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THE STUDENT

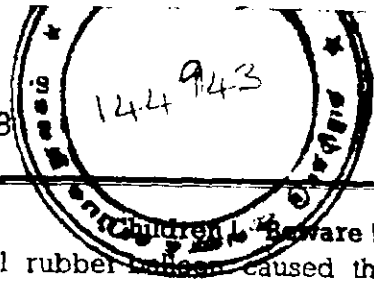
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MARCH-1955

NO-9



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Children Beware!
A small rubber balloon caused the death of a school boy in Davangere.

The youngster, while trying to inflate the balloon by blowing into it, accidentally sucked it in. It stuck in his throat, blocking the air passage and choking him to death in a few seconds.

Razor in Pig's belly.

A Veterinary surgeon in Colmenar El Viejo (Spain), operated on a pig which was suffering with stomach trouble and found a safety razor, complete with blade.

The animal is well again.

World Cyclist.

A 26-year-old cycling enthusiast, Badiul Amin Ahmed, from Pabna (East Pakistan), arrived in Calcutta on Jan. 24 after pedalling over 32,000 miles on a push bike.

The cyclist, who commenced his journey from his home town in 1951, has so far visited 22 countries in Asia, Europe and Africa. His itinerary includes visits to Eastern Countries, Australia and the U.S.A. during the next two years.

Cyclones.

A cyclone is caused when, somehow, a layer of hot air finds itself beneath a layer of cold air.

Now as you probably know, hot air is light and always rises. Cold air is heavier and sinks down.

The layer of hot air keeps trying to force its way up through the layer of cold air and, eventually, it does make a hole through it. The hot air goes rushing up through this hole—and the cold air rushes down to fill the space where the warm air was.

In that way, a whirling motion is begun. All the air around is drawn into the disturbance and goes whirling round at a tremendous speed sometimes several hundred miles an hour!



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

VOL X

MARCH, 1955

No. 9

A Prayer.

Thou art
the Saviour
of the universe;
do Thou protect us.
To Thee I bow. O mother
Divine, Thy true form is the
object of meditation for the whole
world. To Thee I bow. Thou art
the embodiment of the highest Yoga
and knowledge. Thou art the
Delight of the Ever-blissful
Lord. To Thee I bow. Thou
art the Saviour of the
universe, do Thou
protect us.
To Thee
I bow.

OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE OUT ON 15-4-'55.

A SCHOOL SONG

By Sri K. Kutumba Sastri, B.A., B.Ed.,
Asst., Municipal High School, Chirala.

- 144 943
1. O Lord, O God, we pray thee night and day,
We pray thee night and day with us to stay.
Bless this, the seat of sweetness and of light,
This School, the staff, the students shining bright.
 2. Among her sisters, let *this school* stand tall,
Adored, beloved, and praised by one and all.
Let us be led and guided by Thy Grace
To gladly run the good and godly race.
 3. Our hearts, our heads, our hands, let them be stout
So that we keep our wants and worries out.
Let from this *High School* go forth, year by year,
Young men, who can be good and great and dear.
 4. May we, by thoughts and words and actions prove
That we deserve Thy mercy, help and love.
The *teachers* and the *pupils* here within,
May they be fit for work and free from sin.

POETS OLD AND NEW: TORU DUTT

By Srimati Lalita Chari, B.A., D.T. Headmistress.

The British came to India, hoping to trade and get rich quick. One thing led to another. The British were no more traders. They remained in India to govern and by the end of the 18th century, they brought in peace and gave attention to Education and one of the astonishing results is the rise and development of Indian writing in English. A galaxy of talent and genius as Ram Mohan Roy, Toru Dutt, Swami Vivekananda, Rabindranath Tagore, Sri Arabindo, Sarojini Naidu, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Professor Radhakrishnan, K. S. Venkataramani and Mulk Raj Anand arose.

The first Toru Dutt I ever read was a simple little poem on 'The Lotus'. That made me more anxious to read more of her and let me tell you what I read of her. Toru or Torulatta Dutt was born in Calcutta in 1856. She was the youngest of the three children of Govin Chunder Dutt. The eldest was a son Abju, and after him a daughter An. Toru Dutt came from a family of poets, though none of them was so famous as she afterwards. Her father and several of her uncles and cousins were poets and so from her childhood she learnt to love poetry. The Dutt's were Kayastha Hindus, a wealthy old family of high position and they were one of the chief families of Calcutta.

Her great grandfather, Nilmoni Dutt was well known because he was so kind and honest and hospitable. He was a strict Hindu but very broad-minded. His sons were clever and took a large part in the spread of education in Bengal. They were fond of study and collected a good library of books in their house, which later on was to be a great joy to Toru. One of Nilmony Dutt's sons, Rasamoy Dutt was Rou's grand father. He had five sons and Rou's father Govin Chunder Dutt was fond of poetry and languages. His daughter was like him in this. He held a high position in government service but later he resigned and spent the rest of his life in studying religion and literature. He was one of the best Indian writers of English of the time. In 1870, he collected his poems and also those which his brothers and cousins and nephews had written and made a book of them which he called the Dutt family album. Toru was very fond of this book. His wife Shetramoni was well versed in English and Bengali. Born in such a cultured family, it was natural for Arun and Toru to indulge in literary exercises from a very early age. The Dutt's were a Hindu family, as I told you earlier, but in 1854, Toru's father and all his brothers became Christians. Toru's mother also became a Christian and Toru was brought up as a Christian.

Toru and her brother and sister were at first educated by their parents. Their mother told them the stories of Savitri and Sita, and Prahlad

and Dhruva and gave them religious teaching. Then a tutor was found for them, an old man of whom they were very fond. The first seven years of her life Toru spent in Calcutta. Then for a year, the family left Calcutta and went to Bombay. Then came a time of great sorrow for the boy Abju died at the age of fourteen. A few years later, Toru and her sister went to Europe with their parents. In France, they stayed at Nice where the girls were sent to school. This was the only time in their lives they went to school. Toru became a very good French scholar. Then they left Nice and went to Paris where they stayed several months. From Paris they went to London. Here they spent most of their time in the study of literature and religion and Toru began to translate poetry and later to write some herself. Toru was unusually clever and had a wonderful memory. She was a great reader and read very quickly, but carefully. This stay of about four years in France, and England made the sisters acquire a high degree of proficiency in both French and English, and complete their education and it vigorously quickened their creative pulse.

