

From Passion to Palm Sunday it will be—

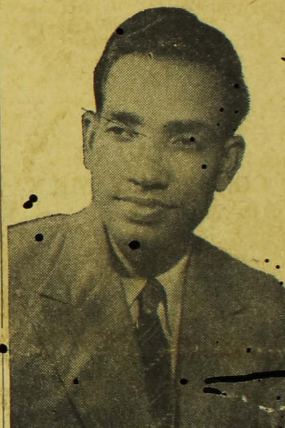
## CHURCH OF SILENCE WEEK

The call goes out  
from India

(from a "MESSENGER" correspondent)

THE appeal of His Holiness Pope John XXIII is already bearing fruit. A call has gone out from India to the 350,000 members of the Union of Prayers for China all over India, Burma, and Ceylon, for the observance of the "Church of Silence Week" from 15th to 22nd March this year.

Ceylon man  
makes  
world news

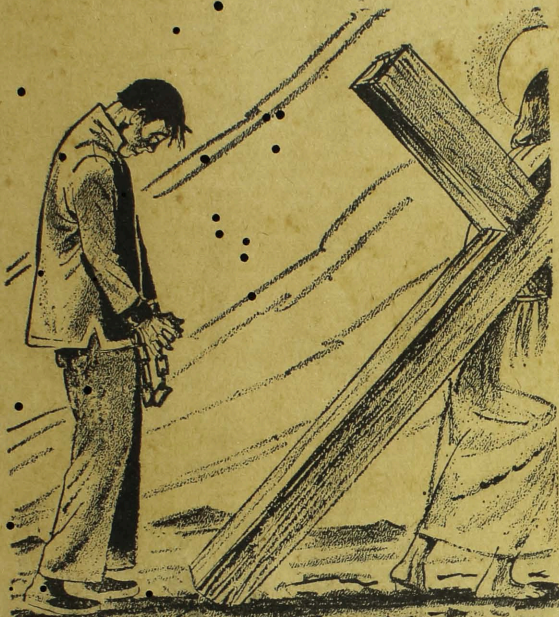


(By a Messenger reporter)

MR. P. JOSEPH, a member of the Legion of Mary from Ceylon, has just been appointed by the Legion's world-council at Dublin, Legion Envoy to Kenya and Uganda. He thus follows in the footsteps of Edel Quinn, whose cause of beatification is being introduced shortly.

MR. JOSEPH who was an ardent Legionary in Ceylon, was Vice President of Colombo's Junior Curia, till he left Ceylon for England in 1954. He continued to be in the forefront of all Legionary activity in England, until his recent appointment just a fortnight ago.

(See People and Events).



### The Church of Silence

POPE Pius XII of revered memory appealed repeatedly for the Church of Silence. Pope John XXIII followed suit—and his own city of Rome gave a resounding answer on January 25th. Since then, other parts of the world have joined the mighty chorus. England, Scotland, Wales have had a nation-wide day of prayer. Australia and many others follow on Passion Sunday. And now, the unending chorus of prayer comes nearer home...

### Cardinals to plan General Council

AN announcement is expected shortly of the nomination of a special Council of Cardinals whose task will be to draw up the agenda for the forthcoming Ecumenical Council.

The topics on the agenda will be debated in the several committees into which the Council will be divided, and then by the plenary session of the entire Council.

Among topics expected to appear on the agenda are seminaries and the training of the clergy, the functions of the clergy, the lay apostolate, liturgical adaptations according to place; the press, radio and cinema, and other means of influencing public opinion, in addition, of course, to the great theme of unity for the Church, announced by the Holy Father on January 25.

Pin-pointing the present Pontiff's own fervent and repeated appeals for prayers on behalf of the persecution of the faithful in China, the National Director of the Union of Prayers for China reminds that Pope John XXIII dedicated Sunday 25 January, the concluding day for the Unity Octave and the Conversion of St. Paul specially for prayers for China.

The Messenger understands that special intentions have been already listed for each day of the "Church of Silence Week" proposed.

They are as follows:

- 15th: Russia and Kerala.
- 16th: Albania, Coratia, Solvenia and Bulgaria.
- 17th: Bohemia, Moravia, and Slovakia.
- 18th: Rumania, and East Germany.
- 19th: Estonia, Letonia, and Lithuania — The Triumph of the Martyrs.
- 20th: Sorrowful Mother of the Church of Silence.
- 21st: Hungary and Poland.
- 22nd: China, Indo-China and Korea.

### MESSENGER JOURNALISM AWARDS

(See page 7)

### H. E. Mgr. Vagnozzi in Colombo

(by a Messenger reporter)

HIS Excellency the Most Rev. Dr. Egidio Vagnozzi, who has been until recently Papal Nuncio in the Philippines, passed through Colombo on Wednesday this week.

Returning to Rome from Manila, where he has terminated his period of appointment, His Excellency was met on board the "Cambodge" by the Very Rev. Fr. Peter A. Pillai, on behalf of His Grace the Archbishop. He visited various institutions in Colombo. From Rome, His Excellency will shortly be leaving for the United States, where he takes up his new appointment as Apostolic Delegate to the United States of America.

### LOURDES YEAR FINALE

## SHARE WEALTH WITH POOR

— says Pope in special broadcast

THE LOURDES CENTENARY YEAR ENDED ON WEDNESDAY WITH A LAST CEREMONY IN THE SUNSHINE AT THE GROTTO WHERE OUR LADY APPEARED TO BERNADETTE.

A few hours before, Cardinal Feltin offered Pontifical Mass in the basilica of St. Pius X, built by Catholics all over the world as a centenary gift to the shrine.

The Holy Father — who as Cardinal Roncalli, papal legate, consecrated the basilica last March — broadcast a message which was relayed to the pilgrims shortly after the Mass.

In this he said that the message of Lourdes was a call "to detach ourselves from riches and teach us to share them with the poorest amongst us."

The Mass was offered by Archbishop Marella, Nuncio to

France. All walks of French life were represented in the congregation.

M. Lecourt, Minister of State representing the French government. With him was M. E. Michley, Minister of Justice.

Pontifical Vespers, which should have been sung in the basilica, took place before the Rosary church in brilliant sunshine.

The Holy Father, in his address, appealed to all those to-day who are in "grave danger of being blinded" by man's power in technical fields to the point of losing the sense of religious values.

"We make this appeal our own in this age when millions of people are becoming aware — sometimes, unfortunately, also with rebellion — of the scandalous contrast between the well-being of one part of the people and the insufficiencies for life of the others."

"Admirable scientific progress is being realised in our Continued on page 2

### 32 "cures" at Lourdes

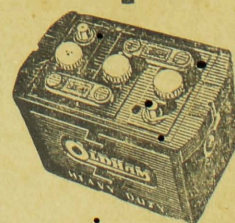
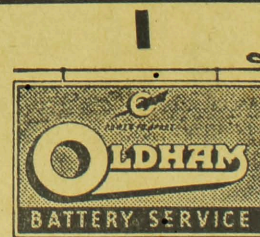
REPORTS of 32 reputed cures during the centenary year are now being examined by the Medical Board of Lourdes.

The number of reputed cures being investigated is higher than the usual yearly average.

No confirmation of earlier

cures was made in 1958, as the International Commission of Doctors did not meet during the centenary year.

It is only after a meeting of this commission that reports of cures are sent to the bishop of the diocese for his decision.



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# RELIGION in PEOPLE'S CHINA

THE "Sunday Times of Ceylon" of 15-2-59 contains a most misleading feature article on the above subject. The writer is Burgoyne Chapman. According to him, all is well with religion in China. "The Shanghai Cathedral has been restored... leave is readily obtainable by Christian officials and employees for worship... no discrimination is made against Christians in public appointments... etc. etc."

A photograph entitled "Catholic Sister Wang Shun-ching speaks on behalf of Catholic Women's meeting" lends colour and force to this feature article. So that's that! In progressive China, religion is well protected and encouraged. So, why worry? We Catholics, however, should know that this is not the case. There has been a ruthless persecution against the Catholic Church all throughout, and a National Church has been set up, cut off from the main body and subservient to the Communist Programme. If, according to Chapman, there is complete religious freedom in China, then why these imprisonments of countless Bishops, nuns, and religious? Why this mass appropriation of all Church property, and the taking over of all schools? Why this "brain washing" to which even some Catholic Bishops seem to have succumbed? The fact is that the Church is going through

an ordeal which cannot be matched with even what happened under the Roman Emperors during the first three centuries A.D.

S. P. Selvaratnam.

Negombo.

## Assisted Schools

CHITRA, commenting in the Communist Weekly "Forward" of the 13th inst. on the take-over, avers that "the N.L.S.S.P.'s stand on the

## Vatican Radio

SINCE your comment on Vatican Radio in the issue of 25-10-58 I have listened to its regular broadcasts and I find it most interesting.

There have been some alterations in these broadcasts recently.

Tuning in to Vatican a little before 9-30 p.m., I clearly hear the music of the hymn "Christus Vincit" for two or three minutes, then the pealing of the bells of St. Peter's for a few moments and the Commentator, I think it is Fr. Pellegrino, begins the programme as follows:—

"Laudetur Jesus Christus—  
"Praised be Jesus Christ.  
"This is Vatican Radio in our usual programme to India, Pakistan and Ceylon."

"This programme comes to you on every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, at 16 hours G.M.T. on the wavelengths 19.84 and 13.94."

Readers will note the changes in days as well as wavelength. The news is on the air for 15 minutes.

T. A. Fernando.

Colombo 13.

matter is getting curiously and curiously!" because of certain views alleged to have been expressed on the subject by Messrs. N. M. Perera, Leslie Gunawardena, and Bernard Soysa. He then poses the question. "Isn't it time the L.S.S.P. stopped hedging and said openly whether they support the continuation of a system which is heavily weighted in favour of reactionary and wealthy religious institutions?"

"In the next blast he continues, 'In a letter to the press last week, Bishop de Mel came out in favour of the State taking over assisted Schools and even went so far as to suggest a tentative formula for the process. So that leaves only the Catholics, who oppose the State take over, apart from one or two isolated individuals — and presumably the L.S.S.P.'"

Even the ghosts of Marx and Stalin would be highly amused by Chitra's 'holier than thou' attitude and his strange disgust of 'hedging'. The whole world knows that the Communists are universal champions not only in hedging but in many other stratagems and devices that help their ideological aggrandisement.

It is still more curious that Chitra does not yet see that one of the most curious drawbacks in Sri Lanka politics is the inability of our Leftist brethren of various camps to settle among themselves their educational policy and their several other hair-splitting differences. He has not yet learnt that almost all Hindu, Muslim and an appreciable high percentage of Buddhist educationists are also against the take over. He also betrays strange ignorance of the fact that there are other Christian denominations conducting Assisted Schools, besides the Catholics and the Anglicans.

Chitra refers to "one or two isolated individuals who oppose the state take over." Obviously poor Chitra is marooned in Marxism, and blinded so much, that he cannot see the wood for the trees. Hence his inability to enlighten us as to the identity of these "one or two" The number

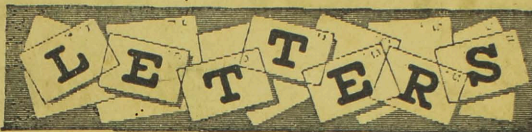
could be a legion for Chitra's horror!

Jeyes.

Colombo.

## Daily Bread

JUST as Mr. C. D. S. Siriwardena was amused at Mr. W. E. O. Fernando's knowledge of the Brahmajala Sutra, I too was much amused at Mr. Siriwardena's knowledge of the Novena Devotions at All Saints' Church, Borella. The existence of a so-called Catholic Employment Exchange is a figment of his imagination, and it is a clear case of his mistaking the wood for the trees. Instead of making wild insinua-



tions and charges and "quoting Scripture" with a vengeance he should go and see for himself what is happening at All Saints' every Wednesday. Many are the favours asked and received by non-Christians and there is nothing to prevent Mr. Siriwardena too from asking and receiving any favour he needs, provided he can cultivate the one great disposition of — HUMILITY.

