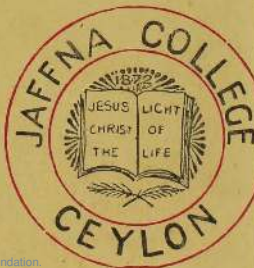


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MISCELLANY

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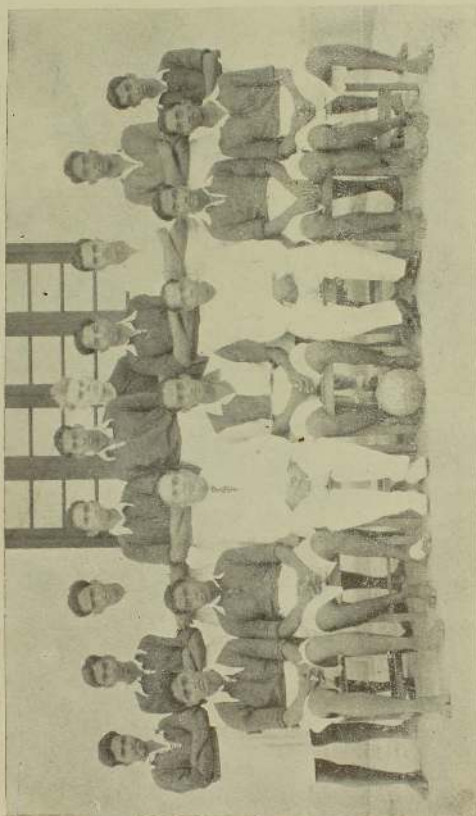
Jaffna College Miscellany

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SOCCER ELEVEN — 1948

LOVE CAME DOWN AT CHRISTMAS

1. *Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
Stars and Angels gave the sign.*

2. *Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
Worship we our Jesus:
But wherewith for sacred sign?*

3. *Love shall be our token,
Love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and all men,
Love for plea and gift and sign.*

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

SHAW'S ATTACK ON CONVENTIONAL MORALITY

BY S. P. APPASAMY, M. A.

In Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* Christian gentlemen despise and hate the Jew; not so much because he is any less a man, or a member of society, but because he believes in the system of usury. No doubt they cloak their scorn under the guise of religion, but the fact remains. It would perhaps be a sweeping generalisation to claim that Christian gentlemen were Christian gentlemen till they became Jews. Yet there is much to be said for that opinion. When the eighteenth century economists rationalised the taking of usury, or interest as they called it, they little realised the turn they were giving to western civilisation. True, the sociologist, and even the economist, would point out that what really brought about radical social changes,—which in turn led to much deeper changes,—was the celebrated Industrial Revolution. This, they delight to explain, brought in its wake Agrarian Reform, Monetary Reform, the growth of the system of Banking and Credit, and all the trappings of what is termed the Capitalist system. But the place of Usury or of Interest still remains fundamental in the whole fabric.

If usury was connected with morality in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, it is no less connected with morality today. Money, capital, and Mammon seem to be inextricably welded into the very life of our age, and, for that matter, into the life of the nineteenth century. And though it is no easy matter to say how important a part God played in the life of the people of England before that time, it is fairly easy to point out how important a part Mammon played in the life of the people after that time. The scriptures of Mammon were the doctrines of Capitalist economics, which certainly

swept all before them in the nineteenth century. The feeble attempts of a William Morris, the passion of a Ruskin, the thunder of a Carlyle, was as nothing against the logic of Adam Smith and his followers. *Homo Oeconomicus* captured the imagination of the elite, and *Homo Spiritus* was sacrificed at the shrine of Mammon.

The Victorian Age was remarkable in that it attempted to effect a compromise between ethics based upon the Christian religion, and the doctrines of Economics. It was taken for granted that anything that could be proved to be economic was sacrosanct—even the iron law of wages. There was no such thing as economic immorality. On the other hand, Christian customs, such as Church-going, almsgiving, and minor social service, were used as a buttress for the inequities of the new religion, which was further propped up with what has been termed Victorian prudery. The result to the clearsighted observer—especially the observer who can look back upon it—was obvious, thinly veiled hypocrisy and indifference. But so insidious was the effect of the new attitude, that indifference to things truly religious was not taken so seriously, as indifference to the economic welfare of the very economic man that the system had produced. Karl Marx was the first Prophet of this new vision.

The philosophy of social progress as presented by Marx was calculated to prove that Capitalism would eventually and inevitably be replaced by Socialism. The process has, however, been so long drawn out that Capitalism has survived by making concessions to the welfare of the masses. The drive for such welfare has been based on an appeal to morality! Fabian Socialism in England began with other aims, but the final result has been a mere changing of public opinion to greater sympathy for the economic poverty and distress of the masses. All social evils were traced through Capitalism to poverty, and even moral evils were traced to poverty.

Socialism was offered not only as a panacea for social but also of moral evil. Enter one of the most brilliant of Fabian Socialists — Bernard Shaw.

"*Mrs. Warren's Profession* was written in 1894 to draw attention to the truth that prostitution is caused, not by female depravity and male licentiousness, but simply by underpaying, undervaluing, and overworking women so shamefully that the poorest of them are forced to resort to prostitution to keep body and soul together..... If on the large social scale we get what we call vice instead of what we call virtue, it is simply because we are paying more for it. No normal woman would be a professional prostitute if she could better herself by being respectable, nor marry for money if she could afford to marry for love," writes Shaw in his preface to this play. One of the pet phrases of the economist is 'pari passu' or 'other things remaining the same'. It is a pity that Shaw did not use this phrase to protect himself. The oldest profession in the world has not been practised, through the centuries at any rate, purely because women needed to keep body and soul together. The anthropologist tells us that there were thousands of professional prostitutes at the temple of Aphrodite at Paphos, or at the temple of Diana at Ephesus, and at many temples in India. Superstition and religion accounted for many of these if not all. The psychologist tells us that many prostitutes are not 'normal women'. The sociologist tells us that 'male licentiousness', especially in the urban civilisation of today where large congeries of unmarried and unattached males are gathered together and left to use their leisure as they please, is certainly a cause; and that in a society where woman is also an independent wage-earner, 'female depravity, is also a cause. The religious man tells us that since men and women do not 'fear God' they cannot 'resist temptation'. Shaw draws attention to the truth, but not the whole truth.

"Also I desired to expose the fact that prostitution is not only carried on without organisation by individual enterprise in the lodgings of solitary women... but organised and exploited as a big international commerce for the profit of capitalists like any other commerce, and very lucrative to great city estates, including Church estates, through the rents of the houses in which it is practised." Much of the reason for Shaw's bias and exposure is made clear in this statement. It is an indictment against Capitalism. Poverty is anti-social; poverty is a crime. Capitalism is responsible on the one hand for the poverty which drives women to prostitution, and on the other for aiding and abetting large organisations to operate in this nefarious commerce. In fact the conclusion of the play itself drives home with irresistible force the fact that even prostitution—the social and moral evil which was not even to be mentioned or hinted at in Victorian society, the unmentionable anathema—is all a matter of returns, of usury. All interest is tainted to the socialist; that from prostitution, being most repugnant to the Victorian mind, is presented here in its Stygian hue. The immorality of tainted money is then the main theme.

Yet when the play was first written, as Shaw makes much of in his preface, it was banned by the Lord Chamberlain's Examiner. This was because it was an attack on 'conventional morality'. No society was more conventional than the Victorian. Though the monstrous growth of Capitalism had brought about social disabilities and diseases that appalled those who dared to examine them, the upper classes did their very best to ignore the seamy side of life. Even poverty was not to be brought in all its rags and misery to the attention of these people. It was bad form to even mention the existence of prostitution, or any immoral relationship. There was the strictest taboo on sexual lapses whether of the high or the low. It was to be taken for granted

that Mammon was in his heaven and all was right with the world. But a reaction was setting in against this tacit agreement. And Shaw was one of those who went out of his way to shock Victorian sentiment out of its apathy, and indifference. It is this shock value against conventional morality that we find in the technique of the play. Shaw dares to present in Sir George Crofts, the titled capitalist who draws thirty-five percent interest from his investment of forty thousand pounds in his chain of brothels, and that in the leanest years. He produces on the stage Vivie Warren, the illegitimate daughter of the notorious Mrs. Warren, who runs the business for Crofts. He even goes further and brings the Reverend Samuel Gardner, a respectable pillar of the Church, and presents him as Vivie's true father. Finally he lets Frank Gardner and Vivie, half brother and sister, fall in love with each other. The Victorians would have considered this the flaunting of vice on the stage, and the play was naturally banned. This outer attack on the conventions of the day does not seem so poignant today. In fact we almost miss the point altogether. But the Victorians saw this outer setting only to their horror except the few who really appreciated Shaw's analysis of the theme of prostitution. It is no wonder then that the play was a double barrelled explosion which shook Victorian complacency. But let us not forget that what Shaw seems to intend us to see is that prostitution in England under the Capitalist system is due in part, at any rate, to economic pressure.

In the 'unpleasant play', *Widower's Houses*, the theme is to say the least-similar. The great Victorian aristocrats, and the solid middle classes of that age represented, in a great measure, a class of Rentiers who subsisted partly, if not wholly, on invested capital. In an earlier and unsophisticated age the aristocratic class depended for their means on land, but during the latter eighteenth century and the nineteenth century opportunities for investment in

various business concerns represented by jointstock companies, and loans to government offered themselves to the holders of capital. The attitude of the investor, was, in economic terms, to get the highest return for his money by way of interest with the least possible risk. The investor remained uninterested very often in the kind of company he invested in, or the way it was run, or whether it was moral or immoral. His viewpoint was purely one of returns. The wide gap between the capitalist and the actual worker made this possible. The actual management of the concern would be left to the entrepreneur. The capitalist could therefore remain at ease, far from the scene in which his capital was employed, and totally disinterested in it. It enabled him, in other words, to be the traditional Shylock of earlier times, with very little personal concern, and a very much easier conscience if he was built that way. It was, in other words, the Jew's paradise. (The word Jew having in this context no racial significance but referring only to people who had evolved the theory of capital and interest much earlier.)

When Christian gentlemen thus became Jews, their actions had an effect on society that is anti-social, just as Shylock's action was considered anti-social. But the doctrines of economics supported this state of affairs, or seemed to. And Shaw has once more picked upon a theme which brings out the iniquities of the capitalist system. In this particular play—*Widower's Houses*—he attacks the housing system. The conditions of the slums in London have been examined, reported upon, and legislated upon, again and again, without the conditions showing marked improvement in the course of decades. One of the blessings of the destruction of many parts of the city of London during this war has been the fact that many of these wretched tenements were rased to the ground by bombs. What are the reasons for these appalling conditions? The smart reply is 'vested interests.' The Church owns much property; many

aristocrats such as Lady Roxdale, as presented in the play, own slum property, and many middle class rentiers like Dr. Henry Trench have investments one way or another in this slum property. Shaw has shown us how the system works. Lady Roxdale may own or lease the property out to others, collecting only her interest, oblivious of the fact that her very action is anti-social. She may be spared all trouble by employing a solicitor to manage the property for her. Dr. Trench may derive his modest seven hundred pounds a year from a Mortgage, not realising that the seven percent interest he is able to secure is because the mortgage is on slum property. Had he invested in Consols he would get only two and half percent. Mr. Sartorius, the mortgagee, himself lives in comfort, and pretends to the standing of a gentleman, educates his daughter as a lady, and desires to see her enter the social strata above him. He in turn employs Lickcheese to do the actual dirty work of collecting the rents from the poorest of the poor who occupy his tenements at exorbitant rates. "You can get higher rents letting by the room than you can for a mansion in Park Lane."

Shaw exposes conventional morality again. No word can be said in society against people of the standing of Lady Roxdale. Even Parliamentary Reports do not worry Mr. Sartorius. Being a vestryman he can afford to defy the clergymen and even the Sanitary Inspector under the Local Government Board. Society speaks about the iniquities of the system but is unable to act because of this unexpected resistance from the vested interests. Cokane poses a pointed question when he asks "If you are going to get money from your wife, doesn't it concern your family to know how that money was made? Doesn't it concern you—you, Harry?" This is the question that society should ask itself not only of any money that may be coming in, but even of the capital they now hold. If wealth is a trust, it be-

hoves the trustee to invest it, not according to the amount of return that he or she will receive, but for the greatest good of society. That sounds trite, but that is just what society does not do. Society is perfectly satisfied in looking only to the gain, and sitting back indifferently. This was and is the conventional morality of the Victorian age and our own age, and Shaw questions it.

Yet he does not merely question it and expose it. Behind it there still seems to be a feeling that such a condition is inevitable in the capitalist system. The conclusion of the play alone would be sufficient to prove that. Lickcheese's solution to the threat of being bought out by Government is to make improvements and collect the best compensation and value possible. This from the business point of view is perfectly moral, perfectly permissible. In fact Cokane who previously asked Trench to inquire into the sources of Mr. Sartorius's income here pleads the cogency of Mr. Lickcheese's business statement. And finally Trench is drawn in. The indictment of the capitalist system can be seen even more explicitly in Mr. Sartorius's statement much earlier. "If, when you say that you are just as bad as I am, you mean that you are just as powerless to alter the state of society, then you are unfortunately right," and a few moments later "Every man who has a heart must wish that a better state of things was practicable. But unhappily it is not." Shaw seems to show that society organised as it is cannot free itself from exploitation, and social injustice. The true remedy that he would probably suggest would be Socialism in some form.

It is strange then to find Shaw open his preface to *Androcles and the Lion*, with the question: "Why not give Christianity a trial?" But the reason is not far to seek. "I must still insist that if Jesus could have worked out the practical propositions of a Communist constitution, an admitted obligation to

deal with crime without revenge or punishment, and a full assumption by humanity of divine responsibilities, he would have conferred an incalculable benefit on mankind, because these distinctive demands of his are now turning out to be good sense and sound economics." Obviously Shaw is interested in reading into the message of Jesus some economic and social doctrine which will serve his turn. Hence we need not be surprised at the assumption implied in "It is important therefore that we should clear our minds of the notion that Jesus died, as some of us are in the habit of declaring, for his social and political opinions." How many of us would agree with Shaw that "if Jesus had been indicted in a modern court, he would have been examined by two doctors; found to be obsessed by a delusion; declared incapable of pleading; and sent to an asylum."!

"All this will become clear if we read the gospels without prejudice..... without fantastic confusion of thought." How true and yet I wonder if Shaw read the gospels without prejudice. He uses the preface to discuss at great length his ideas about the biography of Jesus. Shaw had a keen incisive mind, and [there is no doubt that he does find some things that are well worth saying and remembering about the life and times of Jesus. But he views the whole with a jaundiced eye, and the final turn that he gives to the message of Jesus for the world of his own time or the world of today seems coloured by the socialist spectacles which he uses. He almost admits as much. "But when, having entirely got rid of Salvationist Christianity, and even contracted a prejudice against Jesus, on the score of his involuntary connection with it, we engage on a purely scientific study of Economics, criminology and biology, and find that our practical conclusions are virtually those of Jesus, we are distinctly pleased and encouraged to find that we are doing him an injustice."

According to Shaw, "the doctrines in which Jesus is thus confirmed are, roughly, the following:

(1) "The kingdom of heaven is within you. You are the son of God; and God is the son of man. God is a spirit to be worshipped in spirit and in truth, and not an elderly gentleman to be bribed and begged from. We are members one of another; so that you cannot injure or help your neighbour without injuring or helping yourself. God is your father: you are here to do God's work: and you and your father are one.

(2) Get rid of property by throwing it into the common stock. Dissociate your work entirely from money payments. If you let a child starve, you are letting God starve. Get rid of all anxiety about tomorrow's dinner and clothes, because you cannot serve two masters: God and Mammon.

(3) Get rid of judges and punishment and revenge. Love your neighbour, as yourself, he being a part of yourself. And love your enemies: they are your neighbours.

(4) Get rid of your family entanglements. Every mother you meet is as much your mother as the woman who bore you. Every man you meet is as much your brother as the man she bore after you. Don't waste your time at family funerals grieving for your relatives; attend to life, not to death; there are as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it, and better. In the kingdom of heaven, which, as aforesaid, is within you, there is no marriage nor giving in marriage, because you cannot devote your life to two divinities: God and the person you are married to."

There is little doubt that Shaw enjoyed compiling that statement of the doctrines of Jesus; he enjoyed it so much that he goes on 'these are very interesting propositions; and they become more

interesting every day'. But whether this is a fair summary of the doctrines of Jesus is a very different matter.

Shaw is so intent on working out his new system, or proving his theory, that he falls into a common error straight away. "We must therefore bear in mind that where - as, in the time of Jesus, and in the ages which grew darker and darker after his death... it was believed that you could not make men good by Act of Parliament, we now know that we cannot make them good in any other way..." Would Jesus have subscribed to that? Would we subscribe to that? But Shaw modifies this later on. He goes on to suggest that Christianity itself cannot have a chance to work among men unless it, like everything else, is given a suitable environment. Here he brings in the Communist environment. He goes on to prove that the redistribution of wealth on a more equitable basis is absolutely essential in modern times. "First secure an independent income, and then practise virtue." If the state provides us with our daily bread not to mention butter, clothing and housing, then we can live moral lives. We have had in our world a socialist state, so-called, for over twenty-five years. Whether this state is a more fitting seed-bed for the sowing of the Christian seed, than the rest of the capitalistic world is a moot point indeed. Here as elsewhere Shaw is too preoccupied with the problems of capitalism versus socialism, to remain free from prejudice.

Shaw deals equally summarily with the problems of Justice, and Marriage, which he summarises in clauses two and three of his doctrines of Jesus. We shall however pass those by.

Ever since the Communist experiment and their vaunted five-year plans, there has been all over the world a crop of plans of various kinds,

having for their scope various degrees of social and political reform. There have been especially in the field of economic reform a series of plans which have to all intents and purposes done little. In fact today after almost three decades of planning by the wisest heads available to the various governments of the world, with the power to put these plans into operation, the result seems to be that the world is rather disillusioned with plans, and programmes. They do not seem to last, they do not seem to work. Till finally, thinking men have returned to the conviction that it is not in the form of government, not in the plan, not in the system, that the fault lies ultimately, but in man himself. Given the most perfect religion, a society can wreck it by non-co-operation; given a most perfect social system, it can be ruined by members who refuse to conform, and are anti-social. On the other hand, history shows us that there can be good government and prosperity, whatever the system may be, so long as there is a general will to prosperity and co-operation. The success or failure lies, then, not in the external milieu but in the will of society as a whole.

In fact the situation is extremely similar to that which Jesus himself faced. He lived in the midst of a society which looked forward to achieving the Kingdom of God by the keeping of the Law of Moses with all the modifications and accretions of later law-givers and codifiers. That is exactly what he protested against—the very possibility of perfection from without. On the contrary, he emphasised the need for change from within. Out of the fullness of the heart the mouth speaketh. If we are so eager and anxious to achieve economic independence, the very effort toward that vitiates our hope for a better world. So at any rate it seems with Shaw. He has seen the external, and missed the deeper significance of the message of Jesus. It still remains true that if we seek *first* the Kingdom of God,

other things will be added to us; and the converse is, from the evidence of the centuries, false. Nothing can be achieved without a change of heart, nothing can be done till we are born again. Because the fundamental problem remains the problem of selfishness, the problem of doing what we ought to do, not what we want to do. Only through Jesus's method is it possible for us to want to do what we ought to do. We cannot ignore the fact that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God because he did have a very close relationship with God.

Shaw in his summary of the biography of Jesus omits any reference to this spiritual relationship. Homo Oeconomicus is in evidence, and he alone. Where - as the beauty of the life of Jesus is that, if there was any man in whom the Spirit was highly developed, it was in him. The glory of the Christian religion is that instead of being a system of ethics as propounded by the Buddha, or by Confucius, he went deeper, and showed how by taking all to the touchstone of the spirit, life could be lived on a higher plane. That is why again, Christianity has an appeal for any age, its morality cannot be outworn. It is by developing the *spirit* of mankind, then, that any change worth the name can really come about, and last.

These three plays of Shaw's then do not rise above an attack on 'conventional morality'. In *Mrs. Warren's Profession* the over emphasis of the economic side of prostitution vitiated the thesis of the play as one of universal value. He did however hold up to society the evils it was tolerating under the cover of a respectable series of social and economic doctrines. In *Widower's Houses* he carries on the same attack, exposing once more the evils tolerated due to the capitalist system. The thesis of the play once more has a distinctive shock value especially to smug and complacent rentiers of the Victorian age. Underlying both these plays is an overt criticism of the economic system as it stands.

One would have thought that in *Androcles and the Lion*, where he professes to deal with the place of morality in life, we would have something in which Shaw was in advance of his time. But he has his heart so turned to his treasure, the economic reform of mankind, that he misses even the message of Jesus, and takes him for a social revolutionary. This last is indeed a disappointment. To him "the love of economy is the root of all virtue" indeed. Having traced the connection between morality and Mammon, he succumbs himself to Mammon in the end. One can only repeat what he himself says, echoing Jesus. You cannot serve God and Mammon.

ONE YEAR IN JAFFNA

BY DR. W. R. HOLMES

"What surprised you about Ceylon and Jaffna?" All this year I have been asked this question and in fact I asked it of myself and tried to keep a list of surprises in my notebook. But the list is about as impressive as the mountains of Jaffna. And I think there is a Ceylonese to blame for it. This Ceylonese, indeed, has a white skin and is an American citizen but she was born here and I rather feel that Jaffna is her first love. Her name is Minnie Hastings Harrison. We came out on the Strathmore together and Mrs. Harrison answered so many questions for us that there were few things to be surprised at when we at last saw Jaffna.

We knew "everybody" spoke English and we did not confuse the Veddahs with the rest of the Ceylonese. As we expected we found the people educated and cultured, embodying most graciously the charm and hospitality for which the Orient is justly famous. But there were a few surprises.

I have been surprised at how often people have asked us questions about the Red Indians of North America. Since these Indians number less than half a million in a population of 140 million and are usually found in backward areas of the country or in fairly inaccessible places, they are roughly comparable to the Veddahs in Ceylon. Few Americans have seen more than a handful and their influence in our civilization is almost nil.

I was, perhaps, most shocked at the cool reception given to independence by the people of Jaffna. Credence was given to the statement of a small minority of politicians that independence was a trick of the majority politicians. As far as I can make out, the people of Ceylon are self-governing and so there appears to have been an opportunity for celebration was deprived of its value in Jaffna.

I have been surprised in two ways by the weather here. First, it has not been so hot or unpleasant as I assumed tropical weather would be. Second, I have been amazed at the evenness of the temperature and at how much Jaffna people notice a slight change in temperature which I can scarcely detect.

I have also been surprised at the prevalence of superstition. I expected to find some, but notions about the significance of astrology, crows, lizards, dhobies, cats and other common sights are more usual than I had anticipated. Of course the educated people pay little attention to those things, but the ideas are strong among many of our students.

I have been pleasantly surprised at the fluency in the English language of the people here. Our students and those out of school are more proficient at making speeches than are their American counterparts. And their vocabularies contain numerous words not ordinarily used by Americans, though they should be.

One year in Ceylon has convinced me of the truth that people are about the same the world over. We run for the 'bus in Vaddukoddai as we did in Chicago; selfishness, gossip and small-mindedness are as common sins here as elsewhere; generosity and magnanimity are not unknown virtues in the East as well as the West. My experience confirms the statement that "If we hate anyone it is people we don't know. When we know people we generally cannot hate them."

The use of servants in place of electricity was something which we could scarcely imagine. And yet to become accustomed to servants helps one to understand a number of things which would not be clear otherwise. Chief among these things is the Bible. No westerner can understand the matrix in which the Bible was formed, that is, the eastern way of life, until he has lived in that life and become a part of it. Servants, fishermen, the woman at the well, villages and roof-tops are all mentioned in the Bible and mean more to me today than one year ago.

