

The Catholic Guardian

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ST. PETER'S RE-OPENED FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP

HOLY FATHER EXPRESSES GRATITUDE TO THE MADONNA

Now that Rome has been liberated from Nazi invaders, St. Peter's Cathedral which had been closed since Sept. last has been re-opened for public worship.

HOLY FATHER PLEASED

Addressing a huge crowd that had assembled in front of the balcony of St. Peter's, His Holiness Pope Pius XII said on June 5:

"In recent days we trembled for the fate of the City. To-day we rejoice because, thanks to the joint goodwill of both sides Rome has been saved from the horrors of war. We must, for this, again show our gratitude to the Madonna. We must show ourselves worthy of God's grace by ourselves affirming the spirit of concord superior to discords and divergencies."

The Vatican radio, referring to the liberation of Rome said: "Since dawn to-day, June 5, enthusiastic happy crowds—the largest in living memory—have been gathered in St. Peter's Square

in Vatican City clamouring for the Pope. After the Pope's three-minute speech at 6 o'clock this morning (reported above) he had to show himself again in answer to the multitude's insistent calls.

"Today's 'Osservatore Romano,' which appeared in the normal way, expressed its thanks for the way in which Rome had been spared."

His Holiness the Pope granted a special audience to Allied pressmen on June 7. The Holy Father recalled his message to the world on Christmas eve in 1939 and observed that that was the message he still wished to deliver to the Press. The Sovereign Pontiff exhorted the world's Press to use its influence in the cause of peace, "Send our heartiest greetings to your homelands" declared the Pope to the journalists.

On June 13, the B.B.C. said that a famous Irish regiment had marched through St. Peter's Square on its way to an audience with the Holy Father.

HOLY FATHER RECEIVES TROOPS OF 8TH ARMY

His Holiness the Pope gave an audience on June 20 to about 4,000 troops of the 8th Army, among whom were also Indian Catholic troops of an Indian Division, over 150 representing almost all units, writes an Indian Army Observer.

The audience was given in the Consistorial Hall of St. Peter's in the Vatican City. The troops lined the corridor through which the Pope was borne ceremoniously on the Papal chair by his Bodyguards preceded by the Swiss Guards dressed in their impressive multi-coloured uniforms. His Holiness was loudly cheered as he passed and until he reached and sat on his gilded Papal Throne on the dais, over which two spotlights were turned. He was clad in a silken white Pastoral robe. He made a speech in English lasting five minutes and gave his Benediction.

As the officers and men pushed forward to receive his blessings, Indians could be seen reverently, touching his white garment, kissing his hand and kneeling down to receive his blessing.

As one Indian knelt I saw His Holiness put his hand full on his head and

bless him. As the crowd swelled near the dais His Holiness just touched the extended hands of the crowd, with his finger tips in truly Roman fashion and was taken back on his Papal chair in the same way as he was brought.

The ceremony was touching and impressive, and Indian Christians considered themselves very fortunate not only to have been able to see the Pope and hear him, but also to have received his Benediction.

After the ceremony was over, Indian troops were allowed to go sight-seeing in Rome for the rest of the day. Most of the Catholics naturally made for St. Peter's Cathedral.

In the vast square of St. Peter's I saw Madrassi Catholics grouped round Revd. D. Joseph from Madras, who is studying for the priesthood in the Vatican Propaganda College. He has been there for the last five years.

Prior to meeting the Pope, some Indian troops attended High Mass in the Church of Santa Maria Degli Angeli, in Piazza Esedra, in which Victor Emmanuel III was married.—*New Leader*.

MR. CHURCHILL'S SPEECH

WAS HE CORRECTING HIMSELF?

Mr. Churchill's speech in winding up the debate on the Empire last April marked a welcome return to his earlier manner. Not only were there some characteristic touches of Churchillian humour which seem to indicate that he has regained his mental vigour, but there were a breadth and philosophy about the utterance which recalled the speeches that made him our undisputed leader in the darkest period of the war. The Prime Minister's warmest admirers had felt that there was a falling off in these qualities when he addressed the House of Commons on foreign policy and in his subsequent broadcasts. We were not alone in noting these things.

Since the controversy aroused by the Prime Minister's unfortunate references to the Atlantic Charter, there have been indications of a change of attitude. He gave the impression then of attaching so much importance to the impending military events as to wish to brush aside all questions of principle and sacrifice everything for unity. Now the importance of military operations could hardly be exaggerated, but it derives entirely from the significance of the cause for which we are fighting. Even from the standpoint of the narrowest "realism," it would have been a mistake to enter upon operations of unknown length and cost with a weakening of the moral unity of the nation.

We believe Mr. Churchill has seen these things. He has told the House of Commons that he considers a debate on foreign policy desirable, which is hardly the impression we got a few weeks ago. He has emphasised that decisions must stand over until after the war. We doubt if it was entirely accidental that the Polish Prime Min-

ister lunched with Mr. Churchill and Mr. Stettinius just after the so-called Union of Polish Patriots was boosted in Moscow, or that Mr. Churchill pointedly reminded the House of Commons in his speech on the Empire that we went to war to defend Poland.

