

The
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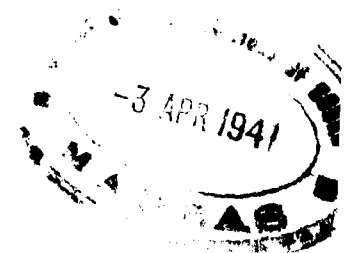
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THE MADRAS



CHRISTIAN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

" They are slaves who dare not be
In the right with two or three."



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THE MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

MARCH, 1941

COLLEGE NOTES

The Principal's Review

The Principal's review of the activities of the College during the year 1940 which was listened to with great interest at the public meeting held in connection with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College Day Association appears elsewhere. We have every reason to be thankful for the year that has just ended, and we look forward to our members acquitting themselves as well at the coming examinations as they did in 1940, and as they have done in many college activities outside the class-room, witnessed to by the reports of the various Societies and Clubs.

The Golden Jubilee of the College Day Association

A notable event of the year has been the celebration of the *Golden Jubilee* of the College Day Association. It brought together former students in varied walks of life and the great gathering that met in the Anderson Hall on December 28 was a testimony to the affection and regard in which the College is held by its *alumni*.

The College Magazine

The College as well as the Magazine Committee is anxious that former students of the College should maintain a living contact with the College

even though they are scattered throughout the Province and some live in more distant places. The subscription for the *Magazine* has been reduced to Re. 1-8, and this reduction will make it possible for many to enrol themselves as subscribers for the *Magazine*. The Committee therefore suggests that the present students of the College meet during the summer holidays as many as possible of the former members of the College and seek to enrol them as subscribers, for thereby our present students will be able to do a very real piece of service, bringing the older generation of *alumni* into some contact with what is now going on in the College and its three Halls at Tambaram.

In the September number of the *Magazine* will be published the names of the present students who thus help to enrol former students as subscribers, if as we hope the number will be large. The Magazine Committee also requests that the outgoing students enrol themselves as subscribers to the *Magazine*.

The Staff

In recent years the March number of the *Magazine* has had to refer year after year to those who were retiring from the service of the College. It is noteworthy that this year no member of the permanent staff leaves us, and

we have thus happily escaped the necessity of bidding farewell to any. Exigencies of war moreover have prevented professors from abroad from going to their home-land on furlough, and so there are not even any temporary goodbyes.

Additional Courses

The College will provide from next year an Honours course in Economics and also an alternate course in Politics for the B.A. Degree in Group iv.

Women Students

At the end of last year it was reported that there were 13 students taking post-Intermediate courses in the College. During the current year, the College had on its rolls 25 women students of whom 14 have been in residence. During the year 1939-40, the College could not make residential arrangements, but with the goodwill of the College authorities a private arrangement was made whereby a few of them lived together. Since

the beginning of this year, the College has undertaken responsibility for providing residence for a limited number. Mrs. Kibble has acted as Warden of the Hostel with the assistance of Miss E. P. Mammen, M.A., the resident Sub-Warden.

The Commemoration Day

The usual service was held in the Anderson Hall on January 31, 1941, and the Rev. T. G. Platten delivered the Commemoration Address. In the afternoon the Annual Sports were held under the Chairmanship of Sir Sidney Burn. Selaiyur Hall won the championship for the fourth year in succession.

Supplements to the College Magazine

We are glad to be able to include in this issue supplements in Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam. The lecturers and the student officers of the respective Language Associations have borne the main burden in producing these supplements.

OBITUARY

Mr. Selvaraj Muthiah who served as a Demonstrator in the Physics Department of our College and who was undergoing pilot's training at the Minambakkam Aerodrome met with an accident and was killed in the second week of February. He was popular both among students and members of staff, and we offer our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family.

THE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The report which I am about to read is not a report on the working of the College during the fifty years since the College Day Association was founded; such a report would no doubt make interesting reading, but historical retrospect comes most appropriately from those who can speak with first-hand knowledge, and, as it happens, I was not personally connected with the College as long ago as 1891, having arrived in India at a somewhat later date. Custom does, however, rightly demand that, on College Day, the Principal should say something about the present position of the College and should attempt to indicate the outstanding features of the year that has just closed, and I take this duty all the more seriously in view of the very special character of the present celebration.

During the year 1940, there has not, I think, been any individual event which is particularly outstanding, but it is in itself sufficiently remarkable that in such a time of cataclysmic change we have been spared any serious impairment of our resources and have been enabled to continue the process of consolidation and expansion which began with the migration to Tambaram in 1937. This College is, I hope and believe, rooted in the Indian soil, and certainly a great part of its resources are of Indian origin; nevertheless there is a steady annual income from Britain of more than half a lakh of rupees, contributed for the maintenance of the European members of the staff, and to me it is a source of wonderment

and gratitude that even in this year 1940 that income has not been cut off, or even seriously reduced.

I said that the year 1940 had been a year of continued consolidation and expansion. Actually, there was expansion in a very literal sense, for, with about 900 students on the rolls, the College is now larger than it has been for many years. This expansion of numbers was not wholly intentional; it still remains our policy to restrict the total number to as near 800 as circumstances will permit, and certainly to be nearer 800 than 900; and I think that policy is wise. People sometimes speak as if greater and greater expansion of numbers were a sure sign of progress, but such a view is not to be unthinkingly accepted. Large numbers of applications for admission will certainly be a sign that the institution has a high reputation for efficiency, but it does not follow that efficiency will increase in proportion to the number admitted. The ratio of staff to students has to be considered, and, in our case, the question also arises whether, if we expanded too much, we should be able to preserve our own special character and tradition, which flourishes best when numbers are limited. If the Madras University had grown as it perhaps ought to have grown, with all the city colleges concentrated in one neighbourhood, sharing each others' teaching resources, and as regards both teachers and students bringing together a wide variety of types, I should have considered the proper strength of a college to be probably somewhere about 300 and

certainly not more than 500. Since, however, things have not fallen out that way, we are forced to plan things on a larger scale, in order to provide for a sufficient variety and richness within ourselves; but, even so, some would fix the ideal number near 600, and it may be they are right. Meanwhile the number we have actually adopted as our standard is, as I say, 800, and any considerable advance beyond that figure is to be mentioned, not wholly as a matter for pride, but somewhat apologetically. I ought to add, however, that, if our numbers have perhaps gone too far ahead, the ratio of staff to students is nevertheless probably higher now than it ever was before. Partly because we provide such a large number of alternative courses, and partly because of our growing emphasis on the provision of tutors, we have, I believe, at the present moment, a larger staff than any other college in South India.

The fact that we are more generously staffed than we used to be has, in conjunction with other facts too numerous to mention, led to a noticeable improvement in the quality of our academic work. Our performances in University Examinations have in recent years been increasingly satisfactory, and I think this can be attributed, not to greater proficiency in methods of mass-production, but to the fact that we are more nearly approaching the ideal situation, in which each student would receive a certain degree of individual attention. No self-respecting college can accept the extraordinary doctrine that its first and main function is, at all costs, to push students through their examinations. On the contrary, colleges have to be constantly reminding themselves—and others—that success in examinations can be purchased at too

high a cost, that teaching is not quite the same thing as coaching for examinations, that failure may be a necessary incident in a student's education, and that certainly a wide area must be left for the student's own effort and initiative if the college is not to defeat the very purposes for which it is supposed to exist. Nevertheless, a moderate degree of success in University Examinations ought to be one incidental result of work well done, and I am happy to report that, in this regard, the year 1940 has been most satisfactory. In the Intermediate Examination we had the highest percentage of passes, and the largest number of first-classes, that we have ever had since the Intermediate Course was reorganised twelve years ago, and in the Mathematics group, indeed, more than half of the candidates passed in the First Class. At the other end of the academic scale, in the B.A. Honours and B.Sc. Honours Examinations, we had a most successful year. The best performances were in History Honours where we secured three out of the four first places, in Zoology Honours where we had four out of the first five places, and, of course, Philosophy Honours where, as usual, we helped ourselves to the Samuel Satyanadhan Memorial Gold Medal. In the B.Sc. Pass Degree Examinations, we had only two failures from among 45 candidates, Zoology having a 100 per cent. pass and the only first class in the University, and Physics also having not a single failure. The Botanists also distinguished themselves by the way in which they packed themselves—8 of them—into the first and second classes, leaving only two in the third class, and one in the wilderness. Finally, in the B.A. Examination, Physics had only one failure, and

Economics distinguished itself in another way by securing the second place in the University.

I must, however, beware of giving the impression that academic studies are now our all-engrossing pursuit, to the exclusion of other interests, for that would be to give an entirely false picture of life in Tambaram. It is true that students sometimes grumble that the place is becoming like a penitentiary, but these grumbles are usually not unconnected with the approach of an examination, and are not to be taken any more seriously than your similar grumblings 20 or 30 or 40 or 50 years ago. If the essence of college life is the pursuit of a wide variety of interests in company with a wide variety of fellow-students—with a major, but not an exclusive, emphasis on intellectual interests—then the present-day student of this College is more fortunate than his predecessors. In every way except one, the circumstances are more fortunate. More than half of the College being in residence, every kind of extra-curricular activity is more easily arranged, and since the College is divided into three Halls, greater opportunities are open to any individual student. The result is that more people play games, more people act in dramas, more people debate, more people take part in, or attend, musical performances, more people listen to addresses, more people enjoy profitable idleness in good company, than was possible in pre-Tambaram days. And so I have to report continued activity on the part of the Union Society, the Dramatic Society, the Hall Debating Societies, the Carnatic Music Society, the various Indian Language Societies, and the Athletic Association.

It is usual in this report to record our successes and failures in Inter-

Collegiate athletic competitions, not that they, after all, matter very much, but just to make it clear to former students that the feet of the College have not lost their skill, nor her hands their cunning. Last academic year, we won the Inter-Collegiate boxing championship once more, and, after a long interval, regained the championship for track and field sports. (I believe I am right in saying that we are still the only Arts College that has ever won this championship!) We shared the football championship with two other colleges, came second (or was it third?) in hockey, and did not badly in cricket. This year, we have again shared the football championship with the Engineering College, we share the hockey championship with Loyola College, and we just failed by one point to have a share in the cricket championships. Boxing and track and field sports are not yet decided, but we shall defend our titles, keep them if we can, resign them gracefully if we have to, and in any case make sure that pot-hunting does not become a major interest.

I said some time ago that, in every regard except one, the circumstances of the present-day student are more fortunate than those of his predecessors. The exception I had in mind was the absence of that metropolitan atmosphere, which, as you know, is sometimes supposed to be conducive to culture. In the old days, we were situated right at the headquarters of the administration of the Presidency; the High Court was one of our nearest neighbours; we were at convenient striking distance from the Gokhale Hall, the University library, the Triplicane beach; and when we left all that, there were some who feared that our migration to Tambaram was not only

literally but also metaphorically a migration to the wilderness. Well, perhaps it was; perhaps there was some subtle loss; but I hope I have said enough to show that the loss has been heavily over-balanced by the gains. The wilderness has blossomed as the rose. Whether, in fact, there was any loss at all, I personally am doubtful. We have left the Gokhale Hall and the Triplicane beach behind us, but they seem to be willing to come to us whenever we invite them. The University library is further away than it used to be, but it is not out of reach of the small minority who really want to use it. The cinema are not so easily comparable as they once were, but they are just about as accessible as they ought to be to those whose primary business is to study. As for the High Court, I hope I shall not be guilty of contempt of Court, if I suggest that our removal of ourselves to a distance of 16 miles from it does not appear after all to have had irreparably harmful consequences for our morale. On the other hand, one important result of the migration is that our students have fuller opportunities than their predecessors of making themselves intimately acquainted with the conditions and the problems of rural life, for, on three sides of us, there are villages close at hand. It must be admitted that we were slow in getting started with a regular programme of rural study and rural service, but it has gradually got started, and this year it has taken a big leap forward. In each Hall, there is a group of students which has a special connection with one of the neighbouring villages. Friendly contacts are established, village problems discussed, and sometimes very practical help is offered. Some

students specialise on the medical side and hand out cough mixture and eye-drops, which at any rate seem to do no harm; books and clothes have been provided for needy school-children; in one village a shed has been provided where the villagers can meet at night and have some newspapers read to them, and an attempt was even made at a model garden. The latest development is that a large number of students have agreed to experiment with hand-pounded rice in their messes next term, with a view to providing work for some of the local unemployed. I do not know how long this resolution will last, for of course in matters connected with food, the equilibrium is always delicate, easily disturbed, and not to be lightly meddled with, but I am glad to think that many students are interested enough and neighbourly enough to be willing and eager to give this a trial.

This report has for the most part dealt with the activities of only one year, but I may be permitted in closing to take for a moment a wider view. In the fifty years since the College Day Association was founded, there has been great development on the academic side. Where there were about forty teachers, there are now over 60, and that increase reflected the extent to which courses have been diversified and made more numerous. This development will no doubt continue in the future. New courses will be undertaken, and I hope that there will be more and more provision, not only for teaching, but also for research. There is one regard, however, in which the College has never changed; it continues, and will continue, to lay the final emphasis on the things of the spirit. We are still a Christian College,—not, indeed, in

any communal sense, but in that our ultimate witness is to the Christian apprehension of life and of reality. It naturally follows that we cannot fulfil, for all our widely varied students, precisely the same function. To some, we can offer in the fullest sense a spiritual home. To others, we must offer rather the stimulus and challenge of unaccustomed truth and new experience. But, for all, we can perform this service that, in a world which has neglected the spiritual values, we at least shall never allow them to be forgotten. And surely that is no slight or unimportant service. We have witnessed in our day the truculent aggression of a cynical and arrogant materialism which threatens all life's finer values.

In the bitter struggle it has provoked, there must be serious moral and spiritual losses, whatever be the compensating gains. It is not only towns and cities but also human faith and human hope that are being laid waste. But after the night of destruction, the morning will come, the morning of hopeful new beginnings. There will be a time of rebuilding, and we can prepare for it, and we will be preparing for it if we remain faithful, actively and adventurously faithful, to that long tradition which for so many years has lived continuously in this College, that long tradition of faith and reverence which is the source of all that is most precious in our common heritage.

SEA-THOUGHTS

Washed pale by time, the cold stars gleam
In silent throngs above the bay;
Ah! Men in millions they have seen,
As frail as foam, as fleet as spray.
White hieroglyphs that coldly spell
‘O thou whose span is spent in strife,
Your life is naught, but ponder well
The words—that there is naught but life’.

J. F. STIRLING,
Class III, Gr. iv-b.

THE GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE COLLEGE DAY ASSOCIATION

The golden jubilee celebrations began with a reunion dinner at 8 p.m. at St. Thomas's Hall on Friday, 27th December, which was preceded by a musical entertainment at 7 o'clock and followed by a variety entertainment at 9-30 p.m. Sir S. Radhakrishnan presided at the dinner, and the toast of 'Our Dear College' was proposed by Dr. A. Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar. Referring to the great catastrophe which has overtaken the world, he said that if the slogan 'might is right' was allowed to triumph, there would be an end to all progress and the law of the jungle would be enthroned everywhere. To those of the College brought up in an atmosphere of freedom without offence, and of liberty without licence, the result of the titanic struggle now going on could not be a matter of indifference. The hearts of the *alumni* of this College no doubt were beating in unison with all who were sharing in the brave struggle to win freedom not only for themselves but for mankind. He felt confident that the College which owed so much to the great professors who had laboured to make the College what it was would continue to play a leading part by sending forth leaders of thought who would speak and act nobly and lead the people fearlessly. The Principal replied to the toast. Mr. E. J. Bingle proposed the toast of 'The Oldest Old Boys' Association'. He said that the staff and students watched the old

boys in their progress in the world and took a legitimate pride in the achievements of the old boys. Universities in India seem to find among the *alumni* of the Madras Christian College a recruiting ground for Vice-Chancellors. (There are at present five Vice-Chancellors and one Pro-Chancellor who are old boys of this College.) He said that the College did not have an easy time at the present time when the educational system was stigmatised as something rotten. Those engaged in University education were not above criticism. They were well aware of their defects and the defects of the system, yet they could claim that the system had produced men of whom any country might be proud. It was for the old boys to tell the world what they had learnt while at College and what they had seen in the work of the College which was definitely good. Sir Md. Usman, in replying to the toast, referred to the valuable services rendered to the University of Madras by the Principals and Professors of the College, notably by Dr. William Miller and Dr. E. M. Macphail who served as Vice-Chancellors and as representatives of the University on the Legislative Council. Old boys, he said, had great affection, regard and admiration for their *alma mater*. Mr. K. Nagarajan of Pudukottai proposed the toast of 'Our Successors' which was replied to by Mr. George Abraham, a senior Post-graduate

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student of the College. Many of those who attended the celebrations stayed overnight at St. Thomas's Hall, and the next day, after *chota haziri*, a football match was played between the present and past students. The former students were most generous in giving away the victory to the younger members. At 10 o'clock a paper on 'Radio as a Career' prepared by Rao Bahadur C. V. Krishnaswamy Chetty, A.M.I.E., formerly of the Corporation of Madras, was read by Mr. B. Bonnell, and Dr. George Matthai, M.A., D.Sc., University Professor, Lahore, gave a very interesting talk on his connection with the College and on the contribution of the College to the progress of the country. After breakfast and rest, there was again an entertainment at the theatre of St. Thomas's Hall, and after tea at 4 o'clock a large gathering assembled in the Anderson Hall for the public meeting. Sir R. K. Shanmugam Chetty, Dewan of Cochin and a former Vice-President of the Association, proposed Sir S. Radhakrishnan to the chair, and in so doing, he said that the *alumni* of the College had pleasure to be there not only because of the opportunity it gave them for reunion but also because they could publicly express on this occasion their gratitude for what this great institution had done to them. It was also a matter of very great joy to all Christian College men that so distinguished an old boy as Sir Radhakrishnan could take the chair on this occasion, for he was one of whom not merely this College but every Indian was proud. Sir Radhakrishnan, he said, had established a reputation which had travelled far beyond the borders of India, and the old boys of the College felt a sense of pride that they could claim such a

distinguished scholar and savant as one of the old boys of this great institution. Mr. O. Kandaswamy Chetty who had been connected with the Association throughout its history read 'Messages' from various old boys and friends of the College. Principal A. J. Boyd, according to the recent tradition of reporting on the year's work of the College on the occasion of the College Day, made an interesting review of the activities of the College during 1940. This was followed by the President's address.

In the course of his address, Sir S. Radhakrishnan said that this was the first instance of an Old Boy's Association attached to any college celebrating its Golden Jubilee. It was a matter on which all those associated with the College Day Association should congratulate themselves. He found that there were still members who were associated with the foundation of this Association. It had not been possible for him in recent years to take an active part in the work of the College Day Association. But on this occasion, he wanted to bear testimony to the valuable work done by the Madras Christian College which 'has been a centre of great education, great service, a credit to those who founded it and a blessing to the whole of South India and through that to India as a whole'. He had no doubt that it would go on functioning in this 'real and significant way' in years to come.

The speaker then alluded to the Principal's reference to the transfer of the College to the Tambaram grounds and to the great spirit which was associated with this College. He was sure that the members of the staff, both by their teaching and example, were fighting against those tragic

tendencies towards disintegration which were so visible at the present moment and would help to awaken national ambitions and foster national consciousness among those who were entrusted to their charge.

