

Commemorating

90

years of

continuous

publication...

NINETY YEARS AFTER

● The Messenger presents this special commemorative issue on the happy occasion of ninety years of continuous publication and service in the apostolate of the Press...



Message from His Grace

WITHIN the framework of the current Press Week of the Archdiocese, the "Messenger," Ceylon's Catholic weekly, presents its Readers with a flash-back on the ninety years it has completed in the field of Catholic Journalism.

Of the artisans of the Messenger's ninety years' record most have already gone to their Eternal Reward. We think of them with admiration and gratitude for what they accomplished under such handicaps and in the face of such obstacles. We of the present generation are the beneficiaries of their labours; may we be the heirs of their firm belief in the mission of the Catholic Press, their unswerving faithfulness to the appointed task, their constant endeavour to improve the effectiveness of their apostolate of the printed word.

In our turn we must bequeath the sacred fire, the fruits of our experience to another generation. In fact, rather than resting at the milestone reached, we have to look forward. This ninetieth anniversary is by its very nature a challenge for the ten years wanting for a complete century. We heartily invite the faithful band of Messenger co-operators — editors, contributors, printers and readers — to take up the challenge courageously and conduct a few years' drive that will bring the Messenger to a degree and range of influence commensurate with its century of endeavour and the demands of the times. And for this we hope and pray that the little band may swell in numbers and indeed count every Catholic of Ceylon as a member active in his particular sphere.

Much effort, in fact, and expense have gone into the improvements effected in our Paper in recent years. The devotedness of the present Staff and Management is so universally recognised that it hardly needs commendation. What we feel we must not omit is to recommend this publication to the more generous and practical support of the rank and file of our people.

We cannot rest until every single Catholic considers our weeklies as his own — something to enjoy; something to maintain.

✠ THOMAS COORAY, O.M.I.,
Archbishop of Colombo.

23 February, 1959.

From the Bishop of Jaffna

NINETY years of existence for the Catholic Messenger means ninety years of Apostolic activity. For ninety



years the Messenger has been the means of keeping the English-speaking Catholics of Ceylon in one mind and united with the Church. For ninety years therefore the Catholic Messenger has instructed the readers on their Faith, and kept them posted with the history of the Church. For ninety years the Messenger has helped the Catholics to be in contact with Christ, not only by instruction and giving the news of the events of the Church but also by reminding them of the wishes of the Holy Father and the Hierarchy. An activity of this kind is essential in the life of the Catholics; that is why the Messenger which has given to us God's message will always be one of the most essential elements in the Catholic life of Ceylon.

From the Bishop of Chilaw

THE Ceylon Catholic Messenger or the Messenger, to give it the modern name, was ninety years old, last month. Among the English newspapers yet alive in our Island, it holds the third place for longevity, the Ceylon Observer having begun its career in 1834, and the Times of Ceylon in 1846. During its long life, it has witnessed profound changes in the political and social set-up of the people. It has seen the development of Ceylon from a Crown Colony to an Independent State, and the progress of the Church from emancipation to establishment, from the Vicar Apostolic stage to a well set Hierarchy. In all vicissitudes, it has played its part nobly as guide, path-finder and signal-man to the Catholics. Although its founders designed it "to bring before its Catholic readers, the religious move-

ments of the day," it became, in a few years, the organ of Catholic opinion and the champion of the Catholic cause in the Island. Many laymen, Religious and Priests have contributed to its success, as a Catholic newspaper, by writing to it, by popularizing it, by reading it and by selling it. We call down the blessing of GOD on all of them, and address to them the message of Pope Pius XII to a group of French Journalists, on June 4, 1955: "You are the heirs of an illustrious tradition, and it is your task now to make its influence shine forth and to promote, in your country and abroad, the values to which it remains particularly attached."



From Dr. Bernard Regno

WITH joy we have heard that our precious Catholic Paper — the "Catholic Messenger" — attained its 90th birthday last month. We

join all the Catholics of Ceylon and people of other faiths in Ceylon and in many other countries who were fortunate enough to be conversant with the "Catholic Messenger" in thanking the Almighty for all the incalculable blessings we have received through it. In its long life the "Catholic Messenger" has been the champion of justice, has confirmed the faith of the weak, has instructed the ignorant, has fearlessly told the truth even at the risk of becoming unpopular, and has castigated the crooked dealings of the low and of the high. We wish this precious Paper "ad multos annos" with all our heart; may it achieve yet greater success and still more glorious victories for the honour of God and the good of all the people of Ceylon.

We wish to express our most heartfelt gratitude to the Colombo diocese which has made immense sacrifices in

Continued on page 7

From the Bishop of Trinco

It gives me much pleasure to send you this message on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the Messenger. St. Pius X stated: "In vain will you build churches, preach missions, found schools; all your good works, all your efforts will be destroyed if you cannot, at the same time, wield the defensive and offensive weapon of a press, Catholic, loyal and sincere." This has been the noble task of the Messenger for the last ninety years. For this we offer to

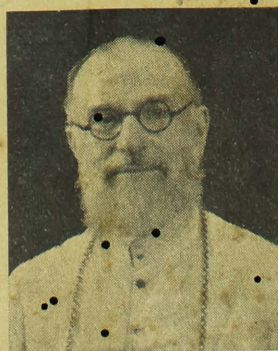
our sincere thanks and hearty congratulations.

May the Messenger continue for many, many more years to inform, teach, encourage and defend! May God bless it, the Editor and the staff!



From the Bishop of Galle

I AM very glad to hear that the "Messenger" is now 90 years old. In spite of many difficulties of various kinds met by this paper during this long period of time, it has made steady progress in form and matter. With my best congratulations to the past and present Editorial Staff and other personnel, I wish the "Messenger" greater achievements still for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.



● 90 years of continuous publication

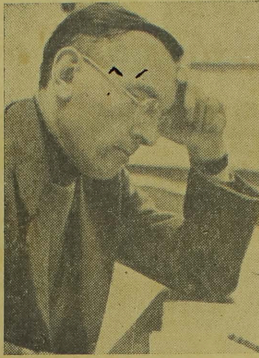
8 fellow editors from Bombay, Madras, Hong Kong, Singapore, England. U. S. A. and New Zealand greet Ceylon's Messenger on its attaining 90 years of continuous publication. . . .



SPLENDID ACHIEVEMENT

—Fr. J. A. Lobo, The Editor, The Examiner, Bombay

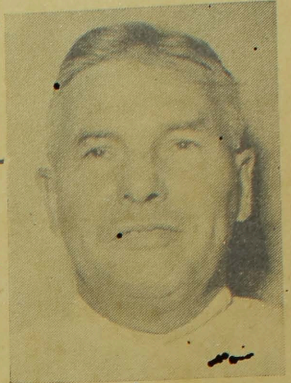
MY heartiest congrats to your paper on its attaining a prominent position in the ranks of the nonagenarians of your beautiful island country. For more than a decade I have watched with keen appreciation its splendid achievement in Catholic journalism, its championship of the interests of the Church and of Ceylon's Catholicism in particular. When the history of the Church in Ceylon comes to be written I have no doubt that the "Messenger's" record of service to her will receive due recognition. I wish the journal greater success in the future.



... FROM FLEET STREET'S EDITOR, MICHAEL DE LA BEDOYERE

—Editor of Catholic Herald, England

It gives me the greatest possible pleasure to send my good wishes to the Messenger on the occasion of its 90th anniversary. In Britain we are very conscious of the increasing importance of every kind of apostolic work in parts of the world where the Faith is less well established than in the privileged countries of the Atlantic and Mediterranean seaboard. We Catholic journalists have the Holy Father's assurance that ours too is an apostolic work and not the least important these days. My wish and prayer is therefore: many long and even better years for the Messenger of Ceylon.



"Magnificent work ..."

Fr. James F. Kearney, Editor Malayan Catholic News, Singapore

WE have just learned that The Messenger is about to celebrate its ninetieth birthday. On this occasion, the "Malayan Catholic News," only eight years old, is happy to offer "The Messenger" its most sincere congratulations for the magnificent work done since its foundation.

It is our prayer that God will continue to bless your self-sacrificing endeavours to instill the message of the Gospel into the hearts of Ceylon Catholics and truth into their minds, that they may live useful and fruitful lives by serving God and their fellowmen.

ARTIFICIAL PLASTIC FLOWERS

A LARGE RANGE OF Plastic Flowers (Washables)

Roses, Carnations, Daisies

Bunch of Pansies, Asparagus Leaves, etc.

Just arrived from Italy Gives Natural Fragrance An ideal gift for your friends

AND

CHURCH DECORATIONS

You can get them at

Rodrigo and Fernando

32, PRINCE ST.

Phone 3661 Colombo 11.

THE BEST IN PIANOFORTES and ORGANS that last for generations

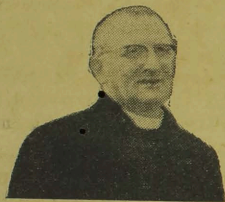


- "MOUTRIE"
- "BROADWOOD"
- "BRINSMEAD"
- "WELMAR"

Solid Mahogany Casework Fully Tropicalised. also Reed Organs and Baby Organs

WELMAR PIANO & ORGAN AGENCY, Colombo 15, Phone 79597

"AMONG THE VERY BEST IN THE FAR EAST"



Fr. C. H. Vath—The Editor, The Sunday Examiner, Hong Kong

IN the very near future, the Messenger, Ceylon's Catholic Weekly in English will have completed nine decades of service to the Church and to the people of your great country. On this memorable day you will be able to look back on years of publishing which very likely were not always easy going, but which surely have been fruitful to Catholicism in your Island.

I have read the Messenger regularly for many years and in my opinion your paper ranks among the very best in the Far East and compares most favourably with other Catholic periodicals in Europe and America. Yours is a paper that most truly sees its duty in assisting the

Catholic layman to keep abreast with Catholic doings and thought and which fearlessly proclaims the law of God and the rights of His Church.

I and my staff offer you, therefore, and to all your co-workers sincere congratulations.

"Bigger, Better and Brighter"

Fr. J. E. de Souza, The Editor, The New Leader, Madras

IT is good news that the Messenger of Colombo will be a nonagenarian soon. That in itself is a tribute to the excellence of the paper, for we are well aware that in the fierce competition of the modern era third-rate journals have only a mushroom existence. But even more, one is constrained to admit that, under the regime of the present Editor, the paper has grown bigger, better and brighter, catering to a wider variety of tastes than before, so much so that it is the envy of the Catholic weeklies in the neighbouring India. There are pictures to enlighten, and special features to interest women and children. The editorials and comments are spiced with wit and a vein of humour, and, above all, pervaded by a spirit of Christian charity. My only wish is that, when so much labour, time and money are expended on the paper, every English-speaking Catholic family in Ceylon should patronise it and—pass it on to non-Catholic neighbours. Ad multos annos is a needless wish. Prospero procedo is a fraternal greeting from a fellow-editor.

"We salute you..."

—Fr. Brendan Larnen, O.P., Editor, The Holy Name Journal, New York

THE Holy Name Journal salutes "The Messenger" on the occasion of its ninetieth birthday, with the hope and prayer that the many decades of "The Messenger's" life may ever serve as an inspiration to continue its apostolate of the Catholic press. In an era of conflicting and insidious ideologies, there is a great need that God's truth may prevail. That has been the task of "The Messenger" for almost a century. May it continue to be not only the responsibility but also the privilege of "The Messenger" throughout the centuries to come.

Mission of enlightenment and Propagation of Catholic Truth...

Fr. D. O'Dea, The Editor, New Zealand Tablet, New Zealand

ON the happy occasion of the 90th anniversary of The Messenger, the New Zealand Tablet extends its heartiest congratulations on a long record of service to the Church and the Catholic people of Ceylon.

Four years younger than its distinguished contemporary of Colombo, the New Zealand Tablet has always maintained a lively interest in the Messenger and its contribution to the Apostolate of the Catholic Press, and almost certainly from its earliest days the Tablet has regularly exchanged with Ceylon's only Catholic Weekly in English.

May the power of its writer never wane and may it go from strength to strength in its mission of enlightenment and the propagation of Catholic Truth.

Best wishes

—Fr. John Reedy, C.S.C., Editor, The Ave Maria, Indiana

OUR most sincere congratulations on the achievement of the 90th anniversary of your weekly Messenger. You have our best wishes for even further success as you approach your hundredth anniversary.

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO

No. 18581/Testy.

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of Don Edwin Heendeniya of No. 11/0 D, Etul Kotte, Kotte — Deceased.

Dona Caroline de Silva Heendeniya of No. 11/20 D, Etul Kotte, Kotte. — Petitioner. And

1. Dona Swarna Heendeniya.
2. Dona Seetha Heendeniya.
3. Don Raja Heendeniya.
4. Dona Soma Heendeniya.
5. Don Jayampathi Heendeniya, all of No. 11/20 D, Etul Kotte, Kotte, the 3rd, 4th and 5th Respondents minors appearing by their Guardian-ad-litem.
6. Don Walter Heendeniya of Chitranganie, Raymond Road, Nugegoda. — Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before M. M. I. Kariapper, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Colombo on the 19th day of December 1958 in the presence of Mr. Martin Weeraratne, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated 13th December 1958 having been read

It is ordered that the Petitioner abovenamed be and she is hereby declared entitled as the widow of the deceased abovenamed to have Letters of Administration to the Estate of the deceased abovenamed issued to her accordingly.

It is further ordered that the 6th Respondent abovenamed be and he is hereby declared appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the persons of 3rd, 4th and 5th Respondents minors abovenamed unless the Respondents abovenamed or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 15th of January 1959 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. M. M. I. Kariapper, Additional District Judge. This 19th day of December 1958.

15-1-1959. The date for showing cause against the foregoing Order Nisi is extended to 19th February 1959.

Sgd. V. Siva Supramaniam, Additional District Judge.

19-2-1959. The date for showing cause against the foregoing Order Nisi is extended to 19th March 1959.

Sgd. V. Siva Supramaniam, Additional District Judge.

1869 · THEN & NOW 1959

Down the river of time...

THIS paper was first started as a lay enterprise. The honour of the foundation belongs to the Fonseka family — then domiciled in ancient Kotte — an excellent nursery of Catholic faith and piety, which has given to the Church holy priests and nuns, one of whose offshoots, too, was the first Bishop of Chilaw.

From No. 7, Chatham Street, on the 9th of January, 1860, Francis Fonseka issued a Prospectus wherein he announced that on the 11th of the following month he would publish a weekly newspaper, entitled, "The Ceylon Catholic Messenger," the main object of which would be "to bring before his Catholic readers the religious movements of the day," and which, accordingly, would carry, as regular features, "a summary of official news and extracts from foreign papers referring to Catholic matters." The subscription was fixed at 15 shillings in advance, or £ 1 in arrears, per year.

