

The South India Teachers' Union.

Report for 1923-24.

Strength.—The year began with 141 affiliated associations, and early in the academic year, the secretary of the Teachers' Association, Hindu High School Srivalliputhur, reported that the association of that school was dissolved. The Tinnevely District Guild was formed this year, and thus the number of associations affiliated to S. I. T. U. remained the same. It is some satisfaction that no district is now unrepresented in the Union.¹ It is to be regretted that most of the associations have neither paid their subscription, nor appeared to reply to the communications from the secretary of the Union. The secretary has no accurate information about the official address, the office-bearers, and the activities of most of the associations, and it is hoped that the authorities of the affiliated associations will be kind enough to furnish all particulars from time to time to the secretary of the Union.

The Executive Board.—The Executive Board has learnt with deep regret of the sudden and untimely death of M. R. Ry. A. Panchabikesa Aiyar Ayl., President of S. I. T. U., and by his death the Union has lost the services of an experienced worker. The strength of the Executive Board has been increased in accordance with the resolution passed at the last provincial educational conference, and each district can under the new rules have a representative on the Board. Several communications on matters of educational interest were sent to the affiliated associations, and the help and co-operation of the members of the Board were often sought to secure as wide a

publicity as possible to the activities of the Union. It cannot be too strongly represented that the efficiency and usefulness of the Union depend in no small degree upon the readiness and willingness with which the members of the Board are prepared to respond to the appeal of the Union.

The Educational Conference.—The Fifteenth Provincial Educational Conference was held at Madras under the auspices of the S. I. T. U. on the 7th, 8th and 9th of May with Mr. P. T. Srinivasa Aiyangar in the chair. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. A. C. Pranatharthihara Aiyar Chairman of the Reception Committee, Mr. A. Panchabikesa Aiyar welcomed the delegates. Mr. Srinivasa Aiyangar delivered an interesting address and drew pointed attention to the defects in the educational system. Copies of the report of the proceedings of this conference were sent to the associations, and the reception committee regret that the report could not be published earlier. An early publication of the report of the conference will help the associations in planning a definite programme of work for the year, and it is hoped that in the years to come the reception committee concerned will kindly arrange to publish the report by August.

Activities S. I. T. U.—The work that the South India Teachers' Union turned out in the year under review was of a varied character. It is no compliment either to the authorities or to the teachers that several of the questions forming the subject matter of discussion in our conference for years should still continue to find a place in the agenda.

a. **Provident Fund**—The important question the union took up for careful consideration this year was the Provident Fund instituted by the Government for the benefit of teachers in non-pensionable service. Copies of the reprint of the articles on Provident Fund that appeared in

the Educational review, were made available to the associations and to the members of the Board, so that the teachers might know definitely what they stood to lose under the Government scheme. Several associations have considered this question, and the resolutions passed by them strongly urging among other things the necessity for the enhancement of the rate of interest were communicated to the authorities and the press. A deputation of the Madras Teachers' Guild waited upon the Director of Public Instruction in connection with the Provident Fund, and it is understood that the enhancement of the rate of interest is engaging the attention of the authorities.

b. **Organisation**—Members of the Board and the secretaries of the affiliated associations were requested to take steps towards organising District Guilds where no such body existed. It is gratifying to see that a District Guild has been formed at Tinnevely, and we trust it will have a bright and useful career. We understand that District Guilds have been formed at Calicut and Guntur. It is hoped they will ere long get themselves affiliated to the union. The secretary of the union took advantage of the Tirupathi Natural Science Exhibition at the opening of which many teachers from Vellore, Tirupathi, and Chittoor were present, to discuss with them the necessity for the formation of District Guilds. A reference was made in the course of the discussion to the special difficulties that stood in the way of the formation of District Guilds in mofussal centres. The conference will do well to examine the question fully and to remove misunderstandings and distrust that unfortunately exist in the rank and file of the profession.

c. **Protection Fund**—Copies of the report on Protection Fund adopted at the last conference were supplied to the

associations and they were requested to take necessary action. Few associations seem to be keen on starting this fund and the Teachers' Association of Kallakurichi does not approve of the scheme.

