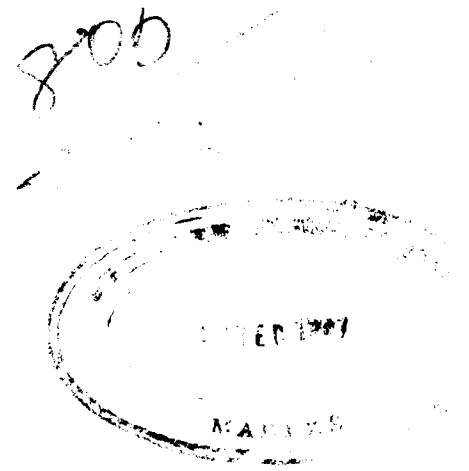
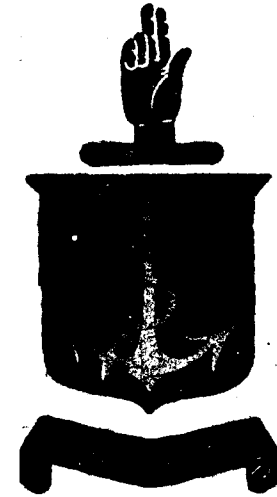


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MADRAS
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
MAGAZINE
VOL. XVII. NO. 1 NOVEMBER 1947



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**MADRAS
CHRISTIAN
COLLEGE
MAGAZINE**

Vol. XVII, No. 1

November, 194

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THE
MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
MAGAZINE

Vol. XVII, No. 1

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LET MY PEOPLE GO'

472

By G. V. JOB, HEADMASTER, ST. COLUMBA'S HIGH SCHOOL

EXODUS viii. 1: *The Lord spake unto Moses: 'Go unto Pharaoh, and say unto him, "Thus saith the Lord, 'Let my people go, that they may serve me'."*



THE RT. REV. ABRAHAM MAR THOMA

Though Moses escaped the relentless persecution of the Pharaoh, and walked in the gilded halls of the palace, he did not forget that his people were sweating to build the Pharaoh's great cities and were smarting under the lash of whips. His heart burned when he thought of his people who dwelt in Egypt as a great and prosperous community, but had been reduced to abject slavery. In his eagerness to strike a blow for their freedom, he used violence and killed an Egyptian overseer. He had to flee from the palace to escape the wrath of the Pharaoh. As he wandered among the hills of Midian, tending his father-in-law's sheep, he meditated upon the fearful plight of his people in Egypt. He groaned in spirit and cried to God, saying, 'O Lord, how long shall we endure such afflictions? Satisfy us with thy mercy.' The Lord heard his prayer and sent him to Pharaoh, neither with sword nor spear, but only with a walking stick. For he was to go not in his own strength, but in the might of the God of Abraham. He was called upon to eschew violence. Moses went to Pharaoh and delivered God's message, a one-time fugitive facing a mighty monarch. Shortly after, he had the satisfaction of leading his people from the home of their bondage across the free spaces of the Arabian sands to the promised land. Then he knew that it was the Lord's doing, and it was mar-

vellous in the sight of men. The redemption of the Hebrews from Egypt's tyranny was remarkable not for the signs and wonders that are said to have preceded it. It was wonderful because it was almost the solitary instance of a subject people winning their freedom without shooting a single arrow. Only once in the history of the Hebrews did a similar event happen, when the good king Cyrus permitted the captive Israelites to return to Palestine with the holy vessels, which Nebuchadnezzar had taken away, to rebuild their temple in Jerusalem.

And today a similar miracle has happened. An unarmed and helpless people have obtained freedom from the control of the greatest of imperial powers of all time. India has gained her freedom without firing a single shot. She has gained it much sooner than the most optimistic among us expected. Our people did struggle and did make great sacrifices. They did maintain a continuous pressure upon our rulers. Finding that constitutional agitation did not take us very far, some of our people took to violence, which soon proved equally futile. India did well to have abandoned the way of violence, and under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, to have pledged herself to non-violent non-cooperation as her only political weapon. Though outbreaks of vandalism often marred Gandhiji's peaceful

¹ From the sermon preached at the College Service, Sunday, August 17th, 1947.

political struggle, India has astonished the world with her adherence to this method and by the measure of success which she gained thereby. Nevertheless it will be impossible to maintain that the freedom we have obtained is entirely the fruit of our political struggle and the greatness of our leadership. This is indeed the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our sight. For God has been leading the world through the terrible discipline of two world wars to a situation in which empires, which were coveted and built up as undoubted assets, are becoming liabilities. The Lord has indeed commanded Pharaohs, big and small, to let His people go. He has deeply stirred the conscience of the people of England. It will not be long before Holland and France and other imperial nations are also compelled by the tremendous pressure of a changing world order to abandon their colonial possessions.

Our gratitude therefore belongs first and foremost to God, who in the fullness of time has conferred upon us the boon of national freedom. We have also to be grateful to Britain, who, of her own free will and at considerable loss to herself, has set us free. By her statesmanship she has enabled us to forget her past errors; and has won for herself the lasting friendship of a free people. We should also remember at this time with grateful hearts the men and women of our land who suffered and sacrificed themselves in the struggle for freedom during the last sixty years.

Then we should remind ourselves that God, who has purchased for us our freedom, expects us to serve Him. 'Let my people go, that they may serve me.' This is not a time for unbounded exultation. Our happiness is mixed with a certain measure of sadness. The country has been divided. One of the greatest benefits of British rule in India, we thought, was the unification of the country. But we have been told that partition had become inevitable, and that it was necessary for the maintenance of peace in the country. It remains to be seen if these contentions are true. It is difficult to say at this moment whether India is entering upon an era of communal harmony or

is sitting on a powder magazine. The agitation that preceded this step does not augur well for the future. It is therefore all the more necessary for all people in this country to remember that we have been made free in order that we may serve God. The greatest commandment according to Christ is that we should love God and our neighbours with our whole heart, soul and strength. Free India's greatness will depend entirely upon the measure of her reverence for and fear of God, and upon the sincerity of her good-will towards all men.

On the night of the greatest day in Indian history I listened to the broadcast from New Delhi, and heard the voice of the members of the Constituent Assembly rise in a great murmur as they took the oath of allegiance to the Indian Union. I thought I heard an echo of the song which the angels sang on the night when the Prince of Peace came to the earth. The representatives of the different communities inhabiting this great land pledged their loyalty to India saying that they would serve her faithfully 'to the end that this ancient land may attain her rightful place in the world and make its full and willing contribution to the promotion of world peace and the welfare of mankind'. But there was just one note missing in this echo. It was the opening words of the angels' song, namely 'Glory to God in the highest'. Many of our people do not have a lively sense of God's hand in the freedom that has come to us. They are inclined to give all the credit to human agencies. The temptation is all too strong for us to think of freedom simply as an opportunity for rapid material progress. It is our duty as Christians to remind ourselves and our countrymen that God, who is King of kings and ruler of all nations, God in whom all peoples live and move and have their being, has indeed redeemed us for His glory. Welfare of the masses, prosperity of India and even peace in the world will become empty shells, unless they are sought, won and maintained in accordance with the laws of God, in fulfilment of the supreme law of love to God and love to man.

THE MAIDEN

BY SAROJINI RAJENDRAM (4th year Honours, Branch VII)

She was at her window-sill pressing her forehead on the window pane while the evening rain played a 'pit-a-pat pit-a-pat' rhythm outside. Her gaze fell athwart the fresh verdure in islets of emerald surrounded by the little brooks of running water with increasing current gushing forth to form a stream.

The ripe fruits and saffron flowers on the swaying trees were sporting 'hide-and-seek', nodding, dancing and fluttering in the twilight gale. Not a twitter on the trees was heard and she wondered where the birds had gone for shelter. The dense branches rocked to and fro and the leaves spluttered in the wind. Far away, behind the grey mountain ridges, lightning was weaving patterns of its own. Could it have been the same that Tagore likened to crude scratches of insanity?—'Some mad woman with nails of lightning . . . rending the sky from end to end.' No, there it came and went far too beautiful in its graceful trailing and curving forms to be associated with a crazy witch. It was thundering, miles away perhaps, for the last echoes of the ranting Thor reached her.

Dusk had set in: it had almost stopped raining. With strange tranquillity the silent drizzles came down as silvery sylphs softly trooping down. To the pensive mind at the window they were showers of blessing from above. Nothing stirred in the house. She was thinking of the day she had stood right there in the gathering shade of a summer's eve. She remembered the thirsty expanse of undulated ground leagues and leagues before her startled glance—meadows

jeune, pools dried up and trees not in bloom. But the change! How very different Dame Nature appeared in her freshness! Sacred silence and the profundity of reigning solitude closed over her.

There was no meaning in her vigil in the darkness for she could discern nothing through the window panes. With Blake she could have whispered—

'My heart is at rest within my breast
And everything else is still.'