Nothing in that speech was more wise and statesmanlike than the Prime Minister's reference to Eire. Mr. Dalton, in an ill-tempered reference to the Dublin Government, had permitted himself to use the adjective "ignominious." Mr. Churchill thought the decision "lamentable," but recalled the circumstances of the last war when, as he said, an opportunity may have been lost. He returned to the subject later in the speech with the observation: "We must all search our hearts."

That is a note to which the country will respond, and there is nobody so capable of sounding it as Mr. Churchill. There are dark days behind us and we are under no illusion about the fact that there may be dark days ahead. They will hold no terrors as long as the country is convinced that the ends proposed are proportionate to the sacrifice. The need for inspired leadership is not less now than it was in 1940; it is vastly greater.

At that time we were fighting for our lives. We do not under-value those speeches of the Prime Minister which are sure of a place in history, but, if there had been no eloquent voice to inspire us, the decision of the British people would not have been in doubt. We no longer fight for survival. If Germany could secure the most she is hoping for in Europe we would be offered a negotiated peace. It would be refused as long as the country was convinced that the principles for which we went to war in 1939 were those for which we were fighting.—*Universe*.

ORTHODOX LEADERS IN U.S.A. REBUFF ANGLO-CATHOLICS

Protestant Episcopalians of the Anglo-Catholic party in the United States, formerly happy over their relations with the Greek Orthodox Church, have been saddened, says a report published in the "Pilot," official organ of the Boston archdiocese, by the news that the federation of the Greek Orthodox Church has issued a declaration that can only be interpreted as a rebuff and appears to put Episcopalians beyond the pale of the Greek Orthodox recognition of Anglican orders.

The declaration was signed by the presiding officials of the federation—Archbishop Athenagoras, of the Greek Orthodox archdiocese of New York; Metropolitan Antony (Bashir), of the Syrian Antiochian archdiocese; and Metropolitan Benjamin, Ex-archbishop of the Moscow Patriarchate, representing the Russian Orthodox Church.

A message from Moscow conveying the blessing of the recently elected Patriarch Sergei was read at the meeting at which the declaration was made.

The declaration was aimed at reports

emanating from Buffalo implying that a close tie exists between the Protestant Episcopal Church and the Orthodox Church.

"It is most important to make clear," said Metropolitan Antony, "that the Orthodox Church.....maintains its old tradition and does not allow its members, either clergy or laymen, to be members of or communicants of any non-Orthodox Churches or any uncanonical Orthodox Church."

By implication, says the "Pilot" report, the resolution condemns such acts as the recent participation of an Orthodox priest with an Episcopalian minister in a wedding in Buffalo, and repudiates assertions that Orthodox faithful can receive the sacraments in an Episcopalian church.

The practice of "canonical" co-operation between certain Orthodox priests and Episcopalian clergy has been consistently condemned by Metropolitan Benjamin, who took action to suspend the Orthodox priest who officiated at the Buffalo ceremony.

THE CHURCH AND SOCIALISM

The Archbishop of Toronto writes in the "Canadian Register":

"It is very easy to state the attitude of the Canadian Church towards Socialism—when we know what kind of Socialism is meant. The word Socialism is used to connote everything from Lenin's Communism down to the National Railways. Even Hitler adopted the name Socialism, with the adjective National, for his system.

Writers who accept the designation of Socialist for themselves have learned to avoid giving definitions of Socialism. Recent books in Canada which are all in favour of "socialization" use Social-

ism as a magic word of promise but they do not attempt to tell us what it means. The opponents of "socialization" are no more precise. They denounce as "Socialist" any proposal to restrict the existing powers of profit-seeking corporations.

The Church, always realist in her approach to questions, recognises the word Socialism has different current meanings and it is sometimes used for things which she condemns and sometimes for things which she sanctions. However, this does not imply that one use is as correct as another. The Church

(Continued on Page 4.)

Church Calendar

JULY 1944

FRI. ... 7 S. Cyril.
SAT. ... 8 S. Elizabeth.
SUN. ... 6th Sunday after Pentecost.
S. Everilda.
MON. ... 10 7 Brothers, MM.
TUES. ... 11 S. Pius I.
WED. ... 12 S. John, G.
THURS. ... 13 S. Anacletus.
FRI. ... 14 S. Bonaventura.

The Catholic Guardian

JULY 7TH 1944

COMING DEBATE ON EDUCATION REFORM

The State Council will meet next Tuesday and, though other matters may be dealt with, its main business of the week will be the debate on the motion by Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara for the reform of the "system of Education" in the Island. What the motion seeks is not the correction of certain defects in the education as now imparted but a total change of the system that is in vogue. He will throw the present system into the melting-pot to produce something quite new that will accord well with his fanatic idea. That is what he wants from the State Council and it remains to be seen whether that body will lend its support to this wrong-headedness of his. It is admitted that the present system of education formulated many years ago needs to be revised to meet the changed conditions of life. On that all are agreed. But the defect Mr. Kannangara was able to point out during his six-and-a-half-hours speech was that the present system gave too much influence to the Christians and hence it must be scrapped. To get the masses on his side he proposes the bait of free education right through from Kindergarten to the University. He has declared that that constituted the 'pearl of great price' in his scheme of reforms, the rest being mere embellishments of less consequence. But this free education proposal is a mere ruse and Mr. Kannangara will pay the penalty of being hoist with his own petard. The Financial Secretary examining the financial implications states that calculating the expenditure five years hence when the proposals will be fully in force the recurrent cost of education will be Rs. 67,000,000 while the cost of the present system five years hence will be Rs. 22,500,000. This deducted, the additional increase of the Kannangara scheme will be Rs. 44,500,000. But this is not all. By increased pensions to teachers not covered by the 4 per cent in contribution, by cost of construction of additional schools and training colleges and equipment and by other charges there will be a further outlay of at least Rs. 30,000,000. He concludes his survey saying that the proposals of the Executive Committee involves expenditure on a scale which the Government cannot possibly afford. In view of this categorical statement as to the impossibility of Government to meet the cost involved in the new proposals, the Board of Ministers' reason

