot of her God Himself during His sojourn on earth. Nothing mattered more, nothing mattered less, than the love of God and His pleasure. No sacrifice was too great, no pain too unbearable when it was God's sweet will that demanded it.

Her purity was but on off-shoot of her magnanimous love of Her Creator.

May little Maria Goretti teach you to love God as she did, for without a strong love of God there can be no purity.

May Maria Goretti bless you all and the Schools-Mag... all through the coming years.

Always in Jesus and Mary

Uncle Ashley

22 Altar Boys gather for Enclosed Retreat

DURING the past week-end the Altar Boys of St. Mary's, St. Anthony's, Puliyanativu, Batticaloa,



INTER HOUSE SPORTS MEET

THE Inter-House Sports Meet of St. Joseph's College, Trincomalee was held on the 20th June 1959 which was opened by the G.A. of Trincomalee, Mr. McHeyzer, C.C.S. in the Trincomalee Recreational Board Stadium.

Four of the former house records were broken. New records were set up by E. A. J. Soysa, Jayaweera, Anthony Ebert and J. Pius in Long Jump, Put Shot, Javelin Throw and Hop, Step and Jump respectively.

There was a keen struggle by the Houses for supremacy. The first place was eventually won by the Gold House, with Blue House and White House getting second and third places respectively.

The champions of each age group were the following:—

Under 19 — F. Eugene and J. Daniel (both 13 pts.); Under 16 — Kuarasa (15 pts.); Under 14 — Reginald (6 pts.).

Prizes were distributed by Mrs. McHeyzer.

Terence D. C. Philippupulay.
(Schools-Mag No. 287.)

were able to record many 'firsts' at the Manresa Retreat House. They were the first Altar Boys in the Trincomalee Diocese—perhaps in all Ceylon—to make an enclosed Retreat; the first group at Manresa to exceed seventeen in number; the first to serve Mass there in cassocks; the first to sing a High Mass there.

Twenty-two Altar Boys from Puliyanativu went out to Manresa on Friday evening, the 19th June, and began their enclosed Retreat under the direction of Rev. Fr. T. Selva Raj, S.J., in preparation for the feast of their patron, St. Aloysius. And on the feast itself, Rev. Fr. C. P. Bordreux, S.J., their Moderator and Assistant Parish Priest, sang a High Mass for their intentions, while the Altar Boys' Choir provided the music, with the help and direction of Frs. G. Rajendram and B. Silva, S.J., and R. Balthazaar.

The Retreat ended at 4-15 p.m., on Sunday, with a special Tea, at which Rev. Fr. R. Rieman, S.J., Superior of Manresa Retreat House, presented a prize to P. Francis, the boy who happened to be registered as the hundredth person to make a Retreat at Manresa since its opening in March. Travis Balthazaar was the Captain of the group, and S. S. Jeevaretnam his Assistant.



CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

THE girls of St. Joseph's Convent, Kegalle, took part in the Corpus Christi procession.

The procession of the Blessed Sacrament started at about 4-30 p.m. First came the altar boys carrying the crucifix and the two lanterns. The Convent Banner of St. Joseph in green with its gold tassels headed the procession. The Banner of the Child Jesus followed next, with little boys and girls following it. The Sodality headed by the Sodality Banner followed. The banner was carried by the Sodality Prefect.

Continued on page 10

Schools-Mag Enrolment Form

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

SCHOOL.....

DATE AND YEAR OF BIRTH.....

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



Schools-Mag

Continued from page 9

World Building Competition

The winners in the above competition are:—

1st Prize: Miss Charmaine Fernando, 62/2, Old Kottawa Road, Mirihana, Nugegoda. (437 words)
2nd Prize: Royce Paes, 222, Silversmith Street, Colombo 12 (433 words).

The winners will receive their prizes from Mr. Geo. P. Solomons.

bership card. I'll show it to my friends also and try to enrol many others.

Fenda Fernando.
(Schools-Mag No. 2590)

Kegalle.

