

The MESSENGER

CEYLON'S CATHOLIC WEEKLY

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1959

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R. I. P.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

SISTER MARY OF ST. PAULA

(SISTER OF HIS GRACE THE MOST REV. DR. THOMAS COORAY O.M.I.)

who expired on Friday morning.

His Grace the Archbishop will celebrate Requiem High Mass at 8 a.m. today Saturday, at the Good Shepherd Convent, Nayakakanda. The funeral will follow.

Kotahena draws mammoth crowd

estimated at a lakh

FAITH'S SPLENDOURS SELDOM

Pope John XXIII blesses our Eucharistic Rally

seen BEFORE

4-Day Rally Ends

from HARRISON PEIRIS

SIXTEEN blood-red flags poised high aloft the City of God, flutter and wave bravely in the incredibly hot and steaming sun of this Sunday afternoon. Sixteen banners of hope dipped in scarlet, grip the naked eye. . . .

For four days and nights, for ninety-six, non-stop hours these red pointers—like squadrons of cavalry—stood in a chill silence, in a dedicated splendour, lonely sentinel watchers over this City of God.

Sanctity of prayer

Under them, under the great curving dome—like a tarn hidden in the mountains—far from the worldliness of Man and the weakness of the Flesh, for ninety-six unbroken, consecutive hours, the Song of Adoration and Prayer has risen in incensed columns up into the skies. . . .

STREAMS OF MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN, WRAPPED IN THE SANCTITY OF PRAYER. . . . CROUCHED LOWLY IN A HUMBLE GESTURE OF INFINITE DEVOTION. . . . NIGHT AND DAY, DAY AND NIGHT. . . . FOR FOUR DAYS AND NIGHTS.

And now the hour of the solemn fulfilment draws nigh over St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena.

The City of God. . .

Here is the City of God, indeed.

Suddenly one remembers the Master's words: "And I, if I be lifted up will draw all things to Myself."

And there, at the Altar, all is gathered, hopes and fears, joys and sorrows, cross and crown of the people, given to the one true God of Heaven and Earth by the mysterious gesture of the Priest's Hands offering the white unspotted Host on the paten every minute of the day, in every part of the world.

It is still two clear hours before the scheduled Pontifical Vespers begins.

All roads lead to this hallowed spot. Down Bonjean Road, and St. Lucia's Street, endless streams of people pour in.

From Skinners Road North and Kotahena North a multitude of devotees arrive.

Every bus and trolley and car brings its load of the faithful from near and far.

Golden monst'rance

At five minutes to 3 p.m. the crowd has surged into the Cathedral Square.

At five minutes to 4 p.m. it has overflowed into the boundaries of the Stadium grounds. Every inch of space inside the Cathedral is jam-packed.

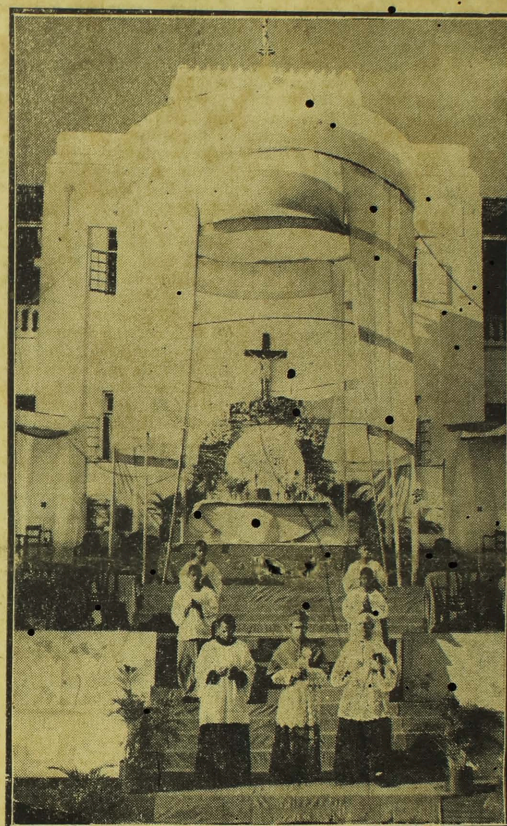
The sun burns warm overhead. Into the Cathedral Square the imposing chariot, beautifully decorated, holding the bejewelled, golden monst'rance, is drawn by squads of servicemen.

The procession musters. Lines of people flank the roadside. Every road and cross-road in the vicinity and beyond is edged with queues of expectant, tense crowds awaiting to join the procession, shut out from the throngs who have already invaded the Cathedral Square, and lucky to have preceded them.

The two-hundred and fifteen units constituting the principal body of the procession, spear-headed by the girls of Good Shepherd Convent, Kotahena, and of St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo, begin to move up.

Processional groups from Nayakakande, Negombo, Maggona, Kalutara, Matugama, Dhiwela, Boralla, Dematagoda, Colpetty, Moratuwa, etc., follow up, singing hymns and reciting the Rosary. Seventy-nine groups of Ladies Confraternities and fifty-five of Men's Confraternities next follow. Immediately behind come fourteen groups of Sisterhoods, and five groups of Brotherhoods.

Exactly one hour and forty minutes after, the bells of St. Lucia's boom exultantly. The procession has moved out into the streets on its 2 2/5-mile-route.



At the Stadium His Grace the Archbishop awaits the procession at the opening of the Rally. [Picture by Fr. E. Muttupulle, O.M.I.]

The Priests of God move up and immediately all eyes are turned to His Grace the Archbishop, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., bringing the Most Blessed Sacrament, and with him the other Bishops of Ceylon.

Bells boom in unbroken peals of exultation. . . . the crowd, to a man, kneels prostrate on the ground. . . . His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, the Most Rev. Dr. James Knox, climbs into the

Continued on page 12

ON the eve of the inauguration of Colombo's Eucharistic Rally, His Grace the Archbishop, sent the following cablegram to His Holiness Pope John XXIII:—

Asecretis, Vatican City.

OCCASION INAUGURATION FIFTH FEBRUARY, APOSTOLIC DELEGATE PRESIDING THREE DAY ARCHDIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC RALLY COLOMBO, CEYLON WHICH WITH SPLENDOR OUR LITURGICAL FUNCTIONS UNINTERRUPTED EUCHARISTIC ADORATION, HOURLY RECITATION ROSARY FOR HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS SOLEMN WAY OF CROSS FOR CHURCH OF SILENCE CONSTANT MEDITATION THEME HOSTIA CUM HOSTIA PER MARIAM MARKS CLOSING LOURDES JUBILEE COMMEMORATES FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF RECORDED FIRST HOLY MASS AND BEGINNING OF FAITH IN CEYLON AND SEVENTIETH CENTENARY MARTYRDOM ST. LAWRENCE CO-PATRON, COLOMBO CITY.

UNDERSIGNED METROPOLITAN AND SUFFRAGANS ENTIRE PROVINCE CLERGY RELIGIOUS LAY APOSTLES AND MASSED ASSEMBLY FAITHFUL.

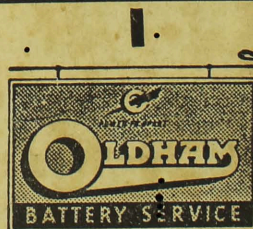
PROTEST FILIAL LOVE AND OBEDIENCE TO BELOVED HOLY FATHER HUMBLY BEG APOSTOLIC BLESSING FOR CLOSING GRAND EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION ON FEBRUARY EIGHTH.

ARCHBISHOP COORAY, COLOMBO, CEYLON.

The text of the reply received from the Holy Father is reproduced below:—

Archbishop Cooray, Colombo, Ceylon.

HOLY FATHER SENDS PATERNAL GREETINGS ALL PARTICIPATING ARCHDIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC RALLY EXPRESSES CORDIAL GRATITUDE PRAYERS HIS INTENTION LOVINGLY IMPARTS YOUR GRACE, MEMBERS HIERARCHY, CLERGY, FAITHFUL ATTENDING CEREMONIES SPECIAL APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION. CARDINAL TARDINI.



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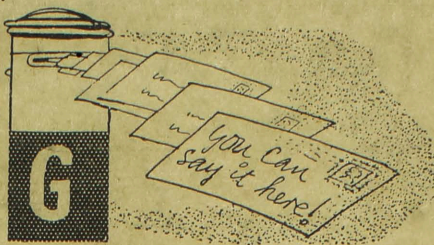
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WEEKLY POST BAG



TITO'S "SOCIAL DEMOCRACY"

SOME of our people imagine that "social democracy," as practised in theory in Yugoslavia today, will continue to develop to the point where Titoism will grant increasingly free political democracy. In other words, they think that an arrangement between Western democracy and Soviet Communism is desirable and that a Titoist sort of government is the solution to all our problems. But these people will realize what utter folly this is if only they take the trouble to find out for themselves what is happening in Yugoslavia today. Those who imagine that Titoism is a happy compromise between Western liberalism and Soviet Marxism-Leninism will be disillusioned if they know that the mounting flight of Yugoslav citizens in protest against the deteriorating conditions under Tito's Communist regime is today reaching a total ten times greater than it was ten years ago. If they take the trouble to examine statistics they will find that Titoism is not winning the approval of the Yugoslav people.

J. B. Chitty.

Colombo 3.

Daily Bread

DURING the month of July 1958, for example, a total of 53,304 petitions were placed in the box at All Saints' Church, Bdella, of which 1,205 were for Jobs and Progress in Business. According to Mr. C. D. Siriwardene's statement in the *Daily News* of the 19th January, all these applications for employment sent up by the Employment Section of the Petition Bureau were successfully handled by the good offices of the people in charge of the Bureau. At this rate, since the Novena started five years ago, 72,300 jobs would have been secured for all the petitioners. Surely then the Govt. Employment Exchange should be able to certify to this and by now there should be no unemployment in Ceylon.

If Mr. Siriwardene would take his stand on the road opposite this Church or under a tree in the adjoining park on a Wednesday evening, he would hear the voice of the preacher over the loudspeaker system detailing the numbers of various types of petitions received, such as (1) Good and Obedient Children 2,873, (2) For a Happy Death 1,090, (3) For Souls in Purgatory 1,056, (4) For Purity 1,423,

(5) For Good Health 5,750, (6) Success in Studies and Examinations 23,779, (7) For Happy Motherhood 410, (8) For Successful Operations 60, and (9) For Peace of Mind in the Home and Family 6,318.

If, as Mr. Siriwardene says, the Employment Section (no such thing exists) goes about securing jobs in answer to the petitions, then the other sections of the Bureau must be equally active going about the country doing their respective jobs under (1) Compelling all children of the petitioners to be good and obedient; (2) Giving people happy deaths through Euthanasia; (3) Ringing up Heaven and telling God to release all the souls in purgatory; (4) Standing by those people who have petitioned for purity and seeing that they do not sin; (5) Going about distributing vitamin tablets to all those who have asked for good health; (6) Compelling the Education Dept. and other foreign universities to pass all those who have petitioned for success in their studies and examinations; (7) Planning the parenthood for happy motherhood; (8) Entering all hospitals and seeing that all operations are successfully done; and (9) Standing guard at every home to ensure peace of mind in the home and family.

We can see Mr. Siriwardene's mind refusing to admit Divinity because of the demands such a belief would make on him. Nothing so cripples the spiritual life of one as self-seeking bitterness towards others.

W. L. S. C.

Colombo 9.

