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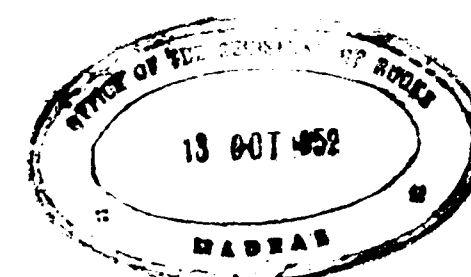
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VII

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THE ONLY MONTHLY FOR
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.



SEPTEMBER :

1952.

T. E. V. SARMA
EDITOR

ASSOCIATE EDITOR : T. E. SANTHANAM B. A.

THE STUDENT

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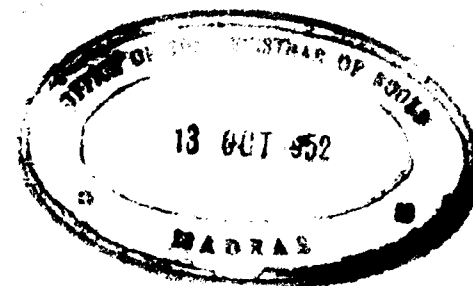
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THE STUDENT

Sri T. E. V. Sarma. — Managing Editor

AS LONG AS I LIVE, SO LONG DO I LEARN : : : SRI RAMAKRISHNA.

Vol VII

SEPTEMBER, 1952.

No. 12

PRAYER



O Lord, I do not want any Kingdom,
nor heavenly pleasure, nor even escape
from rebirth. But I do want that the
affliction of all beings tormented by the
miseries of life may cease for ever.

[FROM PURANAS.]

HOW TO BE A SHINING STUDENT

If you want to really benefit yourself by school study and if you want to pass all your examinations creditably, and be capable enough to enter some service, trade or professions carefully go through this article and translate the advice into solid action.

1. Attend all your classes regularly. You should never be absent from school, unless you are compelled to do so due to certain unavoidable circumstances. Festivals and tamaras are not so important to you as study. They may be attended, if you so desire, after the school hours are over.
2. Never go to school or play-ground or anywhere else late. Punctuality is a virtue. It should be learnt and practised when you are a student.
3. Attend to your master's teaching or explanation very carefully. Whenever you find it difficult to follow him, do not feel shy to ask him politely to explain once more in an easily understandable manner.
4. Study your lessons everyday carefully and completely. Do your home work regularly, sincerely and honestly. Never stand before your teacher with lessons unprepared, and with home-work incomplete.
5. Make it a point to devote daily, sometime in writing on what you study. Unless you study carefully and with concentrated attention, and thoroughly understand your lessons, it is not possible for you to write well. Writing once is equal to reading ten times. "Reading maketh a full man, and writing an excellent man," and so read, and write as many times as you can.
6. Show all your essays on different subjects to your respective class masters, and request them to correct the same. Observe carefully, the remarks of your teachers on

your essays, learn your own faults and short-comings and try your best not to repeat such mistakes once again.

7. Revise all your lessons once a week, and put yourself into test, and know your improvements yourself.

8. Make good use of your school library. If you cannot select books suitable to you, seek the advice of your teacher.

9. Remember that play is as important as study. Attend all your drill classes, and your games regularly.

10. Be clean in your dress and manners.

11. Respect your teachers and obey them. Never try to deceive teachers in any way. A student who deceives his teachers deceives himself.

12. Be true to yourself, to your friends and to everyone else. Talk with everyone in a pleasing manner, and also in an intelligent manner.

13. Never forget to pray to the Lord who is the creator, protector and destroyer of the Universe. Never indulge in useless and foolish discussions on religious affairs. Every religionist is right in his own way. Remember Sri Ramakrishna's teachings in this respect.

14. Remember the words of Mahatma Gandhi that "Truth is higher than religion," and "I see God in truth." Truthfulness is an indispensable qualification for a *real man* and it should be practised by every student.

With all good wishes for your happiness and enjoyment throughout this year, which may bring you health, wealth and wisdom,

The Editor.

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SAINT MANICKA VACHAKAR.