It was puzzling! She was at an unknown threshold knocking timidly. The door opened and the lights set her mind a-whirling. She saw pretty beings, with circlets of lilies on their flaxen hair, crowding around a child with an angelic face who lifted up her voice and sang. Were they angels? she asked herself. The euphony thrilled her. She stared fixedly as in a trance. It was only for a moment and in the next she felt herself deserted.

A violent gust of wind rattled the shutters of the room and she came to herself. She bent forward to look at the ribbon of white light in the garden proceeding from her little sister's room downstairs which she had dreamt to be the brilliance of the heavenly portals. She could hear the music her little sister was playing on the piano mounting up and up in the dark, wet, still air. So that was what she had heard a little while ago! Long, long she stood at the window, opened now, breathing in the fragrance of the moist breeze, viewing the rain drops on the garden grass scintillating in the stray light from the room below, and pondering . . .

CHEQUERED SHADE

By T. V. DATTATREYAN (*4th year Honours, Branch VII*)

A joy I find
In all my grief;
And to my mind
It is as if
I find it so
Only because
A gain I know
In all my loss;
And since the name
That Sorrow wears
Is just the same
As my love bears.

* * * *

RAILROAD SUNSET

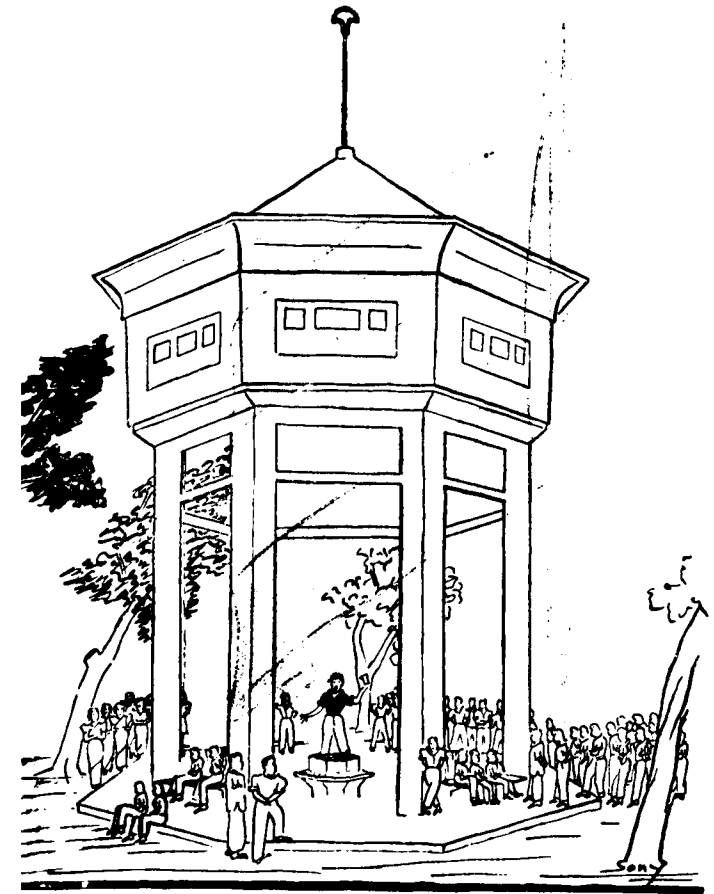
By T. V. DATTATREYAN (*4th year Honours, Branch VII*)

1

There's a fire in the distant woods
And an invisible magpie broods
Loud and long
On its own ill-fated song,
While from the mind a throng
Of thoughts dart through the fire
To capture in a lyre
The dreams of forgotten years,
The music of the spheres.

2

Soon the red of the woods would die;
But not the red of the signal-eye
That thwarts the suicide
Of man that would have died
A thousand deaths, had it lied—
But there will it stay
Just to keep away
Minds from fusing into one
With the setting Sun.



THE COLLEGE ORATOR

T. J. S. George



JAI HIND!

FREEDOM AND AFTER

R. VENKATESWARAN, *B.Sc. (Hons.)*

Soft is the vermeil dawn my country wakes into,
 Sweet the air with the blown fragrance
 Of joy. Shrill are the birds with excitement,
 The bursting breeze in joy hugs the dour Banyan
 Whose roots are buried in Plassey and Buxar.
 The pell-mell clouds stalking the Autumn sky
 Think no end of themselves; chattering like a magpie
 The stream who is destined to become Ganga of the Plain
 Gurgles down the cold mountain;
 The chant of yogis makes the Himalayan
 Valleys ring with cosmic sound.
 The sun seems brighter in the Heavens
 And luminous with joy
 To bathe this nascent land in radiance.
 Even Time, fleeting Time, would like to pause,
 For this is the Morning of Liberty.
 So let us put our House in order, get busy
 And scour the grime of Evil, Disease,
 From off the face of this land. Rich is its Soil
 But crusted. Break the crust and the clod;
 Watch the Soil grow.
 Ah, to be clean! What a spring cleaning
 Is ahead! You, and you there, brown arms
 Stout hearts, bend to your labour. Our
 Country is worth it.
 Looped, windowed sides all around us,
 Gaping mouths unfed! Foul disease
 Of body persists in its cankerous growth.
 Worse still, disease of the Soul has all but
 Killed it. Idols, castes and that old business
 Of Cain and Abel still exist.
 O giant who slept for two centuries, dormant,
 All but dead, you wipe your eyes and yawn
 Into Awakening. Your mighty work is just beginning.
 Flail! Winnow! let the Chaff fly, Chaff
 That chokes. The Grains are few, the Seed-corns few
 Help them to a healing Germinal!



INDEPENDENCE DAY IN COLLEGE

Great hilarity and enthusiasm marked the Independence Day celebrations in Tambaram. Feverish preparations for the same were afoot everywhere even as much as a week earlier. The College Union decided that the celebrations should leave nothing to be desired and held several Committee meetings to fix up the date for the gala entertainment—there being two schools of thought, one steadily maintaining that it should be on the 15th of August and the other suggesting that the 16th would be a more convenient date for all concerned. Electric trains were crowded with our students travelling to and fro to secure flags and other paraphernalia for the festive occasion. Some of the students in Bishop Heber Hall were seen prowling about in the neighbouring villages looking out for a villager (rural India is real India) who would consent to hoist their flag. Speculations regarding the illuminations in the city were in the air and bets were taken all round on the sly.

The night of the 14th found the students in the Halls in a feverish state of enthusiasm and excitement, which could be observed in a special degree in Selaiyur Hall owing to the Terminal Dinner fixed up for that day. The noise of crackers was to be heard everywhere; and those who ran short of crackers made it up with their remarkably strong lung-power. The Bishop Heber Hall, not being content with a union entertainment staged a performance of their own which, to say the least, was as good as was expected of them. The story goes round that in one of the other Halls an entertainment had been arranged but owing to the inexplicable absence of the entertainment Secretary who had gone out earlier in the day in search of a beard, the whole scheme had to be abandoned. The rest of the night was spent in listening to the A.I.R. programme from Delhi (the proceed-

ings of the Constituent Assembly) thanks to some of the members of the staff who kindly lent us the use of their radio-sets.

At last the long-awaited day dawned. The hilarity of the previous night had vanished and all the air a solemn stillness held. Bliss indeed was to be alive on that day—to be young was very heaven'. The flag-hoisting ceremony was performed in the Halls with fitting serenity. After breakfast—the first one to be had in a free India—the procession which started from St. Thomas's Hall went up to the Rural Service League centre led by members of the fair sex and returned to the college premises—their enthusiasm a bit damped by perspiration, for the sun, regardless of the political development in India was uncompromisingly hot. The College Union President then hoisted the flag in front of the college with a speech which was remarkable for its brevity. Cameras clicked away merrily (some with films in them).

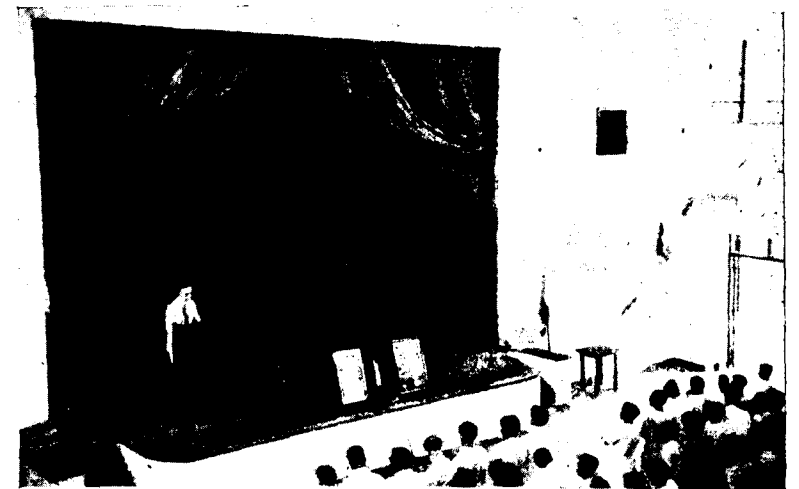
The meeting in the Anderson Hall was largely attended. The Hall was gaily decorated with flags, the College Union Secretary having spent the whole of the previous night at it. The proceedings began with a short service of prayer led by the Rev. Dr. A. J. Boyd. Remarkable among the speeches that followed were those of Mr. Adinarayan and Mr. Martin. He had the privilege, said Mr. Adinarayan, of being the first person to greet the students of Tambaram as the independent citizens of an independent India—and the independent citizens, suddenly realising their new status, loudly applauded him. Mr. Martin, in his speech, reminded us that he had entered India long before most of the students had. Several students spoke on the occasion.

