

The South Indian Teacher

273

June 1945



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THE SOUTH INDIAN TEACHER

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A TEACHER'S IF

(Product of an "after four" mood—with all apologies to Kipling).

If you can keep serene when stretched before you
Are forty squirming youngsters full of life,
And lo, a small voice hastens to inform you
That some one's "carvin' initials with his knife";

If you can be quite firm and yet not angry,
And repeat the same old thing until you're dead,
But never scold nor look a bit impatient,
Nor aim a book at some poor fellow's head;
If you can keep from flying off the handle
When you have explained one thing the hundredth time
To find a little lass instead of listening
Was lost in some fantastic dream sublime;

If you can smile while some adoring mamma
Relates the clever things her offspring said
And never breathe a word about the trouble
You've had in pounding math, into his head,
If you can always listen to sad stories
Of, "It won't come right no matter how I try,"
And offer kindly some small word of courage
Without the faintest shadow of a sigh;

If you can make the lofty thoughts of Shakespeare
Mean anything worthwhile to some young soul,
The effort you put forth has not been wasted
For it indicates one step forward the goal;

If you can laugh and soothe away young sorrows,
And never utter words that bear a sting,
I think you may not only be a teacher,
But a GOOD ONE—which is quite another thing.

—BY HELEN HEGLUND.

The Saskatchewan Teachers' Magazine—"The Bulletin," September 1944.
(Page 35 of the Educational Review of New Brunswick, March 1945.)

THE THIRTY-FIFTH PROVINCIAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE, CALICUT.

WELCOME ADDRESS

By

RAO BAHADUR K. V. SURYANARAYANA IYER, *Chairman, Reception Committee.*

FRIENDS,

I offer you all a very hearty welcome to this Conference which I find marks the 35th year of corporate life of the teaching profession in this Presidency. Thirty-five years of corporate life of earnest endeavour and steady progress is no mean achievement. Let me therefore congratulate you in that you have been able to keep yourselves alive all these years and to earn for yourselves a prominent place in the public life of this Presidency.

The Vice Chancellor of the Annamalai University when he welcomed you last year at Chidambaram offered for your use all that the Annamalai University could give—its halls, hostels, library and its grounds. As against that lavish offer we have very little to give you. We offer you this hall for your use, the Guruvayurappan hall, the rest of our buildings, our hostel and what little we possess by way of a library. All this is not much and perhaps very inadequate to meet your needs. We nevertheless venture to hope that you will feel quite happy and comfortable here and that you will carry with you pleasant recollections of your stay in our midst.

Let me also tell you that in welcoming you I am speaking on behalf of the Malabar District Teachers' Guild on whose invitation you have kindly come over here in such large numbers. The Malabar District Teachers' Guild is a very large and representative body and has affiliated to it 4 Colleges, (two Sanskrit Colleges) 30 High Schools and several Elementary Schools. Its membership exceeds 12,000 consisting of teachers of all classes, viz. Lecturers of Colleges and Teachers in Secondary and Elementary Schools. With a net

work of similar organisations throughout the presidency your voice, the voice of the teaching profession is, bound to be heard and attended to.

I may in this connection refer to the support which the Malabar Teachers' Guild has been able to secure in order to enable it to organise these functions. It is not possible for me just at present to mention the names of all those gentlemen who have extended their support to the guild. I am however desirous by the committee to mention the names of such of those as have kindly agreed to become its patrons. They are: (1) The Zamorin Raja of Calicut (2) The Valiya Raja of Chirakkal (3) The Sultan Abdurahiman Ally Rajah of Cannanore, (4) The Valiya Rajah of Kadathanad (5) The Rajah of Kollengode and (6) the Rajah of Nilambur. To these and the other members of the public who have so generously responded to the call of the Guild and has helped it in this work I tender our thanks.

Gentlemen, I do not feel called upon to make a long speech. I am aware that you are all anxious to listen to Dr. Naidu, your President, and to all that he, an eminent educationist, has to say. I shall therefore content myself with making some reference of a general character to one or two matters and then will leave you free.

The most outstanding event that is happening in the world to day is that the Great War is coming to an end. Germany has laid down arms and unconditionally surrendered to the allies. After five and a half long years of strenuous and hard fighting the German and the Italian War Lords are reported to have either committed suicide, killed otherwise or disappeared. All their might, all their militarism, all their

power is spent out as it were after all the misery and suffering that it inflicted on humanity. Society has become disorganised and dislocated, everything seems to be changing and everything requires a re-setting and a re-organisation. And it is to this supremely important task of re-organizing and re-setting our society that the statesman and the politicians of the world are devoting their time and attention at San Francisco. Let us all pray to God for the success of this conference that God may give light and understanding to those wise men young and old who have gathered there that they might decide rightly and come to correct conclusions and that their decisions may be such as will be conducive to the welfare and happiness of all people in the world and as will ensure lasting peace and international concord and harmony. It is perhaps not difficult to come to conclusions and to formulate laws. The difficulty, however, lies in implementing these laws and resolutions and in ensuring that they are obeyed and acted up to. Any arrangement that is come to as a result of this world conference must be broadbased on mutual understanding and good-will if it is to be permanent and enduring. It is well known that good-will cannot be produced merely by International Pacts and Treaties. It is a mental attitude, a mental outlook the result of the mental equipment of a whole nation. It can be brought into being only by proper education and training. This world-wide re-setting and re-organisation that is taking place does it not therefore call for the formulation of educational ideals of schemes so that the international order of things which it is proposed to establish might be built and be made to rest on stable and unassailable foundations.

The friction and conflict between states which flares up and envelopes the whole world has become quite a common feature of our international existence. There is a disease which saps the very existence of international life. That disease has got to be rooted out. The usual patch work way of attending to this malady will not have the desired effect. We know of instances in history where international quarrels or differences were attempted to be solved by

marriage alliances or by some similar devices. These however do not touch the problem in its essentials. This disease can be cured and the problem solved only by resorting to radical treatment. This is a problem for educationists and for those who plan schemes of education. I would even go so far as to suggest that this aspect of education which concerns and is related to international life should be dealt with by what may be called an International Board of education whose functions will be to lay down broad and fundamental principle which will be incorporated in any scheme of education formulated by any State or Nationality. The scheme of education so formulated should be related and attuned not merely to national life but also to that which is beyond, viz., the international life. Patriotism should not be allowed to be rooted in hatred of other countries or nationalities. The training that we give in our schools and colleges should be such as will make them think of and love their own country as part and parcel of an international organisation and not as one which exists for itself and by itself and independent of other countries. In fact the exaltation of the state idea the very aggressive and exclusive form in which it was being developed and inculcated has been the bane of International society. The state is supreme and anything that is done in the name of the state however unjust it might be, is justified, nay, is applauded. Our public international law has no sanction behind it and is more often honoured in the breach than in the observance. That which a state does is always moral. It is the cave man's rule of conduct that is adopted by the state—a rule which justifies everything that is done for state aggrandizement. This sort of state mentality should be rooted out. The sooner we do it, the better for all. We have to begin this work in our schools and colleges and in right earnest. It will be a very noble endeavour and one which has got to be taken up not by one State alone but by all the states in the world.