Towards the close of 1873, they returned to Calcutta. The sisters plunged in Mr. Edmund Gosse's words into a feverish dream of intellectual effort and imaginative production. Anu broke under the strain sooner than her sister and Toru herself after working at high imaginative pressure for three more years, gave up the battle at last.

and joined Anu. Anu died in September, 1874. Now Toru was left alone without either brother or sister and she missed her sister for they had been very fond of each other. Perhaps the death of her brother and sister must have doubtless inspired this beautiful stanza in Toru Dutt's. Our Casuarina Tree:—

But not because of its magnificence
 Dear is the Casuarina to my soul
 Beneath it we have played, though years may roll,
 O sweet companions, loved with love intense,
 For your sakes shall the tree be ever dear!
 Blent with your images, it shall arise
 In memory, till the hot tears blind mine eyes!
 What is that dirge-like murmur that I hear
 Like the sea breaking on a shingle beach?
 It is the tree's lament, an eerie speech,
 That haply to the unknown land may reach.

Her greatest friend in England was Miss Mary Martin who lived in Cambridge. She wrote many letters and it is from them that we are able to learn so much about Toru and how she spent her time in Calcutta. Her life, her garden, her pets, the visits of friends and relations were all topics of her letters. In one of her letters Toru described how she spent her days. 'We lead a quiet life here. I get up at half-past four, prepare two cups of chocolates, one for myself and one for papa, and then I go to dress and by the time I come out from the dressing room, Papa and Mamma get up. Then I go to the roof of the house, it is very cool early in the morning up there. After that she says

she used to feed her two cats, who were given some fish each morning. Then she came down and sat in a window from which she could watch the two horses (her father had bought them for her) being fed. When breakfast was finished, there were prayers for the whole family and then her mother went to do her household duties, her father read the newspaper and Toru would read a book, or play with the kittens. At twelve o'clock, they had lunch and then Toru would read and write till three, when she would eat some fruit. In the evening she used to go out for a drive, and come home at seven for dinner. At ten o'clock, she used to go to bed.

Such a regular life she led but her health was never good and she was often troubled with a cough. In spite of this she worked very hard at her studies and at her writing. She and her father studied French, German and Sanskrit together. She read a very large number of books. She tried to study mathematics but soon gave it up for she said she was too thick-headed for that. But she continued her music of which she was very fond. The doctors said that Toru should be taken to England for health. But unfortunately Toru never became strong enough to make the journey. She could not even write so many letters because of her bad health. In the summer of 1876, she was ill much more often, and she had to spend most of her time in bed. She was sorry she could not read much because of her illness. Her last letter

to Miss Martin was written on 30th July 1877, and she died on 30th August of the same year. When she died she was aged only twenty-one and a half years. For weeks she knew that her end was coming and she was brave and composed till the end and her end was 'perfect peace'. In Mr. H. A. L. Fisher's words, 'this child of the green valley of the Ganges will ever remain in the great fellowship of English poets.'

Her first published volume and the only one published during her all too brief life contains nearly two hundred verse translations from the French poets. 'A Sheaf gleaned in French Fields' is the name of this volume. People who are competent to judge them as translations have pointed out that they re-capture the spirit of the originals. An Indian girl rendering French poems into English! This is a phenomenon too good to be true! But the marvel is there. Toru wrote two novels, one in English which she never finished and one in French. Besides she also translated many more French poems and she made translations of some political speeches from the French also. But though she loved French and English Toru loved her own country more and her best book is about India. In the Sheaf, Toru found her vocation, as well as her voice. She would sing, she would sing now of India's heroes and heroines, of Savitri and Satyavan, of Sita and Lakshmana, of Dhruva and Ekalaiva of Prahlada and his father Hiranyakasipu. When she could render the

heart-beats of a French poet of the 16th century, she could now interpret the great creations of Sanskrit seers and poets. She completed some of the tales. She herself was not to see the publications of her ballads and legends. It was her father, who five years after her death, arranged for the publication of ancient ballads and legends of Hindustan with an appreciative memoir of Edmund Gosse. This slim volume brought together nine ballads or legends as also seven occasional sonnets and poems, including the famous 'Our Casuarina Tree.'

The poems have the important event of being readable and re-readable. Toru Dutt had heard the stories from the lips of her own mother. She had long revolved in her mind the inner significance of these puranic stories. Faith and reverence inspired her ballads and she lives in the characters created by her. The Ballads and legends have often been reprinted and some of the tales are tried favourites with school children.

Toru Dutt is famous both because of what she wrote and because of what the world lost by her early death. As a Review declared "Had George Sand, or George Eliot died at the age of twenty one, they would certainly not have left behind them any proof of application or originality superior to those bequeathed to us by Toru Dutt". By the age of twenty she had thoroughly mastered three foreign languages, English, French and Sanskrit and she could write

in two of them so well that it was hard to discover that what she wrote had not been written by an English or French person. She was especially clever at languages. Who knows what Toru Dutt might have achieved had fate spared her for some decades more? If most of the other famous women of the world had lived such a short life, they would have had very little work to leave behind them for people do not often become famous until they have lived for quite a long time, and so we would not have known that they were great. But Toru's greatness was seen very early and that is what makes her life so interesting. It was a great loss to the whole world that she died so young; and especially a loss to the three countries India, France and England to which she belonged and for which she wrote. The three countries had a share in her education and were all in her debt for what she had written. A poem was written soon after her death and the three countries are made to talk. In the poem England says:

This song bird
though it come from far over the sea
Is mine own, for its heart true and loyal
And its feelings were moulded by me.

Then France replies:

Nay, sister, it is mine by this token
that it loves me the best.

Then India speaks, and says that Toru was born there and is India's daughter and it is to her that she really belongs.

(By Courtesy: AIR. Tiruchi).

THE DESERVING SON

By Sri N. C. Mittal, B.Sc., F.C.S., M.R.A.S., Jammu.

Once upon a time there lived a Raja who was the ruler of a small state. He was a brave and enterprising ruler. He managed his state very tactfully. He was loved by his subjects.

He had two Ranies, Vimla and Harnamo. The former was older than the latter. Vimla was very clever, wise and intelligent. She was handsome. She was not much loved by the Raja. Harnamo was childish, cunning and very beautiful. She managed to win the heart of the Raja and was loved by him very dearly. She had also great influence over her subjects.

