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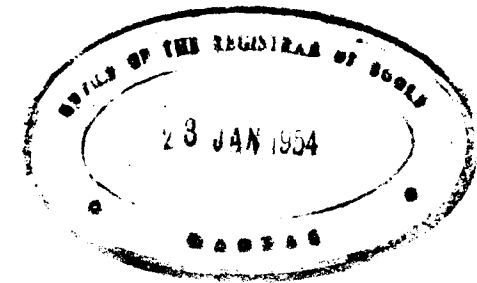
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**MADRAS
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THE MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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Principal's Report for 1952-53

Members of the College, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a matter of great satisfaction to us all that the Governor has honoured us with his presence on our College Day. We welcome him most heartily to these celebrations, and I know that I am expressing the mind of the whole College, when I say that we feel greatly honoured by his presence in the chair, on this important day. Every college hankers after an occasional visit from the First Citizen of the State, and we are no exception to that rule. Every college no doubt fondly hopes that the Governor will find in it some special quality which he has not found elsewhere, some distinctive note which strikes an answering chord in his own heart. And again we are no exception. We realise, of course, that the Head of the State must outwardly preserve a strict neutrality, and we shall therefore not expect him to reveal everything that is passing through his mind. But at any rate we do certainly hope, Sir, that you will feel thoroughly at home in our midst, and will be saying to yourself, as your visit comes to an end, that you must come soon again to see more of this pleasant college and the brilliantly-gifted young creatures of whom it is mainly composed !

Custom demands that I should now offer a brief report and commentary on the life and work of the College during the last academic year—a very delicate task (as I have said on previous occasions) for a principal facing, on the one hand, a number of guests and former students to whom he would like to exhibit the present generation in the most favourable light, and facing on the other hand a large number of present students who are eagerly waiting for unaccustomed compliments, and may even imagine that any kind words he accidentally lets slip are intended to be taken seriously ! Perhaps a report like this ought to be marked 'For External Use only' !

First of all, then, a word or two about our numbers. Colleges, like individuals, have to recognise that expansion beyond certain limits is most undesirable; if the process of expansion goes too far, the body corporate, like the individual body, becomes unwieldy; its various parts have increasing difficulty in establishing contact with each other; a great strain is thrown on the vital centres, and health is endangered. That is why the authorities of this College once laid down that the enrolment of students should not exceed 800; and, when the transfer from the City to Tambaram was being projected, plans were accordingly made for 600 resident students and 200 others. But in July 1952 there were 600 residents and 650 others, so that we had risen to more than 50% above our intended maximum. The expansion is, of course, due mainly to causes beyond our control; when several thousands are seeking admission every year, it is not easy to remain austere faithful to a strict deflationary doctrine. And it must also be admitted that it would at present be financially impossible to carry on with the numbers that were once regarded as desirable. This College is fortunate in that various supporting bodies together contribute about half a lakh annually towards its maintenance; and, within the limits of a somewhat exiguous grant-in-aid system, the Government of Madras

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has in recent years been doing all that it could reasonably be expected to do; but finance remains an ever-present problem, and an enrolment of about 1200 is now a necessity. Fortunately, there are mitigating factors. For one thing, the increase has been mainly in the Honours and Postgraduate classes, which now account for well over a quarter of the total strength, and therefore gives us a fine body of picked students, of vast experience and immense learning! Again, the organisation of the College into three Halls has almost the same effect as if there were three small colleges living in close connection with one another, but each retaining its own distinctive personality and living its own corporate life. It might be added, as a further mitigating factor, that although the Intermediate classes also have increased in numbers by about 12½% during the past ten years, there has been hardly any increase in their total quantity, as measured by weight in pounds. That is because there are every year more and more 50-pounders and 60-pounders among them, clever little boys who have resolutely disentangled themselves from the despairing embraces of their mothers, and secured seats in the college classes. But in fact each of them occupies only half a seat, and their presence in the classes is scarcely perceptible to the naked eye.

It would be rather shabby of me, on this day of celebration, to say anything that might depress the spirits of our infant prodigies, and give them the impression that, here in Tambaram, they are unwanted children. Every one of them is dear to us. But we may be permitted to raise the question whether they would not have been even more precious to us if their arrival had been postponed for a few years! The constantly-increasing number of bright little 14-year-olds and 15-year-olds in the Junior Intermediate Classes does certainly draw attention to a serious question which Indian colleges and universities will soon have to face, if their academic standing in the world at large is to be what we would wish it to be. I think it is generally recognised that the best of our Indian students can easily hold their own anywhere in the world; but the reputation of our Indian degrees and examinations is not as high as it ought to be. That is partly because we deliberately handicap ourselves by adopting an entrance standard which an exceptionally clever boy can reach at the age of 13, and multitudes of clever children at the age of 14, whereas universities in other countries adopt a standard which the better-than-average lad can achieve only when he is about 18 years of age. It is, of course, sometimes argued that people in India marry earlier and die earlier than in other countries, and that they should therefore go to college earlier also. But, until it has been shown that they are born earlier than children in other countries, many will remain unconvinced. It does seem not unreasonable to suggest that the standard for admission to the University should be determined by the performance of pupils of more than average ability who have had twelve full years of schooling after the age of five or six. At present, it would be almost true to say that our undergraduate work leaves off at the point where it ought to be beginning.

We were 1250, then, in July 1952—1250 students plus about 70 members of staff—and, as soon as the academic year began, we settled down to a life of extremely strenuous study and meditation, living incredibly laborious days, continuing our studies far into the night, and leaving just sufficient time for sleep—but mitigating, or balancing, our severe intellectual toil by equally intense physical labours on the playing-fields and on the sports ground. That is how a student might represent it in a letter to his parents; his teacher or tutor would probably modify the picture; but on the whole I think I can say that the great majority of students paid reasonable attention to their academic studies. There are always some, of course, who regard college life as a jolly sort of game in which they are to play the part of unwilling horses, and their teachers are to be persuasive grooms. The teacher must lead the spirited young charger to the intellectual water, and beg him to be so kind as to take a little drink. Sometimes after much persuasion he will at last consent to take a tiny little mouthful, with an air of conferring a great favour on his attendant; but at other times he is so determinedly recusant that he has to be trotted along to the head groom, and fined one rupee! There are always a few who regard college life as a game to be played good-humouredly along such lines as these, but the

great majority of our young colts are very sensible in the matter, and do great credit to the establishment. In March 1953, the performance of the College in University examinations was on the whole very satisfactory; at the Intermediate stage, it was almost *too* satisfactory, for, out of 193 candidates, 165 passed completely, 117 of them in the First Class, and in the Mathematics group, 70 out of 76 candidates secured First Classes. We like to see our students passing in their examinations, and this particular performance does great credit both to the students and to their teachers; but perhaps it is a good thing that, from March 1954 onwards, a higher percentage of marks will be required for the award of a First Class pass!

Turning now to other activities of college life, I think it is plain that examinations were not allowed to make our waking life a misery and to be 'a trouble to our dreams'. A very large proportion of the population played games with great regularity, and although, in inter-collegiate hostilities, only the mighty men of volley-ball did anything very brilliant, all the college teams put up quite a good performance, and (we hope) thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The National Cadet Corps was as vigorous and efficient as ever; after a long attachment to the 2nd Battalion which has its headquarters farther south, it returned to the 1st Battalion, composed of the Madras City Colleges, and celebrated its return by winning the Willingdon Shield for general efficiency. . . . For our less strenuous moments, there was as usual drama in plenty, lively debating, and a great deal of very pleasant nonsense on suitable occasions. The Union Society produced a quite terrific spate of oratory, the Fine Arts Society provided us with song and dance, and from the Hall bathrooms also, musical performances of astonishing quality were frequently broadcast to unseen listeners far and near.

Amid all these pleasant activities, we needed to be constantly reminding ourselves that our life in the College was a privileged, sheltered life, in striking contrast with the hardship all around us; and through the Rural Service League we tried to make at any rate a gesture of friendship to the people at our doors. The League continued to maintain its primary school in the village of Old Tambaram, with about 230 children on its rolls, all of whom were daily given a midday meal. There were also two night-schools for adults, and the medical squad did what they could for the villagers by way of treating minor ailments. Early in the first term, there was a pleasant international episode when a team of American students from the University of Los Angeles paid us a short visit, and joined with the members of the Rural Service League in building an additional classroom for the village school. It is pleasant to record that these visitors from California have remembered their experiences here, with the result that interesting and useful expressions of their goodwill have been dropping in from time to time—food parcels for the people in the village, scientific journals for the library, gifts of money for the relief of special hardship.

A commentary on the year's life and work in College would be lamentably incomplete without some reference to our corporate worship—not, indeed, as something to be proud of, but as something for which we are profoundly thankful. In this matter as in others, there are of course varieties of experience and judgment; to many individuals, the opportunities for worship which the College offers are among its most precious gifts; to others they seem of small account. But, whatever the varieties of habit and conviction among individuals, there can be little doubt that some of the qualities of our college life which we all prize most highly are in fact directly or indirectly the outcome of our worship, which leads us to see our life as a privilege and a responsibility given by God, and thus teaches us, as we could not otherwise be taught, to dwell together in unity.

Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar

Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar was born at Pudur in Nellore district, on May 14, 1883, and died in Madras on October 3, 1953. He was a member of the Committee of five which drafted the Constitution, and has been often spoken of as the 'architect of the Indian Constitution'; he had for fifteen years been Advocate-General for the Province of Madras. He studied from 1899 to 1901 in the Church of Scotland Mission College, in buildings on the North Beach Road, which have long since been demolished. From 1901 to 1903 he studied in Madras Christian College, in the buildings which have only recently been demolished. The Church of Scotland College was united with the Madras Christian College in 1911; and so we may in retrospect regard Dr Alladi as having been a student of this college for four years. On graduating in 1903, he was appointed tutor in history in the college, and worked for two years, during which he was also studying law. He passed the B.L. examination in 1905, and became an apprentice to Mr P. R. Sundara Aiyar, who also had been a student of this college.

Dr Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar was frequently seen at the annual College Day, and showed an abiding affection for the college. He presided at the 48th College Day on January 13, 1939, the 101st anniversary of William Miller's birth. He paid a warm tribute to the memory of the teachers who had moulded the lives of so many students. Among those who had deeply influenced himself he mentioned first Mr F. W. Kellett, Professor of History, who had died suddenly while Krishnaswami Aiyar was a tutor in the college. Kellett (who is commemorated by an Institute and a High School in Triplicane) had been editing the College Magazine, which at that date, and for long afterwards, was a literary, scientific, and cultural review, fulfilling functions for which we now look to a great variety of more recently founded journals.

In his speech on that occasion Dr Alladi said:

'The Christian College is a pioneer in the matter of hostel instruction and hostel teaching. Hostel life has become part of normal university and college life in this Presidency; but the credit for this is entirely due to the authorities of the Madras Christian College and in particular to Dr Miller. At present there is a tendency amongst students to group together in particular sections. Nothing is more damaging to the cause of educational growth and nothing narrows the student's outlook more than this tendency. They go to colleges to make fresh contacts, to breathe fresh life and see other points of view.'

Looking back upon life twenty or thirty years ago, the intellectual and moral contacts which were formed in those days were of the greatest value. There was no greater strength than a teacher and they must be able to open their hearts at least to one teacher in a college. They had the benefit of such contact in the Madras Christian College.

'I have noticed in recent times that there is a tendency to minimise the work done in college debating societies. The work I did in the College debating societies and in the History Union, of which I still continue to be an honorary member, has served me in good stead in later life. A member of the Bar must be in a position to think on his legs and convey his ideas in a clear manner, and a person who is able to do that has always an advantage over persons who are confused and who confuse others.'

'It must be said to the credit of the Madras Christian College that it taught us that love of one's native land is not a monopoly of the Scots and English, and England or Scotland

can justify their mission in this country only if their people make the people of this country think of their own country in the same terms in which the English and Scots think of their country.'

'The Christian College, by the building up of character, by inculcating lessons of patriotism and goodwill, has given to the service of the country and of the State some of the finest intellects and savants.'

'The College has still a great part to play in the new India that is to come. I trust and I hope that the College students who have gone out of this College will act as an example to others.'

In a message for the College Centenary, and the opening of the Tambaram buildings in 1937, Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar, who was then Advocate-General, wrote:

In the quick changing times we are passing through—an age which seems to threaten the foundations of belief and human fellowship, an age in which the nations of the western world seem to revel in mutual destruction and national self-sufficiency—it is no small consolation that institutions like the Christian College strive to nurture wisdom and virtue, and to promote human fellowship; and that from its portals go forth young men imbued with the genuine spirit of culture and righteousness.

Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar was knighted in 1932, and relinquished the title in 1947. He received the degree of Doctor of Civil Law from Delhi University in 1951.

As a student he was handicapped by poverty; and in later years he was for that reason always sympathetic to students of ability who were being held back by poverty. The help he gave to such students was given quietly, so as not to attract attention; but professors of the college, in their contacts with students, came to realise that he was giving a great deal of generous help. When the college was moving to Tambaram, it was proposed that the Library in the new college should be a memorial to Dr Miller, many of whose former pupils were then in eminent positions. Dr Alladi was one of the first old students to contribute to the fund for the Library, and gave two thousand rupees.

R K. Shanmugam Chetty

I came across the late Dr R. K. Shanmugam Chetty when we were both students of the Christian College, Madras. We were class-mates in the B.A. class and were both residing at the Central Y.M.C.A. George Town. Even as a student, he made his mark as a public speaker, having won the elocution competition of the Y.M.C.A. more than once. Though he did not distinguish himself in University Examinations, one and all who had come into contact with him, had marked his outstanding personality even from his early age. He then moved so freely with the Malayalee students who were residing in the Y.M.C.A. and dressed in the Malayalee way that several of them thought he was a Malayalee and not a Tamilian. This must have helped him as an administrator when later he was the Dewan of Cochin for several years.

Mr Shanmugam held many public offices and in each one of them he left an imprint of his personality and genius. As a politician, economist and member of the Indian Missions abroad, his was a unique career. It was in the realm of India's economic affairs that Mr Shanmugam played a very important part in his public career. Economic considerations were a dominant factor in his public life and Dr C. R. Reddy was right when he described him once as 'India's first economic ambassador'. Whether he was in the League of Nations Assembly, at the Empire Parliamentary Conference in Australia, or at the Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa or at the World Monetary Conference at Brettonwoods (U.S.)

Mr Shanmugam impressed those around him with his armoury of facts and admirable presentation of his case.

In spite of his outstanding personality and independence, he had however brought the target of attack on himself from the nationalists all around in the early thirties, for the part he played in the signing of the Ottawa Pact at the Imperial Economic Conference held in Canada in 1932. The country was at the time in the grip of a fierce Civil Disobedience Campaign, after the failure of the Second Round Table Conference of 1931 which Gandhiji attended. Indians then were not in a mood to react favourably to any Imperial Preference in the country's trade with Britain. Even the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and the leading economists condemned the Pact very strongly and in unmistakable terms. But Mr Shanmugam, all through, maintained that he had signed the Pact fully conscious of his responsibilities for the country by believing that it was in the best interests of India. Single-handed, he answered his all-round critics with admirable facts and figures at his command. Unfortunately the whole matter then was more one of sentiment than logic and naturally Mr. Shanmugam was not able to make much headway against his critics. But at this distance of time, when this much criticised Imperial Preference has survived even the Independence of India, we can confirm what he said in the Central Legislative Assembly on 7th November 1932: 'I venture to think that when the cloud of ignorance and the mist of prejudice surrounding the Agreement in India to-day have vanished and in the pure sunshine of reason it comes to be examined, it will be found to be one of some benefit to the primary producers of this great land.' To-day when India, though independent, is within the Commonwealth, the provisions of this Ottawa Pact still reign supreme in our trade matters. That in spite of this volley of criticism Dr Shanmugam Chetty was chosen Free India's first Finance Minister, clearly shows that his judgment then was quite right.

He was very able in office; his first interim budget and the subsequent regular one received all round praise in this country. His settlement of our Sterling Balances with the British Treasury Officials in 1948 in London was a brilliant one.

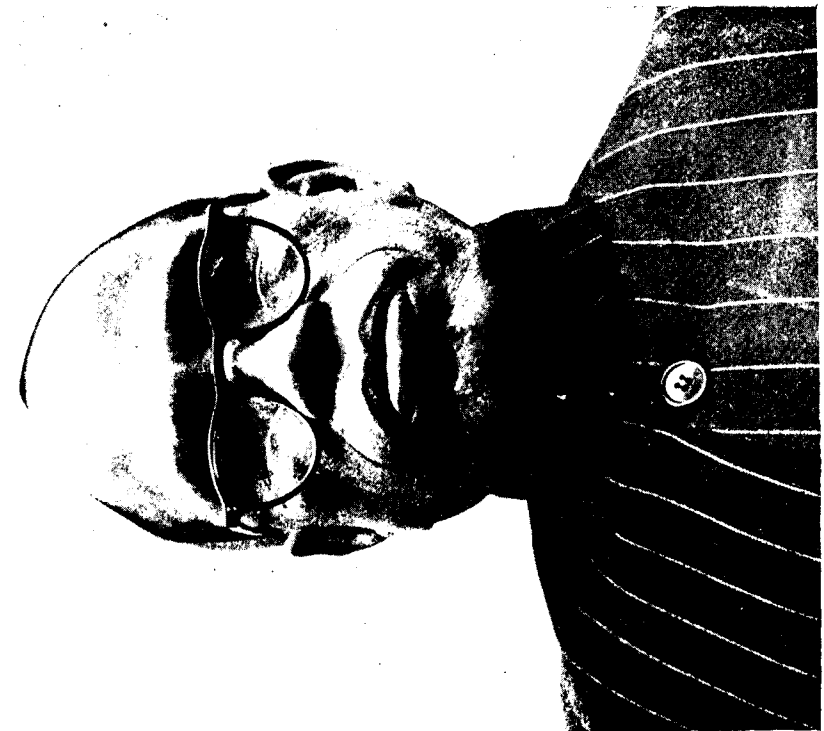
His unexpected resignation was more the result of indiscretion than of any mistake and both his friends and foes lamented his exit from the Indian Cabinet. Mr Shanmugam, as a finance Minister was, to my mind, more sinned against than a sinner.

Mr Shanmugam was a serious student from the early days of his school all through his life. He loved books and in collecting all facts available on the subject, there are few who could have excelled him. His assembly speeches in Delhi are a wealth of information, containing economic data and vital statistics and it is well worth the study of any Parliament Member, even to-day. He was a model Parliamentarian. His speeches were always clothed in the utmost politeness even when it referred to his political adversaries. One rare quality of the late Mr Shanmugam Chetty, which I had occasion to experience myself, is his loyalty to friends. Both in prosperity and adversity, he was a loyal friend. He has all along been a true friend of his old Christian College.

C. P. MATTHEN,
M.P.



By courtesy of Press Information Bureau.
THE HON'BLE SRI SHANMUGAM CHETTY



By courtesy of Press Information Bureau.
SRI ALLADI KRISHNASWAMI AIYAR



Photos: K. Bapi Raju.



SRI SRI PRAKASA, GOVERNOR OF MADRAS, WITH THE PRINCIPAL ON COLLEGE DAY

Leprosy Relief and the Student

We have had in recent years several articles by old students about the work which they are doing.

Mr R. Desikan was a student of the college from 1949 to 1951. He has for some time past been working for the Indian Leprosy Association (Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh). He is at present one of a team of workers sent by that Association to investigate the extent of leprosy in one large village near Pammal. The work of the S.C.M. at Pammal has made widely known in the area the fact that highly effective treatment for leprosy is available, with the result that in that village (i) a large proportion of leprosy cases are under treatment, and (ii) there is cooperation on the part of the villagers with the team of investigators.