One criticism that I find levelled against the Sargent Scheme of Education is that "there is no great ideal of education formulated therein". Consequently it

is urged "that some comprehensive constructive national ideal of education should be formulated". This criticism and the suggestion following it are, it seems to me, to be well founded. A really good national scheme of Education should take note of the various factors referred to above and should endeavour to inculcate in the minds of the students an international outlook, tolerance and understanding. They should cease to be parochial, they should be rid of this feeling of national selfishness, and should be trained to become good and healthy patriots. This is what our education should aim at. Let us plan it out even now, and if possible, side by side with the planning that is taking place in San Francis at the present time.

Education of the people is an essential function of the State. The policy of *Laissez-Faire* has rightly been discarded by states long ago. The State has become more and more paternalistic, and its functions touch almost every aspect of human life. And rightly so. Particularly in the matter of education the State should deal with it as one of its fundamental and important functions. No cost involved therein is too much. In this respect the Sargent Scheme marks a bold and distinct advance. It contemplates an annual expenditure by the State of over 270 crores of rupees. Even this amount, however, is only a modest estimate of the minimum requirements of a State-wide scheme of education. I feel certain that a revision of the scheme and the finalisation of it will lead to the result that much more than this amount will be found to be required to be spent every year. Having regard to the importance of the task which the State has to fulfil in the matter of education, there is no point in any person or authority approaching this question in a grudging spirit. The State must make up its mind now and for ever and set to work in this matter unreservedly and whole-heartedly.

It is really gratifying to note that the States is beginning to realise its responsibilities in this matter. We have firstly the Sargent Scheme and following it the scheme of education prepared by the Madras Government as part of

its post-war reconstruction scheme. These schemes you will certainly examine and analyse and record your views thereon.

One factor which is necessary to be provided as an essential preliminary to the successful working of a scheme of education is a body of teachers well trained and qualified, earnest, enthusiastic and imbued with the spirit of service. This is a very difficult problem. The difficulty, however, need not be magnified or be made to loom so large as to justify a shelving of the question. My own view is that, provided the conditions of service are made attractive enough, and at any rate, are such as will enable those taking to this profession to lead lives where there is freedom from want, we will be able to solve the problem more easily and perhaps in a much shorter period than that is estimated in the Sargent Report. As in the case of all other professions, there is no incentive to do earnest work unless conditions are favourable, and, the man is free from worries arising out of the problem of existence. The crying need is, therefore, the institution of a scheme whereunder the pay and the status of the teachers will be enhanced. Starvation and service go ill together.

I have said so much about the functions and duties of the State in the matter of education of its people. I don't want to be understood to have said that all private agencies should forthwith disappear or be stifled. There are private agencies of different categories and capacities. Some are able to carry on and to fall in line with any schemes of education that may be formulated while the rest cannot afford to do it and must cease to exist.

The case of local bodies calls for consideration. The imparting of education is one of the functions which the statute allows them to undertake. Primarily they should concern themselves with elementary education. But what is the position now? A very unsatisfactory state of affairs is disclosed. Almost every local body is suffering from want of funds—its finances are very unsatisfactory, though its functions and duties are increasing day by day. Speaking of my own

Municipality, we are supposed to run a scheme of free compulsory elementary education for boys. We decided to do so some time back. Our elementary education budget has always been a deficit budget. Any scheme for improving the conditions of that department either in regard to the payment of salaries of teachers or of providing suitable buildings could not be thought of for want of funds. The resources of local bodies generally are very limited, and, unless some thing radical is done to improve their finances no local body will be able to fulfil this important statutory function satisfactorily and well.

I think, I have said enough and perhaps, more than what is necessary or called for. Let me, therefore, close. Before doing so, however, I wish to say only this much. You must have been told or heard it said often that the profession of teaching is a noble profession which carries with it a dignity and importance all its own. The mere statement of this idea or even the repetition of it, is, I know, hardly a palliative of all your troubles and of the difficult conditions under which you are called upon to exercise your profession. You are justified in retorting that a recognition of the glory and the greatness of your profession should appear otherwise than in words. Proceeding, however, on the basis that there will be a resetting and a re-organisation in your profession I feel that it is well worth referring to. There is no doubt that you are called upon to fulfil a very important and essential function pertaining to human society. Your services are essential at all times. I feel certain that in this process of world-wide reconstruction things will establish themselves even in your profession. You have a very responsible and onerous duty to discharge calling forth the exercise by you of the finer qualities of human nature, namely sympathy,

understanding and a spirit of service and sacrifice. In his reply to the statement made at San Francisco by Sir Feroze Khan Noon, Mahatman Gandhi the other day is reported to have said that in the field of service there is no overcrowding. If all the teachers begin to take to their work in the right spirit I really feel that even that field will get over-crowded. If the field of service gets overcrowded by the right type of teachers there is no doubt that the field of battle will cease to appear for ever in this world.

I wish you a very successful session. I have no doubt that it will be so, as you have in your President, a great and experienced educationist who will guide you aright. May you be successful in all your endeavours and may your tribe increase and prosper.

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INDIAN EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS *

By

His Lordship Rt. Rev. LEO PROSERPIO S.J., M.A., *Bishop of Calicut.*

Mr. President, Fellow Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I rise with great pleasure, to fulfil my duty of opening this Conference. I say that I rise to fulfil my duty with great pleasure, because you have done me a big honour by inviting me to perform this function this evening—a duty on my part that has no responsibility but that of making a speech. However, I only wish to say a few words. Mr. Suryanarayana Iyer has made reference and to a certain extent compared the San Francisco Conference with your own Conference. I perhaps wish to dwell on this comparison. I think both are working on parallel lines. The problems that face the San Francisco Conference and the problems that face any educational conference are similar. No Educational Conference can solve all educational problems. Educational problems have too many sides. A perfect system of education does not exist in any country in this world and it is beyond our achievement. If I have any advice to give, it is this—strive not simply for a perfect system, but for a more perfect system than the present. We have before us Mahatma Gandhi's Wardha Scheme of Basic National Education. You have the report of the Central Advisory Board of Education, better known as the Sargent Scheme. I took the trouble of studying both the Wardha Scheme of Mahatma Gandhi and the Sargent Scheme.

They no doubt mark a step further in the line of education. They are a

landmark in these difficult times of education in India. But they are by no means going to solve all the problems that education presents. As Mr. Ruthnaswamy said in the Madras Provincial Conference held last year at Chidambaram, the Sargeant Scheme is not a panacea for all educational ills. To base your system of education on the Sargeant Scheme and to apply it to the whole of India would be the same as to adopt one system of education for the whole of England, Russia, Germany, France, Italy, Spain and the whole continent. India is a country of different languages, of many states, and many provinces with differences of culture. You, who are a body of teachers from various parts of this province will have to restrict, amplify or modify your Sargeant Scheme of Education to suit your own needs. That I hope is the work that the conference is going to do—not to adhere strictly to the Sargeant Scheme of education—not to hope for a perfect solution of all the educational problems—but to work, so that you may be able to go a step forward in the application of a system of education either to the Madras Province, or the district of Malabar, that will suit the people of all India. A very great difficulty in India is the want of a system of education which will produce the greatest result in the shortest possible time, and I am afraid that the solution of this problem is not altogether easy. We require time and we require money and I am afraid we have neither.

