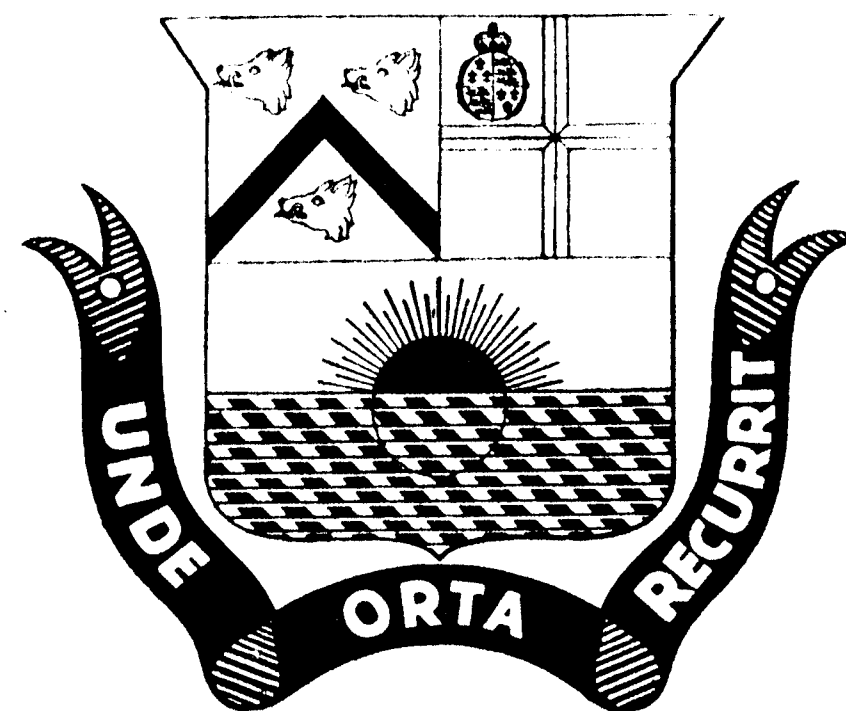


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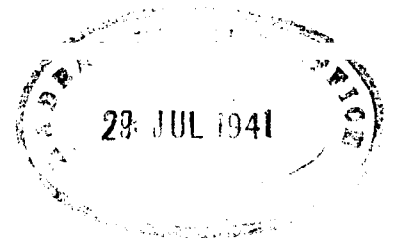
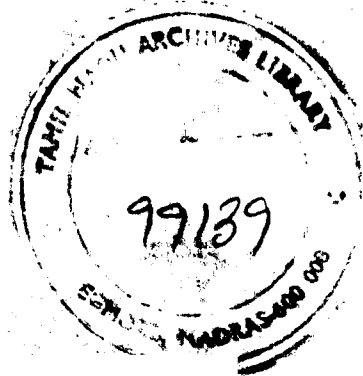
Presidency College Madras



Centenary Celebration Record
1940

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EDITORIALS

From

THE HINDU

THE MAIL

CURRENT SCIENCE

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE MAGAZINE

INDIAN EXPRESS

EDITORIALS

From THE HINDU

2nd February 1940.

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE

TO-MORROW the Presidency College celebrates a hundred years of distinguished service to the cause of higher education in this Province. It is an event in which its alumni may take legitimate satisfaction ; to-day's edition of THE HINDU will give the reader a measure of the affection and gratitude with which they look upon their old College. But the growth and expansion of this premier institution and its educational ideals have had an influence on a much wider public than even its students, who are to be found in all walks of life, would suggest. In its very origin it was marked out for a distinctive achievement. It was the parent of the Madras University ; some years before the Wood Despatch which laid the foundations of Indian educational policy was written, the Fundamental Rules of this institution laid down that it should function as "a College for the higher branches of Literature, Philosophy and Science." Thanks to the fact that it was a Government College and so assured of ample funds—in fact it was complained at one stage that it absorbed more than half the funds allotted for education in the whole of the Presidency—it was in a position to expand and ramify regardless of expense and to insist upon quality ; and in the pursuit of this ideal it was admirably served by a succession of very able Principals and Professors and by the enlightened interest that the heads of the Province took in its affairs. Thus, it was from the beginning able to maintain the highest traditions of academic freedom. And the fact that, through its higher staff, it has all along maintained close touch with the University ever since the latter institution was separated from the College, has been of at least as much advantage to the College as to the University in strengthening this tradition of freedom and discouraging anything like parochialism.

The Presidency College has been blamed in the past for a certain exclusiveness ; in the far-off days of its founding, the aristocratic idea had so little fallen into disfavour that there could be found Principals who could claim that the College was run by gentlemen for gentlemen ! Jestings apart, the insistence that those who wanted to be educated in the College should pay amply for the privilege had in the early years undoubtedly the effect of making it almost the preserve of the wealthier middle classes. But those days are long gone by. The fees now charged are not appreciably higher than those levied in other institutions ; and many scholarships are provided—though not as many as one could wish—for the poor but deserving student. Because of the wide choice of subjects it offers and the splendid tradition of academic achievement and success in life which many generations of pupils have helped to build up, the College has for decades attracted the cream of the student population ; it is an intellectual aristocracy rather than an aristocracy of rank or wealth that it may be legitimately supposed to have been favouring. And it has provided just the atmosphere in which talent might find the fullest scope for expansion. In one of the most vivid contributions to the Centenary commemoration volume issued by the College, India's greatest scientist lays his finger unerringly on the secret of the College's power. "During the four years I was at the Presidency College", writes Sir C. V. Raman, "I enjoyed a measure of academic freedom which seems almost incredible." Not unnaturally, the alumni of an institution which believed in picking them with extraordinary care, providing them with ample facilities and allowing them to discover themselves have in later life distinguished themselves as a rule by initiative, originality, organisational power and a healthy scepticism which have stood this country in good stead, seeing that they are to be found throughout the length and breadth of it, occupying positions of great responsibility and power. It will be the hope of all who care for the welfare of the country that in the future as in the past the College will produce in ample numbers men who by virtue of such qualities, will provide the leadership without which no nation can progress.



THE INAUGURATION OF THE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.
His Excellency's arrival.

From THE MAIL

3rd February 1940.

A WORTHY OCCASION

QUOTING Ecclesiasticus, the Principal of the Presidency College this afternoon did more than to commend to the attention of a great army of listeners the famous men who had helped that institution at its birth a hundred years ago, and in many ways since. He also reminded them of those others whom the College has helped to produce. Ecclesiasticus should be the patron saint of learning for he learnt and teaches much. "Wisdom," he declares, "lifteth up the head of him that is of low degree, and maketh him to sit among great men." It has been the good fortune of the Presidency College to have among its friends many wise men. They did not strive after the impossible. Setting high standards before them, they sought to give the stamp of sound culture to all who passed through its portals. MR. PAPWORTH'S speech, published in this issue, reveals the humble origin of the College. It began as a preparatory school, but from the first the germ of the University, of which it is the parent, was there. The preparatory school, the high school which followed it, were the first steps towards giving this Presidency not merely a College of which it can be, and is rightly proud, but also the University whose high standards have won praise throughout the world of education.

Those whose good fortune has enabled them to receive their education at the Presidency College take just pride in the fact. Among their number are many who have played a notable part in the recent history of India. To-day, some hold the highest office in the service of Indian Princes ; others worthily fill not less important posts in British India. These are outstanding among its alumni. But it is right to take count of them for, as MR. PAPWORTH said, "it is not to the many average men who have naturally during the past hundred years passed through our portals, but to the fewer men of ability and determination, who from time to time have guided our progress, that we owe everything of value that we possess." He was alluding to the

long line of administrators and principals who have so largely contributed to build the Presidency College of our time, who laid its traditions on sound foundations, and built enduringly. They were not only the glory of their times, but the servants of posterity. We cannot praise them too highly. Yet we should not overlook the substantial contribution to the standards and traditions of the College made by the more distinguished of its students. They added to its reputation. Their fame attracted the attention of the educationally ambitious, from whom wise administrators selected the most worthy. In this way that aristocracy of intellect, which the founders of the College envisaged, was developed. Thus, too, were their high standards preserved and maintained. As the work of the College expanded as department was added to department their example established in new fields the traditions of the old and made worthy accomplishment certain.

The aristocracy they created was not one of wealth. They were wiser than those who exalt possessions. Their purpose was to lift up the deserving, to create an aristocracy of the intellect, and in this they succeeded better than they could have expected. So much for the past. On the threshold of a second hundred years of service to the Presidency the College faces new difficulties. These arise from the peculiar unrest of our times. The disquiet which comes from insecurity the striving for position and power and the invasion of education by politics and materialism, these things threaten to divert our educational institutions from the pursuit of pure learning. A special obligation, therefore, rests upon all who serve and study in the College. If they would preserve their heritage intact, and pass it on pure and unsullied to their successors, they must keep for ever before them the high ideals of those who have built up the traditions, contributed to the history of, and developed, the College they prize. Let there be no thought of going back, no hint of winning popularity by the sacrifice of cherished ideals. The Presidency College should be an example of all that is best in education. It has, and has always enjoyed, certain advantages; those to whom its reputation is now entrusted, whether they be students or on the staff, should resolve that these advantages shall be employed solely in the highest service of the Presidency. Then, in the words of Ecclesiasticus, "The people will tell of their wisdom, and the congregation shall show forth their praise."

From CURRENT SCIENCE

February 1940.

A GREAT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

DURING the first fortnight of this month the Madras Presidency College celebrated its Centenary with great social pomp and academic pageantry. The old students, who had assembled on this historic occasion to testify their affection and loyalty to their College, were legitimately in a holiday mood, and the present students, temporarily relieved of their anxious thoughts about books, studies and examinations, must have naturally made the most ardent contributions to the gaiety of the varied festivities, which, judged by the press reports, were ingeniously conceived and delightfully enjoyed.

The great Institution, during the long period of its existence, has been a fertile cradle in producing distinguished young men, who in later life have achieved remarkable success in the different spheres of public activities in which they were engaged. On this memorable occasion which, in certain respects, marks the turning-point in the career of the College, it must have been a matter of pride and pleasure to the staff and students to recall to their memory the names of those eminent men who were no longer with us, and who have left indelible impressions of their genius on whatever work it was their lot to perform. We need offer no apology if we respectfully recollect the names of Raja Sir T. Madhava Rao, C. Rangacharlu, R. Raghunatha Rao, Sir A. Seshayya Sastri, Sir K. Seshadri Aiyar, Dewan Bahadur S. Srinivasaraghava Aiyangar, Sir P. Rajagopalachariar, Sir T. Muthuswami Aiyer, Sir V. Bashyam Aiyangar, Sir C. Sankaran Nair, V. Krishnaswami Iyar, V. Satagopacharlu, Sir C. V. Kumaraswami Sastriar, P. Ranganatha Mudaliar and S. Kasturiranga Aiyangar, whose outstanding achievements as statesmen, jurists, educationists and journalists form the noblest and the most enduring record of public service in this country. It would be almost impossible to compose a vivid picture of the personality and the human qualities of any of

these eminent men from their works alone, however deeply they may bear the unmistakable marks of the artificer's intellect and character ; and those who have seen their features and have heard their voice are few already, and become fewer yearly. It is, we believe, reasonable to assume that the Presidency College, which justly takes credit for having produced these great men, should not permit their memorials to become legendary, which, if carefully preserved in its Centenary Commemorative Volume, would constitute a perennial source of inspiration to the rising generation.

Though the task is certainly unenviable, yet we cannot resist the temptation of making a selection of some of the old graduates of the College, who are happily among us, and who deservedly are held in great public esteem. The names and accomplishments of C. Vijayaraghavachariar, Sir P. S. Sivaswamy Aiyar, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, Sir T. Vijayaraghavachariar, Dewan Bahadur N. Gopalaswami Aiyangar, Sir C. Venkataraman, Sir K. Ramunni Menon, undoubtedly form the most stimulating and glittering chapters of our public annals. Both as the oldest politician and as a fearless and selfless advocate of his country's interests and aspirations, C. Vijayaraghavachariar is universally honoured. His services will be gratefully remembered, and, in these days of doubt and difficulty, his courage and patriotism will be an example to the succession of students who may adopt politics as their profession. By temperament and training, Sir P. S. Sivaswamy Aiyar is a scholar, erudite in law and letters, whose brilliance in culture is only equalled by his piety and philanthropic zeal, and whose eminent status in public life is as much based on his solid achievements in the fields of education, legislature and administration as on the supreme worth and value of his personal character. As a genius marked off from his gifted fellowmen, Sir Venkataraman is the Indian Eclipse in the realm of Science, whose amazingly brilliant contributions have earned for him the greatest international honours open to scientists. His fame is undoubtedly a national asset and will endure as long as the Physical Sciences are treasured by mankind. His character is not easily or concisely expressed in the form of a simple mathematical formula, for it is multilateral, whose principal facade is a consuming passion to do science. For sheer versatility of intellect and forceful personality, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar is practi-

cally unrivalled. His mind is so profoundly comprehensive that he could with equal authority discourse on the attributes of the Deity, the French Dramatists, Bio-chemistry and the American Constitution. To talk to him is liberal education. Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, Sir T. Vijayaraghavachariar and Dewan Bahadur N. Gopalaswami Aiyangar are distinguished administrators, who have attained fame and greatness by their singular devotion to duty and by the eminent qualities of their character. They are perfect models for the younger generation to emulate and mould their ideals upon. Sir K. Ramunni Menon's distinction rests upon his accomplishments as an educationist and administrator, and his meritorious services to his College and to the University will be cherished with feelings of love and gratitude. It would be difficult at the present moment to form a just estimate of the significance of his contribution to the development of higher University Education in South India.

As a group, the students of the Presidency College have been men of all-round ability, vigorous, alert and keenly interested in many things outside their professions, with an immense record of honourable work to their credit.

The Presidency College at one time enjoyed the reputation of being an aristocratic institution, receiving within its portals princes and patricians, which used to provoke the retort that it fell to the lot of other colleges to produce princes and patricians among their scholars. Whether it really possessed this dubious reputation or not, the staff relied, almost to the point of religious fervour, on the theory that impersonal teaching of prescribed text-books formed the back-bone of sound Indianism, with the result that the students imbibed all their lessons and even the superiority complex of their professors. However, within the last three decades, a great change has overtaken the College which, having shed its aristocratic clothes, has assumed the humbler garments of democracy and even the graceful short-skirts of feminism. This alteration in the spirit and the complexion of the College has followed in the wake of the progressive Indianisation of its staff,—a body of eminent scholars and scientists, who worthily uphold the high formal academic standards for which it was always distinguished. It seems to us that the traditions of any educational institution are built

up by the co-operative effort of the members of the staff and the students, and this body of traditions is enriched by the achievements of the latter when they enter life. From the standpoint of output of scientific investigations, none of the South Indian Colleges were distinguished till 1900 except, perhaps, in one department of study in the Presidency College, where the researches of Sir Alfred Bourne led to his election into the Royal Society. It is a sad reflection on the scientific teaching of our colleges, that after decades of toil and travail, we could produce a single Sir Venkataraman. The most baneful influence that pervaded the academic atmosphere of the higher educational institutions of South India in the last century was the competitive spirit, which manifested in the form of a rivalry for annexing prizes at the public examinations. If the energy of students had not been expended in memorising text-books and in leaping over the murderously high hurdles academically named public examinations, but had been conserved and directed towards developing independent thinking, promoting the spirit of independent enquiry and fostering small pieces of independent work in the laboratories, the Madras Colleges would have produced more scientists, more scholars, more statesmen and more jurists, whose collective accomplishments would be the true and lasting foundation of their traditions. The tradition of an institution as an asylum of higher teaching of text-books is one thing; the tradition of an institution as a dynamic centre for extending and conquering the untrodden fields of knowledge is a totally different thing. It is gratifying that the Presidency College has entered upon this second phase of its evolutionary history, and in shaping its destiny, the prodigious industry and the unparalleled success of Sir Venkataraman and his brilliant school of research workers will afford an inspiring influence.

From St. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE MAGAZINE

March 1940.

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE CENTENARY

THE premier College of our University has recently celebrated the centenary of its foundation by a series of functions of which we can say that they were truly worthy of that great Institution. Historical and commemorative Addresses, dramatic entertainments, a cricket pageant, dinners and social gatherings, Old Boys' meetings, nothing that was calculated to enhance the success of the celebration seems to have been omitted. A Register of Graduates and a splendidly got-up centenary commemoration volume completed the items in a carefully organised festival.

The Presidency College has played a great part in the advance of higher education in our Province. It has justly been called the Mother of the University. The makers and foremost Legislators of the University were and still are members of the Staff of the Presidency College. It is to them that the University of Madras owes its enviable position among Indian Universities. Thanks to the unstinted liberality of Government, the College has been able to maintain the highest standard in teaching and equipment. Presidency College has also been fortunate in the kind of students it has attracted—young men of talent who belonged to the richer and more influential families, whose wealth and social position gave scope to their ambitions and unusual advantages in the matter of employment and professional success. This, as much as the training imparted in the College, is responsible for the very large proportion of leading men that the College has contributed to the public life of our Province. In almost every way Presidency College has played a great part in the intellectual life of South India. It is therefore with great pleasure that St. Joseph's—which has a good many Old Boys of the Presidency on its staff—offers its congratulations to its great sister Institution and wishes it many more centuries of distinguished service to the youth of the country.

GOOD ADVICE FROM THE "INDIAN EXPRESS"

6th February 1940

ENGLISHMEN with their ear for the English language are always to be trusted in regard to the use of the definite article. Most of us speak of "the Presidency College," but in the speeches of His Excellency and Principal Papworth the term used was "Presidency College" without "the". On the other hand the extended expression is "The Madras Presidency College", but by itself it should be "Presidency College".

* * * * *

The American legislature is in the same way described as "Congress" whereas we in India are familiar with "the Congress". The correct expression should be just "Congress". Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, we have invariably noticed, talks of "Congress" without the definite article. It is wrong to speak of "the Parliament" since the right form is "Parliament".

* * * * *

Professor Mark Hunter in delivering his lectures on "The Parliament of Fowles" (Chaucer) used to bestow five minutes annually on the irrelevancy of the definite article in front of "Parliament".



PRESENTATION OF STAFF TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

By courtesy of The Mail.