It so happened that a son was born to both the queens, but first to Harnamo and then to Vimla. Vimla's son was strong and healthy and Harnamo's thin and cowardly. The interval between the births of the children was a few weeks only. On this occasion the Raja was much rejoiced. The people also spent some time in merry-making.

Both the princes attained majority. Vimla's son, Bir was very brave. He was much inclined to deeds of chivalry. He hunted lions, tigers and leopards. Harnamo's son, Pratap was a spoilt young man. He always wanted to indulge in luxury. He was often found drunk. He

liked to enjoy a dance and music. He seldom stirred out of the premises of his palace. The Raja loved Bir, who helped him much in state affairs. Harnamo did not like to see him prospering and winning royal favour. She always back-bited him, but he turned a deaf ear to her.

When both the princes were about 20 years old, they were married with great pomp and show. Each of them got a suitable wife. The older prince was married to an ease-loving damsel and the younger to a healthy and brave one, who possessed the qualities of both man and woman. She could fight very successfully in a battle and could hunt a lion or a lioness. She was a spotless beauty. She loved her Lord very dearly and was entirely devoted to him.

One day when the Raja was holding his court, a messenger came to him in great haste, and after saluting him informed him that another powerful Raja with his large army was a few miles from the palace and was coming to attack him and to spread havoc in the town and its suburbs. The enemy was very strong and powerful and had already subdued several petty Rajas and even several of his own rank and strength. The Raja was much afraid of him and thought himself quite unfit to stand against him. Bir who was always seeking an opportunity to show deed of chivalry to his father, came forward and asked his permission

to oppose the enemy. The Raja had not a very high opinion of his strength as he took him for an inexperienced youth. Though he was not inclined to grant his request, he did so, when the young man insisted on it. Bir was in command of his army. He very successfully opposed the enemy and after a day's hard fight won a victory so that the enemy fled away. The Raja was very pleased with him. He installed him in the gaddi (throne) and himself retired from the ruler's life. On his installation, the poor and the rich were pleased and wished Bir a happy, merry and prosperous life.

The maid-servant of Harnamo came to her Rani and informed her about the happy news. She did not receive it happily and told her that she should not be congratulated on this because her own son was deprived of the throne. She dressed herself in rags and asked her maid-servant to call the Raja. She told the Raja that Pratap should have been installed in the throne because he was older. The Raja said that he gave the throne to the *deserving* son and he would not like to give it to any one on consideration of seniority in age. The Rani was highly displeased. She was crying and weeping all the time just to attain her object. The Raja further added that Bir was her son also and he would surely behave very gently and affectionately to Pratap. But she did

not hear him. She told him that it meant also that he did not love her. To this he replied that he was immensely fond of her, but he must act according to his conscience. She told him that he would die in case he would not comply with her request. He replied that he would stick to his decision and that she was at liberty to do what she liked. With these words he left the palace as he did not like to see such an obstinate and mean woman.

Time passed on. Bir ruled the state very efficiently. All were happy.

One day, Bir and his Rani went to another Raja, who was very intimate with them. Though their way was through a dense jungle, they did not like their soldiers to accompany them. They left their palace without a retinue. When they were about half way to their friend Bir heard the roar of a lion and in a few minutes found that it was about to attack him. He lost no time and at once killed him with a few bullets. To their astonishment a lioness was going to jump at the Rani simultaneously. She fired four shots and the quadruped breathed her last. The Raja and the Rani congratulated each other. The Raja told the queen that he was saved by her. The Rani too attributed her safety to the bravery of her husband. They came to their friend with their trophy. Their friend was very pleased at their victory.

Bir and his Rani enjoyed their holidays with their friend. After sometime they went back to their kingdom and lived there happily for many a year. As was anticipated by Bir's father, Bir always respected his brother, and treated him so well that he was never heard to complain of his brother.

OBEDIENCE

By Sri N. S. Nayak, Student.

Submission to superior authority is called obedience. By attending a school exactly at 10 O' clock in the morning a student observes obedience to the Laws of his school: in getting by heart a piece of poetry which his teacher requires him to recite, he obeys his teacher, and in getting up early in the morning we obey to the rules of health. We obey the dictates of our conscience and religion by abstaining from speaking a lie and by abstaining from killing; by meeting a brave death on the battle field, the soldier obeys his commander; by abstaining from gambling at the advice of our parents we show filial obedience to them; and by rising every morning in the eastern horizon and spreading his bright light the sun obeys the direction of the Creator. This, in short, illustrates the meaning of obedience.

Even the lower animals possess, to a great extent a sense of obedience to their masters. Common experience and observation tells us how cows, bullocks, buffaloes, dogs and other domestic animals obey their masters.

We must be obedient to our elders, superiors, laws of Government, and our religious doctrines. Our parents gave us birth, brought us up from our infancy, educated us and sacrificed their happiness and comfort for us, being ever desirous of, and anxious about, our well-being, safety and prosperity. We must know that all they ask us to do is only for our welfare. At the spur of youth, without realising their motives we err in thinking that our parents are little beneficial to us. Such misbelief and misthought must be rooted out from us. Our elder brothers and sisters coming next to our parents demand an equal amount of obedience from us.

Who does not know of the ideal and unprecedented obedience to his elders exhibited by Sri Rama? In order that his father's promise might be kept and as a mark of obedience to him he gladly preferred an exile to the kingdom. He exchanged his life from the warmth and health enjoyable only under a palace roof to the unpleasant and unhealthy weather of strange forests. We find in Rama the most ideal son and every one of us must try to follow his footsteps. Who has not read of the boy, Casabianca, who allowed himself to be burnt up by horrible

gun-powder flames rather than disobey his father's order? Instances are many in the Ramayana and Maha-bharata regarding brotherly obedience.

By superiors I mean, teachers, superior officers and persons more experienced and older than we are. We have to cultivate a deep sense of obedience to them, because their advice is always sound and meant for our good. In our case, obedience to our teachers must be as important as that to our parents, because our well-being and prosperity in future depend mostly upon the instruction they impart to us. Sometimes we devise plans of injuring them and wish them ill, little knowing their real motives. May God give us strength and mind for banishing such thoughts from us!

