

The Ceylon's Catholic Weekly Messenger

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★ REPRESENTING ALL CREEDS AND COMMUNITIES OF THE ISLAND...

24,132 MOTHERS PETITION THE PRIME MINISTER

Ceylon's Metropolitan writes to all Catholic school-children

Wave of bitterness and regret continues

(by our reporter)

HARD ON THE HEELS OF LAST WEEK'S 5,000-STRONG CROWD OF BUDDHIST, HINDU, MUSLIM, PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC MOTHERS WHO WENT IN PROCESSION TO "TEMPLE TREES", ONLY TO MEET WITH A FIRM REFUSAL BY THE PRIME MINISTER TO SEE THEM, THE MESSENGER IS NOW ABLE TO STATE THAT, UP TO DATE, A TOTAL OF 24,132 MOTHERS HAVE ALSO PETITIONED THE PRIME MINISTER, MRS. SIRIMAVO BANDARANAIKE, PROTESTING AGAINST THE TAKE-OVER OF ASSISTED SCHOOLS.

"WILL this be the last time for many months that the Bishop's words will be read to you, in your full assembly as a Catholic School, living its full Catholic life? Our Blessed Lord alone knows," states a plaintively worded letter that goes out this week from Ceylon's Metropolitan, the Most Rev. Dr. Thomas Cooray, O.M.I., to Catholic school-children throughout the Archdiocese.

Dwelling on the gravity of today's crisis, Ceylon's Metropolitan makes a personal request to every Catholic child to gather at Mary's feet at Tewatte on Saturday, 3 December.

The letter also underlines the need for an "Austerity" Christmas and it appeals to the children to go austere, keeping a pleasant face all the while. The full text of the Metropolitan's Letter to Children appears on page 7.

20,000-STRONG CROWD AT WENNAPPUWA Communists are manoeuvring religious persecution here

—states M. P. for Galle

(from our Wennappuwa correspondent)

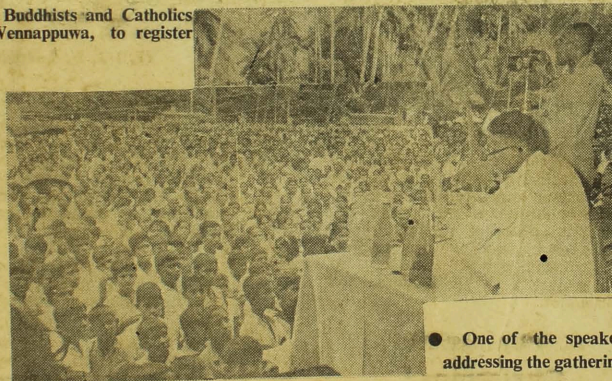
AN estimated crowd of 20,000 comprising Buddhists and Catholics gathered at Joseph Vaz College, Wennappuwa, to register their protest at the schools take-over.

Addressing the assembly, the M. P. for Galle, Mr. W. Dahanayake, declared: "It is a crying shame on us to act contrary to the hallowed traditions of our long line of Sinhala Royalty and be blind to historical facts enumerated in our much venerated source book of Ceylon History — the Mahavamsa. For, it is on record in this History of ours that our Sinhalese Kings not only tolerated people of other denominations but even granted them donations of land or rather whole villages to establish denominational schools."

EXTERMINATION?

"The Communists who are around Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike are subtly manoeuvring a 'religious persecution,'" stated Mr. Dahanayake, "and are trying to employ the majority religion of the land to exterminate a religion of the minorities." The speaker affirmed that should there be any shedding of blood over this schools issue, Mrs. Bandaranaike would invariably be held responsible for such a tragic episode.

"Although Mrs. Bandaranaike accepted the reign of office assuming the minorities of religious freedom, since the day she aligned herself with the Communists and became a tool in



● One of the speakers addressing the gathering.

in their hands, she has forgotten all this," said Mr. Dahanayake.

POLICE

"And the strangest tale of all," observed Mr. Dahanayake "is that, instead of calling leading educationists to discuss vital matters pertaining to education, she has summoned the top brass in the Police Service."

"The day is not far off when the innocent children of today may have to walk blindly in the highways," continued the speaker.

Rev. Sri Gunasiri Thero stated that among other things, the M.P. of the area, Mr. Hugh Fernando, had uttered some deliberate lies inside Parliament.

"It is not surprising to hear his own supporters lamenting this by labelling their M.P. a Judas," said Mr. Newton Jayamanne.

Rev. K. Jinaratna Thero, Manager of about 100 schools, said that it was a pity to see the Education Minister trying to create disharmony between the Catholics and Buddhists. This was a big threat to peace in the country.

The resolution passed unanimously and amid loud applause was as follows:

RESIGN SEATS

The two M.P.s for Nattandiya and Wennappuwa should oppose the schools take-over since that was the wish of the people of the area, or else they should resign their seats and recontest them on this issue.

In this case as well, repeated requests for an interview with the Prime Minister to hand over the mammoth petition, were ignored. After every attempt had failed, the petition was sent by postal delivery.

On Monday this week one thousand mothers voiced their appeal. This petition, whilst strengthening an earlier appeal signed by 23,132 mothers, shoots up the total now to 24,132 mothers of all creeds, classes and communities from all parts of the island who have expressed their dissent.

DENIAL

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister's statement issued just after last week's peaceful demonstration at "Temple Trees," alleging that the women were led by some U.N.P. M.P.s, has been categorically denied in a signed statement issued by Mrs. Olive Perera, Mrs. Ivor Fernando, and Mrs. Rose Edirisinghe, leaders of the procession.

Whilst emphatically denying that U.N.P. members of Parliament had any hand in the matter, their statement explains: "This peaceful demonstration was organized by the mothers belonging to different denominations like Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims and Catholics from all parts of the island who are deeply concerned that their children should have a religious educational background in schools of their choice."

"Austerity" Christmas this Year?

FROM various parts of Ceylon — and from Wattala and Kotahena in particular — the persistent call of the Catholic laity has been reaching us in our office during the past fortnight. And the united voice of these generous men, women and children asks for one thing:

LET US ALL MAKE THIS A PENITENTIAL CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR!

It is meant, they say, as a sacrifice that will hurt us, children of the Babe, and make us more generous and ready for the big sacrifice when all that is sacred to us is being challenged; it is meant, they say, to show to the world our own deep and abounding grief at a time when the Church is being vilified and threatened; it is meant, they say, also to help in building up a fund for our own Catholic schools of the dark tomorrow that is to dawn upon us.

And so we ask our readers: WHAT ABOUT THE "AUSTERITY" CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR? What about making it a Christmas which will be all the more intense in its spiritual implications — while being a Christmas of sacrifice, of penance, of "austerity" — and therefore, of loving and filial devotion to the Church, our Mother?

Present indications are that a wave of disappointment and bitter (Continued on page 12)

THEY WORE A CROWN OF THORNS AND WALKED IN THE RAIN 30,000 CATHOLICS SHOWED THE WAY

(by our reporter)

AN UNPRECEDENTED CROWD ESTIMATED AT 30,000 CATHOLICS JOINED IN THE 8-MILE LONG PENITENTIAL PROCESSION FROM WATTALA VIA HEKITTA, PALLIYAWATTE, HENDALA, GALVETIYA, KERAWALAPITIYA, NAYAKAKANDA, MABOLA TO MATTUMAGALA LAST SUNDAY.

Spearheading the procession was a huge wooden cross borne in turn by the faithful of different parishes.

Dressed in mourning apparel each participant carried a cross and wore a crown of thorns on his head. The mammoth crowd refused to be dispersed because of the rain.

The penitential procession was prompted by the impending calamity that awaited their future generations and their penitential plea was to ask God to avert it.

The fourteen Stations of the Way of the Cross were fixed on the route. At each Station, Rev. Fr. Joseph Jayasuriya O.M.I. preached a short but soul-stirring sermon.

SEVEN PARISHES

The Parish Priests of seven Parishes joined their parishioners on this journey of prayer.

The procession, which started from

its destination — Sacred Heart Church, Mattumagala at 6-30 p.m.

When the whole crowd had assembled there, Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Nicholas Perera. Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament was the last item before the crowd dispersed.

The whole crowd maintained perfect order from the start to the end

Pre-marriage training is essential — says Pope John

CALLING FOR MORE INSTRUCTION ON MARRIAGE TO BE GIVEN TO YOUNG PEOPLE, POPE JOHN LAST TUESDAY SAID THAT ENGAGEMENTS WERE SOMETIMES "WRAPPED IN A FOG OF MISUNDERSTANDING, OR OF INSUFFICIENTLY DISCIPLINED FEELING AND EXPRESSION OF LOVE, OR OF A FEEBLE CLARITY OF IDEALS."

The Pope, who was speaking at the opening of the autumn session

the Sacred Roman Rota, the Church's highest court for marriage questions, added: "It is not far from the truth to say that the influence of the press, radio, and the cinema, in their more empty and amoral forms, condemns this."

The dangers affecting and weakening the family were today being made to grow imperceptibly but continually, he continued. "This is happening in a more insistent, seductive and underhand way than in the past."

Addition to Divine Praises

A NEW invocation has been added to the Divine Praises.

After "Blessed be the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar," the words "Blessed be His Most Precious Blood" will be said.

The addition has been decreed by the Sacred Congregation of Rites, with the approval of the Pope.

The decree was requested by the Congregation of the Precious Blood. The last invocation to be added is the first since the insertion of "Blessed be Her glorious Assumption" in 1953.

The Mothers' Protest

I DO hope you will give me a little space to state what I saw and heard on Thursday morning opposite "Temple Trees."

I work at an office close by and was drawn by the sight of these ladies, some of whom had gathered as early as 6 a.m., I was told. As time went by large numbers were added to the already large crowd and on a rough estimate there must have been at least 4,000 representing all classes. I observed the Muslim and Hindu ladies; there were also Burghers and Tamils, and large numbers of Sinhalese both from the educated classes and also the poorer sisters.

I am a Buddhist and a L.S.S.P. supporter. What struck me most forcibly was the dignified and very orderly manner in which this demonstration was carried out. It was an object lesson to me and all others

who passed by of how effective a demonstration could be by its very silence, in contrast to the rowdy and even violent demonstrations by my own and other political parties. It was the most lady-like gathering I had seen and, in contrast, what treatment they received from Madam Prime Minister! It is a shame to have labelled it an irresponsible demonstration. It would be more correct to call it an irresponsible utterance. Their orderly and dignified behaviour and, above all, their silent protest — carried the day.

I spoke to a few of the ladies and learnt that they would do everything within reason and use every legitimate means to preserve their schools. I admired their courage and high ideals. I have begun to realise that there should not be any room for violence to gain an objective. My

L.S.S.P. creed has been shaken and the vindictive and malicious oppression of the minorities by the present Government has opened my eyes and I too will fight with my minority friends for their cause.

Moratuwa.

D. Ariapala.

II.

It is indeed sad to reflect on the attitude adopted by the Prime Minister, Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike, towards the women who thronged in

to retire with compensation. Now, until the Second Bill re the Control of Education is passed, teachers do not know what exactly will be the nature of this compensation. Will this compensation be given to one and all or only to those who have taught for a period of at least ten years.

The other problem is that of teachers who would like to join Government in order to safeguard their pension rights, etc. So far the Education Department has not told them that their salaries will be guaranteed until such time as Government is able to find a job for them. Though some Managers, out of the largeness of their hearts, have promised to pay

brought to bear on them either by the officials of the Dept. of Education or political interference from M.P's.

Teachers took up services in Assisted Schools on terms different from those obtaining under government. They enjoyed certain political rights which were denied their counterparts in Government Schools. Therefore teachers whom the Government intends to absorb into its service should be given the undertaking that the conditions of service obtaining under Assisted Schools will be guaranteed them.

The change of employer will not affect so much the new entrant, but it does affect seriously the old entrant whose only reason for taking to teaching may be as a result of an inner urge of dedication and service, and, it being so, either drawing him away with the bait of a better deal or curtailing his privileges on his adhering to his old sake's sake are both acts of moral import. Therefore it behoves the State to be fair by the teacher who after all is not deserving of blame for the political set-up and the changed attitude towards the control of education.

Kandy.

D. Chinnappah.

Coming events: Persecution of Catholics in Ceylon

THE trend of events today definitely shows that the persecution of Catholics has begun and the construction of the road to total Communism has definitely been put into action. The taking over of our schools and the taking over of Church property at Wanathamulla in Borella and at Minuwangoda are just the initial stages. It is a pity that the Catholics took the path of least resistance and allowed the forceful possession of the Le Goc Memorial site and pillar, at Darley-Maculum Road junction. There is going to be blatant religious discrimination for the Catholics and whatever is Catholic.

The Catholics in Ceylon are in a minority; but that does not mean that their future could be trampled upon. Catholics are also human beings and citizens of Sri Lanka. They also have inviolable human rights as much as any other citizens of the land.

Man will carry out the law of the country and be obedient to its Government and at the same time he will be loyal to his God too. To Caesar, Man will render the things that are Caesar's; but to God also, the things that are God's.

The Communist attempt to dispossess man of the human right to educate his family according to his conscience is the first step, which at the end solidifies its code. The next step is to deny the right to private property. The Communist argument for the dispossession of this human right to possess private property, is that property has been abused and amassed in the hands of capitalists. This is no doubt true, but certainly the solution lies not in the confiscation of all private property! It will only make the State capitalist.

It should then be obvious that Communism out-capitalists Capitalism by concentrating wealth not in the hands of a few, but in the hands of the State.

Once the schools are taken over our Catholic children will be denied the Catholic discipline and training under Catholic guidance and in a Catholic atmosphere. These children will then stand in danger of losing their souls. When society loses its soul, which is God, it breaks up into millions of conflicting elements which can never be brought into real unity even by force or propaganda, any more than dust can be revived into a living man.

Action to safeguard our souls cannot be termed as treason. It could only be treason to the State, if the soul belongs to the State and there could be no treason to the State if the soul, which belongs to God, is safeguarded for God.

At this critical stage of our lives, I would strongly recommend every Catholic in Ceylon, to see the film "Sword and the Cross" that is to be shown at the Savoy Theatre for their own edification. Persecution of the worst type has been going on against the Catholic Church from the time of Christ and the first victim had been Christ Himself; yet the Church marches forward, gathering more strength after every such persecution.

Julian Senanayake.

Colombo 9.

LETTERS

their thousands to express their feelings over the Schools' Take-over issue. Being a lady herself, she has not been fair and square by her own sex at least by ignoring their appeal when they had waited for hours and hours in the pouring rain to have an interview with her.

A challenge has been thrown in the face of all the other denomina-

their salaries until such time as the Government will find jobs for them, I feel that it is unfair to expect Managers who, at a great sacrifice to themselves, will have to pay salaries of teachers for whom the Government cannot find jobs for some length of time. Further, it is but elementary justice that the Government which has created this situation for teachers

A TIME FOR SELF-DENIAL?