Dear Editor,

Herein I enclose 17 Schools-Mag Enrolment Forms for my friends and class mates. I hope you will send us the membership cards and numbers very soon. I also wish to know whether a Protestant friend of mine could be a member of the Schools-Mag.

Antoinette Wijesuriya.
(Dear Antoinette, A ruling was given on this question sometime back. There is nothing to prevent a Protestant boy or girl attending a Catholic school and desirous of becoming a member, from joining the Schools-Mag.— Editor).

Dear Editor,

Every member of our family is interested in reading the articles contained in the Schools-Mag page and they are looking forward for more interesting articles.

Thavamalar Joseph.

Jaffna.

Members' Parade

1551 — 1600

1551. Irene Dias (Moratuwa), 1552. Trevor Berenger (Colombo 6), 1553. Priyance Cruse (Seeduwa), 1554. Frederick Bastiansz (Korahena), 1555. Louis Rasali (Jaffna), 1556. Chithra Leanne (Kandana), 1557. Ganapoo Fernandopulle (Kochchikade), 1558. Sunil Embuldeniya (Colombo 11), 1559. Norma Bulner (Navalapitiya), 1560. Shiranjie de Silva (Moratuwa), 1561. Victor Abraham (Kandy), 1562. Nehal Ranasinghe (Pannipitiya), 1563. Neville Silva (Moratuwa), 1564. Terence Fernando (Ja-Ela), 1565. K. D' Silva (Colombo), 1566. Joseph Arunachalam (Kandy), 1567. Don George (Kelaniya), 1568. Bernard Jayaweera (Kelaniya), 1569. Christy Gomez (Bambalapitiya), 1570. Patrick Cruse (Grandpass), 1571. Therese Perera (Moratuwa), 1572. Marlene Davidson (Trincomalee), 1573. Hiranthe Abeyaratne (Moratuwa), 1574. Sudharsani Abeyaratne (Moratuwa), 1575. Maxwell. Abeyaratne (Moratuwa), 1576. Philomena Mendis (Moratuwa), 1577. Mig-none Tissara (Colombo 2), 1578. Rose Alexander (Kandy), 1579. George Ferdinand (Borella), 1580. Maximus Fernando (Marawila), 1581. D. Catherine Dolawatha (Kelaniya), 1583. Don John Dolawatte (Kelaniya), 1584. Don Lawrence Dolawatte (Kelaniya), 1585. Lawrence Van Ryke (Trincomalee), 1586. Hyacinth de Silva (Kelaniya), 1587. Menolie Fernandopulle (Kochchikade), 1588. Corinne Collom (Dehiwela), 1589. Marlene Fernando (Colombo 14), 1590. Tony Fernandez (Colombo 14), 1591. Daphne Fernando (Colombo 14), 1592. Christy Jayasuriya (Moratuwa), 1593. Pearlyn Fernando (Moratuwa), 1594. Hilary Seneviratne (Mattakkuliya), 1595. Romayne Croos Fernando (Galle), 1596. Ernest Wickremasinghe (Colombo 15), 1597. Chitra De Almeida (Paiyagala), 1598. G. M. tha (Mutwal), 1599. John Perera (Dematagoda), 1600. Eva Fernando (Moratuwa).

(To be continued)

Corpus Christi

Continued from page 9

The sodalists were dressed in white wearing blue ribbons; blue mantles and crowns. The Crusaders in their white tunics, with red crosses were very attractive. Then followed the girls carrying the banner of the Mysteries and the Divine Praises. They were dressed in long white dresses, with red sashes. The Legionaries and other Catholic Action groups of the parish too, participated in the procession. They carried their respective banners. Lastly there were about twelve flower girls dressed in white and gold, carrying baskets of flowers and strewing them gracefully before the Blessed Sacrament. The canopy was carried by the leading men of the town. How lovely it was to walk with Our Lord, all heads bent down in prayer, singing the praises of Our Lord and thus manifesting Our love for Him. The Saviour of the World!

Sheryl Perera.

St. Joseph's Convent,
Kegalle.