for allowing the motion of Mr. Kannangara is to promote discussion on the policy involved in these important recommendations. It insists that the financial implications are, however, so considerable and uncertain that the Board must retain the right to consider their implications in detail and must not be regarded as committed either in respect of the extent or the date of the implementation of any recommendation approved by the Council. The financial ability of the country must, of course, be a prime consideration with the Board of Ministers. But they will not forget, we are sure, that in addition, there are other considerations, why the present system, which can well be amended, should not be thrown entirely overboard in order merely to placate bigotry. We shall watch with much interest the course of this debate next week.

The Madhu Festival, 1944

The principal Festival for the year at the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Madhu took place on the 2nd inst. The preparatory Novenas began on the 23rd of June with the hoisting of the flag. On the 25th came the solemn consecration and dedication of the Church. The surprising feature of this year's feast is the unexpectedly large number of pilgrims who attended it in spite of all the restriction placed on pilgrim traffic. 'This year's crowd', says an eye-witness, 'reminded one of pre-war gatherings. More than 25,000 pilgrims must have been present. How they came God knows. Thousands of carts are in the camp—so says the Adigar—and people who came on foot represent a very high figure, the train brought up the rest—and he adds, the consecrated altar with the extension of the Sanctuary looks impressive.' It was here the evening devotions took place up to the first feast. But as the gathering of pilgrims grew daily larger the evening sacred service was transferred to the beautiful Portico in front of the facade of the Church. This service began with the recitation of the Rosary and then, a sermon in Tamil or Sinhalese followed by Vespers and the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The open-air service in a blaze of lights amidst singing before thousands and thousands of devout worshippers makes an inspiring and unforgettable scene. On the eve of the festival His Lordship the Bishop presided at Vespers and on the following morning celebrated Solemn High Mass after which came the great and imposing Procession of the Miraculous Statue of Our Lady of Madhu bringing the festival of the day to a close. Most of the priests of the district with the Very Revd. Fr. Vicar of Missions and three Sinhalese speaking priests of the Archdiocese of Colombo were present to attend to the spiritual needs of the pilgrims. About 40,000 Communions were given during the festival. The catechumens were well attended and dialogue sermons were preached in the open-air. The Administrator was everywhere seeing to the order in the Camp and to the convenience of the pilgrims. The popular A.G. A. of Mannar with his headmen was also present and rendered valuable assistance to the church authorities.

CONSECRATION OF MADHU CHURCH

An event which in normal times would have invited publicity passed off quietly last Sunday, June 25th, when Madhu Church was solemnly consecrated and for ever dedicated to Our Lady, Queen of the Holy Rosary.

A great deal of preparation preceded the date fixed for the ceremony. The setting up of a new marble altar with an extension of the sanctuary, coupled with some other improvements—an undertaking, which in ordinary circumstances would have been easy of execution, did, in the emergency times in which we live, strain to the utmost, the powers of ingenuity and endurance of the Reverend Administrator of Madhu Church. In the space of little more than a month and a half, with the help of a well known Colombo firm, Messrs. Raymond Bros., he had the whole work carried out according to schedule.

Well known clients of Our Lady, to whom appeals were made for the occasion, vied with each other in generosity either by contributing towards the cost of erection of the new altar and its accessories or by donations for the scheme of improvement of the church. A High Mass is sung every day for their intentions on the consecrated altar.

The ceremony of dedication was preceded by the enclosing of the relics of Martyrs in a small silver casket, officially sealed by the Bishop of Jaffna, to be deposited later in the cavity carved inside the altar—a reminiscence of those early days of the Christian church when the sacred mysteries were celebrated on the martyrs' tombs.

On the 25th morning at 7-30 the grand ceremony opened. In the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, where the relics were exposed, twenty priests were present. A selected choir of singers was in attendance and 12 altar boys in their red cassocks and surplice stood at attention waiting for a signal to start. The preliminary prayers being over, a procession filed out of the small chapel to make its way to the front door of the church where it took its stand under the Portico. The Bishop clad in mitre and cope began to exorcise and bless a large vessel full of water. This done, he signed himself with holy water, sprinkled those around him and intoning the well known antiphon *Asperges me* proceeded with the asperersion of the outer walls of the Church while the Schola, under the leadership of Father de la Haye, filled the air with sacred song.