WHILE agreeing heartily and endorsing seven out of the ten useful points suggested by your correspondent "A. M.," under the above caption, in the issue of the Messenger of the 12th November, I feel it would be a bit too much, when he says that we should (1) Give up the habit of sending Christmas Cards, (2) Postpone pilgrimages, (3) Give up parties and socials.

It must be borne in mind, in regard to sending Christmas Cards, that it is an outward expression of the feelings of Christ-like goodwill that should animate Christians during the Universal Feast of Christmas. Strictly speaking, not sending Christmas Cards is not an act of self-denial. On the contrary, actually, in its effects, it touches our friends and relations. In fact, often, one of the most effective and practical ways of showing our friendship towards even our "enemies" is to send a Christmas Card. In any case, not sending

Christmas Cards cannot be considered an act of self-denial, for the simple reason that no one sends self-addressed Christmas Cards.

Postponing pilgrimages, also, may not always be acts of self-denial. Pilgrimages have their rightful place in the Catholic way of life. We should not be Puritans or others of such species.

Parties and socials, with the necessary safeguards for moderation and economy, are necessary. Catholics are not Manicheans and let us not forget that our Blessed Lord Himself and His Mother attended the marriage Feast at Cana and that Our Lord performed His first Miracle of converting water into Wine, during a Wedding Party. And the Gospel does not record that anyone had to be carried out, as a result of the excess of wine that was available, as a result of the miracle!

(Fr.) J. B. Andradi.

Marawila.

tions of this country — a challenge to their human rights. It is for these denominations to take up this challenge in the rightful spirit it merits or let their own individuality or religious beliefs be violated for ever in a Marxist sphere of thought as the years roll by under the new set-up of Government policy.

Moratuwa.

E. M. Van Dort.

A Penitential Christmas?

THE time has come for all Catholics to show their true colours in real perspective.

We Catholics are very fortunate to live in this period where we can show by example the truth and strength of our True Religion. We must all pray and make acts of personal sacrifices as we have never made before. Let us all mourn during this dark phase, and let this Christmas be shorn of all the usual splendour and glory. Let us all feast on spiritual aspects and sacrifice the material side of merry-making which is usual in grand Christmas celebrations. This would make all the rich and poor, the young and old, to realize the great calamity and disaster which is likely to befall this generation and others to come by this Communist-inspired take-over of schools by compulsion. No toys must be purchased and new textiles should not be bought and all the rich foods and other delicacies should be done away with during this Christmas. This would be an act of great sacrifice and reparation.

Kalutara.

Wilfrid Nanayakkara.

Assisted Schools

TEACHERS of Assisted Schools will soon find themselves in a very embarrassing situation when certain schools will opt to go private. The Government has told them that, if they do not wish to join Government, they would have the option

"Citizens of all races and of all faiths, unite to oppose the schools take-over! The bill in its present form, is undemocratic, unjust and unfair."

—states a widely-circulated pamphlet in English, Sinhalese and Tamil. The "Messenger" reproduces the full text of it below:

1 "WE WANT A TRUE DEMOCRACY" and not a Marxist Dictatorship under the guise of Democracy.

The Government claims to be "highly democratic" in its decision to take over all assisted schools. But we, citizens of Ceylon, strongly protest that the whole attitude of the Government regarding the Schools take-over is absolutely anti-democratic.

Our Prime Minister claims to have the whole country behind her and states that her actions are democratic, but she refuses to acknowledge the demands of thousands of citizens who have manifested their opposition to this Bill.

Democratic? Is it not a Government M.P. who admitted in Parliament that "the Government should not hold a Referendum, for if they did

• Our First Resolution

WE DEMAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT PROVE ITS SINCERITY BY HOLDING A TRULY DEMOCRATIC REFERENDUM ALL THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND ON THE SCHOOLS TAKE-OVER. LET THE GOVERNMENT ASK THE VOTERS OF SRI LANKA SPECIFICALLY WHETHER THEY AGREE TO THE SCHOOLS TAKE-OVER BILL IN ITS PRESENT FORM.

2 "WE WANT JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS TO ALL." We want the same Freedom both for the Majority and for the Minorities.

The Government repeats day after day that it does not intend to harm anyone by the take-over of the Schools. But we citizens, who respect our religious beliefs, proclaim once more that this Schools take-over is HARMFUL to us, because it is a definite step towards the DESTRUCTION OF OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

• Our Second Resolution

WE DO NOT ASK FOR ANY PRIVILEGE, BUT FOR FAIRPLAY AND JUSTICE TO ALL. THE GOVERNMENT MUST GIVE A FAIR CHOICE TO THE PARENTS OF ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING ASSISTED SCHOOLS. THROUGH AN HONEST REFERENDUM IN EACH ASSISTED SCHOOL, LET THE PARENTS DECIDE, WITH A 51 PER CENT MAJORITY, WHETHER THEY WISH THEIR SCHOOL TO BE GIVEN OVER TO THE STATE, OR WHETHER THEY WANT TO KEEP IT AS AN ASSISTED SCHOOL, RECEIVING AS BEFORE TEACHERS' SALARIES AND EQUIPMENT GRANT FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

3 "WE SHALL RESIST DEMOCRATICALLY AN UNJUST LAW." We, peace-loving citizens of Ceylon, do not have at our disposal the Police and Armed Forces, neither are we used to thuggery and hooliganism.

But as citizens of a country which has officially accepted the "UNITED NATIONS CHARTER," we proclaim that the PARENTS HAVE AN INALIENABLE AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN AS THEY WANT. Furthermore, we consider this RIGHT as an ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

We cannot accept this forceful take-over of our Assisted Schools, because it is a DICTATORIAL MOVE of the MARXISTS towards the destruction of all our Freedoms, and specially of our Religious Freedom.

• Our Third Resolution

MONOPOLISATION OF EDUCATION BY THE STATE WILL ALWAYS LEAD TO THE GREAT DANGER OF POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION, AND WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO SAFEGUARD A TRULY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION. THAT IS WHY WE UNANIMOUSLY DECIDE TO OPPOSE BY ALL POSSIBLE DEMOCRATIC MEANS THE TAKE-OVER OF OUR ASSISTED SCHOOLS.

Ivor Fernando, Benny Gomez, Peter P. Perera, W. Tudor Perera, E. T. Perera, M. Maria Soosai Pillai, P. Stanislaus, B. R. de Silva, M. D.

Norman, on behalf of all the citizens of SRI LANKA who believe in DEMOCRACY, JUSTICE AND FREEDOM.

★ *Round-the-island*

POPE'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

A FURTHER cross-section of reports received on Pope's Day celebrations is given below:

● **Marawila**

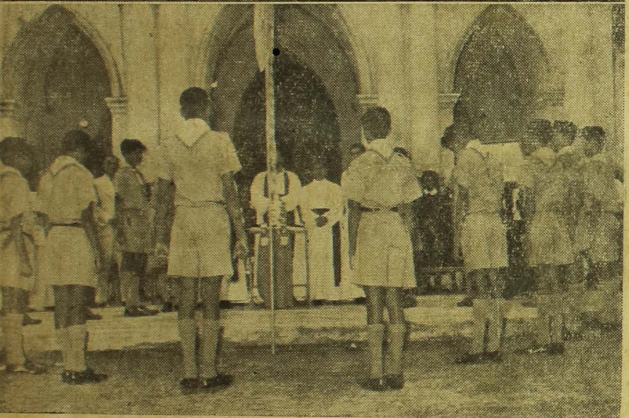
COLOURFUL celebrations marked Pope's Day in Marawila when thousands of the faithful assembled last week at St. Mary's Church.

Celebrations started with High Mass. After Benediction in the afternoon, school girls and boys decked in immaculate white carried the papal flag past a specially constructed rostrum facing a co-

dral Square after the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Rev. Frs. Justin Perera, Andrew Peter Fernando, O.M.I. and Jacob Fernando, S.J. addressed the gathering in English, Sinhalese and Tamil respectively.

The speakers dwelt at length on the Papacy and made pointed reference to the attempts now being made in certain quarters to separate the faithful from the Holy See. It was a challenge to the Catholics



Our pictures show (TOP) His Lordship the Bishop of Chilaw inspecting a guard-of-honour provided by the Boy Scouts at Chilaw and (BELOW) the singing of the Papal Anthem at Marawila.

(Pictures by P. S. Wilson and Herbert De Silva)

lonnade decked with flags. The papal flag was hoisted by Rev. Fr. Alfred Lobo, while the photograph of St. Pius X was unveiled by Rev. Fr. Quintus Perera.

Rev. Frs. Quintus Perera and J. B. Andradi addressed the gathering.

The Ceylon Tea Propaganda Van supplied no less than 2,000 cups of tea to the large crowd. Through the courtesy of the Embassy of Japan in Ceylon an interesting film was screened.

● **Diyalagoda and Maggona**

POPE'S Day was celebrated by the Catholics of Diyalagoda and Maggona last week.

After Mass at St. Mary's Church, Maggona, there was a parade followed by a March Past by the school children. The Papal Flag was hoisted and the Papal Anthem sung.

Celebrations in schools were observed on Monday.

● **Kotahena**

CATHOLICS of Kotahena mustered strong on Pope's Day to pay their allegiance to the Holy Father, Pope John XXIII. The faithful assembled in the Cate-

dral Square after the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Rev. Frs. Justin Perera, Andrew Peter Fernando, O.M.I. and Jacob Fernando, S.J. addressed the gathering in English, Sinhalese and Tamil respectively.

Continued on page 8

FIRST VISIT SINCE REFORMATION

Catholics & Protestants welcome 'Holy Summit'

UNIVERSAL REJOICING WOULD SEEM TO HAVE BEEN THE REACTION TO THE NEWS THAT ENGLAND'S LEADING ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, DR. FISHER, IS TO VISIT THE HOLY FATHER DURING HIS THREE-DAY STAY IN ROME FROM DECEMBER 1 TO DECEMBER 3.

In fact, in Fleet Street, it was the day's big news on Monday before last, when all England's national newspapers made the story of Dr. Fisher's visit to Rome their main news story.

All welcomed the spirit of the meeting, but did not minimise

the great cleavages of belief.

Though this visit is described as a visit of courtesy, the fact that it is the first from an Archbishop of Canterbury since before the Reformation seems to have caught the world's imagination and indeed hope. This is perhaps best illustrated by the front page of the English paper *Daily Sketch* which, over large pictures of the Pope and Dr. Fisher, printed in giant letters the heading — "A Holy Summit . . . in the month of Christmas A.D. 1960." Commenting on the forthcoming visit, this is what Archbishop Heenan says:

"The visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury is exactly what it is called — a courtesy visit.

But courtesy translated into the language of religion means charity. Pope John from the beginning of his reign has made known his genuine affection for Christians not subject to the Holy See.

And England's *Daily Telegraph* had this to say:

"The visit cannot be treated merely as courtesy.

"It marks in fact an awareness in both communions, sharpened no doubt by the increased power of the anti-Christian Communist philosophy, that disunity among Christians is too great a scandal to be ignored and too serious a weakness to be left unremedied."

TEN TEMPTATIONS FOR THOSE IN SOCIAL APOSTOLATE

THE "TEN MAJOR TEMPTATIONS" FACED BY THOSE IN ANY SOCIAL APOSTOLATE WERE LISTED RECENTLY BY BISHOP BLOMJOUS IN AN ADDRESS TO A WORK-STUDY CONFERENCE IN MWANZA, TANGANYIKA, ATTENDED BY CATHOLICS FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES.

Following are the ten pitfalls and means of avoiding them:

DISCOURAGEMENT

1 There is so much to do, that we may feel the impossibility of doing anything really effective in our social and temporal work as well as in our apostolic work.

The antidote is Christian hope, a supernatural virtue.

2 **EVASION:** Which follows from Discouragement. We are afraid to shoulder our responsibilities, we want to fly the world and to build a big wall to protect ourselves from dangers and difficulties.

The antidote should be the conviction of our responsibilities towards our fellow men.

3 **EXAGGERATED SUPER-NATURALISM:** Some people think that prayers and rosary-saying are enough.

They think that the supernatural order covers all sins of commission and omission in the natural order. But this is not so.

4 **EXAGGERATED NATURALISM:** By which I mean that you think that by your own personal activities you will convert the world.

We are all only instruments in the hand of God.

If we do not keep in close touch with God, an essential relationship, our activity is useless.

5 **EXAGGERATED CONSERVATISM:** Which I define as "canonisation of our prejudices."

We think that ours is the only way because it has always been so, and therefore, it must be right.

6 **HASTE:** By which I mean the lack of patience in our work, which is lack of faith as well as of historical perspective.

7 **SECTARIANISM:** By which I mean thinking that our own organization is the only saving one in the world, that we have the only answer and everyone must follow.

No! The only things everyone has to follow are the Ten Commandments of God.

Societies are only a means to an end.

Different ways are necessary for different regions and different personalities.

8 **PURITANISM:** We must remember that ours is the Church not only of saints but of sinners.

We must not feel superior to those who are not engaged in apostolic activities, and we must not despise those who have lapsed from the faith.

ANTI - CLERICALISM:

9 We must have clear in our minds the role of the laity in the Church. They are intended to be active, not passive like a flock of sheep. Clergy must not forget that anti-clericalism is a reaction against clericalism — an over-active role taken on himself by the priest.

10 **SPIRITUAL PRIDE:** The virtue of humility does not only regard our personal action, it also has a social side.

We know that we have the truth, but it was given to us without any merit on our part.

Others have some part of the truth, and the majority of them follow their own religious convictions with complete sincerity.

The two main virtues in social and Catholic action are Christian humility and Christian charity.

BOOKS AT REDUCED PRICES

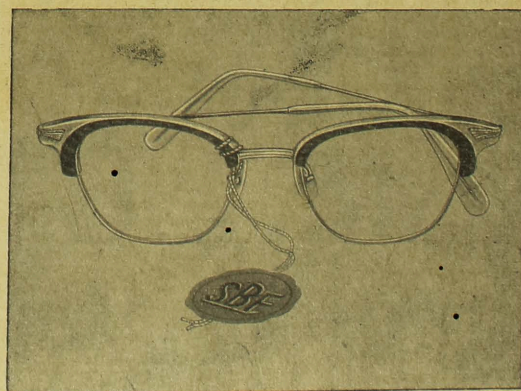
In view of the annual stock-taking these books are sold at reduced rates:

THE MADHU PRAYER BOOK and Hymnal — 35 cts.
PRAYERS & HYMNS for Retreats and Missions — 10 cts.
KUSTANTINU HATANA — 50 cts.