N. E. P. Udumullagama.

Jayanthipura.

## Tut, Tut, Comrade!

ACCORDING to press reports, Dr. S. A. Wickramasinghe (Comrade Commie), is alarmed at the passing of the Public Security Amendment Bill, which he says would be suicidal. Of course, while admitting that this Act curtails in case of need normal rights of the citizen and prevents the full exercise of privileges in a democratic set-up, the purpose of the bill, as emphasised by the Prime Minister, was to ensure public safety.

We are astounded that Dr. Wickramasinghe is alarmed at such a legislative step, for how far are his criticisms candid considering his political links with a Soviet pattern?

Chris Caderamanpille.

Kandana.

## After the Eucharistic Rally

THERE in the Old temple of Jerusalem when Mary had gone for the Presentation, aged Simeon took the Divine Infant and exclaimed, "Dismiss thy servant in Peace, for mine eyes have seen the Saviour." It is with that same spirit that some of us could have said at the close of the Eucharistic Rally, "Dismiss us in peace, for we have seen a peoples' magnificent demonstration of Faith."

Mary going through the streets with her Divine Son, and saying as if it were, "TO HIM THROUGH ME." She shows us the very gift of the Eucharist, the gift that He Himself left behind to our sinful humanity in His last will. DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

The Eucharistic Rally came and went, as all other things do, but we must not allow the memory of the occasion to fade away with the times. We must try to live our lives in accordance with the Spirit of the Eucharist. We must try to remain the rest of our lives with the Eucharist. We must fortify ourselves so that we may have the necessary strength to go through the probable dark times ahead of us through the Eucharist.

Lionel Perera.

Kochchikada.

## Pope Pius XII

MY brother was married to a Buddhist at the registrar's. For 15 years we

had prayed, made novenas and tried every means to make his wife consent to marry according to the rites of the Church, but we did not succeed.

As soon as His Holiness Pope Pius XII passed away, my sister and I began praying to him for his intercession on my brother's behalf. To our consternation he got an attack of coronary thrombosis and had to be removed to hospital. We were not discouraged; in fact we prayed the more earnestly. Returning from hospital that very evening, we went to St. Mary's Church, and earnestly begged of our Holy Father for his intercession to cure my brother of this dreaded disease and give

## BISHOP SHEEN SPEAKS...

This feature is unavoidably held over owing to extreme pressure on space.

incident that does not concern her in the least.

G. Fortin, O.M.I.,

Colombo 12. Parish-Priest.

## Third Order Booklet

MAY I be permitted to correct a wrong impression created by a statement in the last issue of the Messenger on the above?

The inspiration for, and spade work in connection with it we owe to Mr. Julius Rasiah the indefatigable Secretary of the Third Order who also contributed the rest of the written material barring my two articles. My own modest contribution should not, in my view, belittle the learning, the business acumen and energy the Secretary expended on its production.

To Rev. Fr. Ernest Porutota, the Spiritual Director, goes the credit for the artistic cover, the excellent get up and the finished product!

Oscar M. Abeyratna.

Colombo.

## Lourdes Finale

(Continued from page 1)

times, and mankind, as it were, is gripped by thrills of pride at the unsuspected prospects unfolding before it.

"And here — by contrast — there comes to us from Lourdes through Bernadette an appeal for humility and prayer."

His Holiness recalling the exhortations to the same purpose by Pope Pius XII, voiced the hope "that Christendom may renew itself with an unanimous upsurge of Marian piety."

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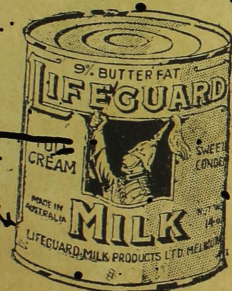
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# Where it's LENT the whole year round



THE TWELFTH STATION



IN THE FOOTHILLS OF MORAWAK KORALE AND ON THE BANKS OF THE GIN GANGA NESTLES A WINDSWEPT AND MIST-LADEN HAMLET WITH THE LOVELY NAME OF HINIDUMA.

Many a world-every pilgrim arrives here at nightfall to meditate and pray and to recapture something of the atmosphere that still broods over those parts of the Holy Land which were the scene of Christ's Passion and Death.

Hiniduma provides a natural setting for depicting the tremendous drama that was enacted twenty centuries ago and Hiniduma's Parish Priest, the Reverend Father Cyril Edirisinghe, has been quick to realize the possibilities of the place and has given the faithful an arresting reproduction of Christ's Way of the Cross with life-size statuary which makes the fourteen open-air Stations and the Agony in the Garden look realistic indeed.

## GETHSEMANE

Our Lord had to cross the brook of Cedron to get to Gethsemane, and true enough here at Hiniduma the pilgrim crosses the Gin Ganga to reach the silent group of statues that seem to be enacting the age-old tragedy. There, beside the gnarled trunks of one-hundred-year-old trees, is the figure of Christ prostrate on a rock, and a little way off are the recumbent forms of His disciples.

Station by Station the pilgrim's pathway climbs, until at the summit of the hill, towering above him, he finds the crucified

## The Agony in the Garden

Saviour with His grief-stricken Mother, the Magdalen and St. John grouped at the foot of the Cross. Just by this Twelfth Station is the Chapel of the Crucifixion.

## HOLY SEPULCHRE

A stone's throw from here is the Holy Sepulchre, hewn, as in Calvary, into a living

## FOCUS ON HINIDUMA

rock. The exact measurements of the original Sepulchre have been kept here. A deep sense of reverence overtakes the pilgrim as he crosses the ante-chamber into the actual tomb, for there, stretched on a single slab of rock, is the enshrouded figure of the dead Christ.

Here the pilgrim takes leave of Hiniduma, but before he goes he will pay a visit to the Grotto of Our Lady, which has been built to commemorate the Lourdes Centenary, and to the Boys' Town where 130 orphaned children are under the care of the Parish Priest.

Hiniduma has a Post Office, a Government Dispensary, a Police Station and a Rest House where one can be comfortably accommodated. There is however no necessity for that, for the pilgrim's needs are all seen to by the Parish Priest who, while talking things over, may serve him a glass of his excellent Gotukola Wine and initiate him into the unique potentialities of his famous snake-bite cure which up to date has healed every snake-bite victim who has been treated with it.

All the year round, from every corner of the Island, Hiniduma draws pilgrims who find in its "Calvary" the proper atmosphere for pondering deeply the mystery of Christ's Passion and Death, the mystery of man's Redemption.

THE Catholic Church is reverently observing the season of Lent all over the world.

Lent is the time when we recall the wonderful love of God for man. As we gaze at the mystery of the Cross, we try to crucify at least some of our sins that crucified Him.

If we reverently look at Him, with our mind's eye, and pray "Show us our faults, O Lord," perhaps we could see one of our sins as His lips form the words: "Judge not."

### Rash Judgment

Passing judgment on others is a pet sin of many of us.

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# THE SECOND CHANCE

When two or three gather together, unknowingly, the conversation drifts into judgment on others. — one nation blames another for the evil wrought in the world and nations and individuals are constantly judging others.

Our Lord's first principle was, that only the man, who himself is without fault, has the right to express judgment on the faults of others.

One of the commonest faults in life is, that so many of us demand standards from others, that we never even try to fulfil ourselves. Many a parent rebukes and punishes a child, for that which he, time and again, himself does. What about us Church members?

Many a member criticises another, for faults of which, he himself is at least as guilty.

"The qualification for judging is not knowledge," we all possess that. "It is achievement in goodness."

Our Lord wishes that our first emotion towards anyone who has made a mistake

should be pity. To the sinful woman He says: "Go and sin no more."

He did not abandon judgment and say: "Don't worry. It is alright." To put it in human terms, what

by R. P.

He did was to defer sentence. "Go out and prove that you can do better." He seems to say. "Change your life from top to bottom. Go and sin no more."

## Second Chance

We see Him giving the sinner a second chance. It is as if He tells sinners: "I know you have made a mess of things, but life is not finished yet. I am giving you another chance."

Someone has said the lines:

"How I wish that there was some place"

Called the Land of Beginning again,

Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches

And all our poor selfish grief

Could be dropped like a shabby old coat at the door,

And never put on again."

And it is wonderful. We can start all over again, for in Jesus there is the Gospel of the second chance. He knows the thrill of exercising power to forgive.

## The Divine Counsellor

His forgiveness involves belief in human nature. "Go and sin no more." The amazing, heart-uplifting thing about Him was His belief in human nature.

Sometimes we hear people say indifferently: "It is too late now." They just go on existing, instead of trying to live abundantly by starting afresh. Our

Lord does not blast people with the knowledge that they are great sinners, but He inspires them with the "Unglimpsed discovery that they were potential saints."

The strains of the Eucharistic Rally linger in our hearts. We hear our King telling us gently: "Go and sin no more." "Little children, love one another." "Judge not." "I am the vine and ye are the branches." "Go ye and preach the Gospel" (we could do it in our humble daily life at home), and "Lo I am with you, always, even unto the end of the world."

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## Abbe Pierre Speaks

# LENT — a time of disillusionment

WE are now in the season of Lent; the time during which we should be preparing ourselves for that mighty event upon which we may say that the whole of human history turns—the whole history of the universe and of man: the Resurrection, the Resurrection of Our Lord and, through Him and in Him, the resurrection of man—the defeat of nothingness, the defeat of death, the victory of life, forever.

Like all our life on earth, and like each of the divisions of the liturgical year, this time is really a time of waiting, of preparation and of hope.

And it needs, too, to be a time of disillusionment; a time when we go out from our illusions to encounter reality, and to encounter life. It is a time which should prepare us for something to happen in us similar to what happened to those few men who had been Our Lord's fervent disciples, and who had seen the horrible tragedy of Maundy Thursday night and of Good Friday.

They had seen their Lord arrested, mocked, tortured, executed. They had seen Him — Him, whose power and splendour and authority they had seen manifested during His three years of public life and fame — perishing, a helpless victim, torn and bleeding. They had seen Him let Himself be put to death between hardened criminals.

### Disciples at Emmaus

Think of their utter bewilderment.

You know this story in the Gospel — at once so staggering and so full of poetry. It was the Sunday after the Passion, and on one of the roads in the outskirts of Jerusalem two men were walking along. They were running away. They were scared of everything. They said to themselves that all those known to have been near to Our Lord were doubtless going to be persecuted by the authorities and the

police. They had only one idea in their heads: to get away.

A week before, these men had experienced all the extraordinary enthusiasm of Palm Sunday. They had witnessed the acclamation by the people of their Lord — the man whose companions they had been for months and perhaps for years — in a sort of equivalent of a triumphal procession down the Champs-Élysées. And then, with brutal suddenness, came the collapse of all their hopes.

Can you think of any greater and more perfect hopes than theirs had been? They lived under a foreign occupation. This was going to be liberation. He had such moral power, such power over the crowds, such authority in every sense — and, seeing that He was of the family of David, it was obvious that He was the leader and king who had been foretold — both that He would be able to bring them liberation and — since He was so holy that no one had ever known anyone so holy and reasonable, and sane, and wise — that He would set up the most perfect regime imaginable.

### Their disappointment

How easy it is to understand them!

They thought that they would be part of this new regime. And they followed Our Lord partly out of love and admiration and a desire for perfection and holiness, attracted by the splendour of His virtues, and partly in the thought of the solid temporal things which were going to come to them.

And then, suddenly, all is lost, ruined and destroyed.

And as an extra refinement to their misery, they must have been saying to themselves, as they went along the road, "When we get back home to the country, everyone will be able to make as much fun as they like of us, as dolts and bodies." All the sitters on the fence, all the



clever people who preferred to wait and see, would be able to point at them. They would be able to sneer at the hotheads who went off just like that, without thinking, to follow an adventurer.

### A wonderful conversation

And as they go along with all this despair and bitterness in their hearts, and yet with something unforgettable still remaining in them from their contact with Our Lord, a traveller overtakes them in the evening and falls in beside them.

You know that wonderful conversation which we read at Mass on Easter Monday. "Why are you sad?" And they say, "You're the only man in all this district who doesn't know why all the people are sad. We had such hopes!" And they pour out all their hearts and tell him all that had happened and how it ended.