Without everyone observing obedience the world cannot get on at all. Every disobedient child becomes a wreck in life, often a victim to misery and hardship under fatal consequences. The son must know that by disobedience to his father, he wounds his (father's) feelings and incurs his (father's) displeasure and finally God's anger. How many sons have invited death and destruction upon themselves by their indiscreet disobedience to the advice of their parents and elders! The haughty and stubborn Duryodhana in the Mahabharata neither cared for his parents' advice nor listened to that of divine Krishna and other godly sages. In consequence he

brought complete ruin and destruction not only upon himself, but upon the whole Kuru race !

If the student does not obey his instructors, he is very little educated ; if subjects don't obey their king and the government there will be no order and peace in that country ; if men do not obey their religious doctrines and social laws, evil will be rampant in the moral field. If the soldier does not obey the commander, there may be no victory. We must bear in mind that Napoleon, the terror of Europe then, was defeated, partly owing to the disobedience of one of his generals. On the other hand, the success of the English in the Crimean War was due to the willing obedience of a mere handful of soldiers.

So, considering the manifold disadvantages of disobedience, and taking into count the numerous benefits of obedience, we must, at all expenses, obey our parents, superiors, laws and authority, for our good in particular and for that of the world and humanity in general.



S. S. L. C. Column.

Model Questions & Answers for publication should reach the Editor on or before the 25th of the previous month.

Questions & Answers intended for publication, should invariably be typed on one page of the paper only in double spacing.

ENGLISH : QUESTIONS & ANSWERS.

(A) By Sri S. Meenakshi Sundaram B.A., B.T.

BEN FRANKLIN'S SERVICES TO THE NATION.

Ben Franklin, who started his career as a printer's boy, became one of the ever-remembered Americans of all time. He made himself great by dint of his industry and intellect. It was no wonder that the Americans felt very proud of him and regarded him as an unique personality. They thought that Ben had no equal since he knew so much about so many different things.

Ben Franklin was a great scholar. He invented many things such as double spectacles for both near and far-sighted people, a rocking chair, the stove, a musical instrument, a fan to cool hot rooms, a new kind of wheel and so many other useful things. Even in the field of medicine, Benjamin excelled and great English doctors wanted to hear about his discovery of air germs.

Benjamin worked for the welfare of the people. In Philadelphia, he started the first public library, the first fire company, and the first paved streets. He gave much money to the free schools in Boston and Philadelphia.

As a statesman, Benjamin Franklin had few equals. Next only to George Washington, Benjamin was greatly respected by his people for his great patriotism. He was sent to France as the American Ambassador in a critical period of American History. Ben was in France for a number of years. Though he had to be away from home and his family, he considered it as his primary duty to serve his country.

In France Benjamin was very much loved by the people. His popularity was so much that pedlars sold his statues on the streets. The Queen of France had a particular affection on him and she used to send him her own carriage.

When Ben at last returned from France a great welcome awaited him. It was evident that his services to his country had been well recognised by one and all.

Central idea of the poem "A Child's pet".

The poem 'Child's pet' describes to us that the thieves of sheep, cruel-hearted as they were, had also some finer qualities. One of the sheep, unlike others, needed the affectionate stroking of people.

Probably it had been the pet of a child and stolen from the child. So the thieves spared it from the slaughter house and stroked it affectionately whenever they saw it.

(B) By Sri V. Viraraghavan, M.A., C.T.

Give in one or two sentences the meaning of :

1. But black eyes need no translation : the flame of the mind itself is there, burning or going out in the darkness : shining steadily like the moon or flashing like restless lightning in all quarters of the sky.

Ans : The inward thoughts within the mind, either of immense pleasure or of extreme pain, either of steady reasoning or of a flashing transitory nature, are very well expressed in the brilliance of the eyes, and are very easily understood by others without putting the thinker to the necessity of expressing them in words.

2. For the family is the nation in little, and when a man and woman give thought to the true welfare of their family group, they are laying a stone in place in the foundations of national well-being.

Ans : The family truly bears all the characteristics of the nation; or rather, is itself the nation in miniature; and if the father and the mother in the family deeply plan and carry on the family on right lines they are contributing their best towards nation-building.

3. There sometimes doth a leaping fish
Send through the tarn a lonely cheer.

Ans: In that awfully silent place at rare times a leaping fish produces a splashing sound as it flies out and falls into the water; and this sound is somewhat cheerful for a person to hear in that solitary place.

4. In her silent heart sounded an endless,
voiceless crying, which only the Searcher of
Hearts could hear.

Ans: The climax of the story is reached when the poet says that being in that unsympathetic and strange atmosphere of a husband's home, where no one could understand or sympathise with her, she felt utterly miserable; and her misery, she being unable to say out, being dumb, only God who alone can find out the inward emotions and thoughts of all persons, could easily realise and sympathise with.

5. Think more deeply in future, and do not
depend too much on old and dusty law books.

Ans: You must exercise your common sense and original thinking powers without consulting and entirely relying upon what the law books say, in doing justice to people.

6. At the skirts of silent troubled Mother
Nature there stood a silent troubled girl.

Ans: Standing at the window of her room at the edge of wide Nature that lay before her, she saw Mother earth in all her profound silence

during night time; and though she felt strange worries within her mind she could not express them all, in the same way as Mother Earth, who pitied for her worries, could not herself express them.

7. But hear a wonder, for whose sake
This lamentable tale I tell

Ans: But be prepared to get a great surprise regarding that object about which I am setting fourth this sad story.

8. The youth seemed oppressed with
labour, to which his delicate frame was not used;
and, when he leaned at intervals upon the instru-
ment with which he was working, a sigh burst
from his full heart and a tear stole down his
cheek.

Ans: The young man appeared to be very much tired out with physical work which he was doing, as, apparently, his weak body had not been used to do hard physical work; and so, he often leaned for his support on his tools; and then in high emotion he shed pitiable tears.

9. Saying: "Behold one outcast and in dread;
Against whose life the bow of Power is bent.

Ans: See before you a person who has been banished, who is in great fear and whom the great officers of state are set ready to search out, pounce upon, and kill.

10. There are some aspects of the
dehumanisation of society which the individual
feels powerless to check.

Ans: Society often gets to gradually lose some of the feelings natural to man. One man in a whole society cannot check or stop the progress of this bad thing. The whole nation must revolutionize its basic organization or system to stop it. If one man stands against its progress nobody will take notice of him. He cannot do anything effective. He is like a single drop in an ocean of water.