After a short respite, festivities returned on the 16th, with the College Union Entertainment. Thanks to Mr. Devanesan the



INDEPENDENCE
DAY
PROCESSION

INDEPENDENCE
DAY
PRAYERS



POOR FEEDING

entertainment was of a high standard—the three Halls having pooled their resources together—and was very much appreciated by an audience which was highly critical as is usually the case when admission is free. The entertainment was followed by a grand dinner in the Halls. Mr. Pothan Joseph, who was the chief-guest in St. Thomas's Hall, contri-

buted to the general hilarity by answering questions in a very entertaining fashion.

The achievement of Independence, however, has not made any change in the outlook of the people in Tambaram. Those who were studious when India was a slave continued to be so; and those were foolish have not become any the wiser.

CONJEEVARAM

An excursion by the History and Politics Association

On the morning of Saturday, 23rd August 1947, a group of history students assembled on the Tambaram platform in high spirits for the excursion of the History and Politics Association to Conjeevaram. We were a happy group and enjoyed good fellowship throughout the trip. The staff was represented by Prof. Chandran Devanesan, Mr. Titus Verghese and Mr. K. C. Thomas.

One is always told that the old and holy city of Conjeevaram (Kanchipuram) is one of the sights of South India, ranking in splendour and magnitude with Madura and Trichinopoly.

On comparison with the latter, however, Conjeevaram falls far below expectations. No doubt there are numerous temples and shrines of various shapes and sizes throughout the town; but only a few can equal the Madura temple in artistic splendour. Generally, architectural style may be most conveniently studied by concentrating one's attention on one or two typical examples of it, for all other examples will be only modified repetitions of this typical example. Hence in seeing a place like Conjeevaram, it is enough if one looks at the main temples characteristic of the many periods of Indian architecture.

Conjeevaram is extremely well fitted for the study of history and architecture and for the study of the rise and fall of a centre of learning and worship. For here there are not only temples but also ruins of old monasteries and a few examples of Jain shrines. In the long past centuries (A.D. 600),

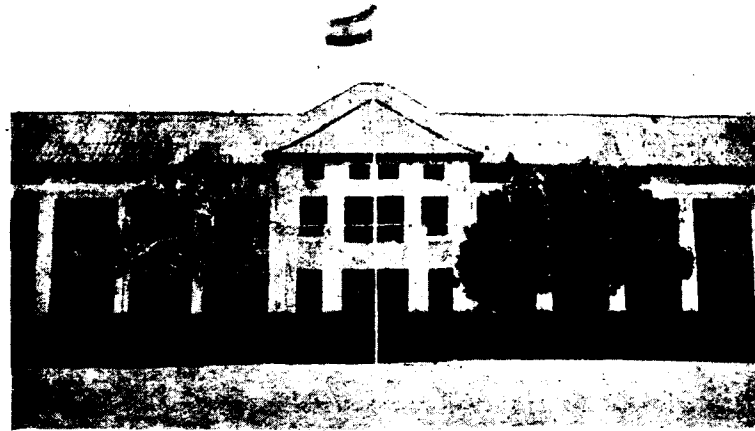
it was the seat of a great many Buddhist and Jain monasteries; the rulers were strong, and cultural activity was sponsored by them with great vigour.

The sight of some temples on the first day of the visit—part of our tiredness having been dispelled by a good and early lunch—was not as powerful as that of the two most important ones, seen on the second day, to convince us that the trip was not a waste.

Generally the Hindu temples are very much alike, but for minor differences between the Vishnu and Saivite shrines. Every one is familiar with the general structure of temples; it would be superfluous to give a detailed account of all we saw. We will, however, briefly mention some characteristic features of a few temples and then go into slightly greater detail for some of the more important ones.

The oldest of the Conjeevaram Saivite temples, Kailasanath, to which we trudged in happy expectation, was opened for us after a few minutes wait. Its sculptures, once beautiful, are much neglected and sadly worn. But this is no wonder if one considers the temple to be over 1,000 years old. In an unused well nearby, we saw transparent water with coins clearly to be seen on the floor below.

Ekambaranatha Koil, its main Gopuram rising 180 ft. into the sky, soaring far above the surrounding houses, owes its present greatness to successive additions to an originally modest shrine. Its present imposing array of Vimanas, Tanks and Pillar



THE FLAG FLIES

THE FLAG IS
HOISTED



THE PROCESSION
STARTS

Halls testifies to the continued patronage of many devout rulers. The sensation for us however was the sight of an elephant—a rather fierce looking animal which cracked a coconut between its jaws much as we would a nut, and was thereafter content with chewing the pieces!

The ruins of old Buddhist monasteries (known as the Palayamedu ruins)—the remnant of some 100 which existed in A.D. 640 seemed to indicate that the original monasteries were rather low (not more than 6½ feet high), long, and ranged around three sides of a rectangle. The pillars, which supported the big roof slabs, must have been used as partition supports for the various cells, as is evident from the holes in the rear wall, near the pillar where the partitions were fixed. The underground system, of which we could only see the entrances, was naturally blocked. Characteristic of Buddhist architecture is the carving on the pillars: simple geometric designs, as much as possible represented by straight lines and curves, and not too detailed in their execution.

After a walk through lengthy lanes filled with weavers and their wives and other accessories arranging yarn for the loom, we reached the remnants of Conjeevaram's Jain days. It is interesting to note, that even in those days, as it still is to-day, the town was an important centre of weaving.

The Jain temple is built on a different plan to Hindu temples. At one end are a number of Vimanas, each different in shape, with the central one a little higher than the rest, side by side. They are beautifully carved around the central motif of Mahavira. Opposite them, under a small house built at the end of a long hall, is the shrine. It contains a big and imposing statue of Mahavira, in contrast to a smaller, well made and highly polished statue in a smaller shrine to the side. On one side of this shrine stands the main pillar hall, remarkable, not for its pillars but for its roof paintings. Around a central geometric Chakra design are ranged various groups of paintings, telling the deeds of kings and saints of old. The whole temple is built under a big, rectangular roof above which the

Vimanas, project. The remarkable thing about this old temple is its good state of preservation; for us, it was very pleasant to note that not all the monuments are neglected!

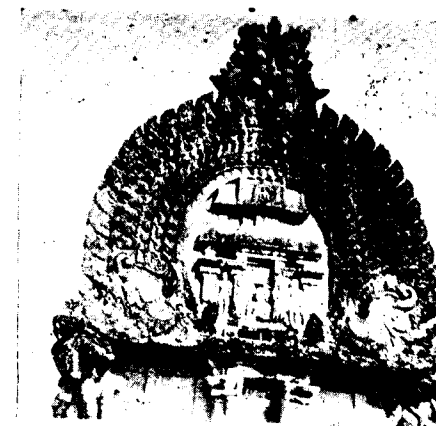
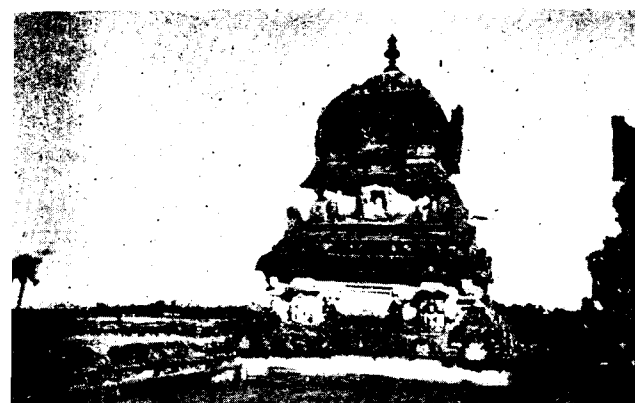
The main sensation of the trip was only reached after a four-mile trudge under the sun, over dusty roads, passing, amongst other things, the sacred burning ground for the dead, besides the inevitable small shrines and temples. Our destination, the temple of Varadaraja, commonly known as the Vishnu temple, was well worth the trouble of getting there.

