

The voice of Pope Pius XII had already warned the world's nations, but — Ceylon's Family Planners continue their work of destruction

Points to Remember

- Catholics should adhere firmly to the principle that family planning is unacceptable because it violates the laws of nature — a fact that renders it unacceptable to all human beings, and not only to Catholics.
- Family planning is the work of human selfishness, and a refusal to accept joyfully "these priceless gifts of God," children.
- "The so-called problem of over-population is partly real and partly unreasonably feared as an imminent catastrophe."
- But whatever it be, "OVER-POPULATION IS NOT A VALID REASON FOR SPREADING ILLICIT BIRTH CONTROL PRACTICES; it is a pretext used by those who would justify avarice and selfishness."

Anti-God Campaign intensified

AN increased campaign against a revival of "religious prejudices" was called for last Friday by *Pravda* ("Truth"), the official organ of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. It alleged that clergymen were shrewdly adopting new tactics for survival by trying to reconcile religion with science and trying to convince people that Communist philosophy could co-exist with religion.

Sick Day at TEWATTE



Picture shows His Grace the Archbishop blessing the sick who went to Tewatte in large numbers last Sunday. (Photo by Annesley Charles)



...an odd claim for family planning

AS the campaign for family planning in Ceylon gathers momentum, and various projects are being foisted on a supposedly "spiritual-minded" people who have been heavily fed on incorrect theories and worse economics, an odd claim for family planning has been put forward in certain quarters in a cheap attempt to present the Catholic Church as an ally in the promotion of family planning: and this, in spite of Papal declarations that have been published here and over the world

It is against this background, that we recall today the teaching of the Church with her 2000 years of experience—for she has minced no words in cautioning the nations of the world against the apparently easy solution of family planning as being a violation of the very natural law that all men are obliged to observe.

In fact, Pope Pius XII, in one of his last major addresses, specifically condemned that "planned parenthood" which involves action contrary to the law of God.

Propaganda

His Holiness was speaking on January 20, 1958, to the directors of the Italian Associations for Large

Families. He said: "Surely one of the most harmful aberrations that has appeared in modern society with its pagan tendencies is the opinion of those who are eager to classify, fruitfulness in marriage as a 'social malady,' and who maintain that any nation that finds itself thus afflicted, must exert every effort and use every means to cure the disease."

"This is the basis for the propaganda that goes under the name of 'planned parenthood.'"

"At times it is promoted by persons and organisations who command respect because of their positions in other fields but who, unfortunately, have taken a stand in this matter which must be condemned...."

Confusion

"We particularly deplore that section of the Press that every so often takes up the question once

TURN TO BACK PAGE

New Kandy Bishop takes over Diocese



HIS Lordship the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Leo Nanayakkara, O.S.B., the new Bishop of Kandy, took possession of his Diocese in a simple ceremony last Tuesday. *The Messenger* is reliably informed that the consecration of the new Bishop has been fixed for October 3, the feast-day of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Patroness of the Missions.

VATICAN AT GENEVA

REPRESENTING the Vatican at the recent Geneva conference on technical radio questions was Fr. Antonio Stefanizzi, S.J., director of Vatican Radio.

50,000 at World Congress of Sodality

LAYMEN should increase their efforts to gain converts in order to help the Church in its struggle against Communism, said Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, addressing the 50,000 Catholics at the final rally of the World Congress of Sodalities, in U.S.A.

Until now all conflicts the Catholic Church had faced, such as the struggles with the ancient Romans and with the Moslems, were in the name of religion, said the bishop. Today the Church was faced with a totally alien power from outside — the "forces of Satan."

Chinese Communists had given themselves this title when they said to nuns and priests they had arrested: "Do you pray to the Virgin Mary for deliverance from the forces of Satan? Well, we are those forces."

Sodalists, as children of Our Lady, were "committed to making up in some way for evils of the world," said Bishop Sheen. But they were not doing enough.

Conversions in the United States averaged 2.8 converts per priest. In Korea the figure was 150 converts

Continued on page 12

Holy Father tours poor villages

THE Pope toured the poor villages of the Alban Hills on Tuesday, the first Pope to do so for a century. Leaving Castel Gandolfo, Pope John drove east to the village of San Vito Romano, passing through the main towns and small villages of the beautiful countryside. He stopped at Bell-egra and visited an orphanage and a convent. At another village he stopped to pray at the local shrine.

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ROUNDAABOUT

... the Light died

by
ROBIN HOOD

ONE DAY LAST MONTH, IN THE HUSHED SECLUSION OF A HOSPITAL WARD IN COLOMBO'S GENERAL HOSPITAL, THE LONG-DRAWN OUT DRAMA OF A SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL'S HEROIC BATTLE WITH EXCRUCIATING SUFFERING, REACHED ITS END.

Her name was Felicity Perera. Winner of a 1958/1959 Messenger Journalism Award — the John Leo de Cross Memorial Prize presented by Shri A. L. J. Croos Raj Chandra — for months she had been subject to the most torturing pains imaginable, that had left even the doctors visibly baffled.

It was in this condition, that she had dictated her prize-winning entry — blind, torn with convulsions of pain, and almost fully paralysed. Between the bouts of pain, in little snatches of a few minutes at a time, she had dictated her essay to her mother who spent those endless days by her bedside. For her, as she then said, it was a work of love — to her Divine Mother above, and her earthly mother here below.

The fortitude and courage displayed by her and the sweetness of her perfect resignation to what she called God's will, shone like a bright star poised high and brilliant over the deadly bludgeonings and spasms of pain that constantly smote her.

And the light died . . .
"Lovely the rose; and yet — its beauty Time deflowers
Lovely in spring the violet — but brief its hours;
White is the lily — but fast it falls, and fades away
White is the snow — but it melts from earth's face where it lay,
Lovely the loveliness of youth — yet lives but for a day. . . ."

In Felicity Perera's own words (quoted from her prize winning essay): " . . . and then I grow restive and impatient and ask God why I, seventeen and full of life, should be struck down like this. And then my Rosary encircled arm touches the bed and as the beads dig into my flesh I bow my head and ask Mary to give me peace of mind and bodily ease, and invariably I fall into a peaceful doze. . . ."

Truly has she fallen into the sleep that is Paradise. May she rest in that Light and Peace which is so justly and deservedly her reward.

• CAN YOU ANSWER THIS ?

AT what age should a man marry? Here is one answer to that: "A man is not prepared to struggle in the world until he is 25; in other words he should wait till he is 25 before he marries. . . ." that's the opinion expressed by Fr. Francis J. Connell, C.S.S.R., at a Family Life Institute in U.S.A. sometime back.

In Ceylon, husbands and wives will be very interested to know that another Cana Conference is scheduled for Sunday, 6 September 1959, commencing at 4-30 p.m. The venue is Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya.

Marriage, as in all other things, has its own problems. If you are a husband or a wife, or if you intend being one in the near future, you should attend this Cana Conference.

On the day's programme are three informative and useful talks — (1) Talk to Husbands and Wives by Rev. Fr. Justin Perera;



(An exclusive picture of Felicity Perera taken before her death — See "And the Light died." "Sweet, blessed beads! I would not part With one of you for richest gem That gleams in kingly diadem. Ye know the history of my heart."

(2) Talk to Wives by Rev. Fr. Alex Ranasinghe and (3) Talk to Husbands by Rev. Fr. Fitzgerald, S.S.S.

Benediction and Renewal of Marriage Vows will wind up the day's Cana Conference.

• BALLET PERSONALITIES

WELL known author, journalist cum poet, Wimal J. Abayasiri, added another feather to his cap last week when the Hela Kala Pila presented the first Catholic Oriental Ballet "Original Sin" at the Aquinas Fair.

According to information received, there is every chance of it having a repeat performance for those who missed it not only in Colombo but in the provinces as well.

Mr. Abayasiri is a regular contributor to the "Nava Yugaya," the popular illustrated magazine.

Associated with him in the ballet triumph were Sujatha Maligaspe (as Adam), J. J. Mangalika (as Eve) and G. Y. Surange who was responsible for the dances.

• DID YOU SEE THIS?

ROBINHOOD who gave the first flash of the 15,000,000 dollar production "Ben Hur" billed for Ceylon audiences in early January 1960, (see Roundabout: 1 August 1959) has more news reaching him from New York.

The Metro Goldwyn Research Department is anxious to hear from those who have seen the earlier version of "Ben-Hur."

Did "Ben-Hur" as a novel, play or silent movie, play any part in your real life romances? You are invited to write your ex-

perience with "Ben Hur" to "BENHUR," 1540 Broadway, New York 36, New York.

• WHITHER STUDENT OF TODAY?

AQUINAS University College will be the venue for the General Meeting of the Catholic Students' Federation scheduled to commence at 9 a.m. on Sunday, 6 September 1959.

On this occasion H. E. Dr. T. M. Auer, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, will address the students on "Whither the Student of today?"

Holy Mass will be offered up at 12 noon.

• . . . AND NOW FOR THE 800!

OVER eight hundred working girls from Colombo and from remote provinces all over the island are scheduled to foregather at the Day of Recollection at All Saints', Borella, on Sunday, 27 September 1959.

Spearheading this formidable feminine galaxy is Mrs. Lucien B. de Zilva, the former Cecily Pietersz, who still remains the "friend and guide of the working girl par excellence."

Robinhood salutes this unobtrusive lay worker of many years standing who has now joined hands with her husband, Mr. Lucien B. de Zilva (remembered for his superlative work at the Lee Hedges Marian Guild), in cutting fresh ground in her self-chosen Apostolate.

- 14x12 inches.
- Preference will be for indigenous art.
- Entries should reach "Rasangali," No. 1, Front Street, Colombo 11, before 15th September.
- Decisions of the "Rasangali" Executive Committee will be final.

Entries will be displayed at the Y.C.W. Rally to be held in early November 1959.

ROBIN Hood is informed that the art-group "Rasangali" is sponsoring a novel competition; it is for the best design in Christmas Cards, which they insist, should distinctly portray the Incarnation of Our Lord. A premium is being set on originality, and preference will be for indigenous art. As our readers will surely be interested in this competition, we list below the conditions of the competition: 1. The cards which should be in three colours, should be

● LETTERS CHAIN-LETTERS

Chain-letters are around once again and enclosed is the third I received within two days. I have not made it a practice to respond to these — but I am grieved because they have chosen the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima as the target for their superstition. I doubt the Sisters of St. Francis anywhere in the world would be so silly as to launch out on chain-letters to propagate the Faith! Besides, devotion to Our Lady is so very dear and sacred to every Catholic heart that I consider it a sin to drag it to the dregs in this way.

When Our Lady has appeared several times and asked for Prayer and Penance, let those who wish to propagate the Faith or devotion to Our Lady recite the Rosary in their spare time and help the Missions or any charitable purpose with their spare monies.

I would like you please to give publicity once more in the Messenger to what a Catholic's attitude should be with regard to these chain-letters which are once again in circulation and to advise the recipients not to fear to disregard them.

(Miss) M. S. D. M. de Silva.
Colombo 7.

II

Catholics receive occasionally, what are called "chain (prayer) letters." I received such a letter a few days ago, the text of which I append for your comments please:—

"We are making a Novena to Our Lady of Fatima. Just one Our Father and Hail Mary for nine days.

This Novena was sent by the Sisters of St. Francis, and this is the second time it is going round the world. Copy this out and send it to nine different people before four days are up.

This Novena was sent to me by Mr. Do not forget to mention the sender's name. In case you do not wish to continue this, please send it to the Sisters of St. Francis, Boston, U.S.A. Do not let this be broken in your home.

On the fourth day you will receive a favor from Our Lady of Fatima. This Novena is to propagate the Faith.

May God bless you.

Sgd.
C. A. Senanayake,

Ratnapura.

(We have chosen to publish two from among the piles of letters on the chain-letter mania that have been pouring into our office within the

past few weeks. Every one of them refers to the text given in our second letter above. Considering how widespread the disease seems to have become, we have taken up this point at some length in Current Comment on page 6 today—EDITOR)

Youth Organisations

Many of us are aware of the fact that young men and women of the day are afforded plenty of opportunities to engage in social activities. In this context we are reminded of something which is fast gaining popularity among modern youth.

We often hear of 'Fan Clubs' and other such organizations which seem to promise the youth of the present day upliftment in the social sphere. A good number of these clubs and organizations spring up under the name of a favourite singer or an actor. No doubt, these organizations receive the support of the young as well as the old.

These organizations will deserve the support given, if only they conform to the moral standards required of decent society. This should not however be taken to mean that many of the existing youth organizations are wanting in good moral principles.