II

LET me congratulate Mr. W. E. O. Fernando for his interesting letter in the *Messenger* of 24-1-59. The Novena has become a source of help not only to Catholics, but to many Buddhists, Hindus, and Muslims too. As such, let Mr. Siriwardene be grateful to the Novena rather than find fault with it.

P. Variath.

Maradana.

Perpetual Tuesday Novena

ANENT the news report of your Talawakele Correspondent, in your issue of the 24th ultimo, that the Perpetual Tuesday Novena to St. Anthony inaugurated recently at Matukelle, was the "first of its kind in Ceylon," please permit me to correct his statement.

Some years ago this Novena was inaugurated for the first time in Ceylon, at St. Anthony's Church, Kollupitiya, by Rev. Fr. C. V. Croos, O.M.I.

Subsequently, about three years ago, and Rev. Fr. Hugh Francis Rodrigo, started it in the poor Parish of Dematagoda. Here a new church is being built to St. Anthony on the site of the old one and, Fr. Rodrigo, fighting against great odds, is "leaving no stone unturned" in his efforts to erect a building worthy of the name of the Wonder-Worker, who is also, in particular, the friend of the Poor.

N. E. P. Udumullagama.

Jayanthipura.

Charity and Church Pews

MAY I through the medium of your column bring to light a little blemish on our Catholic teaching of Christian charity as a result of the much abused "pew system."

It is not that all "pew holders"

are guilty of the unpardonable sin of contempt of neighbour. Far from it. But there are a few individuals who because a bench in church bears their name, care nothing about the feelings of others, and therefore exert every effort to get rid of some soul who may occupy this hallowed seat. Recently I witnessed such a scene, when a "pew holder" grumbled and growled at a young girl who, was in his pew until, thoroughly embarrassed, she sought another seat. What is unforgivable is that the girl arrived half an hour earlier than the pew holder who came only ten minutes before the Mass began. I am a convert to the Catholic faith and was frankly shocked to see this performance.

And to make matters worse, I found out on enquiry from my Parish Priest that all pews in our parish church are "free pews" on a first-come, first-serve basis.

I hope this letter will catch the eye of those who have acquired this bad habit and help them to mend their ways. Here's hoping it will.

Doreen Tissera.

Colombo 12.

Dogs vs. Servants

IN many a Ceylonese home the life of a pet dog is a much happier one than that of the domestic servant employed. Whenever the dog shows signs of illness all care and attention is bestowed. The services of an expert Vet's sought and money spent lavishly on medicines, injections, fees and special diet. But alas, when the servant complains of illness, scant regard is paid. Usually the lady of the house will request the servant to try out some home remedy. If no good results ensue the servant is despatched to the nearest hospital or free dispensary for treatment. On returning the servant is compelled to carry on the daily drudgery with no proper nourishment or rest to recuperate health.

In many an instance servants treated in this manner have returned to their humble homes and never came back to the mansions of their employers to partake of the crumbs which fall off their tables while the dogs in the kennels licked off silver platters.

Geo. P. Solomons.

Dehiwela.

"Rays from the Monstrance"

THIS series of articles by Father Justin Perera is both inspiring and instructive, but in one instalment, No. VI, I read something which surprised me very much, and which I do not agree with, but would be glad to be corrected if I am wrong.

In the first paragraph under "Friendly Converse," Father Justin condemns those of us, including myself, who after Holy Communion, "hunt feverishly for our prayer books." Surely it is just as appropriate to read the beautiful prayers captioned "After Communion" (which is what I do) as to follow the rest of the Mass in our Missal? I neither use "memorials" nor "petitions," and I should imagine that plenty of other people use the "Devotions after Communion," which are surely intended for this purpose.

Another point is that the analogy of a friend reading his greeting to us is not appropriate, in my opinion, because there is no very set form of address when meeting a friend personally, and what there is,

is very short, and no one would ever dream of writing it down. Whereas, excellent though meditation and extemporaneous prayer is after Communion, yet I feel that the section of our Missals meant for devotions both before and after Communion is as essential and as inspiring as any other part of the Mass, though one's own prayers can also be used.

E. R. Tampoe.

Colombo 2.

Death Penalty

IT is quite perturbing and frustrating to see the daily increase in grave crimes in the island. The total number of homicides for the year 1958 beats all previous records. Peace-loving and law-abiding citizens are in a state of fear to move about freely in the country.

Criminals have no respect for law or order. Yet, it is a pity to see several eminent and learned men in the country ardently opposing the imposition of the death penalty. I ask these sympathisers whether they would put up their spirited plea even when their dear and beloved ones were murdered in cold blood. Never in the history of Ceylon have we heard of any victim of such tragic circumstances plead for mercy.

Those who advocate the abolition of the death sentence maintain that murderers are, after all, creatures of circumstances and, as such, they should be given every reasonable chance to reform themselves, and live as good citizens. These are noble sentiments, no doubt. But, no less an eminent person than Mr. Walter Thalagodapitiya, in giving evidence before the Death Penalty Commission, said as follows: "There was a time when sentence of death was passed and the prisoner wept and trembled. Now they openly burst into laughter. Some human beings behave like beasts. They have no qualities of love, mercy, kindness or sympathy. Their love is only for themselves. I doubt whether such people can ever be reformed. If society is to exist peacefully, such people should be cut off in the same way that one prunes a cankerous rose bush in order to save the whole bush from destruction."

Deterrent punishment should be meted out to hardened criminals and death punished with death, without further delay.

T. S. Sivasubramaniam.

Colombo 13.

Methodist on Pius XII

PRESIDENT W. V. Tubman of Liberia, the Negro republic in Africa, has written a pamphlet praising the pontificate and life of Pope Pius XII. The President is a Methodist.

The pamphlet entitled "A Tribute to Pope Pius XII," has been distributed to diplomats of all nations accredited to Monrovia, the capital.

After speaking of the personal qualities of Pope Pius XII, President Tubman recalls the various diplomatic missions. In conclusion he writes: "Now the voice of the Pontiff Pius XII is silent. But he still lives."

"He lives in the work he accomplished, in the course of history which he influenced, in the institutions which he guided, in the cause of peace for which he fought, in the works of mercy and conciliation to which he dedicated his noble efforts and in the life of the men to whom he was close."

Pope Pius XII's cause certain to be started

THE cause for the beatification of Pope Pius XII will "certainly be introduced," said the Holy Father at a general audience in the Hall of Benedictions last week.

He referred to the reign of Pius XII as one of the long pontificates of the Church.

Speaking of himself, he said he was already old when called to be Supreme Pontiff and hoped God would give him at least a pontificate as long as that of St. Agatho (678-682) "because there is much to be done."

POPE'S VISITOR HAD HUMAN STORY

VISITOR on a secret mission to the Holy Father recently was M. Pinay, France's Finance Minister.

His visit had nothing to do with politics or finance, he told journalists.

It was to ask Pope John for a favour.

The favour? He wouldn't tell.

"It is a human story, something for somebody else," is all the would say.

M. Pinay returned to Paris almost immediately after the audience.

M. Pinay's talk with the Pope lasted an hour. He said as he left that he was "very happy."

20 ECUMENICAL COUNCILS SO FAR

AN Ecumenical or General Council is the most important kind of meeting or assembly of the rulers of the Catholic Church, legally called together for the decision and discussion of ecclesiastical affairs.

It is convened by the Pope and is attended by the Bishops of the whole world or their representatives. Certain other prelates and priests are also entitled to attend and vote.

The decrees of an Ecumenical Council are not binding until confirmed by the Pope except for such made when the Pope is present, for these require no further confirmation.

The decrees are infallible, as a solemn exercise of the ordinary magisterium or teaching of the Church.

There have been 20 Ecumenical Councils in the history of the Catholic Church:

1. Nicaea 1, 325; 2. Constantinople 1, 381; 3. Ephesus, 431; 4. Chalcedon, 451; 5. Constantinople II, 553; 6. Constantinople III, 680-1; 7. Nicaea II, 787; 8. Constantinople IV, 869; 9. Lateran I, 1123; 10. Lateran II, 1139; 11. Lateran III, 1179; 12. Lateran IV, 1215; 13. Lyons I, 1245; 14. Lyons II, 1274; 15. Vienne, 1311-13; 16. Constance, 1414-18 (in part only); 17. Basle-Ferrara-Florence, 1431-43; 18. Lateran V, 1512-17; 19. Trent, 1545-1563; 20. Vatican, 1869, adjourned 1870 and still unfinished.

PERSONAL

Bro. Antony of Padua, of De La Salle College, Mutwal, who is seriously ill in hospital, begs of his friends and old pupils to pray for his recovery.

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MARY'S PART IN OUR LIVES

IT happened on the Feast of the 2nd of February, Candlemas, the feast of innocence and humility, the feast of Sacredness at its most sacred. Most of us could not have foreseen, the day before or an hour before, that we were going to find ourselves launched on this mad course that was to eat up our days and nights and set its mark on our whole lives to the very day of our death and the last breath we draw; for there are things of such a nature that they set a mark upon us which nothing can efface.

On this day Our Lord, the infinite, wholly sacred Word of the eternal God, God Himself, came, because He wanted to become one of us, came in His humanity to be presented by the hands of His mother in a public, external gesture of oblation; to be presented in the Temple by the hands of the Virgin Mary to the Lord, His Father, in the first public act of consecration of His holy humanity for the redemption of all of us, the mass of sinful humanity.

And while it is thus the feast of Our Lord's humility, it is also the feast of Our Lady's humility. For the religious ceremony of the purification of a mother after childbirth, as prescribed by the old law of Israel, was a religious rite which was an act of penance, expiation and reparation for any guilt or sin which might be in her.

Her humility

And here we have the holy and immaculate Virgin, sinless and faultless in all her life, choosing to be like others when she was so far above others, and to do as everyone else did. Moreover, she wished to perform this act as one of the least among the people; for, as you know, at this ceremony of Purification and Presentation, a victim had to be offered at the Temple to have its throat cut in sacrifice.

And because she was poor, Our Lady came bringing a pair of turtle-doves—

pigeons. This was the offering of the poor, of those who simply could not bring anything better. So the Blessed Virgin came, she who was of royal race and the Mother of God, like any ordinary mother, and a very poor mother at that.

Temple scene

When I think of this offering at the Temple at Jerusalem, I often go on to think of a point in the Gospel which suddenly struck me one day not so long ago. It happened to be this particular passage of the Gospel at Mass that morning; it was in the chapel at Neuilly-Plaisance, and suddenly this detail struck me.

It was the day when Our Lord was driving the



ABBE PIERRE

anger in this violent way, by force and brutality — for it is brutal to drive animals with blows of a whip and to overturn people's tables — the Gospel says:

they were a cross to one another. And Our Lady lived in the midst of them all. Amongst them, she was light at its most human; God shining through amidst human beings; God present through her gentleness and goodness

Continuing ABBE PIERRE SPEAKS

money-changers from the Temple. He was carried away by real anger. There is nothing symbolic about this anger. The Gospel says that He picked up some cords for a whip, and used them. Those were not blows from symbolic cords. It was real. It happened like that.

Justice to the rich

And then, the Gospel tells us — and this is beautiful — "The money of the changers he poured out, and the tables he overthrew." Think of that sight! All thrown on the ground and rolling all over the place. It wasn't paper, it was gold coins! It must have rolled everywhere! And there was plenty of it. It was an enormous trade, a sort of banking business there in the entrance to the Temple. He turned it all upside down. Imagine what a scene it must have been afterwards, with everyone trying to recover his own . . . And what fun for any scavenging raggickers who happened to be there.