It has been a pleasure to discover that food is plentiful in Ceylon—even if prices are high—and to develop a taste for many new dishes and flavors. Our favourite meal of the week is pilau and we also like rice and curry very well. The flavor of drumsticks cannot be surpassed by any other vegetable and that of mangoes cannot be surpassed by any other fruit. The green of the paddy fields cannot be excelled by any other colour. No campus has a prettier sight than the coconut palms in front of Ottley Hall. And Ceylon's palm-lined shores and white sandy beaches bathed in the golden glow of a full tropical moon cannot be surpassed by any other scenery.

A YEAR IN THE UNITED STATES

BY K. S. C. THURAIRATNAM, B. A.

In his introduction to "After Strange Gods" Mr. T. S. Eliot reminds us that it is neither easy nor fair to express one's impressions of a foreign people at the end of a limited study of the latter's language, philosophy and literature. When, however, one has lived in the midst of a foreign people for a whole year, one has some justification to do what I here undertake.

When I left home at the beginning of July last year, I had the anxiety which those with an Atlasian complex suffer from. A year in prospect seemed an interminable period, though in retrospect now it seems regretfully short. Within a few hours of my boarding the "Marine Adder"—preliminary discomforts having worn thin—I began to accept the fact that I was out on a voyage, that I had to be away from home for over a year, that my wife and children and Jaffna College could and would get along without me, that I was considerably dependent on others for my very existence. The stage of reconciling myself to a fact being over, I sought to enjoy my voyage. This was not difficult in the company of my good friends Shanth Appasamy and Jacob Chacko. Besides, there were over two thousand passengers on board ship the majority of whom were Indians who were going on Government or paternal scholarships to the States for courses in technology. Since I went by the Pacific route I was able to spend a day in Singapore, where Mr. Charlie Paul entertained my friends and me; then a few hours in Hongkong, a day and a half in the Shanghai harbour. From Shanghai it was non-stop steaming to San Francisco. We were denied the shores of Japan and yet it was some satisfaction to see the peak of Fujiyama and the distant lights of Yokohama.

The immigration formalities in San Francisco were rather long drawn and it was eight in the

evening when my two friends and I got out of the Customs Office. There before us was San Francisco, Queen of the cities of the West, with her myriads of gay, colourful and restlessly seductive lights. We took in as much of the city as we could that night eager to see the New World, to form our first impressions. She is at night a dream-world. A new-comer is naturally overwhelmed by her dream-on-of-top-of-dream quality. Now for my first impression. If there is truth in the observation that there are more temples in Jaffna than houses, then it is equally true that there are more restaurants in the States than homes. I could not fail to be properly impressed by the sheer abundance and variety of food there going as I did from a country where food was then rigidly rationed. More, the elegance and spotless cleanliness of these places, the freshness and purity of whatever was served, the smartness and natural courtesy of the waitresses and waiters were predictive of a good time before me at least in one direction. A Chinaman is reported to have remarked that the thing that struck him most about the States was the size of their garbage cans—naturally!

“An existence which is essentially evolutionary is itself the justification for an evolution towards a more comprehensive existence” — Dr. C. H. Waddington in “Science and Ethics”. There is in the United States a growing concept that in evolution there is an inherent principle not only of self-preservation but conscious progress. The statement of Dr. I. A. Richards in his “Principles of Literary Criticism” that “the more complex an activity the more conscious it is” may truly be applied to this school of Americans. The prosperity of the States is attributed by these to the favourable climate, abundant resources and the vitality of a “mixed” nation, all of which conspire to make progress inevitable. Fortified by this conviction the Americans have an impetus for further endeavour and achievement. On the other hand, there is another section of Americans that still

believes in the Calvinistic interpretation of prosperity as the special providence of God. According to them too there is cause that they be optimistic. Both these notions lead to an inevitabilism which I have called "Boopeepism"—leave them alone and they will come home and bring their tails behind them! Whether they have deserved it or not, whether they have toiled for it or not, the Americans find themselves in a position of power and prosperity which no other nation today can boast of. Thus it is in the U. S. A. there is the confidence that she can deliver the international goods, provided the American way is allowed to operate.

Alongside these groups there is another which in the words of Professor Arnold J. Toynbee considers this world "an acceptable province of God's Kingdom". Those of this group do not agree with Oswald Spengler that the West is doomed to decline but would hold with Professor Toynbee that, so long as there is "challenge and response," "withdrawal and advance", the civilization of the West can be saved and even carried forward. What America has achieved must be possible of achievement in Europe too. If America is a New Jerusalem, it is also one with a trust a responsibility. Thus this section of people lives with a sense of vocation and of a mission. Probably it is this very awareness that makes the Marshallite American an autocrat. As far as I have been able to see the motivation for American endeavour comes from prosperity and Christian prejudices. These have been able to keep the "creative minority" operative. While I speak of prejudices I must also testify that convictions and visions too are not wanting.

Faith in Divine election and natural selection has given the people of the U. S. A. a confidence which, though sometimes characterised by sophomorphism, dares to win a permanent peace and set the universe right. One of the most popular sub-

jects for specialisation in the Universities and Colleges of that country is political science. Professor William Ebenstein, political scientist, observed that in the past the chief motivation for endeavour in America was economic success, whereas in England it had been service and "psychic income". Now, however, he pointed out that in his country economic success was superceded by sacrificial responsibility and will to international prosperity. The confidence of the Americans is highly individual in character when life within the States is considered, but powerfully collective the moment the country stands in relation to the other nations of the world. They have inherited the self-reliance of the pioneer fathers, the faith in their cause of the early Puritans, the resourcefulness and sociability of settlers. With such an endowment they pardonably are confident in the American way as the answer to the ills of the world. The seasoned diplomats of older nations see in the optimism of the Americans much that is naive.

In spite of all the reports one hears outside of the States of the racial discrimination in that country—in the Southern States in general and in other States in isolated instances there is this evil—I must say that the problem has been considerably exaggerated. My observation inclines me to think that the problem is an economic one primarily. Behind it is the fear that the American way of life may be interfered with even by one section of the Americans. On the whole people there are friendly, generous and hospitable. These qualities would indicate their willingness to give of what they have, to commend their goods. I have sometimes wondered to what extent they are capable of friendship which involves the readiness not only to give but to receive, not only to teach but to learn. One finds the spirit of the missionary in their keenness to impart to the world what they consider as the way to a stable and abundant life. The defect of

this attitude is its attendant intolerance and lack of understanding of other ways of life. There is no greater nor more satisfying evidence of the will of the people to share with others what they richly enjoy than the Marshall plan. No one in the know of things in the States fools himself into thinking that the European recovery aid is all going to be repaid or that there are imperialistic designs behind this aid. Yet the very assumption that the aid and the terms governing it would ensure the acceptance of American democracy founded on free enterprise, is suggestive of political adolescence. There was not a single instance during my year's stay when I found or even suspected that friendliness was accompanied by patronage or a lurking consciousness of superiority. The belief in the equality of men is a genuine one and this is amply evident in the relationship of the sexes.

The concept of the equality of men is based on faith in the basic rights of the individual born of a recognition of the inherent worth and dignity of man. The Americans truly love freedom and there is nothing they would more gladly live by and die for than this very freedom. Their liberalism in whatever field it be and their craving for change which invariably revolts against tradition, orthodoxy and continuity could be traced to this love of liberty. Truly is it a nation conceived in liberty—a liberty which they would protect with a rigid constitution. Since they have accepted freedom as a fact and an inalienable right, they are able to live with a naturalness and an ease that characterise the life of the free. This same liberty has been so exalted by them that it has acquired the wildness of Prometheus unbound. No wonder that Professor Weaver of Chicago in his "Ideas Have Consequences" is constrained to plead, although somewhat belatedly, for Neo-Platonism.

Because they are free and prosperous they love the mere function of living. There is a zest,

a passion for life, a joy and a teeming vitality, a love of work for work's sake, a Ulyssian restlessness to conquer whatever is inimical to man, which even the casual observer does not fail to see. Hardly any trace could be found of a desire to escape life. And still one wonders sometimes whether the ceaseless rush and drive of their lives is not due to an inner—may be unconscious or semi-conscious—desire to escape life. The task of "becoming" so engrosses them that the enjoyment of "being" seems to escape them. The power and balance which contemplation supplies as Arthur Koestler in his "Yogi and the Commissar" points out is absent in the Americans to a large extent. The chief assets in their pursuit of becoming are factual data, knowledge of particulars more than of universals, and efficiency. The range and variety of the average American's information is amazing. At least in extension the requirements of any University or College in the U. S. A. are commendable though inevitably they are at the expense of depth. One of the finest features of University life in that country is the ready access that the scholar has to knowledge. There is no knowledge which is considered as the preserve of the professors; nor is there any tendency in the professors to conceal the source of their knowledge either to impress the student duly with the store of borrowed professorial knowledge or to send the student on a relatively wasteful treasure-hunt. The average American youth with average application is able to enter a University or College and with average effort to graduate therefrom. Incidentally we in Ceylon may profitably do a little re-thinking of the objects and aims of our University. In the past, knowledge of and interest in countries like India, Burma and Ceylon had been extremely limited, but today there is in America a definite tendency to look to the East for more reasons than one. The pilgrimage of Vincent Sheean to Mahathma

Gandhi and the growing demand for books like "Richer by Asia" by Edmond Taylor are evidence of this "orientation" Many Americans gave me the impression that within living memory no man's death was mourned more than that of Gandhi. Not a few there consider Pandit Nehru as the greatest statesman of the time. Knowledge has turned them from isolationism to an understanding and appreciation of other peoples. This is a very healthy sign where international relations are concerned.

"America is people

Lump-people, spark-people,

Ant-people, butterfly-people,

Sparrow-people, eagle-people,

Dove-people, tiger-people

*Good people, bad people, down the whole spectrum
from ultra violet to infra red.*

Self-indulgent people and self-disciplined people,

*Clever, bored people, living on secondhand wit
and the contemplation of their own egos;*

*Simple out going people, fighting for their families,
their friends, their communities, their nation;*

Happy people, miserable people,

People with a purpose and people adrift,

*People with God in their hearts and people who
use His name only as pepper on their talk,*

*People who listen to God, and people who listen
to the Devil.*

*People who get God's direction in every detail of
their lives, and people who think God was
invented to keep the working man down.*

*America is people, all shades, varieties, and
qualities of people.*

That's what America is, people."

HERMAN HAGEDORN.

THREE SEMINARY LUMINARIES

BY K. E. MATHIAPARANAM, M. A.

1. William Nevins

Swami Vipulananda, in the speech that he delivered at the Reception that the public of Jaffna gave him when he was made Professor of Tamil in the University of Ceylon, referred, in glowing terms, to the Batticotta Seminary and to the work done there. In doing so he made special mention of a work produced in 1850 by one of the best products of the Seminary. The work that he referred to was *நியாய விலக்தணம்* or Elements of Logic by Nevins Sithamparapillai, the father of the late Nevins Selvadurai of Jaffna Hindu College.

Muttucumarar Sithamparapillai, otherwise known as William Nevins, was born in 1820, the same year as Carroll Visvanathapillai, at Sanguvely, the village lying between Manipay and Uduvil, originally known as Sangavely, because it was given by the Government as a donation to the Tamil Academy, existing at Nallur during the thirteenth century. In 1832, when he was twelve years old, he entered the Seminary for his English education. Of course, before this period he had received enough grounding both in Tamil and Sanskrit from scholars who lived in and round about his village. It is said that when very young, possibly before he joined the Seminary, he composed an elegy on a bird which he saw lying dead. The poem seems to have won the praise and appreciation of the then poets of Jaffna.

In the Seminary he had the usual eight years' course, when he studied all the three languages, English, Tamil and Sanskrit equally well and showed a special liking for Mathematics, Logic and Grammar, in all three of which he made a mark later on. His aptitude for these subjects bears ample testimony for the keenness of his intellect.

A certain scholar is said to have remarked that during his time both in South India and Ceylon he had possessed the greatest and the keenest intellect. Joseph Grenier, the author of 'Leaves from My Life' says, "He was a born mathematician, the propositions and deductions in Euclid were mere child's play to him. It was talked about in school that, whenever the English Principal was unable to solve a problem in Euclid or Algebra or Arithmetic, he sought the assistance of William Nevins." The school referred to here is the Wesleyan Mission School, which later on came to be known as Central College, where Nevins was headmaster for over a quarter of a century. Again J. H. Martyn, the son of the famous Henry Martyn of Batticotta Seminary fame, in his 'Life and Times of C. W. Kathiravetpillai,' says "Nevins was a leading and respected educationalist, noted for his tenacious memory and his solid knowledge." Kumarasamy Pulavar, in his தமிழ்ப்புலவர் சுந்தரம், refers to Nevins as "one who possessed an intellect as sharp as a file".

When he left the Seminary in 1840, he was employed as an assistant teacher at the English School at Manipay and must have continued to teach there till 1846, when he was taken into the Seminary as an Instructor. He continued to be there till 1855, when the Seminary was closed.

The period, from 1855 to 1860, Nevins must have spent in Madras, looking after the education of his eldest son, Samuel Nevins, the worthy son of a worthy father, who must have graduated in 1862 or thereabout. During this period it is that he assisted Dr. Winslow in the preparation of his Tamil Dictionary, published in 1862, together with his friend, Carroll Visvanathapillai. This is acknowledged by the author in his preface. Moreover he must have helped the Wesleyan Missionary, Percival, to complete the translation of the Bible, which he started, while in Jaffna, with the assis-

tance of Arumuganavalar. In 1860, while yet in Madras, he heard of the resignation of Samuel Grenier from the headmastership of Wesleyan Central School, applied for the same and was heartily welcomed to fill the post which he did for 26 years beginning from 1860 to 1886. For some reason or other he resigned his headmastership at Central College and founded in 1887 what was then called the 'Native Town High School' and was in charge of it till 1889, when he died. Just before his death, he handed over his school to Advocate Nagalingam, the son of Brown Sinnathamby, the first headmaster of Central School, who converted it into a college and called it Jaffna Hindu College and invited the second son of the founder, Nevins Selvadurai, to be its Principal in 1892.

William Nevins was called the Arnold of Jaffna during his time. This shows what a popular figure he must have been among the schoolmasters of his day. His popularity is also evident from the fact that a Jubilee was celebrated by all-Jaffna in the beginning of 1889 with great pomp and splendour in honour of his having been a great educationalist for half a century.

He has several literary works to his credit which bear ample testimony to the mastery he possessed of his mother-tongue. The best of these and the one that was produced earliest was *தீவிரம் விவரம்* or Elements of Logic which has been referred to earlier. He wrote it in 1850, when he was only 30 years old. This contains two parts the first of which deals with principles of Logic as enunciated by Western Scholars and the second with those as enunciated by Eastern, especially Tamil scholars. His main purpose in writing this work was to teach his country-men to reason scientifically and to make them understand scientific reasoning. The second part of the book contains principles of Logic or *தீவிரம்*, as found in *திருக்குறள்*

சீத்தியார், a Tamil theological work, produced about the thirteenth century A. D. The book, though written in verse, contains an elaborate commentary in prose.

In his Tamil preface to the book, he gives sound advice to those who seek after light stuff for their study. He says, "It is not necessary to study subjects that are trite and easy to understand. It is subjects that are new and difficult of understanding that are worthy of being studied."

His 'Selections from Literature' or 'தேவநாகரம் சந்திரகம்' is a compilation and contains good selections from epics like the 'Mahabharata' and 'Ramayana,' made for the sake of those who do not have the time and mind to read these works fully.

His 'தமிழ் விவரணம்', written in 1886 in three parts, deals with the Essentials of Grammar. The last part, dealing with syntax, shows how clear his definitions of terms are and how appropriate and excellent illustrations he selects from the wide range of Tamil Literature.

His English-Tamil Dictionary is valuable in view of his clever and original definitions of modern scientific terms. An article on 'பாடசாலைக் கணிதம்', contributed to இலங்கை தேசன், a journal, started by one of his students, a Brahmin, shows us the mastery he had of the subject.

The student referred to was Sivasubramania-Kurukkal of Vaddukoddai, whom William Nevins took charge of in about 1863, when he was about eleven years old and taught till his very death. The Brahmin boy was so intelligent that very soon he became a scholar. He was also a great poet, who has written besides other works, one entitled இலங்கை மரணம் புகழ் or 'The Glory of Ceylon'.

2. Carroll Visvanathapillai

The two Jaffna men that won the distinction of having been the only first graduates of the Madras University were Carroll Visvanathapillai and C. W. Thamothersampillai. Of these the former was 12 years senior to the latter and was his teacher in the Seminary.

He was born at Chuthumalai about the year 1820, three years before the Seminary was started. Though very little is known about his early education, it may safely be inferred from his later attainments that he must have obtained a very good grounding both in Sanskrit and Tamil with the help of scholars, well-versed in both these languages.

In 1832 when he was about 12 years of age he joined the Seminary for his English education. During the period that he was there, not only did he have his English education but also, since provision was made in the curriculum, both for Tamil and Sanskrit, he became proficient there as well. One of the motives, that induced him to study his English and Sanskrit more and more, was to enrich the Tamil language by bringing into it translations from English and Sanskrit of works belonging to certain branches of learning that did not exist then in Tamil. In the preface to a translation that he made of a work in Algebra written in English by an Indian, he states this clearly. He felt, and felt very strongly, that the Tamil language, though rich in its literature, was defective in the matter of subjects like Science and Mathematics. Therefore, this great Tamil scholar did his best to remove this defect in the language.

He was proficient not only in Mathematics but he knew his Astronomy, Physiology, Chemistry and similar sciences very well. He is said to have, at the request of some American Missionaries, published for some time an Almanac (பஞ்சிகை) in Tamil. It is also surmised that certain works in

Chemistry and Physiology, were published in Tamil by some missionary encouraged by the untiring help that he rendered them in this direction.

There are two points that are worthy of notice in the Algebra that he has written in Tamil. First of all he has done pioneer work in the matter of translating into Tamil Algebraic phrases like Simple Equation and Geometric Progression. Secondly, he has shown ample evidence of his originality by giving in his book very interesting problems. The Tamil style that he commands in these problems and the literary merits that they possess are so very captivating that even the weakest student will become interested in solving those problems. Each problem is a charming short story by itself.

The capacity of Visvanathapillai as a translator and as an original thinker was, early in his student life, noticed by his Principal so that, as soon as he finished his educational career, he was taken into the Seminary itself as a teacher. One of the students that passed through his hands was C. W. Thamothersampillai, as referred to before. He continued to be a teacher in the Seminary till it was closed in 1855. After that he went to Madras and served under the Government till he retired. It was two years after he had gone there that he passed the B. A. examination of the Madras University together with Thamothersampillai, his student in the Seminary, as mentioned earlier.

Very soon after the University was established, he must have been selected as a member of the Senate and was appointed to translate a number of text books from English into Tamil for use in the Tamil schools that were under the direct supervision of the University. He was also an examiner for the University.

He had a very keen intellect and he used it to the best advantage. His greatest hobby from his

very early days was to spend all the time at his disposal in earnestly seeking after the truth. His motto was:

“எப்பொருள் மாய்மர்வாய்க் கேட்பினு மப்பொருள்
மெய்ப்பொருள் காண்ப தறிவு”

“To separate the true from the false in every utterance whoever it be that speaketh, that is the part of a wise understanding.” This valuable couplet he quotes on the title page of his book called சுப்பிரதீபம் or Christianity Vindicated against Saivism. In his search after truth he had acquired an encyclopaedic knowledge, which is evident in his ‘சுப்பிரதீபம்’. Just to show how effective his arrangements are and how strong his language is the following quotation from this work may be given: “மதுரைத்தலைபுறத்தால் துரையாம்; வாலுத்தால் மதுவாம், அது போல வாக்கியங்களும் மூன் பின் தொடரறுத்தால் விபரீதாரத் தப்பாதி. வாக்கியங்களின் வால் தலை நறுக்கி, மூண்டருபை அறியாச் சனங்களுக்குக்காட்டி, மோசம்பண்ணற்றோ கி “பரம காரணண்ணிராகிய பரமசிவனது திவ்யிய பிரசாதம் பெற்றது”. Here by a simple illustration he convinces the reader how ridiculous it is to take anything out of its context and use it in an argument.

In 1841, the year the ‘Morning Star’ was started, Carroll, who was only 21, carried on a series of controversy on optics in the columns of the ‘Star’ with Arumuga Navalar who was two years younger to him and was connected with the Wesleyan Mission School which later on developed into Central College. It is this controversy that later on centred round religion and gave birth to a number of leaflets and booklets in good Tamil prose, some of which were ‘சைவதுவணம்’ ‘சைவதுவண பரிசாரம்’ and ‘சைவதுவண பரிசார கிராகாரணம்’ or ‘சுப்பிரதீபம்’. What is noteworthy about the controversy is that both these scholars carried it on very honourably so that it is impossible to find any trace of personal spite in any of their remarks. If they said

anything biting, it was because of their religious fervour. They carried on their controversy with the sole purpose of finding out the truth and once they found it, they became very good friends.

3. C. W. Thamothersampillai

Traditions are always inspiring. Families have traditions, institutions have traditions and countries have traditions. The progress and advancement of each member of a family, institution or country depends mainly, or at least partly on the traditions of each of these. One generation hands down some wealth of culture to the next which it multiplies tenfold, thirty fold and a hundred fold. Just as the responsibility of a person who inherits a large amount of wealth from his parents is great, so also is that of a member of a family, institution or country whose traditions are great; much is expected of one to whom much has been given.

Jaffna College, as most of us know, possesses a tradition which any college may boast of. Its predecessor, Batticotta Seminary, produced a number of intellectual giants during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, which shall always be a matter of immense pride to both students and teachers of Jaffna College. The last of this number chronologically was C. W. Thamothersampillai, the father of the late Rev. Francis Kingsbury of University College, Colombo.

He was born at Chiruppidy towards the latter part of 1832. Till his twelfth year he was given a good grounding in Tamil education by his father. He was lucky to have a father who was a fairly good scholar in Tamil. In 1844 he joined the Seminary where he had his English education for eight years. Just to give an idea of the sort of education he received during these eight years, a quotation may be given from the tribute that, in 1848, Sir Emerson Tennent, that Scholarly Colonial Secretary of Ceylon gave to the work done in the Se-

minary then: "The collegiate institution of Batticotta is entitled to rank with many European Universities".

During this period that he spent in the Seminary in addition to the higher education that he had in English he had an opportunity to make a thorough study of Tamil grammar and classical literature. In the teaching of Tamil in the Seminary in the words of Mr. J. V. Chelliah in his book called, 'A Century of English Education' "thoroughness was aimed at and one of the chief objects of the study was that the students should hold their own with the most learned Tamil scholars of the day." Therefore young Thamotharampillai was able to study his Tamil classics very thoroughly and well. He completed this study that he well began in the Seminary under the well-known poet and scholar, Muttukumarakavirajasekarar of Chunnakam. It was only five years after he left the Seminary that the Madras University was established. With the knowledge that he gained in the Seminary he passed the Entrance Examination to the University and four months later he gained the singular distinction of having been one of the two Jaffna men that were the only first graduates of the University.

This is briefly the educational career of one of the very best products of the predecessor of Jaffna College. After this very successful educational career, he served both in Jaffna and South India in different capacities, first as a teacher, then as an editor, again as a lecturer in a college, then as a lawyer and finally as a High Court Judge. Whatever work he did, his devotion to Tamil and its literature was deeply laid that he gave all his leisure hours to working on it. He lived at a time when printed books in Tamil were very few and almost all the ancient classical literature which we treasure highly now were in manuscript form and very much uncared for. Even though he had a big family to

attend to and the arduous duties of his profession to perform he enjoyed giving the few leisure hours that he had to the searching of ola manuscripts and to examining them. The worry and trouble that he had to undergo in this matter was very great. It is said that it was the drops of tears which flowed from his eyes at the sight of the white-ant-eaten ola manuscripts containing very precious literature that washed them clean of the earth that covered them.