At the end of the third round, in the name of GOD, our Heavenly King, the priest in charge of the church was requested to open the main door of the church. As soon as it revolved on its hinges, the Bishop marked on the threshold the sign of the Cross, and the procession entered and proceeded to the middle of the church.

Here begins the second stage in the ceremony of purification of the edifice and is meant to turn it into a fitting dwelling house for GOD ALMIGHTY.

Filled with the thought of the infinite perfection of her Lord, impressed also with her own humbleness, the Church then has recourse to prayer.

All fall on their knees to invoke the Holy Ghost. The Litany of the Saints,—the litany for solemn occasions—sung by the Schola resounds impressively throughout the nave of the church. With these preliminaries everything is now ready for action. Rising from his knees the Bishop proceeds to exorcise and bless water—salt—ashes and wine which mixed together, in wonderful symbolism, will enter into the forming of the Gregorian water. The new altar receives an unction and an asperersion 7 times repeated with this symbolic water, then the inner walls of the church and the middle of the nave are similarly aspersed.

At this point one might think that the foregoing rites of purification being over nothing more was needed for the celebration of the holy Mysteries. Holy Church considers things in a different light. Impressed as she is with the holiness of her Divine Founder, she wants to stamp God's temple with a sacred character. For this purpose she draws upon the riches of her ritual and the spiritual treasures at her disposal.

Relics of the Martyrs—in the present instance, the relics of St. Fabian, St. Sebastian, St. Agnes and St. Grata—are brought in to the accompaniment of sacred Chant and they are deposited inside the Altar. Holy oils are then pressed into service and, with their unction several times repeated, the table of the new Altar is consecrated and dedicated to Our Lady, Queen of the Holy Rosary. Clouds of incense accompany this action. Prayer rises to a higher pitch and sacred melodies keep pace with the grandeur of the scene.

So much for the Altar upon which the Son of God, every day, is to renew His Sacrifice. The body of the Church has also its share in this consecration. The door posts of the main door are anointed with chrism and so are the twelve crosses graven in stone, figures of the twelve Apostles—adorning the walls of the church.

Finally, the altar table is decked out with cruciform tapers resting on 5 grains of incense, arranged cross-wise upon the five consecrated crosses are ignited. A blaze of light soon envelops the altar and consumes the offering. One is reminded, by this symbolic representation, of the sacrifices and prayers, which by the sanctifying virtue of the Holy Ghost will mount up daily as a sweet perfume to the Throne of the Almighty.

It is the culminating point of the great ceremony. The Bishop and his assistants drop on their knees to intone a joyful Alleluia at once amplified by twenty sonorous voices. Solemn invocations to the Holy Ghost follow. Pontifical High Mass concludes the ceremony.

Thus runs in brief outline the

sacred performance of the Dedication of a Church.

To complete the picture one would have to give an idea of the wonderful prayers recited or sung by the officiating Pontiff, of the various sacred melodies which keep the high tone of the ceremony, and of the different symbols used to convey that idea of sanctification which is the dominant note of the whole function. This, of course, is impossible within the scope of this short article, nor is it necessary for a devout appreciation of the ceremony.

May Our Blessed Lady from her sylvan shrine where she has been, solemnly enthroned in her Queenly State—for she was crowned in 1924—continue to pour forth in even greater abundance her choice favours on her devout clients and children from all parts of the Island and to dispense to our country and to the world the blessings of peace and order, so eagerly awaited, through a more intensive devotion to her Holy Rosary.

Reforms Commission Coming Out This Year

A Reforms Commission will come out to Ceylon towards the end of this year, and the life of the State Council has been extended till the end 1946 (which means an 11-year period in all for the Council as at present constituted).

These decisions were announced in the House of Commons on Wednesday by His Majesty's Government. The declaration was as follows:

"In their Declaration of 1943 on the subject of the reform of the Ceylon Constitution His Majesty's Government invited the Ceylon ministers to submit proposals for a new constitution and promised that once victory was achieved such detailed proposals as the ministers might in the meantime have been able to formulate in the way of a complete constitutional scheme would be examined by a commission or conference.

"The Ministers have now submitted their draft scheme with an urgent request that arrangements may be made for its examination at an earlier date than that contemplated in the Declaration. His Majesty's Government have accordingly decided to appoint a commission to examine the ministers' proposals which would visit Ceylon for this purpose towards the end of the present year.

"The adoption of this course does not entail in other respects any modification of the Declaration by His Majesty's Government in regard to eventual approval by His Majesty's Government of any new constitution.

"It is the intention of His Majesty's Government that appointment of the commission should provide full opportunity for consultation to take place with various interests, including minority communities, concerned with the subject of constitutional reform in Ceylon, and with the proposals which the ministers have formulated.

"Further, in accordance with the object already declared of avoiding a general election in Ceylon during the war, with consequent dislocation of Ceylon's war effort, the Ceylon (State Council) Order-in-Council 1931 will be amended so as to prolong the life of the existing State Council for a further period of two years."

LOCAL & GENERAL

Jaffna Assizes.—The second Session of the Jaffna Supreme Court for the year will commence on Monday July 17, 1944 at 1 o'clock of the morning of the said day.

Census for 1946.—The Board of Ministers have approved of the pro-

posal of the Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce to take full census of the Island in 1946.

