

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

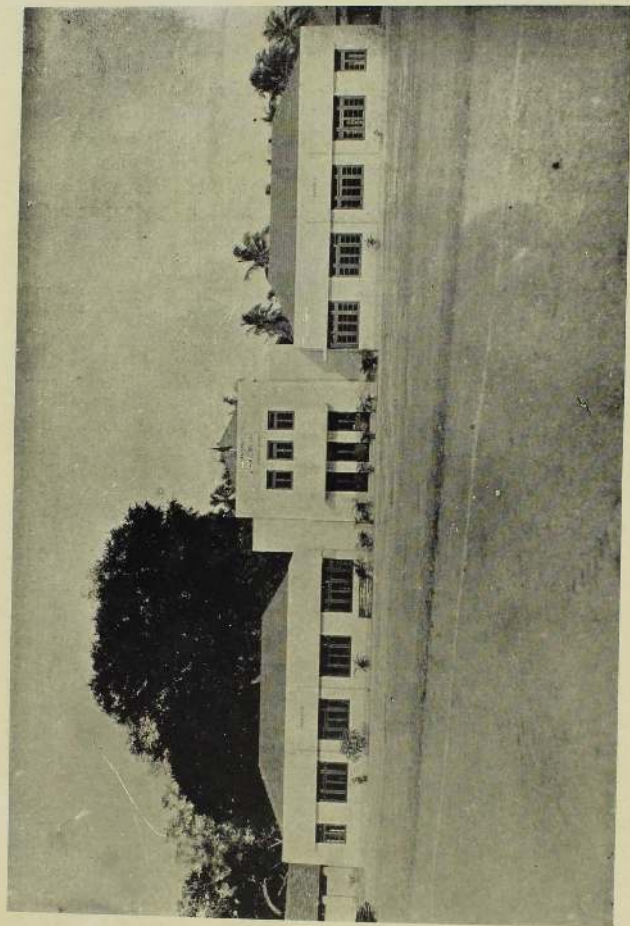
- - MAGAZINE - -

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CENTENARY SCIENCE BLOCK.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

- - MAGAZINE - -

VOL. XXXVII.

Edited by K. Nesiah

X'MAS 1942

பரிவு மிடுக்கணும் பாங்குற நீங்குமின்
றெய்வந் தெளிமின் றெளித்தோரப் பேணுமின்
பொய்யுரை யஞ்சுமின் புறஞ்சொற் போற்றுமி
னாணான் றுமி னுயிர்க்கொலை நீங்குமின்
ருனஞ் செய்ம்மின் றவம்பல தாங்குமின்
செய்ந்தன்றி கொல்லன்மின் தீநட் பிகழ்மின்
பொய்க்கரி போகன்மின் பொருண்மொழி நீக்கன்மி
ன்றவோ ரவைக்கள மகலா தணுகுமின்
பிறவோ ரவைக்களம் பிழைத்துப் பெயர்மின்
பிறர்மனை யஞ்சுமின் பிழையுமி ரோம்புமி
ன்றமனை காமி னல்லவை கழிமின்
கள்ளந் களவுந் காமமும் பொய்யும்
வெள்ளைக் கோட்டியும் வீரகிரி லொழிமி
னரிளமையுந் செல்வமும் யாக்கையு நிலையா
வுநான் வரையா தொல்லுவ தொழியாது
செல்லுந் தேவத்துக் குறுதுணை தேடுமின்
மல்லன்மா ஞாலத்து வாழ்வீ நீங்கென்.

—இளங்கோவடிகள் சிலப்பதிகாரம்

THE EDITOR THINKS ALOUD...

IT is with a sense of obligation to the past that the present Editor takes over the editorial pen from his talented predecessor, Mr Victor C. Canaga Retnam. This Magazine, which commenced publication in 1905, has had a long line of distinguished editors, everyone of whom has contributed to shape it and give it that peculiar character and charm it has for all Johnians past and present. Mr Isaac Tambyah, Advocate, (as he then was) was the first and perhaps most distinguished editor; but hardly less distinguished were those who followed him. As some volumes of the Magazine (1912 and years following) are not available in the College we are not able to make a full list, but the names definitely known to be connected with the editorship make an impressive tradition: Rev. Jacob Thompson, Messrs J. M. Hensman, T. H. Crossette, Edgar A. Niles, A. M. Nathaniel, R. R. Crossette-Tambyah, B. S. Peterson, S. J. Gunasegaram, G. S. Chellaiah.

School journalism has its own special characteristics no less well-defined than those of the Fourth Estate. If the public Press is a sort of everyman's literature, the school journal is the literature of the school world. The latter, no less than the former, while helping to create the taste and opinions of its readers, cannot yet afford to offend its readers. If a sense of responsibility weighs upon the editor of a public newspaper, so does it upon the school editor. If the country and its all-round progress (subject to any vested interests of the proprietor!) is the concern of the public paper, the school in its many aspects is the prime concern of the school organ. If the ordinary newspaper has a well-established policy (the editor's chair can figure in somersaults!), every contributor of general articles or school news to the school journal has to bow to the silent pressure of the indefinable something called the school spirit and the school tradition. Finally, if the public Press brings the country together in its political consciousness, the school paper links the members of the school in one fellowship and even links one generation of school boys with another. There was one point, however, where we used to score over our public contemporaries; that is, we used glazed paper instead of rough newsprint. Here, the War has been a great leveller and has forced us too to use the cheap stuff of which great newspapers are produced. Nevertheless, the point we would urge is that school journalism has its own characteristics, its own code and its own traditions.

The Editor must perforce look round the school. A great school, it may be said, consists of four elements: worthy buildings, noble minds, great traditions

and, of course, a good school magazine. We have long reproached ourselves with possessing almost everything that goes to make a great school except buildings. Now, practically every edifice in the school premises has received the restoration touch and the new buildings, especially the splendid Science Block, have put us on a par with the best school anywhere. The challenge to the present generation is to be worthy of all that we have. The two eminent persons who participated in the opening of the Science Block symbolised a two-fold message: Religion and Science.

We offer our felicitations to the University of Ceylon. Our school has many links with the new University and many of our former boys are pursuing their studies there. The hope has been expressed in many quarters that the Ceylon University should attempt to make a synthesis of Eastern and Western Culture. It is a grand dream and may be realised some day. We would, however, suggest that there are other roles equally exalted and more urgent. We may start with giving the right place to Sinhalese and Tamil by instituting separate Chairs for the two great languages of this country. The fusion of the two streams of Culture associated with these two languages has been going on for centuries and the University can do no better than consummate this historical process. Studied side by side, one study enriching the other, this may be a more fruitful project than other ambitious ones. We do not support any narrow or exclusive spirit, but we do think that the right approach would be to add new elements to old.

We should like to say a word or two about our contributors. *Mr J. M. Hensman* is our oldest Old Boy and Jaffna's living Grand Old Man. He completed 93 on the 24th of November. He keeps his years well. It may not be known to the new generation that when Mr Hensman retired from the Madras Educational Service some decades ago he took an active interest in public affairs and was one of the founders and sometime President of the Jaffna Association, perhaps the oldest political organisation in Ceylon. His reminiscences take us to other times and other men.

Srimat Swami Vipulananda is undoubtedly one of Ceylon's greatest sons; sannyasin, scholar, teacher and reformer. He writes here for us on a subject on which no one else in India or Ceylon can write better. *Mr P. I. Matthai* of the College Staff has certainly risen to the height of his theme. *Mr Geo. Philipiah*, a former teacher, has given us another result of the good use he is making of his retirement. *Mr S. K. Sivalingam* a recent Old Boy, full of devotion to his Alma Mater, contributes in verse and prose. "*The Undergrad*", who strives to keep his anonymity, was a bright lad here only a few years ago. Several of the school boy contributors are finding themselves in the thrill of print for the first time; the author of "*These Clods of Clay*", full of 'gravitas', has contributed before and, we dare say, will see himself in print often hereafter.

We wish our readers a Happy Christmas and a Bright 1943.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE MAGAZINE

ISSUED QUARTERLY

VOL. IV

OCTOBER, 1907

No. 2

NOTES AND COMMENTS

—WE desire to join heartily in the welcome that has been accorded throughout the Island to our Governor — Sir Henry Mc Callum. His Excellency has raised high hopes and expectations in the minds of all, and the few speeches he has made after the assumption of his responsible office, have clearly shewn that he has an exalted view of the duties of an administrator. We are yet in the dark as to what His Excellency's educational policy will be, but we earnestly trust that Progress will be his watch-word.

—We take this opportunity of congratulating ourselves on the appointment *pro tem* of Sir William Twynam C. M. G. — the Grand Old Man in Jaffna — to the Government Agency of the Northern Province. In taking this selfish view of the event, we believe our congratulations to Sir William are none the less loyal and sincere. Old as he is, Sir William is hale and hearty, and in his declining years he will no doubt find a source of pride and satisfaction in this unique recognition of his worth.

—This Island of ours has not yet attained a definite policy in the matter of education.....

—We emphatically declare that until we have a University of our own the problem of higher education will remain unsolved. May we hope that the regime of our new Governor will become memorable in the annals of Ceylon by the inauguration of the much-to-be desired University.....

Reminiscences of My Early Days

I SUPPOSE I am expected to write about my early days in the Chundikuli Seminary, but that would leave my account quite inadequate for when I came to Chundikuli in 1859 I had practically finished my Tamil education at Kopay and I found that Tamil was not a subject taught in the Chundikuli Seminary. There was only Elementary Mathematics, English and Latin besides Scripture. My education later on would have been hopeless but for the Tamil I had learnt at Kopay, in the Elementary Tamil Station School. So I must write about what I learnt in that Elementary Tamil School. The boys were more or less all seated on the floor and I learnt my Arithmetic writing by my right forefinger on the sanded floor of the school. The teacher gave us a thorough grounding in Arithmetic so that we knew our addition, subtraction, multiplication and division until the work had become entirely mechanical. We learnt by rote, so that we could repeat mechanically: காலேந்து இருபது, ஐயெட்டு நாற்பது, ஏழெட்டைம்பத்தாறு, ஆறென்பதைம்பத்தானு, etc, without a single moment's pause for thinking. This complete mastery of figures helped me in the whole of my educational career, as a learner and as a teacher. The teacher's name was Ponniah and I have a grateful corner of my heart for his name.

And then as to my progress in Tamil, he taught us Tamil grammar thoroughly so that by the time I left Kopay and went to Chundikuli there was no intricacy in Tamil grammar which I was not master of. My progress in Tamil Literature also was really marvellous. I knew with பதவுரை one or two சங்கம் of Villiputurar's Mahabharata, some parts of Naladiar, நீதிநெறிவிளக்கம், and so on. All this may seem extravagant self-laudation. But I am writing facts. The teacher deserves a major part of the praise.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating of it. I joined the highest class in the lower school at Chundikuli in 1859 and I am glad I had the good fortune to have as my teacher one Kanagasabai. He taught me English grammar through my Tamil grammar, so that in about a year's time there was no word in any English sentence which I could not parse readily even if I did not understand the English sentence. I became a marvel and somehow the Headmaster of the Seminary, Mr Robert Williams, came to know of my skill in parsing. And if any big fellow in one of the higher classes failed to

parse a word Mr Williams sent for me and asked me to parse the word, which I always did correctly, and the boy who failed to pass the word felt thoroughly ashamed. I was then ten or eleven years old.

Then I was taken into the higher school. I was put into the sixth form, which was the lowest form in the high school, the highest class being called the first form, the next lower the second form and so on. I don't remember who my teachers were in the sixth, fifth and fourth forms. Nor do I remember what progress I made in the various subjects. I must have made some progress in English and Arithmetic. But I do remember my teacher in the third form. I do not like to give his name for so far as I could make out he knew nothing.

When I came to Chundikuli, Tamil entirely disappeared from the school course and the study of Latin began in the third form so that from 1859 right up to the end of 1865 there was no Tamil teaching at all. I learnt some Latin under Mr Robert Williams. He was a fine English scholar and a good mathematician. But it is strange for me now to think that he exercised no supervision whatever of the work of the lower forms. Evidently, Rev. Robert Pargiter appointed the lower forms teachers himself and did not ask Mr Williams to see that they did their duty. Mr Williams of course left them alone. The teacher in the second form, a fine Burgher gentleman, was a good English scholar and taught us our English Readers, but very little else.

It was when we came to the first form that Mr Williams pulled us up in every one of the subjects. But even he failed to make out that I knew no Algebra though, strange to say, I worked out questions in that subject. And if I solved any problem and found out the value of 'x' the answer contained 'x' also!! Practically I knew no Algebra when I left school at the end of 1865. It was in the first form, under Mr Williams, I mastered my Latin fairly well. I said that Mr Williams was a fine English scholar and a first rate mathematician. How well he taught us French 'On the study of Words'!

On Sunday evenings we used to go to the Fort Church where Mr Pargiter conducted an English service for the benefit of the large Burgher colony in Jaffna and the European officials. We the boarders attended that Evening Service. That Burgher colony has practically disappeared from Jaffna. We used to go in our primitive clothes, in our verty and *சவுந்தம்* thrown over our shoulders.

What shall I say about our Boarding House? We were boarders but we had no boarding house. We lived in the school rooms. Our dining room

was in a thatched shed. The school rooms were also our bed rooms. But we did not complain. There were about twenty-five or thirty of us.

I went to India and joined the Matriculation class in a Government High School in May or June, 1866. I found the second language there was Tamil. There was Tamil poetry and Tamil prose. I had to tackle these texts without any study of Tamil for seven years and found that the Tamil texts were not beyond me. This would show how thorough and complete the teaching was in the Tamil Station School at Kopay. I should have mentioned another circumstance about my Tamil. My father had a large bureau at Kopay. Into one of the drawers he had thrown in a very large number of Tamil story books. I alighted on these books and went on reading one story after another so that by the time I went to Chundikuli I had read about forty or fifty of these books. In the Senior B. A. class at Kumbakonam, while reading Kambar's Ramayana சுந்தரகாண்டம் the students were asked to give the பதவுரை of one of the stanzas. My turn came and I had to give the meaning of a Tamil word for 'they died'; I gave the meaning as 'மரணித்தார்'. The whole class laughed, but the Pandit told them it was a very good Tamil word. I must have picked up that word in one or more of the stories I read in Kopay before I went to Chundikuli.

Mr Percival Acland Dyke was the Government Agent of that time. He belonged to a good family in England. He came to Ceylon after having joined the Civil Service. When he came to Jaffna he stuck to this place for the rest of his official career. It was he who made the Old Park and also planted all the mahogany avenues in Chundikuli and Nallore. He had trees brought from South America and Africa and planted them all round the Park. He also planted rare fruits trees inside the Park, plums and different varieties of guava amongst them. One of the guava varieties was blood red in colour and extremely sweet. The boys of the Seminary were free to enter the garden and to eat as much fruit as they wanted, but not to take any away.

J. M. HENSMAN

Fight, O my brother, fight to the bitter end!

— Kabir

To

Rev. J. T. Arulanantham

(Sung at reception by Old Boys of Nuwara Eliya)

1. முத்திலங்கு கடல்குழு மிலங்கை யன்னை
 முகம்எனவே வைத்தோது மியாழ் ககரில்
 சுத்தவெளி வீசியிருள் தூத்து காட்டம்
 செப்பவெனில் யோவானைச் சொல்லும் பாரில்
 முத்துநிறப் பூமாது முவந்து வாயு
 முயர்கலைகள் தெரிந்துதவும் ஞானக் கடம்
 வித்தகர்கள் உணர்க்தோத உய்யும் சீடர்
 மிகவிழையும் கலைமாடம் செஞ்சோன்ஸ் தானே.

2. ஐய வருக! அண்ணல் வருக!
 ரெய்மிசு செஞ்சோன்ஸ் தேறல் வருக!
 கலங்கொ டெங்கள் கலமிகக் கருதிப்
 பலங்கொளு கல்வி பறிந்து மாடக்
 திறங்கொடு யாற்றும் செல்வ வருக!
 மைத்தர் யாங்கள் மனமது குவிரச்
 சிந்தை குவித்து சிரமது கரங்கள்
 தந்து ஈந்தன் தாழடி பணிந்தேம்
 அருளே குணத்த ஐய நின்றுக
 தாலே யெம்முள மானக் தமேயுந்
 துய்ய வருளா னந்த வருக!
 மேய்ய வருக! மேலோய் வருக!
 வருக! வருக! மங்களம் பெருகவே!

Nuwara Eliya,
 30-8-1942

S. K. SIVALINGAM

The Radio Talk on The Music of The Tamils

BY

SWAMI VIPULANANDA

RECENTLY I had the uncanny experience of meeting my "double". Previous information was given to me that on the fourteenth day of October precisely at 7.45 p.m. the visitor, I mean my "double", would call on me. I waited for him in the well-furnished parlour of a friend's house in Calcutta. As the minute hand of the clock stood at VIII my heart began to throb. The excitement soon passed away, for correct to the very second the latch of the door was lifted, my visitor entered and stood face to face with me. I say 'face to face' in a figurative sense, for my visitor's face and lineaments were invisible, yet I knew that it was he and none other. I distinctly heard his voice. He was not mimicking me, for his speech was not a superficial imitation of mine. It was not a sound 'photograph' that was sent to me over the ether. I was confronted by a living moving personality so closely resembling me that my nearest friends would have sworn to it that I was present at the Trichinopoly broadcasting station on that particular evening and sent over the ether a 'learned' discourse on Ancient Tamil Music. Electrical recording my performed the seeming miracle and gave me the rare opportunity of objectively studying my own performance. I shall give later my reactions to this radio talk; now let me quote from a letter received from Colombo. Needless to say that the writer is a close personal friend of mine. He says:

"Dear Swamiji,

I listened to your recorded talk* and Shivanandan's play on the Vina last Wednesday. The matter of the speech, I was already familiar with; but I wonder whether to the layman, the number of vibrations and Tamil—Sanskrit names of Carnatic Ragas would have meant anything. To the professional musician and the physicist, it would have been a treat and to the Tamilian—pure and unalloyed—this speech must have filled him with a sense of pride in his mother-tongue.