During a Students' Spiritual Leadership Convention held abroad in the winter of 1938, about fifteen thousand young people took part in an interesting discussion. The question discussed was "What do you think constitutes good manners for the people of your age?" The discussions proved so stimulating and the advice the young men and women gave was so practical that they were asked whether they would be willing to put in writing some of the things which they urged as standards of good manners. They agreed most heartily.

So in the spring of the following year a questionnaire was sent to the schools that had been represented at the convention. Out of the answers that were returned a booklet was compiled. How often do we hear of such things in Ceylon? Perhaps, this should set our youth thinking.

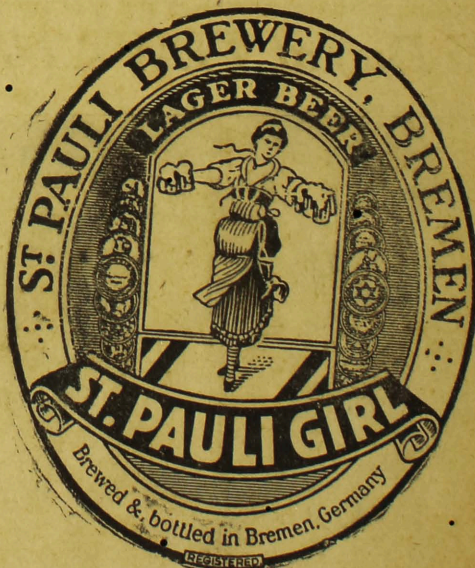
Several suggestions pertaining to this subject have been voiced in your Catholic Weekly. Catholic social organizations formed on the lines pointed out will definitely be a boon to Catholic youth.

A. R. Rajadurai,

Colombo 15.

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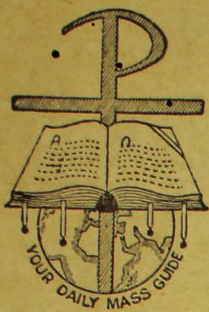
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• CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION



Sunday, 6 September: XVITH
SUNDAY AFTER PENTE-
COST. Green. Omit prayer
prescribed. Creed.
Monday, 7 September: Feria. Green.
Mass of the Sunday.
Tuesday, 8 September: Nativity of
the Blessed Virgin. White. 2nd
prayer of St. Hadrian. Omit
prayer prescribed. Creed. Pre-
face of the Blessed Virgin.
Wednesday, 9 September: Feria.
Mass as on the 7th. Green. 2nd
prayer of St. Gorgonius.
Thursday, 10 September: St. Ni-
cholas of Tolentino. White.
Friday, 11 September: Feria. As
on the 7th. 2nd prayer of Sts.
Protus and Hyacinth.
Saturday, 12 September. Holy
Name of Mary. White. Creed.
Preface of the B.V.M.
• Unless otherwise stated, the
prayer prescribed is always said
(Archdiocese: "In time of any
tribulation").

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 Thy-
self continually in the Holy
Sacrifice of the Mass. I
offer them in particular for
the intentions of the Apos-
tleship of Prayer and for
those proposed by the Holy
Father for this month.

INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

GENERAL: That an apos-
tolic spirit may flourish in
Christian families.

MISSIONARY: That a
Christian solution be found to
the race problem in South
Africa.

F.X's

CHURCH LINEN

	Per yd
Irish Linen. Heavy qua- lity, white, 36 ins. ..	8 75
Net Lace. White, finest quality, 36 ins.	18 50
Net Lace. White, finest quality, 9 ins.	7 50
Filet Lace. White, 36 ins. 12 ins.	7 50
Church Braid 1/2 in.	5 00
" " 1 in.	1 25
" " 3 ins.	1 75
Silk Fringe, 1 1/2 ins.	8 50
" " 2 ins.	1 90
" " 3 ins.	2 50
Double Colour 2 ins.	3 50
Silk Satin. Heavy, white 36 ins.	2 50
Moire Silk, Watermark, red, white and black, 36 ins.	7 50
	5 50

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TOWARDS THE GENERAL COUNCIL

On the Way to Unity

THERE was one thing that has struck non-Catholic Christians very much in the message of Pope John XXIII announcing the Oecumenical Council and declaring that it would take up the question of Christian unity. Pope John did not hesitate to say that we, Catholics, too, have made our mistakes.

Are we ourselves prepared for unity?

—asks Fr. H. Haas

Viewed superficially, this could appear to be a rather negative reaction, and those Christians who are not in communion with the Church of Rome might be only too glad to find it recognized that "Rome" has made mistakes in its dealing with the many schisms and heresies that have broken up the unity of Christendom.

But a man must be unaware of the development of the contacts between Catholics and other Christians in the last 30 years or so, if he sees only the negative aspect of this statement. There will be no room here to tell the story of this development and to point out the many positive reactions that have been prepared and provoked by the so-called oecumenical movement. And it is certainly more practical to look at ourselves, before looking at others. More charitable too. According to the advice of the Gospel, to look first at our own faults, before we judge those of others.

Apologetics

There was a time when religious classes beyond the simple catechism level, were preferably called "apologetics," when the explanation of the Faith was more a defence of Catholic principles against all kinds of adversaries, and when the approach to those who were not in full communion with the Church stressed almost exclusively their errors. Certainly many Catholics, in those difficult days, were strengthened in their faith and not a few converts, very great people often, were made by apologetics. Not only because grace uses all means to prepare hearts for the faith and to strengthen the faithful, but definitely because the apologetical era of theology, of catechetics and of preaching, has safeguarded the very essentials of Catholic life and Catholic doctrine.

At the same time we must admit and nobody should be ashamed to do so—the great theologians, the great church-historians, the great liturgists, the great catechists of our day are fairly agreed on this point—that the era of apologetics not only did not dig up several positive aspects of Catholic doctrine that had been covered by the dust of ages of battle, but it sometimes hid even those aspects which were judged to be too dangerous to be put up to people who were inadequately instructed, or which might possibly confirm non-Catholics or non-Christians in their erroneous convictions.

But certain measures and certain attitudes, adopted at certain times and conditioned by certain circumstances, are not necessarily everlasting and absolute. Besides, we must admit with modern research in the historical field, that stressing easily becomes over-stressing, and that over-stressing of the one tends to make for under-estimating of the other.

THE HOLY FATHER HIMSELF HAS RECENTLY, IN AN EXTREMELY THOUGHT-PROVOKING SPEECH TO THE GREEK COLLEGE IN ROME, GIVEN US, IN HIS UNSOPHISTICATED, STRAIGHTFORWARD WAY, SOME THINGS TO THINK OVER.

The Pope Speaks

There is no address of the Holy Father to any group that does not

take up the event that he is preparing for and that he seems to see as a possible turning-point in Church history: the Oecumenical Council. Speaking to the students of the Greek College in Rome, where students both from the Greek and the Latin rite in Greece are preparing for the priesthood, he must have been especially inspired. He knows the world of the oriental Rites intimately, from the long years that he spent as Apostolic Delegate in the Near East. And he must have been fully aware, that this world, Catholic or Orthodox, listens with anxious and strained attention to any word from his lips that touches on the coming Oecumenical Council, especially in so far as it will deal with the question of Reunion.

Pope John XXIII spoke to the Greek students about unity among Christians of all denominations. Certainly he made it clear that any unification must be a coming back to the Mother Church of all groups and churches that have left it.

But, contrary to the so often heard opinion—based more on an easy romanticism than on serious study of the problem—that Pope John will be the man who can secure unity in our days, he stated plainly that any real invitation to our separated brethren to reunion with Rome would, at the present moment be premature.

When he explained the reasons for this statement he did not go in search of the lack of preparation and goodwill on the other side. He invited the students, and all of us, to see first if we are ready to receive the others.

And he went into detail, after having rather plainly denied that an invitation to the others would be practical at the moment because of our own situation in the Catholic Church itself. This may be astonishing to us, but Our Holy Father certainly is not somebody who wants sensation for sensation's sake. Realistic in his outlook and wise in his experience, especially in this field, he asked us to consider our own preparation to receive our disunited brothers into the Mother Church.

He did not linger on the many mistakes we Catholics have made, first in our understanding or misunderstanding of many reformers who finally left the Church after a very sincere attempt at sound reform, later in our understanding of the non-Catholic Christians. But he certainly knew that the era of mere apologetics is over, and that merely "apologizing," even in the most sincere and honest way, would not bridge the gulf. So many things about the past can be said that would only stir up feeling on both sides. Let the past be past, and let us live for tomorrow.

Look to the Future

In fact Pope John XXIII opened up tremendous perspectives for all of us who are willing to live our Christian lives fully, and who want to prepare for the future. He knows that too many relics of former times, good and bad, are carried along in the so-called Catholic tradition, being more often a burden and a hindrance to its dynamism. He knows that the Middle Ages, dreamland of not a few who try to escape from

the challenge of today and tomorrow, have gone, definitely. He knows that the Church needs a fresh outlook, has to reconsider many traditional customs and attitudes. That the Church must find a new stand, facing a new world. He is convinced that the Church is eternally young, that she must renew herself from day to day. And all that not just for a kind of self-perfection, or only for the welfare of its members. We are living in a time when anything, done by any Catholic in any country, has an immediate repercussion all over the world, will be printed, cabled, pictured, televised. The Church cannot afford to have members who give in to self-complacency, who hope to be free to live their own lives,

RADIO LOG

SEPT. 5 to 7: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m.
THOUGHTS FOR THE
DAY (Tamil) — B. G. Emmanuel, Esq.
SEPT. 6: 10-00 to 10-05 a.m.
TALK (English) — Rev. Fr. Claude Lawrence, O.M.I.
SEPT. 7 to 13: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m.
THOUGHTS FOR THE
DAY (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. A. de Saram.
SEPT. 13: 7-00 to 7-30 p.m.
CATHOLIC HOUR PRO-
GRAMME.

who do not care how their actions will witness to Catholic life, who strive for a kind of self-perfection that has nothing to do with the perfection of others.

The Holy Father did not speak only of the inner interior life, or of moral conduct in its individualistic aspect alone. He clearly meant to speak on the outer forms too, on our manner of speaking, of preaching, our behaviour—all those things that reveal our inner attitude.

In non-essential things we should be ready to make even great sacrifices. We should reconsider our traditions, devotions, explanations in the light of what others think of them too. We must be ready

Continued on page 4

Freedom of Will

THE subject of food is uppermost when men are starving, and freedom is most heralded when the world is losing its freedom. Liberty is under attack from two sides today: one, from the outside when hammers and sickles beat and cut human beings until they fit the totalitarian pattern; the other is from the inside as in a democracy, where free men give up on freedom. Law courts are less at fault than the intelligentsia in battering away the ramparts of free choice. The denial of responsibility, the equating of alcoholism and disease, the blaming of moral delinquencies on grandparents, the glorification of the sub-conscious as the cause of all human actions—are all subtle instruments which destroy one of the noblest faculties of man.

The picture of a bird beating its wings in a desolate cage in wild fury to escape, is not as pitiable as a man who has imprisoned himself in the house of necessity. Chained dogs become mad, and chained minds become neurotic. It is the free surrender of freedom which makes man's case so tragic.

Alcoholic

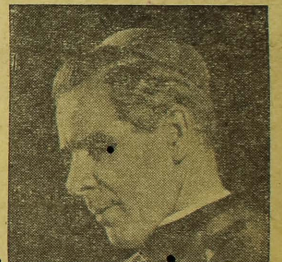
Take an alcoholic. Certainly he is now under "compulsion" to drink, though Scripture uses the better word of "enslaved." But was he under the same necessity to begin drinking, and was there the same compulsion in the formation of the habit that there is in the latter state of total enslavement? Somewhere along the line, there were free acts which later created links in the formation of the habit. And even when the habit is formed, there is still some tiny area of freedom, some little beach-head of liberty by which, with the help of God's grace, one can break the chain.

Compulsion of certain kinds is not incompatible with freedom. When a hotel is burning, a guest could pack his suitcase and then have both burned to a cinder; but he can almost make a choice and decide to save his life and lose his wardrobe. There is unwillingness at the same time there is willingness, because they refer to different values.

Guilt

Man is not just a spectator of what transpires within him as a theatre; he is also a creator; he writes the drama and plays the roles. The assumption that a psy-

choanalyst knows our motivations better than we do, is based on the false idea that we are not responsible for our choices and our deeds. A doctor may understand a cancer better than the patient because the latter did not will the cancer,



BISHOP SHEEN SPEAKS

but a speeder, a wife-beater, a drunkard, a rapist did freely set these wrong deeds in motion. How often it has happened that a professor will tell his students: "we are determined by biological and erotic factors to do certain things; hence the concept of guilt is a sign of a psychotic personality." Ten minutes later, that professor will report to the dean a student who insisted on playing a trumpet during the lecture.