Then, the Gospel says, "When he had made, as it were, a scourge of little cords, he drove them all out of the temple, the sheep also and the oxen." This was a huge trade. It was run by great cattle-merchants, sellers of prize beasts, who did their trade there by providing offerings for the people who came, day after day, from far off, from the ends of Israel, sometimes in rich caravans, to buy these animals for sacrifice. The Temple trade in Jerusalem was something vast!

Mercy to the poor

And now comes the delightful touch: after showing His

"And to them that sold doves he said: Take these things hence."

For the smaller people who were there too, the poorer, lesser folk, there was no anger. He is here, and He is not going to let them do what is not fitting, but He does not scold them. There is no more anger. These are little people. He tells them to go, and He educates and instructs them by explaining, "Do not make the house of prayer into a den of thieves." But there is no more violence.

Mary in our midst

So every time I think of those turtle-doves, I remember all this.

We must understand what Our Lady wanted to do. She wanted to make her offering in the midst of everyone, and at the level of the least of the people; and, with herself, to put Jesus Himself at that lowest level for all of us.

Here you have the delicacy of a totally Christian soul, loving and desiring to love. So long as we put it in its true light, it can never be possible to say too much about how vast and extraordinary, when you think about it, is the part played by Our Lady in our lives as men. In all the rough, harshness of human existence, Our Lady's presence amongst us is something immeasurable and extraordinary. She is someone just like us, who lived just as we do in the midst of the apostle — who were not, be it noted, milk-and-water choir boys, but argued amongst themselves, with quarrels between St. Peter and St. Paul, and so on. After all, they were people with tempers, and

Schooled in sanctity

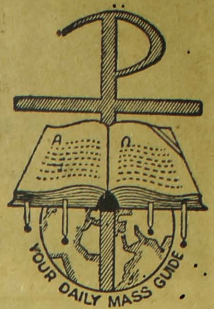
What the Blessed Virgin must have suffered is something tremendous.

She saw these men whom Our Lord had gathered together, whom He had made subject to Himself, and who, by His grace, had come near to Him. They were sailors; they didn't turn into saints, the day they joined Our Lord. We need only look at what happened at the moment of crisis; they all, without exception, left Him. So they weren't saints — in the sense of being impeccable, I mean. They were saints, and they became great saints, through the energy and courage with which they fought all their lives constantly renewing their efforts to be like Our Lord, and finally giving up life itself. But it wasn't sanctity made in advance, prefabricated, without having to be fought for!

And we can imagine Our Lady, with her sensitivity, in the midst of these rough people. It certainly cannot always have been very enjoyable; she must have had many tears to shed, and many quarrels and ruptures to put right, with many occasions for scolding, reproving and correcting, as a mother does — as I often say — encouraging, not discouraging, but reproving and correcting all the same.

The Saturday between

And consider this: at the moment when they all ran away, when they were scattered, it is possible — we don't know for certain, but it is very probable — that there was a moment when they all completely lost their faith; when they were shattered by seeing that Our Lord had been crucified, that He had not been able to use His tremendous powers, that He had not worked a miracle to deliver Himself, but had let Himself be executed like a brigand. In their bewilderment,



Sunday, 15 February: FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT. Violet. Omit prayer prescribed. Creed.

Monday, 16 February: Feria. Violet.

Tuesday, 17 February: Feria. Violet.

Wednesday, 18 February: Ember Day. Violet. 2nd prayer of St. Siméon.

Thursday, 19 February: Feria. Violet.

Friday, 20 February: Ember Day. Violet.

Saturday, 21 February: Ember Day. Violet.

N.B. — Unless otherwise stated, the Preface for Lent and the prayer prescribed are always said (Archdiocese: "for peace").

MORNING OFFERING

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

INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY

GENERAL: That modern materialism be counteracted by a spirit of mortification and fasting.

MISSIONARY: That the Communists may not seduce Chinese Christians from the unity of the Church.

it is very likely that, at one time or another, they all reached the point of not knowing what to think.

There was probably a day — the Saturday between the death of Our Lord and His resurrection — when the whole faith of the Church, faith in Jesus the incarnate Son of God, had no existence except in the heart of the Virgin Mary. It is probable that during that Saturday, during those hours of general bewilderment until they gathered round her again at the cenacle, it was in her alone, in her heart alone, that that whole faith of the new-born Church on earth subsisted.

Trust in Mary

So, in all our difficulties, in all our struggles and our times of weariness, let us look at Our Lady and say: We are no more than we are, and that isn't much; we are like children, but you know us as a mother knows her children. What a mother looks for is not whether her child has done

Continued on page 4

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BISHOP SHEEN SPEAKS

THE hand of man is the instrument of his creativity, life and talents, and tells us many truths about man. First, the hand is the extension of human personality; it has been used through the ages as a mark or sign of an agreement or compact. When boys make a promise they will say to one another: "shake." As if to bind their words. Throughout civilized history too, there has been a custom of striking hands together at the conclusion of a bargain. Under the very walls of Troy, Nestor complained in a public assembly that the Trojans had violated the agreements which they had sanctioned by the libations of wine, and by the giving of their right hands. The Romans' faith was pledged in the same way; the Roman poet Virgil spoke of this custom among the Romans. In Ockley's "History of the Saracens" we read that Telha, just before he died, asked one of Ali's men if he belonged to the Emperor of the Faithful; being informed that he did, he said: "Give me, then, your hand that I may put mine into it and by this action renew the oath of fidelity I have already made to him." It is interesting that the hands rather than the lips, which speak the promise, have been considered the bond of surety and the pledge of keeping an agreement.

● Busy hands...

Because the hand is so much bound up with personality, idleness or the failure to use one's hands in work has become a touchstone of character. Busy hands generally go together with a normal and

Folded hands must pray that clenched fists will one day open and release their hate that both the prayerful and the prayed for may be embraced by the Hands of God.

HANDS



●...and idle ones

Idle hands, however, degrade both mind and character. It is the standing water that stinketh, whereas currents that move keep clean. The bird that sits is the easy shot. Among the disciples of Hillel, the wise teacher of the sons of Israel, was one named Saboth who was ever idle. Hillel was grieved and resolved to cure him of his fault. He took him to the Valley of Hinnom near Jerusalem where there was a standing pool full of snakes and vermin and covered with muddy weeds. "Here," said Hillel, "let us rest." "Not here," said the youth. "See what poisonous vapors it exhales." "Thou art right, my son, this bog is like a slothful man," Hillel then took the youth to a waste field which produced thorns and thistles. "This," he said, "is good soil to produce all that is good and pleasant, but it is forgotten and neglected. A little while ago thou didst see thy soul; now behold an example of the life of an idle man." Saboth was impressed and began to lead a new life. It will generally be found true that the idle person either does one of two things: he rushes into mischief or sinks into melancholy.

● Third quality

The third quality of the hand is that it is a kind of a sacrament. A sacrament means mystery and is made up of something that is seen and something that is unseen; some-

thing that is known and something that is unknown; something that is physical and something that is spiritual. A hand-shake from a physical point of view is nothing but the clasping of two parts of the human body. But when the same person puts his two hands together, there is no hand shaking because there is no communication of that invisible and spiritual quality or warmth, welcome and friendship. What man sees is the temporal; what is unseen is the eternal. When, therefore, George Washington signed the Constitution of the United States with a pen in his hand, he made reference to the great mystery which is behind the hands. Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair; the event is in the hands of God.

The world today is being made by two kinds of hands: those that are folded in prayer and those that are clenched in hate; the believers in God, and the Communists. Folded hands must pray that clenched fists will one day open and release their hate that both the prayerful and the prayed for may be embraced by the Hands of God. (Copyright . . . Reproduction in whole or in part forbidden.)

Abbe Pierre

Continued from page 3

much or little of what he ought to have done, but whether he wants to be a good child or not. If he does, his mother doesn't worry; but neither has she any illusions. When a child comes and says, "Mummy, I've been naughty, I won't be again," she knows very well that he'll be doing something similar tomorrow, that he will go on for years like that, and that he will be hurting her all her life. But because she sees that he wants to be good she keeps on trusting, and the more she keeps on trusting, and the more difficulties and troubles she has with him, the more she loves him.

So we will be like that with Our Lady. We will

trust her with everything, and what does everything mean? It means the task which has been thrust upon us. As with the apostles, it was not really we who chose it. The apostles were not looking for Our Lord. It was He who passed by, and said to each of them, in one way or another, "Come. Will you come?" And so He gathered them together, one after the other. But these men, good fellows though they were, were also sinners like anyone else, and they weren't expecting anything of this sort.

Exactly like ourselves, on the eve of the 1st of February.

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RADIO LOG

FEB. 15: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. Joseph Jayasuriya, O.M.I.

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

FEB. 21 to 23: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY (Tamil) — B. G. Emmanuel, Esq.

FEB. 22: 9-00 to 9-30 a.m. CATHOLIC HOUR (Sinhalese).

10-00 to 10-05 a.m. TALK — Rev. Fr. Claude Lawrence, O.M.I.

10-00 to 10-30 a.m. CATHOLIC HALF HOUR (Tamil) — J. M. Thangarajah, Esq.

FEB. 23 to MAR. 1: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. John Gomes.

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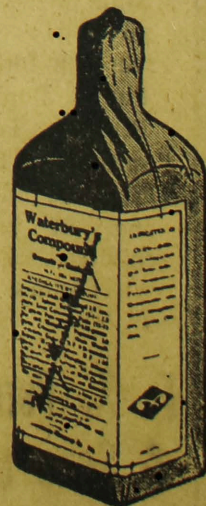


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Public reception to Apostolic Delegate and Superior-General of the Oblates

CATHOLICS OF LANKA WILL NOT FALTER

From a Messenger reporter

A STRIKING informality with wide splashes of general bon homie and cordiality was the dominant note struck at the public reception accorded to His Excellency the Most Rev. Dr. James Robert Knox, Apostolic Delegate, and the Most Rev. Fr. Leo Deschatelets, O.M.I., Superior General of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, at St. Joseph's College, Colombo, on Saturday, 7 February, 1959.

Children's Day was a triumph of faith

(by a MESSENGER reporter)

SELDOM BEFORE, HAS SUCH A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT BEEN SEEN—OF THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN, PRAYING, ADORING, SINGING AND, AFTER THEIR SPECIAL CHILDREN'S DAY MASS, FILLING THE CATHEDRAL ALL THROUGH THE DAY, TAKING THEIR RESPECTIVE TURNS BEFORE THE EUCHARIST.

By the time that His Lordship the Rt. Rev. Dr. Ignatius Glerne, S.J., arrived at the Stadium for Mass on Saturday morning, accompanied by His Grace the Archbishop, the Stadium grounds were one unending sea of heads—with children from all parts of the Archdiocese, and their generous wards, the nuns and Brothers.

As Bishop Glennie commenced Mass, it was a unique experience to hear over ten thousand voices raised in song, filling the morning air. His Lordship the Bishop spoke to the children of the place the Eucharist should have in their lives; of the strength it had been to other children like them in earlier times; and of how they should strengthen themselves now for what could

well lie ahead of them in the future.