If the results of the investigation so far may be taken as covering a fair sample of the village (as we think they may), then it can be said with confidence that at least 5% of that village have leprosy; and that of those who have the disease about a quarter have been receiving treatment.

* * *

What can a non-medical student do in leprosy work? The answer is that he can do a great deal if only he would.

Before anyone begins to do any work he or she should know certain fundamental facts. A student who wishes to do some work in the leprosy field needs to know the following facts about leprosy.

Leprosy can be divided into two types: (1) Infective, (2) Non-Infective. The non-infective type can again be divided into: (1) Simple Neural, (2) Neural Anaesthetic, (3) Tuberculoid. The infective type of leprosy has in its early stages patches that are reddish, not well-defined and with or without loss of sensation. In advanced infective cases the thickening of the earlobes, nose, and loss of eyebrows can be noticed. In the simple neural type of leprosy the patches are hypopigmented and anaesthetic. In the neural anaesthetic type of leprosy there are no patches, there is loss of sensation in the hands and feet and, in the advanced case, bending of fingers, wasting or thinning of the palm muscles can be noticed. Ulcers on the foot and palm which are called Trophic Ulcers are common among this type of leprosy. The leprosy patches do not itch.

1. *Leprosy is not a hereditary disease.* Many people think that leprosy is a hereditary disease, but it is not so. The reason why it runs in certain families is because of the close and prolonged contact of the child with the infective type of patient. If the parent is having the infective type of leprosy, he may infect his child by handling it.

2. *All cases of leprosy are not infective.* As said earlier, only the infective type which is known as lepromatous leprosy is infective. Only 20% of the cases in India have the infective type of leprosy.

3. *The infective power in leprosy is low.* When compared to tuberculosis or smallpox infection in leprosy is very low. A casual contact with a tuberculosis patient is enough for one to get the disease. So also in smallpox—the early or advanced smallpox patient can infect anyone who comes to his room. But in leprosy, close and prolonged contact with an infective type of patient is necessary. A casual visit to a leprosarium or a patient friend would do no harm to the visitor.

Close and prolonged contact with the infective type of leprosy especially in childhood is the cause for the spread of the disease. So minimum precautions of hygiene are enough to safeguard one from the disease.

4. *Children are the most susceptible to leprosy.* Children below the age of 14 are those who are most susceptible to the disease. A child after being infected may not show the

signs for a long time. It is considered that the incubation period in leprosy is between 3 and 40 years. If all the children are prevented from coming in contact with the infective type of leprosy patients, it is believed that leprosy could be wiped out very easily.

5. *Leprosy is not congenital or venereal in origin.* Still many people believe that leprosy is a development of the venereal diseases. Syphilis in the slightly advanced stages (secondary syphilis) gives out eruptions that closely resemble the condition of the skin in an advanced leprosy case. In the very advanced cases syphilitic ulcers resemble the trophic ulcers of leprosy. It has been definitely proved that leprosy is in no way connected with venereal disease.

6. *Leprosy is not a divine curse.* It is foolish in these days to regard leprosy as in any special sense the visitation of divine displeasure (as it was so often regarded in mediaeval times). Like so many other diseases it is caused by a bacterium, which can be conveyed from man to man (or at least from man to child). The bacteria which cause leprosy are very closely similar to those which cause tuberculosis.

Where there are ancient religious injunctions prescribing the exclusion of the 'leper' from society, and from many ordinary privileges of man, it is quite certain that the disease referred to is not exclusively the disease we now call leprosy: what is referred to is a wide group of diseases, which may or may not include the modern leprosy.

There is thus no ground in either ancient injunction or modern knowledge for regarding leprosy as any more of a curse than any other disease.

One often hears a leprosy patient or his relative say "How did I get this? No one in my family has had this. None of us have any blemish in our character. How is it I have this". There is clearly a great amount of ignorance among the patients and other people, in our country and elsewhere, about the facts of leprosy, and they go on spreading wrong notions to others their at an alarming rate. A student who wishes to do some work in this field should first learn the facts himself and then spread his knowledge to others. This will lead to the creation in society of the right and rational attitude to leprosy. It is the absence of such an attitude that is at present one of the greatest handicaps in anti-leprosy work.

Relief

There are many voluntary organisations doing pioneering work in the field of leprosy. The students of Madras Christian College and of the Colleges in the neighbourhood have plenty of opportunity to work at the Pammal Clinic. Within two miles from Pallavaram station on the road to Anakaputhur the clinic is situated and it is organised and run by the members of the Student Christian Movement. Students should visit such clinics and talk with the patients and their relatives if they are available. They will be astonished to learn that the patients themselves are greatly ignorant of the facts of the disease. Let the students make up their minds to work. Then, when they enter the field, they will find that there is so much to be done for the leprosy patients. Wherever they go the students should educate the people by giving the facts about the disease.

During the past year, I have been working under the Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh, Madras, and I find that the patients are most of the time feeling hopeless. I have always tried to do what little I could. I am sure that many students from our College will come forward, (as some of them have already done), visit the patients' houses and teach them the fundamental facts of isolation, visit clinics like the Pammal clinic and render all possible assistance. Students should make it their duty to devote a couple of hours weekly to the service of the unfortunate. Let the students go in small groups to different places and do real work instead of going in very large numbers to one particular place where the work would be done by a few while the others make it a sort of pleasure trip or hiking.

It has been found that many leprosy patients go to treatment only when they can no longer bear the troubles of the disease. They hide the disease until they can no longer do so. The reason for this is the present attitude of society towards a leprosy patient. When one hears that someone in the neighbourhood has leprosy, it is common that the patient is despised, his family treated like that of a criminal, he and his family are socially ostracised. In these circumstances the patient naturally tries to keep the disease a secret. How can he go to treatment when even the doctor who has to treat him shuns him? The patient allows himself to grow worse. The doctor does not treat him, society hates him. If he happens to be an infective type of patient, he continues to be an unchecked source of infection to every child he meets. The result is the spread of leprosy in society is facilitated by the wrong attitude of society itself. Whenever and wherever possible bring the leprosy patient to treatment. Let that be one of your duties.

Prevention

It is always better to prevent a disease than to try only to cure it. In leprosy prevention is done by three ways: (1) Home segregation, (2) Institutional segregation, and (3) Night segregation. Institutional segregation of all the infective type of leprosy patients is impossible. More sanatoria would need to be built and the present financial position of the government will not allow it. Moreover it is not economical. In the institutional segregation, the infective type of cases are taken in as in-patients and kept there till they cease to be infective. But institutional segregation is not possible in all cases. Home segregation is the most practicable method of segregation. In this kind of isolation, the patient stays away from the family, especially children, in a separate room. He keeps his bedding, plate and clothes separate. He does not handle the children. He takes treatment from a visiting doctor at a clinic or under expert guidance. This he continues to do until the doctor says that he is no longer infective. Even this type of isolation is not possible among weavers and very poor people who lie huddled together in a small hut. For such kind of people night segregation centres are best suited. The children go to school in the day time, the elders who are patients go to work in the field. So day-time contact with the children is not possible. At night the patient goes to sleep in the night segregation centre with other infective type of patients. He continues to do so till he is advised by the doctor that he is no longer a source of infection to others. Students should try to make the infective type of patients take one of the three types of segregation.

When one refers to a leprosy patient one should never say 'leper'. It is an odious word. There is a lot of social stigma attached to it. Instead, say, 'a leprosy patient' or 'a case of leprosy'. It has been truly said that '*the greatest need of a leprosy patient is to be himself regarded as a man with a disease and not as a disease in the guise of a man; a case of leprosy and not a "leper"*'.

Treatment

Till very recently only hydnocarpus oil (chaulmoogra) was given by subcutaneous and intradermal injections as treatment to leprosy. The treatment was very painful and long. Then the derivatives of the parent sulphone such as Diazone, Promin etc. were given with much success. But the cost of treatment was prohibitive. The cost of annual treatment came to between Rs. 250 and Rs. 300. Then sulphetrone in 50% aqueous solution was given. It was found to be much cheaper. The treatment cost only Rs. 2 per month. Now D.D.S. (Diamino-diphenyl-sulphone) the parent sulphone is found to be very effective. The cost is only about Rs. 8 per year. These drugs are certainly superior to the old hydnocarpus treatment and it is hoped that more people will be put under the new drugs and get better in a shorter time. But it is necessary that those who wish to come under the treatment of the new drugs should do so only under expert guidance. The routine treatment of leprosy

could be handled by careful students under supervision—injections, simple dispensing and dressings are the jobs that need willing, dependable, regular workers. Ten student workers under the guidance of a visiting doctor can manage a clinic that will bring considerable relief and hope to 100 patients. Making it possible for an infective case of leprosy to come under treatment would mean the steady weakening of a source of danger.

Let all those who wish to do work in the field of leprosy know that what the patient wants is not merely medical relief. He wants to be like any other free citizen and earn his livelihood. What he wants is not pity but sympathy, not charity but equality.

Gandhiji has said :

'Leprosy work is not merely medical relief, it is transforming the frustration in life into the joy of dedication, personal ambition into selfless service. If you can transform the life of a patient or change his values of life, you can change the village and the country'.

R. DESIKAN

Medium of Instruction

Miss Wilhelmsson took an M. A. course with us, after receiving a doctorate in Sweden. She is now on the staff of Lady Doak College, Madurai. She has been circulating among the staffs of colleges a paper, 'Let Us Discuss', from which the following article is taken. It has also been printed by the South-Zone Tamil-Teachers Association.

It is good to have the reflections of one who has been able to look at our ways of education from the viewpoint of one trained in other ways.

* * *

What should be the medium of instruction in the University of Madras and its Colleges? That is the subject-matter of many a heated discussion among college teachers. A few enthusiasts suggest Hindi. But the majority advocate either English or Tamil.

Those in favour of *English* point out :—

- that a thorough knowledge of English is important as a 'window' towards the world outside India ;
- that it is more important to study English than Tamil, because Tamilians 'know Tamil anyhow' ;
- that there are not enough textbooks in Tamil ; that Tamil lacks certain technical terms ;
- that Tamil is a language that has not kept pace with the development of science, etc., so that many things simply *cannot* be expressed in Tamil at all.

Those in favour of *Tamil* say :—

- that Tamil is the mother tongue of the majority of the people within the area of the University of Madras and that the mother tongue should always have the first place, before any other language ;
- that Tamil is a highly developed language, in which everything can be expressed ; when necessary, new technical terms can be invented, or international terms be 'borrowed' ;
- that if in certain aspects Tamil has not kept pace with modern development, it is exactly because English has been the medium of instruction ; English has been allowed to stifle Tamil ; the only remedy is to introduce Tamil as the medium of instruction ;
- that enough books can be translated into Tamil in a short time ;
- that the introduction of Tamil as the medium of instruction would inspire the writing of original textbooks in Tamil.

Some of the arguments on both sides are good, but some are not so good. Let me give the view-points of a 'non-English-speaking' foreigner.

To me it is self-evident that the mother tongue should be the *natural* medium of expression. There must be something definitely wrong with the self-respect of a nation where many educated people express themselves *better* in a foreign language than in their own mother tongue. The mother tongue is one of a people's most precious possessions.

It is a mistake that we 'know our mother tongue anyhow'. Every educated person should *cultivate* and develop his mother tongue through eager and hard study and practice. The English, the French etc. do not neglect *their* language. That great master of French prose, Voltaire, once said about French : 'C'est une chienne de langue ; je ne l'apprendrai jamais'. (It is a very difficult language ; I shall never learn it.)

A civilized language must be capable of expressing anything. If Tamil is not, it is a sign that it is half dead, and that it is not a minute too early to revive it ; not so much to revive the ancient Tamil learning as to put life into the modern language and make it develop.

There is no harm in incorporating a few international technical terms in Tamil, if necessary. Only there is no reason to use the *English* form, which sounds definitely *strange* in the Tamil context. The origin of most technical terms is Greek or Latin. Why not use transliteration of the original word, with Tamil endings etc? I felt quite happy some weeks ago, when in a church I heard the pastor speak about மிசியோனரிகள் instead of மிஷினரிகள். It is more true both to the Latin 'missionarius' and to the genius of Tamil itself.

I hope that the day will never come, when college teachers and students will be satisfied with *only* Tamil books. It is impossible to translate everything of importance into the language of a fairly small group of people. Who would meet the expenses? And where get enough people for that superhuman task?

There is no reason why Tamil as the medium of instruction should hinder people from learning English *also*. European university students are taught in their own mother tongue, but they also read books in at least English, German and French. A good passive (hearing and reading and writing) knowledge of English is all that is necessary for most educated people in India. Fluent speech is necessary only for the few who go abroad, and they will then easily acquire it. When in Tamilnad, it is the duty of the foreigners to learn to speak Tamil, and not of the Tamilians to speak English ; and we would all have learnt it, if the Tamilians had taken a firmer attitude in the matter and had at the same time shown greater willingness to help us by encouraging us to speak Tamil, correcting our mistakes.

A change that could very easily be introduced immediately, is to allow students to write their examinations in their mother tongue, if they want to do so. After all, that is their birth-right. That does not mean that they should not study textbooks in English also. (But there should be at least one textbook in Tamil in each subject, to help the students to acquire the suitable vocabulary and the habit of expressing themselves in Tamil.) Teachers in colleges within their own language area should also be *allowed* to *lecture* in their mother tongue. But it should be regarded as an advantage to have other teachers *also* (from other parts of India and from foreign countries), lecturing in English.

Some people here say that if students hear English lectures and read English books, they cannot afterwards express the same things in Tamil. That is very revealing. It shows *either* that Tamil is a backward language (in which case it is urgent to develop it) *or* that people are too lazy to try to find adequate expressions in their own mother tongue (which is all but criminal), *or* that students are used to learning the *words*, not the *contents*, of books (which is probably the correct explanation, and the saddest one).

Because the medium of instruction in schools is Tamil and in colleges English, most students find themselves in the position of not really knowing *any* language at all. And nobody who knows how intimately thought and language are related to each other, will be surprised at the disastrous effects that such a state of affairs has on the *thinking* of the students. *Either* the medium of instruction should be English also in schools (which I hope no Indian patriot will wish), *or* the medium must continue to be Tamil also in colleges.

INGRID WILHELMSSON.

Abhinavagupta*

A Literary Critic of Kashmir

(Circa 1050 A.D. to 1130 A.D.)

Broadcast in Kannada on 31 August 1953 from Madras

by U. VENKATAKRISHNA RAO,

Associate Professor of Samskrit

Though this great literary critic has not written any independent literary treatise, his position, as the authoritative interpreter of the important basic text-books of Bharata and Ānandavardhana, is analogous to the unique position of Patanjali in Grammar, or Sri Samkara in Vedānta. If in the Vedānta, three basic text-books are regarded as the Prasthānatraya or the starting points for all discussions, we might similarly characterise Bharata's Nāṭyaśāstra (as interpreted by Abhinava's Bhāratī), Ānandavardhana's Dhvanyāloka and Mammata's Kāvya-prakāśa as the three basic text-books in literary criticism. Among these, we know nothing about the time or the country wherein Bharata lived; possibly he might have flourished in 2nd or 3rd century B.C.; leaving him for the present (for aught we know, he also might have been a Kashmirian), the other three, Ānandavardhana (9th century A.D.), Abhinava (10th century A.D.) and Mammata (12th century A.D.) were all Kashmirians; if we prepare a list of the Kashmirian critics, we might be surprised to find that more than 80% of them hail from this lovely land of the lakes, so much as that we might even assert that this science of literary criticism is practically bequeathed to us by that country just as we have to look up to that country alone for our saffron, one of the synonyms of which, according to our standard dictionary of synonyms, the Amarakośa, is Kāshmīrajanmā or born in Kashmir. No wonder then that we take our hats off to these Kashmirian critics at the very commencement of our studies as reverentially as we do to the grammatical trio Pāṇini, Vararuchi and Patanjali.

This Abhinavagupta, who dominated the entire critical studies after him, was even more famous in his own day in philosophical circles and was a Holy Pontiff, a Paramahansa Parivrajakāchārya like Sri Samkara. His full name was Mahāmaheśvarāchārya Srimadabhinava Guptapāda. He was a mighty exponent of Kashmirian Saivism and even here, his commentary on the Pratyabhijñā system is the most authoritative exposition of that system even today. Like our great Vedantic teachers, he has commented upon the Bhagavadgita also. His 23 books are listed in the preface to his commentary on the Lochana or 'eye' on Ānandavardhana's Dhvanyāloka, but as already remarked, the most famous are his expositions of Bharata and Ānanda. Three volumes of the first along with the text of the Nāṭyaśāstra are published in the Gaekwad Oriental series at Baroda and the fourth part is awaited with great interest. The commentary on the first three chapters of Ānandavardhana's text has also been published by the Nirnayasāgara Press of Bombay in 1911 and the commentary on the last chapter has been published recently by Dr S. K. De in the Calcutta Department of Letters published by the University. From the Pratyabhijñā commentary we understand that he wrote the work in the Kashmir Laukika era 4115 which reckoned in the Christian era, supplies us his date as about the latter half of the 10th century. His profundity of scholarship in Alamkāra (literary criticism), Vedānta and Nyāya Philosophy was unrivalled and he was himself an excellent poet. If we scan the works ascribed to him, we can easily see that he has himself composed poems both in Samskrit and Prakrit. In his two famous commentaries on Bharata and Ānanda, he has quoted profusely his own slokas and also those of his two

revered gurus, Bhaṭṭa Tauta and Bhaṭṭendurāja, who were also like him both excellent poets and critics. This then is our unique fortune—each and every one of our best poets was a profound critic and conversely all our critics were excellent poets also. We might satisfy ourselves on this point by noting that our critics like Bhāmaha, Daṇḍin, Vidyanātha, Jayadeva and many others composed their critical treatises in first-rate poetry. Our greatest poets like Vālmiki, Kālidāsa, Bhāravi, Bhavabhūti were also eminent critics. This fact is suggested by Abhinava in his commentary on the verse Ś'ak V. 2 of Kalidasa (which he quotes in his Nāṭyaśāstra commentary). We might contrast this with the position in English literature where this unique combination of creation and criticism is found only in Coleridge and Matthew Arnold.

When Bharata, the earliest critic declared 'Vibhāvānubhāvavyabhichārisamyogādrasaniṣpattiḥ', we can easily understand therefrom that he had already addressed himself even in the era before Christ to the unravelling of the soul of literature. According to him, drama was the best literary form. Abhinava it was who commented on this sūtra and brought out its implications correctly. Other previous commentators were lured by external embellishments to the extent of identifying them with the soul. Bhāmaha, another Kashmirian of the 7th century A.D. referred to the figures of speech as the soul of literature. His younger contemporary perhaps and hailing from the South in Kanchi or modern Conjeevaram, Daṇḍin extolled literary Guṇas' or virtues as the soul. In the beginning of the next century, Vāmana, yet another Kashmirian, emphasised exquisite collocation of words into Vaidarbhi, Pāñchali Ritis or styles. These were all enamoured by external embellishments and could not lay their finger on the real soul. It was reserved for yet another Kashmirian Ānandavardhana, the prince of critics (850 A.D.) to declare, in the very first verse of his thought-provoking monumental treatise, Dhvanyāloka, that the soul was literary suggestion or the 'unspoken' element (for which he invented a new word, Dhvani). This new theory revolutionised the literary circles and provided the impetus and incentive needed for literary studies. It rendered the 'bounds of poetic genius immense' (to use his own phrase). Abhinava, another Kashmirian in the next century provided a golden dome, as it were, to this literary 'Tajmahal' so artistically prepared by the critics. He clubbed it with Rasa or literary sentiment, suggested in literature and declared that Rasadhvani was the best literature. According to him, his Dhvani or suggestive Kāvya was of three types, Rasa, Alamkāra (figure of speech) and Vastu (matter of fact description). He thus provided an X-Ray photo, as it were, for our mental processes. This was accepted without demur by all critics afterwards. Bharata's Rasasūtra quoted above was commented upon by Bhaṭṭa Lolāṭa, Sri Śankuka, Bhaṭṭa Nāyaka, but Abhinava criticised their various theories and propounded his theory that rasa is suggested in the readers' or spectators' minds. At this stage, he asserts, the difference between the actor, and the spectator mysteriously vanishes, as a result of a wonderful universalisation effected by the magic of literature.