The Board of Ministers have agreed that the work of post-war reconstruction will demand accurate statistics and therefore a full census should be taken at the earliest possible date.

A full census, including a population census and an agricultural and industrial census, is estimated to cost a million rupees.

No Beedi from Madras Area.—Consequent on the orders of the Postmaster-General, Madras, that no beedi parcels should be despatched to Ceylon, all beedi factories in Ponani are reported to have been closed, rendering about 500 beedi makers jobless.

At a public meeting held there on June 24th resolutions were passed requesting the authorities to take immediate steps to relieve the situation brought about by this order.

Health Carnival at Uduvil.—Uduvil Parish will celebrate the forthcoming Ceylon Health Week with a Health Carnival and a Vegetable Garden and Rural Sanitation Competition. The Carnival will be held for a period of three days commencing on the 22nd instant at the Inuvil Saiva Mahajana Vidyasalai. Dr. S. F. Chellappah, Director of Medical and Sanitary Services will declare the Carnival Open on the 22nd inst. at about 6 p.m.

Health, Agricultural, Industry and A.R.P. will be the main sections of the Carnival. The Department of Commerce and Industries will conduct Demonstrations on Coir, Pottery, Paper, Cloth, Mat etc., and the Departments of Medical and Sanitary Services and Agriculture will participate in the Carnival.

C.T.S. on Eve of Diamond Jubilee.—The Catholic Truth Society, London, approaches its diamond jubilee—which falls next November—with a record membership of 17,280 and with the achievement of having sold during the past year the record number of 1,617,970 pamphlets.

Within the past ten years the number of pamphlets sold, as represented by the latest figure, has increased by half a million.

Indian Catholic Named Chief Justice.—Mr. Justice Thomas Manjooran, widely-known Catholic layman, has been appointed by the Maharaja of Cochin, India, to be Chief Justice of the High Court of Cochin. Mr. Justice Manjooran has been an associate justice of the tribunal and before serving on the bench he was employed in the State Judicial at a dinner in Liverpool.

Cardinal Hlond.—Denying reports that he had been arrested, German News Agency declares that according to a Wilhelmstrasse spokesman, Cardinal Hlond, Primate of Poland, is in France and enjoying "full freedom."

Development of Agriculture in India.—A special committee of the Advisory Board of the Imperial Council of Agriculture Research has prepared a scheme, for the consideration of the Board, whereby with a capital outlay of 1,000 crores of Rupees agricultural and animal husbandry in India could be developed so as to increase production by 50 per cent. in the next 10 years and by 100 per cent in the next 15 years.

Catholic Schools in Mangalore.—Higher education is making rapid progress in South Kanara, and the schools and colleges of Mangalore are drawing students from all over the presidency. The St. Aloysius' College is crowded, and its nearest feeder school at Milagres has been raised to the High School grade. The parish schools of Bolar and Jeppo also have applied for the same privilege. The St. Ann's Convent is preparing teachers for the L.T. degree.

All the institutions of the town have produced excellent results in the last public examinations.

How he Escaped.—Wearing a wedding ring which he had filed from a Belgian franc and a false moustache, Fr. Pierre Goube, S.J., escaped from a German prison camp at Merxplas, Belgium, and procured a passport under the name of Jean Rousseau, a married man.

He saved the hair for the moustache from the snippings when he went to the

prison barber. Civilian clothes and a bicycle were smuggled in by an "underground" organisation, which also gave the signal when the time came to slip out. Contact had been made with patriots in North Africa who were waiting to welcome Fr. Goube when he arrived on a French boat, and arrangements were made for him to go to the U.S.A. to serve with the French flying cadets.

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MANNAR

A mass meeting convened by Mr. J. Tyagaraja, M.S.C. for Mannar was held at the Mannar Esplanade on the 25th June, 1944 at 5 p.m. with Gate Mudaliyar S. Muttutambay in the chair. Mr. S.A.N. Navaretnam, Proctor, was elected as Secretary of the meeting.

The chairman exhorted all to sink all their differences and work wholeheartedly with the new member Mr. Tyagaraja for the welfare and progress of Mannar.

The new member for Mannar, speaking about the needs and improvements in the District announced, amidst thunderous applause, the sanction by Government of:

1. The extension of the pipe borne water to individual houses.
2. Cottage Hospital at Silavaturai and Vidatalivu.
3. Dispensary at Erukalampiddy.
4. A Telephone connection from Mannar to Colombo, and
5. The taking over of the Pallimunai Road by the P.W.D.

He also said that steps were being taken for the improvement of other roads.

Speaking on the Tree Tax for Mannar he said that he had introduced the motion of the late Mr. J. I. Gnanamuttu, M.S.C. on the early extension of the Tree Tax system to Mannar and was glad to state that in this he had the support of the A.G.A., Mannar and the Excise Commissioner.

Mr. S. Sebastiampillai moved the following resolution: "The Citizens of Mannar in public meeting assembled strongly protest against the conversion of Mannar into a Village Committee, as it is a retrograde step and detrimental to the progress of the town." It was seconded by Proctor M.M.M. Aboothahir and carried unanimously. Messrs. A. P. Thambyah and Muna Muna Marakar also spoke. Copy of the resolution was forwarded to the Minister of Local Administration.—[Our Comment next week. Ed. C.G.]