Available at:

Colombo Catholic Press,
BORELLA. 1512

FOR SPECTACLES



CONSULT:- RAY BAN OPTICIANS

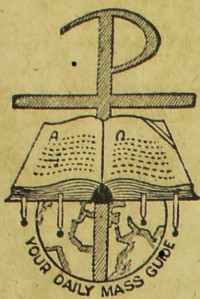
Sight Testing and Manufacturing
40 Maliban Street, Colombo 11.

Phone 7003

Branches

418 Deans Road,
(opposite New Eye Hospital)
Colombo 10

117 Colombo Road
Negombo
Sundays only



Sunday, 20 November: XXIV
Sunday after Pentecost. Green.
Creed. Preface of Trinity.
Monday, 21 November: Presenta-
tion of the Blessed Virgin. White.
Creed. Preface of B.V.M.
Tuesday, 22 November: St. Ceci-
lia. Red.
Wednesday, 23 November: St. Cle-
ment. Red. 2nd prayer of St.
Felicity.
Thursday, 24 November: St. John
of the Cross. White. 2nd prayer
of St. Chrysogonus. Creed.
Friday, 25 November: St. Cathe-
rine. Red.
Saturday, 26 November: St. Sil-
vester. White. 2nd prayer of St.
Alexandrine.
Sunday, 27 November: 1st Sunday
in Advent. Violet. Omit prayer
prescribed. Preface of Trinity.

• Unless otherwise stated, the
prayer prescribed — Archdio-
cese: "against persecutors of
the Church" — is always said.

BISHOP SHEEN SPEAKS

"THE road to hell is paved with good intentions." Such is an English proverb which suggests that because intentions do not carry over into acts, they count as nothing. The proverb could be true, if one never had the intention to act on any wish, but there are certain other aspects in which this proverb is not true. It is to be recalled that Our Blessed Lord accounted the evil desire as an act, saying that if any man looked after a woman in lust, he had already committed adultery with her in his own heart. One would be guilty of robbery, in the order of conscience if one intended to steal but was prevented by external circumstances from doing so.

• David

On the side of Goodness, there is such a thing as the blessing of unrealized aims. King David, in gratitude to God for stopping a plague, promised to build a Temple in Jerusalem. His resolve was so intense that it could almost be said to have been graven upon his heart. In his dreams, for years, he had seen the Temple crowning the crest of Zion. Night and day he planned for it, as every other wish was made subordinate to this. But though he had the intention, the temple was never built. Though he had collected vast stores of material, never was a stone laid upon a stone. The dream never became a reality, nor the intention a fact. But though he went down to his grave with his dream, the intention was accounted by God as the deed. It was reserved for his son, Solomon, to build the Temple. When it was dedicated, Solomon spoke to God saying: "And when my father, would have built a house in honour of the Lord God of Israel, the Lord told him that he had done well to conceive such a purpose in his heart; but it is not for thee, He said, to build Me a house."

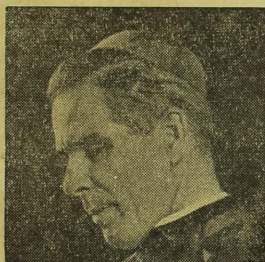
• Honest purpose

He was praised for having the desire in his heart. One man sows

and another reaps; one age begins that which the next brings to perfection. It is never to be thought a disparagement to men to pursue great designs even though they rest only upon a foundation. Little aims make little men, and great aims make great men. There is a refining and enriching influence in the mere possession of lofty power. Though David could never look up to the cedars of Lebanon which stretched across the roof of Solomon's edifice, no one may dare say that it was a waste for David to have cherished such an ambition. The materials that the father collected, the son used, as the dream of the father became the deed of the son. God very often accounts the intention as the deed and the honest purpose for achievement. Though we seem to close our accounts on this earth unfinished, we will be surprised on Judgment that so many Temples have been completed,

• God rewards

Another lesson is that life is bitter not because it is short, but because it is incomplete. The grave is not just a burying place of lifeless bodies, it is also a burying place of many hopes. This is sad and tragic only because finding difficulties, we did not put forth full energy to complete the edifice. If God punishes the evil wish as much as He does the actual performance, it must be that the performance is but the wish perfected with power. If He rewards the good wish as much as the performance, it must be that the completion He kept totally out of our hands. Though it may never be for men to see the completed wish, nevertheless, it must be judged fit by the Divine Master to Whom all work is referred. (Copyright . . . Reproduction in whole or in part forbidden).



Strands of the Story 264

COVER FOR THE MIRACLE

FEARS can be quickly allayed that Fr. Alex. Ranasinghe's suggestion that the miracle of the survival of our Catholic schools be sought as a "test case" of Fr. Vaz's Cause might lead to a dispersal of energy.

No doubt we are human and a multiplicity of objectives may weaken our attention and split up the intensity of our prayer. But that happens only if we fail to see things in a line. Place your objectives in order, one behind the other and you can cover them as a single target.

That nothing short of a sensational intervention of Heaven is required to assure the survival of our Catholic schools can no longer be doubted. On the other hand, the known plans of the present legislators involve a complete encirclement of our civic Rights and Liberties aimed at compassing the utter destruction of Catholic education. Without quarter for our rural schools, with the derisory alternative for our urban schools to go private when it pleases the Ministry to stage a Referendum on the most iniquitous terms and affording, if in spite of this, its results are favourable, only a most precarious guarantee for the future, the Mahmu-dian Ordinances-to-be are sheer murderous for us (in effect, if not

in deliberate design). A major sacred Cause is clearly at stake.

On the other hand, the danger is real, acute and imminent. The Prime Minister has publicly declared that the present Government has made its decision "once and for all" and that no considerations will prevent it from carrying out its intentions. With the overwhelming majority it is able to command, it can certainly pass an unlimited number of Ordinances — one deadlier than the other to the Church, or for the matter of that to the Constitution.

Father Vaz Feature

If a cause ever seemed desperate and lost (humanly speaking) it is ours. Here then are all the requisites for praying for Heaven's direct intervention.

The Cause is vitally sacred. The danger is despairingly deadly. Under the guidance of our Pastors, we have engaged in a concerted, island-wide movement of prayer and to give it its maximum appeal (to our soul's latent energies and to God's potent Mercy) we have addressed it to Mary as the proclaimed Sovereign Lady of Lanka and Protectress of Schools.

From the point of view of moral right and theological correctness, the setting is complete: the timing of the miracle is where we have to bide God's secret designs.

Now this is precisely where the Cause of Fr. Joseph Vaz's Beatification can become operative. For one thing, it presents us with Canonical cover. We are entitled to beg Our Lady to work this miracle of our schools as Heaven's testimony to the eminent holiness of Fr. Vaz since Church Law makes such miracles necessary for a Decree of Beatification. Much in the same line of reasoning, we may go further and — with all reverence and under reserve of a human way of speaking — affirm that wording our prayer this way ("with a view to establishing canonically Fr. Joseph Vaz's Canonizability") provides appropriate and timely cover for God Himself. For, it is undeniable that He is modestly reserved about showing His Hand in direct intervention in a world that imagines it can get on quite nicely by itself, without Him.

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Here then is Fr. Alex. Ranasinghe's "invention." To clinch on all possible objections to the miracle of our schools (most of all, that of our undeservingness) let us beg it of Our Lady of Lanka and of Schools as a miracle for Fr. Vaz's Cause.

For purposes of canonical proof, it would certainly help if our dear Bishops made official note of this specification of our prayer. But from now let every Vazist (and circumstances compel all of us to be that today) launch out on it.

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D. D. Jayamaha	1 00
H. D. A. L. Dudley	1 00
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RADIO LOG

NOV. 19 and 20: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m.
THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY
(Sinhalese) — Mgr. Michael Pe-
rera.
NOV. 20: 7-00 to 7-30 p.m. CA-
THOLIC HALF HOUR (Eng-
lish).
NOV. 26 to 28: 6-55 to 7-00 a.m.
THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY
(Tamil) — Mrs. Celine Britto.
NOV. 27: 10-00 to 10-05 a.m.
TALK (English) — Rev. Fr.
Claude Lawrence O.M.I. 6-30
to 7-00 p.m. CATHOLIC
HALF HOUR (Sinhalese).
NOV. 25 to DEC. 4: 6-55 to 7-00
a.m. THOUGHTS FOR THE
Day (Sinhalese) — Rev. Fr. Bede
Fernando.
DEC. 4: 9-30 to 10-00 a.m. CA-
THOLIC HALF HOUR (Tamil).
7-00 to 7-30 p.m. CATHOLIC
HALF HOUR (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 Thy-
self continually in the Holy
Sacrifice of the Mass. I
offer them in particular for
the intentions of the Apos-
tleship of Prayer and for
those proposed by the Holy
Father for this month.

INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER

GENERAL: That the reading of
the Bible in families may be fostered.

MISSIONARY: For the youth
of Japan.

Sale of Prayer Cards	0 30
Health Dept:	15 30
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M. A. P. Perera	2 00
Municipal Engineer's Dept:	4 00
E. L. W. Perera	2 00
D. Aloy Perera	1 00
S. Kumaranatunga	1 00
Treasurer's Dept:	3 00
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B. A. Bolonne	1 00
K. V. Rodrigo	2 00
Frank Leema	1 00
B. L. Fernando	0 50
John Fernando	0 50
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JAYA MARY
SAREE WORKS

WHAT DO PRIZE-WINNERS LOOK LIKE?

WHAT does a prize-winning writer look like? The question becomes topical with the announcement of the *Messenger* Journalism Awards prize-winners, recently.

In the last two weeks this paper has carried the prize winning entries for the year and if you, like me, have been wondering what the writers looked like, your curiosity and mine will now be satisfied!

Take a look! I understand there was considerable difficulty and formidable opposition to be surmounted before the prize-winners consented to pose for the *Messenger* cameraman: everyone of the prize-winners was both camera-shy and shunned publicity.

And now, for the Portrait Gallery:

Heading the group is dual winner Mr. VERNON LAWRENTSZ who captured the *Messenger* Writer-of-the-Year Award as well as the Perpetual Novena Award for the best essay on Our Lady of Perpetual Succour.

Next is seen the only woman to win an Award this year—Mrs. ALOY PERERA whose poem was judged the best in the Perpetual Novena Award section for poetry.

Third from the left is Mr. MAURICE PERERA who won the J. P. de Fonseka Award for the year's outstanding poem with a Catholic setting.

The winner of the John Leo de Croos Memorial Award for the best essay on the Blessed Virgin "Cause of Our Joy"—Bro. ELMO BENEDICT is seen next.

He is followed by Mr. R. S. RABOT, winner of the A. X. Machado Memorial Award for the year's best short story.

Congratulations to the prize-winning quintette!

Details for next year's *Messenger* Journalism Awards, it is expected, will be released sometime in the future.

Buns and buns!

PICTURE shows a group of children enjoying themselves im-



Picture by Raymond Wannipapa

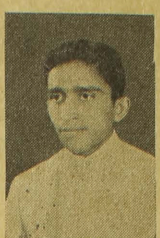
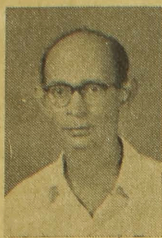
mensely in the Bun-eating event, one of the items in the Inter-House Sports Meet held at the Children's Home, Maggona, and reported in these columns last week.

Why be an architect?

If you have ever asked yourself that question, here's one reason given by WILLIAM ORR LUDLOW:

"Because there is keen satisfaction in creating something useful: is it a hospital, you have helped someone in pain; is it a school, you have helped to form a good mind; is it a church or temple, you have helped someone to understand what life is all about."

This is one of ten reasons enumerated in the lavishly produced JOURNAL OF THE CEYLON INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



First Annual which has just reached me.

Honorary Editor Mr. HERBERT E. GONSAL has done a capital job of bringing the beauty of Architecture to the public in these pages.

With his intense vision, bouncing energy and wide architectural knowledge, Mr. HERBERT E. GONSAL and his strong and competent team will no doubt make Ceylon's architectural wilderness blossom like a rose.

December Retreat schedule

THE Fatima Retreat House, Lewella, has released the Retreats Schedule for December.

Dec. 8-9: APOSTOLIC UNION RECOLLECTION.

Dec. 9-12: RETREAT FOR YOUNG MEN (Vacancies available).

Dec. 12-20: Reserved for RELIGIOUS S.J.

Dec. 20-24: INDIVIDUAL RETREATS.

For further details contact the JESUIT FATHERS, Fatima Retreat House, Lewella, Kandy.

Law Society Journal

THE latest issue of the official organ of the Incorporated Law Society of Ceylon—THE CEYLON LAW SOCIETY JOURNAL—contains stimulating reading.

Contributors include DR. H. W. THAMBAIAH, O.C., UPALI WIJESURIYA, SUMITA KURUPPU and T. SRI RAMANATHAN.

Robin Hood's dead line

Matter for Roundabout should be submitted by 12 noon on Mondays.

An austerity Christmas ahead?

CANDID opinion on the question "What-will-Christmas-be-like-this-year?" canvassed by Robin Hood's round-the-island spies, indicate an AUSTERITY CHRISTMAS, this year.

If this be so, and why not, it is a step in the right direction.

Christians themselves are to be blamed if Christmas has turned out to be a gigantic spectacle of mirth and merriment, feasting and revelry.

If the merry-go-round of fun and frolic, frills and fangles is to be replaced by a more concentrated swing towards the real Christmas Crib—the HOLY BABE in the poor straw-filled manger—then it is the greatest and the most urgently needed revolution of our times.

In this new drive for an Austerity Christmas we can all play our part.

Robin Hood once again warmly commends the *Messenger*-sponsored CHRISTMAS-FOR-THE-POOR Campaign which has been publicized in "Roundabout" the last two weeks.

What response have you made? The project closes on 15 December and every reader is requested to do his or her bit towards its success.

Christmas has no meaning if it is only a "taking" with no "giving" in it. And this "giving" is the predominant note struck in the *Messenger* project.

For the benefit of new readers I recapitulate the main points of the CHRISTMAS-FOR-THE-POOR Campaign.

(1) THE MISSION BUREAU at Archbishop's House, Borella, will give you, on request, the name of a poor family living somewhere whom, on Christmas day, you can "adopt." You are expected to help such a family on just this day with a meal and gifts that will be your gift to Baby Jesus.

(2) THE MISSION BUREAU also has a list of poor children. If you can't "adopt" a whole family, you can at least make one lonely little boy or girl happier by taking him or her home with you on just this one day of the year and fill the child's heart with happiness.

(3) If you are unable to do even that, you still can do your mite by sending in gifts like toys and clothes or cash donations towards the Campaign.

Address all such gifts to THE MISSION BUREAU, Archbishop's House, Borella, before 15 December.