INAUGURATION OF
THE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

by

HIS EXCELLENCY THE LORD ERSKINE, G.C.I.E.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

3rd February 1940

INAUGURATION OF THE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

THE Centenary celebrations of Presidency College were inaugurated by His Excellency Lord Erskine, Governor of Madras, on 3rd February 1910. On arrival His Excellency was received by Mr. H. C. Papworth, Principal of the College, and Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyer, President of the Old Students' Association. His Excellency then inspected a Guard of Honour furnished by the Presidency College Contingent of the University Training Corps under the command of Lieut. S. Kalyanaraman. The Principal then presented the Professors of the College, the President of the Union, and the women students' representative to the Governor.

The inauguration ceremony was held in a large pandal in which over 2,500 people had assembled, including members of the Government of Madras, the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court, Heads of Government Departments, the Vice-Chancellors of Madras, Andhra and Annamalai Universities, Principals and Professors of other Colleges, the Officer Commanding Madras, and a large number of guests from all parts of the Presidency.

After His Excellency had taken his seat on the dais, Mr. Papworth addressed the assembly as follows :—

May it please Your Excellency,

It is my good fortune to be the Principal of Presidency College on the occasion of its one-hundredth birthday, and therefore my happy privilege on behalf of all members of the College, past and present, to offer Your Excellency a sincere and hearty welcome. These are privileges which I did not anticipate when I joined the staff of Presidency College as Additional Professor of English twenty-four years ago.

Your Excellency has been pleased to honour us with a visit on two previous occasions ; first, to preside over our Annual Sports in 1936, and,

accompanied by Lady Marjorie Erskine, you opened the new Natural Science Buildings on 1st February 1938. We are all delighted that Your Excellency's acceptance of an extension of your term of office has enabled you to preside over what must be for thousands of former and present members of this College the most outstanding landmark in its history.

The purpose of this ceremony is to inaugurate the Centenary Celebrations of Presidency College, which was founded by Lord Elphinstone in 1810. In 1826 Sir Thomas Munro, then Governor of Madras under the regime of the East India Company, appointed an advisory body known as "The Committee of Public Instruction", which was apparently charged with the duty of advising the Governor and Directors of the East India Company on educational matters. This committee appears to have produced but little result, and was superseded in 1836 by another body, called "The Committee for Native Education", who drew up a plan for the advancement of education in the Madras Presidency. The proposals of this committee, however, did not commend themselves to the Governor, Lord Elphinstone, who had no hesitation in over-ruling them and in producing his own minute embodying, amongst others, the following proposals :—

- 1st. That it is expedient that a Central Collegiate Institution or University should be established at Madras.
- 2nd. The Madras University to consist of two principal departments, a college for the Higher branches of Literature, Philosophy and Science; and a High School for the cultivation of English Literature and of the Vernacular languages of India, and the elementary departments of Philosophy and Science.
- 3rd. The Governing Body to be denominated a President and Governors.
- 4th. The College department to be placed under a Principal and Professors. The High School under a Headmaster and Tutors.

The President and Governors were immediately appointed; the first President being George Norton, Advocate-General of Madras and



THE INAUGURATION OF THE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.
The Principal addressing the Assembly.

By courtesy of The Mail.

formerly of Bombay, a loud-voiced and fiery barrister who, after practising for twenty-five days in Bombay was suspended for six months together with four other barristers for having written a memorial, which charged the Recorder of Bombay with irregularity in the administration of justice, and with invading the privileges of the Bar; and which purported generally to put the judges, the Recorder, the Master and everybody else in their places. We owe our foundation to these two men of ability and determination, Lord Elphinstone and George Norton ; and it is not, of course, to the many average men who have naturally during the past hundred years passed through our portals, but to the fewer men of similar ability and determination who from time to time have guided our progress, that we owe everything of value that we possess.

The first meeting of the new Governing Body, which was called "The President and Governors of the Madras University" was held on 8th February 1840. That was our birth ; and we began with a Board of Governors, but no students, staff or buildings. Parents came first, children afterwards ! The President and Governors, however, meant business and lost no time in seeking to obtain a competent headmaster and assistants. For the post of headmaster, the Honourable Mountstuart Elphinstone, a relation of the Governor, was asked to select a suitable person, and his choice fell upon Eyre Burton Powell, a Cambridge Wrangler, who arrived in Madras on 24th November 1840, and had the distinction of being designated Headmaster of the Madras University. But the Governors were impatient to open the preparatory department, and so they sent for a Mr. Cooper, Headmaster of the Hoogly College, Calcutta, to carry on temporarily the duties of Headmaster until Powell's arrival. It is a pity that we do not know more about Cooper, for it was he who opened the first classes on 15th October 1840 in a building in Egmore known as Edinburgh House, and who thus started the institution which eventually grew into Presidency College. There are unfortunately no records about him nor any photographs of him traceable in the College. Perhaps he himself never realised the great work he was beginning ; but it is fitting that, when we are observing with pride the centenary of the College, Cooper should find a special place in our gratitude.

The ambition of Lord Elphinstone to establish at Madras "a Central Collegiate Institution or University" could only be realised in stages. First, it was necessary to open the institution as a Preparatory School, then to develop it into a High School, and finally into a College.

Within a few weeks of the opening of the Preparatory School by Cooper, plans were made for the inauguration of the High School. For this purpose the General Police Office (now the Presidency Magistrate's Court) in Pantheon Road was leased at a monthly rental of 50 pagodas. There the High School of Madras University or simply the Madras University as it came to be popularly called, was opened on 14th April 1841 by the Governor, Lord Elphinstone, and 67 students passed from the Preparatory School to the High School. Thus the second stage of our career quickly followed upon the first. At the public inauguration of the High School stage, Mr. Norton presented an address to the Governor in which he referred to the work of the institution during the first year of its existence, and to the comprehensive nature of the scheme they were undertaking to develop it from the preparatory to the collegiate grade. "This scheme," he said, "appears to be of a much more comprehensive nature than has ever been attempted under this Government, and, although it has many features in common with some scholastic institutions founded in other Presidencies, yet it possesses some which are peculiar to itself, and aims at practical results which surpass in extent any yet contemplated by the Governments of India."

It is difficult to realise that at this time no one in the Madras Presidency had received more than what amounts to a middle-school secondary education, and that the task which the President and Governors of this institution had set themselves was the pioneer one of training a few persons beyond the High School grade to that of a University. "There lives not a native within these territories", said Mr. Norton in his address, "who has advanced beyond the threshold of science or the rudiments of literature. Nobody has ever been trained to enter upon that career of education which is to qualify for the higher duties of life in an enlightened nation, and which it is the province of a University to impart. Thus, in all their practical measures the Board have been mindful of the comprehensive quality, and the contemplated

ends, of the Institution they are engaged in forming. They have endeavoured to lay foundations commensurate with the nature of the eventual superstructure". "Thus", as Lord Elphinstone said in inaugurating the second stage, "the High School which is now opened is intended to lead to a superior course of study to any which has hitherto been attempted at this Presidency. In due time it is hoped that it will be possible to train a sufficient number of youths for the prosecution of a collegiate education." The fulness of these ideals was realised twelve years later in 1853.

In these early days, when the College was the University, it naturally awarded its own degrees and diplomas, which were of three orders, and were conferred publicly at an annual function over which the Governors of Madras presided. This was in accordance with the instructions of the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company, who in their Despatch No. 23, dated 28th August 1844, expressed the opinion "that it would tend materially to elevate the credit and respectability of the institution if the prizes which may be awarded at the public examination were presented to the successful candidates by the Governor of Fort St. George himself." Although Presidency College no longer awards its own degrees and diplomas, yet the privilege of inviting the Governor of Fort St. George to honour us with his presence at our ceremonies is one which we exercise with the pride and pleasure of prescriptive right inherited from the days of the East India Company.

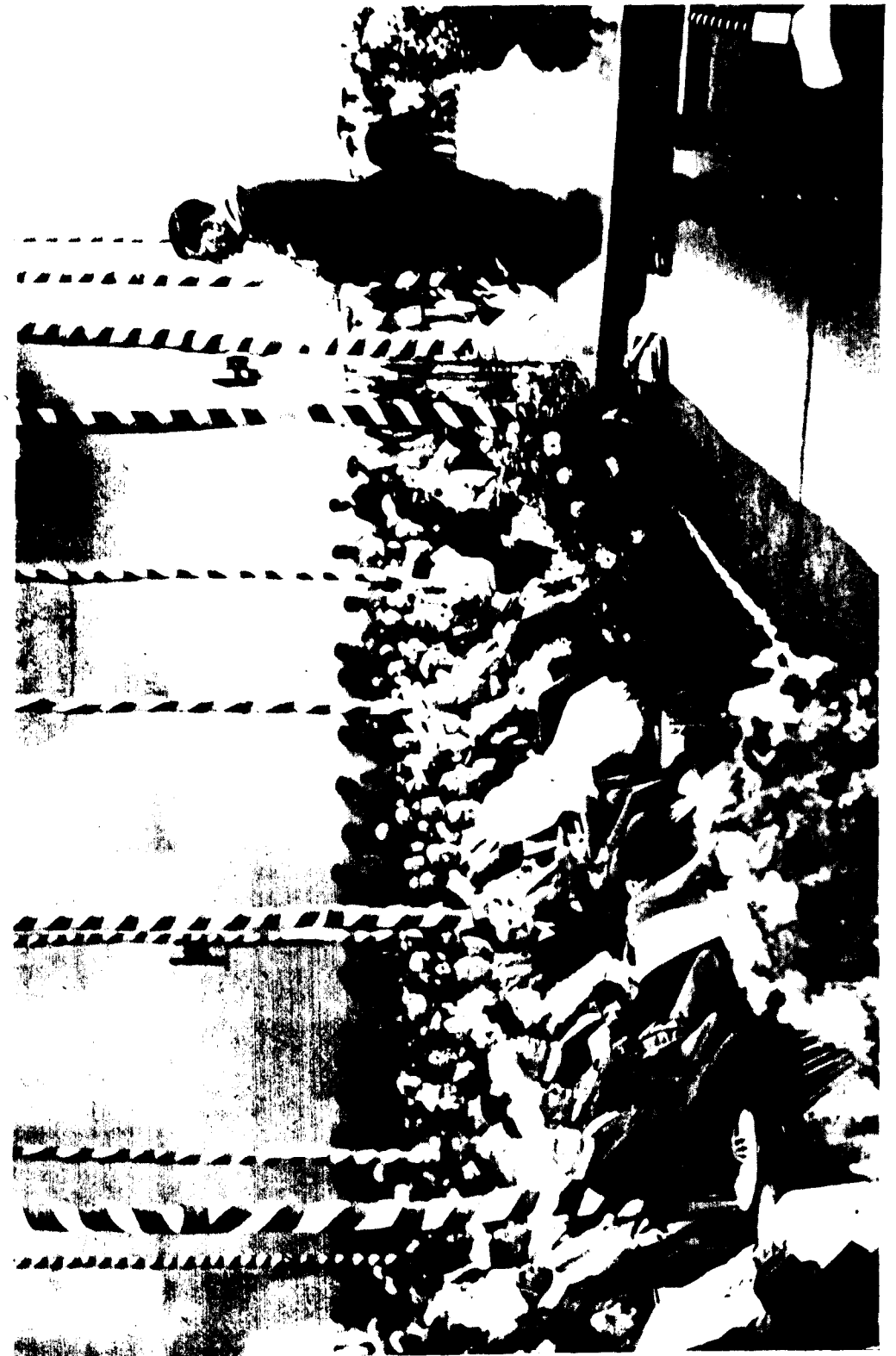
I now pass on to the third epoch in the history of Presidency College, namely, the establishment of the Collegiate department in 1853, thirteen years after our foundation. At first it was proposed to organize in this institution, not only the Faculties of Arts and Science, but also those of Medicine, Civil Engineering, and Laws. The proposal to establish classes in Medicine and Civil Engineering, when submitted to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, was pronounced by them to be premature. The success of the Madras Medical College, which was then a medical school granting its own diplomas, was considered to preclude the necessity of any arrangements for giving instruction in the Science of Medicine at the University; and with regard, to Civil Engineering, the Government pronounced it equally advisable that "any

attempt to afford instruction in that valuable and important branch of education should be kept entirely separate from the projects of the University." The Faculty of Laws, however, was included in the College.

The establishment of the collegiate department was due, once again, to the determination of the Governor, Sir Henry Pottinger. When the final proposals were laid before the Government the two Civil Members of Council objected to the establishment of the collegiate department, as well as to the amount of expenditure proposed for the Presidency Institution, which was, quite naturally, more than one-half of the sum available for the entire Presidency. But Sir Henry Pottinger took upon himself the responsibility of over-ruling his Council and of sanctioning the entire scheme. We must indeed be grateful to the memories of those two Governors, Lord Elphinstone and Sir Henry Pottinger, whose instinctively accurate foresight and whose bold initiative established us on sure and great foundations.

Thus, in 1853 Lord Elphinstone's hopes were fulfilled and his scheme completed. Two years later, in 1855, this "High School of Madras University" was transferred from the administration of its President and Governors to the newly created department of public instruction, and formally received its present name, Presidency College. It is happy to remember that Lord Elphinstone lived to see the fruition of his plans. Gradually, the preparatory and high school departments were abolished, and we became, as was Lord Elphinstone's policy from the beginning, a college exclusively of University standard.

The separation from Presidency College of the present University of Madras in 1857 marks the next important stage in our history. Madras University, as we now know it, was founded simultaneously with the Universities of Calcutta and Bombay in 1857. Before the inauguration of the new University, we received a despatch from the Secretary of State, dated 30th November 1856, asking us to endeavour to bring the course of study at the College into harmony with that which the proposed University would prescribe. It will always be a source of pride to Presidency College that it is the mother of the University of Madras. It is fitting that the services of those who work in the College should willingly be at the disposal of the University. It is also fitting that Presidency College should have been the pioneer in



H. E. LORD ERSKINE INAUGURATING THE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.

providing instruction for the various Honours and higher degree courses as they were from time to time prescribed by the University. Madras University is our child, and we have tried to serve it well.

As this institution developed in the way I have described, the President and Governors were faced with the task of providing adequate buildings for the College and University. The building in Egmore was neither adequate nor sufficiently near the big centres of population. In 1855 proposals were under consideration for the erection of a big building to accommodate both Presidency College and the new University which was soon to be separated from it ; and also a School of Industrial Arts, a Public Library and Reading Room, and the Government Museum. Various considerations fortunately interfered to prevent the carrying out of the project of having the School of Industrial Arts, the Public Library and the Museum in the same building as the College. In 1864 designs for a building to accommodate Presidency College and the Senate House were called for. On further consideration it was decided to build the Senate House as a separate building at some distance from the College, and thus give the new University a habitation of its own. A contract for a new building for Presidency College alone was therefore entered into with Messrs Barnett and Ronnycastle, and the foundation stone of our present buildings was laid in October 1867 by Lord Napier, Governor of Madras. The College took three years to build, and on its completion the opening ceremony was performed by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh on 25th March 1870.

The history of the College since the occupation in 1870 of what are now the main buildings will consist largely of an account of the advances which have been made in the courses of instruction undertaken, of the extensions and new buildings which have been added, and most important of all, of the many great and learned men who have served here. In 1891 the Secretary of State's orders were received sanctioning the separation of the Law department from the College, and the establishment of a separate Law College. This College, our second child, was founded in 1891 and continues to flourish in the Esplanade.

I have now reached the second half of the century, and there are some here this afternoon who were students of the College fifty years

ago, and who can remember the times about which I am now speaking. It was in 1911 that Honours courses were first prescribed by the University of Madras and Honours classes and post-graduate courses in all the subjects of the then combined Faculties of Arts and Science were immediately opened in Presidency College. It is always a great source of pride to us that we were privileged to be the pioneers in providing instruction in these Honours and post-graduate courses; and again, when in 1931 the University inaugurated a separate Faculty of Science, we were privileged to be the first to open advanced courses in the sciences and to provide research facilities for advanced students in these important branches of learning.

But none of these things could have been achieved without the services of the many able and brilliant men who have laboured here during the past hundred years. No one will remember Powell, and a very few may remember Edmund Thompson, his successor. Amongst those, however, whom many more will remember with gratitude at this Centenary are David Duncan, G. H. Stuart, J. B. Bilderbeck, Sir Henry Stone, Sir Alfred Bourne, E. W. Middlemast, H. J. Allen, Sir Mark Hunter, H. S. Duncan, W. H. Wilson, R. Littlehailes, R. L. Jones, P. F. Fyson, Erlam Smith, Sir Ramunni Menon, H. Narayana Rao, Kuppuswami Sastri, M. A. Candeth, P. V. Seshu Aiyer, D. S. Sarma, S. E. Runganadhan, and a host of others, too numerous to mention here, but whose names and work will never be forgotten by those who were privileged to know them.

The last landmark of the past century was the opening of the new Natural Science Buildings by His Excellency Lord Erskine two years ago. That function is still fresh in our minds, and those buildings, equipped with up-to-date lecture halls, laboratories, museums, and a number of specialised research rooms, are eloquent of the progress we have made since that memorable day, the 12th December 1839, when Lord Elphinstone wrote his own Minute which brought us into being two months later.

Such is the college story for the past hundred years. We today must surely feel a deep sense of gratitude to the men whose untiring labours, and in many cases willing self-sacrifice, have built up our

inheritance. If we pass on this great inheritance untarnished, we shall not have failed in our time.

It is to celebrate with thankfulness our one-hundredth birthday that we now embark upon a week of rejoicing, at which hundreds of former members of the College will be united, many of whom have attained eminence in the various walks of life which their education has opened to them. Many of those who inspired and guided our progress have already passed on; but we rejoice to think that there are many others now living in Great Britain and India who will be with us in spirit this week. We may well take as our inspiration the words of *Ecclesiasticus*.

“Let us now praise famous men.
All these were honoured in their generations,
And were the glory of their times.”

have the honour and privilege to invite Your Excellency kindly to inaugurate the Centenary Celebrations of Presidency College.

His Excellency LORD ERSKINE then inaugurated the Centenary celebrations with the following address :—

Mr. Papworth, Members of Presidency College, Ladies and Gentlemen,—

The celebrations which commence with this afternoon's function are eminently fitted to commemorate the hundredth birthday of so historic and distinguished an institution as the Madras Presidency College. "The life of man," says the Psalmist, "is but three score years and ten"; and he proceeds to depict the infirmities to which those who reach four score years are subject. Such few of our race as attain the age of a century, though their spirit may still burn, exist with rapidly dimming faculties, and live largely on old memories of the past.

Not so an institution such as this. With every decade it adds to its vigour, and, while proud of its well-remembered annals, has its main aspirations centred on the future.

I like to think that those who have passed on, impart some measure of their spirit to the cause or object which embodies their ideals, and which they have loved and served. Fortunate indeed is an institution which has gone from strength to strength, and flourishes, as the generations succeed each other, on the labour and devotion of so many who, in one way or another, have added something of value by their services to it.