BOYS TALK TO BOYS

FROM the middle term of last year, very interesting talks were given to the students of St. Joseph's College, Trincomalee by their Spiritual Adviser, Revd. Fr. F. S. Mayer, S.J. Now, three Sodalists are appointed by their moderator to give talks to the whole student body on alternate weeks. The subjects are chosen from "Apologetics" and they are given in all three languages. Even the non-Catholic students take much interest in these talks.

The first speeches were given by P. Fernando, Terence Philippuppullay and E. A. J. Soysa in English, Tamil and Sinhalese respectively on the "Proof for the Existence of God by Design."

Terence D. C. Philippuppullay.
(Schools-Mag No. 287).

● Next week "Scissor-and-Paste" makes a welcome return to these columns.



Dear Editor,

I am a regular reader of your exciting page. So please enrol me as a member of it. I also find Uncle Ashley's articles, and the competitions very interesting.

Jean Fernando.

Bambalapitiya.

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for the lovely book of poems awarded to me as my prize for the Pen-Gem of the week. I like it a lot. All my leisure hours are going to be filled reading the poems.

Carmini Ratna m

Kandy.

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter to tell you that I received the Schools-Mag membership card. When my two sisters saw the membership card they too wanted to join so I am enclosing another enrolment form for my elder sister.

Maureen Rajakarier.

Kandy.

Dear Editor,

I am writing this with the hope of getting some help from your numerous readers. I am a student of the 1st year S.S.C. Form at St. Joseph's College. I will be taking English Literature as one of my subjects, therefore can any of your readers help me by sending me two or three past papers preferably of the years 1957 and 1958? Mario Perera, No. 83, Turret Road, Colpetty, Colombo.

Dear Editor,

While extending my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to the "Schools Mag" for the numerous and great privileges it has rendered me during the last one year, I state with regret that I "resign" from the Club because I have left school, and in accordance with the regulations of the Club, I bid farewell.

I shall always continue to read "the Schools Mag" pages to educate myself.

I conclude wishing a long and happy duration to the "Schools-Mag."

Walter Salvadore Merriion.

Nuwara Eliya.

Dear Editor,

Thanks very much for including me as a member of the Schools-Mag. I was very happy to receive the mem-

● Patience Hope on

Religious Congregations of Nuns in Ceylon (7)



THE NUNS of CHARITY OF JESUS AND MARY OF GHENT

It was a Nun, Mother Mary of the Apostles who once wrote: "What is more excellent than to work in the spirit of sacrifice, or even in the spirit of the martyrs, for the salvation of souls. To forgive everything, to leave everything, to suffer everything, to despise the world—that is the only thing that makes us happy. The religious life is a life of sacrifice."

These words are eternally true of the Nuns of Charity of Jesus and Mary of Ghent (Belgium) as indeed of any other Order of Nuns.

This particular Order of Nuns who work in Ceylon was founded in 1803. The girl who aspires to join them will have the joy of glorifying God and being close to Him by means of the powerful combination of prayer and work unified by charity.

It has been truly said that there must be room in a Nun's heart for the whole world—each and every soul must be her concern. In Ceylon the Sisters of Charity has boundless scope in the sphere of education in all three languages, its primary and higher education, in homes of destitute children, in the establishment of nurseries and homes for the aged, in dispensary work and in the visiting of the estates for teaching of catechism and conducting sewing classes. In these activities, these Nuns bring God closer to their neighbour. (see pictures).

Are you one of those who feel attracted to their life of charity towards God and one's neighbour? Are you one who has realised that what the world calls "Pleasure" must in the end, after all, be transient and only temporary?

So, maybe you can write today to REV. MOTHER SUPERIOR, SISTERS OF CHARITY OF JESUS AND MARY, CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART, GALLE and I am sure she will give you all



Her gentle hands soothe the cares of the old and infirm....

OUR SCHOOL

THE Principal of our school,
Is generous and ever kind,
She always teaches us the rule,
And has a charitable mind.

The teachers who are young and bright,
Are ladies in every respect,
They always show us the right,
And great things from us expect!

All her girls are sportswomen, kind

the necessary information on how to be one like them, and how you too can do their great work.