Right through the day, the Cathedral was uninterruptedly packed, as more and more children arrived from the outstations to take their turn of adoration. It was a unique sight to observe interminable queues of orderly children, stretching from the Cathedral doors, as far as the eye could see, waiting for their turn to enter.

As double-decker buses brought in the children right through the day, these hundreds of innocent hearts, the pride of the Church, prepared for what may well be the triumph of the Eucharistic Rally—the offering of the children of the Archdiocese to the Eucharist King.

A large and representative gathering was present. Also present were His Grace the Archbishop and their Lordships the Bishops of Jaffna and Trincomalee.

Dr. C. J. C. de Silva, presiding as Chairman and welcoming the distinguished visitors shortly after 5-10 p.m., said that the loyalty of the Catholics of Ceylon to their faith was firmly embedded and nothing could assail and conquer it. It was true, he continued, that many rumblings were heard in the land, many forebodings and fears entertained at what looked like an ominous threat of persecution, but the Catholics were firmly enough rooted to their faith to beat off any battering waves of persecution to come. Dr. de Silva said they took refuge in the words of Our Lord himself: "many will be persecuted for My sake" and those other clear and signal words: "Lo I am with you even to the consummation of the world."

A handsome gift in sterling silver, which took the form of a large plate imprinted with the contours of Ceylon, was presented by Dr. C. J. C. de Silva to His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate on behalf of the Catholics of Ceylon.

His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, addressing the gathering, declared that he rejoiced to be in their midst for the second time within recent times. The most vivid impression he had carried away with him on the last visit was the remarkable devotion of the Catholics of Ceylon to the Blessed Mother. He had already witnessed on the present occasion the great love of the people for Our Lord present in the Most Blessed Sacrament, and his heart was full of joy.

As the direct representative

Crowds flock to see Vocation Exhibition

(from a "MESSENGER" correspondent)

"I WISH this Vocations Exhibition every success and I hope it will be very fruitful in directing many labourers into the Vineyard of Christ," stated the Most Rev. Fr. Leo Deschatelets, O.M.I., Superior-General of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, in declaring open the Exhibition at Good Shepherd Convent, Kottahen, at 9 a.m., on Friday, 6th February 1959. Present at the opening was a strong line-up of the heads of several Religious Congregations and a large crowd of the faithful.

In requesting the Oblate Superior General to open the Exhibition, Very Rev. Fr. Philip Dissanayake, O.M.I., General Manager of Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese, thanked all the Religious Congregations for their ready response and co-operation in putting up the Exhibition.

His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., addressing the gathering said that Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life were intimately connected with the Eucharist and it was in the fitness of things that a Vocations Exhibition should have been organized on the occasion of the Archdiocesan

Eucharistic Rally.

Large streams of people continued to visit the Exhibition on the opening day as well as on Saturday and Sunday. A last-minute rush on Sunday afternoon compelled the authorities to extend the closing time despite which endless queues of visitors were regrettably shut out.

The Exhibition which vividly depicted the activities of various religious Congregations in the service of Our Lord, was housed in the new wing of Good Shepherd Convent opened by Cardinal Spellman when he was in Ceylon in January 1958.

of the Holy Father, he looked forward to be again in Rome shortly, and His Excellency would meet the Pope when he would personally give testimony to the great devotion of the people of Ceylon to the Faith of their forefathers.

Accepting the gift presented to him, His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate said it was a most beautiful gift which he would cherish and treasure in the years to come and be a perpetual reminder of Ceylon.

"The map of Ceylon is already imprinted on my heart," declared His Excellency beaming with smiles.

A burst of applause broke from the gathering when His Excellency said this. In order that this island may be a perpetual reminder he would be using it as a tray in the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

His Excellency assured the people of Ceylon once again of his real love for them and promised them his constant solicitude and watchful interest. He exhorted them to remain closely united to His Holiness Pope John XXIII, their Holy Father, who, he reminded, at 77 and in such a short tenure of office had accomplished so much. In the immediate future, in the plans of His Holiness, a great project was taking shape in the cause of Unity of the Christians.

His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., next rose and addressed the gathering in Sinhalese, recounting what His Excellency had said in his speech.

DR. C. J. C. DE SILVA NEXT READ AN ADDRESS PAPER WELCOMING THE SUPERIOR GENERAL OF THE OBLATES OF MARY IMMACULATE TO THE ISLAND: THE TEXT OF THE ADDRESS REFERRED TO THE TOILS AND LABOURS OF THE OBLATES IN THE VINEYARD OF THE LORD, AND THE ACHIEVEMENTS MADE IN THE ISLAND BY THEM.

The script was enclosed in a beautifully designed, oriental patterned scroll in sterling silver and mounted and set on two elephants.

The presentation was made to the Superior-General of the Oblates amidst applause.

The Most Rev. Fr. Leo Deschatelets, receiving the gift with broad smiles, affably stated that it would have been a poor gift if it had been presented to him as an individual. But the gift was to the loving Father of the Oblates, and it was a gift too rich for words.

In an address remarkable for its charity of expression and ringingly forceful vigour, the Superior General said it was a privilege to have seen this beautiful land and, having seen some of the Catholic institutions of the Archdiocese only and witnessed the great devotion of the people to the Church, he was full of admiration for the worthy achievements of the Oblates in this part of the world.

Delving into the pioneer origins of Oblate endeavour in this land, the Superior General confided that recently a search had been made in the Vatican archives for documents relating to this island.

An interesting discovery was the appeal addressed to the Oblate Congregation in Rome requesting missionaries to labour in Ceylon.

On the margin of this particular letter was a remark made by the Oblate Order's founder himself to the effect that the request for help be hastened. The Superior-General said that that real enthusiasm and initial keenness with which the Oblates had forthwith taken up work in Ceylon had been productive of so much good.

He was very impressed with the missionary labours that had been expended in yester-years and it was a pride to him to witness the growing and living developments of today.

He issued a stirring call to the laity especially to work hand in hand with the missionaries in the very important work ahead of them.

His Grace the Archbishop once again rose up and gave a resume of the Oblate Superior-General's address in Sinhalese.

To the accompaniment of music, refreshments were lavishly served to the gathering.

The note of informality was further heightened when the Apostolic Delegate and the Oblate Superior-General moved among the faithful very freely, talking to them, chatting with them with smiles and radiant bon homie.

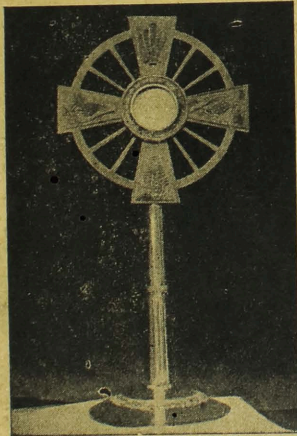
The party broke up shortly after 6-30 p.m.

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The MESSENGER

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14th, 1959

Well done, Gentlemen!

SELDOM have we been in a position to pay a tribute to the Public Performances Board; in fact, we have often been amazed in the past at the apparently irresponsible manner in which some of them exercised the very serious responsibility vested in them, and there has been at least one occasion recently when we had to register a most emphatic protest at the callous and utterly ludicrous manner in which they exercised their authority.

That is one reason why we take this rare opportunity to pay the Board a very well-deserved tribute. The news this week which has provoked comment in many quarters is the ban imposed on the film "And God Created Woman." We must admit that we have not seen this film; and hence, we must also admit that we are not aware of the nature and the extent of the "cuts" that may have been made so as to bring it within the reasonable bounds of decency. But there are two other facts of which we are equally certain: first, that the National Legion of Decency of America has condemned the film totally, precisely because of its vulgarity and provocative sex-approach; and secondly, the lame theory that this film has been shown in other countries without protest, is no criterion whatsoever in this case: the facts themselves are incorrect, as we are aware of the amount of controversy it roused up elsewhere; further, if this line of reasoning has been trotted out, why then does the theatre management find it necessary to make "cuts" on a film which, according to them, has been no problem at all? Whatever it be, from what we know of the film, we wonder with the Chairman of the Board whether any "cuts," howsoever extensive, could lend it some respectability, and lift it out of the depths to which it drags the sacred things of life.

We would however wish to go further than the film under discussion just now. The Chairman of the Public Performances Board, Mr. K. Somasunderam, in the course of a statement to the Press, clarified "two of the foremost rules" that guide the Board in its judgement of films. The first of these was "sex — the sanctity of the institution of marriage and home would always be upheld by the Board..." and secondly "crime." We agree fully and unreservedly with the Board on the two points as explained by the Chairman. In fact, we congratulate him on speaking of the "sanctity of the institution of marriage and home," a language which alas is all-too-seldom heard in public places these days, but which, thank God, has a place also in the American Hays office code for films.

So far for the high principles of the Public Performances Board. But what about the practice? On the one hand we have had the most petty, ridiculous and absurd objections being raised sometimes by members of the Board; we have occasionally had a display of fanaticism and bigotry, naked and unashamed, under the guise of guarding public morals. Recently we even had the farce of one of them threatening "to go to the country" over what he imagined to be an affront to the religious susceptibilities of the people, merely because the film portrayed a character being converted to Catholicism! The lofty principles seem to have been ignored, while some of the members have spent their energy on a crusade of Catholicism-baiting! And how all this becomes a violation of the two very commendable principles enunciated by the Chairman, we are still to find out.

And while all this petty hunting down of anything Catholic has been carried on by some, the high principles of the Board, which are being so assiduously invoked and applied in the case of the Bardot film, are conveniently forgotten when similarly atrocious immoral and sexy films are brought before the Board. We are aware of a Sinhalese film now being shown in Colombo; how that, and certain other Sinhalese films, could have passed the watchful eyes of these "high-principled" ladies and gentlemen of the Public Performances Board, we are at a loss to understand. How is it that the Board which has been pretty free in "cutting" foreign films, should allow unashamedly obscene and vulgar scenes in locally made films? Is it that the dragging down of sex to the level of the gutter, and the consequent glorification of immorality, become a virtue when represented on Sinhalese films, but are an awful virus to be extirpated when they are a foreign import? If that be so, then it would be just another instance of the most shameful bigotry and prudery in high places, which must surely be stamped out.

We congratulate the members of the Board today for the high principles formulated by them according to which films must be judged. But we appeal to them to apply these principles with courage and without favour; we invite some of them to get rid of their bigotry and phobia on the matter of religion, and to sit down more seriously instead to the real job before them — of evaluating and judging ALL films whether they be home-produced or foreign imports. Immorality, the glorification of vulgarity, the onslaught on the sanctity of marriage and the home, can never be justified or tolerated — whether it be done in a foreign or a local film.

● The 5 ft. high Monstrance in Kandyan Art used at the Triduum of Adoration and the closing procession. On the base is engraved the theme of the 1959 Rally "Hostia Cum Hostia, per Mariam."

(Picture by Dunstan Perera.)



● Section of the Nuns who contributed so largely towards the success of the Rally (Picture by Fr. E. Muttupulle O.M.I.)



A Messenger Picture

A TEST

The entire Hierarchy in Ceylon took part in demonstration of the be remembered down the long years to come.

The Messenger hopes

to follow up this picture-spread with pictures of the Rally dwelling on the devotional aspect and on the 'Vocations' Exhibition in its next issue:

RALLY PICTURE ON SHOW

Pictures taken by the men of the Pinibin Circle, Kandana, are on show at St. Philip's Book Depot.

