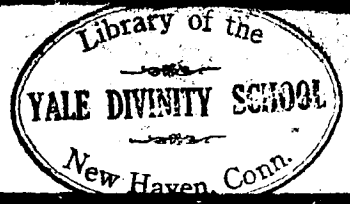


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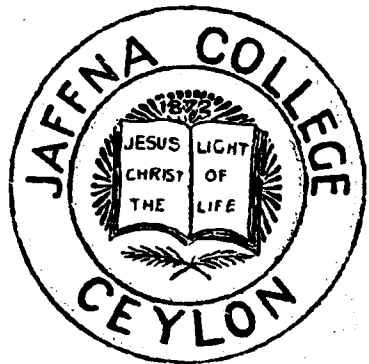


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# JAFFNA COLLEGE MISCELLANY

DECEMBER, 1937.



**A Merry Christmas**

**and**

**A Happy New Year**

# *Jaffna College Miscellany*

December, 1937.

**VOL. XLVII.**

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**Rev. Sydney K. Bunker, B. A., B. D , B. Litt. (Oxon).**

*(Our New Principal.)*

## CHRIST IN THE UNIVERSE

*With this ambiguous earth  
His dealings have been told us. These abide:  
The signal to a maid, the human birth,  
The lesson, and the young Man crucified.*

*But not a star of all  
The innumerable host of stars has heard  
How he administered this terrestrial ball.  
Our race have kept their Lord's entrusted word.*

*Of his earth-visiting feet  
None knows the secret—cherished, perilous;  
The terrible, shamefast, frightened, whispered,  
sweet,  
Heart shattering secret of His way with us.*

*No planet knows that this  
Our wayside planet, carrying land and wave,  
Love and life multiplied, and pain and bliss,  
Bears as chief treasure one forsaken grave.*

*Nor, in our little day,  
May His devices with the heavens be guessed;  
His pilgrimage to thread the Milky Way,  
Or his bestowals there, be manifest.*

*But in the eternities  
Doubtless we shall compare together, hear  
A million alien gospels in what guise  
He trod the Pleiades, the Lyre, the Bear.*

*Oh be prepared, my soul,  
To read the inconceivable, to scan  
The infinite forms of God those stars unroll  
When, in our turn, we show to them a Man.*

Alice Meynell.

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**EDITORIAL NOTES.***The New Principal.*

Rev. Sydney K. Bunker has not been here long enough for us to pass any reliable verdict based on our personal observations. That he comes here on the selection of a responsible body alive to the needs of the College and that he brings with him the benediction of Mrs. Bicknell, who spoke the words of welcome at the Commission Service where the Bunkers were received into the fold, are all in his favour. His academic education, he has had in two of the premier universities of the west. If university education makes any contribution to the growth of a personality—and we have no manner of doubt it does—Yale in America and Oxford in England, each of them instinct with high traditions of humanitarian culture and exact scholarship, have helped to mould our new Principal into the man he is to-day. Apart from his academic antecedents, the little that we have seen of him predisposes us in his favour.

A Scots crofter, asked to account for his implacable antipathy to Lloyd George, said, "The man has nae philosophy". The narrator of this anecdote says that, while lack of philosophy is a reproach in Scotland, it is deemed a virtue in England. We, however, prefer the Scotch attitude. We certainly have no use for a man who has "nae philosophy", especially in the role of Principal. Therefore, we are heartened to know that Mr. Bunker has a well grounded and critically assessed philosophy worth living and dying for. He is a liberal and to-day it is not easy to be a liberal, for at the present moment both in the realms of thought and action there is a palpable reaction towards obscurantism and authoritarianism. And, in the present writer's opinion, the essence of Liberalism is a Faith

in the perfectibility of Human nature, aye, even of the most imperfect of men. It is not our purpose to examine all that is implicit in Liberalism. But, having pointed out what we conceive to be the basic assumption of Liberalism, we shall pass on and say to our readers and to Mr. Bunker that this faith in man, that forms the key stone of the arch of Liberalism, is a faith that may call for martyrdom in our day and time. Mrs. Bunker, too, is no stranger to educational activities. Herself a graduate and a trained instructress in Kindergarten work, she will have her own part to play in the adventure whereunto they twain have been called. We extend a cordial welcome to both Mr. and Mrs. Bunker.

Human nature often in its enthusiasm for the new is apt to forget its duty to the not so new, for in no sense can we call the outgoing Acting Principal old. In the first number of the Miscellany for 1937, we expressed our appreciations of his services, laying stress on the peculiar difficulties of his position. We are happy that our anticipations have been fulfilled and that, within the brief time it fell to his lot to administer the College, he has displayed neither an excessive desire to initiate far reaching changes, nor merely a willingness to mark time. Whenever initiative was necessary, he has not hesitated to introduce changes. But on the whole he has preferred to tread on the well worn path left by his predecessor. Anything more we do not propose to say of him now, for he is to be with us for some more years and the time is not yet for a comprehensive review of his connection with Jaffna College.

#### *The Tokyo Conference.*

The monster gathering that assembled in Tokyo from the four corners of the world to discuss the





**Mrs. Sydney K. Bunker, B. Sc.**

Twentieth Century programme of Education and to discover ways and means of establishing peace and good-will among the peoples of the world had hardly come together in Tokyo, when the spirit of perversity with a malignant sense of humour precipitated the Sino-Japanese clash. The educators of the world in solemn conclave were debating in the auditorium of the Imperial University in Tokyo as to how the teachers of the world should by various methods, like exchange of professors, excursions for students and so forth, seek to advance the cause of international good-will, when Japanese planes were seeking to advance the cause of Japan's imperialism in North China. The humour of the situation cannot escape the dullest-witted of the delegates. The Japanese themselves contributed to the plethora of platitudes on International peace, that day after day rang through the Imperial University buildings. Even a hardened cynic could see how desperate was Humanity's plight, when in the midst of war and warlike preparations men and women of thirty-nine nations pathetically clung to hopes of peace. Some of the delegates were face to face with the grim horrors of war before they reached their home countries. With such a discrepancy between profession and practice, or, to be more generous, between the ideal and the actual, the Conference could not achieve any startling gain. The papers read were more often descriptive and historical, rather than constructive and critical. Many of the delegates had gone to Tokyo for a cheap holiday; and perhaps the worst defect of all was that there was hardly one single outstanding figure of international repute as an investigator in the field of education, present at this Conference. The mere presence of a man like Dewey or Nunn or Adams or Spearman would have done much to lift the Conference from mediocrity. Yet, when all has been said,

that could be, against the Conference, the mere fact that over three thousand people from all the nations of the world did come together inspired by a common ideal and seeking one common object is not a negligible fact. The most insensitive person could not have left Tokyo without having experienced a thrill at the coming together of so many divers nationalities. Further, the insight gained by the foreign delegates into the cultural and social life of Japan, the information gleaned about the educational methods and achievement of Japan, and the generous and punctilious hospitality of the Japanese nation cannot but evoke the admiration of any one who was present there. In spite of her elaborate courtesy and superbly organised efforts to show it at its best, how jealous she is of her national self-respect is seen from a trifling circumstance. In the advance literature sent out to all delegates, was contained a remark that all foreign delegates should remember to take off their shoes before entering into any Japanese home. And whenever the delegates were entertained at private homes, there were people to see that the ignorant foreigner did not defile the spotless cleanliness of the Japanese home with their work-a-day shoes: with infinite courtesy and as much firmness, people at the entrance pointed to the offending foot wear and indicated that it must be taken off. Even into the sanctities of the baggage room of a Japanese Inn, it is not permitted to enter with the unclean shoes of the highways and market places, as some of the Ceylon delegates learned in Kyoto, Japan's ancient capital.

*That Education Commission.*

It seemed that at long last we were going to have a commission to study education in Ceylon in all its aspects, assess its virtue and its short comings and make recommendations as to how we may im-

prove in the former and remedy the latter. But the Education Committee of the State Council seems to think that, while they are there, there is no need for any other body to go into the question of education in Ceylon. If a writer in the Times of Ceylon may be believed, it is the Educators—namely the managers and school master politicians in the Education Committee—that are responsible for torpedoing the proposal. One of them, Mr. T. B. Jayah, an Ex-President of the All-Ceylon Union of Teachers, at least should have known how strongly the teachers in the Island desire a commission of experts to go into the questions of education in Ceylon. Our educational system, or lack of system, relies on *ad hoc* improvements made by means of circulars as occasions demand. There is tinkering here and tinkering there with the result that after a series of circulars and amendments we have now a mirth provoking mass—that nobody can call a system in which incongruities jostle one another. To lay our finger on a single such instance, why should there be Bilingual Schools and Elementary Schools — or rather Junior Secondary Schools? If Bilingual Schools also lead up their pupils to the J. S. C. why should there be then two kinds of schools? If Bilingual education is a desideratum, why not introduce it into every school in the Island? Moreover in spite of half hearted efforts in that direction, there is as yet too little provision in our schools for anything like a scientific study of Ceylon History or Ceylon Geography. These are only two instances chosen at random, for to indulge in a detailed criticism of our education is both ridiculously easy and superfluous, for our educational system is as full of defects as an egg is full of meat. Therefore, what the Island needs today urgently is a comprehensive educational survey

and an equally comprehensive overhauling of the educational system obtaining here. A periodical revaluing of our ideas and institutions is the only condition of growth. Nowhere else is this more urgent than in the realm of education. Today even the most determined opponents of Socialism have borrowed from Socialist ideology the necessity for planned economy. The churches too recognise the value of five year plans and ten-year plans. Intelligent public opinion everywhere demands an objective, previously examined and decided on, to strive after in national affairs. Hence is it that we insist on the need for the evaluation of educational machinery and educational ideals.

A carefully planned educational policy that takes into account the needs of the country, the aptitudes of its people, the goal towards which the people of this Island should move, is a paramount need to-day and our political leaders should know that there is nothing else more worthy of their undivided attention than this. Yet the Education Committee in its wisdom has seen fit to take upon itself this tremendous responsibility. While people recognise the need for expert technical knowledge in other branches of life, education is deemed every body's affair. No one needs any special skill or knowledge to be an educator, or to be a critic of education. With all deference to the Educators in the Executive Committee of Education, it is our humble submission that in Ceylon today, we have hardly one single person, be it in the Education Committee or outside it, competent to serve as an expert adviser in Education. Therefore, it was that those who agitated for the

appointment of this Commission suggested a distinguished educationist from outside Ceylon as Chairman of this Commission. We are sure nobody but the Executive Committee on Education will be satisfied with their solution of this question.

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## **THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH**

BY REV. SYDNEY K. BUNKER

A topic like this suggests at once Pilate's "What is Truth?" For one of us to pretend to give an absolute answer is folly, for it is not given to us to know the whole of Truth. Yet each man must have his working idea of it, if he takes his life at all seriously, and above all a college must give itself to the search for a standard which we call truth. In this page or two I should like to suggest a working definition: the correspondence of our ideas with the realities of the actual world.

The philosophers among the readers of this article will recognize that right here we face the problem of knowledge— a morass into which so much of modern philosophy has fallen and out of which it has seemed unable to clamber. I shall simply skirt it and say that however important it is philosophically, practically an answer to it is not necessary. It is both possible and important to have our idea of an electric wire correspond with what actually exists here before us so we may save our-

selves from being electrocuted, and to have my idea about what is good for my nation correspond with what history shows, in the long run, to be good for any nation. It is this correspondence between idea and fact that Jaffna College should give to her students.

This task appears to some, perhaps, as simply a matter of filling up boys' minds with ideas which are generally acknowledged as corresponding with actuality. If only it were as easy as this! If it were so we would expect to see the world infinitely better off now than it was twenty years ago when there were less educated people, or we would expect to see a close correlation between the amount of education and successful living. But the world is not so clearly wiser and happier, and cannot all of us think of numerous instances of men with little or no formal education who have built lives of usefulness, dignity and security, which are not to be compared with the feverish office-seeking of many a school graduate? It may be possible to wrap up answers to likely examination questions and deposit them, neatly arranged, in students' minds, but it is not possible to give the answer as to how to raise the level of political life in Ceylon or how to bridle our impulses so they may be used for the enrichment of our life. To get the first kind of answers, lectures may be useful, but a lecture has been rather cruelly described as a method for getting the information on the pages of a professor's notebook on to those of his student's without passing through the mind of either. To find the true answers to the latter kind of question requires something better than this.

Because a school finds itself in a system where the examination rules, it may have to do a certain

amount of wrapping and ticketing and depositing of ideas, but its aim should be quite different. To be sure, it should try to make available to the student as many answers, discoveries and ideas—old as well as new—as possible; but it must not say that this idea is certainly true, while that one is as certainly wrong, and expect these dicta to be accepted simply because we say so. The process should run like this: here is the evidence for and against this idea, now what do you make of it, and why? There is a place for the statement of conviction on the part of a leader, but late in the discussion and to help, not early in it to coerce or to prevent discussion. Many of us feel that we have glimpsed or sensed something eternal shining through all our changing, relative world—whether it be in the wheeling of the planets or in the face of Jesus Christ or in the beauty of a poem. We would indeed be remiss if we did not bear our witness to such insights, but we do this not to make others agree, nor to give divine sanction to our partial truths, but only to help onwards the search for truth.

The formal test of our success at Jaffna College will be how many passes we got and how many matches we won. We have to recognize this fact and adjust ourselves to it. But let us remember that the real test is: how many have found here a better method to make our ideas correspond with the way things really are—a method which they can use throughout life; and also, how many have found the courage and determination to follow the truth discovered wherever it may lead?

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## EDUCATION IN JAPAN

BY S. H. PERINBANAYAGAM

The Education Conference in Tokyo was a mammoth meeting sprawling and many-faced. One really could not attend all the sections one wished to. Even if one attempted to take in a large number of the sectional conferences, there were more papers than there was time to read them in. So the chairman of the section would often direct that a subject originally intended to be covered in a one-hour paper be condensed within the space of ten minutes. So very often the sectional conferences that I attended impressed me as slipshod and sketchy. Further when the papers were read by non-English speaking people, especially the Japanese, their articulation was so difficult to follow that one walked away in despair. Therefore, even with more keenness than I could bring into play, it would not have been possible to form any coherent picture of the many problems taken up at the Conference. Therefore, we decided to supplement our information by interviews with distinguished Japanese educationists, for we said, "If we could do nothing else, let us at least learn a little of the Japanese educational system." With this end in view on the last day of the Conference, I met Professor Ishikawa, professor of English Literature in the Imperial University, Tokyo, and asked him if he would be good enough to grant us an interview on the next day, at the Tokyo Y. M. C. A. at 10 a. m. From ten to eleven we bombarded him with an incessant fire of questions, to all of which he gave patient and full answers. What I am writing

below is all based on the information gained at this interview.

The first question we asked was about the percentage of literacy in Japan, and we were told that 99% of the Japanese people could read and write their own tongue, the remaining one per cent being made up mainly of the boat-dwellers, of whom there were a large number yet unaffected by the forces of progress and civilization functioning on dry earth. But Professor Ishikawa said that steps were being taken to carry the torch of learning across the waters even to these aquatic mortals. I suppose they will establish floating schools to which the school children will "creep like snails" in canoes propelled by their sires or elder brothers.

Japan's educational programme embraces all children of school-going age, including the blind. Today according to our information, there are at least 50% of the blind children attending schools specially provided for them. As is inevitable in any scientifically planned scheme of education, provision is made that it should cover the entire educational needs of the country. After the Kindergarten stage practically all children have the same course up to about the age of fifteen, after which only those bent on a literary education proceed through the Middle School and Higher School to the different faculties of the Universities. Parallel to these Middle Schools in the literary course are vocational schools in technology, agriculture and nautical Science, which absorb the others who seek a vocational education. These in their turn complete their education in the special vocational Universities, like the Institutes of Technology. The process of selection for the literary

course is very strict; in fact Professor Ishikawa said that of those who complete the Middle School course only about ten per-cent enter their so-called "Higher Schools", which furnish the course preparatory to the university studies. Naturally a large proportion of these Higher School graduates enter the universities of which there are no less than twenty-eight in the city of Tokyo itself. We were assured that at least 60% of the Higher School graduates continue their education in the universities.

Our next question was whether Japan had any difficulty in the matter of language, that is, whether there was any need for a bilingual or trilingual scheme through a multiplicity of languages or dialects; and we were told that, though prior to the Meiji Restoration in 1865, there had been several dialects in the Japanese, after the Restoration through the unifying influence of the imperial rule, there had come into existence an Emperor's Japanese, analogous to the King's English, which as scholars tell us owes its birth to the Protestant reformation in England in as much as this breach from Rome necessitated royal proclamations and other official documents to be promulgated in a tongue "understood of the people". So the form of English, spoken in and about London, became the standard whereunto the language spoken elsewhere had perforce to conform. Likewise in Japan the imperial edicts and proclamations set the standard measure unto whose stature and dignity the Japanese of the provinces had to adapt themselves. The process is now well-nigh completed, and Japan enjoys the blessing of a single tongue spoken by all her people.