Sir S. Radhakrishnan then recalled the days when his association with the Christian College commenced and said that his class monitor was Sir Mahomed Usman who as usual was free from any kind of stiffness or self-importance, and was always ready to help. They unanimously gave him the prize for good conduct. Among the teachers, they always thought that it was in the fitness of things that Dr. Miller should teach them Shakespeare. They had a number of other distinguished professors. But his contact was greater with the professors of philosophy, Dr. Meston, Dr. Hogg and Dr. Skinner. Dr. Meston even in those days had a flair for administrative ability. But let them not imagine that as soon as a plan was submitted to him, he would simply accept it. With a smile on his face, he would say 'it cannot be put into practice'. Professor Hogg was a man of great sensibility and exacting honesty. He would put forward his conclusions as logical deductions from general premises; and if they disagreed with Dr. Hogg, they were 'questioning the foundations of life'. It has been always thought that this College took much out of him. But for that, he would have made a decisive contribution to world thought, philosophical and theological. He hoped that from the leisure he was enjoying, he would be able to put his mature thoughts in an accessible form. But so far as the speaker's own personal life was concerned, it was Dr. Skinner who made 'the profoundest impres-

sion on him'. Though outwardly stiff, Dr. Skinner was free from any kind of jealousy and self-seeking. Many honours were thrust on him and he systematically refused all of them. He was the most lovable of men.

They were discussing serious problems including those relating to religion during his college days. His associates were all men of deep religious piety. At the present day, there swept over the world a great wave of scepticism. There were people who were attacking religion. 'You may destroy religions,' said the Chairman, 'you may murder priests, you may confiscate their property, but the real hunger of the spirit for the unseen, and its aspirations cannot be rooted out.'

Proceeding, Sir S. Radhakrishnan said that religions ought not to be regarded as an exclusive monopoly of any particular race or community or nation. For forty or fifty centuries, this country had not idolised or adored men of industry or men of commerce or statesmen or despots. The Principal had pointed out that they were passing through cataclysmic changes and that it was a challenge to the foundations of our life and civilisation. But, he asked, 'what is civilisation?' Answering the question himself, Sir Sarvapalle said, 'It is not a political arrangement, it is not an economic policy, it is not technical equipment, but the mind which sustains the balance and the mind which is behind it'. He had heard it said that the ballot box, the Holy Bible and cricket were symbolic of their civilisation. But what were their values? Civilisation was centring itself round our banks and factories, our corporations and industries. It did not consider any value to be more

precious than the value of maintenance of dividends and compound interest. They were pursuing wealth and power even at the expense of justice and morality. The present civilisation, he said, deserved to perish and ought to perish. Unless they were prepared to alter the fundamental framework on which this civilisation was based, they should be prepared for repetitions of the present war. 'I believe,' the speaker added, 'what

the country, and what the world requires is a true spiritual revival'.

Mr. Sanjiva Kamath read the Ode of the College which had been published in the Jubilee Souvenir and proposed a vote of thanks to the President and others, and appealed to all members of the College to make the College Day Association a living bond of fellowship among the members of the College, past and present.

N.B.—This account is based on the reports of the Jubilee Celebrations that appeared in the *Hindu* and the *Mail*.

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A SONNET ON THE POET FALLEN.

By L. M. TURNER, *Hons. 4, Br. vii*

Is this the end?—so soon? The last sweet chord
Sounded and the dark with slow steps coming on?
Slow steps they are but sure, Once glory shone
About him as he wrote, each glowing word
With vivid life pulsated and he heard
The wind speak and the rain that fell upon
The roof would tell him secrets. Each sweet bird
Was a singing angel ere his gift had gone.
But now the dull and heavy twilight rain
Falls sombre in his soul, and dead things lie
About him as he seeks and seeks in vain
Amid the tangled thoughts that rise up high,
Rank, squalid things that fester when they die
And choke the narrow alleys of his brain.

THE PALACE OF KING GUNDAPHORUS

By L. M. TURNER¹ *Hons. 4, Br. vii.*

Gundaphorus, King of Taxila, desired to build the most beautiful palace in the world. At this time the Apostle Thomas was offered for sale to the King, as a slave-carpenter. Something about him charmed the King's fancy; and he bought him and gave him charge of the whole work, ordering his brother Gad, the royal Treasurer, to pay him all the money he asked for. The King then went away to the wars. Returning victorious, and eager to hear news of his palace, he speaks to Gad.

King: Brother, now that the war is won, tell me,
How goes it with the palace of my dreams?
Has Thomas, that Jewish builder-slave of mine,
Now built it in its grandeur on the hill?

Gad: My lord, thou should'st have harkened to my words.
The man is surely mad, stark mad! He says
Thy palace is built in heaven, and gave thy gold
Unto the filthy vermin of the streets.

King: Is it true? . . . true?
O Gad, I see it in thine eyes.
There is no palace then, and my dream
Is at an end.

Gad: I warned thee oft, O King; but thou didst turn
An angry face to me, and madest me swear
To grant this Thomas all the gold he wanted.
Why didst thou treat me thus? The deep disgrace
Has eaten in my mind these dreary months,
As I stood helpless by and watched thee fooled,
And all thy careful gold like sunlight vanish,
And with it all our dreams.

King: True, brother, true. Fool that I was,
I trusted him because I thought I saw
Within his eyes the light of genius gleam.
But I will be revenged
Upon this misbegotten dog. Ho there,
My guards!

[Two Guardsmen enter.]

A Guard: We hear, O King, and wait thy hest.

King: Bring forth that traitor Thomas, and here lash
Him before my face.

Gad: Aye, lash him till the bones
Stand white and bare!

[The Guardsmen go out.]

¹ The play was performed by the College Dramatic Association in the Anderson Hall, on 15th November, 1940, with L. M. Turner as the King, A. Bhagyanathan as Gad, and Lateef Khan as Thomas. It was also broadcast by the All India Radio, Madras, on 20th February, 1941, with L. M. Turner as the King, John Sterling as Gad, V. A. Balasundaram as Thomas and S. P. Palat as Narrator and Guard. By kind permission of AIR, we print the broadcast version.

THE PALACE OF KING GUNDAPHORUS

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Gad: My lord, he never hewed a single stone,
But all day knelt upon the palace site
Till evening, then, my lord, he rose, and all
Thy gold—my mind it shudders at the thought!
O heart, be still, and break not!—they gold, my lord,
He gave to the scum of the bazaars. They mock thee now,
And . . . Oh!

King: Peace, Gad, peace!

Gad: I cannot breathe . . . My heart!
Oh, brother, brother, help! 'Tis dark, and bands
Of grief oppress my breath . . .
O my burning heart!

King: My brother! What, art thou dying there?
Fool that I was! Wrapt in my selfish grief,
I did not see how pale thou wast, and thin.
Speak to me, Gad! Nay, do not leave me now!
We'll build a palace, Gad, to make the world
Turn laughter into envy. Answer me!
Why dost thou answer not? Oh, thou art dead.
He breathes! He breathes! I felt it on
My hand! Alas, his heart beats not. It was
The cool breeze from yon doorway there that sweeps
By silken-winged, as if it bore his soul
Asleep into another birth.

[The Guards return with Thomas.]

Guard: My lord and king!

King: Who's there? I cannot see. Mine eyes are dimmed
With tears. Oh, 'tis my guards. Come hither, men.
My brother Gad is dead, slain by his grief.
Ah, ye have brought that hateful Jewish snake.
Thou wretch, thou! Words cannot frame my hate.
Thou hast caused my dream to fade upon the wastes
Of thought, and thou hast slain, with thy false scheming,
A brother whom I loved as mine own soul.
Thou look'st full calmly now. I'll make thee groan!

Thomas: Thou art a king—Nay, Thomas, nay! Be calm!
Do as thy loved Lord bade thee, and return
Good for the other's evil. O great King
Gundaphorus, restrain thy hasty wrath.
Thy brother is not dead: he lives eternally.

King: Eh! What's that thou sayest? Lives, does he?
Oh, thou art mad, and ere thou do more harm
I'll have thee slain.
Shroud him, guards,
Or soon the flies will make their song upon
His silent corpse.
I've seen them hang like clouds, black clouds, above
The field of battle, and hum and hum and hum

Till I felt sick amid the stinking slain
And did regret my conquest. O brother Gad,
I'll see that neither fly nor worm touch thee!

Thomas: My lord, I know thy grief. I too felt thus
When death had taken those I loved away,
And wondered at the strange unmeaning world
Where ever all things seemed to end in this,
A blank extinction, cold and purposeless
I saw the teeming of Nature's fecund womb,
And cried out cursing, 'Cease!'
What dost thou do but bring new grief with blind
Unfeeling heart upon the old

King: Go on, go on!
Thou hast a smooth tongue, madman!
Speak ere thou die!

Thomas: And then, my Lord, I met a certain man.
His smile, O King, was purer than the sun,
And warmer with true comfort. When he spoke,
I felt a peace like evening in the soul.
He told of God, my lord, whose name is Love;
He preached, although I did
Not understand it then, of life beyond
This life, of everlasting joy, and of
God's Kingdom, where there stood full many a great
And stately mansion---

King: And so thou gav'st
My wealth unto the poor. Thou dream-crazed fool!
Thomas: Nay, O my lord, 'tis true! This man, my lord,
Or God, was slain,
Nailed to a cross by jealous-hearted men;
And with his death my hopes did fade
Into despair. But, lord, he lived!
I doubted then, when he did show himself
Unto my comrades there; but all my doubts
Fled like the gloom of night when I did see
Him stand before me in a blaze of light ---

King: 'Tis very like!
I lately have too much been trafficking
With things that seem and are not. I would need
To feel with loving hands the marble walls---
Cold marble, not cobweb fantasies that fade.
And so, unless thou show my palace to me,
Thou'lt die.

Thomas: Oh, Thomas! Thomas! Thomas! how has
This eating doubt, the very same thou showedst
Thy Lord, come home to roost! This human itch
To test upon the blunt and feeble edge
Of sense, things that the senses cannot feel.

O King! I felt his wounds, and clasped his wondrous
Hands,—the same human hands with which
He healed the sick and brought the dead to life.
As for thy palace, lord, thou'lt see it when
Thou diest.

I thank thee, God, that thou hast shown me this,—
The dark and mighty depth of mine own sin,—
And wait my end in peace.

King: Slay him, O guards!
Strike off his head ere I repent me of
My purpose. Such a man as he ought not
To live, to lead men by his wiles into
Distress. Be quick, guards! Quick! Despatch him now!
Guard: Upon thy knees, fellow, Kneel there.

[*Music sounds.*]

What's that?

King (not
hearing the
music): Strike, strike! Why dost not strike? Be quick!

Guard: O King! O King Gundaphorus, look there!
He moves! Thy brother moves! The dead man moves!
[*Gad rises in his place slowly and silently.*]

Gad: O King Gundaphorus! I fain would speak
To thee. Slay not that builder there. Thy house
Of dreams is built. I saw it with these eyes.

King: 'Tis Gad! 'Tis Gad! my brother, come to life!
Oh, joy, my soul! 'Tis Gad, returned to me!

Gad: Yes, 'tis Gad; and I have seen such things
As living eyes have seen not. O my lord,
When Death did sweep to me on sweet strong wings
Ending an hell of pain, I felt a peace
Of dreadful beauty steal upon my soul.
And lo! before me lay a land of light
More radiant than the sunrise, and I saw
Full many glorious palaces; but best,
Most beautiful, did I see arise,
Like carven music to the height of heaven,
The grandeur of the palace of thy dreams.
They would not let me enter there, alas!
But said—these grave-eyed angels—'Go, return,
And tell thy brother that his house is built
And now awaits his coming'.

Thomas: Dost thou believe, my lord, now that thine ears
Have heard the truth?

King: I hear: and I believe!

[*Music.*]

THE END

ATOMS

By N. S. KUPPUSWAMY, B.Sc. III, Gr. ii.

'I could be bound in a nut-shell and count myself a king of infinite space'—Hamlet.

Primitive man must have found Nature singularly puzzling and intricate. The Greek philosophers of old, in particular, hankered after some simplifying generalization which would co-ordinate the variety of material substances by ascribing to them a common origin or by building them up from a single form of matter or 'potential matter'. 'Nearly twenty-five centuries have lapsed since the Greek philosopher, Democritus, astonished his fellow-citizens at Abdera in Asia Minor by an extremely strange theory. In bold speech he declared the whole of nature which surrounds us to be an illusion of our senses. This diversity of colour and form, with its abundance of individual phenomena restlessly following one upon the other, became to him a deceptive world of appearance, without the faintest claim to real existence, a world shaped by the human brain alone, because eye and ear, nose and tongue, and the groping hands, are trying incessantly to clothe in misleading garments the impressions reaching us from the outer world. In reality nothing exists but atoms, smallest particles of varying size and shape, but in all other respects entirely alike. They alone build up the world in which we are living, they alone deceive our senses by the confused illusion of events in nature which the unsophisticated mind likes to accept at their face-value. These atoms

rushing about in the maddest motion cause the eye to "see" light and colour, or the ear to "hear" sounds and noises. The nose interprets certain movements of the atoms as "smell", and our tongue perceives "taste" as soon as it is bombarded in suitable fashion by those invisible small corpuscles. Thus this world of ours, rich in beauty, glittering in the rays of the sun, is degraded to a cold monotonous host of atoms moving about incessantly. And the sense of these movements is empty space into which all this has been immersed as if into a boundless gigantic receptacle.' It is true that Democritus, on account of this theory, was promptly declared mad by his compatriots. Following the model of the Greek philosopher, John Dalton, a school-master in Cumberland, in 1808, made an effort at explaining the constitution of matter and postulated a theory known as the 'atomic theory', on a sound scientific basis. The largest unit is the 'molecule' and a molecule is as a rule composed of 'atoms'. Dalton's atomic theory laid the foundations for the structure of chemistry.

For the best part of a century Dalton's hypothesis held sway. But in the last decade of the last century several distinguished physicists like J. J. Thomson, Henri Becquerel, Lenard and Rutherford performed some interesting experiments and disclosed certain facts which pointed to the view, that atoms were not the ultimate particles. But Nature always supersedes man. What was

predicted as a theoretical possibility was discovered in 1896 to have been taking place in Nature from time immemorial in the case of a phenomenon known as radio-activity, where atoms of one kind spontaneously explode producing atoms of other kinds. Such elements are known as radio-active elements.

The atoms of all elements mainly consist of a 'nucleus' composed of positively charged electric particles called 'protons' surrounded by negatively charged particles called 'electrons'. This conception of the atom was enough to satisfy knowledge up to 1930. In the thirties of this century however three more distinct particles—the neutron, the positron and the mesotron—were found. It is possible that an atom may contain some or all of these five different units.

All these units, the atom, the electron, the nucleus, are exceedingly small. The radius of the largest of them, viz. the atom, is of the order of 10^{-8} cms. in the case of hydrogen. The weight of an atom of hydrogen is nearly a million-millionth of a million-millionth of a gram and a half. Other atoms are comparatively heavier, an atom of oxygen weighing sixteen times as much and silver nearly a hundred and eight times as much as an atom of hydrogen. An electron is lighter than the hydrogen atom, about 1850 going to make up the weight of one hydrogen atom. The proton is about 1845 times heavier than the electron and the weight of the protons constituting the nucleus determine the atomic weight of the element. The 'positron' is one of the recently discovered units. When Anderson was studying cosmic showers, he found an electron pair. Associated with the electron was found

to be present a positively charged particle of the same mass as the electron. Its charge was equal, but opposite, to that of the electron. This was named the 'positron'. The discovery of the neutron marks another step into the realm of the atom. This was found to possess no charge on it, i.e., it was neutral and of the same mass as the proton. The mesotron is a very recent discovery. This was found to be a heavy electron having a negative charge and mass intermediate between an electron and a proton. The accepted value for the charge on the electron is 4.774×10^{-10} electrostatic units.

The atom is a kind of miniature solar system—a sun with its planets. The nucleus acts as the sun and the electrons the planets. Yet there are notable points of difference between the two systems. In the case of the atom the planets (the electrons) are not as firmly linked to the sun (the nucleus) as they are in the solar system. An electron can under certain conditions get detached from an atom and can either become a member of another system or lead a separate existence for a while. Another aspect of difference lies in the fact that the force which compels an electron to go round the nucleus is not gravitational but electrical. The electrons which are charged with negative electricity are attracted by the positive electric charge of the nucleus. However the law governing this attraction or repulsion is similar to that governing the solar system, the law of inverse squares.

The nucleus of an atom is not quite simple, except in the case of hydrogen, but a complicated system consisting of both hydrogen nuclei and electrons. The nuclei of different elements are different. The nucleus possesses a

resultant positive charge equal to the total charge of the orbital electrons. Hence the atoms are normally neutral. An atom of hydrogen is the simplest, consisting of a nucleus of one proton with one electron going round. The nuclei of other elements are complicated. Helium, for example, contains four protons in the nucleus and only two electrons revolving round it. But there are also electrons within the nucleus. Thus the nucleus of atomic weight A and atomic number (or nuclear charge) Z , might be expected to consist of A protons, necessary to build up the mass, and $A-Z$, electrons so that the net positive charge be Z units. The total mass of protons plus electrons, considered as separate units would, of course, be slightly greater than the observed mass A , the difference representing the energy of binding, i.e., the energy given out when the nucleus was formed from its constituents. (According to the relativity theory mass and energy are under certain circumstances mutually convertible, thus mass may be converted into energy and of course disappear as mass. One gram is equivalent to 9×10^{20} ergs.)

Subsequently, for several reasons it appeared improbable that electrons could exist (at least as independent units) inside the nucleus. Such nucleus electrons do not appear to make any contribution to the total angular momentum of the nucleus, which is quite impossible to understand, since the 'spin' of the electron is not known. If the electrons are present, they appear to lose their spin and the associated magnetic moment. It was however necessary to assume the existence of electrons in the nucleus to account for the fact that the nuclear charge was not equal to

the atomic weight (the number of protons) and that the electrons were ejected as beta-rays, by some radioactive elements which is a nuclear phenomena.

The discovery of the neutron of zero charge and mass equal to that of the proton made it appear that it was no longer necessary to assume the presence of electrons in the nucleus. Thus a nucleus of mass A units and charge Z units might be considered as being composed of Z protons and $(A-Z)$ neutrons. Thus a neutron-proton nucleus dismisses the spin anomalies associated with the postulate that electrons did exist in the nucleus. In order to explain the association of neutrons and protons to form nuclei various assumptions have been made. The most precise information hitherto obtained has been derived from a close study of the disintegration of deuterium, the heavy 'isotope' of hydrogen, since this consists of a single neutron-proton combination.

The study of the mechanics of the proton-neutron equilibrium has revealed that for stable conditions to hold good, as we know they hold good in actual fact, it is essential that there should be a continual and frequent transformation of proton into neutron and *vice versa*. Just exactly how such a thing can be happening was a puzzle till Dr. Yukawa of Japan suggested that there may be still a new particle in the nucleus which might be the carrier which helped this periodic transformation. The existence of such a particle would also help to clear some anomalies that were encountered in the application of statistical considerations to nuclear phenomena. During certain studies of cosmic rays in 1937, this new particle as required by Yukawa's

theory was actually discovered and is called the mesotron or the meson. It is what we might call a heavy electron. The mystery man of the nucleus is however still another entity called the 'neutrino' which is supposed to be a particle with no charge and negligible mass but charged with a specific amount of energy. Thus as a result of careful experimentation backed up by theoretical speculation much has been discovered about the atom. Our knowledge of the nucleus, however, remains incomplete. On the other hand our knowledge of the planetary electrons is more definite. All atoms contain a number of planetary electrons equal to the atomic number. They are arranged in successive shells of definite dimensions. The orbits of the revolving electrons may be circular or elliptical. Normally an electron prefers to move in the smallest of the given set of orbits. Though the radii of these are exceedingly small, the speed with which any one moves along one of these orbits is incredibly great—about 1,400 miles per second!