The First issue

ACCORDINGLY ON THURSDAY, THE 11TH OF FEBRUARY, 1869, THERE WAS ISSUED BY MR. FRANCIS FONSEKA, PRINTER, PUBLISHER AND PROPRIETOR, THE FIRST CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER (THOUGH NOT THE FIRST CATHOLIC PERIODICAL) IN ENGLISH TO APPEAR IN THE ISLAND.

It was a bold venture, especially for a single individual and at such a time. Only forty years had elapsed since Catholic emancipation. Catholic missionary work was just emerging from the pioneer stage. The Church still lacked full organisation: There was no hierarchy, the whole Island was divided into two Vicariates manned

by a woefully inadequate band of some 60 priests. The Catholic population numbered but 170,000. Catholic education had still to make headway. St. Benedict's College, the only Catholic school of any standing outside Jaffna in the far North, was hardly a year in existence. Good Shepherd Convent, Kotahena, lone herald of a galaxy to follow, was only about to start. The number of Catholics able to appreciate an English newspaper could not but have been exiguous.

● Golden Era

Nevertheless it was an epoch of great activity, of bold enterprise and high achievement in the Catholic life of Ceylon. Not without reason has it been called the Golden Era of the Catholic Church in Ceylon. The new paper fitted into the scheme of things.

Francis Fonseka conducted his paper for exactly one year. Financial difficulties, however, compelled him to give it up. He retained his printing establishment, however, and even opened another in Kandy.

The paper, however, did not die. Nor was its publication interrupted. There was hardly any interval between the end of the old order and the beginning of the new. The last paper under the old management — No. 3 of Vol. II, appeared on 20th January 1870. The first paper under the new ownership — No. 1 of new Vol. II, appeared on the 15th of February, 1870.

● The Changes

There were changes. The paper now began to appear on Tuesdays instead of Thursdays. It was "Printed and Published (as the old inscription had it) by Charles Alexander Pavey, No. 23, St. Lucia's Street, Cotachina, Colombo, at the Ceylon Catholic Orphan Press." And of course it came directly under ecclesiastical control. But the subscription rates continued to be the same. So, too, the size and format.

For some years there had been a "Ceylon Catholic Company Ltd." which was responsible for the publication of the Sinhalese newspaper, the "Nanartha Press-dipaya." In January, 1869, this paper ceased publication and the Company itself decided to go into liquidation. It was then proposed that the shareholders of the Company should give up their shares for the benefit of the Catholic Orphanages, that the Press of the Company should be purchased and be considered the property of the Orphanages and that all net profits accruing should devolve on these institutions. This proposal was accepted by the Company in April, 1869. The Company's Press was purchased with the aid

of public subscriptions and, at a meeting of subscribers to the Orphanage Press held in the following month, its affairs were entrusted to a Managing Committee of 20: Rev. Father C. J. B. Fernando, Manager and Treasurer, and 19 laymen—11 elected by the subscribers and 8 nominated by the Bishop.

● Shift to Borella

For over twenty-five years, from February 1870 to the end of 1896, the paper continued to be printed at the "Ceylon Catholic Orphan Press, No. 23, St. Lucia's Street, Kotahena." From the beginning of 1897 we find "St. Lucia's Press"

Life story of your paper

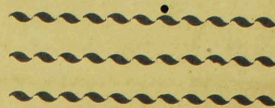
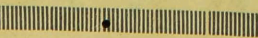
substituted for the "Ceylon Catholic Press." The locale of the Press, however, continued to be the same.

The last issue to emanate from Kotahena was that of May 31, 1901. The next issue, that for the 7th of June following, came from Borella. But the printing establishment continued to bear the name "St. Lucia's Press" (Borella) a little longer — until July 26, 1901, when the present premises received the name "Catholic Press," Borella.

● Policy—Services

The Catholic policy of this Catholic paper, enunciated with such admirable precision and comprehensiveness by the first editor, has been faithfully followed during the past ninety years. Submission to ecclesiastical authority, loyalty to the Pope and scrupulous adherence to the teachings and directions of the Holy See have ever been its golden rule.

The Messenger stands for for Truth, Justice and Charity. It stands for obedience



First Editorial

Thursday, 11th February 1869

CONSIDERING the difficulties that at the very outset, usually attend any new scheme or project in this Island, we congratulate ourselves on the happy result of our endeavours to supply a much desired want. The Catholic Messenger is now an established fact, and its success or failure lies with the public. Our labours will not be few or light, but our heart is in the work, and whatever our hands find to do we will do it with might.

In issuing the first number of this journal, it is necessary to state the course intended to be followed by us, and the principles upon which we will maintain future action. As the main object of the Catholic Messenger is to support the cause of the Catholics of the Island, and to keep our brethren informed of the most stirring movements of the day, we will strenuously defend our religion from all the assaults of her foes—advocate her interests in all political movements and infuse a liberal spirit of enquiry into the lethargic and ignorant. We will not confine ourselves to the sayings and doings of this Island, but prominently notice the work of our brethren in other lands. The weak and the oppressed will obtain our sympathy and aid as much as the wrongdoer will meet with our censure. We belong to no party in local politics, we maintain the necessity of submission to all constituted authorities, but we will not the less fearlessly and strongly express our dissent with the view of the powers that be whenever the opportunity is presented.

and loyalty to constitutional authority, for inter-communal peace and harmony, for order based on the principles of social justice. From party politics it remains aloof, but it seeks to serve the common interests of all. It is an advocate of true nationalism which, under a variety of specious pretexts, seeks to raise one faction to the place of supremacy. It is the guardian of morals, public and private. Respecting the rights of all, it stands adamant in defence of the rights of God and of His Church. It weighs all things in the balance of eternal verities. Its high aim is to save and build by restoring all things in Christ, the corner-stone. Its supreme ambition is to lead men into that supra-natural kingdom, the kingdom in which all subjects are brothers and sisters, the kingdom which is the kingdom of peace and order and truth, the kingdom over which reigns the Lord of lords, Christ the King.

The Messenger introduced into Ceylon journalism a new element, a new criterion of truth, a new sense of values. Its freedom from cant, its eschewing of pure sensationalism, its valued viewpoint,

its judicious moderation, its firm, but dignified language at once commanded respect in the highest intellectual circles. Government itself came to entertain a high regard for it. On one occasion, we are told, the Governor of the day, after an address to the Legislative Council handed over his manuscript personally to the representative of the Messenger — passing over the rest of the journalists present.

"BHAKTI GI PANDURA" A NEW SINHALESE HYMNAL

BY

Rev. Fr. L. J. H. Cabral

arranged for two voices with organ accompaniment.

PRICE PER COPY Rs. 2-00

Obtainable at:

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE,
Borella

and from:

Mr. JUSTIN FERNANDO,
Lecturer, Sri Lanka Training
College, Bolawalaha, Negombo.

THERE'S POISON in PRINT!

Catholic Press Week should urge us to take stock of the present. As the writer points out in this article, the damage has already been done and the keynote of this article is Vigilance for Parents!

SAVE YOUR CHILDREN

A WAVE of filthy literature is sweeping over our country, invading our towns and villages and submerging every household. Sensual

We should be sufficiently old-fashioned to insist that every publication they intend reading should be submitted for our inspection. Even prayer

books and magazines are flooding the market everywhere. The complacency shown by the Catholics in their attitude towards this peril of perils is appalling. Anyone who tells you that situation is not so alarming is an ostrich. Let him pull his head out of the sand and look around with his eyes wide open; let him visit the book-stalls along the pavements of our towns and the tea-kiosks and boutiques in our villages; let him walk into the stately homes of Colombo or crawl into its slums; let him peep into the humble cottages in our beautiful countryside. Wherever he goes he will find one thing in common — youngsters absorbed in filthy literature. The position is unspeakably shocking. Yet, we Catholic parents do not seem to be doing anything about it. These publications are corrupting our youth and killing their souls. They contaminate and ravage. They have the rottenest illustrations. They are a constant insult to feminine dignity, a degradation of womanhood. No decent parents, whatever their religious persuasion may be, would ever willingly allow such poisonous literature to enter their homes; still, these contaminated publications are devoured in secret in many a home by adolescents. Satan employs many agents and their name is legion too. The chief suppliers are bad companions both in and outside school, and dirty books and magazines are easily sneaked into our homes by our own children because we are woefully lacking in watchfulness.

Tocsin of Alarm

We parents should realize that sooner or later our children must meet up with the dangers of their outside surroundings, and not only warn them constantly against the perverse seductions of bad literature and of displays of suggestive pictures of bawdy entertainers in scanty bathing suits but also be ever watchful of the books and magazines they bring home.

Insist On....

Goodwill

PLASTIC
and
LEATHER
BAGS

Goodwill LEATHER WORKS,
981, ALUTMAWATTE Rd., COLOMBO 15

By
S. M. J. LOUIS

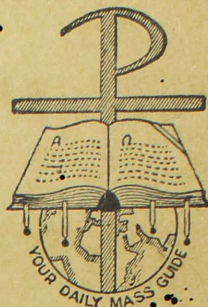
books, religious tracts and all works which deal with faith or morals should be forbidden in Catholic homes if the Imprimatur is missing. We cannot be too careful as the enemy is too cunning. It would be far better for us to be called narrow-minded by our children than to allow

Damage done

The position is far worse than many of us imagine. In fact, a great deal of damage has already been done. It is high time that ways and means were found to repair that damage, to rid our homes of the nauseating filth of obscene literature and suggestive illustrations and to replace them with clean and wholesome publications. Our duty as Catholic parents is even greater. What enters our homes should be more than clean and wholesome: it should contain nothing that is in conflict with the everlasting verities, with the age-old traditions of the Catholic Church, with the unchanging teachings of Christ.

Our duty is more than negative. We are also obliged to feed the souls of our children constantly with good Catholic literature. We should teach them to quench their thirst in the sparkling waters that flow from unpolluted springs.

Every Catholic parent is faced with a challenge today. The menace is at the door. Will he take up the challenge? Whether he will win or lose will depend on the resolution he makes today. Now. Not tomorrow.



Sunday, 8 March: **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT.** (Purple). Omit prayer prescribed.
Monday, 9 March: St. Francis Romana. (White). 2nd prayer of the Feria. (Or Mass of the Feria. Purple).
Tuesday, 10 March: Feria. (Purple). 2nd prayer of Forty Martyrs.
Wednesday, 11 March: Feria. (Purple).
Thursday, 12 March: St. Gregory. (White). 2nd prayer of the Feria. Creed. (Or Mass of the Feria. Purple).
Friday, 13 March: Feria. (Purple).
Saturday, 14 March: Feria. (Purple).

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

CATHOLIC PRESS WEEK SPECIAL

YOU CAN BE AN APOSTLE FOR CEYLON'S MESSENGER

• The urgency and the importance of the mission of a Catholic newspaper can never be over-stressed. In houses remote from Church and school it is the only medium through which a Catholic family is kept in close touch with Catholic life and thought. We print this viewpoint received from a reader which is food for thought on the eve of our own Catholic Press Week. The purpose of this reader is to hasten the day when throughout the length and breadth of this land there will be found no Catholic home without its own copy of the *Messenger*. What are you going to do about it? We welcome suggestions from real Apostles.

I am of opinion that the Catholic weeklies should launch every year an all-out campaign to collect more subscribers. From the point of view of the paper as well as from the point of view of the reader, this is a very important matter. The editor who increases the number of annual subscriptions gets a lot of useful cash in advance, and is certain of a regular minimum sale. The reader is certain to receive his copies throughout the year, even if he gets short of cash during the year, and is living far from church and fellow-Catholics, or even if he becomes disinterested.

The English and Sinhalese Catholic papers are national weeklies. They ought to be read by every English or Sinhalese-speaking Catholic in Ceylon. Yet, how many all over the country have never seen or heard of the paper? Who are they? They are precisely the people who live far away from churches, miss Mass very often have little contact with priests and fellow-Catholics. They are so many and they need the *Messenger* so badly. If you could convince the readers to look for them, to get them an annual subscription, so much good will be done. They may perhaps be saved from losing their faith altogether. Think of government servants who take up duties far away from their families; think of the many living on estates; think of the new converts. How will they keep in touch with the spirit of the Church? Through the *Messenger*.

• THE IDEAL

The real thing would be to have an apostle for the *Messenger* in every town in Ceylon. At present the cir-

culation of the papers is quietly left to the discretion of the parish-priest, or the Legion, if it is established. It would be much better if the papers were to take greater

A VIEWPOINT

by F. I. A. J.

interest, and work out a scheme for covering the whole country. It looks as if the papers are not sufficiently business-minded. Of course parish-priests and Legionaries are often the best apostles for the paper, but what about the places where there is no Legion at all, or where the parish-priest happens to take no interest. The need is for apostles who comb the whole area every year and see to it that every Catholic is invited to take out a subscription, or to renew it. That is business.

I have often been puzzled by the absence of a yearly campaign to boost subscrip-

tions. For I feel, that it is a matter of duty, to encourage and enable all local lay-apostles, nuns, brothers, priests, in fact all who love their faith, to find new subscribers and gift-subscriptions. (Let me add that I cannot understand the attitude of the paper to the subscribers. They have to pay 15 cts., postage extra. They pay in advance for 50 copies and they get no reduction. This is discouraging. It is

in fact cheaper not to subscribe, but to buy the paper at the church door, with the evident risk of losing the habit of buying the paper, especially when there is no Mass, or when the paper arrives on Monday.)

An annual campaign should be launched on the principle that every reader is a potential apostle. Let me suggest some details.

• SUGGESTIONS

At the start of the campaign, a leaflet should be inserted in every copy of the paper giving details and space for the list of new

subscribers to be enrolled. This leaflet should be returned with the money.

The paper should of course give full support to the campaign, by an editorial, slogans in bold letters on every page, picture story of the *Messenger*, or of the street sellers, an article on influence of the *Messenger* on Catholic homes, on the lives of new converts, on the lives of potential converts, etc.

As encouragement to the apostles, the paper ought to offer a cash reward. For instance 50 cts. for each of the first five subscriptions

75 cts. for the next five subscriptions, and Re. 1/- for each of the subscriptions from 10 upwards. I feel sure that the papers can afford this and that it will be a powerful motive for securing subscriptions, apart from the supernatural aspects of the case.

It would be advisable to offer a second reward for the apostles: a few prizes for those who bring in most subscriptions. This would not cost anything if you give some consumer goods offered by your kind advertisers.

All this would mean a lot of work for the circulation manager, if there is such a person. But much work, only for a short time. Work that is worthwhile and therefore a pleasure. Work that will increase your over-all sales and nett income. Work that will give you much-needed cash in advance, without further worries. Work that will prevent many Catholics from falling away from their faith; that will help them to know their faith better and will invite them to live up to it.

Yes, please try it.

★ A LETTER from the EDITOR

Dear Reader,

It is just once in a life-time that an anniversary such as the one we commemorate in this issue, comes along. That is one reason why we resort to this rather rare expedient of a letter to you. Of course, we would wish to explain our difficulties and our problems; we would wish to tell you why we are not always able to satisfy your requests nor publish your news-reports and articles; we would wish to tell you why it is that we are sometimes constrained most regretfully to ignore even some really excellent suggestions that you send in. But we shall come back to all that on some future date.