I would however, respectfully suggest that a general introduction summarizing the methods adopted in your study and the implications of this discovery should be given. This would enable an ordinary student† like myself to gauge the greatness and appreciate the intellect of our ancients. Are you giving a talk in English from the Calcutta Station?

I am extremely happy to hear that the English edition (of தமிழ் பாடல்) will be an independent work. This is as it should be

Friends like the writer of the above letter are aware of the fact that for the last ten years I have been giving the best part of my spare time to the study of this subject. Whenever I felt tired of the boredom of every day life the distant past beckoned me to enter its golden realms. That past always appeared to me a bit more real than the present.

* He was previously informed of the recording—V.

† My friend is a Master of Arts and is preparing for a doctorate; he is, therefore, not quite an 'ordinary student'—V.

The hills and dales of ancient Tamil - land, the castles perched upon the tops of those hills, the rough old chieftains who lived in the castles and were almost continuously engaged in fighting each other, the wandering minstrel who sang and played upon the harp and was regaled with strong liquor and

“ rich meats of various kinds

So well prepared by cooks with sturdy hands,”

(Quoted from Mr J. V. Chelliah's *Pattuppattu* English Translation)

all these appeared before my mind's eye as a moving pageant full of life and colour.

The dulcet notes of the minstrel's harp fell upon my ears and evoked the sweetly sad memories of a remote past of which I somehow seemed to be a part.

The cowherd, ' adorned with the garland of wild flowers ', lived in Tamil - land long before the Pyramids of Egypt were built, yet he appeared to me as being a contemporary. I saw him fashioning his bamboo flute and playing on it those five melodies which came into existence when music was yet pentatonic and which are loved by musicians and listeners even to this day. (Here, I take my friend's admonition and refrain from giving the Tamil and Sanskrit names of the five melodies referred to above). I saw the cowherd carrying in his hands the bow - harp with the seven strings, the precursor of all harps.

The *Padmi*, the minstrels wife, appeared before me carrying the ' small harps ', the delicate instrument which spoke the language of love. Following her the *Panan* came with the ' large harp ' that roused the ancient warriors to deeds of valour. There were also men who played upon many kinds of drums, some accompanied the warriors when they marched to raid their neighbour's cattle. (In the remote past such raids were the recognized forms of presenting an ultimatum before the beginning of hostile operations). Then there was the victory drum that rested upon a canopied couch and was revered almost as a God.

Then I witnessed the Deluge, the same that is recorded in the Bible, and saw how an angry sea swept away a large slice of ancient Tamil - land. Parties of men and women from the submerged land sailed northwards and reached the Sindh valley where they built the ancient cities, brought to light after seven thousand years by the excavations of Sir John Marshal. Another party led by Uruam, உருவர் (Oannes) and Odakon, ஓடகோன், reached the Persian Gulf, settled in the valley of the Two Rivers and were known as Sumerians. They taught their neighbours the building of houses with bricks, the making of wheels and such other civilized arts. Yet another party reached the south of Arabia and from there crossed over to Egypt and laid the foundation of a great civilization. The Egyptians had a tradition that their forefathers went from the East, across the sea, from Pandu which had sandalwood trees and elephants. Wherever the ancient Tamils went they carried their harp with them. (Rev. Fr Heras who has done so much to trace Dravidian migrations, if my memory serves me well, quotes Tacitus to prove that the Druids of ancient Britain were brown - skinned Dravidians). In the Sindh valley the constellation Gemini was named ' *Tar* ' the Tamil word for the harp and was denoted by the symbol of the double harp as Fr Heras has pointed out. The first note on the Egyptian musical scale was E, the same note headed the earliest Tamil musical scale also. The Sothic cycle was used in Tamil - land as well as in the land of the Pharos.

Passing through millenniums I came to the second century A. D. to the court of the Chola king and witnessed the *debut* of Madhavi, the dancing girl. In her hand I saw the

'orchestral harp' the technique of playing which has been preserved for us by the learned author, Ilanko - Adikal. (The old Chera, Chola and Pandya dynasties were in full power at the time of the composition of the twin epics which reveal to us Tamil culture at the height of its glory. The very next century saw the eclipse of the old dynasties and the rising of the Pallava power. The Pallavas aryanized the culture of the land. In the seventh century, probably under the direction of Mahendra Varman, the Pallava king who persecuted St Appar, one Rudracharya recorded in stone a musical treatise which remains undeciphered. I visited the Kudimiya malai rock and saw this inscription. The system recorded seems to me to be a hybrid between the Aryan and Dravidian musical systems.)

In the seventh century A. D. I saw the boy - saint of Shiyali and his friend the harp - player visiting temples and giving out those marvellous devotional hymns which have become the national heritage of all Tamils.—I know many Christian friends, the late Rev. Francis Kingsbury was one of them, who have made a careful study of the *Devara* hymns. (The last of the *Devara* hymnists, Saint Sundarar probably lived in the ninth century and two hundred years later the indigenous system of music became obsolete.)

I now come to the last phase of my rambles in the past. In the eleventh century I see the Cholas, who had risen to power again, building up an empire that extended beyond the seas and also erecting those large temples which bear evidence to the greatness of Dravidian architecture and sculpture. The *Devara* hymns were collected and when the Chola monarch sought some one who could give the music of the hymns, there was a solitary lady of the minstrel caste who could do that. All the old treatises of the ancient system of music were lost and the pandits of the time were not able to help the king; probably they were puritanic in their religious outlook and despised music and the musicians. (I had the occasion of meeting a contemporary pandit who cynically remarked to me why I, a religious friar, should interest myself in music, a soft art that excites the passions. That pandit appeared to me to be a lineal descendant of those puritanic pandits of olden times). With the passing away of that lady musician, the last of the ancient minstrels, the musical system developed in ancient Tamil - land became obsolete.

The *Silappadhikaram* was first published by that eminent Tamil scholar the late Mahamahopadhyaya V. Swaminatha Iyer in 1892; portions of it were published by other scholars even earlier. The technique of playing on the *Sakodayal*, the 'orchestral harp' given in Canto III of the book remained a sealed treasure-house. When in 1942 as Dean of the Faculty of Oriental Studies of the Annamalai University, I enlisted the support of musicians and scholars to draw up a scheme of studies for the Music Department, we had to begin the history of the music of South India from the 17th century A. D., the period when the fine arts blossomed under the Nayak kings of Tanjore. It was then the thought entered into my mind to make the attempt to decipher the literary records found in the *Silappadhikaram* and other Tamil classics and to reconstruct the system which became obsolete well nigh a thousand years ago.

The friend who wrote the letter from Colombo asks me to give a summary of the methods adopted in my study and the implications of the results obtained by my research. As for the method, I have already given one aspect of it. I lived in the past and met the ancient minstrel in his true environment and got to know something of his joys and sorrows.

These gave me the clue to the understanding of the seven classical modes known as the seven *palais* in which the ancient musician gave expression to his joys and sorrows. Then my early training in Mathematics and Physics provided me with a valuable tool to attack new problems. I freely used the Scientific Method of formulating a working hypothesis submitting it to experiment and testing the conclusions derived. At the beginning all was a mass of darkness; one ray of light led to the discovery of another and still another. In 1936 when I delivered a series of special lectures on the Music and the Fine Arts of ancient Tamil land under the auspices of the Madras University I had grasped the general outlines of my subject but the details had to be filled in. *The Hindu* gave a full report of the lectures. At that time I was not prepared to cast the results of my study into a permanent form. During the last two years I published some Papers in the official organs of the Madura Tamil Sangam and the Karanthai Tamil Sangam and also one paper in English in the Calcutta Review conducted under the auspices of the Calcutta University.

Recently I have been able to put my theories into practical test by successfully designing and getting made a *Sruti Vina* in which one could play the twenty-two *Srutis* in each octave.

On the 14th of October my radio talk was followed by a demonstration on the *Sruti Vina* of the Seven *palais* played in the *Madhyama Grama* by the talented young musician K. P. Shivanandan of Tanjore. When I listened to that music, the notes appeared to reach my ears passing over the silence of ten centuries. I was thrilled by the knowledge that the last door of the treasure-house was opened. The Seven *palais* cover the whole *gamut* of human emotions. They closely resemble the Greek modes. The *Phrygian* mode — not the ecclesiastical *Phygian* — resembles our *Kodippalai* which was sung by the ancient musicians in the early hours of the morning when new hope surged in the heart. The *Doric* mode resembles our *Vilarippalai* which was sung at the hour of sunset, when a gentle sadness stole over the heart turning it inwards to thought and contemplation. It was not in keeping with the canons of art to play the seven *palais* in rapid succession within the space of fifteen minutes. But in a demonstration it had to be done. The talk that preceded also erred in cramming too much within too short a time.

Now let me pass on to the implications of the results obtained by this research. The musical forms of the one hundred and three Tamil classical melodies known as *Pan* (pronounced like *pan*) have been discovered. This opens a new field of creative activity for composers in South India. For the first time a simple and practical instrument has been designed to play the twenty-two *Srutis* in each octave. The theory of *Gramas* which was more fully developed in the South than in the North reveals the fact that the ancient Tamil musician made use of five *Gramas*. The revival of these *Gramas* is bound to give more richness to South Indian melodies. The *Sruti Vina* affords the scope for exhibiting *Grama* variations, the ordinary *Vina* with the twelve *Swaras* thanas does not. As stated above Shivanandan played the seven *palais* on the *Madhyama Grama*. The inversion of the *Madhyama Grama* gives the *Rishabha Grama* which happens to be identical with the *Euro. Major Diatonic Scale*. Consequently the *Major Diatonic Scale* can also be played upon the *Sruti Vina*. None noticed this possibility before, although several Western scholars have laboured in the field of Indian music. The students of the Tamil Classics are anxiously looking forward to the publication of *Uthamam* for they know that at last there is the possibility of studying the whole of the *Silappadhikaram* without skipping over the valuable portions that preserved for posterity the Music of the Tamils.

DHEENABANDHU C. F. ANDREWS

(*An address at morning assembly*)

INDIA has seen some great world conquerors, and one of the greatest of them—Alexander the Great. When Alexander conquered the Punjab with his mighty hordes, she did indeed bend low before the blow but only for a time. It was a mere ephemeral conquest ; and as the poet Mathew Arnold has sung as only a poet can,

“ The East bowed low before the blast
In patient, deep disdain ;
She let the legions thunder past,
And plunged in thought again. ”

Alexander and his hordes were soon forgotten. That was not the kind of conquest made by another and a greater Westerner—the late Dheena-bandhu C. F. Andrews. As soon as the news of his death was flashed over the wireless, instead of plunging in thought again, the whole country was plunged in grief from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin, from the highest to the lowest, from Mahatma Gandhi to the poorest Indian villager. India had seen in him the true spirit of service and sacrifice which she has valued more than gold and silver through out the ages. I wish I could rise to the height of my theme but I am sure my poor tongue will be but a feeble echo, and I can do but scant justice to the memory of a man who has been acclaimed truly great by the great ones of the earth, to the memory of one who went about doing good as his Lord and Master did, to the memory of a man of whom it has been truly said that to see him was to love him, yea to the memory of one whose name the world will not willingly let die.

Let me give you a bird's eye view of his life. After a brilliant career at the University, he became a Lecturer at Pembroke College, Cambridge, when the Rev. H. Peto our late Principal was an undergraduate there. That, I may say was his only link with our College and with Jaffna. Later he joined St. Stephen's College at Delhi as its Principal. Still later, he was associated with the Punjab University. Afterwards Mr Andrews became the Private Secretary of the poet Rabindranath Tagore at Shantiniketan which was really a turning point in his eventful career, because it led to a wonderful friendship, a momentous meeting of East and West, the far-reaching consequences of which no one can yet foresee. More of this later, but here I may

recall just one incident in this friendship — Mr Andrews, while secretary of the Poet, carried his portmanteau from the Calcutta Railway Station platform. The report of this caused a mighty flutter in the dovecotes of European officialdom but the great Andrews answered it only with a smile of good-natured indifference. It was this association with Tagore that led him to shed his colour prejudice and made him dedicate his life to the cause of suffering humanity.

His services to Indians overseas call for special mention. He made it his life aim to visit all the countries in which the Indian labourers were said to be ill-treated by their employers so that he might verify for himself the truth of those allegations. Thus he became the champion of the oppressed peoples in all lands. With this object he undertook his trip to South Africa to help in the Gandhi — Smuts Agreement; and another to the Fiji Iss., where he was able to show his sympathy to the suffering Indian labourers and whose condition he was able to better to a certain extent by calling the attention of the Government to their grievances. Again he went to London as adviser to the Kenya Delegation. He did another trip to S. Africa in connection with the Indo — Union Agreement. Thus wherever there was need of a sympathetic champion, there was C. F. Andrews with his help and his advice. He became a sort of mediator between the Government of India and the various Colonial Governments under the British Crown. He became as much a confidant of the Viceroy of India as of the coloured colonists overseas — a very important role in such a situation where the cold official redtapism of the Government should be softened by the infinite tenderness of the human touch of a kindly Andrews. More than all this, Mr Andrews was ready with his band of helpers whenever there were earthquakes and pestilences, floods and famines in any part of India. In fine, one can say without any fear of contradiction that there never was a truer follower of Christ than he.

Many glowing tributes were paid to him when he was laid to rest at Calcutta in the land he adopted as his own and in whose cause he spent the major part of his life. The Metropolitan of India, Burma and Ceylon, who officiated at his funeral said, "If all of us Europeans had lived as near to Christ as Charlie Andrews, we too should have won the same unstinted affection that is his need. To our shame we own the strength of racial prejudice with which many Europeans have regarded the peoples of the East. In Charlie Andrews no vestige of this feeling ever found a place". Poet Tagore wrote, "In no one man have I seen such triumph of Christianity as in C. F. Andrews". Mahatma Gandhi paid his characteristic tribute to greatness, "He was a great son of India, because he was a great son of England."

Let me tell you a word of the spirit in which Mr Andrews and others like him worked in India. Henry Martyn, one of the most brilliant products of Cambridge University who too responded to the Call of the East like him has left it on record for us in ever-memorable words, "Ten thousand times more than ever do I feel devoted to that precious work. Oh, gladly shall this base blood be shed every drop of it, if only India could be benefited in but one of her children, if but one of these children of God Almighty might be brought home to his duty." That was the noble spirit in which both Martyn and Andrews lived, worked and died in India.

Mr C. F. Andrews was a rare phenomenon — one of the few really great men of this age. Men of his stature come only once in a century in the sad story of our little planet, which but for the occasional appearance of such great souls, would answer to the true description of human life by the immortal bard of Avon as

"A tale told by an idiot
Full of sound and fury
Signifying nothing."

Athens, the City of Mind produced Socrates, Plato and Aristotle — names which will remain as permanent as the stars in their firmament — but men of service and sacrifice are far greater than they. Time was when men worshipped the man with the almighty dollar and even now they do lip service to the man with a big bank balance but the heart's real tribute goes out to the man of service and sacrifice and prayer. It is said that when Lord Irwin (now Lord Halifax) who has been called the most Christian Viceroy of India visited Travancore, he was not so anxious to see the Maharajah or the State Officials or the palaces but K. C. Chacko, the man of prayer and service who subsists on one-third of one lung and on prayer for the rest. So also has M. K. Gandhi been acclaimed the greatest man on earth for his life of supreme sacrifice and prayer. True greatness is now measured in terms of service and all the world knows that Mahatma Andrews, if I may be permitted to call him so, has been such a man. He was therefore truly great, and must be reckoned among the most illustrious sons of the earth. In fact many people have referred to him as the most Christ-like man they ever saw.

As I speak of this phenomenon, another event comes into my mind. The world's attention is focused on the mighty conflict among the nations and men and women everywhere are straining their ears over the wireless to scan the latest news of that conflict but to me in the midst of all this jarring strife in East and West which might at any moment flare up into a world war of

devastating dimensions, there was one item of simple unpretentious news which thrilled my heart to its very foundations. It was this. While lying dangerously ill in a Calcutta nursing home and life was practically ebbing away, Mahatma Gandhi paid him a visit and when the two met, the Mahatma took in his hands the out stretched hand of Mr Andrews and fondled it like that of a child — the so-called bitterest enemy of England, taking in his hand, the hand of an Englishman and fondling it in love and friendship! Just think of it, my friends. When I heard of it, I was moved to tears and a Hindu friend of mine in Jaffna told me he had the same experience when he came to know of it. It must have been a very moving sight to the many people who were fortunate enough to see it with their own eyes. I consider it a very great event in this war-weary world of ours with its clash of colour and clamour of communalism and narrow nationalism. It must have been a puzzle to the on lookers to decide who was the greater Mahatma and I daresay it might take a committee of angels in other realms, to make their pronouncement on the spiritual quality of that act of true Christian brotherliness, very rarely seen on this earth. What was he doing, what was he whispering as he fondled his friend's hands? Were they words of comfort, of true Christian consolation on his lonely journey which he was about to undertake beyond the veil. I dare say they were. For has it not been truly said that Jesus Christ has set for ever more in human thought the vision of a civilisation in which each man in every nation shall wish for all men in all nations such a good chance at all good things as a man would like his brother to have? I am sure you will freely forgive me this little bit of phantasy in which I have indulged for a moment, when you come to know that it is my humble opinion that in these two we find two men who may be called true followers of the Lord Jesus, without any difference of race, colour or creed, falsifying Kipling's famous couplet

" Oh the East is East and West is West
And never the twain shall meet."