(Next week: THE SISTERS OF THE CROSS).

of heart;
And there are speakers eloquent too;
They surpass all masters in the art
And carefully their work they do.

Our manager, a beloved priest of God,
"Great builder" him we always call,
Radiant amidst his tasks manifold,
Quick to answer sick calls all.

Now to end my little verses,
Let me thank our brilliant set,
Who do their duty at all times,
God bless our priest, principal and the rest.

Mary Mackay.
St. Bernard's Convent,
Navalapitiya.



● In the class-room

Women's-Mag

Edited by Patience Hope



LOVE AND FIDELITY IN MARRIAGE

Dear Friends,
Recently we asked readers of the Women's-Mag to tell us what they considered the most desirable and most important qualities in a husband. We received over 80 answers from women in every stage of married life, from the bride of "just six months married" to the wife "happily

married for twenty-five years, I can afford to speak from experience." There were also the answers from unmarried women and "brides to be." A sampling of these answers revealed significant facts and today we devote maximum space to them, feeling confident that all hus-

bands and wives (and prospective husbands and wives too) will find them useful. Next week too, maximum space will be given over to some of the better entries received. In the meantime I welcome suggestions and ideas for our next competition.
—PATIENCE HOPE.

Most Desirable Qualities in a Husband

IN selecting a help-mate, the chief consideration should be that he is a practical Catholic, with a deep realisation that the indissoluble edifice of Christian marriage cannot rest on the shifting sands of a mixed marriage.

Next comes moral character from which spring the paramount qualities of fidelity, sympathy, unselfishness, kindness, integrity and patience, without which no marriage can last. It is not the good looks, the lavish purse, the tender love songs, the brilliance of academic achievement, but the goodness of heart, the charity and understanding of a woman's weakness, that will help to rough out the rubble-strewn marital path. The flower of love, nurtured so tenderly during courtship, can be blighted by the rude blasts of thoughtlessness, indifference and suspicion.

The man of one's choice should have the quality of dependability,



the ability to shoulder and share responsibility, so that he can be a shining example to his children

PRIZE-WINNING ATTEMPT

and a tower of strength to his wife.

He should be a congenial companion, sharing her interests, pooling their dreams and hopes together, so that with the passage of years, when the fragrant bloom of spring-time withers into the

by *Marie Tambinayagam*

Marie Tambinayagam

mellow leaf of autumn, he will treasure her still as God's greatest gift — the mother of his children.

His intellectual attainments, his cultural endowment, his social background should be similar to hers, for when the years roll by and the star dust which enveloped the silvery radiance of love's young dream fades, there still will remain a deeper, maturer love which will bind them to each other both in time and eternity. Above all, he must be a man who realizes and cherishes the beauty of a white courtship whose loveliness, like a radiant white Christmas, will brighten the winter of their lives.

CONSOLATION PRIZE - WINNER



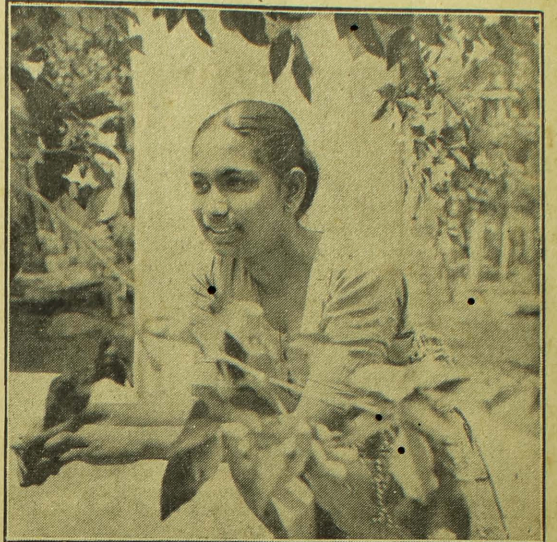
It is of primary importance that a Catholic woman should marry a man who is a good Catholic, one who will bring out the best in her. It is most desirable and important that he should be pure and good, strong and courageous, considerate and courteous, honest and dependable, somebody whom

By *Elfrida de Silva*

the wife can absolutely count on; also gay and good-tempered, patient, understanding and tolerant. A divine sense of humour too, in clouds and sunshine, will be most desirable to keep the home-fires burning. He must be her source of inspiration, her guard and guide for life, and should be willing to accept the responsibilities of marriage, and strive to build up a home as that of Nazareth.