* Extracts from the speech delivered by His Lordship in opening the 35th Provincial Educational Conference.

THE 35TH MADRAS PROVINCIAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Calicut—May 1945

The 35th session of the Madras Provincial Educational Conference began at 4 p.m. on Thursday the 10th May 1945 at the Guruvayurappan Hall, Zamorin's College, Calicut, under the distinguished Presidentship of Rao Sahib Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Naidu, M.A., Ph.D., B.Com., Bar-at-Law, Principal, Pachiappa's College, Madras. Over 500 delegates from various parts of the Presidency attended the Conference. Prominent among those present were, Messrs. V. K. Eradi, T. V. Sundaram Iyer, Guptan Nambudripad, B. S. T. Mudaliar A. Rama Iyer, Gurukula Dharmacharya K. Rangaswami Iyengar and R. Krishnamurthy.

Presidential Procession

Rao Sahib Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Naidu was taken in procession to the Conference Hall where he arrived punctually at 4 p.m.

Welcome

Prayer over, Rao Bahadur K. V. Suryanarayana Iyer, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcomed the delegates and wished them a very successful session. Rao Bahadur K. V. Suryanarayana Iyer being the first citizen of Calicut (he is the Chairman of the Municipal Council, Calicut) his welcome was the city's welcome to the delegates.

His Lordship the Rt. Rev. Leo Proserpio, S. J., M. A., Bishop of Calicut, declared the Conference open.

Inducting the President

Mr. T. P. Srinivasavaradan, Secretary of the S. I. T. U., proposed Dr. B. V. Naidu to be the President of the Conference. He expected Dr. Naidu as a great leader in the field of education and economics, to give them a proper lead in the work before them. A member of various committees, provincial and all-India, such as the Post-war Reconstruction Committee, he would be an asset to them. Mr. T. P. S. Varadan said that it was his earnest and sincere hope that the conference would immensely profit by the efficient leadership of Dr. Naidu and expected him to take them farther and farther towards educational progress. Mr. K. S. Krishna Iyer seconded the motion and Mr. C. A. Samuel further supported it. Mr. E. N. Subramania Iyer on behalf of the Andhra Districts in supporting the motion touched very briefly on the attainments of Dr. Naidu and remarked that they could expect a great deal by way of able assistance from him as president of the Conference.

Dr. Naidu then took the Presidential Chair and delivered his address.

Mr. K. S. Krishna Iyer, M.A., L.T., Secretary of the Conference, then read out messages of goodwill received from His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, Sir Jogendra

Singh, Member, Board of Education, Viceroy's Council, Mr. K. Srinivasan, Sir Thomas Austin, Mr. John Sargent, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, B.A., B.L., Ex-Chief Minister, Madras, Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, K.C.L.E., K.C.S.I., Dewan of Travancore, Sir N. Gopalaswamy Iyengar, Sir C. V. Raman, Dr. B. B. Dey, Mr. M. Ruthnaswamy, Upadhyaya Sangha Karya Praveena Rao Bahadur S. K. Vengannarayana Iyer, M.A., Mr. M. S. Sabhesan, M.A., Dr. Amarnath Jha, Sardar K. M. Panikkar and others.

Opening of the Exhibition

Mr. K. V. Krishna Iyer, Secretary, Exhibition Committee, then made a brief statement regarding the exhibition that had been organised and requested Mrs. O. C. Srinivasan, Inspectress of Girls Schools to declare the exhibition open which she did with a brief but sweet speech.

Mr. K. V. Suryanarayana Iyer then expressed the thanks of the Reception Committee and of the delegates to His Lordship the Bishop of Calicut for so readily responding to their request to open the Conference and bless it. He said that it was their good fortune to have got the assistance of such an eminent educationist to perform the noble task of declaring open the 35th Session of the Madras Provincial Educational Conference. He also thanked Mrs. O. C. Srinivasan.

After an announcement by the Secretary regarding the constitution of the Subjects Committee, the Conference adjourned.

Subjects Committee

The Subjects Committee met at 7 p.m. with Rao Sahib Dr. B. V. Naidu in the chair. The resolutions recommended by the Working Committee of the Union were taken up for consideration. The 1st resolution regarding implementing the recommendations of the Sargent Scheme was after considerable discussion modified as follows.

While agreeing with the general principles underlying the Sargent Scheme this Conference urges Government to make immediate provision at least for the introduction of Basic Education, the education of the Adults and for the improvement in the conditions of service of teachers as recommended in the Sargent Scheme.

The second resolution related to the recommendations of the Madras Postwar Reconstruction Committee to Education. There was a discussion in regard to the position of aided educational institutions and whether the resolution contemplated the abolition of the aided system. It was pointed out, on behalf of the Executive, that the Executive was quite aware of the services that aided agencies had done for promoting education in this province. The resolution only stated that in view of the large developments in education expected in the future the time had come to re-examine the policy of

state aid. Recent events had shown how aided schools were finding it difficult to fulfil their obligations under present conditions of state aid. It was further pointed out that the primary responsibility for the maintenance, administration and control must rest with the state, for otherwise equality of opportunity and parity of conditions could not be secured.

It was resolved to delete clause (c) of the original draft. The resolution as finally adopted unanimously runs as follows:

This Conference is of opinion,

(a) that the recommendations of the Madras Post-War Committee are inadequate, disappointing and unsatisfactory;

(b) that the present state-aided policy of education of which the aided schools under private managements are the products, is out of date and that the Government should take up immediately for consideration the question of managing agency which is the crux of the problem of Education in this Presidency;

(c) that no progress in education can be expected in post-war India so long as the responsibility for the maintenance, administration and control happens to be divided and that in the period of working out a planned programme of education, this responsibility must rest with only one authority, the State;

(d) that the recommendations of the Madras Sub-Committee that the Government may step in when other agencies fail, is not calculated to further the progress of education and that the Government should take the responsibility from the beginning, permission being granted to private managements only for special reasons and where there is demand for them.

Without a discussion the Subjects Committee admitted the following resolution regarding E. S. L. C. examination:

This Conference is of opinion that the recent ruling of the Director of Public Instruction that candidates who failed in English in the E.S.L.C. examination should not be awarded the E.S.L. Certificates is a gross injustice and is against the spirit of the E. S. L. C. Scheme.

The next resolution regarding the grant of fee concession to teachers' children was the subject of much discussion—some members feeling that teachers should not ask for such special preference. In the end the resolution was admitted.

The resolution regarding dearness allowance was admitted unanimously with an amendment requesting Government to make the enhanced rates of dearness allowance applicable to Local Board employees under the same conditions as for Government servants.

The Resolution regarding the preparation of a memorandum setting forth the grievances of teachers in aided elementary schools was also admitted. It was however amended to include teachers in Local Boards and Municipalities.

At night the delegates were entertained with an interesting programme of Kathakalle dance.