It is interesting to consider what diverse agencies have gone to the making of the College as it now stands. Successive Courts of Directors of the East India Company and Presidency Governors, Directors of Public Instruction, Principals of the College and their assistants and many others, have played their part.

In his opening address to you, Mr. Papworth has summarised the history of the College during the past century, and has referred to those



H. E. LORD ERSKINE INAUGURATING THE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.

By courtesy of International Press Photo Service

whose services to the College were outstanding. I need not, therefore, touch in detail upon the various landmarks in that history, or add to his words of just commendation.

Mr. Papworth has not concealed the pride which he feels (and, properly so) at being privileged to hold the office of Principal, when, as successor to so fine a tradition, it falls to him to be responsible for these centenary celebrations. May I say that I too am very glad indeed that the extension of my term of office has made it possible for me to be present and to preside over this inauguration ; the invitation to do so was one which I was most happy to receive and accept, and I welcome the opportunity of offering my birthday congratulations to this great College.

In addition I may be permitted to refer to three of what appear to me to be among its most striking features. I do so, perhaps, at the risk of covering ground which will be traversed, during the course of these celebrations, by others besides me, but the material is eminently worthy of repetition.

In the first place, I think the College has a claim to notability as the matrix from which grew the University of Madras as we know it to-day. Under the aegis of the Court of Directors of the East India Company it paved the way so well that, on the assumption of Paramountcy in India by the British Crown, it was possible immediately for a University to be chartered. Since that date the College has continued to hold an unique position in the University whose early inception it had made possible, and has, by its achievements, conferred an especial academic lustre upon its offspring.

NURSERY OF GREAT ADMINISTRATORS

Secondly, the College is remarkable in having nurtured as its alumni so many famous men, in the credit for whose success it deserves no inconsiderable share. More particularly should we take note of the long line of great administrators which it has bestowed, not only on South India, but on the entire sub-continent. I should perhaps spare

the blushes of those who are even to-day carrying on that great tradition, and in fact, time is too limited for any fitting encomium now, but it is a sufficiently high testimonial to the College that between Himalaya and Comorin no less than four great States, Kashmir, Udaipur (Mewar), Baroda, and Travancore are being guided by men who received, within the walls of the College, the final training which was to fit them for the tasks of their adult life. In an earlier generation the names of Sir T. Madhava Rao, Mr. C. Rangacharlu, Dewan Bahadur Raghunatha Rao, Sir A. Seshia Sastri, Sir Sankaran Nair and Sir P. Rajagopalachari, are amongst those which spring at once to the mind as deservedly entitled to a place in this roll of honour. In addition, the highest ranks of the Administration, the Judiciary, the Bar, the scholastic profession, and many another walk of life have been, and are to-day, adorned by men whom the College has trained to make distinguished use of whatever type of natural talent they possessed.

Thirdly, Presidency College has throughout the century held the reputation of being an aristocratic institution ; and indeed it is explicitly stated in some of its earliest records that such was the intention of its founders. This aristocracy, however, has not been only a social aristocracy, but an intellectual one. Presidency College has resolutely set its face against a mere mass production of graduates. Rather it has concentrated upon the education of men above the average,—specialists and research workers in all branches of the Arts and Sciences ; and upon the development of individuality, personality, character, and independent thinking. The result has been the long line of scientists, scholars, administrators, and servants of India, whose names shine upon its rolls.

THE PRESENT AND FUTURE

One word more. Though this celebration is intended to honour your past hundred years of successful academic achievement, it may not be out of place to give a thought to the present. While I speak, a great conflict is raging in the West. The course it is taking, and the principles underlying Great Britain's participation in it, are well enough known to you. A similar conflict, just a quarter of a century ago, deprived me of my own University career at its very beginning. The same is happening again in England to-day, and students who are fortunate enough to be



PART OF THE AUDIENCE AT THE INAUGURATION.

By courtesy of The Mail.

receiving higher education under peaceful conditions here, may spare a thought for those all over Europe whose studies are being so rudely and violently brought to an end. May I hope that those who now enjoy here uninterruptedly the finest opportunity for intellectual advancement, will duly appreciate and make the best possible use of it.

Before concluding, I shall profit by this occasion formally to bid farewell to the Madras Presidency College. My term of office is drawing to an end, and I must soon hand over my duties to my successor. I shall have no need to assure him that he may at all times expect a warm welcome from you. I wish the College a long career in the future, of increasing success and distinction. When the next centenary comes round, may the College be able to display a record as notable as that which it is so deservedly celebrating to-day.

VOTE OF THANKS TO HIS EXCELLENCY

SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR, President of the Old Students' Association, proposed a vote of thanks to His Excellency. He said he would be failing in his duty if he did not advert to some part of the history of the College, not the history of brick and mortar nor even of the great principals and professors, but the history of those students, restless, inquiring, reasoning, quarrelling and controverting and thereby acquiring peace of mind or the reverse.

An American millionaire, with the facility of easy acquisition and quick spending, when taken round an ancient lawn of a famous university in England, asked what made the lawn so good and the answer was that those who passed it gave strength to the soil. Similarly, it could be said of the Presidency College that what it stood for to-day was the result of continuous and illustrious traditions. A tradition was started by people in 1841, who walked up in front of the then Governor to receive a ring and a certificate. In those days it had been possible to have a new ring put on their fingers, a feature which was now associated with other things (!)

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar quoted Cardinal Newman and said that a university conferred degrees after holding examinations or brought together a large number of young men. He was not casting any reproach on the past professors if he said that he would prefer the latter alternative, namely, that a university should bring together students. When a multitude of young men, keen, open hearted, sympathetic and observant came together and mixed with each other they were sure to learn from one another even if there was no one to teach them.

SELF-RELIANCE AND COMRADESHIP

Conversation more than serious lectures gave them new ideas and views, fresh matter and thought for them to judge and act.

The glory of the Presidency College lay not only in its illustrious professors, teachers and masters but also in the tradition of students being more or less left alone and not being over-nurtured. The result had been that combination of self-reliance and comradeship which he considered was the hall-mark and distinguishing characteristics of the Presidency College.

The vast company then adjourned for Tea, which was served in the Arena behind the pandal. The Arena was illuminated before His Excellency left at 6-30 p.m.



AFTER THE INAUGURATION. THE GOVERNOR'S TABLE AT TEA.

By courtesy of International Press Photo Service

OLD STUDENTS' CENTENARY DINNER

2nd February 1940.

OLD STUDENTS' CENTENARY DINNER

Old Boys' Great Tributes at
Centenary Celebrations

100 Years of Friendly Association Between
Englishmen and Indians

IN connexion with the Centenary celebrations of the College, an old students' dinner was held in the evening of the *Inauguration Day*, 3rd February, in the University Examination Hall. Nearly 600 old students, men and women, attended and great cordiality prevailed while recollections of the past and personal reminiscences were freely exchanged with obvious enjoyment. It was the first gathering of its kind ever held in the hundred years history of the College. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, President of the Old Students' Association presided.

Mr. C. R. Pattabhiraman read letters and telegrams from Sir C. V. Raman, Dewan Bahadur N. Gopalaswami Aiyangar, Dr. H. Parameswaran, Rao Bahadur N. Sivaraj, Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan and others wishing the function success.

Mr. P. P. Subramanya Sastriar requested Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar to unveil a portrait of Mr. C. Vijayaraghavachariar of Salem (ex-Congress President), one of the oldest living students of the Presidency College.

Unveiling the portrait Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR paid a tribute to the career of Mr. Vijayaraghavachariar at the Bar and said that Mr. Vijayaraghavachariar, loud and energetic, had dared to beard the lions of Fort St. George and had practically defied the Madras Government on certain matters. He was given many opportunities for rectification, but he felt he was right.

CHAMPION OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

He was at that time one of the foremost champions of local Self-Government administration, of what he thought were the legitimate

rights of the people. Out of a misguided sense of what he stood for his election to the Salem Municipal Council was vetoed by the Madras Government. He fought against it and won a classical fight. He was a student of the Presidency College, four years before the speaker was born. He was a senior in the practice of law of the speaker's father, the late Mr. C. R. Pattabhirama Aiyar. Mr. Vijayaraghavachariar even in those days showed great talent for "horticulture and controversy." That was the epitome of Mr. Vijayaraghavachariar.

Robust in body, well-preserved in mind and unyielding, he was independent from the beginning to the end, making his contribution to the political literature and political thought of India.

He (Mr. Vijayaraghavachariar) had differed from many Congressmen. He had his own views and had throughout been unorthodox in his views. He was a rare type of man. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar wished Mr Vijayaraghavachariar long life.

COLLEGE DAYS RECALLED

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar then spoke about the Presidency College of his days and referred to the part played by Mr. K. P. Vittal Rao, a relation of the Hon. Mr. Justice K. P. Lakshmana Rao, in organising tennis in the college and the part which Mr. G. A. Natesan played as Secretary of the College Literary Society.

One of the orators at the time in the literary society was Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya.

Their class work, he said, was of a different kind. There were about 170 students in a class in his days and personal contact between the teacher and the taught was impossible. Partly on account of overcrowding and partly on account of competing interest they were left to themselves and they made some use of the leisure hours.

What did that mean? It meant that the College had seen many days and many kinds of experience, but throughout there had been one distinguishing quality, one feature about the College and that was the sense of comradeship, a sense of give and take (loud and prolonged applause.) That sense of chivalry and the spirit of give and take

which prevailed in the past should distinguish the Presidency College in the future also. It was in that hope, aspiration and certainty that he proposed the toast of the Presidency College.

STUDENTS' CONTRIBUTION

KUMARARAJA M. A. MUTHIA CHETTIAR of Chettinad said that men of his days who were students of the college had yet to make their mark in life. Hundred years of work was no small achievement and they were all proud that the College was celebrating its centenary. Great statesmen, administrators, judges, lawyers, politicians and others had gone out from the portals of the College. In the building up of that great tradition not only the Principals and Professors but also the students had contributed in a large measure.

It had become the fashion to decry higher education. They would not be anything in life, but for the higher education they had received in that college. They should not be untrue to the culture and education they had received and he appealed to students when they enter public life to have the courage to speak and support higher education, however much they desired to support other forms of education.

MR. V. T. ARASU proposed the toast of the women students of the college.

MR. H. C. PAPWORTH, Principal, said that he had a feeling that before the end of the centenary week he himself would both feel and look like a centenarian (laughter). On this historic occasion he had been the recipient on their behalf, the staff and students of the college, of many felicitations on the centenary of the college.

ENGLISHMEN'S SERVICE

Continuing, Mr. Papworth said that the work which his countrymen in the Presidency College had done for the past 100 years had been of the greatest possible service to India. Men who had left the college under their guidance and with their friendship, either as administrators or scientists were, as His Excellency said this afternoon,

great servants of India, who would be the first to admit that they owed everything they possessed to that friendly association between themselves and Englishmen during their period in Presidency College (loud applause). He thought that was an aspect of the college's work which they ought not to overlook this week.

He accepted the portrait of Mr. C. Vijayaraghavachariar of Salem on behalf of the College with great pleasure. Mr Vijayaraghavachariar was in the college between 1870-1876.

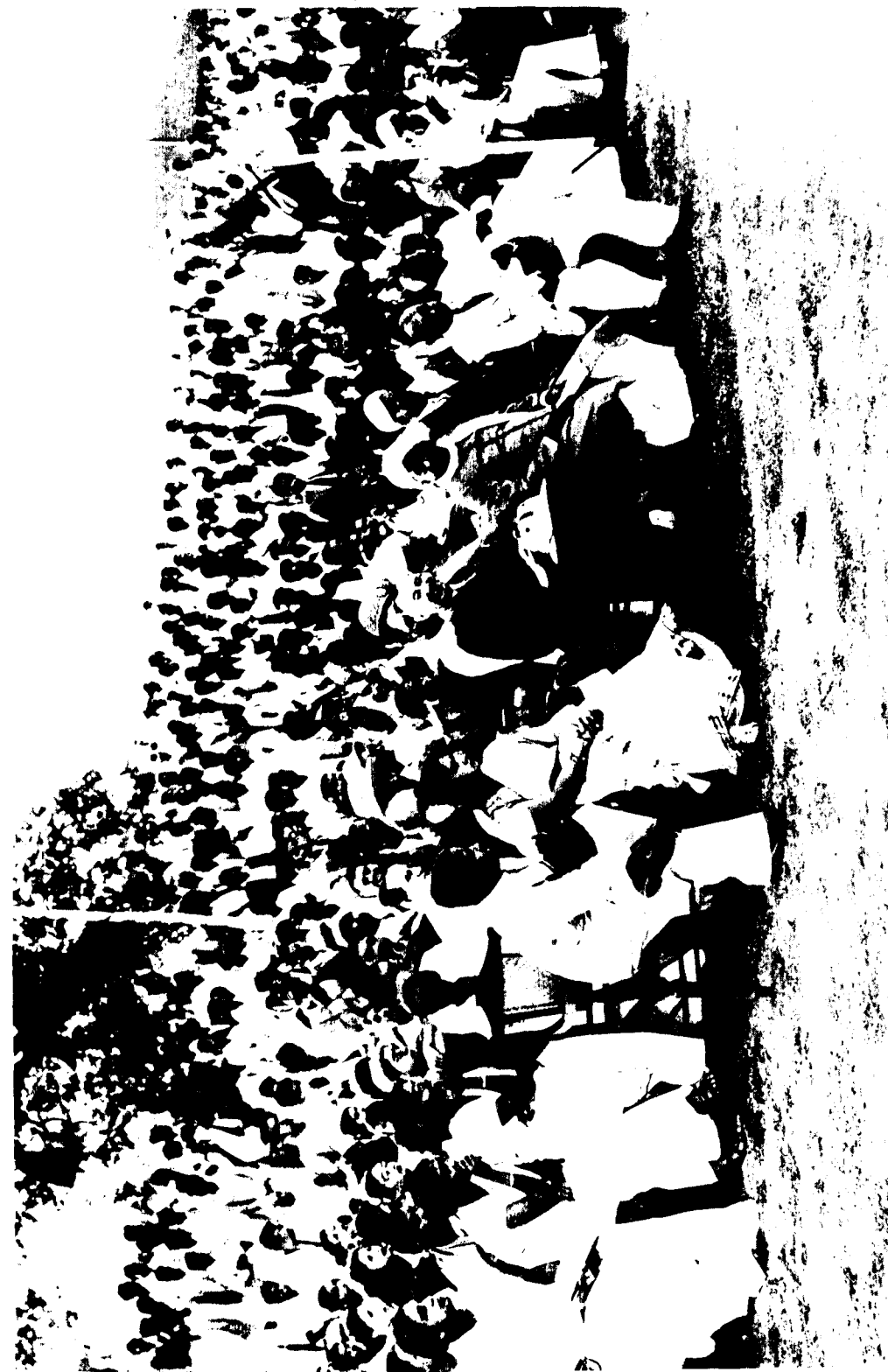
The occasion was unique and they must feel proud as they passed over in their minds the achievement of 100 years. The time would come when those who were at present charged with the responsibility of maintaining and enhancing that tradition would hand over that torch to their successors. Some of them like himself would leave India, but they would retain throughout their lives the greatest interest in the progress of the college.

But to those of them who remained, he would say that their interest should not be sporadic, stimulated by the unique occasion of the centenary. Their interest should be continued.

During the 100 years of its life the college had to pass through many difficult times and they had no right to expect that the future would be devoid of difficulties. Those of them who had passed through and those who were still there must never waver in their interest and loyalty to the college to which they owe so great a debt.

He expressed on his own behalf, on behalf of his colleagues on the staff and the present generation of students passing through the college his delight at seeing so many there that night, and also gratitude for what they had done.

With three cheers to Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar and Mr. H. C. Papworth the gathering dispersed.



CENTENARY SPORTS.
Part of the audience, including Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar and the Principal.

By courtesy of The Madras.

CENTENARY SPORTS MEETING.

7th February 1940.



CENTENARY SPORTS — HURDLES.



CENTENARY SPORTS — 100 METRES RACE.

Md. Tahoorulla

D. Mahadevan.

S. Krishnamachari.
By courtesy of The Mail.

CENTENARY SPORTS MEETING

THE Marina sports ground of Presidency College presented a very lively appearance on the occasion of the Centenary Sports Meeting on Wednesday, 7th February 1940. Nearly two thousand people were present, including large numbers of past and present students and members of the college staff. Amongst those who accepted an invitation to the sports were the Principals and staffs of the other colleges in Madras. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, President of the Old Students' Association and Dewan of Travancore, presided.

Keen interest was evinced in the afternoon's sport, the past and the present, young and old, men and women alike, taking part in the many events. Enthusiasm ran to a very high pitch when four venerable gentlemen of over 60 ran a race, and Kalyanasundaram Aiyar, oldest of them all, came easily first and put the younger competitors to shame. The race for past women students was another event which aroused great enthusiasm. D. Mahadevan did brilliantly throughout the meeting, and won the Sports Championship for the third year in succession.

At the conclusion of the sports the Principal, Mr. H. C. Papworth, made the following speech :—

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is quite possible that this is the hundredth annual function of the College, but it is certain that it is not the hundredth sports meeting. In the earliest days and for many years afterwards, the annual function took the form of a prize-giving, presided over by the Governor of Fort St. George. Apparently those public prize-givings were inevitable, as the college examinations were public affairs, and there was an annual viva-voce examination, conducted in the presence of the President and Governors, and Council, and the Judges of the Supreme Court, whilst Members of public who wished to attend were at liberty to do so. We

read in the records that "the oral examinations extended over several days, one day being devoted to each class, and were of the most minute and searching nature."

Eventually this annual *viva-voce* examination partook more of the character of a popular exhibition than a scholastic test. In 1885, the newly appointed Director of Public Instruction wrote to the Principal (Mr. E. B. Powell) and expressed his disapproval at having "a sort of show day which the public are invited to attend." "I think this is unworthy of the College" he said, "and I suggest that it be discontinued."

Notwithstanding this strong expression of opinion, the public *viva-voce* examination was not given up for some time. However objectionable from an educational point of view, it seems to have stood high in the estimation of the public. It was held in 1857 when the University of Madras was separated from us, but after that it gradually disappeared as the University Convocation took its place. You will all be glad that these public examinations are things of the past, and relieved to know that I do not propose to revive them!

But even after the public examinations had been given up, an annual prize-giving continued to be held in the College. This function was abolished by Dr. David Duncan who was Principal from 1884 to 1892. He considered public prize-givings suitable for a school but not for a college.