For, if ever there was a Christian, it was C. F. Andrews and if there is a Christian now living in the true sense of the word it is M. K. Gandhi, though Nietzsche uttered the piercing paradox, "There was only one Christian and he died on the Cross."

True greatness knows no difference of race or colour or creed. This may be illustrated from another incident in the life of the great Dheenabandhu, which means friend of the poor. Clad in spotless Kaddhar, as immaculate in body as in mind, he sat down to a meal on the floor with the pariahs of my

place. The news of this public meal, pariahs rubbing shoulders with the brahmins just because a great Englishman sat along with them, thrilled me in every fibre of my being, and served as a great eye-opener to the custom-ridden communities of Travancore, which has been truly described as the home of caste in India. Not only this. In the spirit of a Modern Elijah, he became a fierce denouncer of cant and hypocrisy wherever he found it, in high places or low; he was also a fearless advocate of truth, an undaunted champion of liberty, and an uncompromising facer of the facts of life, pursuing them to their logical conclusions whatever it might cost him. No wonder that he became the bosom friend of Mahatma Gandhi, that great experimenter with truth. His fortunately is not the fading fragrance of a sacred memory but the everlasting expression of a noble soul enshrined for us for ever in some of his writings like "What I owe to Christ", "Sadhu Sunder Singh", "Christ in the Silence", which should be read by all who wish to get into closer touch with the personality of this great servant of mankind.

To conclude, Mr Andrews was not an enemy of wrong doers in India or in England. He tried to befriend them and turn them to the right path. In fact he was what I might call, England's great ambassador of good will to India and the East. He has been described in various ways by his friends and admirers. He has been called the greatest Englishman who ever came to the East. He was really a great connecting link between the East and the West, a wise and sympathetic interpreter of the East to the West, and of the West to the East and it can be safely stated that in Gandhi and Andrews, in Rabindranath Tagore and Charles Andrews, the East and the West have met and met most wonderfully. How we wish there were more such ambassadors of peace and good will in this poor war-torn world of ours! In the India of Gautama Buddha, and Mahatma Gandhi, in the India of the saffron robe and the begging bowl, in the India of saints, sages and seers, this great servant of humanity, this great friend of the poor and the downtrodden, of "the lowest, lowliest, and lost," he found himself in congenial soil and developed his soul to the uttermost. He knew no difference between man and man, and loved other races with a love which was truly divine, and the name of Charles Freer Andrews will always be a name to conjure with, and he will be a source of undying inspiration not only to India but to all countries of the world, not only to this generation but to all generations yet to come—the name of Charles Freer Andrews will always be a sacred name of love, service and sacrifice—this great son of England; son of England, did I say, nay, this great son of India and of Humanity.

P. I. MATTHAI.

THE SECOND COMING A NECESSITY

CHRISTENDOM as a whole is quite familiar with the first advent of our Lord ; Christmas is one of the major feasts of the Church and the anniversary is regularly celebrated with pomp and great rejoicing. But, though the advent was prophesied and proclaimed by prophet and patriarch two thousand years ago, and even more, the very people to whom God had plainly revealed the purpose and manner of the advent of the Messiah, failed to grasp the birth as revealed in the Scriptures, and looked for Christ to come in a way different from, and for a purpose other than, what the Scriptures foretold. This mistake was responsible for the massacre of the innocents recorded in Matt. II 16 and "the lamentation and weeping and great mourning in Rama" and culminated in the great tragedy of the crucifixion on mount Calvary.

The mistake was due to misconception concerning the setting up of the Kingdom of Heaven and it is the bounden duty of all who profess and call themselves Christians to try to learn the plain facts concerning our Lord's second coming as revealed in the Scriptures and to avoid another tragedy which will be the result of the confusion and unbelief prevalent today, regarding the manner and purpose of our Lord's second advent.

To the unbiased reader of Holy Writ, to students of the Bible who regard it as inspired writing, it will become clear that human interpretation rather than divine revelation is at the bottom of the unnecessary confusion regarding this all important question — the Second Coming. This confusion is responsible for divisions in the Church and it is the duty of Christians to set aside mere opinions of men and to find and follow what God had revealed through His Word.

The prophesies concerning our Lord's Second Coming are too many to enumerate them here. Suffice it to say that some one has estimated that not less than one text in every twenty-five in the New Testament speaks of this blessed event.

(a) Jesus must come, first and foremost, to keep his word, to fulfil his promise. Said He, "In my Father's home are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." St John XIV 2—3

(b) Christ must come again to gather his saints, the quick and the dead. Said St Paul, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." 1. Thes. IV 16—17. Vide Matt. XXIV 30—31.

(c) Christ must come to bring the reward promised to those who had faithfully kept the commandments. Rev. XXII 12. Concerning this reward the apostle Paul spoke when he said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing,"; 2 Tim. IV 7—8

Likewise wrote the apostle Peter of the coming reward at His appearing, in these words, "When the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away." 1 Peter V 4.

(d) The deliverance of his people from trouble and trial which will surpass all other such trials in the history of mankind is another reason why Christ should come a second time. Said the prophet, "At that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble; such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time thy people shall be delivered every one that shall be found written in the book." Dan. XII 1. The prophet further assures us that this deliverance takes place at the time of the first resurrection. — 1 Thes. IV 16,— which is when Christ appears. Said he, "And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt." Dan. XII 2.

At His Second Coming our Lord proposes to put an end to the strife between nations between labour and capital; to grant relief to those who are grinding under the terrible tyranny of society as it exists today. Said St James, "Be patient, therefore brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." James V 7—8

(e) Jesus Christ must come to Judge the world, to administer the judgement of heaven and to give to every man, the righteous as well as the wicked, their just deserts. The Second Coming will bring Judgement to the inhabitants of the earth in a more striking way than could otherwise be done. Said the apostle, "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the Holy angels with Him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory and before Him shall be gathered all nations. And He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats." Matt. XXV 31—32

Concerning the purpose of His Second Coming said the Psalmist, "Our God shall come and shall not keep silence: He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that He may judge His people." Ps. L 3, 4. Said the apostle Paul, "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing and His Kingdom." 2 Tim. IV 1

(f) The testimony of the angels —the trio men in white apparel —born at our Lord's ascension into heaven, in clear and unmistakable language, is convincing proof of our Lord's Second Coming. Said the angels " This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come, in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven " Act. I 11.

This testimony needs no interpretation. While it serves as proof of His Second coming, it describes the manner of His return in such detail that the world should find no difficulty in identifying Him when He comes.

" Behold He cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced him and all kindred of the earth shall wail because of Him." Rev. 1. 7 Vide Matt. XXIV 30.

The testimony plainly says that Jesus would come back, " personally, visibly and supernaturally; that natural eyes would see Him come; that He would descend through the sky in the sight of all the world.

Considering the unanimity of thought and the uniformity of language descriptive of our Lord's Second Coming, the reader cannot fail to consider that divine inspiration is responsible for the many teachings concerning this all important question. The sacred penmen all agree that His Coming will be " with power and great glory."

" And there shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" Matt. XXIV 30. Said the apostle Paul, " looking for the blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our saviour Jesus Christ " Titus. II 13 " For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with trump of God." 1 Thes. IV 16.

Our Lord Himself exposed all teachings concerning a Second Coming when He said, " As the lightning cometh out of the east and shineth even unto the west, so shall also the Coming of the Son of man be." Matt. XXIV 27. And again that the glory of His appearing might be emphasied all the more our Lord said, " Whoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son man be ashamed, when He shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels." Luke IX 26.

That Christ will come a second time with " power and great glory " and for a definite and specific purpose needs no further demonstration. Said the apostle Paul that there will be a special blessing to those who look for him to appear when He wrote, " and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation " Heb. IX 28, and of that company who have trusted and patiently waited for His return, said the prophet, " it shall be said in that day, lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us : this is the Lord, we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation." Isaiah XXV 9.

Dear reader, do you look for the Coming with joy, or with apprehension? May God hasten the day when we shall see Him whom our hearts have loved! Let us look for it, plan for it, pray for it.

" Even so Come, Lord Jesus." Rev. XXII 20.

GEO. PHILOPIAH

The Saviour

1. He looked at the world, with sad, sad eyes,
On its sin and its ceaseless strifes;
He thought of the world with deepest thoughts,
Of its sin and its weariness.
2. He piled the world with wide, wide arms,
Of its boasts and its sinful thoughts;
He wept for the world with bitter tears,
Oft for the world which had heard Him not.
3. With saddest eyes and bitter tears
And a brow which thorns had bled
He spoke, and the world to His voice was mute,
I was crucified for the world. He said.

Form VI B.

R. A. RASIAH

THESE CLOUDS OF CLAY (A SHORT STORY)

.....Could thou and I with fate conspire
To grasp this sorry scheme of things entire,
Would not we shatter it to bits — and then
Re-mould it nearer to the Heart's Desire.

E. Fitz Gerald.

PERHAPS you have caught the fragrance of evenfall; perhaps the dying scents of dusk have drawn from you thoughts that no human lips could utter; and you have trod the twisting lanes of our country side, sensed the dim mystery that seems to hang over them. But have you thought of the tragedy that lingers in the earthen huts on either side; have you for a moment paused to listen to the voiceless moans of the human beasts who infest these dwellings? If you have, then there would emerge for you from the tapestry of life discords that would jarr upon you and thaw your heart. For does not the fragrance that fills your nostrils turn into a repulsive stink in another's? Is not the night of sweet dreams to you, of weary tossings to another? Yes, the dusk has a message for you and the lane leads to a tragedy.

Two figures walk up a heavily shaded lane. The setting rays of the sun throw dim shadows about them. They are almost lost in the silence and gloom of the scene. One is a little girl, hardly twelve years old. She leads by the hand a boy many years younger.

Perhaps it is her brother. The girl has a cloth round her, repulsive with an accumulation of filth, the boy wears a loin-cloth. They carry a broken bit of slate and a few tattered books. They are returning from school.

The silence is broken. The boy cries, "Akka, I am hungry."

It ends in a wail. Two tear-drops glisten in the eyes of the girl. They roll down. Perhaps within that little clod of clay there is a heart which feels. She has just begun to think of things. She is of low caste. Her father is a drunken sot. Her step-mother is a foul mouthed bully. And the little brother is perpetually hungry.

That morning she and her little brother had partaken of the remnants of the previous night's meal. They had then trudged to the local vernacular school where her mother had exiled them to keep them out of mischief. Now they were trudging back. Soon they would have reached home. The mother would sell fish at the market and bring something for the night. They would eat that and curl themselves in the corners of their mud house. Presently father would return having spent at the tavern the little that he had earned for the day. Mother would then fling some nasty words at him, there would be a quarrel and perhaps blows. And the next day would dawn.

The two figures move on. Two little clods of clays who know no more than their names. They move on along the stage of life, silhouetted against the flare of the orient sun. Ah! you student of psychology, tell me what complex creatures these children would develop into? Would they become misanthropes, imbeciles, nervous wretches or belong to another species of the horrible deformity of nature so utterly repulsive to you? Yes, I see a smile playing on your lips. "Can a clod of clay be a neurotic"? You would ask. Can it be?

The little girl bends down — what is she doing, kissing the boy? — a clod of clay, but a live one. Yes, one with joys and sorrows, possessed of hate and love, very much like ourselves but — a clod of clay! They have reached home. The lad is asleep or has fainted? The girl knows not. What does she think? Has the twelve years of her existence taught her to call to a God who is ever absent? Knows she of the war of nations that is being fought around her? No, these things she will never know. But pause, gentle reader, what thinks she? Of her own dead mother who is still alive in the dim recesses of her mind? Yes, for she smiles to herself. She could not have been more than seven when poverty robbed her of a mother and left in her place a noisy brother. But better dead than alive for the rude woman that was is to the child a god. It is the first instinct of a child to look up to the mother as its refuge, its tower of strength. That bulwark when far removed becomes more than that; it acquires a divine potency; it becomes to the child-mind God. She would often go and look into the well where her mother had taken eternal sanctuary in the agonies of childbirth, and see therein her face beckoning to her. The child perhaps expected to see her mother once again in flesh somewhere. Perhaps in the well. She knew not of God and His paradise. To her the dead mother was the Omnipresent. And why not? For what is God but a phantom the mind of man conjures up ever to urge him on. Without it he is helpless; in the shade of his delusion he is a new and strong man.

The girl suddenly sits up. She has heard a sound. Perhaps the step-mother is coming. No, wait — a splash in the well. Only a stone fallen in or a frog; but to her child-mind it is mother, her own sweet mother, calling to her.

"Thamby," she calls. "Thamby"

But the boy is unconscious. In her haste she picks up the boy and makes her way to the well. She looks in. The boy is still clasped in her arms and that plain face glows with a strange beauty in the dim light. Her mother is calling, this time distinctly, and the poor child is ready to go. Faith, can faith be ever more beautiful and purity more potent than in this little clod of clay even though it is dedicated to What-is-not. Two splashes and they are gone. Where we know not, perhaps to the mother.

Gentle reader, a word more. Are you stifled by truth? Do the thoughts that arise in you choke you? The message of dusk is delivered. Not far away from you in the villages, the haunts of happiness, tragedy after tragedy is being enacted. These that should be the centres of our culture are being strangled by ignorance and poverty. At evenfall you have listened to the voice of nature, the wind in the trees, the gentle leap of the sea on the shore and you have thought of God. But have you thought of these clods of clay that He formed? Death, can it be more terrible than the life these beings live? You need not do more, my friend, just think when you feel so comfortable, taking your evening walk. Perhaps then the meaningless discords of life would resolve into lovely harmonies.

Post Matric.

C. VIJAYARAJ

TEN DAYS AT DIYATALAWE

TEN days at Diyatalawe was a grand idea. Eight of us, with Sgt. Sol, as our head, stood at the station to bid "adieu" to the land of our fathers. It was a glorious evening.

But the train started and we had to jump in. Twentyfour hours had elapsed and where were we? On military ground, of course. There we saw our tent on the side of a hill. In a few hours we had arranged our hut and felt quite at home. Thanks to J. M. for jumping at us and making us work.

The mornings were horribly cold and Deva and I would sleep on till late while Sol, sat at our bedsides cursing us and pulling our blankets. After morning tea we had a few hours of drill, marching up and down hills. Then we had short classes on Range finding, Fire direction orders, and manipulation of the various types of guns. At twelve, on the word 'dismiss,' a broad smile would appear on our faces and we would jump at the thought of lunch.

The usual stuff we got was half-boiled beef and plenty of rice. It was army food alright, but Deva and I would enjoy an extra plate between us. At about four o'clock we would start yawning and J. M. would bowl at us for bad manners. We had to argue and put the blame on the climate. Then we changed into our evening kit and went to the canteen. Here we would play indoor games, have a look at the Daily News and get a bite. The remaining hours of the day were entirely at our disposal.

We enjoyed the evenings thoroughly, listening to the interesting experiences of British soldiers. There were exciting moments when our minds travelled far out to Britain and Dunkirk as these patriots were describing what they saw and did. We saw a soldier gloating over the thought of his sweetheart. It was a sad moment to hear him sigh. We also met Indian and local soldiers. The Tamil speaking squads have distinguished themselves as consisting of smart military men. We met some of our old friends. It was really encouraging to see the look of glee that shone on their faces when they met us.

Days passed and we grew homesick the time came at last. Vijayaraj had gone back to the old remedy of books for the lingering hours. Peter was smiling at the thought of home. Wijeyaratnam was quite calm, thinking of the "Thiruvilah". We marched out of the camp our eyes thirsting for the sight of the dear palmyrah. Once more we were in the train dancing and singing. I cannot forget to thank Bala for the extra ration of the four pound, of butter he supplied. We ate bread with layers of butter on it. We had to bid goodbye to Lieut. Ponnudurai at Nanu Oya. Our thanks are due to him for the lovely time he gave us.

The journey was tiresome but there came an end. We stood at Jaffna station again, the dream of ten days rolling in our minds. Here we are the same old chaps in the same old place. Yes, they were a dream—those ten days.

Form VI A

FRED. RATNASINGHAM.

ON WHEELS TO PARANTHAN

IT was one chilly morning towards the end of October, about 7-30 A. M., 13 Johnians together with the Vice-Principal, Mr P. C. Gaussen, started on a cycling tour to Paranthan, a distance of about forty miles. We had tea at a friend's place at Chavakachcheri an hour and a half later. Then we stopped at Eluthumatuwal Rice Inspection Depot for a drink of cold water and immediately resumed our journey. After quenching our thirst again at Pallai Station we proceeded to Elephant Pass, where we tarried awhile. In this locality we met many Africans. We refreshed ourselves with cool drinks and started briskly to our destination, which was about two miles away. It was about two o'clock in the afternoon, when we reached Paranthan.