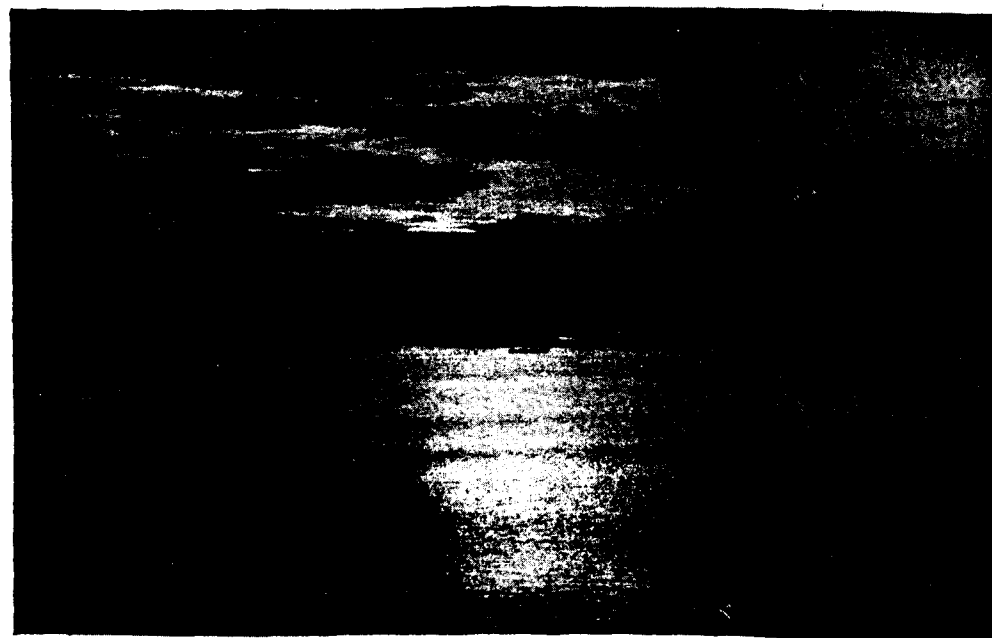
Imposing in its grandeur, this magnificent structure is chiefly noted, not for its gold tipped central Gopuram, but for its sculptures, especially those of the Thousand Pillar Hall.

This is, indeed, a remarkable hall, the like of which not even Trichinopoly possesses. Each pillar, some twenty feet high, is in the form of a cross, every square inch of it carved, and the whole made from one unjoined piece. This in itself is remarkable; more so is the carving. Magnificent in detail, rich in contrast and wealth of subject, each pillar testifies to the creative and artistic genius of old Indian craftsmen, the like of which have not been seen for centuries.

The subjects of the carvings range from representations of holy scenes to dancing girls in fantastic poses and of equally fantastic shapes; from the mounted soldier with his spear, in his rich array of battle dress, to the poor foot soldier, holding a gun.

Now that is remarkable, and it led to rather a heated controversy amongst the historians! The temple as a whole is supposed to be at least nine hundred years old. Yet gunpowder was found, at least in 'civilised' Europe, only some six hundred years ago. How came this gun, then, to the mind of the craftsman. We do not know whether firearms were known in India at all before the European conquerors made their appearance on India's shores; but it seems certain that they were invented, in Europe at least, only after the discovery of gunpowder by Berthold Schwarz in the thirteenth century.





DAWN OVER INDIA

D. Amrit Rao

There are two possible solutions to the questions. The more improbable one, and the one in least accord with the facts, would be that gunpowder, which the Chinese used in the years B.C. was also known to the old Pallava Kings who ruled this part of India in the far distant ninth century. This would, however, not solve the problem, Why the carved gun is so very like a European one in design?

Hence, the more probable solution would suggest that this temple like the Ekambaranatha, was built from an inside cove outwards, like the oak tree—that the outermost shell, containing the thousand pillar hall, and, therefore, the gun, was only added long after the original corner stone of the shrine was laid. We were told, subsequently, that the hall was built under the patronage of a later Nawab—which seems to prove the latter assumption.

In conclusion, we would like to stress the need for better preservation, not of the famed and important temples which are well looked after as the case stands because of their importance; but of those small and half forgotten shrines, of interest to the pilgrim and the tourist. Even though

small, even though forgotten, these shrines contain a wealth of learning which the industrious student can dig up at will. Their treasures should not be lost in desolation and decay.

Despite the grievance we felt at the lack of interest in Kailasanath, the exaltation at the good preservation of the Jain temple and the beauty of the Varadaraja made us feel the success of the trip.

Our stay in Conjeevaram was made pleasant and comfortable through the kind courtesy of Mr. Parthasarathy and the Headmaster and other members of the staff of the Anderson High School.

We stayed in their spacious buildings and were happy to find the faces of Rev. John Anderson, the founder of our own College, and Dr. Miller looking at us from the walls. And so apart from the interest of the trip itself we were glad to find a link in Conjeevaram with the history of our own College.

G. B. FRIEDMANN,

III B.Sc. ii.

J. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO,

IV B. A. (Hons.) iii.

COLLEGE SERVICE

PREACHERS—FIRST HALF OF 1947-48

June 29	... Rev. Dr. A. J. Boyd.
July 6	... Rev. R. S. Macnicol.
„ 13	... Rev. Dr. A. Ralla Ram, General Secretary, Student Christian Movement of India, Burma and Ceylon.
„ 20	... Rev. R. S. Macnicol.
„ 27	... Dr. W. F. Kibble.
August 3	... Mr. Chandran Devanesan.
„ 10	... Mr. G. C. Martin.
„ 17	... Mr. G. V. Job, St. Columba's School, Chingleput.
„ 24	... Rev. S. Samuel.
„ 31	... Mr. S. P. Adinarayan.
September 7	... Rev. J. D. Asirvadam.
October 5	... Rev. Dr. S. Estborn, Principal, Gurukul.
„ 12	... Dr. G. D. Boaz, Madras University.
„ 19	... Mr. Chandran Devanesan.
„ 26	... Dr. W. F. Kibble.
November 2	... Rev. R. S. Macnicol.
„ 9	... Rev. D. Chellappa, St. Paul's School, Vepery.

COLLEGE NOTES

INDEPENDENCE DAY IN COLLEGE

The outstanding event since the last issue of the *Magazine* has of course been that of India's Independence Day. The afternoon of the Day was filled for many of us by taking part in the ceremonies and the rejoicing in the city. In the morning we had a great and solemn and joyful gathering of the whole college.

The Day began for us with the hoisting of flags in each of the Halls; and after processions from the Halls had reached the front of the main buildings, the large silk flag was hoisted by the Student Chairman of the Union Society at a mast on the front lawn.

And then we filled the Anderson Hall for a meeting in which the whole college joined with all its heart. The Principal led us in prayers, and then under the chairmanship of the Student Chairman of the Union Society, a succession of speakers gave fine expression to the feelings and the resolve of all—our rejoicing at this crowning achievement of the struggle for freedom, our concern that not to us alone, but to the masses of the people shall this freedom come, our resolve to do our part to mediate it to them, our recognition that it will be only as we look to God for light and for direction that we shall find our way through the tremendous tasks that lie ahead. They were great speeches, and all together gave us an exhilarating picture of the standing among the nations our country now has won, and of the responsibility that falls upon us.

BISHOP ABRAHAM MAR THOMA

On 1st September 1947 died in Tiruvella one of the most truly great of the old students of this college—Abraham Mar Thoma, for thirty years bishop of Mar Thoma Church. His was a most colourful personality: though to him as bishop exalted respect was paid, his own life was one of great simplicity. He founded or organised

many societies in the Church—women's societies, youth leagues, evangelistic associations. Under his leadership the annual Maramon convention grew to be the biggest Christian convention in the world: to it many thousands of people—sometimes as many as 50,000—come year by year and gather in a huge pandal on a river bed, and listen to the addresses with attention and reverence. His was a voice that could reach them all, and often he would translate for the world-famous Christian preacher whom he had invited to come and preach there. Sadhu Sundar Singh, Toyohiko Kagawa, Bishop Gore and Stanley Jones were among those who came at his invitation. Among the many bishops in Kerala he was by far the best-known in the rest of India, and outside India. He served on the Council of Serampore University, as Vice-President of the National Missionary Society, and as visiting counsellor of various ashrams, through southern and western India: everywhere his zeal and eagerness inspired many others.

The central fact, the core of his life, was that he lived in the presence of God. When he led us in extempore prayer, he spoke in graphic words, as one who knew his Master always present; and those who lived most closely with him knew how in the midst of business his heart would turn to prayer.

In matters of policy and statesmanship he was a leader, not for his own church alone, but for many others in Travancore. He withstood the tyranny of the State with quite unusual courage. In terms clear and unambiguous he stated the attitude of his Church to the political problems of the State. Those who knew him expected nothing less than such a clear, constant standing firm. For his life in God—his constant awareness of God's presence—made it impossible that he should be deflected by powerful threats or by any kind of danger. His life exemplified the fact that the guard

and guarantee of democratic life is given by men who are ruled by God, and who are incorruptible by the power of men.

His infectious enthusiasms and ceaseless efforts are to be admired all the more when one remembers that he was doing so much in spite of poor health, which occasionally made him break down. But he himself hardly ever thought of it, and he took some rest only when it was quite inevitable.