What happens when free choice is divested of its moral responsibility is that it degenerates into self-will; the self-will rots into defiant self-affirmation of power against others.

Truth

Why do millions today embrace Communism? Because of a desire to escape the burden of free choice. Liberty is a cross to those who do not want to use it to become spiritually noble. On the contrary, the greatest freedom of all is the freedom to become a saint; to see that there is a Truth so noble that lesser goods must be sacrificed for it. If Divine Truth does not exist, then nothing is left but compulsory organization of society. But since Divine Truth does exist, then the greatest secret of human happiness is found in the words of Our Lord: "The Truth will make you free" (Copyright . . . Reproduction in whole or part forbidden).

FATHER PHILIP'S LAST WORD

LOOKING over the papers left by the late Fr. Philip Caspersz, O.S.B., we are struck by the Benedictine thoroughness with which in his day he investigated every existing claim for the site of Fr. Vaz's church and tomb.

If we have made some headway today, it is chiefly in the direction of greater certainty and wider acceptance of the conclusions he put forward as his personal convictions.

It is a distinct advance too that what in his day might have seemed an antiquarian's harmless pastime is for a growing group today real business with a determination that as far as lies in us we will not leave the matter at that, but pursue conclusions to the spot itself. This, we believe, is the unspoken pledge, the unwritten code, of our Round Table of Knights in quest of the Grail.

In the following extract from his essay Fr. Philip (it was necessary to call him so to distinguish him from his brother Fr. James) gives us his final view as to where Fr. Vaz's church stood (where we must now look for his tomb).

Bogambara is the watch-word, no doubt; but Bogambara green of today was not quite Bogambara-wewa of Vazian times, nor yet of 140 years ago.

From here on, you are reading Fr. Caspersz's article in the copy of V. L.M.

The question may perhaps be asked "What about the old tradition that

Fr. Vaz's grave was at Bogambara?" I would answer that the tradition was correct, but that the popular application of the tradition is erroneous. We are disposed to think of Bogambara as the present venue of our youngsters' games and recreations, the southern end of the old Bogambara. There is no earthly chance of Fr. Vaz's grave being there

FATHER VAZ
FEATURE

in the face of documents which militate against its acceptance. This site would not be "along the public road," much less would it be "near the place whither His Majesty was accustomed to go, to await the procession with the water from the river."

The locality which I favour strongly as that which holds Fr. Vaz's grave, would also have been Bogambara — the south-west bank of the old Bogambarawewa.

This is how you sight it. Place yourself on the beginning of that Katukelle Road, with your back to the Pillaiyar Kovil, imagine the church standing somewhere near the structure of the Social Service League, or a little behind it, and you



will be forced to admit that all the known details of Father's church fit in beautifully with the picture.

This is also the opinion of Mr. H. W. Codrington, C.C.S., who says (with regard to the documents published in the volumes of the "Oratorian Mission in Ceylon" by Fr. S. G. Perera, S. J.): "In para. 16 you have something definite as to the site of the church. It was on the road and near the place where the King awaited the water at the end of the Esala Perahera. I think this last must have been in the neighbourhood of the Pillaiyar Kovil or the Hapugaha Kadawatta. But I cannot be certain. Anyway the church was inside the town." (Apud "Orat. Miss. in Ceylon," Vol. 3, p. 723).

To conclude, I am informed that this very locality had formerly been known as Palliawatte. Can any of the readers verify this? I have no confirmation whatever of the rumour. Perhaps a study of the title-deeds of the properties hereabouts may serve to lay the phantom to rest, if phantom it be; or it may help us to arrive at some certainty concerning the site.

It will readily be understood that I have no means of applying this test myself. (Published in The Oratorian, the magazine of St. Anthony's College, Kandy, in January 1938).

V. L. M.

TOWARDS UNITY

Continued from page 3

to give up things that are even dear to us, if it will make the path of return easier for others. Of course only Rome can give us guidance in these matters. But when the Holy Father himself starts speaking about them, can we just go on along the traditional path without even raising the question whether home-comers must be obliged to follow all its windings over again, and go into all the sideways, that after all lead to the same goal?

"I am free to do what I will" says Saint Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians (X. 22). "Yes, but not everything can be done without harm. I am free to do what I will, but some things disedify. There is no reason why I should let my freedom be called in question by another man's conscience."

Saint Paul was willing, if need be, to be separated even from Christ for the salvation of his Jewish brethren, should not we be willing to be separated from some furniture, some decorations and some customs, for the salvation of our fellow Christians?

The paradoxical aspect of all this is, that the more we try to renew the Church, as Pope John calls it, the more she will be attractive to our separated brothers, who are at least partly kept away by some of those things that are really unessential. The more we try to take into account their just claims and their silent wishes, the more the Church will be made ready for the necessary renewal. For it is charity that is at stake. Charity keeps the Church young and attractive.

True Charity Needed

Certainly this is no easy work, much study and much more prayer are needed. But we should be guided to start with true charity. Our conduct, our behaviour, our customs, should be reconsidered in the light of true charity. If

For all your

Requirements in

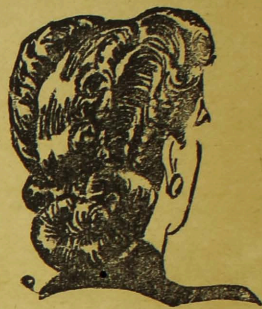
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Pope visits Propaganda College again

Speaks of "Propagandists" as always close to his heart

(from a "Messenger" correspondent)

FOR the third time since his coronation, Pope John XXIII paid Propaganda College (the world's premier missionary seminary, where Ceylonese students too are studying for the priesthood) the honour of a visit. The first Mass he said outside the Vatican since his coronation was at Propaganda College, Rome, (as then reported in the Messenger). His second visit was to the students during their summer vacation at Castel Gandolfo (as also reported in the Messenger). Two days after, he paid his third visit, when he took the seminarists of Bergamo who had come for an audience, to Propaganda College, and spoke to them there.

The second visit, which took place on the feast of the Transfiguration, during the summer vacation, when the Pope himself was at his villa in Castel Gandolfo, was even more informal and heart-warming than his first solemn visit to the College at Rome.

After being received by the Superiors of the College, which included their Eminences Cardinal Fumasoni Biondi and Cardinal Agagianian, the Holy Father proceeded to the special throne set up for him in the centre of the College grounds, while the choir broke out into the strains of the *Tu es Petrus*.

His Eminence Cardinal Agagianian then delivered a most touching address of welcome to the Holy Father on this his second visit to "his beloved young men from the world of the missions, representatives of the entire Church"—a visit full of the

heart-warming love which everyone now associated with the Pope.

In words of sheer beauty, His Eminence drew the parallel between Rome and Castel Gandolfo—and in both places, Propaganda College was there by the side of the Pope, his closest and nearest neighbour, the Cardinal said. Is it not an act of Providence, the Cardinal asked, that right through the year, these young men who are to be the heralds of the gospel for the world, should be by the side of the Pope, their hearts beating together with his?

As he had done on a previous occasion, once again the Cardinal pledged the loyalty of the missionary world to the Vicar of Christ, and he continued:

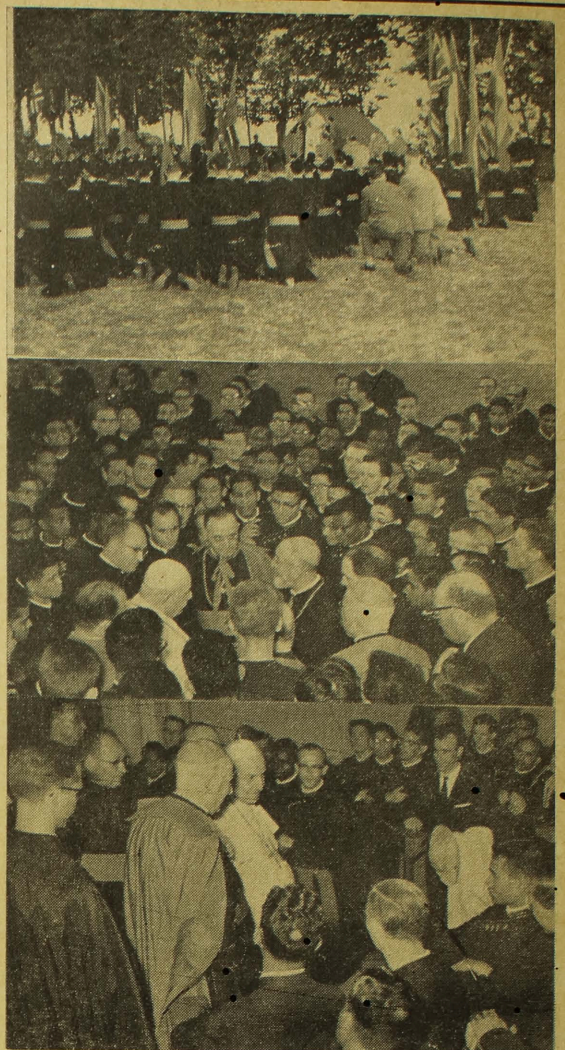
"These young men, our beloved seminarists, the pupil of the eye of Christ's Vicar, who for years have grown up in the very shadow of the Papal resi-

dences, and who are destined to render testimony to Christ's Church unto the ends of the world—sometimes even to the effusion of blood—will take with them from Rome deeply rooted in their hearts the white vision of the Pope; and in these memories, grown deeper and stronger with the years, they will always find greater force and inspiration to live the lives which must be their's of being the Heralds of Christ wherever they go."

His Holiness replied in most fatherly words, stressing the feast of the day and its connection with the life to which the students were dedicating themselves. He recalled what he had told the students on an earlier occasion, on the requisites for the priesthood; and he spoke to them once more on the providential proximity of the College to the Pope wherever he went, whether it was in Rome or in his summer villa.

In words of fatherly affection, he spoke to the students of their life, and placed before them the figure of St. Peter. It should all lead up, the Holy Father said, to their being more faithful to their sacred vocation.

Continued on page 8



(1) Out in the spacious gardens Pope John XXIII blesses the students of Propaganda College.

(2) The Holy Father is seen with Cardinal Agagianian, and surrounded by the seminarists.

(3) The Holy Father addresses the students. Next to him is Cardinal Fumasoni Biondi.

Preparing for the General Council

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FORTHCOMING ECUMENICAL COUNCIL HAVE ALREADY TAKEN A GAINT STEP FORWARD.

Just over six months after Pope John XXIII announced that the Council would be called, and two months after the establishment of the ante-preparatory commission, some 2,700 prelates and

religious from all over the world—including the future Fathers of the Council—have received special invitations from Cardinal Tardini, chairman of the commission, asking them to submit their clearly presented opinions, advice, and wishes as to the problems which they feel should be treated in the solemn meetings of the Council.

Continued on page 8

Fresh Papal Support for Better World Movement

Pope sends autographed letter to Father Lombardi

IN a recent document bearing his own signature and accompanied by a congratulatory letter from the Papal Secretary of State, His Eminence Domenico Cardinal Tardini, our reigning Sovereign Pontiff praises the work accomplished by Rev. Father Lombardi S.J. and his group of co-workers in the vast campaign known as the "Better World Movement."

Not content with a general word of praise, the Holy Father refers anew to the papal programme for world renewal previously outlined by Pope Pius XII and repeated

continually by Father Lombardi and his group in three principal points: renewal of individuals; renewal of the group life of members of the Church; and renewal

Marxism in Lombardy denounced

IN a pastoral letter denouncing the dangers of Marxism issued on the feast of the Assumption, the Hierarchy of Lombardy, headed by Cardinal Montini, Arch-

bishop of Milan, deplore the insufficiency of knowledge of Christian social doctrine and affirm that "the spread of Marxist ideals in our country is serious and dangerous at the present time."

The bishops lament that Marxist errors have found sympathy and complicity in some "intellectual lay and anticlerical circles" and go on to observe: "The legitimate aspirations of the working classes are not unknown to us."

The Christian Workers' Associations should be supported, say the bishops, since to these is entrusted the task of forming a vigilant and strong Christian and religious conscience in the working classes.

The bishops, who began by urging their flocks to read the Pope's first encyclical *Ad Petri Cathedram*, end by warning that television is often responsible for encouraging frivolous entertainment and that toleration has become licence.

"What will Italy become tomorrow if some brake is not put upon this moral decadence?" they ask.