BY SRI V. SRINIVASAN, B.A., L.T.,

Continued from the previous Issue (August)

CHAPTER 5

The Minister recalled to Madura.**THE NEW SISHYA WAS TRUE TO HIS WORD.**

He obeyed his new master in everything. Under him he learned the truths of religion. But the master did not stay long in that place. One day, he called Vatha-Voorar to his side and said, "Manicka, tomorrow I shall leave this place. I have nothing more to teach you. Stay here and do deeds of charity. May Lord *Atmanada* bless you! He will guide you in future".

The minister forgot the king's command. He spent the King's money in doing charity. The Poor were fed in large numbers every day. Tanks and wells were dug. Bathing Ghats were built for the comfort of the people. The old temple was repaired. Close to it, a huge garden was laid out; the flowers from it were used for the temple worship, choultries for pilgrims were built, and food was offered free to all.

The king's servants were troubled. No horses were bought. But the king's money was spent in other ways. They begged the minister to purchase horses and return home. He refused to hear their words.

So they returned to Madura, and told the king the news. On hearing it, the king grew wild with anger. At once he sent a letter through a messenger. The letter bade the minister return to Madura at once with the horses.

Vatha-Voorar saw the letter. He saw his mistake; he had disobeyed the king. But he had obeyed the new master, the sage. The money was spent on charity. But it was not his money. It was the king's money. He was troubled in mind. With letter in hand, he ran to the temple and fell at the feet of *Atmanada*, "Lord, my mind is dark. Show me the Light. Save me in my trouble."

At once a voice was heard. "Fear not, son. You have not erred. Obey the king and return to Madura.

The horses would arrive in Madura on the *Avani Mulam* day. Tell the king so. That day is a good day for the entry of horses into a city."

The minister praised the Lord and returned to Madura. The Pandyan believed his words and waited for the appointed day.

CHAPTER 6

The Arrival of the Horses.

The appointed day was drawing near. In two days more, the horses must arrive in Madura. But, there was no sign of any new horse even on the borders of the Pandyan land. Some enemies of the minister brought this to the notice of the king, and poisoned the king's mind against the minister.

The king grew wild with anger. He sent for Vatha-Voorar and called him a dupe. "Wait for two days, my Lord. The horses would arrive," begged the minister.

"Can horses come out of nothing? Will they spring suddenly on the royal stables? Enough of your deceit." So saying the king ordered him to the prison.

Vatha-Voorar spoke no word of sorrow. His lips uttered only the names of *Sundaresa* and *Atmanada*.

II

It was the nineteenth day of the Tamil month of *Avani*. The Star *Moola* was high in the heavens. In the early hours of the morning, the people of Madura were awakened by the sound of the trampling of horses' feet. The rising sun could not be seen; it was clouded by the heavy dust, shot up in air by the hooves of the horses.

Surely horses were arriving; Vatha Voorar had spoken only the truth. The king was alarmed. He felt sorry for the wrong done to his minister, and ordered him to be set free.

At last the horses arrived in front of the palace. They were....myriads...in number. Noble horses, they were without a flaw. True Arab blood ran through their veins.

Each horseman looked a soldier, and their leader was stately and noble. Addressing the king, he said, "May it please your Majesty, examine these horses. Reject the useless, and select the fit ones."

There was no choice. Each was as good as any other. The king bade his officers offer rich presents to each horseman.

"We take presents only after the sale. Is the bargain settled? Do you accept the price paid by your minister?"

"Without a doubt."

"Then exchange the reins of these horses with your own. That is our custom."

It was done. But the leader would not part with his horse.

The King presented the leader with a rich necklace. But the latter, with an air of indifference, received it on his whip, threw it over the neck of his horse, and wheeled back. The other horsemen followed him on foot.

The new horses were duly sent to the Royal stables.

CHAPTER. 7 .

The Miracle of the Horses and the Result.

It was midnight. The city was roused by fearful sounds. Jackals were heard to howl in the Royal stables. The tramping and neighing of frightened horses were also heard.

Oh! wonder of wonders! the new horses had all turned Jackals! They had attacked and torn to pieces the real inmates of the stable. Even the king's brave soldiers dared not approach them.....But the morning dawned and the jackals disappeared into the woods close by.

"Vatha-Voorar is not only a cheat. He is also a black magician. He has, first, robbed the king's money; and then he has put him to shame. He has added insult to injury". Such was the talk everywhere.

