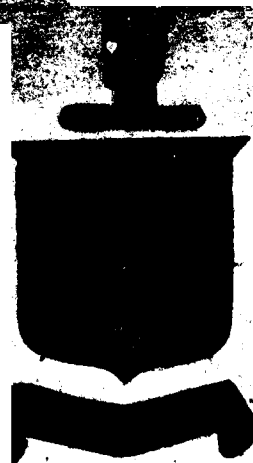


The
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Vol. XVIII, No. 3

March, 1949

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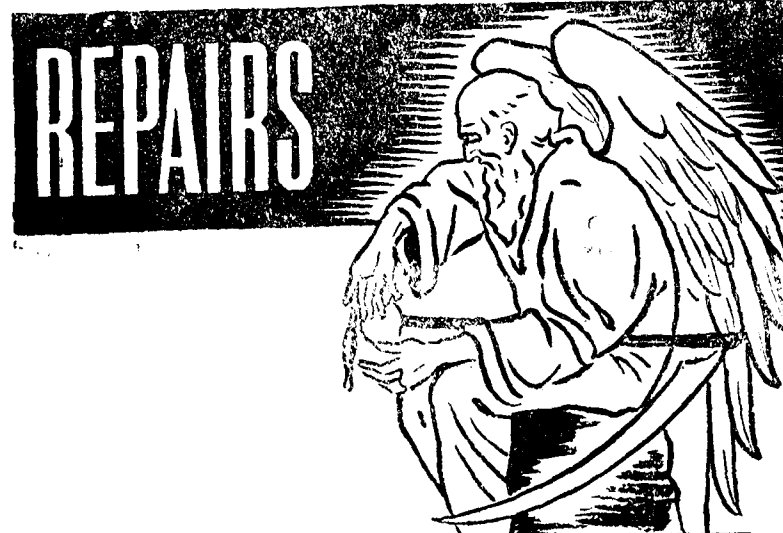
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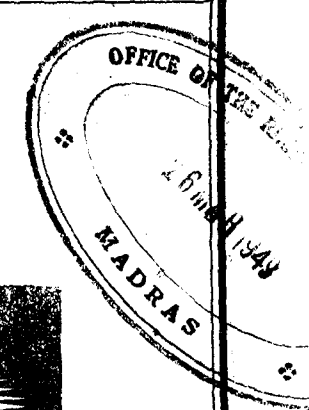
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THE MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

Vol. XVIII, No. 3

March, 1949

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT FOR 1948

Delivered on College Day, January 19th 1949, under the Chairmanship of

DR. B. PATTABHI SITARAMAYYA

476

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Principals of this College have been presenting annual reports for well over a hundred years now, and it has been their habit to dwell with pride, and perhaps even a touch of boastfulness, on the achievements of former students who have risen to eminence in public or professional life—governors and premiers occasionally,—cabinet ministers, high court judges, and vice-chancellors quite frequently, and in considerable quantities. But no Principal has until today been able to report that a member of the College had been elected to the Presidentship of the Indian National Congress, and I must now add my word of gratitude to you, sir, for enabling us to repair this remarkable and regrettable omission. I may say at once that we do not claim the entire credit for your election to this high office; the electorate must no doubt be allowed some minor share in it; and even that portion of the glory which descends on us comes to us only by inheritance, in that we are the true lineal successors of the College of an earlier day. But I trust that you will allow us to claim those successor rights, and to preen ourselves a little on the fact that one of our own number has been elected to an office of such great dignity and trust.

The composing of this report which I produce on College Day year by year is a very difficult and delicate operation, compared with which the other, more official, Annual Report, is mere child's play. In that other report, one has to try to express the mind of the College Council, the supreme governing body of the College; and the Council, sitting in Madras in the month of

March, solemnly approves it for submission to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, and to any others who may happen to be interested. But in this College Day performance, I conceive it to be my duty to report to the former students, and, in doing so, to express in a measure, the mind of the present teachers and students of the College; and, in these present students, I have to reckon with a wide variety of highly critical minds, far more confident and far more searching in their judgments than the members of the College Council, and ready to pounce on me with the utmost severity if I omit anything that ought not to have been omitted, or in general fail to give proper credit to the modern era. The former students, being a little older, are naturally not quite so exacting in their requirements, but even they will not be satisfied, as the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies apparently can be, by a simple demonstration that nobody has been embezzling College funds. They want to know in some detail what we have been doing, and whether we have been doing it properly, and whether on the whole we have been getting along as happily as they did, twenty, or thirty, or fifty years ago. What would please them most of all would be an assurance that all is well, getting better every year, but admittedly not quite what it was in 1890 or 1910.

I think I can confidently report that, in the year since we last came together, we in Tambaram have been getting along very happily indeed. This college has always tried to be a real college; that is to say, not simply a loose aggregation of teachers and

students who happen to work in the same buildings, but a genuine community of friends and colleagues, united by many common interests and experiences, and taking pride and pleasure in living an ordered, disciplined, corporate life. That endeavour after a satisfying corporate unity has, I think, always been present in our tradition, and we who live in Tambaram today are grateful to our predecessors for handing on to us an ideal of unity and friendship, which, in our more favourable outward circumstances, has found a rich fulfilment.

It has been a happy year, but not a year of pleasant idleness. We have, of course, our share of idlers, and we do our best, with varying degrees of success, to deal with them firmly and faithfully. Indeed, I think my younger brethren would probably admit that rather too many students tend to sit down comfortably and expect their teachers to push them along the road of academic industry. We do try to push, but when an inert body has to be propelled by force along a rough and thorny path, injuries are sometimes sustained, and they do not always heal quickly! Still, if passes in University examinations are a proof of industry, the College as a whole has settled down into habits of reasonable diligence. In 1948, our efforts in the Intermediate, B. Sc. and Honours Degree examinations were crowned with just that degree of prosperity that we have almost come to take for granted, sufficient to satisfy our corporate vanity by placing us far above the average, but not quite enough to lead us to suspect ourselves of an indecent lust for vulgarly spectacular success. As for the B.A. course, it has come to be regarded as the happy hunting-ground of our more leisured classes, and in general they at any rate can be pronounced not guilty of any sordid concentration on mere 'results'; but it happens that, in the year 1948, they were noticeably more business-like than usual, and it was a B.A. student who distinguished himself by winning the Sir Henry Stone Medal for proficiency in English and the Mahadeva Chetty Medal for Economics. Other students of the College were awarded the Jubilee Gold

Medal for English, the Samuel Satyanadhan Gold Medal for Philosophy, the Northwick Prize for History, and the Caithness and Gopala Ayyar Prizes for Zoology.

Just when we were settling down to final preparations for these same University examinations, the news came of very notable successes for former students in an even sterner struggle. In the All-India examination for admission to the higher administrative services, ten candidates from Tambaram were among the first hundred, and one of them was placed first—an encouraging indication that our Tambaram products can stand up to a test which is in some respects more searching than an examination for the Honours Degree, and pass it triumphantly. Successful candidate No. 1, R. Venkateswaran, is now studying International Law in Oxford, and will be our first contribution to the new Indian Foreign Service. Another recent former student, Eric Philip, is also in Oxford, a Rhodes Scholar, keeping India's end up by winning college and university sprints, and reading economics for the D. Phil. degree. And this may be the proper place to mention still another of our number, E. A. Srinivasan, who won the prize for the best essay by an Indian candidate on the United Nations Organisation, and is now, I believe, on a trip to Lake Success.

In June, there was the usual struggle over the problem of new admissions to the College; with toil and sweat on the one side, and occasional tears on the other, but no actual bloodshed, about 600 were at last admitted from among the 3500 who applied. Quite a number of those admitted to the Junior Intermediate Class are the sons of former students whom some of us can remember as having been in the degree classes, 20, 21, 22 years ago; we very much like to see these new editions coming along, and we do our best to find places for them if they have attained a reasonable standard in their studies, but it needs to be pointed out again and again that so long as 3000 candidates have to be given a negative reply, a large number of people to whom we should like to say 'yes' will always have to be disappointed.

I do not think it is necessary to say in detail what I have so often said already about the varied activities and experiences which go to the making of our common life; work, and games, and worship, and serious discussion, and far-from-serious entertainment, and debates (which, in my considered opinion, are usually far too noisy and too frivolous), and all those subtle elements which it is almost impossible to isolate and describe. I read in *The Hindu* the other day about a certain local government, not our own, which had advised all educational institutions under its jurisdiction not to begin the day's work with any form of worship, since it had been found that such a practice merely led to division and to disorder. One can easily imagine what lies behind such a pronouncement, for it is a fact that nothing but harm can result when the outward forms of different religious traditions are used as competing slogans, or as rallying-cries for warring factions. But I must on the other hand record my own deep conviction that some of what is best in our own college life, much of what has been most valued by successive generations, takes its origin from the fact that many of us regularly come together, not in competition with one another but endeavouring after unity and concord, to give thanks to God for all the opportunities that are given to us, and to ask for His blessing on our common life.

One used to give a detailed record in this report of the fortunes of our college teams in various tournaments, but I wonder whether that is actually very relevant to the occasion? Do former students appreciate the importance of such matters? Are they not, perhaps, too old to realise properly the vital significance of that goal which our hockey team just failed to score against Loyola College? Are they capable of being deeply moved by the thought that one or two additions to our bowling strength during this academic year might have had momentous consequences on many a doubtful field? In any case, it is quite possible to say all that needs to be said, without much detail. We have not recently been very good at football; we are rather better at hockey, but nothing

to boast about; in cricket, we are patchy, but, for the third year in succession, have had the honour of providing the captain of the university team; we are really very good at basketball and volleyball; at boxing, we are quite remarkable, and, apart, from a temporary lapse last year, which has now been recovered from, have been inter-collegiate Champions for a very long period; in Track and Field Sports we have sometimes been positively brilliant, and have been the champions for about ten years in succession, but, this year, we are feeling a little dubious, and are looking nervously over our shoulders at certain of our competitors. However, perhaps 80 per cent of the people who live in Tambaram play some sort of game somehow, and get some fun out of it, so we may say that all is well.