11. Yet they will expect me to have some special insight, some more than human power of reading the hearts of men.

Ans: The people believe that I, being the Caliph, or the representative of God on earth possess special spiritual powers, which ordinary men do not have; and they believe that I will use these spiritual powers and find out the true thoughts that pass in the minds of men and the true facts that happen in life.

(C) By Sri V. S. Kalyanasundaram M.A., B.T.

Qn: 1. How can dignity of labour be made real?

Ans: There is no use in indulging in tall talk about the dignity of labour. It is good to remember that an ounce of practice is always worth a ton of intellectual theorising. The family and the household have an unrivalled opportunity to translate this conception into a living reality. Parents must give up servants without sacrificing their personal

convenience and hygiene. They must take a live interest in doing household duties without employing a servant. If such be the case, children will naturally catch an attitude to work. After all, children love to imitate their parents and in no respect imitation pays richer dividends than in this.

Qn: 2. How was Ali Cogia's case first disposed of? How was the truth of the case brought to light later?

Ans: In the first instance, Judge Raziuddin heard Ali Cogia's complaint against Wazir Ahmed. The Judge found that the stories of the plaintiff and the defendant were different and that there was no witness to corroborate their statements. He therefore dismissed the case. But Abdullah, a school boy who happened to play the judge, hit upon the truth by applying his common sense. He examined the jar of olives which Ali Cogia got back from Wazir Ahmed. He found that the olives in the jar were fresh. The olive merchants present in the court testified to the freshness of the olives and declared their firm conviction that the fruits were only a year old. Wazir Ahmed found that his game was up and confessed his guilt.

Qn: 3. Why did Whang come to think of buried treasures?

Ans: One day Whang heard that his neighbour Hunks, had suddenly come upon a pan of gold underground, having dreamed of it before. The

tidings were daggers to the miller's heart. He blamed his fate for leading a hand-to-mouth existence. Daily he began to think of buried treasures and even slackened in his assiduity in milling.

Qn : 4. What was Whang's dream? How did he realise it?

Ans : Fortune which was unkind to Whang for a long time, at last smiled upon his distress. Whang dreamed that under a certain part of his mill there was concealed a big pan of gold and diamonds. He was delighted. He became sure of his dream when it was repeated twice. On the third morning, he went to his mill alone and dug up that part which his vision had directed. Soon he came upon a flat stone under which, according to his dream, lay the monstrous treasure. He could not lift the stone by himself. So he went to his wife and told her about his good fortune. Mrs. Whang went into raptures on hearing about her husband's good fortune. But the couple did not allow their ecstasy to delay the finding of the treasure. They at once hastened to their mill, with the ardent hope of unearthing the treasure. But to their consternation, they found their mill undermined and fallen.

Qn : 5. Describe the part played by Friday in 'Robinson Crusoe'

Ans : Friday was a savage who came from the mainland. He was brought as a prisoner by his enemies who wanted to slay him. But fate was

kind to this comely savage. Crusoe saw his predicament and realised the danger to his life. He killed Friday's enemies and saved him. The savage poured out the effusions of a grateful and affectionate heart by proper signs. He indicated that he would ever remain Crusoe's slave.

Crusoe was delighted with the companion, chance had thrown in his way. He broke him off from his horrid way of eating and humanised him. He taught him English and gave him the name of Friday, as he had discovered him on a Friday. The savage on his part, loved his master with all his heart.

Friday soon showed his usefulness. He made a sail-boat for Crusoe and demonstrated his skill in paddling it without a rudder. Not long before he was called upon to show his fidelity to his master. Again savages visited the Island, and they brought two victims for their brutal feast. Friday saw the savages and instantly went to Crusoe to inform him of their arrival. The master found that his servant had become frightened. He encouraged him as best as he could. Both the master and servant armed themselves to the teeth and sallied forth to attack the savages. As luck would have it, they were able to save the victims and drive the savages away. Friday's father was one of the victims and Friday rejoiced beyond measure at his father's escape from a brutal death.

Friday's usefulness was put to an acid test in the suppression of the sailors' mutiny which

enabled Crusoe to escape from the desolate island. Friday came out of this test with flying colours. He took the mutineers from hill to hill by hallooing to them. The sailors were misled by his shouts and were drawn into the thick of the wood. They became tired and lame. By doing this splendid job with great success, Friday enabled Crusoe and the captain to kill the ring-leaders of the mutiny and keep others at bay.

When Crusoe left the island after twenty-eight years of stay, he took Friday with him. With Friday as his faithful servant, he settled at last in England.

(D) By Sri T. E. Santhanam B.A., B.T.

I. Give the summary of the Story
WHANG THE MILLER

Ans : Whang, the miller, was a greedy man. He loved money and respected the rich people more than others. Whenever people would talk of a rich man in company Whang used to say that he knew him very well and that they were very close friends. If ever a poor man was mentioned he would say that he did not know anything about the poor man. He disliked many friends. He liked to choose as his friends only those who were rich. Whang wished to become a rich man. Really he was a poor man.

The profits of his mill supported him. He saved some money daily. He counted them at

intervals and contemplated over them with great satisfaction. Although he got more money than what he actually required yet he wished to become a rich man.

One day he was informed that his neighbour Hunks had found a pan of gold by simply dreaming about it for three consecutive nights. Whang worked from morning till night but he got only a small amount of money. But his neighbour Hunks got more money by simply dreaming about it for three consecutive nights. Whang wished to dream like his neighbour Hunks.

Whang became unhappy. He grew very lazy. His customers began to forsake him. He did not feel satisfied with what he got from his mill. After a long time fortune favoured him with the wished-for vision.

He dreamed about a pan of gold under the foundation of his mill. He wished to dream about it for two more nights in order to be certain of its dependability. His wishes in this case were also answered.

On the third morning, Whang went to his mill with a mattock in his hand and began to dig up. At first he saw a broken mug. Next he saw a flat stone. He could not remove it. He went home and told his wife about the treasure. Both of them went in the eager hope of finding some treasure but to their dismay found their mill undermined and fallen.

II. Give an account of 'SUBHA' the dumb girl.

Ans: Subha, who was a dumb girl, was the daughter of Banikantha. She had two elder sisters. They had been married with usual expenses. But this child lay like a silent weight to her parents. Subha had large eyes. She could express her thoughts by her eyes. She lived in a village called Chandipur. A small river was running by the side of that village. It never flowed its banks. Her house faced the river.