The purpose of this letter is something different. We honestly feel that most of you will agree that we in the Editorial Staff have been doing our best to brighten up the paper, and to make it more attractive. Our Schools-Mag for instance, has been a most gratifying success—far in excess of our hopes. But if we are to continue our improvements and realise our dreams—yes, we do keep dreaming dreams—it is YOU who matter most. The paper, after all, is yours.

In recent years, our circulation has increased considerably. This very fact shows us that it is time that we who run the paper for you were better informed about YOUR reactions to this paper. We need to know what it is you appreciate most, and what it is you want most. In fact, some years ago, a similar reader-research campaign was conducted in this paper, and quite a number of people responded. I hope that the response we shall have this time, will be even bigger and fuller.

Let me begin with a few questions: Of what value is Ceylon's Messenger to the average reader? To the average family? Of what value is it to YOU personally?

Your answers to the Questionnaire on page 7 will indicate to us your preferences, your likes and dislikes, and generally, they will help us to give you the paper YOU like.

Please keep in mind that it is not our intention to extract anything out of you. You are at perfect liberty to ignore the questionnaire, though it would be an awful pity if you were to do so. If on the other hand, you would like to answer only some questions and not the others, please do take your choice. Or again, if you really prefer not to disclose your name, we certainly think that we would rather have your information anonymously than not at all. At all costs, we would wish somehow to get your reply.

As we commence Press-Week too, while we commemorate our Ninety Years, we appeal to all our readers to launch out on a Mammoth Subscription Drive. The more subscriptions we

have, the better will your paper be. Our goal is 2 to 1—a doubling of the present circulation. We can do it, if each reader were to enlist at least one more subscriber—your best tribute to the Messenger which has served the cause of truth for 90 years.

God bless you!

FR. MANIK MUTTUKUMARU.



The 90-year-old still read by the
Young and the Old.

MESSENGER

READER

RESEARCH

SURVEY

● The Questionnaire

- 1 Do you read *The Messenger* every week?
- 2 If occasionally, what prompts you to buy it?
- 3 How many people, on an average, see your copy?
- 4 Mark the five features you like best: (a) Weekly Post Bag..... (b) People and Events..... (c) Bishop Sheen speaks..... (d) Strands of the Story..... (e) Serial story..... (f) Woman to Woman..... (g) Book Reviews..... (h) Short Story..... (i) Current Comment..... (j) Roundabout..... (k) Poetry..... (l) Schools-Mag..... (m) News: (1) International... (2) Local... (3) Newspictures... (4) Picture Feature.....
- 5 Is there any feature you dislike?
- 6 Have you any suggestions for new features?
- 7 Your designation: Rev./Mr./Mrs./ Miss, etc.
- 8 Your address
- 9 Your nationality
- 10 Married or single?
- 11 If married, how many children? Aged under 5.... 5 to 15.... 16 to 20.... over 20....
- 12 How do your children react to the Schools-Mag?
- 13 Your age group? 16 to 34.... 35 to 44.... 45 to 64.... 65 and over....
- 14 Your profession or occupation
- 15 How long have you been acquainted with this paper?
- 16 Your favourite interests or hobbies?
- 17 Any detailed suggestions or criticisms you would like to make?

JUST UNPACKED

★ Apparition Statues

direct from Lourdes. Unbelievably beautiful with St. Bernadette kneeling before the Grotto. With a tube (stream) of real Lourdes water. Inspiring. In natural and ivory colours. 2 sizes. Many other new, life-like Statues direct from France.

★ Our Lady of Fatima Statues

A beautiful group with the three children kneeling before Our Lady of Fatima. Authentic Fatima setting. In beautiful colours.

★ For Legionaries:

Beautiful statues of Our Lady. In 3 sizes.

**St. Michael's Art Studio
and Bookshop**

Jampettah Street, Colombo 13.

The Messenger

THE CATHOLIC PRESS, COLOMBO 8. Tel. 9984.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Yearly ..	Rs. 9-00
Half-Yearly ..	Rs. 4-50
Single Copy ..	Cts. 15

(Inclusive of Postage).

SATURDAY, MARCH 7th, 1959

AFTER NINETY YEARS — A RE-DEDICATION

A LITTLE over ninety years ago, the *Messenger* first saw the light of day. It had become a reality in the hands of a group of laymen, who were the guiding light behind the whole venture. That a weekly newspaper should have weathered the vicissitudes of ninety years, is already something to thank God for; but when we reflect that it is a weekly dedicated to the uncompromising ideals of truth, of unflinching and unswerving fidelity to the ways of God, then there is so much more that we have to bring into the gratitude to the Almighty which fill our hearts today.

That is why, in this our commemorative issue of ninety years of service and witness-bearing, we lift up our hearts and minds to God, who has given our paper the privilege and the grace to be what it has been these ninety years; we thank Him for the responsibility and the vocation that has been and continues to be ours; and we keep hoping and praying, as we enter the final decade before the centenary, that, even in the difficult times that have come upon us and may still come our way, we may have the strength and the constancy of dedicated purpose daily "to become more valiant heralds of truth, fearless defenders of what is right, and wise pioneers of a true peace." (Pius XII).

Looking to the past, we must also thank all those who went before us, priests of God and valiant laymen, who built up for the *Messenger*, through their tears and toil, the place that it enjoys today in journalism in Ceylon. And who could forget successive Archbishops, in particular our present Metropolitan, who have lavished every care and concern on the Catholic Press, and without whom the paper would certainly not be what it is today?

Through these ninety years, it has been for the *Messenger*, a mission and a vocation; it has been a day-by-day dedication to the ideals of God, who is Truth and Justice; it has sometimes been a struggle and a fight for the citadel of God; it has often been even a lone battle for the values on which we can never compromise. It has not always been an easy nor a pleasant career; but it certainly has always been an existence during which we hope we have given guidance and inspiration along the path of the Timeless Church of Christ.

Pope Pius XII once said to the Press: "You need not hesitate to call it a *spiritual service*" — and he went on to place the work of the Catholic journalist among the most sacred and providential vocations in the Church. We humbly hope that we have not fallen far short of this lofty ideal.

A Catholic paper is committed, as we have already observed, to a sacred mission. It has to mould Catholic opinion within the Church — a duty which has become all the more pressing in these days "when opinion is poised between two dangerous extremes, namely an illusory and unreal spiritualism and a ramshackle and materialistic realism" (Pius XII). This work of moulding opinion in the Church is indeed an important part of the task of our paper, more so in a country such as ours. We have tried to do our part; we hope we have achieved something.

There have been times, when we have had to be very outspoken in our observations, in dissociating ourselves from certain trends, and even in protesting against certain measures. We were fully conscious that our attitude may at times have brought us some unpopularity; but we were prepared to pay the price — for, those can never be a swerving from the path of truth. "The formidable evil for the Catholic pressman," warned Pope Pius XII in an address to the International Catholic Press Congress in 1950, "would be cowardice and discouragement." The whole history of the *Messenger* the past 90 years has, we sincerely hope, been anything but cowardice.

It is in this spirit that we commence the tenth decade of our existence as a newspaper. We go forward to the battle and the toil — deeply conscious of our mission; clearly aware of our glorious heritage; uncomfortably awake to the uncertain future here in Ceylon; and refreshingly young in our ardour and our enthusiasm. We hope, please God, to serve the Church and our country; and in doing so, we hope, with God's grace, to become, in the words of Pius XII "more valiant heralds of truth, fearless defenders of what is right, and wise pioneers of a true peace."

The facts behind the Attura affair WILL THE GOVERNMENT shirk ITS RESPONSIBILITY?

TWO strangely conflicting versions of the same event were given in the *Ceylon Daily News* of Friday, the 27th. Both purported to give the facts behind the strange and bitter happenings at Attura, in connection with a land purchased by His Grace the Archbishop for a Church; but what struck us as surpassing strange was that the events reported on page 5 of that issue, were given an entirely different twist by a columnist elsewhere in that very same issue. Far be it from us to attribute motives; but we feel constrained to give the full facts of the case, particularly as it affects Catholics so closely.

● Sign of the times?

Whatever the precedents may have been, is it a sign of the times that a Government can be goaded into action only when Buddhist monks take it upon themselves to stage a demonstration, and to park themselves on a property belonging to others? Peaceful citizens, it may thus appear, have much to fear. Those who are not vociferous, and those who prefer the rule of law, would seem to be at a disadvantage. For, what actually happened in the present case, is that once the land had been purchased by His Grace, Buddhist monks forcibly entered the premises, squatted there, and remained there till the People's Government assured them that all would be well!

The transgressors of the law were thus protected. A bitter travesty of justice, if ever there was one!

● Antecedents

Attura is a town in the Agalawatte electorate. The Catholic population of the area is about 200 to 300. They have no Catholic Church at all (though Protestant churches do exist), the nearest being the church at Matugama about 14 miles away.

To provide for the needs of the Catholics, the Parish Priest applied to the Government for a block of land to erect a church, and after due investigation, the Government set apart a two-acre block of land for the purpose as long ago as November 1953.

But then, the farce commenced. A Buddhist monk squatted on the spot and the Government could do nothing at all to eject him. The Government, however, was about to provide an alternative site; but this too was soon occupied by some Buddhists, and as the Government appeared powerless, it suggested the acquisition of some private land for the Church, somewhere in 1955.

And then, the search began — a difficult one, due to the existence of large estates in the area.

● Millakanda Estate

An opportunity presented itself when Millakanda Estate declared its readiness to dispose of a part of its land. In view of the thoroughly unfair twist given to the facts by the *Daily News* columnist, we would wish to give the sequence of events as they actually happened.

In January of last year the District Co-ordinating Committee wrote to the Superintendent of Health Services, Kalutara, recommending the acquisition of that part of the land where the Estate

Current Comment

by
THE
EDITOR

Dispensary stood, for a General Hospital. No reply came, and so the question was raised again in March; finally, it was in June that the S.H.S., Kalutara, informed the District Committee that he would be recommending the acquisition. But even in September, nothing had been done, and the M.P. of the area took up the question, and in October, the S.H.S. seems to have sent a report to the Director of Health Services; but even as late as February 1959 no information whatsoever had been received by the local authorities regarding the governmental acquisition.

Meanwhile the Parish Priest of Matugama had also started negotiating for the purchase of this land that was up for sale. Preliminaries were concluded and on October 23rd, the Management wrote to him accepting his terms of purchase. The deed was finally signed on 21st February 1959.

● Bhikkhus take over

On the 23rd of the same month, the Parish Priest took possession of the premises. And on the very next day — as the *Daily News* news report correctly states — a group of Bhikkhus took forceful possession of the buildings. Another group of monks is said to have rushed to the Prime Minister who gave orders for the immediate acquisition of the premises, without any inquiry whatsoever.

It was the familiar pattern all over again; trespassers were protected and the demands of justice were ignored!

It does indeed seem most strange — to say the very least — that for one entire year the Government remained unconcerned and indifferent regarding this acquisition, despite reminders from the local authorities; that for a full year they ignored the

entire question; but the moment that the Catholic Church acquired it, and some Buddhist monks walked in, then they found it a matter of such paramount importance and such a crying need, that the Prime Minister himself had to intervene with a special order. Can we Catholics be blamed, if we are perturbed and very much disturbed at this species of justice that is being meted out to us?

● Church—or no church?

Two facts should be abundantly clear — that at least till the end of last year, the Government had certainly taken no decision to purchase the land, whereas the Parish Priest of Matugama had commenced negotiations by June and had practically completed them by October 1958.

So much for the columnist of the *Daily News* and his insinuations that the Catholic hierarchy had come on the scene to upset the apple-cart.

But the question that agitates Catholics is a much deeper and bigger one than a mere newspaper report. Are we to live our lives peacefully in this land of ours, sharing in the rule of law and justice in common with all other citizens of Ceylon? or are we to be relegated to an inferior grade of Ceylon citizenship, ready to be sacrificed at the merest whim of every vociferous section?

The Government alone can answer. In the present case, it is evident that in fairness to the Catholics it is the duty of the Government to obtain for us at least an alternative site with the necessary guarantees of security.

Jubilee at Galle

(from our Galle correspondent)

ON Saturday, the 21st instant, jubilee celebrations took place at Galle, when the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. D'Amelia, S.J., said Mass and preached a short sermon at a grotto on the top of the hill. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament followed.

Fifty years ago, the late Mr. F. A. Goonesekera, the Muppu of the Church, built this grotto, to commemorate Our Blessed Mother's apparitions at Lourdes. When the celebrations took place two weeks ago, there was a large crowd of parishioners present — including the Sodalists from St. Aloysius' College, Galle, as well as the Seminarians from Loyola and the Junior Seminary.

ARCHDIOCESE TO HAVE CHURCH OF SILENCE WEEK

OUR ARCHBISHOP

It is a most fitting coincidence that the 13th anniversary of the consecration of His Grace the Archbishop, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., should fall today, when we bring out our special 90-years commemorative issue of our paper. Much of what we are, we owe to His Grace. There can be no better occasion for the "Messenger" to express its public gratitude to him for all that he is to us, and to pledge His Grace our unwavering loyalty at all times.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Church of Silence Week

THE following instructions will be observed in all our Churches and Chapels for the Church of Silence from Passion Sunday to Palm Sunday:—

1. The Passion Week, i.e., from Passion Sunday to Palm Sunday, shall be considered as a special period of prayer for the Church of Silence.

2. During that week there shall be at least one day of Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, with exposition and Benediction wherever that is possible.

3. During the same week, at least one public Way of the Cross shall be made in all our parishes and religious communities.

4. We leave it to the discretion of the Priests in charge to organise other devotions such as penitential processions (which could also be held in connection with the prescribed Way of the Cross), general Communions, etc.

5. At Mass, the Prayer "Pro quacunque tribulatione" (No. 13) shall be observed as Imperata (simpliciter) from Passion Sunday up to the end of this year. The other Imperata "Pro pace" is to be discontinued.

6. The versicle "Parce Domine" with the Oremus "Deus qui culpa offenderis" shall be sung at the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament henceforth up to the end of the year.

7. Similarly all religious communities shall recite the "Tota pulchra es" in common, once a day, and our School children shall recite at common prayers the invocation "Immaculate Heart of Mary, Refuge of Sinners, Pray for us" (3 times), as was done during the Lourdes Jubilee Year.

8. Finally, we appeal in a special way to our dear school children for their prayers, and recommend to them the Saturday Mass and Communion as a special means.

✠ THOMAS COORAY, O.M.I., Archbishop of Colombo, March 1, 1959.

ARCHBISHOP'S APPOINTMENTS

8, 10, 11 March: Pastoral Visitation and Confirmation Service in the Mission of Hanwella.



His Grace the Archbishop will be away from Colombo from 13th to the 21st March (both dates inclusive).