ANGELUS BY RADIO

New Papal custom

THE Holy Father said the *Angelus* over radio on Sunday from his summer villa at Castel Gandolfo, joined by pilgrims gathered in the courtyard and by a gathering in St. Peter's Square.

His Holiness broadcast to Rome in order to maintain the custom he has already established of saying the *Angelus* each Sunday, standing at the window of his study, with pilgrims in the square.

After the prayers the Pope gave his blessing, "particularly to children and the sick and to those burdened by small or great anxieties, because where there is the blessing of God there are grace and joy."

7,000 Indigenous Priests

THE Church now has 89 indigenous Bishops and some 7,000 indigenous priests in Africa and Asia, states the Fides service, the news service of the Sacred Congregation of the Propagation of Faith.

of the world in Jesus Christ. Through this three-fold effort, as the Sovereign Pontiff emphasizes, mankind, renewed in Jesus, will arrive at the Heavenly Father and partake in the beatitude and unity of the Divine Trinity, through the work of the Holy Spirit, Soul of the Mystical Body.

This unexpected papal favour arrived at a time that requires an all-out effort on the part of the whole Promoting Group to penetrate and permeate the new fields just opened up by Divine Providence, during the visits of Father Lombardi to Germany and the many countries of Latin America.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1959

Family Planning, Family Welfare or National Destruction?

WHAT is it that the zealots of "family planning" are trying to do? For quite some time, we had been told *ad nauseam* that the population of Ceylon was increasing at a most alarming rate, and that the solution lay in widespread "family planning"; in fact, the Prime Minister himself burst out into a period of campaigning for this particular objective. And then, quite suddenly, like a bolt from the blue, came still another claim put forward by another crusader, this time the Director of Health Services: according to him, family planning was not intended primarily to restrict increasing population, but rather for the health of the nation and family welfare.

We have commented on an earlier occasion on this inconsistency among the very crusaders for family planning; we have pointed out, too, the utter absurdity of importing persons from Sweden of all countries to give Ceylonese the know-how on family welfare; and so it is not our intention to come back to that aspect of the whole case once again. This, however, must be said: it is time that the persons concerned came to some agreement among themselves as to the aims of the intensified campaign for family planning. Is it meant primarily to check the increasing population, as has been said in most places? If so, we know how to answer them. Or is it meant to promote the high-sounding thing called "family welfare" which the Director of Health Services has trotted out? If so, an effective answer can easily be given.

Today however, we would wish to go deeper into the entire question. We have already done so at considerable length on an earlier occasion; and we have also given maximum prominence elsewhere in this issue to a statement made by Pope Pius XII not long before his death. We return to the subject once again, precisely because of its importance, and because persons who should know better, are attempting to thrust on the country a campaign that is morally reprehensible and unjustifiable, one which, as Pope Pius XII said, is really the way of the selfish.

It is time that we sat up and faced the issue squarely. In most instances, "family planning," "planned parenthood" and other similar terms, are only euphemisms for artificial contraception and birth control. No amount of proclaiming that "this is not birth control, it is family planning" will help to evade the issue. And now we are right in the throes of a campaign, engineered and worked by a foreign country, and sponsored by some of our leading politicians and medical men, for "controlling" Ceylon's population. This easy, but illogical, immoral and unnatural solution is being thrust down our throats as the principal solution to our food and population problems. Rarely has the outcome of such loose thinking and looser morals been foisted on a people with such equanimity and aplomb as in the present case; and rarely have the masses been so falsely and improperly indoctrinated on a major moral issue, as in the present instance.

As far back as 1949, this paper campaigned against planned parenthood when it was being talked of rather loudly, and we then remarked that it would be illogical to convert a food problem into a population problem, and then solve it quite simply by contraception. "An acute textile shortage problem," our predecessor then said, "would be solved with equal logic and efficacy, by nudism. And both problems would be solved by euthanasia."

Our position remains absolutely unshaken today. Contraception is not the solution to over-population. It may be a solution — but one which will bring greater problems in its trail, and burden generations still unborn.

That is why we would wish to destroy once and for all the mistaken notion that seems to prevail in certain quarters, that our opposition to family planning is based purely on our religious beliefs. And hence, not infrequently we have heard persons proclaim that it is only the Catholic Church, because of some strange code of religious belief, that has set herself resolutely against family planning.

Let us state it categorically: the Church condemns contraception not because she takes a cruel delight in doing so, but because it violates the natural law. We do not maintain that contraception is wrong merely because the Church condemns it, but that the Church condemns contraception because it is intrinsically wrong with a fundamental and basic wrongness that is anterior to any Church law. The condemnation is based on a principle of natural morality, which applies to all men of whatever race or religion they may be, and which no human authority can change. If therefore, contraception is unnatural and therefore intrinsically wrong, all the good motives in the world will never excuse its use, for the end never justifies the means.

Our fundamental opposition to family planning, therefore, is based on the argument which we share with all men of goodwill who believe in ethical principles. For, every human action is either morally right or wrong, and what is morally wrong can never be productive of human good and is never permissible whatever the circumstances be. The perversion of the conjugal act and the deliberate frustration of its natural power and purpose, can never, under any circumstances, be justifiable.

But besides this ethical argument, there are the innumerable evils which follow in the wake of birth control — on the nation, on the persons most intimately concerned (husband and wife), and on the unwanted child. For, nature hits back in a number of ways; and thus, the reason of "family welfare" which the crusaders have invoked, has boomeranged on the very men who invented it.

There certainly is a problem facing Ceylon today; but for heaven's sake, let us get down to the problem, instead of pandering to every appetite of man, and choosing the pathway of selfishness and avarice. Let us be honest with ourselves, see the lesson of history, and admit that it is a food problem rather than a population problem that confronts us just now.

The need of the day is for men with a vision, men of honesty and courage; who will take decisions for the good of the country; and not for pygmies with a warped and limited perspective who will choose the facile path of selfishness, which will ultimately prove far more destructive than the malady it was intended to cure.

CURRENT COMMENT

by the Editor

And now ... Another Outbreak of the Chain Letter Mania!

EVERY now and then, a deluge of chain-letters starts going the rounds. While some of the recipients are sometimes in a bewildering situation, others fall a ready prey, and themselves become apostles of the disease. As we have had several copies sent to us from various parts of the island, there appears to be another outbreak of the mania which periodically seems to obsess the feeble-minded.



Quite a number of readers have asked our view on this peculiar business. A prayer, quite obviously, is not something to fool with, for we are dealing with Almighty God Himself; nor is it fit matter for pandering to one's superstitions. The manner in which the chain-letter-enthusiasts would reduce prayer to the merest farce, brings God's bounty to the ridiculous limitations of a letter written or neglected, and in general implies that God must automatically grant what we ask for, merely because we have copied out a letter and sent it out to the prescribed number of persons!

This sort of thing is really an insult to God, and the best anyone who receives a chain-prayer could do, would be to tear it up and waste no further time on it.

• Spurious "Novena"

IN our correspondence columns today, we publish the chain-letter which is now in circulation. It claims to be doing its second journey round the world! Strange, when one recalls that at least five years ago, exactly the same letter was being circulated, with the claim that it had then gone round the world four times. Someone's arithmetic seems to have gone wrong somewhere!

The question that we have been asked continually is, what the attitude of the Church is to this letter, particularly as it is supposed to be a Novena to Our Lady of Fatima being issued by the Sisters of St. Francis.

Without the slightest hesitation we can say that the Church condemns it utterly. It is a lie that the Sisters of St. Francis of Boston, U.S.A. or of anywhere else originated such a novena. We are reliably informed that the Sisters of St. Francis had indignantly repudiated it, and that Archbishop Cushing of Boston U.S.A. has publicly and repeatedly denounced it.

It is sheer superstition to attach any magical significance to the number 4, as the chain-letter does. It is inexcusable presumption to promise any favour, special or otherwise, on the fourth day to those who send it on to others. It is crass stupidity to forward copies "to nine people within four days," instead of destroying the letter and, if possible, writing back to the sender in terms similar to those we have ourselves used.

We would appeal to those who read this, to do all in their power, to put an end to this foolish and inexcusable mania, which is nothing but a feeble attempt to cater to one's appetite for the superstitious.

• The Dalai Lama and Tibet

THE Dalai Lama has appealed to the United Nations against Red invasion of his country, and in the course of his appeal goes on to make some very serious allegations against Red China. In fact, according to him, it has been and continues to be a systematic and ruthless wiping out of every trace of Buddhism: monasteries have been sacked, temples destroyed, Buddhist literature burnt and monks forced out of their monasteries.

What will be the reaction among the Buddhists of Ceylon? In the early stages of the tragedy, we had occasion to comment on the strange behaviour of otherwise voluble persons who pose as champions of freedom, in our country. We also expressed our utter astonishment at the silence in Buddhist circles.

Shortly after, there was an attempt at a feeble protest. Then came the very spirited and determined protest by some Bhikkhus. But after that, a great silence seemed to descend once again. One wonders whether the world will have to witness the utter absurdity of the much-maligned western nations having to support the Dalai Lama, while his own fellow-Buddhists in a neighbouring South East Asian country maintain an inexplicable silence.

Or perhaps, the recent happenings on the Indian-Chinese frontier, may have the effect of opening a few eyes and unloosing a few tongues.

• The Iron Fist stretches out

THE event which shook South East Asia last week, was the "invasion" by Chinese troops of the Indian frontier. And now, the otherwise mild-mannered and smooth-spoken Premier Nehru has called it a "clear case of aggression."

What the next few days will bring, we cannot say. But this much at least is clear: no amount of appeasing, friendship and co-existence, can ever tame the Marxist bear. Communist imperialism stands out naked in Tibet, in Laos, and now on the Indian frontier. Will Ceylon learn the lesson before it is too late? . . . or is it already past the hour?

• The strike ends

ALMOST every section of the national press has described the strike by the postal sorters as an irresponsible one. The inconvenience caused to almost every sector of life in the country will take some days to be remedied, although the strike has, fortunately, been called off.

But there are two factors which make one think. The strike weapon is indeed a legitimate one; but when will our workers begin to learn that it is also a dangerous one, fraught with far-reaching consequences, and which should be used only as a last resort when the normal channels fail? And when will workers begin to realise that the conditions to justify a strike become the more stringent as the nature of their work affects individuals and society the more closely? If these

factors are ignored, workers will not be able themselves to escape the charge of frivolous irresponsibility.

The second lesson of the strike which has ended is the attitude of the government. After months of weak bungling and abject concessions all along the line, the government has at long last begun adopting a firm attitude. Not so long ago, certain parliamentarians in the Government Parliamentary Party were themselves crying out for the moon; even Cabinet Ministers seemed to be urging on the workers. The inevitable consequence had to follow — indiscipline, labour chaos, and exorbitant demands. The firm attitude adopted by the government in recent months has already begun to pay dividends.

Workers do indeed have their rights — a fact which cannot and must not be forgotten. But in the present clime, perhaps it may even be more necessary to remember that workers also have their duties: towards the employer and the nation.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Society of St. Peter the Apostle

BY decision of the Hierarchy, the first Sunday in September has been set aside as the special day for the Pontifical Society of St. Peter for the Indigenous Clergy — the Pope's Society through which he assists in the training of indigenous priests the world over.

Rev. Fathers should explain to the faithful at Mass tomorrow the significance of this work which is so close to the heart of the Pope, and urge them to contribute their share generously through prayer, penance and contributions.

Collections at all Masses tomorrow are to be set aside for Society of St. Peter the Apostle.

Vicar General.

Our Lady "Mother of Orphans"

IN virtue of the Faculties granted to Us by Rescript of the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda Fide, dated 26 July 1956, We hereby decree that the Feast of Our Lady, Mother of Orphans, permitted in all orphanages of the Archdiocese and at the Tevatta Shrine, be held on Saturday 26th September instead of the 27th which falls this year on a Sunday.

This decision does not affect those institutions that have already obtained permission from the Ordinary to hold the feast at some other time of the year.

We take this occasion to recommend anew the welfare of our orphans and destitute children to all Our Lady's clients.

Thomas Cooray, O.M.I.,
 Archbishop of Colombo.

Colombo 1st Sept. '59.

TOMORROW IS HOLY FATHER'S
SOCIETY OF ST. PETER THE
APOSTLE DAY

Lanka Expects YOU to do your duty...

Indigenous priests are the backbone of the Church in every land...including this our beloved island.