Having said something about academic work, and something about games, and a good deal about college life in general, I should perhaps also remark that we do not want to be entirely introvert in our interests, and that, through the Rural Service League we are still trying to learn something about the problems of rural life around us, and to render such small services as we are capable of rendering. The League has not so many active members as in its exuberant prime a few years ago, but a number of students and teachers are energetically at work, and, in a neighbouring village, are helping the villagers to help themselves in various ways.

The Rural Service League reminds me, quite illogically, of the National Cadet Corps, which has now become the successor of the University Officers' Training Corps. It is a great pity that it was found necessary completely to break up the old organisation and to begin again from the foundations, for this has involved exasperating delays, and a serious impoverishment of this year's training. But I hope that, in spite of the initial handicap, the N. C. C. will grow and prosper, and make an even greater contribution than its predecessor to the life of the colleges and of the country as a whole.

Throughout this report, I have had in mind, although it will not have been obvious to my hearers, an imaginary chart

of the progress of the calendar year in college, and it will therefore be quite in place if I close with a reference to the grand culminating ceremony of the year, the Selection Examination. It gives me great pleasure to report that not a single student of this college, even under the provocation of personal disappointment, has, to my knowledge, denounced the Selection Examination as a relic of mediaeval barbarism or as a hateful remnant of imperialist rule. I do not think that is because our Tambaram people are afraid to speak their minds, or because they are less enlightened than those who have been giving so much trouble, and doing so much harm to themselves and to their colleges, in many other places; I think it is because they have more common-sense. What is this nonsense that has been going around the country, about the wickedness of holding a Selection Examination? The agitation is sometimes alleged to be the work of a group of people who think it their duty to create as much unsettlement as possible, and will raise any slogan that seems likely to serve their ends; but it may be there are innocent creatures in the student world who honestly believe they have a grievance; and I should be very happy if, by doing some quite elementary thinking on the subject, we in Tambaram, and students and teachers elsewhere, where sanity still reigns, could help to clear the atmosphere a little, and thus make a contribution to the order and dignity of university life, which have seemed now and then to be quite seriously threatened. So far as I am aware, any university anywhere that claims to be more than a mere examining body requires that students appearing for its examinations shall produce a certificate from their colleges that they have made reasonably satisfactory progress in their studies. When a Principal has to decide whether he can sign such a certificate, several alternative courses are no doubt open to him. He could forget his academic conscience altogether, and, in a blithe and carefree spirit, sign the required certificate for everybody, 'asking no questions for conscience' sake', not even asking himself whether he is telling the truth; or he could depend on his own personal

impressions of each student, and on the impressions of his colleagues; or he could consult an astrologer, and see what guidance *he* could offer. But most Principals rightly think it better to depend on the evidence offered by examinations, which, though by no means perfect, are the best tests that we know. Perhaps it is a mistake to call one particular examination the 'selection examination'—all examinations are in some degree selection examinations—but it is a merciful practice to give the greatest weight to the last examination of the series, for students are notoriously slow starters and sometimes make a surprisingly good spurt in the middle of the course, or even towards the end. On the other hand, if there were no decisive college examination in November or December, it must be obvious to any one acquainted with the frailty of human nature that many would make their spurt too late, and not more, but far fewer, would pass in the University examinations than at present.

Connected with all this confused agitation about selection examinations and progress certificates, and to some extent inspiring it, I think there must be in the minds of some wistful dreamers an undefined but rosy picture of a new and more attractive kind of college life, in which at last there will be no examinations, or at any rate, no worries about examinations, for everybody will pass, or, if anybody fails, it will happily not make any difference. But, alas, these are but dreams, offspring of the 'ignorant fumes that mantle their clearer reason'. People who use their minds a little know that there can be no happiness without order, and no order without discipline, and no success without the possibility of failure and no healthy college life without an element of rigour in it, along with all the pleasantness that it offers in such abundance. I am more thankful than I can say that, here in Tambaram, there is, so far as I can see, a practically unanimous understanding and acceptance of these essential conditions of life in an academic community, and I think that everybody here will share that satisfaction.

FORESTRY AND YOU

I met the other day a gentleman from Kansas. He readily entered into talk with me, and when I confessed to him that I was a forester, he sat down on the spot and commanded, 'Tell me *all* about it.'

So, I told him '*all* about it'. I told him of the wonderful forests of India and of the million useful species that our forests contain. I told him all about the science (or art, if you would have it that way) of forestry. I told him about the various technical aspects of forestry—of natural regeneration and artificial regeneration, of High Forest system and Coppice system, of fixed periodic blocks and floating periodic blocks, of Smythies' formula and Von Mantel's formula, of deer-proof fence and porcupine-proof fence, of sheet erosion and gully erosion, of contour bunding and contour trenching, of rotational grazing and periodic grazing, of enumeration and stock-mapping, of accuracy and precision, of felling cycle and rotation and of a thousand other things of which he had never heard before and of which I had just heard before. I preached a little on the manifold virtues of this good angel, the forester. I portrayed the benefits of well-organized forestry, and I painted the picture of a forester-less and forestry-less world. I told him of *this* bright side—well-covered land, equable climate, steady rainfall, manure in the fields, fuel in the hearths, contented *kisan*, well-nourished cattle, abundant crops and plentiful milk, God-fearing rivers running their usual fixed courses and abundance of forest produce—timber for your house, farm and field, and for your railways, waterways and airways, and a thousand varieties of minor forest produce, medicines, perfumes, honey, wax, fibres and floss. I also told him of the other dark side.

And I ended up by detailing that forestry was not a recent subject in India. Our old sages and *shastras* knew all about forestry; and in support I quoted extensively from *Artha Shastra*.

My friend from Kansas seemed very

highly impressed, and by 'way of comment, heartily patted me on my back. Then, producing a jeep from somewhere and slipping a spool of films on to his camera, invited, 'Show me *all* about it'.

I showed him all; and he saw all.

And what did he see?

He saw all those things that I had promised for him in his forester-less and forestry-less land. He saw bare rock, cowdung in the hearth, scarce crops, starving cattle, and the weeping *kisan*. He saw vast land areas devastated by erosion and rivers which meandered purposelessly over wide, unstable beds. He saw poverty and misery in this land of forests.

He thundered out, 'Why all this?'; and seemed to prepare himself for a vendetta.

I explained; I said that in spite of a hundred years of modern scientific forestry in India, the average Mr. Indian knew nothing about forests and forestry and the labours of the foresters of this country, were, for the most part, in vain. I brought to his mind the well known parable from the Sermon on the Mount—of the foolish farmer who sowed his seeds over a bed of rock.

My Kansas friend moaned, 'Why, oh, why all this tragedy?'

Let us leave this friend to his reflections; but let us ask ourselves, 'Why this tragedy?'

The farmer of the parable is the forester in India. Forestry is his seed and his field is the Indian public.

The tragedy is that the forester of this country has never made an attempt to contact the masses in the real sense. He never speaks to them; he never exhibits his art to them. He is a master worker; and he confines his work to his charge—the jungles of India. And he bravely proclaims that it is not the job of the forester to speak, but his is to work.

Forestry, in India, is confined to the forester, to the forest colleges, to the forest laboratory—there is only one for this vast

country of 400 millions—and to the *Indian Forester*, the only forestry journal in India.

There is perhaps no other people in the world, except the Indian, who ought to know so much about forests and forestry, but who know so little.

In this sad state of affairs, it is very refreshing to find that at last a book on forestry has come out, a book which is not primarily meant for the forester, but for the intelligent man on the street.* This is perhaps the second book of its kind to reach India. The first,† published in 1936 by the Government of United Provinces, was on the forests of United Provinces and for the people of United Provinces. Though excellently got up and very appropriately illustrated, and dedicated to 'all thinking citizens,' I am sorry to say that I have never seen this book outside the United Provinces and outside the book-case of the professional forester.

Is the same fate going to befall this more recent popular forestry book? I am afraid that it might, as I have not seen this book reviewed outside the *Indian Forester*.

This publication is in the form of a brochure published by the Empire Forestry Association; and its publication coincided with the Fifth Empire Forestry Conference, which was held in London in June 1947.

* * *

Despite all the rosy pictures that might be painted by optimists, and despite the fact that the surface of the earth perhaps carries an adequate area of forests, it is an admitted fact that we are faced with a serious shortage of timber, and this shortage will be felt to a keener extent in the years to come. This statement has particular emphasis today, when we have seen two wars, in both of which timber played such an important role.

The war has also taught all the foresters, administrators and politicians an important lesson. They now know that unless we take stock of where we were, where we are and where we might be, the future is going to

be dark and gloomy. They also know that unless we make supreme efforts to make forestry up to date and to ensure a perpetually renewable supply of timber and (in order to effect this) unless we plan greater co-ordination between the nations of the world in matters concerning forestry and timber supplies, the future is going to be uncertain.

To do all this, an intelligent understanding of forestry, of the protective and productive functions of the forest, and of the relationship between the forests and man is necessary.