Picture by Annesley Charles

TRIPLETS always make good head-line news. When triplets from Moratuwa—Aynee, Suranganie and Marie (see picture) received their first Communion, they were the cynosure of all eyes.

They attend the Convent of Our Lady of Victories.

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 19565/T

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of the late Michael Joseph Rodrigo Muttupulle of 63, Wall Street, Colombo 13.—*Deceased*.

Mrs. Mary Christine Clare Rodrigo Muttupulle of 63, Wall Street Colombo 13.—*Petitioner*.

1. Mary Reniera Evangeline Rodrigo Muttupulle (minor).
2. Mary Enid Lucette Rodrigo Muttupulle (minor).
3. Emmanuel Joseph Whitehead, Rodrigo Muttupulle (minor) all of 63, Wall Street, Colombo 13.

4. J. M. O. R. Muttupulle, Guardian-ad-litem of 1st, 2nd and 3rd respondents of 86, Bonjean Road, Colombo 13.—*Respondents*.

This matter coming on for disposal before J. E. A. Alles, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Colombo, on the 20th day of October, 1960, in the presence of Mr. J. M. Caderamanpulle and his Assistant, Miss Rita Caderamanpulle, Proctors on the part of the Petitioner and the Affidavit of the Petitioner dated 18th day of October 1960 having been read:

It is ordered that the 4th respondent above-named be and he is hereby appointed guardian-ad-litem over the 1st to 3rd minor respondents above-named for the purpose of these proceedings.

It is further ordered that the Petitioner above-named be and she is hereby declared entitled as widow of the deceased above-named to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said deceased issued to her accordingly unless the respondents above-named or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 15th day of December 1960 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. J. E. A. Alles, Additional District Judge.

This 26th day of October 1960.

True copy:
Sgd. Rita Caderamanpulle, Proctor & C. 1475

ORDER NISI IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF PANADURA No. 714/Testy.

In the matter of the Intestate Estate of Joseph Robert (Roy) Henry Salgado of "Battersea," Uswatta Lane 2, Moratuwa.—*Deceased*.

Mildred Stella Salgado nee Fernando "Battersea" Uswatta Lane 2, Moratuwa.—*Petitioner*.

1. Mary Enid Catherine Perera nee Salgado of "Glenlorne," Moratuwa.

2. Joseph Winston Milroy Shirley Rex Salgado.

3. Mervyn Francis Fitzroy Salgado.

4. Mildred Antoinette Rita Yolande Salgado.

5. Marie Lourdes Iromie Salgado.

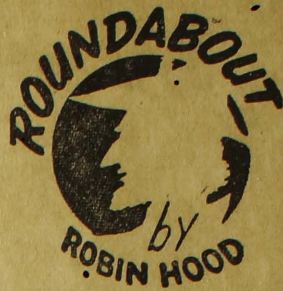
6. Catherine Bernadette Shrone Mirani Salgado, all of Battersea, Uswatta Lane 2, Moratuwa; the 2nd to 6th respondents are minors by their Guardian-ad-litem the 1st respondent above-named.—*Respondents*.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. E. Jayewardene, Esquire, Additional District Judge, Panadura, on the 27th day of October, 1960, in the presence of Mr. D. M. L. Mendis, Proctor, on the part of the petitioner above-named and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 25th day of October, 1960, having been read:

It is ordered that the petitioner above-named be and she is hereby declared entitled as widow of the above-named deceased to have Letters of Administration to the above estate issued to her accordingly unless the respondents above-named or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 12th day of December, 1960, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of the Court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the 1st respondent be and she is hereby appointed Guardian-ad-litem of the minors the 2nd to 6th respondents to represent them for all the purposes of this action unless the Respondents above-named or any other person or persons interested shall on or before the 12th day of December, 1960, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

Sgd. C. E. Jayewardene, Additional District Judge.
This 27th day of October, 1960.



Triplets in the news



The Messenger

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SATURDAY, 19th November, 1960

Our Christmas Campaign

A LITTLE over two weeks ago, we launched our Christmas campaign: "Christ-for-the-poor campaign" we called it. Since then, the response that we have received, has been most heartening indeed. But, we feel confident, genuine Christian charity being exceedingly boundless, the response could be even greater. And that is why, convinced as we are about the importance of the campaign itself, we propose to keep the great feast of Christian charity and love before the minds of our readers in the succeeding weeks between now and Christmas.

While there are so many families here in Ceylon, as elsewhere, who fill their Christmas day (and perhaps the entire week) with rejoicings and festivities of every kind, almost at our very door-step there are hundreds of Ceylonese families who do not have the barest necessities that comprise a square meal on the great day. For so many of us, Christmas is not only a day but a season of special celebrations; but for so many others, Christmas is just like any other day of the year — a day of hunger, misery, squalor and hardship. For so many of us, Christmas is a day of joyous music, bright tinsel, and resplendent decorations; but for so many others, Christmas is just like any other day: in a "home" that has been created out of a few planks, filled with the tragic music of the wailing of hungry infants.

These may not be comfortable thoughts for those who are already planning their Christmas to be filled with every kind of rejoicing. But then, the thought of the first Christmas is not a comforting thought in that sense, either. Persons who do not understand Christmas in the way that it should be understood, who prefer to listen to the singing of the angels, while closing their ears to the grunt of the beasts within that Cave and turning their eyes away from the stark reality of the stable in which the God-Man was born — such persons will of course turn a deaf ear to our appeal on behalf of the poor as well; for the very obvious and simple reason that they have missed the entire lesson of Christmas and the Crib.

Ever since we commenced this campaign, reactions to it have been diverse. There were those who generously and uncalculatingly stepped in, with the response that they would very happily try to make a poor family happy on Christmas Day. There were those who went further, and who expressed the desire to even go out to these homes long before Christmas, and help them to prepare their homes for the great day. But there were also those others who while being prepared to help, preferred to think of this as an act of "almsgiving" — merely tossing some money or gifts to some poor mother or father. It is to such persons that we address these words — for, in spite of their ready generosity, they have not yet understood fully the message of the Christ-Child nor the lesson of Christmas.

To them in particular, and to all our readers in general, we have this to say: look into the Crib, and ask yourselves whether you have seen poverty like that. And it is because Christ was born there, that we try to impress on you that we want no gifts that are merely tossed to the poor; but we want you to take a personal interest with love for the family that you adopt. Why is it that people — even good Catholics — are prepared to kneel around a beautifully made Crib in a Church or in their own homes, but are not prepared to go out to one of the thousands of such "cribs" all over Ceylon, and share their good fortune with them?

What we are pleading for is this: let this Christmas, be truly Christian; allow us to take you to a real live-Christmas-crib, where all the poverty, the squalor, the loneliness, the sense of being unwanted and the rejection of the first Christmas are present. Allow us to remind you of the tragic and sad aspect of that first Christmas day, so that you could, for once, shed your sheer sentimentality and think rather of the hard reality that is brought home to us on Christmas Day. And so thinking, may you have the grace and the strength to translate it into action. How wonderful it would be, if our more fortunate Catholic families in Ceylon would, in preparation for Christmas, focus their attention on the thousands of "live-cribs" all over our dear land — that is, homes just as poor as that of Nazareth, birth-places just as filthy and lonely and abandoned as that of Bethlehem.

Together with this campaign, which we are confident will get an even more generous response than it did last year, there has been a steadily increasing demand from thousands of our readers, for a **PENITENTIAL CHRISTMAS** this year. Our correspondence columns have already carried a few of the many letters received; some parishes, we are aware, have already commenced this truly praiseworthy and most significant campaign. Elsewhere in our issue this week, we publish further details. If all Catholics in Ceylon were to answer this call which was initiated primarily by a large group of the laity, perhaps we would be doing something concrete and practical which will soon bear its fruits.

Within barely a fortnight from now, the Church will enter the season of Advent, which is a time of immediate preparation for Christmas. May we hope that this will be transformed into an intense period of spiritual preparation at a time when we need God's strength and love even more than we needed it before? May we also hope that the "Christmas-for-the-poor" campaign and the "Penitential Christmas" idea will find many apostles in our midst who will bring in large numbers of the Catholic family into this main stream of giving, offering and sacrificing for the Babe who was born amidst the poverty and squalor of Bethlehem's crib?

CURRENT COMMENT

by the Editor

The Honourable Mr. Sam P. C. Fernando, Minister of Justice

WE had hoped and hoped in vain, to take the minds of our readers away from the heated arena of controversy which had so filled our comment columns in the past few weeks. Despite the acrimony that is still being showered on us, the continued attacks still being made against us even on the floor of the House, and the witch-hunt that is quite obviously on, to discover some Catholic conspirator behind every imagined bush, we had hoped that for once at least, we could take the minds of our readers away from the murky and distasteful waters of controversy. But the Hon. Mr. Sam P. C. Fernando, Minister of Justice — to whom, on a previous occasion we had paid a tribute — has made certain statements this week both in the Senate and outside, that we really cannot afford to ignore. After all, when a responsible Minister of State makes such affirmations, quite naturally the nation sits up and listens.

Senator Nadesan pointed out very effectively in the Senate that the blind following of the "masses outside," is not what a government is expected to do; and he went on to show that the government had duties towards minorities just as much as it had duties towards a majority. But what is it that we see in practice? Even the highest members of Government go on repeating parrot-like that the schools' take-over is the will of the majority, and therefore, regardless of minority-rights, it must be foisted on the people. And worse still, democracy is being reduced to such a farce, that the very suggestion that Government should not confiscate our schools, is being labelled by some high-ups as subversion, and serious provocation!

Segregation

WE are surprised that a person of the type of the Minister of Justice should resort to untenable arguments to argue his case for the take-over. We shall mention a few of them. The Justice Minister wants a "national system" because, he says, the continuation of the denominational system means segregation and would further sub-divide the nation. In fact, as we shall show, this is far from the truth.

Has the Justice Minister forgotten that the denominational system has already been in existence for well over 100 years, and does he therefore maintain that the nation has already been divided by this "segregation"? When he went to school, the Minister added, they did not think of religious differences. What about the Prime Minister and other Ministers of the Cabinet who went to Catholic schools — were they trained to think and act in terms of religious differences?

The nation is indeed cleft into two through the ill-conceived action of people who had a job to do. But after 100 years of denominational schools, the nation is not yet partitioned into religious segregation camps — in fact, the very opposite is the case. The Justice Minister's bugbear will come true in the new set-up, and the unity and harmony that has been forged by the existing system will be ruined beyond repair.

The poorer children

THE Justice Minister should have known better than to repeat the so-called "fact" put up by persons who either are ignorant of facts or wish intentionally to paint a false picture of our schools. If your schools are good, said the Minister, why not open them to the poorer children?

Denominational schools had been accused of various crimes in the past; but they had never been accused of being "inferior" or incompetent. Surely the Minister knows, as do many other Ministers of the Cabinet, that our schools have indeed been and are "good schools," with a record of which we have always been proud.

Does he now claim that our schools were not thrown open to

the "poorer children"? We would hate to think that the Justice Minister was wilfully turning a blind eye to facts which he already knew — for it is a well-known fact that in our schools, we have ALWAYS had large numbers of poorer children, that we have educated hundreds free of every expense (inclusive of food and clothing), and that there are persons even in good positions today who were entirely looked after and made into men by Christian charity in our schools.

There is one thing that we feel impelled to say, and it is this: let those who are opposed to us and those who are critical of us say what they will about our schools (if they really must); let them distort the truth, and manufacture the most imaginary fables that their highly imaginative minds can conceive. But let them not say that we have neglected the poor, or that we shut our doors on the face of the miserable. Let them not say that we have kept the poor as hewers of wood and drawers of water. And let them not say, as they keep on repeating, that the "poor Catholics" are on their side in the take-over of our schools.

The strength and the backbone of the Church are our poor. It was so before, and it is so today. We know for certain that today as before, the "poor Catholics," who are our brothers and sisters in Christ, are with the Church in a manner that is both edifyingly consoling and convincingly real.

One law for all

THE Justice Minister has repeated what the Prime Minister said last week, when he said that there can be only one law for the land, and that Government could not have special legislation for the benefit of a certain section.

Surely, the Justice Minister is familiar with the *Muslim Marriage and Divorce Act* which is indeed a special legislation for the benefit of a certain section of the people. Surely too, he is familiar with the *Kandyan Marriages Ordinance*, which too is a special legislation for the benefit of a certain section of the people. If these and other exceptions do exist (here as well as in similar cases in India), because of the religious susceptibilities and convictions of the persons concerned, how can Ministers of State keep repeating that the religious beliefs of Catholics cannot be provided for? The one-law-for-all-theory is something which does not exist in Ceylon today. It would be futile, therefore, to keep invoking it.

SLFP voters

THE 23,000 mothers who had petitioned the Prime Minister and the 2,000 mothers who had waited outside Temple Trees had not told the P. M. that they had voted for her, says the Justice Minister. We wonder what his inference is. Are we being told to believe that the P. M. would

consider representations only from persons who have voted for her? Are we, in short, to accept the fact that the P. M. is concerned only with those who sent her into power, and not with the entire country of which she is today the head?

In any case, how could even one of these mothers have told anything at all to the Prime Minister when an appointment was refused to the 23,000 despite repeated requests, and the 2,000 were kept standing six hours in the rain by another mother like themselves? It may be a good thing if even at this stage, responsible members of the government refrained from adding insult to injury.

The "Holy Summit"

ELSEWHERE in our paper today, we report a forthcoming event which has already had the deepest reactions all over the world — we refer to what an English newspaper described as the "Holy Summit," the meeting between the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

That such a visit should take place at all, is a most heartening sign of the times; that it should be hailed by Catholics as well as Protestants is another encouraging sign indeed; and finally, that it should be the subject of comment in the world's press, as being an event of the first rank, augurs very well for what the Pope had in mind when he called for the Ecumenical Council.

In fact, one is tempted to go back to a number of statements made by Pope John, and they all fit into this context. The following passage from a letter sent by Pope John to the Superior-General of the Atonement friars, shows only too clearly the mind of the Holy Father himself:

"There must be an understanding of those who, though having the name of Christ written on their foreheads, are separated from the Catholic Church: we must overcome old habits of mind, give up prejudices and discourteous expressions, to create a favourable climate for the return we all hope for."

Dr. Fisher

EQUALLY welcome are the remarks made by the Archbishop of Canterbury himself last week.

"The fact that I could do so is due to a steadily changing climate of thought among all the churches, and finally to the initiative openly taken by the Pope to make clear that the Roman Catholic Church desired better relations with the other Churches and not least and expressly with the Church of England and its sister Churches."

In such an atmosphere, Catholics of Ceylon could do no better than fall in line with the Pope's own appeal — for constant prayer that there be better understanding, and more brotherliness among those who glory in the name of "Christian."