Plea for Education in English

Those who are able to profit by higher education should be given the chance of perfecting themselves in English and not be prevented from doing so by a false nationalism and by a false loyalty to the mother tongue which regards things and not persons first, said Revd. Fr. E. Crowther, S.J., Rector, St. Michael's College, Batticaloa, in the course of the report he read at the school prize giving.

Father Crowther said that there were two points of emphasis in the "new order" in education which seemed to him to be incompatible—the emphasis on the study of English and the emphasis on the study of vernaculars.

It was his experience in that part of the Island, that boys when they left school had not got much beyond the butler or business stage of English. The result was that they had hardly any ideas at all, and had not the ability to acquire any new ideas, because literary English in which these ideas were clothed, was almost an unknown language to them.

If that deterioration in English thought and expression were compensated by vigorous thought and expression in the vernaculars, no one might object. But such was not the case.

Father Crowther, continuing, referred to "an effort being made to create a new kind of Tamil and a new kind of Sinhalese called modern Tamil and modern Sinhalese, in view of the inaccessibility of the classical vernaculars." He doubted whether these practically

new languages" would have a vigorous life.

The average intellectual level of the vernacular educated was lower than that of the English educated. If that "disease of 150 years" was to be cured, could it be cured or was it worth curing, by creating new languages called modern Sinhalese and modern Tamil?

Father Crowther said: "If it is to be cured, why not cure it by adopting a new language called English which already exists and in which there is no difficulty in finding books and teachers, and which has not the handicap of being insular? I would seem to be passing death sentence on Sinhalese and Tamil. That impression would not be correct. Sinhalese and Tamil are not to be killed but they should not be used for higher education.

Mr. J. P. de Fonseka distributed the prizes.

Protest Meeting on Education Reforms

For the second time a meeting of the Catholics of Ampitiya was held on Sunday the 2nd inst., presided by Revd. Fr. A. Peter Silva, S.J., to decide further action on the report of the Education Committee. Messrs. Jusey Fernando, E. B. Wickramanayake and the Hon. Secy. of the Catholic Association explained to the gathering the great injustice about to be inflicted on the already suffering masses in the country.

Messrs. Jusey Fernando, P. A. Nonis, G. A. Abeysinghe, W. J. Pieris and the Hon. Secy. were appointed to an Executive Committee to carry out arrangements for a mass protest march in the district.



IN MEMORY OF

S. T. Supramania Mudaliyar
(Theogupillai Udayar)
Died 11th July 1901
R. I. P.

40, Barnes Place,
Colombo, 7-7-1944.

HELP THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN.

Your Countrymen Madam:—

Many thousands of them are suffering from want of Food, which is the result of Food Shortage. Authorities have done, and are doing, all they can to assure that every man, woman and child in this country has enough to eat, but you too, can help us in this Humanitarian Task.

REDUCE YOUR ENTERTAINING—
GROW MORE FOOD—FOOD FOR ALL.
THE JAFFNA
APOTHECARIES COMPANY,
The Firm with a Repute.

NOTICE

Offers invited for Valuable Block of Land (about 10 lachams) in Hospital Road, Jaffna. Presently occupied by Wijaya Works. Apply to No. 3, Kachcheri Lane, Chundikuli.

NOTICE

Distribution of Subsidiary Foodstuffs in Jaffna District.

Arrangements have been made to distribute the currysuffs mentioned below at the rates specified against each commodity to each consumer not attached to a Co-operative retail store from Monday, the 10th July to 16th July 1944 (both days inclusive).

1. Tamarind $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per head.
 2. Orid Dhall $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per head.
 3. Consumers are advised to draw their ration of the above articles along with their ration of other commodities.
- (Sgd.) E.B. TISSEVERASINGHE,
for G. A., N. P.

The Church and Socialism

(Continued from Page 1)

when using the word Socialism herself reserves it for a doctrine or system which she has condemned.

Socialism, in the sense in which the Catholic Church uses the term, means the denial of the right of private property, the assertion that all wealth, especially productive land and capital, belongs by right only to all the people collectively, i.e. the State or Government.

The Church defends the right of private property because this right is essential to private liberty. The individual has nothing he can call his own if the State exclusively has the right to control the material things man needs for his life and happiness. Mussolini (himself a former leader of the Socialist Party) defined Socialism when he defined Totalitarianism: "Everything for the State, everything by the State, nothing outside the State."

Right is more than fact and property is more than possession. If the State denies me my right to property but promises me the use of more wealth, of more money to spend, I am not reconciled to this condition of abject dependence. If the individual has no right to anything he cannot be robbed of anything. The State can do no wrong. Such is the logic of Socialism which denies the right of private property. It is a logic against which our human personality rises in protest and the Church, which has been the defender of human rights throughout the ages, voices our protest and makes it her own.

Local & General

(Continued from Page 3)

Degree of D. Litt. for Revd. Fr. Freeman.—The Syndicate of the Madras University has declared Revd. Fr. J. B. Freeman, the eminent author of "Science, Cause and God", as qualified for the degree of D. Litt.