After a wash, we had a hearty lunch and went out on a shooting expedition with a few of our new acquaintances, who shot a dove at close range. Later in the evening we went for a bathe to an old irrigation tank and as it was already growing dark each one of us had a cup of tea after which we returned home. We made another attempt at shooting, but it proved futile. We had our dinner at 12 P. M. and went to bed. We arose at 3.30 A. M. and escorted Mr Gaussen and our host to the morning train bound for Jaffna. Our third shooting enterprise too proved unsuccessful as luck frowned on us.

Later we had our breakfast and started on our return journey. We halted first at Paranthan Station. Nearby we saw many ducks in all their glory, swimming in a pond. We were moved so intensely by this natural scene that we were strongly tempted to kidnap a couple of them; on second thoughts we gave up the idea as fraught with more risks than one. At Elephant Pass we cooled our parched tongues with Adam's Ale

At this juncture one of our friends' cycle gave him immeasurable trouble. It was indeed a pathetic sigh to watch him inflate the bike for every half a mile. But our commendations are due to him on the score of his never-failing patience.

At 2.30 P. M. we camped under a 'narval' tree, where we roasted three wild ducks and a crane, which was the outcome of our repeated shooting tours. Our hunger was appeased by feeding on these plus fruits from our shakering tree. After resting for a while we resumed our journey; on the way some of us had a bathe in a pond. From here we sped along at a fair speed until we arrived at the Rice Depot previously mentioned. Again we had a cool drink for the third time in the day, and being renewed with fresh vigour a few of us took the lead and reached Chavakachcheri before sunset. It arouses our sympathy to think how we inconsiderately left our friend with the ramshackle bike to manage his hone-shaker as best as he could! We ravenously our fill. Some time later, our friends brought the news that the axle of Mr Gausson's bike was broken.

After a call of cheers and each having bidden good-bye to our host we mounted our iron horses to do the last bit of our trip with a mouth-organ humming and many of us singing we reached our dear Alma Mater at 7 p. m.

As we were all a anxious to have sea bathe after our 100 miles journey we cycled to the beach. Thus ended our memorable trip.

Form VI A

VI B

K. S. ANANTHAN

A. P. GNANIAN

AERIAL WARFARE

IT has been proved time and again during the present war that the country which possesses air superiority is the master over the rest. Aerial Warfare first started during the last Great War. Then it was in the very initial stages. It advanced a little during the last war and it has advanced by leaps and bounds in this war. The aeroplane has now become the deadliest weapon of war.

Just before the outbreak of the present war the Allied Countries did not consider the aeroplane as the most important weapon of this war, while the Germans concentrated on the building of vast numbers of aircraft. The French war experts thought that it would be a repetition of the last war and they laid more stress on land fortifications and infantry, neglecting their Air Force. The Maginot Line was considered impregnable — and indeed it was never pierced — and so the French were confident when the big assault came.

The Germans introduced the Dive-Bomber on a large scale when they invaded the Low Countries and France. It was Nazi Air superiority which over came gallant France. The French infantry and field guns could do little against the German dive-bombers. The British and French Air Forces were too small to cope with the task before them. Moreover the British were trying to save as much aircraft as possible for the all out German assault on them, which they apparently felt was coming. France was lost and the Battle of Britain started. Many beautiful cities were destroyed and thousands of lives lost. But with their courage, their tenacity and the superiority of their machines the British were able, with no doubt great losses, to repulse the German air armada which visited them daily.

The fate of the Allies would have been worse had not the Americans foreseen the possibility of their own doom and started their great aircraft building campaign, early in the war. American aircraft — both fighters and bombers — have proved themselves superior wherever they have been used.

When the Japanese started the war in the Pacific, everyone underestimated the strength of their Air Force — in fact one Allied expert estimated that the Japanese possessed only seven hundred front line 'planes of all types. The Japanese soon revealed their real strength. They followed the German example of Crete and landed paratroops in the Philippines; simultaneously they landed by sea in Malaya. The British East India Squadron, under Admiral Sir Tom Philips, went out to meet the Japanese sea forces. Before they could actually contact with the Japanese sea forces, the main units of the British squadron — the "Prince of Wales" and "Repulse" — were destroyed. The Japanese accomplished this feat, which was never expected, by incessant bombing of the two ships by torpedo-bombers. By this single battle the Japanese showed the world that the aeroplane was more deadly than the strongest sea weapon — the Battleship.

Malaya was soon overrun and Singapore — the mighty naval fortress was beleaguered. Ninety thousand troops with some of the world's strongest naval guns could not withstand the rain of death and destruction from the sky. This again proved to the world the might of the aeroplane.

In all wars before the present one, the civilian at home was spared the horrors of war. Now innocent non-combatants are exposed to as much danger as the soldiers in the front line.

The aeroplane has been perfected very greatly during the present war. It is no more the frail craft of the last decade. It is now the most important weapon of war. One can easily imagine the destructive powers of the aeroplane in future wars. If, for example aeroplanes with big guns are invented there would be much destruction in the world. Distant cities can be bombarded from the air, and whole armies simply mown down. This would be worse than gas-warfare.

Form VI A

C. C. HANDY

THEIR FINEST HOUR

THE massive structure of a four-engined British "Stirling" bomber was silhouetted against the dusky sky. The hum of the aeroplane engines grew to a loud roar and the huge bird of destruction shot up into the air. The plane flew at 150 M. P. H. for a short time, but soon the speedometer needle was well nigh 250 M. P. H. There were five occupants in the plane. They were Philip Harwood, Billy Barnette, Tom Digby, Dick Rogers and Tom Bridges. Now the plane was over the sea.

Night crept in. The sea was far behind. The plane was over the suburbs of the doomed city of Rostock. The searchlights glared at the plane. Puff-puff went the anti-aircraft guns and the plane swerved to avoid a hit. The coloured German searchlights

touched momentarily on the dull monoplane above only to lose it as it slid from the glare. The bomber dived down and unloaded its deathly cargo on the city. The city was rocking and swaying under the full blast of the air-raid. A German fighter plane rushed at the bomber. Pep-pep replied the guns of the bomber and the Nazi plane crashed down riddled with bullets. The bomber having completed its mission turned homewards.

Once more it was over the sea. The gunners of the bomber had been tricked by the moonlight and they had not been aware of the approach of a German Messerschmitt Me 110 fighter. The fighter came diving down with rocketing fury whipping out a stream of bullets. Then it spat more bullets and the sky was filled with jets of orange flame. The bomber faltered before it could reply and it crashed down into the sea. The bomber struck the water with a loud splash and the triumphant Nazi fighter went away without thinking of helping its stricken enemy. Tom Digby and Tom Bridges were trapped in the plane. Dick, Phil and Billy rescued them and all of them were safely packed up in their rubber dinghy. The dark night hid from them their position.

The soft cool rays of the morning sun heralded the day and they sighted land. Was it Old England? Ah! No! A waving swastika gave them the necessary information. No sooner had they landed than they took cover. After a little while they saw a house. They went in. There was a Nazi officer with a revolver in the house. Soon the revolver changed hands. Bang! went the revolver and the bullet found its mark in the Nazi's heart. With a heavy thud the Nazi sank to the floor and there he breathed his last. There was a packet on the table. Could it be of any importance to the English?— Was it a secret document? These thoughts flashed through Phil's mind. Quickly he picked it from the table. Then they decided to hide in the house. But their last hope melted like snow before the summer sun. For they saw about fifty Nazi soldiers gradually advancing on the house. Fifty to five! It was sheer folly to resist them. The five rushed to the door. Then they ran as fast as they could to the beach with the Nazis close at their heels. As if by a miracle they saw a motor-launch there. In they went. Chug! Chug! the motor launch started and now they were heading for England.

Daring Escape of Five British Airmen. Documents of Vital Importance Brought with Them.

These headlines glared in the *Daily Telegraph*. Who were they? Philip Harwood, Billy Barnett, Tom Digby, Dick Rogers and Tom Bridges. Three days later a huge crowd thronged Buckingham Palace. These five airmen were to receive their V. C's (Victoria Crosses). This was their finest hour.

Form IV C

ASHOKE GAUTAMADARA



MY FAVOURITE PASTIME

STAMP collecting or Philately is my favourite pastime. It is the king of indoor hobbies. Many royal personalities took pleasure in it. King George V was a notable collector. His collections fill three hundred albums. Ex-King Alphonso of Spain and King Alexander of Yugoslavia were also collectors. King Albert of Belgium and his wife were collectors. Their son, Prince Leopold, was even more enthusiastic.

There are many reasons why collecting stamps is worth while. Stamps now sold for a few cents may later cost thousands of pounds. The 1 cent British Guiana of 1856, black on magenta, was sold for £ 7,340. Another reason is that stamps show many important events in the history of the world.

Some people have general collections (whole world) while others specialise. There are many types of special collections. Some are collections of the stamps of one country, others of the British Empire or Foreign countries. There are also other divisions. Collections of maps, nature (birds and animals), pictorial, triangular, designs, heads of sovereigns or celebrities are among these. Air stamps are more important and Stanley Gibbons issues a special catalogue listing them.

All the collections I have so far written about are simplified but there are also more detailed collections. The more expert collectors pay attention to perforations and watermarks. Perforations are either the edges which stick out on all sides or the holes officials punch in stamps. Some stamps are imperforate which means that they have no protruding edges. A difference of even half a perforation may make a difference of many pounds in the value of the stamp. When we say that stamps have perforations of $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13, $13\frac{1}{2}$ we mean that they have that number of protruding edges. These are usually measured by means of a special rule. Some stamps may have been printed with different watermarks, for instance, in British Colonies, Crown C A., Crown C C or Multiple Crown C A. These signify the letters C C or C A under a crown and in the case of Multiple Crown C A these letters are under each of several crowns. When a watermark cannot be seen it is held face downwards on a black surface and a drop of benzine is put on its back. There are many other watermarks which I have no space to describe here.

Stamps are printed by various processes, Process printing, Lithography, Photogravure and so on. Photogravure is the most modern of three processes and gives the most beautiful results but unfortunately the colours are apt to run. The ex-King Edward VIII stamps were printed by this process.

There are many good guides to collecting stamps. Some books relate stories about events pictured on stamps. Stamp catalogues illustrate certain stamps and list them along with others in the sets and also give the prices at which they sell them. Stanley Gibbons and Whitfeld King's catalogues are the best. There is also a catalogue, the Reliant, which is issued in six parts. Stanley Gibbons issues catalogues listing perforations and watermarks as well as simplified catalogues. They also issue the detailed catalogue in two parts, British Empire and Foreign countries.

Some stamps have errors in their designs, for example, one of the stamps depicting the deposed Shah Ahmed who ruled before Riza Shah Patlavi in Persia, now Iran. This stamp has the oval in which the Shah's face is portrayed, upside down. Other stamps have a

C instead of a D or a similar error. They sell at high prices. In the last century a man sent his wife a letter. Soon after, she learned he was dead. One day her daughter noticed that the head of the queen on the stamps was upside down. She grew up and married a soldier who was wounded in the Zulu Wars. He could not work and they had no money. So one day her son took the valuable sandalwood box containing the letters and tried to sell it to a gentleman he knew. The gentleman did not buy the box but took the letter to his friend. In the meantime he gave the boy a sovereign. The next morning the gentleman came in and gladdened their hearts by saying that a friend of his had offered £ 300 for the stamps as they were uncut specimens and as the head of the queen was upside down.

Surcharges and overprints are other important features of Philately. The stamps of King George V were surcharged with new values and over printed " War Stamp ". Some stamps have different lengths between the letters or the whole word. One of these slight differences may make a lot of difference to the value of the stamp.

The choice of albums is also varied. Loose leaf albums can be bought instead of the ordinary albums. These enable the collector to rearrange his stamps at will. Some albums are guarded, that is prevented by a special means from bulging. Loose leaf albums are also fitted with different equipment, " peg " fitting or Focile fitting. The leaves also can be varied, quadrille or plain leaves being obtainable.

In conclusion, I wish to give some advice to philatelists. Never paste a torn or dirty stamp. Always use the best stamp hinges and never stamp edging. Always use forceps to hold the stamps, never touch them with your fingers. Never place a stamp face downward in water.

Form IV C

V. F. C. DEUTROM,

LUNCHEON PARTY AT NUWARA ELIYA

THE Old Johnnians in the Nuwara Eliya District foregathered on 30—8—42 at the Pedro Hotel, Nuwara Eliya, to receive the Reverend J. T. Arulanantham who was spending a few days in the hill resort.

Even though the notice was short, hardly two days, the turn out was splendid. Several Old Boys had traversed very long distances over the hills to reach Nuwara Eliya for the day.

Thirtyeight sat to lunch at which Rev. J. T. Arulanantham and Mr E. M. Ponnudurai were the guests of the Old Boys.

The lunch commenced with a welcome song sung by Master V. Subramaniam.

Mr. K. T. Kandiah, Chief Post Master, Nuwara Eliya, presided, and speaking after the lunch he welcomed the guests and congratulated Rev. J. T. Arulanantham on his being the first Old Boy to be appointed Principal of the College. The Old Boys were proud, he said, and felt sure that the College was fortunate in securing the services of Rev. J. T. Arulanantham as Principal. Mr Kandiah then recollected

incidents of his time at College. He was a student in the College about 42 years ago during the time of Rev. J. Carter and Mr Vannitamby.

The next speaker was Mr. V. Ponnuswamy, Proctor, Nuwara Eliya. Mr Ponnuswamy in his speech stressed that the spirit of tolerance should be the guiding principle in the matter of religious teaching in schools. In teaching religion to boys and girls the aim of the school and the teachers should be not so much to inculcate belief in one religion; but rather the instruction should aim at training the pupil to acquire a belief in God and to understand and appreciate the moral code, and to develop a tolerant attitude towards all religions. Mr Ponnuswamy went on to stress that by the religious education imparted in a school the student, whichever religion he may profess, should be enabled to learn and understand his own religion better than he would be able to do otherwise.

Major E. A. Rajasingam spoke next and referring to the question of religious teaching said that there was always in St John's the spirit of tolerance and understanding and the College cultivated in the students a spirit of independent thinking.

Mr N. K. Kumarasamy speaking next expressed his felicitations to Rev. J. T. Arulanantham on his appointment as Principal. The speaker was himself a pupil under Rev. J. T. Arulanantham and was proud of his appointment. He hoped that the Principal would spend at least one of his holidays every year in Nuwara Eliya.

Rev. J. T. Arulanantham then replied. He was very happy to have had the opportunity of meeting so many Old Boys that day after a long time. The gathering of so many Old Boys at so short a notice and the interest evinced by them in the affairs of the College was proof enough, said the speaker, of how the Old Boys cherished their alma mater. The Principal expressed that he gathered new strength and much encouragement from the knowledge that the Old Boys so far removed from the College and its present activities still had such great love for the College and interest in its welfare. He was grateful for the encouragement given.

Mr E. M. Pennudurai spoke next and expressed his pleasure at meeting so many of his old pupils that day. He thanked them for the reception accorded and invited the Old Boys of the district to visit the College again and see the many changes that had taken place. He hoped a large number of the Old Boys from the District would be present at the next O. B. A. celebrations in Jaffna.

The last speaker was Mr S. K. Sivalingam who took the opportunity to pay respect on behalf of the Old Boys of the District to the revered memory of Rev. H. Peto. Most of the Old Boys present were at College during the Principalship of Rev. H. Peto and cherished associations with him as principal, teacher and friend, which would always remain an undying treasure of memories about a great man. It was impossible for students of Rev. H. Peto to think of St John's without associating with the College Rev. H. Peto. Mr Sivalingam suggested that the Old Boys of the District should institute a special memorial to Rev. H. Peto at St John's.

Speaking about the College, he said that what struck him as one of the most commendable traditions of the Alma Mater was the "Gurukshetra" spirit that permeated the life in the College. The teachers took a personal interest in their students and such interest was not limited to the class room. And in the students was engendered a personal loyalty towards their teachers. Especially in the case of the boys from the upcountry, who spent more than nine months of the year within the College, far away from home, the boarding house was their home and the teachers their foster-parents and elder brothers. In their joys and in their sorrows they went to their teachers and from them they always received an understanding sympathy, however trivial and puerile their concerns were. Nor had the teachers lost their interest in the Old Boys after they left College. The attachment of the Old Boys to their Alma Mater, it would not be incorrect to say, largely consisted of their attachment and regard to their old teachers. This was a tradition, the speaker said, which should be cherished, maintained and developed.

Messages from Messrs D. T. Coonanayagam and J. T. Chelliah who could not be present that day were conveyed to the gathering.

After the lunch a group photograph was taken.

S. K. S.

‘ VARSITY LETTER

DEAR EDITOR,

It gives me great pleasure to write the 'Varsity letter to the "Old Mag." It is not very easy to give one's impressions on 'Varsity life, but I shall try to give an account of what Old Johnians at the 'Varsity are doing.

The first thing that struck me on entering the 'Varsity — and I believe it is so in the case of every "freshman" — was the ease with which one could plunge into the 'Varsity life; one does not have that feeling of a fish out of water that one would expect. If the "freshmen" feel quite at home in the lecture halls, so do they in the hostels: the "freshman" may not take the initial "ducking" as a duck takes to water but he takes it in good spirit.

To those of us who have been here last year the University seems to have effected outwardly very little change in the University College. Despite the affiliation of the faculty of medicine it is very seldom that we come in contact with the medical students. The two Unions have not yet been amalgamated; the Medical College is part of the University in name alone. The only noteworthy event, or shall I say spectacle, that took place this term was the convocation. So far as the courses of study are concerned there has been little change. The "honours" courses have been dropped. There are

general and specialised courses, but an honours degree may be granted on either. The regulation regarding the three years minimum residence has affected some of us badly.