The persons qualified to adjudge poetry were designated by him Sahṛdayas. They are defined as those whose minds were rendered sufficiently responsive by constant reading so as to enable them to identify themselves, with the object described. This Sahṛdayatva or capacity to properly evaluate literature is capable of 'transforming the hardest stone into the sweetest sugar cane' and is capable of flood-lighting the entire world even to the point of making us drowned in delight. Abhinava's unique method makes this quality divine and he starts his Dhvanyāloka commentary with an invocation to this divine quality. This Sahṛdaya Chamatkāra or literary delight provided a touchstone, as it were, for the testing of literary compositions in literary circles after him and the credit for coining this new idea and getting it universally approved in literary assemblies of the day must be reserved for him alone. This Sahṛdayata properly nurtured enables the poet according to him to be a Viśvakavi or World-poet.

Kshemendra, a literary polymath who composed a famous work on literary criticism Aūchitya Vichāracharchā and composed compendia of the Brhatkathā, and our two national

* By kind permission of the Station Director, A.I.R., Madras.

epics, acknowledges Abhinava as his Guru. Another great literary critic of almost the same time, Hemachandra, who was the author of the *Kāvyaṇuśāsana*, passes off so many sentences of Abhinava as his own that the conclusion seems to be irresistible that he might have also been his student. Later critics like Mammāṭa, Viśvanātha, Vidyādhara and others acknowledge Abhinava as the highest tribunal of authority and accept his statements without question. This is enough testimony for the honoured place accorded to him in literary circles.

Fifth Madras State Conference of Social Work

A Retrospect

I was fortunate in that I had the pleasant duty of representing the Rural Service League in the Conference. There were only three student delegates, I being one.

On the 24th of September, I left for Vellore. At Katpadi railway station, the Conference volunteers received me and I was escorted into a waiting special bus, and in about half an hour I was in the midst of lovely hills being housed in a spacious room in the mens' hostel of Vellore Medical College. Though tired after a tedious journey, I did not retire to bed for new faces attracted my attention, and it was rather late in the night when I felt that a short sleep would do me good for the next day.

On Friday morning, after breakfast, which was served in the womens' hostel dining room, we delegates assembled in the beautifully decorated shamiana which was situated on the Medical College Hill. The function began with the playing of the National Anthem. His Excellency the Governor inaugurated the Conference. He however was the chairman of the group that discussed the subject of tribal welfare. The day's session came to an end after lunch when the various group chairmen had made their preliminary remarks about the procedures to be followed in their group discussions. After tea, visits were arranged to the Vellore Medical College Hospital and the exhibition in Voorhees College. A banquet was held at night to honour His Excellency and the delegates. The programme for the day came to a close after a very good entertainment.

On the 26th morning, the delegates were taken to the Katpadi farm. The Governor preceded us in the visit. The management of the farm made all arrangements so that within the very limited time at our disposal we were able to see many things, including the poultry and the Japanese way of paddy cultivation. After light refreshments provided by the management of the farm we left for the venue of the Conference. The delegates divided themselves into several groups namely Tribal Welfare, presided over by His Excellency the Governor; Social Welfare in Industry led by Shri Pattahbi Rama Rao; Welfare in Industry guided by Shri Krishna Rao; Social Defence presided over by Shri Gopala Reddi; and Social Work Training Courses led by Miss Spentz, Director of the School of Social Work, Delhi. Each group deliberated at length on many problems facing the social worker, with bearings on the subject under discussion, and ably guided by eminent men who read papers on specific problems. After a day's discussion, the various committees recommended to the general body certain resolutions. After very serious discussions and with a quick tea we were back in the bus to proceed to the Central Jail in Vellore. It was indeed a thrilling experience to see the prisoners engaged in fruitful labour. The leather works hummed with activity, as the various mechanical gadgets were working, coupled with the activities of the prisoners. The tailoring department, the carpentry section and the weaving section were other places where very productive work is being carried on. After returning from this visit we had a sumptuous dinner.

The last day of the Conference was a very busy one. Some were seen in the hunt for autographs, a few others were keen to get a picture record. In the cool morning we set off

to Ranipet. Here the Ladies' Club members gave us a rousing reception. After a short stay here we proceeded to Parry and Company. In this place there were the huge lead chambers, and other apparatus necessary for the preparation of Sulphuric acid industrially. The porcelain manufacturing section was quite interesting. After having snacks which were provided by the management of the Company we did a dash to the venue of the Conference. We were behind schedule, but did not miss much of the open session. We were soon plunged in lively and at times heated discussions that arose as a result of the resolutions. After the concluding address by Shri B. Gopala Reddi, the Chairman of the Conference, and vote of thanks, the eventful Conference came to a close.

I consider the Conference to be a great success in that it brought about a unity among those who were present. There was no sort of distinction or discrimination, but all rallied round to make the Conference a roaring success. One noteworthy fact is, among those who were present as delegates and others there were men with conflicting ideologies and belonging to various social groups and possessing diverse views, but nothing goes to prove that they were not unanimous in their decisions. The arrangements were of an excellent order, catering was very good, and all the credit goes to the reception committee and to the Hon. Secretary of the Indian Conference of Social Work, Madras Branch, Mrs Mary Clubwala Jadhav. While in Vellore I made very valuable acquaintances. The delegates were very sociable. The volunteers did their duty well, and to the credit of everyone it should be mentioned that the profit I received was immense. I feel that more students should avail themselves of such opportunities, so that not only the persons concerned but also the country could benefit.

T. JEEVARATNAM,
General Secretary,
Rural Service League.

Trip to the South

On the last day of the first term, a party of 18 set out on an 8-day trip to the South, organised by the Natural History Society under the guidance of Dr Joshua and Mr G. Phanuel, of the Zoology Department. Our plan was to visit some interesting places of South India, like Cape Comorin, Trivandrum (Capital of Travancore), the Indian naval base of Cochin, and Ponmudi hill station, and to carry out some field work. Our eagerness and zeal were without bounds, and so all of us hoped to make the best of the occasion.

We dropped from the Tuticorin Express, after some 20 hours' journey along the East Coast, at Tirunelveli, where our bus was waiting for us, bound for Nagercoil. This last town is only 12 miles from the Cape, which we reached at sunset the same day. Cape Comorin is famous in India, as everybody knows, as the only place in the country from which both sunset and sunrise can be observed clearly on the horizon. The beauty of the place, the scenery on both land and sea, gives an idea of Nature's fragrant beauty and the richness and splendour of its secrets. The two boulder-like rocks of the place which form the southernmost point of our subcontinent, can be easily seen; actually, they cannot be reached on foot even at low tide, and, even by boat to cross the intervening 100 yards stretch of fairly deep turbulent water, is impossible. At the jutting point of the mainland lies the large temple of Devi Kumari, partly subterranean and partly adorning the place with its huge and vast front, facing the ocean. On the left of it lies the village, consisting of humble hamlets along the rugged coast, and some tall buildings here and there. On the other side can be seen the public swimming-pool of sea water, and beyond it a long stretch of beach, of dark, grey and white sand, strewn with rocks of all sizes, firmly fixed and glossy through everlasting washing of the incessant breakers. The land rises abruptly here, and walking along the adjoining sun-burnt

sand is not wholly pleasant. Here the road ends, and the traveller has to climb one of the many hillocks to be conscious of his surroundings. We could not make a long stay at the Cape, so postponing our sentimental desires to a later opportunity, we set out by bus, for Trivandrum, Capital of Travancore. This city seems to be one of the most magnificent and lovely in South India. It is so well set-up and arranged, that we were completely deceived, for it appeared to be the contrary of what we expected. Our first object was to have a good examination of the Zoo and museum, both of which are too well equipped and vast to be compared to our meek ones in Madras. At the centre of the province lie the University College and its Hostels, of which there are not less than 6, with 250 residents each. A few miles to the coast, we arrived at the Marine Research Station, where is also an aquarium, kept in the dark and between air-conditioned walls. The latter is one of the most prominent features of the City. Leaving most of our luggage behind, we 'rushed up' to Ponmudi hill station. Actually, this is only a tea-estate, but, like all hilly regions, it serves as a health resort. Reaching the summit and admiring the beauty of the place, we thought ourselves luckier than Tensing, as he could see but snow around him and had to hurry down after 15 minutes; but we could perceive the estate and village at our feet and the vast sinewy routes cutting through the green vegetation all around. We gratefully accepted the proposal to stay the night with all the mosquitoes, leeches and snakes for company on the ground, and the stars above. Our host, Dr Major Nathan, a very charming and obliging personality and a college mate of Dr Joshua's, favoured us with all the necessities of which we were in great need—among them, let it be mentioned a host of blankets to help us pass the night, at its stubborn 60°F, quite cheerfully in his house.

Parting is really a tragic sequence to sorrow, except when made in a 'rush'. So, no sooner had we left Ponmudi than our attention was drawn towards our new town of call: Quilon. This is where the land of backwaters begins. Travelling by night, our train had to cross an alley of dim reflected shadows, with the gracious moon above us dancing even in the regular ripples below us. At this place is another Marine Fisheries Station, where we had the good luck to see a Dinosaur's skeleton, the different parts of which had been assembled from the sea by the staff. The lighthouse, being very near, offered a good view of the countryside and surroundings. To describe these would be like showing the demarcation between the moon's and the earth's atmospheres: westward, lies the open ocean, while the opposite side shows another sea—of coconut trees, as far as our sight could reach; it is really blue versus green.

Now we come to the last place to visit, on our programme, that is, Cochin and its harbour. Observing the same rush, and changing bus for boat, we crossed the backwaters up to Alleppey, a full night's journey, and we proceeded again by land. We made it a point to visit the harbour, which is very vast and full of islets, including an artificial island near Fort Cochin. Here, we saw and entered the Jew's town and synagogue, and the Maharajah's College. After that, a boat took us twelve miles out to the Prawn Research Station, passing the most important units of the Indian Navy namely, I.N.S. Rana, Ranjit, Rajput, Calicut, and Delhi, anchored there. We could notice the innumerable groups of fishermen, engaged in net fishing on the bank, while on the other side of us were others in their one-seat catamaran, still and sometimes drowsing under their mushroom-shaped hat. At times, we would come across some ferry-boat, calling at one of its stops, or darting across to the opposite bank.

Satisfied and having had our fill of sightseeing, we cared but for some rest, after this, but what rest is possible when there is always the same 'rush'. So we had to rush for our train to Madras, with some wailing over home, which they had missed to join the excursion, and others bailing to the sound of improvised drumming and humming.

HEMLALL BHANJAN,
Cl I—Gr ii.



By courtesy of Press Information Bureau

N.C.C. CADETS AT WORK ON RAMMED EARTH HOUSES



Photo News Agency

THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE MAYOR OF MADRAS SEE HOW A RAMMED EARTH HOUSE IS BUILT

Rammed Earth

On the 13th of September, early in the morning, Tambaram station witnessed a group of sturdy young men, clad in neat khaki uniforms and laden with kit bags and rifles getting into the train. People took them to be regular army men, but they were really the more valiant part of our college. The batch consisted of about 55 Cadets of the National Cadet Corps and was bound for the Combined Cadre Camp at Chetput. In previous years there have been Cadre Camps in the Michaelmas vacation where potential N.C.O's (Non-Commissioned Officers) got trained before they rose to higher ranks. But this year the camp had new features. In the first place it was a combined camp, held for all battalions of our province except the 3rd Madras Battalion N.C.C. (Andhra). (They had to lend their disciplined helping hand in the Godavari Relief work.) Secondly, the object of the camp was social service. The Corporation of Madras planned to construct one hundred well-ventilated thatched houses in the Thangal near Shenoy Nagar, so as to provide accommodation for the slum-dwellers in that area at cheap rates of rent. No. 2 circle N.C.C. took on the task of providing free manual labour. Thirdly, the camp was under canvas. All, from the big brass hats to the lowest lascar, lived in tents, pitched in the grounds of Pachaiyappa's College.

It was a novel experience to every one of us when we settled in our small tents in the afternoon, a few hours after our arrival at the camp area. We spent the rest of the day making ourselves familiar with the camp site, and wondering when we should begin the work.

Next day, we marched off to the work spot early in the morning where Wing Comd. Satyanarayana, O.C. of the Camp, spoke to us, explaining the significance of the work we had gone there to do and the part young men had to play in the reconstruction of our country, and then the Mayor of Madras, Mr T. Chengalvaroyan, very eloquently addressed us, expressing the gratitude of the Corporation for our voluntary labour. We all wondered how we who had never had any construction experience were going to build a colony of 100 houses. But soon the engineering part of the Corps explained the task before us.

The work was simple and did not require any skill in masonry. We dug the ground to the depth of one foot according to a given plan, then filled it with wet mixture. The mixture was made by mixing together twelve parts of dry earth, four parts of sand, ten pounds of lime and six pounds of cement. It was mixed dry and over this water was sprinkled. Sprinkling continued till all the mixture was moist enough to become a hard ball when pressed in the hand. The wet mixture was rammed till it became hard enough to give a 'metallic sound'. Over this foundation, we fixed a hollow iron frame-work to form a trough and then filled it with mixture and rammed it as before. When the level of the rammed surface reached the brim of the trough, another similar frame-work was fixed over the former one, so as to make another trough over the rammed surface. Thus by ramming and fixing, the walls rose in layers. On the first layer, a door formed by four cement plates was fixed. When the third layer was three quarters finished, two windows (cement structures with vertical iron bars) were erected. The construction stopped at the completion of the fifth layer.

As soon as the work began, the monsoon rains poured down and for about three days, the work was almost completely suspended. Many of our tents were flooded, but we faced bravely all the discomforts of tent-life, and made ourselves as comfortable as we possibly could. Fortunately, nature co-operated with us in our work and after three days of rain, the work was resumed with new strength and enthusiasm. We laboured together with excellent team spirit. Blisters appeared on soft hands, skin peeled off our backs because of the exposure to the scorching sun, but this could not get the better of our sense of social service. It was hard to work in the burning sun for hours, sometimes without a break, but soon we adjusted ourselves to the new situation. In a short time, we found ourselves specializing in the

various branches of labour. Some became experts in ramming, some in mixing while others proved to be specialists in fixing up frame-work. Water-carrying, cart-pulling, earth-sieving were taken up with the seriousness of a sincere labourer and we accomplished the work given to us in record time. The element of competition was introduced when it was announced that the builders of the best house would be awarded a prize. We mobilized all our resources, and spiritedly worked under the able organisation of our Officer Commanding, Lt. Sargurudoss. We succeeded in coming first in the competition, but had to share the prize with Anantapur Independent Company who deserve congratulations for their competitive spirit and diligent work. We had the great honour of having our Prime Minister, Sri Nehru, to inaugurate our tiny colony. The circle presented a guard of honour and he inspected it and appreciated the smart turn out. The Prime Minister took a keen interest in the processes of construction. It was a matter of pride to every one of us to receive the prize (a model of a thatched house in silver) from the Prime Minister. The prize for the best organisation was awarded to Lt. Sargurudoss, our beloved O.C. who regardless of his age and rank identified himself with us and inspired us by his hard work.

Any account of the Camp will be incomplete without mentioning the life in the Camp and the distinguished visitors. As we were in the heart of the City, we had the modern amenities of electricity and water supply. The corporation very kindly lit the Camp with street-lights. Arrangements for bathing were good. There was a continual supply of water in the taps, unlike at Tambaram. Two big furnished tents with a road separating them served as dining halls. We had to cross the road and sometimes crows pinched an item or two from the unguarded plates. The tailor, the dhoby, the barber and the cobbler also contributed their share to the smooth running of the camp. The camp also was well of equipped with an excellent telephone system. To run a huge camp of 1,500 cadets and officers requires efficient organisation, and the officers in charge of the camp very ably discharged their duties. The food which was not good at the beginning of the camp improved slowly. Every night we had either a full-length film show or an entertainment besides our 'Baila' fun which relieved our fatigue. It might be expected that many would fall ill in those hard circumstances, but very few visited the medical room.

Lt.-Col. Veerendrasinghi, Director of the N.C.C., and Sri Rajagopalachariar, the Chief Minister, were among those who visited the camp. They appreciated our effort to promote social welfare. The director said that it was the seventh time the Corps had taken up a social service project and the amount of work done on previous occasions far exceeded the work planned. He especially made reference to the widening of a canal near Delhi and the actual work done amounted to twice what was expected. He praised us all for showing keen interest in the rebuilding of the country and wished us all success. The Chief Minister also spoke in praise of us but some felt his speech was a trifle discouraging.

There was some grumbling in the beginning of the Camp, but everyone was glad to see the new colony spring up. Hard though it was, even the weakest of us bore everything with a smile. We had a few recruits (first year men) and I am sure they were thrilled by the new experience.

As Cadets from all the corners of the province came, the Camp provided an ideal atmosphere to make lasting friendships. Cadets from Mangalore, Annamalainagar and a few from City Colleges formed a part of one of our sections, and we enjoyed their company both on the work site and in the camp. They also share with us the joy of winning the prize.

At last, having learnt the dignity of labour, we returned mentally alert and physically strong to the more comfortable life of Tambaram with a noble feeling of achievement—the achievement of social service, however small it may be.

M. D. JAYARAJU,
Company Sergeant-Major.

Volunteering in the Natural Science Exhibition

The natural science department held an exhibition last term. The volunteers from the different classes, the Professor, and the lecturer in charge, Mr Giles Lal, met about a month before the day, to make arrangements for the exhibition. A cup of tea warmed up the members and they set to work. Suggestions came up in quick succession and work was assigned to each volunteer. Thereafter they met every Wednesday at 5 p.m. The arrangements were finalised on the Wednesday previous to 24th August when the exhibition was held. The volunteers set to work in earnest during the last week to assemble the specimens.

The exhibition was held on 24th August. The volunteers assembled in the Anderson Hall and started arranging all the specimens to be exhibited. The specimens were arranged in the most attractive way that the volunteers could think of at that time. There were of course some small breakages. The exhibition was thrown open to the visitors at 11.30.

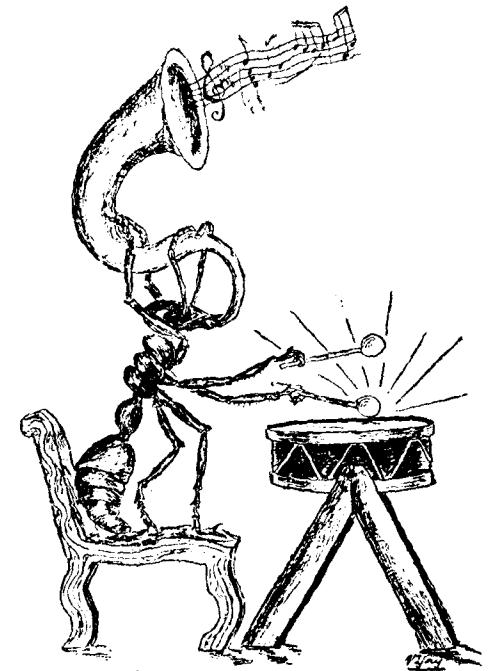
The artist did a very good job, and the posters stuck up, compelled, I am sure many students to visit the exhibition. The visitors walked round seeing at first the different types of

spiders, then the vegetables and shells arranged to form common designs, next the 'Try your luck' table where some lucky people received valuable presents like shells and sponges, then the experiments section, which seemed to attract many people, then the fancy objects made out of crab shells and scales of fishes. Most of the visitors had their blood examined and were told to which type of blood theirs belonged. The nutrition department of the Women's Christian College also exhibited some tests by which they found out the mineral contents in the common foodstuffs. Some live animals including a baby crocodile and snakes were also exhibited. There were many other exhibits besides those mentioned above.