Then the traveller, beginning with Moses and the prophets, shows them how it had been foretold; how it was necessary that the Messiah, having become man to ransom the sins of men,

must Himself suffer even to death, in sacrifice, for the fault which was of infinite gravity because it offends against the Infinite. Wretched man is capable of an act of infinite evil, because evil — the gravity of the offence — is measured not by the greatness of him against whom it is committed. But when it comes to reparation, given that reparation is measured not by the measure of him who receives it but by the quality of him who offers it, man, who was capable of infinite evil, is incapable of performing a proportionate good in reparation.

Our Lord explains all this to them; the mystery of the Incarnation, which requires that it shall be the Infinite Himself who comes and offers reparation to the Infinite, so that there shall be a due proportion and that redemption shall be accomplished. But He had to become man Himself, not only to touch our hearts and to induce us to share in the redemption in communion with Him, but also in order that He should be able to offer reparation truly in the name of man.

### Son of Man

This is the whole mystery of the Son of Man — that

## 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.

## RADIO LOG

FEB. 28 to MAR. 1: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. **THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY** (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. John Gomes.

MAR. 1: 7-00 to 7-30 p.m. **CATHOLIC HOUR PROGRAMME** (English).

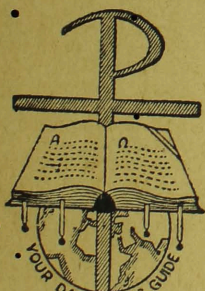
MAR. 7-9: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. **THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY** (Tamil) — A. Jesuthasan, Esq.

MAR. 8: 10-00 to 10-05 a.m. **TALK** (English) — Rev. Fr. Claude Lawrence.

astonishing, overwhelming title. To think that, during all His years amongst us, the Eternal wished to be known only by this name and no other: the Son of Man. He, who is light and perfection and love and infinite energy; He who set the stars upon their course through space, who gave strength, to the sun and a miraculous subtlety and delicacy of beauty to all the infinitely little things which we find throughout the world: He wished to have only this one title during those years: Son of Man.

He wanted us to understand the point to which He had identified Himself with our distress. He explains all this.

Continued on page 10



Sunday, 1 March: **THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT.** (Purple). Omit prayer prescribed.

Monday, 2 March: Mass of the feria. (Purple).

Tuesday, 3 March: Mass of the feria. (Purple).

Wednesday, 4 March: Mass of the feria. (Purple). 2nd prayer of St. Casimir, 3rd of St. Lucius. Omit prayer prescribed.

Thursday, 5 March: Mass of the feria. (Purple).

Friday, 6 March: Sts. Perpetua and Felicitas. (Red). 2nd prayer of the feria.

Saturday, 7 March: St. Thomas Aquinas. (White). 2nd prayer of the feria.

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

As we have seen, by 8 September 1619 Fr. Vaz had completed the new church at Kandy and completely retrieved the position there. During the next few years he consolidated that position by acquiring increased influence with the king (Vimaladharmas), thanks especially to a translation he made of a Portuguese medical work (cf. Fr. S. G. Perera p. 174).

2. Meanwhile he resumed his missionary tours (SGP. p. 175), though it is not on record what places he visited.

Thus, when the new recruit to replace Fr. Carvalho (who had died on 22 July 1702), Fr. Pedro da Saldanha, arrived in Puttalam towards the end of August 1702, "Fr. Vaz was away from Kandy on one of his apostolic expeditions" (SGP. p. 178).

3. "When he returned to Kandy and heard of the arrival of Fr.

## Strands of the Story 182

Saldanha, he went to Puttalam to meet him and took him to Mantota where Fr. Ferrao was lying ill" (SGP. p. 178).

Both these places have already been landmarked (under 8 and 30 respectively). All that is necessary is that the inscriptions should make a note of this new visit of 1703.

4. This applies particularly to Mantota, for Fr. Vaz spent two weeks there preaching the Jubilee. These were two weeks of intense work for the three priests (Fr. de Menezes had joined them); they "worked night and day to expedite the Confessions" (SGP. p. 178).

## FR. VAZ FEATURE

The results were most consoling; the new-comer, Fr. Saldanha, could hardly believe his eyes. "Such was the concourse of people," he writes, "that it caused me great surprise, especially to see the devotion and compunction with which the Catholics of both sexes approached the Holy Table and the modesty and reverence

with which they assisted at the services" (id. ibid.).

5. At the end of the two weeks, Fr. Vaz directed Fr. de Menezes to visit the district for Fr. Ferrao who was still laid up. He himself "set out to visit the Catholics of another district" (id. ibid.).

6. What we must conclude from this is that, far from multiplying the landmarks, we are in fact omitting some, for the simple reason that the records are incomplete and indefinite. We shall never be able to mark all the places our Apostle visited; for all his journeys have not been charted and even when the destination is known, the route itself was usually through uncharted jungle tracks. How grateful we should be that we do know some of his halting-places for certain. How eager we should be to mark them.



★ The Messenger is privileged to publish below the full text of the Address given by His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate at the opening of Colombo's recent 4-day Eucharistic Rally.

## THE LINK between

OVER twenty-two years ago I visited Ceylon for the first time. One of the things that impressed me then was the great love of the faithful for our Lord Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

On my subsequent visits this first impression was confirmed and I came to know too of the great love of the Catholics of Ceylon for Our Blessed Mother.

And now on the occasion of this Eucharistic Rally of the Archdiocese I find the two united in the purpose and in the theme of this rally. The purpose of the rally is to celebrate the closing of the Lourdes Jubilee year and to commemorate the 450th Anniversary of the first Mass in Ceylon. The THEME is "Through Mary, one with Jesus offered on the Altar."

Many fervent Catholics, while having a great devotion to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and a great love for Our Lady, do not realize that there is an intimate bond between the two. When this bond is made clear then our devotion to Mary shall intensify our love for the Blessed Eucharist.

You have often heard it said that the Church's rule of faith is her rule of prayer and hence it is not surprising that the Sacred Liturgy shows us the link between Our Lady and the Blessed Eucharist.

In the divine office at prime we recite daily "Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us." On special feasts and in certain seasons we add a phrase particular to the occasion. For example, at Easter we add "O! Thou who hast risen from the dead" while for the feast of Corpus Christi, when it would have been easy to add a phrase referring to the Blessed Eucharist, we sing, "O, Thou who was born of the Virgin Mary" and we conclude the hymns of the day by saying, "Glory to Thee, O Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary."

Among the prayers in the missal for the preparation of Holy Mass, there is one in which the priest requests Our Blessed Lady to assist him as She did Her divine Son hanging on the Cross. During the Canon of the Mass before the consecration a special commemoration of Mary the Glorious Virgin Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ is made. After the recital of the Lord's prayer the priest has recourse to Mary's intercession. Then in the thanksgiving after Holy Mass there is a most affectionate prayer to

# OUR LADY and the BLESSED EUCHARIST

Our Blessed Mother in which the priest presents and offers Christ to Her, praying that Mary may in turn offer the victim to the most Blessed Trinity.

### Eastern Liturgies

The Eastern Liturgies abound with similar proofs of this bond between Our Lady and the Holy Eucharist. Mary's intercession is invoked in the Byzantine Liturgy in the offering of the Holy Sacrifice. She is called the truly good earth from which the salutary grain has sprung up and the most holy table of the bread of Life.

Along with the Liturgy, history reveals how devotion to the Blessed Eucharist exists when there is devotion of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Among our separated brethren, where there is no devotion to Our Lady, there is no belief in the Blessed Eucharist, whereas those who honour Mary retained their faith in the Real Presence.

In the famous shrines of the world where Mary is honoured, devotion to the Blessed Eucharist is intensified. At Lourdes whose centenary we commemorate today, most of the cures attributed to the intercession of Our Immaculate Mother take place during the procession of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

According to a study which appeared in a liturgical review in 1927, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament began in monasteries where the monks chanted

the antiphon, "Hail Holy Queen" and after the words "Show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb Jesus," the tabernacle was opened and the blessing imparted. We see too in the lives of the saints how devotion to Blessed Eucharist is linked with devotion of Our Blessed Mother. St. Alphonsus who wrote such a beautiful booklet of visits to the Blessed Sacrament, added at the end

passion and death on Calvary. It is the same Christ who rose glorious and immortal and ascended into heaven where He reigns gloriously at the right hand of the Father.

Our Holy Mother the Church, under the guidance of the Holy Ghost, has formed the liturgical year during which we contemplate Christ in each of these mysteries, and the Blessed Eucharist

of each, a prayer to Our Lady. Blessed Julian Eymard who has merited the glorious title of Apostle of the Eucharist has promoted everywhere through his congregation the devotion to Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament.

### Theological Foundation

We will quickly realize the theological foundation of this bond so strongly evident in the life of the Church if we make the following reflection. Instead of saying Mary and the Blessed Eucharist, say for a moment Mary and Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Immediately we see the relationship is that of Mother and Son and so you see how intimate the bond is between the two.

The Body and Blood of Christ in the Blessed Eucharist came originally from the Immaculate womb of Mary and she gave her previous consent to the Incarnation. That consent came from the Immaculate Heart of Mary as the Blessed Eucharist, masterpiece of Christ's love, comes from His Sacred Heart. Can you imagine the joy of Mary's Heart when she heard her divine Son promise the Blessed Eucharist as recorded in the Gospel of St. John, "The bread that I will give you is my flesh for the life of the world. My flesh is truly food and my blood is drink indeed." Can you imagine with what love Mary followed the fulfilment of this promise when Christ instituted the Blessed Eucharist at the last Supper. Is it not natural then that Mary's greatest desire is to see Christ known, loved and adored in the Sacrament of His Love.

I have said that the Blessed Eucharist is the Masterpiece of Christ's love. It is also the memorial of all His wonders, the compendium of all His mysteries. Do you wonder then why Pope Leo XIII of immortal memory wrote ten important papal documents inculcating devotion to the Rosary and ordering it to be recited in all churches before the Blessed Sacrament exposed during the month of October?

Let us reflect on this for a moment. Our Lord Jesus Christ is really, truly and substantially present in the Blessed Sacrament, the same person who became incarnate in Mary, was born in Bethlehem, lived a hidden life in Nazareth, followed by His public life of three years which ended in His bitter

is the very centre of our worship, for the same Christ is present to give us abundantly the graces He has merited for us in His earthly life.

In the Holy Rosary too we contemplate these mysteries in which Mary had such an intimate part. In reciting the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary how fitting it is to contemplate the Annunciation before the Blessed Sacrament. Is not this the beginning of the Eucharist mystery, when Our Lord took flesh in the chaste womb of the Virgin Mary? Is He not to be the victim and the priest of the sacrifice by which we have been

Continued on page 11

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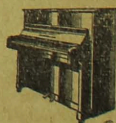
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28th, 1959

## The Lesson of the Cross

**D**OMINATING this issue of our paper — the second for this Lenten season — is the picture of Christ carrying His cross, followed by the figure of a man chained and bowed in grief and suffering. That figure represents what Pope Pius XII called The Church of Silence. Like Christ, the Church of Silence, has been scourged beyond recognition; like Christ, she has been made to carry a heavy cross; and like Christ, she has been nailed and crucified. But like Christ, she will rise too from the tomb of this twentieth century, as surely as day follows night.

As we proceed into the thick of Lent 1959, it is this thought that we would wish to impress on our readers, in whatever part of the country they may be: the thought of Christ carrying His cross to Calvary, followed by another, steeped in pain and suffering. For, that precisely is the meaning and significance of the Church of Silence — that she is not alone; that she is merely following in the footsteps of the Master, "making up what is wanting in the sufferings of Christ."

Already, the Catholic world has responded magnificently to the appeals of Pius XII and John XXIII. In fact, since the Pope's most recent appeal and the splendid response of Rome on January 25th, the mighty chorus has kept swelling in all parts of the world.