We proceeded then to discuss the different agencies engaged in the task of imparting education in Japan. They may be divided into three the Central Government, Public bodies like

Municipalities and Prefectures (the latter being administrative units comparable to the provinces in Ceylon's political machinery) and private individuals, and associations. The bulk of non-university education is in the hands of the two latter agencies, the public bodies being naturally responsible for an overwhelming majority of the schools from the Kindergarten to the Higher School stages. The imperial government controls all education in Japan, the curriculum of schools and universities, the qualifications of teachers etc., being laid down in precise form by the central authority. Naturally in the universities there is more autonomy in all respects, though even there any branch of learning calculated to subvert Japan's present constitution will not be tolerated. The division of educational agencies mentioned earlier applied to the universities as much as to the schools.

Though the educational policy is formulated by the Central Government, there is no system whatever of state subsidies to private educational enterprise, be it undertaken by private individuals or missionary agencies. This being so different from what obtains in Ceylon, I took particular pains to inform myself on the topic, and put the question to a missionary lady of the American Board, whom I met in a Tokyo bus, and she too confirmed what I had heard from Professor Ishikawa, and several other Japanese educationalists. But in spite of this state of affairs the missionary societies are active in Japan, and have helped to build up her educational system. The Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan's ancient capital, now a national university of the Japanese people, is the fruit of American missionary effort.

The conversation now turned to the question of salaries in Japan, and we were told that Japan

was a land of low salaries. Not only teachers, but every body else, was paid a low salary, compared to what obtains in Ceylon. The Prime Minister of Japan receives only 10,000 yen a year, a yen being equal to about 80 cts. in Ceylon money. A Cabinet Minister receives only 6000 yen a year. Even allowing for the difference in purchasing power between the rupee and the yen, we could not fail to be struck by the difference between Ceylon and Japan in this respect. While high salaries are not so high as in Ceylon, the low salaries are not so low as in Ceylon; in Japan a police constable after a few years in the service earns about fifty yen a month, and a servant maid at the house of one of our Jaffna friends in Japan earns 40 yen. Among the Ceylon delegates to the Conference, were a Divisional Inspector of Schools, and the Vice-Principal of a Colombo College, each of whom must be receiving a salary nearly as high as that received by the Japanese Prime Minister. Although teachers and even university professors received rather low salaries, their social status, we learned, was high. Even in the Imperial table of precedence, professors of high grade universities rank fairly high. Professor Ishikawa told us that he himself, at imperial functions, enjoyed the same status as a rear-admiral of the fleet.

Among the novel educational agencies used in Japan today are the radio and the cinemograph. Hygiene and the social sciences are increasingly taught through the moving picture. We were in Tokyo in the Japanese summer when the sun rises at four o' clock; and one morning through the courtesy of the conference reception committee, we were privileged to see one of the most interesting experiments in physical education by the Tokyo

Broadcasting Corporation. Taxis were provided by the committee, to take us to the centres of radio physical exercise where, in addition to seeing these interesting exercises performed, we tasted also some Japanese delicacies. The instructions are given over the radio and large numbers of people, numbering several hundred thousands, assemble at different quarters in Tokyo and go through the exercises for about twenty minutes every morning. People of all ages participate in them. There were middle-aged men and women of fifty and sixty, and children of even three, entering into this nation-wide "morning jerks" with enthusiasm. There was always a leader standing in a somewhat elevated place, to set the pace, and the others followed. Among the group were women with their babies strapped to their backs, bending their bodies as the instructions went forth from the receiver. This we were assured was not an exhibition especially prepared for impressing the visitors. It was a normal feature in Japan during the summer months. At the end of the performance, the little boys and girls, some of whom were barely three years old, came up to their leader with their attendance cards to be endorsed by him, and walked away, smiling at the one additional cross marked on their cards. When one remembered how hard it is for a little boy or girl to stand still for a few seconds without fidgeting, we marvelled at the almost unchildlike immobility of the little faces when they went through the morning feats. It struck many of us as being unnatural, for the little boys and girls to take the matter so seriously.

It is absurd and presumptuous for one to generalise about Japan; after such a brief stay

in the country. But generalise we do, and I believe we must. If one may attempt a brief generalisation of Japan, it is a land of uniforms and uniformities. It is a totalitarian State, not necessarily set on the Fascist model, but where conformity with the standards set by the powers above, in the interests of the entire nation, is regarded as an imperative moral duty. Private judgment seems unheard of in this interesting land. All is for the nation and little for the individual. "Dai Nippon"—Great Japan—is their God and their religion. The Emperor himself, even today, seriously proclaimed to be descended from the Sun-Goddess, is the symbol of the national over-soul, being the apex of the Japanese social system, which is even now based on the family, with the heaven-born Emperor as the father of all his people. Even intelligent and highly educated men after several years of residence in the democratic West refer to their Emperor, not at all, or in hushed whispers. However reluctant one may be to indulge in generalisations, this political philosophy seems to be the all-pervading influence that determines every aspect of Japanese life. To obey the nation's will as expressed by the Emperor or his ministers, even to the point of committing spiritual and physical self-immolation, is how Japan interprets patriotism. This political doctrine, whether it is held consciously or unconsciously, dominates Japan's educational policy too, which is directed to making efficient citizens who will give themselves and their all to the nation's well-being as interpreted by their rulers. Beneath such all-pervading influences, there always lurk undercurrents working in a contrary direction. Many of the students of the foreign languages school, who

chaperoned the visitors during their stay in Tokyo, seemed to be quite discontented with the traditional modes of thought and to be mentally restive at the strangle-hold that tradition was having on their country. Almost every one, I spoke to, disclaimed allegiance to the faiths of their fathers, and rather swaggeringly proclaimed themselves free-thinkers or agnostics. Some even professed sympathy with China in her now raging struggle against Japan. One of them whom I came to know rather intimately was looking forward to the triumph of the Third International as Japan's millenium.

We all know Japan as a progressive country ready to accept everything good from every country to suit her own needs, and never parochial in her attitude to the good things from other countries in the world. So I am afraid what I have said about the sway tradition has on the Japanese mind, may strike people in Ceylon as a meaningless paradox. While it is true that in regard to externals, that is, the material aspect of civilization, she has displayed an adaptability superior to that of any other modern nation, it seems to me that all this has been done in the interests of a totalitarian state which is the embodiment of a traditional political philosophy, that shows no signs of change or decay even to-day. So, while her men go about in European clothes, and her cities team with skyscrapers, and her navy defies the best in the world, her spirit of reverence for the nation as the "summum bonum" abides unaltered.

A few words on Japanese history by way of explanation, I am afraid, are necessary to



make matters a little easier for the Ceylon readers. Till 1865, Japan was not one Empire, though there was one Emperor the land was ruled by feudal lords known as the Shoguns. In 1865 there occurred a process of unification which is the beginning of modern Japanese history; and Japan's greatness in the family of nations, all came about after this unification.

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## WEALTH (CONSISTING) OF CHILDREN.

BY

S. R. MUTTUKUMARU.

Of all the wealth that one may possess in this fleeting world, the following four deserve special mention: viz:- 1. Wealth of Land, 2. Wealth of Gold, 3. Wealth of Children, and 4. Wealth of Wisdom. The possession of worthy children is only second to the realization of God. Therefore Avvaiyar says:-

“ஏவா மக்கண் மூவா மருந்து”

*Konraiventhan 8.*

meaning:- “Intelligent children are like ambrosia to their parents.”

Therefore, Tiruvalluvar says:-

பெறுவாற்றுள் யாமறிவதில்லை யறிவறிந்த  
மக்கப்பேறல்ல பிற”.....

*Kural. 6.*

meaning:- “Among all the benefits that may be acquired, we know no greater benefit than the acquisition of intelligent children.”

Therefore, the Pandyan King, Arivudainamby, says:-

“படைப்புப்பல படைத் தப் பலரோ ணென்னு  
முடைப்பெருஞ் செல்வ ராயினு மிடைப்படக்  
குறுகுறு நடந்த சிறுகை நீட்டி  
யிட்டுந் தொட்டுங் கூவியுந் துழந்து  
நெய்யுடை யடி சின் டெய்ப்பட வ்திர்த்து  
மயக்குறு மக்களை யில்லோர்க்குப்  
பயக்குறை யில்லைத்தாம் வாழ் நாளே.”

*Purananuru. 188.*

meaning:- “A sumptuous feast may please a number of guests; but, if no tottering little ones do intrude, seize the dainties with outstretched hands, distend their careless mouths with the rice soaked in ghee, and scatter bits and crumbs on every side, fruitless are the lives of those who supply the meal.”

There can be no worthy children without worthy mothers, no worthy mothers without worthy wives, and no worthy wives without worthy maids. It is not my intention to discuss here the qualities of a worthy maid, lest I invite on my head a nest of hornets (critics). It is well, however, to ponder over the biological stories related in that epic, the *Maha-Bharata*. It is profitable to inquire why Duryodhana's father, Thirutharaddithan, was born blind, and why his uncle, Pandu, was born with a bleached skin; while his other uncle, Viruthan, was born an able-bodied and well-gifted man. It is also best to know why Karnan was the most liberal, Dharman the most virtuous, Bhiman the strongest, and Arjunan the manliest of all men. It is likewise interesting to investigate the incident connected with the birth of Vyasa. His father, Parasasar, a great Muni, divined the most auspicious time for the birth of an illustrious son. His wife was not by him then; and he, therefore, sought the hand of another woman

near at hand, who was an evil-smelling and ill-conditioned fisherwoman. This woman, though of a lower class, was wise enough to be conscious of her short comings, and to confess her reluctance to accept the proffered honour. The Muni converted her into a woman radiating the fragrance of femininity, so much so that she came to be known thereafter as Parimalakanthy. Please note the meaning underlying this name. She then gave birth to Vyasa, the compiler of the Vedas, and by far the most distinguished Muni of all times. Judged by this standard, the present day ideals of matrimony may be said to have dropped down to the freezing point. To our utter shame, our present system of marriage has given rise to the Tamil proverb, பணம் உண்டாக்கு மணம் உண்டாக்கு, meaning: "Money makes marriage." We forget the fact that a great dowry provides us also with a bed full of brambles, and that one who marries for money sells his liberty. How then can we expect the children born of this degrading union to be in any way intelligent or illustrious? We are only breeding greedy children of needless misery. It is, therefore, refreshing to turn back to our forefathers, and take a survey of the matrimonial conditions then prevailing.

As we are aware, the form of marriage among the earliest nations of the world was what is known as "marriage by capture." The man gave chase to the woman and brought her home in leading strings. During the middle ages, the knights-errants married the ladies of their choice by playing on their vanity. Even at the present day, men marry women by captivating their senses with personal charms or worldly possessions. In all these forms of marriage, the woman is the captured one, and is the slave of her lord and master.

The only exception was the case of the ancient Thamils. The woman enjoyed the privilege of choosing her husband; and marriage was based on love and love alone, and not on any contract or religious sacrament. Neither was there any distinction of class or creed. The men were after a happy home, and so sought to marry only those whom they loved, and whose love for them was equally well ascertained before their union. கனவு (Kalavu), love and courtship, was equally important as கற்பு (Katpu), marriage and wedded love. இருவயனெத்தல் (Iruvayanottal), equal love both before and after marriage, was held out to be one of the essentials of a union. The four pillars, on which their edifice of conjugal life rested were: 1. அன்பு (Anpu) love or the feeling of indispensability; 2. மடன் (Madan) inappetency or blindness to each other's faults; 3 சாயல் (Sayal), tenderness; and 4 இயல்பு (Iyalpu) apparent candour. \* The result was invariably a happy home, *graced with bright looking children.*

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\* அன்பொத்த அவர் உள்ளம்.....

*Paripadal.* vi. 21. Com.

சாயலு நாணு மடனு மென்ற.....

*Tholkappiam.* Porul. 247.

நீரினுஞ் சாயலுடையன் .....

*Kalittokai.* 42.

இயல்பினு னில்வாழ்க்கை வாழ்பவன்.....

*Kural.* 47.

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This is well exemplified by the following pathetic song extemporised by that prince of poets, Tiruvalluvar, at the death-bed of his beloved wife, Vasuki.

“ அடிசிற் கினியானே யன்புடை யானே  
படிசொற் றவறாத பாவாய் — அடிவருடிப்  
பின்றுங்கி முன்னெழும் பேழையே போதியோ  
வென்றுங்கு மென்கண் ணிரா ”

meaning:- “Thou, loving one, sweetener of my food, wife who never transgressed my word, who did chafe my feet, rising first and sleeping last, when will these eyes know sleep again?”

The following heart-rending poem by Makkothai, the Cera King, on the death of his wife, Perumkoppendu, is another example:-

“ யாங்குப் பெரிதாயினு நோயள வெனைத்தே  
யுயிர் செஞக் கல்லா மதுகைத் தன்மையிற்  
கள்ளிபோகிய களரியம் பறந்தலை  
வெள்ளிடை பொத்திய விளைவிற்கீழ்த்  
தொள்ளுழற் பள்ளிப் பாயல் சேர்த்தி  
ஞாங்கர் மாய்ந்தனன் மடந்தை  
யின்னும் வாழ்வ வென்னிதன் பண்பே.

*Purananuru*, 245.

meaning:-“My swelling sorrow knows no bounds It has not strength enough to free me from this loathed life. I bore her to the cremation ground, where கள்ளி (Kalli — Spurge — *Euphorbia*) thrives. I laid her on her couch of rising flame. The innocent in soul has died, and left me behind. What charm has life henceforth for me?”

We are also given an insight into the depths of a woman's love in the following dirge. The widow has found her husband's body amid the slain on the now lonely battlefield, and appeals for burial with her lord thus:-

“ஐயோ வெனின்யான் புலியஞ் சுவலே  
யிணைத்தனன் கொளினே யகன்மார் பெடுக்க வல்லே  
னென்போற் பெருவிதிற் புறுக நின்னை  
யின்னா துற்ற வறனில் கூற்றே.

நிரைவளை முன்கைப் பற்றி  
வரைகிழற் சேரக நடத்திசிற் செறிதே”

*Purananuru* 255.

meaning:— “If I should cry aloud I fear the tiger. If I strive to bear him off, my strength fails me to lift his stalwart form. May tremblings like my own afflict thee, pitiless Death! Were it not easy for thee to grasp my hand, and lead me to the shades?”

*Miserable dictu!* What a hideous contrast between the past and the present !! The deaths of our wives now end in the District Court House; in other words in lining the lawyer's cloak and in filling the public exchequer with a portion of the dowry screwed out of the parents of the bride !!!

It should not, however, be presumed from the above that the ancient Tamil parents led a self-centred life, and had no love to spare for children. On the contrary, they were immensely delighted at their birth, whom they considered to be the sole means of their acquiring merit in this world and in the world to come. The mothers in particular offered on the day of their purification thanksgiving prayers to the accompaniment of merry music for the safe delivery of their off-springs. Thiruvalluvar, therefore, says:

“ஏழுபிறப்பிற் தீயவை தீண்டா பழிபிறங்காப்  
பண்புடை மக்கட் பெறின்”.

*Kural* 62.

meaning:— “The evils of the seven births shall not touch those who obtain children of a good disposition, and free from vice.”

The other ancient classical works also give expression to the same sentiments. \*

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\* இவு பானியற் பார்ப்பன பாக்களும்  
பெண்டிரும் பிணிபுடை யீரும் பேணித்  
தென்புல வாழ்நர்க் சுருங்கட னிறுக்கும்  
பெண்போற் புதல்வர்ப் பெருஅதிருர்.

*Purananuru* 9: 1-4

இம்மை யுலகத் திசையொடும் விளங்கி  
மறுமை யுலகமூனுவின் நெய்துப

செறுநறும் விழையுஞ் செயிர்தீர் காட்டிச்  
சிறுவர்ப் பயந்த நெம்மலோரெனப்  
பல்லோர் கூறிய பழமொழி யெல்லாம்  
வாமே யாகுதல் . . . .

*Ahananuru 66: 1-6.*

கணவ ருவப்பப் புதல்வர் பயந்து  
பணைத்தேந் தளவுலை யமுதமுறப்  
புலவுப் புனிறு தீர்ந்து பொலிந்த சுற்றமொடு  
வனமனை மகளிர் குளநீ ரயரத்  
திவ்வுமெய்ந் நிறுத்துச் செவ்வளி பண்ணிக்  
குரல்புணர் நல்யாழ் முழுவோடொன்றி  
நுண்ணீ ராகுளி யிரட்டப் பலவுட  
நென்சுடர் விளக்க முந்தாறு மடையொடு  
நன்மா பயிலின் பென்மெல வியலிக்  
கடுஞ்சூன் மகளிர் பேணிக் கைதொழுது.

*Mathuraikkanchi. 600. 609*

The following particulars regarding the young ones of the ancient Tamils are interesting. On the fifth day after birth, the child was provided with an amulet originally known as அம்படைத்தாலி (Aimpadaithali) and later as ஸஞ்சாயுதம் (Panchayutham) to ward off the evil spirits \* Aimpadaithali means a pendant worn by children in a necklace bearing in relief the five weapons of Vishnu, viz:— 1. சுங்கம் (Conch) 2. சக்கரம் (Discus) 3. கதை (Mace) 4. சாரிங்கம் (Bow) and 5. கட்டகம் (Sword). Vishnu, as the preserver in the Trinity, was thus the first to be invoked on behalf of the child.