Among some of the works that he edited and published are தொல்காப்பியம் பொருளதிகாரம் and சொல்லதிகாரம், the most ancient book extant in Tamil now, கலித்தொகை, வீரகேசரியம் and இலங்கை விளக்கம். It is this work which was first systematically started by C. W. Thamothersampillai that was later on continued by மகாமகேசரபாத்தியாய சாமிநாதையர் who edited சிந்தாமணி, இலப்பதிகாரம் and a number of other literary works. This work of editing and publishing ancient classics he was doing till his death on the first day of 1901.

When we look up to this great man of Jaffna and a product of Batticotta Seminary to learn from him, we see three qualities standing out first and foremost. They are his intense devotion to Tamil, unselfish generosity and infinite humility. His devotion to Tamil was so intense that he would not hesitate to do anything by way of help, financial or otherwise to any one who evinced some interest in the study of Tamil. As referred to before, he would, it is said, shed profuse tears whenever he found a Tamil ola manuscript eaten by white ants. The elegiac verse that he gave expression to at the death of that great Tamil Scholar, ஆறுமுகநாயகர், bears ample testimony to his devotion to Tamil. There he says that the Tamil language itself had lost much of its force and power by the death of that profound scholar and genius.

His liberality knew no bounds. He would never deny any help to anyone who went to him for it. He was also not in the habit of postponing the help that he could render, financial or otherwise, so that, though he held a high salaried post, he was never a rich man. Like all literary men, he lived poor and died poor.

His humility, it is said, was unsurpassed. He was always prepared to learn from any one and was never conscious of his learning. He had the humility of an earnest seeker after truth.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

The Alumni of the College will want to know how the Degree Classes are faring now that we have started our second year of work. At present there are twelve students: four in the second year B. A., seven in the first year B. A. and one in the first year B. Sc. classes. The subjects offered are English History, Tamil, Latin, Economics and History of Philosophy in the Arts section; Chemistry, Pure and Applied Mathematics in the Science section. Sanskrit and Physics will also be offered if needed. The Intermediate classes are larger, offering good prospects for the Degree Classes in the years ahead. There are nearly twenty in Inter Arts and over forty in Inter Science. All of these may not be ready to take the examination in July, but a good proportion should. Besides the two Inter classes mentioned, we have an Inter Science Economics class with a few students. This class will take the examination in two parts, and we hope to prepare for each part in successive years. The regular Inter Science class is over-full and we have had to refuse admission to many. We shall be starting a new Inter Science class in January, preparing for the examination in July, 1950.

The staff is now fairly complete and is strong. The last, most urgent need has been met with the appointment of Mr. S. P. Appasamy of Madras as Professor of English. We have been most fortunate to secure his services. After a brilliant career in Madras Christian College, Mr. Appasamy taught at Hyslop College, Nagpur. He then went to Harvard University for another Master's degree where, from the testimonials of his professors in letters to me, he made a remarkable impression in every way. He has just visited the College on his way from America to Madras, and will have joined our staff before this appears in print.

Our most pressing need is for physical accommodation. The new men's hostel is going up and we expect it to be ready in June. That will ease the situation a little, but our need for a women's hostel is almost as great. Equally pressing is our need for classrooms, while we are nearly desperate for good quarters for our staff. We will put Dr. Holmes and Mr. Appasamy and their families in the upper floor of the new hostel for lack of anything more satisfactory. We have been able to accommodate Mr. Lockwood and his family (which has just joined him) in a bungalow we have bought in the village and thoroughly renovated. Building costs have shot so high that all the funds we have and even anticipate will be more than exhausted in completing these two buildings—the hostel and Mr. Lockwood's bungalow.

Perhaps I should conclude these notes with one of a personal nature. Many of you will know that Mrs. Bunker had to take our two daughters to America last winter for an eye operation on Charlotte. I am happy to report that the operation was very successful. They are now ready and waiting to return to Ceylon, but sailings are still difficult to secure and they have been able to get none before

November 30th. That means they will probably arrive only after Christmas. I expect them to be here, however, for the Prize-Giving, the date of which has been set for January 29th. The new United States Ambassador, the Hon. Mr. Felix Cole, has promised to be our Chief Guest. We shall hope to see many of you at College on that occasion.

S. K. B.

PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

This is the middle of October and my notes cover briefly the period since March when we had our annual Prize - Giving. I have already referred in my prize - day report, which is appearing elsewhere in this magazine, to the major happenings between the writing of my notes last year and the prize - day.

The usual excitement over the results of public examinations,—I have already referred to them in detail in the prize - day report—and the Camp for our Christian students at the Ashram were the chief events of the first term, which ended a week earlier than we expected owing to a scare of chicken - pox in our neighbourhood. We had our usual round of Cricket matches during this term, winning two and losing two.

The second term was a busy term with most of us with its round of meetings, Alumni Day celebrations, Inter - House Athletic Meet, and the annual celebrations of the Academy, the literary association of the Higher School Certificate and the First M. B. B. S. Classes.

We were also favoured with a visit by the Minister of Education, the Hon. Mr. E. A. Nugawela, and his wife towards the end of the term. They were entertained at lunch by the Staff of the College.

The Minister went away highly impressed by our buildings and grounds, equipment, staff etc. and grateful for the work done by the American Missionaries in the cause of education.

During the term we were fortunate in securing the services of Mr. K. A. Sagara, an English Trained teacher with high qualifications in Sinhalese, and Mr. S. J. D. Isaac, a graduate of the Madras University holding a Master's degree in Zoology. Mr. Sagara has had many years of teaching experience and has written several books in Sinhalese. In addition to being responsible for the teaching of Sinhalese in the post primary classes, he is also helping out Mr. M. D. Balasubramaniam, who is doing the Sanskrit of the Senior and Collegiate classes, in laying the foundation for Sanskrit in the forms. With him on our staff we hope it would be possible for some of our students to offer Sinhalese as one of the subjects in the S. S. C. examination and for most of them to get a good working knowledge of Sinhalese. Mr. Isaac comes from a Lutheran Christian family in Madras and is a member of the Church of South India to which we belong. He had had some teaching experience before he accepted work here and is proving a valuable addition to our staff, judging from his teaching in the class and the contacts he has been making outside it. We also welcomed Mr. K. C. Thurairatnam, who had gone to America on study leave for a year, back to our midst. The more and more I see of Mr. Thurairatnam, I feel happy that the Directors of Jaffna College decided to give him this opportunity of travel and study abroad, and that their decision to send in the future some of our abler teachers for such a study abroad is a wise one.

We have certainly become poorer at the loss we sustained in the departure of Mr. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah at the end of last term. He left us to take up the headship of St. John's College, Nuge-

goda. Though he was with us for a little less than two years, we shall not forget the contributions he made in and outside the class room in his own quiet and unostentatious way. As an able teacher of English, as Patron of the Academy, as Faculty Adviser to the "Young Idea", the student journal, he had begun to fill a large place in the life of the school and we were indeed very sorry to lose him. We wish him well in his new sphere and hope that his school will grow from strength to strength under his leadership.

Mr. Thomas Meadows who worked as Secretary for me and Mr. Bunker left us after we closed for the holidays to take up an appointment in a mercantile firm where he had been working before. He was with us for nearly two years and worked conscientiously and faithfully. His place has been taken up by Mr. G. Jeyasingham, one of our Old Boys.

During the holidays our buildings and grounds formed the venue of the Valigamam West Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, which was opened by the Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Mr. Dudley Senanayake.

The third term opened with a Retreat conducted for the staff by Rev. A. J. C. Selvaratnam, the Chaplain of St. John's College, Jaffna. It also brought us happy news about Mrs. Bunker and her children Charlotte and Grace, and the complete recovery of Charlotte from her eye trouble. They are waiting for a convenient sailing to Colombo and we are hoping they will be here to enjoy their Christmas with Mr. Bunker.

The Acting Director of Education, Mr. W. A. de Silva, favoured us with a visit a few days ago during his brief tour of the Government Central Schools in the North. Our buildings, equipment,

staff and grounds have "pleasantly surprised" him. Mr. Avinesalingham Chettiar, the Minister of Education, Madras, also visited us and was entertained to tea by the Round Table.

Foot-ball and Basket-ball are in full swing. We have won all our matches except one in the latter, while in the former our first team has so far won both of its matches, and the second team has lost one and won the other. We have four more matches on our schedule for both these teams and it is confidently hoped that our first team will repeat its performance of last year and will remain unbeaten.

The Boarding Houses are packed to their utmost capacity and we have students on the waiting list hoping to come in when vacancies occur. When the Collegiate boarders move out to their new hostel in May next year, we hope to find a little more room for our boarders. Our numbers on roll continue to rise in spite of our efforts to keep them down, and we shall be having an admission examination, as last year, for the new entrants and for those who fail our promotion examination. The problem of accommodation is becoming increasingly acute.

I regret to say we have not yet come to any definite conclusion with regard to our entry into the Free Scheme of Education. We had hoped that the Minister of Education would have something definite to state with regard to an adequate equipment grant. So far we have not heard anything, and knowing the difficulties schools which entered the Free Scheme are now facing, we are, in the interest of good education, reluctantly compelled to stay outside the Scheme till we are assured of an adequate equipment grant.

We offer our congratulations and our best wishes to Mr. K. Kanagaratnam, one of our leading Old Boys, on his being chosen as Parliamentary Secretary

for Education. He has by no means an easy task before him. But he is looked upon as a real friend of the Jaffna educators, and I feel confident that his knowledge of accounts, and the educational needs of Jaffna and the country as a whole will help to allay the fears in certain quarters that the country was not quite ready for Free Education.

Some of our teachers are contemplating leaving us at the end of this year. Mr. M. I. Thomas wants to avail himself of the new rule of retirement. Miss Leela Ponnambalam leaves to accept an appointment in a school in Colombo, where the rest of her family has moved. Mrs. Rasiah (Iswarakadacham) leaves to take up an appointment in the town where her husband is working. Miss Punithavathy Kandiah leaves us to get married and settle down to family life. About all of them I shall be commenting in my prize-giving report in January next year.

This carries my best wishes to our present students, Old Boys, parents and teachers for a happy Christmas.

K. A. S.

OUR ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING

The Annual Prize-Giving came off on Friday, the 12th March. The Rev. S. K. Bunker, the President of the College, presided, and the chief guests were the Chief Justice, Sir John Howard, and Lady Howard. The Rev. J. J. Ratnarajah led the audience in prayer. Then after a welcome and a recitation by two students, two reports were read: the one by the President and the other by the Principal, Mr. K. A. Selliah. Both of these are reproduced in full in this number.

At the end of the Principal's Report, the prizes were distributed by Lady Howard.

The Chief Justice then delivered his address in the course of which turning to the students leaving school he said that they should go forth into the world with a spirit of tolerance. He felt happy to listen to the emphasis Mr. Bunker placed on technical training. There was a glut of clerks in the different Government offices and even in his own profession, that of Law. What Ceylon needed were technicians. Referring to the need of tolerance, he said that they should go forth into the world with that spirit of tolerance. Perhaps they could hardly do better than model their lives on Mahatma Gandhi's. There was a grim future for Ceylon in spite of its attaining independence. Ceylon was crying for leadership and it was to the young it had to look to. Ceylon had no use for the slothful. They should all be up and doing.

A vote of thanks proposed by Mr. K. Chelvarajan, a member of the first B. A. Class, and seconded by Mr. K. Kanagaratnam, M. P., brought the function to a close.

President's Remarks

"Your Lordship, Lady Howard, Ladies and Gentlemen: Jaffna College welcomes you all tonight. It extends a special welcome to you, Sir, and to Lady Howard. I believe this is the first time in many years that the Chief Justice has come to Jaffna to preside at the Assizes. Ignorant though we are of the inner workings of the judicial fates, we are still quite sure that you are here in Jaffna because you chose to come. We only hope that you will leave Jaffna with no regrets for having come, but perhaps with real regrets that you have to leave. Jaffna does not wear her heart upon her sleeve, but when she gives her friendship she gives a loyalty and a rugged kindness that is not easily exhausted. It is something like the water of her wells: it takes quite a bit of getting used to, but

it puts calcium on the bones and seldom runs dry. To one who has given so much of himself to Ceylon, who has demonstrated his affection for the island, and who has acted so tactfully and with imagination in very difficult times and in the most responsible posts, we wish to extend to you our thanks and show our friendship. If it seems to you at times that this is chiefly done by requesting you to speak on occasions like this, you must not hold it too much against us, remembering that this is the Edinburgh of the North: intelligent and keen but away from the main stream of travel, and therefore eager to hear and learn from every friend who finds us. We shall see you leave with very great regret, glad that we have not given you cause to stay on longer as a Judge, but particularly saddened by the knowledge so recently received that one who has done so much to maintain the enviable name of British justice and to give an equally enviable reputation to the integrity of Ceylon's judiciary will be retiring so soon. We cannot lament release for you from what must be often a dolorous responsibility, but we do want you to know that we in Ceylon will miss you genuinely and greatly and shall long prize both your contribution to our life and also the tradition which you have embodied.

Lady Howard, we have only now met the necessity of succumbing to your charm and your warm and friendly kindness. We only wish we had to meet more such defeats at your hands and we shall long remember your gracious presence here. The prizes of this evening will be prized the more because you have distributed them. We are more pleased, and proud, than we can say, to have you and your distinguished husband here at Jaffna College this evening.

The Report this year is for a shorter period than usual since we had our Prize-Giving only in

July last year, but there are many changes both at the College and in its environment to record. Pride of place goes, of course, to Ceylon's achievement of Dominion Status which we have so recently been celebrating. Every friend of Ceylon rejoices with her over this recognition that she has come of age politically. She is to be congratulated not only on her accomplishment but on the means used and the manner in which it was accomplished. Congratulations, too, are due to Great Britain whose generous statesmanship made this possible. And now Ceylon is responsible, under God, for her own destiny. However much others have done, the real architect of her genuine measure of independence is the Prime Minister. Mr. D. S. Senanayake, and to him Jaffna College expresses gratitude for the past and loyal support in every effort to consolidate and enlarge the blessings of freedom in the future. Jaffna had a great part in laying the groundwork of this freedom, and we believe that she will have much to do in shaping the structure now to be raised on that foundation. Certainly life in Ceylon will be the poorer for her whole people if the demonstrated ability of the Tamils is not used; but the Tamils cannot expect to have the share they desire unless they can put the good of the whole above the good of the part—and, if necessary, set an example in doing so. It is that course which this College has always advocated and, I trust, it always will, for no other course is really open to a Christian institution.

Along with this change in the general political situation has gone a change in the atmosphere of educational administration. In place of fanatic vision and openly expressed prejudice against one section of the school system we have a broad, urbane, eminently sensible approach to the problems of education in the island. This, surely, is the way of wisdom, for the problems are very real and very great, and it is going to take all the good will and

all the resources of men and money that the island can find to solve them. The denominational schools are far from perfect—indeed the University seems to be passing a rather devastating verdict on all but a few even of them; but in all conscience they are the best we have and need to be strengthened, not weakened. Every one of them is facing a critical problem in the rush of numbers for admission, and unless they can be enabled to expand and make adequate provision for the increased enrolment, or unless comparably good Government schools can be developed to take the overflow, or unless both things are done, even our present unsatisfactory standards are going to fall lamentably.

In all likelihood Jaffna College will enter the Free Education Scheme in October of this year. The Board of Directors has not finally decided because so far we have not had the revised scheme of the Minister of Education giving the new terms in regard to equipment grant and units of attendance which alone will make it possible to us to maintain our standards. The scheme proposed by the Headmasters' Conference is before the Minister and we hope he will be able to accept it or something like it. If he does, we shall certainly go in. I think we are all aware that the Minister and the Government face real difficulty in this matter. The expenditure on education constantly mounts, and this scheme may add something in the neighbourhood of four million rupees to the education bill. In view of the gloomy warnings of the Home Minister, and of the critical economic condition which most of us expect to see set in soon, this large sum cannot be lightly added to Government expenditure. Yet to try to skimp on education is to imperil the future. However, the schools have their responsibility, too, in this situation. They must be prepared for retrenchment if the rest of the county faces it, and they must also make a far more determined effort

than they have yet done to give the technical, practical training that is so badly needed if Ceylon is to increase her production and raise her standard of life--so badly needed, this type of training, and also avoided with such vigorous determination by any boy or girl who can pass an examination. The schools cannot do this alone. The Education Department must give us a lead. But the schools must respond.

Before leaving this problem of educational finance I cannot resist the temptation to make one more remark. If Government is to meet even the legitimate and wise demands upon it for development schemes to exploit the natural resources of the island, it needs a greater income. So far it seems to have looked chiefly to customs duty and the taxing of business for this revenue and it is doubtful both whether this is enough and whether anything further is possible along this line. It therefore seems to me that Government is overlooking a real possibility in not allowing schools under Free Education to charge any fee to help in maintaining them. No such fee should be charged in any primary school, but surely at the secondary school level a carefully regulated equipment fee, with provision for a certain proportion of poor children being exempted, is possible. I am aware that many say "Then it is no longer free education"; but no education is free education. The community has to pay for it in some way, if not in fees, then in school 'rates' or taxes, in income taxes or in the higher cost of food and clothing and other goods. By allowing equipment fees to be charged by all secondary schools, government schools included, we would be adding to the financial resources in the island available for education. I am aware of the political difficulties involved, but politics deprived of all statesmanship is not going to make Ceylon the country we want it to be.

Before turning from changes in our environment to changes here in the College I must not fail to mention one very poignant change in our spiritual environment; I refer to the death of Mahatma Gandhi. This is a different world in which we live, with Gandhiji no longer living. Surely no other man in history has ever, in his life-time, held such sway over the hearts of so many men or wielded such power in shaping the destiny of a whole nation. Certainly none has done it asking less for himself. We mourn his passing and India will surely miss his wisdom, his pacifying power, and the winsomeness of that saintly little figure. Yet there is truth in the belief that in the very manner of his death he has become more powerful for good in India's greatest need—the abolition of communalism—than when he was living. If only those who loved him will reincarnate his spirit in this as in his unselfishness, simplicity and his obedience to his conscience, there will be more hope in the world than presently we see.

Now, turning to the College, the changes, which were adumbrated in last year's Report have been given effect to. We have started our Degree Classes. Though the numbers in these classes—seven in Arts and one in Science—are small, as expected in this first year, the effect upon the College has been great. We have no new building to show, other than the transformation of a former bathroom into a most acceptable carpentry room and the former carpentry room into a new physics and chemistry laboratory. But many rooms have been put to new uses, and the library has been very effectively expanded both in space as well as in the number of books. There are several new faces on the campus, brought here by this expansion of our work. We hope for one or two more to be added, but do not know where we could find them a place to lay their heads.

Our need for buildings is acute. We have this year leased two houses in the neighbourhood which will ease our boarding problem slightly. This term we have had to refuse admission to a number of boarders, and even next term the increase will be limited. We are therefore pressing on with our plans for the new hostel. Tenders are now being invited for a large hostel to be erected in the space formerly called the Y. M. C. A. Garden. This will take care of all the Degree Class students, and probably all the Intermediate boarders, before the end of this year. But the increased cost of building has upset our plans, so we are unable to build the residences we planned to, and therefore will make the upper floor of the hostel into two apartments for our new American families, one of which is now living in my bungalow and the other of which is in exile in Kodaikanal.

The Building Fund stands practically where it was when I last reported to you, except that the pledges then given are slowly coming in. Getting these new classes started and teaching in them, have made it impossible for me to get away from the College to press on with the Building Fund campaign, but I hope to do so next term, for our need is very great indeed. I would here like to make an appeal to all those who have subscribed and have not yet been able to send in their pledges to do so as early as possible. Roughly Rs. 75,000 has been subscribed and Rs. 25,000 received, each month swelling the total of collections a little, for most are paying in small instalments.

The additions to our staff, referred to above, are the following: Messrs. P. T. John and K. P. Abraham were introduced last year. They are doing Physics and Chemistry in the B. Sc. Class. The next to join us were Dr. & Mrs. Holmes and their two children. Dr. Holmes, B. A. Wheaton and Ph. D.

Univ. of Illinois, and with several years' teaching experience in North Park College in Chicago, is teaching History in the B. A. class. Young and adaptable and cheerful, he and his family are a very happy addition to our staff. In January we were fortunate in being able to secure the services of Rev. W. R. Sussbach. Though a Pastor in the German Confessional Church who had to leave Germany because of opposition to the Hitler regime, he was a student of Economics at Breslau University, and has also had business experience. His adventures of the past fifteen years would make a most interesting, not to say exciting, book—not the least interesting being his last year spent in Bala-pitiya, Ceylon—but I fear they cannot be told in the pages of these Remarks. He brings the best tradition of German learning, thoroughness, and humour to us, and we count ourselves very fortunate to have him on the Staff to teach Economics and also to help with Scripture teaching. The last to join us does not need an introduction: Mr. Lockwood rejoined our staff last month to do the Degree Mathematics. It is good to have his skill as a teacher and his soundness of judgment, as well as his friendly personality once again at our disposal. Mrs. Lockwood and the four boys, one of whom will join Jaffna College for a year's study next term, are now in Kodaikanal, waiting for living quarters before they can come here. Our welcome to them is all the warmer for the knowledge that they gave up a most attractive, permanent position in an American private boarding school to respond to our invitation to return and help us.

We are still anxious to get someone from the West, preferably from England, to give full time to B. A. English teaching, but unless we can find an unmarried man or woman, we cannot invite them for lack of residence quarters. In the meantime the English, Latin, and Tamil are being done by Messrs.

Navaratnarajah, Kulathungam and Mathiaparanam respectively over and above their secondary school work. We are fortunate to have these teachers so well fitted to do this work, but the burden of it is very heavy upon them.

Another major change as a result of this new project of ours was announced last year and has since been put into effect. I refer to the change in the administrative offices. As President I have been placed by the Board of Directors in charge of the institution as a whole, with general oversight, but with special responsibility for the London course, viz. the Intermediate and Degree classes. Mr. Selliah, as Principal, is in full charge of the Secondary School, with Mr. D. S. Sanders as Vice-Principal to help him. Mr. Ariaratnam is Supervisor of the Lower School and in full charge of that branch. Each of these sections of the institution has its own academic Committee. The governing body of the whole College for internal affairs is a reconstituted "Faculty" made up of the four officers just mentioned and five representatives elected by the staffs of the three sections. The division of functions for these various persons and committees is still being worked out and there are various anomalies and awkwardnesses where one institution covers so much ground, metaphorically though not physically, as Jaffna College now does. In course of time we hope that, to give scope to the proper genius of each, it will be possible to have separate buildings, grounds, and staffs for each of the three sections.

The changes in the Church and the Mission, with which bodies we have been so closely associated, which I mentioned last year as coming, have been effected. Since I discussed them at some length then, I shall now only reiterate our welcome of this change, and also remind the Rt. Rev. S. Kulandran, our Old Boy and good friend, of our

pride and pleasure in his consecration as Bishop in Jaffna. But I would note that this change has affected the Constitution of the College: whereas formerly the Church and the Mission each elected two representatives to the Board of Directors, the new Diocesan Council now elects five members.