From Bishop Regno

(Continued from page 1)

money and personnel in order to bring the "Catholic Messenger" to the present high standard and efficiency and make it a Paper of which we all are justly proud.

Chief Pastor's call goes out this week

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

FROM Colombo's Chief Pastor, His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray O.M.I., this week a stirring call will go out to the Archdiocese, for prayers for the Church of Silence, the "Messenger" understands.

Directly stemming from His Holiness Pope John XXIII's own fervent appeal for the persecuted Church and the more recent appeal from the Apostolic Delegate, His Grace calls for a prompt redoubling of personal prayers and penances of Priests, Religious and Laity towards all sectors of the Church suffering, during the Passion Week from Passion to Palm Sunday this year.

"The Church, the Mystical Body of Christ, has been sorely tried in various countries in these our days" states His Grace in the Cir-

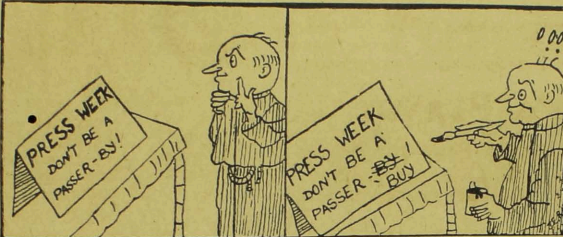
cular just issued. "As members of the Mystical Body, we cannot remain indifferent."

Specific observances have been laid out and recommend-

ed for the Clergy and the Faithful.

His Grace's special appeal for this week of prayer is backed up by a recent communication from His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate which refers to the "distressing situation of the Clergy and the Faithful in many parts of Europe and Asia due to hostility and, in some cases, open persecution."

SPOTLIGHTING OUR PRESS WEEK



Press Week is here and now. Every Catholic should pause to ponder on the significance of Press week and participate in it by—

- Buying Catholic books
- Subscribing to the Catholic weeklies and enrolling other subscribers

Recommendation for Press Week

The writer's prayer

"St. Francis de Sales, dear patron of a harrowed tribe, grant us thy protection! Bestow on us, thy servants, a little more of the critical spirit and a little less on our readers; on our readers, the grace to acknowledge our merits, and promptitude in paying their subscriptions. Make them less partial to compliments, more callous to rebuke, less critical of printer's devils! Give us beautiful inspirations and brave thoughts so that we, thy children, may have courage to write as we think, and our readers the docility to think as we write. Then shall we, thy faithful servants, resting on thy protection, fight thy battle with joyful hearts, drive the wolf from the fold, and meet thee, our patron, in everlasting peace." Amen.

Jaffna Students

(from our Messenger Correspondent)

AT a meeting of the Regional Council of the Jaffna Catholic Students' Federation held on Sunday, 22 February, at St. Patrick's College, it was resolved that the dowry system and the caste system should not be allowed to be a deterrent to marriage, that marriage brokers be done away with, that the final choice rest with the parties concerned though the parents be consulted, and that mixed marriages should not be encouraged.

At this meeting a talk was delivered by Very Rev. Fr. H. Le Coutour, O.M.I., Vicar-General, on "Young People—their correct attitude towards marriage in the present set-up."

At the election of Officers, the following were appointed for the current year:

Schools not producing leaders — says Father Crowther

"OUR educational system has not produced true leaders and is not producing men and women who know how to choose their leaders," said Rev. Fr. E. Crowther, S. J., when speaking as chief guest at the annual prize-giving at St. Michael's College, Batticaloa, last Friday. "If we are to function as a parliamentary democracy, our schools must above all be designed to produce leaders," said he, "men of vision and character, not demagogues and thugs, and all our schools, even the smallest village schools, should be designed to produce citizens who will use their votes to choose as their representatives men of vision and character and not charlatans and clowns."

It is the fashion among some unthinking people, said Fr. Crowther, to propose as an axiom the theory that whatever a majority will is right and must be done. This theory, said he, through a kind of immanent justice, had boomeranged on the heads of those who used it. Majority rule was only a modern mealy-mouthed version of the ancient but forthright lie that might was right.

States were necessary, said Fr. Crowther, for the removal of the weakness of the citizens and not for increasing it. The State was necessary because the individual was by himself inadequate to procure his own development. Hence the weaker the individual, the more binding was it on the State to protect him. If instead of protecting him the State oppressed him, it was immoral, said he, whatever show of legality was paraded to justify it.

Concluding his address, the speaker, in clear, incisive phrases, drove home the moral that the end never

justifies the means. It was wrong to set about raising the living standard by lying propaganda or by decapitating the heads of the first-born or by artificial contraception or by exiling all those who were not of the required colour or blood. Truth and justice, said he, could never be cynically sacrificed for expediency.

Since a country always got the government it deserved, the government would be cruel or corrupt or oppressive if its subjects were corrupt or cruel or oppressive. If they were communal-minded, their leaders too would be communal-minded. Calling on his listeners to adhere firmly to principles, Fr. Crowther asked them to choose leaders who would not sell their honour for wealth and power or be afraid of the threats of thugs or be carried away by the flattery of the mob. It was necessary they should do so, said he, if their national life was to survive.

President: Emil M. H. A. Benedict; Vice-President: Miss Naomi Saverimuttu; Secretary: Anton A. G. Savundranayagam; Treasurer: A. John; Committee Members: A. Nicholas and Rajan Armstrong.

The proceedings concluded with tea and a social.

Messenger's Oldest Employee Passes Away



ON this ninetieth anniversary of the first publication of the Messenger, we are saddened by the sudden death of its oldest employee, M. D. Siprianu ("Simeon Baas" to all who knew him), which occurred last Saturday, a short while after the Press closed for the day.

Simeon had worked at the Press for forty-eight of those ninety years the "Messenger" has been in existence. He joined the Press as personal attendant to one of its former Managers, the Rev. Fr. Conrad, O.M.I. At the time of his demise he was the Press foreman, an office that made him responsible to many people for many things.

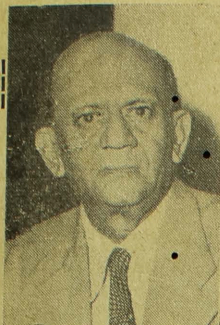
He was so gentle and unassuming in his ways, that his other associates at the Press always found in him a father, never a taskmaster. During the span of those 48 years of uninterrupted service, Simeon had come to acquire a great love and loyalty for the Press. Even in his old age he didn't spare himself, and although the doctors had advised him to rest, he staunchly refused to be invalidated out. He considered the interests of the Press his own, and even feeble health would not deter him from carrying out his duties.

He was at his post on Saturday as usual. After completing his day's work he sat down to a hurried lunch when a haemorrhage occurred that rendered him unconscious. He was rushed to the General Hospital where in spite of prompt attention he passed away fortified by the rites of the Church.

His funeral took place last Monday at the Catholic Cemetery, Wellapalliya, in the presence of a large concourse of mourners. After a short service at the house, conducted by his nephew, Rev. Fr. Ignatius Gamlath, Editor of the "Gnanartha Pradhipayam," the coffin was borne to the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel where the obsequies were performed by the Procurator-General, Rev. Fr. Joseph Fernando, O.M.I., who was representing His Grace the Archbishop at the funeral. At the graveside the service was taken by the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Albert Perera, O.M.I.

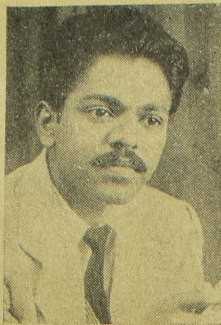
Many other priests were present, as also the entire personnel of the Catholic Press.

YOUR PAPER, the MESSENGER SERVES by bringing home the TRUTH.



• **Mr. Quintus
Delilkhan**

In an earlier period of the *Messenger*, the late J. P. de Fonseka was its most prolific contributor. With his death, Mr. Quintus Delilkhan stepped into the breach with characteristic zeal and genuine talent. He has been one of the *Messenger's* "regulars" in recent times. Capable of handling serious themes in the grand manner, Mr. Delilkhan has also shown a remarkable facility on rare occasions for the light and breezy type of article. He has also won a Radio Ceylon "Catholic Hour" Award for his work.



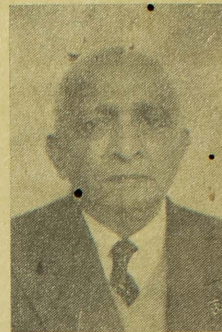
• **Mr. E. C. T.
Candappa**

A working journalist attached to one of our contemporaries, Mr. E. C. T. Candappa finds time to write serious Poetry too. Apart from all that, he has even excelled in the short story. Mr. Candappa, in addition to capturing the Messenger Journalism Award for Poetry last year, also won a Radio Ceylon Catholic Hour "Oscar" for his work. His work has adorned the Messenger columns. Scheduled to come off the Press very soon is a collection of his Poems.



• **Mrs. Maureen
Balthazaar**

Freelancer Mrs. Maureen Balthazaar conducts the Woman's Page of the *Messenger* with much gusto. In the front-line of Ceylon's women-writers her work has been heavily featured in the women's pages of our local contemporaries. She hit the headlines in capturing no less than two principal prizes in the first ever Messenger Journalism Awards last year, for the short story and the best essay on "Virgin Most Pure." She has also won an Award on Radio Ceylon's "Catholic Hour."

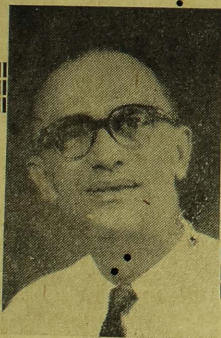


• **Mr. S. J. K.
Crowther**

Doyen of Ceylon's Catholic writers, Mr. S. J. K. Crowther has wielded his pen in the Catholic cause with characteristic vim and vigour. In his long and unblemished innings in the alluring fields of journalism, this one-time Editor of the *Ceylon Daily News* and veteran master of superb satire (witness his weekly feature in the *Times of Ceylon*) has often written to the *Messenger* columns. In the years that still lie ahead of him, the self-same years which will take us to our own next milestone — the *Messenger* century in 1969 — we have no doubt our readers will be treated to a galaxy of writings from his gifted pen.

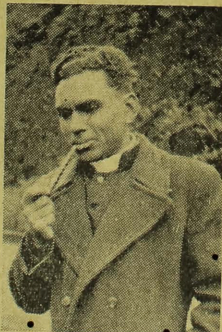
BEHIND THE SCENES

We are now taking you behind the scenes to let you see some of those whose work has appeared most frequently in the MESSENGER. We also take this opportunity of saluting our contributors and expressing our appreciation and gratitude for their assistance in helping the MESSENGER to be what it is week after week. — THE EDITOR.



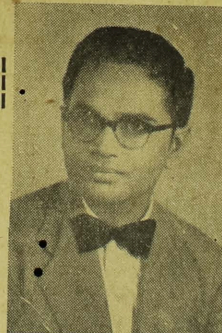
• **Mr. J. O. Ebert**

One of the island's outstanding photographers, Mr. J. O. Ebert's camera has captured anything from the exquisite beauty of our landscapes to serious portrait studies. His work has adorned many special issues of the *Messenger* and one of his finest pictures specially commissioned for this paper appears on page 5.



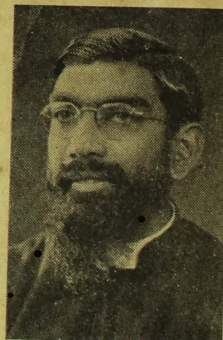
• **Rev. Fr. Theodore
Pieris**

An exquisite felicity of expression combined with a charming sense of humour and lightness have characterized Fr. Theodore Pieris' numerous contributions to this paper. The readers who have enjoyed his writing can look forward to a delightful collection of his work to be out shortly.



• **Mr. Leo G.
Fernando**

Another keen photographer whose work has consistently appeared in the *Messenger*, Mr. Leo G. Fernando's series on the Religious Life showed much imagination and craftsmanship and found warm appreciation in many quarters.



• **Rev. Fr. Kenneth
Perera**

A priest with a distinct flair for good and effective writing, Fr. Kenneth Perera has been actively working behind the scenes for the past year. Although he writes under a pseudonym his writing has had an impact which has been widely felt.

We publish this contribution sent by a teen-ager of De La Salle College, Mutwal, on the school-boy Saint whose Feast is celebrated next Monday, March 9. We regret this topical article was shut out from the Schools-Mag Supplement.

ON the 12th June, last year, the Roman Square at St. Peter's was packed with crowds upon crowds of school children. It was a bright day, made brighter by the colourfulness of brilliant ceremonies and uniforms. That pleasant June 12th was a day of days, for on that day history was made in the world.

The first school boy ever canonised was made a Saint. The Holy Father reads the Documents. The 100,000 eyes present are directed towards him. Master Dominic Savio is made a great Saint. They see the Saint before them: a beautiful picture that everyone saw. Savio is in majesty, in glory: a school

boy like us, mid the great Saints! Yes, an ordinary boy like us — but a boy who took religion very seriously.

With all that, he was a popular boy. All loved Dominic. Boys felt unhappy if Dominic happened to be missing: He was a great sport. His pleasant boyish voice was ever heard in the compound. And yet — if his company was delightful and his games enjoyed, his heart was more delightful and his soul

enjoyed his God more.

They say that a boy can be known by his face. Well, the person who knew Dominic best says that Dominic's face was full of joy and shone always with pure brightness.

Dominic had many friends in school. But he was careful — for a boy is known by his friends. He avoided the bad boys as much as he could. His greatest friends were Camillo, Gavio, and Louis — all excellent boys.

One of Dominic's favourite sayings was, "In our school we live in as jolly a way as we can, and we love God in that way."

St. Dominic Savio is a school boy. He is now a Saint and in Heaven he thinks of us. He says to us all at De La Salle: "Friends, I love you. I'll help you. Follow me. Let Jesus be your friend. Avoid sin, the great enemy of us all. Go often to Confession and Communion. Death rather than sin."

The New School Boy Saint

• *Make no mistake about it, the power of the printed word has a magnetic spell over the people today...*

VERBAL fisticuffs, especially when the opposing sides are equally matched, always provide the reader of the magic Printed Word with sheer entertainment.

Witness, for instance, two newspapers at each other's throats!

The classic case of the editors of *The Razor* and *The Scorpion* comes to mind. It is recorded that in the heyday of their career the hot air let off by these two rival newspapers, week after week, sent up their sales bounding sky-high!

Thousands of readers bought their copies unflinching each week to read the razor-sharp outbursts of the one and the stinging torrent of invective from the other.

Upshot of all this was the magnanimous gesture of a philanthropist who decided to invite the two editors to

dine with him.

It was the philanthropist's avowed intention to induce the editors to forget their rancour, and to turn their obviously patent talents to-

wards more constructive journalism.

The philanthropist was highly flattered when both editors wrote to him accepting his invitation to dinner.

Came the crucial hour

when the editors were expected. Inflated with his public spirit, in his luxurious mansion, the philanthropist awaited his guests with a tense delight.