For those who do aid a young man in achieving his vocation, the Holy Father has said, "if they help even one candidate for the priesthood, they will fully share in all his future Masses, all the fruit of his sanctity and all his apostolic works." In other words, the priest you educate will make converts where you made none.
—he will make amends for your sins through his sacrifice,
—he will intercede for you before God when he says Mass

Here's how
you can
play your
own part
in the
education
of
indigenous
priest-sons

Facts worth knowing about the Society of St. Peter the Apostle

THE Holy Father has realized the great need for native priests in missionary countries. His own Society was instituted in 1889 for the purpose of educating these priests. This Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle for Native Clergy (Opus Sancti Petri) is not a religious Society. It is strictly an organization to collect funds for the Holy Father. The National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith is in charge of this collection.

We fully realize that the financial burden of the complete education of a priest may be too great for some. But do not let this deter you. No matter how small a sacrifice you make, it will help toward the education of a native priest-son. You may not have a son of your own who is a priest, but here is a chance to have someone at the altar who all his life will be your intercessor because you laid hands of kindness on him. Send your sacrifice to your Diocesan Director or to the National Director, Pont. Mission Aid Societies, Archbishop's House, Colombo 8.

... and the hands that bless the people's day-to-day work



Let not this day pass you by without your offering up your

- Prayers
- Sacrifice
- Contributions

in fulfilment of the Holy Father's own wishes... and continue to give throughout the year.

The Beautiful Hands of a Priest

We need them in life's early morning,
We need them again at its close,
We feel their warm clasp of true friendship,
We seek them when tasting life's woes.

When we come to this world we are sinful,
The greatest as well as the least,
And the hand that makes us pure as angels
Is the beautiful hand of a priest!

At the altar each day we behold them,
And the hands of a king on his throne
Are not equal to them in their greatness,
Their dignity stands all alone.

For there in the stillness of morning
Ere the sun has emerged from the East,
There God rests between the pure fingers
Of the beautiful hands of a priest!

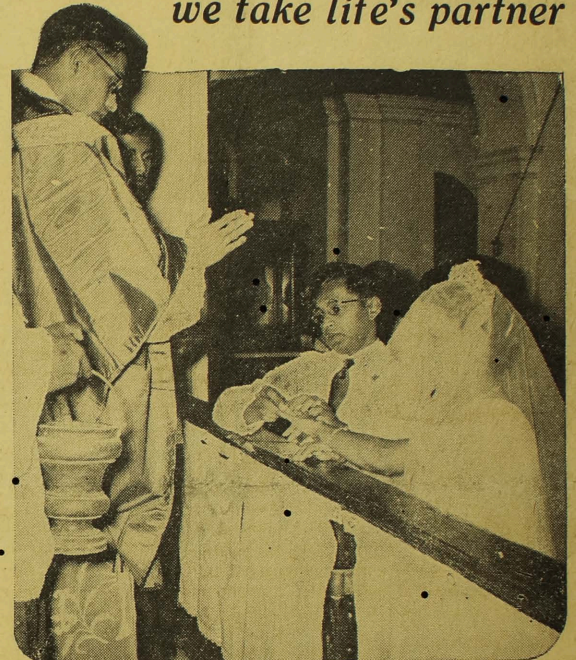
And when we are tempted and wander
To pathways of shame and of sin,
'Tis the hand of a priest will absolve us,
Not once but again and again.

And when we are taking life's partner
Other hands may prepare us a feast
But the hand that will bless and unite us,
Is the beautiful hand of a priest!

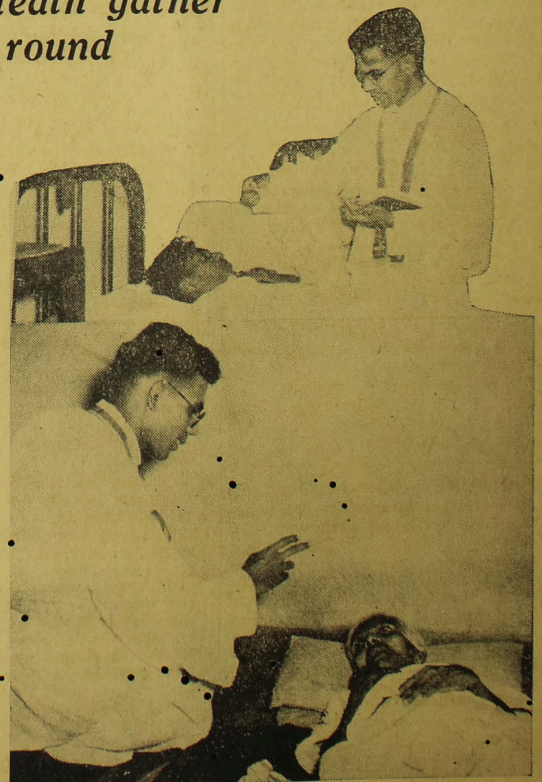
God bless them and keep them all holy
For the Host which their fingers caress,
What can a poor sinner do better
Than to ask Him Who chose them to bless.

When the death dews on our eyelids are falling
May our courage and strength be increased
By seeing raised o'er us in blessing
The beautiful hands of a priest!

... hands raised in blessing when we take life's partner



... hands that shed their Benediction when life's last shades of death gather round



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IN MEMORIAM

Of your charity
pray for the repose of the
soul of



James Edward Rogers
(Jim)

Died 5th Sept. 1956

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

15A Weerakoon Gardens,
Kandy. 658

Mrs. A. X. Machado
relict of the late Anthony
Xavier Machado

Born 10 October 1896
Died 31 August 1953

You were, to us, so good a
mother

So true a mother too,
That now when memory wakens
still

It's still the thought of you.
That gives us hope, that gives us
life

To live our life-time through.
We pray for you in calm and
strife

Until we come to you.
Fondly remembered by her
children and loved ones.

Machlands,
School Avenue,
Colombo 6. 563

Virginia Stella Perera

Called to rest on 3. 9. 50

"Gentle Jesus Saviour blest
Grant to her eternal rest.

Fondly remembered by her
loved ones

11/1, Hunupitiya Road,
Negombo. 664

William Pathiwillie

Died 9th September, 1949.
Eternal Rest grant unto him O Lord

And let perpetual Light shine
upon him.

May he rest in peace.
Fondly remembered by his wife,
children, sons in law and grand-
children.

"Merlemere"
Pethiyagoda,
Kelaniya. 671

Of your charity please pray for
the repose of the soul of Michael
Kulatunge, who departed this world
on 6th September, 1950.

"Eternal Rest grant unto him
O Lord,

And let Perpetual Light shine upon
him.

May he rest in peace"
Inserted by his sorrowing wife
and children.

St. Michael's,
Welivita,
Kaduvela. 668

THANKSGIVINGS

THANKS to St. Jude, Our Lady
and St. Joseph for the mira-
culous cure of my daughter.
659 R. M. S.

MY most humble and grateful
thanks to the Sacred Heart
of Jesus, Lady of Perpetual Suc-
cour and St. Anthony for numer-
ous favours received.

652 J. Pitaiah Silva, Balangoda.

MY grateful thanks to Our Lady
of the Green Scapular and
Pope Pius XII for the successful
operation of my son's eye, also
obtaining his job. — Teresa Paul,
Colombo. 667

SITUATION WANTED

A GOOD Catholic, familed, ex-
tremely honest, energetic and
hard working, counts long ex-
perience in Estate management,
(Tea, Rubber and Coconut)
earlier Superintendent, presently
Senior Assistant in large acreage
of Tea, seeks better post in Tea
or Coconut Estate. Assures em-
ployer better and guaranteed
results. Apply No. 646, c/o
Catholic Press, Colombo 8.

MILK FOODS

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

MEDICAL

PUROL Medicated Powder and Oint-
ment—the unfailing remedy for
Eczema, Prickly Heat and Tropical
Skin Ailments. Available at all Chem-
ists and the Importers Setrac (Cey-
lon) 29 1/1, Gaffoor Building,
Fort, Colombo.

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

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

ASTHMA! Catarrh! Tonsilitis!
Why suffer all your life?
Swiss Treatment cures Perma-
nently! No injections! No opera-
tions! Free information! Visit:
Medical Clinic, 42nd Lane,
Wellawatta.

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

No. 18921/T

In the matter of the Last Will and
Testament of Mrs. Emily Margaret
Fernando of 34/1, Mayfield Lane,
Kotahena, Colombo.

Deceased.

Peter Charles Fernando of 34, May-
field Lane, Kotahena, Colombo,
Petitioner.

This matter coming on for disposal
before M. M. I. Kariapper Esquire,
Additional District Judge, Colombo,
on the 14th day of August 1959,
in the presence of M/s. Abrahams,
proctors on the part of the petitioner
and the affidavit of the petitioner
dated 12th August 1959, and the
affidavit of the notary and the
witness dated 6th June 1959, having
been read;

It is ordered that the Last Will and
Testament bearing No. 4758 made
by the deceased abovenamed on the
20th day of June 1958, and attested
by Mr. C. Sevaprakasam of Colombo,
Notary Public, the original of
which has been produced and is
now deposited in this Court, and
the same is hereby declared proved
and that the petitioner abovenamed
is the executor named therein,
and that he is hereby declared
entitled to have Probate thereof
issued to him accordingly, on his
payment of estate duty and taking
oath of office.

Sgd. V. Siva Supramaniam.
Acting District Judge.

This 14th day of August 1959. 666

CHURCH NOTICE

Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows

HINIDUMA

will be celebrated on 20th September
1959. Those who like to go on
pilgrimage please apply: Mrs. Silva,
148, Pickering Road, Kotahena. 656

HORANA MISSION CHURCH FESTIVAL

Sept. 5: Vespers 7.30 p.m

„ 6: Feast

Low Masses 5.30/6.30

High Mass 8.30

Procession and Almsgiving
as usual.

568 Parish Priest.

BENEFIT SHOW

IN AID OF THE

BUILDING FUND

OF

St. Michael's Church,
KORALAWELLA

"THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM"

STARRING

GREGORY PECK

at the Hall of

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES CONVENT

MORATUWA

Children's Show: 5.00 p.m.

September 12th

Show: 6.30 p.m.

649 September 13th

ST. PETER'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS' UNION

ANNUAL REUNION

The above Reunion will take
place at the College premises, Bam-
balapitiya, on Sunday, 13th Sep-
tember, 1959. All Old Peterites
are cordially invited. The following
programme has been arranged:—

Saturday, 12th September, 1959:

Cricket—Past vs. Present Boys.

Sunday, 13th September, 1959:
7.30 a.m. Holy Mass followed
by breakfast. It is hoped that
as many Catholic Members as
possible will approach the Holy
Table.

10.45 a.m. Annual General Meet-
ing. Indoor Games.

1.00 p.m. Reunion Lunch.
(Guests welcome. Lunch Tickets
Rs. 5/- per head available from
the undersigned and from Mem-
bers of the Committee.

5.30 p.m. Rector's Social to Old
Boys, their families and well-wishers
of the College.

Variety Entertainment.
Papal Anthem.
College Song.

Members who have not received
their copies of the printed Report
and Statement of Accounts must
please contact me for renewal of
their addresses.

Neville C. R. Weerasinghe,
Hony. Secretary.

299, Main Street,
Negombo. 665

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

Chilaw Teachers Honour St. John Baptist de la Salle

(from a "Messenger" correspondent)

RECENTLY the teachers of
the Chilaw schools as-
sembled at St. Mary's College
to honour their heavenly Patron,
St. John Baptist de la Salle.
There were more than sixty
teachers representing the Holy
Family Convent Sinhalese and
Tamil Girls' Schools, the Sacred
Heart Convent of the Apostolic
Carmel nuns, the Sinhalese and
Tamil schools of the Franciscan
Brothers, the Tamil Beach School
and St. Mary's College.

After Brother Director had
welcomed the Bishop of Chilaw
and the teachers, His Lordship
addressed the teachers, his topic
being, "The Religion Lesson—
Method." The subject was most
interestingly dealt with and ad-
mirably illustrated from local
scenes and customs and from
oriental mythology.

A vote of thanks was ably
proposed by Mr. Manuel Fer-
nando of St. Mary's College.
To mark the occasion, Brother
Director gave each teacher a
holy picture of their Patron,
and presented to His Lordship,
to the Parish Priest, and to each
School, a large framed picture
of St. John Baptist de La Salle.

Proceedings were brought to

a close with an informal talk
and refreshments, His Lordship
mingling with the teachers and
chatting with them.

St. Anne's Feast at Kurana

(from a "Messenger" corres-
pondent)

THE annual feast of St. Anne
at Kurana was celebrated
recently with devotion and love.

The previous evening there
was Vespers at which many
Fathers assisted.

On the feast day, after several
low Masses from 5 a.m., the
festive High Mass was sung
at 8 a.m. in the presence of a
large gathering. Rev. Fr. Oscar
Abeyratne, O.M.I., delivered a
sermon in which he gave the
life history of St. Anne and urged
each and every family to follow
in her footsteps.