There is every reason to believe that his amulet was first made of palmyrah leaf inlaid with

\* அமளித் துஞ்சு மைம்படைத் தாலிக்

குதலைச் செவ்வாய்க் குறுநடைப் புதல்வர்க்கு

*Manimekalai VII 56: 75.*

தாலி கலைந் தன்று மிலனே பால்விட்

டயினு மின்றயன் றனனே

*Purananuru 77: 78.*

பொன்னுடைத்தாலி டென்மக டெற்றி

வருகுவை யயிற் றருகுவென் பாலென

*Ahananuru 54: 18 19.*

flowers. This custom of wearing jewelry made in the above fashion is alluded to in *Purananuru* \*. It is supported by the analogical reasoning that the ear ornament among the ancient Tamils was known as தோடு (Thodu) and ஒலை (Olai), both of which mean also a palmyrah leaf. Moreover, சிமிக்கி (Simikki,) the bell shaped pendant hung to the ear ornament is so called, because it resembles a passion flower சிமிக்கி.

It may be parenthetically observed here that this amulet was later worn by married women, but to it were attached claws of tigers killed, by their husbands. They were known as பல்பபற்றூவி (Pulippattali) and வெண்பபற்றூவி (Venpattali) § (Page. 28.)

Owing to the different conception of married life introduced by foreign immigrants, Thali came to signify later a badge of servility instead of a badge of honour as in earlier days.

To revert to the subject, *Illakkana Vilakkam* (இலக்கண விளக்கம்) † tells us that the stages in the life of a child are ten, viz:—

\* உச்சி கொண்ட ஆசுவென் டோட்டி

வெட்சி மாமலர் தேவக்கையோடு விரைஆச்

சரியிருந் பித்தை பொலியச் சூழ . . .

*100:4-6*



1. காப்பு (Kappu), the second month. At this period bracelets (காப்பு) were put round the arms of the children with magical rites, and deities beginning with Vishnu were invoked to protect the child.

2. செங்கீரை (Senkirai) the fifth month. Here the child essayed its first voluntary movements, which were compared to the motion of herbs in the breeze. The child also lifted up its head and nodded.

3. தால் (Thal), the seventh month. Here the child was lulled to sleep with songs known தாலாட்டு (Thaladdu)

4. சப்பாணி (Sappani), the ninth month. Here the child began to clap hands.

5. முத்தம் (Muttham), the tenth month. Here the child began to kiss and to be kissed in return.

6. வாரானை (Varanai), twelfth month. Here the child extended its hands, and called to be taken in arms.

§ புலிப்பற் றுலிப் புன்றலைச் சிறுஅர்

மாந் கண் மகளிர்க் காந்தே.....

*Purananuru.* 374: 9,20.

வளைவெண் கோடு பறித்து மற்பது

முளைவெண் டிக்கனென்னச் சாத்தி

மறங்கொள் வயப்புலி வாய்பிளந்து பெற்ற

மாலை வெண்பற் றுலிகிரை பூட்டி

*Silappadikaram* XII.25-28

நானுள்ளிட்டுச் சுடர் வீச நன்மாணிக்க நகுதாலி

பேணி நல்லார் கழுத்தணிந்து பெருங்கண் கருமைவீருந்  
தூட்டி.

*Jvaka Chintamany* 2697.

+ 6. 808. Comp.

7. அம்புலி (Ampuli), the sixteenth or eighteenth month. Here the mother showed the moon to the infant, and beckoned it to come and play with him.

8. சிறுபறை (Siruparai), the second year. Here the hero played on a small drum. In the case of girls, this period was known as அம்மாணை (Ammanai) when they played with malaca beans or brass balls.

9. சிற்றில் (Sittil), the third year. Here the girls built toy houses, while the boys were engaged in trampling them down.

10. சிறுத்தர் (Siruther), the fourth year. Here the boys played with a toy cart. The girls had ஊசல் (Usal), in which they delighted being swung on a swing.

In the fifth year, the boy was placed under the care of a village schoolmaster known as கணக்காயர் (Kanakayer). \* He was made to lisp with his baby lips அறஞ்செய் விரும்பு—Virtue be thy pleasure, ஆறுவது சினம்—Subdue anger, ஏற்ப திகழ்ச்சி—To beg is a disgrace, திருமா ஓக்கடிமைசெய்—Advance Godward, etc. To the regret of all sensible persons, this system is being replaced by சேவல் கூவுகிறது—The cock crows, குதிரை கனைக்கிறது—The horse neighs, நரி ஊழையிடிகிறது—The jackal howls, etc. All these might inform the young, but it is at the sacrifice of the formation of character. Moreover, the time and energy spent by the child are purely a waste; for, by about the seventh year, he is past all this information.

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\* கற்றதூஉ மின்றிக் கணக்காயர் பாடத்தால்

—பெற்றதாம் பேதையோர் சூத்திரம்.....

The evils of child labour are pathetic enough, but the injury inflicted on him in later years by oppressive study, by undue urgency, by unreasonable exactions, and by the overcrowding of the course, have far reaching effects on humanity. They violate Nature and therefore smother genius.

The child unquestionably accepts all tradition, delights in forms and rites and is easily pleased with vain repetitions. Therefore he likes rhyme and metre. The earlier system of learning by rote poetry lines is thus the most natural one for such learning as is possible for him. If we let him learn by rote, not only will he learn much that is necessary, but the method itself will prove to be an economy of time all his life, for what he learns thus he is least likely to forget. It may not be a real course of study, and may seem more like play; but the learning is not all by rote. It cannot be denied that incidentally much information suited to a child's unstrained capacity is very often imparted.

By adopting the earlier method, we carry in our heads all the information we require. We thus save in our after life a tremendous amount of time wasted in continually turning over the pages of dictionaries, and in ransacking the contents of libraries. I need hardly observe that many a time we miserably fail in our frantic efforts to trace what we desire to have.

By adopting the present method, which is more or less nothing but cram, we are reduced to the abject condition of முருக்கையடியிற் சாத்திரியர்; and the pity of it is, that many of us sometimes happen

to forget even the position of our beacon, the முருங்கை tree! What is worse, we often turn out to be no சரணத்தரிபார் at all.

To come back to the subject. After completing his elementary education, the youth was apprenticed to his father to learn the family trade. When he had made himself proficient in the craft pertaining to his class, he was taught the use of arms. Finally he was trained in military tactics by the officers of the Crown. The whole career of a Tamil child is pithily expressed by that heroic dame Ponnudiyar of old, in the following lyric:

“என்று புறந்தருத லென்றலைக்கடனே  
சுன்றேற னுக்குத றந்தைக்குக் கடனே  
வேல்வடித்துக் கொடுத்தல் கொல்லர்க்குக் கடனே  
நன்னடை டேக்கல் வேந்தர்க்குக் கடனே  
பொளிறுவா னருஞ்சம முருக்கிக்  
களியெறிந்து பெயர்ச்சல் காளைக்குக் கடனே”

*Purananuru 312.*

meaning:- “My duty is to give birth to a son; the duty of the father is to teach him the family craft; the duty of the blacksmiths is to fashion a spear for him; the duty of the King is to train him in military tactics; and to return from the battle-field after slaying his foes is the duty of my warrior son.”

The result of this was that the ancient Tamil children were not only expert handicraftsmen, but indomitable warriors. We, the Tamil children of the present day, are not expected to don a military uniform, nor to march past in a ceremonial parade; but we have a harder battle to fight; and that is to wage a constant war against the Asuras (evil pro-

pensities) dwelling in our hearts. In this terrible conflict, we may often be slain; yet as in the past, let the wounds be on our chests and not on our backs. Let us prove ourselves to be the worthier sons of our worthy fore - fathers.

### விசுவநாதசாஸ்திரியார்

(ALMANAC MAKER TO HIS MAJESTY GEORGE IV)

(வெள்ளவத்தை மு. இராமலிங்கம் எழுதுவது)

இலங்கையிலே செந்தமிழ் சிறந்து கிளங்கும் யாழ்ப்பாணத்திலே வட்டுக்கோட்டையைச் சார்ந்த அராலியிலே சிவபூசாதாரச்சாரும் சமஸ்கிருதகிராவிடபண்டிதரும் சோதிடசிகாமணியும் திருவாணைக்கானில் அம்புலிங்கேசர்க்கு அர்ச்சனைசெய்யும் அந்தணர் மரபினரும் சந்தான தீபிகையென்னும் நூல் செய்தவரும் 1637 ம ஆண்டில் நிகழ்ந்த பிலவங்க வருடம் தொடக்கம் முதன் முதல் வாக்கியமுறைப்படி பஞ்சாங்கம் கணித்து வெளிப்படுத்திய வருமாகிய இராமலிங்க முனிவர் என்பர் கிளங்கியிருந்தனர். இவருக்குப் பின் புத்திரபரம்பரையாய் வெங்கடேச சாஸ்திரிகள், அகிலேச சாஸ்திரிகள், திரிகோணேச சாஸ்திரிகள், இரகுநாதசாஸ்திரிகள், நடராச சாஸ்திரிகள், நாராயண சாஸ்திரிகள் ஆதியோரால் பஞ்சாங்கம் கணித்து வெளியாகி வந்தது. இவர்களுள்ளே பலர் தமிழ்வித்துவான்களும் சிலர் சகலாகமபண்டிதர்களுமாயிருந்தனர். இந்நாராயணசாஸ்திரிகளின் பஞ்சரத்தினங்களுள் ஒருவரே விசுவநாதசாஸ்திரியாராவர். இவர் ஒன்பது தலைமுறையான சாஸ்திரிகளின் குடும்பத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவரென்பதைப் பின்வரும் ஜோதிஷபரம்பரையால் அறிக.

சீரேறும் வெண்ணாவலமரப்பிலிங்கேசர் திருவடிகளர்ச்சனை செயுஞ் செய்ய மறை அந்தணர்கள் சந்தையராயினோர் திகழீழ மண்டலத்து னேரேறும் யாழ்ப்பாணமுறைவட்டுக்கரினோரிறைவனருள் வேதமுதலா மெக்கலையொடுங் கணிதமிக்கமதியோர் புலியிலெங்குமிசைதங்கு பெரி யோர்

“நாரேறுராமலிங்கன் வெங்கடேசனகிலேசன் கோணேசனிரகு  
நாதநடராசனெடு நாராயணன்பெருமை நாட்சிந்திரசேகரன்  
பாரேறுபுழை விசுவநாதன் ஸங்காதரன் பாலநடராசன் மேன்மை  
பகர்சித்தப்பா நாதனெடு கார்த்தியேயனிப்பரமகுரவர்ப் பணிகுவாம்

விசுவநாதசாஸ்திரியார் இற்றைக்கு 180 வருடங்களின் முன்னே வட்டுக்காட்டையைச் சார்ந்த அரண்மனை மேற்கில் 1766 ம் ஆண்டளவில் அவதரித்தனர். இளமை கல்விக்கென இயற்கையால் கொடுக்கப்படுவதால் அதனை வேறுவழியில் செலவழிப்பது இயற்கைக்கு மாறப்பட்டு நடப்பதென மதித்துத் தம் இளம்பராயத்திலே வடமொழி தென்மொழி இரண்டிலும் வல்லுனராய் சோதிடசாஸ்திரத்திலும் மிகவும் பிரசித்திபெற்றதுச் சிறந்த பண்டிதரென விளங்கினர்.

1798 ம் ஆண்டளவில் பிள்மைத்தலாமையின் சூழ்ச்சியால் நாட்டினினும் ஒட்டிவிடப்பட்டுப் பின் (North)தேசாதிபதியால் யாழ்ப்பாணத்துக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்ட முத்துச் சாமிக்கோமகன் ஒருநாள் விசுவநாதசாஸ்திரியாரை அழைத்துத் தனக்குப் பட்டம் கிடைக்குமோ கிடையாதோவெனத் தனது சாதகத்தை ஆராய்ந்து பார்த்துச் சொல்லுமாறு கேட்டான். சாஸ்திரியார் “பட்டம் கிடைக்கும்; அதுவும் சம்பந்திலே கிடைக்கும், பட்டத்துக்கு முன்னும் பின்னும் அரிபகை உண்டு” என்றார். அதுகேட்ட கோமகன் என்ன பகை வந்தாலும் பட்டம் வந்தாற் போது மென மகிழ்ந்து அவருக்குத்தக்க வெகுமானமும் ராஜசோதிடரென்னும் பட்டமும் அளித்தான். முன்னும் பின்னும் அரிபகை என்பதற்கு, முன்னே அரிபகை பாம்புப்பகையெனவும் பின்னே அரிபகை தலையரியும் பகையெனவும் பொருளாம். சில நாட்களின் பின் அவனைக் கொடிய நாகமொன்று திண்டிற்று. அநேக விஷவைத்திடர் தீர்க்கமுயன்றும் விஷந்தீராது தலைக்கேறிற்று. வைத்தியத்தில் தமக்கு ஒப்பாரு மிக்காருமின்றி திசையெங்கும் இசைநிறுத்தி விளங்கினவராகிய இருபாலைச் செட்டியாரை அழைத்தார்கள். பல்லாக்குக் கொணர்ந்தாலன்றி வெளியே போக மனமற்ற அவர் ஓர் ஓலை நறுக்கெடுத்து அதில் இருபாலைச் செட்டியென்று எழுதி “இதனைக் கொண்டுபோய் அக் கோமகன் முன்னே வையுங்கள் விஷந்தீர்ந்துவிடும்” எனக் கூறிக் கொடுத்தார். அவ்வாறு விஷந்தீர்ந்து கோமகனும் நித்தி

ரைவிட்டெழுந்தான்போல் எழுந்தான். இருபாலேச் செட்டியாருக்குத் தந்தப் பல்லாக்கும் அனேக வெகுமானங்களும் அனுப்பினான். செட்டியார் ‘நாழியரிசியும் நான்கு முழமும் போதுமென்று கிரதம் பூண்ட எனக்கு இவை யெல்லாம் தன்பமாம். என்னைத் தன்பத்துக்குள்ளாக்க வேண்டாமென்று விண்ணப்பஞ் செய்கின்றேன்’ என்று கூறி உவையலைத் திருப்பி விட்டார். விசுவநாத சாஸ்திரியாரைக் கோமகனழைத்து மீண்டும் சில பரிசுகள் வழங்கினான். 1803 ம் ஆண்டு மார்ச்சுமாதம் 8 ந்திததி முத்துச் சாமி கண்டி அரசனாக முடி சூட்டப்பெற்று அவ் வருடமே யூன் மாதம் 26 ந்திததி சிவச்சேதுமுஞ் செட்டப்பட்டான். இது போன்ற பல ஐதீசக்கதைகளைத் தரு. ஆ. முத்துத் தம்பிப்பிள்ளையவர்களியற்றிய யாழ்ப்பாணச் சரித்தரத்தில் பாக்கக் காணலாம்.

இவ்வாறு கோவறிந்த கணித சிங்கமங்கக் கிரத்திப் பிரதாபமுற்று விசுவநாதசாஸ்திரியார் விளங்கினார். இலங்கை இராசாங்க லிகிதராகவும், தேசாதிபதியாகவும் திறம்படக் கடமையாற்றிய உத்தமத் தோன்றலாம் சேர். எபர்சன் தெனந்து (Sir Emerson Tennent) அவர்கள் தமது “இலங்கையில் கிறிஸ்த சமயம்” என்னும் நூலின் கண் ‘விசுவநாதன் இலங்கையிலுள்ள ஏனைய வானசாஸ்திரக் கணிதர்களைப் பார்த்தாலும் நன்கு மதிக்கப்பட்டவர். இவருக்குமுன் ஒன்பது தலைமுறை தலைமுறைகளாக இக்கலையை அப்பியாசித்து கிருத்தசெய்தோருமாகிய இவரது முதாதைகளினால் ஒருங்குசேர்த்துச் சேமித்து வைக்கப்பெற்ற என்ன சாஸ்திரக் கலைகளைத் தனக்கத்தே ஓங்கே அமைப்பெற்றவர்’ எனக் கூறியிருக்கின்றார். “இப்புவலகவாழ்வை நீக்குவவரையும் இவரால் வருடந்தோறும் கணிக்கப்பெற்றுப் பிரசரிக்கப்பட்ட பஞ்சாங்கம் ஏனைய பஞ்சாங்கங்களைக்காட்டிலும் கிருப்பமாய் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளப்பட்டது. இவரது பஞ்சாங்கத்தில கூறப்பட்டவையாவும் உண்மையாய் இருந்தமையே இதற்குக் காரணம்.” எனசைமன்காசிச்செட்டித் துரை தமது தமிழ் நாவலர் (Tamil Plutarch) சரித்திரத்தில் கூறுகின்றார். இவரது கணிதத் திறமையைக் கேள்வியுற்ற இலங்கை நீதியரசராய் சேர் அலக்சாண்டர் யோன்ஸ்தன் (Sir Alexander Johnstone) இங்கிலாந்து

அரசராகிய மாட்சிமைதங்கிய நான்காம் ஜோர்ச் (King George IV 1830-1837) மன்னர் அவர்களுக்கு இவரைப் பற்றி பாரட்டியிருந்த நிதும் அனுப்பி “இராசாகின் கணிதர்” (Almanac Maker to His Majesty) என்னும் பட்டப்பெயரை இவர்க்குப் பெற்றுக் கொடுத்தனர்.