OPENING SCENES

● A view of the crowds that thronged the Rally at the opening late hours of Thursday immediately facing the altar can be recognized the prior General of the Behind him is Mgr. A. represented His Lord Bishop of Galle. Next Their Lordships the B. Jaffna and Chilaw, by His Excellency the Catholic Delegate.

FINAL

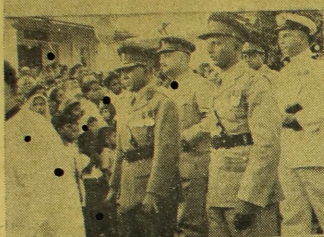
(left) The procession in the Cathedral. His Eminence the Apostolic Delegate is seen in the chariot.

(Pictures by Pinibin Art Circle.)

essenger Pictorial Souvenir of Colombo's Eucharistic Rally

A TESTAMENT OF FAITH

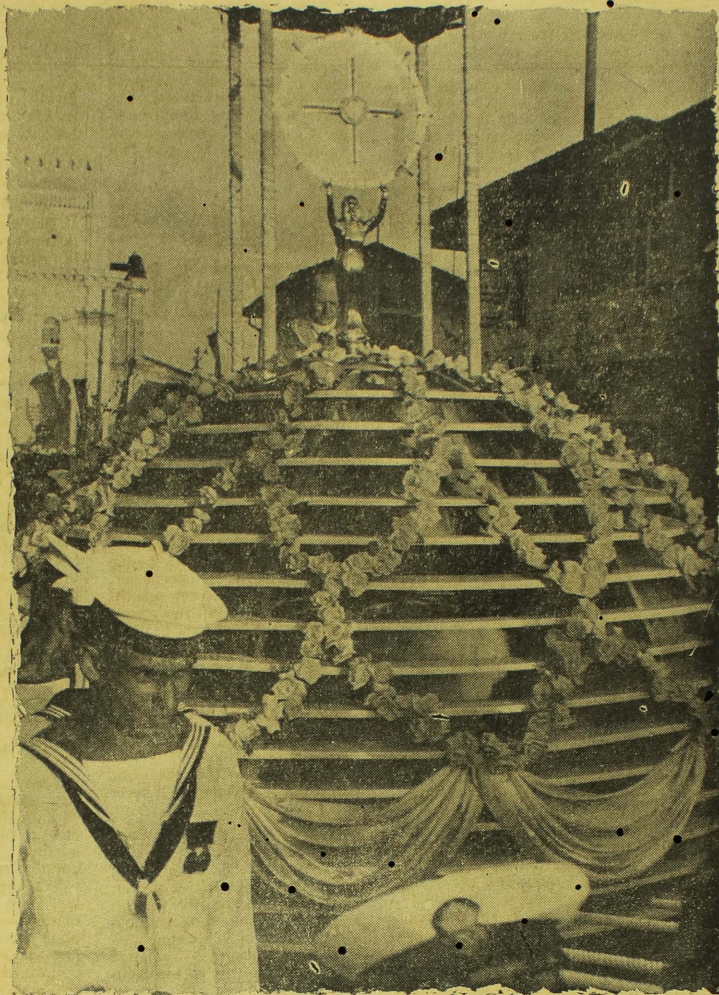
entire Hierarchy of the Church
Ceylon took part in this great
constration of the Faith that will
remembered
n the long
s to come.



★
Army
chiefs
also
took
part
in the
Rally
★

● (Top) Picture shows Very Rev. Fr. G. Phoebus, O. S. B., Head of the Sylvestro-Benedictines, Kandy, carrying the Most Blessed Sacrament to the Stadium for the opening of the Rally.

● (Below): A section of Army Chiefs who took part in the Eucharistic Rally.
—(Pictures by Herbert Wickramaratne)



(Picture by Pinibindu Art Circle, Kandana)

RALLY PICTURES ON SHOW

Pictures taken by cameramen of the Pinibindu Art Circle, Kandana, are now on show at St. Philip Neri's Book Depot.

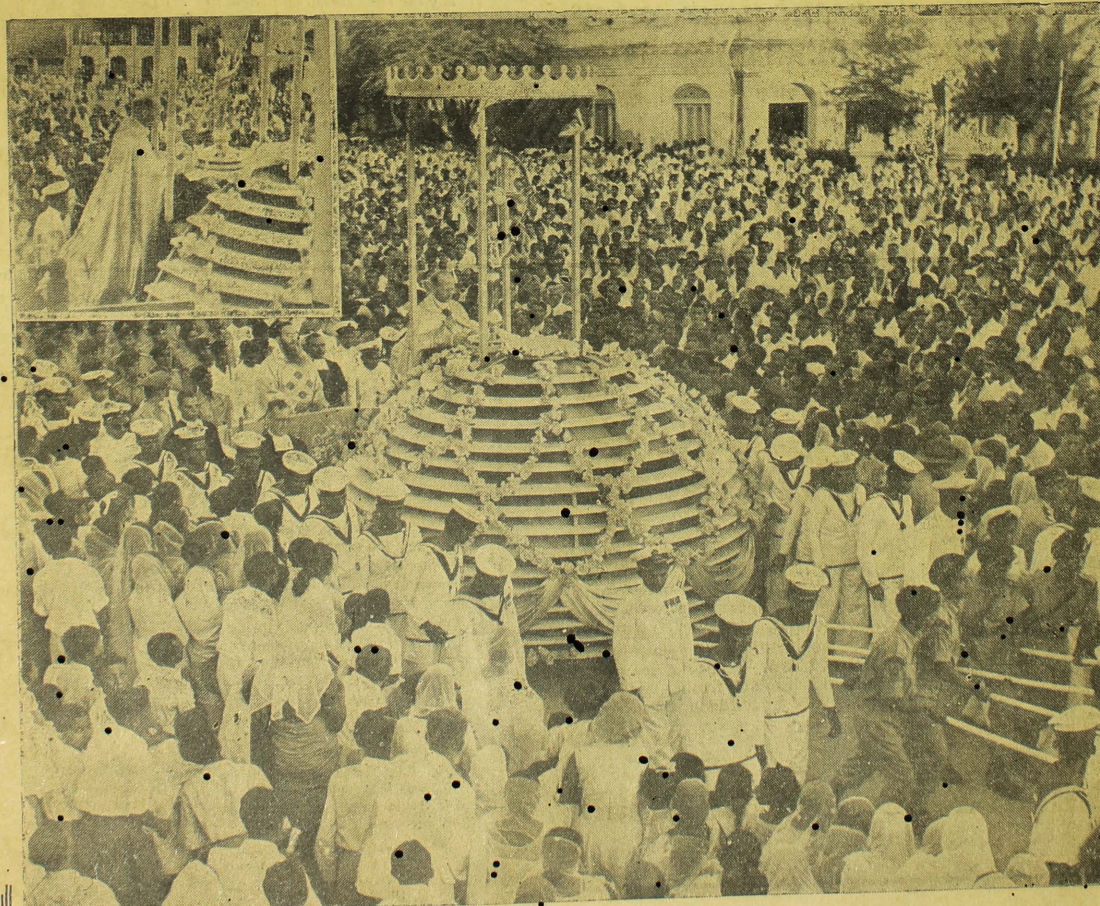
OPENING SCENES

● A view of the surging crowds that thronged the Rally at the opening in the late hours of Thursday. Immediately facing the camera can be recognized the Superior General of the Oblates. Behind him is Mgr. Alles who represented His Lordship the Bishop of Galle. Next come Their Lordships the Bishops of Jaffna and Chilaw, followed by His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate.

FINALE..

(left) The procession leaves the Cathedral. His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate is seen in the chariot (inset).

(Pictures by Pinibindu Art Circle, Kandana)



New SHORT STORY

"I WILL not be back for a week. You can phone the hotel authorities and cancel the reservations. I am sorry I have to disappoint you, but I can't help it." The curt note in Clement's voice hurt Francisca. Standing at the open window she could see Clement's lean frame walking down the garden path. They had spent days deciding on this holiday, and now within a short period of two weeks Clement was a different man. How different life now was.

Clement Smith had everything a man would want of life. A home any man would be proud to be the master of, Francisca, a pretty girl, a leading surgeon of the day his wife whose love was warm and sincere, a little boy, his own Pete who thought the world of his father, and a station in life any man would covet, but Clement was today an unhappy man for dark suspicion had crossed his mind.

Four months ago at the Club's annual dance Clement was introduced to Michael Winters. Michael, a few years ago, had wooed Francisca's hand, but difference in religious beliefs prevented their marriage. Michael was an Anglican, and Francisca was a Catholic, and neither wished to change his or her faith much though they loved each other. Months slipped by, and Michael bid Francisca adieu to join the Air Force.

Two years later Francisca became Mrs. Smith.

Clement and Francisca had a happy home, happier still when a year later little Pete's arrival graced it, and the gurgling sound of baby laughter filled the home.

side. The battle for his life claimed the attention of every doctor at the hospital. To Clement those nights that Francisca now spent at the hospital were nights of agony. Pacing the bedroom floor unceasingly he often saw the dawn of day. Francisca noticed with alarm Clement's haggard look, but Clement brushed away a sympathetic inquiry with "Oh its nothing but a bit of overwork at the office." It was then that Francisca suggested a holiday. Yes, they could take a few days off from the hum-drum of everyday life. Clement agreed after much persuasion.

Francisca received a rude shock when she returned from hospital one evening. She found Clement in a drunken stupor. Clement, who never partook of liquor, drunk? The very tho-

THE UNFORGIVEN PAST

A Journalism Awards Entry

Francisca had mentioned Michael to Clement before her marriage, but Clement dropped the matter with "Don't worry Francisca, that's past. I'll never doubt you."

ught was incredible. Awakening in the small hours of the morning, Clement, who saw his wife beside him, flung vile accusations at her. The strain of the last few months gave vent to itself in bitter words. Clement's outburst hurt Francis-

● Battle for life

Things were never the same after that first introduction to Michael at the Club. Ever since Clement's marriage Michael was just an imaginary character, but now, Michael stood before him in flesh and blood. Dark thoughts crossed his mind, till finally Michael's presence in the neighbourhood though only a part of his official duties, was a nightmare. Francisca's every step, however innocent, presented a different picture to Clement's mind. The last straw snapped when Michael who was involved in an accident was admitted to the casualty ward, and Francisca who was on night duty that day was summoned to his bed-

ca deeply. Was this the same Clement who had said "I'll never doubt you"?

Days of misery followed. Francisca's explanations and pleas of innocence fell on deaf ears. The home that once spelt happiness and security was no more. Little Pete too felt something was wrong. Mummy never came to play with him, and daddy was never in the evenings. Alcohol made of Clement a different man. To Clement's fevered brain one solution pre-

"India losing Gandhi's ideals"

— say bishops

IN THE COURSE OF A VERY OUTSPOKEN STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF INDIA RECENTLY, THE BISHOPS EXPRESS GRAVE CONCERN OVER "THE MARKED DECLINE OF THE SPIRITUAL AND MORAL IDEALS HELD UP BY MAHATMA GANDHI."

The statement was read in all Catholic churches throughout the country.

Among the "disturbing developments" in the nation the statement listed: "among the cultured, orthodoxy giving way to vagueness in belief; indiscipline and restlessness among youth; a great deal of corruption; desecration of family life; changing norms of morality; political feuds among the states."

The statement urged Catholic parents to support the Church in resisting government encroachment on its right to educate.