In the evening the statue of
St. Anne was taken in an at-
tractively decorated motor vehicle
along the processional route.

Immediately after the proces-
sion the Benediction of the Blessed
Sacrament was given by the
Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Rosen,
O.M.I., and the feast was brought
to a close.

A "Salpila" was also held
in aid of the building fund.

ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

Continued from page 5

40 REPLIES

The secretariat of the commis-
sion has set up its headquarters in
the Palazzo dei Propilai. The first
replies have already begun to
come in. About 40 have already
arrived from European countries,
as well as from other continents.
The next few weeks should bring
with them a floodtide of answers
from all over the world.

Cardinal Tardini has sent an-
other circular letter to all the
ecclesiastical and Catholic Univer-
sities, asking them to have their
experts prepare well-documented
studies on the various questions of
theology, morals, philosophy,
liturgy, law, sociology, ascetics, the
pastorate, etc., which they believe
might be of interest to the Coun-
cil.

In a speech made at Castel
Gandolfo recently, the Pope said
the Council would first settle the
Church's own internal problems.
"Then, after performing that
dutiful work, after removing what-
ever, on a human level, could ham-
per a speedier progress, we will
display the Church in all its
splendour 'without spot and
without wrinkle' and we will tell
all those separated from us: 'See,
brothers, this is the Church of
Christ. We endeavoured to be
faithful to it.

"Come, come: this is the
path open to the meeting, to the
return; come to resume or take
your place, which for many of
you is that of your forefathers."

Propaganda College

Continued from page 1

His Holiness ended his talk
amidst loud applause, and the
students of five national groups
then provided music of their re-
spective countries. His Holiness
ended the audience with the Apo-
stolic Blessing, and then moved
among the seminarists, speaking
to them, and walked through the
grounds, through the College
Villa and on to the Chapel.

THERE IN THE CHAPEL
HIS HOLINESS MET A GROUP
OF THE SEMINARISTS WHO
WERE ON RETREAT PRIOR
TO BEING ORDAINED AS
SUB-DEACONS. TO THEM
TOO, HIS HOLINESS HAD
SPECIAL WORDS OF ADVICE
AND ENCOURAGEMENT.

It was only then, that the Pope
left the College, "his beloved sons
so close to his heart, the heralds
of the gospel to the missionary
world" (as he himself called
them), concluding his second,
memorable visit amidst the cheer-
ing and the applause of the stu-
dents.

NEW ARRIVALS

Australian Salt Beef, Bone- less	Per lb Rs. 2/-
Australian Dried Green Peas	per lb. .. Rs. -/75
Australian Haricot Beans	.. Rs. 1/40
Australian Broad Beans	.. Rs. 1/25
"Del Monte" Pilchards in Tomato Sauce	1 lb tin Rs. 1/50
Danish Salami Sausages	Per lb Rs. 6/-
Portugal Sardines in Pure Olive Oil	Per tin -/90

The Central Medical Stors Ltd.

COLOMBO KANDY

messenger SCHOOLS-MAG

Vol. 2 No. 27

Saturday, 5th September, 1959

FREE

• Schools-Mag member Mayoreen Moldrich describes her...

FIRST RETREAT

WHEN Mother Superior told us that we could follow the school retreat I wondered what this was all about.

As I came home that evening I asked mummie what a retreat was and if she had ever followed one. She told me that Father would give us instructions and sermons. The most important thing she said was: "You must be a good girl — not fight and grumble at every turn." She also told me to read a few holy story books and magazines.

Well now, I waited quite impatiently for the day. At last the afternoon of the first of July saw all the girls very neatly dressed in school uniforms and white veils lined up to walk into our school hall, where Rev. Father waited for us.

We began with a short sermon followed on by the rosary and benediction. Since it was my first retreat I thought that silence was everything. When I returned home I thought I wouldn't speak to anyone. Mummie was the first to meet me and she said "Well Mayoreen, how do you like your first day of the retreat?" I did not reply her, but put my finger on my lips. Mum smiled and said I need not be that silent — but that I must be a good girl and not fight

and quarrel with Aloma and Damian (that's my sister and brother).

On the second and third day we began with the rosary, then a short hymn practice, sermon and learning of Latin prayers for Mass. Our Preacher was Rev. Fr. de Souza. We had a short break for lunch followed again with a sermon and benediction.

On the third morning was the First Holy Communion Service. My sister was one of those who made her first Communion. We had Mass at our Parish Church. We then returned to the convent where we had tea. This was followed by a procession of Our Lady round the school. Our Retreat finished off with Mass and benediction.

My search for peace

SEARCHED for Peace
In the town, where people thronged the street,
But I found unrest, crime and bloodshed
Infest my heart, which ached within me
To see man wrapt in evil such as this.

I searched for Peace
In the quiet of the countryside, and found it there,
And bathed my wounded heart with its cooling air.
I felt new life within, my voice rang out in praise,
"O Lord I thank Thee for my new-found peace."

Thecla Pereira

I RECOMMEND...

I HAVE just finished reading a book titled, "A Priest's Letters to a Niece." As I value and appreciate it so much I wish to give a brief account of it to my fellow Schools-Mag members.

The author of the book is a well-known Catholic priest, Rev. Fr. S. G. Perera, S.J. Although this was written some years ago, in 1942 to be precise, even at present this is an appropriate book, in this age of poisonous filthy literature. "A Priest's Letters to a Niece" contains a series of letters written by a priestly uncle to one of his dear nieces. But somewhere in the book the writer himself says: "I publish these letters, so that they may haply be of some use to others not my nieces by blood, but my daughters in Christ, namely all Catholic girls."

Normally, girls and boys in their late teens have a tendency to find out about every aspect of life. So in their curiosity they do not hesitate to read any filth which supplies them with information. As a result they adopt a wrong attitude towards life and even their moral standards may be lowered. But "A Priest's Letters to a Niece" which deals with Love, Courtship, Sex and Marriage gives the correct and the Catholic viewpoint concerning those things. It may help to guide many an innocent or a wayward young girl.

The main theme of the book is that "Life is not an Enjoyment but a Responsibility." The writer clearly explains the storms that must be met with, in life's journey and advises the reader to overcome them. Further, he emphasises the height of responsibility in the purpose of Life.

There are many books written for the teen-agers who are at the crossroads of their lives. But many of these are suitable only for Western countries. But the temperaments and customs of the Easterner differ from those of the Westerner. Therefore "A Priest's Letters to a Niece" is doubly valuable, for it deals with the Ceylonese environment. This is an ideal book for a Ceylonese girl.

I think this gem-like little book will be very useful for those girls who are in their late teens. It is especially of value to those who choose the

by **Bernadette Perera**
Schools-Mag No. 368

married state as their vocation in life, and who in the near future will enter that noble state of woman-hood and motherhood of which the writer himself speaks so admiringly. Convent of Our Lady of Victories, Moratuwa.

★ STAR LIGHT

• STARLIGHT 1959 (Maris Stella College, Negombo).

With a beautiful silver star poised high and dominating the front cover, this Marist Chimes Commemorative Number of Starlight makes its bow with singular gracefulness.

Leonard Obrist, its Editor, has a knack for turning out deliciously light verse. *Witness:

"If you wish Marist Chimes well
You will certainly our funds swell.

If you delight to whirl
Swan rides will give the swirl.
If you want knick knacks and choos

You'll find them at Capchichoes.
If you like circus stunts and thrills more

You are sure to find them all galore.

This issue is full of news and pictures that will warm the hearts of all those who have an abiding interest in Maris Stella College, Negombo.

H.P.

• Uncle Ashley's talks to teen-agers are un-avoidably held over

Birthday Corner

SEPT. 5 — 11

Sept. 5th: Audrey Bastiansz (Col. 6), Lawrence Jayakody (Chilaw), Aurelia Samarasinghe (Dehiwela), Anton Markus (Matara), Lorraine Fernando (Moratuwa), Patrick Cruse (Grandpass), Marie Fernando (Wattala), Jeffery Rodrigo (Kandy), Celine Morais (Dehiwela), Shanthee Fernando (Negombo), Vijayendra Joseph (Col. 5), Ophelia Gunawardene (Puwakpitiya), Lawrence Perera (Ratnapura), Sharmaline Silva (Minuwangoda), Nimal Perera (Hendala), Newton Barbut (Dehiwela).

Sept. 6th: Rukmanie Perera (Galle), L. de Silva (Kelaniya), Barbara Spittel (Matale), Marshall Cruse (Grandpass), Gyan Fernando (Kalutara), Anthony Jayantha de Alwis (Dehiwela), Angela de la Motte (Kandy), Enid Croos (Puttalam), Lourdes Pereira (Grandpass).

Sept. 7th: Mervyn R. de Silva (Galle), Jayanthi U. Galhena (Nawala), Regina Perera (Col. 13).

Sept. 8th: V. Philomena Soris (Ratnapura), Angeline Louis (Batticaloa), Rose Alexander (Kandy), E. Marina Fernando (Kalutara), Nirmalie Wijeyesakera (Col. 15), Gnanam Fernando (Kochchikade).

Sept. 9th: Anne Bastianpillai (Col. 15), Swarna Jayawardene (Nugegoda), Lakshman Fernando (Moratuwa), Regina de Almeida (Kotahena), N. Wickramanayake (Kandy), Heather Paul (Kandana), Shantilal Jayamanne (Moratuwa), Victoreen Perera (Moratuwa), Lloyd Perera (Col. 6), Maurice Perera (Alubomulla), Indira Fernando (Mutwal), Yolande Labrooy (Embuldeniya), Neville Davidson (Trinco), Indrane Perera (Mutwal), Christopher Perera (Colombo), Augusta Pillai (Mutwal), Malini Maligaspe (Col. 7), Paul Perera (Mutwal).

Sept. 10th: Ronald Abeynaik (Col. 6), Nicholas Johnpulle (Kotahena), Rohini Navaratne (Talangama), Dunstan de Silva (Kelaniya), Neletia de Silva (Negombo), Anne Cruse (Colpetty), Asoka Tilakawardene (Col. 4), Pearl Grand (Grandpass), Christie Costa (Negombo), Jayalath Perera (Dehiwela), Mariette Joseph (Jaffna).

Continued on page 10

Three Exciting Days at Yala

ONE morning two of my friends and myself set out for Yala. We travelled by car and we stopped on our way for lunch, tea and drinks, which we had from wayside boutiques. We passed through beautiful scenery such as the sea-side, the paddy fields and gradually came to jungle land.

We went to Tissamaharama Rest House and stayed there till the jeep came. We were eagerly awaiting its arrival but it took long to come. There were monkeys in the rest house garden and we fed them with plantains. We refreshed ourselves with cool drinks which were very welcome that hot sunny day.

ELEPHANTS

At last the jeep arrived and we jumped into it. On our way we chatted, sang songs, cracked jokes and munched away sandwiches, till we reached the circuit bungalow. We stayed here for three nights. During the day we visited Yala, Gonatalba, Uraniya, etc. We also visited a few ruins, and took a daily

dip in the river.

I saw a wonderful sight which I can never forget — a she elephant coming with its baby to drink water from a

was thrilled at this sight but at the same time I was scared.

We saw many other animals such as elephants, spotted deer, sambhurs, bears, leopards, crocodiles, pigs, etc. We also saw reptiles such as kabargoya (water lizard) and birds such as baya, eagles, egrets, paradise fly-

By Amrit Muttukumaru

(Schools - Mag No. 601.)

who wins the book-prize for this week's PEN-GEM

tank very close to the jeep. These two elephants were followed by four more elephants. We were ordered to be quiet. They waited a while and walked off calmly to the jungle. I

catchers, hill mynahs, etc. After our three exciting days at Yala we packed our bags with heavy hearts, and returned home.