Election to the Senate.—No provision for direct representation of the teaching profession in the Senate is contained in the Madras University Act, and it was hence thought proper that the S. I. T. U. should put up its own candidates with a view to secure through its own efforts, to the profession, direct representation which the Government, for reasons best known to it, has not chosen to extend. The following six gentlemen, Messrs P. T. Srinivasa aiyangar, S. K. Yegnanarayana ayyar, P. V. Seshu ayyar, K. B. Ramathan, P. Subramania ayya and Dr. Mathai were, on the scrutiny of the voting papers received from the associations, declared as the candidates of the union. An election campaign with necessary circulars and pamphlets was undertaken, and the expenses of this campaign were met partly from donations and partly from S. I. T. U. funds. It is a matter for congratulation that four out of the six candidates, Messrs P. T. Srinivasa Aiyangar, P. V. Seshu Aiyar, K. B. Ramathan and Dr. Mathai were returned to the Senate. The thanks of the union are due to the Members of the Board, and to the Secretaries of associations and Guilds for the services rendered in this connection. Experience gained in this election goes to show clearly that the teaching profession can, thanks to the principle of Proportionate representation by means of the single transferable vote, hope to secure a larger representation, if only the teachers eligible for registration get themselves registered, and make up their minds to vote for the profession.

- e. **Representation to the Director of Public Instruction:**—The resolutions passed at the last conference were communi-

cated to the authorities in time. The secretary of the union requested the Director of Public Instruction to grant him a personal interview so as to enable him to present the views of the S. I. T. U. more fully. The secretary brought to the notice of the director the resolutions relating to the Standardised scales of salary, Grant-in-aid code, Provident Fund, and Representation to District Guilds in District Secondary Education Boards and such other bodies dealing with educational matters. The director expressed his inability to recommend to the Government the adoption of the principle of standardised scales. Though he could not agree to the resolution that the Government should meet the entire net cost, he seemed to realise the need for the revision of the grant-in-aid code in certain respects. As for the other two items, he gave an assurance that they would receive his sympathetic consideration. Now that the grant-in-aid code is being considered by the District Secondary Education Board, the representatives of the teaching staff may be expected to bear in mind the necessity for the inclusion of standardised scales of salary in the recommendations they may choose to make.

Review of the work of affiliated associations:—There are now six District Teachers' Guilds in the Union—the Madras Teachers' Guild, The District Guilds of Tanjore, Trichinopoly, South Arcot and Tinnevely, and the Madura Teachers' Association. The Tinnevely Guild was formed this year and the secretary has no official information regarding the Madura Teachers' Association. The District Guilds held Educational Conferences this year as usual and made arrangements for discussion and public lectures. They also held ordinary meetings to consider questions as they arose. The Madras Guild has started a Co-operative Credit Society for the benefit of its members, and the school masters of Villupuram have been running a co-operative society. A deputation of the Madras Teachers' Guild waited upon the Hon'ble Finance

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Member, the Hon'ble Minister for Education, and the Director of Public Instruction in connection with the special grant of one lakh of rupees reported to be omitted in the Budget of 1924-25. We understand that the representation of the Madras Guild that the special grant should on no account be withdrawn is likely to receive favourable consideration.

Finance:—A perusal of the Financial Statement (Appendix A) will show that the South India Teachers' Union has not yet secured such a strong hold on the teachers in this presidency, as may be felt to be necessary in the changed conditions of educational administration. A provincial organisation cannot live from hand to mouth, and if associations pay their subscription before September, it may be possible to arrange to carry on propaganda work effectively throughout the presidency.

General:—All classes of people, educationists and non-educationists, politicians in office and politicians out of office, often complain that much of the present-day education is very poor stuff. Each man has got his own suggestions for the improvement of education, the adoption of which alone will in his opinion make the educational system compare favourably with that in other parts of the world. The Honourable Minister for Education seems to feel that a scraping of the machinery or the creation of a new machinery is all that is needed, and he seems to think that all problems of education should then somehow solve themselves. Are not the District Secondary Education Boards competent to solve the intricate questions connected with Secondary Education though they should remain as advisory bodies? Why should it not be possible for the different authorities of the Madras University with representatives from Municipalities, District Boards etc., to tackle the problem of University Education? What about the District Educational Councils which, it was fondly hoped, would exert themselves to bring elementary education of the right sort to the very door of the villager? These councils are referred to in no complimentary terms even in high quar-