Since the constituents of all atoms are the same, then how are we to account for the difference between the atoms? It is the nature of the nucleus that determines the element. For example the carbon atom consists of six nuclear positive charges holding in equilibrium six surrounding electrons revolving like six planets round a sun; it appears to differ from its two nearest neighbours in the table of chemical elements, the atoms of boron and nitrogen, only in having one proton more than the former and one proton fewer than the latter. Yet this slight difference must account in the last resort for all the difference between life and absence of life. No doubt the reason

why the six electron atoms possess the remarkable properties characteristic of carbon resides somewhere in the ultimate laws of nature, but mathematical physics has not yet fathomed it. Now it is conceivable that one element can be transformed into another by suitably dealing with the nucleus though it may be a very difficult operation. This has however actually been accomplished in a few cases.

Although an atom is an exceedingly tiny particle, yet it is a large storehouse of energy. Any agitation of the orbital electrons or the nucleus would cause it to eject part of it. This takes the form light rays, X-rays, etc. According to Bohr, what happens when a hydrogen atom gives out light is that its electron, which has been momentarily removed from its original orbit to another comparatively distant from the nucleus for some reason or other, suddenly jumps into its original orbit which is much nearer to the nucleus. When this happens the atom loses energy, but the energy is not lost to the world: it spreads through the surrounding medium in the form of light waves. In the case of heavier elements, when an electron in the inner-most shell is removed from its orbit and it regains its original position, X-rays are produced.

The atom is therefore a complicated system similar to the solar system, with a nucleus of some or all the units mentioned, but having a resultant positive charge, surrounded by negatively charged particles revolving round it. Thus so far as our knowledge goes, matter is an electrical entity composed possibly of some or all the units, protons, electrons, neutrons, positrons and mesotrons.

CEMENT IN INDIA

By L. M. TURNER, *Hons. 4, Br. vii.*

The manufacture of cement is one of India's most thriving industries. Controlled largely by Indian capital and unaffected by foreign competition it is a typical example of the mushroom growth of modern industry. Thirty years ago there were few, if any, cement factories in India; cement was brought from England by sea and sold at fabulous prices in the bazaars. Today, however, the industry has already reached the 'big business' stage of modern industrial development. A huge combine has been formed by the majority of Indian cement manufacturing firms, called the Associated Cement Companies, and their aim appears to be a virtual monopoly of the market. Each district is to have its factory and three new works have recently been completed, one at Rohri near the Sukkur barrage in Sind, another at Kalka in the Simla Hills and a third at Bezwada in South India. The vastness of this net-work can readily be appreciated when one considers that there are seven other factories producing many hundreds of tons of cement every day. But even this vast combine is not suffered to continue unhampered—their main competitors being a smaller group of factories managed by Dalmia & Company. It is an interesting sight to watch these two mighty opponents manoeuvring one against the other in the life and death struggle that is modern business. A recent agreement between the two great mergers has tended to ease competition somewhat, but the rivalry still remains.

But, though the industry is so vast, it is a strange fact that very few people have ever visited a cement factory. The reason is not far to seek,—lime-stone, the material from which cement is made has, like the Cheshire cat in 'Alice in Wonderland', a strange propensity for appearing in the most unusual and unexpected places. The greatest cement works in India for example, is tucked away in the heart of the Central Indian Jungles thirty miles from the nearest railway station, where it forms a strange contrast with the sinister scrub-land that surrounds it. A community thus isolated tends to form a little self-contained settlement of its own with the manager as a sort of president of a minor republic. Sometimes indeed it is often an 'international settlement' as in the factory where I live near Bezwada where, till recently, Danes, Czechs and a Swede were employed in the erection, and, in the factory itself, workmen of all the different races of India from Sikhs to Tamilians.

If anyone should be so painstaking as to travel out to a cement factory, he will not find his trouble unrewarded, for he will see things there that will both interest and astonish him. Armed, of course, with the necessary permission of the manager he will be shown the quarries where the stone is dug. Sometimes these are merely broad shallow scratches in the earth's face, but often they are huge, deep, pits with stepped sides going down three hundred feet or more till the gray rock is reached. Vast hills of dumped

earth surround the quarry and the visitor looking down beholds a scene of great grandeur. The sides of the quarry are made up of many coloured clays. Red, white, blue and yellow attract the eye in chaotic but pleasing design, and ever at the bottom, after this riot of colour, lies the quiet gray lime-stone. There the men work, loosening the blasted stone or digging the earth in the hot blazing sun-shine and women bear the earth and stone in baskets upon their heads up the steep paths at the sides of the quarry. Their saris look gayer even than the clays and to the visitor watching them ascending and descending by their hundreds they appear like ants in their feverish activity. But unlike ants these people labour for houses that they will never live in and palaces that they will never enter.

Leaving the quarry, our patient visitor is taken to the factory itself—it looms up noisy and gigantic before his eyes with its many chimneys and the white smoke curling up from them into the blue heavens. He watches the loaded trucks come with their lime-stone and sees it tilted into the cavernous jaws of the giant crusher. Huge blocks of stone are nothing to this monster—its appetite is insatiable and with an ear-splitting din it crunches them into fragments. These pass on to another mill which is yet noisier, even the irrepressible guide is forced to keep silence and here the stone is crushed to a powder so fine that it will almost float on air.

One stage of the process is over, the grinding is completed, but another begins—the stone-powder mixed with water is pumped up to a huge silo or store-tower at least fifty feet high and as much broad—fit bastion for a fortress! Yet such are the marvels

of modern engineering, that this monstrous edifice can be constructed in the short space of a fortnight. From this tower the powder and water goes to a machine that reminds one irresistibly of a gigantic pudding-mixer. Here it is mixed with clay and a huge arm moves slowly round and round continually stirring the sticky mixture of clay, water and lime-stone. Children love to go for rides on it—it is even better than a round-about!

Now follows the third and most spectacular stage of the process—the clay-limestone mixture is pumped into the rotary kiln. The visitor sees before him the largest single moving part in the whole of Engineering mechanics, it is the mighty rotary kiln, about three hundred feet long and six feet in diameter, resting upon rollers and turned slowly by electric motors. Within this slowly-turning tube there burns such a fire, that the steel of which the tube is made would melt were it not for its fire-brick lining. At the place where the coal enters it is 1000°C. The coal enters in a strange way,—there is no shovelling here, no stoking by half-naked stokers; it is blown into the kiln by powerful fans as a powder and burns there with a flame of intense brightness. The watcher must use a blue glass to protect his eyes and looking in, he sees a spectacle of great beauty. The kiln is set at a slight angle so that the lime-stone and clay, now hardened by the heat into pebbles come towards him in a dazzling golden rain with each revolution of the kiln. Into the midst of this inferno the squat muzzle of the pipe through which the coal passes projects spouting ruddy flame. Awe and enchanted by this sight the visitor forgets his guide who endeavours to

tell him many learned and incomprehensible formulae of the process going on before his eyes.

Then the visitor is shown the fourth stage of the process--the pebbles, or clinker as they are called, are ground once more and mixed with gypsum so that the cement may set more quickly. The last stage is thus completed and the cement is now ready to be packed into bags and sent for sale.

But one important aspect of the manufacture of cement has been neglected--the laboratories are as yet unvisited. They are a strange contrast, these silent cool white-washed rooms where skilled chemists test every stage in the manufacture of cement. Here the visitor is shown the finished product and the uses that it may be put to. Coloured cement, cement so light that it can float on water or so heavy that it feels like lead, these are shown to him in the laboratory itself; but if he should wish to see the further uses that cement is put to in our modern civilization, he has only, in the

words of Wren's monument, to 'look around'.

Everything from ships to telegraph poles can be constructed by the use of this material, re-inforced with strips of steel and known under the misleading name of 're-inforced concrete'. In England the concrete shelters have saved hundreds and thousands of lives.

When India's industrial revolution will take place (and surely the time is not far off), then cement will play a tremendous and ever-increasing part. In some sense a cement factory is symbolic of the future--the industrial future of India. The gaunt chimneys and stark grey buildings with their sleek machines speak of power--power that man must learn to use for his own good or it will destroy him utterly. India standing upon the threshold of her industrial development must learn this fact and seek by means of a wise and beneficent government to control the machine instead of letting the machine control mankind, as in the present state of world industry.

EPIGRAMS

(1)

'Dead is Maenas. Now with Jove he rests,
Lapped in pleasure, purged of earthly care.'
Thus the mourners said, and beat their breasts,
Strewing dust upon their ravaged hair.

(2)

With wine and love, Youth turns the night to day,
Setting Timon's silver hairs a-quiver;
Outraged is he. Yet all the doctors say
Timon hath cirrhosis of the liver.

J. F. STIRLING,
Class III.

MAN *versus* REASON

By N. SRIRAM, Hons. 3, Br. vii.

When Dean Swift attacked man as a being only *Rationalis Capex* (Capable of Reason) and not an *Animal Rationale* (Rational Animal), he was in fact aiming at the tap-root of man's solace and enjoyment.

Curious as it may seem, man--or woman for that matter--takes delight in acting most unreasonably now and then. The following rational analysis of my recent visit to the 'Ytinasi Fair' will illustrate the point.

At the entrance to the Fair, I had to pay two annas in order to be admitted to a place where I was to be fooled, and where I had to pay money every time I chose to be fooled.

The first object which attracted my attention was of course the merry-go-round. By the way, who on earth gave it such a name?--I shelled out the two annas and was soon whirled round and round. In a few seconds I began to feel so giddy that I would have been very glad to get down. But I thought it a shame to do so when all the others were shouting and cheering wildly. I was whirled faster and faster and had to cling to the horse for dear life. I know not how on earth I managed to hold on although the centrifugal force was enough to have dislodged an iguana. I would have paid a king's ransom to get that infernal machine stopped. But I had to endure the torture for ten minutes more. I was reminded of the Judge, who, during his visit to a prison requested to be given a turn at the treadmill. After stepping briskly and merrily for a minute or two, he began to feel rather tired and requested to be relieved. But the minimum period of

time for which the machine could be set was twenty minutes!

At last I got down but could hardly stand, for the giddiness made me lose my balance now and again. I had not fully recovered when, by the living Jingo! here was the 'Mountain-Slide'. How cheap! Just one anna for such capital fun!

I got up, slid down. Goodness me! Reader, have you ever heard of the 'Strappado'? If not, go to the nearest 'Mountain-Slide' and you will experience something like that torture.

Was there any time to stop and think when there was such fun ahead? 'What is that?' 'Oh, here is the "Dash-as-Dash-Can"--the talk of the whole town! Just eight annas please--how cheap!--All-rubber motor cars--dash--enjoy--laugh away your troubles!'

Reader, O Reader, I was shaken and jolted so much that every bone in my body rattled and for full half an hour I was left guessing whether I was on earth or in the infernal regions!

What value will the several other 'amusements' have when reduced to reason?--The ten-balls-for-one-anna-in-slot machines throw the ring over the prize--freaks of nature... Darts and hundred and one other methods of making man bid good-bye to reason?

Yet, to such an extent will human folly go that I considered my visit to the Fair the merriest time I ever spent.

Thus we see that without unreason, human life would be very insipid indeed and life will not be worth living.

THE BEGINNINGS OF SOCIALISM

By K. V. VAIDYALINGAM, III B.Sc., Gr. ii.

At a time when the new generation seems to be hypnotised by Socialistic ideas one is tempted to search for the cause of this mass hypnotisation. Is it because mankind is always fond of something new or is it merely an outward expression of an instinct or a tendency towards socialistic ideas born with pre-historic man?

These questions lead us to a third question, namely 'What is Socialism?' The answer to this question cannot be better expressed than in the words of H. G. Wells. 'Essentially socialism is no more and no less than a criticism of the idea of property in the light of public good.' This idea of property is closely allied to the idea of internationalism. And our present political life revolves round these two ideas. The development of this idea of property can be easily shown to be a part of the progress of Mankind towards civilisation.

The idea of property, arising out of the combative instinct of the animals, was present in pre-historic man. He was the proprietor of his family. Primitive man exercised ownership over his wife, his primitive implements and the game he slew. If an outsider tried to interfere with his visible universe, he fought that outsider and slew him if he could. He sometimes joined his fellow-tribesmen to defend his tribe and its property from another hostile tribe. Sometimes two or three small tribes joined together and stood in the way of another tribe which was numerically stronger than each of the smaller tribes. Thus we see the idea

of property and the idea of internationalism developing side by side.

Society grew by a compromise between one man's property and another man's. The older man had to tolerate the existence of the younger men and of their ownership over the wives they captured from other tribes, their primitive implements and the game they slew. This compromise was effected by the necessity of presenting a united front and driving away the tribes which consciously or unconsciously wandered into their visible universe. Society therefore grew to be a mitigation of ownership. To quote again from H. G. Wells, 'If the hills, forests and streams were not your land or my land, it was because they had to be our land. Each of us would have preferred it to be my land but that would not work.'

As the restriction of individual ownership increased the number of individual owners decreased but their property increased enormously. The tyranny of kings and the exploitation of adventurers were the direct outcome of this. Heavy taxation by kings was one form of such tyranny. Conflict between the selfish employer and the reluctant worker was another result of the tyranny. So the necessity came for the common people to protect their private property from the tyranny of the few individual owners, or capitalists as we call them to-day. One outcome of this conflict was the French Revolution: which was a very sad failure. However, one result of the Revolution was that the people realised the necessity for

men to be equal and free. But they were faced by the practical side of the problem. How can men be equal and be free when they have nothing to stand on, nothing to eat?

Two solutions were suggested by the people of those days. One was 'dividing up'. This class of people are what are known as individualists. The other solution was the abolition of private property altogether. They were the primitive socialist or rather the primitive communists. The first class whom we called the individualists wanted to make property as absolute as possible. Against this class rose the communists who wanted to abolish private property. It is a paradox that two sets of people seeking equality and liberty should propose two entirely different solutions. Civilisation has expanded on all sides and ownership is no longer of one thing but of a number of things. Herein lies the clue to this paradox. Certain things like one's body, and clothes are definitely one's own private property, while things like railways, mines and industries cannot and should not be one's own private property. The attempt to put an end to the conflict between the tyrants and their victims resulted in a conflict between individualists and socialists.

People saw the necessity for planned world-wide action. Individualists tried a peaceful and progressive society on the foundation of individual liberty and free trade. The great Adam Smith and the English businessmen did their best to check the limitations of free trade exercised by national boundaries. Against this class worked the socialists who wanted to pool the resources of the state for the common good. This ended in Marxism which prophesied that the

working majority would one day capture power from the ruling minority and revolutionise the existing society and that an equal and free society would come out of this revolution. The prophecy came true in Russia only as far as the revolution. But where is the Society in which men could be free and equal and live as one happy family? Both the classes, diametrically opposed to one another, strangely enough, headed towards a world-wide treatment of human affairs.* 'The logic of reality triumphs over the logic of theory.'

However it is becoming clearer and clearer that mankind is one community and the necessity for world-wide planned action is becoming plainer and plainer. The economic problem of one state is no longer its own private problem but the problem of the whole of mankind. Internationalism has ceased to be merely the creation of foreign offices and appointment of ambassadors. It has become the 'Socialism of Nations'. The ever expanding and the ever advancing sciences need a world-wide comprehensive direction. Before long we may find that there is a world-wide control over human affairs, not by a world dictator nor by a world-parliament but by a mechanical and unconscious adjustment between nations without the nations knowing that they are subjecting themselves to a world-wide control. This is merely the instinct of the socialistic idea we found in primitive man, triumphing over the ruling minority which is ruthlessly exploiting the unwilling and discontented working majority—unwilling because the sweet fruits of their labour find their way to the capitalists and discontented because they have nothing to eat, and nothing to live for.

THE MUSE IN ARMS!

By D. S. GEORGE MULLER, *Hons. A, Br. vii.*

'Poesy is as a gum, which oozes
From whence 'tis nourished; the fire i' the flint
Shows not, 'till it be struck; our gentle flame
Provokes itself, and like the current, flies
Each bound it chafes.'

—SHAKESPEARE (*Timon of Athens*)

The relation between war and poetry is as old as either war or poetry itself. Virgil opens his immortal epic: 'Of Arms and the Man I sing'; Homer before him did likewise; in our own land the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana* are essentially records of martial deeds. Nor do we require the picturesque 'pastiche' of Sir Walter Scott to remind us of those wandering minstrels who strayed from castle to castle, singing by the firesides of the doughty deeds of dead heroes, to the end that the young men might be stirred to go out and fight, and the maidens' hearts preserved from breaking while their lovers were away. And right through the history of letters can be heard this clash of arms and din of battle. But it is worth considering how the modern mind differs in reacting to the thrill of war from the older traditions.

War is pre-eminently the expression of unreason. When a nation undertakes to vindicate the righteousness of its cause by a resort to arms, it simply means that rational methods of solving the problem have failed. Therefore the methods availed of for creating and maintaining the war-fever must be such as ignore man's reason and appeal exclusively to his emotion. In times of war, song, like the drum and the flag, has been used — and used very effectively — to stir the

soldiers to self-forgetfulness, to invest their deeds with a halo, and inspire them with courage and strength to face the fray. So most of the war-poetry of the past has been the legitimate descendant of these glib eulogists, of whom the first thing to remember is that their whole business is to encourage and to praise, to set romance twittering among the leaves — in short, to tell noble lies about war, that the purpose of the country may be served. Poetry has in fact to plead guilty of misrepresenting War, in the cause either of politics or of art, of misrepresenting it as something intrinsically splendid, beautiful and inspiring. It has persistently confused the issue with the process. Splendid things are done in war, of course; but they are the issue of war, not its process. For the mere process of warfare is indisputably a vile, inhuman, devilish abomination, plunged in squalor and filth. It is approached through seas of mud, and pursued amid vermin and uncleanness. It degrades the body of man; more than that, it would destroy his very soul itself, were it not for the divine fire that burns at the heart of humanity, and consumes even the weapons of war in the white heat of its truth.

Accordingly, twentieth century letters bear evidence of a reaction against this attitude. Perhaps one of

the major trends of contemporary life is what the Americans call 'debunking', which seems to take a peculiar pleasure in breaking the idols of our predecessors and laughing at their one-sided enthusiasms. The old school tie, the home, religion, have all been subjected to this process of 'debunking'; and war, too, has not escaped the malignant scorn of a debunking world. We have for instance, the two brilliant novels by Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front* and *The Road Back*, and the play, *Journey's End*, by Sheriff — where the selfishness, the callousness, the privations and the grossness that descend upon man and blight his finer sensibilities are laid bare in all their naked reality.

This change of attitude was evinced even in the poetry of the Great War of 1914–18. When for the first time fighting ceased to be the business of a professional class, and became perforce the bitter duty of the whole manhood of the race, we had something approaching its true meaning revealed to us in poetry; not because war had any virtue in it that could 'make a poet of a man', but simply because the poet had himself turned soldier, and concentrated upon the ugly and monotonous business of war the keen searchlight of interpretation. He had himself gone through the harrowing experiences of actual life in the trenches; had known what it was to face — in the words of Wilfred Owen, 'the monstrous anger of the guns' and 'to hear the shrill demented choirs of wailing shells'. The professional soldier, by the way, is inevitably an unimaginative product — his is 'not to reason why'. Now that war has ceased to be the concern of a professional class, we have the clear lights of intellect and interpretation

playing upon the battlefield. Whatever may be thought of the gain or loss to poetry, there can at least be no question about the extraordinary actuality of this new presentment, about its sincerity, or about the arresting revelation which it affords of the evil and the horror of modern warfare between civilised communities.

It has been repeated very often that no nation ever entered upon a war with a cleaner conscience than Britain in the summer of 1914 (unless it be her own entry in this present war). She first accepted the yoke of battle with exalted purpose and high ideals. No one could accuse Mr. Thomas Hardy or Mr. Laurence Binyon of sentimentalising a situation of this kind. Thus, this sense of a just cause, almost of a sacred crusade, may be said to have inspired all the war-poetry written during the closing months of 1914. Something of the same sentiment, too broods over the harvest-fields in Mr. John Masefield's 'August, 1914'. Such poetry, consequently, was detached, remote — the sentiment, in a word, of the onlooker. It was once more the true descendant of the old ballad poetry, made by men who stood outside the fiery trial of battle.