In keeping with the Divine Master's command, the husband should love his wife with a true, deep and ever-abiding love, as Christ loves the Church, so as to give His Life for Her — a love which identifies itself with sacrifice. The husband's interests may be varied, but he should make her the best of all his other "loves," and even put her

THE CHARMS OF WOMANHOOD - 2



CONSOLATION

PRIZE - WINNER

BEING happily married for twenty-five years, I can afford to speak from experience.

Fundamentally, a husband must be a sound Christian. A good Christian husband will strive to direct his principles towards making a good Christian home. Also, a Christian man is fully aware of the paramount importance of Fidelity in relation to marriage. Fidelity ranks first in importance among the attributes of a good husband.

As for the others, it's most desirable for a husband to be affectionate. In times of stress and strain, like illness, trouble from servants, difficult children, extra affection, and understanding are called for.

A woman loves a confiding, friendly and helpful husband, — one who will assist her to keep the family's spirits happy.

BY

Mrs. P. L. Keegel

Also he must be strong minded, reliable. He must be capable of handling the budget, not selfishly or carelessly, not in a niggardly fashion either, but sensibly. This is very important for harmonious relationship.

A husband who will be sometimes indulgent is also lovable. After all, woman by her nature is a fair, whimsical, fanciful, soft creature. A married woman has only her husband to pamper to her whims and what harm if he does occasionally!

A self-respecting woman wants a respectful husband — respect for her personal will as for her thoughts, feelings and ideals. Although united so closely, she is yet an individual.

Important too is his ability to control his temper. He must be capable of ruling, admonishing and correcting without arousing resentment or breaking spirits.

A good husband will take a vital interest in the moral welfare of the family.

before his career. Throughout life's journey, he should continue to bestow the same kindly affections, attentions and courtesies with which he was so lavish during courtship. A little gift, a word of love and appreciation, and a bit of praise and encouragement will surely go right to her heart and keep the fire of love ever aglow.

It is of such a husband that a wife can truly say that she "gave the best years of her life to the man who made them the best."

PEN-POINTS

on the most desirable qualities in a husband

THE characteristics which I consider most essential in the ideal husband are Faith and Understanding. He should have absolute trust and confidence in his wife thereby gaining hers in return. He should possess the quality of Understanding which is truly a gift from Heaven.

Miss Sheila Gedden.

Dehiwela.

NO matter what wealth you may bring home, what love you show your wife, how helpful you may be at home and what great

TO glide safely through the rough sea of life amidst all storms and troubles, the three sterling qualities which are essential in a husband are Fidelity, Understanding and Gentleness.

Mrs. Lilian Bastians

personality you hold; you will not be admired or regarded by your wife if your character is questionable. The "Virtue of purity" will be more valued than all his other good qualities.

Gertrude Gunawardena.

Puwakpitiya.

AS a bride to be, I think the most desirable quality in a husband is that he be really understanding and reason out matters without rushing to hasty conclusions.

Miss Mary M. G. Rajapakse.

Kelaniya.

THE most important quality in a husband is that he should belong to your faith, truly living that faith. He should look upon children; no matter what world opinion is, as the best gifts from God.

Mrs. A. Deutrom.

Kahawatte.

I'D like his heart to be full of love, only because Love is the foundation of a happy marriage. This "heart full of love" is essential for me, because otherwise he cannot be my husband and my life-long partner. It is love that will help me to be his wife — and it is this same love that will help me perform for him the sacred duties of a Mother.

Mrs. Shirley de Hoed.

Wellawatte.

★ From My Mail Bag

Dear Patience,

We the Catholic women of Ceylon are indeed grateful to you for having started the Women's-Mag. I am certain every woman will enjoy reading it as it contains such interesting and inspiring articles which are bound to encourage us Catholic women to lead more useful and exemplary lives.