The visitors were also able to see a rare fish, the angel fish, and many others more common. They were brought by the Fisheries department of the Government of Madras.

Some of the visitors had no questions to ask, but some appeared inclined to exhaust the limited knowledge of the volunteer. But the volunteers were not so easily outdone; they made full use of their imagination and for their success relied on the ignorance of the questioner. The blaring of the radio was quite often the reason for the volunteers not hearing questions, for which they could not give a correct reply. Such questions were very rare, and they were asked by a few people, who wanted 'to show off' as we say, to their friends. The flow of visitors increased in the afternoon, and the volunteers had plenty to do.

There were film shows at regular intervals. The Quiz programme was the greatest attraction of the evening. The absence of a microphone was a real handicap. The participants assembled on the stage and immediately everybody in the hall gathered together. The fortunate people in the front appeared to be enjoying the whole performance. The unfortunate ones at the back of whom I was one, had to be satisfied with the sight of the actions, the beaming face and expression of Mr Macnicol the quiz-master. But we did enjoy it, for we laughed along with the others.



One of the drawings which adorned the poster painted by K. V. Vijayamadhavan for the Natural Science Exhibition.

The crowd thinned by about five thirty and then came the work of carrying all the specimens to the laboratory. The day was a success, mostly due to the effort of the professor. Now that it was over, spirits ran high and one could hear them all singing away with a hearty goodwill. It was a tiring day, though I only came to realise it after I reached home, but it was a happy day. Do not lose the next chance you get of becoming a volunteer, it is fun, I can assure you.

C. K. EAPEN,
Class II, Gr. ii.

Whither Peace ?

There is a great deal of pessimism and a sense of frustration in India and the World, and both can be understood, for events have dealt with men harshly and the future is not very promising. Leaders function at the top trying to achieve peace, but they are driven hither and thither by the perverse actions, now at one side and then at the other. Today a race is in progress between the peaceful forces and those of disruption and disaster. We can view this prospect as optimists or pessimists, according to our own predilections and mental make-up. Those who have a faith in a moral ordering of the Universe and of the ultimate triumph of virtue can function as onlookers or as helpers, and cast their burden on God. Others will have to carry that burden on their own weak shoulders, hoping for the best and preparing for the worst.

The conflict between Communism and the democratic forces which had for the past few years been in a state of Cold War, took a violent turn in the Korean War, and for a moment it seemed as if Russia and America were about to plunge into a World War. But fortunately for them and for other peace-loving nations, they realised in time the futility of war. With the help of neutrals an armistice was signed. But there is a long way to go still, and one wonders whether peace, lasting peace, can be achieved under the existing conditions in the world. No doubt, nations seem to have learnt lessons from history and realised that war does not yield dividends, nor does it ultimately bring peace. They seem to have become aware of the fact that history always repeats itself. The World War I was waged with the object of achieving lasting peace ; but when it ended, what did it succeed in achieving ? To the vanquished, it brought a bitter sense of humiliation and a passionate anger against their foes, and with it a determination to wreak vengeance in due course for the insult and humiliation which had been inflicted on them. To the victors, it gave a sense of superiority which led them more and more to pursue their former policy of exploitation of the already exploited colonies. And then came the Second World War. The horrors of this war were more terrible. The war could have been won even without the use of the Atom Bomb. But no ! Man had to pay the price for his over-intelligence which had invented it. The horrors which this weapon could perpetrate on mankind had so far been enlarged upon only theoretically. The inventors gave a warning of the probable fruits of this terrible weapon which their ingenious brains had devised. But Hiroshima was Atom-Bombed. Why ? Shall we ever know the answer ? Well, anyway, peace of a sort was achieved.

The aftermath we are experiencing today. The danger of atomic war is a real thing today. Russia and America both claim to have a store of atom-bombs. And what is more, as if the horrors of atom-bombs were not enough, Russia claims success in producing the H. Bomb too ! Each nation has begun to fear and distrust the other. Our ancient books tell us that the greatest gift for an individual or a nation is 'abhaya' or fearlessness, not merely bodily courage but the absence of fear from mind. Today America and the supposedly 'free world' is oppressed with fear—pervasive, oppressing, strangling fear,—the fear of communism. This fear has built up phantoms which are more fearsome than reality itself, for reality when closely scanned and calmly analysed and its consequences willingly

accepted loses much of its fear. Fear is a close companion to falsehood. This makes a nation feel that the overpowering need of the moment is to justify one's own actions and blacken those of the enemy. This to a large extent has contributed to the tension in the world. Such an attitude has to be abandoned, if there is to be any hope for peace. Mere hurling of invective by the opposite parties hardly helps in achieving peace.

How then, can the black pall of fear of communism be lifted from men's shoulders ? How can it be combated ? And how is peace to be achieved ? There are various approaches to the problem—political, economic, social.

Say the political leaders—by negotiations, arbitrations, R.T.C's: well and good. But solid results can be achieved only if both the sides respect each other. And the conditions today are hardly promising. Day in and day out we hear the Yankee drawl trying to blacken Russia on the slightest pretext, while on the other hand Russia indulges almost as freely in hurling invective with equal vehemence. This unreasonable hatred of each other hardly makes it palatable to either to gather at a R.T.C. and make a sincere effort to thrash out the problems.

And so the first need of today is for every nation to take upon itself the primary duty of inculcating in the minds of its citizens the importance of giving, what Bertrand Russell calls 'respect for the individual'. Peoples of all nations should be taught something greater than loyalty to their own nations—loyalty to Man as Man, as an embodiment of certain values.

From the economic point of view, the path to peace is through World Mutual Aid ; the formation of a World Aid Pool of mutual aid which would become the enemy of arms expenditure, and which would also be able to go some way to meet the case for mutual inspection of arms production of participant nations.

But the greatest need today, is more than anything else to raise the moral standards of men. Men of the modern world are struck with the strange disease of modern life, with its sick hurry and divided aims. Their heads are over-taxed with too much intelligence, while the hearts are palsied. Science has succeeded in meeting almost every material need of man. But Man does not live by bread alone or by learning alone. Something else is needed to satisfy the spiritual longings of man, or he will most surely sink into the abysses of despair. And so the need today is to inculcate in the minds of men a belief in the existence of God and impressing on their minds the fact that religion arises not from the fear and selfishness of men, nor due to the escapist tendency in man, but out of a principle deep and permanent in the constitution of man. Men must be made to understand that religion is a philosophy founded on sound human reason and is a necessary explanation of the facts of spiritual experience. For in Religion lies the antidote to Communism. Banning and burning of communist literature can never succeed in destroying communism. Banning of communist literature only makes the youth rebel against the suppression and to seek just out of curiosity the forbidden fruit. The only way of achieving any solid results is by being patient and having faith in the inherent goodness of man. It is necessary that governments should be made to realise that man is a blessed creature endowed with both temperance and reason, so that he can be his own chooser. No man has it in his power to condemn any thing outright as evil. Good and evil are so closely interwoven that it is impossible to condemn anything. For example no one can help being attracted by the ideals of communism and being fascinated by the amazing and prodigious effort of Russia and China to create a new world out of the dregs of the old. But a thorough knowledge of its practices and its sickeningly materialistic ideology will only serve to bring into striking contrast the glories of true democracy. Moreover, as Milton says 'We cannot praise a fugitive and cloistered virtue, unexercised and unbreathed, that never sallies out and sees her adversary but slinks out of the race, where that immortal garland is to be run for, not without dust and heat.'

Thus, if democracy has to be established in the world on a lasting basis, the world has to be built on a religious basis, in which will flourish democracy meaning spiritual good manners, democracy meaning understanding other religions and trying to find out how they also

in their own way further the same end, democracy meaning the emphasis of the dignity of human individual, and a need for active, universal love; democracy meaning mutual assistance of nature and substantial aid in assisting the building up of welfare states; democracy meaning the extension of democratic liberty to the peoples who do not possess it; democracy meaning freedom from political domination, from economic exploitation, from racial discrimination—such a type of ideal democracy will come 'when reaction is not supported, when privilege is not protected, when alliances are not made with corrupt and non-representative administrations (like those of Rhee and Chiang Kai-Shek), when confusion is not made between stability and maintenance of status quo, when impressions are not created that drastic revolutions are being effected, by which human beings can breathe freely and live freely,' and when peaceful changes are effected which will ultimately lead to the development of a progressive and prosperous world. Then and only then will men have succeeded in establishing true democracy and lasting peace.

B. ANJANI DEVI.

The Art of Speaking

Want to get up on the platform? Oh yes, you do, otherwise you wouldn't have started reading this. But, before you begin, let me warn you, my dear reader, that I am in no position to offer you a sugar-coated pill, the swallowing of which will transform you into a modern Cicero.

Aristotle, I am told, formulated his principles after the study of the history of 158 constitutions and so I too intended to write this article, à la Aristotle, after a study of 158 speakers. This aim of mine, however, could not be realised. I could get hold of only 157 speakers. This, after all, does not make much of a difference and it is only proper that I should allow the 'father of Political Science' to excel me by at least a single point.

Now, without any further introduction or explanation let's get down to brass tacks at once. In the first place let us analyse the purpose behind the endeavour to conquer the subtle art of rhetoric. Bacon said, 'Speaking maketh a ready man' and 'writing an exact man.' The biographies of great orators convince us that the tongue is mightier than the sword. Mark Antony's funeral oration over the body of Julius Caesar is perhaps the best example to illustrate the dynamic power of rhetoric.

Benjamin Franklin in his autobiography relates how he was influenced by one Mr. Whitefield an eloquent preacher. 'I happened soon after to attend one of his sermons, in the course of which I perceived he intended to finish with a collection, and I silently resolved he should get nothing from me. I had in my pocket a handful of copper money, three or four silver dollars, and five pistoles in gold. As he proceeded I began to soften, and concluded to give the coppers. Another stroke of his oratory made me ashamed of that, and determined me to give the silver; and he finished so admirably, that I emptied my pocket wholly into the collector's dish, gold and all.'

Examples like these inspire us with a desire to practise speaking but the tyro is often confronted with the problem of stage fright. 'If only' he moans, 'I could get rid of that pain in the left!' Well, if you happen to be one of them don't be despondent.

Listen to what Helen Partridge has to say. 'All experienced speakers have cut their teeth on stage fright. Preliminary panic is a natural but not insurmountable obstacle which you'll learn to take in your stride.' 'Any beginner' warned Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States more than 40 years ago, 'is apt to have "buck fever"'. Lloyd George, John Bright and even Mark Twain were half scared to death when they made their maiden speeches. All you need is to have PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE and 'buck fever' will get rid of itself. Before you begin, just one more instruction. Throw all the books on public speaking into the fire. The best way to learn swimming is to plunge into the water and similarly the best way to learn speaking is to dash for the platform at the earliest opportunity.

Before I begin with the golden rules of speaking, permit me ladies and gentlemen to give a brief description of the speakers whom I have analysed. According to my classification all the 157 speakers come under seven main categories.

First, we have the orator, whose gaze, to begin with, is fixed at the Chairman. Slowly he turns towards the audience, then towards the Chairman and back again to the audience. He continues this alternating rotary movement with the almost accurate precision of an oscillating table fan which is designed to turn towards every member of the room.

Next we have the speaker who hardly speaks a single sentence without addressing the Chairman. For him, the Chairman is the fountain of all wisdom, and the source of all inspiration. Right to the end he flatters the Chairman. 'Mr Chairman, you know, that so and so uttered such and such a thing... Isn't it obvious Mr Chairman that... Finally with the permission of the Chairman I conclude that...' God bless the Chairman!

Then there is the simple pendulum who shifts the weight of his body from one foot to the other like a tired horse with the almost perfect timing of a 'second's pendulum' as a student of physics would describe it.

The next one is the raconteur. He begins with a Pat and Mike Story. Almost every book on 'Public Speaking' warns the reader to desist from such stories. Recently a speaker started with the story of a goat, and take it from me, he paid heavily for it. This, however, is a fault not of the story but of the narration. It is the way it is told that makes it a success. Every man is not a Mark Twain. Ninety-nine men out of a hundred will fail woeefully with the identical stories that made Mark Twain famous. On the other hand some references to the remarks of other speakers or to some observed incongruity is likely to succeed better. 'That brand of humour is forty times more likely to succeed than stale jokes about Pat and Mike, or mother-in-law or a goat.' Oscar Wilde, once, had the predicament of facing an audience dressed in all sorts of funny costumes, evidently intended to embarrass the great playwright who indulged in a bit of dandyism. He stood silent for a moment and then gave a jolt to the audience by remarking that 'caricature is the tribute which mediocrity pays to genius.'

Then we have the apologist who begins with a sheepish apology. 'I am no speaker.... I am not prepared to talk.... I have nothing to say.... I feel very nervous.... As a matter of fact the secretary forced me to speak today and it is not of my own volition that I undertook to speak.' Don't! Don't! For Heaven's sake do not begin with an apology. The opening words of a poem by Kipling are: 'There's no use in going further.' That is exactly what the audience feels when you open in that fashion. Even if it is your debut speak as though you have spoken a dozen times before. It is confidence alone that can tame your audience.

Closely allied to the apologist is the Addisonian (if I may use that term). He prefaces every remark with an 'It seems to me', or 'perhaps' or 'in my humble opinion' or 'I conceive... I apprehend', etc., etc. I heard a speaker once remark 'Behind me, in the theatre, there seemed to be a group of girls...' Now, there is no seeming about girls. They either are or are not. And it does not require extraordinary powers to recognise a batch of girls when one sees them. Beware of using such words. They are 'weasel words' according to Theodore Roosevelt. Remember what happened to Addison when he 'conceived thrice' and let not history repeat itself.

Finally we have the soda bottle orator, to use a colloquial phrase. He talks of everything except what he is expected to. If the topic is 'Co-education in Indian Universities' he delights in waxing eloquent on foreign domination and the rest and is quite satisfied with just a passing reference to the topic under discussion. Soda bottle oratory is ever on the increase and it is the outcome of the lack of good preparation.

'Speak not at all, in any wise,' said Thomas Carlyle, 'till you have somewhat to speak.' If you neglect preparation, you will find that there are three versions of your speech: the one that you prepared; the one that you delivered, and the one that you wish, on your way home, that you had delivered.

Further, pronunciation is something which plays a key role in the art of rhetoric but is very often neglected. What a delight it is to listen to the speaker who pronounces each and every word distinctly. Here again there is nothing to be alarmed at. Imitation of certain announcers over the radio will help a great deal in acquiring stylish up-to-date pronunciation. Jimmy of Radio Ceylon is a favourite with many. There are also some ace announcers over the A.I.R. who will also prove useful for this purpose.

A good closing, again, undoubtedly leaves a lasting impression on the audience. The golden rule according to George Cohan is 'Always leave them laughing, when you say good-bye.'

Small discussion groups such as we have in our College are the ideal training ground for the beginner. Benjamin Franklin relates how a small discussion group called the Junto proved to be useful in discussing Morals, Politics and other serious topics.

A danger that usually besets a speaker is the predicament of confronting hecklers. If such a critical situation arises a quick repartee will not only save the speaker's face but will also abash the heckler. This of course is no easy task. It requires individuality and a subtle sense of humour. Here are a few examples.

Once when Henry Ward Beecher was in the midst of an eloquent political speech some wag in the audience crowed like a cock. It was done to perfection and the audience was convulsed with laughter. The great orator's friends felt uneasy as to his reception of the interruption.

But Mr Beecher stood perfectly calm. He stopped speaking, listened till the crowing ceased, and while the audience was laughing he pulled out his watch. Then he said: 'That's strange. My watch says it is only ten o'clock. But there can't be any mistake about it. It must be morning, for the instincts of the lower animals are absolutely infallible.'

A story is told of Lloyd George while he was addressing his constituents on an important occasion, a young woman in the audience stood up and remarked with the frankness and audacity of youth: 'Mr George, there are two things about you I dislike very much.'

'And what are they?'

'Your Politics and your moustache.'

He looked deep into her eyes for a moment and then replied with a lofty air. 'My dear, pray do not disturb yourself. You are not likely to come into contact with either.'

A young sceptic in the congregation once interrupted Billy Sunday with the question 'Who was Cain's wife?'

The Evangelist answered in all seriousness: 'I honour every seeker after knowledge of the truth. But I have a word of warning for this questioner. Don't risk losing salvation by too much inquiring after other men's wives.'

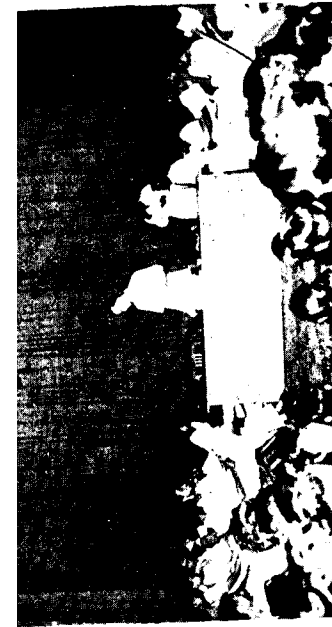
Once a political candidate in an election campaign said, 'We must grow more wheat and —.' A heckler at once remarked, 'Yes, but what about hay?' The candidate immediately replied, 'I'm discussing human food now, but I'll come to your speciality in a moment.'

Sometimes it may be the other way round. A speaker was getting tired of being interrupted. 'We seem to have a great many fools here tonight,' he said. 'Wouldn't it be advisable to hear one at a time?' 'Yes,' said a voice, 'get on with your speech.'

The more you practise, the easier the task of speaking becomes. Beyond a stage you get the confidence and then even extempore speeches become a matter of child's play.

Now let me conclude with a word of consolation to those who find all the foregoing rules to be wet ammunition. Don't be dejected. Many great men have not been good speakers. Karl Marx could hardly speak. Even Benjamin Franklin was not a good speaker. Here is his own testimony: 'I was but a bad speaker, never eloquent, subject to much hesitation in my choice of words, hardly correct in language, and yet I generally carried my points.'

K. J. JOSEPH.
4th Hons. (Economics).



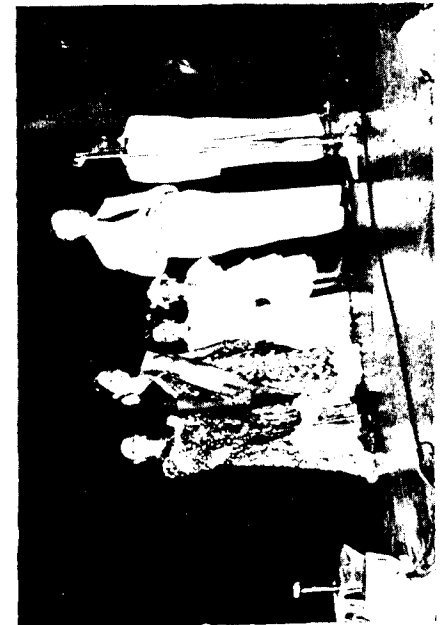
Rev. R. S. Macnicol and quiz team at the National Science Exhibition.



The Governor inspects the Guard of Honour presented by the N.C.C.



Scholars of R. S. L. School at Selayur Hall on Independence Day.



The Principal thanks the artists at the R. S. L. annual entertainment.



Some autographed photographs collected by D. Henry Thiagaraj : including the Governor of Madras, the President of the U. N. Assembly, the Presidents of France and of Egypt, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, and the Ambassador of Nepal to India, and his wife.