LETTER TO CHILDREN

My dear children,

Will this be the last time for many months that the Bishop's words will be read to you, in your full Assembly as a Catholic School, living its full Catholic life? Our Blessed Lord alone knows. When next we meet at Tewatta on December 3rd, perhaps things will be different already. A curtain may have fallen between the Bishop and you, the dearest ones of the Flock, the children of the Bishop's schools.

For such indeed are the Catholic schools. Whether connected with the Parish church or run by the Nuns or Brothers for a whole area, your schools are the green patches of the field that Holy Mother the Church has enclosed especially for the lambs of the fold. The first guardian of the enclosed pasture, its "custodian" (says Our Lord in the Holy Gospel) is the Head Shepherd Himself, your Bishop. Today he speaks to you not as frail, helpless little ones, but as grown-ups in the Faith.

You have been confirmed. The hands of the Bishop have rested on you in the Sacrament of the strong. The Holy Ghost has come upon you with His seven-fold Gifts. Through these Gifts, young as you are, you have the instinct of Faith, a clear-sightedness to discern the snares of the Devil in the tangle of man-made conflicts. Through the coming of the Holy Ghost upon you in Confirmation you have received and hold deep down in your hearts a courage constantly fed by reverend Fear of God and the fire of loving loyalty ("Piety"). This courage, gentle and strong, will carry you through the hardships that befall you in the journey of life. It will keep you up in the path of duty.

In the eyes of the world, you do not count. They decide about you, as though you have no say in the matter and not even a mind to know what it is all about. The big ones of this world treat you as though you were lifeless things, to be shifted about without being told. Not so our Holy Mother the Church. Through your Bishop today She calls on each one of you to know and understand the position and to put yourself before it as the person first concerned. You have passed the stage of infancy when others could answer for your soul. Grown up and confirmed, you bear the responsibility of your own soul. Not only your Bishop, your Priests and Parents, but each one of you will have to answer God one day for everything said and done in this challenging hour.

You know very well what a challenge means: you use the word so often at school. Today, you are not challenged "to a friendly match" at cricket or a contest in a "spelling Bee." Your Faith is challenged. Let the world know that you have a mind of your own, an understanding of your duty towards your soul and God and even towards the souls of your friends, the school children of the whole of Ceylon. In their name and in yours "Stand for God" today as you have sung so often in the happy days when you children at least were left undisturbed. And in sign and pledge of your choice made in full knowledge and earnestness, here are two things your Bishop asks of you:

THE FIRST: is to meet us and all your fellow children of the Catholic schools at Mary's feet, at Tewatta, on Saturday, 3rd December.

This is our usual Children's Day. We would have held it anyway, for it is our yearly pledge to Mary for having saved our schools in 1946. This year, too, we must hold it at any cost even if our schools have been forced to begin the holidays before time. This year, especially: for, once again and never as before, your schools, Our Lady's schools are in danger of destruction.

Holidays or no holidays, make it a point to come: manage to come somehow. Come in your own name; come in the name of your school; come in the name of all the Catholic school-children of your dear Lanka. At Mary's feet, pour out your little hearts full of grown-up Faith, of loyalty to Jesus and His Standard. For your part, place our schools in Mary's heart and ask Her to shield them from danger. Tell her you DO want your school, that you are shocked at the very idea that it may be taken away from you; that, after all, it is Her school first and that you count on Her to keep it Hers — for now and for as long as there are any little children to be taught and trained for God.

THE SECOND: An "Austerity" Christmas.

During the War even rich countries like America and Britain needed all they could save: they started an "austerity" programme. They called on their people to cut down expenses by cutting out a lot of extras they were used to: sweets were only for export, to keep up trade, so that people in Britain never saw a toffee during the war.

What British and American children did so readily to win the war and save their country we Catholics can do today. At Mary's feet on Children's Day give Her this pledge, dear children. To save our schools, we'll save money for them. Till the sun shines again on Mary's schools, we're going to be "austere," most of all for Christmas. We are not going to ask for or expect any toys or finery or dainties for the feast. We'll have Christmas with poor Jesus exiled in a stable. Surely then we'll hear the Angels better. Whatever is saved we mean for Mary's schools.

And while we go austere, we will keep a pleasant face for all our loved ones: God loves a cheerful giver.

Till we meet at Tewatta on 3rd December morning, let me bless you one and all.

Your Archbishop and Father in Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate,
✠ THOMAS COORAY, O.M.I.,

N.B. — To be explained to the children in class during the week (21st November), and read in full Assembly the following week.

OFFICIAL

Archbishop's Appointments

19 to 25 November: Pastoral Visitation and Confirmation Service in the Cathedral Parish of Kottahena.

27 to 29 November: Pastoral Visitation and Confirmation Service in the Parish of Rajagiriya.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Tewatte

Notice to the Clergy

AS announced in our Circular No. 33, a mammoth Pilgrimage to Tewatta will be held on December 8th. In this connection Parish Priests are earnestly exhorted to initiate action for the full carrying out of the following:

Each Parish should send as many as possible to take part in the Pilgrimage.

On this occasion the Statue of Our Lady will be taken in procession from the old Grotto and installed in the new one. The procession will commence at 4 p.m. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 4-30 p.m.

Suggested in the context of the present crisis, this official gesture of the Archdiocese is to include:

(a) a Petition to Our Lady of Lanka to preserve and protect our children and their schools, signed by all the parents of the Parish and presented ceremoniously at Tewatta by a delegate of the Parish.

(b) A spiritual Bouquet of Prayers, good works and sacrifices from each Parish, similarly presented.

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

Moratuwa honours St. Jude

(from our correspondent)

THE feast of St. Jude Thaddeus was celebrated last Sunday, at the Church of St. Joseph in Uyana, Moratuwa, under the auspices of the Confraternity of St. Joseph.

Rev. Fr. Joseph Jayasuriya, O.M.I., celebrated High Mass, assisted by the Choir of St. Cecilia. A very impressive sermon was preached by Fr. Jayasuriya.

After Mass, the statue of St. Jude was taken in procession, carried by four youths from St. Sebastian's College. Rain and threatening weather kept fine for the procession.

• Matala

THE Parishioners of Matala met at the College Hall on Sunday, the 13th inst., with the Parish Priest in the chair.

Mr. D. S. Kahandawa of Ampitiya delivered an eloquent address in Sinhalese on the spiritual aspect of the Schools Take-over. Mr. J. V. Gnanapragasam and Mr. R. Anthony addressed the gathering in English and Tamil respectively on the financial implications of the switch-over to private schools. Several questions were asked and Rev. Fr. Aidan de Silva answered them.

The house agreed wholeheartedly to support the schools when they become private.

R. I. P.

PLEASE pray for the repose of the soul of Rev. Fr. J. F. Xavier O.M.I. (senior) of Bishop's House, Jaffna, who died on Monday, 14 November.

Annual Rally of Trincomalee Catholic Actionists

(from our correspondent)

THE Catholic Actionists of the Trincomalee Diocese gathered in full strength on the feast of Christ the King at the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows at Thandavanvely in Batticaloa to hold their Annual Rally, at which they unanimously appealed to the Government to exempt foreign missionaries in the Ceylon from the annual tax of Rs. 400/-.

The resolution was as follows:

"The Trincomalee Diocesan Union assembled at its Annual General Meeting respectfully requests the Minister of Finance to exempt the foreign missionaries in Ceylon from the tax of Rs. 400/- which could be justifiable only in the case of those who are making an economic profit from their stay in Ceylon."

A Solemn Triduum was held as a preparation to the Rally with sermons by various priests. The Rally Mass was celebrated by

Mgr. Jerome D'Sa, the Administrator, at which a stirring sermon on "Catholics and Catholic Action" was preached by Rev. Fr. C. E. L. Wambeck, the Parish Priest.

The election of office-bearers for the ensuing year followed.

President: Mr. Jos. J. David; Vice-Presidents: Messrs. A. K. J. Wambeck, S. Saveryrajah and P. C. Ragel; Secretary: Mr. K. L. Rajandram; Asst. Secretary: Mr. A. Ponnuthurai; Treasurer: Mr. S. E. Anthony.

CATHOLIC STUDENTS' FEDERATION

(from our correspondent)

THE danger of State monopoly in education was stressed by His Lordship the Bishop of Kandy, when he addressed the Catholic Students' Federation at their annual general meeting held at St. Bridget's Convent on 13 November.

His Lordship reaffirmed that man was more than merely material, and that the whole of his existence must be but a struggle towards his ultimate end.

The Secretary, in his report, highlighted the Federation's achievements in the field of social welfare in the shape of the holiday camp for poor children and the work camp.

Fr. Kuriacose wound up proceedings with a rousing talk in which he outlined the role of the

student in the struggle for the schools and called on them to pledge their support.

The following were elected office bearers for the year:

President: Quintus Wijeratne; Vice-President: Andrew Ramanaathan; Secretary: L. G. Ratnasabapathy; Asst. Secretary: Raja Perera; Treasurer: Charles Senarath; Asst. Treasurer: Marie Lucas; Editor: Mark Fernando; Secy. of Int. Affairs: Edward Jayasinghe.

Rev. Mother Winefrede —Diamond Jubilarian

As remembered by her wild-haired Bridget

THERE are many other "wild-haired Bridgets" all over Ceylon who raise grateful hearts in thanksgiving to God for Mother Winefrede and for the many other such wonderful, generous, loving missionaries all over Ceylon, who have laboured so long, so selflessly, so Christfully for this land of their adoption. To them, next to God, we owe what we children of the soil are today. That is why the Messenger adds its own grateful and prayerful wishes to those of our contributor on the occasion of this Diamond Jubilee which was fittingly celebrated at Matara last week-end. — EDITOR.

I AM wild-haired no longer.

Twenty-seven years ago, I passed thro' those Convent gates and the influence of the most wonderful band of religious — the Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary, in the Jesuit Mission field in the South. And what I am today, striving hard to be a True Blue, I attribute to all the nuns who, at some stage or another, tolerated me in the boarding house, but most of all to Rev. Mother Winefrede. She was one of the pioneers of Matara Convent — my Buddhist aunts her first pupils, my brothers and sisters with me came next, and we went into the third generation as my sister's sons too passed thro' her hands.

The greatest dower my father left me is my Catholic Faith and I attribute all my happiness and joys in life to the sound Catholic education I had, the principal guide being none other than she who then was Rev. Sister Winefrede.

There are hundreds to sing her praises. Among them an eminent Judge, Buddhist Congress members, a one-time M.P., doctors, lawyers and, the greatest of all, two Jesuits, a host of Sisters of the Holy Angels, including their Mother-General, and Sisters of Charity will all remember the chubby-faced nun who was a strict disciplinarian, but the most lovable Irish soul.

A grand musician, she was the first organist at St. Mary's Church, Matara, and I have not yet heard those wonderful hymns she taught us sing in any of the Colombo churches. When she first discovered my singing voice, these were her words to me: "God

gave you the voice to sing His praises, so sing to Him." Her first words to me at the Marian Exhibition were "Have you joined a church choir?" and how sad she was when I said "My voice is no longer powerful." She believed in giving back to God what He in His goodness gave.

How many scrapes she saved me from. When lock, stock and barrel I was thrown out of the classroom while sitting for my Junior Cambridge, it was Sr. Winefrede who always took me to her domain — the Kindergarten, and made me study there (as she did not want the new Mother Superior, Rev. Mother Martina, to see me out and form a hasty opinion of me) till Sister Myreth's temper waned and then helped to call a truce. But with all that, I am proud to say I did not let Sister Winefrede down and never will. The hand that rocks the cradle, rules the world; so they say, but in my case, the hand that guided me from my kindergarten days still rules my home. My two daughters and son are good today because of the wealth acquired by me at the feet of my beloved Mother Winefrede. That she alone of the pioneers should live to see drastic changes in our beautiful Convent Home is God's will — her reward will be greater. At her Diamond Jubilee, Buddhists, non-Catholics and Catholics, all gathered to wish her well and say "God Bless and Thank You." I for one was there in spirit as ill-health kept me away from a lot of things I would have loved to do.

Yet here's wishing the Dearest Mother of all True Blues scattered all over Ceylon, greater strength and fortitude in the days to come.

WHAT IS CATHOLIC ECUMENISM?

THE term "Ecumenism" is often heard these days: both Catholics and non-Catholics use it but with different ideas in mind. Yet they converge, in a general way, on the reunion of Christendom as a certain combination of projects, plans and theories looking to unity. From that point on, they differ widely. The term itself, as used in this connection, is a product of this century, deriving from the "Ecumenical Movement," i.e., the Protestant enterprise which is now embodied in the World Council of Churches. They desire to find the way towards unity and they meet periodically to discuss ways and means of achieving it. The Catholic Church has the answer to their quest and the way it explains this answer is what is called Catholic Ecumenism.

In order to explain Catholic Ecumenism, it will be useful to discuss the wider context of which it forms a part. The mission of Our Lord, which He received from His Eternal Father, was one of reconciliation and unity. St. Paul wrote: "For it has pleased God the Father that in him all his fullness should dwell, and that through him he should reconcile to himself all things, whether on the earth or in the heavens, making peace through the blood of his cross" (Col. 2: 19-20). In another place, he wrote: "... And this his good pleasure he purposed in him to be dispensed in the fullness of the times; to re-establish all things in Christ, both those in the heavens and those on the earth" (Eph. 1: 9-10).

REDEMPTION

The mystery of the Redemption involves more than the payment of the infinite debt of sin upon the Cross: it involves also the application of the fruits of the Redemption to the souls of individual men throughout all the ages of time and their incorporation into one visible society variously called the Family of God, the Kingdom of God, the Mystical Body of Christ, the Catholic Church (different titles for one and the same reality). When St. Paul wrote "re-establish all things in Christ," the original Greek text uses an expression which means "brining all up into the headship of Christ," i.e., incorporation of all into the one Church of which Christ is the Head. We are reconciled to God in Christ by being incorporated into and persevering in that Body of which He is the Head and through His Body, enter into eternal salvation.

THE CHURCH

It should be apparent, then, that the plan of God for the salvation of the human race in and through Christ is one and universal. That is to say, as Christ is one, the Body of which He is Head must also be one. There is only one Church. As the economy of the Redemption must also be universal — destined for all men. There must be one and the same religious society throughout the whole world. What is more, since this one divine society is visible, it is also historical; since it is historical, it is also capable of identification. How can it be identified? The principle of identification is Peter, the visible foundation stone of the Church. As the foundation lasts as long as the building it supports and this building is to last until the end

of the world, the identification will always be the same: *to be united to Peter is belong to the very same society to which the Apostles themselves belonged* — the Body of which Christ is head.