It warned that there are increasing tendencies for the

State to interfere in the internal management of private schools, as, for example, by trying to dictate the choice of textbooks.

The statement added that "an absolute and unchanging norm of conduct has to be universally recognised" if the process of national moral disintegration is to be halted.

It declared that young people must be given a sound religious education, including systematic training of the will.

Above all, it added, the sanctity of the individual personality and of the family must be reserved and protected.

Priest says first Mass in 238 days

FR. Marian Pirozynski stood before a small altar last week and for the first time in 238 days said Mass.

The priest was arrested at the end of last May and has been in a Warsaw jail since.

He complained to the court that is now trying him that he had not heard Mass during his imprisonment.

"Without the Mass I cannot live," he told the judges — and they ordered his jailers to allow him to say Mass again.

Michael, who had come to visit Clement. The doctor's remark that that particular blood group was not available was overheard by Michael. Francisca was too overwhelmed with grief to speak. Michael volunteered to give his blood if the group was that which they wanted. The blood test was carried out and within a matter of an hour Michael's blood had given new life to Clement. Too weak to open his eyes Clement lay quite still. "Thank you, Mr. Winters. Had it not been for your blood I am sure Mr. Smith would never have rallied round," the doctor was saying. "Oh that's all right, doctor, that's the least I could have done for a friend of mine" said Michael.

Clement could hardly believe it was Michael, the Michael of whom he had thought so uncharitably, who had saved his life.

Slowly Clement opened his eyes, first to beg forgiveness of his wife, and then to thank Michael.

sented itself. Divorce. Yes. Divorce would clear his path.

To David Wright, Clement's best friend, Clement confided his plans. David was surprised at what he heard. "Don't rush into things, Clement. Why do you want to distrust Francisca? I have known her ever since she was a child. She will never play you false. She is too noble for that. Had she not told you of Michael, you would never have delved into her past, but being an honest girl she has laid bare everything. Your sus-

picious are unfounded. Can you imagine Pete growing up without the love and protection only a father can give? And a happy home only both parents can jointly afford?" These words impressed Clement deeply. With this idea of thinking matters over, he decided to postpone the holiday and spend a few days at David's seaside cottage, all by himself.

Clement was well on his way to David's cottage. His mind dwelt on that conversation with David. A stray dog suddenly crossed the road. In an effort to avoid the dog the car skidded and came to a stand still on its hood. Pinned under the steering wheel Clement lay bleeding and unconscious. Extricated by passers-by Clement was rushed to hospital. Francisca who heard of what happened was at Clement's bedside within a few hours.

● Blood transfusion

The doctors gave up all hope. A blood transfusion was the last resort, but that too was not possible as blood of Clement's group was not available.

It was the hospital's visiting hour. Hundreds thronged the gate, and among them was

Less liberty than under Stalin, says a priest on trial

FR. Marian Pirozynski, on trial in Warsaw for allegedly flouting the censorship regulations and buying newsprint in the black market, told the court last week that the Church's present situation in Poland regarding publication of its literature was worse than when Stalin was alive.

On trial with the priest, who is editor of *Homo Dei* (Man of God), a monthly for priests, are 17 others.

Fr. Pirozynski told the court: "During the so-called Stalinist period we were able to print more than 250,000 pictures of saints and religious brochures."

"Now the censor forbids us to re-issue these same pictures and brochures."

He admitted that technically he might have been guilty of a single infraction of censorship regulations.

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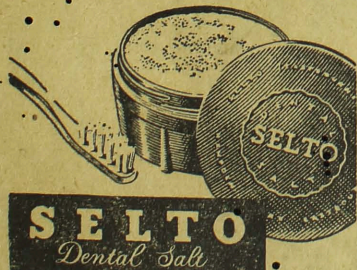
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messenger SCHOOLS-MAG

Vol. 2 No. 4

Saturday, 14th February, 1959

FREE

SCHOOLS-MAG MEMBER LEAVES for PENANG

ALL members of the Messenger Schools-Mag will be delighted to hear that one from their own ranks left the island for Penang to join the Christian Brothers. This is one more fruit of the Schools-Mag in its brief career. Readers will recall that earlier,

two girl members also joined the religious life.

THIS particular member has written to us stating that the Schools-Mag offers an opportunity to find out one's vocation in life and specially mentions Uncle Ashley's Talks-to-Teenagers which

helped him very much in his own choice in life.

WE rejoice that the call to the religious life has been so nobly answered by our members and we hope that other members will continue ceaselessly to pray for more vocations, especially to the Priesthood. — EDITOR.



MOST of you would have had the glorious privilege of participating in the Colombo Eucharistic Rally. You would have seen the splendours of our Faith and a whole people's devotion to their Eucharistic King. While your mind is still fresh with the memories of what you have seen, here are seven reminders to you, boys and girls; and let this check-up be your guide in your daily life:

The SEVEN REMINDERS...

1. Regularly say your morning and evening prayers.

2. Never miss Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation,

otherwise you will commit a grave sin.

3. Go to Confession weekly; choose a confessor — go to him.

4. Strive to receive Holy Communion every Sunday, on the First Friday of each month, and if possible, on Our Lady of Fatima's First Saturday.

5. Make a determined effort never to miss your daily Rosary, at least five decades of the beads.

6. As soon as you leave school and go to work begin to contribute to the support of your Church and your Pastors.

7. Join your parish Organisations.

A good Catholic youth should be a spiritual athlete. The praise of God should be his daily practice in song and poetry, in all he does through life.



An Anthem?

Dear Editor,

This is my first letter to you, and I hope that this would strengthen my ties with you.

I am glad to hear about the celebration of the first birthday anniversary of the Mag. I wish it every success.

May I suggest that we should have an anthem of the Messenger School's Mag?

Clarence N. de Silva.
(Schools-Mag No. 223)

Colombo 14.

The Winner

Dear Editor,

Miss M. Anne Perera of 524, Colombo Road, Gintota, will receive a free copy of the Messenger during 1959. The response from children was very heartening and it augurs well for many more juveniles becoming Catholic-Messenger-minded.

All thanks should go towards the introduction of the Schools-Mag. Hope all serious consideration will be given to make it a weekly feature. Thanking you for the valuable space afforded me in publishing my free offer.

Geo. P. Solomons.
No. 7, Windsor Avenue,
Dehiwela.

Good Idea

RECENTLY, one of the Schools-Mag Members proposed the idea of a Parish Schools-Mag Members Club. I too think that a Club of this nature will be much helpful for us. We can get together and discuss the various aspects of our Club. We can come to know each and every member of our parish. These get-together meetings give us an opportunity to express ourselves. I hope other members will

Ave Maria

Ave Maria
guide me, I pray —
in the storm and strife
of worldly life ...
lest I stray
from Thy Immaculate Heart.

Ave Maria
Meditrix divine!
teach me, I pray —
to see in each loss ...
Thy dear Son's Cross
and sword that rent
The Immaculate Heart.

A. Vincent Noel.
(Schools-Mag No. 441).

take up this proposal and work for the establishment of a Schools-Mag Club in each parish, to promote the interests of the Schools-Mag.

Nelson P. Damasus.

Moratuwa.

THREE KINGS OF THE ORIENT



In the picture are Herantha Fernando (Schools-Mag No. 926) Manilal Fernando (Schools-Mag No. 924) Chrysanthus Fernando.
Photo by Christobel Fernando.

Your Birthday Corner

HAPPY Birthday to all of you who will be celebrating your birthdays during the next fortnight.

FEB. 14th - 27th

Feb. 14th: Cordelia Bastiansz, (Ragama), Reanie Perera (Galle)
Feb. 15th: Leonie Costa (Mr. Lavinia), Bernadette Antony (Pan-nipitiya), Anthony Jesudasan (Moratuwa), Sunil A. Jayasekera (Mutwal), Jovitha Fernando (Beruwalla), Shiranee de Almeida (Borella).

Feb. 16th: Onnallee de Silva (Colombo 9), Juliet Joseph (Jaffna), L. Benjamin Perera (Kandy), Don Lawrence Dolawatte (Kelaniya), Olivia Pieris (Moratuwa)
Feb. 17th: M. J. Aloysius (Maradana), Bernadette Cabraal (Kelaniya), Franklyn Paul (Agrapattana), Ranjit Abeysekera (Negombo), Basil Perera (Negombo), Delanie Peiris (Mutwal), Vinodhini Fernandopulle (Dankatuwa).

Feb. 18th: Shanthi Fernando (Moratuwa), Olga Senivaratne (Imbulgoda), Nihal de Silva (Colombo 13), Sriyani Jayatilake (Ratnapura).

Feb. 19th: Ivan Quyn (Nawala), George Vanbeck (Negombo), A. Alexander (Colombo 12), Maureen Wijesinghe (Matale), Aelian

Perera (Panadura), Francis Goo-nesekera (Kandy), Yvonne Graham (Kohuwela).

Feb. 20th: Lourdes Arulanatham (Jaffna), Maureen Fernando (Moratuwa).

Feb. 21st: Glenroy Spuring (Pan-nipitiya), Eva Fernando (Nuge-goda), Antoinette Wijesekera (Kelaniya), Srilal Jayatilaka (Kalutara), Rajani Rodrigo (Negombo), Felicia Severymuthupulle (Colombo 13).

Feb. 22nd: Shanti Jayawardene (Borella), Shiromi de Alwis (Bambalapitiya), Antoinette Don (Trincomalee), Terence Fernando (Ja-Ela), Anne Fernando (Moratuwa).

Feb. 23rd: Antony Mendis (Ja-Ela), Jean Fernando (Grandpass), Menolie Fernandopulle (Koth-chikade), Magantha D. Livera (Badulla), Dulcie de Bond (Nawalapitiya).

Feb. 24th: Michael Perera (Kandy), Gwendolyn Herbert (Grandpass), Heather Williams (Colombo 6), Marlene de Motte (Colombo 4), Sudhasam Abeyaratne (Moratuwa).

Feb. 25th: Carmelia Vanderwall (Nawalapitiya), Charmaine Perera (Nawalapitiya), Asoka de Silva (Bambalapitiya).

Feb. 26th: Mallika Benedict (Jaffna), Antoinette Fernando (Mora-

tuwa), Patrick de Hoedt (Hatton), Lucille Amarasinghe (Kotahena), Indranie Rodrigo (Dehiwela), Mervyn Perera (Kegalle).

Feb. 27th: Flavia Leema (Negombo), Shirane Goonewardene (Dehiwela), Bernadette Amarasinghe (Kotahena), Brian Herft (Mutwal), Harsha Soza (Negombo), Charmaine Tillakawardena (Nuge-goda), Manilal Perera (Colombo).

To be continued.

Puttalam's Red-Letter Day

400 Children assemble on Holy Childhood Day

ON 24th January in the morning hours church bells began to peal. We kiddies and the not-so-wee ones too, from remote corners, all assembled at the convent. A beautiful procession wended its way with the Statue of the Infant Jesus, to the Church. There were Mass, sermons and Benediction. Many children were enrolled in the

Pope's Holy Childhood Society, as faithful members. Over 400 children took part in the procession.

A Group Leader.

My Saviour

MY Saviour Thou didst die for me
Upon the cross on Calvary,
Between two thieves Thou didst breathe your last
For the sins of the future, present and past.

Thy precious Blood for me Thou didst shed.