At last there arrived the

stooping figure of a man, tall and cadaverous. The host stepped forward and, beaming with smiles, enquired: "May I ask, are you the editor of *The Razor* or *The Scorpion*?"

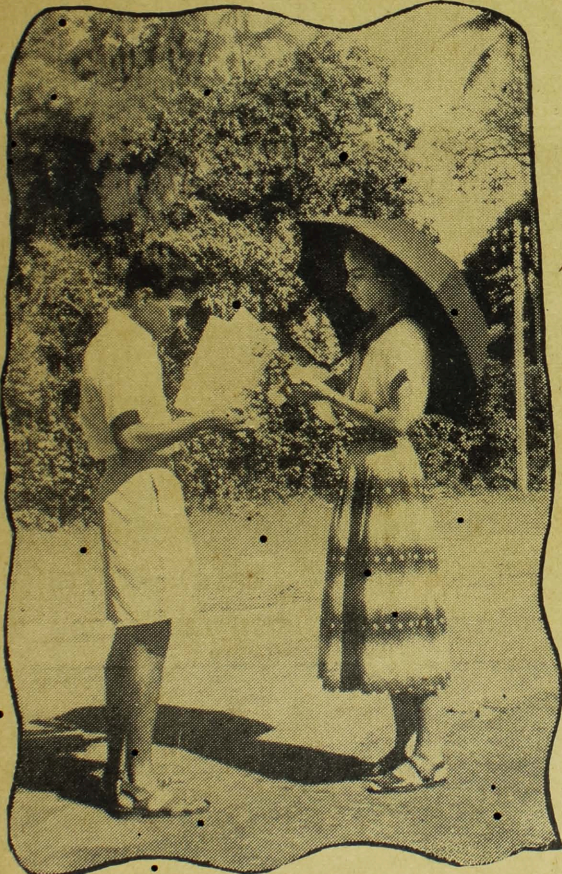
"Both!" shot the macabre editor!!

IT'S not a long, long way from this anecdote to Catholic literature. The magic of the Printed Word is

the fifty-one remaining weeks of the year too; a relentless, unbroken, steady campaign that will continually supplement the concerted Press Week efforts, a continuous week-by-week drive to put up the Word of God before the public eye.

The output of Catholic literature today has increased considerably. Not only has the average standard of Catholic writing risen higher than ever before, but more

★ C-A-M-E-O-S of MESSENGER



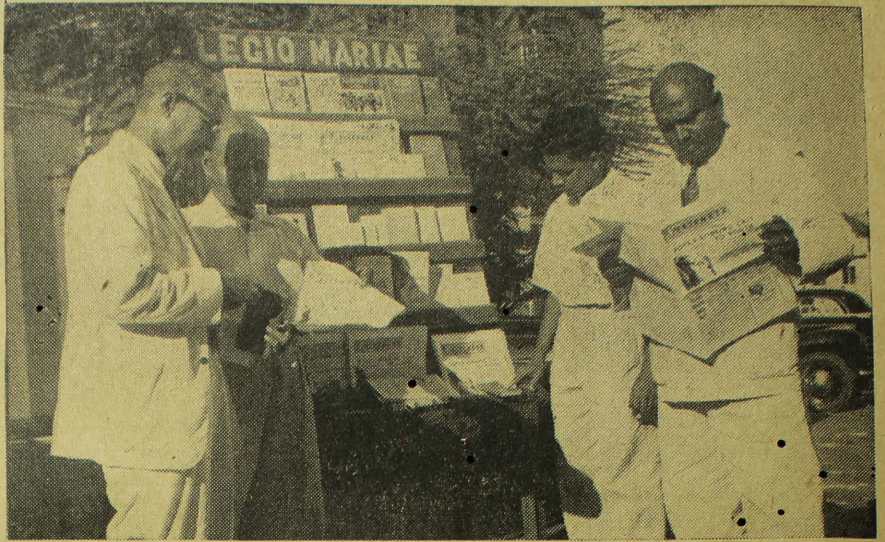
• Beauty meets Youth with the Messenger

Street-
sellers
in
action

The Messenger can never turn RED, but you can make it READ! Canvass one more subscriber for this paper and we will be nearer our goal, a doubling up of our present circulation. 2 to 1 is our Slogan for 1959.



• Meet these fair street-sellers on a Saturday morning!



• At this Legion Book Barrow the Messenger is very popular.

★ CATHOLIC BOOKS ARE BEACONS for a troubled world

By HARRISON PEIRIS

still a powerful spell. It holds the eye of the man in the street as well as the man in the mansion.

Make no mistake about it, the Printed Word is one of the greatest attractions today.

If you have taken a stroll through Colombo's busy pavements or down Maradana's broad roadways, your gaze would have been held enraptured by the magic of the Printed Word again—and, this time, of Communist literature.

There are children's books, very attractively presented, in colour, and subtly preparing the way, in an intensive propaganda drive, to win over our young generation to another ideology.

What are we doing about it, to spotlight our own Catholic literature?

Colombo's Press Week should certainly focus attention on the glories of Catholic literature, but it must NOT end there. It must not be merely a one-week affair.

It must be followed up in

and more general publishers include books specifically Catholic in their lists.

The growing numbers of Catholic books published in Penguin, Pelican, Fontana and Pan paperback series are a salute to the high watermark and the universality of Catholic writing of today.

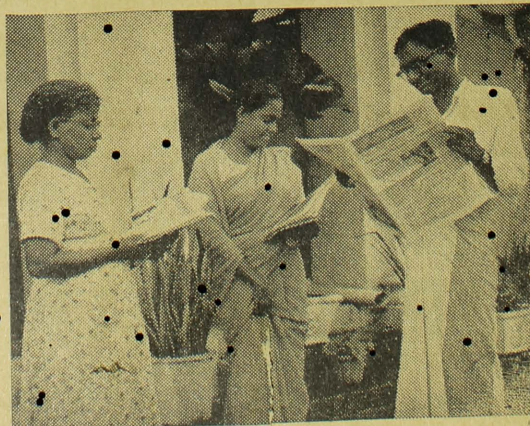
The splendid efforts of Press Week apostles, and the street-sellers of Catholic papers and books who will be out in full strength during Press Week, should find a responsive chord in every Catholic heart in Ceylon. It is only by supporting the Literature Movement by continually buying Catholic books, that we can claim to be full Apostles of the Catholic Printed word.

No doubt this entails a sacrifice. But then, the buyer of Communist literature too, pays the same sacrifice in the same coin.

In this connection it will be worth our while to ponder seriously on these words, which in a nutshell, get to the root of the question as to why we should buy Catholic books:

"The one expenditure necessary for families who would grow in the love and knowledge of the Church is—Books. These sometimes seem to be entirely out of reach until we re-assess our values and compare how much we spend to feed our bodies, which will one day be dust, and how little to feed our minds, which will live forever. It is worth sacrificing to buy Catholic literature."

May we take those words to our heart when the Apostles of the Printed (God's) Word and the street-sellers counter us this whole week in our homes or on the streets.



• Your paper is brought to a home in Kotahena.

at F. X's Grocery dept

ITALIAN PURE OLIVE OIL

1 kilo tin	35 oz.	7.25
½ gallon	5 lbs.	15.00
1 gallon	10 lbs.	26.00

PURE CAPENSIS SOFT TISSUE

TOILET ROLL

cts. 70
Dozen 6.75

**F. X. Pereira
& Sons Ltd.**
COLOMBO.

HIRE PURCHASE

could be arranged with
Investments & Securities Ltd.

or

Hire Purchase Co., Ltd.
Tuckers Building, Colombo.

★ OLD-TIMERS ★

FR. VAZ FEATURE

THE ninetieth anniversary of our paper takes our thoughts back to those who have gone before us in the field.

We are happy to pay the tribute that, all along, the *Messenger* has, as champion of all Catholic interests, valiantly supported Fr. Vaz's Cause. Contributors have always found its columns open to articles recalling the history of the early days. More often than

offered for the Cause on 17th January (anniversary of Fr. Vaz's death). As an encouragement to the many

realised it at the time, but one of these documents was particularly helpful, though it was only an article from a back number of the *Anthonian*.

The Kandy College magazine, in fact, had squeezed in an erudite contribution from Fr. Philip Caspersz, O.S.B. (quite possibly critics found it out of place, sandwiched between school-boys' accounts of mat-

Strands of the Story 183

not, the Editor himself has led the way, stressing our obligations to the pioneers of our Evangelisation.

Even with its "modernisation" in content and get-up, our Catholic Weekly has courageously put forward these Strands (with their old-time flavour and documentary dress) as a matter of moment and "actuality."

The "Secretariate" is particularly thankful for the headlines earmarking 1961 (for a suitable commemoration of the 250th anniversary of Fr. Vaz's holy death).

According to calculations, the Postulator will by then have completed the work of historical sifting of the documents submitted to the Sacred Congregation of Rules in Rome and we may hope that the centenary year will accordingly witness the first great step towards Father's beatification: the "Introduction" of his Cause.

2. Looking back brings to our mind the stalwarts who pioneered for Father's beatification in the days when his memory seemed hopelessly lost. Some are well known: today we are moved to mention two of the more hidden supporters, the two most recently deceased.

Just gone to his reward is Mr. Raymond Perera of Quarry Road, Dehiwela, whose latest gesture was to have Holy Mass

more benefactors we need if we are to raise the Rs. 50,000 needed now by the Postulator, we disclose (now that he is gone) that, apart from several donations, Mr. Raymond had promised to "cap" every thousand reached by the Fund with a hundred of his own.

But even more helpful than his contributions in cash were the documents our good old gentleman was able to send us for having kept them over the years. He may not have

ches and meetings). In it "Farrflip" constructed a thesis that the claim to an earlier Process held in Goa was unfounded.

The thesis came in handy a year or two ago when the first difficulty confronting the Postulator was either to produce the documents of this earlier Process or to explain what had become of them.

All search for them proving fruitless, the valid and acceptable reply was Fr. Caspersz's old claim that there never had been such an earlier Process.

This much, then, for the memory of Fr. Philip (also recently deceased).

3. To be a little less incomplete we must mention Chevalier H. A. Hamer who died last year just when he was completing arrangements for the mass printing of prayer leaflets for Father's Beatification.

For a good quarter of a century Mr. Hamer's printing works ("Caxton") had been at the service of Fr. Vaz's Cause (chiefly by printing Fr. S. G. Perera's works) but the Chevalier did not neglect to send our Fund his token.

We have mentioned all this just to show how everyone can do his bit towards a Cause that can go forward to eventual triumph only by a nationwide effort of several generations.

RADIO LOG

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 O.M.I.

MAR. 9-15: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. Philip Dissanayake, O.M.I.

MAR. 15: 7-00 to 7-30 p.m. CATHOLIC HOUR PROGRAMME (English).

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 MARCH

GENERAL: For the general and particular intentions of the Supreme Pontiff.

MISSIONARY: That many may be stirred to help the Church in Africa in her urgent need.

THE POOR CLARES

will appreciate orders for vestments, cassocks for the clergy, church linen, paintings—such as the Stations of the Cross, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, etc.

The Poor Clares Colettines, Convent of Mary Immaculate, Tewatte, Ragama.

ALTAR BREADS

The Poor Clares can now supply Altar Breads. Orders can be despatched by post.

Apply:

CONVENT OF MARY IMMACULATE

Poor Clares Colettines

Tewatte, Ragama. 276



At Rome a Pilgrim of our 1958 Centenary Year Pilgrimage.

Thousands and thousands have seen Boralessa Passion Play, but who has seen the world-famous Passion Play at Oberammagau?

If you have any interest in our 1960 Tour, book your place early. No Room in our 1959 1st Tour to Holyland and Europe leaving March. Fully booked. Only very few vacancies available in our 2nd Tour leaving May to Rome, Venice, Switzerland, Lourdes, Paris, London. Etc. All Inclusive Cost 3985/- Hundreds of Testimonials from Pilgrims of previous tours.

"PILGRIMWAYS"

Most Experienced and Popular People for Catholic Pilgrimages & Tours
24, SYMONDS ROAD,
COLOMBO 10.

Tel 91300.
Box 646

World Famous

Passion Play

AT

Oberammagau, Germany, in 1960 (Every 10 Years). Arrangements have been made for a Party of 25 to Visit Oberammagau, Germany, Rome, Venice, Lourdes, Austria, Switzerland, Paris, Monte Carlo, London, Etc. in 1960.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS



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.

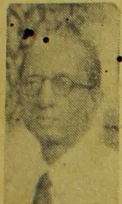
BOOKS

ENGLISH SYLLABUS FOR CATECHISM

Std. 7—Programme: begins on page 1 and is continued on pages 10—19.

Std. 6 Programme: begins on page 9 & is continued on page 2 to 8.

IN MEMORIAM



Felix Henry William Pieries
Born 22 May 1898
Died 10 March 1958

A Requiem Mass will be officiated on 10-3-1959 at 7 a.m. at St. Lucia's Cathedral for the repose of his soul.

219, Skinner's Road North, Kotahena. 467

In Ever Loving Memory of
ANTONY XAVIER GOMEZ
(son of late Mr. Nambikai Gomez and Mrs. Gomez)

Died 10th February, 1959 at Tuticorin

REQUIEM High Mass will be sung for the repose of his soul, at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena, on Wednesday, 11th March 1959, at 7 a.m.
Your kind presence and prayers are solicited.

63/16, Pansala Road, Kotahena.

REQUIEM High Mass will be sung for the repose of the soul of the late P. A. Raymond Perera at St. Mary's Church, Dehiwela, at 6-10 a.m., on Tuesday, the 10th March, 1959.
16, Quarry Road, Dehiwela.

**ANTHONY GORDON
MAINARD ALLES**

Born 21-1-57
Died 9-3-58

Just as you were
You will ever be
A beautiful thought
In our memory.

Fondly remembered by his parents, brothers and sisters.
196, Jampettah Street, Colombo 13.

THANKSGIVING

OUR undying thanks to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for having miraculously saved us from death or serious injury when an explosive was thrown a few feet away from our house.

We owe our thanks to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour for her help too.

Mr. & Mrs. E. N. Cooke and Children.

FINANCIAL

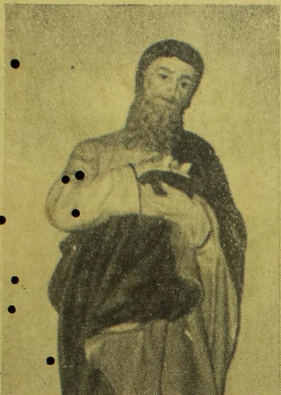
WILL a generous Catholic help a Catholic Government servant who is in urgent need of financial assistance by obliging with a loan of Rs. 3,000/-.

Earning a monthly remuneration of Rs. 500/-, assures repayment on regular monthly instalment of Rs. 150/- each. No. 483, c/o The Messenger, Catholic Press, Borella.