But this phase was only short-lived. For there was a startling retrogression from the universal to the purely personal point of view. It is comparatively easy for the onlooker to be eloquent in behalf of a cause; but the man who is swept into the field of action becomes, at the first onset, disconcertingly conscious of his own individuality and of his immediate personal risk. Hence the poets of this phase refused to follow in the wake of their more illustrious forbears, and in stale terms to glorify

warfare and chant new hymns of hate. For this refusal they have been unkindly dubbed 'Pacifists'. Chief among them are Siegfried Sassoon, Robert Nichols and Robert Graves—who have been called 'the three rhyming musketeers'. It is worth noting that even W. B. Yeats has refused to give their war poems a place of honour in his remarkably fine selection of modern poems—*The Oxford Book of Modern Verse*. To him, unlike to these poets, 'passive suffering is not a theme for poetry'.

The next change in the poet's attitude to war can be traced in almost every one of the young writers who have actually been into the front lines. The sense of a cause vanishes; the sense of self vanishes; and over all spreads an impenetrable, absorbing prepossession, that war is after all merely another form of toiling, moiling business, beset with detail, loaded with obligation, in which the individual soldier is of no more significance than the proverbial cog in a vast mass of labouring machinery. Men, as Mr. Gilbert Frankau sees them clearly, have become the slaves of the guns:

'These are our masters, the slim
Grim muzzles that irk in the
pit';

The life of the soldier lumbers along, revealing itself in broken glimpses through a mist of grey monotony. Weary detail, uninspired vigil, perpetual repetition of duties only half understood, throw the mind back upon itself and feed it with memory. In such lonely hours the impressions of the past become importunate, and flashes of the old life penetrate through the most unlikely environment. Wyndham Tennant describes this poignantly in 'Home Thoughts in Laventie'. Many of

the soldier-poets recur naturally to their school-days, fighting old battles over again on field and in class-room. In this context in particular, there emerges the new type of student-in-arms, the bookman, the classical scholar, the meditative yet virile public school product, bred on good literature and good sport, who carries Homer in his haversack, and dreams of Achilles in the trenches. Of this type a brave and stimulating example is afforded by Charles Hamilton Sorley, whose imagination seems to flood the squalid present with the picturesque heroism of the past. He carries the sunlight of ancient Sparta into the drab, drenched flats of Flanders, and sees the end of conflict in an ideal city of dreams, built 'half in heaven' and half upon 'the windy Marlborough downs'.

Of the thoughts and themes which constantly recur in these poems the most noticeable are love of the people and scenes at home, and of that idealized and emotionalized conception which men call their country; the conviction that God has confronted each man with a searching test, and that either he must offer his whole self or lose his own soul; the sense of human comradeship realized as it only can be in a communion of endurance; the belief, instinctive and unshaken, that the war is a reply to the challenge of brute force, a defence not merely of one's own country, but of 'whatsoever things are lovely and of good report'; a hatred of war itself, which does not exclude exhilaration in 'the fighting excitement which vitalizes everything',—to use Julian Grenfell's phrase; and finally a clear, cool, almost unemotional commerce with 'the last enemy', Death. Equally interesting is it to note what is, generally speaking,

absent from these poems. The dogmas of Church and Creed receive little direct expression, though many poems recall the Divine Sacrifice or the Holy Eucharist which perpetuates it; and if dogma is absent Christian morality has penetrated these soldier-poets through and through. 'What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?' is the question that has led them to their valiant response. Also, we find little or no political theory or revolutionary idealism. When we remember Coleridge or Wordsworth in their ardent youth, or Byron and Shelley in their poetry of revolt, it is striking to find these young men writing almost always from the standpoint of individual duty and individual resistance. Scant reference is made to the League of Nations, or to the vague benefices of the Russian Revolution, though we find again and again the hope of a fairer world. Noteworthy also is the absence of hate-songs. The modern soldier-poet might alter Landor's famous line into 'I hated none, for none was worth my hate'. There are many signs of sympathy with the enemy when he is in distress, and occasional signs of the community feeling which binds together all fighting men.

It remains for us now to consider the value of the material which war had offered poetry from the actual or realistic standpoint. We noticed how attempts to represent the outward aspects of war, condensed and vitalised to a single vivid and entirely external impression—by poets like Masfield and Gibson—failed. Because they were concerned exclusively with external facts, imagination had not got to work upon them; the poet's art had not even made the effort of fusing the fact with the idea. And the

same is true even of Mr. Robert Nichols's much praised 'Assault'. We are all agreed that the true test of poetry must always be the test of reading aloud. Unless a poem can bear recitation, its workmanship is defective. And to read Mr. Nichols' 'Assault' aloud is to be persuaded of a creaking chain of artistic improprieties, which strain vehemently towards effect, only to end in incoherence:

'Ha! Ha! Bunched figures
waiting.
Revolver levelled: quick!
Flick! Flick!
Red as blood.
Germans. Germans.
Good! Oh, good!
Cool madness!'

This is neither metre nor 'vers libre'. It has no form of true proportion; the fever of war has infected it, and left it void.

The fact is, of course, that Poetry can only be produced when imagination has fused fact; and that this fusion is possible, even to emphatically realistic verse, is proved by the impressive success of poems like Captain Graves' 'It's a Queer Time'. This realism of the intellectual aspect of war, as contrasted with the merely material realism of lamp-black and lightning, has indeed afforded poetry a new scope for the imagination; and particularly in the work of Captain Graves, Mr. Siegfried Sassoon, and some of Mr. Robert Nichols, it has produced verse of a quality which could not, perhaps, have found inspiration at all in times of peace and contentment. But it will be noted at once that it is a realism which depends, for its very essence, upon a transcendental interpretation. The war, in other words, has only furnished poetry with

material, when poetry has brought to its aid a secret interpretation which is, in effect, the very antithesis of War itself. The concomitants of war are noise, squalor, filth—the worst antagonists of the poet's art. So long as the poet is content with merely superficial pictures of noise, squalor, black-out and filth, war affords him no adequate opportunity. Its entire world is too barren, too hard, too hideous to issue in poetry. Even Captain Graves goes artistically wrong with his bloated portrait of the dead Boche. The image is starkly repellent; imagination has failed to light it up. But directly imagination gets to work, it finds the soul beneath the surface, and then at last Poetry issues from the union.

TO WALT WHITMAN AND OTHER 'FREE VERSE' POETS

This is poetry, although you may not recognise it as such;
For each line begins with a capital
And at the end, there is the name of one who is popularly
recognised
As a master of free verse.

By J. F. STIRLING, *Class III, Gr. iv b.*

THE PASSING SHADES OF EUROPE

By. E. VAIKUNTAM, *Hons. 5, Br. iii.*

'Men are we, and must grieve when even the shade
Of that which once was great is pass'd away.'

—Wordsworth.

The majestic Parthenon, the lovely paintings of Michael Angelo, the huge avalanches that sweep the chalets in the tiny villages of the valley of Lötschental, the well-organised farms of Denmark, and the Norwegian angler catching the cod fish in the fiords are some of the awe-inspiring and pleasant sights that induce a historian to go into a detailed study of the life and achievements of the small states of Europe.

Before the idea of an empire had gone to Europe from the Orient there arose in the happy valleys of the Peloponessus small self-governing communities organised with the purpose of promoting 'good life'. Theirs was the city-state ideal which enabled every citizen to take active part in the deliberations of the government. Rome failed to grasp the significance of this and was preoccupied with empire-building. The city-state again came up in the medieval age with the rise into prominence of the Italian cities. The German cities remained independent though they leagued themselves time and again until Bismarck unified them in 1871. These ill-united groups of states are now being hypnotised by curious ideas of KULTUR, the greatness of the Nordic race, HEIMAT, *blood and soil* and other pagan myths in the working of their REALPOLITIK. This proclivity to believe in the exaltation of things prehistoric serves as a good political force in watering political appetite

with streams of national memory. The city-states disappeared with the rise of the modern age giving place to small territorial units with cultural unity in different parts of Europe. These states were theoretically free and had the right of self-determination. But because of their military weakness both these were useless as political weapons.

The small states were eager to join the League of Nations which was organised to secure peace in international affairs. President Wilson proclaimed the League as 'an attempt—the first serious and systematic attempt made in this world to put nations on a footing of equality with each other in an international organisation'. Yet, the final scheme provided in the executive council membership for each of the five big states—'interested parties'—and four elected members for all the remaining small states. Politically, these states were unequal but the attempt of some of the small states to avoid legal inequality was a failure partly because the idea was 'theoretically preposterous' according to Lord Robert Cecil and partly owing to the acquiescence of the small states to submit in return for certain concessions from the Great Powers. They should not abuse their power in the council, should pursue policies of peaceful international co-operation and should acquit themselves as honourable leaders holding privileged positions.

The small states had a common interest in the League as the instrument for the promotion of peace through justice. Their aggregate interest was greater than the interest of any one great power. They were militarily weak and so sacrificed legal equality for the promise of international law and order. Under such restrictions they joined the League, many of them almost immediately after its formation. On big affairs they were promised mere consultation. In the field of the non-political work of the League (where it can boast of good success) the leaders of the small states were prominent. The various committees of the League and the international Labour Organisation contained many representatives of these states.

The League was entrusted with the task of watching over the execution of the treaty of Versailles. The arrangement of the boundaries of the newly formed states was curious. Rumania included Magyars, Slavs and Germans and the perpetual problem of minorities troubled its government. After twenty years of fixity it now stands rudely shaken and incessantly perturbed. The Lithuanian protest at the Polish seizure of Vilna was ineffective in the League and it was restored only by the Russian Poland. Intransigent Italy and Germany were left unpunished by the Geneva conferences and the League failed politically owing to lack of wise and intrepid leadership on the part of the Great Powers.

The war quickened the life of the small states. Unprovoked assault on Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium and Greece made them the bone of contention between mighty powers. The submission of the above first four is an asset to Germany materially and

strategically. They proclaimed neutrality when the war broke out but had no strength to maintain their position when the neutrality law was violated. Nor was there any common understanding between all the small neutral states. Each was attacked separately and each fell.

In the Balkan states the German influence for the past six years was strong. The bullying of Dr. Goebbels and the peregrinations of Dr. Schacht forced Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia and Greece to import armaments in return for the export of raw materials to Germany. Rumanian oilfields and iron mines are a curse to her freedom. The British desire to protect the oilfields of Mosul was nothing but a chapter in the unsuccessful armed diplomacy of the politics of oil. The German hand in Rumania is strong. Bulgaria is threatened by the Nazis and it is wavering between Nazidom and Communism. Germany's self-interest in Rumania and other Baltic states, whose foreign trade Germany wants to monopolise, not only hampers the economic freedom of these states but also creates rivalry among the big competitors in the race for capturing the oil trade.

The surprising changes in the Baltic during the past year show how the states are tossed about. The Nazi influence in the Baltic especially in Finland was a source of fear to the U. S. S. R. The latter seized the timely opportunity provided by the war. Now Kremlin tactics succeeded. Mannerheim and Tanner fell out and the Russian demand was fulfilled. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania preferred to join the Soviet federation probably with good prospects of a secure life. Thus, in all these a clear move for annexing the small states to bigger ones is seen.

The cultural achievements of these states are unique. Where the big nations failed these have attained remarkable success. The city-states of Greece were political laboratories. They enjoyed direct democracy, served as schools of patriotism refined and sublimated by instinct and reason and stimulated artistic and intellectual passion. Aristotle, Demosthenes, Sophocles and a host of other celebrities are the products of a placid and fertile life. The medieval cities were rich trading centres. Florence revived the cultural and political achievements of Athens while Venice emulated Spartan stability. A poet described the latter as 'the eldest child of liberty' holding 'the gorgeous east in fee'.

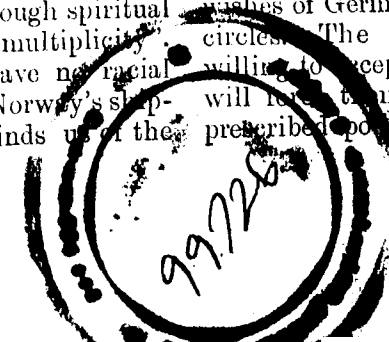
The Swiss cantons revived the democracy of pre-Christian Greece. The smallest commune Blatten offers a unique example of a small, stable, and simple community managing its own affairs by the most democratic methods. In these communes local tradition is strong and they have their own songs and dramas. The Landsgemeinde is their Ecclesia and their politics never reach such a height as to allow hatred and strife in their political and social life. The problem of race does not arise though there are three distinct nationalities—German, French and Italian. Belgium and Holland can feel proud of Gramme and Von't Hoff respectively. Denmark provides a model of happy living. The co-operatives of Denmark have produced 'prodigious' and 'wonderful' results. Their Folk High School provides richer life 'through spiritual sense of unity in multiplicity'. Norway and Sweden have no racial or religious problem. Norway's ship-building industry reminds us of the

daring Vikings. Sweden is noted for the best hospital system. There, the relation of the employer and worker is smooth. Finland's architecture and music (e.g., the work of Sibelius) are the achievements of a people who love to preserve what is best in the past. The folk-dances of the Lithuanians are very old, and their pagan ideas and practices astound the modern mind.

Patriotism is high in the small states. No wonder the Caesarism of Germany failed miserably to bring about spiritual allegiance in Alsace-Lorraine. The ballads commemorating the battle of Kossava fought against the Turks five hundred years ago, are still sung by the southern Slavs. The big officials in these states are generally paid low salaries and yet they are free from corruption. Great inequality of wealth is absent. The work of the co-operative system in Denmark is facilitated by this characteristic.

The small states have no common political interest except the preservation of international law and order when their free existence will be assured. Their military weakness shortens their peaceful life. Small states near each other can unite for common defence purposes but such an effort has not been successful as evident from the example of the Little Entente.

The future of these states depends upon the future of Europe. The New Order planned by the dictators places the small states under severely restricted conditions. They have to adjust their economy according to the wishes of German and Italian ruling circles. The small states are not willing to accept an existence which will force them to accept and follow prescribed policies in their internal



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and external affairs irrespective of their free will. They are not glad about transferring the right of self-determination to foreign masters. But under the threat of the gun they have to obey the dictators at least till the war ends.

The apparent success of the dictators will fade away; for, dictatorship *per se* has only a short life. The attempt to abolish war on previous occasions failed, but the increasing horrors of modern warfare will set intelligent minds to work out a solution. The eirenicon should be the

willingness of nations to conform to certain specific standards of morality. With this basis a strong international government can be established with adequate military strength to back up its authority. Such a condition alone will help to preserve and develop the culture of these small states. Their progress depends entirely on the enjoyment of freedom and it should not be curtailed by the selfish interests of the big states. The revival of the free life of the small states in a peaceful future will have a softening touch on the life of Europe.

Oh Love!

Before the darkness of thy tresses
The night is as bright as day,
And before the sparkle of thy smile
The day is as dark as night!

Oh Love!

Before the softness of thy arms
The flower is as hard as a rock,
But before the hardness of thy heart
The rock is as soft as a flower!

—Translation from Sanskrit Original

By SUSHEEL CHANDER, Hons. 4, Br. vii.

AFTER-WAR ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF INDIA

By T. N. VISWANATHA REDDY, B.Sc. Hons. 1, Br. ii.

India, as also the rest of the world, is on the threshold of a revolution, both in her political as well as economic life. In the case of India the character of the revolution must be such as to destroy her attachment to policies and ideals which are totally out of date even to-day and which must be more so after the war. Post-war India is bound to undergo considerable changes in her political, economic and financial activities. It is not inconsistent or rather premature now, to speculate on the problems that are likely to arise after the war, in order to be prepared to face them. The Government even now must lay down a policy, calculated to minimise the magnitude of all these problems. It was the lack of foresight on the part of the Government that landed India in a grave situation soon after the last war.

The present war exigencies have involved the Government of India in a huge expenditure. The argument that most of this expenditure must be met by means of current finances is very sound and accepted by all, provided the expenditure is judicious and is able to secure popular sanction. The excess-profits tax levied by the Government of India partly meets the expenditure. From a purely fiscal point of view this tax is spotless. Whether this tax does not take away from the entrepreneurs, the capital required to start new industries, for which the moment is most opportune, is an open question. Leaving apart

that question, the policy of the present Government should be to wipe out the £250 million sterling debt of India or to convert it into rupee debt. At present a considerable proportion of our national income is being sent abroad as interest on this loan. This never-ending drain of Indian money should not be allowed to go on forever. The fiscal policy of the Government should be calculated to ease this difficulty without inflating the currency.

The foreign trade of India is at present more or less bilateral. The policy of imperial preference laid down in the Ottawa Conference has placed an obligation upon us to give preference to empire products. Our trade with the continental and far eastern countries is increasing. Unless we show equal consideration to the products of these countries, they may not like to buy from us. Also we must have an export surplus with these countries so as to liquidate the adverse balance of accounts we are having with Great Britain. Again we must as far as possible restrict ourselves to a policy of self-sufficiency. Our products, except some of our raw materials, are not very popular in foreign countries, and since they show such reluctance to buy from us, we must not be over-anxious to buy from them.

The industrial policy of the Government of India does little credit to the masters at the helm. When the last war broke out, certain small industries

were started in India, which were forced to close down at the conclusion of the war, mainly owing to the unenterprising policy of the government. The resources of our country are vast and there are still very many sources to be tapped. There is no reason why our industries should not thrive, if only they can have a start. We are no doubt self-sufficient with regard to matches, sugar, cement, and to a large extent with regard to textile manufactures and hardware. But still the possibilities are very scantily exploited. The policy of protection has done much towards the industrialisation of our country, but some of the terms laid down in the policy of discriminating protection, have done much harm to the healthy growth of our industries. Ever since the outbreak of this war, the commercial community of India has been crying hoarse for help from the government to start heavy industries, but the Government have practically made no response. Unless the Government at least now realises the enormity of

the injustice that has been perpetrated on the people of India, we cannot hope to slide to a life of industrial progress, which is the only method to fulfil our modern needs.

The anti-slump policy of the Government should be so shaped that the depression that is bound to set in after this war, may not be felt severely. Money should be cheap. The government should spend money on public utility enterprises and public works. The deflation and the consequent rise in the value of money should be countered by easy credit. If necessary a slight devaluation of monetary unit may be resorted to.

Lastly, we must remember that an industrialised India, plays a very important role in the economic life of the whole world. Realising this fact, we should actively co-operate in any movement towards the economic reconstruction of the world after the war. If changes come, and if we are to benefit from them, we must keep pace with the rest of the world.

TO A GREAT MAN

By L. M. TURNER, *Hons. A, Br. vii.*

You that pass star-crowned upon our dreary ways
With head uplifted and unflinching eyes,
And flash like sun-light in our gloomy days
All-conquering and wonderfully wise,
Would I could humble you and cast our filthy earth
Upon you as you pass that we of meaner birth
May have no light to dazzle our dull eyes.