ters. All these bodies, however well constituted, cannot arrest the growth of sterilising influences in the educational system. The authorities find it convenient to forget that in Education almost everything depends upon the personal element of the teacher. The need for plain talk was never so pressing. Where is the man who would approach the problem in the liberal spirit of the Rt. Hon'ble H. A. C. Fisher? "If education is bad, it can always be improved by the very simple expedient of getting good teachers on the only terms on which you are certain of getting good work in any department of life, and that is to say, by paying reasonable salaries. And I will say this of our schools, that many of them are a great deal better than we deserve to have if you consider the wages which we have been content to pay for our teachers."

Speaking before the Lancashire Teachers' Association on the significance of state-aid to education, the Rt. Hon'ble Fisher said "it emphasises the fact that the teacher is the servant not only of the locality but of the nation, that the teacher is performing a national function in national schools, and that this carried with it an obligation upon the teacher to do nothing unworthy of the trust which is reposed in him. The system of education in this country will be judged by what you are and by what you do." This is really an ideal which teachers interested in the South India Teachers' Union should always cherish, and here we find a clear indication of the lines along which our activities should be directed. The need of the hour is organisation, and every teacher should regard it as a duty as well as a privilege to strengthen the union and extend to it his generous support. If teachers care to place the dignity and interest of the teaching profession above everything else, the South India Teachers' Union is bound to become a powerful body which will, on the one hand enable them through exchange of ideas to maintain a high standard of efficiency, and on the other, give them facilities for enlightening public men on educational matters and influencing public opinion in respect of education in general.

APPENDIX A.

S. I. T. U. Balance Sheet for 1923-24. (Until 18th April)

RECEIPTS.		CHARGES.	
	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
1 Opening balance ...	20 9 1	1 Senate Election expenses S. I. T. U. contribution ...	29 1 6
2 Affiliation fees ...	117 4 0	2 Printing, postage and contingent charges ...	26 7 6
		3 With the Honry. Secry. Mr. Sabhesa Ayer ...	1 4 0
		4 With Mr. Jayarama Aiyer Secry. S. Arcot, Dt. Guild...	0 1 6
		5 Cash with the Treasurer ...	80 14 7
	137 13 1		137 13 1

M. VIRASAMI AIYAH.

Treasurer, 18-4-23.

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APPENDIX B.

Office bearers of the S. I. T. U. elected at the 15th Provincial Educational Conference held in May '23 at Madras.

President :—Mr. A. Panichabikesa Aiyar, M. A., L. T.

Secretary :—Mr. M. S. Sabhesan M. A.

Assistant Secretary :—Mr. T. Ramanujachari.

Treasurer :—Mr. Virasamiah, B. A., L. T.

Members of the Executive Board (One for each District):

GANJAM	Vacant
VIZAG	"
GODAVARY	Mr. Gouripathy Rao B. A., L. T.
KRISHNA	Vacant
GUNTUR	"
ANANTAPUR	" C. Ranganatha Aiyangar M. A., L. T.
BELLARY	" K. Subramaniya Aiyar B. A., L. T.
GUDDAPPAH	" V. Venkatachari B. A., L. T.
KURNOOL	" R. K. Kuppuswami
NELLORE	" D. Venka Subbiah
CHITTOOR	" T. R. Subramaniya Aiyar B. A., L. T.
MADRAS	" G. Ratnam Pillai B. A., L. T.
CHINGLEPUT	" P. Bayijayaragavachariar B. A., L. T.
NORTH ARCOT	" C. Mahalingam A., L. T.
SOUTH ARCOT	" C. S. Rajagawami Aiyangar B. A., L. T.
TANJORE	" V. Ragava Aiyangar M. A., L. T.
TRICHINOPOLY	" S. K. Devasigamani B. A., L. T.
SALEM	" Krishna Sastri B. A., L. T.
COIMBATORE	" R. K. Kuppuswami Aiyangar B. A., L. T.
MADURA	" P. N. Panichabikesa B. A., L. T.
RAMNAD	" S. Ranganatha Aiyangar B. A., L. T.
TINNEVELLY	" A. Sundaresan M. A., L. T.
MALABAR	" V. V. Parameswara Aiyar B. A., L. T.
SOUTH CANARA	Vacant
NILGIRIS	"

APPENDIX C.