Some time after that, sports and athletics became the purpose of our annual function. You have witnessed several of these functions, so I need not say anything about them today. Neither, since we are now celebrating our Centenary and thinking of the past rather than the present, need I say anything about our recent activities, except to express particular pleasure that we have won the Duncan Memorial Cup for Cricket for the fifteenth year in succession, the first since its inception.

Speaking of sports and athletics in connexion with Presidency College, and indeed I might include a much wider field, I want to take this opportunity to review with deep appreciation and gratitude the work of one, whose services to us in Madras in this sphere have been



Kamala Sri Hari Mary Dordaji. CENTENARY SPORTS — WOMEN STUDENTS' RACE. N. Shantia.

B. McLean.
By courtesy of The Mail.

invaluable. I refer, of course, to Professor C. K. Krishnaswami Pillai, who for the past 34 years has been a universally recognized leader in all athletic and sporting activities.

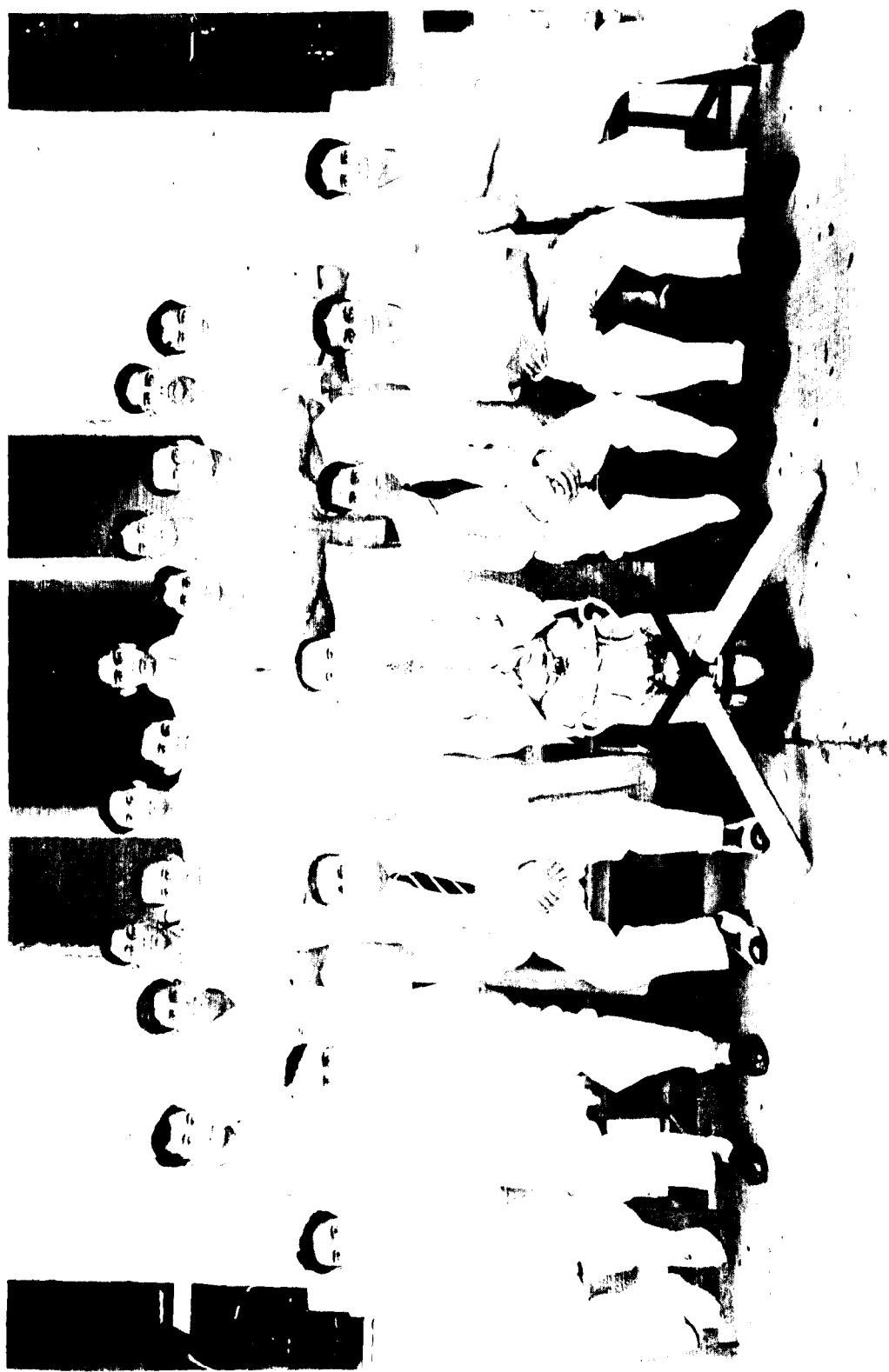
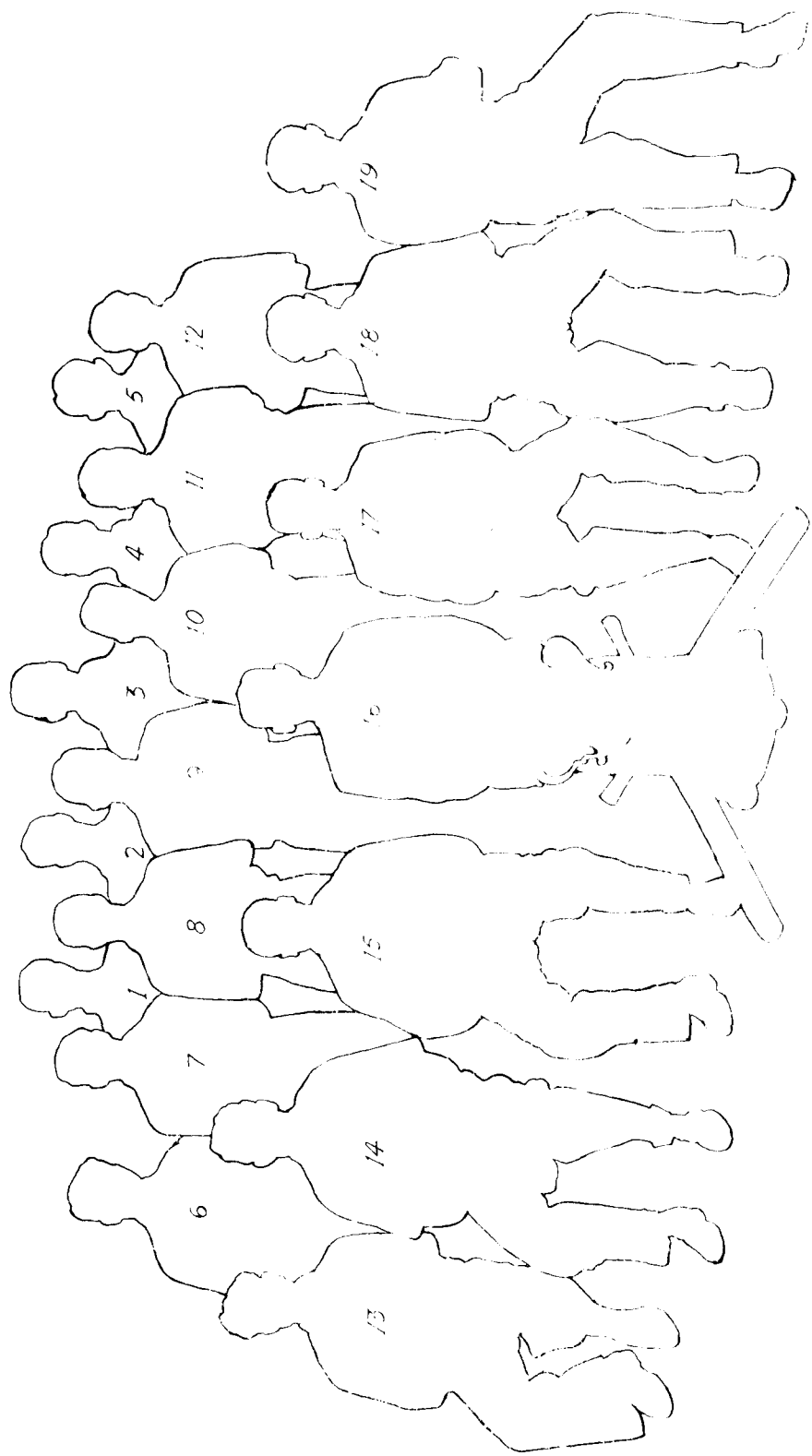
In 1906 C. K. Krishnaswami Pillai joined Presidency College as a student and was the best cricketer here. He was appointed Demonstrator in Geology in 1915, and played Cricket in all the inter-collegiate cricket tournaments. He was also prominent in field sports and in athletics generally. On account of his proficiency in games, Lord Pentland, Governor of Madras, appointed him in 1920 as the first Honorary Secretary of the University Students' Club. From this time he began to play in the Presidency Cricket match, in which he twice captained the Indian team. Many of us remember him scoring 128 runs in the match of 1921.

From 1924 to the present day he has been the General Secretary of all the athletic clubs in Presidency College, in which capacity his work and example have been, and still are, invaluable. In 1926 he instituted and presented the Duncan Memorial Cricket Cup, which the College has just won for the fifteenth year in succession. In 1928 he became Honorary Secretary of the Madras Collegiate Athletic Association, and an officer in the University Training Corps, whose athletic activities he directed. He was one of the founders of the Indian Cricket Federation, now the Madras Cricket Association, and was its Vice President till 1936. In 1937 he was appointed Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Madras University Union, and the Convener and Conductor of all athletic tournaments and sports meetings of the University. His work and enthusiasm in all these activities continue unabated, and I cannot think of any better message to you on the occasion of the Centenary Sports than to set before you as an example the hard and willing work of C. K. Krishnaswami Pillai.

After the Principal's address, the President gave away the prizes, and in a speech marked by many humorous sallies, recalled his experiences as a student of the college when he was the Athletic Champion for two years running. Concluding, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar observed that Presidency College had always fostered the spirit of give and take, of comradeship and team work, and felt sure that that great tradition of sportsmanship would continue for ever.

The results of the events were as follows :—

100 Metres : S. Krishnamachari (1), Thahrullah (2) ; 200 Metres : S. Krishnamachari (1), D. Mahadevan (2) ; 400 Metres : D. Mahadevan (1), S. Krishnamachari (2) ; 800 Metres : V. Bhoopathi (1), Mohanavelu (2) ; 1,500 Metres : Mohanavelu (1), P. R. Gangadharan (2) ; Hop, Step and Jump : S. Krishnamachari (1), D. Mahadevan (2) ; Long Jump : D. Mahadevan (1), S. Krishnamachari (2) ; High Jump : S. Krishnamachari (1), D. Mahadevan (2) ; Pole Vault : M. Swaminathan (1), D. Mahadevan (2) ; 110 Metres High Hurdles : D. Mahadevan (1), Pandian Chellaraj (2) ; 200 Metres Low Hurdles : D. Mahadevan (1), Namazi (2) ; Shot Put : D. Mahadevan (1), Thahrullah (2) ; Throwing the Cricket Ball : Thahrullah (1), Natarajan (2) ; Discus Throw : S. Krishnamachari (1), Thahrullah (2) ; Sack Race : C. Srinivasulu (1), C. Bhoopathi (2) ; Sack Fight : C. Srinivasulu (1), Thahrullah (2) ; Liliputian Race : Thandavamurthi (1), D. Narasimha Rao (2) ; Fast Cycle : Karupanne Chetti (1), C. Bhoopathi (2) ; Obstacle Race : C. C. Kurian (1), Janakiraman (2) ; 1,500 Metres (open to all colleges) : Ramarathnam (Loyola) (1), Mahomed Jeellal (Mahomedan College) (2) ; Women Students—50 Metres Race : Miss Shanta (1), Miss McLean (2) ; Women's Relay : Arts (1), Science (2) ; Mixed Race : First Batch : Miss C. Lalitha (1), Miss McLean (2) ; Second Batch : Miss Bowden (1), Miss Nicholas (2) ; Women above 40, Miss Kausalya (1), Miss Ammani (2) ; Below 40 : Miss C. Lalitha (1), Miss Ireland (2) ; Inter-College Women's Relay : Doveton Training School (1), Queen Mary's (2) ; Old Boys over 50 : Major Grandhi (1), Capt. Sundaresa Aiyar (2) ; Between 40 and 50 : P. P. S. Sastri (1), A. Ramaswami Aiyar (2) ; Under 40 : Janakiraman (1), Chetty (2) ; Over 60 : Kalayanasundaram (1), Govinda Rao (2). Champion : D. Mahadevan.



WINNERS OF DUNCAN CRICKET CUP.

CENTENARY LUNCHEON

8th February, 1940.

CENTENARY LUNCHEON

IN connexion with the Centenary of Presidency College, the Principal and Professors of the College gave a luncheon to His Excellency the Governor and Lady Marjorie Erskine at the Connemara Hotel on Thursday, 8th February 1940. Covers were laid for 160 guests.

His Excellency proposed the toast of the King-Emperor, after which Sir K. Ramunni Menon proposed the toast of Presidency College and coupled it with the name of the Principal, Mr. H. C. Papworth. Sir Ramunni Menon referred to several interesting episodes in the history of the College, including the fact that the first two women graduates of Madras University were students of Presidency College. This was in 1891. Progress in women's education was naturally slow in those early years and he did not suppose that there were more than half a dozen women graduates in the University at the beginning of the century. Women's education, however, made rapid progress after the advent of the present century. Thanks to the establishment of two Women's Colleges in the city, the advance made was so great that this presidency could well be proud of it. After referring to the Principal's remarks at the Inauguration last Saturday about the many additions and extensions made throughout the century to the College Buildings, Sir Ramunni Menon said that the Principal had not yet made known, at any rate in public, his intention to re-build a dome over the College as a memorial of the first centenary which they were celebrating with so much enjoyment this week. He fully welcomed the Principal's proposal, as a dome with a four-face clock would add dignity and individuality to the buildings and enhance its power of visual appeal. It would also serve as a permanent reminder of the achievements of the College during the past hundred years.

/ Concluding, Sir Ramunni Menon said :—"Ladies and gentlemen, a glorious past stands to the credit of Presidency College. Let us hope that its future will bring it equal glory. I can only express my conviction that in the years to come, Presidency College will send forth

men and women equipped, willing and ready to play their part in the changed conditions of our changing world." (Loud applause).

THE PRINCIPAL'S SPEECH

Rising amidst applause, Mr. Papworth made the following reply to the toast of the College :—

It is my privilege on behalf of Presidency College to thank Sir Ramunni Menon for the Toast he has so kindly proposed, and to thank you for your generous response to it. Sir Ramunni Menon did the whole of his 30 years service in Presidency College, so there is no one more qualified than he is to speak about us with knowledge and intimacy.

By the time this Centenary Week is over (and the word Week in this connexion has a very elastic meaning), I'm afraid I shall feel like and probably look like a centenarian myself. Then, in order to restore my youthful looks, I shall have to imitate the ladies, visit some famous beauty parlour, and have my face shifted !

(Laughter.) (His Excellency and several others whispered "Lifted", and Mr. Papworth amidst renewed laughter added, "Perhaps it needs both !").

In my address at the Inauguration by His Excellency last Saturday, I emphasised the prominent parts that various Governors of this Presidency had played in the foundation and development of Presidency College. I pointed out how we owe our foundation in 1840 to the ability, determination, and personal hard work of Lord Elphinstone. A few years later, another Governor, Sir Henry Pottinger, took the responsibility of over-ruling his Council and of bringing the plans of Lord Elphinstone to complete fruition, for it was he who established us as a college of university standard.

When I arrived 24 years ago, Lord Pentland was the Governor, and throughout his six years term of office, he kept in his own hands the portfolio of education. Some of us here today were privileged to know Lord Pentland, and no one can over-emphasise the everlasting debt of gratitude that higher education in this Presidency owes to him. By keeping the educational portfolio in his own hands, policy was consistent



THE GOVERNOR SPEAKING AT THE CENTENARY LUNCHEON.

By courtesy of The Mail.

and progressive. All the newer Government Colleges in this Presidency, both for men and women, owe their existence to him. And now today again, we find His Excellency in charge of the educational portfolio, along with all the others.

• These four Governors may therefore be looked upon as the four cardinal points of the compass of the century. And we pass over in our minds the century from Lord Elphinstone to Lord Erskine—the only two Governors throughout that century whose names begin with an E. You may at first be inclined to think of that as a coincidence. Coincidences are occasionally accidental, but I firmly believe that they are more often providential.

Another coincidence is that my first predecessor was named Powell—and he and I are the only Principals of the College throughout the century whose names begin with a P. That, of course, is unmistakably providential ! (Laughter) (A voice : Sweet P's.)

The time has come when we must say *au revoir* to Their Excellencies ; and on behalf of myself, my colleagues on the staff, and of all members of Presidency College, I wish to express my gratitude to them for the interest they have shown and the help they have given us during their term of office, and to wish them, wherever their lot may be cast, long lives of health, happiness and useful service. Ladies and Gentlemen—Their Excellencies.

LORD ERSKINE'S REPLY

Rising amidst continued applause His Excellency the Governor, on behalf of himself and Lady Marjorie Erskine, thanked Mr. Papworth for the kind references he had made to them. It was indeed a sadness to him that he would not be in Madras to lay the foundation stone of, or open, Mr. Papworth's new clock tower. He sincerely hoped, however, that the future Governor and Government of Madras would see to it that the College had this tower as a worthy and lasting memorial of the first centenary.

Proceeding, His Excellency said that Mr. Papworth had referred to the interest Governors of Madras had taken in Presidency College since its foundation and also to the fact that Lord Pentland maintained the

portfolio of education in his own hands. "I think it is perfectly true that without Lord Elphinstone's keenness and ability, Presidency College might well have not come into existence and it is certain that to Lord Pentland, education in the Madras Presidency owes a very great deal." His Excellency added that Lord Pentland was well-known in England as a great educationist. "I do hope Presidency College will go from strength to strength and that it will flourish exceedingly in the future. There is little doubt that education in this Presidency is among the best founded and Madras University is famed not only in this sub-continent but in the world. I hope, therefore, that in future, under whatever conditions the Government may work, education in Madras will remain at the same high standard that it is to-day."

Concluding, Lord Erskine said that Lady Marjorie and himself regretted very much that their time in this Province was coming to an end. "We have had five years in which we have made a great many friends. I hope those friends will remember us as we undoubtedly will remember them." (Loud and prolonged cheers).