Mrs. Gladys Victoria.

Wellawatte.

Dear Patience,

I'm a teen-ager who has left school, and I hope you will enrol me as a member. I'm very glad you have started a Women's-Mag, because I'm sure it will be very useful for the teen-agers who have left school.

Miss Ratna de Silva.

Wattala.

No. 41, Ridgeway Place,
Bambalapitiya,

Colombo 4.

Dear Editor,

Women's-Mag,
Catholic Press,
Colombo.

I have the pleasure to offer the First Two (200) hundred members enrolled — a copy of the "Be-Book Ledger" Rs. 5/- now at Rs. 4/- Post Free — with a miraculous medal of St. Benedict enclosed therein. Postal Orders payable to: Mr. H. J. M. Peiris, c/o Catholic Press, Colombo 8. A copy with the Medal will be sent.

H. J. M. Peiris.

Dear Patience,

I am glad that at last we women have a page of our own in the Messenger to exchange our views. Mrs. J. L. de Croos Da Brera.

Kochchikade.

Dear Patience,

The Women's-Mag seems to be a very interesting one indeed. I wish every Catholic woman will reap a good harvest and also take an interest in this page.

Miss Manel Pieris.

Enderamulla.

Dear Patience,

I am a Catholic and a mother of four children and I am very much interested in your Mag, kindly enrol me as an active member.

Mrs. L. H. Pereira.

Ja-Ela.

Dear Patience,

I shall be very happy if you will enrol me a member of the Women's-Mag. Your page was something I was always hoping the Messenger would have, and when my wish came true I was thrilled. It really helps me to relax when my household chores are over and it's so interesting that I am sure it helps many a house-wife, who hardly has much time for long story books.

Mrs. Eileen Bartholomewsz.

Negombo.

Dear Patience,

The Women's-Mag is certainly a very attractive feature. I'm sure it would provide good reading and also serve as a source of inspiration to all women readers.

Miss Hyacinth Perera.

Ratmalana.

Dear Patience,

I herein enclose my membership form for enrolment. I do appreciate the Women's-Mag very much, as it really gives us a chance to discuss important facts.

Mrs. Noel Gunasekera.

Mutwal.

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.....

KERALA'S BISHOPS SHARE "GRAVE ANXIETY" OVER SITUATION

A mischievous campaign afoot

(INC News Service)

TRIVANDRUM—Explaining "our position" regarding the "popular upsurge" in Kerala, and contradicting flatly the false Communist campaign, Bishops of all Christian denominations in the State have stated that they shared with others the "grave anxiety." The situation gives rise to "serious thought and grave anxiety," the prelates declared.

We have permitted our people to agitate against the education act, the Bishops said. Conservation of our religion and culture is imperilled by the provisions of the act, they maintained.

The Bishops denounced the "undemocratic policies persistently pursued" by the Red government. They said that the Communists were adopting "objectionable and totally unjustifiable measures" in the administration of the state.

The prelates made these declarations in a memorandum presented here to Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. Seven Christian Bishops in Kerala including three Catholic prelates sponsored the memorial on behalf of the Kerala Christian Bishops Education Committee.

Briefly stating "their position," the Bishops noted that they were "very much concerned and

deeply aggrieved by the attempt of the Kerala government to wean away our children from our religion and culture (the maintenance of which is guaranteed to us by the constitution of India) by a process of indoctrination through text-books and regimentation of education on Communist totalitarian lines by means of continuous executive orders. One measure of the government which has given rise to very great anxiety, not only to the Christians but also to everyone who believes in individual liberty and freedom of thought, is the education act, the prelates pointed

out.

The Bishops stated that the Kerala regimes undemocratic acts were responsible for precipitating the agitation for the ministry's resignation. They said: "It is a mass upsurge in which every section of the population and all democratic parties are taking part. The government measures impeached by the people affect the general interest of the State and the liberty of the people as a whole. Subversion of law and order, creation of insecurity to life and property, intimidation, assault and even murders of non-Communist individuals, diversion of public funds for the benefit of the Communist party and Communist individuals, withdrawal of criminal prosecutions

where Communists are the accused, prosecution of innocent persons who protest against the government." Citing instances of what they called "ruthless repression," the prelates mentioned the recent firing on "innocent people." The circumstances of the shootings clearly indicate that they were pre-planned and that there was no provocation, the Bishops said.