Hobbies

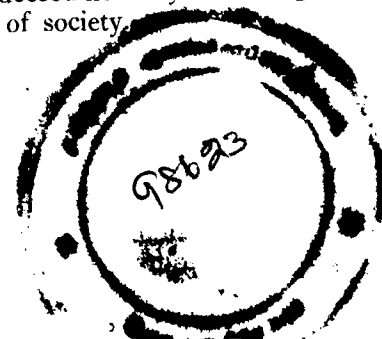
'There is a pleasure in painting which none but painters know,' says Hazlitt in his essay 'On the Pleasure of Painting'. And like him, I am tempted to say that, 'There is a pleasure in stamp-collecting which only a stamp-collector knows.' Stamp-collecting is a fairly common hobby among teenagers. But I wonder how many know the 'essentials' of this hobby. It does not do for one merely to collect a large number of stamps. One must also know how to study each stamp, how to clean it, and fix it in the album. There is a history behind every stamp. At times the stamped envelopes having a peculiar stamp prove to be more valuable than the stamp. For example, the envelope which I received from Gen. Nguib of Egypt had three stripes on the face of the abdicated king as a sign of the abdication. Such things are important and worth remembering. And indeed he is a proud possessor who can claim to know the history of every stamp in his collection.

Another favourite hobby of mine is photography. There is a notion among some that it is a costly hobby, but I would rather call it a modern and scientific hobby. I realized the value of photography as an apprentice in a Studio. It was thus that I cultivated an interest in science, for in photography you learn a bit of physics, a bit of chemistry and something of mathematics too ! Strange, you would say. But it is a fact. For when you study the use of light, lenses and the mechanism of the camera, you are studying physics; when you are learning the effects of chemicals and their compounds and composition in developing and printing a photograph, you are learning chemistry ; and when you calculate time exposure, you have a try at maths ! So there you are ! And I am sure most of you will agree with me when I say that photography is the best and the most interesting hobby any science student can have.

I have not done with my hobbies as yet. I have some more. I am collecting ' Journals of the World ', autographed photographs of world personalities, etc. There is a notion that the great personalities of the world seldom send their autographed photographs. But to tell you the truth, I have been very successful in my attempts, and can boast of having so far collected autographed photographs from the Presidents of three Republics, the President of the U.N. Assembly, and four Commonwealth Prime Ministers. Some of their photos are shown opposite this page.

I edited a manuscript magazine ' Chandra ', and sent it to the various embassies in New Delhi and to several Colleges. It has secured commendation and praise from several well-known statesmen. In it I had asked Dr Radhakrishnan a question—' What is your advice to the teenager ? ' And he wrote in it—' Let each one do some work instead of talking '. And so there is the motto for every student. Let each one try to employ his leisure in developing his hobbies, and he will succeed not only in making his life an interesting one, but also in becoming a useful member of society.

D. HENRY THIAGARAJ.



The Letters of John Keats

The Letters of Keats are certainly the most important and the most interesting ever written by any English poet. His own comment on the sonnets of Shakespeare in a letter to J. H. Reynolds dated 22nd November 1817 could be applied to his own letters: 'They seem to be full of fine things said unintentionally.' Indeed they are: for packed in them between trifle and trifle, never obtrusive, never destroying the tone of the letter are innumerable remarks by a poet about his own craft, about the world and in fact about everything that interested him or any of his correspondents. And the opinions on matters of common interest of a man of sensitivity are always of value and interest to the rest of mankind.

It is in his letters that a man is most frank; and when it is to people whom he loves and admires that he writes, nothing can trammel the ingenuous expression of the deepest feelings of his heart. There is a quality of intimacy about the letters of Keats: we feel his proximity when we read them. Like 'The Prelude' of Wordsworth the 'Letters' are of great autobiographical value. They tell us with an intensity that is absent in 'The Prelude' the story of the last creative years of the poet's life. The world is never a happy place for a man of extreme sensitivity, such as a poet usually is, to live in: it would appear to him always cruel and bitter; and thoughts of distress will always oppress his mind. Often the tenuous partition between sanity and insanity is stretched and strained by the weight of unhappy thoughts. Keats was such a man: his delicate spirit underwent the severest of trials; and the weakness of his body that made him a victim to disease increased his suffering. The letters are, in a way, the safety valves of his consciousness: his oppressed spirit found relief in the expression of his experiences in them.

Keats died when he was twenty-five: his creative life lasted for only five years. But in this short period he wrote poems that will like the plays of Shakespeare be always contemporary. In the letters we are told the miraculous and moving story of these five years. His correspondents form an interesting assortment of people: Charles Cowden Clarke to whom he owed his first initiation into poetry; J. H. Reynolds; B. R. Haydon the painter; Leigh Hunt the brilliant poet-journalist; John Taylor his publisher; Benjamin Bailey whom Keats considered 'one of the noblest men alive'; his brothers George and Thomas Keats, his sister Fanny; and Fanny Browne whom he loved almost fanatically. 'I will imagine you Venus tonight and pray, pray, pray to your star like a heathen' he wrote to her on the 25th of July 1819.

The 'Letters' also let us into Keats' poetic workshop. We see him at work with the materials at his disposal. We see him striving to find words to express exactly emotions he experiences and wishes to communicate to others through poetry. We see him exhausted under the strain of hours of hard work. From April 1817 to April 1818 Keats struggled with 'Endymion' his first major work. To write a long narrative poem is not an easy thing: the poet's inspiration flags and he finds it impossible to embody in it his many moods and feelings with that intensity and that depth of feeling that makes a good poem what it is. Keats was conscious of the difficulties that lay before him when he began the poem. On 10th May 1817 he writes to Leigh Hunt 'I began my poem a fortnight since.... Perhaps I have done a good deal for the time but it appears such a Pin's point to me.... When I consider that so many of these Pin points go to form a Bodkin point and that it requires a thousand bodkins to make a spear bright enough to throw any light to posterity—I see nothing but continual uphill journeying.' Keats hoped that this poem would establish his reputation as a poet. This it did to a small extent in spite of its many defects. The poem is invertebrate in structure; its poetic value rests mainly on a few passages that reveal his unusual capacity for sensual perception and infatuation for beauty. By September 1817 Keats had begun to

grow tired of the poem. 'I am tired of it' he writes to Haydon on the 28th of September 'all the good I expect from my employment this Summer is the fruit of experience which I hope to gather in my next poem.' He attempts to justify the length of the poem in a letter to Benjamin Bailey on the 8th of October 1817. 'Do not lovers of poetry like to have a little region to wander in where they may pick and choose.... Besides a long poem is a test of invention. This same invention seems of late years to have been forgotten as a poetical excellence.' True, no doubt but one is apt while wandering through the flower-bordered mazes of poetic beauty in 'Endymion' to be lulled to sleep by the fragrant breezes of euphonic and sensual beauty. When Endymion was published the critics of Blackwood's magazine and the 'Quarterly' attacked it mercilessly. Keats, strangely enough, was indifferent to these attacks. Perhaps it was because he himself did not see much that merited praise in the poem. To him it was 'the slipshod Endymion.... written independently; and without judgement.'¹ But the attackers were hypercritical: they were blind to the patches of beauty in the poem.

'Isabella' belongs to the 'Endymion' period and though technically superior shares with it the signs of immaturity. Six months later Keats began 'Hyperion'. It is obvious on studying this poem that 'the leap headlong' that Keats had made 'into the sea Endymion' and his knowledge of 'the soundings and quicksands and the rocks' had produced results. For 'Hyperion' though incomplete shows a marked improvement. In 1819 Keats wrote his best poems, 'The Eve of St. Agnes,' 'The Eve of St. Mark' and the 'Odes'. In a letter to George and Georgiana Keats begun on the 14th of February and completed only on 3rd May Keats writes 'I was nearly a fortnight at Mr John Snooks and a few days at old Mr Dilkes,.... nothing worth speaking of happened at either place.... I took down some thin paper and wrote on it a little poem called "St. Agnes Eve".' Keats is modest: to him nothing worth speaking of happened although he had written one of the most beautiful poems in all English literature. 'St. Agnes Eve' is, to use that much discussed yet little understood term coined by the Abbé Bremond, 'pure poetry'. It is a poem of sheer loveliness, a loveliness that is almost palpable. Each word has been carefully selected and has a definite emotional field round it: these fields are recreated easily in the mind of the reader or listener and he has no difficulty in entering into the imaginative experience that gave the poem conception. The poem is the result of 'the innumerable compositions and decompositions which takes place between the intellect and its thousand materials' and in it is enough evidence of 'that trembling, delicate and snailborn perception of beauty'² which is Keats' essential poetic attribute. The Odes are enough by themselves to ensure Keats' place among the English poets. They are magnificent expressions of the mind of a man who yearned more 'for a life of sensations than of thoughts.'³

Unlike Wordsworth and Shelley, Keats wrote no 'Prefaces' or Essays stating his views on poetry. But his letters are an excellent substitute: they are an invaluable record of a poet's observations on his own craft. Though casual and disconnected they are far more delightful to read than either the Prefaces or the 'Defence'. To Keats as to all Romantic poets the imagination is all important. He is convinced that 'What the imagination seizes as beauty must be truth'—'the imagination may be compared to Adam's dream,.... he awoke and found it truth.'³ He believed that men of genius have no determined character. Keats was able, if a sparrow came before his window 'to take part in its existence and pick about the gravel.'³ Mr. Herbert Read in his book 'On Form in Modern Poetry' corroborates this idea of absence of character in a poet. 'Character is an impersonal ideal' he writes, 'which the individual selects and to which he sacrifices all other claims, especially those of the sentiments and emotions. It follows that character must be placed in opposi-

¹ Letter to James Augustus Hessey. Friday 9th Oct. 1818.

² Letter to Haydon. Wed. 8th April 1818.

³ Letter to Benjamin Bailey. Sat. Nov. 22. 1817.

tion to personality, . . . the general common denominator of the sentiments and emotions. Poetry, including all lyrical impulses whatsoever, is the product of personality and is therefore inhibited in a character.' The poet's mind should act as a catalyst, causing the combination of the innumerable phrases, images, feelings that are stored within it. Mr T. S. Eliot believes that it is 'a finely perfected medium in which special, or very varied feelings are at liberty to enter into new combinations.' The most singular of moods can find expression in a poet's mind : it is wrong to expect a work of art to reveal anything of its creator.

Keats disliked poetry that is obtrusively didactic. On the 3rd of February 1818 he writes in a letter to J. H. Reynolds: 'We hate poetry that has a palpable design upon us. . . . Poetry should be great and unobtrusive, a thing which enters into one's soul. How beautiful are the retired flowers ! How would they lose their beauty were they to throng into the highway crying out, "Admire me. I am a violet !—dote upon me. I am a primrose." ' Again in a letter to his publisher John Taylor on the 27th of February 1818 we find a few more of his remarks on poetry. 'In poetry I have a few axioms. . . .

1st. I think poetry should surprise by a fine excess and not by singularity. . . . It should strike the reader as a wording of his own highest thoughts and appear almost a remembrance.

2nd. Its touches of beauty should never be halfway thereby making the reader breathless instead of content.

3rd. If poetry come not as naturally as the leaves to a tree it had better not come at all.'

In other words poetry should be written as Keats wrote it in his best poems.

A poet is an individual whose sensitivity and whose emotional maturity make him not less but far more human than his fellows. He is able to understand, sympathise, love to a greater degree than others. John Keats like all other poets was intensely human. Nowhere is this revealed more clearly than in his letters. The delight with which he describes his Scottish tour is the delight of a happy child. In a letter to Thomas Keats dated 29th June 1818 he describes what he saw in a Scottish country dancing school : 'they kick it and jump it with mettle extraordinary, and whisk it and frisk it and toed it and go'd it, and twirled it and wheel'd it and stamped it and sweated it, tattooing the floor like mad.' There is no mistaking the childish yet human quality in that. His ingenuousness, his sincerity as revealed in his letters are truly *human* qualities. There is never a trace of deceit, of intentional duplicity in any of them.

Man in his simplicity, in his humanity, is intuitively conscious of the immortality of something within him. He is also intensely conscious of the spiritual world. If he is not it is because custom and tradition, knowledge and an indifference to the existence of God have formed a crust round his humanity. The spiritual is known and felt to be real ; spiritual entities can almost be weighed in the palms of one's hands. And Keats was always conscious of the immortality of that imperishable part of himself—the soul. 'I have scarce a doubt of immortality of some nature or other' he writes to George and Georgiana Keats on 16th December 1818. Keats died in the Spring of 1821. He wrote poems whose place in literature is assured. Biographies tell us little of what we would want to know of Keats. Two hundred and forty-one letters of his have been published. There can be no other authority on Keats but Keats himself. The 'Letters' tell us as no biography can ever tell us the story of the life of Keats.

GEORGE MATHAI.

5 Hons. Br. vii.

Fifty Years Ago

The Madras Christian College Magazine was first published in 1883. Many less venerable periodicals reprint from time to time extracts from articles first published fifty years ago.

The Magazine in 1903 published articles on Manikka-Vasagar, on Kamban and Jayanikondan, on Tirujnanasambandar, on the Tamil Union Version of Philippians ; and a series of articles by the first (and at that date the only) woman graduate of the college, on Hindu heroines. It published also several poems in Tamil ; and reviews of Tamil novels, then just beginning to be written. But perhaps what would be read with most interest in 1953 is translations from some of the poems of Auvaiyar. We therefore reprint a few of the stanzas which were printed in the Magazine more than fifty years ago.

Translations from Mūthurai of Auvaiyar

As a load, however great
Stony pillars cannot bend,
Yet may by its mighty weight
Even them in ruin rend ;
So the sight of whelming foes
Gathered in the battle-field
Will not daunt the heart of those
Who can die but cannot yield.

The broad-leaved aloe blooms in pride
Yet tiny tulsi breathes more scent,
And though the ocean's boundless tide
Surpasses every continent,
It cannot cleanse our pilgrim feet ;
While on its shores a fountain sweet
Can slake the thirst of noontide heat.
Judge not by stature men at all,
Small may be great and great be small.

To look on those who evil live
A curse doth to the spirit give,
They also gather bane on bane
Who listen to the false and vain,
And much we need to pray for those
Who live among our Father's foes.

Who can use when broken up
A bowl of potter's earth ?
But atoms of a golden cup
Are every one of worth.
The truly great retain true power
In deepest misery hurled,
Ignoble men in ruin's hour
Are useless to the world.

Translations from the Nalvari of Auvaiyar

Men boast of many grades of birth
From Brahma's feet, loins, hands or mouth,
Yet there are but two castes on earth
From snowy North to sunny South,
And these in pages true we find
Are just the selfish and the kind.

O stomach ! thou dost weary me,
How with thee can I happy live ?
For when I've nought thou'lt not agree
That I that day no food should give.
Again when rice for two full days
I would in one day eat the whole,
Thou still thine angry voice wilt raise,
Refusing rest to my poor soul !
To pity never giving place
Allowing me no day of grace.

Two yards of cloth, a bowl of rice
 For simple daily wants suffice ;
 But fops and gluttons, wilful blind,
 Loving the body more than mind,
 Were countless thousands in their store
 Would waste them all and wish for more,
 'Their home-joys all life's anxious day
 Are frail as vessels formed from clay.

Men will not with cries entreat
 When their trees are in their prime
 Bats to come the fruits to eat
 In the genial ripening time,
 For the bats in crowds will come
 Though the owners may be dumb,
 And as kindly mother-cow
 Lets the hand her udders drain,
 So, if any know not how
 To refuse the prayer of pain,
 All the world will claim to be
 Relatives of such as he,
 And like bats the greedy thieves
 Plunder everything but leaves.

To shafts which elephants may pierce
 Soft cotton bales no entrance yield,
 And frequent blows however fierce
 From iron bars that giants wield
 A rock may never rive in twain
 That bursts through force of rooted grain.
 Thus nature doth her children teach
 The power of kind o'er unkind speech.

Translated by E. KEYWOR

Editorial Notes

Names

In this Magazine we strive for accuracy. When, as not infrequently happens, one person is mentioned in reports from the secretaries of two or more societies, and his name is spelt in different ways, we start enquiries as to what the correct name is. Occasionally, after what seems to us like hours of research, we ask the man himself what is the correct form of his name, and he replies 'It doesn't matter'. If he means 'I shall not blame you, nor be angry with you, if you use either of those forms', one feels that is very kind of him. But if he means that he has not made up his own mind, one feels that we have been exerting ourselves to hold up a standard of accuracy, and that he has let it down precisely at the point where it is out of our hands.

There is an old Tamil story of a man who at great expense—both of time and money—changed his name from Perumal to Mahaperumal. Presumably he did not thereafter say that it did not matter whether he was called Perumal or Mahaperumal; nor did he declare his name to be M. Perumal, nor write it Maha Perumal. Maha has, it is true, the nature of an adjective; but it is a *part of his name*—it is not *one of his names*—and therefore his name is written as one word, and not as two words.

If a man's name consists of two parts, which it is desired to distinguish, although the two parts could not separately be described as two of his names, it would seem the natural thing to connect them by a hyphen. Fifty years ago, the Madras Christian College Magazine wrote the name of the great Tamil poet Manikka-Vasagar. It would have been useful if it had become general to put the hyphen in such compound names.

Actually it is less frequent among students today than it was in an earlier generation to receive the answer about a name that it does not matter. But it is quite frequent to find that after a student has assured us quite positively that his name is (let us say) Mahaperumal (continuing to use the example given), he himself quite often writes Perumal, and gives quite a headache to anyone who looks for his name among the P's in any alphabetical list.

Our enquiries, as to why names are spelt in the ways they are, receive, in a surprising number of cases, the answer that a mistake was made by the clerk in the office of the previous college; or by a Registrar of Births; or that on the first day of school, some dozen years ago, an uncle accompanied the boy, and not having been informed what name the parents had bestowed, the uncle invented one on the spur of the moment, and that name duly went through school, was written on the School Leaving Certificate, and became the name in the university records. Some might think that with so many mistakes in the past, it would not matter too much if we added a few more. We are inclined however to take the opposite view, namely, that since so many students take great pains to preserve the official form of their names, whatever its origin, it is up to us to cooperate in giving the correct forms of every name.

It is indeed part of the loving concern we want to show to all our friends to give them the correct forms of their names, especially when the names have been consecrated by being handed down from earlier generations. And the differences in names can be of real historic interest: it is of great interest to find a name, which, in the accepted transliteration of South India, would have 'd', is written with 'th', or with 'ei' instead of 'e'—it is of great interest, if we learn that the name was given in Ceylon (or some other place), and conforms to the transliteration there. But if the differences are due to a whim, which is not even constant, one feels that such names are not serving the main purpose of a name—to be a means of identification (and of differentiation from all other persons).

Rajaji has recently published a proposed scheme of transliteration for quotations from Tamil, which shows how important it is felt to be to have a standard system of transliteration.

But in Madras although there is not a complete accepted scheme of transliteration, there are accepted forms for common name-endings, such as -murti, -swami, and -das; and it should be possible when someone's name is spelt with a variant of any of these, to conclude that there is some significant reason for the variation.

College Day

To the College Day, on Thursday 20th August, the Governor of the State, Mr Sri Prakash, very kindly came. He presided and gave away the prizes, in the crowded Anderson Hall.

At the College Day Association meeting, after tea with the new graduates, Mr Justice Basheer Ahmed Syed presided, Mr K. S. Ranga Rao proposed the health of the new graduates, and Mr J. K. Jacob replied.

In commenting on the Principal's Report (printed in this number of the *Magazine*), the Governor told us that he had had two years after finishing his school course, before he was old enough to enter the university; and that these years had been profitably spent, in reading widely books in his father's library, and in physical training.

News of Old Students

Sri O. PULLA REDDI, I.C.S., has become the first Chief Secretary to the Government of the Andhra State.

Dr. P. B. PATNAIK has become a professor in the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta.

T. PONNAIYA (1947-52) sat for the I.A.S. examination in September 1952, and has been selected for the I.P.S., and the Central Services, and will soon be going for training as Assistant Superintendent of Police.