UNITY

This unity, universality and identity of the Church are not of human achievement but of divine gift. The fact that throughout the whole world some 400,000,000 souls unite in the

fruits of the Redemption and their incorporation into the one society — namely, the Mystical Body of Christ, that is, the Catholic Church. This process is to continue with the objective of one world-wide fold under one shepherd — "to re-establish all things in Christ."

Is that all there is to be said of Catholic Ecumenism? No. As we pointed out in the beginning, the occasion for our using the term was the fact that the Protestant move-

every human soul.

CATHOLIC ANSWER

The Catholic answer to the quest for religious unity that the baptized non-Catholic world seeks was put this way by Pope Pius XI: *The unity of Christians cannot be otherwise obtained than by securing the return of the separated to the one true Church from which they once unhappily withdrew ... to the one true Church of Christ, we say, that stands forth before all and that by the will of its Founder will remain forever the same as when He Himself established it for the salvation of all mankind.*

From these words of the Supreme Pontiff, we can see the basic lines of the Catholic solution to the question of Ecumenism. In the first place, the present situation is not to be seen as a question of division but of separation. There is only one Church of Jesus Christ and it is one visible Society. It is not contained in several distinct parts, that is, it is not divided. The problem was created by separation from the Church. And, as the Church ever maintains her identity down the ages, those baptized persons who are not visibly united to it as members are considered as separated from it — hence, the term we use, "separated brethren."

NO OTHER WAY

However, this is not to be taken as a moral judgment insofar as it pertains to those who are utterly unaware of the situation. Those, for example, who have been born of non-Catholic parents, have been baptized, and in due course became identified as members of some separated body are not to be considered as blameworthy for that fact. As long as their ignorance of the Church remains and they are in the state of sanctifying grace, they are considered as "desiring" to be united to the Church; this "desire" is part of their general intention to do all that God requires of them even though they do not know this specific will of God.

We can also see from the Holy Father's statement that the restoration of the non-Catholic baptized world to religious unity means the restoration of the bonds of union with the Catholic Church from which their ancestors separated. There is no other way to true religious unity than by way of return to the Catholic Church. That means the acceptance by faith of the entire body of revelation which was committed to the Church by Christ as a sacred "deposit." It means also the acceptance of those duties which go with being a Catholic, including visible union with the Holy See of Peter.

CHARITY

This, then, is Catholic Ecumenism — namely, the reconciliation of all baptized but separated persons with the Catholic Church.

This is, primarily, a work of charity. There is no hostility or antagonism in the mind of the Church towards any living soul. The Church is ever conscious of her divine mission and she loves the separated brethren with a sincere motherly love. The separated brethren sometimes seem to think that the Church loves them less because she loves God's truth

Arrangements for the Ecumenical Council are going on apace in Rome. The entire Catholic World too has its share — and that is why Ecumenism is being talked about more than ever before, today.

profession of one faith, use the same sacraments, and obey the same leaders is not to be explained simply by the fact that they all happen to agree or that the human personality of the leaders is so strong as to command the highest loyalty. No. It is because the Holy Spirit, as the Soul of the Church, welds them together in the one Body and sustains its unity by divine power. Men may freely withdraw from the Church, but they do not sunder it into several distinct parts; they may place themselves outside it, but they do not divide it.

UNIVERSALITY

The universality of the Church is also a divine gift. By that we mean there is only one Church divinely commissioned to spread and eventually to incorporate the whole world. "Make disciples of all nations; I am with you all days even to the consummation of the world." There is no evidence that God has changed His mind. His unconditional commission will be infallibly achieved: "I am with you."

It is likewise with the identity of the Church. The stability of the Church built upon Peter does not lie simply in the strength, intelligence and sanctity of those who hold his office, but on divine support. "The very gates of Hell shall not prevail against it." History has borne out the fact that the Chair of Peter has been sustained by God in spite of the frailties of men and the strength of the opposition.

IN CHRIST

We have not left the theme of Ecumenism, for what we have explained is an essential part of it. Indeed, it is its foundation.

Ecumenism in its widest sense is the notion of spreading throughout the world. Ecumenical means universal. It means, then, the reconciliation of men with God through the application to their souls of the

ment towards unity is called the "Ecumenical" Movement and that our answer to their quest is what we call Catholic Ecumenism. These

by

Edward Hanahoe, S.A.

men of the highest personal integrity, sincerely devoted to Our Lord, are seeking for the one fold and one shepherd. They study the Gospel and compare it with their present divided situation and find the contrast severely painful. The situation was not of their making; they inherited it. They are studying ways and means of doing something about it.

WHAT THEY SAY

Here is what they say: Christendom is divided. Many of those who profess to be followers of Jesus Christ walk separate ways. When Catholics read the prayer of Christ at His Last Supper in St. John's Gospel, "That they all may be one," they are consoled by the fact that Christ kept His promise to His Church in preserving her unity. But when sincere and devoted non-Catholics read this passage, the words sound like a rebuke, an exhortation, a stimulation of conscience, a sigh of regret. This basic difference of attitude gives a key to the Catholic answer to their quest. With them unity is an object of search; with us unity is a treasure to share. Catholics do not seek the unity for which Christ prayed in the sense that we do not have it yet. Thanks to the power of God and in spite of our human frailties, unity is an ever-present fact in the one Church of Christ. However, we do seek to share with others and to extend that unity until it includes

more than their good faith. She will not compromise, because she cannot. She is the dispenser, the guardian of the divine deposit, not its owner; it has been committed to her care and she is divinely assisted in setting it forth, but she cannot barter and exchange God's property. There is no actual competition between the two commandments of love, but there is an order of priority: we must love the separated brethren according to God. We desire for them what God desires for them — namely, their membership in the one Mystical Body, the Church.

Some sixteen hundred years ago, St. Augustine addressed the Donatists, separated brethren of his time, the following: *Well you know what the Catholic Church is and what it is to be cut off from the Vine. Are there any thoughtful men among you? Let them come and find life in the Root. Number up the priests from the days that Peter sat, and in their ancestral ranks note who to whom succeeded; for that is the Rock over which the gates of Hell shall never prevail. The doctrine is exactly the same today.*

We realize that this project of reconciling all separated baptized with the Church is enormous and far beyond any purely human efforts. But it is possible through prayer. If every Catholic prayed for this end, we would soon see its realization.

POPE'S DAY

Continued from page 3

• Dehiwela

TO the accompaniment of a fanfare and a roll of drums the Papal Flag was unfurled at Dehiwela by Very Rev. Fr. Charles Reymann, O.M.I., Vicar-General, at the Pope's Day celebrations in this parish. A very large number of Dehiwela's Catholics was present to hear their own parish orchestra play the Papal Anthem and Rev. Fr. Joe Nette-singhe deliver a stirring talk on the Papacy. On the day's programme was a Talent Show (held at an improvised open-air theatre) which revealed so much talent, both amateur and professional, that the crowd thoroughly enjoyed it.

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NOTICE IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO No. 9153/P

Ranasinghe Aratchige Mary Matilda Balasuriya nee Perera of Hendala in the Ragam Pattu of Aluturu Korale. — Plaintiff.

Vs.

Ranasinghe Aratchige Ugus Wilkinus Perera Ranasinghe of Electrical Department, Kandy and others. — Defendants.

It is hereby notified that action No. 9153/P has been instituted in the District Court of Colombo under the Partition Act No. 16 of 1951 for the partition of the land called Ambagahawatta situated at Kuda-Edenda in Wattala in the District of Colombo containing in extent one rood, twenty-five decimal one two perches.

The defendants in the aforesaid action are summoned to appear in Court on the 14th day of December 1960, at 10-45 o'clock in the forenoon.

By order of Court, Sgd. D. A. Kumarasiri, Asst. Secretary.

The 2nd November, 1960.

Correct copy. H. J. H. Milroy Fonseka, Proctor for Plaintiff.

1537

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SCHOOLS MAG

Vol. 3 No. 40
19 Nov. 1960

★ Announcing the Schools-Mag

Christmas Gift Bureau Project

THIS IS HOW YOU CAN PUT CHRISTIANITY INTO ACTION!

FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN SUCCESSION THE SCHOOLS-MAG ANNOUNCES THE CHRISTMAS GIFT BUREAU WHICH, IN ITS ESSENCE, MEANS BRINGING THE JOY AND THE PEACE OF CHRISTMAS INTO THE LIVES OF THE POOR AMONG US. WHEN THIS PROJECT WAS LAUNCHED IN THESE COLUMNS FOR THE FIRST TIME LAST DECEMBER, THE RESPONSE FROM THE SCHOOLS-MAG MEMBERS WAS MOST HEARTENING. IT IS TO BE HOPED THIS YEAR THE RESPONSE WILL BE MUCH GREATER. UNCLE ASHLEY GIVES YOU ALL THE DETAILS BELOW:

Friends! be generous to the hundreds of poor children this X'mas

My Dear Children,

Even as we get closer to Christmas our minds go over to the toys that will be ours; the Christmas suit that will be ours and all the nice things of life most of us will be surrounded with,

May another thought be upon your minds, little friends! There will be hundreds, nay thousands, of little children like you who will have no toys to play with; no Christmas cake to enjoy; no Christmas suit to wear; no Christmas joys—no Santa Claus to visit them, simply because they are poor.

Last year an appeal we made to our generous children in these columns met with such a gracious response

that hundreds of little children smiled happily because you cared to think of them.

In the name of the Baby in swaddling clothes I know you will all be generous this year too. Do try to sacrifice something for at least one of your unfortunate friends.

• Last year quite a lot of your gifts came in a little late but this year we would like you to ACT early.

Toys, old and new; clothes old and new; will be all gratefully accepted and distributed through the Schools-Mag Bureau. To facilitate matters we will be having three collecting centres.

Here are the names of the three centres of the

CHRISTMAS GIFT BUREAU:

- THE EDITOR, SCHOOLS - MAG, Catholic Press, Colombo 8.
- CHRISTMAS GIFT BUREAU, St. Anne's Church, Kurunegala.
- CHRISTMAS GIFT BUREAU, St. Anthony's Convent, Kattugastota.

You could mail or send your gifts to any of these three centres this year.

God bless you and help you to be generous towards His poor and unfortunate ones.

Blessing you all,

Always in Jesus,

UNCLE ASHLEY

Birthdays

19TH-25TH NOVEMBER

A happy birthday to the following members who celebrate their birthdays this week.

20th Nov: Doynie and Blossom Mirando (Negombo).

21st Nov: Trevor R. Candappa (Colombo), Satha Rajanayagam (Colombo 13), Duranthi de Croos (Negombo).

22nd Nov: Indra Fabiola Nicholas (Mannar), Yasmin Symons (Dehiwela).

23rd Nov: Nilkantha Eknelogoda (Yatiyantota), Navis Soris (Ratnapura).

24th Nov: Mary Immaculate Joseph (Jaffna), Jeanne de Silva (Borella).

25th Nov: Lalitha Croos Fernando (Galle).

BIRTHDAY REQUESTS COUPON

N.B.—For publication of your BIRTHDAY, this coupon should be completed and sent to us to reach us two weeks prior to your BIRTHDAY, and it is valid for one insertion only.

All coupons received after two weeks or before three weeks of your birth date will be rejected.

Name.....

Address.....

Birthday.....

Membership No.....

Signature.....

THE PAPACY...AND TODAY

IN this period of heated controversy and persecution of the Holy, Catholic, Apostolic Church, we vividly recall to mind, the prophetic words of its founder—“Thou wilt be persecuted,” and again “The gates of Hell will not

How true those words are—those words that Our Divine Saviour revealed to his Apostles

cessity of a visible head to guard, guide and direct mankind on the path chosen by God—the Invisible Head.

For this reason, we learn of the election of St. Peter, the first Pope and the chosen Apostle of Christ. The words of Our Lord “Thou art Peter and on this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail

ASTRID AMARASEKERA

before He left this earth. His Mission on earth completed, namely, the establishment of the True Church, His Divine insight into the future told Him the ne-

against it” confirm beyond doubt the establishment of the Catholic Church and the right of the Pope over it.

Having understood all this,

we come to the Supreme Head of the Church himself—the visible, infallible, human pope. it is not rarely that we are faced with controversial statements and argumentary challenges regarding the infallibility of our head. Non-Catholics do not hesitate to question the ability of a human being with human instincts not to err.

THE ANSWER

They go further in saying that if it is really true that he is infallible, then the Pope must be divinely inspired—which is improbable. The Catholic answer to this question is without hesitation: “The Pope is not necessarily inspired.”

Like the rest of us, the Pope resorts to his fundamental catechism and his knowledge of theology in making his decisions and statements, but when it comes to the object of His Primacy—the guidance of Faith and Morals of the entire Catholic Church—he is absolutely unerring in his proclamations and

See next page



• An oriental dance, one of the items in a Circuit Concert by St. Bernard's Convent, Nawalapitiya.

• BORELLA

• Reported by Blossom Francke

ON 4th November, we paid homage to our Holy Father, Pope John XXIII, by celebrating his second anniversary with a Pope's hour. The Pope's photo, a large new one, was draped in Papal colours. Our Holy Father stood beaming through the vases of flowers and drapery which surrounded him.

Mother Delegate presided at the function. The whole school

loyalty to the Pope does not interfere with our loyalty to the nation. Amidst a burst of clapping the prize winners walked up to the platform to receive their prizes.

A Spiritual Bouquet was also part of our celebration. We had offered it up with sincere devotion in preparation for Pope's Day. Holy Mass followed at 11 a.m. The Mass was conducted in dialogue. As we received Christ into our hearts, each of us had a special wish for Our Holy Father.

MORE POPE'S DAY ECHOES

joined in the first item, ‘O Lord of Hosts.’ Immediately after the singing many incidents in the Pope's life were recalled by a group of girls. Each speaker related an important incident in his life.

This was followed by the Papal blessing which was read out by Rev. Mother Delegate. This blessing was specially for the Principal, Religious Staff, Lay Staff and present students of the College.

The teachers were thrilled to hear their names called out. Mother Delegate was then presented with a special blessing for her community. The Papal flag was hoisted by the President in front of the College in the midst of applause from the whole school.

The March Past of the three squads from the three houses brought the hour to a close with the final hymn ‘The Papal Anthem.’

Later during the day the Pope's blessing which was duly

framed was put up in a prominent place.

God bless our Holy Father the Pope!

All Saints' College, Borella.

• GAMPOLA

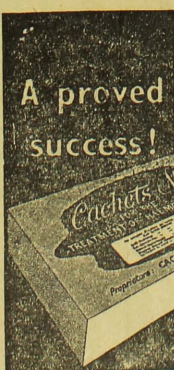
• Reported by Theresa Hancock

WE began celebrations at St. Joseph's Convent, Gampola with the Papal Anthem. Rev. Fr. B. Codipilly gave us a talk in English and in Sinhalese on our Holy Father the Pope.