MAGICAL ESCAPES

By K. BHAGYANATHAN, *Post-Graduate, I Year, Br. vii.*

Ours is an age of specialization. The study of the sciences and arts is now so vast and varied that it is impossible for any one man, in 'three score years and ten' to have even a nodding knowledge of all sciences and arts. Therefore have sprung the specialist doctors, the authorities on various branches of arts, the specialised engineers and the skilled technicians. The surest way to success in the modern world is to specialize in any one branch of study. Magic too, like the Sciences and Arts, has in the past few years grown by leaps and bounds. The small bag of tricks with coins, cards and other everyday articles, of the eighteenth century magicians, has been completely superseded by the modern magicians' tons and tons of apparatus, with which marvellous effects like 'The Vanishing Lady', 'Walking thro' glass', 'Sawing a Lady in halves', 'The Flying Lady', etc. are produced. 'Magical Science' has now so much advanced that magicians are now freely using television, X-rays, Radio, Electricity and other modern scientific aids to perform their miracles. This phenomenal widening of the boundaries of magic, has made it almost impossible for any one magician to master all the various branches of magic. Hence are found in the magical world, specialists with cards like The Great Merlin, experts in coin tricks like Nelson Downs,

'mental magic' experts like Anne-mann, masters of stage illusions like Horace Goldin and brilliant escapologists like The Great Houdini. Of all magical acts like the Card Act, the Coin Act, The Black Art Seance, The Handkerchief Act, etc., the most difficult one to present successfully is the Escape Act. To become a successful escapologist one must have a thorough knowledge of all kinds of 'restraints', great mental alertness, cool courage, and above all a commanding personality to 'pull it off' successfully.

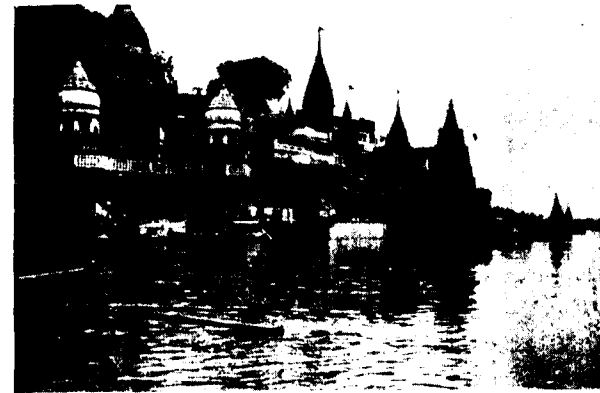
A magical escape consists, in the magician being put into some kind of restraint like a wooden box, a canvas bag, or some such thing, and then escaping in an incredibly short space of time from it. The history of the Magical Escape Act can be very easily traced since it is a comparatively recent innovation in the magical world. In 1860 Maskelyne, the great originator of the Maskelyne mysteries, presented for the first time his famous Box trick, during the presentation of which he magically escaped in an incredibly short space of time, from a locked and corded box in which members from the audience had previously confined him. Before Maskelyne no magician had featured as a star item in his programme an escape trick. Davenport Brothers were presenting, before Maskelyne, escapes from rope ties, but they did not label

their tricks as escape tricks. It was Maskelyne who first widely advertised a Box escape, and featured it as a star item. The history of Maskelyne's Box trick is unique. He was in the habit of offering a reward of £500 to anybody who could 'imitate' his trick. Two mechanics constructed a box and imitated the Box trick before a private gathering and claimed the reward. Maskelyne contending that the mechanics had not 'imitated his Box trick' exactly, refused to pay the reward. There followed a legal case—which went as far as the House of Lords—and Maskelyne lost his case, the judges maintaining that the mechanics had successfully 'imitated' the effect of the Box trick, even though they had not fathomed the exact secret of Maskelyne. Though Maskelyne lost his case, the Box escape gained wide publicity and was imitated by many performers. So it can be said that it was Maskelyne who made the Escape trick popular, and thus sowed the seed for the Escape Act proper.

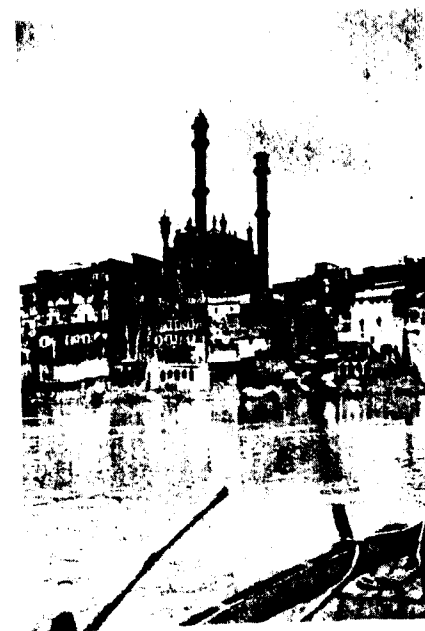
Even though, because of Maskelyne, the Box escape became a popular item in the repertoire of magicians, yet the day was far off, when any performer hit upon specializing in escape tricks. It was left for Ehrich Weiss (later known as Houdini), the son of a Jewish Rabbi to originate the Escape Act proper and to specialize in escape tricks. Houdini was respectively a newspaper seller, a boot-black, a circus performer, an apprentice to a locksmith and a travelling conjuror, before he became known to the world as Harry Houdini, the escape king. It is interesting to note that the three great personalities in magic, Robert Houdin, Maskelyne and Harry Houdini, all in their younger days, had their training in mechanics at a

work bench. Each of these three contributed greatly to the advance of magic. The French conjuror Robert Houdin was the first man to dispense with the heavily draped tables and suspicious-looking, cumbersome tin apparatus of the old school of Magic and thus originate the modern school of Conjuring; Maskelyne was the man who won prestige for Magic by making it the star attraction in variety shows; and Houdini was the man who originated the Escape Act. Though of slight education Houdini was richly gifted with personality and natural resourcefulness. 'Possessed of wonderful physique and an extraordinarily quick mind, he defied the efforts of experts in almost every part of the world to devise a restraint from which he could not free himself. He escaped from iron boxes, paper bags, bank safes, and packing cases, in which, handcuffed he was thrown into the sea. Buried in a coffin six feet below the surface of the earth he emerged smiling an hour later from his 'living grave.' So incredible were the Escapes of Houdini, that many fantastic theories have been put forward to explain his miracles. However, Houdini did not possess any more magical secrets than any first class modern magician. It was his originality, his showmanship, his skill at publicity and above all his wonderful magnetic personality which won for him the title of the Escape King. It can be truly said of him that he, like Cupid, laughed at locksmiths.

After the introduction of the Escape Act proper by Houdini, other performers were not slow in devising their own escape tricks and presenting original Escape Acts. Escapologists began to spring like mushrooms in the magical world.



BURNING GHAT AT BENARES [Photo by P. V. Rao]



[Photo by P. V. Rao]
THE MOSQUE OF AURANGZEB AT BENARES



THE SHEPHERD BOY [Photo by Palani]



[Photo by G. Ernest Edvard]
CARVING AT MAYALATHURAM



[Photo by G. Ernest Edvard]
FEEDING THE SACRED EAGLES AT TIRUKALIKUNDAM



"JOAN OF ARC"



"PRISON BOX"



"CHALLENGE ESCAPE" FROM ROPES

There are far too many escapologists. However the mantle of magic which Houdini so very successfully wore can be said to have descended on the shoulders of the Australian magician, the Great Levante, who is carrying on the tradition of Houdini, by baffling both the police and the common public, by escaping from any kind of restraint.

The Escape Act can be divided broadly into two divisions; one the routine escape tricks, and two, Challenge escapes. In routine escapes the restraint used is the property of the magician. In one variety of routine escapes, the magician ties up or confines in a box his assistant, who escapes magically, the audience not taking part in the actual tying or locking up. Figure 1 is the photo of such an escape and is known as, The 'Joan of Arc' escape. The magician binds his assistant to the pole by six or seven separate pieces of rope, and then by simply waving the hand, the assistant is freed from the ropes in a most magical way. The effect is very striking since during the whole process no covering of any kind is used, the audience thus actually seeing the ropes untie in a very mysterious way. Another kind of escape is the one in which the performer escapes from an examined box, barrel or safe in which he was confined by members of the audience. Figure 2 represents the magician confined inside the 'Prison Box'. The apparatus is very minutely examined by members of the audience, then the magician is confined inside it as shown in the figure, and the door of the cabinet closed, locked and sealed. Yet in less than two minutes, the magician escapes, the Prison Box however is still closed, locked and sealed. The 'Prison Box' is a very mysterious, and insolvable

escape mystery, which is also very difficult to perform.

When compared to 'Challenge escapes', routine escape tricks are rather easy. Challenge escapes are always risky, the magician being apt to fail at any time. In Challenge Escapes the particular restraint is supplied by a member of the audience, thus apparently making it impossible for the magician to tamper with the restraint. Houdini once escaped from an iron safe, supplied by a very famous Bank and gained wide publicity because of it. Challenge Escapes are not intended to be worked daily; they are mainly intended to gain publicity. Figure 3 shows the magician making a 'challenge escape' from ropes. The ropes are supplied by members from the audience, and it is they who tie up the performer in any manner. Yet the performer escapes from the bonds by sheer manipulation. I have always found it more difficult to accomplish this particular escape when sailors tie me up, since it must be admitted that sailors know a thing or two in tying up persons.

The one strange thing to note in almost all kinds of escapes is that the audience don't see the actual escape since invariably a screen hides the box when the magician makes his escape. Just think about the courage of magicians. Big posters proclaim that the magician is going to escape from an iron safe; the people flock to see the escape, and then what do they actually see? The magician put inside the safe, screens being placed round the safe and lastly the magician out of the safe. What the people actually paid for was to see the escape; yet they go away satisfied and mystified even though they have not seen the actual escape. It is the personality, the showmanship of the magician

that really 'pulls it off' successfully. It is this that makes magical escapes so very difficult to present.

Not very many escapologists have visited India. The Escape Act is bound to become popular in India, provided it is presented by really capable magicians, who know their job. Any Indian magician who specializes in escape tricks is sure to

become popular, since till now, as far as I know, no Indian magician has specialized in escape tricks. There is certainly money in magic. Why do not educated young men, instead of spending their lives as quill drivers in government or other offices, take up conjuring as a profession and win fame and money in an independent way?



FIELD ARTIST!

FROM THE PEDESTAL: DR. MILLER

[One of a series of conversations on the 'Statues of Madras' by Mr. Pothan Joseph with Rev. D. R. Bazely as Dr. Miller.]

Broadcast by A.I.R. and published by kind permission.]

Joseph—Good Evening, Dr. Miller!

Dr. Miller—Good Evening! But what do I see? Are those the Christian College Buildings which used to meet my gaze across the road?

J.—No Sir, the Christian College is now situated at Tambaram in an estate covering nearly four-hundred acres far from the dusty site of the building you had erected in your time. Except the premises reserved for the High School classes affiliated to the Christian College and the Chapel Hall, there is nothing left of the old collection of buildings as college property. They are now business premises.

M.—I understand. Even in my time the lack of playgrounds and parks for the inmates of the hostels I had founded had become a source of anxiety to me and only sickly sentiment would make me or anyone else regret that the historic spot has been turned over to shops, lawyers' chambers, restaurants and bank premises. Still I would prefer to remain on this pedestal, for my life was not merely that of a missionary but I found myself engrossed in many interests which were not in my ken when on December 9, 1862, I landed in Madras as a young man of 24. Do you know, I spent 45 years as a citizen of Madras and only age and infirmity could move me to the ancestral home in Scotland?

J.—Sir, your devoted career in Madras is warmly remembered and if you will allow me a comparison, your service as an educationist and reformer in Madras resembles the contribution made by Duff in Calcutta, Dr. Wilson in Bombay and Dr. Ewing in the Punjab.

M.—Yes. We were contemporaries in pioneer work but before us were giants like Carey who learnt many languages and retained the simplicity of his craft as a cobbler. My generation was brought into contact with the early effects of Sir Charles Wood's historic despatch on educational policy in India. There were schools and seminaries before our time but the shaping of the first universities came within the orbit of our mission.

J.—Tell us briefly, Sir, about your early years preceding your arrival in Madras.

M.—Well, we come from a sturdy Scottish stock with a dash of Viking blood from Norwegian ancestors. My father was a merchant and ship-owner. I joined the Bellevue Academy in Aberdeen and from the school I moved into college. Among my contemporaries were men who rose later to high office in India, men like George Elsmie who passing into the Civil Service ultimately became Chief Judge of the Punjab while George Strahan lived to be Governor of South Australia. We were a fine crowd who passed through the portals of the college, I myself carrying the gold medal in 1856. Then came Edinburgh where I studied at the New College maintained by the Free Church after its break from the Established Church of Scotland in 1843. About that time we had reports from India about the school which had been started in Madras in 1837 by John Anderson. People at home entertained doubts about the policy of a Mission imparting education in foreign lands and though

I had no predilections about India, those who grappled with the problem in Scotland chose me as the Man-for-Galway.

J.—We have to travel fast, Dr. Miller, because unlike most people

you had cramped into your life so much action that it would be difficult to recall all the main features of your career unless we save time but before we proceed, allow me to read out to you the inscription on the pedestal:

On the western side we read:—

Unveiled by LORD AMPTHILL, Governor of Madras.
1st January 1901.

The front bears the following inscription:—

WILLIAM MILLER, LL.D., D.D., C.I.E.,
PRINCIPAL, MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Erected by public Subscription, A.D. 1901.

The eastern aspect says:—

“A Missionary Teacher, known alike for his piety and public zeal, whose services in the cause of higher education are probably unsurpassed in India.”

—Lord Napier in the House of Lords.

M.—That's right because I have seen it in my own life-time, but do you know that though I was Professor and Missionary, not all my time could be devoted to the Christian College on account of the multiplicity of interests that claimed my attention? In my first tenure of five years, I could concentrate on my office and as a result in 1867 the old school had blossomed into a first grade college. The end of my first furlough brought me out into the open as a member of the Madras University. There was no relaxation of my interest in leadership as Principal of the Christian College but the University was there.

J.—In fact, Sir, I may recall that the University at that time was an institution embodying your personality and principles as the foremost educationist in India.

M.—I must not forget to acknowledge the confidence that Lord Napier

had reposed in me and when I come to think of it, I had been for nearly thirty years a member of the Syndicate of the Madras University.

J.—And no figurehead either, for it was Principal Cook of the Central College, Bangalore, who had said that ‘Dr. Miller is the spinal cord of the Syndicate’. You were Chairman of the Board of Studies in History and English Literature, at a time when Madras was the beacon of higher education for all South India, i.e. long before institutions like the Hyderabad University, the Mysore University, the Andhra University, the Annamalai University and the Travancore University had even been dreamt of. Your identification with the Madras University may incidentally be seen, Sir, by the distinction that three times you were called upon to deliver the Convocation Address, the first time being in 1871 at the request of Lord Napier himself.

M.—Yes. But the Madras Christian College was still my supreme love and in my second furlough in 1878, I turned my holiday into a busy time for enlisting the sympathy of people at home for the burden of the educationist Missionary and the claims of institutions like the Madras Christian College. We were not in those days on happy terms with the Government itself since there had been two schools of thought, one maintaining that all the educational institutions should be departmentally run by the Government and the other adhering to the scheme of Sir Charles Wood that Government institutions should remain as models and that a wide margin of freedom should be given for private agencies to run schools and colleges. This problem amongst others forged ahead at the time of Lord Ripon. My difficulty was to see that the grants in aid to private institutions was liberal as long as a right standard was maintained, whereas Col. McDonald as the head of the Government Educational Department entertained the view that the State should be in exclusive charge of education to the detriment of institutions already functioning under official goodwill. Anyway, Lord Ripon in 1882 appointed the Education Commission to examine the whole problem of higher education and clarify the responsibility of the Government in respect of State aid and standards. For four years we had to toil on an All-India survey.

J.—It is about this time, Sir, let me remind you, that your friendship with Lord Ripon matured into deep intimacy.

M.—Lord Ripon was a great man and he grasped the importance of the recommendations in the Commission's Report. One thing that startled me

in the course of our study as a Commission was the lopsidedness in education which provided for examining bodies with Universities having no tutorial functions. Then there was the absence of corporate life and the free association among students through hostel life. My next interest naturally was the provision and extension of hostels.

J.—In fact, Sir, the legend about you says that Lord Ripon's passion for local self-government had so gripped you that you on the same principle laid the responsibility of running the hostels largely upon the inmates themselves.

M.—Yes, and why shouldn't the students administer their own affairs and develop the elements of civic sense and combined action? My hostels were my pride and though they had to be divided for denominational reasons, they developed their individuality.

J.—You must have spent a fortune in the building of the huge pile at which you stand gazing.

M.—Money, young man, is the least part of a great organization. What you first require is men. For, a favourite quotation of mine was: ‘God grant us men’.

J.—Would you tell us of your colleagues?

M.—I am not passing on to give character sketches but with deep gratitude I recall the names of my ardent colleagues, for they were all fired with the spirit of service, the very first among them being Dr. Cooper. But, then, believe me, I cannot speak in the language of discrimination when all of them sacrificed glittering careers and joined me to build up the Christian College and leave their impress upon the mind and character of generations in South

India. Now let me mention a few names: Mr. Alexander, Mr. George Milne Rae, Mr. George Patterson and Mr. Michie Smith; and their places were being taken up by new men: Mr. Skinner, Mr. Morren, Dr. Henderson, Mr. Pittendrigh, Mr. Macphail, Mr. Laidlaw, Mr. Russell, Mr. Moffat, Mr. Kellett and Mr. Meston.

J.—Quite a great galaxy for which South India is grateful but then the succession had been handed over to people like Hogg, Corley

M. Yes, there are many many more but speaking of my time we used to be as one family and during a controversy when I had been criticized in the public as one in error, I remember Skinner telling his agitated juniors that they should patiently work their minds up to the level of their chief before sitting in judgment. The kindness I received from my colleagues was a daily inspiration to me.

J.—Time presses and therefore let me recall to you the manifold activities of your life. You were Municipal Councillor for several years and one of the original members of the Cosmopolitan Club. You represented the Madras University on the Legislative Council and your independent nature asserted itself when you joined the protest of the non-official community of Madras against the prolonged annual exodus of the Madras Government to the hills. When the big Park Fire ravaged Madras in 1885 you slaved night and day to repair the damage and bring aid to the sufferers, and it was no wonder that while the University of Aberdeen was conferring on you a Doctorate of Laws in 1885, the past and present students of the Christian College held simultaneously a congratulatory meeting in the Memorial Hall here to join in

spirit the rendering of a greatest honour by your own *alma mater*, in Scotland.

M. Yes, but by the age of sixty I found myself broken with incessant labour and though later I lived far from India in my little place in Burgo Park in Scotland I was in constant touch with my college and my old students. An occasional note to the *Christian College Magazine* which I edited first and a regular annual message to the Christian College Day gathering were all I could attempt in the decline of my days.

J. Dr. Miller, Sir, as a publicist, you could have attained the front rank of political distinction in England and as an orator you held a unique position; and before we part allow me to quote a passage from your second Convocation Address in order to sample, after years, the quality of your classical eloquence. This is what you said:—

‘I cannot lift the veil that hides the future. Nevertheless, I am sure that if life’s burden is wisely borne and its commonplace duties patiently discharged by you and by the generations to which your character and influence will, of necessity, be handed down, there will yet arise in this land of yours some community or race, some city or institution, something (I know not what) in which men’s thoughts will find noble utterance and from which their energies will flame nobly forth, something that will make India a leader in the march of mankind towards its appointed goal.’

M.—And may India be a leader in the march of mankind towards its appointed goal and now Good Night and godspeed!

J.—Good Night, Sir!

SPORTS DAY



OVER THE TOP



FINISH OF THE 100 METRES



‘TAKE THE STRAIN’



JUSTICE BURN PRESENTING THE CHAMPIONSHIP SHIELD



"WHERE IS MY LUGGAGE?"



DELEGATES WATCH DEVIL-DANCERS



PANORAMA OF KANDY

KANDY CALLING!