M. CHANDRA NAIR was successful in the same examination, and is undergoing training in New Delhi.

A. S. P. GIFT (1950-53) is lecturer in mathematics in American College, Madurai.

P. DURAIPANDIAN (1951-53) is lecturer in mathematics in Sangameshwar College, Sholapur. He was married on 29th October to Miss A. Lakshmi, Assistant Lecturer in Mathematics, Queen Mary's College.

K. GEORGE CHACKO, a former Literary Editor of this Magazine, Secretary of the Heber Literary and Debating Society and the Atheneum, was recently in Tambaram on his way to the U.S.A. He has gone to Princeton to take his doctorate in Economics. He has for several years been on the editorial staff of 'Capital', in Calcutta.

The following old students have entered medical colleges:

Madras Medical College

Miss UMA BAL.
MEHAR SINGH.
M. K. MANI.
M. G. KINI.
D. SAM WILLIE.
GURU RAJA RAO.
S. MAHADEVAN.
S. KANNAN.
G. KUMARAVELU.

C. A. ABRAHAM.
A. V. KRISHNAN.
S. D. JOG.
D. S. J. HARIHARAN.
K. P. GOPINATH.
Vasant PANDIT.
P. SIDDHARTH.
C. P. VASUDEVAN (for B.D.S.)

Stanley Medical College

B. MICHAEL JOHN.
R. VENKATAPPAN.
M. SANKARAN KUTTY.
Babu Rajan JAMES.

Gwalior

PERDAMAN SINGH.

Glancy Medical College, Amritsar

GURCHARAN SINGH.

Mysore Medical College

SYED ASIF.

Christian Medical College, Vellore

A. Benedict KARAT.
Michael D. JOHN.
Doss SUDARSANAM.

Miss Kelsie BONNELL and Mrs MEERABAI SHENOY are teaching in Visalakshi College for Women, Udumalpet, Miss K. RUKMANI in Fatima College, Madurai, Miss Ingrid WILHEMSON, Miss NESTA SMITH and Miss Joyce BONNELL in Lady Doak College, Madurai, Miss Sarojini HENRY in Sarah Tucker College, Palamcottah, Miss Ernesteen PRASAD in Stella Maris College, Madras, Miss VANAJAM in Ethiraj College for Women, Madras, Miss Pamela DEVARAJ, Miss Irene SRINIVASAN and Miss Amirtha SAMUEL in the Women's Christian College, Madras.

J. R. RATNANAYAGAM, V. R. AMARASINGHAM, Rajan KADIRGAMAR, S. S. SEBARATNAM, J. A. CHELLIAH, Miss Arunthathy KANAGATHUNGAM, Miss Kamala SUPRAMANIAM, V. PONNAMPALAM, are all teachers in Ceylon.

Staff

Dr P. S. SRINIVASAN, whose departure was briefly reported in the last number of the *Magazine*, has become the chief scientific officer in the defence research establishment at Kanpur.

Mr R. B. JOSHY, Lecturer in Philosophy, has left to take up a teaching appointment in Bombay.

Mr A. T. BALRAJ, who has been with us many years as student, tutor, and lecturer, is leaving us in mid-November, to take up an appointment as education officer under the Government of Malaya.

This academic year we have three new lecturers: Mr B. M. ARTHUR, B.Sc. (Hons.), in Physics; Mr A. OLIVER, B.A. (Hons.), in Philosophy; and Mr S. KRISHNAMURTI, B.A. (Hons.), in Psychology.

And the following new tutors: Messrs C. T. DAVID and K. V. PAUL in English; M. VAIDYANATHAN and V. V. SUBRAMANIAM in Physics; T. DEVANATHAN in Chemistry; P. C. JAYARAMAN in Zoology; B. NARAYANAN in Botany; C. T. KURIEN in History; and E. K. PURUSHOTHAMAN in Malayalam.

The Magazine

Several of last year's editorial committee have fortunately been able to continue this year.

The student editors are GEORGE MATHAI .. *Literary Editor.*
 S. SRINIVASAN .. *News Editor.*
 D. HENRY THIAGARAJ .. *Advertisement Manager.*

Class Editors :

Honours Classes .. Miss ANJANI DEVI.
B.A. and B.Sc. classes .. H. KRISHNA REDDI St Thomas's
Class II .. Vasanth JOSEPH Selaiyur.
Class I .. M. S. DEVANANDAM Bishop Heber.

Student editors have done able editorial work on the student articles ; and worked hard in the collection of college news. Most of the advertisements are due to the enterprise of the new advertisement manager.

Articles, stories, poems, sketches, for the next number of the *Magazine* should be in the hands of the literary editor before the end of January, 1954.

Hall Reports

Selaiyur Hall

The first of July saw Selaiyur Hall coming alive after its long sleep. After an initial period of nervous hesitation, the seniors of the hall fraternised with the juniors wholeheartedly.

The Hall Committee's work has been of such a quality, that out of the two General Body meetings held in the first term, one of them, the second, passed off without even one question or complaint whatsoever. This however does not mean that Selaiyurians are lovers of silence. They do talk at the debates arranged by our efficient Literary and Debating Secretary, they sing and also, I am afraid, howl as musically as the best or the worst in the other two halls.

The entertainment secretary showed his talent for organizing, by getting up good sound entertainment for the Non-residents' Social. The mess secretaries also proved their worth with the splendid dinner the hall gave to the new graduates. The taste still lingers.

Independence Day was celebrated somewhat modestly this year. The flag hoisting was done by Rev. G. C. Martin, and later, at the meeting, a few speeches were given by the seniors. The Kashmir problem and the question of linguistic states were dealt with in a masterly manner. The warden gave his message to the residents, after which the students went and gave the 80 odd R.S.L. schoolchildren a very good time.

This year Selaiyur seems to have done quite well in many spheres. Three to four members of the hall got very high ranks in the university and college in the March 1953 examinations. And now I have my pleasant opportunity to congratulate the following residents on their achievements :

S. Nagarajah—College Union Chairman,
 P. M. Abraham—College Union Secretary,
 George Kutty—Malayalam Association,
 Chairman ; A. B. C. Raj—Tamil Association
 Chairman and many other secretaries and
 chairmen, of the societies in the college.

There are too many names for me to name them all. The big four among the College N.C.O's are also naturally from Selaiyur Hall.

In other departments, like selling R.S.L. tickets etc, we are keeping our old high standards, and who can say, Selaiyur might yet regain the athletic shield this year.

K. B. RAO,
General Secretary.

St. Thomas's Hall

With the return of Rev. J. R. Macphail, we started the year with two former Wardens, Rev. J. R. Macphail and Rev. R. S. Macnicol, with us. We are confident of achieving great things during the year with such stalwarts to guide us, not to mention our genial and zealous Warden.

As is customary, the new-comers were welcomed with the traditional kindness and hospitality and we are indeed proud to have such a jolly lot of Juniors. Their performance on the 'Fresher's Night', which came off on the 10th July was very creditable. The Non-Residents' Social came off on the 22nd July when we were at home to the Non-residents attached to the Hall. After tea, games were held and Mrs Thangaraj distributed prizes to the winners in the various events. A short programme of entertainments followed.

The first session of our Parliament was held on the 17th July, when the office-bearers were sworn-in by the President, Dr M. A. Thangaraj. The Budget for the current year was discussed and adopted by the House. In this and the subsequent sessions of the house, the high traditions of the House were maintained with one of our elected representatives in the chair, fully poised to maintain the dignity and decorum of the house.

On Independence Day, the Warden hoisted the National Flag in the morning and, following this, a meeting was held. All the

members gave up a lunch to feed the poor on that day.

On the 20th August the new Graduates who were former members of the Hall were treated to a grand dinner.

We are proud to have all the members of the College Tennis team in our Hall, not to mention the fact that St. Thomasians form the bulk of the College teams in Cricket and Hockey. There are a good number of Thomasians in the other teams also. Judged from the keenness and enthusiasm of the members with regard to sports and athletic activities, a rosy future is foreseen.

The forthcoming departure of Mr A. T. Balraj will be a sad blow for the Hall. We will miss him in all spheres of Hall life and with heavy hearts we bid him farewell with the fond hope that he will always cherish sweet memories of his association with the Hall.

The high standards of the Hall have been maintained in various spheres of activities and we are sure of the same state of affairs continuing in the future.

S. SRINIVASAN,
General Secretary.

Women Students' Hostel

Report read by the General Secretary on Hostel Day.

Many people wonder why the Women Students' hostel of our College is situated in Guindy. Our College is known as the Madras Christian College, Tambaram, and people naturally ask whether the College is in Madras or in Tambaram. This was causing the Senatus some concern. Our Principal should remember the joy with which he greeted the decision of the senatus that some unit of the College typical of its highest traditions and purposes should be planted half way between Madras and Tambaram—Guindy! The question arose, which unit of the College should be given that privilege of being its finest and best representative and there was no difficulty in finding an answer to that: with one voice the Senatus said 'The Women's Hostel!'

This news somehow got around, and immediately the then Governor of Madras, the Maharajah of Bhavnagar, decided that he would give up his Mount Road house to the noisy legislators of Madras province and would make Guindy his headquarters—a Royal decision with Princely taste! And the same excellent taste has also been shown by his successor Sri Sri Prakasa.

Now coming to the life of our hostel, the Juniors when they first came did not quite appreciate the exalted social atmosphere which prevails here, as they had not completely shaken off the primitive ways they were used to in their previous hostels. To help them out of this unfortunate backwardness, the seniors had to put themselves to considerable inconvenience in arranging a week of initiation exercises, which in ordinary parlance goes by the name of 'ragging'! These were conducted according to the best traditions of our hostel, not following the usual monotony of pillowing and ducking but employing more refined methods that appealed directly to their intellect and emotion. This produced excellent results and ended in a party, at which the Juniors declared their complete identification with the Spirit and tradition of our hostel.

Our next social function, was a party given to the non-residents, at which they were given unmistakable assurance that they were also a vital part of the hostel. In this connection it ought to be mentioned that we have amended our constitution by giving the non-residents a voice in the election of the general secretary.

Our Independence Day celebrations began with a special service in the chapel in which we re-dedicated ourselves to the service of the country. This was followed by a parade, and the hoisting of the flag. In the afternoon, the hostelites gave up their lunch to feed the poor.

August 20th saw us entertaining the graduates. The look of dignity and importance which sat rather uncomfortably on their faces on graduation day was soon cast off in the more genial atmosphere of our hostel, and in the joy of re-union the graduates set aside the dignity of their new state,

Though most men are apt to make disparaging remarks about the intellectual abilities of women, the principal still looks to us to win academic distinction for the College—and this year we are proud to say that we have lived up to his high expectations of us. We have the distinction of having produced two firsts in the University—Meerabai in Philosophy and Kelsie Bonnell in Zoology. Little Uma got a first class in Chemistry. It could be said of her, as of Goldsmith's Village Schoolmaster:

'And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew
That one small head could carry all she knew.'

We also had a host of Second classes: Shanthi Viswasam in Economics, Kamala Supramaniam in Zoology, Ahalya Souri, Sarojini Devavaram and Arunthathy Kanagathungam in Psychology, Ariarani in Botany and Crescentia John in Physics.

This probably has confirmed the opinion that some of you hold, that we girls must be regular 'muggers'. However, we do believe that extra-curricular activities are as essential a part of student life as academic pursuits. Our girls take part in debates organized by the College and by the various halls, and extend their full co-operation in activities such as the R.S.L., the S.C.M. and the Quiz League.

I am sorry to say however, that interest in physical activities is not very keen, though we do have a few swimming enthusiasts who visit the Saidapet Swimming Pool.

Dramatic talent has also found outlet in various entertainments connected with our own hostel as well as the College. We are very proud that Sheila Paranjoti, one of our number, is at present the Secretary of the College Dramatic Society. She is the first woman student to hold this post.

We welcome Mrs Kibble who was away on furlough last year, back once again as our warden. Her sympathy, understanding and genuine interest in us has endeared her to every one of us.

During her absence, Mrs Macnicol ably filled her place, and we thank her very much indeed for that.

To 'mother' us in the hostel we have

the genial Mrs Thomas, who manages her thirty-two children with a firm but loving hand. Her understanding and tact make hostel life very pleasant for us.

To help her look after us, we have Miss Baliah. The skill with which she unravels knotty mathematical problems is evident also in her handling of our problems! We must thank her for her enthusiastic co-operation in all hostel activities.

Rema and the twins add the homely touch to the atmosphere. Our quizzing abilities have improved I am sure for we are perpetually quizzing as to which of the twins is which!

No account of our hostel life would be complete without mention of our Chapel. We have services of worship both in the morning and evening; morning services conducted by a member of staff and evening services taken by the students in turn. We consider these services an important and integral part of our Hostel life.

And thus we go on, . . . studying, playing and worshipping together. Believing in 'Non sibi sed omnibus'—Not for self, but for all.

RANJINI PITHAVADIAN,
General Secretary.

Bishop Heber Hall

The year started with the initiation of the freshers into the Hall. After the ceremony was over the newcomers entertained the seniors in the mess. At a hat-night held a few days later both juniors and seniors spoke on interesting and amusing subjects.

The non-residents attached to Heber form an integral part of the Hall. The residents entertained them at a Social held in their honour on the 22nd of July. The tea was good; and the entertainment excellent, thanks to our Entertainment Secretary, Justin James.

On August 15 Independence Day was celebrated. The national flag was hoisted in the Hall quadrangle. After a speech by the chairman the children from the R.S.L. School sang a few simple songs. They were then divided into groups for games; a large number of Heberians joined in the fun.

The 20th of August saw the return to Heber of many Heberians who had graduated the year before. They were glad to be back in their old Hall. After dinner they were called upon to sing, and to tell the residents of what they had been doing since they left college.

Preparations for Hall Day are going on apace. Singular constructions are being built in various corners of the Hall. We are

sure the Hall Day this year is going to be one of the best.

A report of our activities cannot be complete without mention being made of our warden. Without him Heber would never be what it is—a happy, hardworking band of young men.

SAM D. D. THOMAS
General Secretary.

Societies

The College Union

The office-bearers of the College Union for the current academic year were elected during the third week of July, 1953.

S. Nagarajah of 5 Hons. Br. VII was unanimously elected the Student-Chairman. There was a contest for the Secretaryship in which P. M. Abraham of 5 Hons Br. IV came out winner.

On August 11th, a debate was held under the auspices of the College Union to select four members to constitute the College Debating Team for the present year. As many as fifteen students participated in a very interesting discussion on the proposition: 'The fundamental defect of Indian University education is the lack of proper co-education'. T. K. Benjamin, Shanmuga Sigamony, K. J. Joseph and Neelakantan were selected. While offering them our best wishes, let us wish them the best of luck in their future battles. We are deeply grateful to Mr G. C. Martin, Mr S. Subbarama Aiyar and Mr T. K. Thomas who acted as judges.

The activities of the College Union for the year were formally inaugurated by Mr C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister, Govt. of Madras, on August 18th. Mr Subramaniam, in a short and interesting speech, touched upon some of the important problems of the day and showed how a satisfactory solution for the unemployment problem depended upon a proper system of education. The present system produced young men with knowledge but without aptitude for any manual work. The generation which fought for and won freedom was fast fading out and the responsibility of building a new India on secure foundations rests on the young men of the day. The present educational system, according to Mr Subramaniam, has failed to equip young men to play their proper role. He hoped that the new elementary education scheme would go a long way in rectifying the defects of the present system. The

Student-Chairman in his concluding remarks associated himself with the hopes expressed by the Minister with regard to the new education scheme.

The next meeting was held on August 26th when Dr Frances Moran, President of the International Federation of University Women, addressed the College Union. She detailed the system of education in her country, Ireland, and we were struck by the close similarity between their system of education and ours. She drew a pointed similarity between Ireland and India in that both countries were trying to enforce the national language as the medium of instruction. In conclusion, Dr Moran reminded university students of the duty they owed to the less fortunate sections of our society. It is only when those sections also are given a fair deal that India will be able to safeguard her freedom which she had won after more than two hundred years of struggle and sacrifice.

On September 1st a crowded Anderson Hall heard Mr V. V. Giri, Union Minister for Labour, speak on 'Citizenship'. In the unavoidable absence of the Student-Chairman, Rev. A. J. Boyd presided over the meeting. Mr Giri began by stressing the importance of building individual character and discipline which in turn would lead to the building of national character and discipline. One of the primary duties of the modern state was to provide full employment for its citizens. This has been fully realised by the National Planning Commission and the attainment of full employment has been made one of the main objectives of our Five Year Plan. But this is not going to be an easy job. Mr Giri discussed the problem of unemployment in all its aspects and enumerated a number of remedial measures. The minister concluded by appealing to all sections of people and schools of thought to sink their differences and to put their heads together to banish this spectre of unemployment which was haunting our infant state.

Rev. A. J. Boyd in his concluding remarks underlined the need for the building of national character and said that the fundamental asset of a nation rested in the character of its citizens willing to accept responsibilities along with privileges and to discharge responsibilities with fidelity and honour.

We have been closely associated with the Madras branch of the World University Service of which Dr A. L. Mudaliar is the President and Dr M. A. Thangaraj the Vice-President. We are one of the colleges which are going to be benefited soon by our connection with this body. A mobile X-Ray unit, whose services the students can use free of charge, is due to visit our college soon, probably before the end of this month (October). In course of time we hope to acquaint the members of the Union more fully with the activities of the World University Service.

As these lines are being written, brisk preparations are being made for celebrating the United Nations Day which falls on October 24.

P. M. ABRAHAM,
Secretary.

English Honours Association

The election of office-bearers for the new academic year took place on 8th July. The following were elected.

Student-Chairman: George Mathai

Secretary: S. Narayanan Nair

Assistant Secretary: Miss Hepsie David

Rev. J. R. Macphail, M.A., was elected patron for the year.

The inaugural meeting of the Association was held on Tuesday, 4th August. Miss Margaret Moore, of the department of English, Women's Christian College, spoke on 'Modern Shakespearean Productions in England'. In her speech, she recounted her impressions of the theatrical productions in Shakespeare's birth place, Stratford-on-Avon, and elsewhere in England, where she had been, a couple of months back.

On 25th August, a programme of recorded speech was conducted under the auspices

of the Association. The records included recordings of stage and screen versions of some of the soliloquies from Hamlet, and also some poems by Edward Lear.

The activities of the second term were started with another records-programme, which was held on 14th October. This time the records were extracts from Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales', and a few other pieces of modern poetry.

We have plans for holding symposiums and debates, and if possible, programmes of 'play-reading' during the course of the year. The success of these plans depends upon the enthusiasm and interest shown by the members of the Association.

S. NARAYANAN NAIR,
Secretary.

Physics Association

Contrary to the usual procedure, this year the Radio Club was incorporated in the Physics Association, instead of functioning as a separate body. A new club—the Photographic Club—was also started, both the Photographic and Radio Clubs being wings of the parent body, the Physics Association, but with independent activities and secretaries. It has not been possible yet for the Radio Club to start functioning, but it is confidently expected that it will start working in full swing very soon.

Not much activity was associated with the Physics Association last term. On 29th July, Professor Oscar Scholze, of the M.I.T., Chromepet, delivered the inaugural lecture, on 'Jet Propulsion'. It was an exceedingly interesting lecture and was well attended.

The Photographic Club started functioning with 3 secretaries for 3 batches. The main object of the Club is to provide facilities for its members themselves to learn the arts of developing and printing photographic rolls.

It is expected that several excursions and meetings will be arranged this term under the auspices of the Physics Association.

S. PRABHAKARAN,
Secretary.

Andhra Bhashabhiranjani Sanghamu

The following have been elected as the office-bearers for the year 1953-54.

Patron: Dr S. P. Adinarayan, M.A., PH.D.

President: Sri P. R. P. Francis, M.A.