The Forest, Forestry and Man, in language that a child can understand, and in an execution that would delight everybody, attempts to do you the service of forestry reaching you, or rather, your reaching forestry. It has hence come none too early, and with the inauguration of the Forestry wing of the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, it is perhaps the first landmark in the path to the dual goal we aim at—forests and forestry for protection and then for production.

Let us first consider wood. The uses of wood are 'fundamental and numerous'. Right from the dawn of history to the present day, wood has formed an integral part of the day-to-day life of man and it is perhaps as difficult to imagine without wood the man of pre-historic times with his crude hunting and agricultural implements, as it is to imagine the man of the twentieth century with a complex civilisation based on skyscrapers and jet propellers. With our rise in the ladder of civilisation, and with greater industrialisation, while we have perhaps better substitutes for wood in certain fields, we have also discovered fresh uses for wood, woodpulp and rayon fibres being only two examples. With the discovery of these newer uses and with a steady rise both in population and in the standard of living throughout the world, it is not surprising that wood holds its own and will continue to hold its own, to an increased extent, in

the years to come. Truly has it been said that 'every age is a wood age'.

The two wars, while considerably helping discovery of newer uses of wood, have also consumed an enormous quantity of wood from all over the world; and this has involved greater pressure on the timber reserves and hence serious overcutting of forests everywhere. This is true despite the fact that the two wars have also taught us to utilise wood better, that is to say, to realise that certain woods which we had formerly discarded as useless for certain purposes are after all useful, and to reduce waste to a minimum. We would also want enormous quantities of wood to carry into execution the gigantic reconstruction programme we have ahead of us.

All this—rise in population and in the standard of living, the overcuttings during the war and increased exploitation for our reconstruction programmes—indicates that there is, and will continue to be for some considerable time to come, a serious shortage of wood everywhere.

But how are we to meet the situation? The forester will tell you a thousand savoury schemes, but unless you know what exactly you had to do, have to do and will have to do with forests and forestry, all that the forester says will be to you mere 'greek and latin'. And then you will feel that you are divorced from forests and forestry, and that they in turn, will have to pay you alimony.

To put in a nutshell, you were and are the dependent on forests, you were and you are the destroyer of forests and in you, in every one of you, is a potential creator of forests.

The earliest man lived in the forests; and he fed on the roots, leaves and fruits that the forests offered and on the animals that the forests harboured. An accidental fire might have given him the idea, but he soon learnt to clear forests by fire and to create his fields and crops. Forestry and agriculture thus began to exist side by side. You still have relics of this phase of history in shifting cultivation, which is still practised by some hill tribes in India. And 'agriculture versus forestry' became an important factor in the life of man. Some times and at some places agriculture pre-

dominated; at others forestry predominated. This combat between and interdependence of agriculture and forestry have influenced man's civilisation—his intelligence, mode of life and outlook—to a very great extent; so much so today you still have all variations form a cent-per-cent agriculturist to a cent-per-cent forest man.

Man, as a destroyer, emerged when his greed for pasture and fields increased. Hectares after hectares of forests were cleared and brought under the plough or opened to cattle. Side by side his increasing appreciation of the uses of wood and of other forest products led to his merciless exploitation of forests. At the dawn of history, it has been estimated, nearly four-fifths of the land area of the world was covered with forests; today the figure falls below one-fifth, much of the present day forests being confined to hills and inaccessible tracts. This ever increasing clearance of forest has brought in its wake the disasters we so commonly witness, deterioration in climate, of the quality and quantity of vegetation and of soil (both in the forest and in the field), reduced water supplies, extinction of wild life, flood, erosion and pestilence.

The creative quality of man began to assert itself only when he reviewed the havoc he had wrought and began to go back to the causes. Hurriedly he started his reclamation schemes and marshalled the aid of the professional forester to bring the forests back, to co-ordinate the apparently conflicting factors—demand for timber and agriculture and preservation of the forest, and to plant trees to create forests and to cut down trees to satisfy demand. The forester began his work and made his mistakes, and the man—including the administrator and politician—began to wonder.

What is a forest? The one man who cannot give you an exact definition, is the forester himself. The dictionary and the man on the street know better, at least to satisfy the curiosity of a school boy. But to the forester, the forest is a very complex thing, bringing into the horizon many things that a dictionary or a man on the

**The Forest, Forestry and Man* Published by the Empire Forestry Association. Distributors: Messrs. Simpkin Marshall (1941) Ltd., Rossmore Court, London W.C.2. Price 4/- 68 pages and 33 plates.
†*Our Forests*, by F. C. Ford Robertson; Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, U.P., Allahabad.

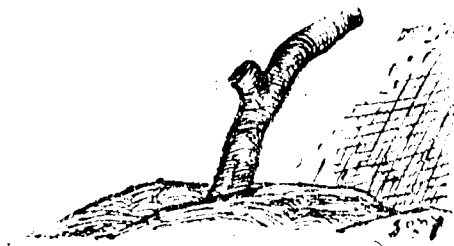
street would not dream of—climate (including fire and drought), soil, vegetation (including trees, which to you and to me mean forest) topography, animals, snails, bugs and fungi. To an intelligent forester, the forest is a big play-ground for all these factors, exerting their influences, each on the others, and creating certain standards and laws which he, the forester, must obey intelligently. To the forester, the forest is not static; it is constantly on the move. He must keep up with it if he is to make a success of his work. So much so, to the forester, the forest is not a lump of clay which he can mould to any form he likes; at the same time it is not also a piece of rock on which he can do nothing.

To go further explaining how exactly the forester has worked out his forestry practices in the various parts of the world, and particularly in India, would involve many details for which, the Editor would protest, there is no space. We will therefore assume that the forester of today knows what he is doing and will pass on to the future. Of the future also we will just say that we should aim at 'sufficient forest areas to ensure the benefit of their protective influences' and a 'permanent and abundant supply of forest products'. Leave the details to the forester. He would quote Sir John Boyd Orr and tell you that the forests must be managed as perpetually renewable crops,

waste must be reduced, legislation must be invoked and the forces of education mobilised to protect forests from fire and destructive exploitation, afforestation must be undertaken on a scale never before dreamed of, untapped forests must be wisely tapped, the number of skilled foresters must be increased many times, and so on and so on. But in the meantime develop a 'forest sense'. Other countries have developed a forest sense after they have seen the consequences of the destruction of forests. Let India develop the sense while there is yet time, so that we may never see the day when we would be weeping over the ashes.

In order to develop this forest sense among the masses, *The Forest, Forestry and Man*, which explains to you all the above things which I have touched on, in plain good English, and many publications of its kind in India in all Indian languages, of which it should be the forerunner, must reach the library of every school and college in India, where the more intelligent section of the Indian public gather to shape their own and their fellow-beings' lives. The class rooms and lecture halls of the schools and colleges of India must also be the frequent haunts of the professional forester, so that the Message of the Forest may reach far and wide in this country.

R. CHAKRAVARTI.



THIS ENGLISH

I have often wondered why English should have such an ofull spelling system as it now has. I know that it is rather dangerous to probe into the depths of this deep mystery of English spelling although—there! Look at that 'gh' butting in unnecessarily! I suppose no one can put forth a satisfactory explanashion. I should say it is just meaningless and troublesome. And I have forgotten what I was going to say. Well anyhow, hardly a night—there again! Such a pleasant word spoiled by that 'gh'! Well, to condinyoo, hardly a nihght passes without my going to bed cursing and swaring at those who introduced this ugly spelling system. Well I do not know who actually introduced it. All the same, I curse them.

You see, a language which has never been on good terms with logic is not very easy to be mastered. This, I think, is the situation one fighnds—I suppose that 'gh' is troubling me unnecessarily—Anyhow this is the situation one finds oneself in when one is studying the English language. The fasination of English is completely marred by this utterly imposible spelling system. Which sane man, for instance, will use such spellings as 'lieutenant' or 'philosophi'? Why ever should we have 'bough' and 'cough' and also such letters as p or b in 'pnumonia' or 'debt'? Why not aknowledge the presence of k in 'knew' or why add an n to 'hymn' if you doughn't, no don't want to pronounce it? I know you are absolutely lost amidst these questions. As a myat—as a madt—as a matter of fact, I am lost too. Indeed anyone would be lost. Such is the situation.

I am consious of the fact that I am dwelling upon a nausiatting subject 'Why dwell on it when you know it is nausiatting?' My innocent reader might ask in his simplicity. The answer is simple. I happened to take a glimpse into old and middle English spelling

recently and that prompted me to venture on this subject. During the course of my glimpse, I came to the distressing discovery that the good old men of yore had a much more civilised speling system than ours. Of cource, they spelt one word in ten difrent ways. But that is alwright—the 'gh' again—that is alwrite you see, when one is at perfect liberty to use any spelling one likes. When we think of this we are indeed sorry for the present deterreoraeshionn, no deteirrieo—no, no detereoraeio—well, you know what I mean. Of course we can use any spelling we like and say that that was in current usage in such and sutch a dialect at such and such a period. But the unfortunate fact is that the university will not be amenable to such reason. You know, universitties are always like that. Alas for it! All one could do therefore, is to meekly submit to this inexpllicable nonsense. Alas again! By so doing one is submitting to be a loonie, I know. But what does it matter when whole nations have chozen to be acknowledged loonieghs?—I am afraid I am becoming a slave to the accursed 'gh'. Alas once again!