Second Public Session

The Conference reassembled on Friday the 11th May 1945 at 2.30 p.m., with the President in the chair. Mr. C. Balakrishna Joshi,

Head Master of the Hindu Theological High School, Madras, read a very valuable paper on how far the teacher's work could be made more useful and efficient by the existence of a team spirit and a homogeneity of purpose among the teachers. He said if there be one profession more than any other in which there was need and scope for the play and growth of family feeling, harmony of hearts and a unified will which formed the quintessence of team spirit, it was the teaching profession. As the responsibility of teaching and training successive streams of students at different stages had to be shaped by a number of teachers, Mr. Joshi said that unless the teachers pooled their resources—mental, moral and spiritual, and acted in perfect harmony on the basis of a definite understanding, education will be an ill-organised and incoherent process, lacking in definiteness, purposefulness and unity. He then gave an account of the activities of his school to show how in the organisation of the work of a school the entire staff could be made to take an abiding part in a spirit of willing cooperation.

Mr. K. N. Pasupathy of Kurnool then read a paper on 'School Inspection'. This was followed by a lively discussion in which Messrs. C. Ranganatha Iyengar of Gooty S. Srinivasan of Cheyyar and others participated.

Mr. K. V. Krishna Iyer of the zamorin's College, Calicut, then read a paper on the importance of teaching Local History in the course of which he gave valuable suggestions for building up the Local History of any place as a class room project.

Mr. Narayanan read a paper on Vocational Bias in Education.

The Conference then took up the resolutions recommended by the Subjects Committee.

I. *This conference rejoices at the victory of the Allies in Europe and feels proud of the part played by India in the achievement of this victory.*

This Conference hopes that the war in the East will come to a speedy and successful termination resulting in the establishment of a lasting peace on the basis of equality and freedom for all countries.

In commending the above resolutions to the Conference the President expressed the joy of the Conference and of the teaching profession at the termination of the war in Europe and at the prospect of its early termination in the East. He described what disastrous effects this global war had produced on society and expressed the hope that the final end of this war would lay the foundation of a lasting peace all over the world. He was particularly happy to note that their conference synchronised with the V.E. day and that they might as well call their Conference a Victory Conference.

II. *This Conference expresses its deep sense of sorrow at the sudden and untimely death of Sir Meverel Statham and places on record its high appreciation of his great services to the cause of Education.*

In moving this resolution the President gave an account of the untiring efforts of the late Sri Meverel to improve the lot of teachers, of his great zeal to make Madras a leading province in

the matter of education, of his services to the cause of Indian Education in general and of Madras in particular, of his great interest in the education of women and of the backward communities. He said that in his death Madras had lost a great educationist and the teachers a very sincere friend. The resolution was passed, all the delegates standing in silence for two minutes.

III. *While agreeing with the general principles underlying the Sargent Scheme, this Conference urges the Government to make provision at least for the introduction of Basic Education, the education of the adults and for the improvement in the conditions of service of teachers as recommended in the Sargent Scheme.*

Prof. E. N. Subrahmanyam of Madanapalle in moving this resolution gave the Conference an idea of the plan of Educational Reconstruction contained in the Sargent Scheme. He was quite aware of its comprehensive nature and of the great cost it involved and the time factor inherent in it, but said that these should not deter them from putting into effect the scheme. Though he was opposed to piecemeal reform, still he was of opinion that certain fundamental reforms had to be introduced at once and that in the meanwhile the existing conditions could be more carefully studied. These Basic Education, Adult Education and Improvement in the conditions of service were three important factors and needed urgent and immediate reform. The resolution required that the recommendations relating to those aspects be given effect to.

Rao Bahadur K. V. Sridharanarayana seconded this resolution described the difficulties of municipalities in giving effect to any scheme of compulsory elementary education. The resources of municipalities were meagre and inelastic, but the demands of elementary education kept on increasing. He was of opinion that if compulsion should be worked successfully the State must assume full financial responsibility. Further a vigorous programme of Adult Education would greatly help the successful introduction of compulsion. He emphasised the importance of a well paid and contented teaching personnel for any scheme of education. He was glad that the Central Advisory Board of Education had realised it and he hoped that the Madras Government would give effect to those recommendations.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

IV. *This conference is of opinion,*

(a) *that the recommendations of the Madras Post-War Committee are inadequate, disappointing and unsatisfactory;*

(b) *that the present state-aided policy of education of which the aided schools under private managements are the products, is out of date and that the Government should take up immediately for consideration the question of managing agency which is the crux of the problem of Education in this Presidency;*

(c) *that no progress in education can be expected in post-war India so long as the responsibility for the maintenance, administration and control happens to be divided and that in the period of working out a planned programme of education, this responsibility must rest with only one authority, the State;*

(d) *that the recommendations of the Madras Sub-Committee that the Government may step in when other agencies fail, is not calculated to further the progress of education and that the Government should take the responsibility from the beginning permission being granted to private managements only for special reasons and where there is demand for them.*

Prof. R. Krishnamurthy Iyer, President, the Madras Teachers' Guild, in moving this resolution, said that it would be very difficult for aided private educational institutions to function effectively in the sphere of elementary education when compulsion was introduced without a thorough revision of the basis on which the state aid was given to them. Compulsion had with it certain obligation like provision of midday food, free supply of books, exemption from payment of fees, medical care and service, etc. It would not be possible for any aided agency to provide for these under conditions that now govern the policy of state aid. Further, it would be good, if in the initial stages of planning and introduction of a planned programme the responsibility should not be divided and if the state should assume full responsibility. In the case of education in the higher stages while private agencies had an undoubtedly important part to play, it was necessary that the policy of grant-in-aid should be thoroughly revised so as to ensure parity of conditions and provide real equality of opportunity. The citizen who sent his boy or girl to an aided school had a right to expect that his boy or girl was assured the conditions obtaining in a state school. At present the cost to the state for educating a boy in one of its directly administered colleges was as much as ten times higher than what it spends on a pupil of an aided college. He therefore strongly pleaded for a thorough revision of the present policy in the interests of sound education. Mr. C. Ranganatha Iyengar of Gooty in seconding the resolution gave a detailed account of the difficulties of aided educational institutions and how in spite of their best intentions most of them were finding it difficult to cope with the demands of modern education. He said that the resources of private agencies were inelastic and in view of the niggardly policy of grant-in-aid pursued by the Government they were facing great hardship.

Mr. L. R. Chandrasekhara Iyer of Madras in further supporting the proposition invited the attention of the Conference to the question of payment of dearness allowance to teachers in aided institutions and the great indifference with which Government were considering the question.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

The Conference then adjourned.

At 6 p.m. there was an interesting display of physical feats and swordplay.

At 7 p.m. a public meeting was held with Dr. B. V. Naidu in the chair when Mr. Ramalinga Reddi, M.A., B.L., M.L.A., spoke on the future of Elementary Education. He said that it was not due to lack of scheme-framers that no progress had been made so far, but it was mainly due to the unwillingness on the part of the Government to part with the money in

their hands for carrying out the schemes. When the Congress Ministry was in power their income was 15 crores, and they spent Rs. 1½ crores on education. But now, when the Government was getting more than Rs. 40 crores as revenue, they were prepared to spend only 2 crores on education. Proceeding, he said, that elementary education was essential because it was intended not only to educate young boys and girls, but also adults. He said that, in this country, the illiterate people, who formed the majority, should be treated as privileged ones. It was not the minority that had to be protected, but only the illiterate majority, that require protection. In his opinion the Government must take upon themselves the entire charge of education. The communal problem could be solved only through primary schools. He observed that elementary school teachers would not be forgotten by any National Government. He also pleaded for the appointment of a separate Director in charge of Elementary Education.