D. S. GEORGE MULLER
(For M.C.C. Delegation to Kandy)

In December last, amidst world-quaking events in East and West, the Christian youth of India, Burma, and Ceylon rallied at Kandy for the National Triennial Conference of the Student Christian Movement. Six hundred delegates representing almost all the Colleges scattered about the Country participated in the Conference, and our College was represented by seven delegates.

Right in the heart of the fair isle of Lanka, Kandy is a gem of exquisite beauty, a peaceful place of refuge which you may dream of, that nestles in the hollow of the hills, and surrounds a lake 1,700 feet above sea-level. Around it, the hills ascend higher and higher with almost startling vigour and end in the green summits pointing ambitiously towards the sky. The venue of the Conference—the Trinity College, Kandy—stands on a hill-slope; and the quiet dignity and a sense of endurance about its verdure-clad slopes contributed not a little to the serene atmosphere of the Conference.

The delegates from all parts of India and Burma reached Kandy on the 23rd December, 1940. The friends in Ceylon headed by a strong committee of hosts gave a rousing reception to the delegation. At the 'At Home' later in the evening, the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Colombo welcomed the delegation to Ceylon on behalf of His Excellency the Governor who could not be present. Mr. Morley Sparr, Mayor of Kandy

on behalf of its citizens welcomed us to Kandy.

It was significant that meeting amidst a cloud of uncertainties the Conference should have had for its theme: 'The Changeless Christ in a Changing World'. The message was brought as a challenge in the daily addresses by eminent men as the Rt. Rev. Bishop Stephen Neill, Dr. T. Z. Koo, Rev. C. W. Ranson and Rev. D. T. Niles. Two hours every day the delegates met in 14 commissions to discuss the different problems bearing on the main theme such as: *The Fundamentals of the Christian Faith, Youth and the Church, An Ideal Social Order, Relations between men and women, The Christian and the War, The Christian and the Indian National Situation, Student Problems* etc. Each commission was led by an able leader, and great interest was evinced in the study of these problems.

The one conspicuous feature of the Conference was the opportunity it afforded in its services by adopting different forms of worship every day. The Indigenous Form of Worship led by Rev. Ralla Ram was an appreciated enterprise.

It was also observed that there is a renewed interest in the study of the Christian beliefs among the youth of today. The very fact that out of the 600 delegates more than 100 chose the commission on 'The Fundamentals of the Christian Faith' is enough evidence for this. Great

interest was evinced in the daily Bible Study groups led by competent leaders like Dr. Harrison and Messrs. Moulton, Niles, and Dewick.

The social life of the Conference was very healthy and pleasant. Thanks to the tireless enthusiasm of Rev. Ralla Ram and his S.C.M. secretarial staff, and the kindness of our friends in Ceylon, no comfort was wanting during our stay at Kandy. Eight days of Conference seemed too short. On the 30th December, after Holy Communion, and the closing address by the Conference Chairman Miss S. Chacko—'The End of the Conference is the Beginning of the Conquest'—the memorable gathering dispersed.

While some left for India immediately, many delegates stayed back for the excursions. Our first visit was to Nuwara Eliya. 6,200 feet above sea-level, with an exhilarating climate, Nuwara Eliya is Ceylon's sanatorium, and the summer-resort of the Governor. The journey took us 3 hours, but it is a trip full of interest and thrills for the tourist. Dense forests and vast plains lie outstretched in all directions. Solitude reigns everywhere, broken only by the sound of waterfalls.

Our next trip was to 'The Buried Cities'—Anuradhapura, Sigiriya, Polonnaruwa—dating back to the 6th century B.C. Here we saw the

ancient history of the island writ in stone. In those antique carvings and inscriptions one could see visions of a fair town where golden roofs flashed in sunshine, of buildings adorned with rich carving, bands of gold and silver and festoons of pearls. Gone are the glitter and glory—but these leaning columns, carved capitals, and sacred shrines and statues attest to a bygone civilization.

On the 1st January, 1941—the last day of our stay in the island, we set out for Colombo early in the morning. Colombo is a spectacular harbour-town. Her palm-fringed shores and curving beaches unfold scenes of entrancing beauty. Modern buildings, colourful shops, picturesque crowds contribute to the gaiety of the city. After driving along her roads, wide, clean and bordered with flowering trees, we entrained for India the same night.

Looking back upon Kandy, no doubt the bewitching beauty of the land 'where spicy breezes blow' recaptures the mind with a haunting harmony; many a familiar face recalls pleasant reminiscences of the fellowship of the Conference; but above all there comes from the Kandyan heights a challenge already thrown out in Addresses, Bible Studies and Discussion Groups, **THE CHANGELESS CHRIST IN A CHANGING WORLD.**

TO KNOW! TO KNOW!

By AMBADY DAMODARAN, *Hons. 4, Br. i.*

The tragedy that my land is yet not free,
The slow-moving history of her fall,
Her one-time greatness, and the silent
Watchful wailing of her hungry men,
That mighty tale of might-have-beens,
That un-lived history,
Futile fatuous passion, still-born and ugly,
Love that came but to fade and die,
Leaving tear-soaked smiles and the dread
Nausea of exhumed corpses of girl-wives;—
All these I incubate, when I sit
Cross-legged on the muddy temple steps—
The son of aged India's frustration
And inane despair.
The thick black scum of the tank-water,
Dirty malignant garment—
Pierced here and there by gleaming fish,
Dwellers of a virginal world below—
Gurgles stupidly when the slothful breeze
Makes a spasmodic attempt to move.
The last bell is rung, the last priest is gone
To drown Religion in a woman's eyes;
The last small sound palpitates and dies.
And the lifeless, languorous quietude
Of interstellar ether
Is flowing in, into my brain and cells,
And permeates my being.
A white leprosy creeps over my intellect!—
A gangrene mortifying me and mine.
My brain is still, inadvertently watching
A quaint procession of faint phantoms,
Ghosts of all the things I've seen:—
India and her ills, Revolution,
Red Russia, Lebensraum, and War,
Children screaming in sinking ships,
Films showing blood in black and white,
Of men and women—young, breathing sex,
Sirens serenading the Goddess Pain—
Mighty mistress of your soul and mine,
League of Nations, Beauty Contests, Olympics,
Short skirts, Cyclotron and Freud,

All these pause before me and then pass.
 The supreme silence of 'non-matter'
 Embraces me in envelope intimacy - -
 Not in hesitant tangent fashion.
 The vacuum moves on, a bubble is born,
 And vaguely groping shapes itself
 Into words, 'Oh Man! Is it all a joke?'
 The fire burns into me, the burning rod
 Of Loneliness, moral solitude.
 I shut myself in my heart and mutter
 'I don't know, Oh! Love! To know! To know!'



ON THE RIVER

Padmanab S. Peridpet

SOCIETIES

College Union

In the third week of January the student chairman, Mr. Abdul Latif was arrested.

Sri T. R. Venkatrama Sastri addressing the members of the College Union, on 'Comments on Current Events' on the evening of the 6th February, 1941, at the Anderson Hall, said that it was possible to get the demand for Dominion Status conceded if moral pressure was brought to bear on Britain. While agreeing that complete Independence ought to be our goal, he felt that Dominion Status of the Westminster variety should be accepted as a first step towards the attainment of Complete Independence. In his opinion the Independence which the Congress demanded and the Dominion Status under discussion are not much different. The lecturer advised the students to turn their attention to something constructive and ameliorative. 'I know no power,' declared the speaker, 'which can obstruct the contribution of a united student front to India's progress.' Mr. A. F. Thyagaraju, the Vice-President of the Union presided. The Chairman in his concluding remarks, appealed to the Liberals to join hands with the Congress and present a united front.

For the first time in the annals of the College Union an Inter-Collegiate Oratorical Competition for the *Gordon Matthews Cup* was held on the evening of the 14th February, 1941, at the Anderson Hall. To commemorate the services of Rev. Gordon Matthews who was professor of English in this institution for eighteen years, the

Competition was instituted by the Union.

'That in the opinion of this house the imitation of the West has been the bane of Indian Life' was the subject of debate. Two representatives each from Women's Christian College, Presidency College, Loyola College, Pachaiyappa's College, and Madras Christian College participated in the debate. Mrs. Mona Hensman and Messrs. R. Janardanam Naidu and P. Chenchiah acted as Judges. Mr. A. F. Thyagaraju presided.

'The Rolling Cup' was presented to the Loyola College for the best team performance. Among the women competitors, Miss K. P. Gawri of Women's Christian College won an individual cup for being the best woman speaker. Messrs. P. K. Narayanaswamy of Loyola College and S. Samuel Verghese of Madras Christian College won the first and second individual prizes (Cups) respectively for being the first and second among men speakers. Mrs. Mona Hensman distributed the prizes.

R. A. SWAMIAPPAN,

Secretary.

(continued on p. 176)

Christian Union

The New Year began with our Annual College Camp which was held this year in the Anderson High School buildings at Conjeevaram. Though we felt at first that we did not have enough of members we were such a little flock that we had the happiest of times there. However we learnt a lesson that we should not arrange such camps in such distant places and

also that as far as possible we should avoid having such camps in the Third Term when everybody will be very busy. In any case, this has been a good experiment.

The first meeting of the term was held under the Presidentship of Dr. M. S. Adiseshiah, one of the leaders of the Delegation to the Kandy Conference, when all the delegates spoke, each on one aspect of the work of the Conference, and what a great time they have all had, in Ceylon. This meeting was very well attended. After three weeks there was another meeting when Mr. O. F. E. Zacharias spoke on 'Christianity and the Crisis'. This meeting, too, was very well attended. We hope to have another meeting this month and then have the election of the Office-bearers for next year.

Our Bible Study discussion groups are functioning as usual and in St. Thomas's Hall there is a new awakening. Some Hindu students are also very interested in these groups. We hope to conduct the Sunday classes in the Methodist Church till next week. In this connection I thank all those members who volunteered to serve in these classes.

We attempted to do everything that we thought good and if we have left things undone, it is due to our ignorance and not lack of interest.

R. S. AMIRTHARAJ,
General Secretary.

Brotherhood

This term work in the villages was more vigorous than that in the previous terms. A night school has been started in Irumbaliyur. There was held an entertainment in the same village. Charkas have been given to

some villagers and they are spinning regularly. In other villages games such as football have been organised.

The Painter's Club had an art exhibition. It was opened by Shrimathi Jayalakshmi Kumar.

CHAITANYA.

Rural Service League

We have continued our primary objective defined at the beginning of the year—of getting to know our fellow-men and women in the villages we work in, and of establishing a bond of friendship, trust and confidence. We regard this as the preliminary to any further developments in our work. At the same time we have taken one step towards providing some of the unemployed villagers with employment in two or three ways, thus raising ever so little their standard of life. At the end of the first year of our work, we are able to look back and take stock of our position. We have learnt by our mistakes and we are conscious of our weak points.

On the side of organisation, we have continued as before with minor alterations. Our four Rural Service Unions in the three Halls and Hogg Villa carried on their work in the four villages with their four attached *cheris*. The numbers in each union have dwindled but that has not affected our work. Practically every member in each group goes to the village or *cheri* once a week in a team of two or three; so that every day the villages are visited for 1½ or 2 hours. Each Hall Union meets once a week or fortnight to discuss and review the daily reports submitted and plan for the work of the next period. The four Secretaries meet once a week to co-ordinate the different bits of work of the different groups.

All members of the League meet once a month to receive reports from each union.

Our educational work has been progressing. The numbers attending the day-schools have fallen slightly—particularly in Mappedu—because of the demand for labour during the agricultural rush season which is January to March. And we have succeeded in handing over this job of seeing that the children go to school regularly to the Youth League in every village and *cheri* which we have formed. The Youth League in every place runs a night-school which is very regularly attended by adults. This term Selaiyur village and Irumbaliyur village have opened night-schools with our help and encouragement. In Selaiyur there are three sections of the night-school—the advanced English, the elementary English and the Tamil sections. Except in Irumbaliyur, the night-schools are being run by educated young men in the villages and *cheris*. Reading-rooms were opened at Irumbaliyur and Selaiyur and in the latter, attendance averages 20–30.

On the social side, the Youth Leagues at Selaiyur and Irumbaliyur and the Football Club at Thirvencheri formed this term, have been a great source of strength and joy. The Youth Leagues meet once a week for discussion, debates or sometimes to listen to an outside speaker. Weekend football matches are a regular feature at Selaiyur and during weekdays in Thirvencheri, we have organised entertainments under the auspices of the Youth Leagues and we have drawn freely on village talent. One of the best entertainments was arranged at Thirvencheri last week.

Health and Sanitation has presented several problems. The College

doctor has been out with us once a fortnight or week and has examined and helped serious cases. We find malnutrition and hookworm the source of worst diseases, and besides immediate alleviation, we are trying to shift the villagers from rice to ragi and vegetables. Here we found that because we had not really won the villagers' trust and confidence, we were helpless in face of their superstition and fear. We are now working at this. Propaganda and health lectures besides personal talks are being tried in Thirvencheri and Mappedu. To avoid the morass into which the village was turned during the monsoon this year, we helped Thirvencheri to lay out a good road and drain off their water. We paid the cartage and they supplied free labour. We are also going ahead in the plans for the well in that village for which the Government has sanctioned Rs. 375 on condition the villagers put Rs. 125 worth of labour.

Finally we must refer to our first tentative attempts to help the villagers economically. Last term we saw whole families spending whole weeks without work and without a morsel of food. So the members of the Rural League brought forward a resolution in Selaiyur and Heber Hall assemblies asking for the use of hand-pounded rice for the whole Hall. The resolutions were carried. Thereupon some of the senior members of the League accepted responsibility for working the scheme. A plot of land was obtained at a nominal rent, and a shed with the hand-pounding instruments were erected. For the whole of this term hand-pounded rice has been supplied to three messes—one in each Hall covering half the resident members. The other half was left out because of the difficulty of obtaining paddy. This has meant

that for 3 months, which is the length of the last term, we have given 4-6 men and 6-8 women work every day distributing Rs. 7-10 among them for 2 days' work. We draw our labourers from the villages and we are training and employing those who are unemployed. For the next term the College has advanced a sum of money with which to buy and store new paddy now, so that we can pay our overhead charges. We thank the College and the resident students for their help and co-operation. We hope the students will continue their use of and demand for hand-pounded rice for the following reasons: (a) For next year, we shall provide work for 6 men and 8 women per day for 7 months which is the slack season here and distribute Rs. 100 in wages per month. (b) The rice is good for our health and is nutritious. (c) It is a sign of our real care for the starving millions in our land. We have also been buying vegetable produce from the villagers for our messes. In one case, we have bought paddy from a young man to help him to run a grocery shop he started in Thirvencheri early in January. He is paid for his goods in paddy for which he has no market at the moment. By selling his paddy to us, he gets ready cash with which he obtains fresh stock for his shop. St. Thomas's Group have introduced the charka in their village and are carefully watching the experiments. Our attempts at bee-keeping, poultry-farming and market gardening have not met with success. But we know where we have failed and we hope to start afresh next term on sounder lines.

We have done a small bit of foundation work this year. We must dig deeper in the coming years, before

we build the superstructure. In the meanwhile our work has been a source of great joy and help as it has given concrete expression to some of our religious and consequent moral and political convictions.

K. S. AHMAD PASHA,
C. PAULUS,

Hogg Villa

C. SERINIVASAN,
Heber

U. N. RAMACHANDRA RAU,
St. Thomas'

MUKUNDU UNNI,
Selaigur

The Painters' Club

The Painters' Club has been very active this term, endeavouring to popularise art among the students, chiefly by means of lectures on simple art technique. The most important meeting was the one held on the 20th of January, when Miss A. S. Hellier gave a very instructive talk on 'Water Colours'. Our annual Art Exhibition was held on the 13th and 14th of January. The average quality of the exhibits was higher than last year. The Exhibition was opened by Mrs. Jayalakshmi Kumar, B.A., artist and critic. Her commendation was awarded to 'Vigil' by Susheel Chander in the Drawing section, and to 'Pillar Rocks' by Augustine Devapriam in the Painting section. The Exhibition attracted large numbers of viewers, and it is our aim to continue making the College more and more art-conscious.

PADMANAB S. PEIDPET,
Secretary.

English Honours Association

The first meeting for this term was held on 30th January, when Rev. J. R. Macphail, M.A., presided. Mr.

L. M. Turner moved the proposition: 'The Elizabethan plays and their presentations are to be preferred to our modern ones'. Mr. Godwin Rose opposed the motion. Mr. Samuel Varghese (B. Sc., iv, Gr. 3) K. George and M. S. Subramaniam participated in the debate. Many ingenious speeches were made by the speakers on both sides which were both instructive and amusing.

The next was a memorable meeting in our year's work, when on the 5th February we had an Inter-Collegiate Debate with the English Honours Association of Presidency College, Madras. Over 25 students came over here in response to our invitation. They were entertained to tea by our President, Rev. R. S. Macnicol, M.A. The meeting was held in Room No. 18 which was packed to the full. Mr. Macnicol taking the chair extended a hearty welcome to our guests. The subject for discussion was 'Whether the study of language has any cultural value' and speakers were not slow to give vent to their bottled-up aversion for language. Since our migration to Tambaram we have had to give up Inter-Collegiate lectures with the Presidency College; and we do hope that the contact will be revived and maintained by such Inter-Collegiate debates every term.

On the 13th of February, Mr. Venkataraman, B.A. (Hons) gave us a very interesting talk on 'Oscar Wilde'. Against a background of the decadent movement in English literature, he reviewed the position of Oscar Wilde as a novelist, playwright and short story writer. It was followed by an interesting discussion.

The Association expects to celebrate its Anniversary on the 27th February, when a few scenes from Shakespeare

will be staged. We wish our senior members 'Good Luck'—both within the walls of the Examination Hall and in the wider arena of life.

D. S. GEORGE MULLER,
Secretary.

Literary Society

A debate was held on 19th February, 1941. The proposition that 'India is urgently in need of a Dictator' was moved by T. B. Jumbulingam and opposed by Ali Sait. M. Narasimha Rao and P. S. Sankaran also spoke. With another debate, the activities of the Society for the term and the year will come to a close.

There will also be a meeting towards the end of the term of the Class Representatives to elect a Secretary for the coming year.

K. N. RAJ,
Secretary.

Andhra Bhashabhiranjini Sangham

The Working Committee, authorized to draft the Constitution, completed the drafting and the newly drafted Constitution was passed with a few changes, by the general body at a meeting held on Tuesday the 28th February, in Room No. 12 with the Student Chairman in the chair. It was also resolved to publish a Telugu Magazine and a subscription of Rupee one was raised from each member to meet the cost of publication.

At 7 p.m. on 14th February, Mr. Kumara Reddy Hertshell, B.A., a globe-trotter, gave a talk in Bishop Heber Hall, on his romantic experiences. The Student Chairman presided.

The Anniversary of the Association was celebrated on Friday the 21st in the Anderson Hall. The function

started with Tea. Mr. K. Rama Krishnayya, M.A., Reader in Telugu, University of Madras, then delivered the valedictory address. Mr. D. Sreenivasulu Reddy, Student Chairman extended a hearty welcome to guests at the outset. After the Secretary's report, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Somayya who presided, expressed his satisfaction with the activities of the Andhra Association in this College and stressed on the need for improving the mother-tongue.

For the first time, since the shifting of the College to Tambaram, the Andhra Association put on boards a variety entertainment, consisting of a scene from 'Pratapa Rudriyam' and a comic farce named 'Bagu Bagu'. The actors acquitted themselves creditably.

C. SIVA SANKAR,
E. SREENIVASULU REDDY,
Joint Secretaries.

Tamil Sangam

On 20th January, 1941, we had a debate, when the proposition, 'India does not require partition either on the basis of language or community' was carried. Mr. T. K. Rajasekharan, M.A., was the observer. Aranganathan and Sivaraju spoke for the subject, and Michael and Jambulingam opposed the proposition. Dorairaj, Arunagiri, Srinivasavardhan and others spoke as supplementary speakers.