Sir P.C. Ray Dead.—A well-known scientist has passed away in the person of Sir P. C. Ray whose death took place in Calcutta, on June 17, at the age of 83. A pioneer in Indian Chemical Research, he founded the Bengal Pharmaceutical Works. His discoveries in chemistry are mercurous nitrate and its derivatives, and amine nitrates.

Bombing of Open Towns.—A statement of the Cardinals and Archbishops of France says:—We cannot conceal our reprobation in the face of the bombing of open towns, which in a few instances sows desolation, ruin and death among the civil populations, destroying hospitals, churches, historical monuments, artistic treasures, family dwellings, cities.

All injustices, from wheresoever they come and whosoever may be their victims and their authors, we condemn in the name of morality and right.

It will be said that such are the laws of war. No! The state of war, however abnormal and inhuman it may be, in itself does not justify all these proceedings.

If war has laws, they are, above all, those which have been settled by natural morality and the Divine Law. They are also those which have been written down by the common effort of the peoples in international conventions, tending to regulate war in its manner of being conducted and to render it less cruel.

France's Mission.—"Those who say that France has come to the end of her mission, or that this mission will in future be less important, do not know the country," said Archbishop Valeri, Papal Nuncio in Vichy, in a public speech at Clermont-Ferrand. "What is this mission? It is to place human culture at the disposal of Christian civilization. She needs to spread abroad this civilization, which fundamentally is nothing but the victory of mind over matter, of liberty over coercion, of love over hatred."

Education Requires Religion.—The Progressive-Conservative Government of Ontario, Canada, has decided to introduce religious education in

the elementary and secondary schools. Hitherto the Separate (Catholic) schools have been alone in emphasising the necessity of religious education.

New York.—The Herbert Strauss House, one of the few remaining private New York mansions, has been bequeathed to the Church and will be used as a convalescent hospital.

Islam's Reactions to Holy Father's Message.—"We thank the Vatican for calling mankind to return to God," writes a Cairo newspaper reporting Islam's reaction to the Holy Father's Christmas message.

"Along with Christianity, Islam also is looking for the road to peace in the spirit of justice, humaneness and true brotherhood."

"In this respect statements recently made by important Moslem personages have displayed a striking similarity to the message of Rome."

Princes Proclaimed a Saint.—Definite news has now been received in London from Vatican City—by way of Washington—that Blessed Margaret of Hungary, daughter of King Bela, has been proclaimed a saint.

The message from Vatican City states that the Bull was proclaimed in the earlier part of March. It extended the Office and Mass of Blessed Margaret to the Universal Church.

St. Margaret was born in 1242 and died at the age of 29 after spending nearly all her short life in convents.

Vatican Territory.—The total population of the Vatican State, including extra-territorial possessions, is to-day approximately 9,000, says "Transocean", German news agency.

The population of the Vatican City itself is now about 2,000, the agency adds.

The rise is due to the influx of priests from the war zone and to the strengthening of the Swiss Guards and the Vatican police; also a number of Allied diplomats are now living within the city.

First Polish Hospital in India.—His Grace the Archbishop of Bombay declared open on June 1, the first Polish Hospital in India, at Queen's Road, Bombay. The hospital contains 40 beds and though intended primarily for Polish refugees, it will also be open to all nationalities, in case of need. Although the hospital is entirely staffed by Poles, still the leading physicians and surgeons of Bombay are honorary consultants. The funds provided by the citizens of U.S.A. in a remittance to His Grace the Archbishop, through the War Services National Catholic Welfare Conference, U.S.A., have been supplemented in India.

After the war the hospital, as a unit, will be shifted back to Poland, as a memorial to the hospitality of India to Poland.

Communion from the Pope.—Diplomats of belligerent and neutral States accredited to the Holy See were among some 1,500 people who received Holy Communion at the Holy Father's hands at his Easter Day Mass in the Consistorial Hall of the Vatican, it is now learnt.

About 1,200 university professors, members of Catholic Action, received a special invitation to be present.

The Mass was broadcast.

Invasion of Continent

THE ALLIED PLAN DEVELOPS

As soon, however, as it became clear that the British and Canadian bridgeheads were west of the Orne estuary, and the American further west still, the German Commanders decided that Cherbourg was the first main objective. "The Allied High Command" stated the News Agency D.B.N., "intends to take the whole Cotentin Peninsula including Cherbourg in order to bring up new offensive units on troopships and large freighters which are at present waiting fully loaded. Montebourg will use part of the forces at his disposal to take the Normandy Peninsula in a tour de force in order to obtain a platform sufficiently protected in width and depth from which to launch further operations. Only if this is achieved can the beginning of the second phase of invasion be expected which should consist in simultaneous strong attacks from Normandy and amphibious operations against the

European channel coast." That statement was put out on the seventh day after the invasion began, and the belief that the Allied plan to master the Cotentin Peninsula and make fresh landings in the Calais-Boulogne-Dunkirk area and then launch their offensives, has been the favourite theme of German commentators ever since.