We are already in deep waters—very deep. So I think we had better begin making preparations to think of winding up this essay. Before that, however, I must put forth my own eksplanation to this great mess. It is faunded on the fact that the English are fright—Oh, the 'gh'—well, they are fritefully crazy for variety in everything including variety in unity. So they finde it impossible to resist the temptation to make one spelling denote diferent pronounciations. Variety in unity, you see. This explains the difference between 'chemistry' and 'chivalry' as also that between 'fragile' and 'regime'. It is certainly a very wonderful and very original kind of variety, though a bit eccentric. A language which can produce exactly the

same sound—with as different letters as in machine, regime, session, fashion and even lotion and motion, must indeed be a queer language. But here of course, it is not variety in unity but unity in variety. I hope yough—is that 'gh' necessary?—Anyhow, I was going to hope that you got my point. If not you may please go over it once again. And in the meanwhile I shall proceed to the last paragraph.

The Americans have lost all interest in mystery. The result is that now they are trying to get back into the old state of affairs when one could spell according to one's own conscience. We may indeed wish them success, but on no account should we try to hasten the process as long as the

university feels quite comfortable in the present pstate (*p* and *b* silent). 'Ours is to do and die', as someone reminded us some time back. As it is, there is only one trouble with the whole thing. It is that, after a short while, you get so completely mixed up that you mispel even those simple words the spelling of which you knew. I am glad that that misfortune has not happened to me. But what I am really happy about is that, looking over this last paragraph, I find that at last I have got over that 'gh' decess. It is no small achievement you know.

T. J. S. GEORGE.

BOOK REVIEW

A hand-book of Sanskrit Literature.—By U. Venkatakrishna Rao, M. A. Published by Vedam Venkataraya Sastry & Bros., 4, Mallikeswarar Temple South Lane, Linghi Chetty Street, G. T., Madras. Price Rs. 2.

This book supported by all the prestige of an experienced teacher fills the gap left by Macdonell's *History of Sanskrit Literature* and Keith's *Classical Sanskrit Literature*. The principle of selection has been to eschew, on the one hand, minutiae of interest only to scholars and, on the other, scrappy, disconnected and only half-understood lists. Here in some eleven chapters the reader will find discussed in a comprehensive fashion all aspects of Sanskrit literature:—the Mahabharata and the Puranas, the Ramayana, Kalidasa and his predecessors, the later kavyas, the prose

romances and champus, lyric and gnomic verse, popular tales and fables, lankara literature. The author refers to a wide body of research as well as a literature of opinion in handling such vexatious questions as the date of Kalidasa and fits the pieces into the most intelligible pattern we have seen so far. The book should be put within reach of the younger generation wrestling with the problems of Sanskrit literature and the sincerely interested layman. The chronological chart and the suggestive questions appended to the volume afford substantial help to students of the subject. We find ourselves turning back to re-read pages. It will be difficult to commend the book too highly.

C.T.K.

"NEW LOOK" AT TAMBARAM

Away with the coat, it's not worth a groat,
Away with the collar and tie,
For the old order changeth yielding place to the new
And the era of Bush Coats is nigh.

In Bush Coats of pink, the students now think
They look like heavenly dreams;
But in shades of that hue, as in other shades too,
One can only describe them as 'screams'.

When they're in a jam, and there's no time to cram,
With its pockets of spacious dimensions,
The bush coat, they hope, leaves plenty of scope
To "fudge" in examinations.

That Profs are a prey to the "look" of today
You need have no apprehension;
Thro' classrooms and out, they potter about
In colours beyond comprehension.

Students never feel bored with Profs a la mode,
No matter how dry the lesson,
For the "bush" has a way of making them gay—
And one can keep counting the buttons!

The girls, oh such dears, are filled with grave fears
Not entirely unfounded,
While the Water Works set their minds a-jerk
The "Bush" leaves them astounded.

Their task it had been, to add life to the scene,
Ere the bush coat became the mania;
Now, in sarees so white, beside bush coats so bright,
Their efforts are crowned with failure.

When knights were bold, as in days of old,
The bush coat was not tolerated;
But in College today, where the "New Look" holds sway,
Its merits are left undebated.

JOAN SOARES.



COLLEGE NOTES

COLLEGE DAY

The most notable event in college this term, apart from events otherwise recorded in this magazine, was the 58th annual College Day, on the morning of Wednesday January 19th, presided over by Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, President of the Indian National Congress.

He gave us a very vivid account of the life of his student days fifty years ago, and life-like word-pictures of a number of members of staff of that time.

The President of Congress urged that Hindustani should be used in public meetings. Mr. Sanjiva Kamath then proposed a vote of thanks in Hindustani.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

It seems to have become the custom in Madras for the major religious festivals to be made occasions for inviting members of other faiths. At Deepavali, Hindus were the hosts, and at the Prophet's Birthday, Muslims, at parties in the Rajaji Hall. At a Christmas party, in the same Hall on Epiphany Day, January 6th, it was felt that the Christmas message might most effectively be presented to non-Christians by the singing of great Christmas carols. Visitors from Madras, who had attended the carol service in Bishop Heber Hall chapel last term, were very greatly impressed with the excellence of the singing; and the choir from there was invited to sing a number of carols. An attractively printed programme explained the significance of the songs. The guests were very appreciative of it all, especially of Ratnanayagam's fine solo singing.

'FORESTRY AND YOU'

Mr. R. Chakravarti studied botany in this college, and after taking a high rank in the Imperial Forest College at Dehra

Dun, he is now a forest ranger in Raigarh, to the north-west of Orissa. On his frequent visits to Tambaram he has impressed us with the interest and importance of his work, and we asked him to write an article about it for the college magazine. He has very kindly done so, and his article appears in this number. We hope from time to time to have other articles from old students now doing unusual and significant pieces of work. There is a great deal being done efficiently and thoroughly by people who are completely expert; but which cannot come to its full effectiveness until the public knows about it, and backs it up. Forestry work is a work that needs such public cooperation. We have, for example, been told repeatedly that the failure of the rains has been due to the sins of the people; but many still do not recognise that it has been due at least in part to the sin of wanton cutting down of the forests and to general indifference to the trees of India on the part of the ordinary man.

OUR TREES

The two years with monsoon rainfall much below normal, and the unusual hot and dry weather in the middle of 1948, have resulted in the death of many trees in the college grounds—a proportion of the mangoes, nearly all the casuarinas, but hardly any of the avenue trees except some of the rain trees along the north chapel square road (between the water towers). From such varied experience with the trees we do learn that even in such a small area as the college estate the care of the trees has some of the complexity which Mr. Chakravarti describes in forest work: some survive the driest season, and then we want to encourage: they are trees we can rely on. Some trees in our avenues need tending and watering for years, until at last they take a

strong hold on life; others will only grow from self-sown seed among jungle bushes, and all that we can do for them is to preserve the jungle which they find so congenial. The one thing the college as a whole can do is to cherish its trees, and care for its wild life. The great colleges of ancient times were put in the forests. We cannot now go to the forest: we need to

bring the forest to us, if we are to achieve all that is best in college life.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Please read our advertisements; and, when you purchase a cycle, a watch, or a book, please tell the shopkeeper how grateful you are for the information received through our advertisements.

HALLS

SELAİYUR HALL

The opening of the third term is not a particularly pleasant event. The impending nemesis of the March examination is possibly the only power that can affect the bare faced nonchalance of the extremely hard boiled gentlemen of the Junior Intermediate who by some strange law of nature gravitate to Selaiyur. Several gentlemen of the senior classes made an incredible number of impossible good resolutions and could be seen dazedly wandering round the corridors, bleary eyed, at the most scandalous hours in the morning trying to borrow cigarettes. Selaiyur as a whole, however, turned with Caesarian disdain from thoughts of the ides of March to concentrate its attentions on the Hall Day and the Inter-Hall Sports. Several seniors, it is reported, are hoping to avoid Caesar's final fate, confident in the thought that if Caesar had been a Selaiyurian, he would not have come to grief.

The completely captivating Begum Rashid Ali Baig was our Chief Guest for the Hall Day. G. S. Mani and Nambissan are to be congratulated on the science exhibition, G. B. Friedmann and P. T. Thomas on the Arts exhibition, J. Isaac for an outstanding variety entertainment and the respective mess secretaries for the sumptuous dinner.

The Inter Hall Sports brought Selaiyur again to the fore. U. Hulgalle did brilliant work in creating a new Inter-collegiate record for the 800 metres. Two field records were broken by Alexander Barth, and M. I. Kurien showed a clean pair of spiked heels to the other competitors. There is a general opinion that Selaiyur has established a prescriptive right to the Athletic Shield but of course ostentation was never a Selaiyur strong point and we are not pressing the matter.

On the social and humanitarian side, Selaiyur has been equally active. For the first time in the history of the Halls, a recreation club for the benefit of the Hall servants has been started. Our Rural

Service League Secretary, Chellappa Pillai, is doing marathon effort to improve the conditions of Rural India.

I take this opportunity to say a word of praise for the cooperation of all the members of Selaiyur which has been the basis of a very interesting year and also the perfect understanding between the members of the Hall Committee. In conclusion, I must thank our Warden, Rev. R. S. Macnicol, who has been the rallying point of the aspirations and activities of Selaiyur.

K. R. SEKHAR,
General Secretary.

BISHOP HEBER HALL

But for the outbreak of the election epidemic we had comparatively a calmer term. The candidates had a longer spell than in the previous years, and election manifestoes ran into sheets and sheets of papers, through ink pencil and water-colour—and even pictures! Each candidate had many more things to say than he actually said, spoke and wrote.

Result: two candidates returned uncontested; the remaining posts were contested.

It was a relief to all—particularly to final year members, who were by then completely deprived of their patience by the day-in and day-out election propaganda.