Rev. Brother Director of St. Joseph's College gave us a talk in Tamil. We went to the parish church for a Holy Hour and Benediction.

A film show—“Silver Chalice” shown by Rev. Fr. Vicin-tainer, O.S.B.—brought the celebrations to an end.

St. Joseph's Convent, Gampola.



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Schools-Mag

(Continued)

ATTRACTIVE PRIZES FOR YOU IN CHRISTMAS COMPETITIONS

ONCE again this year the Schools-Mag announces a series of Christmas Competitions with an attractive line-up of prizes for the lucky winners.

The closing date for these competitions is Wednesday, 30 November. This rule will be strictly followed and those wishing to take

part in these competitions are advised to send in their entries as early as possible. Don't wait for the last day!

Competitors may take part in one or more competitions as they please, but no one is eligible to capture more than one of the prizes. All entries must clearly specify

the title of the respective competition entered for, on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. Don't forget to put down your full name and address and your Schools-Mag Membership Number on your entry.

Names of prize-winners and a selection of prize-winning entries

At Caesarea Philippi, Peter made the memorable confession of faith, in the name of the Apostles—“Thou art Christ, the Son of the Living God.” In reply Our Lord said “Blessed art thou Simon Bar-Jona. And I say to thee that thou art

Peter and upon this Rock I will build My Church and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it.” Thus Christ appointed St. Peter as the visible Head of the Church and the Papacy was established.

The true test of loyalty to Christ is not only to believe in Him and worship Him, but to honour and obey the representative He has chosen. Our Lord chose St. Peter as His Vicar.

made free from all human dictation. By this independence all Catholics from all over the world, at any time, in war or at peace, can have full access to their Universal Father.

St. Peter, St. Linus, St. Anacletus, St. Clement were the earliest Popes. The two Popes known to us were Pope Pius XII, Eugenio Pacelli, and the present Pope, John XXIII.

The Pope has supreme and complete power to decide questions of faith and morals and to arrange discipline in the universal Church.

by Nilanthie Abeyesundere

Catholics pay the greatest reverence to Christ's Vicar, the Pope—their Universal Father. On this account the title His Holiness is given to him. Out of respect for his office he is given privileges

THE CHURCH

The Church is a closely organised and united Society including the Pope, Cardinals, Bishops, Priests and the Faithful. The Holy Father rules as a Father, the representative of God—as a Good Shepherd anxious for each member of the great flock. A few years ago there were 360

Christmas Essay Contest

Write an essay not exceeding 250 words on any one of the following subjects: (1) CHRISTMAS; (2) CHRISTMAS IN MY HOME; or (3) CHRISTMAS AND THE POOR. Two prizes will be awarded in this section for the best entries received from a boy and a girl.

Christmas Poetry Competition

Write a poem not exceeding 16 lines on the subject “BABY JESUS.” Two prizes will be awarded in this section for the best entries received from a boy and girl.

Christmas Letter Competition

Write a letter to the Infant Jesus on His Birthday. No letter should exceed 100 words in length. Two prizes are offered for the best entries received from a boy and girl respectively.

Santa Claus Competition

This competition is open only for the Schools-Mag members who are under eight years of age. Write a simple letter to Santa Claus and tell him in not more than fifty words what you would like to have this Christmas. Two prizes are again offered for the best entries from a boy and girl respectively. Entrants must state their date of birth.

Roundup

DIRECTOR'S DAY

★ Llewellyn Elbert reporting from Grandpass

THE 4th of November, feast of St. Charles Borromeo, was a colourful day at St. Joseph's School, Grandpass. It was the feast day of their principal, Rev. Bro. Cassian Charles.

The day began with Holy Mass in our newly built chapel.

Then followed a variety of entertainment. Several speeches were delivered by the school teachers and boys. The principal replied.

Rev. Bro. Luke unveiled the portrait of the Principal.

With the singing of the National Anthem and the school song, the eventful and memorable day came to a close.

SCHOOLS' CONSECRATION

★ Martha Linden reporting from Gampola

THE children and parents of St. Joseph's Convent, Gampola, assembled in the school hall for special prayers for our schools. There was a beautiful altar set up on the stage.

Rev. Fr. Codipilly sang High Mass, assisted by the convent choir. The organ was played by Fr. Vicintainer. The boys of St. Joseph's College were present too.

Many of the children received Holy Communion. After Mass the Blessed Sacrament was exposed and we said the Rosary. The act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to the Sacred Heart was read by St. Joseph's Convent, Gampola.

Crusader's Enrolment

★ Reported by Hyacinth Fernando

FIFTEEN little girls of the Sacred Heart Convent, Galle were enrolled as Crusaders in the convent chapel on 30th October, feast of Christ the King.

The ceremony started with a sermon preached especially for the Crusaders by Rev. Fr. Gaspar, S.J. Rev. Sister Godeliene,

THE PAPACY AND TODAY [Continued from page 9]

decisions.

Therefore we see that Infallibility does not necessarily mean “exemption from sin” but correctness in all decisions in governing the Universal Church. If that were not so, weekly Confession (which the Pope makes) would be unnecessary. Neither would there be any point in his recitation of the “I confess” or the Offertory Prayer, “Receive O Holy Father, Almighty and Eternal God this oblation which I, thy unworthy servant offer for my innumerable sins, offences and negligences” during the Holy Mass.

We can furthermore refer to sacred Scripture itself to prove the infallibility of the Pope. The words of Jesus Christ when he gave St. Peter power over the Catholic Church have been interpreted as follows “I will lay the foundations of this Church so deep and strong on the rock of truth, that the winds and storms of error shall not prevail against it. Thou, O Peter, shall be the foundation of this Church. It

shall never fall, because thou shalt never be shaken, and thou shalt rest on Me the Rock of Truth.”

The Church of which Peter is the foundation is declared to be impregnable—that is proof against error. One could never suppose an immovable edifice built on a tottering foundation, for it is not the building that sustains the foundation, but the foundation that supports the building.

In recent times, we Catholics have been accused of clashing with the work of the State, of being in one's way and generally making ourselves a nuisance. How it could be so, the accusers themselves cannot really explain, but we Catholics have our retaliation ready. A country needs a Government, an imposed system of right and wrong to guide it on the correct path towards peace and harmony.

For this, all Governments need a head, and a Council to guide the head, in its turn. This Council discusses, and decides,

but resorts to the Head for its final decisions.

In the same way the Catholic world needs one Head (The Pope) and its own Council (The Hierarchy) to guide, govern and direct it. Is this contradictory to one of the most primitive and just rights of man?

Furthermore, the Infallibility of the Pope does not extend to natural sciences such as Astronomy and Geology, and the Pope does not interfere, unless error, which contradicts revealed Truth, is presented under the name of Science. Nor does the Papacy concern itself with politics.

The Pope's infallibility, therefore, does not in any way trespass on civil authority for the Pope's jurisdiction belongs to spiritual matters, while the duty of the State is to provide for the temporal welfare of its subjects. The Church even goes so far as to indoctrinate its followers in the right way to serve and love their country, so that to be a good Catholic, and to be a good citizen have become synonymous.

All this goes to prove the absolute justice and fairness of our One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, whose founder, Our Lord Jesus Christ, said with the utmost tenderness—“Love thy neighbour.”

A PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SOULS

JESU, by that shuddering dread which fell on Thee;
Jesu, by that cold dismay which sickened Thee;
Jesu, by that pang of heart which stabbed Thee;
Jesu, by that mount of sins which crippled Thee;
Jesu, by that sense of guilt which stifled Thee;
Jesu, by that innocence which girded Thee;
Jesu, by that sanctity which reigned in Thee;
Jesu, by that Godhead which was One with Thee;
Jesu, spare those souls which are so dear to Thee;
Who in prison, calm and patient, wait for Thee;
Hasten, Lord, their hour and bid them come to Thee;
To what glorious home where they shall ever gaze on Thee.

Sent by Barbara De Silva and Victory Rosomale-Cocq.

Good Shepherd Convent,

All-Ceylon Catholic Students' Association

★ Anton Peiris reporting from Ratnapura

UNDER the patronage of Rev. Fr. J. Chianese, S.J., the Senior students of St. Aloysius' College, Ratnapura, inaugurated an All-Ceylon Catholic Students' Association. The founder members amount to over 40 students.

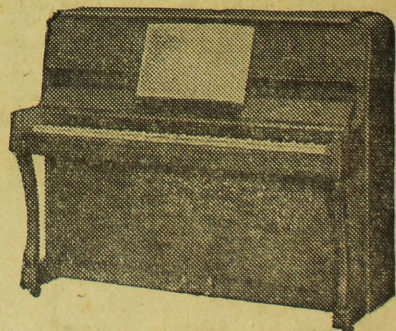
It is the intention of the Association to integrate different units of Catholic groups scattered far and wide and organize Catholic students against any difficulties that might endanger them in the future.

The working committee intends to canvas opinion and support in favour of harmony among all Catholics students in Ceylon.

The following were appointed as office-bearers: President: Leo C. Fonseka; Vice-President: Noel S. R. Senanayaka; Secretary: B. Parakrama Kodituwakku; Vice-Secretary: Ranjith J. W. Bolonna; Treasurer: M. F. Anton Peiris; Committee Members: Kingsley N. L. Perera, Stephen Motha, Anthony J. A. Goonesakra.

the Prefect of the Crusaders recited the form of enrolment with the new crusaders. A crusader ribbon with a small badge and a certificate were given to each Crusader. Then followed Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Sacred Heart Convent, Galle.



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PIANOS, “Temple” “Zender” “Renn” Streamlined, the very latest and popular and super models. English make. Fully tropicalised to suit the climate of Ceylon. Full iron frame. Schwander under-damper action, Overstrung, Seven and quarter Octaves, Heavy Felt Hammers, Mahogany finished. Rs. 2850 to Rs. 3300 Cash or Instalments, special discount to Music Teachers, Schools and Colleges.

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Classified ADS.

IN MEMORIAM



Don Robert Ephrem Abayasekara

Died 23rd November 1959

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord
And let perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in peace. Amen.



Mary Margaret Constance Abayasekara

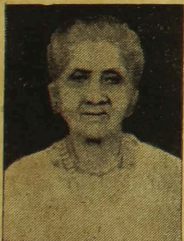
Died 23rd November 1959

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace. Amen.

A Requiem High Mass for the repose of the souls of Robert Ephrem and Mary Margaret Abayasekara will be sung at St. Lawrence's Church, Wellawatte, on the 23rd November, at 6.30 a.m. 1492

SECOND ANNIVERSARY



Mrs. Annie Casie Chetty
(nee Candappa)

Died on 22-11-58

"I call upon the prayers of all those who have known me, of all those who have loved me."

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace. Amen.

A Requiem High Mass for the repose of her soul will be sung at St. Lucia's Cathedral, on Tuesday, the 22nd instant at 7.00 a.m.

Fondly remembered by her sorrowing daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren.

38, Green Street,
Kotahena. 1546

R. I. P.

Of your charity please pray for the soul of

Abraham Peter Casie Chitty

Died 16-11-52

May his soul rest in peace.

Colombo 13. 1551

25TH ANNIVERSARY



Rev. Sister Gisel

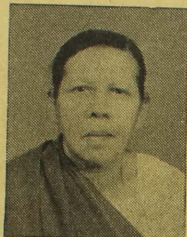
(Little Sister of the Poor. Daughter of late Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Gomez)

Died 21st Nov., 1935

A Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of the dear departed soul at St. Lawrence's Church, Wellawatte, on Monday, 21st November, at 6.30 a.m.

Kind prayers and presence of friends and relations at Mass, earnestly solicited.

"Nazareth,"
Bambalapitiya. 1535



Esther Margaret

(wife of Chevalier Perera)

Died 16th April, 1960

Ever in our loving hearts.

Eternal rest grant unto her,
O Lord.

"Esterlyn,"
Kurunegala. 1538

Of your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of



Dona Martha Seneviratne

Called to rest 15th October, 1960

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,

And let perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace. Amen.

Fondly remembered and sadly missed by her sorrowing husband, sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren.

"Lily-Dale,"
Kaluwairippuwa,
Katana. 1499



Don Perciyal Clement de Silva

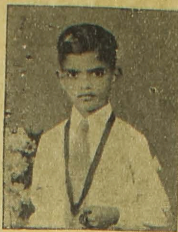
Died 22nd August 1960

"Our loss is great O Lord!
But thy will be done."

A Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of his soul on Tuesday, the 22nd November, 1960, at St. Anthony's Cathedral, Kandy, at 6.45 a.m.

Fondly remembered by his brothers, sisters and brother-in-law.

"Glen Eira,"
Kossinna,
Geliyoa. 1531



Robin Perera

Born: 19-11-47

Died: 19-11-56

Eternal rest give unto him, O Lord.

A Requiem High Mass will be sung for the repose of his soul at 7 a.m. on Monday, 21st November, at St. Lucia's Cathedral.

64/159, St. Lucia's Street,
Kotahena. 1552

THIRD MONTH

Of your charity please pray for the soul of my beloved husband



J. Herbert Fernando, J.P., U.M.,
Crown Proctor, Kegalle.

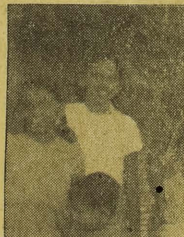
A Requiem High Mass will be sung at St. Mary's Church, Kegalle, for the repose of his soul.

Over your grave, I weep 'Good-bye'

Oh without you—where am I?
My own darling Herbie

Without you, where am I?

Inserted by his wife and children.
22, Paragamma, Kegalle. 1534



Miriam Iranganie Jayamanne

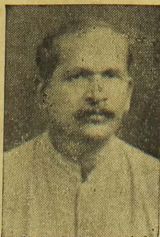
Born: Sunday 6.12.36

Drowned: Sunday 16.11.52 in the Mahaweli at Peradeniya attempting her elder brother's rescue.

"He who does not love does not know God; for God is Love."

I John iv, 8.

Suduhumpola,
Kandy. 1544



Anthony Xavier Machado

Called to rest on 16 November, 1946

Fourteen years ago you left us sad and lonely

And ever since that day we've prayed for you,

Through fourteen years of endless love and sorrow

We keep you in our aching hearts so true.

Merciful Jesus grant him eternal rest.

Machlands,
School Avenue, Wellawatte. 1557

THANKSGIVINGS

MY most sincere thanks to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, St. Cecilia, and Pope Pius XII for daughter's success in examination.