The king's anger rose up like wild fire. Stern was his command. "Drag that rogue to the hot sands of the river and thrash him well. Give him the most severe punishment. Let him be an example to all deceivers and black magicians!"

The order was obeyed. The minister was dragged round the streets of Madura like a mean criminal. He was made to stand on the burning sands of the *Vaiji* bed. He was made to bend down, and his back was bared. A huge rock was placed on his back; fifty strong men held it in position.

"Tell the truth, you cheat, and we shall free you" said one.

"Who taught you the magic of turning jackals into horses? Where is the king's gold?" asked another.

"You are like the guile cat * in the fable," shouted out a third.

"It is not his fault. The king is to be blamed. He chose a young boy as his minister. Youth is erratic," spoke out an aged man.

But Vatha Voorar's ears did not hear these words. His back did not feel the huge load on it. His feet felt no heat. His eyes were closed and his lips were uttering in silence the words, "Sundaresa, Atmanadha."

II

The Lord of the Universe heard the silent prayer. The river began to rise. In a short time, the waters overflowed the banks. Slowly, slowly—but surely—the waters spread into the interior of the town, rising higher and higher.

*It wore **Rudrakshas** and pretended to be old and pious, to secure prey more easily.

The great city was in panic. A few hours more, and the whole city would be under water. Each man feared the safety of his life and property. So, no wonder, the men around Vatha-Voorar ran away to their homes, leaving the latter to himself.

The roar of the waters roused Vatha-Voorar from his prayers. He opened his eyes, but found none around him. He went straight to the temple and began to sing the praises of the Lord.

III

The king heard of the panic in the town. He feared for the safety of his people. He wondered at the sudden flood and consulted his advisers. They all said, "It is the black magic of your late minister."

The king was silent for some time. Then he shook his head and said, "It can't be so. No magic can flood the *Vangai*. It is no earthly river. Sundaresa caused it to flow when he wedded Minakshi. I see Sundaresa's hand in this sudden flood. Vatha-Voorar is His Bakta, and we have treated him with cruelty. Perhaps this is His Punishment.....Run to Vatha Voorar, beg him forgiveness, and bring him in honour to our presence."

The king's messengers set forth at once. They found him within the temple and gave him the king's message. Vatha Voorar started at once to the king's palace.

CHAPTER. 8

The Filling up of the Breach.

Vat ha Voorar's advice was: "Delay is dangerous. The breaches must be filled in without delay. Command each household to send a labourer to help in the work. Let each workman be in charge of a certain length of the breach; ~~his~~ will be the duty to fill it with the earth and raise the bund above the water."

The command went forth by beat of *tom tom*. The royal order was obeyed. Round the breach assembled sturdy men. The king stood at their head, and supervised their work. Is it not the king's duty to toil with his labourers for the common good?

II

Then lived in Madura an old and poor widow, *Vanthi* by name. She used to sell sweet rice puddings and thus keep her body and soul together. She lived alone in a hut. How could she obey the king's command?

But she was a pious woman. Her heart was pure. Her hope was Lord Sundaresa and to this temple she went to pray. She prayed to Him to help her in that hour of need. Long was her prayer that day. She chanted the many names of Siva and invoked His grace on her. She spoke of the great danger of the city and her helplessness. She spoke of the king's command and her poverty.

The prayer over, with heavy heart and slow and anxious steps she came out of the temple. Just then passed through the street a sturdy man with basket and spade. He cried out, "A labourer for hire! a labourer for hire!" Vanthi looked up. His face wore a fired look and he was worn out.

"Man, can you do my share in filling the breach on the bank?"

"Gladly, mother. I die of hunger. Pray give me first something to eat. I shall obey you in everything."

"Man, your words move me to pity. But I am poor. I have at home some cold pudding. It shall be yours".

The labourer followed her to her hut. She gave him all that she had to eat. She also promised to give him more later in the day.

He bowed and walked towards the river.

III

The new labourer turned out very poor work. He would throw a few baskets of earth on the breach, then walk lazily to the hut of Vanthi, and beg her for food. He would eat greedily her poor fare and return to the river. Again he would throw a few baskets of earth and repeat the action.

He behaved like a mad man. He danced and sang at intervals. He seemed not to care for his work. The breach in his charge was not filled up. Yet he made his way to a cool, secluded spot and laid himself down. With his basket as his pillow, he soon fell into sleep.