Mirthquake

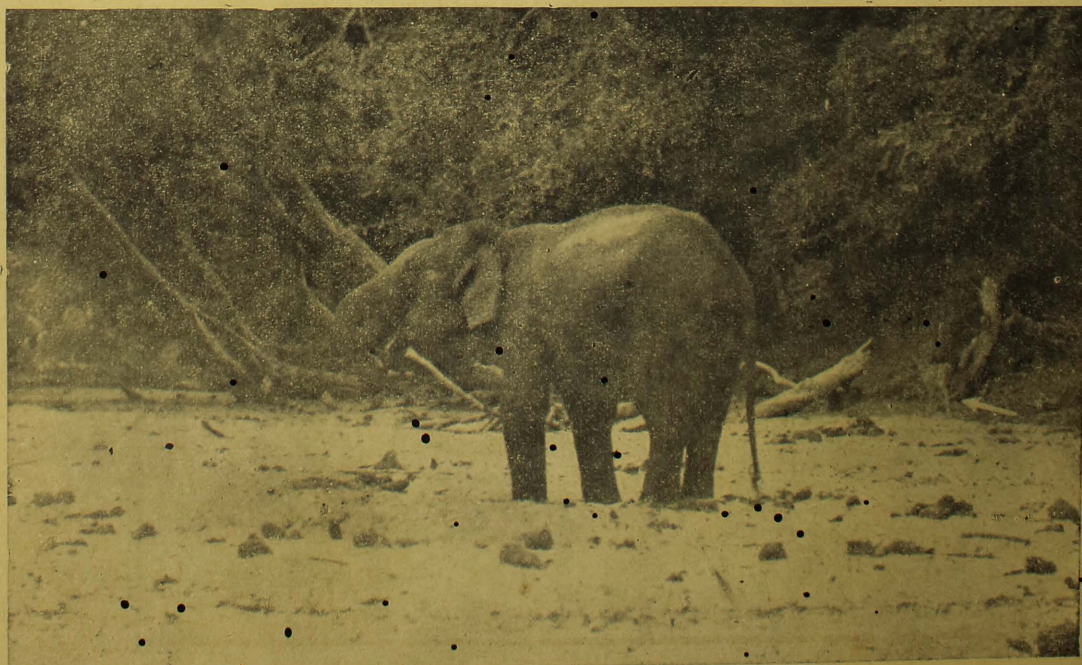
An American and an Australian were travelling on a train in Australia when they came across some sheep.

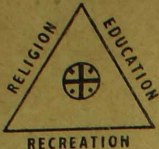
The American said "what small sheep. They are twice as big in America."

The Australian said nothing. Then they passed some cows. "The American said "what thin cows. They're twice as fat in America." The Australian said nothing, but when the American saw some kangaroos and wanted to know what they were, the Australian replied, "Oh, those? They're grasshoppers!"

Sent by Neloofie Alwis.

Face to face with the lord of the Ceylon jungles





Schools-Mag

Continued from page 9

The
Little
Flower
By
NELUN
SILVA



ST. Teresa was born in Alencon, France, in 1873. She was the youngest of ten children. Her father was Louis, and her mother was Zélie. She attended daily Mass and said her morning and evening prayers. St. Teresa, when a little child was always with her rosary and the Mass book. She was four years old when her mother died.

At the age of fifteen she decided to be a Carmelite nun. During her years as a nun she wrote a book

called "The Story of a Soul." She died when she was twenty-four years old. Her last words on September 30th 1897 were "My God I love Thee." When her tomb was opened after several years her body was incorrupt. By heeding her lovely teachings we grow in the love of God. Everyone can reach heaven, by following in her Little Way.

St. Paul's Girls' English School, Kelaniya.

News

OUR TRIP TO MAHA-USWEWA

THE Legionaries of the Puttalam Parish praesidia went on a picnic to Maha-Uswewa last month. We left Puttalam on a Sunday, at 6-30 a.m. and reached Maha-Uswewa at 8 a.m. There we attended Holy Mass, and had our morning tea.

We enjoyed the passing of the musical hat with our parish priest and Rev. Fr. Kenneth. We also had games and the first prize was won by a nun. The second prize went to a girl. All the Legionaries took part in the games, including the parish priest. At about 11-30 a.m. we had a bath at Mee-oaya, and then had lunch on plantain leaves, under a huge tree which provided us a cool shade. Soon after our lunch Rev. Fr. Kenneth asked us to solve some problems, and toffeees were distributed to the winners. At 3 p.m. we had our tea and got ready for the fancy dress parade. It was really an amusing game. When that was over we had a small concert, followed by the distribution of prizes by Rev. Fr. Kenneth. At 5-30 p.m. we started our journey back to Puttalam, with singing hearts.

Carmelita Keil.
(Schools-Mag No. 2347).
St. Anne's Girls' Eng. School,
Puttalam.

BIRTHDAYS

Continued from page 9

Margie Kurukulaarachy (Ampitiya).
Sept. 11th: Bernard Upali (Kochchikade), Patrick Melder (Nawalapitiya), Sunil Abeysinghe (Col. 6), M. Kurukulaarachy (Galle), Sarath Jayakody (Weligampitiya), Hyacinth Paes (Col. 12), Dorothy Adams (Colombo), Upali de Silva (Hilton), Muriel de La Motte (Kandy), Bernadette Fernando (Moratuwa).

ScrapBook CLUB NEWS

by Scissor-and-Paste

● We bring you another in the series "About Famous People" and here are more things to adorn your Scrap-Books...

8,000 Words a minute

IF you think you are a fast reader listen to the story of the boy with the lightning eye—a student at a university in Colorado, who can read 8,000 words a minute. That is very good when you remember that most of us can read ordinary clear printing such as this at something between 300 and 350 words a minute.

But this university student owes his amazing reading speed to the fact that he has a weak eye muscle which enables him to scan whole paragraphs.

Reading speeds vary enormously, but to be able to read quickly is not great use by itself. Your brain must be sufficiently alert to grasp fully the meaning of every one of the words you read.

Another American student thinks our reading could be speeded up if the eye could travel left to right along the first line, then right to left on the second, left to right, again on the third and so on.

IS YOUR NAME

Mercy?

CLEMENCY was once a favourite name for girls. It is the same as Mercy, which is also heard nowadays, especially among nuns.

As a patron saint for all so named, there is St. Clement 1, Pope and Martyr, who lived during the first century, and whose feast occurs on November 23; or St. Clementina, a virgin martyr, in the company of St. Ursula, whose feast in the Roman martyrology is October 21.

To prove it he wrote a letter to a U.S. newspaper which printed it like this:

I think it would speed you'd if news the reading up print it just as I am writing. the on strain Less eyeballs, don't you think?

But the newspaper wisely declined to adopt this new method of printing. One can't imagine it becoming popular in this Ceylon either.

Experts say that the best way to increase the speed of your reading is to force yourself to read a little faster than is comfortable for five minutes every day for a month.

"On the first day your impression of what you read will be hazy," said one. "After five or ten days you will digest more of the meaning and by the end of the month you will not only be reading much faster but your comprehension will be greater than when you started."

Many of us don't realise that type-written matter can rarely be read at more than 250 words a minute, owing to the greater distance the eyes have to travel. Few of us can read even the clearest handwriting at more than 200 words a minute.

● IS YOUR NAME

Vivienne?

VIVienne is a French name which is quite popular for girls in Ceylon.

It is a form of Bibiana, the name of a celebrated virgin and martyr, who lived during the fourth century. She was the daughter and sister of martyrs.

Her father St. Flavian, her mother St. Daphrosa, and her sister, St. Demetria all laid down their lives for Christ.

St. Bibiana, herself was scourged to death in Rome during the persecution under Julian the Apostate (A.D. 362).

Her fame has been widespread from early ages, and she is the patron saint of many churches in Spain and Germany.

Feast: December 2.



ITS THE
QUALITY
THAT
COUNTS...

..... the quality, guaranteed by the use of only the purest, richest cow's milk and the finest cane sugar, backed by the name of Nestlé—famous the world over for milk products.

WITH

MILKMAID MILK

Taste that full flavour in your tea, coffee.... enjoy the rich goodness of puddings, sweets and cakes with the creamiest of milk—MILKMAID Sweetened Condensed Milk. Think of the many delicious savoury delights you can make with Milkmaid! Send your name and address for a copy of the FREE Milkmaid Recipe Folder to: Nestlé's, P.O. Box 189, Colombo



A NESTLÉ PRODUCT

About Famous People

THE story of Grace Darling will never be forgotten, for it tells of the heroism which an ordinary English girl performed in the face of great dangers.

Grace Darling was the daughter of the keeper of the lighthouse on the Farne Islands, not very far from Berwick. She lived with her mother and father in the lighthouse, knowing only the lonely life which is the lot of such people.

On September 7, 1838, the autumn gales were in their wildest mood and the sea lashed the lighthouse without mercy. The night before there had been a raging gale and a vessel called the Forfarshire on its way to Dundee had been smashed on the rocks. When morning came and her father scanned the sea with his telescope he saw that people from the wrecked vessel were clinging to the rocks. Their position was almost hopeless, for each wave was likely to sweep them away.

The gale had not died down in the least and Grace's father came to the conclusion that no power on earth could save the wretched people. He had a small rowing boat, it is true, but it only served for fair weather, and was useless in such a sea. The waves could easily break it to pieces, so flimsily was it built.

Then his daughter Grace looked through the telescope and saw the plight of the handful of people, all that remained alive from the Forfar-

shire. Grace was determined to do something and she offered to row with her father to the rocks. The father was by no means a coward, but he said it was useless, which is what all wise men would have supposed. But Grace had made up her mind. If her father would not come she would go alone.

They launched the frail little boat, both got in and off they went. Why the waves did not capsize them was a miracle. They reached the rocks and managed to drag four men and a woman into their boat. Then they turned and struggled back to the lighthouse. Four people had been left behind on the rocks, so the father and two men who had been saved, got back into the boat and rowed away once more. Once again they were successful and everybody who was clinging to the rocks was saved.

In a few days the whole of Great Britain had learnt of the brave deeds of these humble people. Grace Darling and her father were regarded proudly as heroes. A public subscription was started in their favour and £1,000 was collected and given to them, while the Royal Humane Society presented them each with a medal.

It is sad to relate that Grace Darling was not destined to live long after the event, as four years later, when twenty-seven years of age, she died.

W O M A N AND HOME



CATHOLIC CLUBS FOR YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN

It was nice of you to have published the earnest appeal of Noble Keegel for Holier, Happier, Healthier club life. This is an occasion both to launch out into new fields and to revive good works begun by men whose memory will live long for their vision and energy.

Will you permit me to point out that there are already some clubs and places of the type that Noble Keegel was appealing for.

I am referring to the K.C.Y.M.A. with its spacious building and all the facilities for even those who come from outside. There is provision for billiards, basketball, volley ball and table tennis, and a soft drink bar. The club, probably the oldest in Colombo, is preparing to celebrate its Golden Jubilee. The Junior K.C.M.Y.A. caters for the young, as Miss Keegel wants. Its very enterprising office bearers have already made Youth Club history, with its Youth Nite (with the accent on a teen-age talent show) Club Night and Stag Dinner, Cycle Club, and "Colours Ceremony." And now a series of tournaments and a very lively debate, lectures, film shows are organized. For those who love the outdoor life it holds a two-day camp, Easter Holiday camp, in Duwa, (with boating, a cricket match, variety entertainment, and study topics).

THIS IS MARRIAGE

What else can the State do to restore marriage to its place in God's plan? The State can work with the Church the State can base its laws on the Church's laws. If the Church and State will work together the Church will benefit. If the Church and State will work together the State will benefit. If the Church and State will benefit the people must also benefit.

MAY THE FATHER WHO MADE MARRIAGE AND THE SON WHO RE-AFFIRMED ITS LAWS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO MAKES POSSIBLE THE FULFILMENT OF ITS LAWS HELP US TO RESTORE MARRIAGE TO ITS PLACE IN GOD'S PLAN.

(Concluded).

For the girls there is that most popular resort in the heart of the Fort, the upper floor of the Y.C.W. Canteen, Baillie Street. There is the Catholic atmosphere in the gentle company of the ever welcome good angels, the nuns, led by Sister Marcelline, not to mention the little chapel where the Blessed Sacrament is daily kept.

The young men and women are quite welcome to these institutions. I have known strangers who have spent a brief moment in these places, go away with a nostalgia that is absent in places which are less healthy.

Men of vision like the late Rev. Fr. J.B. Gregory, O.M.I., pioneer of the K.C.Y.M.A. movement, and Mgr. Cardijn, the inspiration and vital force of the Y.C.W., the Y.C.S., boys and girls sections, felt the same need and provided for it.

Before we begin new ventures we must see how best we can revive, rejuvenate, and carry on the good work already begun. Your page can help so much by giving due publicity to the existing organisations.

By
Fr. Ernest Poruthota

tions. This is only one suggestion for a HAPPIER, HOLIER, HEALTHIER youth.

Rev. Fr. Ernest Poruthota.

(We are very happy to publish this letter from Fr. Ernest Poruthota. We welcome news about other existing organisations to cater for the needs of the young men and women in City parishes and in the outstations. — PATIENCE HOPE).

I BLAME THE PARENTS!