Another change in the Constitution which we are in process of making is to provide for the election of a representative to the Directorate by the Provincial Synod of the Methodist Church in Ceylon. This is in recognition of the fact that that Church has agreed to pay towards the support of a member of our Degree Class staff the salary of a missionary couple. We wish that they could send us a professor with the necessary qualifications in English Literature from England, but they have been unable to find such a person to send. I cannot exaggerate how much it means to us to have this support from another Ceylon Church and its missionary society in what we are trying to do here at Jaffna College. It has meant much to have the Chairman of the Northern District, first Rev. G. E. Jessop and now Rev. James S. Mather, serving on the Board by the Board's own election; but now we go one substantial step further towards our goal of a united Protestant University College in Ceylon.

Several changes should be noted in the personnel of the Board of Directors besides the foregoing. Two members have retired after serving the maximum time allowed without a sabbatical year intervening. Mr. W. P. A. Cooke has been most welcome for his own sake as a most faithful, interested and helpful Old Boy, and also because of the family he represents and its long and intimate connection with the College. His place is very fittingly taken by his younger brother, Mr. R. C. S. Cooke; thus this family connection is happily maintained while we acquire an alumnus whose proven

loyalty and concern for the College are surpassed by none. Mr. J. F. Ponnambalam has served on the Board for six years as the representative of the staff of the College. For most of that time he has been Secretary of the Board. His contribution has been marked by a thoroughness of preparation and a considered thoughtfulness about all the business of the Board that is seldom matched and we shall miss him very greatly.

We have suffered a genuine loss to the Board in the resignation of Mr. G. Crossette Thambyah due to poor health and the difficulty of travelling from Colombo. One of our most distinguished Old Boys, he has served as President of the Board for several years and has brought the full force of his judicial talent to bear upon the affairs of the College. Ever ready to help the College in any way possible, we are indeed sorry he cannot serve out his full term.

One word about our Affiliated Schools and I have done, for as you have noted from the programme, and as follows from the new distribution of duties, the Report on the Secondary School and its activities will be read by Mr. Selliah as Principal. This is probably the last time we shall report on the Affiliated Schools, for I expect to turn over the management of them to the Diocesan Council during the course of this month. I am glad that I can report that every one of them has made good progress this past year. They go with a dowry and a word of farewell. I am aware that they feel they have been treated throughout, at least under my management, as stepchildren. I fear it is true, yet I am interested to see that still they go reluctantly—thus I trust we have not actually been cruel to them. But the fact is that, however useful they have been to their local communities, they have never contributed much to Jaffna College, while

they have been a heavy drain on our funds. As they now go under the management of an institution concerned directly with these several localities, we wish them well and extend our very sincere hope—and belief—that they will soon stand strong and useful and reliant wholly on their own resources.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I shall spare you the peroration with which these remarks might well close. Before calling on Mr. Selliah to read his Report, I shall simply thank you most sincerely for coming this evening and commend Jaffna College to you for your prayers, your support and your best wishes".

Principal's Report

Your Lordship, Lady Howard, Parents, Alumni and Friends,

You have been listening to the welcome and to the general remarks of our President concerning the College as a whole and its environment and to his report about the Collegiate department for which he has assumed special responsibility. It now remains for me as Principal to report on the routine activities of the secondary school, which still occupies a large place in this campus, thus enabling the President's remarks combined with my report to take the usual form of a prize-day report. We haven't had a full year since we held our prize-giving in July last year and hence my report covers a period of about eight months.

Once again hope and joy spring in our breasts when we see the sane, balanced and statesmanlike manner in which the new Minister of Education is going about his task, and we extend to him our

fullest co-operation. Many hard words were said in the past about schools of our type and we were made to wonder, from the fanatical vapourings of the last Minister and his legislature, whether the denominational school had a place in the national scheme of education. We have forgotten them all. We have ceased to complacently echo the sentiment that education in this country is going into a morass of chaos and ruin. Our anxiety and misery seem to be over. The new Minister has taken the plough in hand and we are ready to put our necks to it and drag it and make deeper furrows, so that the seed of Education will grow and bring forth bountifully, thus enriching the lives of our boys and girls, the future citizens of independent Lanka. In free Lanka we want men and women who can exercise intelligently their chosen function in society, and to develop our civilisation in complete harmony with other individuals. This latter aspect is very important, as our world is becoming smaller and smaller as days go by and it is imperative that we should get out of our shells of narrow nationalism into the larger sphere of internationalism. We are faced with the reality that wars cannot and will not any longer solve problems. The alternative is to learn to adjust differences both national and international through compromise and not assertiveness. The emphasis should be shifted from rights to responsibilities. This applies equally to both nations and individuals. It is because the countries of the world have concentrated more on obtaining their rights, than on remembering their responsibilities, that the world has been plunged into the present vortex of doubt and suspicion. If youth is to realise its destiny it must realise its duties. The real future belongs to those who, realising their responsibilities, are prepared to respect the rights of others. So all of our education should be directed with this end in view and it is in this respect that the most lamentable mistakes have been

made in the past by the last Minister and his Executive Committee.

We understand that a new Education Act is being planned and we hope that this new Act will embody a breadth of vision which will in no unmistakable terms reveal the aim, method and content of education as envisaged in the report of the Special Committee of Education in one of its chapters entitled "The Content of Education".

Jaffna College is planning to enter the Free Scheme of Education in October this year if a reasonable equipment grant is assured. We have hopes that this would be possible, as the Minister and his colleagues in the Cabinet are favourably inclined towards adopting such a measure, which will enable schools like ours to function within the Free Scheme without financial headaches. With the country's finances as they are and as they will be in the next few years, a very liberal equipment grant, though desirable, would be impossible, and the Minister would be the first to acknowledge his gratitude to the missionaries and the bodies they represent, for their co-operation and their attempts to maintain their schools at the efficiency level of fee-levying days. It may be considered in some quarters that to go back on the scheme of Free Education and to adopt a fee levying system would be a political blunder of the first magnitude. I quite agree that it would be so, if we adopted a fee levying system of the type that was obtaining in schools before the Free Scheme came in. I take it that the underlying principle behind the Free Scheme is the equality of opportunity for all irrespective of class, creed and material well-being. If this is accepted, I would like a system similar to the one adopted in England where in the secondary schools everybody pays a fee based on the income of his parents. That is; a poor student will perhaps get

his teaching, books, clothes, milk etc., free, while a rich student will pay for all of these and a student with moderate means will pay only a percentage of his fees. This appears to be an eminently fair system providing equal opportunities for all. It may at first appear to be an unworkable scheme, because many parents in Ceylon do not want to disclose their actual income, and would prefer to be rated poor in order that they may be free from paying for the education of their children, and thus be in a better position to provide fat dowries for their daughters. But this is not an insurmountable difficulty. The cost of education is mounting year after year and with the limited resources the country has at its command, it may be difficult for it to provide for an equality of opportunity under a free scheme, but I feel certain it can be achieved under this system of graded fees based on incomes. There is another possibility. In England they have what is known as Local Educational Authorities who take a share of the burden of the expense along with the Central Government. The Local Educational Authorities collect an education tax. While such a system will work very satisfactorily in urban areas, it may be difficult to get the Village Committees to adopt such measures.

Since writing this report I am happy to see that the Minister of Education is himself contemplating some such scheme to meet this increased cost of education.

In Jaffna College we have been for many years following a system where all needy and poor students were assisted in their education. It may interest some of you to know that during the last year we paid out Rs. 4,500 | towards Boarding Scholarships, and waived fees to the extent of Rs 15,000 | in the case of the poor and needy students of the Upper School. In the Lower School we continued not to charge fees.

We welcome the appointment of a Commission to probe into the examination system of this island and it is our earnest hope that their findings will be given effect to with the least delay. The Special Committee on Education contemplated an Examinations Council which will, more or less, be independent of the Education Department and constituted as a separate unit under the Ministry of Education. It has been proved to us time and again that with the high officials of the Education Department controlling the setting, the printing and the correction of the examination papers, it would be impossible to make the system more efficient. More than three months usually elapse between the conducting of the S. S. C. Examination and the publication of the results, and it has taken almost a year for the official printed pass list of the H. S. C. to be published. If an efficient and able panel of examiners is selected by an independent board composed of men outside the Education Department, I feel certain that we can maintain a certain standard in the type of questions set, and avoid much of the delay in the publication of the results.

Turning to affairs at home I wish to chronicle, first of all, a rare and happy event in the annals of our history. Ten of our staff—Mrs. E. G. David, Messrs. S. S. Sanders, A. C. Sundrampillai, D. S. Sanders, S. T. Jeevaratnam, L. S. Kulathungam, C. O. Elias, K. V. George, T. P. H. Arulampalam and J. S. Sinnappah—completed twenty-five years of service in the school in the course of the last year. Some of you might have read in the Principal's Notes in the Jubilee Magazine my remarks about these jubilarians, and you will forgive me if I should repeat some of them on this occasion. It can truly be said of these that, while others made names, careers and fortune, they made men and women. Theirs has been a great and noble task. Believing in Jesus Christ as the Light of Life they did in no small

way, through their teaching and by their example, inculcate the belief and trust in God, the ideal of service in losing one's life to find it, a sense of values to enable them to place spiritual ends above material, and a continuous seeking and effort for moral perfection,—characteristics which independent Lanka wishes to see in all the men and women today. They are men who loved honour and service more than comfort and easy life, for not a few could have been in more remunerative positions. A trainer of a prize fighter was asked "What is the difference between a good fighter and a great one?" He replied "When the going gets tough, a great one lasts five minutes longer". Jaffna College feels proud that our jubilarians have been great ones, and in congratulating them we raise our hands in thankfulness to God for their genuine devotion, loyalty and service to the school and pray that their influence in the school may be increasingly felt in the years to come. This event was marked by a short and solemn religious service held in the College Hall conducted by our President, who later presented on behalf of the College a book to each of the jubilarians. Later the jubilarians were entertained at a complimentary dinner at which both the staff and the Alumni were present.

There have been changes in our curriculum this year. We had to drop out the teaching of Sinhalese temporarily as we could not secure the services of a teacher who could satisfactorily teach the subject and also maintain good discipline in the class. The starting of the Degree Classes has brought home to us the importance of teaching Sanskrit, and we have made a start with the Third, Pre - Senior and Senior forms. While we compel everyone to take Sanskrit in the Third Form, it remains an optional in the Pre - Senior and Senior stages. Another new feature has been the introduction of Oriental Music (vocal and instrumental) and Dancing in the Upper

School, under the able and immediate supervision of Mr. Somasundram, one of our teachers. Mr. Somasundram's ability and interest in music are known to many of us, and it reflects great credit on him to have run these courses with the assistance of some able part-time teachers and with a small subsidy from the College and a small fee levied from the students.

The classes in Piano continue to be conducted both by Miss P. P. Chelliah of our staff and Mrs. E. C. Navaratnarajah, the wife of one of our teachers, outside school hours. 11 of our students, of whom two are boys, took up the Trinity College of Music last year, and all passed, ten of them gaining merit. Nine of these were pupils of Miss P. P. Chelliah and two of Mrs. E. C. Navaratnarajah.

The starting of the Degree Classes and our expansion have necessitated the moving out of the Biology laboratory from the second floor of the administration block to the second floor of the laboratory block where the Hunt Dormitory used to be housed. This gives a much more spacious place for Biology with good ventilation and better lighting. The second floor which used to be the Atheneum Dormitory has been converted into cubicles for the Intermediate and the B. A. students.

There have been very few changes in the secondary school staff during the period under review. Dr. Robert Holmes is helping us out by taking one of the Pre-Senior classes in English. His youth, cheerful temperament and the way he is handling his subject indicate how fortunate we are in having a person of his type in our midst. Rev. W. R. Sussbach in his quiet, unassuming and thorough way is helping us out in the Senior Bible. Though the major work of these two gentlemen is with the collegiate department, their influence in the secondary school has been of the

best we could wish for, and our boys and girls are much the better for coming under an international influence of Americans, Germans, Indians and Ceylonese. Mr. M. D. Balasubramaniam, our Sanskrit teacher, joined us three weeks ago. He holds a first class honours degree of the Annamalai University in Sanskrit and is a good sportsman and a Telugu Brahmin. He seems to be entering fully into the life of the school. His work is at present limited to the Third Form, Pre - Senior and Senior classes, and we hope from July of this year he will have work with the Intermediate and the B. A. classes. Mr. K. C. Thurairatnam, who is at Oberlin doing a special course in English to fit him better for the English work in the University Entrance and H. S. C. Classes, will be back in our midst at the end of the second term. Very good reports have come to us from Oberlin both about his academic work and the contribution he is making to the life in and outside the College, so much so that Oberlin would like to have from our mission field more men of the type of Mr. Thurairatnam.

Mr. E. Jeevaratnam Niles joins us at the beginning of next term after an absence of nearly two years. We sent him to Bangalore for a course in Theology with a view to making him Chaplain of the College. Under the general direction of Mr. Bunker he will be responsible for the religious work and its connected activities of the College. Knowing his talents and his special concern for work of this nature, we have no doubts he will fill very acceptably the post of Chaplain.

For some time we have been playing with the idea of doing First M. B. B. S. work here. Dr. Jennings once suggested at the Headmasters' Conference that the schools should take the responsibility for this course and thus relieve the University of conducting pre-medical courses. We decided that

we would make an attempt and started these classes at the beginning of this year. To do the Zoology of this class and to generally strengthen the Zoology staff we have secured the services of Mr. P. O. George, who holds a first class general degree with Zoology as the main, and who is taking his M. Sc. degree in Zoology from the Christian College, Tambaram, at the end of this month. He joins us at the beginning of next term.

Though it has been our aim to reduce numbers in the high school through admission tests and age restriction, we were compelled to take in more students for reasons more than one. In spite of the fact that in our admission examination we selected only about fifty percent of those who sought admission, our present numbers remain as follows: Upper School 550, 435 boys and 115 girls; Lower School 506, 320 boys and 186 girls, making in all 1056; Of this number 230 are Christians of whom 155 are in the Upper School. I understand all the bigger schools in Jaffna have had to refuse admissions this year. For reasons obvious there is a tendency now for students in the village vernacular schools to seek admission to the primary department of bigger schools.

Our numbers in the Boarding House have increased from 145 to 185. The Christian students number about sixty. To meet this increase in numbers we had to rent a building close by to house the Matriculates and the H. S. C. students. The former hostel of the H. S. C. students was converted into an additional hostel for our girls, housing chiefly the Matriculates and the H. S. C. students. The women's hostel now houses the Intermediate and the B. A. girl students and the boarders of the primary department. The renting and maintenance of buildings for hostel accommodation, the provision of equipment in these hostels, and the prices of arti-

cles remaining at their high level are throwing our Boarding House budget off its balance, and it may be necessary to increase the boarding fees in the course of the year, if prices do not come down. In the recent past the boarding department has been more or less self supporting, and I have no doubts that it will continue to be so under the control and guidance of Mr. D. S. Sanders, the Vice - Principal.

Our examination results are as follows:—

H. S. C. Arts	13	presented	4	passed
H. S. C. Science	17	"	6	"
S. S. C.	73	"	32	"

and 25 referred in one subject.

Two obtained first divisions, 6 secured exemption from the London Matriculation and ten were referred for exemption.

Vth Std. 107 presented 94 passed, sixteen securing First Division.

In the S. S. C. Examination Christianity had the largest number of distinctions, with Mathematics and Biology coming close to it. The distinctions in Mathematics and Christianity were the highest for any school in the Island. Our University Entrance results have not been up to our usual standard though our percentage has been well above the Island average. The Vice - Chancellor in the report he sent round to the various schools deplores much waste in schools in trying to prepare students who are not fit for University education. Our experience shows that only students who secure a first division in the Senior or obtain exemption from the London Matriculation have a reasonable chance of being selected by the Ceylon University. It is admitted that with the exemption standards as they are in Ceylon only a few students at the top can achieve this distinction. We question whether uni-

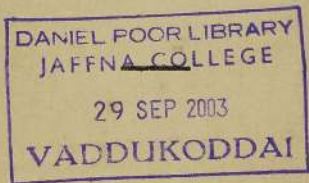
versity education should be restricted only to students of that calibre. Evidence from the universities in the West and also in the East seems to indicate, that students of average ability can profit by a university education, and in Ceylon such students are shut out. Another lamentable feature of the recent University Entrance Examination has been the raising of the standards without duly warning the schools about it. This seems to be hardly fair. •

Turning to Sports activities, I must say that our first team in Football had a very successful season and remained unbeaten. They played five Inter - Collegiate matches, drawing one and winning the rest. In Athletics no Inter - Collegiate Meet was organised among the bigger schools last year. The various activities during our Jubilee Celebrations in July prevented us from arranging any dual Meets. The Cricket season has just started; we have so far played two matches losing one and winning the other. We plan to carry on with Cricket till the middle of next term, and we have four more matches on our programme. Basket ball and Volley ball continue to be played, though we do not arrange Inter - Collegiate fixtures in these.

The various activities of the College,—the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., the Academy, the Forum, the Lyceum—are carrying on as usual. We had a Camp for the Senior Christian students of the College at the Ashram at the beginning of the term and our decision to start school with prayers for Christian students, and for those who have permission from their parents to attend such prayers, has proved to be a wise one. On Fridays the worship is led by one of the senior students and we feel happy that we gave this opportunity to students to lead the teachers and the taught in joint worship.

Our Old Boys continue to occupy many chief positions in the life of this country. I shall not take time to record their achievements here. I must, however, mention that four of our Old Boys were elected to the House of Representatives—Messrs. Kanagaratnam, Chelvanayagam, Nalliah and Cumarasamy. Others will not misunderstand if I single one of them out for special mention. No one in recent past has identified himself with Jaffna College, its aspirations and policy more than Mr. Kanagaratnam and in him we have a very loyal and devoted son.

In conclusion I wish to commend the Jubilee Miscellany to our Alumni and friends. It was printed at a tremendous cost, for we thought that you would be happy to possess a copy. I cannot end the report without paying my warm tribute to the devotion and loyalty of our staff, academic and clerical, without whose co-operation it would be well nigh impossible to maintain our high standards of efficiency. My thanks are specially due to both Mr. D. S. Sanders and Mr. P. W. Ariaratnam who have shared in the administration of the High School and to our President for his wise counsel and direction.



PRIZE LIST — 1947.

First Form B:

P. J. John	Mathematics 1st prize
N. Selvadurai	Mathematics 2nd prize
S. Sivapackiasundram	Tamil 1st prize

First Form A:

Karunairajah Jeevaratnam	General Proficiency English 1st prize Mathematics 1st prize Science 1st prize History 2nd prize Geography 2nd prize
S. Kadirgamar	General Proficiency English 1st prize History 1st prize Geography 1st prize Mathematics 2nd prize
Thavamany	General Proficiency Tamil 1st prize Science 2nd prize
W. D. Kulathungam	Scripture 1st prize

Second Form B:

K. Wijayanayakam	English 1st prize Mathematics 2nd prize
M. Vijayaratnam	Mathematics 1st prize
K. Veluppillai	Tamil 1st prize
K. Nithiananthan	Civics 1st prize
N. Yogeswary	Tamil 2nd Prize

Second Form A:

Maheswary Jesudason	General Proficiency English 1st prize History 1st prize Science 1st prize Scripture 2nd prize Tamil 2nd prize
Selvamanie Selvadurai	Scripture 1st prize English 2nd prize
P. Balasubramaniam	Mathematics 1st prize
M. Sanmuganathan	Tamil 1st prize Mathematics 2nd prize
T. Saravanabhavan	Science 2nd prize

Third Form B:

S. Thambippillai	Mathematics 1st prize
M. Ganesparan	Mathematics 1st prize
Ahilandeswary Kandiah	Tamil 1st prize
Rajeswary Kanapathippillai	Tamil 2nd prize
A. Subramaniam	Tamil 2nd prize
Daisy T. Subramaniam	Drawing 1st prize

Third Form A:

Jegadevan Selliah	General Proficiency
	English 1st prize
	Mathematics 1st prize
	Science 1st prize
	History 1st prize
	Geography 1st prize
N. Kugarajah	General Proficiency
	English 1st prize
	Mathematics 2nd prize
	Geography 2nd prize
	Science 2nd prize
R. Sivasambo	Tamil 1st prize
	History 2nd prize
S. Kanagaratnam	Tamil 2nd prize

Pre Senior B:

S. Sivakolunthu	English 1st prize
	Chemistry 1st prize
	Physics 2nd prize
V. Arasaratnam	Mathematics 1st prize
	Physics 1st prize
K. Kunaratnam	English 1st prize
T. Sanmuganathan	Tamil 1st prize
K. Nadarajah	Botany 1st prize
S. Wijayanayagam	Botany 2nd prize
Sarweswara Sarma	Botany 2nd prize

Pre Senior A:

N. Sunthararajah	General Proficiency
	Chemistry 1st prize
	Mathematics 1st prize
	Tamil 2nd prize
K. Poologasavundranayagam	Mathematics 1st prize
	Chemistry 2nd prize
P. Krishnarajah	Botany 1st prize
D. S. Ampalavanar	Tamil 1st prize
Kamalambihai Kanagaratnam	Botany 2nd prize

Senior C:

Sarah Elias	General Proficiency English 1st prize Chemistry 1st prize Mathematics 1st prize
C. Thuraisingham	

Senior B:

S. Gugathason	Mathematics 1st prize Chemistry 2nd prize Chemistry 1st prize
K. Navaratnam	

Senior A:

P. Balachandran	General Proficiency Chemistry 1st prize Physics 1st prize Civics 1st prize Tamil 1st prize Biology 1st prize
Chandrarajan Sanders	General Proficiency and Senior School Cert. 1st Div. English Language 1st prize English Literature 1st prize Bible 1st prize Mathematics 2nd prize
Kanageswary Jesudason	General Proficiency and Senior School Cert. 1st Div. Mathematics 1st prize Physics 1st prize Biology 1st prize Chemistry 2nd prize History 1st prize English Language 2nd prize
Rajeswary Jesudason	
Chandramanie Thurai- singham	General Proficiency
Rajadevan Selliah	General Proficiency
Jeyarance Kanapathippillai	Tamil 2nd prize

London Matriculation:

K. Nadarajah	English 1st prize
M. A. Rajaratnam	Botany 1st prize
S. Sivasihamparam	Botany 2nd prize

H. S. C. B. 2:

V. Parameswaran	General Proficiency Physics 1st prize Botany 1st prize
J. L. Amarasingham	General Proficiency Physics 2nd prize

H. S. C. B. I:

V. Navaratnam

S. Pathmanandavel

K. Somasegarampillai

General Proficiency
 Chemistry 1st prize
 Pure Mathematics 2nd prize
 Applied Mathematics 2nd prize
 Applied Mathematics 1st prize
 Pure Mathematics 2nd prize
 Chemistry 1st prize

Distinctions Gained at the Govt. Senior School Certificate Examination, 1947.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. P. Balachandran | Advanced Tamil and Element.
ary Mathematics |
| 2. A. M. Brodie | Christianity |
| 3. K. Navaratnam | Biology |
| 4. T. Ramachandran | Hygiene |
| 5. Rajadevan Selliah | Biology and Christianity |
| 6. Chandrarajan Sanders | Elementary Mathematics, Biology
and Christianity |
| 7. R. G. Selvadurai | Elementary Mathematics |
| 8. S. Sanmuganathan | Advanced Tamil |
| 9. S. Singamappanar | History and Civics |
| 10. K. Vythianathar | Advanced Tamil |
| 11. D. T. Wadsworth | Christianity |
| 12. Eva K. Gulasingham | Christianity |
| 13. Rajeswary Jesudason | English |
| 14. Kanageswary Jesudason | Elementary Mathematics, Chemis-
try, Biology and Christianity |
| 15. Chandramanie Thurai-
rajasingham | Elementary Mathematics |

SPORTS

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| M. Kumarachandran | Football Colours |
| K. Yogeswaran | Football Colours |

HOUSE REPORTS

I. ABRAHAM HOUSE

<i>House Masters:</i>	Mr. W. L. Jeyasingham Mr. A. R. Abraham
<i>House Captain:</i>	A. M. Brodie
<i>Girls' Captain:</i>	R. Atputharanee
<i>Athletic Captains:</i>	T. Parameswary V. Mahadeva

The year under review has been one of only mediocre success. It has been one of success rather of individuals than of the House as a whole.