As soon as the results were announced, the winning candidates were ceremoniously sanctified by the electorate by immersing them in the Holy Waters of Joshpool.

We have to congratulate Selaiyur Hall for their Victory in the Inter-Hall Sports. Our Sportsmen have amply illustrated the Olympic maxim that life is not merely for winning but for fighting.

Solemn Prayers were conducted on the first anniversary of the death of the Mahatma. Some collections were also made for the Gandhi National Memorial Fund, during the occasion.

The Literary and Debating Society resumed its activities for the term by an address by Mr. Chartrand, the American Information officer. Hon'ble Mr. B. Gopala Reddy, Finance Minister, delivered the valedictory address—and the Literary and Debating Society Secretary has thus earned his long-deserved rest.

As soon as the first annual instalment of the 'radio-money' was remitted to the Bursar, the radio has become conspicuous by its absence. Rumours were densely afloat that the radio Secretary had sabotaged it, which of course, were later denied officially as baseless. However the cricket-enthusiast radio-secretary by the cooperation of the radio was freed to go to the city and attend all the cricket matches personally.

The Farewell-meeting to the Seniors is going to be held shortly and the entertainment Secretary has 'in absentia' assured the Hall, that he would almost work wonders in this last performance of his.

The Excursion Club arranged a much-needed air-excursion at Meenambakkam, which a lot of air-minded enthusiasts enjoyed. Further, plans are ahead for our annual sea-excursion, which is going to be realised very shortly (adds our Warden).

The 'Azad' published its Netaji number on the 23rd January and now the editorial staff is busy with the publication of the annual number.

We hope the water-scarcity may not hinder the inauguration of the Hall activities in the next academic year.

S. NAMIRAJA MALLA,
General Secretary.

ST. THOMAS'S HALL

We had our Hall Day on Saturday the 15th January 1949 with Mr. M. Ratnaswamy as the Chief Guest. On the whole it was a very good show indeed and I should congratulate the various committees for their excellent work. Our Secretary for Entertainments, S. Radhakrishnan, has shown us once again that he knows his job.

We won the Inter-Hall Basket Ball Shield without any difficulty at all, and also the third place in the Inter-Hall Sports. It is very sad to find many of our promising athletes rusting away without practice just because the general attitude of students here towards sports is one of absolute indifference.

The Hall tournaments will be over shortly. The election of office-bearers for next year took place sometime ago and T. M. Purushotham was elected General Secretary. Congratulations and good luck! The editors of the 'Usha', Thillainatarajah and Veeraraghavan, expect to bring out the Annual number soon.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the members for keeping up the Thomian spirit in spite of many trials and tribulations, and also to thank them for their co-operation. Our Warden Dr. Thangaraj has been a great source of strength and inspiration throughout, and although we must have been a constant source of annoyance to him, I hope he enjoyed his first year as Warden.

Farewell to the Seniors! Good luck in your exams.!

K. KURIAN,
General Secretary.

SOCIETIES

COLLEGE UNION SOCIETY

At the beginning of the third term the Union met to pass a resolution condemning the Dutch action in Indonesia. B. P. R. Vithal presided. H. Abeyawardene and G. Selvaraj of the Socialist Party were the chief speakers. This creates a precedent in the History of the College Union as the usual venue for such meetings is the College Water Tank. The word of the Indian National Congress was hotly debated in the Union. Sir Alladi Krishnaswamy, Constitutional Advisor to the Government of India acted as observer and gave a brilliant summing up of the debate.

The next speaker to address the Union was Dr. A. Krishnaswamy who gave an outstanding analysis of the case, for and against, the creation of Linguistic Provinces.

The College debating team has had a very successful year. B. P. R. Vithal and T. P. Subramanian retained the Gordon Mathews Rolling Cup for our College and Vithal annexed the 2nd Speaker Prize. G. Isaac won the oratorical contest, conducted by Madras University to choose the University Debating Team. The College team was unlucky in losing the Y.M.I.A. Rolling Cup. G. Isaac won the Best speaker Prize. The College represented by B.P.R. Vithal and G. Isaac then annexed the Dr. P. V. Cherian Rolling Shield from Medical College. G. Isaac won the Best Speaker cup.

The valedictory meeting will be conducted by the end of February. In concluding I must express my appreciation for all the cooperation I have received during my term of office. I must thank Mr. A. S. Krishnamurthy for the interest he has taken in the Union and congratulate B.P.R. Vithal who has been the most successful and popular chairman that the Union has had for years.

GEORGE ISAAC.

WOMEN STUDENTS' UNION

'This evening, I have a new experience of presenting the Annual Report, which I do with a feeling of great pride and joy. There has been a lot of activities and we have quite enjoyed ourselves by having a few meetings.

'As we came back after the Summer Vacation we were greeted with the news of the brilliant success of our seniors. The outstanding and the most meritorious was that of Miss Rajamanickam, who came first in the Presidency in the University Examinations and is now a lecturer in the Lady Doak College, Madura. It was a great delight to have Miss Tellis as the lecturer in French and her friendliness was a great encouragement in our activities. For a short time, the difficult task of being the warden was taken by Mrs. Devanesen which she managed quite patiently and willingly, since our beloved Mrs. Kibble was out of India.

'We started the year with the election of office bearers to our Women Students' Union. The speakers in the other meetings we had, made us feel as though we had taken a trip to Sweden and Canada. Dr. Wilhelmsen who spoke to us at our Inaugural Meeting gave us a vivid and interesting account of Student Life in Sweden. What she said made us envy our contemporaries in Sweden and how we wish that we could have here the same custom, of the examinees questioning their examiners during their oral examinations. In the second term we had a meeting and Dr. Thangaraj gave us a fascinating account of his experiences during his stay in Canada.

'Next came the long awaited picnic to Ennore, which as usual was the crowning glory of all our activities. The buoyant spirit and the enthusiasm of the students with the untiring and selfless efforts of Mrs. Kibble made the day a very bright one for us. This term being one of festivities and sports we decided we wouldn't miss the pleasure of witnessing the sports on the

commemoration day. Here I have to lower my voice and say that we were not strong enough to accept the challenge from the men's eleven for cricket. I hope from next year onwards, we will be bold enough to face them and so we hope to start from the beginning of next term, to practice the technique of bowling and batting.

'Well, I must congratulate some of the members of the Women Students' Union on their achievements. Miss Madhavi has won laurels in the field of Sanskrit and Miss Meenakshi in Carnatic Music. I hope they will continue to be so throughout the rest of their career.

'Now, may I put forth the petition which has been the cry from the women students for many years. We all feel the need of a hostel. With increased difficulties in travelling in the train, a hostel will be a very welcome haven for us.

'A word to my seniors on the eve of their leaving the College. The seniors have always been eager to help us, ready to guide us, and shown a very keen interest in our welfare. We feel rather depressed that they are leaving us but there are always green vistas and brighter fields in store for them, and we will be always happy in the thought that our beloved seniors are happy somewhere. We wish them all the very best of luck and brilliant success in their examinations and also in the path they are going to tread in the wide arena of life.

'We are greatly honoured by the presence of our esteemed principal and I should consider that we are very lucky that he has been able to spend this evening with us.'

This is the Annual Report presented at the Valedictory Meeting of the Women Students' Union. We had a variety entertainment in which all the juniors participated. I wish to thank them for their kind cooperation and the very enthusiastic manner in which they helped to make the function a success.

Our congratulations to Miss Mary Philip who is getting married and we all wish her the very best and all happiness in her married life.

RANI BALIAH,
Secretary.

THE CHRISTIAN UNION

As soon as the College reopened after Christmas, members of the Union rushed forth to hail the delegates of the Kandy Conference, to Tambaram. Delegates from Burma, China, Japan and Australia visited us and meetings were held when they spoke and cleared our doubts regarding the work of the S.C.M. in their countries. But much more important than all these was the visit of Mr. Philippe Maury, the co-ordinating secretary of the W. S. C. F., who spent two days in the college. He led the Officers' Conference held in Guindy, where the members of the committee were present. The S.V.M.U. group was privileged to have breakfast with him, the next morning. There he spoke particularly about the problems confronting the S.V.M.U., and discussed the matter with the members. Mr. Maury also found time to meet and chat with other groups of students, as well. We are extremely thankful to him for the illuminating criticisms and constructive suggestions he made, regarding the work and future of the S.C.M. in this place.

In the second week of January, when the excitement of the visit of the Asian Conference delegates was subsiding, Dr. M. J. Kennedy, an outstanding American theologian, came over to our college and spoke on 'University students of America'. In February, the Rt. Rev. George Sinker, Bishop of Nagpur, gave a devotional talk in Bishop Heber chapel, on 'the Meaning of Service.'

The S.V.M.U. meetings on Wednesday mornings were quite as regular. Miss Hilda Samuel, Secretary of the Christian Home Movement, and Mr. Barnabas, talked to the group on two occasions. Several members were present at the S.V.M.U. week end Camp held in Pammal. Two persons signed the missionary pledge on the spot, and a few others are seriously thinking about the pledge.

Under the auspices of the Rural Squad, a meeting of those interested in rural service, was held, when Mr. Ernest Fritsch spoke about the work in Pammal. As a result, definite arrangements were made to see that, on all week days, different batches of

students visit the village and render some help to the workers there. About a dozen students attended the Rural work camp held in Pammal, during the Christmas holidays. We hope to send another delegation to the Annual Rural Camp, to be held during mid-summer.

Another important piece of activity we had, was the sending out of teams during the week of witness. Nine groups of students went out and visited colleges in the city and met members of the S.C.M. in them, with whom they shared their thoughts and experiences. On the Universal day of prayer (20th Feb.) four of our students spoke in four Churches in the city, about the W.S.C.F. and its mission.