CHURCH NOTICES

Lenten Feast

AT
WATTALA



Feast of St. Joachim will be celebrated at Wattala for those who are unable to attend feast at Talawila on the 10th.

Triduum on Saturday, Sunday, Monday.

On Tuesday 10th High Mass at 6-30 a.m.

Low Mass at 11 a.m.

Parish Priest, Wattala.

477

MEDICAL

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.

PUROL 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.

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

TRADE

"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.

"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.

VACANCIES

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

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

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

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

Programme Leaflets can be had from the Secretaries of Guilds or from the undersigned.

P. I. Ed. Smale, Hon. Secretary, Retreats and Lectures Committee, Ministry of Transport and Works, Colombo Fort, OR Flat F. 4, Torrington Avenue, Colombo 5

457

EUCCHARISTIC RALLY

A set of 12 different beautiful photographs (1 3/4 x 2 3/4) can be had for Rs. 5/-.

Postage -/35 extra.

PINIBINDU ART CIRCLE,
KANDANA.

FOR

*Healthy Gums &
Sparkling Teeth*



AVAILABLE AT ALL GOOD
STORES

Selto Dental Salt tooth powder is so refreshing to the mouth and is recommended by Dentists everywhere, for maintaining firm healthy gums and sparkling teeth.

A marked improvement is soon shown in cases of soft and receding gums by the regular use of Selto. It also keeps your mouth delightfully clean and fresh, a fact particularly appreciated by hard smokers.

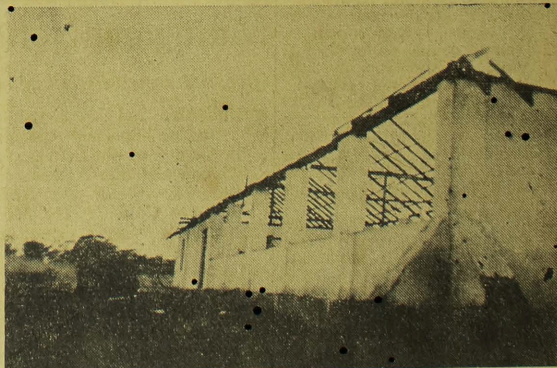
Sole Agents

M. P. GOMEZ & CO., LTD., Colombo.

READ

The CEYLON ROSARY
Subscribe to
The CEYLON ROSARY
(Two Rupees per year)
—the magazine of the Catholic Home—

Address: St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya, Colombo 4. (Ceylon)



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.

426

DAYS of FERVOUR in DIOCESE of CHILAW Solemn finale to Lourdes Year at Nattandiya

(from a MESSENGER correspondent)

WEEKS AND MONTHS OF PREPARATION AND PIETY REACHED THEIR CLIMAX ON FEBRUARY 12TH, WHEN A MAMMOTH GATHERING OF THE FAITHFUL FROM ALL PARTS OF THE DIOCESE OF CHILAW CONVERGED ON THE GROTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES, NATTANDIYA, FOR THE CLOSING CEREMONIES OF THE LOURDES JUBILEE YEAR. IT WAS THE FINALE TO OTHER CELEBRATIONS THAT HAD PRECEDED.

Celebrations commenced on the 12th with Holy Mass celebrated by the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Michael Perera, Vicar-General. His Lordship the Rt. Rev. Dr. Edmund Peiris, O.M.I., Bishop of Chilaw, addressed the vast gathering in Sinhalese and spoke of the immense significance of the occasion. Rev. Fr. Peter Rodrigo preached in Tamil.

The highlight of the celebrations was the Inter-Deanery Marian Quiz contest, which was received with tremendous enthusiasm by both children and adults alike.

Earlier, between November 1958 and January 1959, each deanery had held its quarter and semi-finals to select two schools to represent the respective deanery at the finals, and so ten schools were lined up before the compere.

The Nainamadama Girls' Sinhalese School emerged winners, the Kurunegala Girls' Sinhalese School were runners up, and the Sinhalese Girls' School, Chilaw, were placed third. His Lordship the Bishop presided over the quiz contest and gave away the prizes to the winners.

The proceedings were brought to a close with the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Federation's Easter Rally

(from a "MESSENGER" correspondent)

PREACHING last Sunday at Mass to a foregathering of 150 Federations, the Very Rev. Fr. Peter Pillai, O.M.I., stressed the need for personal sanctity in a movement such as theirs, which was pledged to propagating the Catholic way of life. "To achieve a supernatural goal," he said, "one must use supernatural means."

At the general meeting which was held shortly after, Mr. Emmanuel Muttukumaru addressed the Federation. He unravelled the political tangles of the Leftists in this country and showed how they used our very democratic freedom to stifle and extinguish it. Reminding them that the Leftists derived their inspiration both in ideology and organisation from

outside Ceylon, he said that in addition to this allegiance of the Leftists to a foreign power, they were dedicated to revolution as the only means of achieving their aims.

The meeting expressed its sympathy with *Junges Leben*, an Austrian Youth and Student Organisation formed to protest against the Communist World Festival of Youth held in Vienna.

THROUGH CHANGING VICISSITUDES— UNCHANGING TRUTH!



● We reproduce this picture from an earlier period of this paper. The Messenger through these 90 years has seen changing fortunes, changing vicissitudes it has not remained static, it still moves forward with unchanging Truth—

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO

No. 18639/T

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late John Paul Joseph Irugalbandara of No. 32, Church Road, Mattakkuliya, Colombo 15. — Deceased.

Edith Irugalbandara of No. 32, Church Road, Mattakkuliya, Colombo 15. — Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Regina Irugalbandara.
2. Prince Irugalbandara, presently Sister Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Great Carmel, Mattakkuliya.
3. Roland Irugalbandara.
4. Joseph Irugalbandara.
5. Zeno Irugalbandara.
6. Christie Irugalbandara.
7. Venitia Irugalbandara, all of No. 32, Church Road, Mattakkuliya, Colombo.
8. Clarice Fernando of Stafford Place, Colombo.
9. Marie Irugalbandara.
10. John Irugalbandara both of No. 32, Church Road, Mattakkuliya (the 9th and 10th are minors appearing by their Guardian-ad-litem the 5th Respondent above-named. — Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before V. Siva Supramaniam, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Colombo on the 7th day of February 1959, in the presence of Mr. Andrew M. G. de Silva, Proctor on the part of Petitioner and the Affidavit of the Petitioner dated 5th February 1955 having been read.

It is ordered that the Petitioner above-named be and she is hereby declared entitled as the widow of the Deceased above-named to have letter of Administration to the Estate of Deceased above-named, issued to her accordingly. It is further ordered that the 5th Respondent above-named be and he is hereby appointed Guardian-ad-litem over the person of 9th and 10th minors Respondents above-named, unless the Respondents above-named or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 19th day of March 1959, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. V. Siva Supramaniam,
Additional District Judge.
7th day of February 1959. 464

Matugama News

(from a Messenger correspondent)

SUNDAY, 22nd February, marked an important epoch in the history of the Matugama Mission Catholic Association, when His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray O.M.I., laid the corner stone for a Catholic Centre, before a representative gathering.

Speaking afterwards at a reception held by the Association, His Grace said that the Church was a big family, and that the prime concern of this family was to gear its machinery to the task of educating its children to be good Catholics and good citizens. Speaking further, he said, "I come to you as your Spiritual Father, and I don't hesitate to say that every Catholic should be imbued with Catholic principles."

CHURCH LINEN

IRISH LINEN — Suitable for Altars, Purificators, etc., in different qualities and in width of 36, 40, 44, 54 and 72 ins. Rs. 8/50, 10/-, 11/- 15/-, 17/50.

SLIPPER SATIN — for Vestments in white, red, green purple, 36 ins. Rs. 4/50 and 6/00 yard.

WATERMARK TAFFETTA — in colours of white, red, green and black, 36 ins. Rs. 4/- yard.

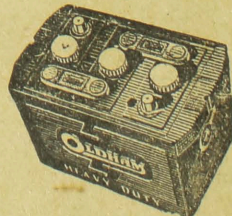
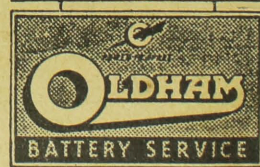
VOILE — for surplices, altars, 44 ins. Rs. 3/75, 1/90 yd.

CHURCH LACE — in widths of 18, 24 and 36 ins. Rs. 4/50 6/50, 7/50 yard.

Also Braid and Fringes for Vestments.