It is the old, old story of the Man with the Cross. And as before, so today, the cross remains a stumbling block to those who will not understand; but to those who understand, it brings hope and strength. Strangely enough, the murder mystery enthusiasts (of whom we have so many today) recoil from the Crucifix, shrink from the sight of Christ upon the Cross, and are indifferent to the story of the world's greatest sacrifice.

Perhaps this is because we cannot look at a Crucifix without feeling an uncomfortable sense of guilt, for we know that in the story of the Crucifixion we have some part. Not one of us can look on the figure of that Man on the Cross, and say "I am not guilty of the blood of this man." We cannot wash our hands of this murder as Pilate tried to do.

It is well that at least during this Lenten season we make sure that we too are not of that band of men who wash their hands as Pilate did. For Lent is quite definitely a time of self-control and self-discipline; it is a time of climbing up to Calvary the hard and difficult way, along the narrow road that leads to salvation; it is a time when the focus is on the difficult things of life, undertaken with generosity and joy, for the sake of a love greater than which no man hath; it is, in short, a time of uniting ourselves with the Man carrying the Cross.

We are trying to set the tone for this year's Lent—self-discipline, self-control, hardship, in union with the Church of Silence and the Suffering Christ. It is for us to see that we do not make of our religion a rose-water Christianity. For ours is the religion of Him who said: "Take up your cross and follow Me"; it is the religion of Him who practised what He preached, and proved it on a cross.

That is why we cannot escape the cross. We either run away from it or we accept it and embrace it. To run away would be cowardice and folly, for we will meet it again at the Judgement. It is better therefore to accept it now. For the Cross is love. And the enemies of love are complacency, self-interest, irresponsibility, lethargy, coldness. It is precisely this that we wish our readers to see: that Christian love is a strong, masculine love; that religion is a terrible commitment; that love of Christ, means love of the cross; and that love of the cross means love of the Church of Silence as well.

Whatever may happen, we have no reason to be discouraged or afraid. The Church was born in failure and catastrophe on Good Friday. But of this failure came the victory of Easter. The sun may now seem to be setting in Eastern Europe and East Asia. But some things like the stars are seen only when the lights are low. In the darkness of this conflict we will one day see the Risen Christ shattering the Iron and Bamboo Curtains as surely as He shattered the rocks on Easter Sunday, and bringing liberty and peace to the world. May it be to our undying glory that we have indeed shared in the darkness, so that we may thus share likewise in the dawn!

● A brilliant picture and a flash-back to the unforgettable, unforgotten days of splendour of the faith recently demonstrated in Colombo's Eucharistic Rally — from the pen of the doyen of Catholic journalists in this island.

"**W**HY, this might be a little bit of Rome," I said to my companion as we dived into a lane.

Outside in Kotahena Street, one of the narrowest and most congested in Colombo, the atmosphere was South Indian: an open drain on either side, the smell of *thosai* in the air and plantain skins and other foreign matter under foot. And all the time up and down cars surged, with policemen whirling their arms like windmills.

Here, in this lane, the contrast was marked. It was quiet, it was clean, and an air of repose brooded over it. Kotahena Street was narrow, this was even more narrow, so much so, that half the lane was in the shade cast by the eaves of the old houses. And then, just as we were wondering where we would wind up, the picture became purely Roman. Against a patch of the bright blue sky a dome appeared. Below a door opened from a high wall. Behind the door rose the walls of a typically Roman convent, steps going up, steps going down.

I peered round to make sure that we had not been mysteriously transported to the Eternal City and whether we might not be in a lane called Via Santa Lucia. Actually we were in St. Lucia's Lane which turned at the corner and led us to St. Lucia's Square.

## ● Entirely Roman ●

There of course it was entirely Roman, the wide square with the buildings of the Good Shepherd Convent on the left, and beyond them the impressive pile of St. Benedict's College and on the right the presbytery and other buildings. In the background, like St. Peter's Basilica in miniature, stood our own great Cathedral in all its magnificence on this day of days, February 8, the crowning day of the Eucharistic Rally.

The scene inside the Cathedral and outside was one that beggars description. The incessant multitude which thronged it from night to morning and from morning till night were not assisting at a Roman holiday, but were witnesses to a truly Christian triumph, working up to a two and a half mile-long procession climaxing a four hour ceremony. And the centre and crown of it was the Sacred Host held in the arms of Mary in the beautiful monsternace of silver, gold and precious stones which Catholic piety had fashioned for this unique event.

Time and again it has been remarked that these are difficult days for us Christians. Nobody knows what the future has for the minorities, particularly for the Catholics. It is in these peculiar circumstances that, under the inspiration of His Grace Archbishop Cooray, the Catholics gave a grand demonstration of the Faith that is in them. Raising

their minished heads aloft to God on high, they carried Him living in the Sacred Host. In the arms of His Mother, they adored Him for three days and nights and then carried Him in a triumphal procession through the streets of the city and back again to His home in the tabernacle in the Cathedral.

## ● Work of God

This is the work not of man but of God. It is God's grace that prompted this marvellous conception

# OUR

of piety, that put forth this bold demonstration of faith in these "difficult" times,

# UNDYING

that sustained all those who took part in this spiritual triumph. And in all humi-

# FAITH

lity let us say it that this could have been done only in the Church that calls itself Roman — Catholic, Apostolic and Roman.

BY  
**S. J. K. Crowther**

Those outside are won't to give credit to the Roman Church for its achievements. They say that its success in so many fields is due to its genius for "organisation." They unfortunately ignore what lies behind this genius for organisation. It is not any genius for organisation that has led so many of the brightest intellects of all times to give up all that the world prizes to devote themselves to obscure work in the Church. It is not any genius for organisation that has led thousands and thousands of women, of all classes and climes, to work in schools and hospitals in selfless labour of love. Why do they do it?

For answer I repeat an incident related to me by a Protestant lady in June last year. Five little girls were in a sewing class of the local Y.W.C.A. Four of these girls were non-Christian, one was a Catholic. Said the four to their companion with reference to certain current events: "It will be your turn next. They will come and tell you that you will be killed if you don't give up your religion. What will you do?" The little Catholic girl's answer was prompt, unhesitating: "I will tell them to kill me."

There was no genius for organisation behind that stout avowal. It was God's grace that prompted that child to speak up in that manner. And that grace is granted to us in full measure in the Church Catholic, Apostolic

and Roman.

This gift of God's grace is a terrible thing. Woe be to us, if like the Jews, we prove unfaithful to it. God bestows His grace to whom He wills and in any measure He wills. But it is in the Church that we have it in the amplest measure, not through our deserts, but according to God's merciful dispensation. If we, who have the unfetterable blessing of belonging to this Church, prove faithless to this trust, ours will be the greater condemnation, as befell the Jews.

## ● The Roman Impress

We are Roman: let us rejoice, in the Roman name. Its impress is on us, not only in the architecture of our institutions, but in our spiritual texture. The

Church is international and supernatural. It is supernatural. It belongs to all times and all countries. But in as much as it must have a location on earth, God in His great wisdom chose Rome for it, even as He chose the confluence of four cultures to mark the birth of His Son as Man: Judaic, Hellenic, Roman.

God who became Man, chose Peter, a poor Galilean fisherman, to be His chief representative. A film script-writer would have chosen the fiery ex-persecutor Paul, intrepid, scholarly, fearless, to be Christ's first vicar. But God's ways are not man's ways. Christ chose one who, He knew, would deny Him not once, but thrice, one who, legend says, was for fleeing Rome in time of persecution, when he met his Lord on the way and was turned back by Him to meet his doom. He went back, suffered martyrdom in Nero's Circus, was buried there. Over his bones has arisen the mightiest cathedral of Christendom, the Basilica of St. Peter.

## ● The Eternal Pledge

Under the dome of St. Peter's, in letters each the height of a man, runs Christ's eternal pledge to His Vicar: "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give to thee the keys of the kingdom of Heaven and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Astounding words, which only a God could have pronounced. And He pronounced them in favour of a man who was soon to deny Him. But He made sure that the pledge to Peter would be fulfilled, time and again, until the end of time, in and through his successors. Peter died a martyr and twenty seven popes after him died martyrs. The might of the Roman Empire for four hundred years was

Continued on page 7



## OFFICIAL

### ARCHBISHOP'S APPOINTMENTS FOR MARCH

#### Pastoral Visitations

1-4: Avissawella.  
8-13: Hanwella.

#### Pontifical ceremonies at St. Lucia's Cathedral

22nd: PALM SUNDAY.  
8 a.m. Blessing of  
Palms.

## NOTICES

26th: HOLY THURSDAY.  
7-30 a.m. Blessing of  
the Holy Oils.  
6-00 p.m. Pontifical  
High Mass.  
27th: GOOD FRIDAY.  
3-00 p.m. Com-  
memoration of the  
Passion and Death  
of Our Lord.  
28th: HOLY SATURDAY.  
10-00 p.m. Easter  
Vigil Service.  
Midnight Mass.  
29th: EASTER SUNDAY.  
9-00 a.m. Pontifical  
High Mass.

## UNDYING FAITH

Continued from page 6

exerted to wipe out the Church, which lived in the slums and the catacombs. But in the end it was the Empire which perished, while the Church lived.

It lives to this day in peace as well as amid persecution wherever Peter holds sway. As Christ was persecuted, as He suffered and died, so also His Church, His Mystical Body, is persecuted, suffers, and dies. But it does not really die. As Christ rose from the grave, so also His Church rises again. But in every case it is the Church over which "the gates of Hell shall not prevail," the Church of Peter. That is why we who have the ineffable privilege of belonging to this Church long for all outside it to come in and share the blessings of the Catholic heritage.

### Spiritual Miracle

We, in this land, are witnesses to this spiritual miracle. The Catholic faith was brought to this island by the Portuguese. Under their rule the faith flourished for 150 years. Churches were built, colleges were opened and all the manifestations of a full spiritual life were evident. Then in one fell swoop it was wiped out. Under the Dutch persecution the Faith so laboriously, so successfully planted, was extirpated. For 40 years, Mass was not said in Ceylon.

If the Catholic faith were something human, devised by man for man, the Church would have died there and then, never to rise again. But it rose as surely as Christ rose from the dead. And it lived, it lives, as surely as Christ lives, as it showed itself during that February week-end when thousands upon thousands fell on their knees and adored Christ living in the Blessed Sacrament.

"And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me." So Christ, our Lord, promised when He was on earth. This promise He fulfilled as His poor Body, bruised, broken, bleeding, was lifted upon the Cross. From

that moment, beginning with His Blessed Mother and His beloved apostle, John, He has continued to draw all men unto Him. We perceive it the instant we visit a church where He lives in the tabernacle in the Blessed Sacrament. We see it more convincingly when He is lifted up on a monstrance and the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration. We saw it in unparalleled splendour when on Sunday, February 8, at the height of the Eucharistic Rally, He was borne aloft by the Pope's representative in the jewelled monstrance and carried round on a two mile route.

### God's Own Word

Christ lives, His Church lives. He was persecuted, His Church is persecuted, but it never dies, it can never die. We have God's own word for it. During the 400 years of the Roman persecution, when Emperor after Emperor vied with each other in monstrous efforts to kill it, timorous souls in the Church may have thought that it was the end and that the Church was doomed. Not to mention the scores of other persecutions in other lands, and to come to our own land, in the height of the Dutch persecution when it was death to harbour a Catholic priest, when the sacred ceremony and words of Holy Mass were but a memory, during those dread decades, many a timorous soul must have wondered whether it was worth while to call himself a Catholic, even in the secret of his heart.

And then the miracle happened. The dead embers of the flame were brought to life and kindled by a priest, not from the West, but from our own East, by an Indian, one of our own kith and colour and clime. And what had he and what have we in common with Christ and His Church? He, like us, was heir to the promise of Christ to His Vicar on earth to

Continued on page 12

## YOUR LAST CHANCE!

In response to numerous requests, the last date for entries has been extended to next Saturday, 7th March 1959.

### 1958-59 JOURNALISM AWARDS

I submit herewith my entry for the Messenger Journalism Awards.

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ADDRESS.....

SECTION (State here for which of the 4 Awards you are competing).....