At the beginning of this term, the Sunday school teachers had a few hours' retreat led by Miss Gnanadickam. They had their weekly training classes regularly and the terminal service and prize distribution for the children were held towards the end of the term.

Five of our study circles have survived the Christmas holidays and the strain of the Hall day celebrations, and still continue to engage the attention of a number of serious minded young men. Those deeply interested in these discussions are looking forward to attending the study Conference to be held here early in the month of June.

New office bearers have been elected to carry on the work of the Union, in the coming year. On behalf of the outgoing committee, and members, let me wish them, in all sincerity, all success.

We had, on the whole, a happy and useful time, this year also. I am sure, many have learned several new lessons through their work in the S.C.M. If at least a few have been able to see a new vision of life, a triumphant attitude to life, the work of the Union can then be termed a real success. And it is for each and every member to judge.

As one turns back and reviews the past year's work, one is filled with a deep debt of gratitude to all the members of the Union and to many of the staff members, who, though unselfishly in the background, were earnestly supporting the work of the

Union. Above all, one cannot but thank the Heavenly Father, without whose help and guidance, the little bit we did this year, could never have been done at all.

S. PAUL,
General Secretary.

HISTORY AND POLITICS ASSOCIATION

At a seminar held in Selaiyur Hall Theatre, S. Krishnaswami of Final Honours and P. G. Godavarma Raja of Fourth Honours read interesting papers on 'Secular States' and 'World Security'. It was presided over by Mr. Chandran Devanesen.

Since the Honours classes closed by 4th February 1949 the Valedictory meeting came off on 8th February when Mr. M. Ratnaswami, M.A., Barrister-at-law (Ex-Vice-chancellor of Annamalai University) spoke on 'The Meaning of Democracy'. The address was both interesting and instructive. Mr. Chandran Devanesen presided and his remarks added lustre to the occasion.

A. MANNAR KRISHNAN,
Secretary.

PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION

After the last report the association had one more activity during the last term. It was a visit to the Mental Hospital, Madras, arranged and led by our revered Professor, Mr. S. Parthasarathy, which took place on the 20th November. Most of the members of the association took part in it.

During this term we could arrange only one meeting. It was held on the 9th February and Mr. D. S. Alexander, the Student Chairman, read a paper on "Dialectical Materialism".

The Valedictory meeting of the association was held on 16th February. Dr. Miss J. F. Forrester, St. Christopher's Training College, kindly spoke on "Human Instincts and Human Needs".

One important visit of the association was to the biology laboratory, on 25th January. Dr. J. P. Joshua gave us a talk on the evolution of the human brain and, with the help of the honours students, showed us a

number of biological specimens and models. On another day we visited the Physiology laboratory. Dr. K. E. Thomas showed us the nerve contraction experiment. These visits were very much appreciated by the members of the association.

I would like to place on record our most sincere gratitude to Mr. C. T. Krishnamachari, our beloved teacher, who, as the President of the association, guided us at every turn and made this year a year of success to the association.

V. C. SAMUEL,
Secretary.

ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION

The second term began with a seminar by C. R. Vaidhyathan on 'Joint-Stock Banking in India'. Thereafter we confined ourselves mainly to Seminar work.

George Isaac: Economic consequences of the partition.

S. S. Subramanian: Indian Industries since 1939.

C. Thavaraj: Nationalisation in India.

C. K. Abraham: Indian prices.

V. K. Vydhanathan: Inflation in India.

We began the third term with a seminar by C. B. Padmanabhan on 'I.T.O.' Later K. S. Haridhas Bhat read a paper on 'E.R.P. with reference to Asia'. Keen discussion ensued during all the seminars and all the papers were well prepared.

There are rumours to the effect that our president, Mr. Subbarama Iyer is retiring this year. We do hope that the rumours are false, but in case they unfortunately turn out to be true, we wish our president a happy and peaceful retired life.

The 4th and 3rd year Economics Honours students will be 'At Home' to the Final Honours students on Monday 21st February. We wish the Final Honours students all success in their examinations and later a bon-career.

V. K. VYDHANATHAN,
Secretary.

CARNATIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION

The third term was a busy one for us. The first performance of the term was held on Wednesday 26th January 1949, when Sri

G. N. Balasubramaniam (B. A. Hons.) entertained us with his enchanting music. The occasion was marked by the presence of the principal, Dr. A. J. Boyd, who showed his appreciation, by staying there the entire time. Sri G. N. B. is an old student of our college. Master Krishnan and Sri Kalpathi Ramanathan ably accompanied him on the violin and the mridangam respectively.

The next performance was on 15th February, when Gana Saraswathi, Srimathi D. K. Pattammal gave a music concert. There was a record attendance on that day and the audience showed a high sense of appreciation throughout.

We hope to bring Srimathi N. C. Vasantha Kokilam, before the term ends.

We have set up a precedent this year by arranging a good number of performances by leading artists and we fervently hope that our successors in the association will try to emulate our example.

We thank the president Dr. Thangaraj, patrons and members of the association for their whole hearted co-operation.

C. R. VAIDYNATHAN,
L. V. RAMANATHAN,
Secretaries.

HINDI ASSOCIATION

The Hindi association which goes by the name of 'Hindi Premi Mandali' got started somewhat late because of the fact that very few people knew anything at all about Hindi.

Sri A. C. Kamakshi Rao B. O. L. (Hindi lecturer), Sri K. Bhalchandra Rao, and Sri M. Vasant Kini were duly elected President, Secretary, and Student Chairman respectively.

The Inauguration meeting of the Mandali was held at 5-30 p. m. on Friday, the 26th November 1948, the meeting being presided over by the Hon'ble minister Chandramouli.

Sri A. C. Kamakshi Rao presided at one or two other meetings of the Mandali, which is now going strong towards a grand valedictory meeting in the last week of February.

K. BHALCHANDRA RAO,
Secretary.

TAMIL SANGAM

The Sangam commenced this term with a debate for the award of Ramachandran Cup. Siva Ramalingam was adjudged the Winner of the cup and Jayasankar and Narayanaswamy came second and third respectively.

The intercollegiate debate in Tamil for the award of Pennathur Seshiah's Rolling Cup was held on 16th February in the Anderson Hall. Six Colleges from the city participated. The Rolling Cup was awarded to the Pachaiyappa's College.

The Valedictory Meeting is to be held on 1st March when Omandur Ramasamy Reddiar, Premier of Madras will preside.

We wish to thank the office bearers of our association for the unstinted co-operation and support which they gave under the able guidance of the President Thiru Alalasundaram Chettiar, M.A., and the unreserved patronage of Thiru. T. K. Gopala Iyer, B.A.

R. KALIYAPPAN,
Secretary.

N. NAGESWARAN,
Assistant Secretary.

ANDHRA BHASHABHIRANJANI
SANGHAM

A debate was held on 17th January when the subject of discussion was 'In the wide interests of people, India should not remain in the Commonwealth.' K. Rajarathnam moved the resolution and he was opposed by N. Radhakrishna Rao. After a prolonged discussion, the resolution was carried. Mr. Satagopachari B.Sc. (Hons.) was the observer.

On 25th January a meeting took place under the presidency of Mr. P. R. P. Francis, M.A. The occasion was a significant one, because the president, after his address, gave an opportunity to the members present to speak on the present problems of Independent India and the response was marvellous.

On 31st January, M. Satyanarayana Murthi, and N. Radhakrishna Rao brilliantly represented our college in the Elocution competition, held in Loyola College, on 21st February. The same team represented our college in the Elocution Competition, held at Pachaiyappa's College.

The Valedictory address of the association was delivered on 9th February by Sahityarathna Sri. Kota Sundararama Sarma M.A., M.O.L., B.Ed. Chief Lecturer in Telugu Vivekananda College, Madras with Hon'ble Justice Mr. C. Raghava Rao in the Chair.

Our President Sri. P. R. P. Francis, M.A. extended a very hearty welcome to the speaker and the Chairman and to all the guests who so kindly responded to our invitations. In introducing the Chairman and speaker our President paid glowing tributes to both. In return the Chairman and the speaker made our Valedictory function a grand success by their learned address so much so that we never realised that tea followed the meeting.

Entertainment was the last item on the day's programme. The members of the association enacted 'Kanyasulkam' Act I by Mahakavi Gurujada Appa Rao and 'Brahma Locam.'

Sreematis. V. S. Sulochana, Lakshmi, V. H. Suseela of Saraswathi Gana Nilayam, Triplicane entertained the audience with good instrumental music, and the whole entertainment was unique of its kind. Our thanks are due to Sreemathi Lalitha the principal of Saraswathi Gana Nilayam for her kind patronage.

I thank most sincerely the President and the Vice-President for their parental advice and help, on all occasions, and I thank the members of the Executive Committee and all those who have helped me in making this year's activities quite successful.

I wish the Sangham a glorious and bright future.—*Jai Hind.*

M. SATYANARAYANA MURTHI,
Secretary.



C. A. Alexander

MAJOR-GENERAL AND MRS. RUDRA WITH THE PRINCIPAL



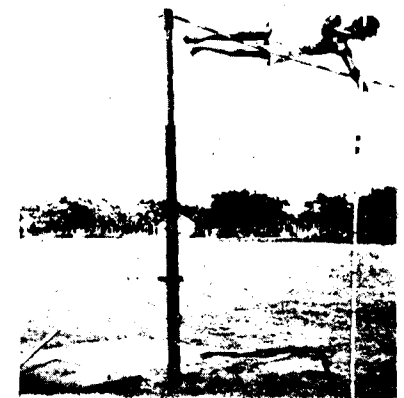
ON TAMBARAM STATION BRIDGE



ALEXANDER BARTH THROWING THE DISCUS.