The matter was reported to the Pandyan. He bade his men bring the lazy workman to him. They ran to the spot and woke up the sleeping man. They dragged him to the presence of the king.

The king saw the labourer. The latter was not yet free from the effects of sleep; he stood as one in a fit. The king's anger rose up. Taking a cane in his hand, he whipped the lazy man on his back. The man at once threw his basket at the breach and disappeared!

Lo, at that moment all the people of Madura felt a stinging pain on their backs. Every one felt the sharp blow of a whip on his back. They all cried out in pain, and writhed in agony.

Then an unseen voice was heard from above.

"King, grieve not. I am Lord Siva. My devotee Vatha-Voorar worshipped ME with a true heart. He spent your money in my service. You did not understand it, and so put him in prison. To save him, I appeared before you as the leader of horsemen. I had the jackals round your frontiers changed into horses. The Devas were the horsemen. Blessed were your eyes that saw Me and My angels! Your wealth was well-spent and this was your reward.

"You took MY Grace as the black magic of my *Bakta*, and again you punished him. To save him I caused the river to rise.

"My pure devotee Vanthi prayed for a labourer to help her. She was too poor to hire a man. I acted as her labourer. Her rice puddings were baked with pure love, and the sweetness of it lulled me into sleep. I received my punishment at your hands.

"Know you, Pandyan king, Vatha Voorar is without guilt. He did my bidding and spent your money without your permission. For that he has suffered enough. Trouble him no more.

"May your kingdom flourish. May it continue to be the home of saints and scholars."

Flowers fell down from heaven. The waters subsided. Heavenly music was heard from the skies. A flower chariot flew over the city, and in it Vanthi was found seated.

None is too low for God. No work is too mean for Him. The Lord of the Earth bore on His head a basketful of earth for the poorest lady of Madura!

Blessed is the pure in heart; for, theirs is the kingdom of God.

(To be continued)

—259—

WATER CURE.

By Sri S. Govind Rao, Delhi.

WATER is an indispensable requirement for every living being—man, animal, bird, insect, tree, plant, and roots. It is only next to air in its importance. A man can manage to live for some days without food, but it is impossible to live without water.

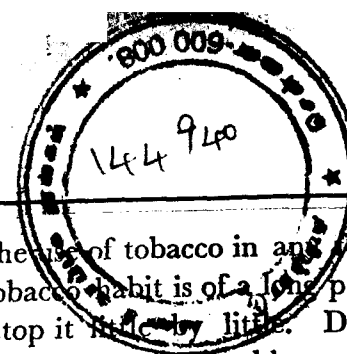
Water is not only useful for us in cleaning our inner and outer bodies, for cleaning our houses, streets etc., for quenching our thirst, and for cooking our food, but also useful in curing many diseases of human beings. In several cases of sickness, medicine is not at all required if the right use of water as a cure is known.

Constipation is a dangerous disease. Generally people who have not got sufficient physical work or who do not take sufficient physical exercise in some form or other, suffer from this disease. If the bowels do not move regularly and properly, poisonous matter which ought to get out of the body remains in the body itself and makes the blood impure. If the blood is impure, we become not only weak but also sick in some form or other. The reason is that our weak body containing weak and impure blood, is unable to fight against disease germs which come into our body. It is now clear that constipation is a disease which brings poisonous matter into our body, and spoils our good blood. Constipation should be nipped in the bud. Otherwise it will give room to various other diseases such as dyspepsia, dysentery, and piles. The easiest ways of curing constipation, without going to any doctor, are to take sufficient and regular physical exercise, such as, long walks, running, games, etc., to take sufficient fruit diet, especially of oranges, grapes, plantains, apples, and similar fruits, and to avoid all kinds of fat foods, and also foods in which chillies, pepper and similar *mashala* things are mixed, and also to avoid drinking