From his student days M. N. Abraham had that power of spiritual leadership and the gift of creating fellowship which distinguished him later. While he was a student in Madras Christian College, he was the centre and leading spirit of a group of students in Fenn Hostel. That small prayer cell has borne great fruit in the wider arena of life. Its members have gone out to noble work, not only in Travancore, but also in Tamilnad, in Malabar, and in the National Christian Council. One of them was S. Jesudasan, a founder of the ashram at Tirupattur, who presided last year at Bishop Heber Hall Day. On occasions when Bishop Abraham spoke of his own spiritual life, he referred to his time as a student as the beginning of that practice of constant early-morning prayer, which continually sustained him.

Many thousands of people look for the life of so great a man, and so noble a man. His presence was ever a source of courage and inspiration.

K. C. CHACKO

With the passing away at the age of 63 on Monday the 15th September 1947 of Mr. K. C. Chacko of the Union Christian College, Alwaye, Travancore, the earthly ministry of one of the greatest sons of the Christian Church in India came to an end. Meek and gentle like his Master, Mr. Chacko lived a life that was marked for its unostentatious effectiveness like the leaven that leavens the whole lump.

As a student and later on as a member of the Teaching Staff of the Madras Christian College, Mr. Chacko made a deep impression on the minds of his contemporaries and what is more important, his influence was primarily responsible for the starting of the

S.C.M. camps in the Madras-Vellore area, and for the inception of the Madras Christian College Brotherhood which was very active in social uplift work. He was untiring in his work of visiting students and non-students personally and giving them the message of the love and peace of Christ. The galloping consumption to which he fell a prey in 1911 and which according to doctors was an immediate threat to his life could not tame the spirit of this 'fire brand'; it only taught him one important lesson—that he could afford to depend on God's all-sufficiency in every detail of his life. With such a compelling vision of service as Mr. Chacko had, instead of chafing under a frail constitution as most people would have done, he canalised the tremendous energy of his vigorous mind in helping individuals and groups in their prayer-life through 'prayer-helps' and prayer meetings.

The idea of a Union College of the three Christian denominations of Malabar—the orthodox (Jacobite), the Mar Thoma and the Anglican denominations—struck Mr. Chacko's mind as a result of Dr. John R. Mott's efforts in the line of establishing interdenominational institutions in India. Along with a group of young men that he got about him, Mr. Chacko threw his heart and soul in the starting of a College in Alwaye. With neither silver nor gold for this purpose, this daring risk to Mr. Chacko was no risk at all, for as he reminded us so often later in his life, we are like a large number of zeroes with no value—what a change when at the head comes a 'God-digit'! His creed was that no power on earth could destroy the College as long as it was fulfilling God's plan and that when it ceased to do that, it no longer deserved to exist.

Individuals from different backgrounds coming together and working as a team was the greatest desire of Mr. Chacko's heart. He showed that it was possible to work with others who differed from him without that bitterness of sectarianism, yet having full respect to all that was best in the traditions of his own denomination. He has struck the key-note of the basis for 'fellowship-work' in pointing out that if

we are to work in a team the first question to ask is not where we all differ, but where do we all agree. This was possible for him because of his profound respect for personality which made him just hold the ring to others who came to him for advice, so that they could see God's will for themselves without his dictating it. It was a marvel how Mr. Chacko succeeded in keeping his personality in the background all the time but saw to it that no one went away from him disappointed.

His was a most affectionate nature. But it was exemplarily free from that 'possessiveness' and 'exclusiveness' which mars so many friendships. He enjoyed true happiness in his friendships and in his life as a whole because he was not afraid of placing his friendships and his life in the hands of God. His prayer was that Christ must increase in the lives of his friends as well as in his own life and that alone is the mark of true, lasting friendship.

Even after his retiring from the Union Christian College he settled down near the College and continued his work of meeting members of the staff and students and raising them incessantly in his intercession before God. It is remarkable that this saintly man had the courage to plunge into the business of buying a large plot of land (with a view to doing co-operative farming and agriculture) which was involved in a thousand legal complications. He knew that a child of God could face the seemingly complicated things of life without ever making compromises if only he is willing to let God have His Way.

As a preliminary step to the union of the three episcopal Churches of Kerala, the reconciliation between the two warring parties in his own denomination (the orthodox Church) took more and more of his time and energy recently and it was as a result of the too much mental and physical strain he had to undergo in this connection that he met his death in Trivandrum. Literally he was engaged in his 'Father's business'.

His utter singleness of purpose, his un-failing reliability and his absolute confidence in Christ's all-sufficiency—these stand out in Mr. Chacko's life which is an exacting example to all who knew him and will know him hereafter. His life has sunk quickly into unseen depths like a pebble sinking into the bottom of a calm pool; but the ripples that it has given rise to, expand and will continue to expand reaching the farthest shores gently shaking up everything on their way. As was said of St. Francis of Assisi, '(Mr. Chacko's) life slipped through all the barriers that tried to imprison him. His memory lives not in any demonstrable work of his, but in the lives of those whom he taught to live. His life was his sermon. That alone was his witness to the love of his Master and his Model—the Lord Jesus Christ.'

J. DEVASAHAYAM

We regret to have to report the death of Mr. Devasahayam, within a few months of his retirement from his work in the Bursar's office. He had given faithful service for thirty years, and many generations of students are indebted to him. During the ten years in Tambaram, he had been living in a near-by village, where his presence and advice were a constant help to the villagers.

THE MAGAZINE

The Magazine Committee announced in the last number has done a great deal of the work of preparation of the present issue.

Literary Editor:—T. V. Dattatreyan.

News Editor:—K. Kurian.

Advertisements Manager:—I. Smith-Cameron.

Art Editor:—T. J. S. George.

Honours Classes:—H. R. Roberts.

Pass Classes:—S. Sivasankar.

Intermediate:—L. B. Fredericks.

Women Students:—Miss M. Verghese.

NEWS OF FORMER STUDENTS

M. BALAKRISHNA MENON, JACOB ABRAHAM, F. G. JILANI, C. RAJAGOPALAN NAIR and K. VENKATARAMAN have become Income-tax officers, and are undergoing training in Madras.

Major B. B. CHANDER was married on 20th October to the daughter of Mr. T. J. Natesa Iyer, High Court Judge, Patna.

K. K. CHANDY and his wife spent two weeks at the Moral Re-armament Conference in Switzerland and are now studying at Woodbrooke College, Selly Oak.

Several of our former students were at the World Christian Youth Conference at Oslo, Norway, in July. One of them, HARRY DANIEL, was the Indian speaker in an International broadcast from the Conference. He and M. A. Thomas are continuing their studies in England.

JACOB KUMARESAN was also at Oslo, and writes from Sweden, describing the welcome his friends there gave to Indian Independence: 'A report about me appeared in the local papers . . . that a party would be celebrating Independence Day. . . . I met

several peasants. They were all rejoicing as if they had won their independence, and to see them going into raptures added to my own joy and patriotic feelings. In the evening my hosts had invited about ten people. Two boys garlanded me with a tri-colour garland in the national colours, orange, white and green. All gave nine hurrahs for India's freedom. I sang an Indian national song and a few Tamil lyrics. The Pastor offered special prayers for India. It was altogether a very inspiring time.'

M. V. RANGACHARI, Deputy Secretary, Finance Department, is a member of the committee of three drafting the financial provisions of the Constitution.

P. T. VENUGOPAL was in Tambaram recently. He has entered the Indian Audits and Accounts Service, and is a Personal Officer Probationer in the General Manager's Office of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, Calcutta.

C. YEDUNATHA RAO SAHIB is a Lecturer in St. Xavier's College, Bombay.

COLLEGE MAGAZINES RECEIVED IN 1947

The Scottish Church College Magazine (March 1947).

The Madura College Magazine (March, 1947).

St. Joseph's College Magazine (Do.).

The Chand Bagh Chronicle (Isabella Thoburn College) Lucknow (April, 1947).

The Folio (Forman Christian College Magazine) (January-March, 1947).

The Murray College Magazine (June, 1947).

The United Theological College Magazine (March, 1947).

The Annamalai University Magazine (Do.).

The Hindu College Magazine (Do.).

The Parameshwaram (Parameshwara College Magazine) (April, 1947).

The St. Thomas' College Magazine (March, 1947).

The Government Victoria College Magazine (March, 1947).

St. Alloysius College Magazine, Mangalore (Do.)

THE HALLS

ST. THOMAS'S HALL

The year began with the usual enthusiasm and vigour. We started from our homes a couple of days early—we were so anxious to see our new (?) Warden. With the advent of the Rev. R. S. Macnicol, who has established his name as the jolliest Warden in Tambaram, our Hall has become very lively and energetic. At the beginning of the year Sjt. K. J. Charles, who was elected General Secretary last year, resigned due to personal reasons and T. J. S. George was elected in his stead.

Our regular life began with the usual ducking. The all-powerful seniors with an air of superiority and the helpless juniors with an expression of curiosity—all took part in the grand ceremony at which juniors were taken into our fold. The Warden too was anointed with St. Thomas's Water and he returned the compliment upon us.