Vice-President: Sri A.C. Kamakshi Rao,
B.A., B.O.L.

Student-Chairman:

K. Somakonda Reddy (5 Hons.)

Secretary:

Y. Venkata Rami Reddy, IV B.A.

Entertainment Secretary:

G. V. Sanjeevi (IV B.A.)

Assistant Secretary:

M. Raghava Reddy, (II U.C.)

Class representatives:

V. R. Brahmananda Rao (P.G.)

G. Venkata Rama Raju (Hons.)

C. Rami Reddy (B.Sc.)

A. Gnanaprakasam, (III B.A.)

V. Raghunatha Reddy (I U.C.)

We started our activities at the dawn of this year by holding an Informal Meeting on 8th July 1953, when all the new members were welcomed and introduced to the members of the Association.

On 28th July 1953, the inaugural address was delivered by Sri T. Viswanatham, M.L.A., and the Hon'ble D. Sanjeevaiah, Minister for Co-operation and Housing, Government of Madras, presided. They advised the students to work hard for the betterment of the Andhra State and thus add to the prosperity and progress of India. The student-chairman Sri K. Somakonda Reddy welcomed the guests, while the president of the Sanghamu Sri P. R. P. Francis, M.A., introduced them to the gathering.

'The choice of Kurnool as temporary capital of Andhra Desa is in the best interests of the proposed Andhra State' was the subject for discussion on 4th August 1953, when many members enthusiastically took part in the debate. The proposition was carried by a narrow majority of one vote. Sri M. Abel, M.A., presided.

On 12th August 1953, Sri Pilaka Ganapathy Sastri, Sub-Editor of *Bharathi*, spoke on 'The trends in modern Telugu Literature'. Sri P. R. P. Francis presided.

Sri Koduri Achaiah, a well-known cine-actor, spoke on 'The art of acting', on 14th August 1953, in the Anderson Hall. The student-chairman Sri K. Somakonda Reddy presided. After the speech 'Vaddenta Pelli', a one-act play, was enacted by the members of the Sanghamu.

On 1st September 1953, a condolence meeting was held to mourn the death of Sri Suravaran Pratapa Reddy, an eminent scholar in Telugu and Editor of *Golkonda Patrika* a Telugu Daily from Hyderabad. The student-chairman was in the chair.

The inauguration of the Andhra State on 1st October 1953 was celebrated under the presidentship of Sri P. R. P. Francis, M.A.; Sri A. C. Kamakshi Rao, Sri M. Abel, Sri Z. Govindarajulu, and many members spoke on the greatness of Andhra history and culture. Dr A. J. Boyd, Principal, honoured us with his presence at the special dinner, and he wished the Andhra State a bright future.

To mark the birth of the Andhra State, celebrations were held on 10th October 1953 in the Anderson Hall. We had the privilege of having Sri Narla Venkateswara Rao, Editor of *Andhra Prabha*, in the chair and were addressed by an eminent Andhra historian and scholar Sri Mallampalli Somasekhara Sarma and Sri Moturi Satyanarayana, M.L.C. They spoke on the richness of Andhra culture and the Telugu language and wished a bright future for them in the Andhra State.

The student-chairman Sri K. Somakonda Reddy welcomed the guests, while Sri A. C. Kamakshi Rao, Vice-President of the Association, introduced the guests to the audience. The function terminated with a musical entertainment by Srimathi A. P. Komala and Sri K. Mallik.

A debate was held on 15th October 1953 to select a team to represent our college in the various inter-collegiate competitions. The subject for the discussion was 'The division of linguistic States will help the unification of India'. Sri G. Gurunatha Rao, Sri K. Purushottam and Sri S. Venkatarami Reddy were selected. The student-chairman presided. A condolence resolution was passed

touching the death of Sri Alladi Krishnaswami, architect of the Indian Constitution.

My thanks are due to our president Sri P. R. P. Francis, who has been always guiding and helping us with his ripe knowledge in all our activities and to all members of the executive committee and to all members of the Sanghamu for their kind cooperation.

Y. V. RAMI REDDY,
Secretary.

Karnataka Bhashabhivardhini Sangham

The activities of the Karnataka Bhashabhivardhini Sangham began with the first meeting held on 27th July to elect the office-bearers. The following have been elected for the academic year :

President : K. Narasinga Rao, M.A., B.O.L.,
L.T.

Vice-President : G. R. Karat, B.A. (Hons.)

Student-Chairman : B. S. Das, B.A.

General Secretary : V. Raghuchandra
Hebbur

Joint Secretary : G. Robert James

Treasurer : P. Raghavendra Rao

The following have been elected as class representatives :—

Ashok Kumar, Krishnamoorthi, K. A. Belappa and Gurusidda Setty (I. U.C.)
Suchita, I. Srinivasa Bhat (II. U.C.)
P. N. Subramanyan, H. Krishna Reddy, (IV B.A.); K. Raghunath Rai and P. Bhakara Rao Adhikary (B.A. Hons. and P. G. Classes).

Dr M. Mariappa Bhat, Reader in Kannada, University of Madras, delivered the inaugural address of the Association on 21st August. The topic of the lecture was the 'Treasures of Kannada Literature'.

V. RAGHUCHANDRA HEBBAR,
Secretary.

Mathematics Association

I have great pleasure in submitting the report of the Mathematics Association for the first term. The Association met on Wednesday, July 29th, and elected the following office-bearers.

Secretary : K. Raman Unny.

Class representatives:

5 Hons. ... Miss P. Vinodini.

4 Hons. ... K. S. Ramachandramurthy.

3 Hons. ... A. Muthusubramanian.

B.A. Classes ... I. Lakshminarasimhan.

This Association was inaugurated on Friday, 31st July, by Prof. K. B. Madhava, M.A., A.I.A., F.N.I., with Dr Kibble, M.A., PH.D., in the Chair. In his address he created an enthusiasm for the subject of Mathematics, urging the members of the Association to develop a taste for mathematical research. It is needless to mention that the members enjoyed his lecture thoroughly.

V. Radhakrishnan, IV B.Sc., ii, came forward with courage and conviction on Friday, 14th August, to read a paper on 'LEBESGUE INTEGRALS', under the able Chairmanship of Miss Rani Baliah, B.A. (Hons.). He did his best in reading such a difficult subject.

We also had the pleasure of hearing Dr A. Narasinga Rao, M.A., L.T., D.Sc., F.A.S., Professor in the Madras Institute of Technology and former President of the Indian Mathematical Society, on Wednesday, 2nd September, on an important subject 'The Mathematics of Map Making', when Dr Kibble was in the Chair. This was a very interesting and instructive lecture.

I thank all members for their hearty cooperation in our activities.

K. RAMAN UNNY,
Secretary.

Tamil Peravai

The office-bearers for the year 1953-54:—
President: Thiru P. Alalasundaram Chettiar, M.A.

Vice-President: Thiru G. Vadivelayutham, B.A. (Hons.)

Student-Chairman: Thiru Besant Creeper Raj.

Secretary: Thiru T. Karuppiiah.

Asst. Secretary: Thiru S. Dharmasivam.

The following class representatives also constitute the working committee.

Miss Radha Mylvaganam (Ladies.)

G. Shanmugasundaram (B.A. Hons. and P. G. Classes).

S. K. Ramanathan (B.Sc., B.Sc. Hons. Classes).
V. Thambipillai (IV Class).
S. P. Ramachandran (III Class).
Abdul Syed and Kalai (II Class).
Abdul Wahab and Tisaveerasingham (I Class).

The year began on a fresh note—the election of office-bearers was held at the beginning of the first term instead of at the end of the previous year as was our custom. This breach of custom unnecessarily delayed our activities; and we were not able to start work as early as we desired.

The inaugural address of the Tamil Peravai was delivered on 12th August in the Anderson Hall. Hon. S. Sivashanmugham Pillai, M.L.A. (Speaker of Madras Legislative Assembly) presided. He was as lively as ever. He confessed that it was a far easier job to maintain order in the Assembly than to keep students under control. Thiru Periaswamy Thurani, B.A., L.T. (chief editor Tamil Lexicon) popularly known as 'Pe Thooran' in his address, placed an emphasis on 'Change'. Change, he opined, was a law of nature and we should accommodate ourselves to it. Nevertheless we must cherish the good in the old while allowing a free scope to deliberate.

A very interesting debate was held late in the first term. The members showed a profound enthusiasm over it. The subject was 'Send them (women) back to the kitchen'. It was a day of brilliant speeches. Thiru S. Ponnu Dhurai Sargunar who led the proposition was in excellent form. Eloquent as ever his arguments had great force. In spite of his passionate pleas the proposition fell through demonstrating perhaps the goodwill of man towards the fair sex.

The second term started rather on a sorrowful note. We held a 'Condolence Meeting' to mark the passing away of a great Tamil Scholar Thiru V. Kalyanasundaram Mudaliyar known to Tamil Nad as 'Thiru Vi Ka'. Thiru S. Sivakumar, M.A., an intimate friend of the late lamented scholar, spoke on the occasion. In a moving speech he pointed out the loss the Tamil Nad had

sustained at his demise. He told us that Thiru Vi Ka was not only a father of modern Tamil literature, but also was the father of the Madras labour movement. He also pointed us how Thiru Vi Ka made rare combination of Gandhism with Marxism as also with Christianity. Thiru Thiyagaraja Mudaliyar (one of Vi Ka's close associates) and others also addressed the meeting.

On 14th October a debate was held to select the members for the college debating team. The subject was 'The modern system of education is better than the old "Gurukula" system'. M. Sivanantham, S. Ponnu Dhurai Sargunar, A. Arumugham and T. Ponnuthurai were finally selected out of the fifteen who participated.

We have a heavy programme to be put through before the end of this year—the highlights being the Bharathi Day and Pongal Day celebrations. With the enthusiasm displayed by the members and the assurance of their co-operation I am quite confident of success in the year and that our manifold activities this year will prove food for thought and envy for the generations to come.

I am grateful for the very kind guidance of Thiru P. Alalasundaram Chettiar and G. Vadivelayutham. The student-chairman richly deserves a word of praise. In conclusion may I thank all my associates in the working committee for their help.

T. KARUPPIAH,
Secretary.

The History and Politics Association

We began our current academic year by electing the office-bearers of our Association. The following constitute the committee:

President—Prof. Chandran Devanesen, M.A. (Cantab).

Vice-President—Sri M. Abel, M.A.

Student-Chairman—Kumari Mary Henry,
B.A., B.T.,

Secretary—V. S. Williams.

Asst. Secretary—R. T. Thavarajasooriya.

The inaugural meeting was held on 23rd July 1953, the speaker being Dr K. K. Pillai

of the Presidency College. He gave a very thought-provoking and scholarly address on the Religion of Asoka which he asserted was not Buddhism, supporting his thesis with elaborate documentary evidence.

The next meeting was a debate held on 5th August on the subject: 'All statesmen are failures; the future is with the scientists.' A team of U.S. students were with us on that day, though unfortunately they were not able to take part in the same as they were not previously informed. The debate did not prove to be very successful in spite of a very provocative subject and heavy advertisement.

Prof. S. V. Chitty Babu of the Government Arts College addressed us on 3rd September 1953 on a very interesting and instructive topic—'Currents and Cross-currents in Politics'. The speaker was very candid in his dealing with America and Russia.

We could not arrange an excursion to Gingee as circumstances were not propitious and we hope to go there during the second term.

We hope to have a busy time in the next term and thus make our Association a popular and a successful one.

V. S. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

Philosophy Association

When the year was still young the members of the Association met for the election of office-bearers. T. N. Durairaj, Smt. Chandra Devapragasam and J. P. Basker were elected Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary respectively. B. Gopalakrishnamurthy, V. Thomas and Roy Vedamonickam were elected to represent the 3rd, 4th and 5th Honours classes respectively. We are fortunate in having Mr Robert Solomon, M.A., as our President to guide the Association in all its activities. Mr C. T. Krishnamachari, M.A., has kindly consented to be the Patron of the Association.

The inaugural address of the Association was delivered by Dr G. D. Boaz, M.A., Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, University of

Madras, on Friday, 7th August. He gave an interesting and enlightening talk on 'The Psychology of being Grown-up'. Mr J. Robert Solomon, M.A., presided over the meeting.

We all, now, anxiously and full of enthusiasm, look forward to another term.

J. P. BASKER,
Secretary.

The Samskrita Samajam

The activities of the Samajam for the year began with the election of office-bearers which took place on 5th August. Unprecedented scenes of excitement and interest were witnessed during the election and V. Bhaskar Sharma of 4th Hons. Economics was returned as Secretary with a large majority.

The election for the members of the Working Committee followed and

Gopalakrishnan	I U.C.
C. S. Rajan	II U.C.
K. N. Vaidyanathan	III B.A.
D. Ramachandran	IV B.A.
K. T. Sebastian	Honours Classes
Kumari M. Sathi Devi	Ladies' Representative

were elected.

It was unanimously decided by the Working Committee to have a Vice-President from this year onwards, and the choice fell on Sri V. S. Ranganathan, B.A., B.O.L., who has been of great help to the Samajam for a very long time.

The Samajam was formally inaugurated on 14th August by Srimathy Kamalan S. Unny of the Department of Sanskrit, Queen Mary's College. The President and members of the Samajam were at home to Srimathy Unny. The tea party was followed by a meeting in St. Thomas's Hall Theatre, when Srimathy Unny inaugurated the union and spoke on Sanskrit Literature. A large number of members and guests were present.

Srimathy Unny spoke at length on the greatness and potentialities of Sanskrit literature and how great a part it has played in the development of Indian Culture. She gave an illuminating account of the master-

pieces in Sanskrit literature like those of Kalidasa and Bhavabhoothi. She appealed to the young men and women to learn Sanskrit with an ardent zeal.

The President in his concluding remarks endorsed the views expressed by Srimathy Unny.

Under the able guidance of Sri U. Venkatakrisna Rao, M.A., (President), the Samajam has always been a success. The office-bearers of the Samajam hope to have at least two or three meetings for this term and the co-operation of all members is earnestly solicited.

BHASKAR SHARMA,
Secretary.

Quiz League and Youth Forum

President :—Rev. Roy MACNICOL, M.A.
Vice-President :—Mr T. K. THOMAS, M.A.
Captain-Secretary :—K. N. VENKATESAN.

On 11th July, '53, a meeting of the General Body of the above League took place and K. N. Venkatesan 5 Hons. Br. iv, was recommended to be the Captain-Secretary for the current academic year.

An important point about the membership of the League is that members do not pay any subscription. As a matter of fact, every-time they represent the College, they get paid for it.

After five years of continued success, some thought that we might go down to second place. But the enthusiasm and vigour of the members have established a lead in our favour for the first term. We are closely followed by the Law College team, which consists entirely of ex-members of our League including an ex-Captain.

Coming to individual performances, first on the list is Miss Rita Pinto, the senior-most member. Miss Sarah Varghese has helped the League in its critical moments. Peter van de Riet, the Flying Dutchman, is our expert in scientific affairs. G. Venkataraman is a mobile encyclopaedia of sports activities and such other statistical data as are important. K. N. Venkatesan, who with Miss Pinto forms the old guard of the League, has been the mainstay and has scored most of the marks obtained by the League.

It is my duty to thank all the members of the League who have co-operated with me. Mr T. K. Thomas who conducted the Selection Quiz for the first term, has taken a lively interest in the affair of the League and Mr C. T. David has been an able and efficient counsellor and guide. I thank them on behalf of the League.

In the Youth Forum, Raghavendra Prabhu, George Mathai and S. Krishnamoorthy have maintained the prestige of our College. But of late this programme has become dull and spiritless. This is very distressing and we hope something or other will be done to make the discussions more interesting.

I assure well-wishers of the League that the members of the League will do their best to keep up the tradition and prestige of the College.

K. N. VENKATESAN,
Captain-Secretary.

Economics Association

The election of the office-bearers took place early in the first term. The following are the office-bearers for the current academic year :—

President : Prof. Subbarama Aiyar, M.A.
Student-Chairman : P. Bhaskara Rao
Adhikary, II P.G.
Secretary : K. J. Joseph, 4 Hons.
Treasurer : Miss C. K. Chinnamma, 4 Hons.

It is indeed heartening that we have Prof. Subbarama Aiyar, who has always been the lodestar of the Association, as our President. We are also fortunate in having Prof. J. B. Saunders, M.A., B.D., in the Economics Department this year.

The Association began its activities with great enthusiasm. A novel feature this year was the holding of an entertaining introduction ceremony.

The activities of the Association were formally inaugurated on 29th July, when after the customary annual Tea Party, Mr S. K. Chettur, I.C.S., Secretary to the Government, Revenue Department, delivered the inaugural address. In his brilliant

analysis of the agrarian problem, Mr Chettur described the abolition of zamindari estates and their conversion into ryotwari as a great land reform. He also touched on the 'Bhoodan Yagna' movement and maintained that mechanisation of agriculture ought to be accompanied by rapid industrialisation of our country if we are to keep all sections of the population employed and happy.

The second meeting was held on 3rd September when Prof. Gideon, an American economist, gave an interesting talk on 'American Economy'.

The next meeting scheduled to take place on 4th September had to be cancelled, as Dr B. Natarajan, Economic Adviser to the Government, could not address the Association due to an unavoidable official engagement on the same day.

The beginning of the second term was marked by a few stimulating seminars conducted by the versatile Professor, Dr Arnold Nash, under the joint auspices of the History and Economics Associations.

Next, in order to familiarise the students with the working of a Press, a visit was arranged to 'The Hindu' on 13th and 14th October in two batches of thirty-two each.

Another highlight in the activities of the Association was an exciting excursion to Mahabalipuram, which according to the excursionists was 'the jolliest ever'.

Apart from holding meetings and arranging visits and excursions, it has been the aim of the Association to encourage the maximum of extra-curricular activities among its members without however interfering with their studies. The selection of the College Debating Team exclusively from the members of the Association has served as a happy augury towards the achievement of this goal.

K. J. JOSEPH,
Secretary.

Hindi Premi Mandali

The Association resumed its activities in a cheerful and enthusiastic manner. An informal meeting was held on 27th July 1953, to elect office-bearers for the

current academic year. The following were elected:

President : Sri A. C. Kamakshi Rao, B.A.,
B.O.L.

Student-Chairman : Sri P. Ramanathan.

Secretary : M. G. Sathyanarayanamurthy.

Assistant Secretary : Mohanlal Mutaliya.

The meeting came to a close, after an entertaining introduction ceremony.

The Association was formally inaugurated on 14th August by Srimathi Raksha Saran, Vice-President, All-India Women's Conference, who spoke on the duties of a right citizen towards our country. She said that our people did not continue to have that enthusiasm with the help of which they had won the freedom. Our people can bring up the child—Independent India—only by their enthusiasm and interest. She also said: Our leaders are very old. Hence, we should prepare ourselves to take up the leadership after them and make our country much more prosperous. She advised the students not to have any hatred for any language whatsoever. She compared the languages to the roses, which made up a garland. The roses of the garland are interdependent. Similarly, one language is dependent on the other. Hence, there should be no hatred for languages. With the singing of the national anthem the meeting came to a close. The members were entertained to tea earlier.

On 2nd September, a debate was held in which many members took a very lively part. The subject was: 'Is Violence necessary for governing the country?'. Mr Katil Ganapathy Sarma, Lecturer in Hindi, Government Arts College, Madras, was the observer.

With this the term came to a close.

M. G. SATHYANARAYANAMURTHY,
Secretary.

Malayala Samajam

The election of the office-bearers for this year (1953-'54) was conducted towards the end of last year, according to the Constitution. K. G. George Kutty, K. R. Easwara Chandran, and M. N. Rajappan Nair were unanimously elected as Student-Chairman,

Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Early this year Sri T. K. Thomas, B.A. (Hons.), was elected President. The following were elected class representatives on the Working Committee:—

Hons. Classes .. K. C. Rama Chandran.
B.Sc. Classes .. B. Raja Raja Varma.
Class IV B.A. .. P. R. Ravindran Thampy.
Class III B.A. .. E. K. Vijayakesavan.
Class II .. K. P. Unnikrishnan.
Class I .. R. Sreepathi Prasad.