They refuted government propaganda to the effect that the agitation was a "communal affair sponsored by the Catholics." We are aware that certain newspapers and news agencies, following the government's propaganda, have also given expression to this view, the prelates noted. "This version is entirely unfounded as well as deliberately mischievous; it is intended to misguide the public of India," the Bishops said. They pointed out that the leader of the movement against the government was a Hindu. No doubt there are considerable numbers of Catholics and other Christians taking part in the agitation along with the other sections of the population, the Bishops

told the Premier.

They stated: "We, the Bishops, as citizens of India residing in Kerala are profoundly interested in the welfare of the state and the re-establishment of democracy in Kerala. We have observed with deep concern that the loyalties of the ruling party lie elsewhere than in India and every measure of theirs is patterned on the measures adopted by the country where they have their root, and that they cannot be expected to follow the provisions of the Indian constitution."

The Pope to visit refugees?

THE Pope, who early on in his pontificate visited the sick in hospital and prisoners in jail, has said that he hopes to visit refugees in a camp near Rome. He said this when he received during a general audience 200 boys and girls, many of them the children of refugees, from Aclia camp near Rome.

The camp houses refugees from several nations, many of them from countries behind the Iron Curtain.

Alpine pilot honoured

AN air pilot who specialises in rescue work over the Swiss Alps and has often risked his life to save others has been invested with the insignia of Knight of St. Gregory.

He is 45-years-old Herman Geiger.

During the past few years Mr. Geiger has developed techniques for landing on glaciers and other Alpine spots otherwise inaccessible.

As a result, many stranded people have been saved who could not have survived until the ordinary mountain rescue squads arrived.

Handing Mr. Geiger the insignia Archbishop Testa, Nuncio to Switzerland, said that the Holy Father wished to honour his outstanding merits, which had been the means of saving life.

At the ceremony were Bishop Adam of Sion and all the members of the Swiss Air Mountain Rescue Patrol.

Bishop Adam is one of the Hospitaller Canons of the Great St. Bernard who for centuries have gone with their St. Bernard dogs to the rescue of Alpine travellers in peril.

Bishop makes 200-mile trip for Confirmation

BISHOP NELSON of Stockholm travelled 200 miles to give confirmation at three places in the Passionist parish of Vaxjo, in Southern Sweden — the first confirmations in the area since the Reformation.

A number of Protestants were among the congregation — 37 people were confirmed — and the Press gave good reports and photographs in each case.

Most of the candidates were the children of immigrants to Sweden from Hungary, Poland, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Sude-ten Germany and Italy.

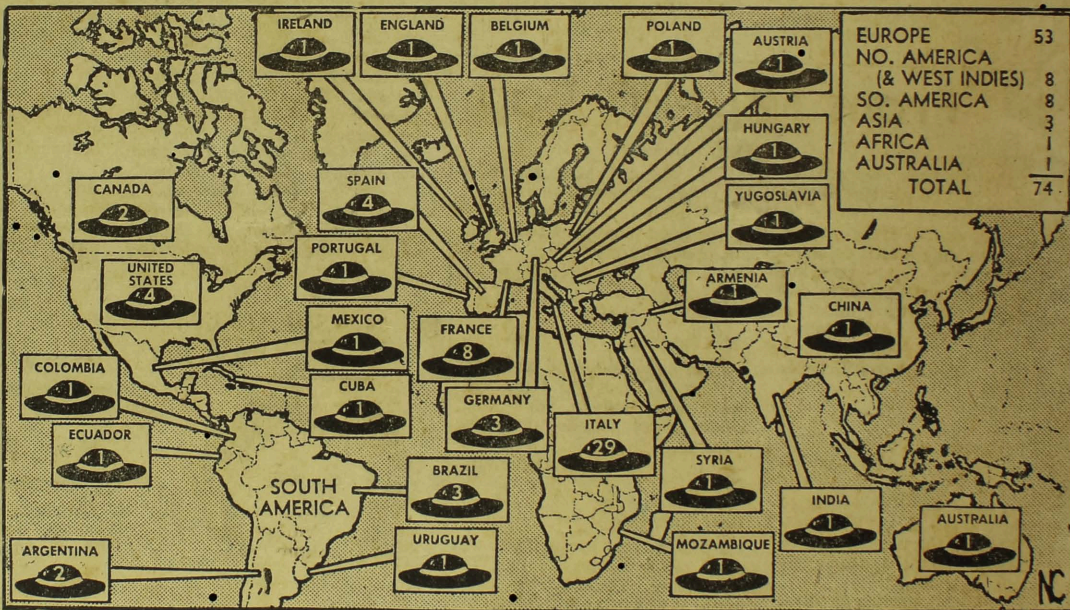
There are eight Passionists of the English province working in Sweden — six priests and two brothers, equally divided between Vaxjo and another parish further north, centred on Jonkoping.