tea, coffee, and cocoa. The use of tobacco in any form should be stopped. In case this tobacco habit is of a long period, every effort should be made to stop it ~~in a short~~ ^{in a long} ~~time~~ ^{period}. Daily in the morning at least one glass of water, preferably warm, (water should be boiled well at first) should be drunk. During meal times only very little water should be drunk; and it is advisable if no water is taken at all. Drinking between meals is a bad habit, and it should be put a stop to. Drink a glass of water once in an hour between one meal and another. You should not take water within one hour before any meal, and within one hour after any meal. If you follow the above instructions strictly, there is no need for you to fear constipation. It will neither come to you, and even if it comes it will be cured easily only by the above method. In case of severe constipation, castor oil should be taken at frequent intervals, and in a moderate quantity. Not more than two teaspoonfuls of castor oil should be taken at a time. But this purgative habit should not be encouraged. It is simply as a cure in case of emergency, and not for all time. If you take regular exercise, regular and wholesome food, keep your body, dress, house etc., clean, use sufficient quantity of water, and breathe pure air, you require almost no purgatives.

People having gripping pains in their stomachs can place a hot water bottle on their stomachs, and the pain will be removed in a short time. You should not keep the hot water bottle on your stomach for a long time, simply keep a few seconds and take it out, again keep it a few seconds and take it out; repeat this process of keeping and taking for half an hour or more if necessary. This process is called *ஒத்தல்* in Tamil.

If you are suffering from indigestion due to over-eating, you can go to some tank, river or at least a water tub and stand in it in such a way that the water should cover the



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lower part of your body, say, upto your waist. Standing in water in this way, rub your belly well, and in a short time you will find good improvement.

To cure vomiting due to any reason, the easiest way is to drink hot water, just as hot as can be borne.

To cure bleeding from the nose, which is called Raktha Peenasam (രക്തപീനാസം) apply cold water on the head, and to your astonishment you will find that the bleeding stops in a moment.

The above are some of the uses of water as a cure which I have known by my own personal experience.

Cold water bath in the early morning is better than any nerve tonic. It cleans your body, mind, and brain. It gives you strength and energy to work actively. It increases your appetite. The use of cold water bath in the early morning will be known to anybody who does it regularly.

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ENGLISH: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

By Sri R. C. Mudaliar, B.A., L.T., Sirkali.

I Para Questions :-

1. How does Hopkins bring out the real marks of a true soldier?

No other duty is so sacred to anyone as that of living for the honour of one's dear motherland and of fighting under her banner. A soldier's job is not for pleasure nor for pay nor for plunder. It is for keeping the fame or recovering fame of one's land if needed. So everyone should play the man well in the field. He must be prepared to face the enemies boldly and die in battle, if necessary. His dying at the front will surely bring him and his country undying fame and name.

2. State the central idea of the poem "To the Stranger....."

A new-comer to a country has no business to enquire about the dead man's parentage, birth or fame, fair or foul. Any dead one may have a tomb erected over his grave. It is a beauty to be enjoyed and not to be pryed into. Of course, that tomb hides the qualities either good or bad of the dead person. Yet he or she belongs to that land. Figuratively speaking, one after death reaches Heaven or Hell. There he or she should not speak ill or well about others who have reached there already.

3. What are the main factors that go to determine prices of articles?

Competition, among those, who have things to sell, go a long way in keeping the prices of articles from going too high. It has its values, both good and bad. To keep the prices of things going down, the cost of production of things play a great deal. Besides, the demand and supply of things, either within a country or from without, have a definite say in the matter of fixing prices. The more there is the supply of a thing, the cheaper it will be; the less, the more expensive it is. But war can make supply less and the prices becoming high. Perhaps, government control may, to a degree, lessen the difficulties.

4. What ideas does Sarojini Devi wish to convey in her poem "Bangle-sellers"?

Sarojini Devi impressively describes the bangles as lustrous tokens of radiant lives, most suited to happy maidens, brides and even housewives. Those, fit to be worn by maidens, are silver, blue, pink and green coloured ones. Yellow or bright red, coloured bangles are meet for brides on their wedding day. Some others, golden in colour with grey tinge and lightly purpled, are suitable for middle aged ladies, who have experienced life rather fully.

5. What made the senior-most elephant lose its life?

Once the hatis were caught in a ring of humanity. They were to be hunted for their tusks. The leader, ninety-five years old elephant, trumpeted and directed all to go north, in spite of the timely warning given by young Sirdar. The raised trunk brushed against the legs of a man on a tree top and made him fall down. He was crushed to death. But unluckily another hunter shot the leader dead. It happened only on account of the leader's foolish risk undertaken in a foolhardy manner.

