

ONE of the most outspoken and courageous of the black revolutionary leaders in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) was abducted and murdered just before Christmas.

He is the Rev. Arthur Kanodereka, Methodist Minister and formerly Treasurer of Bishop Muzorewa's African National Council (ANC). He was dismissed from this position in August for his outspoken criticism of the

slowness of the transfer of real power to a black majority government.

### Faced his killers

Originally his sympathies were with the guerillas but when they attacked an African village and killed a pregnant woman he

strongly criticised them in his Sunday sermon; the guerillas responded by telling him "You are next on the list!" whereupon the Rev. Kanodereka went out to their secret camp to face them in person and argue it out. From then on he knew that he was high on their list for liquidation. But

this did not inhibit his fight for a peaceful settlement.

He was an important figure in Bishop Muzorewa's ANC and so in the attempts to form an interim government with white Prime Minister Ian Smith. After attending a Moral Re-Armament conference he became a convinced advocate of a multi-racial Zimbabwe where black and white would live together under a majority government.

In the last two months he had with great courage crossed into Zambia and Mozambique to try to reach a peaceful agreement with the guerilla leaders.

### Extraordinary friendship

An extraordinary feature of his life has been the deep friendship that he struck up with Alec Smith, son of Ian Smith. Alec Smith is another who through Moral Re-Armament, abandoned old prejudices and worked all-out for unity between the races.

Rev. Kanodereka invited blacks and whites to worship together in his church in the all black district of Harare, which had previously been exclusively for blacks. The success of these

THE LATE Rev. Kanodereka with Ian Smith's son, Alec.

multiracial church services was so great that extremists reacted with threats and a petrol bomb was thrown at his house.

It seems to have been because of the success of his efforts for peace that Rev. Arthur Kanodereka suffered the fate of a martyr. The Africans have lost a leader of stature and a statesman of wisdom, maturity and wide experience. He was widely known and loved outside Rhodesia for his travels with Moral Re-Armament.

### Library Association Council

THE council of the Library Association was elected recently. Its chairman is Fr. Anthony F. Sapienza, SJ, MA (Lib. Sc); vice-chairman is Mr. John Sultana, BA (Hons), ALA; secretary Miss Margaret Rose Psaila, BA and treasurer Mr. Joseph Grima, BA, ALA.

The other council members are Mr. Joseph Boffa, ALA, Mr. Carmel Gruppeta, Dr. Paul Xuereb, BA (Hons), LL.D., Dip. Lib. (Lond), and Mr. Salvino Zammit, BA (Hons.)

## Comment

# Worker for peace

A SERVICE is to be held in Salisbury today in honour of the Rev. Arthur Kanodereka, who was murdered last month.

Tribute will be paid to him for the remarkable work he was doing for peace in Rhodesia. Much of this work was behind the scenes, and so the public was mostly unaware of it, yet it must have been bearing fruit; otherwise the murder was completely without motive.

George Bernard Shaw is reported to have said when hearing of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination: "It is dangerous to be good." The words could just as aptly apply to Mr Kanodereka.

It is a tragedy that men of this calibre, and of the calibre of District Commissioner David Mirams, who concern themselves so deeply with the welfare of their fellow citizens, should not live to see the completion of their work.

Instead, others must take up the burden. And that is what Rhodesia needs so desperately today: Men who can assume leadership in what should become a great crusade for peace.

On New Year's Day we urged that this yearning for peace, shared by the great majority of people in Rhodesia, should be harnessed into something great and powerful. For this to happen we need leaders able to talk freely to all the factions involved—men such as the Rev. Arthur Kanodereka, in fact.

Surely there must be some with both the courage and conviction to inherit the mantle?