ஆரலிச் சிவன்கோயில் நிலைத்தற்குக் காரணரும் அக் கோவில்தொந்தக்காரரும் ஸ்தானீகருமாகி. மேற்படி கோயில் கட்டுதற்குரிய நிலம் தருமசாதனஞ்செய்தவரும் சில திருப்பணிகளைச் செய்கிறவரும் மேற்படி கோயிலுக் காகக் கட்டளைக்கிரமம் ஒன்று ஏற்படுத்தியவரும் இவரே யாம்.

இவர் பெயர்பெற்ற புலவராகி வண்ணைக்குறவஞ்சி நகுலமலைக்குறவஞ்சி நாடகம் முதலிய அருமையான நூல்களையும் மயூரகரிப்புராணத்துத் தெய்வநாயகி திருமணச்சுருக்கம் முதலியபாடல்களையும் இயற்றினர். வண்ணைக்குறவஞ்சி கி. பி. 1814 டி. ஆண்டு இயற்றப்பெற்றது.

“அறைகின்ற சகலாண்டு தன்னிலென்றும்  
ஆயிரத்தெழுதூற்று முப்பத்தாரசன்மேற்  
பெறுகின்றபவவென்னும் வருடம் வண்ணைப்  
பேரூரின் வைத்தியநாத சுவாமியின்மேற்  
பறைதூன்றும் பவனியிலாசை வைத்துப்  
பதுமினியாகிய மதன மோகினிக்கு  
இறைதூன்று மாவையப்புரத்திற்கந்த  
நின்னருள் நற்குறி சொன்னதுநாங்கள்”

என நகுலமலைக்குறவஞ்சி நாடகத்தில் வருதல் காண்க. வண்ணைக்குறவஞ்சி அச்சுவாகனமேறியதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. இதில் ஒருபாட்டை இங்கு தருகிறோம்.

சித்திரமுளரிக்கண்ணர் சிறந்தவா மனத்தாராசை  
வத்திரமுடையாரஞ் சக்கரத்தர் பொன்வனத்தாமத்கர்  
இத்திரவயன் மரலீசனீவர்களிலிறைவரான  
அத்தர் தூள் வணங்கி வண்ணைக்குறவஞ்சிபறைகுவேனே,



அராலிச் சிவன்கோயிற் சொந்தக்காரர் பன்னிருவருள் ஒருவரும் பிரதிஷ்டோற்சவ ஆசாரியருமான கங்காதரக் குருக்கள் நகுலமலைக்குறவஞ்சிப் பிரதி பலவிடங்களில் தேடியும் மாவைக் கந்தசாமி கோயிலாரிடமிருந்து ஒரு பிரதியே பெற்றனர். அதனைச் சுன்னாகம் அ. குமாரசாமிப்புலவர் அவர்களைக்கொண்டு ஒருவாறு பரிசோதிப்பித்து அச்சிட முயலுங்காலத்திலே பரமபதமடைந்தனர். இவர் குமாரர் கணேசக்குருக்கள் அவர்களால் நகுலமலைக்குறவஞ்சி நாடகம் 1895 ம் ஆண்டில் நிகழ்ந்த மஹாதவருடம் கொக்கு வில் சோதிடப்பிரகாச அச்சியந்தரசாலையில் அச்சிடப்பெற்றது. இதன் பிரதிகள் தற்போது கிடைப்பதரிது. மட்டுவி லிலுள்ள தில்லைவாசத்தை இல்லமாகக்கொண்ட பிரமஸ்ரீ சி. சுப்பிரமணிய ஸ்வர் அவர்கள் இந்நாடகத்தின் பிரதி ஒன்று எமக்குக்கொடுத்துதவினர் அராலி வாணிஸ்லாச புத் தகசாலை அதிபர் பிரமஸ்ரீ நா. சிவசுப்பிரமணியக்குருக் கள் வேறுசில குறிப்புகள் தந்துதவினர்.

இந்நாடகம் யாழ்ப்பாணத்திலே வாசஞ்செய்த பிரபுக் கள், பிராமணகுருமார், நாட்டுக்கோட்டை நகரத்தார் முத லியோர்களுடும் அங்கங்குள்ள ஊர்கள் தடாகங்கள் முகலி யவைகளையும் இடையிடையே வர்ணித்தும் மடக்கு, யமகம், சிலேடை, தொனிமுதலிய அலங்காரங்களமைத்தும் கீர்த் தனை, பதம், சிந்து, கொச்சகம் முதலிய உலகிதமெட்டுக் களிலும் நகுலமலைமீதும் மாவைக் கந்தசாமிமீதுமாகச் செந் தமிழிற் செய்யப்பட்டது. இதில் ஒரு பாட்டுப் பின்வரு மாறு:

குலவுதிருவனம் டரித்தோர் பொன்சாரங்கர்

கோத்தரணி நன்குடையதாகக் கொண்டோர்

நிலவுறுமெண் கோவுடைய ரத்திதனை

நீடுவந்த பகவரென நின்று மூவர்

உலகுபுகழ் மலரயன்மால் சிவனெனச்சொல்

ஹற்றவரிற் றலைவர் பதமுவந்து போற்றிக்

கலவமயினடன மிகுநகுலசையக்

காமர்குறவஞ்சிதனைக் கழறுவேனே.

எனவும் பிரபுக்களை வர்ணிக்கமுடிந்ததில்

நாட்டினிலுயர்ந்த வட்டுக்கோட்டையில் வதிந்த  
எகிரநாயக முசுலிமனாச் சாரலினிடையே  
பட்சிவேட்டைகள் பழகிக் கந்தர்தாட் டீணெதொழுது  
செல்வமிருத்திடும் மலவாழ் வீரக்குறச்சிங்க னானே.

எனவும்

நாட்டுக்கோட்டை நகரத்தாரை வர்ணிக் குமிடத்தில்

கருணாசச்செட்டியென்று மாலை  
கந்தசுவாமி கட்டாட்சங்கன்பொற்ற  
அருணாசலச் செட்டியாரூர் தம்பி  
யாகவே வரும் ஆறுமுகச் செட்டியாரூர்  
சுருணாசலத்தினைக் கரா மவர்  
தம்பியாஞ்சிவசிதம்பரஞ் செட்டியாரும்  
வருணாசலத்தினிலுதிசை முத்து  
மாபொற்பதக்கம் பொன்வளைகள் தந்தார் பார்.

எனவும்

யாழ்ப்பாணத்திலுள்ள ஊர்ப்பெயர்கள் யாவையும்

வட்டுக்கோட்டை வனம் மாதகல் சில்லாலை மூனாய்  
மாவையிருபாலை கோப்பாய் மந்துவில் புன்னலை கைதை  
கட்டைவேலி கல்லுமுனை கந்தரோடை வேலன்பிராய்  
காரைதிவு வேலனை முன்னூரே நடந்துதேடி—கண்டழைத்து.

அச்சவேலி வண்ணைகொழுகாம மரியாலை நல்லூர்  
ராணைக் கோட்டை மானிப்பாயேழாலையினவாலை புண்ணை  
தச்சன்தோப்பு தேவகிரி சங்கரத்தை யேயராவி  
சங்குவேலியேமுதலாயெங்கணும் விரைந்தேடி—கண்டழைத்து

சண்டிலிப்பாய் தெல்லி சரசாலை விளைவேலிபுத்தூர்  
சாவகச்சேரி வரணிதாவடி கொழுப்புத்துறை  
சண்டிக்குழியூர் நவாலி சுண்ணை முகமாலையன்னி  
தொண்டைமாளுறே முச்சலாயெண்டிசைகளுநடந்து—கண்டழைத்து.

நாகதீவு பூனகரி நாகிகவுதாரிமுனை நாகிசெல்லூர்  
நாரந்தனை நாகிக்கோவில் கொல்லன்கிராய் மாகியப்பிட்டி  
துணைவி மண்டைதீவு புன்னைநகர் வல்லிபுரமே  
முதலாய எல்லையில் வினாந்து தேடி—கண்டழைத்து

என நான்கு கவிகளில் அமைத்துப்பாடியதையுங்காண்க.

மற்றையவற்றுட் சில ஏட்டுப் பிரதிகளாக இருக்கின்றன. இவர் ஓர் குறிப்புத்திட்டொன்று எழுதிவைத்தனர். திரு. ஆ. முத்துத்தம்பிப்பிள்ளை யாழ்ப்பாணச் சரித்திரம் எழுதுவதற்கு அதுமிகவும் உபயோகப்பட்டதாம். அக்குறிப்புக்களுள் ஒன்று பின்வருமாறு.

இலகியசகாப்தமெ ண் ணுற்றோடெழுபத்திரான்கு  
லலந்திரி சாக் பதிபாப் புவுணைவாகு  
நலமுறும் யாழ்ப்பாணத்து நகரிகட்டுவித்து நல்லூர்  
குலவியகந்தனார்க்குக் கோயிலொன்றமைப்பித்தானே.

இவரிடம் சோதிடங்கற்ற மாணவர் பலருள் வட்டுக் கோட்டைச் சாஸ்திரிகளாசாலை ஆசிரியரும் அக்காலத்தில் அமெரிக்க மிஷனுக்காகப் பஞ்சாங்கம் கணித்தவருமான சோமசேகரம்பிள்ளை யென்பவர் 1832 ம் ஆண்டிலும் விசுவநாதசாஸ்திரிபாரைச் சந்தித்தனராம். இவரது பந்துக்கள் அனேகருளர். சிலர் வாழையடி வாழையாய்க் கணித்த சாஸ்திரிகளாகவே இருக்கின்றனர். இந்தசமய வானசாஸ்திரிகளின் கணிதமுறையில ஏற்படும் பிழைகளைச் செமினெரி ஆசிரியர்கள் எடுத்தக்காட்டிக்கொண்டே வந்தார்கள். ஆகவே 1829 ம் ஆண்டு ஏற்பட்ட சந்திரகிரகணத்தன்று இதைப் பரீட்சித்துப் பார்ப்பதெனத் தீர்மானிக்கப்பட்டது. இதைப் பற்றிய பூர் (Dr. Poor) பண்டிதரின் அறிக்கையைக் கீழே மொழிபெயர்த்துத் தருகின்றேன்.

‘மேல்நாட்டு வானசாஸ்திரிகள் இந்துசமய வானசாஸ்திரிகளின் உதவியின்றிக் கிரகணகாலங்களைக் கணிப்பார்களோ என்னும் ஐயம் இருந்துகொண்டேவந்தது. 1829 ம் ஆண்டு பங்குனித் திங்கள் 20 ம் நாள் நிகழ்ந்த சந்திரகிரகணம் இவ்வையத்தை நீக்கச் சந்தர்ப்பம் அளித்தது. வானசாஸ்திரகிற்பன்னரும் வட்டுக்கோட்டை வாசருமாகிய விசுவநாதசாஸ்திரிகளென்னும் வயோதிக அந்தணரால் கணிக்கப்பட்ட பஞ்சாங்கத்தைப் பரிசோதித்தபோது கிரகணகாலக் கணிப்பில் மேல்நோக்காகப் பார்ப்பார்க்குத் தோன்றாதபடி மூன்று பிழைகள் பொதிந்துகிடந்தன. அக்கணிப்பின்படி சரியானகணிப்பிலும் பார்க்க அக்கிரகணமானது 15 நிமிஷங்கட்குப் பின்னர் ஆரம்பமாகி 24 நிமிஷங்களுக்குமேல்

அதிகமாக நீடித்து சந்திர மண்டலத்தில் மூன்று ஓரைகள் மேலதிகமாக மறைக்கப்படுவதாகவும் தெரிந்தது. கிரகண காலம் கிட்டியதும் சாஸ்திரிகளுக்கு அவர் கணிப்புப் பிழையெனக் காட்டப்பட அவர் மறுபடியும் கணித்துப் பார்த்துத் தனது பஞ்சாங்கத்திற் குறித்தவைகளே சரியெனச் சாதித்தனர். அவ்விதம் பலமுறை பலரின் உதவிகொண்டு கணித்தும் மறுமொழி ஒன்றாகவே, இரு கணிதமுறைகளையும் பரீட்சிக்க விரும்பினர். இவ் வாக்கு வாதம் ஊர்ச் சனங்களிடையே ஒரு கிளர்ச்சியை உண்டாக்கிவிட்டது. கல்வி நலம் வாய்ந்த ஓர் கோயிற் குருக்கள் (பெயர் கூறப்படவில்லை) கிஷயத்தை நன்கு விளங்கவெண்டுமென்பதனால் (Dr. Poor) பண்டிதரிடம் பலமுறை சென்று மூன்று வித்தியாசங்களையும் நன்கு அறிந்துகொண்டார். அவர் மேலைத் தேச நேர நிர்ணயமுறையைப் படித்துச் சுதேச முறையோடு ஒத்துப்பார்த்துக் கிரகணகாலத்தன்று தானும் தரிசனமலிகைவெண்டுமென்று தீர்மானித்தார். கிரகண தினத்தன்று அநேகர் வந்து கூடிவிட்டனர். கிரகணம் சூரிய அஸ்தமனத்திற்கு ஒன்பது நிமிஷங்களுக்குப்பின் ஆரம்பமாகியது. ஈற்றில் கோயிற் குருக்கள்முதலாக அநேகர் சுதேச முறை பிழையென்றே தீர்மானித்தனர்.

இதனால் ஆங்கில வானசாஸ்திரம் ஆகியவற்றின் உண்மையையும் திட்ப நுட்பத்தையும் அனேகர் அறிந்து அச்சாத்திரங்களை நன்கு மதிப்பாராயினர். விசுவநாத சாஸ்திரியாரும் செம்னரியாரின் பஞ்சாங்க கணிதச் சரிமுறையைத் தானுங் கற்றுப் பஞ்சாங்கம் கணித்ததுடன் இங்கு சோதிட நூல்களைச் சாஸ்திரிசாலையாருக்குக் கற்பிப்பதில் உதவியாயும் இருந்தனர். பூர் பண்டிதர் மூலம் சாஸ்திரியார் பிற்காலத்தில் அரசினரிடம் “இராசாங்கசோதிடர்” என்னும் பட்டமும் பெற்றுக்கொண்டனர்.

அக்காலத்து வாக்கிய கணிதங்கள் காலதீதப்பட்டமையாற் கிரகண கிரக சாரங்களிற் பிரத்தியக்ஷ சித்திகுன்றி வருகின்றமையைத் தெரிந்துகொண்ட சாஸ்திரியார் அவர்கள் காலத்தக்கியைந்த பிரபல சோதிடசாஸ்திரம் புதிதியற்ற ஊக்கங்கொண்டவராய்த் தம்மை கிருத்தாப்பியம் வந்தபிடித்தபோதும் தமதெண்ணத்தை ஒரு சிறிது நிறைவேற்றுவான்வேண்டி தமக்கு அப்பொழுதுள்ள தளர்ந்த சுக்

திற்கு இயன்றவாறு 'கணித சிந்தாமணி' என்னுமோர் நூலை இயற்றினர். அதுகாலந்தொடக்கம் பின்வந்த கணிதர்கா யாவர்க்கும் அஃதொன்றே கிரகணமுதலிய கணிதங்களில் ஒருவாறு சித்திபெற்று வருவதாய் இருந்தது. இக் கணித சிந்தாமணியின் ஒருபகுதியே 1892 ம் ஆண்டு கொக்குவில் சோசிடப்பிரகாச யந்திரசாலைபாரால் அச்சிடப்பெற்ற பரகி தமாகும். இதில் சூரியாதி நவக்கிரகஸ்புடங்களும் தூமாகி பஞ்சக்கிரகஸ்புடங்களும் சூளிகாதிநால்வஸ்புடங்களும் இலக் கினஸ்புடமும் கணிததற்குரிய விதிகள் அடங்கியிருக்கின் றன. முதற்பதிப்பில் இல்லாக பல விஷயங்களும் வாக்கி யங்களுக்குரிய எண்களும் சேர்த்து 1923 ம் ஆண்டில் இரண்டாம்பதிப்பாக அச்சிடப்பட்டது. இப்பதிப்பில் இன் னும் பத்துப் பிரதிகளே இருக்கின்றனவென்றும் சாஸ்திரி யார் அவர்களின் சீனிய சரித்திரத்தை நன்கு ஆராய்ந்து எழுகியனுப்பினால் மூன்றாம்பதிப்பில் சேர்த்து அச்சிடுவோ மென எழுதிய கொக்குவில் சோதிடபரிபாலன மட அதி பர் பிரமஸ்ரீ R. S. இரகுநாத ஐயர் அவர்களின் நன்னைக் கழும் காலஞ்சென்ற கனம் பிக்குல் (Rev John Bicknell) அவர்கள் சாஸ்திரியாரின் சீனிய சரித்திரத்தை ஆங்கிலத் தில் எழுதி உதவுப்படி கேட்டுக்கொண்டதுமே நாம் இச் சரித்திரத்தை எழுதத் துணிந்த காரணங்களாம்.