6. Why was Sirdar elected leader?

The senior-most leader of the herd of the elephants died not a brute but a master. It was a noble chief as to realise its own foolishness. So it warned its followers to elect Sirdar in its place. For, Sirdar's timely warning might have avoided trouble. Though Sirdar was young in years, it was pretty wise. It was Sirdar who saved and led the herd through dire danger of being caught by men. Hence the herd out of gratefulness elected unanimously Sirdar as their Chief.

II. Tell the Story of heroic Mondeer *(in about a page)*

It was brave Mondeer, who dared to disobey the command of Haroun, the Mighty, of Araby and Persia. He spoke out from the forum daily how unjust Haroun, was to murder the good Vizier Jaffar. Jaffar was admired for his noble service for the land, the monarch and chiefly to the people. He was every inch a true friend of the poor. Mondeer thought Jaffar as his real benefactor. As such, he could not keep quiet and control his feelings of agony.

In defiance of the orders of the caliph that no one should speak about Jaffar, on pain of death, Mondeer continually praised Jaffar in the public. So he was arrested and brought before the ruler. Even in his presence, he spoke high about the virtues of Jaffar. He was fearless and was ready to die so that he would be on a par with Jaffar himself.

The caliph became struck with Mondeer's boldness. He felt that punishing Mondeer for insolence at that juncture would be another grave blunder. So he thought of pacifying Mondeer as he knew in his heart of hearts that Jaffar was done away with hastily and unjustly. So, he presented Mondeer with the richest gem taken from the Tartar's diadem. Then he told that Mondeer might form his own opinion about the giver as he pleased.

But bold Mondeer accepted the gift. Suddenly he held it high and exclaimed that that rare thing was gained by him because of his sincere devotion to Jaffar, the good. Haroun must have been disappointed. For, he failed to turn away Mondeer from paying high tributes to Jaffar.

III. Give the meaning of each of the following in one or two sentences :—

- (a) He said, "Let worth grow frenzied, if it will ;

The Caliph's judgment shall be master still."

The caliph was stunned at the deep admiration of bold Mondeer for Jaffar. Yet he hoped to make Mondeer leave off praising the virtues of Jaffar by his might and costly gift.

- (b) Lightly they'll take of the spirit that's gone

And O'er his cold ashes upbraid him,

But little he'll reck, if they let him sleep on

In the grave where a Briton has laid him.

The British soldiers did not care about the light and contemptuous talk of the enemies. The dead general would never mind it. But they wished that his grave should not be disturbed by the enemies so as to spoil the peace of his soul.

- (c) Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow

For old, unhappy, far-off things,

And battles long ago :

The poet could not understand the meaning of the sweet but sad song of the highland lass sung in gaelic language. Yet, he began to guess whether the music would be about some, old sorrowful and remote incident in life or about battles of olden days.

- (d) Lustrous tokens of radiant lives,

For happy daughters and happy wives.

The bright and beautiful bangles when worn by ladies are surely symbols of their happy lives of peace, plenty and prosperity. They are of different varieties suitable for different classes of ladies, namely, maidens, brides and housewives.

IV. A Letter about hobbies.

BY SRI D. KRISHNAYYA, TEACHER, HINDUPUR.

Dear Mr. Ramachandra,

In your last letter you have asked me to tell you something about the hobbies we have in our school specially for forms V and VI and I am so glad to write you about my hobbies as I am much interested in them and as I use them for profit and pleasure.

'What is this life, if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare', says the poet and to give us an amusing period in the midst of the stress and strain of the class-room periods, hobbies provide us a delightful change and we would be eagerly awaiting these periods and the hobby-master who is all cheerful about this jolly period. I may tell you that we must all try to understand the right use of leisure. We have in our school, paper card-board work for V form and book-binding for the VI form and I feel sure that you can well guess why we have chosen those under hobbies and for the school-world you know that those are potential pursuits full of profit and pleasure specially under the 'case of books'. 'Hand is the brain's best vassal', is fully exhibited in this as well as 'learning is nothing but mirth', almost all the senses are fully employed in this hobby—the book-binding and you know that 'senses are the gate-ways of knowledge. The artistic taste of the sublime and the beautiful so well expressed by Ruskin can be clearly seen in this. In order to improve the life of a book, you know that book-binding is essential and we give all our books the necessary binding is

our class-room only and during our hobbies period under the supervision of our dear master. Joy lies in doing our things ourselves to our satisfaction and in the simplest way possible has been our very rich experience. We buy no exercise-books from the market as we stitch all our necessary note-books ourselves in this hobby period. Besides the usual materials like the paper, calico, card-board, thread, needle, marble paper, scissors, a flat-knife and the like, we must have 'good humour,' and this is absolutely essential in the pursuit of any hobby and this tip we have learnt from our hobby master Sri D. Krishnayya.