When the whole village was taking rest in the noon, Subha, the dumb girl, used to sit under a tree. Only the nature and the dumb girl were whispering with each other at that time. She had two cows, some goats and a kitten as her friends. She was very affectionate with the Cows. Even though the goats and the kitten loved her just as the cows, yet Subha did not love them as she loved the cows.

She had a human friend by name Pratap. He was not dumb but was a lazy fellow. His Chief ambition was to catch fish. When he was fishing she used to sit silently under a tree. Sometimes she would prepare the betel for him. She would often think that she should do some wonderful act in order to prove that she was not a useless person as he might probably think. But her vision was not to be answered. She passed from girlhood to womanhood. The question of Subha's marriage was a great problem to her parents. If they did not marry their daughter

within the period they stood the chance of being made outcastes. They were threatened about their place in heaven. They went to Calcutta. Subha's mother dressed her and put some jewels on her. Subha knowing that she was to be married soon, began to weep.

The bridegroom came with a friend to see Subha. He saw Subha weeping. He thought that she should have a tender heart. He praised her in his mind and thought that the heart which at that time was disturbed at leaving her parents would soon belong wholly to him. Her tears only increased her value. He married her and went to his home with her. The parents were satisfied because they had married their daughter within the period, thereby maintaining their caste in this world and making themselves fit for a place in heaven.

Within ten days every one knew that the girl was dumb. Nobody understood her language of the eyes. She became unhappy. Only God was there to help her.

III. Briefly tell the story of THE THREE TRIALS.

Ali Cogia was a citizen of Bagdad. Once it became necessary for him to go on a journey to far off places. He had some gold pieces. He wanted to leave his gold with his friend Wazir-Ahmed, a merchant of that city. So he bought a large jar made of clay. He placed the gold in it and put some olives on the top. Then he sealed the jar. He went to his friend with the

jar. His friend kept the jar in a ware-house. He promised him that it would be returned in tact at any time. Then he left Bagdad.

He returned after seven years. He went to his friend and asked for the jar. He gave him the jar. When he opened the jar in his house he did not find even a single gold piece in it. At once, he ran to his friend and asked him about the gold. Wazir Ahmed scolded him and ordered his servants to push him out. He denied all knowledge of his gold. He filed a case against Wazir Ahmed in the court of Bagdad. Judge Raziuddin heard the complaint of Ali Cogia and the defence put forth by Wazir Ahmed.

Wazir Ahmed said that he did not know anything about the gold. The Judge dismissed the case of Ali Cogia because he had no legal witness to prove his case. However, he permitted him to appeal to the Caliph. The case was to be heard by the Caliph on a certain day. He went round Bagdad in disguise. He saw some boys playing at the Judge's court. Abdullah acted as judge and Syed Ali, Mehdi and Hashim played as Ali Cogia, Wazir Ahmed and the olive merchant respectively. Abdullah tasted the olives. It was quite fresh and sweet. Hearing the olive merchant's opinion about the olives he proved that Wazir Ahmed was a false friend and a dishonest merchant.

The Caliph noted the point of taste and the preservation of the olives as suggested by

Abdullah. He praised his intelligence. He ordered that he should be brought to the Court the next day.

The next day he sat by the side of the Caliph in the court. He questioned both the plaintiff and the defendant. Then he asked Ali Cogia to bring the jar. When it was brought he asked the olive merchants who were present in the court to taste the olives. He heard their opinion about the olives in the jar. They told him that the olives were good and fresh. Thus Abdullah proved that Wazir Ahmed was a dishonest merchant.

The Caliph accepted the judgement of Abdullah. He told judge Raziuddin that he should not depend too much on old and dusty law books. He advised him to learn by watching the intelligent use of the mind. He also declared that all the expenses for the education of Abdullah would be borne by the government.



News from High Schools.

NOTE:—Heads of High Schools and Assistants are requested to send us for publication, brief reports of functions in their institutions. These should reach the Editor on or before the FIRST of every month for publication in the issue of that month. *BUT the News for the SPECIAL HOLIDAY issue should reach the Editor on or before 25-3-'55.*

News from Schools intended for publication, should be typed on one page of the paper only in double spacing.

1. D. P. V. D. Board High School, Kurupum

The 4 H. Club (Head, Hand, Heart and Health) of this school consisting of ten pupils belonging to Agriculturist families entered for the paddy yield crop competition in Srikakulam District and carried on the various operations viz., transplantation, manuring, weeding, stirring etc., under the guidance of the Agricultural Demonstrator Sri Y. Mallikarjunarao, B.Sc., (Ag.). The club was awarded on 23-1-55 a silver cup as the first prize, for having produced at the rate of 5125. lb. of paddy per acre.

The Scout Troop of the school participated in the District Rally at Srikakulam on 26-1-55 and won a Silver Medal as second prize in First Aid.

2. Danish Mission High School, Nellikkuppam.

The 33rd anniversary and the school day was celebrated in a grand manner on the 11th February 1955. In the morning there was the assembly of all pupils when the National Flag and the School Flag were hoisted by Rev. Wilson Thomas., B. D. Sweets were distributed to pupils afterwards. In the after-noon there was a public meeting which was largely attended by the parents, old boys and the public. It was presided over by R. C. Atken, Esq., General manager, East India Distilleries and

Sugar Factory, Nellikkuppam. Prizes were distributed to the winners in the various competitions by Mrs. V. Saravathy B.A.L.T., Government Girls' High School, Cuddalore. The pupils entertained the audience for nearly two hours with recitals, dance by the girls, dialogues in English, Tamil, and Hindi and comics. The Headmaster, Sri N. Robert, B.A.L.T., presented the annual report of the school. The chairman in his concluding remarks spoke in high terms about the work of the school and appealed for the co-operation of the public. After a vote of thanks by Sri E. S. Christudoss, B.A.B.T., the celebration came to an end.