Mr. S. Natarajan of Madras, who then addressed the gathering, said that if India was to acquire respect, they had to improve the educational standards of the country. He said that the teachers should have as their motto "Love, learn, teach and train." They must be imbued with a spirit of service and sacrifice, and they must be prepared to put up with a certain amount of inconvenience. He said that problems of service conditions and status should be left to their organisations to be tackled. The teacher should never take these problems to his class room. It was a clear duty of the leaders of the profession to secure for teachers the proper conditions of service.

Later, the pupils of the Rajah's High School, Kollengode, entertained the delegates with an interesting programme of music, dance and play acting. The programme lasted for nearly two hours and the hall was packed to the full. All the delegates appreciated very highly the excellent way in which the young pupils of the school acquitted themselves. Rao Bahadur K. V. Suryanarayana Iyer in suitable words thanked the pupils and the masters of the school particularly Mr. P. R. Subramanya Iyer, Headmaster of the school.

Third Public Session

On the 12th May 1945 when the Conference reassembled at 10 a.m., Mr M.S. Ekambara Rao of Mangalore occupied the chair. Mr. Ramunni of Malabar read an interesting paper on Adult Education. The following other papers were taken as read:

1. Music in Travancore by Prof. R. Srinivasan, Trivendram.
2. The importance of teaching Local History in and some suggestions for preparing the Local History of Malabar.
3. Kerala Mathematics and Astronomy by Mr. P. K. Koru.
4. Muslim Education by Mr. P. P. Umer Koya.
5. Place of Charka as a means of Education in Gandhian Philosophy by Mr. K. Srinivasan, Erannipalam.

Mr. Theodre Samuel, Headmaster, Bishop Heber High School, Trichinopoly, then moved the following resolutions:

I. This Conference is of opinion that the recent ruling of the Director of Public Instruction that candidates who failed in English in the E. S. L. C examination should not be awarded the E. S. L. Certificates is a gross injustice and is against the spirit of the E. S. L. C. Scheme.

He traced the history of the examination known as Elementary School Leaving Certificate examination and described its purpose. In response to public agitation English was included as a subject of study and examination so as to enable the rural people to pass on to the Fourth Form, without loss of a year. It was unfair to fail a student altogether if he failed in English alone. If the pupil had passed in the three compulsory subjects he should be declared to have passed. The pupil might not be eligible for admission to the Fourth Form, but because he elected to study English as an additional subject he should not be disqualified for admission to Training Schools, etc.

Mr. P. S. Lakshmanaswamy of Villupuram seconded the resolution and described how the ruling of the Government was both unjust and against the spirit of the purpose of this examination.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. M. Somasundaram of the High School, Pasumalai then moved:

VI. This Conference requests the Government to grant fee concession in secondary schools to the children of elementary school teachers.

He said that teachers should not have any false prestige in asking for such a concession. He described how the Madura Dist. Guild took up this question and as a result of its efforts, in all secondary schools in Madura District, children of teachers employed there in were now given fee concessions. Elementary School Teachers were poorly paid and if this concession be extended to them it would be of great help. At the same time it would mean no loss to Government.

Mr. S. Vaidyanatha Iyer of Kurnool seconded the resolution and described what a relief this concession would be to the poorly paid teacher with many children.

Mr. E. K. K. Rajah of K. K. High School, Purameri, sought the permission of the house to amend the resolution by substituting 'all' for 'elementary' and adding at the end 'whose annual income is not above Rs. 720/-'. The general body having agreed, to be moved the amendment which was duly seconded. The mover accepted the amendment and the resolution as amended was put to vote and carried unanimously. The amended resolution runs thus:—

This Conference requests Government to grant fee concession in secondary schools to the children of all teachers whose annual income is not above Rs. 720.

At this stage the President, Rao Sahib Dr. B. V. Naidu, took the chair and called on Mr. T. P. Srinivasavaradan to move the next resolution regarding dearness allowance.

VII. This Conference, while thanking the Government for ordering payment of dearness allowance to teachers in Local Boards and Municipalities at Government rates, deplores the delay in granting the request of teachers in aided institutions of all kinds (elementary, secondary, training and collegiate) for dearness allowance and urges the Government to pass early orders directing managements to pay their employees dearness allowance at the Government rates, agreeing to meet the expenditure on this account from the provincial funds, as is being done for teachers in Local Boards and Municipalities. It further requests Government to pass early orders that the recently enhanced rates be made applicable to teachers employed in Local Boards.

Mr. T. P. S. Varadan in moving the resolution described the steps taken by the Executive and how the Government were taking their own time in considering the question. He could well appreciate the feeling of dissatisfaction of the members particularly those from aided institutions but hoped that the resolution of the Conference might add strength to the representations already made.

Mr. K. S. Chengalroya Iyer of Salem in seconding the resolution said that though teachers in Board and Municipal schools were in a better position in regard to dearness allowance, Government showed a step-motherly treatment to teachers under Local Boards. He wanted that the enhanced rates would be made applicable to teachers under Local Boards also with effect from January 1945. He saw no reason for Government not sanctioning dearness allowance at Government rates to teachers in aided schools and wanted the Union to carry on a strong agitation. Many speakers desired to speak but as it was getting late, the President observing that there could be no difference of opinion on the subject put the motion to vote and it was passed unanimously.

Mr. K. M. Sundaram of Tanjore moved the next resolution.

VIII. This Conference appoints a Committee consisting of Rao Sahib Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Naidu, President of the Conference, the President of the S. I. T. U., the Secretary of the S. I. T. U., Mr. C. A. Samuel, Mr. K. S. Chengalroya Iyer, Mr. S. Natarajan, and Mr. P. R. Nambiar to prepare a memorandum setting forth the grievances of the elementary school teachers in aided institutions and in Local Bodies on the following points: (i) Provident Fund Scheme; (ii) Number of working days; (iii) Salaries; (iv) Grant; (v) Duty allowance to headmaster; (vi) G.O.'s 416, 417, 1280, 418 and other service conditions.

He said that the conditions under which teachers in elementary schools worked were far from satisfactory. The pay of the teacher was disgracefully low. The absence of increments and a time scale, the meagre provision for sick leave etc. absence of any provision for old age and retirement, the regulations governing their associations were some of the serious defects that required immediate redress. He was aware that these problems were not easy of solution and that they required careful study. Hence

he commended the resolution which directed a committee to prepare a memorandum on the subject and hoped that the committee would be able to take up the work immediately and vigorously.

Mr. V. Ramunni of Malabar in seconding the resolution described the efforts of the Malabar Teacher's Union to remedy the defects. The resolution was passed unanimously.

It was then brought to the notice of the Conference that the 'Adhyapakan', the monthly journal of the Malabar Teachers' Union had to suspend publication as the Government of India declined permission for reviving its publication. The Conference directed the Secretary of the Union to make representation to the authorities to permit its republication.

It was also brought to the notice of the Conference that there was acute shortage of food in Malabar and that many children were kept out of schools on that account. After a discussion it was agreed that the Union should represent to the authorities the need for providing free midday food to poor children in all the elementary schools in Malabar.