சாஸ்திரியார் சகாப்தம் 1710 சென்று செல்லா நின்ற கிலக வருடத்தக்குச் சரியான கி. பி. 1788 ம் ஆண்டில் இயற்றிய வாக்கிய கரண கிரகணம் என்னும் நூல் பிற்காலத்தில் அமெரிக்க மிஷனரியாய் வட்டுக்கோட் டையில் ஊழியம் புரிந்தவரும் செமினரிக் தலைவருமாகிய ஹோசிங்ரன் (Rev. Hoisington) தேசிகர் 1848 ம் ஆண்டு இயற்றிய சோதி சாஸ்திரத்திற் சேர்த்து அச் சிடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. பதப்பாசிரியராகும் ஹோசிங்ரன் தேசிகரின் கூறறை ஈண்டுக் குறிக்கிறோம். 'கி. பி. 1504 ம் வருஷமளவில் செகராசசேகரனென்னும் இராசனுடைய அதுமதிப்படி வர ருசி என்பவரார் செய்யப்பட்ட கிரக சார எண்ணல் இதனுடன் சேர்க்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. இது வாக்கிய கரண முறை. இத்தீவிலிருக்குஞ் சோதிடர்கள் இதன் வழியாய் அதிக நுட்பமான பலன்களைக் காணலா மென்று பெரும்பாலும் இவையே எடுத்தக் கொள்கிறார்

கள். கிரகண முறைகளுட் சிறிது நாட்களுக்குமுன் இந் நாட்டிற் பிறந்த சோதி சாஸ்திரியிற்றைச் செய்யப்பட்ட ஒரு முறை சேர்க்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. இதன் துருவ ஆண்டு கி. பி. 1783. அது உரைத்தமிழால் எழுதப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. வாக்கிய விதியைக்கொண்டு செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறபடியால் அதற்கு வாக்கிய சரண கிரகணம் என்று பெயர். அப் பெயர் கொண்ட ஒரு பழைய நூலிலிருந் தெடுக்கப்பட்டுத் தேசத்தில் வழங்கி வருகிற ஐரோப்பிய சாஸ்திர அறிவைக்கொண்டு அதிசந் திருத்தப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. சந்தேகமின்றிச் சென்ற சில வருடங்களுக்குள் ளாகத்தான் மிகு மாறுதல்கள் பண்ணப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன.”

ஒருமுறை விசுவநாத சாஸ்திரியார் அவர்கள் தமது நண்பரொருவரிடம் மயூராகிரிப் புராணத்தை வாசிக்கக் கொடுத்ததாகவும் அதனை வாசித்த நண்பர் தெய்வயானை திருமணச் சருக்கத்தினைக் காணவில்லையெனக் கவன்றதாகவும் அப்போது சாஸ்திரியார் சில நாட்களுக்குள் அதனை இந்தியாவிலிருந்து வருவித்துத் தருவதாகவுங் கூறி அச்சருக்கத்தினை ஆயற்றத்தொடங்கி தாம் குறிப்பிட்ட நாட்களுக்கு முன்னர் அதனை முடித்துத் தம் நண்பருக்குக் கொடுத்ததாகவும் ஓர் ஐதீகமுள்ளது. சாஸ்திரியார் அவர்களால் ஆயற்றப்பெற்ற தெய்வநாயகி திருமணச் சருக்க எட்டுப்பிரதிபொன்று தற்போது மட்டுகிலில் தில்லைவாசத்தை இல்லமாகக்கொண்ட பிரமஜீ சு. சுப்பிரமணிய ஐயர் அவர்களிடம் அகப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. அச்சருக்கத்தில் 125 பாக்களுள் அதில் முதல் நான்கு பாக்களையும் ஈண்டு குறிக்கின்றோம்.

என்று சூதனிக்கதை யுரைத்தலுமிழைஞ்சி  
நன்றென புகிழ்வெப்தியே நற்றவத் தொகையோர்  
வென்றிவேலவன் வள்ளிநாயகிதனை விதியால்  
மன்றல் செய்திடு காசைமுன் வகுத்தனை மரபால்.

தெய்வநாயக மாதனைச் செங்கதிர் வேலோன்  
வையமீதினின் மணம்புரி சாதையின் மரபுந்  
சையலார்வர் தோற்றமுன் சாற்றதியெனவே  
பொடியினற்றவச் சூதமா ருனிவரன் புகல்வான்.

மாயவன் பெறு கன்னியரிருவர்கள் வணப்பி  
 னேய நல்லமுதக்கொடி சுந்தரியெனுந்  
 றாய மங்கையர் குமரவேன்புயத்துணை தோய  
 நேய நற்றவஞ் சரவணத்திழைத்தனர் நெறியால்.

அன்னகாலையி லாறுமாழகங்களு டணிசேர்  
 பன்னிரண்டெனும் புயங்களும் படைகளின் சீராக்  
 தன்னு பன்னிரு விழிகளினிரைஞ்ச் துலங்க  
 வெண்ண யாளுடை யறுமுகனாழிடை யெதிர்த்தான்.

இத்தூல் மயூராகிரிப் புராணம் 14 வது சருக்கம்,  
 தெய்வபாணை திருமணச் சருக்கம் என்னும் பெயரையு  
 டைத்து. இதில் வான சாஸ்திர சம்பந்தமான உவமை  
 களைபுடைய பாக்கள் பல மிளிர்வதைக் காணலாம். அவற்  
 றுள் ஐந்து பாக்களை எண்ணெடுத்துக் காட்டுதாம்.

அல்லினெழு மதியதனைக் கண்டிரு  
 ளொல்லையினொருபுறத் தொதுங்கி நின்றல் போல்  
 நல்லென் மதிமுக நங்கை கூந்தலை  
 மெல்லென முடித்தணி விரவச் சாத்தினார். (54)

காரிருண் முகிலிடைக் களுலுமின்கொடி  
 யார்வமோடழிவுறு தமருந் தன்மைபோல்  
 வாருறு கூத்தனார் வகிரு நெற்றியின்  
 நேருறு குங்கும ரேகைசேர்த்தினார்.... (55)

கருமுகிலிடையிடை கலந்து மின்னுறு  
 வருகெழு சாரகை பருதியொண்பிறை  
 வருபரி வேடமற்றிவைகள் வந்தென  
 மருமலர் தொடையணி வகைகள் சாத்தினார்... (56)

காரிடை யுதித்திடுங் கடவுட்டிங்களோ  
 டேருறு செய்யவனிருந்த யோகம்போ  
 னேருறு தெய்வயாண நெற்றிமேற்  
 சேருறு குங்கும ரேகை தீட்டினார் (57)

கேடறு சேயுடன் செழுமிக்கீழற  
நாடிய பசியமால் நணுக்கியற்றென  
ஆடுறு டுக்கு ரேகைக்குள்ளுறத்  
தேடுறு கருநிறத்தலதந்தீட்டினார் ...

(55)

இவ்வரிய நூலினைப் பிரபலி சி. சுப்பிரமணியலாயர் அவர்கள் அச்சேற்றும் நோக்கங்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். யாழ்ப்பாணத் தலுள்ள செவச்சிமாண்சன், செந்தமிழ்பி மானிகள் யாராயினும் பொருளுதவி செய்தால் இது காலம் அழிந்தபட்ட நூல்களுள் ஒன்றாயிருந்த இந்நூலை யச்சேற்றிய புண்ணியம் அவர்களுக்குண்டு.

எங்கள் சோதிட சிரோன் மணியும் வான சாஸ்திர விற்பன்னரும் முன்னே லாக்கிய பஞ்சாங்கமாகவும் 1838 ம் ஆண்டின் பின் திருக்கணித பஞ்சாங்கமெனவும் வெளி வரும் பஞ்சாங்கத்தை வளர்த்த பிதாவும் புலவ சிகாம ணியுமாய சாஸ்திரியார் 1815 ம் ஆண்டு தமது 89 ம் வயசுற் சிவபதமடைந்தனர். 1834 ம் ஆண்டு 'இலங்கை வர்த்தமானம்' (Ceylon Gazetteer) என்னும் நூலினை இயற்றியதற்காக வியந்த 1837 ம் ஆண்டில் குடியேற்ற காட்டுமந்திரி (Secretary of State for Colonies) அவர்களது உத்தரவின்படி மேன்மை தங்கிய இலங்கைத் தேசாதிபதியவர்களால் 100 கணி (105 பவுண்) பரிசு பெற்ற சைமன் காச்ச்செட்டி ஆசிரியர் முற் கூறிய நூலிலே அராலி என்னும் ஊரை கிபரிக்கும் பொழுது "அராலி, கிசுவாக சாஸ்திரியாரின் வாசஸ்தானம்" எனறு மாதிரம் கூறி வேறு யாதொன்றும் கூறாது கிடுத்தது சாஸ்திரியாருக்கு அக்க லத்திருந்த கீர்த்தியை நன்கு கிளக்கிக் காட்டும். இவருக்குப் பின் "இராசாங்க சோதி டம்" என்னும் பட்டத்தைத் தமிழரில் யாரும பெற்ற தாகத் தெரியவில்லை. இப்பெரியாரது பூதவுடம்பு நீங்க னும் புகழுடம்பு சோத்டமும், வான சாஸ்திரமும், திருக் கணிதபஞ்சாங்கமும், பஞ்சாங்ககணிதர்களும், சைவமும் தமிழும் உற்றவரை நின்று நிவவுமென்பது உண்மை.



## **THE ART OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT IN JAPAN.**

BY MISS RANEE S. PAUL.

Flower Arrangement in Japan is not merely decorative, not merely even aesthetic, but something symbolical and something philosophical. Its aim is to express nature with her variety of effects upon the human soul in all its fullness, and to give these expressions a place in the daily routine life of the ordinary man, thus bringing man into closer communion with her even when he cannot be out-of-doors; and by so doing indirectly uplifting his moral character. So deep is its significance to the Japanese that customary etiquette demands that flowers, arranged upon the alcove, should be honoured with the salutation of a low bow.

Imagine a shallow China-basin with some delicate fronds of net-fern hanging over it in various twists and turns, with even their shadows exquisitely harmonised. This would represent a shady nook of forests. To represent spring, the cherry-blossom would invariably be the medium. Combined with spring-orchid it would be used to reveal the splendour of that gorgeous season in Nippon. Arrangements for summer, however, produce a cool effect; the water-lily, the pond lily and the iris are extensively used for this purpose, and containers are always flat in order that they might symbolise a pond or a lake. Six stalks of green fox-tailed grass and one of the cherry were strangely mixed in one demonstration to depict the desolateness of nature. Bright red blossoms in a cream-coloured container would suggest a mid-summer-field. Autumn in Japan, they say, is gorgeous when fields and mountain-slopes are embroidered with a glory of crimson and maroon. For one exhibit the medium chosen to depict autumn

was a curious assortment of the cypress, the pine, the wax tree, and club-moss weaving patterns of a varied hue. The pine-tree, the Eternal Tree, is often used to symbolise the relationship between Earth and Heaven. Sometimes the branches would hang down in the strangest of curves, and sometimes they ascend in the severest of straight lines. Sometimes there would be no flowers at all, especially when the artist wishes to depict Winter, and the desolation Winter brings in her train. A mountain overlooking a village would be simply expressed by a tall bambo-vase of flower, the spring orchid towering above, suggesting visions of distant mountains, and the wild plum and the Chrysanthemums below humbly proclaiming the aspirations of village cottages.

"Containers", and the stands or mats on which the containers are placed, I need hardly say, are carefully selected so as to be in keeping with the theme. Strange indeed would be the shapes, and stranger still the materials. Sometimes it would be a mere fish-basket, and sometimes a bucket from a well. Sometimes it would mean as costly a piece of porcelain or lacquer-ware as no Jaffna man would think of wasting money upon. The stand might merely be a bambo-mat or a slab of wood polished to such perfection, that it would reflect a myriad delights of light and shade; or deliberately left unhewn and rugged, suggesting the most rural of landscapes. The crescent moon hanging from the wall seems to be a favourite container for many forms, and the curves of twigs around would be as delicate as the moon-beams of a Japanese summer-night.

To the utilitarian Jaffna mentality that finds a use for the barest "*naar*" (நார்) upon the palmyrah-

stalk, that prefers to grow the brinjal with more zest than the jasmine, it might be surprising to hear that in Japan the art of arranging flowers in a vase (or in a "container", as it is called) is considered a great skill, and a necessary qualification for the to-be-bride. So great is the repute in which the art is held, that College Research institutes, and criticism classes have been instituted to study, perfect, and propagate it. Under the Ohara School alone, originated about forty years ago in Osaka, there are ten-thousand licensed teachers and one hundred thousand students. In the fields of *Moribana* and *Heikina* styles, the Ohara School enjoys the highest reputation. Both these are modern styles.

The fundamental points of the *Moribana* style are in arranging the flowers there should be a subject, an auxiliary to the subject, a little shorter and made to balance the third factor, the object; all these forming a triangle and all intermediaries arranged within this triangle. The object of the *Moribana* and *Heikina* styles is to make the arrangement as naturalistic as possible, paying due regard to colour harmony. Therefore, these styles would be more intelligible to the average man, than the others more ancient and more formal. The *Moribana* style usually expresses itself in flat containers, but the *Naigero* specialises in tall vases.

The *Seikana* style the most ancient and practised by six different schools, is very formal and subject to many regulations; it is the kind specially meant for the alcove where the Japanese people usually keep their family gods and ancestor tablets. A painting in water-colour upon a scroll of silk usually provides the back-ground, and gorgeous hangings on the sides serve to set it off. The harmony between the colour effects of the picture,

hanging and flowers is carefully considered and the rhythm of the curves given every possible attention. I watched a girl arranging flowers upon an alcove and marvelled at the minute precision with which she bent the stalks to curve just the right way, and the elaborate attention she paid to every detail.

Of what delight this art would be, if we could only capture its spirit and embody the ravishing charm of its beauty and philosophy, in our Jaffna homes. Perhaps I have been unfair in my remark about the utilitarian Jaffna mentality. Surely the mind that has evolved the custom of ordering the golden bunches of the King Coconut to be brought down to adorn the entrance of the wedding hall, or of causing plantain trees to be uprooted just when the green fruits are most promising, to support the gate posts of the festive home with their symbolic fruitfulness—such a mind cannot be called “utilitarian”, in one cruel sweep! Our ladies have never considered their toilet complete until some jasmine buds or chrysanthemums have been set off against the jet black of the *Kondai* (கெண்டை—). Paper flags, the most inartistic form of interior decoration, are not a thing that we can claim as our own. [From what land they hail, I have still to find out.] But *we* have always resorted to nature with her varied beauties for our decorations, and our great men and women we have honoured with garlands of jasmine and of gifts of lime.

Again Nature has not been to us without her symbolic significance. Has not the mango-leaf-girdled-coconut on the full water-pot always symbolised fullness, and the *Kuthuvilaku* (குத்தவிளக்கு) shedding its dim light in the back-ground, completed the perfect picture of the life-sustaining forces of nature? The

sweet fragrance of the jasmine and the aromatic scent of the *Tulasi* (துளசி, that mingle with the *Pooja* devotions have stood for the purity of the soul that would up-lift its prayer to the Holy One. When seed time comes round, maidens with earthen bowls of the nine kinds of sprouting grains, "*Navathaniam*" (நவதானியம்), have danced their dance of joy at the surge and pulse of new life to the temple-gates. Do we not line our walks with mango-leaves and coconut-strands on auspicious occasions to devote the abundant life of spring time or *Vasantha-Kalum*, (வசந்தகாலம் when the whole world seems to dance to the rhythm of Krishna's flute!

Therefore, with such a close association with nature for the heritage of our race, I do not feel apologetic when I give the following hints as to how we may capture the spirit of this art of Flower-arrangement and adapt it to our own land. When the monsoons bring to us the welcome rain, and our dry parched earth drinks her fill, then all around is green life, sprouting from every nook and corner. Then is the time when we may gather some shoots of the Cyprus *Korai* (கோரை), and of the Treidax (these are about the first to appear) and arrange them in our living rooms to symbolise the recurrence of new life as year succeeds to year. Then as every day of October and November adds on to the greenness that mantles our dry Jaffna, a thousand pleasant surprises await him that hath eyes to see. Have you watched the wild Asparagus (சுத்தாவிரி, that twines and twists among the hedges of our narrow lanes, especially at the sea-side? We may use them for streamers for festive decorations, and for our ordinary drawing rooms they might be coaxed into draping a pillar with the tenacity of their spines interspersed with the red flames of the

flamboyant. What excellent colour effect! What a symbol of the splendour and glory of nature!

The lotus is an inexhaustible subject. To us the queenly bloom will always symbolise our devotion to our Mother-land, and we should make it a habit of using the symbol on the platforms of our public meetings. The almost severe symmetry of the petals might also suggest perfection, and as in Japan the coolness and the peace of the tranquil ponds that are her native haunts. Indian girls are fond of intertwining the fragrant bracts of pandanus (தேள்) into their braids of hair. But these are so broad and can be so easily written on, that one often wonders why we cannot print our invitations or our greetings on them and use their fragrance which persists for days, to symbolise our welcome to our guests or the warmth of our greetings at some festive season.