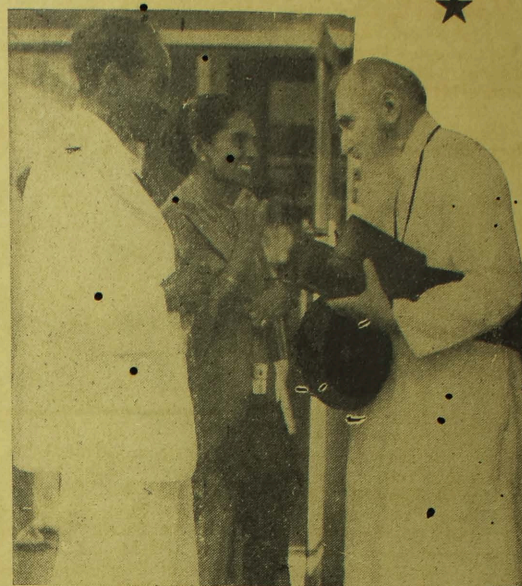
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## BON VOYAGE, FR. SERRU!

MANY others so wished to be there — many who owed so much to the Grand Old Man. But his characteristic dislike of the limelight, kept them off unwillingly. But in spite of it, there was a goodly crowd at the jetty on Wednesday evening, when Fr. Serru went on board the "Cambodge" starting his journey to the land of his birth, France.

As he is one of Ceylon's delegates to the Oblate General Chapter to be held in Rome in September, Fr. Serru will proceed to Rome, before he returns to Ceylon in October.

One keeps thinking of the gleam in the dear priest's eyes, as the day of his departure approached. Many will miss him sorely in the months to come; many others will long for his ministrations; but, thank God, he will at last have a much-needed rest from his labours. Bon voyage, dear Father! The land of your adoption eagerly awaits your return!



Goodbye to Lanka but not goodbye forever!  
(Photo by Fr. E. Mutupulle O.M.I.)

## ★ People and Events

### Ceylon's Legion on world-map

THE news that a Ceylon Legionary, Mr. P. Joseph, has been appointed Legion Envoy to Kenya and Uganda, has naturally filled all legionary hearts in Ceylon with tremendous enthusiasm. Communicating the news to Ceylon's Legion President, the Dublin Legion correspondent says: "We send our deep gratitude for the great gift Ceylon has given to the whole Legion in the person of Bro. Joseph. . . And how fitting it is that Our Lady has appointed Kenya and Uganda to be his territory. It is more than a coincidence that Ed. Quinn was the previous Envoy in these territories. As I see it, Our Lady has called him to continue the work Edel began. . . And so, through Mr. Joseph, Ceylon's Legion moves into the front rank of the Legion, with one of her own sons among the shock troops, the missionaries par excellence of Mary's Legion. The Messenger joins all legionaries of Ceylon in congratulating Mr. Joseph — and even more, in praying that he may prove true to the trust placed in him, — and thus be a worthy successor to that great legionary heroine, Edel Quinn."

### Keep the dates free!

CANA Conferences which were a resounding success last year, will again function this year. Those married couples who were looking forward to them will now be delighted to know that the date is Sunday, 1st March. Spear-heading the Conference this year will be a talk to husbands and wives. Parallel sessions will be held for both husbands and wives. Proceedings will end with the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament and Renewal of Marriage Vows.

### Slave Island

#### calling workers!

HERE'S something that Catholic workers of the City would do well to keep in mind. It's a Day of Recollection meant specifically for them, to be held at Holy Rosary Church, Slave Island, on March 15th. Mass will be at 9 a.m., and the sermons during the day will be in English and Sinhalese.

### ● Press Week is near!

ACTIVE apostles of the Catholic Press will once again be in the fore-front. They will concentrate their tasks on the immediate target of counteracting the insidious propaganda of Atheistic Communism with the powerful antidote of Catholic literature.

Combined operations will function from the pivotal centre — the Catholic Book Depot, St. Philip Neri's, Pettah — where already squads of active apostles are busy at all hours of the day.

A first-rate line-up of the most recent publications is available at this centre. Some of the titles are very timely and directly concern the conflicting problems which confront the average citizen.

At no time in the world's history perhaps, has there been such an overwhelmingly universal desire for the Printed Word.

On the eve of Colombo's Catholic Press Week, it is to be hoped that the interest in Catholic

Those interested should contact the Parish Priest (there will be a charge of Rs. 1/50 to defray expenses of lunch, morning and evening tea).

Catholic workers will also have the customary second-Thursday Holy Hour on the 12th of March at Holy Rosary Church. Again, sermons will be in both English and Sinhalese.

### Are you a cyclist?

If you are a cyclist, this is good news for you. A welcome is extended to you by the Junior KCYM to join in their second Bicycle Pilgrimage to Tewatte scheduled to start off from the Cathedral Square of St. Lucia's, Kotahena, on Sunday, 1st March at 6-30 a.m.

The cyclists' WAY OF THE CROSS will be at 9 a.m. The Mass and Communion at 10 a.m. will be followed by Benediction at 4-30 p.m. The prayers at each station will be led by a cyclist in a different walk of life.

### Patrician meetings

PATRICIAN meetings are making a rapid headway in various parts of the Arch-diocese.

Scheduled for the immediate future at Bambalapitiya, Group, is "Education and Fundamental Rights" to be held in March. The themes for April, May, June and July are: "Church and Religious Freedom," "Re-

Literature will be re-kindled. There is no better way of showing your zeal for God's Word than by stepping in right away at the Catholic Book Depot, St. Philip Neri's, Pettah, where you can see for yourself the glory and the splendour of Catholic Literature.

Directly manned by the Diocesan Catholic Literature Committee, the Book Depot is well worth a visit from every ardent Catholic who is conscious of the great truth in the words of St. Pius X: "To be a Catholic, to call oneself a Catholic, nay, to belong to Catholic organizations and at the same time to be indifferent to the interests of the Catholic Press is a patent absurdity."

demption and Mary," "Sanctity of Man" and "Unity of the Church" respectively.

Last week's well-attended meeting at Bambalapitiya discussed the subject "The Eucharist and the Catholic." The speakers were Mr. W. J. A. Van Langenberg and Fr. Joe de Mel.

Patrician Meetings are held on every second Sunday of the month immediately after Benediction at 5-15 p.m.

The venue: St. Mary's, Bambalapitiya.

### Students' Rally

THE Students' Federation is due to have a Rally tomorrow, Sunday, at Good Shepherd Convent, Kotahena. Proceedings commence with Mass at 7-30 a.m. The programme includes a talk by Mr. Emmanuel Mutukumaru.

### ● A commendable venture for the poor

A venture that will directly benefit poor, non-school-going children and adults is the introduction of Saturday Needlework classes at Carmel Convent, 88, Campbell Place, Borella.

Scheduled to commence on 7 March, the Classes will be regularly held, I understand, for children from 9-30 to 1-30 a.m. and for adults from 3-30 to 5-30 p.m.



## TEN MORE CEYLONESE ENTER THE RELIGIOUS LIFE

THE perpetual vows of Poverty, Obedience and Chastity were undertaken by three Ceylonese recently at Blessed Martin's Home, Peradeniya. They are: Sr. Marie Therese (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Fernando of Negombo), Sr. Mary Magdalene (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Timothy of Walahadawatta) and Sr. Marie Jacintha (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Rankotge of Kudahagama).

At St. Vincent's Home, Kelaniya, another three Cey-

(From our Correspondent)



### Little Sister of the Poor from Pallansena

SISTER Marie Aimee De St. Bernard, daughter of Mr. P. Julianu Fonseka and Mrs. W. Mary Magdalene Fonseka, took her final vows on January 21st, at the Convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor at Penang. She entered the Order in 1955 at their Head Quarters at the Home for the Aged, Maradana.

lones renewed their Vows. They are: Sr. Monica (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Peduru Dasa of Pinnawala), Sr. Thecla (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. E. Cooray of Pinnawala) and Sr. Marie Esther (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. P.

Rajapakse of Ja-ela).

At Bethany Institute, Trinopolis, novitiate of the Sisters of the Cross for the South India Province and Ceylon, the following three Ceylonese started their novitiate: Miss Anette de Silva, Miss Arohiamary Retty and Miss Philomena Lawrence.

Also, at the same novitiate Miss Claire de Silva (daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. P. de Silva of Peradeniya) pronounced her first vows, taking the name of Sister Constance.

bruary. The new Creche will house a hundred babies and will also serve as a Day Creche which will be a boon to the poor working mothers of Gampola town.

The ceremony took place before a distinguished gathering of Priests, Nuns and Government Officials, and well-wishers.

His Lordship the Bishop thanked the Revd. Sisters of the Blessed Virgin of Cremona, Italy, for their sacrificing and zealous efforts. He appealed to the generous public to support the venture as funds for the building of the Creche were now urgently needed.



His Lordship the Bishop addresses the gathering after the ceremony

### Gampola will have new Creche for Babies

(from our Gampola correspondent)

THE foundation stone of the new Creche for orphan babies at Gampola was blessed and laid by the Rt. Revd. Dr. D. Bernard Regno, o.s.b., Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Kandy, on 12 Fe-

## GALLE NEWS

(from a Galle Correspondent)

### Feast of Corpus Christi

Christi

THIS feast was celebrated on the First Sunday in February, and was very largely attended. In the absence of His Lordship the Bishop of Galle, the Vicar General, Rt. Revd. Mgr. T. N. Alles, presided at the ceremonies and carried the Blessed Sacrament in procession through the streets.

The procession this year was most impressive. The Sodalists laid *pavada* along the entire road which was gaily decorated with *Gok* and flags. At the repository at St. Aloysius' College the Revd. Fr. V. Buyzer, s.j., preached a short and eloquent sermon.

### Feast of St. Francis

Xavier, Kalegana

THIS feast was celebrated at the Church of St. Francis Xavier, Kalegana, on 8th February. On the eve of the feast day at Vespers and at the High Mass on the feast day the Revd. Fr. Luke Jayasooriya, the second of the past students of the Junior Seminary attached to this parish, preached in Sinhalese.

After High Mass, the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and the kissing of the relics of the Saint, blessed bread was distributed to the pilgrims. This Church hopes to celebrate its Centenary next year.

## Basic Human Rights are Threatened

(from Elpitiya correspondent)

THE youth of today must learn to work hard and prepare themselves to contribute towards the upliftment of the country in every sphere of activity, said Sir Edward Jayatilake presiding at the annual Prize-distribution at St. Mary's College, Elpitiya, on Saturday, 21st February.

Sir Edward exhorted the students to be of service to their fellowmen and perform their duties conscientiously. He also paid a tribute to the College authorities for the rapid progress the College has made in recent years in the field of studies and extra-curricular activities.

The Principal of the College, Mr. A. Ranasinghe, stated in his annual report that the fundamental principles of live and let live, the basic human rights and obligations, were being threatened with extinction today.

Among the distinguished guests was the Ven. Deeparama Nayaka Thero of Nardaga Pirivena.

### BUGS

#### WHY WORRY

Johnston's Brush-on Insecticide. Real Bug Killer. At last a new scientific discovery. Could be used on any type of furniture. Colourless, odourless, stainless and effective for months. Just brush on any furniture to kill bugs instantaneously. Made in U.S.A.

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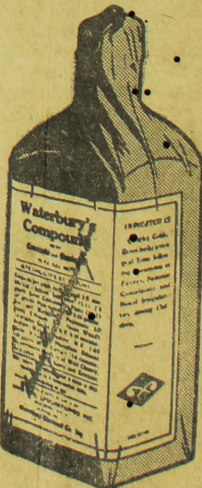
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LENT—a time of sacrifices. Let it be a time of giving and sacrificing for the Pope's Missions.

# MISSION PAGE

## Between the Rally and Easter

My dear friends-of-the-missions,

All Catholics just now have so much to feed their spiritual lives with — looking backwards, there is the spiritual wealth of all that the Eucharistic Rally meant in our personal and social lives; and looking forwards, there are the riches and the "newness of life" that come with Easter. And in between, there is of course, the season of Lent. This Mission Page — the first for the year — comes to you, dear friends, precisely at this juncture: when we are still full of the fervour engendered by the Eucharistic Rally, when we look forwards to the brightness of Easter, while we pass through the Lenten season, which is eminently one of sacrifice and penance.