Mr. C. V. Subramania Iyer of Madras, on behalf of the delegates thanked the Reception Committee for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference. He was quite aware of the acute shortage of foodstuffs in Malabar but still the delegates had, he said, a very comfortable stay and enjoyed very generous hospitality. Messrs. Somasundaram of Madura, Vaidyanatha Iyer of Kurnool, T. P. Srinivasavaradan and E. N. Subramanyam of Madanapalle supported the motion of thanks. They paid a tribute to the office-bearers of the Reception Committee and to the volunteers whose services evoked the admiration of all the delegates.

Mr. B. Gururaja Rao of Yemmiganur invited the South India Teachers' Union to hold its next Conference at Bellary. The Secretary of the Union accepted the invitation on behalf of the Board.

Rao Sahib Dr. B. V. Naidu then rose amidst cheers to deliver his concluding address.

President's Concluding Address

"Let me take this opportunity to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Previous speakers regarding the hospitality and the abundant kindness we received from the members of the Reception Committee, here. We are beholden to them for all that they have done, and on your behalf and on my own behalf I express our thanks to the Chairman of the Reception Committee, Rao Bahadur K. V. Suryanarayana Iyer and other office bearers and the young volunteers, for all that they have done during our short stay here. Rao Bahadur K. V. Suryanarayana Iyer, as you are aware is a genial personality and he has been always helping us in every possible way. We

are told that Prof. Krishna Iyer was the person who worked from behind like a machine in the careful conduct of the Conference and Exhibition. We are grateful to him also for the way in which he offered us many comforts. The last but not the least is my humble thanks to my fellow-teachers.

We must appreciate the keen and honest work that was being done to us by the young volunteers, though small in number, who have always been with us and who were always helping us in all directions. I am personally grateful to Mr. Eradi, my host, who has been so generous and kind hearted. He has been, ever since my arrival at Calicut, feeding me. I have been staying with him. I cannot adequately express my thanks to him for the way in which he treated me.

I have attended several conferences and I can assure you that this conference is easily equal to the best of them all. Having said that, I may say a few words on the various topics discussed here. We have passed a number of resolutions and I am sure that the Secretary and other office bearers of the South India Teachers' Union will devote their attention and give a good report about these resolutions next year.

I entirely agree with Mr. Balakrishna Joshi in his emphasis on the importance of team spirit. The teachers in the employ of an institution must needs develop a corporate personality which is not a vague abstraction but a spiritual reality representing a synthesis of the multiple and diverse talents of the

staff. Every school must have a special message. I would strongly commend to your earnest consideration the many suggestions that Mr. Joshi in his thoughtful paper placed before you. I cannot agree with the views expressed in the course of the discussion on school inspection. Inspection is very necessary and good inspection is bound to promote efficiency.

All educational reformers speak of vocational bias but I believe the humanities have more abiding values than the mere learning of a trade or a skill. While such knowledge is necessary I think it is rather premature to think of vocational bias when the percentage of illiteracy is so high and the proportion of the number of scholars in our universities to the total population is so very low. In conclusion, I would like to emphasise what Mr. S. Natarajan told us last night. The teacher should take to his work with a deep sense of love both to the work and to the children entrusted to his care. It is the duty of the teacher to inculcate the spirit of love among the children and foster in them a strong sense of patriotism.

I thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for the great honour you have done me and for your very valuable co-operation during these days."

Mr. K. P. Varid, Headmaster, Malabar Christian College High School, Calicut, on behalf of the Executive Committee, thanked the President, the Chairman of the Reception Committee, Rao Bahadur K. V. Suryanarayana Iyer, the General Secretary, Mr. K. S. Krishna Iyer, the Treasurer, Mr. Kini and other office-bearers and helpers.

The Conference terminated at 11 a.m.

THE SOUTH INDIA TEACHERS' UNION

A meeting of the Executive Board of the South India Teachers' Union was held on the 9th May 1945, at 5 p.m. at the Zamorin's College, Calicut—

Chairman. Mr. C. Ranganatha Iyengar of Gooty.

Members present. Miss S. Chellam, (Madras) Messrs. K. S. Chengalroya Iyer, (Salem) S. Natarajan, K. N. Pasupathi Iyer (Kurnool), C. A. Samuel, S. D. Purushothaman, Narayaniah (Chittoor), S. Subramanyam of Ambur (North Arcot), V. Jayarama Iyer, (South Arcot) and T. P. Srinivasavaradan.

Letters from Messrs. M. S. Sabhesa Iyer, V. S. Venkatanarayana, and V. Guruswamy Sastrigal were read and recorded.

1. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

2. The Secretary reported that the North Arcot District Teachers' Guild paid back the part of their delegation fee towards the publication of the proceedings of the Conference.

3. The Board resolved to place before the General Body the desirability of referring to the District Guilds the amendment given notice of by the Madura District Guild, as it contemplated an important change in the constitution.

4. *The venue of the Conference in 1946.*

The invitation of the Madura District Guild to hold the next conference in Madura was provisionally accepted.

5. The Board resolved to grant Rs. 200 from Union account to the South Indian Teacher for publishing the proceedings of the Conferences held at Vellore and Annamalainagar in 1943 and 1944 respectively.

6. The Board resolved to grant a bonus of Rs. 34 from the funds of the *Balar Kalvi* to the clerk, Mr. Subrahmanya Iyer.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the meeting came to an end

A meeting of the Working Committee was held on the 9th May 1945 at 6 p.m. at the Zamorin's College, Calicut.

Chairman. Mr. C. Ranganatha Iyengar of Gooty.

Members present. Miss S. Chellam, Messrs. K. S. Chengalroya Iyer, S. Natarajan, C. A. Samuel, S. D. Purushothaman, V. Jayarama Iyer and T. P. Srinivasavaradan.

The Secretary reported to the Working Committee the resolution adopted by the Executive Board. Later the Board in circulation resolved to accept the invitation of the Bellary District Teachers' Guild and hold the 36th Provincial Educational Conference under the auspices of the Bellary District Teachers' Guild.

T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN,

15th May 1945.

Hony. Secretary.

Annual General Body Meeting

The annual meeting of the General Body of the South India Teachers' Union was held on Friday, the 11th May 1945, at 9 a.m. in the Guruvayurappan Hall, Zamorin's College, Calicut. In the unavoidable absence of the President of the Union, Mr. C. Ranganatha Iyengar proposed and Mr. S. Natarajan seconded Professor R. Krishnamurthy Iyer, M. A., of Madras to the chair. This was unanimously agreed to. Then the proceedings began with Professor R. Krishnamurthy Iyer as the Chairman. Mr. T. P. Srinivasavaradan, Secretary, then read the notice of the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved by the General Body.

The Secretary then presented the Annual Report for the year 1944-45. Professor E. N. Subramaniam of Madanapalle, in moving that the report be adopted, congratulated the Executive Board on the work it had done. Mr. B. Gururaja Rao of Yemmiganur, Bellary District, seconded the motion. The report was then thrown open for discussion.

Mr. Suryanarayana Iyer of the Zamorin's College wanted to know how many elementary school teachers' associations were affiliated to the Union. He suggested that the Executive Board should pay particular attention to the service conditions of secondary grade teachers. Mr. A. Sundaresa Iyer of Tuticorin, desired to know what modifications in the contract were suggested by the Board and what proposals the sub-committee appointed to consider the Sargent Scheme made. Mr. S. Srinivasa Iyer of Cheyyar suggested that as the attempts so far made to make the government bear the entire cost of dearness allowance to

employees in aided institutions had not been successful, a vigorous agitation must be started. He further suggested that the Board should concentrate on the enrolment of members, publish an index to the South Indian Teacher and adopt common rules for guilds and associations. He wanted to know the purpose of the Silver Jubilees Fund and asked why the workers' conference was not convened that year.