Vases we do not lack. The bamboos that grow here with as much ease as in Japan could provide all our tall containers; our earthen *chatties* (சட்டி) could be moulded into whatever shape we choose. The palmyrah leaf which we can weave into a myriad shapes suggests promise of many a possibility; all our brassware-our *lotahs* (லோட்டா) and our *vaddils*, (வட்டில்) our *charuvams* (சருவம்) and our *chembu* (செம்பு) could also be pressed into service.

To me the whole poetry of the monsoon weather lies in the *Gloriosa Superba*. November flowers we call them in our native tongue, because the coy blooms delay their advent till after *Dheepavali* in late November. But here the Latin name certainly far excels the Tamil, for truly is she a heavenly glory! Her delicate leaf-tips that lengthen and curl

lengthen and twine and clasp every possible support suggestive of great perseverance, and her crinkly petals that emerging out of the palest gold and deepening into the brightest reds point heaven-ward, symbolic of man's highest aspirations - may we not hope,—might be well made use of by a flower-artist as an expression of the divine eloquence on the verge of which we often tremble in these our mortal coils.

*Gloriosa Superba!*

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## **JAFFNA COLLEGE PRIZE-DAY—**

### **A DUAL FUNCTION.**

*Extracts from an account which appeared in the Young Idea.*

The Annual Prize-Giving at 6 p. m. on Wednesday the 10th November, which followed an At-Home to the Old Boys and friends of Jaffna College, was a unique event which will be remembered for sometime, as it is claimed to have achieved the double purpose of showing the public the success attained by the students as well as the success of the Board of Directors in the selection of a New Principal.

This Prize-Giving afforded to all the friends and well-wishers of the College an opportunity to meet Rev. and Mrs. Sydney K. Bunker.

The Prize-Giving, in itself a successful event as usual, on this particular occasion, slid almost into second place. At about 6 p. m., Mr. E. C. Lockwood, Mr. and Mrs. Bunker, Sir W. Duraiswamy, the Speaker of the State Council, followed by the Board of Directors and the College Staff mounted the platform. The Ottley Hall was gaily decorated with palms and

bunting. The hall was bathed in a soft pleasant glow and the fans sent their message of comfort to the distinguished audience who had gathered there. The audience deserves praise for its excellent orderliness and attentiveness which contributed a great deal to the success of the function. About a thousand persons had gathered in this beautiful hall, the heads of educational institutions in the North, ministers of churches, inspectors of schools and the representatives of all the learned professions.

The prize-giving, which was under the Chairmanship of Mr E. C. Lockwood, the out going acting Principal, commenced with a word of prayer by Rev. S. Kulandran and a welcome song (specially composed by Mr. S. A. Visuvalingam) and sung by Master S. Muttucumaraswamy and a recitation by Mas. R. Thavarajah. To the right of the Chairman was accommodated Sir W. Duraiswamy, while on his left was the Rev. Sydney Bunker, the new Principal. Others on the platform were Mrs. Bunker, the Board of Directors and the staff of the College.

Then Mr. E. C. Lockwood read a report of the work during the year under review.

After the reading of the report, the new Principal, Rev. Sydney Bunker, addressed the gathering.

The Chairman in inviting Sir W. Duraiswamy to speak said that he was particularly happy that the next speaker of the evening was a distinguished Old Boy of the College. Amidst loud cheers, Sir W. Duraiswamy rose up and in his speech chiefly dealt with his early school days at Jaffna College. He added that he had spent the best part of his school days in Jaffna College. He exhorted the boys to spend their time usefully because they were at a stage which was perhaps the most important one in



their lives. Then Sir W. Duraiswamy gave away the athletic prizes while Mrs. Bunker gave the scholastic prizes.

Mr. Handy Perinbanayagam rising amidst loud cheers to propose a vote of thanks said that the College was under no special obligation to those who responded to the invitation 'as it is now realized that it is the duty of everyone to take a keen interest in the education of the country and not leave it entirely on the shoulders of the teachers and inspectors.' The function terminated with a spirited singing of the College song.

V. S. CHANMUGAM,  
London Matric. E.

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#### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It is my privilege this evening to welcome you all and express the College gratitude for the real interest you show us by your presence. We are particularly happy to have Sir Wytialingam Duraiswamy present as our chief speaker of the evening—distinguished graduate to whom we point proudly. May I, Sir, here publicly record our satisfaction in the knighthood which has been recently bestowed upon you—a signal honour, indeed.

The last Prize-Giving was held in October 1935, and at that time Mr. Bicknell presented the annual report of the Principal. I read this record of his the other evening and it brought him so vividly to mind that I could almost hear him speaking—humorous, sympathetic, idealistic. He mentioned intimately staff and students, disclosing his real affection for all those with whom he worked. One sensed his long, loving acquaintanceship with people and

places of the past; and one recognized too that he dreamed boldly for the future.

The death of Mr. Bicknell on December 17th last stunned our College community. For days the fact of his passing could not be fully comprehended. So intimately had Mr. Bicknell and the College been connected that it was almost impossible to visualize an immediate future without his intense interest and guidance to mould it. But the shaken staff and Board of Directors *had* to face that immediate future, and without the wisdom and inspiration of him on whom they had so frequently depended.

Of the many tributes that have been paid to Mr. Bicknell, none has been more striking than this unspoken one, the fact that the College opened as scheduled on January 18th, and carried on from that date competently and well. Only sound institutional organization, and, especially, *staff loyalty* made that possible—organization which Mr. Bicknell had largely created, and loyalty which he had inspired.

And here, early in my report, I wish to thank all those loyal ones who, remembering, have aided me in my task. My thanks are due to Mr. S. S. Sanders and Mr. J. Sinnappah of the office force, without whose experience and gracious willingness we could not have carried on; to Mr. J. V. Chelliah, Mr. D. S. Sanders, Mr. A. C. Sundrampillai, and all the staff who by advice and suggestion helped my understanding, and forgave the mistakes of ignorance; and to the Board of Directors. And I wish, also, to record gratitude to a handful of men half the world away who month by month exhibit utmost affection for a College unseen. I speak of the Board of Trustees in America who handle our endowment

funds, and especially of Mr. James S. Allen, the treasurer, who in the complicated intricacies of the modern financial world husbands our resources with consummate and selfless skill, so handling our funds there that we receive the largest financial return. How fortunate we are to have such a man as our "keeper", whose sympathetic appreciation of our ideals underlies his canny care for our "treasure."

During the Christmas vacation the Board of Directors met and voted that the Board of Trustees in Boston be asked to select an ordained administrator as successor to Mr. Bicknell, and that in the interim period Mr. Lockwood should act as Principal. On the platform to-night we have Mr. Bicknell's successor, Rev. Sydney K. Bunker. Most of you will know by now of his educational qualifications, his B. A., B. D., and his Oxford B. Litt. Those who have listened to him speak are aware of his practical, vigorous idealism, vividly expressed. Those who have met him recognize already his charm of personality, his questing interest, and the co-operative sincerity with which he enters his work. We are indeed thankful that such a man has come into the principalship of Jaffna College. To him and Mrs. Bunker we extend the warmest welcome.

This report will present informally some of the items of progress and interest, the facts and conclusions which have impressed themselves upon me these last ten months.

**STUDENTS :—** Our total registration has increased slightly this year from 501 in 1936 to 509 in 1937. It is interesting to note that the gain is due to the increase in the number of our girl students, which expansion from 49 to 60 more than offsets a loss of 3 among the boys. We have

3 young women in the Intermediate classes, and rejoice in this development of our college usefulness while we welcome them to the growing group of young ladies in our co-educational institution.

We have members from four religious communities among our 509 students : 376 Hindus, 128 Christians, 3 Muslims, and 2 Buddhists.

98 students are housed in our hostels, and 45 others take their noon meals here.

The problem of hostel rooms for our Intermediate students has been very knotty. They have lived variously : next to the dining hall in a room now used for drawing ; in the small corner room adjacent to the half demolished administration block ; and now, very happily in the one-time Vice-Principal's house, where they can at last spread out. Mr. Oppenheim is the resident master there, and they are fortunate indeed, to have his friendly supervision.

In January 1937, 63 young people appeared for the London Matriculation Examination. Only 14 passed. We surpassed, even so, the island average of 10 %, but I do not feel that we can be satisfied when on such tests only 20 % of our students do satisfactory work. In June only 7 appeared, and 5 of them passed, 2 in the first division, so that our record was raised. Intermediate candidates have appeared—3 in Arts ; 2 in Science. As yet the results are not known.

In line with the recommendation of University College authorities we have introduced a Post-Matriculation Class this year. Its purpose is to lead soundly into the Intermediate work, so that the jump from Matriculation studies to Intermediate is not too abrupt.

The College has always been very generous in helping toward an education those students whose finances are limited. This year 72 boys and girls have received Rs. 3616 in direct scholarship aid. Moreover, to the number of 51, children of staff members and pastors of the J. C. S. I. U. C. receive free tuition, so that a total of 123 young people have been helped by the College toward a fuller enjoyment of life in the school.

In order to attract to the College boys of the highest intellectual abilities we are experimentally offering certain new academic achievement scholarships, to be first awarded in 1938. I may well quote from the Prospectus to explain them :—

A. The College offers 3 open scholarships of a year's free tuition to students of the area who entering the Intermediate Class in January 1938,

- a. have passed their Matriculation examination,
- b. have been certified by the headmasters of their schools to have been the previous year members of the top 10 % of their class, scholastically,
- c. are among the three highest to pass a special examination set by the College in Dec. 1937.

B. The College offers 4 open scholarships of a year's free tuition to the boys under 17 from the Affiliated English Schools who entering the College in the Vth Form in January 1938,

- a. have passed the J. S. C. examination,
- b. have been certified by the headmasters of their schools to have been the previous year members of the top 10 % of their class scholastically.

c. are among the four highest to pass a special examination set by the College in Dec. 1937.

Similarly 2 open scholarships on very much the same basis will be awarded to boys or girls under 9 entertaining the Lower School in January 1938.

It is hoped that we may by this method leaven our student body with some of the most active school-boy mentalities.

Student life consists not only of studying and examinations, but of participation in many other activities. While our teams have not this year swept championships their way, we have triumphed athletically with V. G. George of the Post-Matriculation class. In the All-Ceylon School-boy Meet in Colombo he carried off two first places: the pole vault with a jump of  $10' 2 \frac{3}{4}"$  and the high jump with a leap of  $5' 10 \frac{3}{4}"$  which established a new school-boy record for the island and topped the English school-boy record. Jaffna College congratulates him on this splendid achievement.

Our literary societies have met regularly for debate, for lectures, for the reading of papers, for public functions. The Brotherhood in the first term presented "The Step-mother" at its annual celebration; the Lyceum recently presented "The Stoker" and a Tamil Drama. A group of our students very creditably presented a dramatization of the "Good Samaritan" at the October meeting of the Church Council and repeated it again here at Jaffna College last Sunday evening.

The Y. M. C. A. has held its weekly gathering and several able speakers have addressed the society. The annual expedition to the island of Eluvaitive took place early in July.

A new comer to the group of College clubs is the Dormitory Union where it is hoped the hostel students may find an opportunity for friendly co-operation, for good fun, and for a sound organization through which it will be possible for them to increasingly share in the smooth running of the home life department of the institution.

Interest in the College garden is reviving. The area has been divided up into small sections and allotted to different students. Tomatoes, plantains, brinjals, etc. should soon be appearing in abundance.

The Scouts continue their robust activities under Mr. Oppenheim's direction. They enjoy especially week-end camping trips at Velani and Mathakal. At the Scout Rally at Old Park in September they contributed to the general programme items of signalling, knot-tying, and American Indian dancing. We are proud to say that in 1936 our Troop was adjudged the best in Ceylon by the Scout authorities. In January two of our Scouts attended the All-India Scout Jamboree at Delhi. For them it was a fine experience and they shared it gladly with the rest of the troop and the College by a talk in Assembly and by informal relation of their adventures.

Mr. Vethaparanam has recently organized a group of Rovers from whom we expect much. They have already taken an active interest in gardening.

15 boys and 15 girls meet with Mrs. Lockwood weekly for English choral practise. They gave an informal concert in February last and plan a second on the 26th of this month. And, although the College has no special classes in Tamil music, it is well to record here that 4 of our girls: Annammah Elias, Pushparanee Kanapathippillai, Rangitham Sundrampillai, and Alice Elias competing in the "Times

of Ceylon Music Festival" garnered silver and bronze medals to the number of 7, thus bringing prestige to our institution.

STAFF:— A year always brings staff shifts, gains, and losses, and we have had our share on the staffs of the College and the Affiliated Schools.

At Manipay Mr. J. S. Navaratnam, B. A., the headmaster for 16 years died in January. Mr. Navaratnam had taught at this College for 6 years before taking over the duties at Manipay. He was succeeded by Mr. S. P. Rajaratnam who was already a member of the staff of the school.

At Tellippalai English School Mr. J. V. Chelappah, the Headmaster, retired a few months early (July 1st) in order to take over the supervision of the Vernacular Schools of the J. C., S. I. U. C. We are sorry to lose such a fine educator from our schools, but we realize that as General Manager under the Church Council he has a field for effective work, where his ability, his tact, and far-sightedness will be of immense importance. Mr. C. C. Kanapathippillai, supervisor of the Lower School, was appointed headmaster in his place.

Mr. P. W. Ariaratnam has been appointed to be supervisor of the Lower School, and Miss G. Vijaya has been given temporary appointment there.

It is pleasant for me to record some happy personal changes in the lives of some of our College staff. Mr. Niles, Mr. Gnanasegaram, Mr. S. S. Selvadurai and Mr. K. Sellaiah (our librarian) have all been married within the last 12 months. At this rate we shall soon be without even the 3 single teachers we now have — and though such a prospect daunts and worries us, nevertheless we tender the



4 new Benedicts sincere congratulations and good wishes.

We all rejoiced that Mr. Handy Perinbanayagam had a few weeks in Japan as delegate to the International Educational Conference at Tokyo. Upon his return he gave generously of his time, sharing his experiences and impressions vividly with many groups.

We were happy to see Mr. K. A. Selliah of our Faculty in August and September when he came home from England on a short visit to his family. He has done a year's work in Physics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology. This year on his return he is engaging in work on Education until June 1938 when he will have secured a diploma in that subject from London University.

Mr. Rajasundaram, who is substituting for Mr. Selliah, has just passed his B. Sc. examination successfully with 2nd class honours. We congratulate him.

Just recently death has removed one of the members of the Board of Directors, Mr. Edward Mather, a loyal Old Boy of the College, who has taken an active interest in the life and conduct of our institution over a long period of years.

**PHYSICAL PLANT:-** Our College has grown physically. The filling of the athletic field to the east has at long last been completed and will be used increasingly as the surface is improved.

A house adjacent to our girls' dormitory was up for forced sale. In order to provide a 6th College owned home near the school for staff members and to protect the girls' hostel from possible undesirable

neighbours the College bought this. It has been repaired and wired for electric lights and is now occupied by Mr. Perinbanayagam.

The house near the church occupied by Mr. K. V. George was thoroughly repaired with a new roof at a cost of Rs. 793 |; and the building used by Mr. S. S. Sanders had extensive work done on beams, rafters, and walls at a cost of Rs. 589 |. Although at no time does the income from these 6 teachers houses cover the yearly expenditures upon them, the College opinion has been that it is eminently to be desired that as many as possible of our College community live near, so that their helpful influence may be more continually available to the students.

Our most difficult physical problem has been what to do about the administration rooms. The old block was partially torn down, and at the moment stands ugly and reproachful.

We hope soon to reach a decision as to future accommodation. For four months the offices were housed in the Principal's Bungalow. On the return of Mrs. Lockwood and children from Kodaikanal, the offices were shifted to the Y. M. C. A. rooms, which had to that date been unfurnished and unused. This move has caused distress in some quarters, and though it is obvious that to push building operations hastily and rashly now, just in order to free these rooms would be unwise, we hope that in a short time they may be released for their real purpose.

Previously the boarders during their periods of study were accommodated in three separate classrooms. Since one man only was in charge of the proceedings, and he evidently could not be in three rooms at once, supervision was difficult. It was

possible to arrange the study hall in one room (the long room which parallels the library downstairs). 72 desks and chairs were built to seat the group there. It is desirable that attention be paid in the near future to better ventilation of the room, but it has solved the main problem for which it was designed.

DISCIPLINE:— I have never considered myself a stern person, with frightening frown and cold compelling voice, but I note, rather to my surprise, that when mention is made of my inter regnum principalship stress is laid on the fact that discipline has been tightened.

I mentioned the new study hall arrangement for boarders. I think concentration on studies has been made more attainable by this grouping of the boys in one room under direct supervision. However, this supervised study has applied only to the early morning and the evening study hours of the hostel students. It would seem advisable next year to see that during the day as well when lads are not in classes they should be in study hall, not wandering aimlessly about, often off campus.

Some students may have found it hard discipline to be inoculated against typhoid, but over 500 willingly underwent temporary inconvenience and have thus ensured themselves for a year or two against this endemic, dread disease. Early in the second term we had almost lost one of our students from enteric. I consulted the medical authorities and they advised this protection for the whole student body. Dr. Nadarajah, Medical Officer of Health, Jaffna, very graciously aided us, himself giving the injections.