The beginning of the year saw six members of our House finding their place in the College Cricket Eleven. They were: N. Samarasinghe, R. Kuleskeran, T. Sangaralingam, A. Devarajah, T. M. B. Mahat and A. M. Brodie, on whom the success of the Eleven depended to a great extent. It was indeed unfortunate that the Inter-House Cricket Competition was not held this year, for the ultimate winners would have been a foregone conclusion.

On the 'Track' with a team devoid of any great ability or talent, we put up a good show to come third in the final rating. We are proud in having produced the two outstanding athletes of the College in the Senior Champion, D. Yogaratnam and the Post Senior Champion. Our girl members did their best with the limited material at their command to bring us a few hard-fought-for points.

In Football, although we had the best team on paper, when it came to the real thing it was a woeful failure. Captained by T. Sangaralingam and including three other College players in Thurai-singam, Mahat and Brodie, it did not show the

BROWN HOUSE



Basket Ball Champions 1948



Net Ball Champions 1948

combination and the team-play necessary for a victory. Our congratulations go to White House, the ultimate winners. The Captain and Vice-Captain of the College team^{ers} are from our House.

In Basket-Ball under the able captaincy of V. Mahadeva we became runners-up in the Inter-House Competition. In Net-Ball the girls under V. Anchutham put every bit of the limited material they were able to command into use, and the lack of success was in no measure due to the lack of effort.

The Senior Open Champion at the Y. M. C. A. Table-Tennis was T. M. B. Mahat. Whatever our achievements may be, we are consoled by the fact that we did our best, and my grateful thanks go out to each and every member of the House and the House Masters for their willing co-operation and unflinching support.

A. M. BRODIE,
House - Captain.

II. BROWN HOUSE

House Masters: Mr. C. R. Wardsworth

Mr. C. S. Ponnudurai

House Captain: K. Ramachandran

Football „ V. Sivasubramaniam

Girls' „ J. Ranjithamalar

Basket-Ball Capt: J. M. N. Kanagasooriam

All round success has been the achievement of the Blues and as such I feel proud to re-count the various performances that go to show the uniqueness of our House.

It is very gratifying to know that three members of the Blues are in the College Cricket

Eleven. We are proud of T. D. Hanan whose brilliancy in the Cricket Field, especially as the "Merchant" of our eleven, brought prominence to our House.

Switching on to Soccer, the Blues, though they did not annex the championship, yet remained an unbeaten team. Six members of the College Team hail from the Blues. Konamalai Selvarajah, the stonewall full back of the College Eleven, deserves special mention as he has been chosen as a member of the North Ceylon Combined College Soccer Eleven.

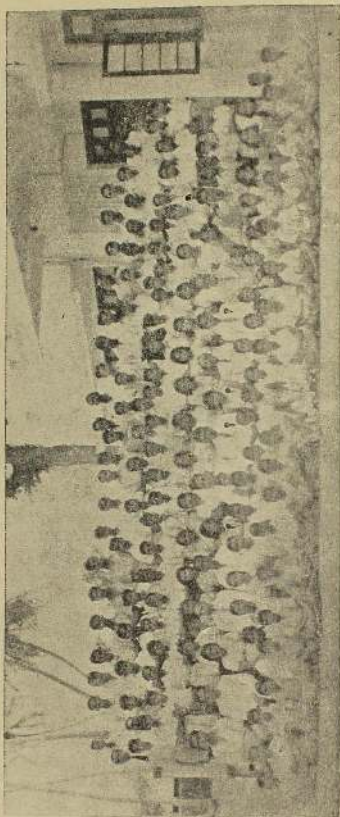
In Basket - Ball and Net - Ball our teams won their way to Championships by unforgettable and resounding victories.

The Blues also never failed to show forth their talents on the Athletic Field. The Senior Girls' Championship was won by Sugirtham Selladurai. I must not fail to mention T. Ramachandran's 220 yds. dash which was undoubtedly the best item of the Meet.

In the academic field too the Blues have by no means fallen short of great honour. Miss Jesudasan and Jegadevan were among the many Blues who proudly received their laurels at the Prize Giving. The oratorical talent of Kanagasooriam brought honours to the Blues, when he won first place both in the Senior Division in the Jaffna Inter - School Oratorical Contests held on the last Education Day and in our own Oratorical Contests.

I hope that the keen team spirit prevalent on the field of sport, and equal enthusiasm shown in the class room would be maintained. I would like to thank the House Masters and the members for the conscientious support they gave me.

In concluding I wish to say that there are four factors that contributed to our success—good



HASTINGS HOUSE — Athletic Champions, 1948.

leadership, keenness, determination, and splendid co-operation. Hence, Blues, let it be our aim,

“To do our best in mart or hall
To do our best with bat or ball”.

K. RAMACHANDRAN,
House Captain.

III. HASTINGS HOUSE

<i>House Masters:</i>	Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam Mr. S. V. Balasingam
<i>House Captain:</i>	S. V. Paramsothy
<i>Girls' Captain:</i>	N. Pushpavathy
<i>Athletic Captains:</i>	{ S. Satkunarajah { S. Selvaranee
<i>Football and Basket ball Captain:</i>	{ P. Tharmarajah
<i>Net-ball Captain:</i>	Mary Elias

In submitting this report I am indeed proud to state that this year has once again been a great success to the Reds as far as Athletics is concerned. In the Inter-House Athletic Meet we emerged champions with flying colours. In the face of severe competition from the other Houses we strove very hard to win the championship. To the very last moment we were tense with excitement and the championship was only decided by the last item of the day, the Tug-o'-war. Last year the very same thing happened when we then too wrenched off the victory from the Hitchcock House. This is indeed a unique and unprecedented record, and let us hope that the same thing will be repeated next year. My thanks to our athletes who with their united effort brought us success. As is characteristic of the Red House girls, they played a great part in the Meet and brought us as many as 60 points, proving themselves to be true and worthy athletes.

I shall be failing in my duty if I don't thank our Athletic Coach, Mr. K. Thirunavukarasu, whose perseverance and splendid training to our boys and girls were directly responsible for victory. My gratitude is due to the House Captains for their devoted and valuable assistance to me, to the House Masters for their enthusiasm and support, to all members of the House for their co-operation and good-will, and to the other Houses—especially the Whites—for giving us such a hard and plucky fight.

In the other activities such as Football and Basket-ball we were not very successful. We were unable to produce teams strong enough to bring us the championships here. In Net-ball our girls almost brought us victory, but when they met the Blues they suffered defeat. It must be admitted that the Blues were able to muster a stronger team and they had the added advantage of height which we lacked. My congratulations to them.

S. V. PARAMSOTHY,
House Captain.

IV. HITCHCOCK HOUSE

<i>House Master:</i>	Mr. K. V. George
<i>House Captain:</i>	V. Sivagnanasundaram
<i>Girls' Captain:</i>	Rajamalar Arulampalam
<i>Athletic Captain:</i>	S. Shanmuganathan
<i>Basketball Captain:</i>	J. L. Amarasingham
<i>Football Captain:</i>	V. Krishnasamy
<i>Girls Athletic and Net Ball Capt.</i>	Parimalam Selvadurai

It is no formality when I begin my report by saying that we had a successful year, for our achievements were really creditable.

The first term of the year saw no Inter-House competitions but our contribution was three members to the College Cricket Team in the persons of S. Singamapaner (who also captained the team), J. Balarajah and V. Krishnasamy.

The second term saw the Inter-House Athletic Meet worked off in grand style. The Whites had to be contented with the second place, but we were the least disheartened, for we proved to be the testing side for the Reds who annexed the championship. We congratulate them. It was a "ding dong" battle till the last item—the Tug - of - War—when we failed to prove to be masters of the art of rope-pulling. Though the House Championship was lost, we produced no less than four individual champions. In the boys' divisions Mathew George and M. I. Navaratnarajah annexed the Intermediate and Junior Championship challenge cups respectively, each scoring the maximum number of points possible. Other outstanding performances were by S. Shanmuganathan and J. Balarajah who were responsible for a large number of points. Among the girls, Parimalam Selvadurai annexed the Senior girls' championship Cup and has a bright future in the field of sports; we wish her well.

The success of the Inter-House Sports Meet was due to no individual effort but due to the cooperation of every member in and off the field.

My thanks are due to the lady members under the able captaincy of Rajamalar Arulampalam, who has been an inspiration to many by the meritorious services she rendered, for the grand show she put up by the gay decorations of the tents, the tasty eats for the evening and the sweet drinks for the thirsting members.

The latter part of the term saw the Whites fighting to the last in their battles in the Basket-

ball competitions. Our hearty congratulations to the Blues.

During the beginning of the third term the tide changed and we remained unbeaten in the Inter-House Football Competition, thereby regaining the laurels which we lost last year.

An Inter-House competition in Net-ball was worked off and we had to be contented with a third place. We lacked an all round team, though there were a few individuals who were outstanding on the court.

In conclusion, let me convey my sincere thanks to the House Masters, the various Captains and every member of the House for his or her willing co-operation rendered to me in making this year a successful one.

V. SIVAGNANASUNDARAM,
House Captain.

THE JAFFNA COLLEGE UNDER-GRADUATES' UNION

The inauguration of the degree classes is a significant event in the history of Jaffna College. It is not merely a crowning achievement of the efforts of the great men who so faithfully served it for the past 125 years, but the beginning of a new era into which men of vision and courage filled with a passion for higher education have ventured to enter.

The purpose of education is to help the free growth of the personality and personality can only develop within a community. The realisation of this fact made us see the imperative need for an organisation which would foster a spirit of co-opera-

tion and fellowship among the students. Accordingly the inaugural meeting of the Undergrads' Union was held on the 25th of February, with forty eight members. From that day on, the Union has been progressing both in size and spirit. Dorothy Emmet calls the university the intellectual conscience of "humanity," and in our own way, that is the purpose which we are trying to fulfil. Through the debates, speeches, lectures and discussions on subjects of various interests there is a free exchange of ideas and thus the students are led to maintain and develop community of thought, feeling and practice.

Our task is great and our limitations are numerous, yet this year we have just begun to do something, the fruits of which cannot be seen too soon. The members who participated in the debates and spoke at the ordinary meetings showed a great deal of enthusiasm and many of the speeches were well studied and executed. These are some of the subjects debated: "World Government is the only solution for lasting peace." "Death penalty should be abolished." "The Lion Flag should be adopted as the National flag of Ceylon." "Women should be permitted to participate in Government Services." "East is East and the West is West and never the twain shall meet." Pastor W. R. Sussback and Dr. W. R. Holmes participated in the first debate. Individual speeches were delivered on subjects varying from Socialism and Communalism to American Sports and Olympic Games. It has not been possible to arrange more public lectures as we would have liked to, but we have been fortunate to listen to at least a few delivered by members of the staff.

Mr. Balasubramaniam and Dr. W. R. Holmes on- "Student Psychology", Messrs. A. M. Brodie and M. I. Thomas on—"The Indian Situation." Mr. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah—"Literature and the Fallen Man".

Another important item worthy of mention is the Mock-Trial conducted during the second term.

It was appreciated very much by all present.

The first Group of Office-Bearers.

<i>Patron:</i>	Dr. W. R. Holmes
<i>President:</i>	Mr. S. Suntharasivam
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Miss C. Kanapathipillai
<i>Secretary:</i>	Mr. T. Arulgnanam
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Miss S. Selvadurai
<i>Parliamentarian:</i>	Mr. N. R. Balasingam

The Present Office-Bearers.

<i>Patron:</i>	Dr. W. R. Holmes
<i>President:</i>	Mr. K. Chelvarajan
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Miss S. Selvadurai
<i>Secretary:</i>	Mr. T. Arulgnanam
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Miss M. Kanagarethnam
<i>Parliamentarian:</i>	Mr. D. J. Ampalavanar

This term meetings conducted in Tamil are held once a month in order to enrich and widen our knowledge of Tamil. A Quiry Programme was held during this term in which Mr. E. C. Lockwood took part.

The first Anniversary Celebrations of the Union took place on Monday, the 1st of November. It consisted of two functions—a Tea in the afternoon given by our President, Mr. K. Chelvarajan and a Dinner at 8 o'clock with Mr J. C. A. Corea, Principal Royal College, Colombo, as the Chief Guest. Covers were laid for 105 and Mr. K. Chelvarajan presided.

The following was the Toast List:

<i>The College:</i>	J. C. A. Corea, Esq.
<i>Response:</i>	Rev. S. K. Bunker
<i>The Union:</i>	Dr. C. Kandiah
<i>Response:</i>	Mr. K. Chelvarajan
<i>Ceylon:</i>	S. P. Appasamy, Esq.
<i>Response:</i>	Mr. T. Arulgnanam
<i>The Guests:</i>	Miss S. Selvadurai
<i>Response:</i>	Miss L. G. Bookwalter

THE ACADEMY

The current year of the Academy has been one of great success. We held meetings every week and every third meeting was conducted in Tamil. Most of our meetings were confined to debates and individual speeches. The subjects debated varied from politics to religion. We maintained the high standard which is traditional of the Association. Our activities were not only confined to meetings but also to running canteens and making trips. A very keen interest was shown by all the members in all the activities.

We did not fail to celebrate the freedom which Sri Lanka regained after a lapse of three centuries of foreign domination. The highlight of the day was a variety entertainment. Our annual celebrations came off on the seventh of August. It started with the President's Tea in the evening. At the Tea, glowing tributes were paid to the Patron, Mr. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah, for his keen interest and enthusiasm. We also bade farewell to him. The Tea was followed by a variety entertainment which

was staged under the patronage of Mr. & Mrs. Navaratnarajah. It revealed that the Association, possessed many talented actors, dancers, and musicians. We had Rev. C. A. Smith (Principal, Jaffna Central College) as our chief guest at the dinner, which turned out to be a great success.

We extend a warm welcome to our new Patron, Mr. K. C. Thurairatnam. The most spectacular event during the third term was the "Mock Election" for the Kayts Seat.

I thank the members for their whole-hearted support and co-operation to make the Association a success.

V. S. MAHESON,
Hon. Secretary.

THE BROTHERHOOD

<i>Patron:</i>	Mr. C. R. Wadsworth
<i>President:</i>	K. Satiavalan
<i>Vice-President:</i>	A. S. Kadirgamar
<i>Hony. Secretary:</i>	J. R. Jeganathan
<i>Asst. Secretary:</i>	V. Arasaratnam
<i>Treasurer:</i>	V. Mahadèva
<i>English Editor:</i>	K. Kathiresan
<i>Tamil Editor:</i>	D. S. Ambalavanar

The Brotherhood began functioning only during the second term of this year. The most important feature of the Brotherhood for the period under review is that its membership has reached the grand total of a hundred and ten which is a record in the history of the Association. The lady members of the Brotherhood take a very great interest, as is evident from the contributions they make to the speeches

and discussions. The members take a very great interest in the affairs of the Society.

The debates and speeches were well prepared and reached a high standard. Among the subjects discussed were, "Women should be given equal rights as men" and "Ceylon's Independence is a fake." We had a very novel programme during this term. A "Mock Election" for the Kayts constituency was staged. •

Plans are afoot for the Anniversary Celebrations which we hope to have at the beginning of next year. We are greatly indebted to our Patron for his help and advice.

J. R. JEGANATHAN,
Hony. Secretary.



THE SCOUT TROOP

Office - Bearers

<i>Scoutmaster:</i>	Mr. A. R. Abraham
<i>Troop Leader:</i>	J. L. Amarasingham
<i>P L Tigers:</i>	C. Sanders
<i>P L Louis; Secretary:</i>	K. S. Velupillai
<i>P L Flying Eagles; Q. master:</i>	J. Balarajah
<i>P L Samburs; Treasurer:</i>	V. Tharmaseelan

The Troop has been progressing well this year under the able and untiring efforts of our Scoutmaster, Mr. A. R. Abraham. The present strength of the Troop is 32 and there are four Patrols in all. We had Inter-Patrol competitions in such items as Treasure Hunt, Bridge-building and Outdoor Games. The Eagles should be specially mentioned as they often came off with flying colours on such occasions. Congratulations, Eagles!

Our Troop was represented during the Independence Celebrations in Colombo in February by the Senior members. The smart turn-up, the quick movements of our Scouts and the masterly execution of their duties immensely impressed everybody. Mr. J. N. Thomas, the Scout Commissioner and an impartial judge of Scouts, complimented us on our good behaviour—a quality which we never lacked at any time. We thank the Government authorities for giving us the honour to be present on such a happy and memorable occasion.

Mr. J. N. Thomas in a short talk to us suggested that a jungle camp be organised so as to give scope for the activities of the more adventurous of our Scouts. We hope this will be realised soon.

During the second term we organised a Guard of Honour to the Minister of Education, the Hon. Major E. A. Nugewala, on his visit to the College.

The financing of the Troop has presented difficulty from time to time. But the patrons of the Troop have always come to our aid by contributing towards the Troop's fund in spite of their many difficulties. We tender our sincere thanks to them.

Though handicapped by the lack of materials and instructors, our enthusiastic recruits are undergoing the necessary training in their Tenderfoot Tests. True to the spirit of Scouting, they show great keenness towards Scout activities. The credit goes to the unflinching efforts of our T | L. J. L. Amarasingham for whatever our recruits have achieved.

We have many plans to put into operation in the coming year. We are also looking forward for more recruits early next year. Our Scouts must also be aware that they have yet to achieve greater things. Therefore, Scouts, march with full steam ahead.

K. S. VELUPILLAI,
Secretary, J | 3.

THE GIRL GUIDES

The year under review has been a fairly successful one for the Company. We had our regular meetings on Thursday evenings. The strength of the Company at present is twenty.

On the 3rd of August, the Brownie Commissioner, the Guide Commissioner and the Division Secretary visited us and were impressed by our cheerfulness and smartness. The next day being a holiday, we went on a hike to Kothuthurai. Moreover, we had our Inter-Company Competitions coming on and we had to make a Ceylon History Log Book and work for proficiency badges such as "domestic service," "laundress," "athlete," "artist" etc. Although we had tried our best, we were not able to win the shield. We wish all success to Mrs. R. Rasiah, the Guide Lieutenant, who will be leaving us at the end of this term.

We wish all our readers a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

J. KANAPATHIPILLAI,
Secretary.

THE WOMEN HOSTELS' UNION

At the beginning of this year, owing to the increase in the number of girls, we were divided into two Hostels—Senior and Junior. At the first meeting, on the advice of our Patron, Miss L. Ponnampalam, we decided that both Hostels should amalgamate to form one Union until such time as it was possible to form two Unions. There has been no trace of lack of unity on the part of both Hostels, by this arrangement.

The year under review has been quite a successful one. We had regular fortnightly meetings, held alternately in each Hostel. The meetings took the form of debates, on subjects such as "Women should enter the Public Services" etc., individual speeches from the budding orators of our Hostels' and the reading of interesting papers by the English

and Tamil Editors; and occasionally the meetings were entirely musical in form to encourage the talents of some of the Hostellers.

Our Annual Celebrations came off on the 23rd of October. However much we would have liked to invite more of our friends, yet we had to cut down invitations owing to lack of accommodation. We were glad to find that those present thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were pleased with our entertainment. I thank all those who helped to make it a grand success.

I shall be failing in my duty if I do not thank our Patron under whose guidance our Union has prospered.

GRACE MATHER,
Secretary.

INTER HOSTEL UNION

<i>Patron:</i>	Mr. D. S. Sanders
<i>President:</i>	J. L. Amarasingham
<i>Vice-President:</i>	V. Sivapragasam
<i>Secretary:</i>	T. Sangaralingham
<i>Treasurer:</i>	D. S. Rasiah

It is just a year since the Inter Hostel Union was formed. It is particularly gratifying to note that in spite of our small number we have done quite a lot.

Our Union meets every fortnight. The meetings are interesting and lively. Questions of current importance ranging from the Hostel food problem to the Berlin Crisis were thrashed out and solutions arrived at. Individual speeches occupied an important place in our meetings.

This is the first time that the cubicle system has been introduced and we are glad to say that it is a great success. Two students occupy a room, and the rooms are well furnished. Our present hostel is only a temporary one. Our new hostel is under construction. We are keenly looking forward to going into the new hostel which we hear will be equipped with all the modern conveniences.

In our next report we shall be able to give first hand information about our new way of life in our new "Undergrads" Hostel. Let us wait till then.

T. SANGARALINGHAM,
Hony. Secy.

H. S. C. HOSTEL UNION

<i>Patron:</i>	Mr. L. S. Kulathungam
<i>President:</i>	A. M. Brodie
<i>Vice-President:</i>	S. Sanmuganathan
<i>Secretary:</i>	A. R. Kadirgamar
<i>Treasurer:</i>	A. P. R. David

The year under review has been a very successful one and the Union has made considerable progress under the guidance of our Patron, Mr. L. S. Kulathungam. Regular meetings have been held, thereby giving the members sufficient opportunity to develop their literary talents and a high standard has been reached in debating, oratory and singing. Some of the topics discussed at the meetings were:—

"Women's Place is the Home",

"The Tamil Congress is discouraging to Ceylon Politics".

Mr. M. D. Balasubramaniam of our College staff delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture on "Culture" at one of the meetings.

A sketch, "Seven Stages of Man", was staged by the Union at the variety entertainment held during the Independence celebrations and a sketch "Ivanska Vinshky Skavar" and a farce "Boomerang Cafe" were staged during the Academy celebrations and these contributions received high praise from the audience.

Our annual celebrations came off on the 22nd November and at the Dinner, presided over by our President, A. M. Brodie, we had the enviable privilege of having Mr. K. S. Arulnandhy, Deputy Director of Education, and Mr. S. U. Somasegaram, Education Officer, N. P., as our Chief Guests.

Keen enthusiasm and friendly spirit have been prevailing in all our meetings. Our thanks are due to all the office-bearers for the efficient work they did.

A. R. KADIRGAMAR,
Hony. Secretary.

SENIOR HOSTEL UNION

Patron: Mr. S. T. Jeevaratnam

President: K. Satiavalan

Vice-President: V. Mahadeva

Hony. Secy: A. Shanmuganathan

Treasurer: K. Sivaraj

In submitting my report of this Union for the year 1948, I feel happy to record its steady progress and success especially under the efficient

guidance of our President. There are about thirty members and all are from the Senior class, with the exception of two who are from the Inter-Science class.

We held twelve meetings this year and the standard of debating, judged by the various debates held this year, was certainly high.

An encouraging feature, however, was the willingness of the members to speak from the House.

The Union is proud of itself because it possesses some of the leading athletes, scholars and sportsmen. The Senior Athletic Championship Cup and many certificates were won by the Senior Hostel. The Intermediate Oratorical Prize was also won by the Senior Hostel. We are also hoping to produce very good results in the forthcoming Senior examination.

We had our Annual Dinner on the 11th November with Miss A. Hudson Paramasamy, Principal Uduvil Girls' English School, as our Chief Guest. K. Satiavalan, the President, was the Chairman of the function. The Chief Guest was the first speaker who was followed by the President. Besides these, the Secretary A. Shanmuganathan, Messrs. D. S. Sanders, the Vice-Principal, S. T. Jeevaratnam, Patron of the S. H. U., and Luxmanan Amarasingham, President of the Inter-Hostel Union, also spoke. The vote of thanks was proposed by A. S. Kadirgamar and seconded by S. Wijayanayagam. The dinner was voted as one of the best dinners in the College.