We were at home to the non-resident members of the Hall on the 15th of July. The whole function went off with unprecedented smoothness. The short and sweet entertainment which took place at the end set people roaring with laughter—of course, it was a St. Thomas's Entertainment!

On the 15th of August we celebrated our Independence in the most fitting manner. 'Cannons' were firing in honour of the flag when it was hoisted in all solemnity. We contributed items to the College Union Entertainment arranged in this connection, and they were characteristic of the traditional St. Thomas's brilliance. At the dinner held in connection with the celebrations, Mr. Potham Joseph was our chief guest. The first issue of *Usha*, our Hall bulletin, was also published on August 15th. She has come out with all the beauty and grandeur that is hers and hers alone, thanks to our editors Sjt. S. Rajaratnam and Sjt. T. G. David.

'Onam' was another day of rejoicing. Early in the morning we were awakened

by loud cries and shouts from enthusiastic players inside the Hall. A number of curious and interesting games had already started before dawn!

For quite a long time we have been feeling the necessity for a Radio for the Hall. This year at last, we succeeded in placing the case before the College authorities through our Warden. We are extremely glad to note that the College authorities have taken up the issue and that measures are under way to supply sets to all the three Halls.

Meanwhile we are sorry to miss our regular gramophone programme as the College amplifier is out of order; but our energetic gramophone secretary tries to compensate for this by going round the Hall at all odd hours, singing songs himself!

... St. Thomas's has started well on her way through the new year which, she hopes, will be another successful one.

T. J. S. GEORGE,
General Secretary.

SELAIYUR HALL

The opening days of the academic year saw the usual influx of new faces who were made to feel thoroughly at home by being pillowed by the senior members. Harmless practical jokes were played on the juniors by the veterans of the Hall, who impersonated the Warden and the College Doctor.

The resident members entertained the non-residents by convening a non-residents' social. Mr. Martin, our Warden and Vice-Principal, spoke to them, and a really good entertainment, consisting of amusing farces and good songs was presented.

The various societies of the Hall are conducting their activities vigorously and with enthusiasm. There was much fun at the general body meeting, though that did not prevent constructive business being done.

Our athletes are as usual doing particularly well. Selaiyurians are well placed in Cricket and Basket Ball. The majority of the Tennis players of the College are from Selaiyur.

Independence Day was celebrated fittingly, Mr. Martin co-operating with us, giving us advice, help and sound criticism. The National Flag was hoisted by Mr. Ramachandran, an old student of our College, who had been released from detention just three days before the occasion.

Onam Day was celebrated with gusto and an excellent lunch.

Selaiyur Hall can look back at the passing first term with pride of achievement. We are looking forward to a busy, useful and successful year, in which Selaiyurians will as usual be, if not always on top, at least, on the upper rungs, in all matters.

C. V. JOSEPH,
General Secretary.

BISHOP HEBER HALL

The following were elected office-bearers for the year 1947-48:—

General Secretary:—V. M. Sreedharan.
Entertainments:—Cyril Manuel.
Reading Room:—K. S. Haridasa Bhat.
Sports:—Leslie Herbert.
Debates:—K. M. George.
Indoor Games:—S. Rangaswamy.
Rural Service:—Namiraja Malla.

The Hall activities for the year began with the 'ceremonial ducking' when all the juniors were formally taken into the Heberian fold. Shortly after this was held the Non-Residents' Social when after the usual exchange of platitudes by the General Secretary and the Representative for Non-Residents we staged a variety entertainment

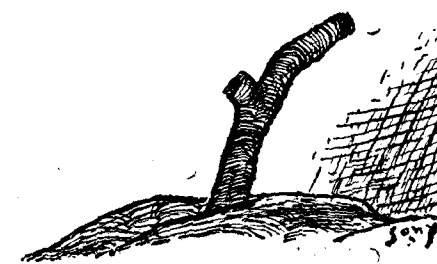
which was well appreciated by all those present. The next outstanding event for the year was no doubt the Independence Day when Heber along with the rest of the country put on a festive appearance to celebrate the birth of a free India. August 9th was observed as Martyrs' Day when the poor from the surrounding villages were fed by the members of the Hall.

The Literary and Debating Society Secretary has been very busy this term, having been able to hold two meetings, two debates and one Hat Night. Two General Body Meetings have so far been held in the most constitutional manner possible. Indoor and outdoor games are being conducted with traditional Heberian vigour.

A new feature in Heber Hall life this year has been the formation of the Excursion Club to arrange excursions and picnics to places of historical interest. Our first trip to Mahabalipuram was a thoroughly enjoyable one and we are all anxiously looking forward to the activities of the Club during the ensuing terms. The Bishop Heber Hall Co-operative Club, only a year old, continues to do good work under the able management of Viji Hensman.

It is with profound regret that we have to record the sudden death on August 9th of Mr. S. K. Rama Iyer who was a resident member of the Hall last year. He had appeared for and passed his M.A. degree examination this March. The news that he had passed away came as a great shock to those who knew him, for he was as full as ever of gaiety and vitality when we separated at the end of the last academic year. We offer our sympathy to the bereaved family.

V. M. SREEDHARAN,
General Secretary.



THE SOCIETIES

THE UNION SOCIETY

The year started with the election of the Student-Chairman and the Secretary. The following are the office-bearers for the year 1947-48 :—

President :—Rev. A. J. Boyd, M.A., D.D.

Vice-President :—Mr. G. Jagatpati, M.A.

Student-Chairman :—Thomas Zechariah.

Secretary :—T. G. David.

Srimati Uma Devi (Miss Wanda Dynowoska) delivered the Inaugural address on the 24th July at 4.15 p.m., in the Anderson Hall.

On 13th August, Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam, M.A. (Cantab), *Bar-at-Law*, of the Communist Party of India, spoke on 'The perspective for August 15.'

During the course of his two hours' speech the speaker stressed the need for Leftist unity in carrying forward the fight for workers' and peasants' rights, and the liberation of the States people.

He also stressed the need for closer contact with the new democracies of Europe, and for active help to the other colonial people, who are still fighting for freedom.

Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam also answered questions.

The Independence celebrations were conducted in a benefiting manner.

On 15th August the Student Chairman hoisted the National Flag in the College. After prayers by the Principal, a meeting was held in the Anderson Hall, when members of the staff, and students spoke.

On 16th August, the Union held a grand entertainment, with English, Tamil and Malayalam plays, songs, tableaux depicting our national struggle, and dances by Roy Chowdry and Habib Marikar.

The Secretary places on record his deep sense of gratitude for the splendid co-operation from the members.

G. DAVID,
Secretary.

WOMEN-STUDENTS' UNION

At the close of the first meeting of the W.S.U. the various office-bearers trooped out, bowed under the weight of their new responsibilities!

It was decided to resume the former practice of electing a student to the office of presidentship. Sarojini Rajamanickam was chosen, unanimously, as President. The other office-bearers are R. Baliah, Treasurer and C. Paul, Secretary.

An improvement has been effected in the Board of the College Magazine—viz. the addition of a woman representative to that body. M. Verghese has been elected to this office.

Our Inaugural Meeting was slightly unusual in nature, a distinguished speaker being asked to deliver an address. It was an informal gathering at which plans for the activities of the term were discussed.

We responded to the call made upon us to contribute an item to the Rural Service League entertainment.

We participated fully in the stirring celebrations of Independence Day.

C. PAUL,
Secretary.

THE CHRISTIAN UNION

Our activities for the year began with the Study Conference held in Bishop Heber Hall from the 11th to 21st of June. The theme of the Conference was 'Except ye be as little children'. Student leaders were trained for work in the Union and studies were conducted on such subjects as 'Is Christianity Unique', 'Christianity and Communism' and 'The Nature and Function of the Church'. They were of great help for those who are taking up Study groups in various Halls this year.

When the College was opened the Committee met for a short retreat on Sunday 6th July, in preparation for the work. The retreat was led by Dr. Kibble and Rev.

R. S. Macnicol. Then came our Inauguration Meeting on 15th July when Rev. A. J. Boyd spoke to us. This occasion marked a very striking beginning with about 225 members, staff members and their wives attending the meeting.

This year also, as in the past, we are following a Five-point Programme consisting of Church Membership, Worship, Study, Evangelism and Social Action. We have, besides, the Student Missionary Union affiliated to the Union.

To fulfil our motto 'That they may be One' it was our responsibility to make friends with the new students and keep them in touch with our Sunday College services. We requested them to be regular to the Holy Communion according to the custom of their respective Churches.

We are distributing 175 copies of the Bible Reading Manuals every month. The Manuals have been felt to be of great help to our members for their Morning devotions. We had only one Devotional Address this term addressed by Deaconess Carol Graham Secretary of the N. C. C. Home Movement in South India. She spoke to us on the 'Youth and the Christian Home' and made us see a new meaning and a real value in the Christian Home. We sent seven delegates to the Prayer Conference held at Guindy during the first week-end of August. Our delegates told us that it was of great help to them for their self-examination and rededication.