And it was like a rose so red.
Jesus I know you died for me,
So dearest Jesus, I love Thee eternally.

Bernadette de Silva.

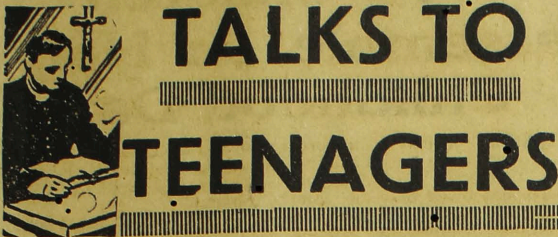
Members Parade

1151 — 1200

1151. Monica Perera (Wellawatte), 1152. Benildus Motna (Colombo 6), 1153. Lucy Motha (Colombo 6), 1154. Nirmala Pail (Colombo 6), 1155. George Wijesinghe (Mr. Lavinia), 1156. Carmel Abraham (Bandarawela), 1157. Florence Abraham (Bandarawela), 1158. Eunice Neydorff (Rajagiriya), 1160. Anne Martinus (Colombo 6), 1161. Aubrey de Alwis (Nawala), 1162. Lucreeenie de Silva (Kelaniya), 1163. Sriyani Jayasuriya (Kalutara), 1164. Nirmala Perera (Rajagiriya), 1165. Eleanor Pietersz (Kandy), 1166. Dunstan de Silva (Kelaniya), 1167. Lynette Gomez (Colombo 4), 1168. Neliya de Silva (Rakwana), 1169. Maurice Perera (Alubomulla), 1170. Joachim Coelho (Colombo 2), 1171. Anton Gnanapragasam (Jaffna), 1172. Canute de Silva (Mutwal), 1173. Rosemary de Silva (Galle), 1174. Maurice de Silva (Colombo 8), 1175. Marie de Silva (Galle), 1176. Pauline de Silva (Colombo 8), 1177. Bernadette de Silva (Galle), 1178. Grizil Perera (Moratuwa), 1179. Jacinta de Silva (Galle), 1180. Lourdes Arulanatham (Jaffna), 1181. Sriyani Amerasekera (Ratnapura), 1182. Deirdre Fernando (Colombo 15), 1183. Barbara Alexander (Kandy), 1184. Romola Muttukumaru (Puttalam), 1185. Malathi Muttukumaru (Puttalam), 1186. Malcolm Perera (Moratuwa), 1187. Winifred Bartholomeusz (Dehiwela), 1188. Chrysantha Jayatilaka (Galle), 1189. Anne Perera (Gintota), 1190. Srilal Jayasuriya (Kalutara), 1191. Sharon Corteling (Nawala), 1192. Evangeline Selvadurai (Kotahena), 1193. Anton Ponnappa (Kotahena), 1194. Osmund Joseph (Colombo 13), 1195. Joan Brohier (Thimbirigasyaya), 1196. Bernadette Silva (Rakwana), 1197. Frank Selvadurai (Kotahena), 1198. Lilly Fernando (Matale), 1199. Carmel Samarasinghe (Kotahena), 1200. Patricia de Silva (Colombo 15).

Schools-Mag

Continued from page 9



TALKS TO TEENAGERS

from UNCLE ASHLEY

My dear children, Last time we reflected on little John's gallant example, how he rounded up his friends for Daily Mass... but the question is "Why daily Mass?" Remember children,

- We cannot offer God anything better than the Mass — its giving God to God.
- We cannot begin our day any better than by placing it on the paten.
- We cannot make sure of God's blessings, any better, for us and our loved ones than by remembering them in our Holy Sacrifice.
- We cannot fit ourselves for the day's battle any better than by participating in the sacrifice of the altar.
- We cannot carry life's crosses any better than by uniting them with the supreme sacrifice.

- We cannot pray any better than by uniting ourselves with Christ crucified on the altar.
- We cannot study or work any better than by being nourished at the Mass with the blood of the Divine Lamb.
- We cannot work out our salvation any better than by kneeling at the sacrifice of salvation.
- We cannot express our faith, hope and charity any better than by assisting at the Holy Mass.
- We cannot please God any better than by offering Him the body and blood of His only Son.

May these thoughts help you and stimulate you to emulate little John's example.

May God bless and Our Lady love you.

Always in Jesus and Mary,
UNCLE ASHLEY.

I RIDE AN ELEPHANT

I WAS the first to get on to the elephant, but while half way up, I came tumbling down in an attempt to turn away from the direction of the wind.

After a hearty laugh, I attempted a second climb. This proved to be no better, for as I was about to balance myself properly on the animal, I missed my foot and came down with a thud, by its side. "Would he swallow me up?" was my first thought, but I quietly showed him a smiling face, so that he would not be displeased!

Up again for a third time! Now I was safe on its back. My cousin Roger, climbed be-

Recipe Corner

Dhal Rissoles

Ingredients: 4 ozs. dhal, parsley, breadcrumbs, ½ oz. Covo, salt, 1 egg.

Method: Wash and soak the dhal until soft enough to mask. Add Covo, a little chopped parsley and salt to taste. Make into rissoles. Dip in beaten egg and roll in breadcrumbs and fry in Covo. A green clove too could be chopped fine and added to dhal mixture.

Sent by **Honorine Perera, St. Sebastian's Convent, Kandana.** (Schools-Mag. No. 1267).

Eletephony

Once there was an elephant, Who tried to use the telephant—No, no! I mean an elephone Who tried to use the telephone—(Dear me! I am not certain quite That even now I've got it right).

How'er it was, he got his trunk Entangled in the telephunk; The more he tried to get it free, The louder buzzed the telephee—(I fear I'd better drop the song Of elephong and telephong!).

"Shinei" slid down the animal's tail, dragging Roger along with him. Just then, I grabbed at Roger's left leg, thus saving him from a toss into the river.

We were now ready for our ride, but "Shinei" was left behind; yet, he did not miss much, for sure enough, the tosses were much more exciting than the final ride.

Kandy.

Gillian Jones.

Schools-Mag Enrolment Form

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

SCHOOL.....

DATE AND YEAR OF BIRTH.....

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

THIS IS SOCIALISM

SOCIALISM is an economic theory of the reconstruction of society on the basis of co-operation of labour and community of property. A better known formula, however, defines Socialism as "the collective ownership and control of the means of production and exchange."

Socialism can be considered as a centralized authority managing the entire economic life of a country, as in Russia. In this form it is known as state Socialism or Communism. This idea is bad and can be considered as a disastrous risk if accepted by a country. Socialism by introducing simple co-operation and trying to satisfy men with the idea that they should receive no more than what is necessary for a secure living; discourages competition, the chance for man to accumulate wealth, and thereby destroys the main incentives for self-betterment.

Certain politicians try to hide this fact from the masses. These politicians point out that their principles of Socialism are quite different from those of totalitarian

ScrapBook CLUB NEWS

Conducted by Scissor-and-Paste

Hello Scrappists,

Last time I promised you that there will be a new Competition for you. I shall not keep you in suspense. So here go the details.

The articles and pictures published every fortnight in the Schools-Mag Club are the material of your scrap-book.

Cut these out and take them up in any order you wish for pasting in your scrap books.

● RULES

- (1) Scrap books must be made up from material printed under Scrap Book Club News, viz. "Know-Your-Saints," "Do-You-Know," "Riddle-Me-See," etc., etc. or others from the Schools-Mag.
- (2) The material should be pasted on sheets of paper (both sides being used if so desired) and the sheets bound together to form a book. Competitors can use Exercise Books or any good Scrap Book obtainable from book-sellers if they can't make up one themselves.
- (3) Entries will be judged on general presentation, attractiveness, completeness of material, order and also on artistic merits.
- (4) The books will become the property of the "Schools-Mag" but may be returned to the owners if a sufficiently large envelope adequately stamped is sent with the entry.
- (5) There is no entry fee.
- (6) The Editor's decision on all matters pertaining to this competition must be accepted as final and binding.
- (7) The entrant's name and address must be put in the book.
- (8) Scrap-Books must be sent to reach the Editor, Schools-Mag, Catholic Press, Borella by 30th June 1959.
- (9) Valuable Book Prizes will be awarded for the best entries received. Keep a watch on these columns for more details. In the meantime, go ahead with the idea.

Scissor-and-Paste.

Know Your Saints—2

★ ST. EULALIA

GOVERNOR Dacianus looked down at 10-year-old Eulalia. Would nothing make her deny her faith? He had tried to win her away with flattery, but she had ignored it, and had repeatedly reproached him for his wickedness.

"You will be punished for trying to destroy souls," she warned him. "It is wrong for you to force Christians to renounce the true God."

Then the Spanish governor ordered dreadful instruments of torture to be placed before her. Certainly she would prefer to deny Christ and live than to suffer such cruel torments, he thought.

"You can escape all this," he told her, "if you just touch a little salt and incense with the tip of your finger, in honour of our god."

Eulalia was angry. Deliberately she threw down the idol and trampled upon the cake which had been prepared for the sacrifice. Never would she do what the governor asked! For she had promised herself to the Lord of heaven and earth. He alone would she worship and serve!

The judge immediately ordered the young girl to be horribly tortured in many ways. Still she did not give in. She did not even groan. All through her torments she continually praised and thanked God.

St. Eulalia died during the persecution under Emperor Diocletian about the year 303. We celebrate the feast of this courageous young saint on December 10.

DO YOU KNOW

THAT the Chalice should be of gold or silver — and if an inferior metal is used, then the inside of the cup must be heavily plated with gold? The Church insists on this because the Precious Blood comes into direct contact with the inside of the chalice.

Smile awhile

A man was smoking a bad cigar in a compartment and ignored the protests of the other passengers.

At the next stop, one of the fainting passengers called the guard and informed him that the cigar smoker was travelling first class with a third class ticket.

The guard having turned out the offender, the other passengers asked the strategist how he knew that the cigar smoker was a third class ticket holder.

His ticket was the same, the same colour as my own, was the reply.

Patrick I. Jansz.
(Schools-Mag No. 1741)

★

The head of a large store was passing through the packing room one day when he saw a boy lounging against a wooden box, whistling cheerfully. The chief motioned the boy to follow him into his office.

"How much do you get a month?" he barked.

"Thirty rupees, sir."

"Then here's a month's pay — get out!"

When the boy had left, the boss summoned the foreman of the packing department.

"When did we engage that boy?" he demanded.

"He doesn't work here," came the astonished answer. "He just brought in a package from another firm."

Marie Srilani Fernando.
(Schools-Mag No. 649).

★

Wife (angry): "But you must have done something wrong to be sacked. There's never any smoke without fire."

Husband (guilty): "You're right. I was fined for smoking."

Clive Rodrigo.
(Schools-Mag No. 1442).

★

Teacher: "What is the most useful animal in the world to mankind?"

Freddie: "A hen sir."

Teacher: "A hen! How do you make that out?"

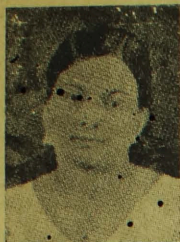
Freddie: "We can eat it before it is born, and after it is dead."

Rossella Oorloff.

★ MESSENGER CLASSIFIED ADS ★

Advertisers are informed that copy for all Classified Ads should reach the Management not later than 12 noon every Wednesday. Any such ads received later will appear only in the following week.