ROMMEL'S REPLY

How does it fit in with what Rommel has been doing or trying to do in the field? It seems evident that he adopted the defensive tactics of holding a chain of "hedgehogs"—so familiar on the Russian front. At first they included Caen, Bayeux, Carentan, Montebourg, Valognes and Cherbourg itself. Commentators took the hint and began to say that the Allied front had been securely "bolted in." On his part, Rommel patched up his line by throwing reinforcements into the newly threatened sectors as they developed. On the whole it seems that Allied bombing of railway centres and bridges must have compelled them to go by the back road routes.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CAEN

Before long Bayeux fell to the British and, after a violent and fluctuating struggle, Carentan to the Americans. It is at this stage that Rommel's dispositions become particularly interesting. Quite unmistakably his chief concern became the defence of Caen and the blocking of deep Allied penetration southeast and southwest of Bayeux. To do this he has concentrated no less than four Panzer Divisions (the second, the twelfth, twenty first and Lehr Divisions) in the Caen sector, whereas only one Panzer Division has been sent to support the field divisions in the peninsula. Moreover the Lehr Division is an expensive formation to use in action, since it is a training and experimental formation, largely staffed with expert instructors.

THE DEFENCE OF CAEN

The American thrust via Lisson and Cerisy forest towards St. Ives and the British drive further east to Caumont and Tilly have met powerful infantry supported by tanks, while our efforts to envelope Caen from both sides have been met by massed Panzer formations fighting in the line—a wasteful way of using them.

CAEN THE PIVOT

This striking by means of a disproportionate allocation of armour may be partly due to the fact that the area south of Bayeux and Caen is fairly good northwest of Carentan. When one considers the defence of the coasts of France (north, west and south) from some central point—say at Tours—the significance of Caen in relation to present operations becomes apparent. It is a pivot of first-rate importance. When the fury of the American attack, backed up by heavy naval gunfire, deprived Rommel of Carentan and the use of one of the main roads leading to Cherbourg, the "hedgehog" which linked the defence of the peninsula with the main land front between the Vire and the Orne was broken. The German troops already in the peninsula put up violent resistance to the American thrusts (now strongly reinforced) northwards against Montebourg and Quineville and westward across the peninsula in the region of St. Sauveur, but to pass fresh troops through the narrowing bottleneck meant running the risk of losing them to no purpose.—Weekly Air News Letter.

Telegraphic Summary of War News

CAEN AREA LULL

In the Caen area there is a relative lull after the recent repeated German counter-attacks, with actually mainly confined to offensive British patrolling.

It was learned at S.H.A.E.F. that General Montgomery is re-grouping and relieving the British troops who had defended Evrecy for several days almost without sleep.

Field-Marshal Rommel is re-grouping his eleven divisions opposite the British

Second Army in the Tilly-Caen sector and may be preparing for a big punch. It was stated at S.H.A.E.F.

SIENNA TAKEN

Allied troops early on Monday captured Siena, 31 miles south of Florence.

In the Adriatic sector, our troops are now across the Musone river where Osimo and Loreto have been occupied. Troops in the Fifth Army, who are encountering very considerable resistance, particularly in the coastal sector where the heaviest fighting since Rome has taken place, have advanced all along the front.

MINSK FALLS IN FIERCE 24-HOUR BATTLE

The fall of Minsk, the Russian frontier city on the main Warsaw-Smolensk-Moscow highway and railway (announced by Marshal Stalin in an order-of-the-day on Monday night), means that the Germans have lost their last great base in White Russia.

Big drives are now taking shape towards the important Latvian railway station of Daugavpils (less than 40 miles to Riga and Vilna (within 60 miles). The indications are that the main weight of the Red Army's thrust is now going in the direction of Vilna and the Reich border in East Prussia.

To mark the victory units and formations which distinguished themselves in the fighting for Minsk will assume the name of Minsk and will be awarded military decorations, states Marshal Stalin's order-of-the-day. On Monday night at 8 o'clock Moscow saluted the liberators of Minsk with 24 salvoes from 324 guns.

THREE GERMAN GENERALS KILLED AT POLOTSK

Monday's German communiqué said: "In Italy, as operations in the area just south of Siena had spread out with the consequent danger that the highly valuable cultural monuments of the ancient city might be destroyed, our troops were withdrawn to an area north of Siena—voluntarily and without enemy pressure."

"On the Eastern front, in the area of Ossipovich and on the middle of Beresina, our divisions retreated into an area round Minsk. In the course of the grim fighting in progress for the town of Polotsk, the following commanding generals met a hero's death: Generals of Artillery, Martiner and Feiffer, and Lt.-General Scheunemann."

AMERICANS LAND ON NOEMFOOR ISLAND

American forces have landed on the Noemfoor Island, one hundred miles west of Biak Island. The landing was made on Sunday morning. They met with only light resistance and captured the Kamiri aerodrome.

17,000 JAPANESE KILLED IN NORTH BURMA

Japanese casualties in North Burma, is known killed alone, number over 17,000 to date, states Raja Mani (Associated Press of India correspondent at General Stilwell's Headquarters).

R.I.N. 1,750,000 MILES

Ships of the Royal Indian Navy, engaged in escorting convoys, and minesweeping and anti submarine patrols, steamed over 1,750,000 miles during the twelve months ending March 31st last, says a Press note. Escort duties account for the largest share of the total.—Reuter.