Our Study programme consists of six Study groups conducted in the three Halls on subjects like 'Christianity and Communism', 'The Nature and the Function of the Church', 'The Revolutionary Christianity', 'The Message of Jesus for our Times' and 'The Personality of Jesus Christ'. It was not possible for us to have a group for our non-resident members for want of a suitable place and time. We hope to have one in the near future. Our women members are also conducting a study group during one of the week days.

The *Christian Forum*, our small magazine published once a term, was brought out only at the end of term. We hope that we will be able to have another next term.

The Student Missionary Union meets for intercession for various Churches every Wednesday morning at 9.30 a.m. in the Selaiyur Hall Prayer Room. We had our first missionary breakfast on the 14th July with Dr. A. Ralla Ram, the Secretary of the National S.C.M., as our guest. He spoke to us about his experiences among Chinese Christians during his recent visit to China as a fraternal delegate from the Indian S.C.M. The S.M.U. week-end conducted on 30th and 31st August in Pammal near Pallavaram gave us an opportunity to go into the villages and gain experience for the evangelistic task ahead of us.

Our social activity consists mainly of Sunday School work. We are running six Sunday Schools in and around Tambaram. There are 13 teachers. The terminal Service for children was held on Saturday, August 23rd. During the service there was a sing song also, in which children from different schools took part.

The Rural Service Squad conducted by the Area S. C. M. was also attended by three of our members who in Tiananur were given instruction on village conditions and service by Dr. E. F. Paton of Christu-kula Ashram, Tirupattur.

A Terminal Service for the Area S.C.M. members was held in the Zion Church, Chintadripet, on Sunday, 17th August, for thanksgiving and rededication for the service of our Motherland.

On the whole the activities of the Union were encouraging. We still feel that we have a great deal to do. May I now take this opportunity of thanking all those students and staff members who gave their help through prayer and service this term and request them to go ahead with perseverance and faith that we may do our best in this service.

S. JOHN,
Secretary.

ENGLISH HONOURS ASSOCIATION

At a meeting held early in July, the following were elected office-bearers for the current year :—

President :—Rev. R. S. Macnicol.

Student-President:—C. Jacob.

Secretaries:—Sarojini Rajendran and T. V. Dattatreyan.

Class Representatives:—S. Jagadisan.

T. J. S. George and K. Subramaniam.

The Inaugural Address was delivered by Miss Moore of the Women's Christian College. Fifteen days later the much debated question, 'It is not what is written but how it is written that matters,' came up for discussion. On the 27th of August, Messrs. Jagadisan and Raghavan read papers on 'Nature Poetry in the 19th Century' and 'Essays and Essayists' respectively. This was immediately followed by a lively discussion in which all the members took part.

SAROJINI RAJENDRAN,

T. V. DATTATREYAN,

Secretaries.

ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION

The election of office-bearers for the current year took place in the third week of July. The following were elected unanimously:—

President:—S. Subbarama Iyer, M.A.

Student-Chairman:—S. V. S. Sastry.

Secretary:—K. S. Haridasa Bhat.

Treasurer:—S. Chockalingam.

Class Representatives:—James Balraj and Visvanathan.

The Inaugural Address was delivered on 14th August by Prof. Ramanujam, M.A., of the Vivekananda College, who spoke to us on 'Freedom and Progress'.

The regular Seminar work for the year began on 20th August with a paper on 'Industrial Disputes' by Mrs. Soundaram. On 27th August, Surendranath read a paper on 'The Problem of Population'. Another paper on 'Gandhian Economics' by Rajarathnam concluded the Seminar work for the term.

A series of Extension Lectures by Dr. K. N. Raj, M.A., Ph.D. (London), an ex-member of the Association, was a special feature of the year. On the 28th of August, he gave us an interesting and stimulating lecture on

'The United States and Europe'. Three Seminars followed this, one on 30th August, a second on 1st September, and a third on 3rd September, when Dr. Raj discussed the 'Problems of Monetary Management in India'. On the last-mentioned date the Students of the Honours Class were 'At Home' to Dr. Raj.

With a sense of satisfaction at what we have achieved till now, we are looking forward to a still more progressive programme for the remaining part of the year.

K. S. HARIDASA BHAT,

Secretary.

HISTORY AND POLITICS ASSOCIATION

The following were elected office-bearers for the year:—

President:—Prof. Chandran Devanesan.

Student-Chairman:—Miss S. Rajamanikam.

Secretary:—J. V. L. Narasimha Rao.

Seminar Secretary:—S. Krishnamurthy.

Class Representatives:—M. E. Peter, P. G. John, K. V. Mathukutty, V. L. Krishnamurthy, N. S. Vasudevan and M. Srinivasa Rao.

The Inaugural Meeting of the Association was held on 5th August when Mr. Lawrence C. Burr (U.S.A.) spoke on 'The working of Representative Government in the U.S.A.'. The speaker gave a clear and lucid account of how the three organs of government, the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary, function in the U.S.A. The Student-Chairman presided.

A meeting was held on 12th August when Mr. Titus Verghese, M.A., spoke on 'India's Struggle for Independence—a Retrospect.' Mr. Ramachandran, I.C.S., Collector of Chingleput, presided. The speaker sketched the history of the last fifty years and emphasised the fact that our struggle for independence was not one of violence, massacre and bloodshed but a struggle with elements of non-violence in it.

The members of the Association went on a historical excursion to Conjeevaram on Saturday, 23rd August. Prof. C. Devanesan,

Mr. Titus Verghese and Mr. K. C. Thomas accompanied the party. We visited many Hindu, Jain and Buddhist temples and monasteries, some in ruins, and others in their full splendour and glory. Of all the places seen the hundred-pillar Mandapam in the Varadaraja Koil, and the mural paintings on the roof of the Mahavira temple built in the seventh century A.D. impressed the Party most. The whole trip was very lively and full of fun. The Party returned to Tambaram on Sunday evening.

After returning from Conjeevaram we held a Departmental meeting and the Secretary gave a report on the excursion after which Mr. Titus Verghese and Prof. C. Devanesan talked on the subject and emphasised the fact that the History students must exploit opportunities like this by visiting some ancient historical sites and thereby gathering first-hand information about our ancient culture and heritage.

A meeting was held on 27th August when Rev. R. S. Macnicol, M.A., spoke on 'Britain under Socialism'. Mr. Sargurudoss, M.A., presided. The speaker gave first-hand information as to how socialism is working in Britain under the leadership of the Labour party.

We are looking forward eagerly to the renewal of our activities next term.

J. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO,

Secretary.

NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Due to the long hibernation of the 'Natural History Association', the Secretaries and the Class representatives were not elected until half the term was over. But due to the initiative taken by some enthusiastic members, the Association was revived again, and the Committee was selected one fine day. However the Association could not do much work because of the excursion to Krusadi Islands on August 14th. But we hope to be more successful in arranging debates and exhibitions next term. The Representatives of each class are:—

Vth Hons.—P. O. George.

IVth „—Miss Mathen.

IVth B.Sc.—Austin Charles.

IIIrd B.Sc.—A. Daniels.

LESLIE HERBERT,

Joint Secretary.

M. BALLADAIAH,

Secretary.

MALAYALEE ASSOCIATION

The Association resumed its activities this year with the election of office-bearers for the current academic year on 17th July 1947. The following were elected unanimously:—

President:—Mr. K. M. George, M.A.

Secretaries:—P. Jacob Stephen,

C. I. Itty.

Treasurer:—T. C. John Zacharia.

Entertainment Secretary:—A. V. George.

Representatives of the Halls and non-residents were also elected.

The Inaugural function was held on 31st July when Dr. C. Achutha Menon, head of the Malayalam department, University of Madras, addressed us on 'Unification of Kerala'.

On Friday, 22nd August, a debate was held on the proposition 'In the opinion of the House the mother-tongue should be introduced immediately as the medium of instruction in the Universities.' Mr. K. C. Thomas, M.A., presided. After a lively debate the proposition was put to the vote and was lost.

We celebrated 'Onam' on 29th August with the usual enthusiasm. After a tea-party, in which about 300 members and a large number of guests took part, we had a public meeting presided over by Mr. K. M. George, M.A. Mr. P. C. Mathew, I.C.S., Deputy Secretary to Madras Government, was the chief guest. Both the President and chief guest spoke on the origin of this national festival of Kerala and pointed out its importance in the social life of all Malayalees. Onam reminded them of a golden age in the dim past when all Kerala was united, and it strengthened their hope of unified Kerala in future. After this some members acted successfully Sri T. N. Gopinathan Nair's well-known farce 'Eshtam

Polai in which lady-students also took part. There was also two fine dances by Sri Roy Chowdri and a Malayalam recitation by Sri K. C. Abraham, an old student of the College, and music by students.

P. JACOB STEPHEN,
C. I. ITTY,
Secretaries.

KARNATAKA BHASHABHI VARDHANI SANGHAM

The Karnataka Bhashabhi Vardhani Sangham held a meeting on 25th August 1947, and elected Haridas Ballal as its Secretary for the current academic year.