A problem that faced us was due to the fact that the boys took tea at one or another of the 7 boutiques which adjoin our campus. Frequently *large* bills were run up there (one mounting to over Rs. 200 | ). The College had no supervision of the sanitary conditions under which the food was prepared; and off campus gatherings of boarders were against general College policy anyway. It was decided to have tea served to the boys in the College dining halls by a concessionaire, and have this paid for by tickets purchased through the College Office.

I am aware that even now there are students breaking this and other rules, but in these last months I could not check on all the small details. I feel that early next year all our rules and regulations should be thoroughly reconsidered and revised, with due consideration for student opinion, and that thereafter we should make a particular effort as a co-operative group, staff and students, to abide by these rules which have been found desirable.

This report has been a very sketchy one, but from it you will be able to gather some idea as to how our College life has gone on in 1937; from it you will know of some of the problems we have faced and how we have attempted their solution.

We are not perfect here in Jaffna College; we are far from it, but we do have the desire to improve, to correct our own ways, to strengthen, to give unselfishly. I look forward with confidence to this new era of Mr. Bunker's Principalship—a period when Jaffna College will go forward in its service of Jaffna and Ceylon.

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## REV. BUNKER'S ADDRESS.

Mrs. Bunker and I have come here as strangers among you. Perhaps the first thing that has impressed us is, however, that we cannot long remain strangers: with such warm friendliness have we been greeted. May I once again, and inclusively, thank you for your greetings which started in Colombo and culminated in our reception at the College, in the host of letters and telegrams, in your kind presence at the At Home this afternoon, and in the warm and generous hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood.

But there remains much to get used to, acquainted with. Doubtless you have heard before of some difficulty for folk fresh from the West with some of the names we must pronounce, and some of our mumbling is probably no disguise to you. Perhaps the most daunting task I have yet faced was having to read out in chapel the names of the students who would play for us yesterday. And I am still a bit startled, when talking with you, to make what seems an unexceptionable statement and to have it greeted with an inclination of the head (.....) which looks so much like our shaking of the head, which is definitely negative. Perhaps this comes worst of all with Mr. Oppenheim.

But these *will* come and you have shown us great patience and forbearance. A longer task lies ahead of us in getting to know the traditions of this College, also the traditions and philosophy of life of the Ceylonese. I like to think that some of the ideals of the original Seminary carry on in Jaffna College, but I know, too, that the original, immediate inspiration for the foundation of Jaffna College came from the people of Jaffna. It is your College, and that means we must—we want to—know the conditions

of life here as well as your aspirations. For these there must be determining.

This I can say: We have seen enough in our short stay to know that we are going to enjoy our life and work here. But not enough to draw up any detailed scheme of what changes, if any, should be made—or as I would rather phrase it—any detailed scheme of just what direction we should *grow* in. This only I know: grow we must, or else fall back; there is no standing still.

But may I remark briefly on three aims which I feel sure we can all agree on.

(1) One is to carry on the great traditions of the College. I stand now in a great succession of principals, none of whom was a greater man than my predecessor, Mr. Bicknell. I want you to know that I am conscious of the great responsibility resting upon me as I set out on the journey which they have begun.

Now if I am to judge from what I have heard and seen, in nothing has the College been greater than in a certain independence of view it has given to its graduates. By this I mean the refusal to take anything for granted as true on the word of any external authority. The Citadel of Truth, and therefore the hope for advance in the good life, lies in the heart and mind and soul of the individual before God. It is not to be lightly won, but neither is it to be coerced. If, however, we lead students here to think that there is no good in, and no guidance to come from, the great external authorities like tradition, the State, the Churches of the various faiths, and the Schools—then we are abusing our opportunity.

But the fact remains that institutions harden, while life is fluid and changing, and men must be

free in a responsible way to think out new methods for meeting age-old problems.

May I give one example of what I mean? Many of you may have been as interested as I in watching the dispute precipitated by the Principal of Ananda College over the use of corporal punishment. Tradition, re-enforced by Dr. Samuel Johnson, says the indignity of corporal punishment is necessary; yet Jaffna College, in the face of that dictum, has never used it and still seems to be able to pull its full weight among the Colleges of Ceylon—as witness the report we have just heard of one year under difficult circumstances.

(2) Another aim upon which I hope we can all agree is that we should make education in Jaffna College something more than mere preparation for living after school days are over. School life is just as much *living* as any other kind of life. We have to learn enough to pass the tests given us; but just as truly we have to learn to live with one another so that each one may get the most possible out of his life—develop his gifts to the utmost. We must be able to get on with others here—our associates, our classmates, team-mates, our teachers, just as later we must be able to get on with our fellows in industry or business, in social life, in political life. We have our work to do—or to slight; and the same rules of enrichment—or impoverishment—that hold in the home, on the farm, in the office, hold here. So let us make every effort to create a place *here* where all may live fully, normally, and well—as much out of the classroom as in it—knowing that as we build up good habits here they are likely to hold later and lead to lives more worthily lived.

(3) Another aim surely we can all agree on is that the education we strive to make possible here

must be in terms of living today - and tomorrow - in Ceylon. This means not just the education that has been given in the past - which has proved useful in past ages or other lands - but it means education for living in the Ceylon we see here today and believe is coming tomorrow. It does not mean restricting our study to Ceylon—rather it means reaching out to the East and West, the North and South for whatever they have of value to give us as dwellers on this beautiful island. Nor does it mean restricting our sympathies to Ceylonese people—the world is too closely knit to make that anything less than suicidal in the long run. Yet after all it is Ceylon that we must live in and her history, her climate, her soil and industry and government are what concern us most. May the day soon come when Ceylon sets all her own examinations and determines herself in what direction her young people should be educated. And may Jaffna College play her part, with wisdom and under God, to bring in that day.

Here are goals the winning of which extend far beyond our sight at present. We cannot accomplish all that we would at once, and it is better to recognize and reckon with facts than tilt at wind-mills. But these considerations should not discourage us: what good are goals that are not beyond us? The speed of our going is far less important than the direction in which we travel. May we all, — Directors, Faculty, staff, students, Old Boys, and friends of the College—unite in choosing our direction well and following along that road faithfully.



## SONGS SUNG AT THE PRIZE-GIVING

## வேண்பா

ஆங்கிலமுஞ் செந்தமிழு மாணமுதற் கல்கியினைத்  
தாங்கி வளர்த்திடுஞ் சாலையதில்—தேங்குபுகழ்  
பொங்கி வழந்திடவே போத னருளதனை  
எங்களுக் கெஞ்ஞான்றுந் தா.

## பல்லவி

மங்கள் மாண சபை யோரே  
வந்தனந் தந்தனமே. (மங்கள்)

## உனுபல்லவி

மைந்தர் நாமிற்கு மனமிகமகிழ்ந்து  
சுந்தரமாயின்கு சூழ்ந்திடுவோமே. (மங்கள்)

## ஈரணங்கல்

தாயற்ற கன்றமுமைத் தடவுடன் நாடி  
மாயமற்ற வனபுகொண்ட மனையாளும் கூடி  
நேயமுட னிற்குவந்தார் Bunker ஐயரெமைத்தேடி (மங்)

## 2

தேசபக்தி நாடித் தேசசேவை பூண்டு  
பாசமுடனெங்கள் தேவை மாண்பதெனக் கண்டு  
நேசமுள கௌரவ Sir துரைச்சாமிய் எய்தினாரீண்டு (மங்)

## 3

இணையிலா அதிபரின்றி இரங்கி மிந்நாளே  
அணைகடலா ரொமதரிய Lockwood ஐயர்தானே  
துணைபுரிந்திட்டார் நன்றிகூறுவோ மெந்நாளே (மங்)

## தீருப்பள்ளியெழுச்சி

சீர்பெறு யாழ்நகர் திலகம தெனவே  
சிறந்திடு கழகம தானவெம் தாயே  
தார்செறி கலைஞர் நின்தயவே பெற்று  
தாரகம் போலெங்கும் துலங்கிட நின்றார்  
பார்புகழ் John Bicknell துரையவர் பிரிவால்  
பரிவுற்று நீயும் பெருந்தயர் கொண்டாய்  
பேர்புகழ் Bunker பெருந்துரை வரவால்  
பேரருள் கொண்டு நீவிழித் தெழுவாயே.

S. A. Visuvalingam.

## PRIZE LIST FOR 1936.

| CLASS                     | NAME                       | SUBJECT               |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <i>Lond. Matric C</i>  | N. Navaratnam              | General Proficiency   |
| 2. <i>Fifth Form A</i>    | A. Navaratnam              | „ „                   |
| 3. „ „                    | K. P. Abraham              | „ „                   |
| 4. <i>Fifth Form B</i>    | C. Satkunanantham          | „ „                   |
| 5. „ „                    | S. Selvajeyam              | „ „                   |
| 6. <i>Fouth Form A</i>    | K. Ratnavale               | „ „                   |
| 7. „ „                    | T. K. Welch                | „ „                   |
| 8. <i>Third Form A</i>    | D. Nesaratnam              | „ „                   |
| 9. <i>Second Form A</i>   | N. Savundranayagam         | „ „                   |
| 10. „ „                   | H. N. Ponnambalam          | „ „                   |
| 11. <i>First Form A</i>   | K. Kumarasamy              | „ „                   |
| 12. „ „                   | Ruby Appadurai             | „ „                   |
| 13. „ „                   | A. Veluppillai             | „ „                   |
| 14. „ „                   | K. Balasubramaniam         | „ „                   |
| 15. „ „                   | S. Balakrishner            | „ „                   |
| 16. <i>First Form B</i>   | D. Thuraiatnam             | „ „                   |
| 17. „ „                   | S. Ponmany                 | „ „                   |
| 18. <i>5th Std.</i>       | S. Sanmugam                | „ „                   |
| 19. <i>Second Year A</i>  | S. Kumarasamy              | „ „                   |
| 20. <i>First Year A</i>   | K. Rasammah                | „ „                   |
| 21. „ „                   | N. Nageswari               | „ „                   |
| 22. <i>Int. Arts.</i>     | Mr. I. T. Kuruvilla        | „ „                   |
| 23. „ „                   | „ W. D. Abraham            | „ „                   |
| 24. <i>Int. Science</i>   | Miss G. E. A. Sathianathan | „ „                   |
| 25. „ „                   | Mr. S. V. Paul             | „ „                   |
| 26. „ „                   | Mr. K. Arianayagam         | „ „                   |
| 1. <i>Lond. Matric. A</i> | K. Sivanantham             | Mathematics 1st Prize |
| 2. „ „                    | K. Sivanantham             | Chemistry 1st Prize   |
| 3. „ „                    | N. Veerasingham            | Mathematics 1st Prize |
| 4. <i>Lond. Matric. C</i> | T. Wijayanathan            | English 1st Prize     |
| 5. „ „                    | J. B. Welch                | English 2nd Prize     |
| 6. „ „                    | N. Navaratnam              | Mathematics 1st Prize |
| 7. „ „                    | P. Jeyaveerasingam         | „ 2nd Prize           |
| 8. „ „                    | C. S. Nadarajah            | History 1st Prize     |
| 9. <i>Lond. Matric. D</i> | M. Kanagaratnam            | Chemistry 1st Prize   |
| 10. <i>Fifth Form A</i>   | A. Navaratnam              | Mathematics 1st Prize |
| „ „                       | „                          | English 1st Prize     |
| „ „                       | „                          | Latin 1st Prize       |
| „ „                       | „                          | History 2nd Prize     |
| „ „                       | „                          | Physics 2nd Prize     |
| 11. „ „                   | K. P. Abraham              | Chemistry 1st Prize   |

| Class.                   | Name.              | Subject.          |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 11. <i>Fifth Form A</i>  | K. P. Abraham      | Physics 1st Prize |
| do do                    | "                  | Mathematics 2nd " |
| 12. do do                | S. Thanmavarather  | History 1st "     |
| 13. <i>Fifth Form B</i>  | C. Satkunanathan   | English 1st "     |
| do do                    | "                  | Chemistry 1st "   |
| do do                    | "                  | Physics 1st "     |
| do do                    | "                  | Mathematics 2nd " |
| 14. do do                | S. Selvajeyam      | Mathematics 1st " |
| do do                    | "                  | Latin 1st "       |
| do do                    | "                  | Chemistry 2nd "   |
| 15. do do                | N. Vijayasegaram   | History 1st "     |
| 16. <i>Fourth Form A</i> | K. Ratnavale       | Latin 1st "       |
| do do                    | "                  | Chemistry 1st "   |
| do do                    | "                  | English 2nd "     |
| do do                    | "                  | Scripture 2nd "   |
| 17. do do                | T. K. Welch        | English 1st "     |
| do do                    | "                  | Scripture 1st "   |
| 18. do do                | N. Arunasalam      | Mathematics 1st " |
| 19. do do                | K. Edirnayagam     | Scripture 2nd "   |
| 20. do do                | M. Kantharatnam    | Scripture 2nd "   |
| 21. <i>Fourth Form B</i> | S. Kanagaratnam    | Mathematics 1st " |
| do do                    | "                  | Tamil 1st "       |
| 22. do do                | S. N. Rajah        | Mathematics 2nd " |
| 23. do do                | K. Nadarajah       | Scripture 1st "   |
| 24. <i>Third Form A</i>  | D. Nesaratnam      | Mathematics 1st " |
| do                       | "                  | Latin 1st "       |
|                          | "                  | Scripture 1st "   |
| 25. do do                | J. Jesudasan       | Mathematics 2nd " |
| 26. do do                | Jacob George       | History 1st "     |
| 27. <i>Third Form B</i>  | P. Kanagaratnam    | Tamil 1st "       |
| 28. <i>Second Form A</i> | N. Savundranayagam | Mathematics 1st " |
| 29. do do                | N. Paramarajah     | Mathematics 2nd " |
| 30. do do                | R. Thevarajah      | English 1st "     |
| do do                    | "                  | History 1st "     |
| 31. do do                | T. Kuruvilla       | History 1st "     |
| 32. do do                | V. Somasundram     | Tamil 1st "       |
| 33. <i>Second Form B</i> | Edwin Rajah        | Tamil 1st "       |
| 34. <i>First Form A</i>  | K. Kumarasamy      | Mathematics 1st " |
| do do                    | "                  | English 1st "     |
| do do                    | "                  | Geography 1st "   |
| 35. do do                | Ruby Appadurai     | Science 1st "     |
| do do                    | "                  | Tamil 1st "       |
| do do                    | "                  | Drawing 1st "     |

| Class,                  | Name.            | Subject.              |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 35. <i>First Form A</i> | Ruby Appadurai   | Mathematics 2nd Prize |
| do do                   | "                | English 2nd "         |
| do do                   | "                | History 2nd "         |
| 36. do do               | A. Veluppillai   | History 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | Drawing 2nd "         |
| 37. do do               | S. Balakrishner  | Science 2nd "         |
| 38. do do               | K. Kailasanather | Tamil 2nd "           |
| 39. <i>First Form B</i> | D. Thurairatnam  | History 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | Scripture 1st "       |
| do do                   | "                | Drawing 1st "         |
| 40. do do               | S. Ponmany       | English 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | Drawing 2nd "         |
| do do                   | "                | Tamil 1st "           |
| 41. do do               | K. Selvarajah    | Scripture 1st "       |
| 42. 5th Std. 1          | S. Sanmugam      | English 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | Writing 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | History 2nd "         |
| do do                   | "                | Bible 1st "           |
| do do                   | "                | Arithmetic 1st "      |
| 43. do do               | S. Mahesan       | Writing 2nd "         |
| 44. do do               | G. Thillaikone   | History 1st "         |
| 45. do do               | S. Ganesan       | Arithmetic 2nd "      |
| 46. 5th std. 2          | N. Saraswathy    | English 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | Scripture 1st "       |
| 47. do do               | Paul Jesudasan   | Writing 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | Arithmetic 1st "      |
| 48. do do               | Elizabeth Elias  | Writing 2nd "         |
| 49. do do               | V. Sinadurai     | Arithmetic 2nd "      |
| 50. II Yr. A            | S. Mahendran     | English 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | Drawing 1st "         |
| 51. do do               | K. Punithavathy  | English 2nd "         |
| do do                   | "                | Writing 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | Tamil 1st "           |
| 52. do                  | A. Kugarajah     | Arithmetic 1st "      |
| 53. do                  | V. Thurairajah   | Arithmetic 2nd "      |
| 54. do                  | S. Kumarasamy    | Scripture 1st "       |
| 55. do                  | S. Subramaniam   | Scripture 2nd "       |
| 56. II Yr. B            | R. Theagarajah   | English 1st "         |
| do do                   | "                | Scripture 2nd "       |
| 57. do                  | J. Jeevarajah    | English 2nd "         |
| 58. do                  | K. Nadarajah     | Arithmetic 1st "      |
| 59. do                  | A. Ratnasingam   | Scripture 1st "       |

|     |                   |                    |            |           |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------|
| 60. | <i>1st Year A</i> | K Rasammah         | English    | 1st Prize |
|     | do do             | „                  | Arithmetic | 2nd „     |
|     | do do             | „                  | Scripture  | 1st „     |
| 61. | do do             | N. Nageswari       | English    | 2nd „     |
|     | do do             | „                  | Writing    | 1st „     |
|     | do od             | „                  | Scripture  | 2nd „     |
| 62. | do do             | N. Sivasubramaniam | Arithmetic | 1st „     |
| 63. | <i>1st Year B</i> | S. Kunaratnam      | English    | 1st „     |
| 64. | do do             | P. Gnanasundram    | Arithmetic | 1st „     |
|     | do do             | „                  | Tamil      | 1st „     |
| 65. | do do             | N. Balasingham     | Arithmetic | 2nd „     |
| 66. | <i>1st Year C</i> | K. Gnanapiragasam  | English    | 1st „     |
| 67. | do do             | N. Kanagasabai     | Arithmetic | 1st „     |
| 68. | do do             | K. Mahaledchumy    | Arithmetic | 2nd „     |
| 69. | do do             | J. Easwarakadacham | Scripture  | 1st „     |

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### Y. M. C. A.