MATHEWS NINAN (High Jump)



J. R. ISAAC (Pole Vault)

Photos by Mathew John and B. P. R. Vithal



C.C.C.

COLLEGE CAPTAINS (1948-49)

Sitting: L. to R. JEYAM MOSES (Hockey), MR. C. A. ABRAHAM (Physical Director), D. H. DHANARAJ (Volley Ball), U. HULUGALLE (Cricket), DR. A. J. BOYD (Principal), M. I. KURDEN (Foot Ball).

Standing: M. G. WRIGHTMAN (Boxing), T. V. IVACHEN (Basket Ball), J. S. ARYARATNAM (Tennis).



VOLLEY BALL TEAM

(Winners of the Inter-Collegiate League Championship for the second successive year.)

ATHLETICS

CRICKET

The Cricket Season has almost come to an end. We have still one match more to play. The Old Boys team, who will be got together by Mr. V. Pattabhiraman are making a strong bid to defeat us. We wish them the best of luck and would be very glad if they do so. Whatever happens we know it will be an interesting match as Mr. K. S. Ranga Rao and Mr. Ananda Rau, are playing for the old boys. They are two men who have a lot of spirit which helps to cheer up the game.

We finished the league tournament and were placed low down in the table. However our youngsters are not worried and with a promising side next year we hope that we will finish up first next year. In the last two matches, we found that K. S. Ramamoorthy struck very good form and he will be a great source of support to our two stars Kannayiram and G. D. Gopinath next year.

Once again Kannayiram brought great honour to our side by representing the South Zone against the West Indies and winning his provincial cap against Bombay. He took six Bombay wickets for only 43 runs.

Finally I better close with the great satisfaction of having led a team which always 'Played up, played up and played the Game' and were unconcerned about the result. Our thanks go to Dr. S. V. Anantakrishnan our President, and Mr. C. A. Abraham for all their help and inspiration.

U. HULUGALLE,
Captain.

VOLLEY BALL

(2nd and 3rd terms)

Our activities were intensified in the second term with regular practices. Within a week our team was ready again to play the Inter-Collegiate matches. We played seven matches last term and we won all of them. The last match scheduled to be

played this term was against Loyola but they gave us a walk over. This year like last year we maintained our unbeaten record in the Inter-Collegiate matches, thus winning the championship for the second successive year.

The keynote of our success in all the matches was our calm and collected game. The defensive game which was lacking in the beginning improved. The noteworthy feature of the team was its accurate defence and doubtless finish. The standard of performance was always high. David's quickness of action, Balram's electric shots and Paul's mild game deserve special mention.

For the first time the Volley Ball team appeared in colours. Another improvement which I should not forget to mention is the gallery arrangement for the spectators which we did not have in the past. The Volley Ball players were not fortunate to have any fixtures other than the Inter-Collegiate League matches. But we were never discouraged and we put our entire heart into the game and did our best to retain the trophy.

Our team consisted of David, Balram, Dhanaraj, Paul, Thavaraj, Appaswamy, Bagupathi, Justin and Balan.

The results of the matches are as follows:

Beat Teachers	2-0	15-10;	15-3
„ Presidency	2-0	15-0;	15-5
„ Pachaiyappa's	2-0	15-4;	15-6
„ Engineers	2-0	15-0;	15-13
„ Veterinary	2-0	15-7;	15-3

Walk over:—Technology, Meston and Loyola.

I congratulate all the players on their splendid performance. On behalf of the members of the team I thank all those who took an interest in Volley Ball, especially Mr. C. A. Abraham. I wish a bright future for the team.

V. HUBERT DHANARAJ,
Captain.

HOCKEY

We have ended the Season with a grand success; success in the sense of team spirit and cooperation. From the very beginning of the year we had a good number of practice matches. I thank our Physical Director Mr. C. A. Abraham for the chance to arrange matches frequently. Though we have not won any Championship our standard was high. When we played the knockout tournament against Loyola it was their good luck which stood in our way. Dozens of open chances of scoring were missed by the forwards as was remarked in *The Hindu*. But the defence line was really a defence in its true sense.

I am proud to say that our university representatives were spectacular during the season. The local papers praised C. Philip as the best forward in the team. Besides it was our college player who was mainly responsible for the victory over the strong Mysore side in the South-zone finals.

I should like to say something about the college team players. The remarks are only my personal opinion:

Bailey the goalie though stylish in form fails in his attempt by his characteristic style of jumping over the ball and he must improve a lot to be of use in the coming year.

Andrews and *Wrightman* the right and left backs respectively played well and they kept their position nicely.

In the halfline we have *Kuttaiah* in the right who takes everything in a calm and sporting manner, never used to strain much. *Philip* in the centre-half sometimes was handicapped by his height and I think he is a better forward than a half. *George* the left half though very young was always in form and I am sure he will be one of the best players for next year's team.

Then coming to the famous forward line we have *C. Manuel* in the extreme left who always runs before the ball and his leg action is quicker than the stick which often results in the former's lead in stopping the ball. He showed his real game when we played against Engineering College and he was the top scorer on that day. In

inside left played the *Skipper* about whom I am unable to remark. The centre forward *Fewkes* is a fairly good player. Next comes *Sunder* who is too slow to be a good forward; but he played beautifully against Presidency College. Finally comes the right winger *Thumbu* who seldom entered the 'D' but kept his position well.

Before I conclude my report I thank all the players for having given me their hearty cooperation and congratulate them on their fine team spirit. I am grateful to Mr. C. A. Abraham for the training given to me in leadership and thank the President Mr. Chandran who was always a source of encouragement.

MOSES JEYAM,
Captain.

COMMEMORATION DAY SPORTS

The Annual Sports were held on Commemoration Day, Friday 4th February. The heats and the finals of five events were held on the previous Monday and Tuesday. Three new records were created this year, two of them even better than the Inter-Collegiate records. In a thrilling race, U. Hulugalle (Selaiyur) broke the 800 metres race record of 2 min. 7.8 secs. established in 1943 by C. B. I. Jacob, by more than a second, the new record being 2 min. 6.4 secs. To some extent, R. Kaliappan (Heber) was responsible for this. Hulugalle had taken the lead early in the race but was closely followed by Kaliappan. With half a lap to go, Kaliappan produced a fine burst of sprinting and left Hulugalle far behind. This seemed to spur Hulugalle on and in a determined sprint 100 yards from the tape he caught up with Kaliappan and after a great struggle beat him by about four yards. This was a great race, though, unfortunately, light was failing when the race began and one could not easily recognise the runners from a distance. Had Kaliappan delayed his final sprint he would perhaps have won the race but his early sprint only served to spur Hulugalle on to make a supreme effort and to enable him to win in record time. Hulugalle's time is also a new Inter-College record.

On Tuesday, Alexander Barth (Selaiyur) was responsible for two new records. In the Hammer Throw heats, he broke the College and Inter-College records with a throw of 90 ft. 2½ in. The old College record was 67 ft. 7 in. by R. J. Fowler made in 1946. The new record is nearly 23 ft. better than our previous record and more than two feet more than the existing Inter-College record. It was hoped that Barth would improve on this on Friday in the finals but he could not. Barth, it may be mentioned, had been training hard in this particular event and he thoroughly deserved the honour of creating this fine record. In the Discus Throw also he improved the College record. His throw of 88 ft. 7½ in. is more than a foot better than R. J. Fowler's record of 87 ft. 2½ in. made in 1947.

On Friday, no new records were made except in the 4×200 metres Open Relay race in which Presidency, Engineering, Y.M.C.A., Medical and Loyola competed. This was a good race and Loyola ran out winners with Medical second and Y.M.C.A. third. The Loyola team finished in 1 min. 35.4 secs., nearly a second faster than the old record set up by the Y.M.C.A. College in 1945.

Alexander Barth very nearly broke the College record in the Javelin Throw also, with a throw of 126 ft. 7½ in. just about 6 in. short of our record. With a little more experience and improved technique Barth ought to do very much better than his performances this year. Another good performance was M. I. Kurien's 20 ft. 2½ in. in the Long Jump. P. V. Jambugesan

surprised most people by his fine hurdling. He won the 200 metres hurdles and was second to Hulugalle in the 400 metres hurdles. Jambugesan is a natural athlete and if he takes to hurdling more seriously he will turn out to be a first class hurdler. Hulugalle, besides winning the 800 metres race and the 400 metres hurdles was second to Kalappan in the 400 metres flat race.

The competition between the three Halls was not so keen as was expected. St. Thomas's seemed to have given up all hopes even before the Sports began. They were in fact rather surprised in the end to discover that they were not so bad as they thought and that they could have done very much better if only they had realised this earlier. Bishop Heber did quite well though they also might have done better. Selaiyur were deserving winners of the Championship. As a team they were much better and most of their men were in good training. The Championship points were: Selaiyur 121, Bishop Heber 97 and St. Thomas', 72.

Major General A. A. Rudra, G.O.C., Madras Area, presided and Mrs. Rudra gave away the prizes. Major General Rudra spoke on the importance of athletics and said that the officers of the Armed Services were literally chosen from the sports field. He also mentioned that former students of this College are holding very high and responsible positions in the Army, Navy and the Air Force, bringing great credit to this great College.