This year the strength of the Samajam is 200.

Sri K. N. Ezhuthassan (Lecturer in Malayalam, Madras University) inaugurated this year's activities. He explained to us the position of literary men at present. He pointed out the shortcomings of the present educational system with suggestions for improvements.

We celebrated ONAM in all its gay splendour. It was indeed a pleasure to see the members in 'Pukka Malayalee' costume emerging from the library gallery after a grand tea-party, with their happy faces rendered more gay by the ruddy, beeda-smearred lips. They proved to be a lively audience in the Anderson Hall too. Prof. V. K. Ayyappan Pillai, M.A.(Oxon.), Retd. Principal of Presidency College Madras, was the chief guest. 'Mr Kompath' a farce and 'Misunderstanding' a side-play staged by our talented young friends and an item by the women students were the main items of the entertainment that evoked a great deal of interest and enthusiasm among the large mixed gathering.

Early this term we conducted a debate the winners of which will be sent to Trichinopoly to take part in an intercollegiate debate.

C. Krishnan and K. V. Mamman are selected as the members of our team in the competition.

I take this opportunity to thank Dr K. M. George for the invaluable help and advice he gave us in all our activities; not the less is my thankfulness towards Mr T. K. Thomas and Mr Purushothaman for all their painstaking endeavours. May I also thank the members who co-operated whole-heartedly in the activities of the Samajam.

I expect such enthusiasm from our students in the future also.

K. R. E. CHANDRAN,
Secretary.

The Photographic Club

President : Dr M. A. Thangaraj.
Secretary : V. Joseph.

This club was started last term, so as to enable students to do their own photographic work as well as to give them practical experience and knowledge in the various branches of photography.

We are now using one of the dark-rooms in the Physics Department, which is equipped with an enlarger, an adjustable printing frame and several developing trays. The twenty-five members of this club have shown keen interest and enthusiasm in the activities of the club and we hope to arrange excursions to city studios, talks on photography and an exhibition in the near future.

I wish to thank Professor Thangaraj for his encouragement, guidance and patient help, without which we could not have progressed.

V. JOSEPH,
Secretary.

Athletics

Basket-Ball

The college practice started early this year as usual and there was always a good response to the notices that were put up for practice. The team was selected after a month. This year we had ten members instead of eight. We played the first two matches against the Saidapet Y.M.C.A. and the I.A.F. Station, Tambaram. In the course of these matches we selected our team. I am happy to say that in those, our college team put up a good show.

We started the league tournament with the Law College, the best team in the city. It was rather unfortunate that we lost to them by a wide margin. We lost again to Madras Medicals and Engineering College but won against Polytechnic. We had only four matches to play in the league tournament. We lost three and won one.

At present our team is only moulding itself into a powerful combination. This was shown very clearly when we played with the Vellore Medicals towards the end of last term. Our players combined beautifully and we beat them by 22 points. This we regard as a beginning and hope to continue the same kind of performance for the coming two terms.

The interest shown by the Physical Director and our President was very encouraging. I would like to thank Mr C. A. Abraham for the pains taken to mould us and the words of encouragement which cheered us after our defeats.

MATHEW PHILIP,
Captain.

Cricket

The College Cricket Team was selected after a number of net practices and a couple of Sides Games. The following is the team:—

M. Subramaniam (*Captain*)
M. Pathmanathan (*Vice-Captain*)

V. K. Visvanathan
I. Lakshminarasimhan
M. Ramaswami
K. R. N. Menon
L. Anantharam
V. Srinivasan
M. S. Srinivasan
R. Prem Singh
Ranganathan
T. V. Ramamurthi
B. Ramanath Rao
S. K. Dutta
S. C. Sudarisanam

The team is a well-balanced one and has a variety of bowlers. M. Ramaswami and Prem Singh open our attack and are ably supported by M. Pathmanathan, V. K. Visvanathan, last year's Captain and one of the best all-rounders in the team, Ranganathan and M. S. Srinivasan, the last being our young spin bowlers. Of these fifteen players, M. Pathmanathan and K. R. N. Menon, are in the University league team. K. R. N. Menon, though he has not scored much, has helped the college team to get a respectable total on many occasions. M. Pathmanathan is a good all-rounder and so are also I. Lakshminarasimhan and R. Prem Singh. We have got a dependable wicket-keeper in L. Anantharam and he has proved his worth in batting also. Of the batting performances this year V. K. Visvanathan's 85 against Presidency and M. Ramaswami's 81 against Stanley top the list. All the bowlers have done well this year, equally responsible for winning matches, but special credit goes to V. K. Visvanathan's grand bowling against Indian Medicine. Here are the scores:—

Engineering 178 (Nawaz Hussain 34, Cherry Chandy 30, S. V. Sankaran 42, M. Ramaswami 3 for 34, M. Subramaniam 2 for 22, M. Pathmanathan 3 for 61, Visvanathan 2 for 34.)

Christian 112 for 8 (M. Subramaniam 69, R. Bagde 4 for 15) Match Drawn.

Christian 147 (M. Subramaniam 55, Govindarajan 4 for 41).

Veterinary College 56 (M. Ramaswami 5 for 28, R. Prem Singh 2 for 11, M. Subramaniam 2 for 0).

Christian won by 86 runs.

Christian 128 (I. Lakshminarasimhan 55) Indian Medicine 94, (B. Shanmugan 38 not out, Visvanathan 6 for 25 M. Subramaniam 3 for 26).

Christian won by 34 runs.

Christian 228 for 7 decl. (Visvanathan 85, M. Subramaniam 20, M. Pathmanathan 23, K. R. N. Menon 19, Geethakrishnan 2 for 33).

Presidency 132 (G. Ranganathan 34, Gowri Shanker 31, M. K. Velu 21, M. Subramaniam 4 for 28, M. Pathmanathan 3 for 22).

Christian won by 96 runs.

Christian 204 for 7 decl. (M. Subramaniam 54, M. Ramaswami 81, Lakshminipathi 5 for 79, Hedge 2 for 34).

Stanley Medical 92 (Lakshminipathi 39, M. Ramaswami 3 for 10, M. Pathmanathan 2 for 11, M. Subramaniam 2 for 12, Ranganathan 2 for 19).

Christian won by 110 runs.

So far we have done quite well in the league matches and the members of the team have done their part well in all matches, though it is impossible to name individually. We hope to do our best in the forthcoming matches.

Finally I would like to thank Mr C. A. Abraham most sincerely for the timely advice he has given me on many occasions. I would like to thank Dr Anantakrishnan also for helping me to select the team and I should not leave out Dr Boyd, for he has given us much encouragement and has witnessed most of our matches.

M. SUBRAMANIAM,
Captain.

Tennis

The Tennis Club attracted a large number of new members this year. A new court had to be opened up to help in accommodating

the large number. We have now more than seventy members.

In the Inter-Collegiate League matches we did not meet with much success. However we had the satisfaction of winning at least one match in no uncertain fashion. Playing against Presidency we won one match. K. R. N. Menon playing excellent tennis was too much for his opponent. Young Gopalasetty did well to win most of his matches. For him we prophesy a glorious future.

In spite of the rain this term tennis continues to be played. The enthusiasm shown by the new members is an indication of their love for the game. We hope that this enthusiasm will not flag as the year advances.

GEORGE MATHAI
Secretary.

Hockey

Soon after the reopening this year Derek O. Rozario was nominated captain. Much enthusiasm was shown at the practices. Large numbers turned up for nearly every practice match.

We began the Inter-Collegiate League very well this year, by beating Theagaraya College by seven goals to nil. Gozmao, our right-inner, and Palekare, our centre-forward, both opened the season with hat-tricks to their credit. We won all the matches of our zone, excepting the ones against Engineering and Loyola. We drew with the Engineers whilst we lost to Loyola by the odd goal in seven. We emerged runners-up of No: I Zone. We met the winners of No: II Zone, namely Presidency. We played without the assistance of the Captain, who was indisposed at that time, and beat them by a solitary goal. Hence, we meet Loyola once again in the finals. We do hope to beat them this year, with men like Ayappa and Beliappa, our deep-defenders, the former especially, who has been a tower of strength to the side. Uthappa our left-half along with Koshi our right-half have always been a perpetual menace to the opposing forwards. Our crack forward line has a marvellous trio in Thomman, Palekare and Gozmao, not to say less of our fleet-footed

flankmen Charles and Poovappa, who have many a time put the side through with their individual efforts. Finally after great effort we have found in Bhaskar a dependable custodian. I thank all the members of the team for their hearty cooperation for making this season a grand success.

Above all, I thank our President Rev. G. Paul David, who has always been a source of confidence and help to us. I am grateful to our Physical Director Mr C. A. Abraham, who through his untiring ability has provided us with all facilities and guidance throughout. I also thank Dr Boyd, who has always evinced a keen interest in hockey, for turning up so faithfully to witness all our matches and giving us all the encouragement

a Principal can give. Let me not fail to thank all of you, for your keen interest, for you have given us great encouragement in our endeavours to place our College at the top of the ladder in this manly sport.

On the 22nd Oct., 1953, we beat Loyola College by one goal to nil and won the Mysore Cup after a long interval of years. The goal was scored by C. J. Gozmao who officiated as Captain in the absence of D. Rozario who could not play owing to illness. From the form shown by the team, we can expect to repeat the performance in the forthcoming knock-out tournament also.

DEREK ROZARIO,
Captain.

Prizes 1952-53

- I Class.* .. The Lord Pentland Prize : Richard S. HOLDER.
The West Coast Prize : G. J. M. VENKATARANGAM.
The Craig Prize : R. S. HOLDER.
The Amjud Prize : K. P. NARENDRA PRABHU.
Group ii Prize : M. S. RAJAGOPALAN.
Group iii Prize : M. G. SATYANARAYANAMURTHY.
- II Class.* .. The Junior Miller Prize : GURCHARAN SINGH.
The Matthai Prize : M. W. SAMUEL.
The Chinnaswamy Pillai Prize : R. KRISHNAN.
The Rajagopala Rao Prize : S. S. GUPTA.
The Ramiah Medal and Prize : S. S. GUPTA.
The Amjud Gold Medal : M. K. MANI.
Group iii Prize : K. SUBRAMANIAN.
The Ilalaywar Chetty Silver Medal : P. T. THIRUVENGADAM.
- III Class.* .. The Ethiraja Pillai Prize : E. MUTHUTAMBY.
Group ib Prize : J. A. THANGIAH.
The Rajagopala Rao Prize : K. CHELLIAH.
The Sir Krishnan Nair Prize : V. RADHAKRISHNAN.
The Russel Prizes : 1. P. V. RAMAMURTHY.
2. T. GEORGE JACOB.
The Gunn Gold Medal : E. MUTHUTAMBY.
The Padmanabha Menon Prize : P. R. RAVINDRAN THAMPI.

- IV Class.* .. The Miller Medal and Prize : K. SUBRAMANIAN.
The Sanskrit Prize : N. RAMAMURTHY.
The Skinner Medal and Prize : G. SHANMUGASUNDARAM.
The Ross Prize : G. SHANMUGASUNDARAM.
The Thurso Prize : S. SIVAKOLUNTHU.
The Setupati Gold Medal : R. SELVARAJAN.
The Jagadeesan Prize : K. M. SESHADRI.
The Ripon Gold Medal : K. SUBRAMANIAN.
The Rajagopala Rao Prize : V. VEERABHADRAYYA.
Group ivb Prize : A. P. MATHAI.
The Elizabeth Miller Gold Medal : K. K. GEEVERGHESE.
- III B.Sc.* .. III B.Sc. Group iii Prize : V. VASUDEVAN.
III B.Sc. Group iv Prize : Miss Susheela PAUL.
III B.Sc. Group v Prize : Augustine CHELLAPPA.
- IV B.Sc.* .. IV B.Sc. Group ii Prize : M. H. KRISHNASWAMY.
IV B.Sc. Group iii Prize : S. D. JOG.
IV B.Sc. Group iv Prize : S. CHINNAMANI.
The Buckie Prize : M. Cyril FRANCIS.
- Honours.* .. The Korah Eapen Prize : Cyril KAUNDINYA.
The Morren Medal and Prize : V. K. RAJAGOPALAN.
The Miller Philosophy Prize : Mrs MEERA BAI SHENOY.
The Kellett Prizes : 1. C. T. DAVID.
2. J. K. JACOB.
The Elizabeth Miller Prize : Miss Hepsie DAVID.
The Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar Prize : MAMMEN V. THOMAS.
The Manya Ramanathiya Prize : M. VAIDYANATHAN.

College Service

Preachers

FIRST TERM

July	5	..	Rev. Dr A. J. Boyd
	12	..	Rev. J. R. Macphail
	19	..	Dr S. P. Adinarayan
	26	..	Rev. G. C. Martin
August	2	..	Sri Chandran Devanesen
	9	..	Rev. R. S. Macnicol
	16	..	Dr W. F. Kibble
	23	..	Rev. J. M. Orr, Church of Scotland Mission
	30	..	Rev. J. B. Saunders
September	6	..	Rev. Harry Daniel, W.S.C.F.

SECOND TERM

October	4	..	Prof. A. Nash, University of North Carolina
	11	..	Sri Noble Rajamani, S.C.M.
	18	..	Rev. J. B. Saunders
	25	..	Rev. J. R. Macphail
November	1	..	Rev. G. Paul David
	8	..	Rev. G. C. Martin
	15	..	Dr M. A. Thangaraj
	22	..	Rev. R. S. Macnicol
	29	..	Dr W. F. Kibble
December	6	..	Rev. Dr A. J. Boyd

College Magazines Received

The Madras Engineering College Magazine, Vol. XXI, March 1952
The Guntur Medical College Magazine, Vol. V, Nos. 1 & 2, March 1953
The Excelsior, St. Berchman's College, Changanacherry 1952-1953
The Madras Law College Magazine, Vol. XXVII, April 1953
The Besant Theosophical College Magazine, Madenapalle, Annual Number, March 1953
Stella Maris College, Madras, 1953
The Teachers' College Magazine, 1952-53, March 1953
The Scottish Church College Magazine, Calcutta, Vol. XLIV, No. 2, April 1953
Andhra University Colleges Magazine and Chronicle, Silver Jubilee Number, Vol XIII, 1953
The Jamal, Tiruchirapalli, March 1953
Vivekananda College Magazine, March 1953
Raja Doraisingam Memorial College Magazine, Sivaganga, March 1953
Gudivada College Magazine, March 1953
The Government College Miscellany, Mangalore, March 1953
Virudunagar Hindu Nadars' Senthikumara Nadar College Magazine, March 1953
Voorhees College Magazine, Vellore, April 1953
The New College Magazine, March 1953
Hislop College Magazine, Nagpur, Annual, 1953
St. Thomas' College Magazine, Palai, 1953
The Madras Engineering College Magazine, July 1953
The Alagappa Chettiar College of Technology, Guindy, June 1953
The Mahatma Gandhi Memorial College Magazine, Udipi, Annual Number 1953
P.S.P. College, Peelamedu, Coimbatore, 1953
Prasad, the Miscellany of Veerasaiva College, Bellary 1952-53
The Sunflower, Women's Christian College, 1952-53
Silver Jubilee Souvenir, Chaldean Syrian High School, Trichur 1952-53
Loyola Monthly, Sept. 1953

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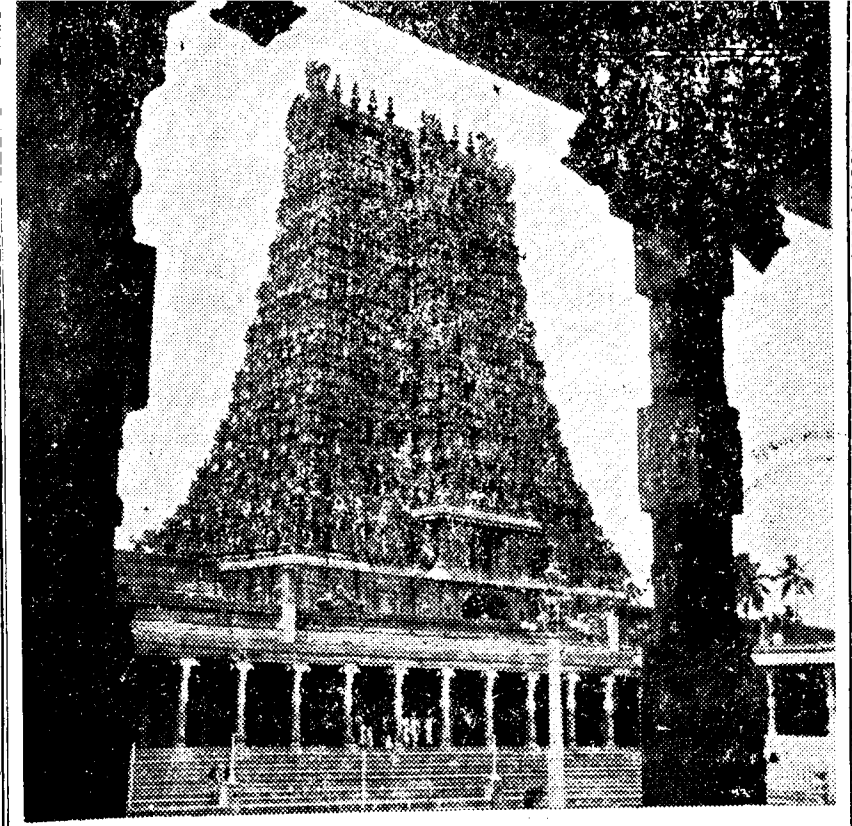


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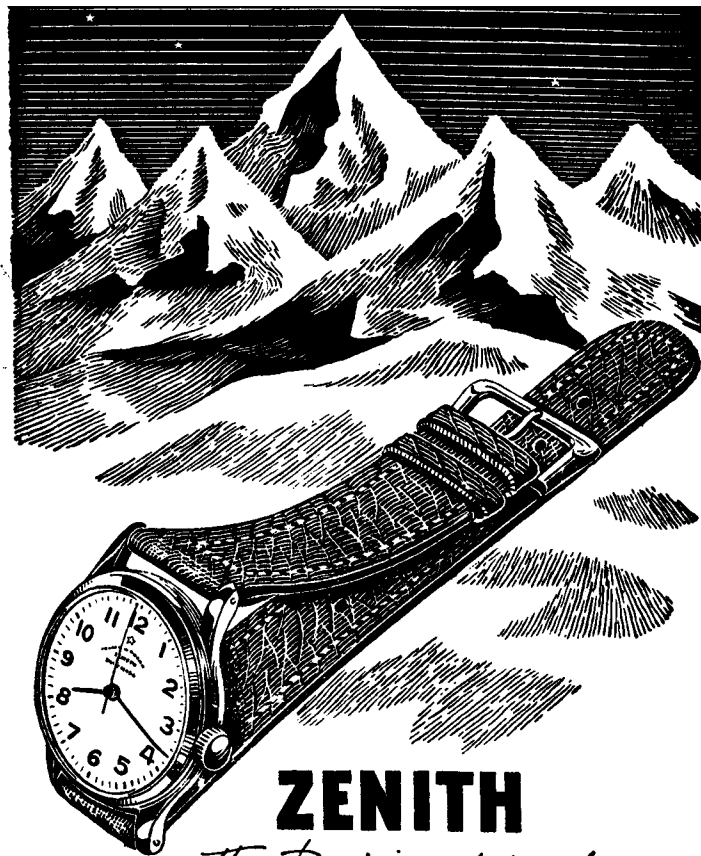
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