List of Teachers' Associations affiliated to the Union.

DISTRICTS.

Ganjam.

- 1 Russelkonda Board High School.
- 2 Chatrapur Onslow Institue

Codavari.

- 3 Peddapuram A. E. L. M. High School
- 4 Tuni, Rajah's High School
- 5 Ramachandrapuram National High School
- 6 Bobbili Maharaja's High School
- 7 Anakapalli Municipal High School

Krishna.

- 8 Narasapur Taylor High School
- 9 Tanuku Board High School

Guntur.

- 10 Tenali T. H. School
- 11 Bapatla Board High School

Nellore.

- 12 Nellore V. R. H. School
- 13 Nellore C. M. A. H. Sbhoor
- 14 Nellore Teacher's Council

Anantapur.

- 15 Gooty London Mission High School

Cuddapah.

- 16 Guddapah Board High School

Bellary.

- 17 Bellary Wardlaw High School
- 18 Hospet Municipal High School
- 19 Madanapalli, College

Madras.

- 20 The Madras Teacher's Guild
- 21 Triplicane Hindu High School
- 22 Madras Pachaiyappa's High School
- 23 Mylayore P. S. High School
24. Madras G. N. Secondary Sbhoor.

North Arcot.

25. Arni Board High School.
26. Vellore Sri Mahant's D.H. Sbhoor,
27. Vaniambody Madrasa-e-Islamieh.
28. Wallajanagar Municipal High School.
- 29 Tiruppathoor do.
- 30 Tiruyannamalai do.
- 31 Gudiyatham do.

Chittoor.

- 32 Chittoor B.Z. School.
- 33 Tirupati D.H.H. School.
- 34 Tirupati H.E.L.M. High School.
- 35 The Conjeevaram Teachers' Union.
- 36 Perambur C. C. C. High School.
- 37 Chingleput Native High School.

Chingleput.

- 38 Madurantakam Hindu High School.
- 39 Arkonam C.S.M. High School.

South Arcot.

- 40 *The South Arcot District Teachers' Guild and the Affiliated Associations of:—*
- 41 Chidambaram Pachaiyappa's High School,
- 42 Do. Town High School.
- 43 Villupuram Board High School
- 44 Triukkoilur do.
- 45 Panruti do.

- 46 Kallakurichi Board Middle School
- 47 Kurinjippadi do.
- 48 Porto Novo do.
- 49 Kattumannarkoil do.
- 50 Vriddhachalam do.
- 51 Cuddalore N. T. Municipal High School
- 52 Cuddalore O. T. S. P. G. Secondary School
- 53 Tindivanam A. A. M. H. School

Tanjore.

- 54 *The Tanjore District Teachers' Guild and its Affiliated Associations of:—*
- 55 Tirukkattupalle High School
- 56 Tranquebar Nadars' High School, Poraiyar
- 57 Shiyali Sabanayakar High School
- 58 Shiyali L. M. C. High School
- 59 Mayavaram National Secondary School
- 60 Pattukkottai Board High School
- 61 Tiruturaiyandi do
- 62 Ayyampet do
- 63 Kodayasal do
- 64 Nannilam do
- 65 Orthanod do
- 66 Tanjore St. Peter's High School
- 67 Do. Kalyanasundram High School
- 68 Negapattam National High School
- 69 Mannargudi Findlay High School
- 70 do National High School
- 71 Kumbakonam Native High School
- 72 do Town High School
- 73 do Banadurai High School
- 74 Kumbakonam Chettapani Sannidhi Secondary School
- 75 Arantangi Board Middle School
- 76 Rajanadam do
- 77 Mudikondan Edward Middle School

- 78 Tiruvadamardur Aryan Middle School
- 79 Umayalpuram Middle School
- 80 Papanasam Victoria High School
- 81 Kuttalam Secondary School
- 82 Mayavaram Municipal High School

Trichinopoly.