Dr Jennings has again and again emphasised the necessity for every student to have a three-years training, a training that is to be acquired not so much in the lecture halls as in the common rooms and tuckshop, on the field and about the College House. All the interest of a Varsity life is centered round the College House and the Hostels. The meetings of the Union Society provide welcome opportunities to the future statesmen of Ceylon. In addition to the Union there are the Tamil, Sinhala-Philosophical and other societies.

The Hostels have their own unions, tennis courts, and other indoor and outdoor games. At present there are four hostels—the Union, the Catholic, the Wemen's and Brodie, of which the third and the fourth are popular among the Old Johnians. At present there are seven Johnians at Brodie — V. N. Selvaratnam, N. D. Selvaratnam A. K. Sabapathypillai, B. Ekanayake, C. Manohara and K. Ranganathan, Mr H. L. D. Selvaratnam was our sub-warden till the end of last term and has been succeeded by another O. J. — Mr A. Mahendrarajah.

It is very encouraging to see so many Old Johnians holding important positions in the University, — on the staff or in the various societies. Last term we had the pleasure of welcoming Mr A. M. K. Cumarawamy, our new Registrar. He was succeeding an O. J. too — Mr F. H. V. Gulasekharan. The latter has been appointed Professor of Mathematics. St John's may boast of yet another Professor and two Lecturers — Prof. Kandiah and Messrs Nadarasar and Selvanayagam. Mr S. Nadarajah has been appointed Assistant Librarian. N. D. Selvaratnam is holding the post of Junior Treasurer in the Union Society and A. K. Sabapathypillai that of Junior Treasurer in the Tamil Society. A. K. Sabapathypillai is also holding the post of General Secretary and K. Ranganathan that of Home Secretary in the Brodie Union. V. N. Selvaratnam has been appointed Assistant Demonstrator in Physics.

Among the O. Js. at the University are S. Maheswara Iyer, S. Ananda Cumarawamy, S. Vithianandan, and Sam Jesudasan. Most of the O. Js, especially those at Brodie are showing a keen interest in sports activities too. N. D. Selvaratnam has been awarded colours in tennis.

The Old Johnians at the Varsity send their best wishes to "good old St Johns"

University of Ceylon,
Colombo, November, 1942

Yours sincerely,
"UNDERGRAD"

College Notes

BY

The Principal

OWING to the danger of air-raids in the South a number of families returned homeward to the North and we have had to admit a large number of boys during the year. There were 230 admissions and the number on roll went up to 630, the highest figure reached in the history of the College. We felt that we were called upon to give our share of help towards the general situation in the country by looking after these boys, many of whom were separated from their parents.

This year we were able to realise our dream of many years. The Centenary Science Block was declared open on July 25 by one of our most distinguished Old boys, Prof. A. Kandiah, Dean of the Faculty of Science, Ceylon University. His Lordship the Bishop of Colombo presided and there was a large gathering of old boys and friends. The event also marked the completion of our whole building programme which has cost us nearly Rs 75,000/-.

We are always glad to have the Bishop with us when he comes on his annual visit to Jaffna. A large number of our boys were confirmed by the Bishop at the United Service held in Nallore. The Handy Memorial Library had the honour of a visit by the Bishop who expressed his great appreciation of the many changes and additions that have been made to the Library during the past year. As a token of his genuine interest in the College he presented the Library with a number of books for which we shall always remain grateful to him.

The Intermediate and the Post Matriculation Classes which were started three years ago have grown rapidly in size and usefulness. There are 41 students in these classes of whom 10 are girls. The Ceylon University has decided to encourage schools to prepare for the Premedical Examination and we hope to present the first batch of students early next year.

We welcome the decision of the Education Department to discontinue the London Matriculation Examination after next June. The unsuitability of the examination as a school leaving test and the considerable delay in getting the results from London have caused great hardship to all. Besides the S. S. C. Examination there is also a proposal to introduce another examination,

the Higher School Certificate, which will be of the standard of the Ceylon University Entrance Examination. Efforts are being made to have only one examination serving both for the University Entrance and for the Higher School Certificate, and to admit to the University those who pass high while a certificate will be issued to all who pass. We are nearing arrangements, which will be complete in 2 years time, for boys to take the S. S. C. from the Vth Form while those in the VIth Forms will take the H. S. C., Premedical or the London Intermediate Examination.

An account of a meeting of the Old Boys in Nuwera Eliya appears elsewhere. It was very happy indeed to meet so many Old Boys and to be assured of their loyalty and support to the College. Some of them whom I always remembered as school boys had grown to full manhood and it was a joy to see them after such a long time.

The Collège Dramatic Society came into being this year and their first public performance in October showed what excellent talents there are in the College. It is their aim to give regular training to the members and stage a play once a year probably in June. My best wishes to the New Society!

We are very happy that Mr A. G. Charles has completed 40 years of teaching in the College and we would offer him our heartiest congratulations on this long record of service. He is as enthusiastic about his teaching today as he was 33 years ago when I knew him as my teacher. Devotion to duty, thoroughness in every detail and capacity to take pains with even the slowest in the class are some of the characteristics which we have always found in Mr Charles. We thank God for this long record of faithful service and we pray that Mr Charles will have his powers undiminished to the end of his career.

Thinking of the world situation I think there is every reason to believe that we have been through the worst and that we can hope for everything to brighten up during the coming year. Let us hope that the New Year will see the end of the war and the restoration of a lasting peace and order in the world. Let me wish all readers of the magazine a Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year!



Principal's Report

At Opening of Science Block

MY LORD,

EXACTLY a year ago, on the 25th of July last year, you were present on this very spot to invoke the blessing of God Almighty on our new Science Block, for which we laid the foundation that day. Many things have happened since then and we have passed through a period of great anxiety on account of the war coming nearer our shore; but in spite of all the difficulties we have had to face, God has enabled us to see the completion of this building. We are fortunate to have your Lordship with us again to lead us in our thanksgiving and praise to our Heavenly Father for all His mercies to us, and also to preside on this memorable occasion. You have taken a personal interest in our building programme from the very beginning and you have given us every support and encouragement. We rejoice all the more today because we have you here with us to share our joy. We would express to you our grateful thanks for your deep interest in our work and for your presence with us on this happy occasion.

We consider it a great privilege to have with us today Professor Kandiah, one of our most distinguished Old Boys, to declare the Building open. We will remember with pride the close association which the new Science Block will always have with the University of Ceylon in having had the first Vice-Chancellor of the University to lay the Foundation Stone and the first Dean of the Faculty of Science to declare the building open. Your presence with us, Dr Kandiah, is a source of inspiration to the present generation of boys. When you studied Science here about 28 years ago the Laboratory was only as big as an ordinary class-room and its equipment very scanty. In spite of the limited opportunities and facilities you had at the beginning of your career you decided to go on to higher studies. Your inborn love for scientific truth combined with your patience and perseverance enabled you to overcome the limitations of your early training and to dive deep into the mysteries of Science, and you have won for yourself high distinctions of which we are justly proud. Your remarkable achievements will always remain an inspiration and a challenge to generations of students. We have great pleasure in offering you a hearty welcome. I remember the time when Physics and Chemistry were included in the school curriculum about 30 years ago. The first

Science work was done in a room about 12 ft. by 10 ft. in the old Evarts Boarding House. Our first Science Master was Mr A. M. Nathaniel whom we have the pleasure of having with us today. Mr Nathaniel is one who has rendered most valuable service to the College not only as its first Science Master but also later as Headmaster and Acting Principal during a very critical period in the history of the College. As a teacher he was most versatile and I don't think there was any subject in the school curriculum which he could not teach with ease. He was at his best in the teaching of English, but he also taught Science subjects such as Physics, Botany and Physiology with great success. On an occasion like this it is our duty to show our gratitude to our teacher who laid the foundations for scientific studies in this place with scanty equipment and under difficult circumstances. We are very happy indeed to have him with us today.

In 1923 we completed 100 years of our work and the Centenary Celebrations were held in 1924. It was a time when our hearts were full of praise to God for the numerous ways God had blessed us as a people through the work of this institution. St. John's has sent out men, not only into every part of this Island but also to Malaya and India imbued with high ideals to take their share of the world's work. We also remembered with gratitude the men of the past who had contributed to the building up of the College during its first 100 years. We realised how much we were indebted to them, for the services they had rendered, the money they had freely given, and the traditions they had created. Memories of the great work done by some of our former Headmasters and Principals like Robert Pargiter, Robert Williams, Jeremiah Evarts, Charles Handy, Jacob Thompson, filled us with a sense of loyalty to our Alma Mater. At the conclusion of the celebrations it was decided that a fund should be started and that a suitable memorial be erected to remind the coming generations of the great achievements of the institution during its first 100 years. It was hoped that the fund would be used to purchase the land then occupied by the Girls' College and to erect suitable buildings for a new Science Laboratory and a Boarding House.

In 1934 the question of a suitable memorial to the Rev. Jacob Thompson came up for consideration, and it was decided to amalgamate two funds into one, the Centenary and Thompson Memorial Fund. I believe it will not be out of place here to acknowledge once again the gifts and contributions, we have received from time to time since the Centenary Celebrations towards the College extension and building:

1.	Centenary Appeal Fund: Old Boys and friends ...	Rs 13,200/-
2.	Centenary and Thompson Memorial Fund : Ceylon	Rs 15,000/-
3.	Centenary and Thompson Memorial Fund : Malaya	Rs 10,000/-
4.	The Hon. Mr W. H. Pigg for the purchase of the Girls' College compound	Rs 25,000/-
5.	The late Rev. H. P. Napier Clavering ...	Rs 8,400/-
6.	Sri Chandrasekara Fund ...	Rs 1,000/-
7.	Mrs Seenicutty in memory of her son C. S. Ratnavale (Old Boy) ...	Rs 1,500/-
8.	Miss M. O. Carter in memory of her father Rev. J. Carter, Principal of this College 1895—1899	Rs 1,000/-
9.	The relations of Robert Williams for the renovation of the Robert Williams Hall	Rs 1,200/-

One object of the Centenary Appeal Fund was the extension of the school premises. With the contributions received we were able to purchase the Girls' College compound which we took possession of at the end of 1936. Two years ago we started on a very ambitious building programme which I am glad to say has almost come to completion. The entire cost of the building programme is about Rs. 75,000/-. Through the generosity of the C. M. S. Finance Board we have been able to borrow money on easy terms and this has enabled us to complete our building work within a short space of 2 years. Of the Rs. 75,000/- a sum of Rs. 50,000/- has been spent on the two new buildings, Rs. 43,000/- on the Science Block and Rs. 7,000/- on the Dining Hall and Kitchen. The balance has been spent on extension and renovation of class rooms, dormitories and bungalows. While the whole of the Science Block will be known as the Centenary Science Block, different portions of it will be named after the benefactors of the College. The Chemistry Laboratory will continue to be called the Clough Laboratory in memory of the late Mr A. E. Clough, who has earned our love and respect by his generosity and kindly interest in the welfare of the College. The Physics Laboratory will be known as the Thompson Laboratory and will be regarded as the gift of the Old Boys to perpetuate the memory of the late Rev. Jacob Thompson, Principal of the College from 1900—1919. The Biology Laboratory will be known as the Peto Laboratory in memory of our late Principal the Rev. H. Peto who gave himself so unstintingly for the work of this College for a period of 20 years. As the Centenary Principal it was he who organised the Centenary Appeal Fund and the Centenary and Thompson Memorial Fund. We are deeply indebted to him for all that we have been

able to achieve by way of extensions and buildings and we will always remember him as one of our greatest benefactors. The Old Boys decided that a sum of Rs. 10,000/- be raised towards the Peto Memorial and I am glad to say that a beginning has already been made. The Science Library adjoining the Biology Laboratory will be known as the Ratnavale Science Library in memory of C. S. Ratnavale, an old student of this College. Ratnavale had a brilliant career in this College and was very much respected and loved by all. He died a few years after he joined the Medical College.

Today we had the cutting of the first sod for the Rose Walton Memorial Sick Room which when completed will be a small but pretty building. For some time we have felt the need for a sick room as a separate block with modern conveniences and I am glad to say that we will be able to use our new sick room in three months' time. We will always remain indebted to Mr Walton for all the efforts he had made to collect the money for the building.

I am glad to announce that we have recently received a gift of Rs. 750/- from Dr A. Rajasingham, Retired P. S., one of our most distinguished Old Boys. The gift is towards the cost of a well and bath rooms. A much felt want for a long time has been good drinking water in the compound. I am glad to say that we found good water in the well that was sunk near the Principal's bungalow. A well with good water is one of the best gifts one can give to his fellowmen and we are very grateful to Dr Rajasingham for his most valuable gift to the school.

We do not look upon these buildings as a luxury. To be able to carry on our work efficiently and to go forward we require sufficient and good accommodation.

The starting of the Intermediate and Post Matriculation Classes about three years ago and the introduction of Botany and Zoology into our school curriculum made it necessary for us to think of a more spacious and up-to-date Laboratory. The Library had to be expanded and made more attractive to give more facilities to senior students who wish to spend their leisure hours there. We had about 230 admissions this year, some of whom were of course evacuees, and the number on the roll today is 630, the highest ever reached in the history of the College. But for our recent extensions and new buildings we would have been compelled to refuse admission to many. With the increase in numbers the Lower School is becoming more and more a separate entity. We are able to set apart the whole of the former Girls' College premises and buildings exclusively for the use of the Lower School boys for

their class rooms as well as their Boarding House. With the completion of our extension scheme we are able to provide houses for 4 resident married teachers, the Principal's Bungalow, the Vice-Principal's Bungalow and two commodious houses for resident Boarding House Masters. This arrangement has had a very beneficial result on the Boarding Houses and on the corporate life of the College. To mention one more of the beneficial results of our extension scheme, I must refer to the enlargement of our ground which, I am happy to say, is one of the largest of school playgrounds in Jaffna. Already we have justified our possession of such an extensive field. In the Inter Collegiate cricket competition our cricket team won the distinction of being the unbeaten champions for the year. We hope to maintain the same high standard in the years to come.

On this occasion we cannot help thinking of all those who have helped us in our Building Scheme. Mr. T. H. Crossette was Vice-Principal of this College when the Centenary Extension Scheme was launched. All of us who have been closely associated with the extension scheme know to what extent we are indebted to Mr T. H. Crossette for his able advice and help readily given at all times. Even after his retirement he has continued to take a very kindly interest in the College and especially in our building schemes.

Our former Manager the Rev. R. W. Stopford was personally interested in our building schemes and rendered most valuable help to us in our preparations for the building. Our grateful thanks are due to him and to the C.M. S. Governing Body for the sympathy and consideration they have always shown to our needs and for the help they have rendered. I am sorry that our Manager Rev. D. G. D. Harpur is not able to be with us today. He has sent us a message which I shall read. We are very grateful to him for his help and encouragement at all times. Our grateful thanks are due to the Ceylon Hardware Stores for the very substantial building they have given us. The Manager, Mr Samuel, who is an Old Boy of the College, has taken great pains to see that nothing but the best work was done. I am grateful to him and to his deputy Mr Satkunaratnam for their willing co-operation at all times. In these days of shortage of material and enhanced prices it was very creditable on the part of the firm to have completed the building entirely to our satisfaction. We have been singularly fortunate in our supervisor Mr E. M. Rajadurai who has worked most strenuously in his determination to see that there was no flaw in any work. We are most grateful to him for his untiring energy and honest hard work. We are under a very deep debt of

gratitude to Mr Chellaswamy who has given us much of his valuable spare time and has helped us with his advice. We thank him for all the services he has rendered to us so freely and gladly. The building presents a very pleasing and imposing appearance and our congratulations are due to Mr Philip Jayasuriya for his excellent planning of the building. I should also like to thank you ladies and gentlemen for all the help and encouragement you have always given us and for your presence with us tonight.

Earlier on I referred to the glorious past and the contribution this institution has made to the life of the country during the first 100 years. The first 19 years of the second century may be looked upon as a period of preparation and adjustment for fresh activities in the new century. Today we close one chapter in the history of the College and we open a new one. It is significant that it should synchronize with the opening of a new era in the education of this country occasioned by the founding of the University of Ceylon and the abolition of external examinations. For many years we have been clamouring for a University of our own suited to the needs of our people and I am glad to say that the new University has already shown signs of being able to strike out a path of its own. In the reconstruction of the economic life of our country Agriculture and Industry will come to receive more and more prominence. Agricultural and Industrial schools will have greater support both from the public and the government. In the development of Agriculture and Industry we need the help of Science and particularly of Applied Chemistry. We look forward to the University of Ceylon to give the country every support in this matter, and we are fortunate in having Dr Kandiah in the Chemistry Chair and as Dean of the Faculty of Science. We for our part will endeavour to do our best in following the lead given by the University.

Except the Lord build the house:
 their labour is but lost that build it.
 Except the Lord keep the city:
 the watchman waketh but in vain.

Psalms 127

THE CENTENARY SCIENCE BLOCK

OPENING CEREMONY

Exactly one year had elapsed from the day of the Stone Laying Ceremony in 1941 to the formal opening of the Science Block on Saturday, July 25, 1942. As we assembled, for the Opening Ceremony, our thoughts ran back over the year that had passed, and the uppermost feeling in our minds was gratitude to God that the Building had been completed in spite of the big difficulties caused by the spread of the Second World War to our part of the world during the course of that year.