The function terminated with three cheers to His Excellency and three cheers to Presidency College.

OLD PRESIDENCIANS' DINNER

AT

BANGALORE

10th February, 1940.

OLD PRESIDENCIANS' DINNER BANGALORE

THE old boys of Presidency College, living in Bangalore, celebrated the centenary of their Alma Mater by having a Dinner on the night of the 10th February 1940 at the Indian Institute of Science, under the presidency of Sir C. V. Raman. The gathering included some who had studied at the College as far back as the nineties of the last century as also several who had left the portals of the College only recently. The feeling that they had all been students of the same institution was strongly evident in the general animation of the meeting. Over seventy old students participated in the function. Many of the old boys brought their wives and some of the girls their husbands.

The Electro-Technology Hall, where the Dinner took place, was tastefully decorated with the College Crest, buntings etc., and the menu included such intriguing items as Bilgerbeck discs and Middlemast circles. After taking their seats every member announced himself and the years he stayed at the College.

Dinner over, Sir C. V. Raman, welcoming the alumni of Presidency College recalled an incident that took place in Cambridge in 1921 when for the first time he visited that great centre of learning. When Lord Rutherford (then Sir Ernest Rutherford) was taking him home to Newnham Cottage for lunch, they passed by the tennis courts which were in full swing at that hour. The speaker told Sir Ernest, a little mischievously, that it looked as if Cambridge was a place for sports and not for study. Sir Ernest immediately replied that they in Cambridge did not believe in turning out book-worms, but the University was engaged in the task of training people who could govern an Empire. "It seems to me" Sir C. V. Raman said, "that the same is true of Presidency College". H. E. the Governor of Madras speaking the other day, said that four big states in India were now

administered by Old Boys of Presidency College. His Excellency omitted to mention that Mysore, the most progressive state in India had been administered for a continuous period of over 19 years by an ex-student of Presidency College, the late Sir K. Seshadri Aiyar. They were fortunate in having amidst them another old Presidency College student Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman who, though he could not be described as being the Government of Mysore in himself, was nevertheless a substantial part of it. (Cheers.)

Mr. K. V. Anantaraman, proposing the toast of Presidency College said that that was the first function of that kind in Bangalore and he hoped that it would be made a regular Annual Reunion Day. He then recalled the pleasant days he had spent in the college and narrated some interesting reminiscences of his college life. In those days, great value was set upon discipline and rules were strictly enforced, irrespective of any consideration for the influence and position of the parties concerned. Once a Zemindar was caught tripping in the examination and forth-with he was sent out. Those in authority felt that the institution owed a great responsibility not only to the students entrusted to their care, but also that the good name of the Institution was kept at a high level. His days at the College were hectic ones, and there was much political unrest. Babu Bepin Chandra Pal—the stormy Petrel—was then in Madras and thundering on the Beach opposite. His Principal came up to the class room and said “I will concede to you the fullest freedom to discuss politics amongst yourselves. But you should not actively participate in political movements. You must conduct yourselves as students—no politics”. Today everything was sacrosanct, even law-breaking which some students indulged in, in their misguided enthusiasm. But he (Mr. Anantaraman) belonged to the old school. He really felt that the friendly but firm handling the students received at the College did them a lot of good. It kept them to their studies. It gave them an atmosphere. And the traditions built up in the college had a salutary effect on those educated there. They had made good in every walk of life.

Rao Saheb C. Hayavadana Rao, the oldest student of the College at the gathering recalled his student days in 1892. One great thing about the College then was its good library. Mr. K. R. Sadasiva Rao, Retired

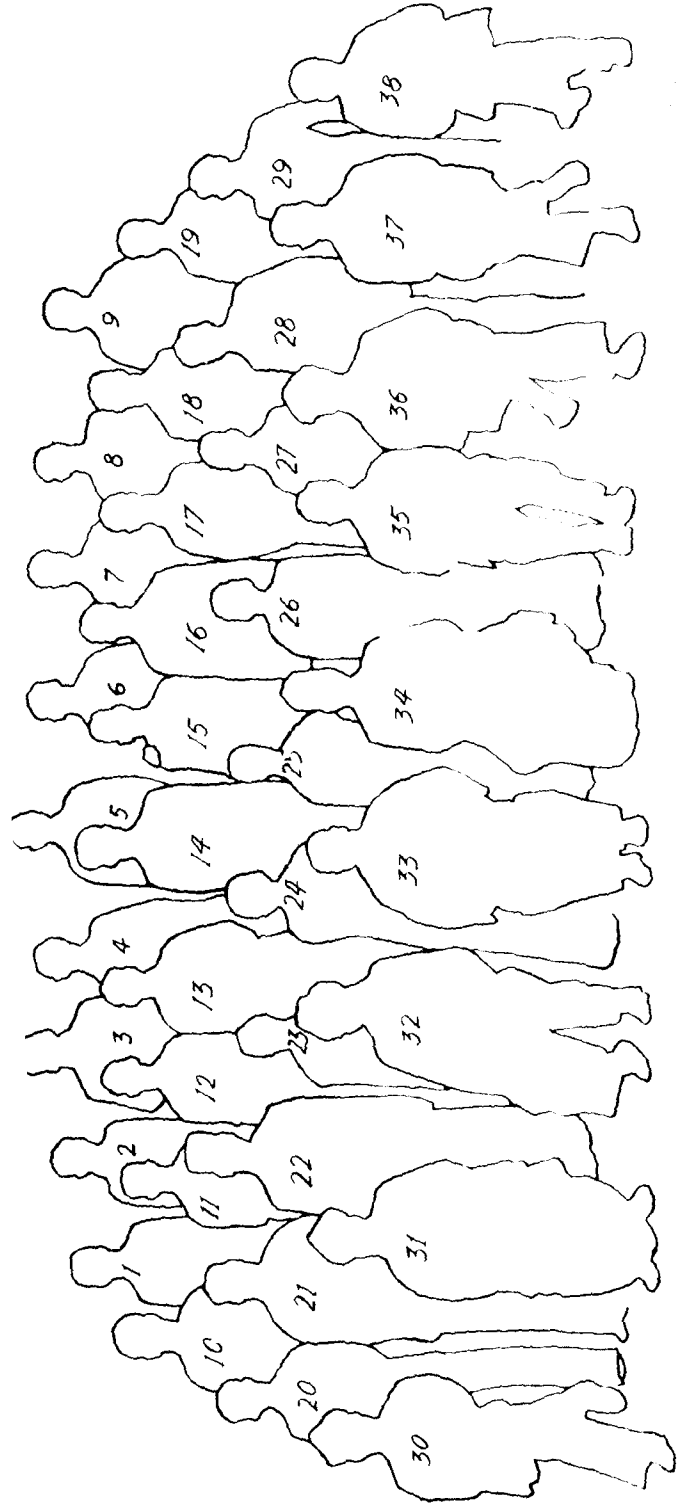
Accountant-General, Government of India, speaking next, referred to the supremacy of Presidency College in the field of sports.

Prof. C. R. Narayana Rao observed that Presidency College had built up a great tradition. This tradition depended not merely upon the efforts of the professors, but upon the sum total of the work and activities in which the alumni of the institution were engaged. The greatest scientist in India at the present day, Sir C. V. Raman, was a product of Presidency College. Referring to the academic freedom he enjoyed Prof. C. R. Narayana Rao said that the only freedom he enjoyed, was the absence of all contact with his professors! It stimulated in the student the urge of self-effort. It was this that had helped Sir C. V. Raman to achieve his greatness. The training that the college gave stood them in good stead and enabled them to face the stress and storm of life. Concluding Prof. Narayana Rao said “Presidency College compares very favourably with any college in the British Empire”.

Next Mrs. Kamalamma Dasappa spoke of her College days. The women students of her time had not much of college life outside their class rooms and waiting dormitories. Yet Presidency College had contributed much for the higher education of women in India.

Mr. S. L. Venkateswaran, the youngest of the old boys present, contrasted the freedom which students now enjoyed in the College with the conservative tendency in the past. Nevertheless, the present generation of students were as zealous custodians of the honour and great traditions of their beloved College as the older members of their Alma Mater.

After a short musical interlude, Sir C. V. Raman, in bringing the proceedings to a close, said that it would not be true to say that education consisted in acquiring knowledge alone. It consisted really in acquiring character and a capacity to conduct oneself in difficult situations. The speaker had learnt to admire the blue colour of the sea as a student at Presidency College and this had inspired him later in his scientific work. Writing in the Commemoration Volume, he had been tempted to compare the English lecture theatre at the College with the famous Greek Theatre at Taormina. Seated in that magnificent theatre, they felt they could grasp everything even the beauties of Chaucer! The



PERFORMERS IN THE CENTENARY ENTERTAINMENTS.

Photo by Udd.

TAMIL DRAMA—"The Eye of Love"

"It is an honour for a playwright to see his play enacted during the Centenary of his old college. It is a pleasure to be present when one's play is acted well and received enthusiastically." In these words Rao Bahadur P. Sambandham Mudaliar expressed his happiness on witnessing the brilliant performance of his "Eye of Love" on 4th February 1940. By public request the play had to be repeated and drew on the second performance a bigger house than on the first night. Great credit is due to the producer, Mr. R. V. Narayanaswami Aiyar, M.A., L.T.

The carefully chosen cast included Masilamani (Muhammad Shah), P. D. Sundaresan (Zulphekar Khan), C. Varadarajan (Jai Singh), M. Meyyappan (Madal Singh), and S. Venkataramani (Madan Singh). Both the farcical and the romantic characters played their parts to perfection and the audience was alternately roaring with laughter and languishing in sentiment. Mr. S. M. Krishnan, B.Sc. (Tara Bai), and Giriraj (Tulasi Bai) sustained their very difficult roles with conspicuous success.

CAST

Mohamed Shah	..	C. T. Masilamani	IV B. Sc.
Zulphekar Khan	..	P. D. Sundaresan	III B. Sc.
Prince Jai Singh	..	C. Varadarajan	B.A.
Madal Singh	..	M. Meyyappan	IV B. Sc.
Madan Singh	..	S. Venkataramani	II Class
Veer Singh	..	E. R. Desikhan	II „
Chait Singh	..	P. C. Ramaswami	II „
Udai Singh	..	P. D. Visvanadhan	I „
Dhadhey Khan	..	T. R. Rajagopalan	I „
Thara Bai	..	S. M. Krishnan	B. Sc.
Thulasi Bai	..	M. Giriraj	I Class

Choupdars	{	E. K. Ramaswami	III B. Sc.
		T. V. Desikachari	IV B. Sc.
		T. D. Parthasarathy	II Class
		S. Sambasivan	I ..
		A. V. Srinivasan	I ..
Messenger	..	C. S. Ramamurthy	IV B. Sc. (Hons)
Hookah Boy	..	T. B. S. Mani	I Class
Dancer	..	T. R. Muralidharan	III (Hon)
Gavoi	..	T. K. Sridharan	IV B. Sc.

TELUGU DRAMA—"Chandrasah"

This Telugu play was shorter and more serious than the other plays, but not less appreciated. A large and distinguished audience was present throughout the performance on 6th February and followed with sympathy the masterly rendering of a tragic story. S. P. Sarathy, who played the hero, was altogether admirable, grave, and dignified throughout. P. Venkateswarulu, as the scheming minister Kumbhinasa, proved quite equal to the part of complicated villainy assigned to him. Mention should also be made of G. Satyanarayana (Madana), Devanayaka Reddy (Kulindaka), Muhammed Taharulla (Aghora), and S. V. Subba Rao (Vishaya). Mr. M. Suryanarayana and Mr. K. Venkatacharlu were largely responsible for the success of the performance.

CAST

Chandrasah	.. S. P. Sarathy
Sudarsana	.. T. V. Gopalan
Kumbhinasa	.. P. Venkateswarlu
Madana	.. G. Satyanarayana
Kulindaka	.. R. Devanayaka Reddy
Bairagi	.. Krishna Mohan
Aghora	.. Md. Taharulla
Bindoji	.. Krishna Mohan
Vishaya	.. S. V. Subba Rao
Cheli	.. T. S. Ajit Kumar.

SANSKRIT DRAMA—"Mricchakatika"

The success which attended the production on 8th February of Sudraka's "Mricchakatika" was complete but hard-won and showed that, if only enough trouble were taken, even a play in a classical language could be a success on the modern stage and enthrall a modern audience. The play is full of paradoxes ; the highest personage in the land is the villain ; the richest man in the land is reduced to abject poverty and yet retains general esteem ; a cart-driver is also a philosopher whom neither love nor money could tempt into crime ; a gambler turns ascetic, while a Brahmin learned in the Vedas turns thief, and the courtesan is constant in love to a pauper whom she prefers to a prince. The relentless operation of Fate in human life and the steadfastness of friendship are the dominant themes of the play. And all this was brought out vividly by the actors.

All the parts were well-played and the team work was excellent, so that it is difficult to single out individuals for special praise. Seshamani as Charudatta and Mr. S. M. Krishnan, B. Sc. as Vasantasena played their roles with a liveliness and realism which triumphantly created and sustained the dramatic illusion. Mr. Srinivasa Rao, M. A., B. L. (Sakara), Mr. S. V. Purushotham, B. A., L. T. (Judge) and Subramaniam (Rohasena) gave memorable performances. Colourful scenes and appropriate dresses lent distinction to the production. Altogether, the play was a signal success, reflecting great credit on Mr. O. P. Ranganaswami, M. A., L. T., who laboured long and hard to achieve this gratifying result.

CAST

(In the order of their appearance.)

1. Vasantasena	.. S. M. Krishnan, B. Sc.
2. Sakara	.. M. Srinivasa Rao, M.A., B.L.
3. Vita	.. M. Rajagopalan
4. Sthavaraka	.. P. D. Viswanathan

5. Charudatta	.. B. Seshamani
6. Maitreya	.. V. R. Ganesan
7. Radanika	.. T. S. Swaminathan
8. Samvahaka	.. P. D. Sundaresan
9. Mathura	.. V. Ramamurti
10. Dymtakara	.. H. C. Srinivasan
11. Darduraka	.. S. Venkatesan
12. Madanika	.. N. R. Subrahmaniam
13. Sarvilaka	.. H. Ramamurti
14. Rohasena	.. Master T. Subrahmanyam
15. Sodhanaka	.. H. C. Srinivasan
16. Adhikaranika	.. S. V. Purushothaman B.A., L.T.
17. Sreshti	.. V. Ramamurti
18. Kayastha	.. N. Ramachandran
19. Vrddha	.. P. Thiagarajan
20. Viraka	.. H. Ramamurti
21. Candala I	.. S. Venkatesan
22. Candala II	.. P. Thiagarajan

VARIETY CONCERT

10th February, 1940.

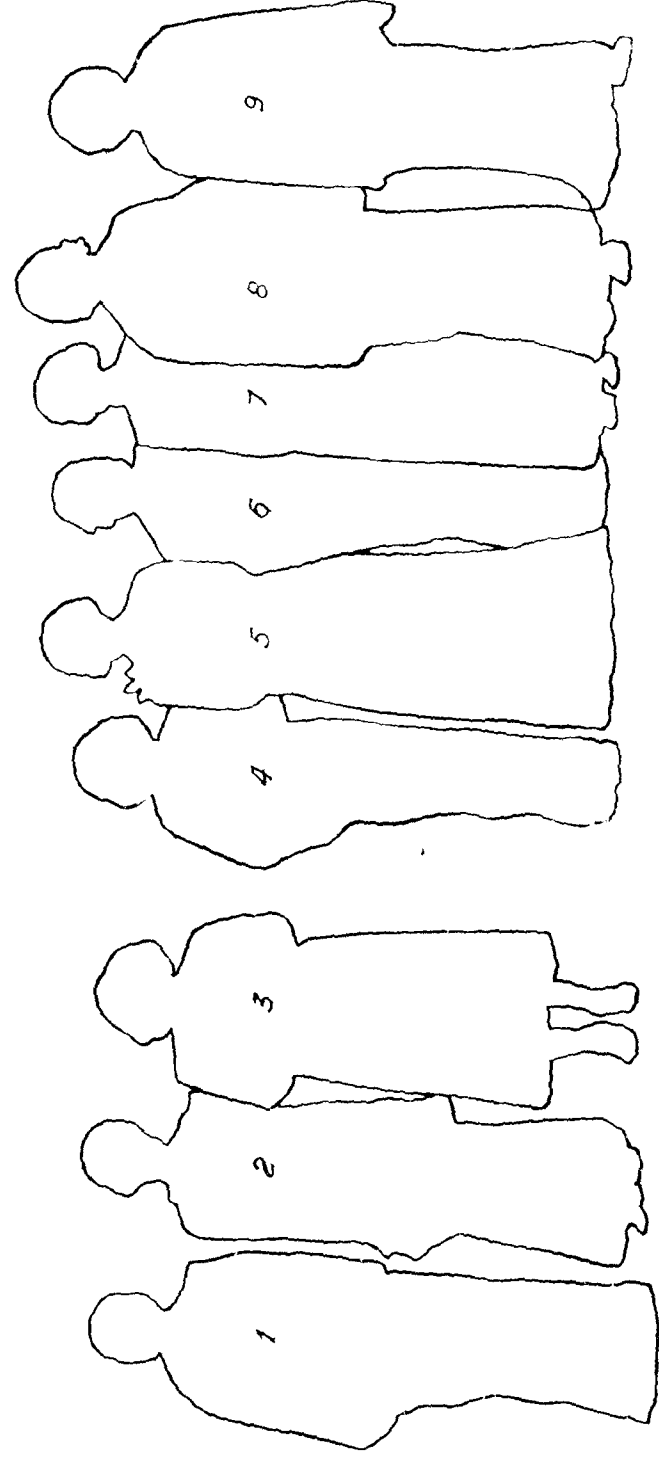
The Variety Entertainment was a glorious and premeditated success in its first part, was impromptu and amusing in the second part, and partly this and partly that in the third. Quite three thousand persons were present and all sat or stood in their places from beginning to end. The songs of Mr. and Mrs. Papworth and of the women students were enthusiastically received. The story of Sakuntala was expounded in a series of exquisite dances by Misses N. Shantamma, Radha Devi and Sarasvati Buch. The women students also contributed vocal and instrumental music. Mr. V. C. Gopalarathnam's comic recitation split the sides of even the most serious judges and professors. Mr. V. Krishnamurthy's comic song was not understood till after it was sung, but he refused to sing it again. It was a late hour or rather early in the morning, when the concert ended.