PARENTS are to be largely blamed for their lack of supervision and the opportunities afforded the young in the form of indecent books, films, comic strips and magazines. The teen-agers are the victims of that general craze for novelty engendering an anxiety to be always entertained with something new.

Immoral books are exposed to the public eye even on pavements. Immoral filth is circulated among children through pamphlets and leaflets. These are distributed surreptitiously at a very nominal rate. The "Kavi Kola" man is very popular among the young. It is the duty of parents and educators to see that their youths, the leaders of tomorrow, select books and periodicals which create and sustain a healthy moral and Christian sentiment.

It is not only this type of literature that is causing a breakdown in moral standards, but the attitude of the youths themselves. Take, for instance, the modern girl. How scantily clad she is! See how she tosses her head and wriggles herself as she does the

Rock 'n Roll.

Are not fashion parades and beauty contests mere chances for the modern girl to display her charms? Every item of feminine charm is displayed to be admired by all, followed by wolf whistles.

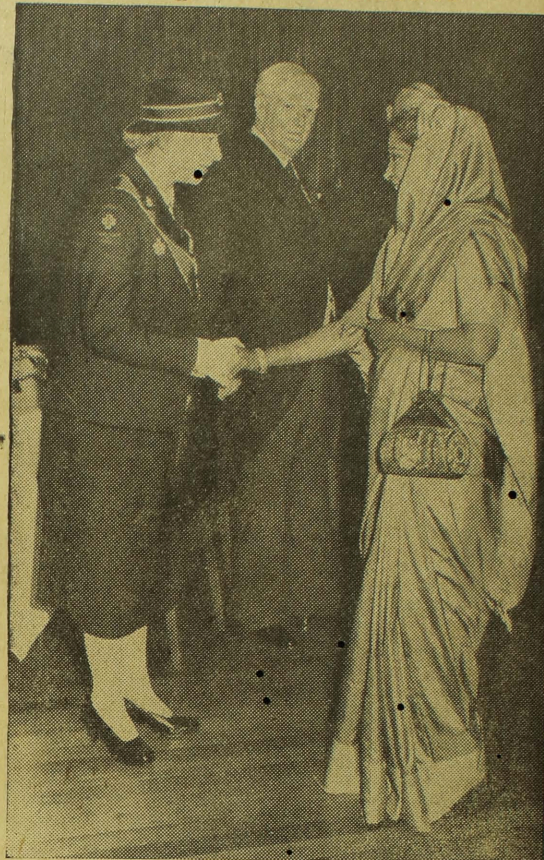
says
Doreen Fonseka

This gradual deterioration of standards of behaviour, the lack of discipline in the class room and the separation into communal groups have all had their repercussions on the growing minds.

It is time, that parents and educators realised the urgency of the problems facing the youths and banded themselves together for action, to cry a halt to the lowering of the standards of decency and to plan an organised campaign.

As a preliminary step towards decency, youth clubs should be organised and literature supplied at a nominal rate. The pamphlets should be within the reach of every-

Princess Royal meets Ceylon woman



The 100th anniversary of the birth of an idea which grew to the International Red Cross Movement was celebrated by the British Red Cross Society at a special meeting in London's Guildhall. Here the Princess Royal is seen meeting Mrs. C. de Silva of the Ceylon Red Cross Society during the ceremony at the Guildhall. The British Red Cross Society was first active in the Franco-Russian War of 1870. Now it has 68 branches in the United Kingdom and 39 in territories overseas. Besides playing a traditional role in two world wars, the Society has carried out many peace time activities including first aid, nursing and welfare work.

one who cares to read. They ought to be the richest treasures in any home, to enlighten, guide and inspire us and the youths.

What a tremendous amount of good it would do if the Ceylon Catholic Students' Federation gave the decency crusade a thought and took this matter up for discussion and formulated a clear policy for their members to work upon.

If parents and youths do not realise the enormity of the problem facing the teen-agers, then prin-

ciples, moral standards, humanity and justice will be sacrificed for expediency.

An American in England was giving some illustrations of the size of his country.

"You can board a train in the State of Texas at dawn," he said impressively, "and twenty-four hours later you'll still be in Texas!"

"Yes," said one of the English listeners, with feeling, "we've got trains like that here, too." — Malabar Herald.

Recipes

● We have pleasure in giving our readers this recipe sent to us by Mr. Stanley Suraweera of Kegalle. — Shirlene Mendis.

Sandwich Cake

Get your baker to supply you with a 2 lb. round loaf of bread (like a cake). Trim off crusts and cut it across (not down please) into four equal large round slices.

Thinly apply butter to all slices, except the very top and bottom sides. Now put them back into place, together with the following fillings:—

1st layer (red): Lean ham, or

canned meat, with tomato sauce.

2nd layer (yellow): Mashed egg yolk, made with mustard and pepper and salt to taste.

3rd layer (green): Chopped lettuce and Gotukola, in lime juice, with chopped pickles, if available.

Give a "rough icing" to top of the loaf, using butter containing mayonnaise and grated Edam cheese and garnish this with small sprigs of parsley and roasted cajunuts.

Serve in wedge-shaped pieces (like you do with cake), using a sharp knife.

It's tasty — and oh so nice to the eye!

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.)

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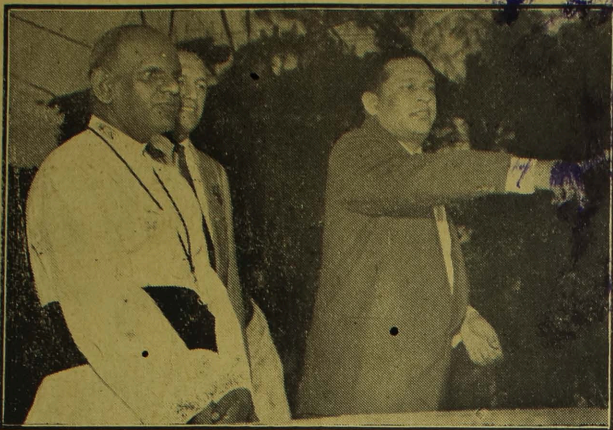
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AT AQUINAS FAIR



Mr. Joachim R. Machado M.B.E., who declared open the Fair held at St. Joseph's College in aid of the Aquinas Building Fund, is seen trying his hand at a game of skill. With him in the picture are Very Rev. Fr. Peter A. Pillai O.M.I. and Mr. Philip Motha, Secretary of the Fair.

Pius XII on Family Planning

Continued from page 1

again with the obvious intention of confusing good people and drawing them into error with misleading evidence, questionable polls and even falsified statements from some cleric or other.

"On the part of Catholics we must urge the wide dissemination of the principle, firmly founded on truth, that the only way to protect the physical and moral health of the family and of society is through whole-hearted obedience to the laws of nature, or rather of the Creator, and most of all by fostering a sacred, heartfelt respect for them.

Selfishness

"In this matter everything depends on the intention.

"You can multiply laws and make the penalties heavier; you can give irrefutable proofs of the stupidity of the harm that comes from putting them into practice; but as long as there is no sincere determination to let the Creator carry on His work as He chooses, then human selfishness will always find new sophistries and excuses to still the voice of conscience (to the extent it can) and to carry on abuses.

"Now the value of the testimony offered by the parents of large families lies not only in their unequivocal and forceful rejection of any deliberate compromise between the law of God and human selfishness, but also in their readiness to accept joyfully and gratefully these priceless gifts of God — their children — in whatever number it may please Him to send them.....

Common sense

"Again, good common sense has always and everywhere looked upon large families as a sign, a proof, and a source of physical health, and history makes no mistake when it points to violation and abuse of the laws governing marriage and procreation as the primary cause of the decay of peoples.

"Far from being a 'social malady', large families are a guarantee of the moral and physical health of a people....

"So let the weak and selfish take their example from you. Let the nation continue to be loving and grateful towards you for all the

sacrifices you have taken upon yourselves to raise and educate its citizens, just as the Church is pleased with you for enabling her to offer, along with you, ever healthier and larger groups of souls to the sanctifying activity of the Divine Spirit."

Human disorder

Pope Pius XII in the same address dealt with the spectre of over-population. His Holiness said:

"The so-called problem of over-population of the earth is partly real and partly unreasonably feared as an imminent catastrophe for modern society.

"But undoubtedly the rise of this problem and the continued failure to arrive at a solution of it is not due to some mix-up or inertia on the part of Divine Providence, but rather to disorder on man's part — especially to his selfishness and avarice.

"With the progress that has been made in technology, with the ease of transportation, and with the new sources of energy that are just beginning to be tapped, the earth can promise prosperity to all those who will dwell on it for a long time to come....

A pretext

"It is strange to find that the fears of some individuals are able to change well-founded hopes for prosperity into catastrophic spectres at the very moment when science is changing what used to be considered the dreams of wild imaginations into useful realities.

"SO OVER-POPULATION IS NOT A VALID REASON FOR SPREADING ILLIGIT BIRTH CONTROL PRACTICES.

"It is simply a pretext used by those who would justify avarice and selfishness — by those nations, for instance, who fear that the expansion of others will pose a danger to their own political position and cause a lowering of the general standard of living, or by individuals, especially those who are better off, who prefer the greatest possible enjoyment of earthly goods to the praise and merit of bringing new lives into existence."

Sodality Congress

Continued from page 1

per priest and 106 in Kenya. This was because the laity was not taking seriously enough its "duty to beget souls."

In a tape-recorded message to the congress, Pope John XXIII told the sodalists: "In order to fulfil your duty fruitfully and to respond more completely and fully to the expectation of all, it is of the utmost importance that you should indeed be more and more that by which you are called: devotees of the Mother of God, promoters of devotion to her, propagators of her maternal kingdom."

The Pope told the sodalists that he wished them to be second to none in the work of the apostolate.

The Pope gives his Breviary to Anglican Minister

At the conclusion of a recent audience to an Anglican Minister, Pope John made a touching and most personal gift to his Anglican visitor — his own breviary which he has used for years.

Towards the end of the audience, the visitor, Canon Donald Rea from England, opened his own breviary to show the Pope the card of himself in it. The Holy Father noticed the worn look of the breviary, and, apologising for his own white breviary not being too new, told the attendant monsignor that he would like to give it to the Canon.

'HELD DEAR'

After his Mass next morning, the Pope dictated the following message: "The Cardinal Patriarch of Venice at St. Mark's held

this book dear, so much so that as the Pope of the Universal Church he used it while praying in his private chapel in the Vatican until now."

Canon Rea, in a recent letter to the English paper "Daily Telegraph," reported some words which Pope John said about reunion during this audience. "In working for reunion it is necessary firstly to be very meek and humble, secondly to be patient and know how to await God's hour."

The Pope added, Canon Rea said, that it was necessary "to insist on positive arguments, leav-

ing aside for the moment those elements on which we differ, and to avoid discussions that may hurt the virtue of charity."

PUTTALAM LEGIONARIES ON PICNIC

(from a "Messenger" correspondent)

FORTY Active Legionaries of the Senior and Junior Praesidia of the Puttalam Mission, with their Spiritual Directors, Rev. Frs. L.J. Augustine, O.M.I. and Keneth Perera, went on their Annual Legion outing to St. Anthony's Church, Mahauswewa, a small jungle shrine in the heart of the wilds.

After bathing in the Mee Oya and a hearty lunch, they indulged in a sing-song. The rest of the day was spent in play and musical entertainment and in the evening each Praesidium presented an item for the benefit of the whole village which had turned up to see them. There was also a fancy dress competition in which Legionaries both young and old participated. The concluding Legion prayers brought a thoroughly enjoyable day to a close.

St. Anthony's O.B.A., Wattala

(from a "Messenger" correspondent)

THE members of the Old Boys' Association of St. Anthony's College, Wattala, commenced their Annual Reunion celebrations on Sunday, 12 July, with Holy Mass at St. Anne's Church, Wattala.

There was a Reunion Lunch at which covers were laid for over one hundred Old Boys.

At the Annual General Meeting, the following office-bearers were elected for the current year:

President: Rev. Bro. Austin,

Director; Vice-Presidents Mr. C. M. Jayawardane, Dr. Ernst Atukorale, Messrs Julian Fernando, Marcus Dias and Noel Jansz.; Hon. Secretary: Mr. H. Victor Rodrigo (re-elected); Asst. Secretary: Mr. Vernon Tillekeratne; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. D. Pan-tolan; Asst. Treasurer: Mr. Shafie Ahamat (re-elected); Committee: Messrs. D. R. Gunasinghe, Dalton de Silva (re-elected), H. Don Joseph (re-elected), Duncan Abeyratne and G. M. Fernando; Hon. Auditor: Mr. T. Sanmugam.



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