J. L. CARWALLIO

144, Main Street,
COLOMBO



THIS SIGN

shows that we are
● **BATTERY specialists**
Batteries with
18 months guarantee

● **POWER
TO SPARE**
for Cars, Vans & Lorries

● **TUCKERS
AUTODROME**

OFFICIAL OLDHAM SERVICE
STATION

VAUXHALL - OPEL - BEDFORD - CADILLAC
BUICK - OLDSMOBILE - PONTIAC - RILEY
BRIDGESTONE TYRES - OLDHAM
BATTERIES

messenger SCHOOLS-MAG

Vol. 2. No. 5

Saturday, 7th March, 1959

FREE

Our
First
Birthday
Edition



~~~~~ We Are One Today! ~~~~~ ... Our Birthday Gift—a Schools-Mag every week!

THE Messenger Schools-Mag first made its bow on 7 February 1958, as a fortnightly feature for teen-agers.

His Grace the Archbishop of Colombo, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., said in a special message:

"The Lourdes Centenary with its rallying call to all the Faithful to unite in a more determined endeavour to better the world with the heaven of the gospel, is a favourable occasion for inaugurating what we hope will develop

into a successful feature of the Messenger.

"A Catholic paper of general interest can never cater fully for all categories — least of all, perhaps for that difficult group described as 'teen-agers.' The present feature, however, signifies that our adult paper is aware of the special needs of school-going youth and is eager to guide their young energies in the service of their 'Master.'

"Heartiest congratulations and blessings to all connected with

this initiative — ✕ Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., Archbishop of Colombo, 2nd February 1958."

After one year the Schools-Mag now celebrates its first Birthday. With this edition is also fulfilled the persistent and wide demand for a weekly Schools-Mag. This special Birthday Gift of a weekly Schools-Mag, will no doubt, bring joy to all members. It is to be sincerely hoped that members will continue to display

the same zeal and enthusiasm because, as stated at the inception of this Page, the success of the Schools-Mag depends entirely on the Members themselves.

Elsewhere in these pages you will find your own efforts. Keep on writing and smile, smile, smile! And here's the Schools-Mag's very first Member (remember her?) — yes, Nirmalie Pieris of the Convent of Our Lady of Victories, Moratuwa greeting all of you with a very cheery "Happy Birthday to You, Schools-Mag!" Over to her...



**So much to learn
and a pleasure
to
read**

• Nirmalie Pieris

YES! It's wonderful! The Schools-Mag. Without a doubt I like it very much, being its first member, and being the luckiest too in winning for

eight tins of "Jack Mackerel." Presto! I did enjoy the prize I won, with friends, both rich and poor.

I like it especially because this ever-growing popular Mag is uniting Catholic children all over Ceylon. I feel we are all brothers and sisters in one beautiful Catholic home — "The Messenger" — with a family library, — the Schools-Mag, so interesting; so much to learn from; a pleasure to read, and the time well spent in doing so.

NIRMALIE PIERIS.
(Schools-Mag No. 1)



**ANTIDOTE FOR
THIS AGE OF THE
HULA-HOOP!**

— Trevor Fernando

(Schools-Mag No. 1149.)

• IMPORTANT

WITH this First Birthday Edition, the Schools-Mag in future will appear EVERY WEEK in the Messenger.

THE Schools-Mag is to us as was the Star of Bethlehem to the three wise men, not just guiding us but leading us gently in a delightful manner, making our every spare minute a moment of pleasure, along the path to Jesus.

In this "Age" of Rock 'n roll and hula-hoop, to us in the villages where the toils of the fisherman and cultivator are a daily sight, the Schools-Mag comes in, bringing with it the cheer, the pleasant interlude, that we long for.

• Felicia Pereira, whom you see here, is House Captain of St. Anthony's Convent, Kandy and an ardent member of the Schools-Mag. She writes a very special poem for us —

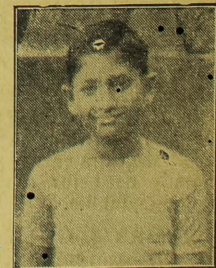
ONE year ago you first began,
Your lovely page with all the fun.
Almost unknown one year slipped through
So here's a happy Birthday to you.

This wish sincere is sent to you,
From little hearts so good and true.

Long may you live is our earnest prayer,
Offered to you our Mag so fair.

FELICIA PEREIRA

For God's Little Ones



Birthday Wishes

OH! at last, the first birthday,
UMPTEN cheers all bright and gay,
READERS let's wish the Mag today.



MANY find it interesting,
AND all of us enjoy it reading.
GRABBING the Mag first is our routine,
SATURDAYS all, when post-man's bell's ringing.

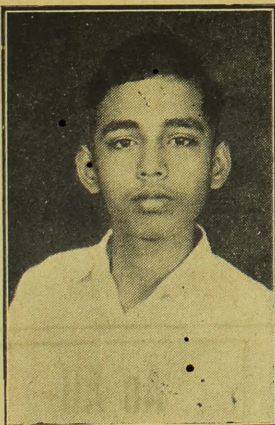


BEFORE one year could pass away,
ISLAND-WIDE popular, the Mag became.
RELIGION, Recreation and Education, the emblem indicates,
TO remind us all we need, besides any game,
HEY! Scientists do not turn blue,
DISPEL your doubts — there's a special column for you;
AND Philatelists, you have one too,
YES, it's a Mag for all, isn't it true?

JULIITA FERNANDO.
(Schools-Mag No. 160).

Ave Maria Convent,
Negombo.

It Strengthens My Faith in God...



• Anton S. Fernando

INDEED, I feel proud to be a member of such a popular and heart-warming paper as the Schools-Mag.

I love to read Uncle Ashley's Letters which provide me with beautiful lessons in attractive story form. I learn many scientific facts from 'Science Scrapbook.' It is a great joy for me to take part in Schools-Mag competitions. Our 'Mirth-Quizzes' corner never fails to bring me a hearty laugh.

Our Schools-Mag in its own interesting way, strengthens my faith in God.

ANTON S. FERNANDO.
(Schools-Mag No. 8).

It's the Magazine of teen-agers by teen-agers

ENTERTAINMENT? ... It is abundant in the Schools-Mag, — the magazine of teen-agers, for teen-agers, and by teen-agers.

It is developing the teen-agers of today into men of tomorrow. It gives me an opportunity to read and enjoy articles of my contemporaries. It provides me with maximum fun and sufficient

entertainment that I cannot easily forget. Not only the older children, but also the younger ones, get some thrill off the Schools-Mag. It also increases my taste and thirst for literature, and prompts me to read more advanced pieces of literature.

H. COLMAN EBERT.
(Schools-Mag No. 145).

This lovely little Schools- Mag

THE Mag is my own love
The Mag is my lone love
My flesh and blood and bone
love
This lovely little Schools-Mag.

I read the Mag to entertain
My smallest sister Jane



I read it once, then once again
This lovely little Schools Mag.

The Mag is just a cosy nook
That wears a smile, a rosy look
'Tis just another story book
This lovely little Schools Mag.

The little master and little miss,
This magazine they never miss
At all times their pleasure is
This lovely little Schools-Mag.

A. MILROY PAES.
(Schools-Mag No. 1932).
St. Joseph's College,
Colombo 10.

THE Schools-Mag is interesting, instructive and entertaining. For a few cents it gives us such useful information, whilst thrashy novels etc. may cost us a few rupees! The contents of this Mag as in the parable of the sower may or may not fall upon good ground, but whatever it is, continual reading of such worthy topics will some day reap a rich harvest in the growing minds of God's chosen little ones.

ALEXANDER
GUNASEKERA
(Schools-Mag No. 44).



Archbishop's Message to the Schools-Mag of the "Messenger"

"UNDOUBTEDLY THE DREAM OF THE MESSENGER CENTURY!"

My dear Children,
It is particularly pleasant to me to associate you with the "old-timers" in the congratulations served out to the Messenger for its ninety-tenth birthday.

It is true your contribution to Messenger History is very recent — your feature is young in every way, even in date. All the same, you have made your point; you have captured a corner of our Catholic paper and proved you not only have a right to it, but are capable of holding it and are determined to do so.

In its ninety years of wielding the pen (mightier than the sword, to quote from well-worn school books) the Messenger has seen earlier attempts at enticing teen-agers into the lists (to mention just one, there was the "Junior Platform" of the war-time years). We like to think that just as the "Schools Mag" surpasses in scale anything attempted in the past, so it will outlive their period of active service. All of you, will however, agree that the essential thing is that the stream of Catholic writers is constantly replenished and renewed: and for this, your Mag is undoubtedly the dream of the Messenger Century.

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

Archbishop's House,
Colombo.
23rd February 1959.



Your regular work tires you... makes you feel run down, weak and exhausted... chances are, you are using more energy than your diet provides. You need to supplement your diet... you need WATERBURY'S COMPOUND

feel Wonderfully well again!

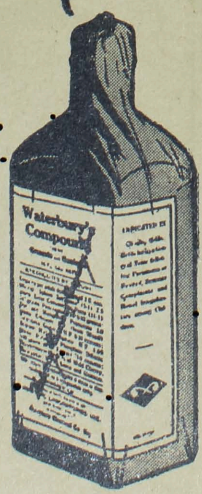


WATERBURY'S COMPOUND is a well proven health tonic used regularly by health-conscious adults, all over the world, for themselves as well as their children. Pleasant tasting WATERBURY'S COMPOUND contains vital nourishing ingredients that supply the extra energy you and your family need for a vigorous, healthy and joyful life.

WATERBURY'S COMPOUND breaks up persistent coughs, colds and bronchial congestion. Recommended by doctors during convalescence for quick recovery.

Take pleasant tasting.

WATERBURY'S COMPOUND
to make you fit



• The 5 D's: Daryl, Duncan, Diedree, Deanna and Desiree de Bond, all Schools-Mag members attending St. Anthony's Convent, Kandy.



Kiddies Discuss Schools-Mag's Birthday

A group of small Schools-Mag members strolled along with Mother after school, chatting in a friendly manner. "Do you know, little ones, that the Schools-Mag will be celebrating its first Birthday soon?" asked Mother. The little upturned faces brightened and eyes beamed as the word 'Birthday' was uttered. "Will we have a Birthday party, Mother?" "How big will the cake be Mother?" "How many candles will they have on the cake Mother?" Little Maureen, Angela, and Cheryl were all plying Mother with their questions. "Are we all going to the party, Mother?" chimed in shy little Charmaine. "I'll go if they have ice-cream," drolled Diedree. "I like icy choos better than ice-cream," shouted noisy Jennifer. "Will the Editor or Uncle Ashley light the candles, Mother?" asked puzzled Carole. "May I cut the cake please Mother?" shouted bold little Salome pushing her way right in front of Mother, who was raising both hands to shield her ears from the din caused by this volley of questions.

Smiling at the little ones she said, "You are all chirping together like the Budgies in the bird cage. Listen dears, I'll answer your questions, if you do not interrupt me. You all know that your baby brothers and sisters did not eat cake or ice-cream till they were two or three years old." "Yes Mother," blurted little Angela, "my baby brother Russel drank only milk for a long time." "So do all babies," continued Mother, "and the Schools-Mag is only one year old. So there is no Birthday party this year. Maybe next year the Editor will have a party and invite you all if you are good. You can write and remind him in time, that you are looking forward to meeting him at the second birthday of the Schools-Mag. Run along now little ones and God bless you."

Thecla Pereira,
St. Anthony's Convent,
Kandy. (No. 308).

• IT HAS EDUCATIONAL VALUE

THE Schools-Mag has some important features which are not to be found in any other paper.

Talks to Teen-agers, Science Scrap Book, Stamp Corner, etc., are features of educational value. They also provide delightful reading.

The articles published in the Schools-Mag delight not only its members but it also provides older readers with some useful week-end reading. From the letters in the second page of the paper, I can see that the elders are also interested in this. That is why I like the Schools-Mag.

P. BERNARD FERNANDO.
(Schools-Mag No. 87).

An All-rounder

I LIKE her. I love her. She is an allrounder able to entertain you at all times and with many things. The specialist has one subject, the Schools-Mag has many. Therefore when you fall in with the Schools-Mag you love her at first sight and love her blindly.

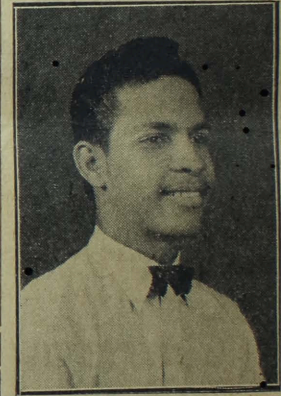
You talk to her once and you go on talking forever. Her talk is light, fanciful, wonderful, a riot of words full of beauty and rapture. All sorts of topics tumble in helter-skelter. Therefore she is never a bore. A lovely Schools-Mag indeed.

A. MILROY PAGES.
(Schools-Mag No. 1932).

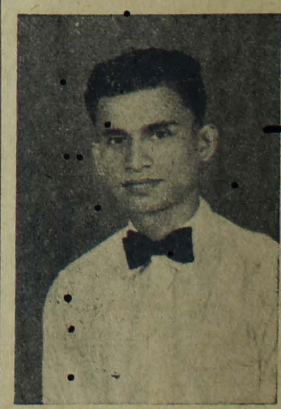
Our Portrait Album



• Krishanthi Perera (Schools-Mag No. 347) was the Junior Champion in the Southern Province Girls' Athletic Meet. Krishanthi, an enthusiastic member of the Schools-Mag, attends Sacred Heart Convent, Galle.



• Clive Rodrigo (Schools-Mag No. 1472) won the coveted Gold Medal for Elocution at St. Peter's College, Bambalapitiya, recently. In 1957 he also won the best Actor's Cup and the Senior Literary Prize at St. Mary's College, Dehiwela. "Our Schools-Mag is a topping success!" says Clive.



• Rienzie Balthazar whose work has very often been published in the Schools-Mag is Editor-in-Chief of "Singing Fish" — published by the students of St. Michael's College, Batticaloa.



from UNC
My dear teen-agers,
Even as I wish our old Schools-Mag "ad multos annos," even as I join you in thanking God for all the grace lavishly showered on the Schools-Mag, I'm tempted to take a peep into the past for your encouragement and edification.

The steadily rising graph of membership alone is no conclusive nor exclusive sign of Schools-Mag prosperity. Neither is the ceaseless and universal clamour to make the Schools-Mag a weekly feature nor the mounting interest in Schools-Mag affairs the only signs of health and vitality. Well, if from the fruits you may know the tree, then this special supplement commemorating the first Schools-Mag Birthday should undoubtedly console you.

Yes, dear teen-agers, there is rich blood pulsing in the veins of Schools-Mag teen-agers, that there is a keenness of purpose, a will to cooperate, a unity of heart and mind in the vital issue of Catholic life, is clearly evidenced in the enthusiasm manifested in everything that pertains to the Schools-Mag. May that zeal and sense of teen-age solidarity deepen and grow with every issue of the Schools-Mag.

May it also console you to know, that the Schools-Mag has been God's humble instrument to show unto many children the way to the cloister and the altar. During the past few months three children have found their way to the cloister and at least a dozen more Schools-Mag teen-agers are to leave the world before long. May God bless them and may their example be a torch unto the wavering. The alone is a golden and gracious harvest, indeed, for which we can only thank God as we celebrate our first Birthday. The Daily Mass campaign just suggested has already been enthusiastically received. Not a few are endeavouring to be apostles, leading others unto the altar of sacrifice. Just today I had a letter from an apostolic niece who leads three.

WHAT

IN my opinion, reading the "Schools-Mag" is one of the healthiest ways for us children to keep the Sundays holy.

When dad and mum retire to read the daily papers I take pride in reading the paper printed exclusively for us — the "Schools-Mag" and I feel as important as Mum and Dad, 'cos I've got a paper of my own too which they didn't have during THEIR school days.

OREM LEONARDI
(Schools-Mag No. 5)

HERE is a Mag that is composed of all features members could wish for. Like a beautifully iced cake, it's a treat to behold. I love the Schools-Mag simply because it is a mine of knowledge, entertainment inspiration packed with stirring talks, smashing articles, poems, jolly mirthquakes and bringing competitions.

JOYCE JOSEPH
(Schools-Mag No. 4)

TALKS TO TEENAGERS

from UNCLE ASHLEY

ar.teen-agers;
as I wish our dear
s-Mag had multos an-
even as I join you in
ing God for all the graces
y showered on the Sch-
lag, I'm tempted to take
into the past for your
agement and edification.
steadily rising graph of
rship alone is no con-
or exclusive sign of
s-Mag prosperity. Nei-
the ceaseless and uni-
clamour to make the
s-Mag a weekly feature
the mounting interest in
s-Mag affairs the only
of health and vitality.
if from the fruits you
now the tree, then this
supplement commemo-
the first Schools-Mag
y should undoubtedly
you.

others for Mass every morn.
May God bless her.

Before I conclude this letter
I am sure it will not be without
purpose to review the purpose
of our existence. The
Schools-Mag stands for Reli-
gion, Education and Recrea-
tion.

Recreation

"All work and no play makes
Jack a dull boy" and so the
Schools-Mag will continue pre-
senting anecdotes and jokes,
games, puzzles, problems, cross
words and the like that you
may learn to enjoy healthy
recreation so vital to every
teen-ager.

Education

The need of a good and sound
education can hardly be stress-
ed. The Church of God needs
today, more than ever before,
an educated laity — an edu-
cated clergy. That is why
the Schools-Mag presents tit-
bits of knowledge in a form