Mr. G. Sundaram Iyer of Madras suggested an appendix to the report giving the strength of the District Teachers' Guilds and Associations. Mr. Ramunni of Malabar, Mr. N. Rajaratnam of Madras and Mr. Rayar of Madras also participated in the discussion.

The Secretary in his reply stated that in the enrolment of members, the Presidents and Secretaries of the Guilds could do more effective work than the Executive Board and the Board would carry out any useful and effective suggestions made by them. He then gave out in detail the modifications suggested by the Board to be incorporated in the contract. The sub-committee to consider the Sargent Scheme met and formulated that in the first instance the Basic Education should be made compulsory. He assured the members that dearness allowance question would be taken up with greater vigour. The other suggestions made by the members, he said, would be considered by the Board.

The report was then adopted unanimously.

The General Body elected the following office-bearers for the year 1945-46:—

President, Mr. M. S. Sabhesa; Secretary, Mr. T. P. Srinivasavaradan; Joint Secretary, Mr. C. A. Samuel; Treasurer, Mr. S. D. Purushothaman.

The following were elected to constitute the Vigilance Committee:—

Mr. S. T. Ramannuja Iyengar (Convener); Mr. L. R. Chandra-ekhara Iyer of Madras; Mr. A. Ramunni of Malabar, Mr. E. N. Subramaniam of Madanapalle, Chittoor; and Janab Abdul Khuddus Sahib Bahadur of Vaniyambadi.

The amendments were then taken up. The Secretary moved the following amendments on behalf of the Board.

Amendment to Rules:—

(i) On page 9 of the Rules, under Rule 9-B (b) the second sentence may be re-written as follows:—"It shall also meet the cost of printing the agenda paper, including resolutions and the addresses by the president, Chairman of the Reception Committee, the Opener, if any, and any other address and of distributing them to the delegates."

Rule 9-C, sentence 3 to be rewritten as follows:

"This delegation fee shall go to the Union."

Rule 9-C, sentence 4 to be deleted.

Rule 9-C, para 4. The second sentence shall be changed as follows:

"All the amount thus collected shall go to the Reception Committee."

(ii) On page 5, lines 6 and 7.—Delete the word 'and' after the words 'the Journal Secretary' and insert after the words 'the Secretary of the

S. I. T. U. Protection Fund', the words 'and the Ex-presidents of the S. I. T. Union.'

Mr. C. Ranganatha Iyengar of Gooty seconded. When put to vote they were carried unanimously.

Amendment given notice of by the Madura District Teachers' Guild.

(iii) Delete the words 'the President' from 'the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer shall be persons resident at the headquarters' in para 1 of rule 5 of the S. I. T. U. Rules.

This amendment was moved by Mr. Somasundaram of Madura and duly seconded. The Secretary pointed out that as the amendment involved a vital change in the constitution, it should be referred to the Guilds for their opinion. The mover withdrew on the assurance given by the Secretary that he would refer it to the Guilds for their opinion.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting terminated.

T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN,
15-5-45. Hon. Secretary

THE

SOUTH INDIAN TEACHERS' UNION PROTECTION FUND LTD.

Proceedings of the Seventeenth Ordinary General Meeting held on 11-5-1945.

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the General Body of the South Indian Teachers' Union Protection Fund, Ltd. was held at Guruvayurappan Hall, Zamorin's College, Calicut, on Friday 11th May, 1945 at 10-30 a.m. with Sri K. M. Sundaram in the Chair. Fifty-four members were present.

Sri T. P. S. Varadan, the Honorary Secretary read the notice of the Meeting dated 10-4-1945. The Secretary presented the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31-12-1944. On the motion of Sri E. N. Subramanyam seconded by Sri V. B. Murthy, the report and statements were taken as read.

Sri A. Sundaresha Iyer moved that the report be adopted. Sri C. Ranganatha Iyengar seconded the proposition. There was a discussion on the Report. Messrs. E. N. Subramanyam, G. Sundaram Iyer, S. Srinivasan, C. Ranganatha Iyengar, N. Rajarathnam and a few others took part in the discussion. After the Secretary had replied to the points raised by the members, the Report was adopted unanimously.

The statement by the Secretary on behalf of the Board re: the resignation of the ex-Secretary, Sri V. Srinivasa Iyer, was read and recorded.

Election of the office-bearers was next proceeded with. The following were elected unanimously:—

Sri M. S. Sabhesan as President, Rev. D. Thambusami as Vice-President, Sri V. B. Murthy as Secretary.

Nine names were proposed and seconded for the membership of the Board of Directors. A ballot was held and the following six were declared elected.

Messrs. V. Jayarama Iyer of Villupuram, K. N. Pasupathy of Kurnool, K. S. Chengalroyan of Kaveripattinam, S. T. Ramanujam Iyengar of Trichinopoly, E. N. Subramanyam of Madanapalle and K. M. Sundaram of Tanjore.

The meeting placed on record its appreciation of the services to the Fund by the retiring Director Sri A. Sundaresha Iyer and Sri T. P. S. Varadan, the interim Secretary.

Election of Auditor:—Sri A. Sundaresha Iyer proposed and Sri S. Subramaniam seconded that Sri V. Soundararajan, B.A., G.D.A., R.A., be the Auditor for the year 1945. Sri V. Soundararajan was declared elected.

Remuneration to the Auditor:—Sri S. Natarajan moved and Sri V. Jayarama Iyer seconded that the Auditor's remuneration for the year 1945 be Rs. 150/-. The proposition was unanimously carried.

The Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair and the authorities of the Zamorin's College.

520, High Road,
Triplicane,
14-5-1945.

K. M. SUNDARAM,
Chairman of the Meeting.

T. P. S. VARADAN,
Secretary.

The Open Door in Secondary Education.—Publishers, Oxford University Press: Price 6 d. net.

This pamphlet contains a statement by the members of the Education Sub-committee of the Nuffield College Social Reconstruction Survey which included Sir Cyril Norwood, Richard Livingston, G. D. H. Cole among others. They state: 'We believe that we echo public opinion in expressing our desire that every child should receive the type of secondary education most likely to develop both mind and body, and our conviction that the accident of family circumstances whether social or financial should not determine the particular form of education which a child should receive. . . . We believe further that the provision of a very wide variety of types of secondary school is necessary in order that all children shall find within the educational system the kind of training which will develop their capabilities in such a way as to make them not only good individuals but also valuable members of the community.' They assume in making their recommendations what has now become a reality by the Butler Education Bill that all the children over the age of 11 would receive secondary education securing such standards of staffing, premises and equipment equal to what could be found in good English secondary schools, and that all children should be compelled to stay at school till the age of 15 at least if not till 16 and that after the end of the war provision for continued education of all children up to 18 could be made. With that assumption they make six recommendations of far-reaching importance. They are:

1. That in all schools which receive any grants from the State or from Local Education Authorities tuition should be free, and that adequate maintenance grants should be given, including grants which would enable parents of children who would gain by a longer period at school to keep them there beyond the compulsory school age.