The ceremony took place in front of the main central door of the Block. A temporary platform was placed there and seating arranged around it within a large enclosure decorated with cocoanut-leaf streamers. The enclosure was soon filled with a big gathering of Old Boys, friend of the College, and the Staff and boys.

The proceedings opened with the Blessing of the Building for the study of Science, and its dedication to the glory of God and the spread of knowledge, by the Bishop of Colombo. The contractor, Mr C. S. Samuel who is the Manager of the Ceylon Hardware Stores and an Old Boy of the College, then handed the key of the building to Prof. A. Kandiah, Dean of the Faculty of Science of the University of Ceylon, and also an Old Boy. Prof. Kandiah then formally declared the building open.

At the Public Meeting which followed, the first speaker was the Principal, who gave his Report of the year. Mr A. M. Nathaniel followed him, with some very interesting and amazing reminiscence of the early days of his Science teaching at St John's, about the year 1906. Prof. Kandiah then spoke.

Dr Kandiah said that he was thrilled to see the magnificent new block of buildings. He was sure the new building heralded a new period. He wished all prosperity to his old School.

He said that the establishment of the new University would help to usher in a new era in the education of Ceylon. The University had already given a new bias by doing away with things like Old English and introducing Asiatic History and Indian languages. It was a great thing for them to be freed from the cramping influence of external examinations. The Professor pleaded for the right attitude on the part of students. Thus, in performing experiments in science, students should avoid waste and clumsiness. Again, it was not the examination which they passed that was the important thing, but the training they received. There was a tendency for them to be theoretical in the study of science; he would urge here the value of a workshop in a secondary school.

As regards the future, Dr Kandiah thought that industry would remain on a small scale for sometime to come and agriculture must be the main outlet now. It was partly the fault of Government that they were lagging behind in industry. If the Government had taken the initiative in time they would not be labouring under the handicaps of the present. With the raw materials in Ceylon, cheap electric power would have speeded their advance. This delay in making an industrial programme for Ceylon was matched by a twenty years delay and discussion regarding the establishment of the University. The speaker however expressed

his faith in the Jaffna man. His grit should enable him to take his share in the trade of the country; there was no reason why he should not get hold of the trade in the Peninsula.

His Lordship the Bishop our last speaker, speaking from the Chair, said that the nineteenth century was marked by outstanding discoveries in science. But these discoveries were being misused. The fact of the matter was that man left to himself could become a clever devil. Only character impregnated with religion would enable man to use science properly. The great scientists, like Sir James Jeans, Sir Arthur Eddington and Sir Ronald Ross, always recognised the place of religion in a world of Science. His Lordship called them to realise that religion was indispensable for real progress.

Continuing the Bishop said: "All this leads me to refer to the inauguration on July 14th of the University of Ceylon to which, as an erstwhile member of the University College Council, I offer my best wishes"

"With the thought of the Ceylon University in mind, I came on to the chapter in Lord Elton's book *Saint George or the Dragon* headed "Not Examinees but Men" and there is a quotation, which I should like to think was printed and framed on the walls of all our schools that have a Matriculation Class, so that boys, hoping one day for a University education, will bear certain ideals clearly in mind. — 'Courage, loyalty, discipline, endurance with these a civilisation may be strong enough to defend itself, but if it is to be worthy to survive it needs culture and it needs religion. And, in the supreme test, if it is not worthy to survive, it will surely perish.'"

After a vote of thanks to the speakers had been proposed by Mr S. Thambydurai, Advocate, the Hony. Secretary of the O. B. A., and seconded by the Vice Principal, the College Song was sung, and the visitors were then invited to enter and examine the new building.

P. C. G.

Mr A. G. Charles

In October, 1942, Mr A. G. Charles of the College Staff created, we believe, a unique record by entering on the 41st year of his service. A service of thanksgiving and communion was held at half past seven on November 12, and members of the Staff joined in a beautiful act of worship. The Principal was the celebrant.

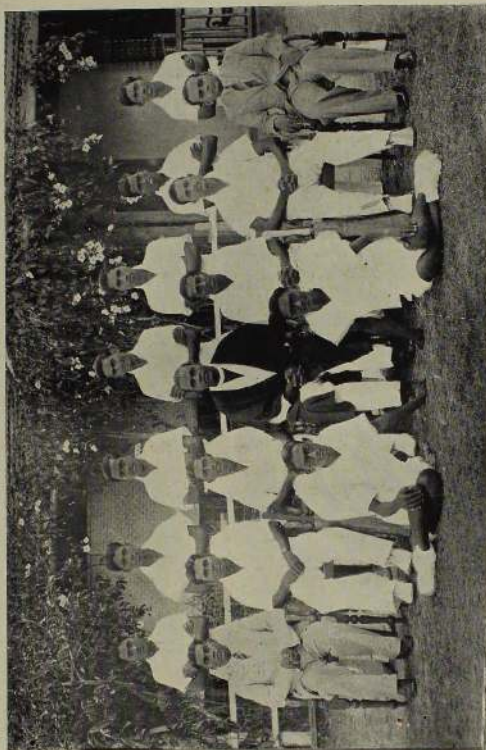
The Principal addressed the School Assembly the same day and said that those forty years were years of devoted and efficient service. He himself had the privilege of studying under Mr Charles and could testify to the thoroughness of his teaching. Mr Charles remained too a link with earlier generations and was the commonest name on the lips of Old Boys. The Principal offered the felicitations of the School to Mr Charles and said he looked forward to Mr Charles continuing in the same manner for the remaining period of his service. A half-holiday was declared in honour of Mr Charles.

The Masters Guild celebrated the day with a reception to Mr and Mrs Charles and arranged an interesting football match. These are described elsewhere.



Mr. A. G. Charles.

Inter-Collegiate Cricket Champions 1942.



Standing left to right :—P. T. Samuel, R. S. Peter, R. S. Samuel, S. R. Thambiah, R. Brodie,
K. Sathasivam, D. S. Duraiappah.

Seated :—Mr. E. M. Ponnudurai, A. Kanaganayagam, J. M. Rajaratnam (Capt.), Rev. J. T. Arulanantham,
J. I. Rajaratnam, G. G. van den Driesen, Mr. K. S. C. Thuraiatnam.

On the turf :—J. P. Hensman, A. D. Vethakun.

One of the most touching events in connection with the occasion was the gift of a sum of Rupees Two Hundred to the College by Mr Charles as a thank offering to God for His many blessings. The Principal has decided to use this money to found two A. G. Charles Geography Prizes. This would be a fitting manner of perpetuating the name of Mr Charles in the College to which he has given a devoted lifetime.

OLD BOYS' DAY 1942

The Annual Re-union of the Old Boys took place on Saturday 25th, July, 1942, when former pupils from all parts of the Peninsula rallied round the Alma Mater.

The day's proceedings began at 7-15 a. m., with Holy Communion. The Rev. J. T. Arulanantham, Principal and the Rev. V. B. Muthuvaloe, Vicar of the Church, both Old Boys, were the celebrants,

This was followed by a Cricket match between the Old Boys and the present boys. The Old Boys' team was captained by Mr H. C. Aiyadurai, veteran bowler of fame of his time and the Present boys' team was captained by J. M. Rajaratnam. The match ended in a win to the present boys by 6 wickets and 5 runs.

At 12-30 p. m., there was lunch in the new Dining Hall at which nearly eighty Old Boys were present. At 2. p. m. the Annual General Meeting was held in the Figg Hall. Rev. J. T. Arulanantham the President of the O. B. A. presided. The report presented by the Secretary Mr S. Thambydurai and the statement of accounts submitted by the Treasurer Mr C. T. Solomon were adopted.

After the Chairman welcomed the Old Boys who had come there in such large numbers, he made a statement in connection with the College building scheme and thanked those Old Boys in Ceylon, India and Malaya who had generously contributed, and the Governing Body for their support.

The election of office-bearers for the ensuing year resulted as follows :-

President : Rev. J. T. Arulanantham (Ex-officio)

Vice-Presidents : Mr P. C. Gaussen (Ex-officio), Mr A. J. R. Vethavanam, Rev. James S. Mather, Mr A. R. Subramaniam, Mr V. Sanmugalingam, Mr J. A. J. Tisseverasinghe, Mr Sam A. Sabapathy.

Secretary : Mr S. Thambydurai.

Assistant Secretary : Mr C. D. Singaratnam.,

Treasurer : Mr J. T. Solomons.

Guard me, O God, and O, control
The tumult of my restless soul.

—Tukaram



OLD BOYS NEWS

General.

Mr M. A. P. Aronld	... Petrol Controller's Office
" W. B. M. Allegakoen	... C. G. R.
Dr A. R. Arudpragasam	... Supdt Quarantine, Mandapam
Mr A. Aiyampillai	... Elected Member Mulleyawalai, Village Committee
" J. W. Arudpragasam	... Acting Principal Jaffna Central College.
" A. M. K. Cumaraswamy	... Registrar, University of Ceylon
" A. A. Chellappah	... Acct. Ceylon Govt Supplies Dept, New Delhi
" F. H. V. Gulasekharam	... Prof. of Mathematics, University of Ceylon
" S. R. Gasperson	... Retired, (42 years service), Col. Commercial Co.
" D. R. Gunasegaram	... Acting Asst Assessor, Income Tax Dept.
" T. Gopal Krishna	... Br. Manager, United India Life Assur. Co. Bellary
" A. M. N. Handy	... Asst Commissioner Commodity Purchase.
" S. C. Jesudason	... Price Control Inspector
Prof. A. Kandiah	... Dean, Faculty of Science Ceylon University.
Mr K. Kanagaratnam	... Govt Apothecary, A'pura Hospital
Dr C. Kandiah	... Medical Supdt, Kurunegala
Major M. Kanagasabai	... Cooperating Supdt, C. G. R.
Mr G. Karunaratne	... Co-operative Inspector, Madawachchi
" R. G. Lembruggen	... Supdt Engineer A. R. P., Colombo
" P. C. Lewis	... Cashier, Co-operative Bank Jaffna
" W. A. Mather	... Deputy Controller of Textiles
" Ariya Pathirana	... Nominated Member, Jaffna Urban Council
" M. Peethamparam	... Headmaster, Stanley School
" J. T. R. Perinpanayagam	... Warden, Royal College Branch, Bandarawella
" E. J. Rajaratnam	... Senior Asst. Commissioner. Commodity Purchase
" A. Rajathuraisingam	... Co-operative Sub-Inspector
Mohandiram A. M. Selvaratnam	... Class III C. C. S., Asst. Secy, Port Commission
Mr C. Sabaratnam	... Irrigation Engineer, Vavuniya
" K. Sathasivam	... Chief Ledger Clerk, Colonial Motor and Engineering Co., Ltd.
Rev. A. J. C. Selvaratnam	... Curate, Christ Church, Jaffna
Mr P. Somasundram	... Rubber Control Office, Colombo
" Sam. T. Solomons	... Chief Clerk, A. R. P., Trincomalee
" S. Sivasothy	... Co-operative Sub Inspector, Jaffna
" C. Thambiah	... Notary Public, Chief Officer, Fire Fighting Service, Mullaitivu
" A. J. R. Vethavanam	... A. R. P. Controller, Jaffna

General Clerical Examination

Messrs V. Arumugasamy; R. J. Ananthanayagam, K. Ganeswaran, S. Kanagalingam
K. Sathasivam, A. Thirunavukarasu.

Military Units

Major E. A. Rajasingam in charge of Training School, Ceylon Engineers, N'Elya, N. Appadurai, F. M. Balasingam, S. Chellappu, E. T. Chelliah, Sgt Tom van den Driesen, 2nd Lieut G. G. van den Driesen, C. E. Gunaratnam (Instructor), Gunner G. D. Hoover (Overseas), George Joseph, A. T. Jeyasingam, L/Cpl A. E. Poopalan, Cpl A. P. Ponnampalam, V. N. Rasiah, Cpl D. D. V. Sathaseevan, S. S. Sathaseevan, N. Sanmuganathan, S. Sathaseevan, E. T. Scott, (Instructor), N. Sinnadurai, V. Subramaniam, K. Suntheram, D. C. Thambyayah, S. Thambiturai, E. Thevarajah

MARRIAGES

Our hearty congratulations and best wishes to the following :—

Mr & Mrs T. E. Abraham, Mr & Mrs E. B. Anketell, Mr & Mrs C. R. A. Chinniah, Mr & Mrs R. Dharmalingam, Mr & Mrs E. P. Dharmanayagam, Mr & Mrs T. C. Gnanaprakasam, Mr & Mrs S. C. J. Hensman, Mr & Mrs S. Kanagaratnam, Mr & Mrs E. Mills, Mr & Mrs A. V. Mylvaganam, Mr & Mrs K. Ramanathan, Mr & Mrs M. S. Ramanathan, Dr & Mrs A. M. D. Richards, Mr & Mrs J. T. Sabapathypillai, Mr & Mrs C. Satkunaratnam, Mr. & Mrs G. R. Thomas, Mr & Mrs M. K. Wijeya. sundram.

OBITUARY

We record with regret the death of the following Old Johnians :—

Stanley Allegakoen	... Law Student
E. I. Arasakone	... General Treasury, Colombo
J. K. Arnold	... Proctor S. C., Hony. Secretary, S. J. C. O. B. A. for several years
S. V. Chinniah	... Proctor S. C., Uduvil
J. C. Joshua	... Retired Chief Clerk, Hoare & Co.
W. K. Morse	... Retired Chief Postmaster Colombo
K. Murugesu	... Chief Clerk, National Bank of India, Colombo
P. B. T. Richards	... F. M. S. Pensioner, Sanguvely
D. S. Seevaratnam	... Retired Inspector of Schools
C. L. Selvaratnam	... Proctor S. C., Jaffna
C. E. A. Selvaratnam	... Teacher, Manipay Hindu College
T. N. Subbiah	... Proctor S. C.
A. Suntheram	... Chief Clerk, Dept of the Controller of Labour
A. S. Thampoe	...

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES

B. A. Honours (Lond)

MATHEMATICS : Mr H. L. D. Selvaratnam (2nd Class)

CLASSICS : Mr E. Sanmugaratnam (2nd Class)

B. A. General (Lond)

Mr H. W. A. Nathaniel (2nd Division)

Messrs V. Canagasasingam and S. C. Jesudasan.

B. Sc. General (Lond)

Mr A. Mahenthiraraja (2nd Class Hons)

Inter Arts (Lond)

Messrs W. B. M. Allegakoen, J. V. C. Nathaniel, K. Anandapada-
raja, P. Parirasa, M. J. Tissanayagam.

Inter Science Economics (Lond)

Mr A. A. Rajaratnam

Inter Arts (Madras)

Mr P. Benjamin, (2nd Class)

Ceylon Teacher's Certificate.

Mr M. S. Thambithurai.

THE REPORT OF THE PREFECTS' GUILD

This year has almost come to an end and when I review what the Guild has done, I have the fullest satisfaction in stating that 1942 has seen the utmost co-operation. Whether in College or outside — wherever Johnians were gathered, the members of the guild have maintained good discipline and St John's has ever kept its high traditions and I am sure this envied name of St John's will never be stained.

We are fourteen in number today and most of our members have taken great interest in the various activities of the school: In sports, in studies, in literary activities, our members have taken a lively interest and in many instances they have distinguished themselves as captains and leaders. Our Senior Prefect is incidentally the skipper of the North-Ceylon Cricket Champions of 1942; and to mention a few, the house captains, the games' captains, the President - Inter Union, the Secretary Senior Literary Association are all members of our Guild. In studies our members have made good progress and some of them are now preparing for their Intermediate Examination.

As members of this Guild and knowing as we do that we are the representative leaders of the students, we have, under the able leadership of our popular senior prefect J. M. Rajaratnam, always done our very best to help the students. In the execution of our duties we have at all times thought of the students and of the school. Whenever someone went wrong, or when the students were dissatisfied with something, the prefects have always unstintingly striven to set things right and with the kind co-operation of all the senior students everything has been well done.

The prefects and monitors have always co-operated with each other in an exemplary manner. Whatever differences of opinion there arose between the members, the personal element was never allowed to cloud the issue or break the traditions of the College. For this co-operation, which has brought about great success, I thank all the members of this Guild.

Now, while thanking the students for their co-operation, I would like to appeal to those new students, who have joined us from institutions where such a system does not exist, that they with patience and trust subject themselves to a system that has been tested and not found wanting. They no doubt understand that we are the students' representatives and their elder brothers by approved selection, all jointly labouring for the preservation of the noble traditions of the one family — St John's, from whom we receive nourishment. Once more I thank the students for their loyal co-operation.

Before I conclude let me on behalf of the Guild thank all those prefects and monitors who left us during the year — especially our former senior prefect G. G. Van den Driesen — for all the services they have rendered to the college and I wish them all "good luck". Those who will leave us at the end of this year carry with them our very best wishes and those who are to succeed us, will. I am confident, maintain the highest and the best that have been associated with St John's — our ALMA MATER.

G. MAHENTHIRAN

Hon. Secretary, Prefects' Guild.

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE S. C. M.

This year a few changes were effected in our constitution and what we tried as an experiment has worked out well. The membership was restricted and meetings are held on Sunday mornings instead of week-days. As a result of these changes the meetings were well attended and all members took a lively interest in the affairs of the movement for the interested few only are members today. Most of our members and many other boys in the School regularly read the Bible along with the B. R. F. Notes.

At the beginning of this year we had an Inter-Collegiate Camp for four days at the Ashram. Most of our Senior members attended the Camp; there was real fellowship and good enjoyment too. The chief speakers were Rev. D. T. Niles and Rev. S. S. Somasundaram. Their addresses were interesting and their messages apt. When we left the camp service to others' had been instilled into us and we have this year tried to act accordingly.