The task of organizing the entertainment fell on Mrs. Papworth. Messrs. R. V. Narayanaswami Aiyar, M. A., L. T., and E. R. Desikan, and the thanks of the college are due to them for its success.

PART I EUROPEAN MUSIC

- I. SONG 'Londonderry Air'
Our Girls.
- II. STRING QUARTET Menuett (Boccherini)
Serenade (Haydn)
Evening Breeze (Langey)

Messrs Murray, Goban, Thomas & Rosario.



"OUR GIRLS" IN THE VARIETY CONCERT.

- III. SONGS 'Should He Upbraid'
'Johnny Sands'
Mrs. Papworth.
- IV. PIANO FORTE Study in E—(Burgmuller)
Miss Lalitha Hensman
- V. SONG / 'Shakespeare Snapshotted'
Mr. Papworth.
- VI. DUET 'The Lesson'
Misses Hensman & Chandy
- VII. STRING QUARTET 'Eine Kleine Nacht Musik'
(Mozart)
- VIII. PART SONG 'Cherry Ripe'
Our Girls.

PART II

SONG RECITALS BY STAFF OFFICERS

- I. Dr. B. B. Dey Bengali.
- II. Sri K. Venkataharlu Telugu.
- III. Prof. V. K. Aiyappan Pillai Malayalam.
- IV. Prof. R. V. Natarayanaswami Tamil.
- V. Sri V. Krishnamachari Manipravalam
- VI. Moulvi Muhammad Ismail Khan Sahib Hindusthani.
- VII. Sri S. M. Krishnan Kanarese.
- VIII. Prof. P. P. S. Sastri Sanskrit.

PART III

INDIAN MUSIC

- I. ORCHESTRA Instrumental Overture
- II. GOPI DANCE Miss Ganga Bai & Friend.

III. *Scenes from Sakuntala* : A. Birth of Sakuntala. Viswamitra in austere penance. The celestials send down Menaka to distract his concentration : Sakuntala is born : The babe is left by the parents in the Asram of Kanwa.

IV. COMIC RECITATION . Sri. V. C. Gopalarathnam,
B.A., B.L.

V. LIGHT MUSIC, VOCAL . Miss T. C. Sushila.

VI. *Scenes from Sakuntala* : B. Sakuntala with her companions Priyamvada & Anasuya watering the plants around Kanwasrama. Dushyanta who has come to the forest on a hunt, meets them : He falls in love with Sakuntala, and is pleased to find his love reciprocated.

VII. VOCAL Sri V. Krishnamurthy, B. Sc.

VIII. *Scenes from Sakuntala* : C. Sakuntala writes a love letter to her lord.

IX. VOCAL Miss. C. S. Rajalakshmi.

VIOLIN Miss. C. S. Muthulakshmi.

EXHIBITIONS

9th, 10th & 11th February 1940

CHEMISTRY
PHYSICS
BOTANY
GEOLOGY
ZOOLOGY
HISTORICAL RECORDS

CHEMISTRY EXHIBITION

THE twelfth exhibition was conducted by the College Chemical Society in connexion with the Centenary celebrations of the College in February. The immense popularity of the exhibition as manifested in the large influx of visitors on all the three days during which it was held was in a large measure due to the enthusiasm of the students in the matter of arrangement of the various exhibits, and the very earnest willingness displayed by them to satisfy the inquiring public. While a few of the exhibits appealed to the instinct of wonder, the large majority of them were intended to explain some of the important achievements of chemistry during the hundred years following the founding of the College in 1840. The exhibits deserving special mention are given below :

LOW TEMPERATURE EXPERIMENTS

Liquid air and dry ice (solid carbon-di-oxide) were the chief attractions. The liquid-air plant (one of the three installed in South India) was shown in action, and the principle of its working explained. The effects produced by extreme cold were demonstrated through cooling, by immersion in liquid air, such soft and elastic articles as flowers, butter, grapes and rubber, and smashing them with a hammer. The freezing of metallic mercury, nitrogen peroxide, alcohol, and other liquid and gaseous chemicals was another experiment which attracted notice. Cigarettes and biscuits soaked in liquid air rich in oxygen were set fire to and provided a fine exhibition of fire-works.

COLD LIGHT AND PHOSPHORESCENCE

Boric acid-phosphors were prepared and the various designs drawn with these phosphors exhibited, on exposure to light, a brilliant array of colours, thus providing good entertainment to visitors.

Another novel attraction was the emission of light without heat, the so-called "cold light", which was sufficiently intense, to enable reading in the dark. This phenomenon was illustrated by choice experiments in which the major spectral colours like the blue, red, yellow and green were produced.

HEAVY CHEMICALS

The exhibits were selected to indicate the possibilities of development of chemical industries with the raw materials available in our country. Methods of manufacture of common acids and alkalies which are the key industries, were demonstrated on the laboratory scale and no pains were spared to impress on the public their importance and the immense possibilities of making the country self sufficient in the matter of the manufacture of basic chemicals.

SOAP MANUFACTURE

Soap manufacture in our country has now attained a measurable success. Efforts were made to illustrate the different processes of soap manufacture, by making different varieties of soaps such as washing, toilet, transparent and liquid soaps with the common oils and fats. Some of the prepared specimens were distributed among the inquisitive visitors and stood well their test as to quality.

DYEING

The immense importance of dyes and the industry of dyeing was emphasised. The process of dyeing cotton, silk and wool with the artificial dyes, as well as the natural dyes like the indigo, Indian madder, cutch, etc., were demonstrated. The dyed specimens of the exhibitors, artistically arranged, were very pleasing to the sight.

BIO-CHEMISTRY

Items of varied interest from the fermentation of jaggery to alcohol, the malting of cheap cereals such as cholam and ragi, as the basis of malted foods, to the prevailing standard of dietary formed part of this section. Visitors were greatly interested in the explanations of the food values of some of the articles of food common in South India, particularly with regard to their vitamin contents which were shown in the form of charts. A few other items such as house-hold chemistry comprising useful recipes for the preservation of books and papers, removal of stains, preparation of disinfecting fluids, marking inks, lac and lac products, processes of sand blasting etc., contributed their share to the general interest and value of the exhibition.

B. B. DEY.

Professor of Chemistry.

PHYSICS EXHIBITION

The Exhibition aimed at the demonstration of the application of physical principles in the appliances in ordinary use, and of the apparatus employed for their production and measurement.

First, there were on show the various appliances in the workshop such as the drilling machine, the milling machine, the screw cutting lathe, the planing machine and machinery for glass grinding and finishing. It may be stated that the 24" mirror for a reflecting telescope (probably one of the largest in India) was ground and figured with the help of these. Also, the Fyson clock was made here, with its automatic winding and lighting arrangement. The clock itself was on show. This is to be mounted in the tower with its four dials.

Then there were exhibited specimens of glass apparatus made entirely here. The appliances for glass-blowing were exhibited together with a demonstration of the various methods involved. Neon signs, discharge tubes, mercury lamps, and high vacuum pumps were also on show in working order. The last are used in the manufacture of X-ray tubes and wireless valves.

Then there was on show a number of pieces of apparatus which were made entirely in the laboratory; for example there was an outsize wavelength spectroscope, with a constant deviation prism, optical flats and finished articles, morse keys and buzzers, and also a huge electromagnet.

There was an interesting demonstration of the making of glass fibres by the bow and arrow method. These fibres are extremely sensitive to torsional couples and are therefore used in very delicate measuring instruments for suspension.

There was a collection of electrical appliances ordinarily met with, such as electric heaters, motors, telegraph and telephone instruments, whose working was explained and demonstrated. Then various sources

of light in their historical order from the flint to the modern mercury vapour lamp were exhibited.

The sources of power next attracted the attention of the visitors. There were working models of the steam engine, hot air engine, and the water motor ; the last one representing arrangements in the hydro-electric works for the generation of electricity from water falls. There were sectional models of petrol and oil engines to illustrate their action.

An instructive series of exhibits dealing with the physiological side of light perception was next put up. Here the visitor saw clearly the details of the blades of a fan which was really in rapid rotation, with the help of interminant illumination ; as also the apparent motion upwards of a water drop from the water tap. Then the phenomena of colour mixing, production of colour sensation, fatigue of the eye and its effects on colour perception were beautifully presented and explained. There was also a suggested arrangement for preventing the glare of the head light of a motorcar affecting the driver of an approaching car, by the use of polaroid discs.

There was next a demonstration of an astrocamera, by which the sunspots and their movements can be studied. The whole apparatus including the mirror used was made in the laboratory. After this came a demonstration of the application of ultraviolet light and the high frequency discharge from a Tesla coil. By the former, by the exhibition of fluorescence, genuine articles can be distinguished from false ones e.g. false hair, false teeth, false gems etc.

Then there was a display of various discharge tubes including the X-ray tube and neon signs. Shadowgraphs were shown and the audience was treated to a full explanation of the phenomena involved. There was a model of an aeroplane propelled by an electromotor and its various parts explained. The musical arc the fore-runner of the modern wireless transmitter, was on show. Then some very interesting applications of the use of the photo-electric cell were shown. There was an automatic recorder, say, of the number of people passing through a gateway. Another was a remote control device for the operation of the machinery in a factory under some predetermined conditions, e.g. in a paper factory, if during the manufacture the paper turned out happened

to become thinner than a certain size, the whole mechanism can suddenly be brought to rest automatically.

Then there was the wireless section in which various receivers assembled in the laboratory were shown in working condition. There was an amplifier used for public address systems and one for the study of atmospheric disturbances, associated with a cathode ray tube for the study of wave forms. There was a miniature transmitter and receiver, the former having its frequency stabilised by quartz crystal and modulated by speech. There was also on show a deviation from the ordinary use of pick-ups for gramophone reproduction, viz. the gramophone pick up was used to modulate a miniature transmitter from which the music was received by a regular receiver. Altogether the exhibits were varied, covered a wide field, provided a good deal of interest and instruction, and as usual attracted a large number of visitors.

P. S. SUBRAHMANYAN.

Professor of Physics.

BOTANY EXHIBITION.

In connexion with the centenary celebrations of Presidency College a Botany exhibition was held in February on the 9th, 10th and 11th. It attracted as usual a large number of visitors ; almost all educational institutions in and around Madras sent their students to witness it.

The exhibits were divided into five sections and they were so arranged as to show some special aspect of plant life. In the Intermediate Laboratory were shown a series of exhibits dealing with the popular study of plants such as how plants defend themselves against enemies, flowers and their structure and their devices for pollination, germination of seeds, and fruits and their dispersal.

In the Museum were exhibited specimens showing the structure of stem and anatomy of plant organs, and representative collections of plant fossils. One series of plants brought out clearly how the higher plants that we see around us have been evolved from small algal forms. Other exhibits illustrated the modifications of different plant organs and how these modifications are adapted to different functions.

In the B. Sc. Laboratory were exhibited plants growing in specialised habitats. There was a collection of water plants in a tub, the plants growing in dry places grouped together as in their natural habitats. Plant parasites with their hosts and insectivorous plants attracted many people. Many experiments on Plant Physiology were got up and these included experiments to show the path of solutes transpiration and movements of gases. There were experiments on Carbon assimilation, respiration and the reaction of plants to external stimuli like gravity etc. There were a number of specially prepared charts to show the elementary principles of genetics and charts showing different kinds of sugar-canes evolved at Coimbatore Sugar-cane Research Station were also exhibited. Many specimens mounted on plaster-of-paris were exhibited to show in a popular manner the

common diseases that plants are subjected to in contrast to healthy plants free from disease which were also placed alongside.

In the Economic Botany section the common cereals of South India with notes on their nutritive value were exhibited. Other exhibits included weeds destructive to crop plants and common poisonous plants.

In the Photographic room the movement of particles in the living cell was demonstrated by means of a microprojector. A few interesting experiments on absorption of water by roots and on their respiration were fitted up in the Physiology Research Room. Experiments on absorption were of a highly specialized nature and attracted the attention of advanced students of Botany. The method exhibited was very sensitive and enabled one to record automatically even slight variations in absorption. The experiments on root respiration were done in controlled root chambers whose temperature was kept constant throughout the experiment. Besides these there were some popular experiments on fruit respiration which were widely appreciated.

T. EKAMBARAM.
Professor of Botany

GEOLOGY EXHIBITION

A SYNOPSIS

Rock Grinding Room : Rock and Mineral Section Making :

Here were displayed micro-sections in various stages of preparation from hard and opaque hand-specimens to sections of 1/1000th of an inch in thickness, transparent and showing the various optical and physical properties under the Petrological microscope. Lucid explanations were given, where necessary, in the process of making.

Lecture Hall : Micro-projections of Rock and Mineral Sections and Cinema Projections :

The thin sections under the Petrological Microscope were projected on a screen and the various features explained to the visitors. In addition, several class-room films exhibiting natural geological phenomena, as the various types of volcanoes, action of geysers etc., and those dealing with the economic aspects of Geology as Gold Mining, Iron Ore Mining, were projected. Not only was the room full at every show, but eager crowds were seen waiting at the entrance.

B. Sc. Laboratory :

Several interesting properties of minerals, as mineral mimics showing how one mineral takes the external shape of others; the various types of lustres; and the multitudinous colours found in minerals were displayed.

A separate section was devoted to Economic Geology, where the minerals were classified according to their use, as abrasives, refractory minerals, minerals used in ceramics, cement and chemical industries. The various building-stones used in India together with photographs and models of important public buildings built of these materials were also exhibited. Needless to say, these attracted visitors in large numbers.

On one side of the room several experiments showing the mechanical separation of rock constituents were demonstrated, as the Crook's

Elutriator used in the separation of clays, sands etc., in sediments, a working model for separating minerals according to Specific Gravity in running water by means of rocking tables, and the electro-magnetic separation of crushed rocks and sands.

Museum :

A wide collection of Rocks, Minerals, Fossils and Crystal-models both Indian and Foreign were displayed artistically. Large photographs showing natural geological features were also carefully arranged.

FIRST FLOOR

Map Drawing Room :

Several interesting and appealing stratigraphical exhibits were exhibited in this room, the more important being beautiful coloured Plaster of Paris models to show important stratigraphic regions; attractive coloured charts showing the various geological formations in natural colour together with important representatives of the life of the several geological periods; the geological clock revealing the classification of time into major and minor divisions; the geographic evolution of India and the Gondwana-land; the geological map of the neighbourhood of Madras on a large scale; and the stone implements used by the Palæolithic man around Madras. In addition, several natural crystals, large wooden-models of crystals, beautiful glass crystal-models and models of atomic structure of important minerals were exhibited.

Two interesting exhibits which attracted a large number of visitors were the Hall's Experiment, where mountain formation by lateral pressure was demonstrated, and the Orrery, showing the relative movements of the Earth, and the Moon around the Sun.

Chemical Laboratory :

This room was probably one of the most popular ones, for, working models of Geyser, or intermittent hot spring, Volcano and Artesian well were demonstrated.

B. Sc. Honours Room :

Exhibits of an advanced nature were here arranged with apparatus to show various fluorescent colours; charts and photographs

revealing the bad effects of Fluorine Intoxication ; Goniometers and the measurement of crystal angles ; an expensive and attractive collection of precious stones and the various methods of testing the genuineness of gems.

A separate section was displayed to show the working of the Petrological microscope and the various optical phenomena connected with it as : Pleochroism, Interference colours, Pleochroic haloes, Quantitative estimation of minerals in rocks by Shand's Micrometer, and the making of accurate drawings of objects under the microscope by Camera Lucida.

C. K. Krishnaswami Pillai.
Professor of Geology.

ZOOLOGY EXHIBITION

The aim of the exhibition was to place before the lay visitors some recent developments in Physiology, the wonderful adaptive devices in animals, the economic aspect of Zoology, the technique of preservation and section cutting and simple devices for the aeration of aquaria. With this aim, the exhibits were divided into sections and arranged in six halls. Among the exhibits the following may be mentioned as of interest.

The endocrine organs of animals, the study of which has advanced considerably during the last twenty years, were shown in their positions in a dissected rabbit ; the respective hormones produced by them were shown and the diseases caused by their defective secretions were illustrated with photographs. The keeping up of the heart-beat in the rabbit's heart after its excision from the body was successfully demonstrated by the students ; the conditions under which the heart continued to beat were explained with the aid of illustrations and drawings.

The aquarium attracted a good number of visitors as some of our students showed how certain kinds of fish could be drowned by keeping them inside the surface of the water for a long time ; and the visitors had, of course, to modify their opinion about the Gothamites as the latter, they thought, were not altogether wrong.

In the section of Embryology the growing chick within the egg was shown in various stages of development and an expression of surprise was evident in the visitors when they saw the tiny heart beating quickly at intervals. The embryos of other animals like mammals were also shown and how the growing young obtain their food during their embryo stage explained.

The poisonous snakes of South India were exhibited alive in the section on vivaria. The visitors were told how the different kinds of poisonous snakes, which are only few in number can be distinguished

and how the poison affects the system. The snake venom extracted and dried was also shown to them.

The wonderful adaptations of animals for protection, by colour and other devices were illustrated by actual specimens in their natural environment.

The section of parental care in animals specially interested some of the women visitors who were agreeably surprised to find that there were animals wherein all the mothering, as it were, was done by the father who carried the young.

The economic side of Zoology was not neglected in the exhibition. The animal products like silk, lac, musk, ox-bile, were shown and how they were obtained explained. An explanation of the processes through which the lac passes before coming to the market was attended to with interest by the visitors.

In another section some of the popular misconceptions about animals were sought to be cleared.

The different processes through which tissues are passed before they are cut into sections were shown; and in this connexion the different kinds of microscopes and section-cutting instruments that have been in the field during the last quarter of a century were also exhibited; the latter presented a good evolutionary history of the modern microscopes and microtomes.

Specimens which were rendered transparent by certain chemical processes specialised in by our students in the laboratory were shown and the processes explained.

Teachers were given an idea how school aquaria could be set up and maintained by certain simple home-made aerating devices.

Before the visitors made their exit, they had a glimpse of life in the sea in a realistic arrangement set with a suitable back-ground and carefully illuminated.