Lastly, I shall fail in my duty if I do not thank our Patron and Warden, Mr. S. T. Jeevaratnam.

A. SHANMUGANATHAN,
Hony. Secy.

THE Y. M. C. A.

At the very outset of the report, I would like to claim that this year has been a very unique one in the history of the Y. M. C. A. For the first time a student was elected President. Our congratulations to D. J. Ambalavanar, on whose shoulders has fallen this great and sacred responsibility. This has been indeed a significant change after more than six decades of our existence. This year has been a very successful year with a marked increase in the number of members of the "Y". Now that the responsibility of the President has devolved on a student, it is very encouraging to see many boys showing greater enthusiasm in the various activities of the Y. M. C. A. than ever before.

Now to come to the main body of the report, the Wednesday meetings were the most important feature of our activities. The chief item of the meetings was an address delivered by a notable figure from outside and at times of the College. These lectures were very instructive to Christian boys especially. The following were some of the speeches made up to the time of my writing this report:—

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Pastor W. R. Sussback:</i> | "The Church in Resistance
During the War". |
| <i>Rev. D. T. Niles:</i> | "Man's Encounter with
God." |
| <i>Mr. A. M. Brodie:</i> | "King David". |
| <i>Rev. S. Selvaratnam:</i> | "Preparing for Death-Life" |
| <i>Mr. E. J. J. Niles:</i> | "The Story of the English
Bible." |
| <i>Dr. C. T. Chelliah:</i> | "Psychology and Religion." |
| <i>Mr. E. W. Arianayagam:</i> | "Education and Life". |
| <i>Dr. Miss E. M. Thillayampalam:</i> | "Confronting Self-sufficient
Science". |

<i>Mr. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah:</i>	"The Arts and Religion"
<i>Mr. L. S. Kulathungam:</i>	"The Bible as Literature"
<i>Mr. K. C. Thurairatnam:</i>	"Facing West"
<i>Mr. A. M. Brodie:</i>	"The Crisis in India"
<i>Pastor W. R. Sussback:</i>	"The Church and the International Situation."

Another outstanding activity was a radio-play, Dorothy Sayer's *King of Sorrows*, relayed from the College Hall, while the audience was in the College Quadrangle. The play was a grand success. I must not fail to thank Mr. C. R. Wadsworth who took great pains in getting this play through.

Every Sunday mornings Mr. K. E. Mathiaparanam conducts a Bible Class for students of the Senior classes and upwards. The Y. M. C. A. is indeed very fortunate to secure his services. His burning zest to instil into every youth the desire for spiritual growth has drawn the attention and admiration of many a youth. Mr. Mathiaparanam as Chairman of the Personal Piety Committee also conducts the Personal Piety Meetings almost every Sunday night at 8.30. The need for a meeting of this nature was keenly felt, because there were no other meetings where personal religious difficulties could be discussed. I would like to extend my thanks to Mr. Mathiaparanam for the valuable services he has rendered to the Y. M. C. A. Mr. E. J. J. Niles, who has been co-opted into the Executive Committee of the Y. M. C. A., also helps Mr. Mathiaparanam in conducting these meetings, especially this term. My thanks are due to him also for his services to the Y.

During the 'Evangelistic Week' which began with an address by Rev. C. Arangaden from India at the vespers, Bible classes were conducted for all the Christian students of the College. The students were

divided according to their classes. The leaders after much prayer and preparation made these studies really worthwhile. In the mornings some of the teachers spoke on the themes for Bible Study for those days. That week's activities were wound up by a witness meeting at which Mr. Ephraums, some of the teachers and students gave witness.

The Annual Y Camp was held in the Ashram during the 1st term. The Camp was quite a successful one. I wish to thank the leaders—Mr. P. T. John, Rev. J. J. Ratnarajah and Rev. S. Selvaratnam—who made the Camp a very useful one for our boys. We sent four delegates to the All Ceylon S. C. M. Camp at Moratuwa during the Easter vacation. Six members of the Y attended the National Conference of the S. C. M. held in the Madras Christian College, Tambaram. The theme of the last mentioned Conference was: 'The City of God remaineth.' It was the first major conference since India won her Independence. Our delegates were truly benefited by this Conference. They were fortunate to listen to many inspiring and helpful lectures delivered by prominent men of the Christian World. We are hoping to send at least one delegate each to the Y. M. C. A. Conference at Allahabad and to the Asian Leaders' Conference in Kandy, which are to take place in December.

The Recreation Committee has done splendid work this year. A Table Tennis tournament was held last term, after a lapse of nine years. This term Dr. Holmes, our History Professor, has introduced the "Games-night" feature as one of the activities of the "Y". Every Saturday night, we have many indoor games that keep almost all the boarders going. I extend my thanks to Dr. Holmes for the keen enthusiasm he has shown in the work of the Y. M. C. A., especially in this sphere. The Chairman

of the Recreation Committee, Mr. T. Arulgnanam, deserves special mention. He has been responsible, to a very large measure, for the liveliness of the Recreation Committee. We hope to organise more games than we have just now, as soon as we get back our room that is stored with furniture.

The Sunday School Committee too has a good record of work to its credit. A Prize-Giving was held in January this year at the Thunavy Sunday School. The attendance there is about fifty. The Sunday School there suffers because of a lack of teachers. Miss C. Knight deserves our grateful thanks for the pains she is taking to run the Thunavy Sunday School.

As regards our financial position, we are slightly better off due to increased membership. One of our rooms (the Lysle Memorial) is rented to the Treasurer of the Diocesan Council. We have decided to allow the cash realised from the Eluvativu School to remain invested.

It is with a profound sense of satisfaction that we note the keener interest shown by the Christians and the non-Christians in the work of the 'Y'. The Senior students conduct Chapel on Friday mornings and all 'Y' meetings are presided over by students, both Christians and non-Christians.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to Mr. P. T. John, our ex-President, and Mr. E. J. J. Niles for the lively interest they took in the activities of the Y. M. C. A. My thanks are also due to Miss Grace Mather, our College pianist, who has really gone out of her way to come over to our 'Y' meetings and play the piano.

I would like to thank our sister Association, the Y. W. C. A., for their help and co-operation. It is the opinion of the younger enthusiasts that

such an Association in a place like Jaffna College is not only superfluous but meaningless. A union of the two will be greatly desired, for such an action will strengthen and enrich the work of the Christians here in College.

The need for a College Choir had been very keenly felt for a long time. We are extremely fortunate to have the services of Mrs. Holmes and Patton Lockwood who are really showing their eagerness to form a fine Choir. Every Sunday we have hymn practice and it's very encouraging to see many boys and girls turning up for this.

This year has been very eventful. Our President identified himself in every sphere of the activities of the Y. M. C. A. The sincerity of his actions, and the fervour of his duty have been a fountain of inspiration to all of us. I hope that the future Presidents of the 'Y' will look up to the standard set up by our out-going President. I wish to thank also all members of the Executive Committee for their kind co-operation.

In conclusion, I hope that keen enthusiasm will be shown in the various activities of the 'Y' especially in the direction of Evangelism and Social Service. "Come over to Macedonia," is the clarion call to Christendom and it's my sincerest hope that Christian youths will not be found wanting in boldness of spirit and firmness of soul to answer this call of the hour.

J. MOHANDAS N. KANAGASOORIAM,
Hony. Secy.

THE FORUM

The membership of this Association is open to the students of the Pre-Senior Classes. Attendance at ordinary meetings is compulsory and there has been very satisfactory work done.

The officers of the Forum for 1948 are:

<i>Patron:</i>	Mr. A. M. Brodie
<i>President:</i>	M. Rajasingam
<i>Secretary:</i>	K. Sathananthan
<i>Treasurer:</i>	M. Kanagasabai

Some very interesting subjects were debated by the members:

- (a) Death Penalty should be abolished.
- (b) English should be the official language of Ceylon.
- (c) தமிழர் தாய்மொழியை அலட்சியம் செய்வது கற்றல் வேண்டும்.
- (d) தாழ்த்த மக்களுக்கு சமூக உரிமை அளிக்கப்படல் வேண்டும்.

Our Annual Social came off on the 16th of October in the College Hall. Our lady members were responsible for the excellent refreshments supplied. Our thanks are due to them.

Our Chief Guest, Dr. C. Candiah, failed to be present owing to indisposition but we are thankful to him for his message of encouragement and good wishes.

K. SATHANANTHAN,
Hony. Secretary.

THE LYCEUM

Patron: Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam

President: P. Balasubramaniam

Secretary: K. Nithyanantham

Treasurer: R. Rajadurai

English Editor: K. Devasuthantharan

Tamil Editor: K. Mahadeva

Space does not permit a detailed report of the activities of the Lyceum since the period under review is rather a long one. Much has happened since our last report was submitted and many of the members have taken an active part in the proceedings. But viewing the whole period at a glance one might say that the year has been a fairly successful period in the history of the Lyceum.

Our numerical strength is 162 of whom thirty-three are girls. Nine English and eight Tamil meetings were held alternatively. We had weekly meetings on Saturdays where we had debates both in English and Tamil, ably edited English and Tamil papers, well prepared individual speeches and other items. The following are some of the subjects debated:

- (1) The pen is mightier than the sword.
- (2) பெண்களுக்கு ஆபரணம் அவசியம்.
- (3) Science is better than Arts.
- (4) பெண்களுக்கு அரசாங்கத்தில் உத்தியோகம் வகிக்க இடம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.
- (5) Corporal punishment is better than the imposition of fines.

- (6) தமிழ்ச் சங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கத்தோடு ஒத்து உணர்ச்சி வேண்டும்.
- (7) Jaffna should have a University.
- (8) கல்கத்தா துறையில் துறைமுகம் கட்டவேண்டும்.

Our Anniversary Celebrations took place on the 4th of December under the patronage of Mr. K. A. Selliah, our Principal, and Mrs. K. Kanagaratnam distributed the prizes. The programme included a Tamil play and an English play besides musical items, and the two papers, English and Tamil.

K. NITHYANANTHAM,
Hony. Secretary.

JUNIOR HOSTEL UNION

<i>Patron:</i>	Mr. K. A. Selliah
<i>President:</i>	Mas. K. Chandraraj
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Mas. T. S. Mather
<i>Secretary:</i>	Mas. T. K. Mather
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Mas. S. Kumarasamy

We are forty in number and are housed in a part of the Principal's bungalow. We are fortunate in having the Principal as our patron and warden.

We hold our meetings fortnightly on Fridays, every alternate meeting being conducted in Tamil. We conduct the meetings all by ourselves without the assistance of any teacher. Our programme usually includes speeches, songs, recitals and debates. We have some able debaters among us, our President being an example. Some of the subjects we debated on are:—

- I. Co-education should be encouraged.
- II. Death penalty should be abolished.

III. The pen is mightier than the sword.

IV. Ceylon shall federate with India.

V. பெண்களுக்கு உயர்ந்த கல்வி அளவியம்.

VI. நாகாட்டில் தீண்டாமை ஒழிய வேண்டும்.

We have advanced well in the way of social life under the able guidance of our able President. His thorough knowledge of the parliamentary procedure has benefitted us a lot. I would be failing in my duty if I do not thank him for his able leadership.

Finally let me thank the Patron for his assistance,

I wish you all a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

TETTY K. MATHER,
Hony. Secretary.

PHYSICAL DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The year under review has been one of great success in the various branches of Athletics. Our attitude regarding competitions still remains the same and we continue playing friendly home and away matches:

Our Cricket season started well under the Captainship of Mas. Singamapanar and with the co-operation of his fellow players. We found it necessary to carry the season into the second term which we thought would improve the standard of Cricket in Jaffna. Our experience shows that this will be difficult under the existing conditions of competitions in other games. Our team won 50 per cent of the games played, but I am proud to mention that

we have in our team a few star players who are good enough to play in any school representative team. We have recommended a few of these to play in a trial game in Colombo to pick an all Ceylon Schools Team to play the West Indies and hope that at least one will be selected.

The Track and Field Sports season started with all enthusiasm with the hope of once again getting back into the J. S. S. A. competitions, under more agreeable conditions. Though we entered a few at this competition, we had to finally withdraw them owing to some differences which could not be satisfactorily solved. This naturally meant our keeping out of the All Ceylon Public Schools Meet which was a hard blow to a few of our Athletes. Things have now been staightened out and we will in the future have a Meet for those schools that want a competition and another for those schools that want to still carry on with the competitions.

The Annual Field Day (Inter-House Sports Meet) took place on Friday, the 23rd July, under the distinguished patronage of the Rt. Rev. S. Kulandran and Mrs. Kulandran. The arrangements by the House Captains and the House Masters left nothing to be desired. My thanks are due to those that put in all the money and the energy to make this year's Meet a grand success. Special mention must be made of the beautiful decorations in the various Houses and visitors who went round were all in high praise of the arrangements. Special mention must also be made of the spirit with which the championship was fought. The interest was at its highest and the final results were in suspense till the very end. Our congratulations are due to the Hastings House on winning the championship for another year, and to the other competitors who made the Meet a success. The results of the Meet are as follows:

Ranking of Houses

HASTINGS HOUSE	142½	points
HITCHCOCK HOUSE	128	„
ABRAHAM HOUSE	107	„
BROWN HOUSE	93½	„

Individual Championships

<i>Post Senior</i>	Brodie, A. M.
<i>Senior</i>	Yogaratnam, N. J.
<i>Intermediate</i>	Mathew George
<i>Junior</i>	Navaratnarajah, M. I.
<i>Senior Girls</i>	Parimalam, S. Sugirtham, S.
<i>Inter. Girls</i>	Thevamalar, S. Maheswary, M.
<i>Junior Girls</i>	Rachel George
<i>Relay Cup</i>	HASTINGS HOUSE
<i>Tug-of-War Cup</i>	HASTINGS HOUSE

The Football season with Mr. S. T. Jeevaratnam as Coach and Mas. A. M. Brodie as Captain started with a few practice games. As days went by, the team took a definite shape toward the better and at the end of the season we are proud to say that we came out undefeated thus adding another unofficial championship to our record. We played in all six games with the various Colleges and we won five and drew the other. Our congratulations to the Coach and the team.

The internal activities of the school in Athletics went on as usual except for a few additions. For the first time we organised a Net Ball Inter-House

Competition and we found that it created lots of fun and interest. We found quite a number of girls out either playing or cheering their side. This will be an annual event along with others we are planning to organise for the girls. The Brown House won the championship in winning all the matches they played. Our congratulations to them.

Basket Ball under the leadership of Dr. Holmes has once again been given a start and we organised an Inter-House Competition which drew out quite a crowd every evening. The Browns again proved themselves superior and won the championship. With a view to making Basket-ball popular in the various schools, we played a few games at Jaffna Central College and St. John's College. We are happy to note that these schools have taken it seriously and are going ahead with the necessary arrangements to build up teams. We also played a couple of games with the Malayalees Team in Jaffna.

R. J. T.

THE ROUND TABLE

One feels embarrassed to associate oneself with a report of the kind that this has turned out to be, for uniqueness seems to dog every phase of it.

In the very first meeting that we had, our lecturer—Mr. E. W. Arianayagam of Wardha—who spoke on "The Present Indian Situation" spoke in Tamil, in obedience to the instructions of his revered master—Mahatma Gandhi. That was unique! In another meeting we had an ex-Communist, young C. C. S.—Mr. Basil Mendis—speaking on Christianity (which he had embraced) and Communism. This too was unique! In a third meeting we had the first local man sent out to the United States.

of America for higher studies—Mr. K. S. C. Thurai-ratnam—talk to us of men and matters in “The States” from first-hand knowledge. Then came Mr. S. U. Somasegaram, the Education Officer of the Northern Division, appealing for an experiment in “Education without Tears” in which examinations are exorcised as so many demons preventing the progress of education. His subject was “Experience vs. Examinations” and it did our hearts good to hear of examinations being abolished! If an Inspector of Schools speaking in all seriousness of abolishing examinations is not a unique experience, tell me another!

We had the special privilege of entertaining to tea, with oriental music and dancing (by a few members of the Music Academy and of the Primary Department), the Hon. Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar, the Minister of Education of Madras, and his party.

There has been quite a record crop of marriages too this year. The once Misses Ruby David and Easvarakadacham Jeevaratnam and Mr. K. A. Sagara have each struck a match! Our wishes are that they will keep on burning brilliantly for ever so long! Now Miss Punithavathy Kandiahpillai has gone and got engaged to be married. We wish her also all the best in life.

We are also pleased to mention that quite a good number of new members were enrolled this year. Mrs. A. N. Winslow became a member at the beginning of the year. Others who joined the staff during the year and who enrolled themselves as members of the Round-Table are: Messrs. M. D. Balasubramaniam, S. J. D. Isaac, S. P. Appasamy, K. A. Sagara and G. Jeyasingam.

Then we come to the sad events of bidding farewell to another record group. Mr. E. C. A.

Navaratnarajah left us at the end of the 2nd Term and we bade him farewell at a dinner. He reminds us from his high position as Principal, St. John's, Nugegoda, that it is not possible to forget Jaffna College. We are going to say farewell to Messrs. M. I. Thomas, C. S. Ponnuthurai, Miss Leela Ponnampalam—the one and only Miss in the Secondary Department—and to Mrs. Rasiah and Miss P. Kandiahpillai. This is going to be on a mass scale. Mr. Meadows and Mr. Daniel left us quite suddenly and gave us no chance to say, "Good-bye" to them then. We hope to have them too with the rest at the end of the term.

I would like to close with my thanks to the President, the Executive Committee and the members for their co-operation and helpful criticism.

A. R. ABRAHAM,
Hony. Secretary.

OUR RESULTS**London Matriculation—January, 1948.**

1. Balachandran P.
2. Gulasingham E. K. (Miss)
3. Gugathason S.
4. Kadirgamar A.
5. Kanapathippillai J. (Miss)
6. Mahendranathan T.
7. Niles P. I. (Miss) completed
8. Kumarasamy S. completed
9. Navaratnam V.
10. Nadarajah K.
11. Paramsothy S. V. completed
12. Rajabalan R.
13. Sangaralingam T.
14. Swaminathan A.
15. Selvarajah Luther 1st division
16. Shanmugam M.
17. Thirunavakarasu P. A. (Miss) completed
18. Theivendrasingham K.
19. Thuraisingham S.
20. Wadsworth D. T.
21. Veluppillai S.
22. Kumarasamy K.

London Matriculation—June 1948.

1. Ampalavanar S.
2. Balasubramaniam R.
3. Gunaratnam M. (Miss)
4. Jesudason R. M. (Miss)
5. Kathiravelu N. (Miss)
6. Ramachandran T.
7. Sinnathamby A. (Miss)
8. Jebanayagam S. L.
9. Vethaparanam T.
10. Pooranasatkunam D. R.
11. Ganeshe C.
12. Venayagamoorthy C.
13. Tharmarajah P.

University Entrance Examination—Dec. 1947.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------|
| 1. Kulanayagam S. (Miss) | Arts |
| 2. Rajakopal A. | " |
| 3. Sanders D. S. | " |

4. Selvaratnam S.	"
5. Yotheswaran K.	Science
6. Somasekarampillai K.	"
7. Nadarajah S.	"
8. Navaratnam V.	"
9. Pathmanandavel S.	"
10. Vamadheva M.	"

H. S. C.—1947.

1. Rajakopal A.	Arts.
2. Selvaratnam S.	"
3. Navaratnam V.	1st Division, distinction in Pure Maths.
4. Pathmanandavel S.	Distinction in Pure Maths.
5. Yotheswaran K.	

Inter Science—1948.

1. Miss Chandraranee Kanapathippillai
2. Miss Susan Thomas
3. Pooranalingam N. (Completed)
4. Duraisamy A. (Referred in Chemistry)

Inter Arts—1948

1. V. Esuvarapatham
2. Miss Maheswary Kanagaratnam
3. Miss Kanagambikai Manickavasagar
4. Miss Grace K. Mather
5. S. Ponniah (completed)

B. A. (Lond.)

N. R. Balasinghan 2nd Division

S. S. C. November — December 1947.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Balachandran P. | Distinctions in Adv. Tamil and Mathematics, Referred for Exemption. |
| 2. Brodie A. M. | Distinction in Christianity |
| 3. Gugathason S. | |
| 4. Kanagaratnam V. | Obtained exemption |
| 5. Kumarasamy S. | Referred for exemption |
| 6. Mahesaratnam A. | Referred for exemption |
| 7. Navaratnam K. | Distinction in Biology |
| 8. Punniamoorthy S. | |
| 9. Poopalasingham R. | Referred for exemption |
| 10. Pooranasatkunam D. R. | |

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 11. Ramachandran T. | Distinction in Hygiene |
| 12. Selliah R. M. | Distinction in Biology and Christianity
Referred for exemption |
| 13. Rajabalan R. | Referred for exemption |
| 14. Rajaratnam M. A. | First Division; Distinctions in Mathematics, Biology and Christianity; obtained exemption. |
| 15. Shanmugam M. | |
| 16. Sanders S. C. | Obtained exemption |
| 17. Sri Sadadcharam A. | |
| 18. Selvadurai R. G. | Distinction in Adv. Tamil |
| 19. Sivaretnam P. | |
| 20. Sanmuganathan S. | Distinction in History and Civics. |
| 21. Selvarajah M. R. | |
| 22. Singamiappanar S. | Referred for exemption |
| 23. Thillaiampalam A. | |
| 24. Thirunavakarasu K. | Obtained exemption |
| 25. Thuraisingham S. | Distinction in Christianity, obtained exemption |
| 26. Vythianathar K. | Referred for exemption |
| 27. Wadsworth D. T. | Distinction in Christianity |
| 28. Elias S. (Miss) | Distinction in Christianity |
| 29. Gulasingham E. K. (Miss) | Distinction in English |
| 30. Jesudason R. M. (Miss) | Distinctions in Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and Christianity, 1st division; obtained exemption. |
| 31. Jesudason K. M. (Miss) | |
| 32. Thurai Rajasingham C. I. (Miss) | Distinction in Mathematics, referred for exemption. |

S. S. C. July—1948.

1. Arunasalam V.
2. Balasubramaniam N.
3. Manickavasagar V.
4. Nadarajah K.
5. Pararajasekaram J.
6. Rajendram V. S.
7. Sithamparapillai S.
8. Sivalingam S.
9. Sivam Ganesanatham S.
10. Sivanathan P.
11. Sivasubramaniam V.
12. Sri Balasubramaniam R.
13. Subramaniam A.
14. Tharmalingam K.

FAREWELL TO MR. NAVARATNARAJAH

A farewell was accorded to Mr. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah by the staff and students of the College on the 20th inst. This function was presided over by Miss S. Selvadurai. After Mr. and Mrs. Navaratnarajah had been garlanded, a farewell song was sung by Miss M. Visuvalingam, then an address was read and presented by *K. Sathiavelan. This was followed by speeches made by Mr. K. Chelvarajan, Miss M. Kanagaratnam and the Principal, Mr. K. A. Selliah. Mr. Navaratnarajah joined the Jaffna College staff in January, 1947 and left us after such a short stay to take up the post of Principal of St. John's College, Nugegoda.

All the speakers complimented the sterling character of Mr. Navaratnarajah, not only in the unassuming simplicity of his nature but also in his understanding sympathy with every individual student. A high tribute was specially paid to him for his charming personality and dignity and poise. Although he is known to be a man of intellectual genius, yet in him we find a characteristic child-like humility which undoubtedly is a rare combination.

Mr. Navaratnarajah undertook all the responsibilities of a teacher and performed them with spirited enthusiasm and integrity. A deep sense of gratitude was expressed to him for his sincerity and perseverance. Jaffna College has found in him a valuable teacher, an understanding friend and a perfect gentleman. Mr. Navaratnarajah could not have achieved all these merits had it not been for the co-operation and support of Mrs. Navaratnarajah. Her ability as a talented pianist was specially referred to by the speakers.