We feel glad to mention here that Arunagiri and Sivaraju represented our College in the Tamil Oratorical Contest held in Loyola College for the 'Chettinad Cup' and our College stood as a close second.

In the oratorical contest held here, for Mr. V. A. Ramachandran's Cup and prize, the same team carried

away the cup and the prize. In the competition among the students who do not take a course in Tamil for their degree examinations, Sundaraman got the first prize.

In order to celebrate the anniversary of the sangam on a grand scale, a committee of five—Sundaraman, Arunagiri, Sivaraju, Palani and the Secretary—was formed, and I should say the result was a great success. Dr. Thirumoorthi, B.A., M.B. & C.M., D.T.M. & H. (Lond.), presided over the meeting, and Sister Subbhulakshmi, B.A., L.T., Headmistress of Lady Willingdon High School spoke on 'Women—Ancient and Modern'.

We thank the committee for making such elaborate arrangements with regard to tea, music and entertainment. For the last mentioned, the able help rendered by Mr. Sarangan of Teacher's College, and P. S. Raman and others cannot be overlooked. Our thanks are due to the *College Magazine* authorities, who have helped us to publish a Tamil Supplement this year also, and to the old members of our sangam who have contributed articles for the supplement.

P. RAMASWAMY,
Secretary.

Malayalee Association

The Anniversary of the Association was celebrated under the presidency of Dr. V. K. John, LL.D., Bar-at-law, on Saturday the 23rd November. The function began with a tea-party at 4-45 p.m. and the Public Meeting commenced at 5-15 p.m. which was followed by the drama 'B.A. Mayavi'. The function closed with a song of praise to Kerala Matha by the actors.

Sri Puthezhethu Raman Menon, Sarwadhi of Cochin, delivered a lecture on 'Progressive Malayalam Literature'. It was a very impressive and instructive speech.

We are arranging to publish a Malayalam supplement to the *College Magazine* this year also. We hope that it will be continued in future years.

J. THOMAS,
Secretary.

Sanskrit Association

The secret treasures of the Geetha, and their use in practical life were brought to light by Mr. K. Narasinga Rao, who gave an interesting lecture (which turned out almost to be a discussion!) early last term.

Speaking on the 'Cultural Value of Sanskrit' on 24th November, Diwan Bahadur Ramaswami Sastriar observed that Sanskrit Culture has a very great humanising value, and that without a study of Sanskrit, no vital contact with Indian Culture could be established. So much for the second term.

The valedictory address is expected to come off in the last week of February.

N. VENKATAKRISHNAN,
Secretary.

Karnatic Music Society

The Society did not meet so frequently this term as it did in the first two terms. But we are happy that the Society did one thing, and did it well. A Music Competition was held on Thursday the 13th February. The Music would not, probably, have satisfied the exacting critic. But it is indeed a happy sign that the students of the College have

realised that Karnatic Music is not mere noise and local gymnastics. The mass mind has to be turned from 'lilting' tunes to something really grand and classical by small doses of Karnatic Music. If it is realised that Karnatic Music is music indeed, we shall be much gratified. The first prize was won by Mr. G. K. Ramachandran and the second by Mr. C. Balachandran. It was a humble beginning but it is a definite landmark in the history of the Society.

We shall probably have one more performance and then have our valedictory Meeting.

K. J. NATARAJAN,
Secretary.

Hindusthani Premi Mandal

In view of the Hindi Examinations held on 9th February, 1941, by the Dakshina Bharath Hindi Prachar Sabha, the term began with regular classes in Hindi. Three students took the Prathmic Examination and two students, and two members of staff appeared for the Madhyama Examination and we expect cent per cent success.

The valedictory address of the Association will be delivered by Sri Avadhanandhan, of the Dakshina Bharath Hindi Prachar Sabha at the end of this week.

A. SRINIVASAN,
Secretary.

Physical Science Society

On 24th of January, Mr. P. S. Sreenivasan, M.A., delivered a lecture on the 'Story of a Beam of Light' with Dr. Gandheker in the chair. The speaker traced the whole history of the development of science from the very early ages to the present day

and mentioned briefly the eagerness and curiosity of the founders of Science in spite of the fact that they were poorly equipped with scientific apparatus. Most eminent among them, the speaker said, was Newton and no one was able to contradict his statements as Newton had already established his fame as a great scientist. Then the speaker dealt with Newton's Corpuscular theory of light and Huyghen's conception of waves. Concluding he said that both the theories were needed for explaining and solving some of the difficult problems in the study of Light.

We had an enlightening lecture on 29th of January by Rao Sahib T. N. S. Raghavachariar of King Institute. Rev. T.G. Platten presided. The speaker at the outset said that the most important resource available to man is knowledge, for the materials and forces in his environment become useful to him only as he learns about them and through science and technology converts them to his needs. The widespread recognition today of the fundamental importance of study and research to society is indicated by the huge sums of money and vast amounts of energy invested in Education and in the development of new techniques. Scientific research more than any other type of activity requires freedom. The speaker said that in the case of the breakdown of Uranium in 1939, the early tentative questionings were from Rome, these were caught up at Berlin, eagerly heard at Paris and relayed to Copenhagen and then flashed across to the United States where they were seized. The amazing development and application of Sulphanilamide has been the result of collaboration and the first hint of this drug was obtained in Germany in connection with the commercial

dye industry. He continued that the progress of modern scientific research, especially during the past fifty years, has been characterised by its complexity and the variety of phases which it presents. Too many impossibilities have come true in our own life-time. Yesterday's miracles are becoming today's commonplaces. He said that much could be accomplished with the help of the cyclotron at the Science College in Calcutta, and that with the help of the electron photographs of molecular structure, a new way has been found of marking what might be called architectural blue prints from which the structure of molecules can be worked out. Then he spoke on earthquake analysers, a new alloy of manganese and copper and an electron seeing microscope.

Concluding his speech the speaker said that Science has offered man a rope to skip with and she cannot be blamed if he chooses to hang himself with it.

V. SREENIVASAN,
D. SREENIVASAN,
Secretaries.

Natural History Society

Dr. C. P. Gnanamuthu, M.A., D.Sc., F.Z.S., of American College, Madura, gave us a lecture on 'The Air we Breathe'. Dr. Gnanamuthu who was on a very short visit to Madras kindly accepted our invitation though he had to put himself to a lot of inconvenience. So on 11th November, 1940, in spite of a terrific downpour, the lecture commenced at 7-30 p.m. and Dr. Gnanamuthu made a very illuminating speech full of information. This can be said to be the best of the lectures we had this year. Mr. B. Bonnell presided.

On 24th January, 1941, Mr. J. Samuel Raj, one of our post-graduate students read a paper on 'Insect-life in Tambaram'. Mr. T. N. Venkatanathan presided. Mr. Samuel Raj is a keen and sincere student of Nature in all its aspects. He illustrated his lecture with numerous specimens, mostly alive, and epidioscopic projections. He dealt with all kinds of insects met with in Tambaram and showed how Tambaram provides them with conditions suitable for their life.

On 12th February, 1941, Rao Sahib B. S. Nirody, Curator of the Agrihorticultural Gardens, Teynampet gave a very interesting lecture of immense practical importance on 'The technique of Plant-culture in the field of economic Botany'. He stressed the fact that many of the waste lands of India could be brought under cultivation yielding much money to the planters if only they would employ botanists who would be able to make a practical use of their knowledge acquired by years of laborious study. He also showed how by inter-breeding or crossing different plants we can evolve a variety that will, while being immune to pathological attacks, be valuable as a commodity. Prof. M. S. Sabhesan presided on the occasion.

On 17th February, 1941, Dr. M. Damodaram, M.A., D.Sc., F.I.C., Director, Department of Bio-chemistry, University of Madras gave a very humorous but most enlightening lecture on 'All Flesh is Grass'. The talk was illustrated by lantern slides. Dr. K. E. Thomas presided that day.

On Friday, 21st February, 1941, at 5 p.m., K. S. Seshachari read a paper on 'Mendelism and Heredity' and illustrated it with many slides and diagrams. Mr. P. N. Ganapathy, M.A., M.Sc., presided on the occasion.

Dr. C. S. Govinda Pillay, Health Officer, Corporation of Madras will most probably deliver the valedictory address of our society.

The Anniversary celebrations will take place in the last week of February and will bring our activities for the year to a close. Formerly it was proposed to hold two essay competitions, but later this decision was unwillingly abandoned as many of our members were so sure of their ability to excel that they did not think it wise and decent to put it to the test.

Now our *Bulletin*. In spite of the efforts of the Secretaries many of our members are still literally oblivious of the existence of the *Natural Science Bulletin*. Only 2 issues came out during the year. The *Bulletin* did not venture upon a third appearance as it felt, and quite justifiably too, that in the present state of its popularity it would be prudent to refrain from any more 'incarnations'.

There was a committee meeting on 22nd January, 1941 at which some important points were discussed.

V. VENKATESAPERUMALL,
K. S. SESHACHARI,
Joint Secretaries.

Philosophical Association

A meeting of the Association was held on 10th January at 4-30 p.m. to elect a Secretary in the place of Mr. K. M. Talgeri who resigned from that office on account of the ensuing University Examination. Deacon K. P. Paul, B.A., was elected *nem con.* as the Secretary of the Association.

Another meeting was held on 30th January in St. Thomas's Hall Theatre, when S.V.V., the famous humorist spoke on the philosophy of humour. There was a large gathering and the

audience was rippling with laughter during the speech. The speaker mentioned that he was very glad to come and speak to us, because he was a student of our College about 40 years ago. He mentioned that humour required a large fund of knowledge, a capacity for vivid description and comprehension of a situation. He said it was an art of the world and not yet elevated to the spiritual status. It helped one to be active, energetic and optimistic. It would help a man to criticise and convince others without being gross.

The President Dr. J. F. Butler spoke commending S.V.V.'s gifts as a humorist. The Secretary proposed a vote of thanks and the meeting ended.

K. P. PAUL,
Secretary.

College Union—(concl. from p. 167).

On February 28, Messrs. K. Baghyathan and T. C. A. Srinivasavaradan were elected as the Student Chairman and Secretary respectively.

The valedictory address of the College Union was delivered by Mr. R. O. Hicks of Oxford on March 5, at 5-15 p.m. Mr. Hicks remarked that many schemes undertaken after the last War to establish peace failed because they failed to tackle the fundamental problem of human nature. Many a personal, domestic, economic, political and foreign problem can be solved if only individuals and leaders follow a policy of truthfulness combined with patriotism. 'Make a man right, then the world would get right' was the pith of Mr. Hicks' address.

R. A. SWAMIAPPAN,
Secretary.

OUR FORMER STUDENTS



ALUMNI PARTY FOR MEMBERS OF MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, LONDON, APRIL 1940.
G. D. Boaz, A. Krishnaswamy, Dr. Kesava Panikar, T. P. Koshi, K. I. Thomas,
D. Appaswamy, Sreenivasan, K. G. Kunjarama Nair, Rev. J. R. Macphail,
S. M. Maroth (M. S. Menon).

CRICKET



OLD BOYS VS. PRESENT ANNUAL MATCH, 1941

Standing: Mr. T. M. Doraiswami (Umpire), Mr. V. R. Parashuraman, B. S. Venkatesh, F. K. Harikrishnan, K. S. Alwa, G. Shanmugam, Mr. P. Ananda Rao, Mr. B. Baskar Rao, Mr. S. Narayana Rao, Mr. Sunder Rao, Mr. C. A. Abraham, S. Kesavanamurti, A. S. Sankararajan, P. Vaidya, U. M. Spindler, Mr. G. K. Ganathan (Hindu Reporter), Mr. A. Ramachandran, M. T. Bellappa.
Sitting: Rev. K. S. Macnicol, M. A. Bellappa (Captain, College Team), Mr. K. S. Ranga Rao, Mr. J. Subbaswami (Captain, Old Boys' Team), Mrs. Bingle, Rev. A. J. Boyd, Mr. E. J. Bingle, Dr. M. S. Adiseshiah.
Sitting (From Right): A. Narayanan, Mr. S. Venkatesan (Umpire), R. R. Benjamin (Score), A. C. Nandappa, Mr. A. Ramakrishnan, Mr. H. Gnanadivan, Mr. Sethupathy, Kingsley Charles, Mr. C. M. Pandeyngan.

BOXING TEAM



Standing: R. D. Martin, J. Daniel, D. Stiggs, H. F. Bidder, J. Joyce, A. Simon, R. A. Michael.
Sitting: N. J. Hunt, Mr. C. A. Abraham, H. Coyne, Mr. A. I. Boyd, Noel Jay, Nipps (Vice-Captain), Mr. Bingle.
On ground: K. K. Ramachandran, F. Isalah.

HOCKEY TEAM



JOINT WINNERS OF THE HOCKEY LEAGUE.

Back row, left to right: W. M. C. Hensman, R. Absalom, Mr. C. A. Abraham (Physical Director), W. David (Vice-Captain), T. Viswanathan, Mr. J. Annamalai, yagam (Referee), C. Spitzer, J. Joyce.
Sitting: Dr. J. F. Butler (President), Mr. V. Ramakrishnan, Rev. A. J. Boyd (Principal), N. Hunt (Captain), H. Coyne, Mr. F. I. Bingle (Manager).
In front: N. Simon, K. V. Vaidilingam.

ATHLETICS

Football

Late in the last term we were chosen to represent the Madras Zone in the Inter-Divisional Zone by virtue of our victory in the Inter-Collegiate league. The first match was with the Victoria College, Palghat (last year's runners up) on January 21 on Loyola College grounds. In the first half we never played well and this showed that we lacked practice. But in the second half there was a great recovery especially in the forward line. There was the usual neat, short passing and we won the match by 3 goals to 1. The very next day we had to face the Nizam's College, Hyderabad, a heavy team. We were surprisingly defeated by the odd goal in three. In this match, the Intermediate line did not fare well, the full-backs were not certain in their tacklings and kicks, and the goalie had an off-day. The forwards, though not at their best, were able to pierce the defence of the opponents on a number of occasions, but failed to score. Twice the ball hit the cross-bar and went out, and Manickam's fine shot went a little farther away from the post. P. J. Thomas after dribbling past the defence failed to score with only the goalie to beat. When we were leading by 1 goal in the second half, our goalie unaccountably left his position and the result was a goal. While 6 minutes to go for the final whistle, a doubtful penalty was given against us and they led by 2 goals to 1. The forwards made a bold bid to score. But time came to their rescue and we lost the

match. The game we produced in the last 5 minutes was one of the best during this season.

We decided to end the season with the match against past students of the College. It came off on 25th January. We could not play our full team that day. Our opponents played with 9 and a draw of 3 all was the correct index of the play. We entertained our guests to tea, the variety entertainment in the Selaiyur Hall, and dinner and they went away highly pleased.

Last year our team had a brilliant career, and it continued this year also, and I hope it will achieve the same next year though the forwards will be badly missed. I wish every success to my successor and his men.

G. RAMAMURTHY,
Captain.

Boxing

We began this year with a number of newcomers to our Boxing Club. Most of them were novices, but they improved rapidly and helped to form a strong team, so that we were able to retain the Lalita Sastri Shield for the 4th successive year, in spite of strong opposition from the Medicals. The boxers must be congratulated not only for this great achievement, but also for the determined and game spirit shown during the Boxing Tournament. Before proceeding further, our coach, Mr. J. S. Henry must be thanked for all the help he gave to the boxers.

In the Inter-Collegiate Boxing Tournament 13 competed from our

College. Of these 7 came up to the finals.

The following are the boxers who entered for this tournament with the results:—

Pin-weight

F. Isaiah—Winner.

K. K. Ramachandran—Runner-up.

Paper-weight

R. A. Michael—Winner.

Fly-weight

R. D. Martin—Runner-up.

Feather-weight

N. J. Nipps—Winner.

Light-weight

N. J. Hunt—Winner.

D. Staggs—Runner-up.

Lost in Semi-finals

A. Soares.

J. Daniel.

Lost in Preliminary

H. Baldrey.

J. Joyce.

K. Kolanthavelu.

T. Mathews.

Pin-weight

Both our men, namely, Isaiah and Ramachandran, were the only entries in this weight. Both were in fine condition and gave a good display.

Paper-weight

Michael has the makings of a good boxer, for throughout the year he was keen and kept himself in good training. He is one of our boxers who has made the most progress this year. He beat his 3 opponents, knocking out 2 of them.

Fly-weight

In this weight we did not think we had the slightest chance as Martin, still quite a novice, was our only

representative. However, he surprised us by beating his man in the semi-finals. In the finals he lost, after a fairly close-contested fight.

Bantam-weight

Soares, boxing quite scientifically, beat his man in the preliminary. He was unfortunate after that to meet in the semi-finals the man who had won the championship in the two previous years. Though getting heavy punishment, he was game to the end.

He was a gallant loser.

Kolanthavelu is quite a strong fighter, but has yet to learn the finer technique of boxing.

Feather-weight

Another boxer who lost, but who gave a very good account of himself was Daniel. He fought very well in the preliminary, battering his opponent. In the semi-finals he met a more experienced boxer, and was beaten by a very narrow margin of points, after a gruelling battle.

Light-weight

Hunt, with his strength and courage, is another who has the makings of a good boxer. He fought very well, knocking out his opponent in the preliminary; and then following it up with another knock-out in the finals. He was never in difficulty during his fights.

Staggs, still a novice, won his fight in the preliminary, much to our surprise. He was defeated in the finals by Hunt. Joyce, is a 'one-round' boxer, and as a result gets completely fatigued in the other two rounds.

Welter-weight

Baldrey was our only entry in this weight. In the preliminary he was

up against a very strong boxer, but though he got the worst of the exchanges, he was game to the end.

Unfortunately, our captain was unable to lead us into battle this year, as he was away on an important hockey tour.

N. J. NIPPS,
Vice-Captain.

Track and Field

Training in Track and Field started early in the second term. The monsoon interfered with the training to a large extent but, still, a large number of persons came for regular practice. Some of the athletes learned, for the first time, to train according to schedule. Those who trained in this way were amply rewarded for their pains. Mere practice of one's events is not enough. Erratic training does not bring the best out of an athlete during contests. A planned, systematic schedule of training spread over a number of weeks, on the other hand, enables a man to bring out the best in him in the most efficient and economical style. After all, most of the values in Track and Field is in the preparation and training that precedes the competitions rather than in the actual performances.

Commemoration Day Sports

The Annual Sports were held on Commemoration Day—Friday, 31st January. The heats and some finals were held on Monday and Tuesday of the same week. Competition was keen this year and it was hoped that the chances of the three Halls were fairly even. But, as the competition progressed, it was evident that Selaiyur were once more the favourites. Finally, the Selaiyur Hall won by a wide margin with 105

points, while Bishop Heber again secured the second place with 73 points and St. Thomas's the third place with 64 points.

Selaiyur must be congratulated on their remarkable record. Ever since the sports were organized on an Inter-Hall basis four years ago, Selaiyur have won it on every occasion by a comfortable margin. It is all the more remarkable since their success in most cases was due to good organization and team spirit rather than to individual performers. In the other Halls there is no dearth of talent but the way the teams are organized leaves much to be desired. St. Thomas's, though still occupying the third rank, has the satisfaction that they are a very much better third than in previous years.