IN MEMORIAM



Anna Grace

Dearlly beloved wife of
J. L. De Silva

A Requiem Mass will be sung for the repose of her soul on Saturday, 21-2-59, at Saint Anthony's Cathedral, Kandy, at 6-45 a.m.

Please pray for her soul.

"The Maze,"

3, King's Street,
Kandy.

369



A Requiem Mass will be said for the repose of the soul of Josephine Morais (late wife of Mr. Stephen Corera) at 6.30 a.m. on Thursday the 19th February, at the Shrine of the Good Death of St. Joseph, Grandpass.

19, Green Lane,
Kotahena.

350

Of your charity
please pray for the repose

of the soul of

Lewis Fernando

(former teacher, St. Joseph's
College, Colombo)

died 12th February, 1953

Dear Lord grant him eternal
rest.

Fondly remembered by his
sorrowing wife and children.

"West End,"

Maggon.

379



A Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of the soul of the late Joseph Simon Paiva, at 6.30 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, on Monday the 16th instant.

Your kind presence and
prayers are earnestly requested.

22, Joseph Lane,
Bambalapitiya.

11.2.59.

388

Mary Elizabeth Anderson
(died 16th February, 1958)

"A silent thought brings
many a tear

Of a loving mother we loved
so dear

Her kindly ways, her smiling
face

No one on earth can take
her place."

Inserted by her loving children.

Quarry Road,
Dehiwela.

393

Don Publis Subasinghe

Died 17th February 1957

Dear Lord grant him eternal
rest.

Fondly remembered by his
wife and children.

"Lislyn,"
Colombo Road,
Negombo.

389

THANKSGIVINGS

MY grateful thanks to Our
Blessed Lord and His
Holy Mother, also Sts. Anthony
and Jude for having
cured my mother. Gwen. 376

MY grateful thanks to the
Most Sacred Heart of
Jesus, Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of Perpetual Succour,
Our Lady of Fatima and St.
Joseph for a great favour
granted. M. W. Millakande. 375

GRATEFUL thanks to Our
Mother of Perpetual
Succour, Sacred Heart of Jesus,
St. Anthony and Blessed
Martin De Porres for favours
granted. R. W. B. 378

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MEDICAL

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sleeved, from Rs. 2/90 upwards.
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best buy from W. M. Hassim
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Tennis Shirts, short sleeves
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NOTICE

Our Establishment will be
closed as a mark of respect
in remembrance of the
death of D. P. Subasinghe,
Founder of Ray Ban Opticians
on the 17th February 1959.

40, Maliban Street,
Pettah,
Colombo.

CHURCH NOTICES

Our Lady of. Perpetual Succour

PARAKADUWA

Feb. 14th: 6.30 p.m.
Vespers, etc.

Feb. 15th: 6.00 and 7.00
a.m. Low Masses

8.30 a.m. Solemn High
Mass

Your kind help will be
gratefully received.

Parish Priest.

Dehigaharitiya,
Avisawella.

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LOURDES FESTIVAL, KALUTARA

February 21 and 22 1959

Saturday, February 21:

6 p.m.: Rosary

6.30 p.m.: Sermon

7 p.m.: Pontifical Vespers
by the Archbishop
of Colombo.
Benediction and
Candle-light Procession.

Sunday, February 22:

5.30 a.m., 6 a.m., 6.30 a.m.:
Low Masses.

7.30 a.m.: Solemn High
Mass.

9 a.m.: Low Mass in Church.

Special bus and train arrangements
from Alutgama and
Panadura.

Parish Priest,
Kalutara.

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Our Lady of Lourdes DAMPE

15th February: Novenas commence
6.30 p.m.

28th February: Solemn Vespers
7 p.m.

1st March: Low Mass 6 a.m.
Festive High Mass
8.30 a.m.

J. Lanfranc Fernando,
Parish Priest.

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ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NEGOMBO

Testy. Juris. No. 3927

In the matter of the Last Will and
Testament of M. Anthony Waas
of 4th Kurana. — Deceased.
Mihidukulasuriya Francis Xavier
Waas of 4th Kurana, Negombo.
— Petitioner.

Vs.

Mihidukulasuriya Patabendige Joseph
Emmanuel Martial Fernando
of Chilaw Road, Negombo.
— Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal
before C. Thanabalasingham,
Esquire, District Judge of Negombo
on the 27th day of January,
1959, in the presence of M.
E. J. Tissara, Proctor on the
part of the Petitioner above-
named and the affidavits (1) of
the petitioner dated 22nd January
1959, (2) attesting witnesses
and the attesting Notary dated
22nd October 1958 having been
read.

It is ordered that the Last Will and
Testament bearing No. 35532
dated 13th October 1956 made
by M. Anthony Waas the deceased
abovenamed and attested
by J. F. Gunaratne, Notary,
original of which has been produced
and is now deposited in Court
be and the same is hereby
declared proved and it is further
ordered that the petitioner above-
named is the executor named
in the said Will and he is declared
entitled to have probate
thereof issued to him accordingly
unless the respondent above-
named or any other person or
persons interested shall on or
before the 20th February 1959
show sufficient cause to the
satisfaction of this Court to the
contrary.

Sgd. C. Thanabalasingham,
District Judge.
Negombo, 27th January 1959.

Drawn by
Sgd. M. E. J. Tissara,
Proctor for Petitioner. 374

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THIS MAY be 'GREATEST COUNCIL'

Papal Bull may be issued by Easter

THE POPE HAS TOLD AN AUDIENCE OF ARMENIANS THAT THERE IS GROUND FOR HOPE THAT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE ARMENIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH WILL ONE DAY BE UNIFIED, SAYS A BRITISH UNITED PRESS REPORT FROM VATICAN CITY.

The audience was led by Cardinal Agagianian, the Armenian Patriarch.

The Pope said: "Why should we not express special wishes that one may one day achieve the desired unity of all Armenians in the Father's house? That meeting will certainly be a source of joy and blessing."

Most Armenians belong to the Schismatic Church. The Gregorian Armenians, as they are known, are one of the six Eastern "Separated Churches," whose return to Rome will be discussed at the forthcoming Ecumenical Council.

In a general audience last week, the Pope said that two years' preparation would be needed for the Council, which would be named either "Vatican" or "Lateran."

'IF WE ARE ASKED WE SHOULD GO'

—ANGLICAN BISHOP

IF the Pope invites observers to the Ecumenical Council, the Church of England should accept, the Anglican Bishop of Guildford has declared. This is one example of the quick and sympathetic reaction from Anglican circles.

Of particular interest is that of the "Church Times," which makes the summoning of the Council its main front page news story.

"The summoning by the Pope of his Ecumenical Council," it said, "has been welcomed by dignitaries of the Church of England, who have as their special care the fostering of Christian unity."

"If observers should be invited, we ought certainly to accept the invitation. The call for unity both from the Vatican and the Ecumenical Patriarch is a sign of the movement and desire for unity throughout Christendom, and it must be regarded as being something which is hopeful for the future."

Meanwhile, comments, mainly favourable, are coming from Christian leaders all over the world and Cardinal Montini, Archbishop of Milan, and for many years Substitute Secretary of State to Pope Pius XII, has forecast that the forthcoming Council will be "the greatest which the Church has ever celebrated in its 20 centuries of history."

Yugoslavia

Signs of a new war on Church?

THE FIRST OUTRIGHT CRITICISM OF THE CHURCH THAT APPEARED IN YUGOSLAVIA FOR SOME TIME WAS PUBLISHED LAST WEEK BY *VJESNIK*, A COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER IN CROATIA.

More than half Yugoslavia's Catholics live in Croatia. The newspaper criticised priests "who continue to resist good relations with the state."

Vjesnik said that the Church was hindered in taking a "positive attitude" towards the state because its supreme leadership was outside the borders of Yugoslavia.

A majority of priests realised the necessity of co-operating with the state, but this met with the disapproval of others, particularly the higher clergy who stood against good relations.

China: a Day of Prayer

IN accordance with the wishes of the Holy Father, the Hierarchy of England and Wales has appointed tomorrow, the first Sunday of Lent, February 15, as a Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church in China. The Bishops have asked their people to receive Holy Communion that day and the Memorare is to be recited after each Mass.

Of your charity pray for the repose of the soul of

Mrs. Elizabeth Kuriacose, the third anniversary of whose death occurs on the 16th instant.

The Rally

Continued from page 1

chariot and a hush falls on the crowd.

The Apostolic Delegate kneels, wrapt in prayer. The shadows lengthen.

As the chariot bearing the Most Blessed Sacrament moves along into Bonjean Road, the rays of the twilight sun flash on the five-foot high Monstrance set in silver and pure gold.

FOUR-AND-A-HALF hours later the magnificent procession, moving along the 2 2/5 mile route entirely decorated and illuminated and spangled with crosses and monstrances, reached the Stadium grounds at St. Benedict's College.

The crowd had reached its peak at 8-30 p.m. One hundred thousand devotees massed on every side. Tens of thousands meandered out in the furthest fringes.

At the closing ceremonies His Grace the Archbishop addressed the milling crowd of the faithful. Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament was the finale to the wondrous demonstration of Catholic faith.

The real story behind the outstanding success of the 4-day Rally is one of hard work, valiant sacrifice, and burning furnaces of prayer.

The prelude to any solid and worthwhile achievement is always the three-cornered stone of hard work, sacrifice and prayer and the amazing success of the Colombo Eucharistic Rally bore ample testimony to it.

One of the most vividly striking, realistically far-sighted and remarkable features of the Rally was the inclusion of the Way of the Cross specifically relating to the present sufferings of the "Church of Silence."

On Friday and Saturday, large crowds of the faithful followed the Stations of the Cross, preached in all three languages, allying themselves closely and unitedly with the millions of Catholics, manacled and oppressed in 14 Communist countries.

In the impact of devotion at every point and in the clearly visible accentuation of the spiritual throughout the 4-day Rally, the objectives of the Eucharistic theme: "Through Mary, we, too, one with Jesus" were supremely achieved to an eminent degree.

Not within living memory and seldom in the history of the Church in Ceylon has there been witnessed such opulent wave on wave of deep devotion as has been manifested by the people through these four great days that will remain unforgettable splendours in the long years to come.

In this extraordinary demonstration of the Faith was clearly visible the imprint of the future — the solidarity of Catholicism in the island which, like a living seed, will sprout into blossom however dark and cold and weary the world will grow.

Oblate General to bless Scholasticate

THE MOST REVEREND FR. Leo Deschatelets, O.M.I., Superior-General of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, will bless the Oblate Scholasticate at Ampitiya on Tuesday, 17 February, at 9-30 a.m. All Fathers are cordially invited to the ceremony and to the lunch which will follow.

TOMORROW'S CATHOLIC HOUR

A special recording of the radio commentary of the Eucharistic Rally given last Sunday at St. Lucia's Cathedral and at the Rally Stadium will be broadcast tomorrow on the National Service of Radio Ceylon from 7 to 8 p.m. The commentator is Rev. Fr. Joe Nethisinghe. This transmission will take the place of the usual Catholic Hour programme.

IN MEMORIAM



Mary Violet Peiris

Born: 13th February 1926

Married: 12th June 1947

Died: 8th October 1947

Humble prayers, very kind and life-long greetings to my most devoted darling wife Viola on her birthday.

May Our Good Lady of Perpetual Succour help us to meet again.

With love and kisses from your husband, J. Finian Peiris.

34/1, Prince of Wales Avenue, Moratuwa.

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