easy to assimilate.

Religion

A secular education, however
complete, caters to only half
the man. It neglects the better
half — the education of the
soul — and it is here that Re-
ligion steps in to complete
man's education. The Schools-
Mag would fail in its chief
objective if it neglects this
vital aspect of education —
soul culture and that, dear
teen-agers, is the justification
for these talks to you.

Looking back into the year
that has fast flown by, we have
indeed very much to thank
God for. Let us be grateful
to the "giver of all good
things" . . . and remember
the best form of gratitude
is to endeavour now and always
to remain loyal to and be wor-
thy of the Schools-Mag.
God bless you and Our Bless-
ed Mother love you.

Always in Jesus and Mary.

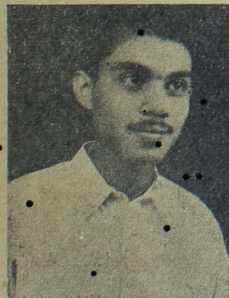
UNCLE ASHLEY

WHAT WE THINK

pinion, reading the
ols-Mag" is one of
thiest ways for us
o keep the Sundays

ad and mum retire to
daily papers I take
reading the paper
clusively for us —
hools-Mag" and I
portant as Mum and
I've got a paper of
oo which they didn't
ing THEIR school

OREM LEONARD.
(Schools-Mag No. 517).



• Gaston Balthazar. •

E is a Mag that is com-
posed of all features we
s could wish for. Like a
ully iced cake, it's a joy
old. I love the Schools-
mply because it is a mine
wledge, entertainment and
ion packed with stirring
smashing articles and
jolly mirthquakes and fun-
g competitions.

JOYCE JOSEPH.
(Schools-Mag No. 401)

THE Schools-Mag helps me
to pass my leisure hours
most delightfully. I think it is
the best companion a boy or
girl can have during the week-
end. The articles are interest-
ing, especially the advice and
instructions of Uncle Ashley.
The Science Scrap Book and
Altar Boys' Corner, provide
profitable reading. The lovely
poems keep me in a happy mood.



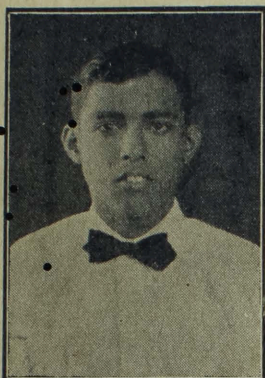
ONE YEARS RECORD

★ 79 Teen-age writers

★ 37 Poets were featured

DURING the past year the work
of no less than 116 Schoo-
ls-Mag members was published.
Of these 37 were verse-writers.
These were featured:

Ranganie Gunawardane, Fil-
bert Embuldeniya, Bernadette
Mullegama, Perpetua Fernando,
Alexander Gunasekera, Philome-
na Ranasinghe, Thecla Pereira,
Guy Lorage, Margie Rodrigo,
Lucille Fernando, Marjorie Soris,
Reinzie Balthazar, Christie An-
thony Fernando, Bertha Kerner,



• Terence D. C. Phillippu-
pallay (Schools-Mag No. 287),

Maureen Pereira, Sunil Gunawar-
dena, Gillian Jones, Nelson Philip
Damasus, Gerard Jayasuriya,
Michael Anselm Benedict, Moni-
ca Doreen Felicitas, Rosebud
Ginus, Joyce Joseph, Maureen
Pereira, Ninette de Zylva, Marek
Philomena Rodrigo, Herschel de
Kauwe, Jacintho Wijenayake, Ju-

dy Dias, Dimples Bernadette
Wijenaike, Benny Fernandez,
Gaston Balthazar, Jennifer Oor-
loff, Anthony Jackson Leitan,
Bernadette Jesudason, Virginia
Swagi, Carmini Rutnam, Law-
rence Brohier, Bernadette Perera,
H. Colman Ebert, R. Orchard,
Lourdes Fernandopulle, Sherva
Silva, E. L. F. Earle Perera, Fel-
cia Pereira, Honourine J. Fer-
nando, Julitta Fernando, Marie
Callista Dolores de Silva, Jenni-
fer Paul, Heather Loyola, Krish-
anthi Perera, Clarinda Bastians,
Juliet Victorine Leonie de Silva,
Danister J. Kerner, W. T. Carmel
Miranda, Nihal Jayewardena,
Annesley Gomez, Emerald de
Croos, Terence Ferreira, Amella
Gomez, Delrine Dabara, L. G.
Ratnasabapathy, Noel C. Em-
manuel, Gerald Oorloff, St. John
Soza, Michael L. Wannappa,
Gilmar Candappa, Mary Julian
Hakel, Indraneer Perera, Indranie
de Silva, Christine de Cruz, Dawn
Marguerite White, Kantha Jaya-
suriya, Raneer Perera, Trevor
Fernando, Rachel Samuel, Sher-
rene Pieris, Marie Robins, A.
Milroy Paes, Carmen de Silva,
S. R. Damian Perera, Raj Phil-
lips, Rosanne Pinto, Mary R.
Luchow, Swarna Perera, G. D.
Petronella Warnakula, Praemi
Mendis, Corinne Fernando, Mor-
ris Alwines, Venice Reeves, Pat-
rick Weerakkody, Gertrude Jaya-
manne, Valma Fonseka, Olivia
Fonseka, Norma de Hoedit, Ber-
nadette Mary Ranasinghe, Ruk-
manie Perera, Millie Gunawar-
dene, Marie Perera, Auxilius
Alexander, Ruth Edwards, Ianthe
Baldsing, Tyrone Holdenbottle,
Jithendra de Fonseka, Floria
Daffodil Petronella, Oscar Abey-
ratne, Gyan de S. Wijetunge,
Ruth Anandappa, Osmund Jo-
seph, Asoka de Silva, Orlean
Jacobs, Veronica Perera, Berna-
dette de Silva, A. Vincent Noel,
Michael Jackson.

My Favourite Feature

UNCLE Ashley's Talks to
Teen-agers, is my favourite
feature in the Schools-Mag. His
frank, affectionate and warm
hearted manner of expressing
himself, has never failed to pene-
trate deep into my mind. What-
ever be the topic he writes on,
he always has a soul-stirring
message for me.

MORRIS ALWINES.
(Schools-Mag No. 137).

UNCLE Ashley's talks to teen-
agers is my favourite fea-
ture in the Schools-Mag. It
gives our growing minds a clear
idea of the ideal Catholic teen-
ager. Each letter contains a valu-
able lesson in Purity, Faith, Cha-
rity, Love and Honesty, which
will live in my memory right
through life. God bless Uncle
Ashley for his good work.

ANTHONY JACKSON LEITAN.
(Schools-Mag No. 708).

MY favourite feature in the
Schools-Mag is Talks to
Teen-agers. These brief articles
which deal with virtue and vice
are a must to all teen-agers, for
in a world torn to shreds with
strife it is necessary that we
youth be reminded time and again
of the harm done by vice. What
the world needs most today is
youths who will grow up to be
men of truth, charity, purity and
justice. These virtues are sadly
lacking in the present day and
the world is one battle-field where
the survival of the fittest is its
dominant feature.

Uncle Ashley's talks are a
necessity in the modern world.
VALMA FONSEKA.
(Schools-Mag No. 499).

The mirthquakes make me roll
with laughter!
CLARINDA BASTIANS.
(Schools-Mag No. 927).



• Morris Alwines, an Arts
student at St. Patrick's Col-
lege, Jaffna has been a very
active member of the Schools-
Mag.

MY absorbing and most fasci-
nating hobby is stamp col-
lecting, more correctly called
Philately.

The stamp Collector's Corner
in the Schools-Mag is therefore
my favourite feature.

In this feature do I find the
delights of Philately in its por-
traits, patterns, and inscriptions
on new issues.

My knowledge of distant lands,
their history, industry, and famous
personalities is increased.

By this feature I am served
with the best and latest in Phila-
tely.

MALORY WALLIS.
(Schools-Mag No. 91).

PRIZE DONORS OF THE YEAR

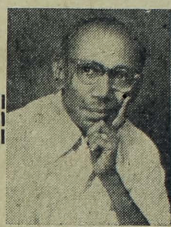
THE Schools-Mag takes this
opportunity of thanking
the following donors of gifts
during the past year:



• JOACHIM R. MACHA-
DO, M.B.E. (1) 48 lb. tins of
"Dolphin" Winner: Nirmalie
Pieris, Convent of Our Lady of
Victories, Moratuwa. (2) A Sil-
ver Cup. Winner: A. Milroy Paes
of St. Joseph's College, Colombo.



• MR. J. OLIVER PERERA.
German Alarm Timepiece. Win-
ner: Olga de S. Wijeyaratne of
St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo.



• MR. MICHAEL G. ROD-
RIGUEZ (1) Rs. 50/- worth of
books. Winner: Guy Lorage of
St. Mary's College, Negombo.
(2) Rs. 25/- worth of books.
Winner: Virginia Swan of Holy
Family Convent, Bambalapitiya.
(3) Rs. 25/- worth of books.
Winner: Bernadette Perera.



• MR. ARTY WICKREMA-
TILLEKA (1) Hornby Train
Set. Winner: Anton S. Fernando
of St. Anthony's College, Wat-
tala. (2) Three sets of "Ceylon
Express" Educational Game.
Winners: Susanna Lorraine Sel-
viah, Sunil Fernando, and
Bernadette Gibson.

• MESSRS. CEYLON THE-
ATRES LTD. Complimentary
Tickets. Winner: Sunil Fernando
of St. Joseph's College, Colombo.

A Teen-age Dream come true...

Says GWENDOLYN HUBERT

of St. Joseph's School, Grandpass.

I LIKE the Schools-Mag be-
cause it gives every child
an opportunity of making
known to the other members
his or her ideas through this
medium.

I'm attracted to this page,
because all items published are
interesting and entertaining.
It gives the young writer and
inventor the opportunity to air
their views. The Schools-Mag
is greatly appreciated because
it caters to every child irrespec-
tive of caste and religion.

Every extension of this sim-
ple and wonderful Schools-
Mag has been a boon to all of
us and a teen-age dream come
true.

THIS special feature of the
Messenger has added a
new lustre to it, and has cap-
tured the imagination of the
teenagers in quest of knowledge.

It is no wonder that this fea-
ture, spotlighting Religion, Edu-
cation and Recreation, has found
a large number of readers.

I wish the 'Mag' a flourishing
future on this anniversary
day.

Theresa Peter.

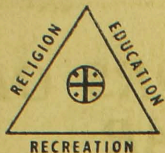
GREETINGS FROM A WELL-WISHER

On this happy Anniver-
sary day I can hardly re-
frain from expressing my
sincerest congratulations and
good wishes to the Editor
and his co-workers for the
wonderful success achieved
by the School-Mag during
the past year.

The lightning speed with
which the Schools-Mag cap-
tivated teen-agers throughout
the island marvellously tes-
ties to the ingenuity and
skilful planning of the
organisers. They have
touched the enthusiastic
chords of youthful hearts
and set them vibrating.
How well has the three-
fold aim of the Page —
Religion, Education, Re-
creation — been realised!
The benefits, both Spiritual
and Intellectual — reaped
by our teen-agers have been
immeasurable.

Many a parent and
teacher will acquiesce with
me in saying that we are in-
debted to the Schools-Mag
for lifting our teen-agers'
horizons and encouraging
them to aspire to holiness.
May the Schools-Mag
continue to guide and edu-
cate our children for many
more years to come.

HAPPY Birthday to you,
Happy Birthday to
you,
Happy Birthday dear
Schools-Mag
Happy Birthday to you.
From big friends and small,
From teenagers all,
May Success be with you,
And God's blessings too.
JENIFER OORLOFF.
St. Anthony's Convent,
Kandy.



Schools-Mag

First Birthday Edition

WHO IS A MONK?

A MONK is a person who detaches himself from worldly pleasures and comforts and strives to unite himself with the interior peace of God. His constant desire is to keep God his Creator and his friend in his heart.

A monk lives a life of prayer and of penance. He eats little and sleeps less. "Ora et labora" is his motto which means, "Pray and work." And so he prays in the temple and works in the field.

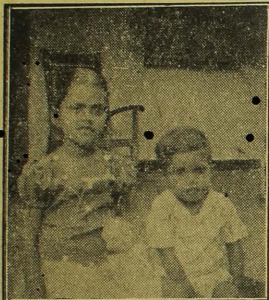
A monk is one of the happiest men on earth for he is always with his Lover. When a child is with his mother he is happy and not afraid. Similarly a monk

By **Ignatius Udunuwara**

is happy for he is with God, and not afraid, for he has sanctifying grace in his heart. Though we see him half bowed and his eyes on the ground, and we may imagine to ourselves that he seems to be moody, yet he rejoices in his soul for he has the peace of God.

My prayer to the good Lord is: "Lord when will silence and prayer become the occupation of my soul? When will I possess what I love which is Thyself O my God? Amen."

Our Members



● Schools-Mag members Eva Hyacinth Stella and Generege Prisca Antoinette Fernando.

Story Time

Conducted by ARTY

A Brave Boy

A doctor tells this story of an eight year old boy whose sister was dying of a disease from which the boy himself had recovered some time before. Realizing that only a transfusion of her brother's blood would save the little girl, the doctor asked the boy: "Would you like to give your blood for your sister?"

The child hesitated for a moment, his eyes wide with fear. Then, finally, he said: "Sure, Doctor, I'll do it."

When do I die?

Only later, when the transfusion was completed did the boy ask hesitantly, "Say, doctor, when do I die?" Then the doctor understood the momentary hesitation and fear. It had taken the boy that long to decide to sacrifice his life for his sister.

We may not all be called to sacrifice our lives for our brothers or sisters, but there are many instances when we are called upon to make sacrifices. Heroic bravery isn't limited to grownups only. All of us can become heroes. —ARTY.

A Teen-Ager's Prayer

(Sent by Collette Gomez — Schools-Mag No. 1327)

○ GOD give me clean hands. Clean words and clean thoughts. Help me to stand for the hard right against the easy wrong. Save me from habits that harm. Teach me to work as hard and play As fair in thy sight alone As if all the world saw.

Forgive me when I am unkind, And help me to forgive those who are unkind to me. Keep me ready to help others at some cost to myself. Send me chances to do a little good everyday and so grow more like Christ.

ScrapBook CLUB NEWS

Conducted by Scissor-and-Paste

Thank You!

SAYING "Thank you" is never out of style. Whether you have spent the afternoon with a friend playing a game or doing your homework together, say "Thank you." Whether you were at a party, or just stepped in for a few minutes, say "Thank you."

Riddle-me-ree

My first is in birds and also sing.
My second's in pipit but not in wing.
My third's in partridge and also preep.
My fourth's in rug but not in green.
My fifth is in grow and also grain.
My sixth is in wind and also rain.

My whole is the time when small lambs play
And trees and fields begin to look gay.
(For Answer see last column)

TONGUE-TWISTERS

A. SCHOOL coal scuttle; a shuttle of school coal.
I chased a big black pug pup up upper Parliament Street.
Chop shops stock chops.
Frank threw Fred three free throws.
Soldiers' shoulders shudder when shrill shells shriek.

Your Birthday Corner

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

March 7—MAR. 13

Mar. 7: Walter Selvadurai (Matale), Marius Fernando (Dehiwela), Therese Ferrita (Ratmalana), Felicity Perera (Minuwangoda), Lily Fernando (Matale), Earnest Perera (Kotte), Myra de Silva (Moratuwa), Melizan de Zilva (Negombo), Carmel Ransinghe (Mawilmada).

Mar. 8: Angela Bastianpillai (Kotahena), Bernadette Philipiah (Colombo 15), Anthony Bastians (Humupitiya), Michael Jackson (Trincomalee), Neville Perera, (Colombo 15).

Mar. 9: Linda Barthelot (Kandy), G. Petronella (Moratuwa), Hazel Christianz (Bandarawela), Geraldine Rodrigo (Colombo 15), Anula de Silva (Moratuwa), Sharmeni Obrs (Dankotuwa), Shiranee de Silva (Moratuwa).

Mar. 10: Shirani Silva (Maradana), Patricia Wanduragalla (Kurunegala), Millan Mihinku-

lasuriya (Gampola), Yvonne de Niese (Maradana).

Mar. 11: Celine de Saa (Kaltara), Surangane Amarasinghe (Dehiwela), Motino David (Jela), Felicia Fernando (Moratuwa), Constance Perera (Moratuwa), Nirmalinie Seneviratne (Kelaniya).

Mar. 12: Filbert Embuldeniya (Kotahena), Delarno Rodrigo (Moratuwa).

Mar. 13: Thorald Perumal (Watala), Minoli Miranda (Wellawatte), Bernadette Silva (Chilaw), Kathleen Wijesinghe (Mt. Lavinia), Joseph Perera (Moratuwa), Sriya Fernando (Moratuwa), Angela Ratnayake (Kurunegala).

★ Birthday Corner



ONE would be rather surprised at my favourite feature in the Schools-Mag, but to tell you the fact it is the "Birthday Corner."

Adults cannot realise the pride, pleasure and thrill it gives a child to see his or her name and birthday greetings published in the Messenger. Some little children have felt so happy that they run about shouting, "Did you all see my name in the Messenger?"

Through the Birthday Corner we are also encouraged to write in articles to the Schools-Mag and have the pleasure of seeing our names published.

HEATHER PAUL,
(Schools-Mag No. 871).

TRIO from Ratnapura



● Navis Soris (No. 1284) Expedit Soris (No. 1266) and their sister Margaret.

IT'S NO SECRET!



● I'm telling you! The Schools-Mag will appear every week from now on!

Answer to
Riddle-Me-REE
SPRING

A LETTER from ST. PAUL

Prayer of St. Paul

This is how St. Paul prayed for Sanctification.

The very God of Peace sanctify us wholly, and may our whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

have a copy made and send it over to the next town. It will do them as much good as it has done us." Then he would have it copied and send it to the neighbouring parish and there would be enacted just what had happened in Corinth the week before.

After a time, St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians would be had by many churches. It would frequently be read at Mass. It is still being read at Mass now. Isn't that wonderful?

when you leave.

"Thank you" is a phrase not used often enough, although it is the key to many things. It tells people that you appreciate their effort on your behalf.

A person who has been thanked for something will give again, whether it is of his time or of his possessions.

"Thank you" is a magic phrase. Use it often.

BOOK-MARK OF ST. TERESA

LET nothing disturb thee,
Let nothing affright thee,
All things are passing;
God only is changeless,
Patience gains all things,
Who hath God, wanteth nothing—
God alone sufficeth.

Do You Know

THAT the Five Wounds of Christ are honoured as the channels through which His Precious Blood flowed for the redemption of mankind?

★
THAT the giving of good example is known as edification?

★
THAT sacrilege is the irreverent treatment of sacred persons, places or things?

Schools-Mag Enrolment Form

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

SCHOOL.....

DATE AND YEAR OF BIRTH.....

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