1532

M. Heyzer.

SITUATIONS VACANT

WANTED S.S.C. qualified with music. Church music essential. Apply Manager, St. Philomena's, Horana. 1489

WANTED youth S.S.C. English-Tamil. Music, Shorthand-Typing added qualification. Apply Manager, St. Philomena's School, Horana. 1494

WANTED Catholic girl with no encumbrances help small family in general work. Reasonable salary. Apply in writing to 199, High Level Road, Nugegoda. 1555

WANTED Manager for Pallan-sena Multi-purpose Co-operative Society, Kochchikade, experienced person of good character, conversant in accounts. Cash security Rs. 500/-. Apply with copies of recent testimonials to Joe Perera, Walawwa, Kochchikade. 1558

MATRIMONIAL

A Catholic Tamil girl just over 30, with English and Tamil education, wishes to marry an employed bachelor with a fair income. A Catholic of the same race preferred. More particulars on enquiry." No. 1466 c/o Catholic Press, Colombo 8.

LOST

BREVIARY (Prayer Book of Priests) lost at St. Mary's Church, Bambalapitiya about 4 months ago. If found please return to owner. Fr. Nicholas Perera, Wattala. 1554

MEDICAL

CHILDREN'S Diseases! Tonsillitis! Asthma! Catarrh! Swiss Treatment cures permanently! No Operation! No Injections! Free consultation: Medical Clinic, 42nd Lane, Wellawatta.

WARNING

The clients of St. Jude are hereby warned not to contribute to a bogus list in favour of the Building Fund of St. Jude's Church, Indigolla, which is circulating in Colombo.

Carmelite Fathers,
St. Jude's Church,
Indigolla,
Gampaha.

1541

ORDER ABSOLUTE (IN THE FIRST INSTANCE)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COLOMBO

No. 19478/Testy

In the matter of the Last Will and Testament of Herman Joseph Camillus de Silva Wijeyeratne of 42, Initium Road, Dehiwela. — Deceased. Bertram Mariam Andrew de Silva Wijeyeratne of 110, Veluvana Place, Colombo 9. — Petitioner.

This matter coming on for disposal before J. E. A. Alles, Esquire, Additional District Judge, of Colombo, on the 1st day of September 1960 in the presence of Mr. S. V. Sinnatambay, Proctor on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner dated 25th August 1960, affidavit of the Notary and the Witnesses dated 25th August 1960 having been read:

It is ordered that the Last Will and Testament bearing No. 1773 made by the Deceased abovenamed on the 8th day of May 1960 and attested by Mr. Lionel Shelton Kirithsinghe, Notary Public of Negombo the Original of which has been produced and is now deposited in this Court be and the same is hereby declared proved and that the Petitioner abovenamed is the Executor named therein and that he is hereby declared to have Probate thereof issued to him accordingly on his payment of Estate Duty and taking Oath of Office.

Sgd. J. E. A. Alles,
Additional District Judge.
The 10th day of October 1960. 1493

TOPIC OF THE HOUR SCHOOLS TAKE OVER.

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PEIRIS, O.M.I.

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ST. BENEDICT'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS' UNION

The Annual General Meeting of the Old Boys' Union will be held at the College Hall, on Sunday, 27th Nov. 1960, at 10-30 a.m.

Programme

9 a.m. Holy Mass at St. Lucia's Cathedral.

*10-30 a.m. Annual General Meeting at the College Hall.

*(Agenda, Annual Report and Audited Statement of Accounts for the year 1959/1960 are being posted to Members under separate cover).

1 p.m. Commemoration Lunch at the College Hall.

Bookings for Lunch will be accepted at Rs. 5/- each and remittance should reach Lt. Col. G. F. G. Perera, c/o Chartered Bank Ltd., Fort, Colombo, on or before 23rd November 1960 (open only to Members and their Gentlemen Guests).

Patrick H. de Silva,
Hony. General Secretary.

c/o St. Benedict's College,
Colombo 13,
November 10th, 1960.

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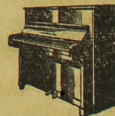
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MANNAR'S MAMMOTH MEETING RECALLS HEROISM OF EARLY MARTYRS

Penitential Week in Kegalle

(from our Kegalle correspondent)

THE week 9th-15th October was observed as a penitential week in Kegalle parish. Attendance at Holy Mass and Holy Communion, individual acts of penance, mortification, voluntary fasting and visits to the Blessed Sacrament made up the Spiritual Bouquet to Our Blessed Mother.

A Special Holy Hour was observed on the anniversary of the Fatima apparition.

Proceedings reached a climax on Sunday, the 16th. From after the High Mass offered for Our Lady's intentions, an unbroken

chain of rosaries was offered up by various parish groups till 3 p.m. There followed a Solemn open-air Way of the Cross on the premises of St. Joseph's Convent and St. Mary's Church, at which a very large crowd participated. The Stations were marked by large wooden crosses. Rev. Fr. A. Lanza preached at each one of the Stations.

The grand finale came with a Solemn Holy Hour, consecration of the Kegalle parish to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

"We must be prepared for the worst...!"

(from S. J. Emmanuel, "Messenger" correspondent)

ADDRESSING ONE OF THE LARGEST MEETINGS THAT MANNAR HAS SEEN IN RECENT TIMES, THE VERY REV. FR. G. T. BALASUNDERAM, O.M.I., REMINDED CATHOLICS OF MANNAR THAT THEY WERE SONS OF MARTYRS WHO HAD LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR GOD. "BE TRUE TO THEIR NAME, IN THIS HOUR OF TRIAL," HE SAID, "FOR EITHER WE SHALL LIVE AS CATHOLICS TRULY UNITED IN HIM, WITH HIM AND FOR HIM, OR WE SHALL PERISH IN THE STRUGGLE."

Song and prayer processions, bus and lorry loads of Catholics

from all Parishes of the Mannar District, converged on St. Xavier's College last Saturday evening for the meeting, which has been described as the largest in recent times. After Fr. Balasunderam addressed the vast gathering, explaining the danger that had befallen the Catholics of Ceylon, three Catholic Members of Parliament spoke.

Mr. Quentin Fernando, M.P., Negombo said: "I am very much privileged to stand on sacred soil and address the sons of martyrs. Your forefathers 450 years ago offered themselves without any regret in the cause of Christ. It is on account of that, that Mannar today is Catholic. I am sure," he declared, "you will do the same again, if you are called to it."

Mr. Paris Perera, M.P., Jaffna explained the government's insidious move to snatch away from us rights and privileges given to us as Catholics from the hands of God. This government, he declared, has dared to throw all democratic principles to the winds and has extended its hand to the Marxist leaders, to be led by them.

Mr. V. A. Alegacone, M.P., Mannar reminded the audience of their past history. The Church does not wish for a persecution, he said, but if persecution were to come unavoidably, the Church would flourish in it. Mannar would never let down the Catholics of the island, said he. Their loyalty to the Pope and his appointed pastors would never be weakened.

Mrs. S. Chrysostom, proposed a resolution on behalf of the parents of Mannar. Mr. C. R. E. Jayarajah seconded it and it was passed amidst thunderous applause.

Mothers' Petition

Continued from page 1

regret is being widely felt among the mothers of this country and still continues to embitter them.

The Prime Minister they have so hopefully looked up to for a hearing in their hour of travail, they feel, has built up a barrier which shuts them out of the common pale of the Prime Minister's ministering to the women of this land.

The full text of the petition signed by 24,132 mothers is worded thus:

We the mothers of the children who will soon be the citizens of this Island, appeal to the Hon'ble Sirimavo Bandaranaike, our Prime Minister and a mother like ourselves, to permit us the basic and cherished freedom of educating our own children in schools of our own choice—a freedom which was freely exercised by our Prime Minister herself and her late illustrious husband.

We appeal to our Prime Minister most humbly and with the utmost fervour in this hour of doubt, to use the benign influence which made her the First Lady in this land, to preserve for our children the denominational schools which produced people of such great eminence as both she herself and her beloved husband.

In all humility, we earnestly beg that before our beloved children are forever deprived of the opportunity enjoyed by our Prime Minister and her family of being educated in denomina-

Wattala

(from our correspondent)

BLACK flags will fly over the homes of Catholics and everyone, including students, will wear black as a sign of mourning on the date of the schools take-over, according to a decision of the executive committee of the 4,000-strong Wattala Parent-Teacher Association which is also urging its members not to give their homes the customary new look for Christmas or to buy clothes, toys, fireworks, cake, cards, liquor, etc., for the occasion as a protest against the take-over of assisted schools by the Government.

Passayoor

(from our correspondent)

WE resolve to keep our children away from school till our fundamental rights are conceded," declare the parishioners of Passayoor, Jaffna, in a resolution passed unanimously recently at a mass meeting of parents and parishioners held in the Church Square to protest against the Government's decision to take over Catholic schools.

Many parents and parishioners spoke on the unjust law promulgated by Government to take over assisted schools, and copies of their resolution were sent to the Prime Minister and the Governor-General.

Kegalla Union

(from our correspondent)

AT a meeting of the Kegalle Parish Union, speaker after speaker stressed the impending danger which threatened Catholics as a result of the Schools Bill. The President, Mr. R. F. Perera, addressing the gathering exhorted Catholics to be united in this hour of crisis for the Catholic population of Ceylon.

The election of Union office-bearers resulted as follows:
Spiritual Director: Rev. Fr. D. S. Gunaratne, M.S.A., President: Mr. R. F. Perera; Vice-Presidents: Messrs. R. L. Perera, Earnie Abeywickrama and P. Simeon Perera; Secretary: Mr. H. R. Leo Perera; Asst. Secretary: Mr. D. S. Perera; Treasurer: Mr. B. H. Seinviratne; Committee: Messrs. A. I. Abeywickrama, W. D. E. Perera, C. T. de Silva, H. E. Fernando, K. N. Anthony, A. C. B. Wickramasinghe, F. A. Wickremasinghe and J. D. Miranda.

Kalutara

(from our correspondent)

ON Saturday last, at the Holy Cross Church, Kalutara, 42 boys and 30 girls from the College and Convent received their First Holy Communion at the hands of the Rev. Fr. Theodore Peiris, O.M.I., Rector.

Annual Novena of

Masses for the Dead

THE Annual Novena of Masses for the Faithful Departed conducted by the Society in Aid of the Souls in Purgatory will be celebrated this year at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena from 21st November to 30th November, both days inclusive. Mass will be said each day during the Novena at 6 a.m. and after Mass the Way of the Cross will be performed.

During the month of November a Special Collection Box will be placed at the Altar of Our Lady of Monteligion, St. Lucia's Cathedral, to collect stipends for as many Masses as possible for the intentions of the Holy Souls.

national schools, she, not only as the head of the State but also as a loving mother—to whom so many mothers and children of Sri Lanka look today in trust and hope—will hearken to this appeal and use the power that has been given her to prevent our schools from being taken over by her Government as has been proposed.

UNITED PROTEST BY PAST PUPILS' A TRAVESTY OF THE LAW

"SUBJECTED TO THE ACID TESTS BY WHICH ALL LAWS ARE JUDGED IN A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY, THE EDUCATION BILL IS NOT A LAW BUT A TRAVESTY OF THE LAW," DECLARED MR. X. J. S. RASANAYAGAM, ADDRESSING THE REPRESENTATIVES OF PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATIONS OF ASSISTED SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND, ASSEMBLED AT ST. LUCIA'S SQUARE, KOTAHENA, LAST SUNDAY.

Present at the meeting held in protest against the Education Bill were a large number of parents and well-wishers of all communities and creeds. Mr. Felix Goonewardena presided.

Deploping that the Bill had been so hastily and unjustly rushed through, Mr. Rasanayagam emphasized that no experts had been consulted, no round table conference held to find out various viewpoints and difficulties that were likely to arise.

"The present Bill has come ready-made from the heads of officials dedicated to the proposition that certain religious communities should be destroyed root and branches," said the speaker.

"It is the denominational schools that were responsible for the education of the common man during the last 100 years. The middle classes of today and some of those today at the very top were the children of the common men of yesterday," said Mr. Rasanayagam.

The speaker appealed to Mrs. Sirima Bandaranaike to reconsider her decision. "Let her

remember that she is the Prime Minister of all, not of one community alone. She fought her electoral campaign as the leader of a party, but once called upon to form a government, she should have awakened to a sense of her responsibility to the whole country, composed of Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus and Christians."

The practice of revenging oneself on those who did not support a party at the polls is unknown in the history of any country except Ceylon. Our Prime Minister who moved mothers by her tears cannot remain unmoved by the tears of mothers, concluded the speaker.

Mr. A. W. A. Abeygoonesekera, M.M.C., stated the S.L.F.P. had brought much suffering to the people in the last four years. It had passed a Bill for which it had not received any mandate from the country.

The M.P. for Colombo North, Mr. V. A. Sugathadasa, stated that the Education Bill was a death blow aimed at the Catholics and all unprejudiced people should be prepared

to resist it.

Messrs. Ananda Kaviratne and John Vistrini Fernando also spoke.

The meeting concluded with the passing of a resolution to continue its protest and opposition till the government rectified its policy.

Dematagoda Parish Union

AT a general meeting, the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Christopher Fernando, O.M.I., inaugurated the Parish Union of St. Anthony's Church, Dematagoda.

The following were elected, Officials and Members of the Council:

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Christopher Fernando; President: Mr. X. J. S. Rasanayagam; Vice-President: Mr. Paul Weerasinghe; Hony. Secretary: Mr. Bertie Perera; Hony. Treasurer: Mrs. D. H. O. Melder; Council: Mrs. M. J. Rasanayagam, Mrs. Doreen Perera, Mrs. N. C. Nugera, Misses Venetia Dias, L. Jaymary Vedamuttu, Messrs. C. M. Perera, John Silva, George Selvam, K. M. P. Vedamuttu, D. H. O. Melder, T. P. Raphael, Melville David and Douglas Souza, Mrs. C. Alwis, Mr. J. Edward and Mr. Sebastian Zilwa.

St. Joseph's Guild formed at Maradana

(from Josephian, "Messenger" correspondent)

"AS we are a loyal body of Government workers, so should we be loyal members of one spiritual family, devoted to our Catholic faith," declared Mr. T. P. E. Jayawardene, Chief Clerk of the Post and Telecommunication Workshops, Maradana, addressing over 100 Catholic workers of the Postal Departmental Workshops and Stores Branches at Maradana, in the course of his Presidential address at the inaugural meeting of St. Joseph's Catholic Guild, held recently.

The following were elected as office-bearers for 1960-61:

President: Mr. T. P. E. Jayawardene; Vice-President: Mr. A. Wijekulasuriya; Hony. Secretary: Mr. K. R. M. Perera; Hony. Treasurer: Mr. W. Peter Fernando; Hony. Asst. Secretary: Mr. W. W. S. Jayatileke; Committee: Messrs. P. Variath, R. C. E. Silva, M. Antony Pillai, W. P. S. Fernando, W. Michael B. Fernando, E. H. P. Silva, J. M. Abeysekere, F. H. P. Silva, W. M. Fernando and K. I. D. de Silva; Hony. Auditor: Mr. L. B. A. Fernando.

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