URDU UNION

Late in August a general body meeting was held in which the following office-bearers were elected for the current academic year:—

Student-President:—Syed Fazil Basha.
Vice-President:—Vasudeva Pillai.
Secretary:—Syed Hasan.
Treasurer:—Abdul Rasheed.

The Inaugural Meeting came off on September 1, when Mr. Syed Muhammed, former Lecturer of the College, delivered an address on 'The place of Urdu in Free India'. Dealing with the subject the learned speaker said that though by the division of India and consequent on the passing of the resolution by the Indian Constituent Assembly that Hindi be the *lingua franca* of New India, Urdu would, no doubt, be deprived of the position and privilege which it now enjoys, he was sure that in the long run conditions would alter to such an extent as to necessitate Hindi's giving way to Urdu so that she might occupy the place to which she was entitled. I am greatly indebted to Mr. B. R. K. Vittal (Heber) for his ready and generous offer to teach Urdu for those who are anxious. Students willing will please get in contact with him.

It has also been decided by the Executive to bring out a magazine for which Messrs.

B. R. K. Vittal and Syed Hasan have kindly accepted to serve as Editors.

We could not conduct any more meetings but hope to do something useful in the next term.

The Union welcomes co-operation from all quarters, specially from the Hindi-knowing students.

SYED HASAN,
Secretary.

TAMIL SANGAM

Office-bearers of the above Sangam for the year 1947-48:—

Patron:—Thiru. P. Alalasundaram Chettiar, M.A.

President:—Thiru. T. K. Gopala Iyer, B.A.

Student-Chairman:—Thiru. M. Aramvalarthanathan, B.A.

Joint Secretaries:—Thiru. P. Ramamurthy, IV Class and Thiru. O. S. Mohamud Yusuf, II Class.

Treasurer:—Thiru. O. S. Mohamud Yusuf

Class Representatives:—

Class I.—Thiru. A. Thambiraj.
Thiru. J. Stanely.

Class II.—Thiru. M. Krishnan.
Thiru. S. Sivaswamy.

Class III.—Thiru. V. P. Subbaramanyam.

Class IV.—Thiru. T. P. Shanmugasundaram.

Honours.—Thiru. Samuel Jagaraj.
Women's. Thiru. Vijayanti.

The Inaugural Meeting of the above Sangam was held on 24th July 1947, in Selaiyur Hall when Thiru. T. V. Kalyanasundara Mudaliar delivered a lecture on 'Onness' and Thiru. M. Aramvalarthanathan, B.A., the Student-Chairman, presided.

On Thursday, the 7th August 1947, a debate was held on the proposition 'At present Tamilians want a Tamil Nad and not a Dravida Nad.' Thiru. M. Aramvalarthanathan, B.A., the Student-Chairman, presided. Thiru. N. R. Madanagopal, V. P. Subbaramanyam, R. Krishnarajan, T. P. Shanmugasundaram spoke for the proposition and Thiru. O. S. Mohamud Yusuf, M. Krishnan, Vakisan spoke against the proposition. After a lively debate the proposi-

tion was put the vote and was carried. Condolence resolutions were passed on the deaths of Thiru. M. S. Puranalingam Pillai, B.A., L.T. and Thiru. Vipulananda Adigal.

On Friday the 22nd August 1947 Thiru. M. Vardarajanar, M.O.L., Professor in Tamil of Pachaiyappa's College, Madras, delivered an impressive, instructive and most enlightening lecture on 'Parties and Views', Thiru. T. K. Gopala Iyer, B.A., the President, presided.

Towards the end of the first term a humorous and illuminating lecture was delivered by Thiru. S. Sachianandam

Pillai, B.A., L.T., D.E.O. (Retd.), on 'Free India and the Duty of the Students' on 1st September, 1947. Thiru. P. Alalasundaram Chettiar, M.A., the Patron, presided.

The Executive Committee of the Sangam met four times to transact business.

We hope to do our best in all matters concerning the activities of the Sangam with the hearty co-operation and the encouragement of the members.

P. RAMAMURTHY,
O. S. MOHAMUD YUSUF,
Joint Secretaries.

ATHLETICS

VOLLEY BALL

The Club started functioning very early in the first term. Unlike the past, this year, for all the College practices, the courts were overcrowded by enthusiastic players. Soon after the election of the Captain and the selection of the team, we played our first match against the Tambaram R.I.A.F. Team, which we won.

This year our team made history when it won the Inter-collegiate Volley Ball League Championship, for the first time. The most striking feature of all the matches is, that no team was able to win a single game against us.

We are lucky indeed to have in the team, Hubert Dhanaraj, this year's star player. I have no hesitation in saying that there are very few players in Madras who can excel his feats over the volley ball net. Mr. C. T. Benjamin continues to be in the team and his very patient game is praiseworthy. J. Stephen, the Vice-Captain, is a very able all-rounder in the game. He is an excellent hitter and an accurate defence. It is very interesting to watch J. David up, over the net. His canon shots perplex many an opponent. Subramaniam and Madhusoothanam, the two brothers,

are new additions to the team and their happy combination is worth mentioning. B. Menon, the Malabar veteran, attracts the crowd by his calm and collected game. C. J. Alexander is famous for his hard service and his defensive game is no less renowned.

Here are the results of the various Inter-collegiate matches:—

Beat Stanley	...	2 0	15.11 and 15.9
„ Medicals	...	2 0	15.6 and 16.14
„ Meston	...	2 0	15.1 and 15.11
„ Presidency	...	2 0	15.13 and 15.0
„ Engineering	...	2 0	15.12 and 15.2
„ Veterinary	...	2 0	15.7 and 15.11
Walk over—Teachers' College.			
„ Law College.			
„ Pachaiyappa's.			
„ Loyola.			

We are very thankful to Mr. C. A. Abraham, without whose help and supervision we could not have distinguished ourselves. I congratulate all the players on their splendid performance and hope they will do well in the coming Madras Olympic games.

JOHN POTHEN,
Captain.

BASKET-BALL

As usual we started with a fairly good team in Basket Ball. We sincerely hoped that we could retain the trophy. We had some practice games before the Inter-collegiate League began. We have played eight League matches, five at home and three away.

Our first match was played on August 1st against the Stanley Medical College in the home grounds. The game was very fast and quick scoring, our players were in full form and we scored 86 points against their 26 points. Our second match which was almost a deciding one was played against the Madras Medical College on the 8th of August on their grounds. Even though we lost the match we gave a hard fight. The failure was mainly due to a misfortune that one of our best players was disabled on the day previous to the match. We have won all the other matches, the last being that which was played against the Loyola College on the 15th of October.

The fine team work and co-operation among our players strikes the keynote of our success and my thanks and congratulations go to them. It is not fair on my part if I overlooked the facilities which the College

authorities have given us especially the fine coaching and encouragement given by our Physical Director, Mr. C. A. Abraham, to whom I am much obliged and thankful. In conclusion I must thank our principal and other members of the College Staff for their kind presence at all the matches.

The following are the Results of the League matches:—

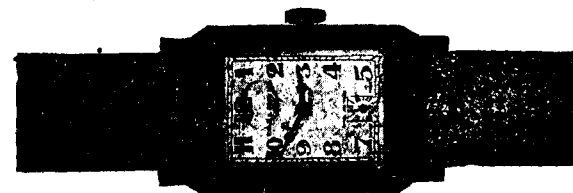
Stanley Medical	86 :	26
Medical	... 11 :	26
Presidency	... 101 :	2
Engineering	... 54 :	24
Law	... 28 :	11
Pachaiyappa's	... 40 :	25
Technology	... 94 :	6
Loyola	... 36 :	26

Our players :—R. J. Rajasekhar
Joyce Isaac
Ninan Mani
K. P. Punnen
T. O. George
Y. Martin
C. A. Alexander
K. K. Chakko

K. P. PUNNEN,
Captain.

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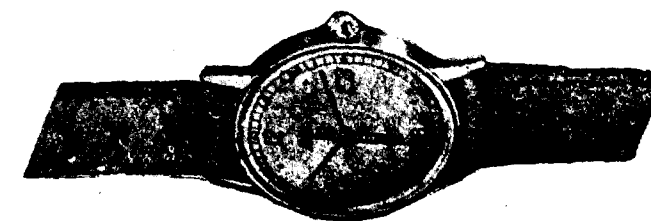
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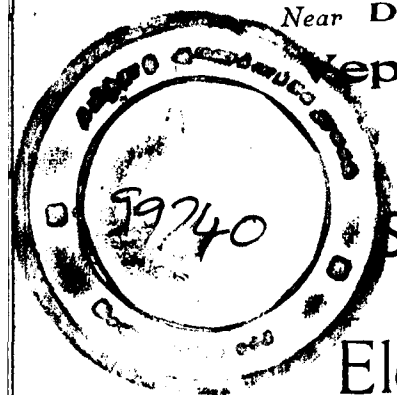
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