Sacrifice and suffering are an essential part of the Christian way of life; in fact, as we have tried all along to show our friends of the missions, they are the greatest offering which you can make towards the Pope's Missions. For one thing, suffering is a great teacher, for through it we learn to see the world through God's eyes; for another, suffering is the principal cause of our increase in merit, chiefly because it is accepted in conformity with the will of God.

Is it then any wonder, dear friends, that this month, our appeal to you on behalf of the Pope's Missions is precisely for SUFFERING AND SACRIFICE? Is it any surprise to you, that hearkening back to the generosity that the Eucharistic Rally brought with it, we ask you for maximum open-heartedness during

this season of Lent? The Missions thrive on nothing better than on sacrifice and suffering; it is this that we have asked for, all along. It is for this, that we ask you once again.

**PARENTS:** we ask you in the name of the Holy Father, teach your children, however young they be, that they must learn the art of sacrifice, already now. Give them the example of your own lives! Talking would be empty and meaningless, unless they see the sacrifice in your lives.

**YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN:** surely you understand what it is that the Missions need most? Make this Lent then, a time of giving:—films, entertainments, cigarettes, parties, make-up etc., can be reduced for Lent, and the saving sent to the missions.

**CATHOLIC ACTIONISTS:** It is you who have to be the life of Christian society, and to help increase the spirit of sacrifice for the Missions. If you are the Pope's men and women, then make this Lent a season of intense apostleship in sacrificing and helping others to sacrifice for the Missions.

God bless all of you, dear friends! May this season of Lent be for all of us a fitting prelude to the brightness of Easter. The Missions await your generosity.

Fr. MANIK MUTTUKUMARU,  
National Director,  
Pontifical Mission-Aid Societies.

## Society of St. Peter the Apostle

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

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

## YOUR SACRIFICES for the MISSIONS

HERE are just a few of the many sacrifices we have received during the past months — as usual, from all classes of persons and all ages, and from all parts of Ceylon. To all of you, dear friends, the known and the unknown, a huge "thank you" in the name of the Great Missionary. Make Lent a time of bringing in more friends for the Missions. Become Promoters!

### From St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo 7

Please accept this spiritual bouquet which the Praesidium of the Most Pure Heart of Mary is sending you. This is our first effort for the Missions. We hope to do more, Father, next time, and also to spread this campaign among our friends.

(Excellent, dear girls! Your "first effort" has been truly wonderful. Now that you have got the chief part going—prayer for the missions — you must continue with the other two: passing it on to others, and learning to send in your sacrifices for the missions. Lent is a grand time to start. God bless you, dear girls! I shall be looking forward to hearing from you soon again!)

### From the Catholics of Ceylon Insurance Co., Ltd.

This is Christmas time, the time of giving, and so we send you something more this time. Pardon us if we are imprudent when we say that this "something extra" has been made possible only because there are big and generous hearts here, who know and understand the missionary cause so well.

(Dear friends, how loyal you are! And, after De-

cember, there came your January offering too! God bless and reward each and every single one of you always!)

## Beautiful WONDERING EYES



"I wonder why other kiddies like me don't act! I'm a member of the Pope's Holy Childhood Society and if you aren't one, well, there's action for you today!! Get in touch with your parish priest or your Diocesan Director who will give you all the particulars."

### From Jaffna

Father, some of us are sending you our offerings for the Society of St. Peter the Apostle. We shall try to keep it up, whatever be the sacrifice . . .

(In a certain way, I must say that yours have been the first "sacrifices" we have received for this Pontifical Society so dear to the Holy Father. God bless you, dear friends. And how true you have been to your word, as you kept sending me your sacrifices. It would be wonderful for you to know one day, that with your little offerings and sacrifices, you have helped in the training of a priest!)

## Urgently Needed!

AS our friends know, we have always called for used postage stamps for the Missions. Well, keep sending them in. We have already disposed of a lot of them in the past, and the Missions have benefitted considerably. We are today calling for helpers. ARE THERE ANY FRIENDS WHO ARE PREPARED TO HELP US WITH RELIABLE INFORMATION OF THE MEANS OF DISPOSING USED CEYLON STAMPS? AND IF SO, ARE THERE ANY OF OUR FRIENDS WHO WILL HELP?

Here's one more way for you to help the Missions

## Holy Childhood

### ★ St. Joseph's Convent, Nugegoda (Std. VII)

We are sending you a little Christmas gift for the Missions, Father. Yes, our sacrifices are small this year; but we shall do better next year.

(God bless you, my dear girls, but now that you have started, you must not wait for next Christmas. Become members of the Holy Childhood Society, and keep up your work for the Missions all through the year).

### ★ St. Anthony's Girls' School, Kandy

We are happy to tell you, dear Father, that this year we have 100 members in the Holy Childhood Association.

Mother has arranged for our Parish Priest to give us a little talk and a blessing on the 25th of every month. We are learning a little hymn to sing on the 25th of February, and are saying the prayer for the pagan babies every morning after the rosary just before School starts.

We are trying to be good and are praying for you, Father. Please Father pray for us and give us your blessing. (God love you all, you faithful dear little friends! Keep up the good work, and keep growing in your generosity!)



## Abbe Pierre Speaks

Continued from page 4

And now they have walked as far as the inn at Emmaus, a little village on the outskirts of Jerusalem. And the traveller makes as though to go on, while they go in to rest. And then they say that lovely thing, that phrase which we have decided to write up on the plain wall which is the only monument in the vault where our comrades of the Emmaus communities are buried: "Stay with us, Lord, because it is towards evening, and the day is now far spent."

### Decisive proof

And the traveller goes into the inn with them.

Then, as they sit down to table, he takes the bread, breaks it, and gives it to them. At that moment they recognise Him and He disappears from their view.

This is something so profound and so powerful.

What this sentence of the Gospel seems to say, what these two men seem to give us as the most certain of all signs that they have not, in what they have seen with their eyes and received with their hands, been deceived by a mere appearance, is what they experienced within themselves: "Was not our heart burning within us, whilst He spoke in the way?"

### Our Lady

And at once, these fugitives of a moment before, these terror-stricken deserters, who had no courage left and no heart for adventures any more, who had had only one idea — to get back into the country — the Gospel tells us that straight away, there and then, that night, they went back the way they had come, utterly fearless, rushing back through the night to the capital. They go straight to the place, the headquarters, where they think they are likely to find the apostles, their leaders. What leaders! Leaders in confusion, leaders who had betrayed everything, who had fled in terror! But they think that they are likely to find them gathered together in the place where they lived with Our Lord.

And they think, no doubt, even more, that they are likely to find Our Lady there. She is the only person of whom we can think that, if faith did not disappear entirely from the earth during those hours between the Passion of Our Lord and the first appearances of the Resurrection, it was simply because she was there, keeping it in her heart. Perhaps, during that Holy Saturday, the heart of the Virgin Mary was the only human heart in which faith remained.

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# Professional Organisation

"SOCIETY today," wrote Pope Pius XI in the encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno* (1931), "still remains in a strained and therefore unstable and uncertain state." This lack of equilibrium is due to the fact that this society is "built on class distinctions and class opposition that are a source of constant tension and conflict." The main cause of this state of things, in the Papal analysis, is the fact that modern economy has been built up, for the most part, in accordance with the principles of "economic liberalism," on the idea that free competition is the sole governing principle of economic life. As a consequence, in this set-up of society, the human person counts for very little, if at all.

In Communist countries, a radical remedy has been tried out according to the principles of Marxism, viz., that of abolishing classes altogether and instituting complete State-ownership and control of the means of production. That this is not a solution is becoming increasingly clear. The loss of human liberty and the disastrous consequences for the development of the human person in those countries are a sufficient indictment of such a system.

### PRESENT SITUATION

In other countries of the West, for instance, the struggle between the classes still continues, it would seem, in the cadre of liberal thought. Attempts at bringing the classes together to foster mutual understanding, e.g., by various "human relations programs," have not met with much success. The power of organised labour, collective bargaining and even State intervention, in such a set-up, have brought no lasting solution.

On the contrary, it would seem that, far from diminishing these difficulties, they have served rather to increase them in certain respects. Even attempts at introducing more workers' control of business enterprise by introducing elements of the partnership contract, as profit-sharing, co-management, etc., have not met with unalloyed favour on the part of trade unions, since they find such an arrangement would hamper them in their struggle. Thus, the great preoccupation of the classes, as the Pope remarked, seems still to be "to unite their members with a view to the preparation and execution of the struggle." It is evident that a lasting solution cannot be expected from such a state of things.

### PAPAL SOLUTION

All the recent Popes, in their social pronouncements, have stressed the futility and immorality of the class struggle and this, not only in its extreme Marxist form, but also in many other types of hostility — even the idea of the labour market itself where worker is pitted against worker, and the class of labour against employers, in a word, the whole philosophy of power and interest groups, implying as it does, struggle and tension. By contrast, the social encyclicals stress inherent unity implied by both the productive process and the demands of the common good.

And so, the Popes think that a lasting remedy cannot be had until this type of class opposition be done away with by organising the industries and professions in a different way. Men must be grouped "not according to the position they occupy in the labour market but according to the diverse functions which they exercise in society." In fact, it would seem that this way of organising the professions and industries is the more

natural one, for "just as it is natural for men who dwell in close proximity to constitute townships," similarly "it is natural, if not essential, for those who follow the same industry or profession to form self-governing associations of their own."

### COMMON-INTEREST GROUPS

In other words, the Pope calls for a new type of socio-economic organisation other than what exists in many countries today: Common or Joint Associations

By Kingsley Dalpethado O.M.I.

of the various socio-economic groups of Civil Society, composed, for instance, of delegates of the unions of workers and employers of the same trade or profession. Common associations of printers, for example, of textile manufacturers, etc., and not merely labour or employers' groups in these occupations. In this way, the classes would get together to handle their own problems directly, and these joint councils could direct and co-ordinate the activities of the unions in all matters of common interest.

These common interest groups heading the organised industries and professions, have been variously called *Industry Councils*, *Guilds*, *Vocational Groups*, *Corporations*, etc. They are not necessarily State organisations; rather they occupy a place between private enterprise and the State. And so they will be quasi-public bodies with quasi-legal rights. Consequently it follows that nobody in an industry or profession would legitimately be exempted from subjection to this authority, legitimately established for the direction and control of the industry in question, although every citizen is free to choose his profession.

### PAPAL PLAN

This does not mean, however, that this way of organising economic society suppresses the legitimate autonomy of private business enterprise in the profession. This autonomy of private enterprise remains, although within the framework of the regulations set up by the said councils for each profession. In fact, the liberty of the enterprise should be so organised as to encourage and facilitate, in so far as is possible, the individual spirit of initiative and honest competition.

Further, it should be noted that although these vocational groups are common associations with a quasi-public juridical status, they do not automatically suppress all forms of free association within the profession or industry, associations which seek the special interest of a particular section of the mem-

bers of the profession. Labour unions, for example, and employer associations would still be free to organise and press their demands. But all that will have to be within the context of the organised profession, and so subject to the decisions of these Joint Industry Councils. Thus it is clear that the structure and role of free associations, like trade unions, could not be the same in this new set-up as it is today. Consequently, the incorporation of trade unions in the orga-

nised professions would be a delicate task. In any case, as Catholic sociologists put it, "free association within the organised profession" seems to be the formula proposed by the Papal plan, a formula that has evidently to be realised and adapted according to the actual circumstances prevailing in different countries.

### INTERNAL STRUCTURE

As regards the internal structure of these functional groups, the Popes do not lay down a rigid blueprint which is urged for all times and peoples. Still less do they demand a return to the mediaeval corporations, pure and simple. On the contrary, they stress the fact that they should be flexible and adapted to local needs and national temperament.