The whole territory — about the size of Ceylon — has a Catholic population of about 1,300.

There are two permanent chapels where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved and 28 Mass centres.

Church's universality: Red Hat covers the world

The universality of the Church is clearly demonstrated by the Sacred College of Cardinals the membership of which was raised to a total of 74 by the elevation of 23 new Cardinals by His Holiness Pope John XXIII at the consistory held on December 15 last. This map, prepared by the N.C. W.C. News Service, depicts the distribution of the Red Hat over all five continents and shows the number of Cardinals in each of the 27 countries represented in the Sacred College, which has 29 Italian and 45 non-Italian members. Two Cardinals have died since then.



Integration, answer to Apartheid

—Says South. Africa's Archbishop

ALL opponents of extreme apartheid must come to realize that the only answer to it was realistic integration, said Archbishop Hurley, O.M.I., of Durban, addressing the Maritzburg Indian Technical Students Society.

Politicians and editors must have the courage to tear aside the goodwill wrappings and get down to the core of the colour problem, said he.

That problem was telling the white South Africans precisely what was expected of them and non-white South Africans what could be offered to them.

"They must be afraid to use the word, but in their heart of hearts they know that it is inevitable," he said.

The cry of immediate equality and its political expression in votes-for-all was bound to grow in volume and popularity.

Unqualified franchise could not be extended to all, without extremely detrimental results, he said, for democracy was not a magic formula, but a very delicate political arrangement re-

quiring careful initiation and gradual habilitation.

Was it too late to talk of a qualified franchise?

"Will the non-whites, and parti-

cularly the Africans, accept it as a basis for discussion, or, in their desperation of ever having their rights recognised, are they irrevocably committed to working

for unqualified universal suffrage, regardless of the consequences," he asked.

"If they are, the democratic outlook in South Africa is pretty grim.

"But, of course, the whites are to blame. In recent years they have made no constructive overtures in the line of a just and encouraging plan for qualified franchise."

KRUSCHEV LIES about ALBANIA

NIKITA Krushchev, past master in the art of covering foul deeds with fair words, grossly misrepresented the truth about the persecution in Albania when, in a speech at Luzhniki Stadium, he told the people of Moscow of his recent visits to Albania and Hungary.

He told the crowd that the Catholic priests in Albania "refused to subordinate themselves to the Vatican and instead support the Albanian people who are building socialism."

This is the real situation in Albania:

From the time they came to power the Communists have

waged a war of extermination against the Church.

In the decade ending in 1956, the entire Albanian hierarchy was wiped out.

SCHOOLS SEIZED

Two bishops were executed. The archbishop and another b-

shop died after harsh jail treatment. The country's clergy was decimated by expulsions, executions and torture.

The whole Catholic press and all Catholic schools and charitable institutions were taken over by the government.

At the same time, an estimated 5,400 Catholic teachers died, after inhuman treatment, accompanying the Reds' attempts to wipe out all vestiges of educated Catholic leadership.