3. Avittam Thirunal High School, Monkombu.

The Anniversary day of the Avittam Thirunal High & Training School, Monkombu under the management of Sri. N. Subramonia Iyer, B.A.M.Sc., B.L. and the Republic day were celebrated on Wednesday the 26th of January, 1955. The Public meeting on the day was presided over by Sri. K. Ramaswamy Iyer, B.A., B.L., Retired District Munsiff, Monkombu. Sri A. P. Nilakanta Pillai B.A. L.T., Headmaster High School, welcomed the President and the guests. Sri. Peter John Kallada delivered a most interesting and instructive speech. Sri. K. P. Amrithanatha Iyer, President of the Managing Committee of the School and Member of the Central Cocanut Committee conducted the opening ceremony of the Radio installed in the School. After distributing prizes to the winners in the Annual sports, the President concluded his speech. With vote of thanks by Sri. K. V. Ananthasiva Iyer, B.A., L.T., Headmaster of the Training School, the meeting came to a close at 5 p.m.

4. Zamindar's High School, Turaiyur.

The 14th Annual sports meet of the Zamindar's High School, Turaiyur was conducted in the school sports ground recently. The special feature was the carrying of the olympic torch from the banks of the lake outside the town. Sri. T. P. Ramachandran M.A., lecturer National

College, Tiruchirapalli, presided and distributed the prizes and trophies to the winners. The following pupils were declared champions for the year. Seniors: S. S. Thiagarajan; Intermediates: Jayaraj P. Juniors: Saravanan S. and subjunior Veerappan M. Sri. N. R. Jayaraman B.A.L.T., Headmaster proposed a vote of thanks. There was a large gathering of the elite of the town.

The 14th. Anniversary of the Pupils' Literary Association of the Zamindar's High School, Turaiyur was celebrated in the school grounds on the evening of the 27th February 1955 under the presidentship of Dr. S. Somasundara Bharathiar M.A. B.L., Madurai, with great eclat. At the beginning Sri. N. R. Jayaraman B.A. L.T., Headmaster of the School presented an address to Dr. Bharathiar felicitating him on the conferment of the Doctorate degree on him by the Annamalai University. Messrs. V. Guruswami, M. S. Mani and S. Chandrasekaran, the respective secretaries of the various associations presented their reports. Janab K. A. Gafoor M. A. Head of the Department of Tamil, Jamal Mohamed College, Tiruchirapalli delivered an interesting and inspiring address on 'The ideal of life as visualised in Tamil literature'. Dr. Bharathier in his presidential address exhorted the students to develop greater interest in the study of Tamil literature. He pointed out that the students, teachers and the public of Turaiyur were the first in felicitating him on the conferment of the degree and thanked them profusely. Janab N. Ali Saheb, School pupil leader proposed a hearty vote of thanks.

5. Board High School, Kampli. (Bellary Dt.)

On Thursday, 10-2-'55, a group of 40 boys of the Board High School, Kampli, had gone on an excursion to Sandur. They were led by Sri S. Ananthanarayana and Sri B. N. Trisuli. There they visited the palace, Komaraswami

temple and the Manganese Mines. After visiting some other sight-seeing places, they returned to their place.

6. Government High School, Pudukkottai.

The 97th anniversary of the High School was celebrated on 19-2-'55 Sri S. Maharajan, Sub-Judge, presiding.

Sri P. Sundaresan, Headmaster, welcomed the gathering, and presented the annual report which stated that the strength of the school was 527, and that free scholarship was granted to 25 Harijan students. The total number of those getting scholarships, and other educational concessions, was 320. Book-binding, spinning, and weaving were also taught in the school. The Auxiliary Cadet Corps was introduced during the year, and 92 students had joined the corps.

The report urged parents to take more interest in their children's education.

Sri Maharajan said education should be more related to realities, art, and religion. He advised students to cultivate discipline, and respect for teachers. He distributed prizes to students.

7. T. T. V. High School, Madras.

The annual sports of the School were held on Feb. 19 on the school ground. Sri C. N. Sivasankaran presided.

Sri Krishnamachari Headmaster, welcomed the gathering. Sri Sivasankaran exhorted students to emulate the athletes of the ancient Grecian Empire, and to cultivate the spirit of the "Festival at Olympia". He stressed the importance of sports and games, and congratulating the prize-winners, pointed out that they should preserve and cherish their prizes.

Sri M. K. Ramamurthi Ayyar proposed a vote of thanks.

8. Board High School, Tirukkottur.

At a meeting, held under the auspices of the Literary Society of the Board High School, Sri M. K. Shanmugham,

Principal, Theogaraya College, delivered a lecture recently on "Education, old and new." Sri Varadarajan, District Munsiff, presided.

Sri Shanmugham traced the growth of education since the early "Guru Kula" days, and said that the modern trend of extra-curricular activities was merely an emphasis on the dignity of labour, which was a symbol of the "Guru Kula" system.

He pleaded that Tamil should be made the medium of instruction in colleges, in Tamil Nad. But at the same time English should be made a compulsory subject both in high schools, and colleges.

Sri Venkataraghavachari, Headmaster proposed a vote of thanks.

9. S. V. S. High School, Katpady, Udupi.

Presiding over the School Day celebrations of the S. V. S. High School, Katapadi, on Sunday, His Holiness Sri Vibhudesu Thirutha Swamiji of Admar Mutt, advised the students to cultivate the habit of speaking the truth.

The Swamiji praised the S.V.S. Vidayavardhaka Sangha for its services to the cause of education.

Sri A. Krishnamurthi Achar proposed the School toast. Sri P. Ramadas Nayak presented the annual report.

Sri A. Krishnamurthi Achar distributed the prizes to the students.

Sri P. Dayananda Nayak proposed a vote of thanks.



NEWS & NOTES OF INTEREST.

I. Poor Knowledge of S. S. L. C. Passed Students!

The report of the Madras Public Service Commission for the half-year ending Mar. 31, 1954, shows that the standard of candidates appearing for the various examinations has been very poor.

In the examination for recruitment to ministerial services (S.S.L.C. standard) 1953, the general level of performance of the candidates was very poor and a majority of the candidates were not alive to current events and topics. Some of the answers were amazing, the report adds.

A perusal of extracts from the reports of the examiners revealed that, in the special tests held for executive officers, spelling mistakes were abnormal and English was bad.

In the services (S.S.L.C. Standard) examinations, in the English Essay paper the general standard of performance was very low, lower than last year. There was ample evidence of a deplorable fall in the standard of English. A few of the essays were mere gibberish. Incongruencies of number and tense, wrong construction of question forms, incorrect versions of prepositional phrases and every conceivable and inconceivable variety of mistakes were found.

A large number of candidates had ideas but struggled for expression. Poor spelling, bad idiom, ignorance of even the rudiments of English grammar and syntax were seen in every page of the answer books.