Our meetings were held regularly and subjects of Christian interest were discussed. We have also had speakers from outside. As one of our aims is to establish fellowship we held a Social during the first term where our guests were the members of the Chundiculi Girls' College Y. W. C. A.

The members do Social Service also. Every Sunday evening some of us go to Chiviatu and teach the people there sanitation and religion. It is indeed a great pleasure to say that they are not turning deaf ears to our advice. Well we are only sowing the seeds now and very soon we will to sow more, and I am sure what we have sowed will bear good fruit.

The most important event of this year was the Student's Week of evangelism. We had with us for three days Revds S. J. Jegasothy and K. S. Jeyasingam as our chief guests and their lectures at the public meetings were very interesting. The meetings were well attended and I take this opportunity to thank Rev. S. Selyaratnam and Mr S. L. Jeyasingam for organising the week of evangelism.

However abrupt my report may be yet we are all convinced that our S. C. M. has enjoyed a period of great success, and for this our thanks are due to Mr T. M. Mathai, our President, Mr P. C. Gaussen and Mr A. W. Rajasekaram, our two Vice-Presidents. They have been always ready to sacrifice anything for the good of this Union. They have in short unstintingly given us of their best and I express our gratitude for their good help and sound advice.

Now before I conclude, let me thank Mr D. L. Gunasenan our former Secretary for his good services to us. Also I thank the various speakers for their good messages and all the members for their good co-operation.

E. S. THEVASAGAYAM
Hony. Secretary

S. J. C. MASTERS GUILD

This year has been one of great importance in the history of the Guild for two reasons. In the first place we are glad to record that the Guild has completed 20 years of useful work. Celebrations in this connection have been postponed owing to various causes. It is however hoped to celebrate it at the earliest possible opportunity.

The other was the completion of 40 year's service at St John's by one of our members. Mr A. G. Charles has been connected with the College both as a student and as a teacher for well nigh half a century. The 12th October was a half holiday for the school and in the afternoon the Guild entertained Mr & Mrs Charles at a tea-party. Felicitations were offered by the Rev. J. T. Arulanantham and Mr S. Sivaprakasam. Mr J. T. Solomons on behalf of the Guild presented Mr Charles with the gift of a purse. This was followed by a football match in which the members of the Guild, the prefect body and the rest of the College played. The team which represented the Guild won by two goals to nil. Mr Charles refreed.

We had two important lectures this year under the auspices of the Guild. The first one was by Miss E. M. Foss, Vice-Principal, Chundikuli Girls' College. She spoke on "Japan and its people". Next we had Dr (Miss) M. Ahrends of Uduvil who spoke on "Education in Germany".

Finally I must take this opportunity to thank the College Ladies' Guild for their generous gift of one hundred rupees towards the funds of the Masters Guild.

V. SIVAGURU
Hony. Secy. S. J. C. M. S.

THE INTER UNION 1942

This year has been a period of untarnished glory to the Inter Union. Early this year under the chairmanship of Mr G. Mahenthiran the constitution was framed. The members of the committee spared no pains and when the new constitution was evolved it clearly set forth the powers, privileges and duties of every member. Mr Mahenthiran became the first President of this Union; Mr R. W. Allegakoen succeeded him and later on Mr S. Yoganathan — our President today stepped into Mr Allegakoen's shoes.

The members themselves have taken to heart what Mr Mahenthiran (Hon. Secy 1941) in his report urged them to do. They have always co-operated and all members came forward to speak. Usually we hold debates but at times speeches and lectures too have been in the agenda. The speakers did their best, the speeches were very interesting and usually the meetings were a success though at times controversies arising over points of order made it necessary to postpone the main item for want of time! Following are some of the subjects we discussed: (i) The world does not progress, it merely changeth. (ii) The present war is in every way for the benefit of humanity. (iii) Shakespeare has no heroes but heroines (iv) Federation is the panacea for all International ills. (v) இலங்கை அரசியல் விஷயம் என் யாகவும் சிக்கனத்திலும் தமிழிலும் கவனப்படுவதென்றும்.

We wished to invite as many speakers as possible from out side but this god-forsaken war has changed the times and we could arrange only two lectures Mr J. V. Chelliah spoke to us on "Nature Poets." His lecture was interesting and instructive. Mr S. J. Gunasegaram delivered a thought-provoking address on "Freedom of Thought." We thank both these speakers.

The girls students to have taken a keen interest. They have readily availed themselves of every opportunity to speak and they have been one with the Union and I thank them too for their loyal co operation.

This term we have celebrated our Annual Dinner. It was held on the 24th of October with our Patron in the chair. The chief guests were Mr M. Balasundram and Dr Miss E. M. Thillyampalam. Mr Balasundram very humorously proposed the toast of the College and in doing so he stressed on the high ideals set up by this College. Our Patron replied; he wanted this College to keep before it the ideal of an English Public School. Dr Miss E. M. Thillyampalam proposed the toast of the Union and our President replied. Then Miss P. Kathiraveloo proposed the toast of the guests and Mr P. C. Gausson thanked the proposer. Finally Mr G. Mahenthiran proposed the toast of the chairman who expressed his thankfulness and the function came to a close. I wish to thank all the speakers and the other members for bringing the dinner to a success. Our chief guests carry with them our sincere thanks.

Thanks of the Union are also due to our Vice Patron, Mr K. Subramaniam, who has acted as our guide, philosopher and friend.

K. THEVASAGAYAM,
Hon. Secy.

S. J. C. Senior Literary & Debating Society

Before I give a review of the various activities of the association I would like to mention the changes that have occurred this year.

This year has been one of experiment and I should say a successful one at that. We have done away with most office-bearers and today we have only a few elected by the house. The Secretary is in charge of all arrangements for the meetings. The President nominates a student to preside at the weekly meetings of the Society. Though this system might not appear to be satisfactory to democratic minds yet it has worked well and our thanks are due to the President Mr E. C. A. Navaratnaraja who has successfully guided us.

The meetings have almost always been well attended and subjects of great interest have been well debated. Some of the subjects that have been debated with keen interest are: "Shakespeare has contributed more to English Literature than Milton," "Students in the upper forms of Educational Institutions should not be debarred from taking an active part in Politics," "Free Education should be established in Schools," "Academic English Education is not suitable for Ceylon." Debates were not the only things in the agenda. We have had Prepared Speeches by members on various subjects. The speakers have always taken a very keen interest and enlightened the house with very valuable speeches. We have two papers every term, the one an English paper called the "Eaglet" and the other a Tamil one. Our thanks are due to our Editors for making the papers a great success.

The members have co-operated with the office bearers and have been helpful in making the Society a success. It is however hoped that the reluctance on the part of certain members to get up and speak at meetings will disappear quickly. Helping members to overcome shyness on the platform and giving them confidence as speakers has been the chief aim of this Society and I look forward to a time when our Society will gain wider fame.

Before I conclude let me thank my assistant E. A. Chellappah for helping me efficiently in my absence. Furthermore let me thank the members in general and the President in particular for the co-operation they have given me in all matters regarding the association. I hope the association will always justify its existence.

S. N. NADARAJAH
Hony Secy.

Go, put your Creed into your deed,
Nor speak with double tongue.

— Emerson

S. J. C. BOARDERS' UNION

The activities of the Boarders' Union this year were a remarkable success. There was a large number of meetings in which we had many debates and several speeches. The subjects of the debates which were discussed with keen rivalry were "The present day rag should be abolished." "War is an unmixed evil." "Dictatorship is a menace to world peace." "The Indian attitude to this war is justified". Certain lectures were delivered by distinguished persons. The Union was fortunate enough to hear Mr P. G. B. Keunemann B. A., Hons (Oxon) on "The Modern Youth and the problems before them". It was a privilege to the Boarders to ask him questions on the various political subjects. Miss Foss, Vice-Principal of Chundiculi Girls' College spoke on "Japan" which was of general interest and her personal experience of Japanese life was heard with interest by the Boarders. A very interesting lecture was given by Mr Stewart Wright M. A., on "American College Systems" and Rev. S. Selvaratnam delivered a very interesting and informative speech. A Union Library was inaugurated recently and we get a large number of magazines which the Boarders read with pleasure.

I have always found that in our Union meetings the item of "Any other business" seems to make the boarders very eloquent and fiery. Very hot arguments and discussions ensue and these verbal duels sometimes lead to breach of discipline at the meetings but I am very glad to see that these controversies are confined only to the four walls of the Meeting Hall.

The boarders feel rather disappointed that the terminal "rags" and "duckings" are no longer celebrated. The last day of term was a red letter day for the boarders but now as all friends and fellow boarders disband on that day it has become a day with the gallows' air.

Before relinquishing my duties as Secretary it is my duty as well as my privilege to thank one and all who have co-operated with me and thus brought about a successful year to the Union.

S. N. NADARAJAH
Hony Secy.

Gird on thy sword, O Man—thy strength endure,
In fair desire thine earth-born joy renew;
Live thou thy life beneath the making sun,
Till Beauty, Truth, and Love in thee are one.

—Robert Bridges

GAMES AND ATHLETICS

Cricket

Early in the First Term the Inter-Collegiate Cricket Matches started and hardly had the boys started regular training when they had to play matches. Our first match was against Jaffna College whom we beat by 6 wickets and 14 runs. Kanaganayagam and Jimmy Rajaratnam won their bats scoring 53 and 60 respectively. We met Jaffna Hindu next and won the game by 166 runs. The third match was a sensational one when we averted a bad collapse and scored a glorious victory over St Patrick's beating them by an innings and 3 runs. Kanaganayagam was the hero of the game with his brilliant 132 runs. Our next game was against Hartley whom we beat by an innings and 91 runs. In this match Kanaganayagam scored his second century for the season. Jaffna Central came in next to be beaten by 9 wickets and 21 runs. van den Driesen won his bat in this match. Our last match was not played as St Henry's elected to give us a walk-over. Winning every match decisively this season we became the North Ceylon Cricket Champions, a title which even the much-vaunted Police team had rather grudgingly to concede. The report of this department would be incomplete if I failed to make special mention of Kanaganayagam and Jimmy Rajaratnam who constantly made good scores and of Peter, Samuel and Sathasivam who invariably were deadly with the leather. Praise is due to J. M. Rajaratnam who truly led his team from victory to victory.

The Inter House Cricket Shield has again been annexed by Thompson House.

Athletics

We seem to feel already the good effects of the introduction of mass athletics and standard athletic tests. St John's won the second place at the Inter Collegiate Athletic Meet this year with 644 points. We congratulate St Patrick's who have won the laurels for the 9th year in succession. One notable feature of this year's meet was the absence of the disgracefully big margin in points that used to obtain between the winners of the first and second places. Special mention must be made of Kanaganayagam, the Athletic Captain, who won the 100 yds and 220 yds races in grand style, of Sathananthan who gracefully won both the hurdle events, of Rajasingam, the Junior Champion, who won both the sprints, and of Vivekanandan the winner of the Junior High Jump. Our Juniors lowered the existing Relay record of 59.2 to 58.4 seconds.

There was extraordinary keenness evinced at this year's Inter-House Athletic Meet at which Pargiter snatched the laurels from Thompson, the former scoring 293.8 points and the latter 284 points. Johnstone became a close third with 266.5 points. The Senior Champion of the meet was Sathananthan of Pargiter: the Intermediate Championship was won by A. R. Rasiyah of Johnstone and M. Dharmarajah of Pargiter: the Junior Champion was Sellathurai of Pargiter. The Best Performance Cup, presented by the Ceylon Hardware Stores, was awarded to Sathananthan who set up a new record of 16.6 seconds in the 120 hurdles.

Kanaganayagam served faithfully as College Athletic Captain and has been succeeded by Sathananthan, an energetic leader.

Football

Though the process of grouping Colleges for the Inter Collegiate Football Competition was the same this year as in the past few years yet we were fortunate in coming into the stronger group. We beat Jaffna College, Victoria and Chithambara Vidyalaya but lost to St Patrick's and St Henry's.

In the 2nd Eleven Competition we beat Karanagar Hindu College and Union College but lost to Jaffna Hindu.

The Inter-House Football Shield was won by Johnstone. As the Football Competition was worked out at the beginning of the term we were able to discover much raw talent which we trust will bring us honour in the next few years.

PERSONNEL OF THE FOOTBALL TEAM 1942

J. M. Rajaratnam Capt. (CENTRE FORWARD), W. J. Solmons (FULL-BACK), J. I. Rajaratnam (CENTRE-HALF), R. Brodie (GOALIE), A. Vaitheswari (FULL-BACK), S. P. Jayarajasingam (FULL-BACK), P. Sathiasanthan (RIGHT HALF), K. Muthulingam (LEFT HALF), R. S. Peter (RIGHT-OUT), T. Param (RIGHT-IN), P. T. Sivapragasam (CENTRE FORWARD), D. S. Duraiappah (LEFT-IN), P. T. Samuel (LEFT-OUT) and A. Kanaganayagam (CENTRE-FORWARD).

Physical Training

Systematic physical training is given to boys throughout the School. Mass Athletics with appropriate exercises is a special feature of our physical training and it is no exaggeration to say that as a result of this organised mass training there is evident greater physical fitness in our boys and keenness to develop symmetrical bodies that are borne gracefully.

K. C. T.

CRICKET AVERAGES

Batting Average of Best Batsmen	No. of Innings batted	No. of Runs scored	No. of Innings not out	Most in an Innings	Average
A. Kanaganayagam	7	402	—	135	57.4
J. I. Rajaratnam	8	239	1	99	34.1

Bowling Average of Best Bowlers	No. of Overs	No. of Maidens	No. of Runs	Wickets	Average
P. T. Samuel	45.5	7	163	22	7.4
R. S. Peter	72.3	23	143	19	7.5
K. Sathasivam	35.4	—	131	14	9.4

Colour Winners

CRICKET : A. Kanaganayagam, *R. S. Peter, P. T. Samuel, G. G. van den Driesen, K. Sathasivam.

* was awarded special prize for exceptional performance in bowling.

ATHLETICS : K. Sathananthan

Football : 1941 J. M. Rajaratnam, M. Rajasingam, A. P. Ponnampalam, D. L. Gunasenani,
W. J. Solomons 1942 R. Brodie, J. I. Rajaratnam

HOUSE REPORTS

HANDY HOUSE

WHEN I review the activities of my House for the past year I must say we were very modest in most of our achievements. But I must congratulate all 'Handyans' for the spirit they have shown in the playground and class room. Many 'Handyans' suddenly got a 'bump' on their patriotic side and joined the army. Our sincerest wishes and thoughts go out to them.

House feelings rose very high in the second term. The sports meet proved most successful. Our warmest congratulations go to Pargiter House on becoming Athletic Champions. Also to Thompson House on becoming Cricket Champions and to Johnstone House on becoming Football Champions. As regards studies I must say we have fared very well. There were only a few fortnightly Wednesdays when Handyans missed their customary cheer on topping the list. I know we will keep it up.

I must congratulate the College Cricket Team 1942 on the brilliant victories they have scored in the Inter Collegiate Matches. Handyans as usual played their part for the College and I must congratulate A. D. Vethakan and Shanthie Thambiah in doing their bit so well for the College. I must also congratulate Shanthie Thambiah on being appointed a College Monitor. I hope that more Handyans will qualify themselves to hold this office. Also my congratulations to the Juniors of the House for the very brilliant performance they put up in their Athletic Meet. They came a close second. It is a bright future we have got. I must not fail to congratulate D. Rajasingham on winning the Junior Championship in the last Inter Collegiate Athletic Meet.

I must not omit to thank our former Captain Billy van den Driesen for all that he has done to the House. He was every inch a Handyman and I hope he has not forgotten his old House. I must also thank Mr V. C. Canagaratnam and Mr D. C. Arulanantham for the active interest they have taken in the House.

Wishing you all a happy X'mas and a happier New Year.

SHANTHIE THAMBIAM,
House Captain.

JOHNSTONE HOUSE

As a House we have distinguished ourselves this year in all branches of College activities. This year, unlike the previous years, all the Houses were well matched and there was keen competition in every field. Though we did not rise to the highest rung of the ladder, we always maintained a good standard. The first term brought us no luck in Cricket, though we came up to the finals. I must take this opportunity to congratulate Thompson House on winning the Championship. We are proud to find most of our members taking keen and active part in all College activities, and I hope the few others will catch the infection. The College Cricket team claimed three of its outstanding players from the House and all fared remarkably well in the Inter Collegiate Matches. But I must make special mention of R. Brodie who did excellently well with the bat and never failed to enter double figures in the Inter Collegiate Matches, and of J. I. Rajaratnam for his many invaluable batting and bowling contributions to the team.

The activities of the College during the second term were the Athletic standard tests and the Inter House Sports. Though we were placed third in the Finals, we kept within very close range of the other Houses. But we won the Tug-of-war from Thompson House, and thus broke a long standing record of nearly ten years. I think I will fail in my duty if I do not make special mention of A. R. Rasiah who brought honour to the House by annexing the Intermediate Championship. He also set up a new ground record in Pole Vault. We ought to congratulate Pargiter House on their well deserved Athletic Championship. The House was well represented in the College Athletic Team.