If these details interest you and if you want some more. I shall supply you in consultation with my master who is like the ever-ready battery.

Yours faithfully,

D. R. KITTI, Student,

S. S. L. C. Class

A. Section.

To

C. H. Ramachandran,

S. S. L. C. Class, D. Section

Kellet High School, Triplicane, Madras 5.



BY SRI D. KRISHNAYYA, TEACHER, HIGH SCHOOL, HINDUPUR.

Qn:—Say briefly, how Alan played the game.

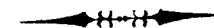
Ans:—Alan was very proud of being selected for the school-cricket match for which he had gained a good practice

Alan's father promised him a new bicycle if he played well in the match and if his side gained the victory.

On the day of the match, as Alan was going to the sports ground, a very old man leaning heavily on his stick requested Alan for help which he could not refuse. By running to the cricket field, he wanted to make up the time lost in helping the old man. The old man requested Alan to lead him to his house a little way off. As they were moving slowly, the old man fell down and so Alan was obliged to nurse the old

man. Alan's heart was in the cricket match but he could not leave the old man. Just then, a policeman came there and took charge of the old man. Alan ran off to the cricket field as fast as he could but he was a little late and the teams had commenced playing with Harold in his place. Alan was disappointed and returned slowly home.

Alan's father patting the little boy praised him for his kind deed to the old man and gave him the new bicycle which he had promised him. The parents felt proud of their son, and even in the class room all the boys gave Alan three cheers for playing his game well though not on the cricket field.



NEWS & NOTES OF INTEREST

Unique will

Many years ago a young American travelling in Egypt was awed by the "first wonder of the world," the Pyramid of Khufu. When she died in 1918 at the age of 91, Miss Florence Groff of New York, left a will specifying that a pyramid be built over her grave. Relatives contested the will, but a New York court has ordered that 10,000 Dollars (Rs. 47,600) of Miss Groff's property must be used to carry out her wishes.

Fountain pen Factory

The Pilot Pen Company of Japan have finalised a plan for starting a factory for the manufacture of fountain pens and ink in Madras.

The factory is to be located near Red Hills, about ten miles from Madras and is expected to employ about 500 workers. The plant and equipment have already been put up and the factory is expected to go into production within a month.

The Madras factory, which would be a joint venture of Indian and Japanese capital, is expected to produce about two and a half lakhs of pens every month in the initial stages. This target might be increased later on. This is the first time that an attempt was made in India to

manufacture fountain pens with 14 carat gold nibs with iridium tips. The Japanese technicians may stay in India for a year to train Indian personnel to manufacturing pens.

The Three Easts

The National Geographic Society, U. S. A., has defined what countries constitute Near East, Middle East and Far East.

FAR EAST: China, Mangolian Republic, Korea, Japan, the Philippines, Indo China, Thailand, Burma, Malaya and Indonesia.

MIDDLE EAST: India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim and Ceylon.

NEAR EAST: Turkey, Cyprus, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, Iran and the countries of the Arabian Peninsula.

Election by Toss of Coin

Perhaps for the first time in the History of the civic bodies in India, the entire body of a municipality was elected by the toss of coin in Sohagpur in Madhya Pradesh.

A meeting of the candidates contesting the Sohagpur Municipal elections was convened by the Socialist leaders. Sri. Bhakur Matiprasad Singh, who addressed the meeting, appealed to the contestants to avoid waste of money, time and energy and prevent the spread of bitterness by having a unanimous election. The candidates agreed and the selections were made. In cases where agreement could not be reached, the coin decided the issue.

Burma Coins

Burmese currency was switched to the decimal system on July 1. The new rupee is to be called the "kyat" and the cent the "pya".