In the English General knowledge paper, a good many were found to be ignorant even of things the man in the street might be expected to know. One said the Niagara Falls was in the river Cauvery; Oxford was located either in Madras or in America, and Kolar in

Africa. Sir Winston Churchill was said to be the President of the U. S. A.

Following are some of the howlers perpetrated by examinees:

Jawaharlal Nehru reached Mount Everest first; also George Stevenson.

Caustic Soda is used for drinking purposes, for stomach-ache, for preparing pappadam, bonda and bread.

Common salt is used as a purgative, is the sweetest thing in the world; is a mixture of gases.

Vitamins are found in England, France, Russia, the U. S. A., etc.

The height of the Himalayas is 930,000,000 miles.

Pandit Nehru is a Barrister and leading money-lender.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Union is Sir C. V. Raman.

The U. S. Ambassador in India is Patel, and the Indian Ambassador in Russia is Mohammed Ali.

2. A Chinese fulfils vow to Lord Subrahmanya.

Immediately following the Thai Pusam festival in 1954, Govindaswamy of Ipoh told his Chinese friend, Chooi Ah Chai, a mechanic in the Ipoh Town Board workshop that Lord Subramania was so powerful that He granted anyone an honest wish provided the one who sought His favour was sincere.

Chooi Ah Chai who was so very much concerned over the condition of his paralysed step-mother, took Govindaswamy to the nearest Muniandy Temple, and took a vow that if his step-mother could recover from paralysis, he would offer prayers at Lord Subramania Temple during the next Thai Pusam festival, with 108 skewers pierced into his body, and walk three-mile distance between the Muniandy Temple and Lord Subramania Temple, carrying a "kavadi", bare-footed in Indian devotee style.

His step-mother, who was bedridden, completely recovered, and was able to walk by October last, Chooi

Ah Chai was full of gratefulness to both Lord Subramania and his friend Govindaswamy, for the miracle cure, the medical authorities having dismissed the condition of his step-mother as incurable.

A week prior to this year's Thai Pusam festival, Chooi Ah Chai went into "penence", taking only milk and vegetables, and offering prayers daily at the Muniandy Temple.

On Thai Pusam Day, Govindaswamy led Chooi Ah Chai to the Muniandy Temple, and had the skewers pierced through his chest, and with a Kavadi, he walked bare-footed to Lord Subramania Temple. There, after prayers and puja the skewers were unloosened. The next day Chooi Ah Chai was at work at the workshop as usual.

Chooi Ah Chai told his relatives and friends that he felt no pain when the skewers were pierced, and he did not bleed a drop.

Now several Chinese and Malays have started praying at Lord Subramania Temple for the grant of this or that wish, including prizes in the Social Welfare Lottery, and success at the races.

[—The Mail

Prestige of 'Nehru's India'

It happened in Switzerland. An Indian bought a nice watch in that country. At the Customs, there was a regular check going on. The officer in charge examined one by one. The nationality of every one was ascertained before the check commenced. When an Indian passenger gave out his nationality, the officer said he would not check his papers. "None from Nehru's India would be a party to any evasive tactics," he said and allowed him to pass.

This interesting experience of a prominent Congressman—Mr. K. K. Shah—was narrated at Avadi on 28-1-55 at the open session of the congress. Mr. Shah was speaking on the resolution on purity and integrity of the Congress organisation.

Children put out fire

Eight children, playing as firemen at Randers, in North Jutland, Denmark, were told of a timber-yard fire nearby.

The children, boys and girls between 12 and 14 years of age, attached their home-made hosepipe to a water tap, and had almost extinguished the blaze by the time regular firemen had arrived.

Their efforts resulted in Rs. 65,000 worth of timber being saved. The owner of the timber invited the children to a party and gave them Rs. 15 each.

Expectations of living

People who wish they were as "strong as a horse" or as "contented as a cow" may be surprised to learn which mammal actually lives the longest. It is not the horse, nor the cow, not the hippopotamus nor even the durable elephant. The longest living mammal to day is woman.

The average girl born to day can expect to live 71 years. The mighty elephant, once ranked as the longest living mammal, now lags far behind with its 60-year life span. The hippo has an expectancy of 40; the horse 20-25; and the cow averages from nine to 15 years. Even men live longer than elephants these days, for boys born to day will live an average of 65 years.

The turtle, which is not a mammal, lives at least a century longer than human beings.—"Minneapolis Tribune."

Children Tell Teachers, "No Smoking"

"No smoking, please" — is the new greetings by children and students who have launched a reformist movement to free professors and teachers from smoking.

These young reformers took a pledge to go whole hog in their "no smoke" campaign at the concluding meeting of the week-long Republic Day programme of the Bapu Bal Samaj on 31-1-55 at Jubbelpore.

Professors and teachers were their first targets, and they were told to give it up—or at least not to smoke in the presence of students.

Mr. T. Krishnaswamy, Director of the Samaj and member of the Madhya Pradesh Social Welfare Advisory Board, told the gathering that Sri C. Rajagopalachari had evinced keen interest in the "no smoke" movement and had suggested that for the achievement of their goal, they should "strike terror in the hearts of the addicts and tell them that unless they gave up the habit of smoking, they are liable to fall a prey to cancer or some such deadly disease.

CAR OWNERS in the different Districts of Southern India.

Madras City	4250	Trichur District	800
Chingleput District	140	Chittoor	110
North Arcot ..	250	Cuddapah	90
South Arcot ..	275	Anantapur	65
Salem ..	500	Kurnool	80
Coimbatore ..	1,100	Nellore	275
Nilgiris ..	600	Guntur	700
Malabar ..	1,800	Krishna	400
South Kanara ..	650	West Godavari ..	125
Tanjore ..	750	East Godavari ..	275
Trichy ..	900	Vishakapatnam ..	350
Madurai ..	1,100	Srikakulam	100
Ramanad ..	450	Bangalore	2,500
Tirunelveli ..	600	Other Districts in }	500
Trivandrum ..	900	Mysore State	
Quilon ..	500	Coorg	100
Kottayam ..	600	Hyderabad-Secunderabad City }	3,000

A Centenarian

A 120-year-old man, Mohamed El Huovari, a resident of the Cap Bon area and undoubtedly the oldest man in Tunisia, died recently in Tunisia. He left 267 children, grand-children and great grand-children.