S. G. MANAVALA RAMANUJAM,
Professor of Zoology.

EXHIBITION OF HISTORICAL RECORDS

- No. 1. *12th December 1839.*
Lord Elphinstone's minute, dated 12th December 1839, proposing the establishment of **A Central Collegiate Institution or University**, which later became **Presidency College**.
- No. 2. *4th February 1840.*
Appointment Order, dated 4th February 1840, appointing **George Norton, President of the Governors of Madras University**—and seven English and seven Indian Governors.
- No. 3. *2nd March 1841.*
The Fundamental Rules of the **High School of Madras University** and form of application for admission. 2nd March 1841.
- No. 4. Copies of Testimonials belonging to **Mr. E. B. Powell**, the first Headmaster.
- No. 5. List of books in use in 1841.
- No. 6. Dissolution of the **Council of Native Education** and the transfer of their powers to the **University Board, 1847.**
- No. 7. List of past students of the High School who attained **Degrees of Proficiency**, together with the posts they occupied in 1853.
- No. 8. *18th December 1852.*
Minute by Sir Henry Pottinger, Governor of Madras, dated 18th December 1852, agreeing to the establishment of the Collegiate Department.
- No. 9. *31st January 1853.*
Minute by Sir Henry Pottinger, dated 31st January 1853, overruling the objections of the members of his Council

- and sanctioning on his own responsibility the opening of the **Collegiate Department**.
- No. 10.** *19th July 1854.*
Despatch from the Court of Directors of the East India Company to the Governor-General of India—"The **Magna Carta of English Education in India.**"
- No. 11.** *14th November 1854.*
Minute by the **President of the Madras University** proposing the organization of a Government Educational Department
- No. 12.** *15th May 1855.*
The conversion of the "High School of Madras University" into a **Presidency College**, on the model of the Presidency College at Calcutta.
- No. 13.** *12th February 1856.*
Appointment of a Professor of Vernacular Literature. The Rev. P. Percival was the first Professor.
- No. 14.** *5th August 1856.*
Resignation of **John Bruce Norton**, first Professor of Law, and consequent suspension of Law classes for the remainder of the year.
- No. 15.** *17th March 1862.*
Increasing the salary of the first Principal (Mr. E. B. Powell) from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,200 : and of the first Professor of English (Mr. H. Bowers) from Rs. 500 to Rs. 600.
- No. 16.** *21st March 1865.*
Prize of Rs. 3,000 for the best design for **Presidency College** awarded to **Mr. R. F. Chisholm**, Executive Engineer of Puri, Bengal.
- No. 17.** *24th January 1866.*
Plans and estimates for the new **Presidency College Buildings**—Tenders invited : and establishment of a Government Brick Field in Madras for the purpose.

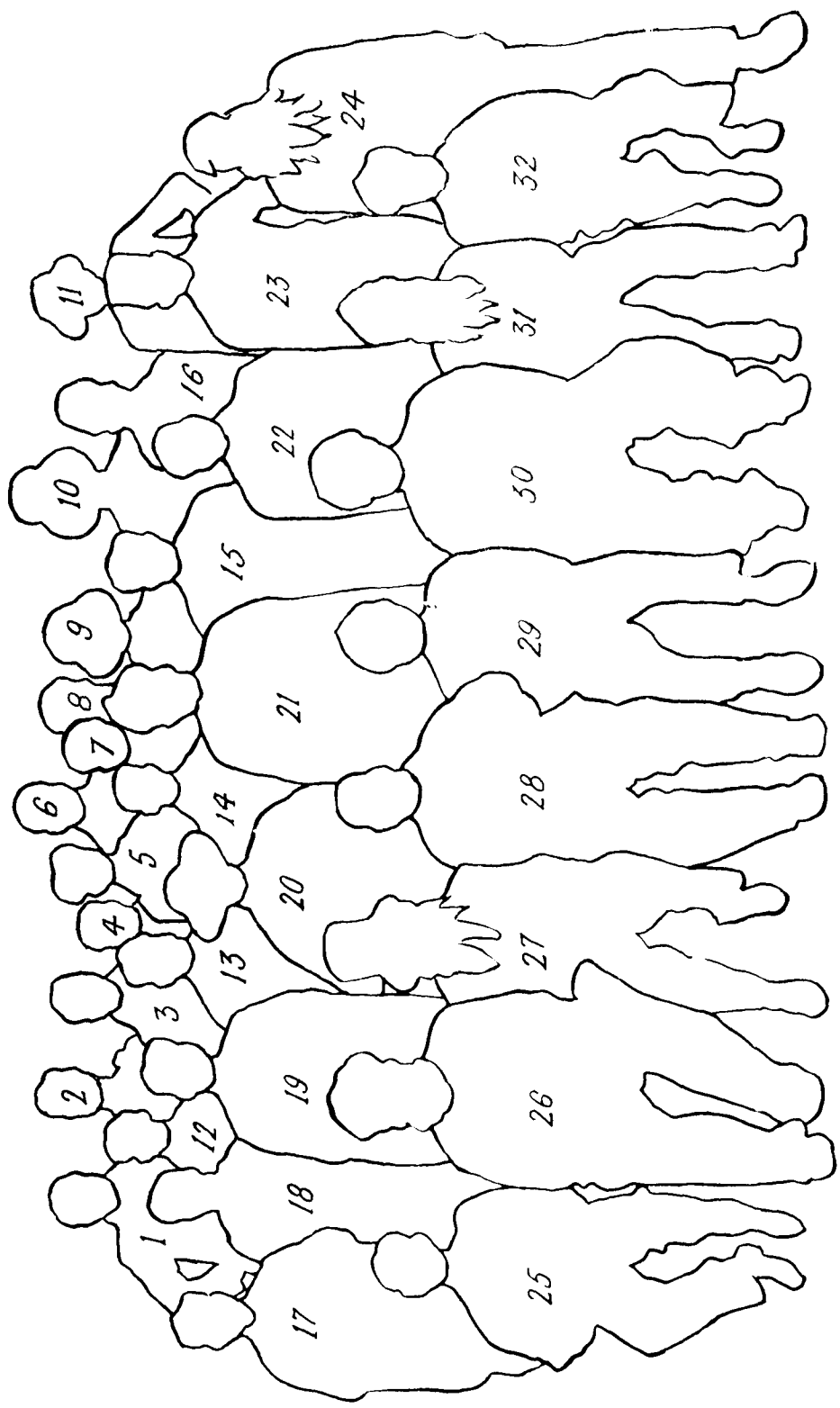
- No. 18.** *24th January 1866.*
Mr. Sowerby's tender for building Presidency College accepted.
- No. 19.** *13th March 1866.*
On Mr. Sowerby refusing to carry out the work, the tender of **Messrs. Barnett & Ronnycastle** for the building of Presidency College was accepted.
- No. 20.** *6th May 1868.*
Appointment of Mr. John Pickford, of Brasenose College, Oxford, as first Professor of Sanskrit.
- No. 21.** *15th March 1869.*
The charge of the **Oriental Manuscripts Library** transferred from the Director of Public Instruction to the **Professor of Sanskrit, Presidency College.**
- No. 22.** *15th November 1870.*
Owing to the fall in attendance at the Law classes, **The Law Department of Presidency College** was held in abeyance.
- No. 23.** *14th December 1872.*
As more than 50 Muslims sought admission to Presidency College, the Senior Persian Teacher at the Madrasa-i-azam is transferred to the College.
- No. 24.** *18th July 1873.*
Revival of the **Law Classes at Presidency College** after being in abeyance for three years. **Mr. H. H. Shephard** was appointed as **Professor of Law.**
- No. 25.** *16th September 1878.*
Appointment of a Superintendent of Vernacular Studies in place of the **Professor of Vernacular Literature.**
- No. 26.** (a) An essay on "**Native Education**", written by (Raja Sir) T. Madhava Rao in his 19th year, when he was a "head scholar" of the "High School" in 1847.

(b) An essay on "**The Great Discoveries and Inventions of Modern Times**", by (Sir) A. Seshaiiah Sastri and V. Ramanujam, "head scholars"—1817.

- No. 27.** **The First Proficient's Ring** awarded in 1811 to C. V Ranganatha Sastri, the "First Proficient of the High School of Madras University."
- No. 28.** Silver tray presented to T. Madhava Rao, Proficient of the Madras High School, by his fellow students and friends, 1849.
- No. 29.** Certificate "For Permanent and Honourable Testimony" presented in April 1846 to Madhava Rao, admitting him to the Degree of a First Proficient of the High School of the Madras University, and recording that he had "received the honour of the Ring of a Proficient of the First Class."

The Centenary Committee is very grateful to Dr. B.S. Baliga, Curator of the Madras Record Office, for his kindness in lending many of these records illustrating the early history of Presidency College, and to several descendants of former students of the College for the loan of interesting mementos and relics.

The Committee is also indebted to Professor A. V. Venkatarama Aiyar, Professor of Indian History, for his assistance in collecting and arranging these exhibits.



GALA CRICKET MATCH.
The two teams. — 1840 & 1940.

MASQUERADE AT THE MARINA.

11th February 1940.

GALA CRICKET MATCH,

1840 V. 1940.



GALA CRICKET MATCH — 1840 v. 1940.
Arrival of the 1840 Team.

MASQUERADE AT THE MARINA.

UNEXPECTED VISIT OF "MR. E. B. POWELL".

11th February 1940.

FROM THE HINDU

12th February 1940.

THE large assembly of the past and present students of the Presidency College who had assembled at the Marina ground yesterday to play another gala cricket match had a pleasant surprise, when the "ghost" of Mr. E. B. Powell, the first Principal of the College, in all his 1840 dignity, arrived at the ground to participate in the festivity.

Everyone connected with the Presidency College has been making such a justifiable noise during the last week in connection with the Centenary celebrations that "Mr. Powell" must have been provoked to stir out of his ethereal abode and descend to the place beneath to see what it was all about. He arrived in a coach driving along the Marina from his bungalow, a picturesque figure from Dickens but more conservative. He opened the day's jollity by playing the first ball of the day bowled by a "South American" in russet vest and black silk trousers. It was such a difficult ball that the bowler had to go down on all fours in sending it. Definitely it was a sight for the Gods !

"Mr. Powell" then proceeded to address the gathering. It pained him to see "the depths" to which the College had fallen since his time, what with the admission of girls into the institution, the introduction of such frivolous subjects like Botany and Zoology into the curriculum—why not leave the plants and animals alone and why not let them grow and die as they did in his time?—the fostering of cricket, the raising of the strength of the College to the unthinkable figure of over 900 etc. He blamed "that wretched fellow Papworth" for most of these ills and promised to put him in the first dredger available in the Madras harbour and send him away. "Mr. Powell" also declared that during his

short sojourn on earth he would do his best to restore the College to all its old glory. (It must be stated here in a whisper that during "Mr. Powell's" speech, Mr. Papworth, the Principal, had made himself scarce and was not to be seen !).

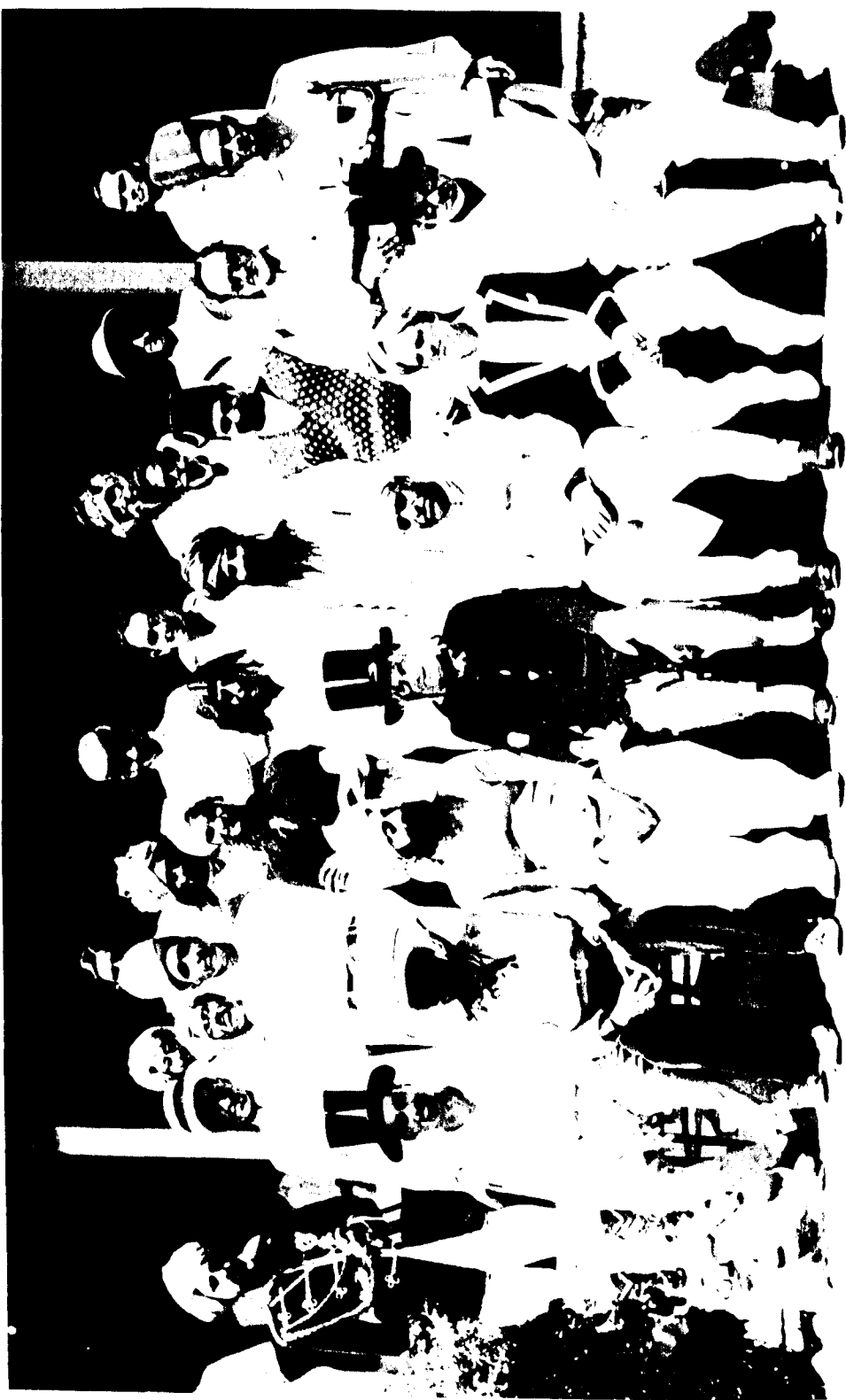
Once more it was a cricket masquerade for half the day with plenty of fun and not a little of sunshine. The old boys were *in* in costume—absolutely different from those they wore on the previous occasion. To begin with, they all arrived "in state", a Maharaja, with some friends, in a coach, two on horseback, two others on ass-back, and some on foot. There was a stampede towards the procession and the whole thing might have got out of hand but for the indefatigable efforts of a young "policeman", who kept law and order on the ground with a firm—did someone say questionable ?—hand.

The game then went on with a swing and the picturesquely attired batsmen scored more laughs than runs. But exactly at 1-30 (and not at midnight) Cinderella's Prince, coach and footmen disappeared and after a four-course lunch, the players resumed the match in 1940 style. The game then became so serious and dull that it might spoil the fun to describe it here.

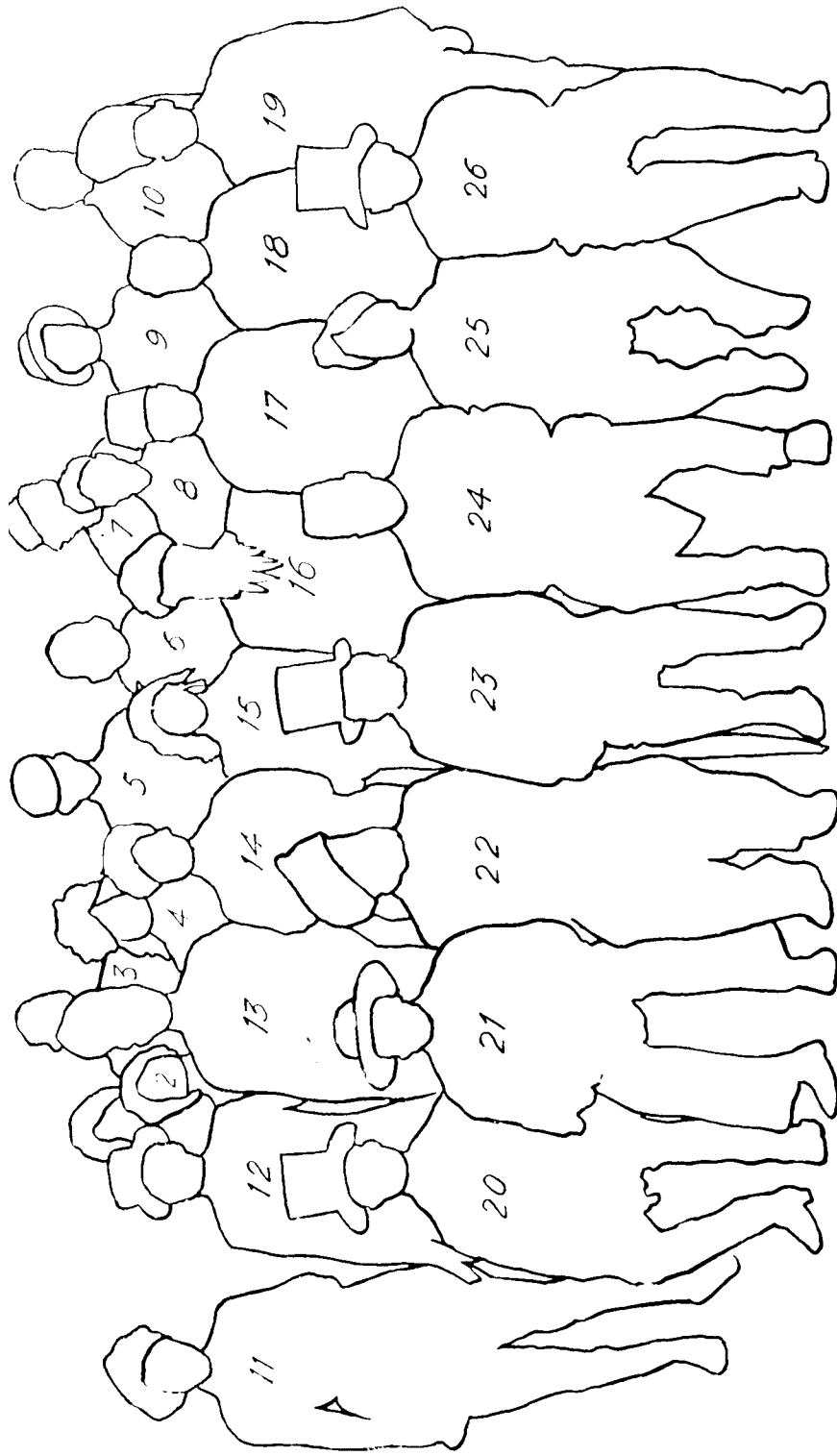
The following participated in the days proceedings :—

Past : K. P. Lakshmana Rao, C. K. Krishnaswami Pillai, K. Srinivasan, V. C. Gopalaratnam, P. N. Appuswami, C. R. Pattabhiraman, G. Parthasarathi, K. Balaraman, C. D. Parthasarathi, M. A. Rajagopalan, N. V. R. Reddi, V. S. Raghavan, T. S. Raghavachari, E. R. Desikan, B. S. Thiagarajan, Sambandam, P. R. Subramanian, R. M. Mahadevan, and P. K. Jayaraman.