And so, even the question of the extent of the control to be exercised by these councils, whether it be in the economic or social spheres, is left to the technicians and sociologists to determine. Such are questions, e.g., of wages, hours, working conditions, methods of fair competition, the treatment of "sick" industries, and the still more difficult questions of price-fixing, or of price-control merely, with their possible implications for production, investment and profits, questions which may involve technical issues of great complexity. The Papal plan provides only a few fundamental guiding principles which must be applied to the actual circumstances prevailing in a particular country at the particular stage of its economic evolution.

### THE COMMON GOOD

Among these guideposts, the most important is that the main function of these councils is to promote the common good as far as the profession is concerned. In case of conflict, the well-being of the profession must be given preference over considerations of class interests, and the common good of the nation over those of the particular industry or profession.

In this way, it is hoped, that class struggle will be eventually replaced by collaboration. Furthermore, competition will then be able

adequately to fulfil its natural role in a free society as a regulatory principle of economic life. For, contrary to liberalist theory, the Church thinks that competition itself requires an ordering principle to make it accord with the social end of economy and the demands of social justice. This control, however, must be primarily a social and not a State control. It should be done through social organs with their own interests in the maintenance of competition. It is in this way, the Church is convinced, and not through State socialism, that true and real industrial democracy can be realised.

### STATE AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATION

The State, nevertheless, has its own part to play. For, the autonomy of these quasi-public organisations, essential for the safeguarding of freedom, does not involve absolute independence. In fact, if contending parties cannot come to an agreement, the State may have to intervene as an ultimate resort. Nevertheless, once society is restored to its natural organic form, the State would ordinarily be relieved of the crushing burden of detail, of having to attend to the settlement of business of minor importance. Thus it will be free to do its main task effectively, viz., as a stimulating and co-ordinating force, safeguarding the common good at the highest level and subordinating the lesser goods of various groups to the welfare of the entire community.

As regards the actual setting up of this system, however, it should be noted that it is not necessarily a question of a radical change overnight. On the contrary, the context of the Papal thought seems to suggest a gradual evolution from already existing free associations, as labour unions, employers' unions, etc., rather than the creation from scratch of such a system by the State alone. In this connection, attempts in the domain of labour-management relations initiated by the I.L.O., for example, the Belgian experiment of 1948 along the lines of national and local industry councils, and similar efforts in other countries, could be usefully studied.

### THE MIDDLE WAY

Finally, the Pope warns us that institutional organisation is not everything. Structural changes by themselves will not of necessity produce the desired results. Moral and spiritual reform must proceed, at the same time, because selfishness, professional egoism, etc., can ruin even the best type of institutional reform. In any case, one thing seems clear in the mind of the Popes. In the present conditions of socio-economic evolution of society, such professional organisation is not something just useful, but rather it is something necessary. For, besides the fact that such an organisation of society seems to answer a need coming from the very nature of man and of social life, the industries and professions today have become a veritable social service and a real function of public

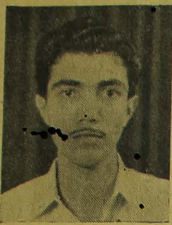
Continued on page 11



# ★ 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



Andrew Dodwell Perera  
(Loo)

Born: 30th November, 1928  
Died: 25th February, 1956  
No words can express the silent grief  
We've borne these three sad years.  
We loved you dearly but the Lord loved you best.  
In his arms in perfect peace may you rest.  
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord.

Fondly remembered by his sorrowing parents and brothers.  
100, Pansala Road, Kotahena. 433



### Second Anniversary

In Memory of W. Camillus Perera of St. Mary's Lane, Mattakkuliya.

A requiem High Mass will be said on 5th March 1959 at 6-15 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, Mattakkuliya. The readers of the Messenger are kindly requested to pray for his soul.

Fondly remembered by his ever loving mother, brothers and sister. 408

In affectionate Memory of our darling PEGGY



Grace Wilhelmina Delores Cooke

Born 30-10-41  
Died 1-3-57.

Two years today since you left us To be God's beautiful angel — sweet innocent child. Of whom we loved and can ne'er forget  
How fondly, how dearly and how well.  
God loved you too and thought it best  
To take you home with Him to rest.

Fondly missed by Mummy, Daddy, Jackie, Percy, Anton, Marion, and Lorna.

Requiem Mass at 6-00 a.m. on Monday 2-3-59 at St. Lawrence's Church, Wellawatte.

Your kind prayers are requested that she may rest in peace.

55/1 Peterson Lane, Wellawatte. 454

## BEREAVEMENT.

Mrs. Alice Mand Perera, wife of the late P. A. Raymond Perera thanks all Rev. Fathers and Religious, friends and relations, who attended her husband's funeral, sent Mass cards, wreaths, telegrams and letters of condolence in her recent sad bereavement. She begs the prayers of all for the repose of her husband's soul.

16, Quarry Rd., Dehiwela. 451

## THANKSGIVINGS

MY grateful thanks for favours received through the intercession of Pope Pius XII. R. L. 444

MY grateful thanks though belated to our late Holy Father Pope Pius XII for a very great favour granted, begging all to have intercession of our late Holy Father for favours. Phyllis. 455

## CHURCH VESTMENTS

CHURCH Vestments, Banners, Flags, Badges, Cassettes for the clergy undertaken by

Miss IRENE ECKES, Tewatte Road, Ragama. 438

## SITUATIONS VACANT

A MARRIED Graduate or First Class English Trained Teacher with at least five years teaching experience and a working knowledge of Sinhalese, is needed immediately, as Principal of St. Matthew's English Mixed School, Deniyaya. Apply to Revd. Father Manager, with copies of character and other certificates. 398

## POSITIONS VACANT

EARN Rs. 160 weekly as a spare-time sales representative of International Catholic Magazine. Full particulars from Box 27, c/o Catholic Press, Borella. 27

## POULTRY FOR SALE

BABY chicks off purebred white and brown Leghorns, R.I.Rs and Minorcas available from Re. 1/-. Custom hatching also undertaken. BERMANS, 5 Manning Town, Colombo. 127

## TRADE OFFERS

DAMPO Vapour Rub and Nose Drops — the magic cure for colds, chills, body-pains, rheumatism, and quick relief for Asthma, Hay Fever, Available at all Chemists and the Importers, Setrac (Ceylon), 22, Upper Chatham Street, Colombo.



P. John Perera

In undying memory of darling daddy. — Died under tragic circumstances on 3rd March 1958.

"You bade no-one a last farewell,  
Or even said good-bye,  
You were gone before we realised,  
And only God knows why."

A Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of his soul at 6-45 a.m. on 3-3-1959 at St. Anthony's Cathedral, Kandy.

Fondly remembered by his sorrowing wife and children. "Dill-Kush," 562, Peradeniya Road, Kandy.

## FINANCIAL

Will generous lady or gentleman help respectable honest Catholic with Rs. 30,000/- on easy instalments and interest paid regularly. Ample Security — House and property. Please reply — Loan — No. 452 c/o Catholic Press, Borella.

## PILGRIMAGES

We will take you anywhere you want to go on easy terms. 10 Seater — with hood rack. Gentleman owner driver. Write No. 453. c/o Catholic Press, Borella.

## MEDICAL GOODS

PURLO Medicated Powder and Ointment — the unfailing remedy for Eczema, Prickly Heat and Tropical Skin Ailments. Available at all Chemists and the Importers Setrac (Ceylon), 22 Upper Chatham Street, Colombo.

BYLOOS Eau de Cologne — the unfailing friend of school-children. Rids the head of Lice, Nits, Dandruff and all invisible germs. Available at all Chemists and the Importers, Setrac (Ceylon), 22, Upper Chatham Street, Colombo 1.

## MEDICAL

ASTHMA! Catarrh! Why suffer all your life? Get permanent cure by Swiss treatment! No Injections! Free Information! Visit: Medical Clinic, 1A, 42nd Lane, Wellawatte. 84

## MILK FOODS

"NOMAD" Brand Fullcream Milk Powder — thousands have acclaimed "Nomad" as the best milk from the Country of Milk — Holland. You'll love it too when you taste "Nomad." Rich, delicious and economical. Available at all Good Stores, Chemists and the Importers, Setrac (Ceylon), 22, Upper Chatham Street, Colombo.

## WEARING APPAREL

"Noor" Shirts are economically priced, available for Boys and Gents — short and long sleeved, from Rs. 2/90 upwards. It's undoubtedly your best buy from W. M. Hassim (Branch), 248, Main Street, Pettah.

Tennis Shirts, short sleeves white, sizes 30 ins. to 34 ins Rs. 2/50. V.P.P. accepted. W. M. Hassim Branch, 248, Main Street, Pettah.

Pillowcases, size 18 ins. by 27 ins. Superior Quality, in Cotton Poplin, durable quality Rs. 1/75. V.P.P. accepted. W. M. Hassim, (Branch) 248, Main Street.

"Noor" Shirts, white, short sleeves, Gents, ideal for Office wear, selling at Rs. 3/85 only. Coloured material, sanforized and mercerized — guaranteed fadeless, Rs. 4/65, stocks limited. V.P.P. accepted. W. M. Hassim, Branch, 248, Main Street.

"Noor" Special Shirts in pure Egyptian Cotton material, sanforized and mercerized, long sleeves, white and coloured, Rs. 7/75. It's the shirt that you can iron with minimum effort. W. M. Hassim, 248, Main Street. 403

## CHURCH NOTICES

### NAWAGAMUWA CHURCH

### St. Joseph's Feast

Vespers Saturday 7th March 7.30 p.m.

Sunday 8th March:

Low Mass 6.00 a.m.

High Mass 8.30 a.m.

381 Parish Priest.

## MADHU NOTICE

All houses at Madhu Camp during the Holy Week are reserved for retreatants only, available through the organisers. A small quota of houses for others are available direct from the Administrator.

ADMINISTRATOR, Madhu Shrine. 405

## MADHU LENTEN RETREAT

The retreat is preached in English. It is open to both Ladies and Gents. The retreat proper commences on 26th March 1959 Maundy Thursday forenoon and closes on Easter Sunday.

Preacher: Redemptorist Father.

The main body of retreatants will travel on Wednesday 25th March 1959 by the Indo-Ceylon train, leaving Colombo Fort at 8-30 p.m. All participants are kindly requested to be at Fort Railway Station by 7-30 p.m. sharp. They will be met at the 2nd class entrance by members of the Committee. The return journey will be by the day train on Monday the 30th March 1959, leaving Madhu Road at about 9 a.m. Railway reservations at concessional rates have been arranged. Rupees Ten and Cts. Ten (Rs. 10/10) per individual is the fare inclusive of bus charges to and fro — Colombo — Madhu Shrine. Children under 12 years of age will be charged half rates. For precision sake we give in tabulated form:

Adult: Warrant plus Rs. 1/50 (Bus) or Rs. 8/60 plus Rs. 1/50 (Bus).

Child: Warrant plus Rs. 1/75 (Bus) or Rs. 4/30 plus Rs. 1/75 (Bus).

Further particulars from: Miss C. Pietersz, 47, Hill Street, Kotahena, Colombo. Mr. Lucien B. de Zilva, Lee & Co., Ltd., P.O. Box 84, Colombo 3. Mr. P. G. S. Misso, Vavaseur Trading Co., Ltd., Deans Road, Colombo. Mr. D. S. Samarasinghe, Internal Audit Education Department, Slave Island. Mr. Arthur Kurera, "Srinagar," Main Street, Negombo.

To compute and to facilitate the provision of Railway and bus reservations and accommodations as well, the courtesy of all desiring participants is earnestly solicited in making their payments or surrendering their Railway warrants on or before the 5th March 1959.

Railway arrangements have been made on Group ticket basis, to and fro. But, because of the expected heavy holiday traffic, only limited accommodation has been made available. Hence those desiring to participate are kindly requested to contact the abovementioned early.