- 83 *District Teacher's Guild and its affiliated Associations of:—*
- 84 Kattapputtur Z. H. School
- 85 Kodumudi Sri Sankara Vidyalaya
- 86 Kulitalai Board High School
- 87 Ariyalur do
- 88 Lalgudy do
- 89 Srirangam High School
- 90 Musiri Board High School
- 91 Karur Municipal High School
- 92 Pudukkotta Swedish Mission High School
- 93 do C. L. M. High School

Salem.

- 94 Bavani Board Secondary School
- 95 Tiruppur Municipal High School
- 96 Dharapuram do
- 97 Udumalpet do
- 98 Pollachi do
- 99 Udumalpet High School, Kaniyur
- 100 Erode L. M. High School
- 101 do Mahajana High School
- 102 Dharmapuri Board Secondary School
- 103 Rasipuram do
- 104 Krishnagiri do
- 105 Karur do
- 106 Nammakkal do
- 107 Kaveripatnam Board Secondary School
- 108 Hosur do

- 110 Tiruchengode do
 111 Athur do
 112 Dinaloor Incomplete Secondary School

Madura and Ramanad.

- 113 Madura Teachers' Guild,
 114 Bodinayakanur Victoria Memorial High School.
 115 Sathur A.V. Secondary School
 116 Virupatti Kshatriya Vidyalaya
 117 Ramnad Setupet High School
 118 Tirupavanam Board Middle School

Tinnevely.

- 119 *District Teachers' Guild and its affiliated Associations of:—*
 120 Tinnevely Hindu Collge
 121 Tuticorn Melur S. P. G. Middle School
 122 do The Caldwell High School
 123 do San Francis Xavier's High School
 124 do A. V. School
 125 Pattamaddi High School
 126 Tenkasi do
 127 Ettayapuram Raja's E. M. High School
 128 Srivaikuntam C. H. School
 129 Ambasamudram Tirthapathi High School
 130 Watrap Hindu Secondary School
 131 Gopalamudram High School
 132 Sivakasi do
 133 Kadianapallur Board Middld School (via Tenkasi)
 134 Ichapur Secondary School

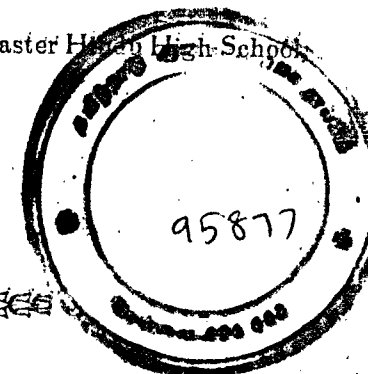
Malabar.

- 135 Ottapalam High School
 136 Palghat Native High School
 137 Angadipuram Board Secondary School
 138 Koduvayur Board High School
 139 Vadakkanthurai Higher Elementary School

- 140 Kottayi High School
 141 Betatnad (via Tirur) Board High School

Individual Members.

- 1 J. P. Kotillingam, M.A. Bellary
 2 T. V. Srinivasa Aiyar, Amalapuram
 3 S. Sundaresa Sastriar, Kattinpputtur
 4 R. Swaminatha Aiyar, Kumbakonam
 5 H. Devadoss, Madras
 6 Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswami Iyengar, Trivand-
 rum
 7 Rao Bahadur A. C. Pranatharthihara Aiyar, Madras
 8 C. R. Reddy Chittoor.
 9 Rao Bahadur K. B. Ramaniathan Aiyer, Madras
 10 Prof. K. Ramanujachari, Trichicopoly
 11 S. Srinivasa Iyengar, Madras
 12 G. Vandanam,
 13 M. C. Raja,
 14 S. K. Deivasikhamoni
 15 C. Rajagopal Naidu
 16 A. Narayanamurthi Head Master High School,
 Intur Guntur District.



செப்பனிருபவர் பெயர்

செப்பனிருவதற்காக எடுத்த
கொள்வனப்பட்ட நாள்

சுரபா ரெட்டி
மு. பாரதி
கையொப்பம்

சுரபா ரெட்டி
உதவியாளர்
கையொப்பம்

31/7/16