Present : C. C. Ganapathi, M. Swaminathan, R. Srinivasan, Kuppuswami, Kumaraswami, D. Mahadevan, C. K. Haridas, Vijayaraja, Durai Babu, V. I. Krishnamurthi and S. Krishna Rao.



SECOND APPEARANCE OF THE 1946 TEAM WITH "MR. E. B. POWELL" AS CAPTAIN.



- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1. R. Marudharan. | 15. P. R. Sulemanian. | 23. V. C. Gopalakrishnan. |
| 2. P. C. Ramaswami. | 16. J. S. Raghavachari. | 24. "Eyes Behind Powell". |
| 3. M. A. Ranganathan. | 17. C. R. Pattabhiraman. | 25. Captain, represented by H. C. Papworth. |
| 4. V. Gopalakrishnan. | 18. P. D. Srinivasan. | 26. K. T. Lakshminarayana. |
| 5. P. K. Jayaraman. | 19. A. S. Raghavan. | 27. K. Srinivasan. |
| 6. T. M. Duraiswami. | 20. P. N. Appaswamy. | 28. N. V. R. Rishi. |
| 7. K. M. Mahalingam. | 21. C. D. Parthasarathy. | |
| | 22. M. Sambasivan. | |
| | 23. K. Raghavachari. | |
| | 24. J. S. Raghavachari. | |
| | 25. C. R. Pattabhiraman. | |
| | 26. P. D. Srinivasan. | |
| | 27. A. S. Raghavan. | |
| | 28. P. N. Appaswamy. | |
| | 29. C. D. Parthasarathy. | |



"MR. E. B. POWELL," FIRST PRINCIPAL OF THE COLLEGE, OPENS THE INNINGS FOR THE 1840 VETERANS.
By courtesy of The Hindu.

OLD STUDENTS ENTERTAIN

THE PRINCIPAL AND STAFF

11th February 1940.

OLD STUDENTS ENTERTAIN THE PRINCIPAL AND STAFF

IN connexion with the Centenary celebrations of Presidency College, the members of the Old Students' Association entertained the Principal and staff to dinner on 11th February in the Examination Hall of the University. The Hon. Mr. Justice K. P. Lakshmana Rao, Vice-President of the Association, presided, and Mrs. Papworth was one of the guests. Covers were laid for 240 persons, and a very enjoyable evening was spent, during which many old friendships were renewed.

After dinner, Mr. Justice Lakshmana Rao referred to the grand scale on which the centenary was being celebrated and congratulated the Principal, the staff and all others whose hard work and organizing ability had made these numerous functions so unique. On behalf of the old students he especially congratulated Prof. P. P. S. Sastri and presented him with a silver cup as a memento of his work in preparing the first old students Register. He then requested Mrs. Papworth to distribute medals to the "1840" cricketers who had done so well against the 1940's. In proposing the toast of the Principal and staff, the learned judge observed with gratitude that they were maintaining unimpaired the traditions and reputation of Presidency College and that the success of these centenary functions and the crowds which flocked to them were tributes to the respect and affection in which the Principal and his staff were held. This toast was heartily responded to.

Replying to this toast in an informal speech, Mr. Papworth said that he and his colleagues on the staff were fully alive to the fact that upon them lay, in a greater degree than on others, the responsibility of maintaining and, if possible, enhancing the traditions and the achievements of Presidency College. He had always said that, however clever and academically brilliant a person might be, he was no use on

the staff of Presidency College unless he could get on well with his fellow human beings, especially with his colleagues on the staff and the students amongst whom he had to work. "I have the joy", said Mr. Papworth, "of working with a body of men who realise this fact."

Post-prandial conversation continued till late, and before the gathering broke up, informal speeches were made by Kumararajah Muthiah Chettiar, Miss C. K. Kausalya, Prof. C. K. Krishnaswami Pillai, Prof. D. S. Sarma, and Prof. P. P. S. Sastri.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS ENTERTAINS

THE PRINCIPAL AND PROFESSORS

16th February 1940

THE UNIVERSITY'S FELICITATIONS.

PRINCIPAL AND PROFESSORS ENTERTAINED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS.

To congratulate Presidency College on its centenary, the Vice-Chancellor and members of the Syndicate of the University of Madras entertained the Principal and Professors to dinner in the University Buildings on 16th February 1940. The Vice-Chancellor, Diwan Bahadur S. E. Ranganadhan, presided and covers were laid for about 70 guests, amongst whom were the Principals of all the colleges in Madras and the Professors, Heads of departments, Readers, Lecturers, and the Registrar of the University. It was a very happy function, and Presidency College will always feel grateful to the University for this commemoration of its first centenary.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S TOAST

Dinner over, the Vice-Chancellor proposed the toast of Presidency College. He said that this was the first time that the Syndicate and Teachers of the University and the Colleges which constituted the University had gathered together as an "academic family" to congratulate one of their members on its centenary. He referred to his own long association with Presidency College as a member of its staff, and to the high standards of work and academic tradition which the College had made and maintained. He said that there were some who tried to argue that the centenary which was now being celebrated was as much the centenary of the University as of the College, for the name "Madras University" was associated with the foundation of Presidency College in 1840. However, this was "a rather subtle and unhistoric interpretation of facts and incorrect both logically and chronologically." It was true that the name "Madras University" was associated with Presidency College from its foundation in 1840 until 1855, and that the college during these years granted its own degrees

and diplomas to its proficient: but it was clear from numerous documents, many of which were being exhibited this week at the College, that it was the intention of the East India Company first to establish a college in order to prepare pupils from the preparatory stage to that of a university. When this had been fully achieved and on the assumption by the Crown of the government of India, the University of Madras was founded simultaneously with those of Calcutta and Bombay in 1857.

It was therefore a pleasure to honour Presidency College as a great pioneer in the field of education, and to congratulate it on its magnificent record of service during the past hundred years. The Vice-Chancellor said that he rejoiced to find in the gathering representatives of other educational foundations, some of which, like the Medical College, Christian College and Pachaiyappa's College, were also older than the University. It could fortunately be said that the University now brought together all colleges, old and young, great and small, into one university family, and invited them to share with it the great and glorious mission of nourishing and strengthening the higher intellectual life of the country.

THE UNIVERSITY'S DEBT TO THE COLLEGE

Continuing, the Vice-Chancellor said that he wished to express the great debt of gratitude the University owed to Presidency College. The college had maintained the highest academic standards ever since its foundation. Then again, the University owed a deep debt of gratitude to the College in that it had been the pioneer of women's education in the Province. At a time when the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge closed their doors to women, Presidency College freely admitted women students, and now the number of women students was so high that it was one of the greatest co-educational institutions, not only in the presidency, but in the whole of India. Further, Presidency College was the first to institute Honours courses, and this again ensured the continuance of the closest connexion between the college and university. The scholarship, academic experience and administrative ability of the Principals and Professors had always been at the disposal

of the university, which had gained immensely thereby, and he was glad to have this unique opportunity of congratulating Presidency College and wishing it a bright and prosperous future. The centenary celebrations which were taking place in the city and in mofussil towns showed the extent of the contribution of the College to the public life of the country.

The Vice-Chancellor associated the toast of Presidency College with the name of the Principal, Mr. H. C. Papworth.

THE PRINCIPAL'S REPLY

Mr. Papworth, responding to the toast, made the following speech:—

The Vice-Chancellor, and Members of the Syndicate of the University of Madras.

My colleagues and I are indeed most grateful to the Vice-Chancellor and Syndicate of the University for having entertained us to Dinner this evening, for this domestic function is eloquent of the unique relationship between Presidency College and the University.

In my address at the Inauguration of the Centenary Celebrations by His Excellency I outlined the hundred years history of the College. I showed how Lord Elphinstone's historic minute of 13th December 1839 brought us into being in 1840, first as a preparatory school, then as a high school, and then as a College of university standard, granting our own degrees and diplomas. We were not, of course, a chartered University, nor a University whose rights and duties were derived from statutory authority, but merely a College of university grade, granting to those whom it taught its own degrees and diplomas, merely by virtue of executive authority such as the East India Company possessed. But, as His Excellency said in his Inaugural Address, it was the work of

university standard which we for several years had been doing, that made it possible for the Crown, on its assumption of responsibility for the Government of India, immediately to found in Madras a statutory University. Your birth in 1857 might well have caused our death, but the transition was so nicely and delicately made that it was possible for us to transfer to the new University all our university functions proper, and yet continue to exist as a College of university standard managed by the Government of Madras. We received in 1856 a Despatch from the Secretary of State, asking us to adopt henceforth as our courses of study those which the new University might prescribe. Gradually we did so, and I believe we have not failed in our undertaking of the various University courses, higher and lower, in the Faculties of Arts, Science, and formerly of Laws, which the University has from time to time prescribed in continually advancing and ascending order.

My colleagues and I, whom you honour tonight, are the successors of a body of eminent and learned men, whose service and contribution to the University of Madras are there for all to read. All my predecessors and I, and many of the Professors have been Fellows of the University, and since the Act of 1923 members of the staff of Presidency College have been conspicuous by their presence, and I trust by their unself-seeking services, as Vice-Chancellors and as members of the various University bodies. I trust that there will always be Principals and Professors of Presidency College, whose willing services, with no axe to grind, will always be at the disposal of the University of Madras in the interest of higher education and sound learning.

OUR DEBT TO GOVERNMENT

The great advantage of Presidency College in the past has been that it is a Government College with the financial resources of the Government of Madras to back it. And I must acknowledge with profound gratitude, which all lovers of education and learning should share, that the Governments of Madras, whatever their constitution, have always been fully alive to the naturally increasing requirements of Presidency College, to the naturally increasing expenditure which must be met as higher courses come to be prescribed, and as research facilities for the learned few have to be provided, and have discharged these obligations

to the full, and have enabled us to specialise in the Honours and post-graduate courses, and to provide facilities for the research work of candidates for the Master's and Doctor's degrees and for the research stipendiaries of the University. It is these facilities for advanced work which we so fortunately possess which are the delight and the pride of those who are your guests tonight. May we be able always to do this service for the University.

During the past fortnight we have been celebrating the Centenary of Presidency College, and we have naturally been, as it were, living in the past and recalling with thankfulness our great inheritance of tradition and achievement. But we must begin the new century and look to the present and the future. As far as the present is concerned, as I have said elsewhere, "if we pass on this great inheritance untarnished, we shall not have failed in our time." In this spirit alone, we can face the future with determination and confidence.

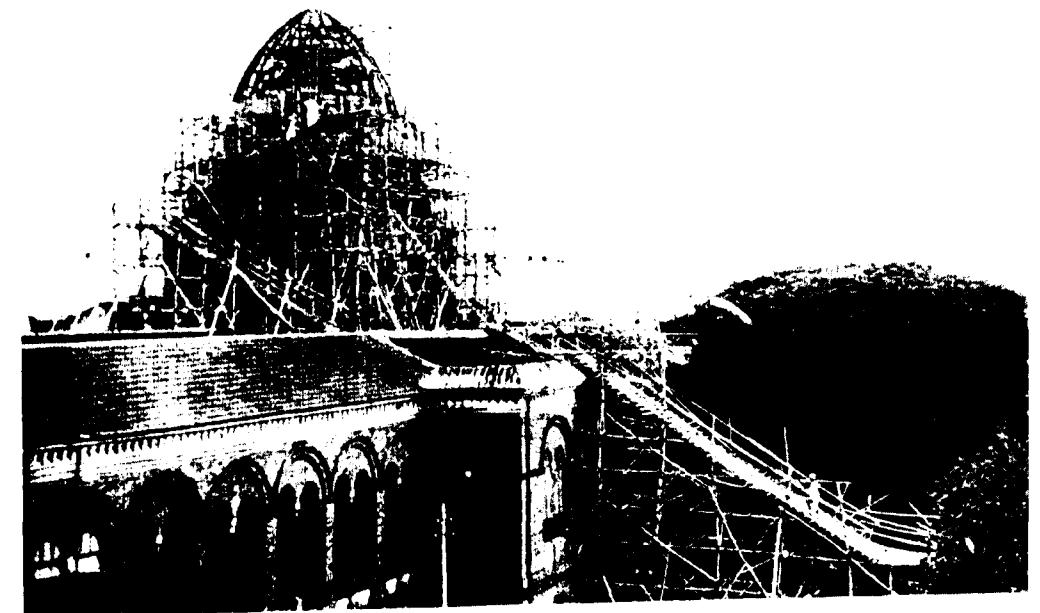
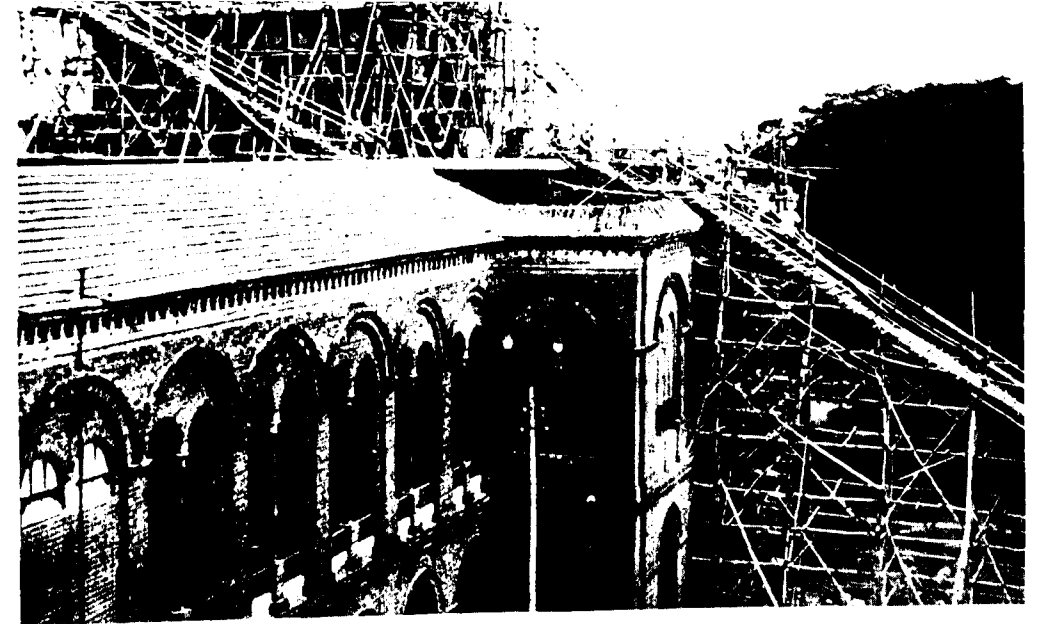
THE UNIVERSITY'S FREEDOM

The University of Madras, of which we are now in a most intimate sense an integral part, must itself look with alertness and vigilance to its future. The very soul of true knowledge and sound learning is Freedom: and the University must above all things watch that its freedom and its autonomy be not impaired. It is a pity that in British India, Universities are founded by an Act of the Legislature, and not, as in England, by Royal Charter. English Universities are therefore independent of the Government of the day, and no political considerations or expediency can interfere with their most zealously guarded freedom and autonomy. In India unfortunately signs are not wanting that attempts might be made quite blatantly to undermine the freedom and autonomy of Universities. You at present have to look to the Legislature for a large part of your financial resources. Accept the money with a clear conscience if it is an honourable gift to the Temple of Learning, but not if it should ever be the price of sacrifice. I have said that the very soul of true knowledge and sound learning is Freedom; and it cannot profit a *Universitas* any more than it can a man, to gain the whole world and lose its own soul.

In this vigilance for your freedom and autonomy you will find helpful supports in the constituent and affiliated Colleges and especially in those Colleges which are under private and independent management. We often hear unitary Universities eulogised, but I have always felt that a University like Madras, founded by an Act of the Legislature and controlled by successive legislative Acts, and dependent for its resources to such a large extent upon the Government of the day, will find its diversity of Colleges of the greatest possible help in time of need. The independent Colleges will surely be the first to rally to the defence of the University, should any encroachment be attempted on its freedom. And so I may take the occasion of our Centenary to send a word of fraternal greeting to all the other Colleges which now constitute the University of Madras, along with whom it is our privilege to teach to the best of our ability within our walls, and in co-operation with whom it is our trust to exert every effort, and to fight if need be, for the maintenance in our courses of study, our examinations, and our research activity of those high standards which have gained for this University the respect with which it is held.

Mr. Vice-Chancellor, I thank you and the members of the Syndicate for your generous hospitality to myself and to my colleagues, the Professors of Presidency College; and more especially I thank you all for the kindly thoughts of us which prompted you to give this dinner in our honour. I would also thank all your other guests this evening for the felicitations and good wishes which their presence so eloquently conveys to us.

CENTENARY MEMORIAL DOME.



College Dome under construction.

CENTENARY MEMORIAL DOME.

AS a memorial to the first Centenary of the foundation of Presidency College it has been decided to build a dome on the main buildings of the College. There are many members of the staff and former students who will remember the dome which was built in 1870, and which stood there until it was dismantled a few years ago. This scarcely deserved to be called a dome; it looked more like a lid! When the buildings were opened in 1870, they only extended from what is now the students' common room to the general library, and the former dome was undoubtedly in proportion to and in keeping with a building of that size. But as the College grew and its buildings were extended, this old lid became more and more out of proportion. Its destruction was therefore a blessing. It was made of wooden slats covered with Mangalore tiles, and in course of time its materials became so old and rotten that it was impossible to keep it adequately in repair. A severe monsoon a few years ago blew most of it away, and the remainder, being a dangerous structure, was dismantled.

The new Centenary Memorial dome has been designed by Mr. Jacob Fernandes, Consulting Architect to Government. It is of concrete and is much larger and higher than the old one, and is in fitting proportion to the large buildings we now possess. It will be a worthy addition to the many features of architectural merit which Madras possesses. In it will be installed the four dial clock which was made in the Physics Laboratories of the College as a memorial to Mr. P. F. Fyson. The dome is being paid for by subscriptions from present and past students of the College, and by a generous donation from the Government of Madras.

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