Benny Miranda, (Organiser). 403

## The Link

Continued from page 5

redeemed? And is not the Visitation, Mary carrying Christ, going on a mission of mercy, a model for us? Does not Christ remain in us for some time after Holy Communion and should we not radiate Him in our actions as Mary did? And the Birth of Our Lord — it is enough to think how the Church celebrates Christmas to see how fitting it is to recite the Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament. The Presentation in the Temple with Simeon's prophecy of the sword which would pierce the Immaculate Heart of Mary — does this not reveal the office of Co-Redemptrix that is to be Hers and then consider the first pang she felt of the anguish of the loss on Calvary, when She lost Her Son for three days and found Him in the Temple.

The five sorrowful mysteries bring us to the contemplation of Christ's bitter passion and death.

Continued on page 12

## Professional Organisation

Continued from page 10

interest and not just a matter of earning one's daily bread. In these conditions, it is understandable that society has the right and duty to impose certain rules and regulations so that while respecting as much as possible individual freedom and initiative, each profession may be able to contribute its best towards the general welfare of the whole nation.

This is the middle way proposed by the Papal plan, a way between and above the extremes of individualism and statism, between a disorganised society and an excessive concentration of power. It is the way to what Pope Pius XI calls a "well-ordered economic regime," a regime which favours the complete development of the human person according to the exigencies of the natural law and morality.

## Colombo Catholic Diocesan Union ANNUAL LENTEN RETREAT

For English speaking workers at ST. PHILIP NERI'S CHURCH, PETTAH.

From

MONDAY 16th TO SATURDAY 21st MARCH, 1959.

Spiritual Exercises from 5 to 6 p.m. daily

Preacher: A Redemptorist Father Programme Leaflets can be had from the Secretaries of Guilds or from the undersigned.

P. I. Ed. Smale,

Hon'y. Secretary,

Retreats and Lectures Committee, Ministry of Transport and Works, Colombo Fort, OR Flat F. 41.

Torrington Avenue, Colombo 5 457

## "BHAKTI GI PANDURA"

The new Sinhalese hymnal for use in Low Mass compiled by Rev. Fr. J. H. Cabral could be sung in two pitches and played on organ notes.

PRICE PER BOOK Rs. 2-00

Could be obtained from

Mr. Justin Fernando, Lecturer, Bolawalana Training College. 460



## SCENES OF SPLENDOUR AT NEW JUNGLE SHRINE

THE jungle Shrine of St. Anthony at Mahauswewa was converted into a fairyland recently when His Lordship the Bishop of Chilaw, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Edmund Peiris, O.M.I., visited it to instal the new statue of the Saint at the new Church of St. Anthony at Mahauswewa.

The Church precincts were

### The Link

Continued from page 11

The Blessed Eucharist is the commemoration of that passion and death and Christ's Sacrifice on Calvary is perpetuated in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, only the manner of offering being different. Hence just as Our Lady was intimately connected with the sacrifice of Calvary since She prepared the victim and the priest and was united with Him in offering it, so She has the same relationship to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The same Christ who is present in the Blessed Sacrament now reigns gloriously in Heaven whence He has taken His Immaculate Mother by Her glorious assumption and crowned her Queen of Heaven and earth. Hence as we recite the glorious mysteries of the Resurrection and the Ascension of Our Lord we should remember that especially by virtue of Holy Communion will we too attain to immortality. And as we contemplate the descent of the Holy Ghost we could remember that the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ was conceived in the Incarnation, born on Calvary and manifested at Pentecost. And that just as the disciples were united in prayer with Mary the Mother of God, so too should we be united with Her to draw down upon us the out-pourings of the gifts of the Holy Ghost to illuminate our minds and warm our hearts so that we may know, adore and love Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

a riot of colour and the roads were richly decorated and illuminated, while flower-girls strewed blossoms all the way from Anamaduwa Junction as a motor cavalcade of over 100 cars, buses, lorries and vans preceded the Bishop and the silk-draped chariot carrying the new statue. At the Mahauswewa Post Office, His Lordship was garlanded by Mr. Juan Perera and from there on, the procession moved on foot to the accompaniment of music provided by the band.

On blessing the new church and the statue, an address paper was read and presented to the Bishop by Mr. Nicholas Sovis. At

7-30 p.m. His Lordship chanted Pontifical Vespers and delivered an illuminating sermon on "Man's End and Destiny," in which he explained how St. Anthony lived for the end he had been created for. A fireworks display brought the day's proceedings to a close.

The High Mass the following morning was sung by Very Rev. Fr. Mervyn Peiris and the sermon was preached by Rev. Fr. Kenneth Perera, who thanked the pilgrims for their co-operation and generosity in coming to the wilds to honour St. Anthony. On this grand occasion, sixteen children had the privilege of receiving their First Holy Communion.

### Catholic School Front

To: Rev. Local Managers, and Principals of Schools.

I give below a copy of Director of Education's Circular No. 15 of 1959 for your information. But no action whatever should be taken under this Circular without my written approval, as I am ultimately responsible to the Department.

Circular No. 15 of 1959.

My No. ASA 973  
Education Department,  
Malay Street,  
Colombo, 20th February, 1959.  
To All Managers of Assisted Schools.

If a Manager of an Assisted School is satisfied as employer that the behaviour of any teacher amounts to an act of indiscipline prejudicial to the interests of the school, the Manager is entitled to take such disciplinary action as he deems fit.

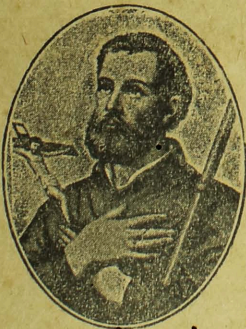
The Manager should, at the same time, furnish full information of the action he has taken, to the Education Officer and the Director of Education.

Sgd. S. F. de Silva,  
Director of Education.  
D. J. Rajapatirana,  
Asst. Director.

2. The Syllabuses for the teaching of Catechism in English and Sinhalese are now available at the Catholic Book Depot, Pettah. The Tamil Syllabus is with the printers and will be out very shortly.

### The Novena of Grace

From March 4th to 12th March



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

HERO, SAINT AND APOSTLE OF INDIA AND CEYLON

The Novena of Grace which begins on March 4th and ends on the 12th, day of the canonization of St. Francis Xavier, owes its origin to the Saint himself. At Naples, in December, 1633, Father Marcello Mastriani, S.J., was at the point of death. The Saint appeared to him, and bidding him renew a vow he had made to labour in Japan, said: "All those who implore my help daily for nine consecutive days from the 4th to 12th of March inclusive, and worthily receive the Sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist, on one of the nine days, will experience my protection and may hope with entire assurance to obtain from God any grace they ask that is for the good of their souls and the glory of God." The Father arose, instantly cured. So well has the Saint kept his promise, that this devotion in his honour has become universally known as the "Novena of Grace." Its efficacy is not restricted to the dates mentioned.

### Working Girls' Day of Recollection at Periyamulla

(From Our Correspondent)

THE Church of Our Lady of Snows, Periyamulla, presented a picturesque sight on Sunday 22 February when throngs of working girls drawn from the Ceramic Factory, Weaving Mills at Wennappuwa, teachers, nurses, attendants from hospitals, telephone girls and sub-Postmistresses streamed in for their Day of Recollection.

The day's programme commenced with the recital of the Rosary at 9 a.m. Holy Mass was celebrated at 10 a.m.

The sermons were preached by Rev. Fr. Bede Fernando. Meals were served by the Mother Superior of Periyamulla Convent and her loyal band of novices.

The Rev. Local Managers are requested to purchase the needed stocks out of school funds.

3. No Syllabus is given for S.S.C. Classes as the Govt. Syllabus has to be followed in view of the examinations. The Rev. Local Managers and Principals of Schools are kindly requested to supply every teacher with a copy of the Syllabus according to the standard taught by him.

Philip C. Disanayake, O.M.I.  
General Manager of R.C. Schools.  
Borella.  
24-2-59.

### UNDYING FAITH

whom was committed His Church with the assurance that no matter what comes, no matter what persecution befalls it, "the gates of Hell shall not prevail."

That is why it is so important to maintain the unity of the Church. From time to time parts of the undivided body of the Church have fallen away. What has happened to them? Without exception they have suffered the fate that our Lord warned would overtake the branch that is cut off from the main tree. The separated branch withers. This is a historic fact which cannot be gainsaid. Holy Mother Church, like the loving mother that she is, holds out her arms in invitation to those who have fallen away to return to the unity of the Church. One of the first pronouncements of the present Holy Father, Pope John XXIII, has been a plea, instinct with undying love and longing, for the restoration of the Church's unity. We want a United Front, not to enlarge the bounds of an unfree empire, but for the fulfilment of the glorious liberty of the sons

## NEW CATHOLIC GUILD FORMED

(by a MESSENGER reporter)

OVER 300 Catholic officers working in Government and Government sponsored Departments in Torrington Square and its environs representing nearly 12 Departments met at 4-45 p.m. on Monday the 16th February in the Home Ministry Recreation Hall under the Chairmanship of Mr. E. A. A. de Silva, C.C.S., to inaugurate the Torrington Square Catholic Guild.

Mr. E. A. A. de Silva, C.C.S., who was unanimously elected President, nominated the following Office-Bearers in terms of the Rules:—

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. J. E. D. Madawela and C. P. M. Abeysekera; Hony. General Secretary: Mr. A. V. de Silva; Asst. Secretary: Mr. S. Amerasinghe;

Hony. Treasurer: Mr. S. D. A. Walter; Hony. Auditor: Mr. J. B. Martyn. Councillors were nominated to represent each of the Departments.

Very Rev. Fr. Al. Serru, O.M.I., Vicar General, speaking thereafter expressed great satisfaction in the action of over 300 Catholic officers in that area in forming that Guild which he considered a long-felt need and expressed the hope that it would be a live association working actively for the spiritual and material welfare of its members.

Rev. Fr. Vincent Dep then gave a most instructive and illuminating talk on the "Lay Apostolate", laying special emphasis on the apostolate first within the family of every individual member and thereafter amongst the neighbours.

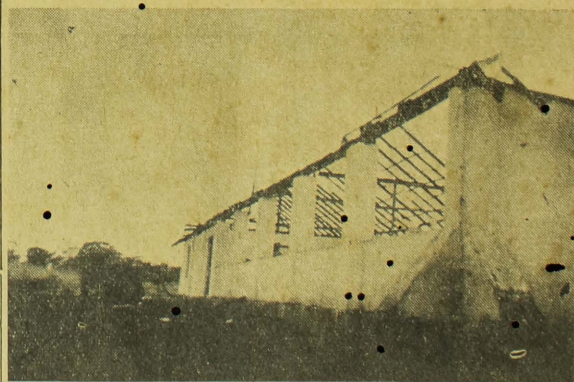
### Kalutara celebrates Lourdes Festival.

(from "Josephian," Messenger correspondent)

THERE was a large concourse of pilgrims last Sunday at Holy Cross Church, Kalutara, when the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and the Lourdes Centenary were celebrated in its fifty-year-old Grotto which was built by the late Fr. M. Hesel, O.M.I. The previous evening His Grace the Archbishop presided at Pontifical Vespers at which fifteen priests were present. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Fr. Joseph Jayasuriya, O.M.I. The illuminated paddy boats on the lagoon were a beautiful sight and so

was the grand candlelight procession that wended its way over a mile-long route.

The High Mass on Sunday, which was preceded by several Low Masses, was sung by Very Rev. Fr. A. Serru, O.M.I., who also preached a short sermon on the request for "prayer and penance" made by Our Lady at Lourdes. The singing at Vespers and Mass was rendered by the Catholic Choral Society of St. Joseph's College, Colombo, under the direction of Rev. Fr. Ignatius Perera. It is learnt that the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Grotto are to be held in February 1960.



### BIG BLAZE IN SCHOOL

This building of the Rajarata R. C. School of Hingurakgoda Parish was gutted by fire while the school was in session.

The school equipment — the children's books, etc., together with the head master's quarters were completely destroyed. The damage is estimated well over Rs. 2000/- and this being a poor parish having no source of income whatsoever this damage is unbearable. Hence I appeal to the goodwill of the Catholics to come to the rescue of this Parish in helping me to attend to the repairs of this school building.

Parish Priest  
Hingurakgoda.