2. That the scales on which grants are made to schools should vary according to the education they provide, especially in equipment, staffing ratio, and opportunities for advanced work.

3. That School Grants Central Committee should be established by the Board of Education on the lines of the University Grants Committee under a Chairman of high standing in the educational world, to deal with the allocation of grants.

4. That all schools for children between the ages of 11 and 18 should be inspected by the Board of Education at intervals of not more than five years.

5. That the School Grants Committee and the Local Education Authorities should be empowered to make grants to children to enable them to pass from schools under their jurisdiction to independent private schools if they secure places in them.

6. That grants on the lines suggested in Recommendation 5 should be made only to children entering schools which observe the following conditions to the satisfaction of the Board of Education:

(a) That to the extent of their normal numbers they admit children according to their

capacity to profit by the education provided and not according to their parents' means.

(b) That the schools provide from their own resources any sums needed above the maximum grants mentioned in Recommendation 5 to pay the fees for any pupils they admit who may need further assistance.

(c) That the schools devise or accept tests of suitability for entry with enough options to enable children who have had different types of early education to show ability to profit by the education given in the schools.

The Education Sub-committee states emphatically that no child should be debarred from entry to the right kind of school by reason of variations in upbringing and more than by reason of variations in wealth. While they are alive to the difficulties of making a proper selection of pupils, they are confident that it will be no insuperable task and that they are convinced that 'both in their own interests and in those of the Nation the schools will make every effort to frame tests which will select the children most likely to profit by the education they provide. The majority of the committee are of opinion that at 12 it will be easier to distinguish the talents and inclinations of children but if the children are to have a proper secondary education, the secondary schools must have the pupils at least for 4 years and hence as an interim measure, i.e., till the school leaving age is raised to 16, they accept 11 as the age of transfer. Their confidence in the schools is indeed great for they say it must be left to the schools themselves to devise tests by which they can judge of the capabilities of children who offer themselves for admission and they believe that they will do their utmost to find a solution to a problem which concerns them so closely.' The same spirit of preserving the independence of the secondary schools is apparent in their recommendation No. 5. They are convinced that Democracy in a Nation cannot flourish unless it is to be found in the Nation's schools.

This is a pamphlet well worth careful study.

Practical psychology. By Arthur P. Pereira; publishers: Padma Publications Ltd., Bombay. Price Re. 1.

This is a very illuminating pamphlet which presents psychology in a very understandable way. Parents will profit by a perusal of the book and will be enabled to appraise the teacher's work in the proper light and to the class room teacher the pamphlet will give many useful tips that will be of immense help in meeting many situations that are likely to occur in the class room. We warmly recommend this book to all interested in children and congratulate the author on his very lucid presentation of knotty problems of psychology.

David Copperfield, Supplementary Readers-Grade V, New Method Readers. Adapted by Michael West. Publishers: Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd. Price Re. 1-3-6.

Dickens's David Copperfield is a popular book particularly with young students. This story has been simplified and brought within the vocabulary of New Method Reader V. The book is attractively got up and nicely illustrated. Questions relating to each chapter are given at the end of the book. This will be found to be a very useful

supplementary reader for pupils of forms V and VI.

The Story of As You Like It. The Tales that Shakespeare told series—Retold by Rodney Bennett. Price 1 sh 3 d. or Re. 1-0-3.

This is a very excellently got up little book of

64 pages. The story of *As You Like It* is retold in a simple but elegant style with words that would be well within the comprehension of our high school pupils. Some of the very striking passages of Shakespeare's play are given at the end of the book.

EDITORIAL

The Conference :

The 35th Madras Provincial Educational Conference held at Calicut in May last may well be considered a successful conference. The Chairman of the Reception Committee and His Lordship the Bishop of Calicut who opened the conference dwelt on the importance of the correct solution of educational problems and the part that teachers have to play in the advancement of education. His Lordship's observation that no perfect system of education existed in any country and his advice 'strive not simply for a perfect system but for a more perfect system than the present' are well worth serious consideration. The President in his sober analysis of the fundamentals of educational problems placed before the conference the many practical difficulties that educationists in India would have to overcome. The conference confined itself to a very few but very comprehensive resolutions. The conference has made it clear that unless the position of the teacher is improved, there cannot be any educational progress. That we are still in the midst of our war with Japan can be no excuse for delaying an examination of the problem of teachers' salaries and service conditions. These are very unsatisfactory and while teachers in service are dissatisfied and even resentful at the attitude of indifference shown to them, teaching offers no attractions to youngmen. The number of applications for admission to our training colleges continue to decrease and the problem of teacher shortage is becoming acute. We hope the authorities will realise the urgent need for improving the pay and prospects of teachers.

We particularly commend the resolution on dearness allowance to the notice of the authorities. We are glad that government have ordered that their recently enhanced rates be made applicable to teachers in Local Boards schools. We fail to appreciate why they should be so hesitant to take a decision in regard to helping teachers in aided educational

institutions. We suggest that teachers' associations all over the province may meet and endorse the resolution on dearness allowance and send it to the authorities for immediate action. The Executive of the Union may consider the advisability of representing to His Excellency the Governor the difficulties of teachers in aided educational institutions and urging immediate relief by way of liberal war allowance from provincial funds.

We congratulate the Reception Committee on the very excellent arrangements they had made. These contributed not a little to the success of the conference. The Chairman of the Reception Committee, Rao Bahadur K. V. Suryanarayana Iyer, rendered very valuable help and took an abiding interest in the proceedings of the conference. The thanks of the Union are due to Sri K.S. Krishna Iyer, the General Secretary of the conference, Mr. M. N. Kini, the Treasurer and the other officials of the Reception Committee who did their best to make all the delegates feel perfectly at home during their stay at Calicut.

Honours List

Teachers too have found a place in the Honours list issued on the occasion of His Majesty the King Emperor's Birthday.

The title of Rao Bahadur has been conferred on Dr. B. V. Narayanaswamy Naidu. Mr. E. D. Martin, the veteran educationist of Bellary becomes a Rao Sahib. Mr. Muthukrishna Iyer, retired lecturer, Teachers College, Saidapet, is another recipient of that title. The title of Rai Bahadur has been conferred upon Dr. B. B. Dey, our director of Public Instruction. We offer them all our hearty congratulations.

The Twenty first All-India Educational Conference will be held in Madras during Christmas week, 1945.

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Recommended by the Madras S. S. L. C. Board for use in Forms IV, V and VI in their revised High School English English Syllabus issued in May 1945 and notified in the Fort St. George Gazette, Part I-B, dated 29th May '45—see pp. 21.

Extracts from Opinions

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—Rev. Fr. Arulsami, S.J., M.A., St. Joseph's College, Trichy.

The Coronation High School English Grammar and Composition by Prof. W. G. Eagleton is an excellent publication which will be very useful to High School students. I must congratulate you on bringing out so helpful a book.

—Sir C. R. Reddy, D.Litt, Guntur.

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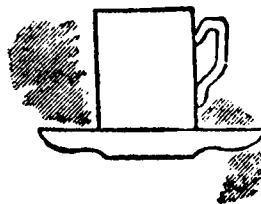
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