The value of the new rupee will continue to maintain the existing ratio with sterling.

Though new coins have not yet come into circulation, the Government has instructed that all accounts be maintained on the basis of the new system.

A "pya", 1/100th part of the new rupee, is equivalent to one sixth of the present one anna.

Buffalo beats back train

An enraged buffalo held up for about half an hour the 23 Up Howrah-Dinapore Fast Passenger as the train was about to enter the Bhagalpur station recently.

The buffalo standing on the track near the east cabin refused to give way and went on charging against the railway engine which had come to a standstill. The buffalo did not turn back even after losing both its horns in the buffer of the engine.

Ultimately, the engine with the entire rake was taken back and it entered the platform through a different line while the buffalo majestically stood on its ground and declined to pursue the retreating enemy.

Child Prodigy at Delhi

A child prodigy, Mirza Amir Ahmad, who can recite from the Holy Quoran and the Ramayana, and can read and write English, Hindi and Urdu without having gone to a school, visited Delhi to meet the Prime Minister, Sri Jawaharlal Nehru.

The child according to the correspondent, is about 5 years old. He hails from Shamli, a village in the district of Meerut (U. P.)

An exceptionally intelligent lad, extremely naughty and very fidgety—he cannot stand or sit still and is always hopping or skipping poking his nose in everything—Amir Ahmad sprang a surprise on his parents and neighbours at the age of three, when he started reading books of his elder brother—a student of seventh class. The news spread and the villagers thronged the place in large numbers to see this prodigy.

It was then discovered that he could recite extensively from the Holy Quoran and the Ramayana. He could read with considerable ease newspapers in English, Hindi and Urdu. The illiterate parents of Amir were amazed at this feat as were the people who came to see him from far and near.

Then came the second stage. Amir could write as well. He lisps a little and stumbles over some big English words.

Amir though possessing the head of a learned man is essentially a child and the first look at him does not betray any of his extraordinary qualities. A child of plain features, wheatish complexion, a closely cropped head and bright black eyes, he was slovenly dressed.

Bumper Ride

A young girl was knocked down by a private car and carried alive on its bumper to a distance of four miles, after having caused three more accidents on the way on 5th August.

The girl was knocked down at Wellington Square, Calcutta and got stuck in its bumper. Chased by a large crowd, the driver drove away at great speed, perhaps at 60 m.p.h. A wireless van followed the car.

On the way the car hit a rickshaw, injuring the rickshaw puller, knocked down another man, and finally dashed against the ledge of a house of an M.L.A. The car then stopped, but the driver escaped.

The police seized the car. The girl was sent to hospital.

'Discovery of India' By Nehru

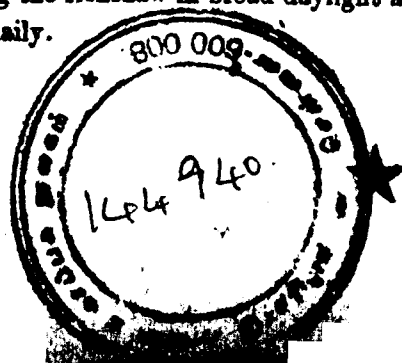
Pandit Nehru's popular work, **The Discovery of India**, is understood to have been translated into one of the Yugoslav languages, and will soon be published by a leading Yugoslav publishing house.

The Yugoslav edition of the book will contain a preface by the former Yugoslav Ambassador to India, Mr. Josip Djerdja. The manuscript of the translation, it is learnt, is awaiting approval of Mr. Nehru for clearance of the copyright formalities.

With this publication, **The Discovery of India** will have been translated into 50 different languages.

Inter-passed Student pulls Rickshaw for a Living

Unable to bear the pangs of starvation due to unemployment, a youth, who had, according to the Jabalpur correspondent of the **Hitavada**, passed the Intermediate examination, has started pulling a rickshaw in Jabalpur. After discontinuing his studies he went from one office to another in search of employment, but when he did not get a job for three months, he became desperate and hired a rickshaw to eke out his livelihood. In the beginning, he used to work only after the dusk but when he felt that the meagre income out of his labour was not enough to feed six months in his family, he set aside the sense of false modesty, and started pulling the rickshaw in broad daylight also. He now earns about Rs. 4 to 5 daily.



THE STUDENT

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