The third term as usual opened with soccer. In the House Matches we did very well and after a hard struggle with Pargiter we emerged as Champions for the second year in succession. Again the House has given more than its share in supplying the College team with four of its best players. In the field of studies we have been maintaining a splendid record. Two terms we were placed first in the final ranking, and in the fortnightly tests we were always first or second. Of the fourteen members in the Prefects' Guild, five hail from our House and I must offer my congratulations to those newly elected. Before I conclude I wish to thank all members of the House, and House masters for the untiring interest and help they rendered in making this year a success.

Wishing all a Merry X'mas and a Happy New Year.

Babu Joe. M. RAJARATNAM,
House Captain.

PARGITER HOUSE

Before I mention the various activities of my House, I wish to thank Mr A. Alphonsus, our former Captain for all that he did for the House.

The year 1942 was on the whole a very successful year for us. In the first term R. S. Peter brought credit to the House by winning the Cup as the best bowler. In the Inter House Cricket Competition, I am very glad to say that though we lost we gave a very hard fight to the Champions. Our congratulations to Thompson House on winning the Championship for the year.

The Inter-House Athletic Sports Meet came off during the second term. We gave the best performance and won the Championship for the year. In this connection I would like to render my heartiest congratulations to K. Sathananthan, M. Dharmaraja and S. Sellathurai for winning the individual Championships in the Senior, Inter and Junior sections respectively. I would like to congratulate K. Sathananthan again for winning the best performance Cup. I hope that the House will maintain the high standard it has reached.

In the Inter-House Football Competition we beat Handy House and thus qualified ourselves to enter the finals against Johnstone House. Though the Johnstone House team was considered superior to ours, we put up a good fight and drew with them. The next day, however, they were able to defeat our team and thus win the Championship. We congratulate them on their success.

C. Vijayarajah and S. N. Nadarajah have been appointed College Monitors. K. Sathananthan and V. Kanagasundaram have been appointed Athletic Captain and Second Eleven Football Captain respectively. Our congratulations to them.

In conclusion let me thank my House Masters for the co-operation they gave me in all matters connected with the House.

S. N. NADARAJAH,
House-Captain.

THOMPSON HOUSE

It is first of all my duty to thank our former Captain R. R. Scott, under whose guidance our House progressed from strength to strength. Our success was mainly due to the untiring interest and enthusiasm he took in the House and the standard he set in achievement. We wish him all success in his future career.

The year 1942 has been quite a successful year for us. We were Champions in the Cricket Competition held early this year. I desire to make special mention of P. T. Samuel and J. P. Hensman who contributed a great deal towards our overwhelming victory.

In Athletics we had to yield by a narrow margin to Pargiter House, after retaining the Championship for several unbroken years. Well, we congratulate Pargiter on beating Thompson!

We lost to Johnstone House by a single goal, after a keen fight, in the Football Competition. Our congratulations to Johnstone House on winning the Football Championship.

After many years St John's has won the Inter-Collegiate Cricket Championship this year. It is the pride of Thompson House that many members of our House represented the College at Cricket, and contributed abundantly to the many victories of the season. The House Captain had the privilege of giving his own share towards this.

At the Inter-Collegiate Athletic Meet, St John's came second to St Patrick's College. But we did do better than we have done for years, and again Thompson House did make its contribution.

In studies we have topped the honours list more than one fortnight, but we cannot be satisfied with that.

The boys of Thompson House yield to none in their loyalty to the College, and they take their due share in all activities. Six Thompsonians are College monitors, namely Yoganathan, Mahenthiran, Sivaprakasam, Thevasagayam, Solomons and Kanaganayagam.

For the first time an Athletic Meet for the Lower School was held this year. Our House won the Championship and E. J. Samuel won the individual Championship. We have good reason to build our hopes for the future.

Finally we should thank our energetic House Master Mr Nesiah for so ably guiding the destinies of the House.

A. KANAGANAYAGAM,
House Captain.

THE SCOUTS

The Scout Troop had another successful year of progress and usefulness. Many new boys have joined the troop and some of the old members have been working steadily for proficiency badges and have thus increased the efficiency of the troop. A. Ramaswamy has qualified himself as a Kings' Scout and is appointed as Troop Leader. T. Gopalasingam, another Kings' Scout, who came from Kurunegala has been a valuable addition to the Troop. He is entitled to wear the green and yellow cord and is appointed as the Secretary of the troop. Satkunathan had the opportunity of attending the Patrol Leader's Training Camp held at Kalutara in August and has completed very nearly all the tests required for first class Badge. He has also passed St John's Ambulance examination.

One great change which has taken place this year is the fact that Mr C. H. Gunawardena has definitely taken up the Scout Mastership and his youthful vigour and enthusiasm is already felt in the troop. Mr T. M. Mathai will remain as Group Scout Master.

There are some thirty eight members in the Troop and they are distributed into four patrols. Woodpeckers (leader) S Satkunathan, Owls (leader) V. Kanagasundaram, Kingfishers (leader) A. S. Vethakan, Eagles (leader) V. Satyanathan.

St John's Troop has responded very well to the appeal for messengers in the A. R. P. There are fifteen Messengers in the Town Area from this troop. The Report Centre Messengers are entirely from our Troop and they are doing very useful and efficient work under the leadership of T. Gopalasingam.

Owing to the abnormal conditions, it was not possible to hold a camp this year but we hope to have one early next year.

T. M. M.

St John's College Senior C. C. B. Platoon

Before I present the annual report of the above platoon I take this opportunity to thank the former Sgt. G. G. van den Driesen for the great services he has rendered us in the past few years as sergeant and acting company sergeant major. We wish him all success in his new sphere of life in the Ceylon Light Infantry.

This year we were really unfortunate in not having rifles and side arms. We had to cancel our arms drills and had to be content with drills without rifles. Our miniature rifle range has gone out of use.

The annual N. C. O.'s camp was held, which eight of us attended. We were again badly hit by the war when we had to camp out in tents as our spacious quarters had been occupied by the C. L. I. The whole camp was conducted on a military basis. I cannot forget to thank all those who co-operated with me in making the camp a success.

We must thank our O. C., Lieut. D. C. Arulanantham, for all the interest he takes in our work. Our thanks are also due to Lieut. E. M. Ponnudurai for accompanying us to camp.

The strength of the platoon has risen to forty. Twenty four recruits were enrolled lately.

Our congratulations are due to J. M. Rajaratnam and W. J. Solomons for playing soccer for the C. C. B. against other units, and distinguishing themselves, and to A. Kanaganayagam, the only cadet from North Ceylon to be selected in the C. C. B. Cricket Team.

Sgt. WILFRED SOLOMONS.

ST JOHN'S AMBULANCE BRIGADE

A Cadet Division of the above Brigade was formed in St John's College in July last. The objects of the Division are :

1. To afford facilities for boys to meet together for practice in First Aid and kindred subjects with the object of receiving early training in them.
2. To inculcate the principles laid down in the Cadet Code of Chivalry.
3. To develop the spirit of team work and to improve health and physical vigour by means of games and exercises.

Mr P. E. Rajendra is in charge of the Division, S. Satkunanathan is Cadet Officer. R. A. Jeevanayagam is Sergeant, A. C. Kanagarajah and A. Gautamadasa are Corporals. So far, eleven boys (either A. R. P. Volunteers or Cadets) have offered themselves for the First Aid Examination, the results of which are not yet published.

P. E. R.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

School Prefects

J. M. RAJARATNAM — Senior Prefect; Capt. Johnstone House; Capt. Cricket
Capt. Football.

E. M. SELVARATNAM

School Monitors

G. MAHENTHIRAN — Secretary Prefects' Guild.

E. S. THEVASAGAYAM — Secretary S. C. M.

D. R. SIVAPRAKASAM

S. YOGANATHAN — President Inter Union.

S. N. NADARAJAH — Capt. Pargiter House; Secretary S. L. A.; Secretary
Dramatic Club; Secretary Boarders' Union; Ground
Secretary.

J. I. RAJARATNAM — Chapel Prefect.

S. R. THAMBIAH — Capt. Handy House.

A. KANAGANAYAGAM — Capt. Thompson House, Capt. Athletics.

R. W. B. ALLEGAKOEN

K. DEVASAGAYAM — Secretary Inter Union; Treasurer S. C. M.

C. VIJAYARAJ — Treasurer Inter Union.

W. J. SOLOMONS — Sergeant C. C. B.

House Captains

Thompson : A. Kanaganayagam

Johnstone : J. M. Rajaratnam

Pargiter : S. N. Nadarajah

Handy : S. R. Thambiah

College S. C. M.

President : Mr T. M. Mathai

Secy : E. S. Thevasagayam

Treasurer : K. Devasagayam

Inter Union

Patron : The Principal

VicePatron : Mr K. Subramaniam

President : S. Yoganathan *Secretary* : K. Devasagayam *Treasurer* : C. Vijayaraj

Senior Literary & Debating Society

President : The Principal

Vice-President : Mr E. C. A. Navaratnarajah

Secy : S. N. Nadarajah

Boarders' Union

President : Mr C. H. Gunawardena

Secy : S. N. Nadarajah

Dramatic Club

President : Mr E. C. A. Navaratnarajah

Secy : S. N. Nadarajah

Scout Troop

Group S. M. : Mr T. M. Mathai

S. M. : Mr C. H. Gunawardena

A. S. M. : Mr J. D. Thuraiaratnam

Troop Leader : A. Ramasamy

Wolf Cub Pack*Cub Mistress* : Miss E. I. Kelk*Asst* : Miss M. E. van den Driesen**Cadet Corps***Lt* D. C. Arulanantham*Lt* E. M. Ponnudurai*Sgt Senior Cadets* : W. J. Solomons*Sgt Junior Cadets* : D. Alfred**Games Captains***Cricket* : J. M. Rajaratnam.*Soccer* : J. M. Rajaratnam*Athletics* : A. Kanaganayagam**Masters Guild***President* : Mr E. C. A. Navaratnarajah*Secy* : Mr V. Sivaguru*Treasurer* : Mr J. T. Solomons**Tennis Club***President* : The Principal*Captn* : Mr E. M. Ponnudurai*Secy* : Mr A. W. Rajasekaram**College Brotherhood***President* : The Principal*Secy* : Mr A. W. Rajasekaram

EXAMINATION RESULTS

LONDON MATRICULATION PASSES.

June 1941

Allogakoen R. W. D.
 Chaolithanathan P. A.
 Kanagalingam S.
 Sivaprakasam D. R.
 Balasundaram T.
 Ananthanayagam Q. J.

Hunt C. J.
 Jesudason H. A.
 Ranganathan K.
 Thevasagayam K.
 Pathmanathan K.

January 1942

Alphonsus A.
 Nesathurai P.
 Visuvalingham S.
 Kugathason R.
 Thangarajah C.
 Gunasenani D. L.
 Catherasampillai Miss S.
 Mahenthiran G.
 Pathmanathan C.

Thambipillai T.
 Vivekanandam B.
 Sivagnanam T.
 Kandasamy S.
 Subramaniam V.
 Kathiravelu Miss P.
 Nagendram S.
 de Zoyza L. A.

CAMBRIDGE SENIOR DEC. 1941

Sivaprakasam P. T. Sivagnanam T.

SPECIAL S. S. C. DEC. 1941

Exemption from Lond Matric.

Mahenhtiran., G.Pathmanathan C., Pathmanathan K., Ranganathan K., Sivagnanam T.

Ordinary Passes

Aronld M. A. P.	Hunt C. J.
Emmanuel V. G.	Jesudason H. A.
Mahalingam T.	Nesthurai A.
Sivaprakasam D. R.	Marnicavasagar P.
Tissaveerasingam S.	Thangarajah C.
van den Driesen G. G.	Thayalaratnam T.
Vivekanandan B.	Thevasagayagam K.
Arichandran M.	Vincent R. T.
Rajanayagam S. T.	Alphonsus F. A.
Navasivayam V.	Balasundaram T.
Chachithananthan P. A.	de Zoyza L. A.
Daniel K. S.	Sathaseevan S. S.

Our Diary, 1942

- Jany. 7 Term begins
 Feb. 21 Parents' Day
 Mar. 25 Term ends
 May 13 Second Term begins
 „ 15-16 Staff Retreat at the Ashram
 June 2 London Matriculation Examinations begin
 „ 20 Annual Inter-House Athletic Meet
 July 22 Dr J. S. Amarasingham speaks at Assembly on the Health Week
 „ 22 Mr J. V. Chelliah addresses Inter Union on " Nature Poets "
 „ 25 Old Boys' Day, Opening of the Centenary Science Block
 „ 31 Rev. G. D. Harpur, C. M. S. Secretary, addresses Assembly
 Aug. 13 Term ends
 Sep. 9 Third Term begins
 Oct. 22 Junior Inter-House Athletic Meet
 „ 31 Dramatic Society's Entertainment
 Nov. 12 Celebrations in connection with the completion of 40 years' service by Mr A. G. Charles
 „ 25 Mr S. J. Gunasegaram addresses Inter Union on " Freedom of Thought "
 Dec. 5 Annual College Dinner
 „ 11 Term ends
 „ 12 Masters' Guild 20th Anniversary Dinner

VALETE 1941

W. B. Allegakoen (1931—1941)

Cambridge Junior History Prize ; General Bible knowledge Prize ; Inter Arts Class Prize ; London Inter Arts

S. AnandaCumaraswamy (1939—'41)

London Matriculation ; University Entrance ; College Monitor

A. H. D. Charles (1933—'41)

Thompson Scholar ; Junior Cadet ; Lond. Matriculation ; Secretary, Boxing Club ; College Monitor

R. R. Scott (1935—'41)

College Cricket Eleven (1936—41) ; Cricket Colours ; College Football Eleven (1926—41) ; Football Colours ; Secretary, S. L. A., College Prefect ; Inter House Athletic Champion ; Athletic Colours ; Captain, Thompson House ; Captain Football (1939-41) ; Senior Inter-Collegiate Athletic Champion ; Student Chairman S. L. A. ; Athletic Captain ; Capt. Cricket. Senior Prefect (1940-41) ; Lond Matric. ; Student Chairman Inter Union ; Senior College General Excellence Prize (1941) ; Representative of Ceylon A. A. A. at the Indo-Ceylon Athletic Meet (1941).

A. Thirunavukarasu (1932—'41)

Junior Tamil Essay Prize ; Tamil Oratory Gold Medal ; London Matriculation ; College Prefect ; London Inter Arts (referred in English)

M. Thomas (1933—'41)

Thompson Scholar ; Scout ; Cambridge Senior with Exemption

J. M. J. Vannitamby (1939—'41)

Secretary, S. C. M. ; Secretary, Inter Union ; College Prefect ; London Matriculation

VALETE 1942

A. A. Alphonsus (1932—'42)

Junior Cadet ; Senior Cadet ; Inter-House Athletic Champion (1940) ; Athletic Captain ; Senior Inter-Collegiate Athletic Champion ; Athletic Colours ; College Football Eleven (1940—41) ; Football Colours ; College Cricket Eleven (1941) ; College Monitor ; Captain Pargiter House ; S. S. C. (Special)

Q. J. Anandanayagam (1940—'42)

London Matriculation ; Asst Secretary, Inter Union ; Inter Arts Scholar

- D. L. Gunāsenan** (1932—'42)
Scout (1935—'39); Patrol Leader Scout Troop (1939); College Football Eleven (1940—'41); Secretary, S. C. M.; Football Colours; Lond. Matric; Secretary, Inter Union; College Prefect
- S. N. Nadarajah** (1939—'42)
College Football Eleven; Ground Secretary; Captain, Pargiter House; Secretary, S. J. C. S. L. & D. S.; Secretary, Boarders' Union; Secretary, Dramatic Society; College Monitor
- S. Nagendran** (1930—'42)
Senior Cadet (1938—'41); Passed London Matriculation
- K. Pathmanathan** (1937—'42)
S. S. C. (Spl.) with exemption; London Matric.; College Monitor
- K. Ranganathan** (1937—'42)
Junior Cadet (1938—'40); Senior General Knowledge Prize; S. S. C. (Special) with exemption; Lond. Matric. University Entrance
- K. Sathasivam** (1934—'42)
London Matric; College Cricket Eleven (1941—'42); Student Chairman Inter Union (1941); College Prefect; Cricket Colours.
- E. T. Scott** (1935—'42)
Junior Cadet; Senior Cadet; College Cricket Eleven (1937—40); Cricket Colours; College Football Eleven (1938—40); Football Colours; Inter-House Athletic Champion; Athletic Colours; College Monitor; Secretary, Prefects' Guild
- S. Selvaratnam** (1929—'42)
London Matric.; College Monitor (1941); appeared for the Inter-Science
- Miss P. Somasundaram** (1940—'42)
English Editor, Inter Union; Post Matric. Class Prize; Open Entrance Arts Scholar; Vice President, Inter-Union; appeared for the Inter-Arts
- V. Subramaniam** (1937—'42)
Gold Medalist, Tamil Oratory (1938); College Monitor; Passed London Matric.
- T. Sivagnanam** (1937—'42)
S. S. C. (Special) with exemption; London Matric.; Univesity Entrance
- C. Thirunavukarasu** (1932—'42)
J. S. C. (1st Divn); London Matric; College Monitor; appeared for the Inter Science.
- G. G. van den Driesen** (1931—'42)
Junior Cadet; Junior Cadet Sergeant (1936—'38); College Cricket Eleven (1938—'42); Cricket Colours; Secretary, S. L. A.; Captain Handy House (1940—42); Gold Medalist, English Oratory (1940); Chapel Prefect; Ground Secretary; Sergeant Senior Cadets (1940—'42); College Football Eleven (1941), S. S. C. (Special); Senior Prefect (1942).

J.