The following are the results of the Sports:—

Results of the College Sports:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. 400 Metres Hurdles | ... { 1. U. Hulugalle—S—Time: 64.2 secs.
2. P. V. Jambugesan—S— |
| 2. Shot Put | ... { 1. M. K. Thavaraj—T—Distance: 31 ft. 10 in.
2. J. T. Thomas—T— |
| 3. Discus Throw | ... { 1. Alexander Barth—S—Distance: 88 ft. 7½ in.
[New College Record.]
2. M. K. Thavaraj—T— |
| 4. 800 Metres Race | ... { 1. U. Hulugalle—S—Time: 2 min. 6.4 secs.
[New College and Inter-College Record.]
2. R. Kaliappan—H— |

5. 110 Metres Hurdles ... { 1. J. Rudra—S—Time: 19.5 secs.
2. John Selvaraj—T—
 6. Tug-of-war ... { 1. Selaiyur.
2. St. Thomas's.
 7. Pole Vault ... { 1. J. R. Isaac—H—Height: 10 ft. 3 in.
2. A. N. Lamech—S—
 8. 100 Metres Race ... { 1. M. I. Kurien—S—Time: 12.1 secs.
2. T. Sunder Raj Naidu—S—
 9. Long Jump ... { 1. M. I. Kurien—S—Distance 20 ft. 2½ in.
2. Mathews Ninan—H—
 10. 400 Metres Race ... { 1. R. Kaliappan—H—Time: 55 secs.
2. Hulugalle—S—
 11. Hammer Throw ... { 1. Alexander Barth—S—Distance: 90 ft. 2¾ in.
[New College and Inter-College
Record.]
2. G. Zachariah—S—
 12. Hop, Step and Jump ... { 1. Mathews Ninan—H—Distance: 42 ft. 1 in.
2. P. V. Jambugesan—S—
 13. 200 Metres Hurdles ... { 1. P. V. Jambugesan—S—Time: 28.6 secs.
2. J. Rudra—S—
 14. High Jump ... { 1. Mathews Ninan—H—Height: 5 ft. 4¾ in.
2. V. Swaminathan—T—
 15. 200 Metres Race ... { 1. M. I. Kurien—S—Time: 24.8 secs.
2. J. Rudra—S—
 16. Javelin Throw ... { 1. Alexander Barth—S—Distance: 126 ft. 7½ in.
2. M. K. Thavaraj—T—
 17. 1,500 Metres Race ... { 1. R. Kaliappan—H—Time: 4 min. 40.9 secs.
2. R. Satur—H—
 18. 4×100 Metres Relay Race { 1. Selaiyur—Time: 47.6 secs.
2. Heber—
 19. 4×400 Metres Relay Race { 1. Heber—Time: 3 min. 48.4 secs.
2. Selaiyur—
 - Old Boys' Race ... { 1. Mr. K. A. Jacob.
2. Mr. R. J. Rajasekhar.
 - 4×200 Metres Inter-College { 1. Loyola—Time: 1 min. 35.4 secs.
(New Record.)
2. Medical.
- [Open Relay Race]

INTER-COLLEGIATE SPORTS

We were rather uneasy from the beginning about our prospects in this year's Inter-Collegiate Sports. Apart from a few individuals, we were not as good a team as we were for the last several years. Moreover, we knew that three or more other colleges were all making a determined effort to wrest the Championship from us this time. The Sports were held on our grounds on 17th and 18th February. The possibility of losing the Shield this year and on our own grounds was always before us. We

had won the Championship for the last nine years without a break and it was not easy to give it up this year. The results of our College Sports, however, brightened our hopes somewhat. V. Hensman joined College and added to our strength particularly in the hurdle races. And we put in all we had into this year's Sports. There were a few upsets in our calculations as was to be expected and Loyola were trailing dangerously close to us from the beginning. At last, everything seemed to depend upon the results of the High Jump. If we could

win the High Jump we were assured of the Championship though the next and the last event, the 4×100 metres Relay, would surely go to Loyola. In this our jumpers did not fail us. Mathews Ninan jumped better than he ever did before and cleared 5 ft. 7 in. The Loyola man could not clear this and that settled the issue, especially as M. I. Kurien got the third place as well. We had by this time scored 49 points to Loyola's 43 and even though Loyola got 5 more in the Relay race they finished just short of our total. Thus we retained the Shield, now with us for the tenth year in succession. Three new records were made in this year's Sports and one of them was by J. R. Isaac of our College in the Pole Vault. He cleared 10 ft. 6¼ in. and broke the record by ¼ inch. This however is the same as our own College record made in 1943 by S. Palanivelu.

INTER-DIVISIONAL SPORTS

The Inter-Divisional Sports organised by the University were also held on our grounds, on Monday 21st February. For this athletes from many colleges, Madura, Sivaganga, Karaikudi, Trichy, Coimbatore, Trichur, Ernakulam etc., representing the various Divisions took part. As usual, the Madras Division contained many of our men and as usual the Madras Division won the Championship by a very wide margin. J. R. Isaac was again in good form in the Pole Vault. His previous record of 10 ft. 6¼ in. he improved that day by ¾ of an inch. Isaac is still very young and can improve considerably if he takes some more trouble to perfect his style.

INTER-COLLEGIATE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP.

For the first time we won the Inter-Collegiate Swimming Championship this

year. The Swimming was held in the Marina Pool on the 5th and 6th February in the mornings. We entered only a small team of five swimmers. As the swimming was to begin at 8 a.m. and since some of our men could not reach the Pool in time on the first day, we lost some races we should have won. However, N. Parameswaran Nair, the Captain, who had represented the Madras University in the Inter-Varsity Swimming, was in good form. He won four events including the Diving. Alexander Barth who also had represented the Madras University, was responsible for some more points and our Relay team came second. This was a very creditable performance especially as we have no swimming pool near the College for frequent practice.

OLD BOYS CRICKET MATCH

The annual festival cricket match with the Old Boys was played on Saturday 19th February. The Old Boys were captained by F/L Herbert Gnanolivu and included K. S. Ranga Rao, Dr. Harry Paul, M. R. Dorairaj, G. Zachariah, J. Sydney, B. Alaganan, G. H. Keir, John Chandy, D. L. Chackravathy, D. M. Maher, and A. E. Subramanian. Some guests and members of the Staff were also present to watch the match.

Batting first, the Old Boys put up a good score of 159 runs (B. Alaganan 49, G. H. Keir 28, G. Zachariah 21 and K. S. Ranga Rao 16). The College team replied with 137 for 4 wickets (P. N. Fernando 27, R. Tarwady 25 and N. Kannayiram 28).

A thoroughly enjoyable day was spent by all—by those who played and by those who came to watch the game.

C. A. A.

COLLEGE MAGAZINES RECEIVED 1948-49

SECOND LIST

The Zamorin's College Magazine, Calicut, October 1948.

Jaffna College Miscellany, December 1948.

Hindu College Magazine, Masulipatam, December 1948.

The Chand Bagh Chronicle, Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, January 1949.

COLLEGE SERVICE 1948-49

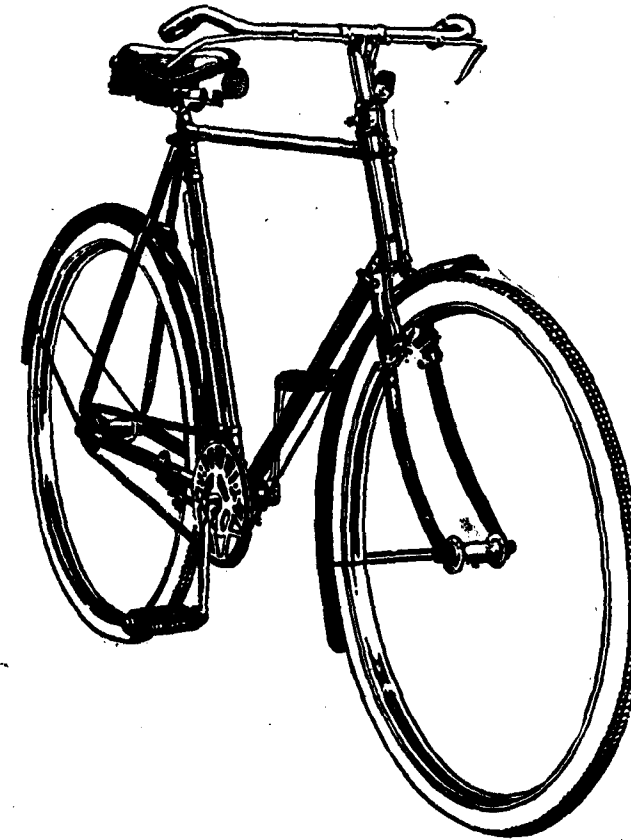
LIST OF PREACHERS THIRD TERM

January	9	...	Mr. Philippe Maury, Coordinating Secretary, World Student Christian Federation.
"	16	...	Dr. W. F. Kibble.
"	23	...	Rev. D. Thambuswamy, Headmaster, Kellett High School.
"	30	...	Mr. C. Devanesen.
February	6	...	Rev. W. A. Partridge, Meston College.
"	13	...	Rev. R. L. Watson, St. George's Cathedral, Madras.
"	20	...	Rev. J. Millns, Egmore Wesley Church.
"	27	...	Dr. M. A. Thangaraj.
March	6	...	7-30 a.m. (Communion Service.) Rev. D. T. Niles, Youth Chairman, World Council of Churches. 6 p.m. Mr. David Samuel, Christ Church, Madras.
"	13	...	Rev. J. R. Macphail.
"	20	...	...
"	27	...	Rev. Dr. A. J. Boyd.



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