Mr. Navaratnarajah thanked the staff and students for the kind feelings they had expressed.

He assured that although he was leaving Jaffna College yet he had found a soft corner for it in his heart. He felt that he was leaving a place which was like a home to him for the last 20 months. He would always cherish the memory of all his colleagues and students. Finally the president wished Mr. and Mrs. Navaratnarajah a happy and successful future.

S. S.

ALUMNI DAY CELEBRATIONS, JAFFNA, SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1948.

The annual Alumni Day celebrations of the Jaffna College Alumni Association came off on Saturday, the 21th July. They commenced with a Thanksgiving Service at the Vaddukoddai Church led by the President of the College, the Rev. S. K. Bunker, who also preached the sermon.

The Service was followed by the Finals of the Oratorical Contests both English and Tamil, presided over by the Rev. G. D. Thomas. The following were the prize winners:

<i>English:</i>	Seniors	J. M. Kanagasooriam
	Intermediates	K. Sathiavelan
	Juniors	M. I. Navaratnarajah
	Post Primary	M. Rajakulathilagan
	Primary	Miss A. Sakuntala
<i>Tamil:</i>	Seniors	Miss R. Visuvalingam
	Intermediates	Miss R. Kanapathipillai
	Juniors	K. Mahadeva
	Post Primary	P. Sivasubramaniam
	Primary	Ananthakrishnan

At the end of this function, the Old Boys sat for Lunch.

Alumni Meeting

The annual sessions of the Alumni Association were held in the afternoon, after Lunch, presided over by the President of the Association, Mr. W. P. A. Cooke. The Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts were presented by Mr. A. M. Brodie and Mr. B. K. Somasundram respectively. The Principal, Mr. K. A. Selliah, then gave a few facts concerning the institution--its numbers, staff curriculum, and the progress which has been made with the degree classes.

The election of the office - bearers for the new year resulted thus:

<i>President:</i>	Mr. W. P. A. Cooke.
<i>Vice-Presidents:</i>	The Bishop, the Rt. Rev. S. Kulandran; Dr. A. B. C. Dorai; Messrs. S. H. Parinbanayagam, and S. R. Kanaganayagam.
<i>Secretary:</i>	Mr. E. J. Jeyarajah.
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Mr. B. K. Somasundram.

A resolution was passed congratulating Mr. S. Kulasingham of the Attorney General's Department, Kuala Lumpur, on his being awarded the M. B. E. by the Imperial Government as a King's Birthday Honour.

A very interesting entertainment followed the President's Tea, when the finals of the Singing and Dancing Contests were worked off. Mr. K. Kanagaratnam, M. P., presided and Mrs. Kanagaratnam gave away the prizes.

The following were the prize winners:

- Violin—K. Kamalambikai
- Vocal—Senior—K. Kamalambikai
- Vocal—Inter—S. Anandarajah

Vocal—Junior—Sivalingam N.

Vocal—Preparatory—Jeyaluxumi R.

Dance—Senior—Indreswari A.

Dance—Junior—Ratneswari K.

Annual Dinner

Over 135 sat for the Annual Dinner held in the Ottley Hall, also presided over by Mr. W. P. A. Cooke. After the loyal toasts, the toast of the College was proposed by the Chief Guest, Mr. R. R. Crossette Thambyah, Commissioner of Assizes, Colombo.

Mr. Crossette Thambyah, in the course of his speech, paid a very touching tribute to the College. He said that, in this age when one usually found gratitude forgotten, at least one family would always remain grateful to Jaffna College, for it owed every thing it was to the College. Members of his family were associated with several educational institutions, but the talk at home was ever about Jaffna College. There must certainly be many other families which, like his own, owed very much to this institution. Jaffna College had been to him all his life a dream College, and he did not want to spoil his dream by a visit to it. But when he came there on this his very first visit, his experience with the College was the same as his experience with the poet Tagore. He, then, paid a tribute to some of the Old Boys of the College, particularly to Mr. K. Kanagaratnam - a man of sincerity and truth. He was amazed that Mr. Kanagaratnam had not been given his due reward. That was the fate which came to those who put their faith in princes, he said. Mr. Thambyah concluded his speech with these lines which he had adapted from the tribute the poet Robert Bridges paid to Eton College on its Jubilee:

Christ and his Mother, heavenly maid,
 Jesus, in whose fair name was laid,
 Jaffna College, bless great youth

With Truth and Purity; mother of Truth,
 Here is eternal peace: for you
 The very stars of heaven are new;
 For you shall Shakespeare's scene unroll
 And Milton shall steal great ravished soul.

Then to the world let shine great light
 Children in play be lions in fight,
 By firm wisdom save great land
 From giddy head and grasping hand;
 Send here great children to the court of grace,
 Bearing great name to fill great place.
 Ye in their time shall live again,
 Ye happy sons of Bunker's reign.

The Rev. S. K. Bunker responding to this toast said that distinction of mind and range of culture, which were the major prides of the Jaffna man, marked Mr. Crossette Thambyah. Mr. Bunker thanked Mr. Crossette Thambyah for the thoughtful and warm compliment he had paid to Jaffna College. He went on to speak of how in the College a start was being made with a nucleus of a cultural institution by the inauguration of the degree classes. He hoped that the College would maintain its high standards of the past and continue to enrich the culture and thinking of Jaffna life.

The toast of Ceylon was proposed by Dr. W. R. Holmes of the staff of the College and responded to by the Hon. Mr. A. Ratnayake, the Minister of Food and Co-operative Undertakings. *Mr. Ratnayake* paid an eloquent tribute to the American missionaries for the great work they had done in Jaffna College. Speaking of missionaries he said, "I had a great prejudice against missionaries, but when I gained first hand experience of their work in the institutions they had built and the selfless, sacrificing service they had rendered, then I realised what their contribution meant to Ceylon." On behalf of the Government of the country he represented, he hoped that missionaries would continue their work in the country, though in the new set

up, and produce the same sort of distinguished men they had produced in the past, and enrich the life of the people. He was very anxious that they should do that. There were many problems facing independent Ceylon today and in solving them Ceylon needed the good-will, the support and the sympathy of every one.

Miss Leela Ponnambalam of the College staff proposed the toast of the Sister Colleges and Mr. S. Shivapathasundram, Vice-Principal of Paremeswara College, Jaffna, replied. *Mr. Shivapathasundram* also paid a very moving tribute to the College. He said that he shuddered to think of what Jaffna would have been if Jaffna College had not been founded. Among many reasons why he liked the College, he selected the following: the College was a national institution; the College never adopted a superior, fraternal attitude towards the Jaffna people; the College had the grandest thing in Jaffna, its splendid library. Another thing that impressed him about the College was the combination of freedom with responsibility that was stressed here. He said that looking at Jaffna College one got inspiration to solve all the problems that face us.

The last toast was the toast of the guests, which was proposed by Mr. A. M. Brodie, the Secretary, in an extremely felicitous and witty speech. Mr. G. D. Zoysa, the Commissioner of Co-operative Undertakings, responded to this toast. *Mr. Zoysa* in the course of his speech said that Jaffna College deserved the presence of all the galaxy of distinguished guests present at that dinner. While Jaffna was the salt of Ceylon, Jaffna College was the salt of Jaffna. He hoped that he would not be accused of throwing an apple of discord among educational institutions in Jaffna when he said that Jaffna College was the foremost College in the North and that her men were always different from other men.

THE JAFFNA COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

(Colombo Branch)

The Thirty-fourth Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna College Alumni Association (Colombo Branch) was held on Saturday, 25th September, 1948, at 5-30 p. m. in the "Blue Room" of the Savoy Theatre, Wellawatte. The Revd. S. K. Bunker, President of the College, occupied the chair. About 75 members were present at the meeting.

The meeting commenced with the reading of the notice convening the Annual Meeting after which the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed. The Annual Report was presented by Mr. V. K. Kandasamy on behalf of the Executive Committee and was duly accepted.

The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:-

President: Rev. Sydney K. Bunker (Ex-officio)

Vice-Presidents: Mr. K. Kanagaratnam, M. P.
 Dr. S. L. Navaratnam
 Dr. S. W. C. Ratnesar
 Dr. A. W. Rasiah
 Mr. P. Sri Skanda Rajah
 Mr. S. Rajanayagam, O. B. E.
 Mr. W. H. T. Bartleet
 Mr. W. T. I. Alagaratnam

Hony. Secretary: Mr. E. A. Devasagayam

„ *Asst. Secy.* Mr. K. Jeyaratnam

„ *Treasurer:* Mr. K. Thevathasan

„ *Asst. „* : Mr. T. Wijayasingham

„ *Auditors:* Mr. A. Ponniah

Mr. K. Nagalingam

The following members were elected to the Executive Committee :-

1. Dr. T. Visuvalingam
2. Mr. E. T. Gnanamuthu
3. Mr. P. G. Jeyaratnam
4. Mr. G. E. Ratnasingam
5. Mr. K. Sittampalam
6. Rev. K. S. Jeyasingam
7. Mr. K. Nagalingam
8. Mr. J. M. Rajaratnam
9. Mr. H. N. Ponnambalam
10. Mr. P. E. Rajaratnam
11. Mr. A. M. Thevathasan

The meeting resolved to express the appreciation of the splendid work done by Mr. M. Ramalingam as Hony. Secretary of the Association and to have the same conveyed to him.

The President then addressed the gathering on the activities of the College and invited questions from the members which were answered by him.

Following the meeting was the Annual Dinner which was also held at the Savoy Theatre when covers were laid for over 135. Dr. L. A. Rajapakse, K. C., Minister for Justice, was the Chief Guest. In proposing the toast of the College, he paid a glowing tribute to the American Missionaries in Ceylon and said that the spirit of equality and independence of spirit characterised the products of Jaffna College. Not only the College but the whole Island had benefited as a result of the activities of these Missionaries. The other speakers, besides the President, included Mr. N. K. Choksy, K. C., Mr. A. M. A. Azeez, Mr. A. M. K. Cumaraswamy and Mr. M. I. Mohamed.

In concluding this report of mine, I should not fail to mention the valuable help rendered by

the Treasurer, Mr. M. A. Velupillai, and the Acting Secretary, Mr. V. K. Kandasamy, in organising the dinner under very unpleasant conditions and at the expense of great personal inconvenience to them.

E. A. DEVASAGAYAM,
Hony. Secretary.

ALUMNI NOTES

Gathered by Alumnous

General

Mr. K. Kannagaratnam, M. P. for Vaddukoddai, has been appointed the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education.

Mr. S. Kulasingham, of the Attorney General's Department, Kuala Lumpur, was awarded the imperial honour of M. B. E. on the last King's Birthday.

Mr. T. Rudea has been elected Deputy Mayor of the Colombo Municipal Council.

Mr. W. T. I. Alagaratnam has been promoted Assistant Director of Irrigation, Colombo.

Mrs. A. W. S. Thevathasan (formerly *Miss Guana Cooke*) has been made a Justice of Peace, Singapore. She is among the first ladies to be ever made Justices of Peace in Malaya.

The Rev. J. J. Katnarajah was ordained a Deacon of the Church of South India, Jaffna Diocese, last January.

Mr. T. Thalayasingham, Inspector of Police, C. I. D., Colombo, has returned to the Island after a course of training at the Scotland Yard, England.

Mr. D. K. Rajakariar, of the Anglo-Chinese School, Klang, attended the General Conference of the Methodist Church at Boston, U. S. A., as the lay delegate from the Malayan Church.

The Rev. J. V. Ayudurai has been appointed the District Superintendent of the Central Tamil District, Malaya.

Mr. W. W. Mathurajah is now Police Magistrate, Point Pedro.

Mr. J. Nivaratnam Appadurai, of the Co-operative Department, has been appointed Labour Inspector.

Mr. E. J. Jeyarajah has been appointed the Superintendent of Minor Roads, Jaffna.

Mr. K. H. Jeyaratnam, Chief Clerk of the Co-operative Department, Jaffna, has been transferred to the Head Office, Colombo.



S. KULASINGHAM, ESQ., M. B. E.
(A Distinguished Old Boy,
Kuala Lumpur.)

Mr. E. J. Jeeveratnam Niles, of the staff of Jaffna College, has returned after a course of studies for two years at the United Theological College, Bangalore.

Mr. K. C. Thuraiatnam, of the staff of Jaffna College, has also returned after a year of post graduate work at Oberlin College, U. S. A.

Mr. Lyman S. Kulathungam has been elected the President of the Northern Province Teachers' Association.

Mr. A. J. R. Sanders, of the Food Control Department, has now joined the National Indian Insurance Company as an Inspector.

Dr. J. S. Seevaratanam, who passed out from the Medical College at the last Final Examinations, is now G. M. O. Kilinochchi.

Mr. A. Nadanajah has been promoted Irrigation Engineer, Kilinochchi.

Dr. S. W. C. Ratnasar and *Messrs. S. J. V. Chelvanayakam*, *S. H. Parinbanayagam* and *R. C. S. Cooke* have been elected members of the Board of Directors of Jaffna College.

Mr. R. C. S. Cooke is now the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Jaffna.

Dr. E. T. Saravanamuttu is now attached to the Civil Hospital, Jaffna.

Mr. Victor S. Williams, who is now studying at the London School of Economics, has won the Open Singles Championship of the London University in Tennis.

Mr. K. Kularatnam, M. A., Lecturer, Geography, in the Ceylon University, has gone to the University of Paris for post graduate study.

Miss Monica Elias has been appointed Programme Assistant of the Tamil Branch in the Broadcasting Station, Colombo.

Rao Badhur Lt. Col. S. Paul has been appointed Principal of the College of Engineering, Guindy, Madras.

Mr. S. S. Selladurai, Vice Principal, American College, Uduppiddy, has joined the Selly Oak College, Birmingham, for a course of post-graduate study.

Mr. I. P. Thuraiatnam, Principal of Union College, Telloppalai, has joined the Columbia University, U. S. A., for a course of studies in Education. He is also following certain courses at the Union Seminary, New York.

Mr. J. E. Ponnambalam, Proctor, has been appointed Assistant Registrar of Companies, Colombo.

The Rev. A. R. E. Rajaratnam is now attached to Matale.

Dr. George Ayathurai, who passed out recently from the Ceylon Medical College, is now attached to the General Hospital, Colombo.

Messrs. B. K. Somasundram, of Jaffna College, and *J. V. Thambinayagam*, of Drieberg College, have been selected for post-graduate training at the Government Training College, Colombo.

Mr. T. Chinnappa, Proctor, Gampola, has been re-elected a Member of the Gampola Urban Council.

Examinations

Our heartiest congratulations to the following on their success in their respective examinations:

Ceylon University

Mr. J. E. Janyayagam Section B Chemistry First Class.

Mr. K. Sannagalingam Economics, Second Class

Messrs. Nadarou and A. R. Ratnarajah B. Sc. General (3rd Class).

Mr. A. Rajasingham B. Sc. Mathematics (3rd Class).

Messrs. Nadarajah and S. M. Kamaldeen E. A. General (3rd Class).

Mr. O. Gunasingham B. A. English (3rd Class).

Mr. P. V. Nallanayagam B. A. Economics (3rd Class).

London University

B. A.

Miss S. Marnickavassagar and Mr. D. P. Tampoe (2nd Class).

Messrs. A. Ramasamy, N. Perayeravar, M. Sivasithamparanathan and J. P. Thambiratnam (3rd Class)

Diploma in Education (Ceylon)

Mr. M. Rajasundaram Part 1.

Drs. J. S. Seevaratnam and *George Ayuthurai* Medical. Final Ceylon.

Miss R. Nagalingam and *Mr. R. Nagalingam* Proctors' Final

Mr. M. Kantharatnam First Examination, Barrister at Law, England.

Mr. K. Sundara Nadarajah - B. Sc. Engineering (Lond.) (2nd Class).

Mr. S. Pathmanandavel won the Paddy Bank Scholarship at the Ceylon University on the results of the University Entrance Examination.

Messrs. *R. Ratnasingham*, *S. Balaraman*, *C. Shanmuganathan*, all secured a Second Class Honours at the Ceylon Technical College Diploma Examination. The first is now at Technical College as an Instructor. The second is in the Electrical Department and the last is in the Railway Department.

Messrs. *K. Sitsupesan* and *G. Jacob* have obtained the Diploma of the Ceylon Technical College and are now both working in the Public Works Department.

Messrs. *J. S. Selvaratnam*, *S. Subramaniam* and *C. John* have obtained the Diploma of the Peradeniya Agricultural School.

The first is now Assistant Farm Manager, Paddy Station, Paranthan; the second is attached to the Cattle Farm, Kilinochchi; and the third is Rural Re-construction Supervisor, Mannar.

Mr. G. Joseph, the Inter-Engineering of London.

Marriages

Our best wishes for a blessed marriage to the following newly married couples;

- Mr. C. Muthucumarasamy & Miss S. Murugesu
 Mr. K. V. Balasingham & Miss P. Kanagaratnam
 Mr. N. Jeyaratnam & Miss P. Thillainathar
 Mr. S. Navaratnarajah & Miss R. Rasiyah
 Mr. S. Kanagaratnam & Miss J. Suppiah
 Miss S. Thambipillai (Old Girl) & Mr. N. Ponnambalam
 Mr. K. Muthucumarasamy (Old Boy) & Miss S. Ratnasabapathy
 (Old Girl)
 Mr. T. K. Welch (Old Boy) & Miss N. Devasagayam (Old Girl)
- Mr. G. N. Rajasingham & Miss E. N. Thambiah
 Mr. J. S. Seevaratnam & Miss E. P. Sanders
 Mr. E. T. Gnanamuttu & Miss S. A. Thambiah
 Mr. R. W. Emerson & Miss S. S. Saravanamuttu
 Mr. J. N. Appadurai & Miss R. C. Hensman
 Miss R. Alexander (Old Girl) & Mr. E. Muthuvelu
 Dr. V. Kanagaratnam & Miss M. Rasaratnam
 Miss S. Amarasingham (Old Girl) & Mr. S. Somasundaram
 Miss J. E. Ratnam (Old Girl) & Mr. A. R. Rasiyah
 Miss R. M. David (Old Girl) & Mr. T. Ramanathan
 Miss V. P. Kanupathipillai (Old Girl) & Mr. V. Gunasingham.

Marriage

Our congratulations also to the following engaged couples:

- Mr. J. T. Chelliah (Old Boy) and Miss S. Walton (Old Girl).
 Mr. S. K. Rajasingham and Miss K. Sivapragasam.
 Mr. J. M. Sanders and Miss C. S. Ayathurai.
 Mr. D. C. Nathaniel and Miss P. Kandiahpillai (Old Girl)
 Mr. Balasingam Welch and Miss E. P. Canagasingham.

R. I. P.

Mr. J. T. Fitch of the staff of Royal College, Colombo, died in January.

Mr. Hudson Thambirajah, Proctor, S. C., Jaffna, died in February.

Mr. E. D. Hensman, retired Headmaster, Kankasanturai A. M. School, died in April.

Mr. A. C. Thambirajah, retired Post-Master, died in November.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Let us now go even unto Bethlehem.

For our Christmas message this year we once again turn to the old, but ever new, Gospel records. On the announcement by the angels of the news of the birth of Jesus, the lowly shepherds watching by night were so filled with assurance, joy and hope that nothing, time nor distance, could prevent them from undertaking instantaneously their journey, tedious and risky, but altogether worth their while, to the cradle. Their immediate reaction was: "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem." And was it very far to Bethlehem? Certainly not for them. In their simple, believing souls there was no room for any questioning or doubt. They were not worried about the time—cold, dark, and late as it was—in which they had to undertake their strange journey. And what did they hope to see at the end of it? A mere bundle of a baby wrapped up in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. It was certainly far for them to go to Bethlehem. But they did not find it far.

It was even farther for the wise men. But what happened? When they beheld the Star, straightaway they abandoned their studies, left their homes and loved ones and started on their long, uncertain trek. Undaunted by the length of the time it would take, by the perils and hazards it would involve, they entered into their quest with zest and hope.

And now what of us? Is it really very far for us to go to Bethlehem? Physically speaking, in these days of modern travelling conveniences, distance to Bethlehem does not matter. But still we wonder if it is worth a visit at this time when "the Holy Land is all unholy with ambush, arson and death." Even if we do get there, our fear is

that this experience of Poet Wordsworth about the river Yarrow may be ours too: "We have a vision of our own; Ah! why should we undo it?" And then we can also go to Bethlehem and not see the Infant Christ. "If the joy of God and the wonder of Bethlehem were only for those who could get to the place, then the mercies of God would have been denied to the mass of people in all ages." The artists and the painters of old never bothered themselves with such questions as: "What did Bethlehem look like? How did its people then dress?" On the other hand, in their pictures, they gave Bethlehem their own setting, their own people, and their own dress. To them it was not necessary to go East to find Bethlehem. They were contented with saying:

"Enter here, O Christ most holy;
 Make a Christmas in my heart;
 Make a heaven of my manger:
 It is heaven where Thou art."

The only requisite necessary for our trip to Bethlehem is faith—faith to gaze on the babe in the manger and recognise in it the Saviour of the World and the Almighty God. No believing, penitent, adoring soul is ever out of place at Bethlehem.

God's Christmas gift is ours, so completely and so assuredly ours. Though it is so well known, it comes to us again and again so fresh and wonderful. Alice Meynell has a lovely, little poem on Christmas, in which she compares the Christmas gift with the other oft-repeated things which still are always new: the familiar green of the spring, the same every year and yet each year bursting with a fresh surprise; the expected feet we know so well and yet the sound of whose return brings still a sudden sweetness to our heart. That is our experience with Christ's coming. We know His story so well, we have Him by heart like a fami-

liar poem, or a beloved melody. And yet a poem which at each new reading has a fresh meaning to disclose, a melody which every time we hear it sung sounds as though we had not heard it before.

"Given, not lent,
And not withdrawn once sent,
This Infant of mankind, this One,
Is still the little welcome Son

New every year,
New born and newly dear,
He comes with tidings and a song,
The ages long, the ages long."

And so, is it very far to Bethlehem? It is never far to Bethlehem.