Though outstanding performances were not many, most of them are noteworthy. Two new records were created. Kurien Joseph broke T. J. Solomon's last year's record of 24.4 secs. in the 200 metres race with 24 secs. Kurien Joseph is an athlete who came to us with a great reputation. He has natural ability as a sprinter but his form is poor and his training was very inadequate. If he takes the trouble to learn how to take the crouch-start he can still reduce a good part of a second from his time. The only other new record is in the 4 × 100 metres Relay. Selaiyur broke their own previous record of 49 secs. by reducing this time by three-fifth of a second. Other notable performances are T. M. Spitteler's 2 min. 11.4 secs. in the 800 metres, K. I. Eapen's 55.4 secs. in the 400 metres, H. E. Baldrey's 80 ft. 10½ in. in the Discus Throw, R. S. Amirtharaj's 31 ft. 9½ in. in the Shot Put, and P. Arumugam's 11.6 secs. in the 100 metres.

The Hon'ble Justice Sir Sidney Burn, Kt., I.C.S., presided and gave away the prizes.

The following are the results:—

Results of the College Sports

110 Metres Hurdles.—W. N. C. Hensman, 1; G. Abraham, 2. Time: 18.2 secs. (This does not count as a record as one hurdle was knocked down).

Shot Put.—R. S. Amirtharaj, 1; P. A. George, 2. 31 ft. 9½ in.

800 Metres Race.—T. M. Spitteler, 1; C. J. Mathews, 2. Time: 2 min. 11.4 secs.

Pole Vault.—V. Gopalan, 1; S. W. Chandradas, 2. Height: 9 ft. 7 in.

100 Metres Race.—P. Arumugam, 1; N. Raghunath, 2. Time: 11.6 secs.

Long Jump.—R. S. Amirtharaj, 1; R. M. Absolam, 2. Distance: 19 ft. 11 in.

400 Metres Race.—K. I. Eapen, 1; Kurien Joseph, 2. Time: 55.4 secs.

Hop, Step and Jump.—R. M. Absolam, 1; A. T. Thomas, 2. Distance: 41 ft. 0½ in.

Discus Throw.—H. E. Baldrey, 1. Distance: 80 ft. 10½ in. S. W. Chandradas, 2. Distance: 80 ft. 7½ in.

200 Metres Hurdles.—H. Coyne, 1; T. M. Spitteler, 2. Time: 28.0 secs.

High Jump.—P. V. John, 1; R. M. Absolam, 2. Height: 5 ft. 5½ in.

1,500 Metres Race.—C. J. Mathews, 1; C. M. Poulouse, 2. Time: 2 mins. 11.4 secs.

200 Metres Race.—Kurien Joseph, 1; H. Coyne, 2. Time: 24.0 secs. (New College Record).

4×100 Metres Relay Race.—Selaiyur Hall, 1; Bishop Heber Hall, 2. Time: 48.4 secs. (New College Record).

4×400 Metres Relay Race.—Selaiyur Hall, 1; Bishop Heber Hall, 2. Time: 3 mins. 51.4 secs.

Tug-of-War.—St. Thomas's, 1; Selaiyur, 2.

Old Boys' Race.—T. B. Cleur, 1; V. T. Titus, 2; S. Palanivelu, 3.

4×200 Metres Inter-College Relay Race.—Y.M.C.A., 1; Loyola, 2. Time: 1 min. 40.4 secs.

Championship Points.

1. Selaiyur, 105.
2. Bishop Heber, 73.
3. St. Thomas's, 64.

University Sports

In the Inter-Divisional Sports conducted by the Madras University on January 24th, the Madras Division was as usual, represented mainly by athletes from our College. The performance of our men was chiefly responsible for enabling the Madras Division to retain the Championship this year also.

Inter-Collegiate Sports

Inter-Collegiate Sports were held this year on the Loyola College ground, the 7th and 8th of February. Some of our star athletes were not able to take part owing to injuries and so we were not very hopeful of winning the Championship again this year. Our success, therefore, is all the more praiseworthy. We secured only five firsts and of these two were in the Relays. The other firsts were secured by W. N. C. Hensman in the 110 Metres Hurdles, P. V. John in the High jump, R. M. Absolam in the Long Jump. The other points came by way of second, third and fourth places in the various events. It was not until the two Relay Races were over were we able to win the Championship. The two teams ran very

well indeed and came out first in both making the Championship secure. In the end, we had scored 53 points to win the Shield. Loyola were a good second with 45½ points. Thus, for the second year in succession we were able to win the Inter-Collegiate Athletic Championship, which is a unique record in the history of the College.

Madras Olympic Sports

The Collegiate Association decided to enter a Combined Colleges team to take part in the Provincial Olympics. As the winners of the Inter-Collegiate Championship we contributed most of the athletes for this team. None of the Combined Colleges team were able to perform anything remarkable in such a high class competition. The two relay teams from our College did quite well, however.

Boxing

As holders of the Inter-Collegiate Championship for the last three years we had to strain every effort to try and retain it. There was considerable difficulty in securing the services of a proper Coach. Mr. A. S. J. Henry had to leave Madras on military duty. In the end, we were able to get his brother Mr. J. S. Henry as our Coach. Mr. J. S. Henry was in our College many years ago and it was during his time that our Boxing Club was first started. He is an experienced boxer and we were lucky to get him. The Inter-Collegiate Boxing was to be held in February and there was very little time for intensive training after the College Sports and the various other sports meetings.

Many of the boxers this year were beginners but the lack of experience was more than made up by the keenness of the men. Of the 25 boxers

about 13 took part in the competition.

This year the competition was held in our College Ring. About 65 boxers from six colleges had entered for the tournament which was spread over three evenings. Medicals had entered a very strong team and were our serious rivals. For the finals, on Wednesday, 19th February, we had seven men in the finals and the Medicals also had an equal number. In the end, we secured 11 points out of a possible 12 while the Medicals got 9. Thus, for the fourth year in succession, we won the Championship.

The standard of boxing was far better this year than usual and most of the boxers appeared to be in good training. All our boxers did very well particularly the new men. Perhaps the best loser of the whole tournament was A. Suares who was unlucky to meet an experienced and champion boxer in the semi-final round. H. E. Baldrey and J. Samuel were two others who put up an excellent show. They are both beginners and by next year they ought to be able to win the championships in their particular classes.

Cricket

The annual match between the Old Boys and the Present came off on Saturday, 18th January. The first of these matches was played only last year but the fixture has become an important and popular event of the year. Old Boys are anxious to come back to the College for a day and have an enjoyable time besides playing cricket. It was found last year that it is a very good thing to fix this match on a day when one of the Halls has its Hall Day. This year it was played on St. Thomas's Hall Day.

Last year the Old Boys were beaten by the present team but this year the Old Boys very nearly beat the Present. It was only time that saved the College team from a defeat. The Old Boys team consisted of the following:— J. Subbuswami (Captain), K. S. Ranga Rao, A. Ramachandran, V. Pattabhiraman, K. Narayana Rao, C. M. Pandurangam, B. Basker Rao, P. Ananda Rau, H. Gnanaolivu, T. M. Seethapathy and Sunder Rao. Of these, B. Basker Rao, who was the College Captain last year, came all the way from Bangalore to play this match.

The Old Boys won the toss and batted first. J. Subbuswami who opened for the Old Boys played a Captain's innings. He carried his bat through, scoring 61 runs. The other batsmen who reached double figures were B. Basker Rao (21), C. M. Pandurangam (15), and P. Ananda Rau (17). Their total was 145 runs.

The College team suffered a minor collapse when they went in to bat. At one time the score was 44 for 5, but a partnership between B. S. Venugopal and E. K. Harikrishnan raised the score to 75 when time intervened. V. Ramakrishnan (15), B. S. Venugopal (25), and E. K. Harikrishnan (20 not out) were the only batsman to reach double digits.

After the match the teams went to St. Thomas's Hall and spent the rest of the day there partaking in the Hall Day celebrations.

The last match of the year was played on Monday 24th February with The Eccentrics, captained by Mr. A. F. W. Dixon, I.C.S. Mr. Dixon had brought a very strong team. More than half the team were members of the Provincial team and the rest of them except for one or two

were nearly equally good. Though the visitors paid us a great compliment by bringing so strong a team, it was soon evident that our team was no match for them. This disparity in strength spoiled much of the interest of the match.

We won the toss and batted first. There was a regular procession of batsmen from and to the pavilion. None of our regular batsmen could stand up to the high class bowling of the visitors. Our players were certainly out of practice for some time but the collapse of all our best men could only be explained by the superiority of our guests. We were at one time 20 for 8 wickets. It was even feared that the lowest ground record of 22 against the Medicals this year may be beaten! However, S. Krishnamurthi and A. R. Sundaravaradan rose to the occasion and raised the score to a fairly respectable total of 93. They were the only batsmen who played well. Krishnamurthi scored 32 while Sundaravaradan remained not out with 31.

The visitors passed this total for the loss of 5 wickets. Though the result of the match was a foregone conclusion the match was a really enjoyable one. It is hoped that more matches with strong teams like this will be arranged in future.

The cricket team, though it won no trophies this year has a proud record. We missed the League Championship by a single point, the nearest we have ever got to it so far. The general average has been improving during the last few years and it will not be long before we win the Inter-Collegiate Championship.

Football

We represented, as the Inter-Collegiate Champions the Madras

Division in the Inter-Divisional Tournament conducted by the Madras University. We met the Palghat College in the semi-final and won by three goals to one. The next day we met the Nizam's College, Hyderabad, in the final. Though we were expected to win we lost the match by two goals to one. It was a tale of missed chances and bad luck. Perhaps, the tendency to depend too much on a few star players was partly responsible for the failure. It would be interesting to see what would happen when some of those star players will not be available next year.

Hockey

In the Inter-'Varsity Hockey tournament, Madras was represented by players chosen from the various colleges of the University. H. Coyne of our College had the distinction of being one of them. Madras defeated Mysore and the semi-final match was played on the 20th February at Lucknow with the Lucknow University. Though the Madras University lost the match by one goal to nothing, scored in extra time, the players put up a good show. Our representative on the team was considered to be one of the most outstanding players.

Inter-Hall Junior Tournaments

There was a proposal to conduct Inter-Hall tournaments in all the games where the teams will consist of those who have not represented the College in the Inter-Collegiate tournaments. The idea was popular and the time to run off the tournaments was fixed as after the Inter-Collegiate Boxing in February. This is a good time to run the tournaments as all the athletic activities have a tendency to come to a standstill by the second

half of February. This is perhaps the time when students need exercise, recreation and relaxation more than at any other time. The fixtures were drawn and the arrangements had gone a long way. But the numerous valedictory functions that are in vogue at this time of the year clashed with the arrangements and the whole idea had to be dropped in the end. However, it is hoped that at least next year the scheme will materialise.

C.A.A.

U. T. C. Christian College Contingent

ATTENTION!

This year also the College Contingent of the U.T.C. 'E' X'ians — maintained its high standard. The Annual Camp was held at Avadi in December and our strength there was 113 out of a total of 115. The camp, as a whole, was very enjoyable, and all our soldiers benefited very much. Our recruits were always cheerful and they got along very well with the Cadets and Officers. H. E. the Governor and the General Officer, visited the Camp on two separate days and we had two half-holidays in honour of their visits. They were greatly impressed by the efficiency and the smart turn out of our Contingent. One of the sources of inspiration to all our ranks was the frequent visits of the Principal, Mr. Boyd, and the Vice-Principal, Mr. Macphail. On one Sunday, Mr. Macphail conducted the service and preached a sermon.

It has been a regular phenomenon in the history of the Battalion that the Christian Contingent wins the Route March Cup. This year was no exception. Here, we have to make special mention of our gratitude to the services of our Professor, Rev.

R. S. Macnicol, who made us perfect in singing the marching songs to tune. He even composed new songs which were our pride. The Adjutant was highly pleased with them and he even thought of requesting our Officer for permission to introduce the songs into the whole Battalion!

Our achievements also include the winning of the Recruits' Musketry Cup and the Interior Economy Cup; and we are all very legitimately proud when we realize that the latter has been won for the first time in the Annals of the X'ian Contingent. However we are sorry to say that we missed the Guard Mounting Cup by half a point.

We won the hockey [bracketed with the Medicals] and the basket-ball tournaments and were the runners up in football. In sports too we were a close second to St. Joseph's who won the Championship. Our competitors carried off the honours in so many events that it is impossible to recount all those in this brief report.

The Recruits' Musketry course was held during the second week of February; and our recruits acquitted

themselves creditably with an average of above 64. Considering the fact that they are only recruits and their number is so big, this high average speaks volumes about the efficiency of our Officer and the thorough training that he has been imparting to these young soldiers.

The Examinations for the Higher and Lower Efficiency Certificates were conducted during the last two weeks of February. The results are not known at the time of writing this report. But unofficial information has reached us that they are quite good.

Taking a retrospective glance, we feel happy that the Contingent has done very well during the current year. We have preserved the fine traditions set up long ago by our predecessors and it is our fervent hope that the future members will unflinchingly rise to the occasion and do their best to enhance the glory of the 'E' X'ian Contingent.

M. NARAYANA MENON,
Under-Officer.

HALL REPORTS

St. Thomas's Hall

We began this term with a great event, namely the Hall Day. It was celebrated mainly on the lines of our Hall tradition. All the same, we had some new ideas which we carried into practice. And after a week's time we found them emulated by our sister Hall with a fair measure of success. We thank Selaiyur for the compliment they paid us; for, we know that 'imitation is the sincerest form of flattery'. We had committed some mistakes also, which we were glad to find the other Hall had taken pains to rectify. We were very proud to have Mr. O. Pulla Reddi, I.C.S., an Old Boy of the College, as our Chief Guest of the evening, who in a speech marked for its brevity and wit told us to keep up the 'Old Hall-tie tradition'. Sri. S. Padmanabhan made an interesting speech on behalf of the Old Boys of the Hall, many of whom had responded to our invitation. The Principal, as usual, gave expression to his prejudiced views concerning our Hall in his characteristically charming and rather inoffensive manner.

In the sphere of Entertainments, some innovations were brought in—A short 'Laurel and Hardy' film was 'screened' and naturally, we had a generous share of criticism both favourable and otherwise from our enthusiastic friends. We had intended it to entertain the children who had come with their parents, and we felt flattered when our Principal told us that he enjoyed the film immensely.

Our prophecies rarely prove false. This truth was best illustrated by

the results of the College Commemoration Day Sports. We had foretold that we would secure the first place, failing which, the third. We did not want the first place because of the simple reason that we detested the idea of disappointing the Principal, who congratulated us on our consistency in retaining the third place, conveniently forgetting or ignoring the fact that we were also consistent in retaining the Inter-Hall Basket Ball Shield. We had to fulfil our prophecy also, and so we fought Bishop Heber hard and won the coveted third place. A unique individual achievement of the day was the breaking of the College record in 200 metres race by Sri. Kurien Joseph; we have great pleasure in congratulating him.

On our Annual Dinner Day, a short and unofficial entertainment was arranged by the Romba Tamash Club, which was reinaugurated by our beloved warden on the occasion. Considering the fact that we had practically had no rehearsals, the entertainment went off well—thanks to the efforts of Sri. R. Benjamin.

We have come nearly to the close of a successful year. We take this opportunity of wishing the Senior members of the Hall success in the ensuing examinations. It is our firm belief that they will always cherish pleasant memories of their Hall life. We entrust the Juniors with the task of keeping the flag of St. Thomas's Hall flying.

K. CHERIAN,
General Secretary.

Selaiyur Hall

This term began with feverish activity on all sides. Preparations for our Hall Day and the College Sports took up most of our time, and it was indeed a relief to relax, when these two events were over.

We did spend more time, more money and more effort on this Hall Day, than on any such previous function. One of our tutors for example spent eight hours making just one of the letters in our 'Welcome' sign. We did better than any other Hall by installing a couple of beautiful little fountains. When they started to work, they brought gasps of wonder from the visitors and envious curses from the members of other Halls.

There was no rest after our Hall Day. The preparations for our sports took up most of our time. Our coach, George Abraham, made intricate calculations and came to the dismal conclusion that we would lose the shield to Bishop Heber, by just less than five points. But was he dismayed? No!—for George immediately forced all his athletes to swallow tins of Glucose D, with the result that we beat Bishop Heber by the terrific margin of 32 points. Some of the credit, however, should also go to P. V. John, our Sports Secretary, and to our younger athletes who did far better than was expected of them.

The great fact, however, is this. We have won the shield for the fourth year in succession, and we intend to win it again next year—the other Halls permitting. We are already laying up stores of Glucose D, in case there is shortage next year owing to war conditions.

The members of this Hall passed a constitution at the beginning of

this year, but finding its working unsatisfactory, they shelved it and passed another at the end of the year,—with the hope of course that their successors for years to come will live happily ever after under it. The Principal and the Warden, however, are not so optimistic. They are looking gloomily forward to next year, when they expect the General Body to throw out this constitution and introduce a new one; and incidentally to raise unpleasant and embarrassing questions regarding subjects like final authority and the transference of power from the staff to the students.

All we can say is this, we wish our successors, 'more power to their elbows'.

T. GOVINDARAJAN,
General Secretary

Bishop Heber Hall

From time immemorial (1937 to be precise), Heber Hall has observed a round of customs in the third term, and this year has proved no exception to rule. Our great tradition of coming second in the College Sports was maintained, and we are content that it should be so. Let the other Halls oscillate between extremes; for us—the happy medium! Another of our old customs is the election of office-bearers for the coming term; under the new constitution these offices are now annual. The President for the succeeding year is Mr. Muller, while the undersigned yields his keys-of-office (those which open the notice-boards) to Mr. J. F. Stirling. Our concert for the third term was held recently, and was commended by independent observers such as the Entertainment Secretary. The annual farewell to prospective gradu-

ates will be held shortly. Mrs. Bingle will distribute the prizes for the various competitions held throughout the year, though with the international situation as it is, what can one predict with safety?

Thus far our scheduled activities. There have been many other events, only a few of which must be selected for mention. The sudden death of Mr. Selvaraj Muthiah, in an aeroplane accident at Minambakkam, was deeply regretted by his many friends in the Hall. At a meeting of the General Body, it was resolved that a message of condolence be sent to his parents.

We have much pleasure in announcing the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Platten. It is rumoured that Jeffery has already started to count his toes—a scientific tendency which he has obviously inherited from his father.

There has also been an addition to the family circle of Dr. and Mrs. Adisesiah—a new Morris Twelve.

Several interesting people have spoken in Heber Hall in the course

of the term. We must congratulate Mr. S. Verghese, Secretary of the Debating Society, on the successful technique he has developed for stalking celebrities. Madame Debenouski (known also as Umar Devi) gave a dispassionate but deeply moving description of the sufferings of Poland under German and Russian occupation. Recently the Bishop of Tinnevely spoke in the Hall theatre, at a meeting organized by the Christian Union.

The report would not be complete without some mention of the activities of the demos; according to Macaulay, that is the only true history. The general tendency has been towards peace and quiet, due to the overhanging clouds of the University Examinations. The children in the First Class, however, are still remarkably cheerful and noisy. Their motto seems to be 'Laugh and be Merry, for Tomorrow we Dive'.

V. K. KURIEN,
General Secretary



PREACHERS AT THE COLLEGE SERVICE

Third Term

Jan. 12	...	Rev. T. G. Platten.
19	...	Rev. T. V. Perry.
26	...	Rev. R. S. Macnicol.
Feb. 2	...	Rev. T. G. Koshy.
9	...	Rev. A. Silver.
16	...	Mr. E. J. Bingle.
23	...	Rev. J. R. Macphail.
Mar. 2	...	Rev. M. S. Adiseshiah.
9	...	Rev. A. J. Boyd.
16	...	Rev. J. F. Butler.

A Prayer for use at the present time

O God, who canst bring good out of evil, and maketh even the wrath of man to turn to Thy praise, we beseech Thee to bring forth out of the present discord between the nations a harmony more perfect than we can conceive, a new humility, a new understanding, a new purity, and sincerity, a new hunger and thirst for Thy love to rule on the earth. *Amen.*



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