Honours for Eliot

The award of the Nobel Prize for Literature this year to Mr. T. S. Eliot comes as no surprise to the literary-minded. On the contrary, it is rather a surprise to many that the award has not been made before. As one of the circle of poets round Ezra Pound in the first decade of this century, Eliot started writing Imagist poetry about *forty* years ago. An American, he had what might be termed a traditional education at Harvard where he sat at the feet of philosophers of the standing of Irving Babbitt and George Santayana. His studies in Philosophy, Languages and Literature were continued at Oxford and the Sorbonne, Paris. It was at this time that he was of the select coterie of T. E. Hulme, Ezra Pound, and Amy Lowell. Connected as he was with a family that had engaged in business for generations, he was first employed in Lloyd's Bank, and later became a co-director of Faber and Faber. His experience as Editor of the *Egoist* 1917-19, and the *Criterion* 1923 gave him the critical bias he was so brilliantly to develop. But it was the publication of *Prufrock* and other observations in 1917 that brought him before the public eye. The twenties of

this century saw his meteoric rise to fame. He did not publish much: Poems (1920), The Waste Land (1922), The Hollow Men (1925), Ash Wednesday (1930), all put together still constitute a very slim volume. But he expressed so admirably the rootlessness and aimlessness of life after the blight of the last war, with an individuality and power as well as technical skill that marked him out from the poets of the time. The years have seen him bend toward a greater appreciation of the Christian groundwork of Western civilisation, and the need for solid roots into some such soil. This is the theme of The Rock, (1934). The Murder in the Cathedral (1935) tells the story of Thomas a Becket showing that true martyrdom is the sacrifice of one's will, not one's life, to the will of God. Eliot has himself reached this position apparently after such suffering. The final group of his poems is embodied in 'Four Quartets' which consist of East Coker (1940), Burnt Norton (1941), The Dry Salvages (1941), and Little Gidding (1942). This series seems to owe a great deal to Christian and Oriental mysticism, for the general mood is impersonal; Man is in contact with the past, not only throughout the writings of the past, but also because his spirit exists in the eternal Now, in which past, present and future are blended; and we must learn to withdraw from self in order to listen to the still sad music of humanity. Eliot's fame today rests as much on his work as a critic, as on his poetic output. In that he invites comparison with Matthew Arnold. Beginning with his Essay on Tradition and the Individual Talent, he has built up a volume of criticism culled from his contributions to 'The Athenaeum', 'the Times Literary Supplement' and the other publications he has been connected with, which has had a powerful influence on the present age. Many of his best Essays discuss old literature, but his analysis of the qualities of literature is so brief and lucid that he seems to be breaking new ground, though actually he only states again what

was accepted in the last century. It is true however that Eliot was at least partly responsible for the interest in the Metaphysical Poets who had been neglected for almost three centuries, and his criticism has quietly effected a revolution in the revaluation of poetry especially with a greater emphasis than ever upon technique, and tradition. If then a greater than Arnold is here, as many proclaim, for without a doubt Eliot has been the god in a godless generation, it is strange that this honour should be bestowed upon him in his sixtieth year.

Farewell

At the end of the Second Term of this year we had to bid an altogether unwilling farewell to Mr. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah. He had been with us for only a short while, twenty months to be accurate. But during this short period, we were able to find that all reports, which had reached us about him, were not a bit exaggerated. At St. John's College, Jaffna, from where he came to us, he had enjoyed a reputation for great scholarship, remarkable ability in teaching, choice tastes, and upright character. This reputation was well deserved; and finding it so, we instantaneously not merely appreciated his worth and respected his integrity, but also took him warmly to our heart. The round of farewells that Mr. Navaratnarajah had from the students are evidence of the fascinating grip he had on them. Occasions have certainly been rare in the College, when a teacher's wrench after only a brief sojourn here was so poignantly felt or so genuinely and universally expressed. All the groups he worked with, from the B. A. students down to the Second Formers, testified to the debt they owed him. It is not given to every teacher to be able to reach Degree and Form students with equal facility and felicity. Scholarship and learning sat so easily upon him and his students were able to imbibe from him his

deep love for literature and an unquenchable thirst for the verities of life.

His capacity for friendship was great. Unassuming and modest, shy and reserved as he was, one could have been forgiven if one, on first acquaintance, had marked him off as belonging to one of an exclusive, and even of a proud, nature. But a closer connection with him revealed the depth and warmth of his affections. We are undoubtedly the richer through our intimacy with him. We have no doubt but that the College of St. John, Nugegoda, whose destinies are now in his hands, will derive an abundant freshness and richness of life through his contact and direction. We wish him many, many years of useful service there.

Welcome

It is with special pleasure that we welcome back into our midst our good friends, Messrs. E. J. Jeevaratnam Niles and K. C. Thurairatnam. Mr. Niles was away for two years at the United Theological College, Bangalore, and has returned to us equipped and trained to fill the position of the chaplain of the College for which his character has always fitted him. Mr. Thurairatnam spent one year at Oberlin, following a post graduate course of studies, specialising in modern English Literature. While there, he not only profitted very much by his studies and contacts, but also made a great impression on all those who knew him. Jaffna College expects much from him and we know it will not be disappointed.

Dr. H. C. York

We regret to announce the death that took place in America last August of Dr. Harry C. York, a former professor of the College. Mr. York came to the College in August, 1908, within a year of the

Rev. Giles G. G. Brown's assuming the principalship. For a period of five years the powerful combination of Rev. Brown and Dr. York was of great strength and invaluable service to the institution at a time when much reorganisation was needed. Dr. York's academical qualifications were high—M. A., Ph. D. of the Yale University. His thorough scholarship and large capacity for work helped him to throw himself, heart and soul, into the various activities of the College and leave his impress on every one of them. In the class room he was equally facile and capable in dealing with English, Latin and Theology, as with Science. He was responsible for reorganising the entire curriculum and for modernising the methods of teaching. He was also responsible for the starting of a Teachers' Training Institute, the membership of which was open not merely to teachers of the College but also to teachers in all the American Mission schools in Jaffna. The Institute, which was the forerunner of the present Round Table, seems to have been a great power in inculcating educational ideas and equipping teachers with teaching methods. A large number of educational books was also added to the College Library, to which all the members of the Institute had access. His contribution to the Y. M. C. A. and to the Sports Department was incalculable. It was he that started the Y. M. C. A. Building Fund, and collected a good part of it. His interest in sports activities made the Football Team of 1908 "the best team the school had ever had" up to that time. A picture of that Team, appearing in the last issue of the Miscellany of 1908, is of some interest to the modern reader, including as it does, among others, the late Messrs. Hudson Thambirajah and E. V. Rasiah and Messrs. W. P. A. Cooke, T. C. Rajaratnam and Dr. A. E. Duraisamy. At the departure of Dr. York to America in 1913, Mr. Brown, having expressed the deep debt of gratitude the College owed to the "faithful and disinterested service" of

Mr. York, referred to Mr. and Mrs. York in these words: "It has been a difficult and trying period in the history of the College and the problems which have pressed upon us have been almost overwhelming. In it all, their cheerful optimism and counsel have been a large factor in bringing us out of the darkness into light". To Mrs. York, who was herself a teacher of French at the College and who enriched the general life of the students here in no small way, we tender our condolence on the loss of her husband. Jaffna College will ever be grateful to them for their services.

Our New Parliamentary Secretary for Education

The College and its Alumni rejoiced very much indeed last year at the election of Mr. K. Kanagaratnam as a Member of the first Parliament of Free Ceylon. Today we convey to him our own congratulations and those of the whole institution and its Old Boys and Old Girls on his elevation as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education. We rejoice over this elevation not because this appointment is a great honour to Mr. Kanagaratnam (No, he is worthy of a higher post in the Cabinet ranks), but because it gives him an opportunity for greater service in the national cause, which is so dear to his heart. His great capacity for work, his thoroughness, his keen sense of justice, his great concern for the national regeneration of the peoples of Ceylon through a resuscitation of their Arts, Languages and Cultures, must all be of material help in his work. Just now in the educational world of the Island a number of major problems cry for immediate solution, like the evolution of a comprehensive National Scheme of Education, the adapting of the Free Scheme to make it really effective in raising the efficiency of the schools, the strengthening of the teaching profession with men and women of real ability, education training, worth and charac-

ter, the provision of higher education to all those who want it etc. Mr. Kanagaratnam has, therefore, come into this responsible position at a critical time when his talents and ability can be worked the hardest, and his ideals can be translated into action. We have already evidence of the work he is doing. The country can rest assured that he will give this piece of work his very best as he gave the Public Service. Mr. Kanagaratnam will never be satisfied with any thing but the best.

We are Grateful

We wish to express the great debt of gratitude the College owes to *Mr. M. Ramalingam* for the splendid work he did for the Alumni Association, Colombo Branch, for the last fifteen years. This is no *In Memoriam* note, but we are constrained to take this opportunity to express to him our sense of appreciation and gratefulness, because he has with this year given up his Secretaryship of the Association. The record Mr. Ramalingam holds in the annals of the Association is a particularly striking one. The only other record that has equalled Mr. Ramalingam's is that of the late Mr. J. W. Sugirtham Cooke, who was Secretary for a consecutive period of 15 years: 1914-1929. Mr. Ramalingam too has served the Association for a period of 15 years, first two years (1933-1935) as Treasurer and from 1935 as Secretary. Mr. Cooke was responsible for organising the Association during its early years, for the Colombo Branch was inaugurated only in 1913. And if in recent years the Association is obliged to any one individual for its life and activities, it is to its Secretary, who toiled for it as one who had a calling for such work. His unbounded enthusiasm, his indefatigable energy, and his passion for this work can hardly be rivalled. Among the major functions he organised and worked off with distinct success were the Silver Jubilee of

the Rev. John Bicknell, the Farewell to Mr. J. V. Chelliah, and the Silver Jubilee of the Association itself. The attractive Silver Jubilee Souvenir he prepared and edited in connection with this Jubilee celebrations will always be not only a lasting monument of his contribution to the Association, but also a valuable record of its history. We thank Mr. Ramalingam for all that he has done to revitalise the Association, and it is our hope that his services will be available to it in the future too.

Another person whom we must thank, on behalf of the Staff of the College, is *Mr. J. F. Ponnambalam* for his services as the Staff representative on the Board of Directors of the College. It was only in 1943 that the Board conceded the right of representation to the Staff on it. Though the Staff was not entirely satisfied that its representative could not be from its own ranks, it was fortunate to have as its first representative Mr. J. F. Ponnambalam. For two successive periods he gave of his best to the Staff and to the Board. He was a much valued member of the Board and served as its Secretary for most of this time. His independence of thought and action, his legal experience, his broadness of outlook, and his penetrating mind were of inestimable value in the discharge of his duties. While we do not grudge him his well earned rest, which he now enjoys, of his sabbatical year from the Board, it is our hope that he will soon return to the Board, and continue the good work which lies to his credit already.

We would also take this opportunity to greet Mr. Ponnambalam's successor, our good old friend *Dr. S. W. C. Ratnasar*. Dr. Ratnasar has the added advantage of teaching experience at Jaffna College. The writer of these Notes will always remember with pleasure and gratitude the clear, effective teaching he received from Dr. Ratnasar. He is also

acquainted with educational problems and very intimately with the institution, its problems and needs. Therefore, his responsibility as a member of the Board is indeed great.

We also rejoice over the re-election of *Mr. S. H. Parinbanayagan* as the Old Boys' representative on the Board. It would have been a pity if his educational knowledge and experience, and his leadership had been lost to the Board. *Messrs. S. J. V. Chelvanavakan and R. C. S. Cooke* are also welcome additions to the Board. The latter's election helps to maintain the continuity of the Cooke family on the Board. Both, however have an intimate knowledge of the College, having been teachers here for short periods.

The Lower School.

The Primary Department of the College has been fast growing, its numbers being at present in the neighbourhood of 525. *Mr. P. W. Ariaratnam* and his army of assistants deserve high commendation for the manner in which they are tackling a difficult situation. We refer to the problems particularly of dealing with an increase in numbers with the limited accommodation available and the introduction of Tamil as the medium of instruction in all the primary classes. This is a trying period and everything possible is being done to solve those problems satisfactorily. With special pleasure we want to congratulate the staff of this Department on two very successful functions that are the highlights on their programme every year. Both the Sports Meet, run in June, under the patronage of *Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Sabaratnam*, and the year-end Concert, held under the patronage of the Education Officer, *Mr. S. U. Somasegaram*, and *Mrs. Somasegaram*, were accorded unqualified honours. These two functions have become among the select few in College which are always awaited with

eager anticipation and confidence of enjoying in them the best of fare.

Well Done !

Our heartiest congratulations to this year's Football Team which has just finished a most successful season. Its record of victories in all the matches it played, except one which ended in a draw, is a brilliant one. The Team can very well be styled a Championship Team. Cheers to the veteran coach, Mr. S. T. Jeevaratnam, Captain Brodie and his mates !

Our Contributors.

This Number carries four special articles. The first one on Bernard Shaw is by our new Professor of English in the Collegiate Department, Mr. S. P. Appasamy. We are glad to be able to introduce him to our readers in this way. We hope to make use of his scholarship and learning often in the future. Two of our friends on the Staff contribute their impressions of countries foreign to them. Dr. W. R. Holmes speaks of his one year of experience in Jaffna, while Mr. K. C. Thurairatnam writes on his year in America. Mr. K. E. Mathiapparanam concludes in this issue his appreciation of some Seminary Luminaries. The first of these articles appeared in our special Jubilee Number last year. To all these writers our grateful thanks.

COLLEGE DIARY

1st Term.

January :

- Sunday* 11th Staff Retreat conducted by Bishop S. Kulandran.
- Monday* 12th College reopens.
- Friday* 23rd Y. M. C. A. Retreat at the Asbram.
- Wednesday* 28th Pastor W. R. Sussbach addresses the "Y" on "The Church in Resistance during the War."
- Friday* 30th The shocking news of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination reaches us at about 5.30 p. m

February :

- Monday* 2nd Bishop Kulandran addresses the College Assembly on the life of Gandhi. As a mark of respect to the death of Mahatma Gandhi the day is declared a holiday.
- Wednesday* 4th The day is a day of 'rejoicing' to every citizen of Lanka, for once again she is a free nation. Holiday in connection with the Independence celebrations. The Academy celebrates 'Independence Day'.
- Tuesday* 10th The Opening of the new Parliament by the Duke of Gloucester. Some of our Scouts participate in the mass Rally at Colombo.
- Monday* 16th College reopens after the Independence vacation.
- Wednesday* 18th The Rt. Rev. Lakdasa de Mel addresses the Annual General Meeting of the Y. M. C. A.
- Tuesday* 24th Mrs. C. A. Smith addresses a meeting of the Y. W. C. A. on "Being Faithful"
- Wednesday* 25th The Inaugural Meeting of the Jaffna College Undergraduates Union takes place.
- Thursday* 26th The Rev. D. T. Niles, the Chairman of the Youth Department of the World

Council of Churches, addresses the Y. M. C. A. on "Man's Encounter with God".

March :

- Saturday* 6th Cricket Match against Jaffna Central College which we win by an innings.
- Monday* 8th The Inters Essay Competition.
- Wednesday* 10th Mr. A. M. Brodie addresses the "Y" on "King David".
- Friday* 12th Cricket Match Vs. St John's College.
- Saturday* 13th The Match ends in a victory for us by 90 runs.
- Wednesday* 17th The Rev. S. Selvaratnam addresses the "Y" on "Preparing for Life".
- Friday* 19th The Undergraduates Eleven plays a Cricket match against the College Eleven.
- Sunday* 21st Miss Mathai is the chief speaker at the Y. W. C. A. Candle Light Service.
- Monday* 22nd Cricket Match: The Staff Vs. The Students
- Tuesday* 23rd The Y. M. C. A. relays a broadcast play "The King of Sorrows" by Dorothy Sayers in connection with the Passion Week.
- Wednesday* 24th College closes for the Easter Vacation.

IInd Term.

May :

- Monday* 10th We reopen for the Second Term
- Wednesday* 13th The postponed Term Examinations commence.
- Monday* 21th Buddhist Wesak - Holiday.
- Wednesday* 26th Mr. E. J. J. Niles, who has returned after a Theological course in Bangalore, addresses the "Y" on "The Story of the English Bible"
- Friday* 28th Holiday: The J. N. E. S. Centenary celebrations take place at Vaddukodai

June :

- Tuesday* 1st Dr. C. T. Chelliah addresses a meeting of the Y. M. C. A. on "Psychology and Religion"
- Wednesday* 2nd Mr. E. W. Arianayagam of the Wardha Education Scheme addresses the Round Table. Later in the evening he speaks to the members of the "Y" on "Education for Life" •
- Thursday* 10th King's Birthday—holiday. Cricket Match against St. Patrick's College which St. Patrick's win by 9 wickets.
- Friday* 18th The Lower School Sports Meet under the Patronage of Mr & Mrs. J. M. Sabaratnam.
- Sunday* 20th Memorial Service to Mr. J. V. Chelliah at the Vaddukoddai Church.
- Monday* 21st Buddhist Posen holiday.
- Wednesday* 23rd Dr. Miss E. M. Thillayampalam delivers a lecture on "Confronting Self sufficient Science" to the Y. M. C. A.
- Friday* 25th Major E. A. Nugawela, the Minister of Education, visits the College.
- Wednesday* 30th Mr. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah addresses the "Y" on "Art and Religion"

July:

- Thursday* 1st At a meeting of the Undergraduates Union Messrs. A. M. Brodie and M. I. Thomas lead a discussion on "The Indian Situation".
- Friday* 2nd Sextant holiday.
- Monday* 12th Mr. Basil Mendis, C. C. S., addresses the Round Table on "Christianity and Communism".
- Wednesday* 14th Education day, Mas. J. M. N. Kanagasooriam of the 1st M. B. class carries away the Senior Elocution prize at the Jaffna Schools contest.

- Sunday* 18th Rev. Christie Arangaden speaks at the Vespers. Later he is entertained at Dinner by the Inter Hostelites.
- Friday* 23rd The Annual Inter-House Sports Meet under the patronage of the Rt. Rev. and Mrs. S. Kulandran.
- Hastings House carries away the championship for the second year.
- Saturday* 24th Alumni Day. Oratorical and Music contests
- Sunday* 25th Beginning from today the Christian students observe the whole week as a Week of Evangelism.
- Thursday* 29th Mr. A. M. K. Coomarasamy speaks at the morning prayers.
- August:**
- Sunday* 1st Dr. A. J. Boyd, the Principal of Madras Christian College, pays a visit to the College. He also preaches at the Morning Service, at the Church.
- Monday* 2nd. We are glad to have in our midst our new Biology teacher Mr. Issac.
- Wednesday* 4th. Adi New Moon—holiday.
- The finals of the Y. M. C. A. Table-Tennis Tournament.
- Thursday* 5th. The Undergraduates Union conducts a mock trial.
- Saturday* 7th. The Academy celebrations: Rev. C. A. Smith is the chief guest at the Annual Dinner.
- Sunday* 8th. Commencing from today the week is observed as Bible Week. Rev. S. J. de Weersinghe preaches at Vespers.
- Monday* 9th. Mr. L. S. Kulathungam addresses the 'Y' on "The Bible as Literature"
- Thursday* 12th. Mr. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah delivers an address at the Undergraduates Union on "Literature and Fallen Man"

- Monday* 16th. The Round Table bids farewell to Mr. & Mrs. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah at a Dinner.
- Friday* 20th. The Students, farewell to Mr. E. C. A. Navaratnarajah.
- Saturday* 21st. College closes for the vacation.

IIIrd Term.

September:

- Monday* 13th. College reopens. The Rev. A. J. C. Selvaratnam of St. John's College, Jaffna, conducts the Staff Retreat.
- Wednesday* 15th. Mr. K. C. Thurairatnam, who is back from the United States after a period of study leave, addresses the Y. M. C. A. on "Facing West".
- Tuesday* 21st. Mr. T. S. Avinasingam Chettiar, the Minister of Education of Madras, pays a visit to the College.
- Saturday* 25th. Tennis tournament. The Staff of Jaffna College vs the Staff of St. John's College on our courts.
- Wednesday* 29th. Mr. A. M. Brodie speaks to the Y. M. C. A. on "The Crisis in India".

October:

- Friday* 8th. The Jaffna Diocesan Council Festival holiday.
- Monday* 11th. The Undergraduates Eleven plays a Football Match against the school eleven.
- Tuesday* 12th. For the first time Inter-house matches in Net ball are introduced.
- Wednesday* 13th. Pastor W. R. Sussbach speaks to the Y. M. C. A. on the subject "The Church and the International Situation."
- Thursday* 14th. Hadji festival—holiday.

A group of Annamalai University students on a tour in Ceylon are entertained by the Undergraduates Union and some of the members of the staff,

- Friday* 15th. Football Matches against Karainagar Hindu College.
- Ind Eleven won 5 — nil.
- 1st Eleven won 6 — 1.
- Mr. W. A. de Silva, the Acting Director of Education, pays a visit to the College.
- Saturday* 16th. The American Ambassador, the Hon. Mr. Felix Cole, is on an unofficial visit to Jaffna College.
- Friday* 22nd. Football Matches against St. Henry's College.
- Ind Eleven won
- 1st Eleven Draw.
- One of the American Vice Consu's shows some educational films.
- Saturday* 23rd. The Women's Hostelites conduct their annual celebrations in grand style.
- November:**
- Monday* 1st. The first Anniversary Dinner of the Undergraduates Union, Mr. J. C. A. Corea, the Principal of Royal College, Colombo, is the chief guest.
- Wednesday* 3rd. Dr. W. R. Holmes speaks to the "Y" on "The Atom Bomb".
- Saturday* 6th. Some of our students attend the J. I. C. C. F. fellowship meeting at Udavil.
- Football Matches against Hartley College
- Ind Eleven lost
- 1st Eleven won
- Thursday* 11th. Miss A. H. Paramasamy is the chief guest at the Senior Hostel Annual Dinner.
- Sunday* 14th. The Y. M. C. A. Week of Prayer and World Fellowship begins.
- Pastor Sussbach preaches at the Vespers.

Thursday 18th. Football Matches against St. Patrick's College.

Ind Eleven lost 2 — 1

1st. Eleven won 2 — nil

Monday 22nd. Messrs. S. Arulnandhy, the Deputy Director of Education, and S. U. Somasegaram, Education Officer, N. P., are the chief guests at the H. S. C. Hostel Annual Dinner,

Saturday 27th. The year-end Concert of the Lower School takes place under the patronage of Mr. S. U. Somasegaram, E. O. N. P., & Mrs. Somasegaram,

Sunday 28th. Special service at the Church conducted by the Gospel Team.

December:

Saturday 4th. The Annual Celebrations of the Lyceum under the patronage of the Principal, Mrs. K. Kanagaratnam distributes the prizes.

Wednesday 8th. The Women's Hosteller's bid farewell to their Warden, Miss Leela Ponnampalam.

Thursday 9th. The Y. W. C. A. bids farewell to their President, Miss P. Kandiahpillai and the Senior Adviser, Miss L. Ponnampalam.

Saturday 11th. The Round Table bids farewell to Messrs. M. I. Thomas, C. S. Ponnuthurai, and B. K. Somasundram. Mrs. R. Rasiyah Misses Leela Ponnampalam, & P. Kandiahpillai at a special service at the Church followed by a dinner. The occasion is also availed of to felicitate Mr. & Mrs. Rasiyah & Mr. & Mrs. T Ramanathan on their marriage and Miss Kandiahpillai in anticipation of her marriage.

Sunday 12th. Vaddukoddai Church Carol Service.

Tuesday 14th. A service of thanksgiving to mark the twenty-five years service on the staff of the College of Messrs. M. I. Thomas, A. T. Vethaparanam A. M. Brodie, S. A. Visuvalingam and K. Sellaiah is held.

Wednesday 15th. The students bid farewell to four of the teachers who will be leaving the College at the end of the year: Miss Leela Ponnampalam, Messrs M. I. Thomas, C. S. Ponnuthurai and B. K. Somasuntharam.

The College closes for the Christmas Vacation,

J. L. AMARASINGAM.

STOP PRESS

As we go to Press, we learn of the coming departure at the end of this year of the following members of the College Staff: Messrs. M. I. Thomas (who retires from active service), C. S. Ponnuthurai (who goes as Principal of Christian College, Kotte), B. K. Somasundaram (who has been selected for post-graduate training at the Government Training College, Colombo) and Miss Leela Ponnambalam (who is joining the staff of the Methodist Ladies College, Colombo). No hurried Note can do justice to the valuable contribution these have made to the institution. Hence, we refrain from making any other mention about them in this Number. Our next Number, which we hope will be in the middle of next year, will contain accounts of their services.

Our best wishes go with all of these and also with Miss P. Kandiahpillai and Mrs. R. Rasiah of the Primary Department who are leaving College because of marriage.

Our felicitations also to Messrs. M. I. Thomas, A. T. Vethaparanam, A. M. Brodie, S. A. Visuvalingam, and K. Sellaiah, the Silver Jubilee of whose services at Jaffna College is to be celebrated on the last day of the term. More about their services in our next Number.

EDITORS.

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