#### *Report for the Third Term*

In presenting the report of the Y. M. C. A. for the term under review, I should say at the very outset that we have had a few months of very successful work. Apart from the numerous activities that the Y. M. C. A. was engaged in, the fact that it has endeavoured as an Association to engender among the student community a new life, by especially directing to a certain extent the spiritual life of the students, is a refreshing one. From the various remarks made by students of all shades of convictions, we should feel thoroughly gratified and strengthened—gratified that our endeavours were not fruitless, strengthened that we may do more useful work in this direction. We are greatly indebted to the Publicity Committee Chairman, Mr. C. S. Pon-nūdurai, for the great interest that he took in giving the students food for thought by posting every Monday “A thought for the week” on the Notice Board.

These weekly messages have had the desired result.

Our Association has been during the past term vitally interested not merely in the affairs of the College and its general progress, but also in the little bit of work done in the suburbs round about our College. In all the five Sunday Schools that we manage, there is a considerable rise in the number of children. The regularity with which the Sunday Classes were held and the well planned-out syllabus that we followed made it possible for us to carry on our classes in a smooth and orderly fashion. For the very successful work that we did in our Sunday Schools we are greatly indebted to our President, Mr. P. W. Ariaratnam, who was chiefly responsible for the syllabus that we followed and also to Mr. E. J. J. Niles for the very instructive lecture that he delivered to our teachers regarding Sunday School work.

In our weekly meetings we were privileged to listen to inspiring addresses by members of the staff and visitors. I wish to extend to them all on behalf of the Y. M. C. A. our grateful thanks for the enthusiasm they inspired in us.

Six of our members are looking forward anxiously for the Student Christian Movement Quadrennial Conference to be held at Rangoon during the latter part of December. In the last S. C. M. Conference held at Badulla during the Easter vacation our Association was represented by six of our members, who distinguished themselves as the only delegates from Jaffna. It is our earnest and sincere hope that the members that we are delegating from our Association to the Rangoon Conference will spend their time profitably in getting a closer and a more intimate connection with the people from all parts of the world so that, when they return to us,

our Association might avail itself of the services of these members with their outlooks broadened and their experiences enriched.

Before I close, I should not fail to mention the serious handicap that we as an Association have been and are still facing. The need of a building for the Y. M. C. A. was felt very strongly for years together. The present Y. M. C. A. block was completed during the closing stages of Mr. Bicknell's career and following his death it has been—and is still being—utilised by the College authorities as the administration quarters. But now the handicap is clearing away and I wish to take this opportunity of offering our Principal on behalf of the Y. M. C. A. our grateful thanks for the kind assurance that he has made of restoring as speedily as possible the building solely for the use of the Y. M. C. A.

In conclusion let me thank our members, one and all, for their hearty co-operation in all our endeavours.

ERNEST APPADURAI,  
Hony. Secy.

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**OUR LITERARY ASSOCIATIONS****I—THE INTER UNION**

The great interest evinced by the members of the Inter Union in the art of public speaking assured success at the very beginning of the term. The hearty co-operation of our erstwhile Patron, Mr. E. C. Lockwood, deserves our warm appreciation and sincere thanks. We are also greatly indebted to Mrs. E. C. Lockwood for her instructive address.

Continued co-operation from all sides is our request for further success.

On the next page is a tabularised account of the activities of the Union.

N. NADESAN,  
Hony. Secy.

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| Date     | Chairman                               | Subject  | Chief Speakers  | Other Speakers                               |
|----------|--|--|---|--|
| 37-9-37  | E. C. Lockwood Esq.<br>[Patron]        | Election of Office-Bearers   | ---   | ---  |
| 28-9-37  | Mr. K. Jeyakody<br>[President]         | (a) The N R A. of America<br>(b) The Scientific inventions during the last decade<br>(c) Clerical Examinations | Mr. E. Appadurai<br>Mr. K. P. Abraham<br>Mr. V. Kumara<br>swamy           | ---  |
| 4-10-37  | Mr. S. Kularatnam<br>[Vice President]  | (a) Photography as a hobby<br>(b) Bhiramachariya   | Mr. J. J. RatnaRajah<br>Mr. S. Soosaipillai                               | ---  |
| 12-10-37 | Mr. E. Jeyaveerasin-<br>gham           | என் கடற் பண்ணெய்து கிடப்பதே  | Mr. V. Sampantha-<br>pillai   | ---  |
| 26-10-37 | Mr. V. Kumara-<br>swamy                | An Address   | Mrs E. C. Lockwood<br>M. A.   | ---  |
| 9-11-37  | Mr J. J. Ratnarajah                    | Science tends to make people atheistic and rationalistic.  | Prop. Mr N. Nadesan<br>Opp. Mr. E. Jeyaveera<br>singam                    | Mr K Jeyakody<br>Mr. V. Sampan-<br>thapillai |
| 16-11-37 | Mr S. Soosaipillai<br>(Vice-President) | தாறுமாறாக நடப்பானே யாமாயின் கூறாமற்<br>சன்னியாசம் கொள்   | Prop. Mr V. George<br>Mr. M. Rajasingam<br>Opp Mr J. P. Thurai-<br>ratnam | Mr. K Jeyakody<br>Mr. N. Nadesan             |

N. NADESAN, Hony. Secy.

## II—THE BROTHERHOOD

The elections at the commencement of the term returned a strong Committee which worked well, until a principle involved in the arrangement of the programme of weekly meetings resulted in the Committee's dissolution. The programmes arranged thereafter and their success were due to the endeavours of another that helped the Patron.

The chief feature of this term however is the honest effort made by the speakers at the debate and the training and criticism offered by the Patron. On account of the crowded programmes of this term and the limited time with the examinees some Inter - Collegiate debates could not take place.

"The Literary Star" and "Sakothara Mithran" differed from each other on an important issue and had a variety of topics highly interesting which may be read by the old members from the files in the Library.

It would be a great pleasure, if students of the London Matric and Fifth Form Classes, who are members of this Association, would make it a point to attend these meetings without compulsion, for at the Oratorical Contests held in connection with the O. B. A. celebrations this year, it was the considered opinion of the Chairman and the Judges that the contestants came close to one another in both Tamil and English Orations and the standard reached was high. This commendation must be gratifying to the members of the "Brotherhood" and still more to the contestants and our Patron, Mr. D. S. Sanders, since one of the aims of the Association is to cultivate the art of public speaking.

The following subjects were discussed:—

1. "Kandy is preferable to Colombo as University site."
2. "The American Colonies were justified in their resistance to the Mother Country."
3. "தெவ்வொருவனும் தன்காய் மொழியிலேயே கலை பயிற்றப் படல வேண்டும்"
4. "Machinery is a gain to civilisation".
5. "That the Boycott of Japanese goods will effectively prevent Japanese aggression".
6. "That Boarding life plays a great part in the moulding of a student's character."

M. NADARAJAH,  
Secretary.

### III—THE FORUM

The Forum, as usual, held its meetings on Saturday mornings. Among the subjects discussed were the following:—

- (1) "The execution of Charles I was justifiable"
- (2) "Co-education should be introduced in Jaffna Schools."

(3) "பெண்கள் சுயாதீனம் அற்றவர்கள்."

We are glad to note that the subjects were discussed very well. The debates were lively. Our Association is having a good number of able speakers. The attendance was fairly good. We thank the Patron for his presence in every meeting.

N. BEADLE.  
Secretary.

## VI—THE LYCEUM.

The first meeting of the Jaffna College Lyceum for the term was devoted to the election of office-bearers for the ensuing term. The office-bearers elected were:—

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Secretary:-</i>   | Mas. K. Tharmaratnam  |
| <i>Asst. Secy:-</i>  | Mas. R. C. Thavarajah |
| <i>Treasurer:-</i>   | Mas. C. U. Abraham    |
| <i>Tam. Editor:-</i> | Mas. K. Kailasinathar |
| <i>Eng. Editor:-</i> | Mas. R. C. Thavarajah |

During the term we had seven meetings. The members take a keen interest in the activities of this Association. Some of the subjects discussed were:- "Corporal punishment has no place in any school." "Scouting should be adopted in all schools." "Travelling is a waste of money".

The great progress of the Association was shown by a noteworthy event when it celebrated its 33rd Anniversary. An English play, a Tamil Drama and a Unification Tableau were staged. The function was a unique success. We have to be thankful to our Patron, Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam for being responsible for the success of our celebrations.

K. Tharmaratnam,  
Hony. Secy.

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## THE 33RD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

### OF THE JAFFNA COLLEGE LYCEUM.

#### A REPORT BY "MR. LYCEUM"

*Extract from The Young Idea.*

Once more this youthful Association drew paeans of praise from a large and distinguished audience when it put on the boards an English Drama and a Tamil Play on Saturday, the 6th November, in the Ottley Hall. A happy item was the "Unification of Lanka." Miss S. Namasivayam attired in a silver-bordered bottle-green saree and wearing a crown symbolic of the various faiths represented Mother Lanka. As she sat on a raised throne, the devotees of the various religions paid their homage, each in his own way. Mother Lanka, who wore a serious air 'has a silent smile' at the blending of the letters that go to make up the words, Sinhalese and Tamils, each letter of which was carried by a devotee.

The patron, Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam, and the chief guest, Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, the District Judge, Jaffna, were garlanded and Mrs. C. Coomaraswamy was presented with a bouquet of roses. Mas. K. Velliampalam sang the welcome song and the annual report was read by Mas K. Tharumaratnam. Masters K. Kailasanather and R. C. Thavarajah read the Tamil and English Papers respectively. The English Play entitled, 'Stoker', was then enacted.

Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, speaking as the chief guest, paid a tribute to Jaffna College referring to its distinguished Old Boys and its hoary antiquity. He congratulated the College on its unique distinction

of producing the first citizen of the Island. Referring to the Unification Tableau he said that it was a happy idea indeed. "Unfortunately for us, we the people of Ceylon are not a united people today," he said. Continuing he referred to the observations of Mr. E. A. L. Wijeyewardene, Solicitor-General, at Ananda College, where Mr. Wijeyewardene had stated that they must realize that Ceylon was meant not only for the Sinhalese but for all races. Concluding Mr. Coomaraswamy said: "All our petty jealousies and communal quarrels should be done away with and the various races should unite in the march towards the progress of the Mother Country."

The patron, Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam, in thanking him referred to him as a perfect model of a Tamil gentleman, gifted with intellectual vigour and moral courage, with a remarkable capacity for discerning the truth and living the truth and whose conduct both in public and private was worthy of the highest admiration. He took this opportunity to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Coomaraswamy on their son's splendid success at the C. C. S. in England.

A Tamil play entitled Kunapooshany was next staged, at the end of which Mrs. Coomaraswamy pinned the gold and silver medals to the best actors in the English and Tamil Plays—R. Thavarajah and K. Velliampalam.

Muhandiram S. Candiah, Retired Superintendent of Vernacular Education, in announcing the decision of the judges concerning the first 3 places in the Tamil Play expressed his sincere appreciation of the rendering of the play and urged on the young men to continue the musical culture which they had so well begun. With a vote of thanks to the judges

Mr. A. W. Nadarajah, Rev. Sydney K. Bunker, Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, Muhandiram S. Candiah, Mrs. C. Coomaraswamy and Mr. B. K. Somasundaram and to the donors of the costly medals, Drs. T. Ramaswamy, S. Subramaniam and M. Kathiravetpillai and Mr. M. Krishner J. P., the happy function came to a termination.

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## SCOUT ACTIVITIES

### I—THE ROVER CREW

In the last issue of this Miscellany we presented a short report of our work. We had started the Crew only a short time before the publication of the last issue and therefore we were not able to speak much of ourselves, and a passing reference was made to our cycle tour to Kilinochi. But taking into consideration our work this term, we are able to give here a satisfactory report of our Crew.

Early this term a second Carnival was held in the Old Park, Jaffna. To this we made our contribution in the way of a much appreciated song. We also helped in the general arrangements of the evening and were solely responsible in bringing about a successful Camp-fire.

We have had our meetings fairly regularly under the leadership of our R. S. L., Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam. Our numbers rapidly increased and therefore a new patrol had to be formed under the leadership of R. Maheswaran. The chief feature of our work this term was gardening; a fairly extensive plot of land has been allotted to us. Fifteen of us have shared the work among us. We are doing our gardening under the able supervision of

Mr. C. O. Elias, the agricultural instructor of the College. We are indeed grateful to him for his keen interest in our work. Early next term we would be in a position to reap the fruits of our labour bountifully.

The Group Committee reviewed us this term. Because of the Football practice some failed to turn up, yet the Committee commended our smart turn out. It was on this occasion that a few of our Crew were presented with warrants of Cub-masters and assistant Cub-masters. The names of the winners are: C. Thambyah- C. M., A. C. M. Thawfeek, K. Chellapah and G. Selvasamy- A. C. M.'s

At the welcome accorded to our new Principal Mr. Bunker, and Mrs. Bunker, we, the Rover Crew, along with the Scouts and Cubs, gave a guard of honour at the Moolai junction and proceeded on as a colourful escort right up to the College. Also at the dinner by the staff to the Bunkers we helped in the arrangements.

As we have been occupied right through the term in various activities we have not had the time for a camp. But we do hope to plan out a camp early next term and lay out our aims more extensively.

It is no exaggeration to say that no public function at the College is complete without our help.

A. C. M. Thawfeek,  
Scribe.



## II—SCOUT NOTES.

During the third term the Troop is never able to work as hard as it does during the second. This is due to the fact that the rainy weather sets in, preventing the Troop from having any hikes.

The first week of this term was the Scout's Week, which the Troop was not able to observe as it did last year. The reason for this was: that the instructions from the Head-quarters were not received until too late. Still most of the Scouts spent the week as well as possible.

The second week was spent in preparing the items for the Grand Rally of the Scouts at the Old Park. In spite of the fact that the Troop was greatly handicapped in the March Past and the signalling drill, they did well with the remaining items. Credit should be given, especially to those who took part in the chariot-race and in the Red Indian Dance, for these items drew favourable comments from the spectators.

Next after three weeks came the inspection by the Group-Committee, which came into existence during the latter part of the last term. This is the first Group-Committee that has been formed to look after the Troop. After the inspection the Committee wished to see the Troop's ability in marching. Here again as at the March Past in Town, the Troop was not able to put up an exactly perfect show. However, the Committee was fairly satisfied.

When Mr. and Mrs. Bunker arrived, the Troop, along with the Rovers, escorted them from the Moo lai Road junction to the College.

Also when the Annual Prize - Giving was held, the Troop presented a Guard of Honour for the Honourable Sir. Wytialingam Duraiswamy.

Some of the Scouts have now started gardening and are ambitious of winning the Gardener's Badge. Regular meetings of the Troop are held every Wednesday.

K. RAJA VANIAR,  
P. L. Tiger.

### **A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHIEF.**

*( An extract from the Young Idea. )*

In spite of the threatening weather, the sky was luckily bright and clear and the sun was shining unusually bright. On Monday the 1st of November at 7-20 a. m. Rev. and Mrs. Sydney K. Bunker were received under a specially erected, pandal at the Moolai road junction by a large gathering of students and the public. The Moolai road junction was like a fairy garden for some minutes. When they got down from the car, two young lads in national costume, representing the Youths' United Club of Moolai, garlanded Rev. and Mrs. Bunker. They also gave Mrs. Bunker a permanent 'chendu' as a token of remembrance. To the accompaniment of glorious oriental music, Rev. and Mrs. Bunker walked slowly to the beautiful coach drawn by 3 white horses. Resounding crackers announced to the concourse of people to move on. Then the procession led by Rovers and Scouts of the College slowly wended their way along the Moolai-Vaddukoddai road and stopped at the San-karathai junction when the 'Mela - chama' was held.

Then the procession moved on till it arrived at the gate of Mr. Devasagayam, a member of the College staff. A beautiful 'Kuthuvilaku' (brass lamp standard) lit with floating wicks and a 'Niraikudam' (full pot) had been given a prominent place at the gate of Mr. Devasagayam. The Bunkers were garlanded by Miss Devasagayam and Master Devasagayam. Then the procession moved on to the Principal's bungalow where they were entertained to tea by Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Lockwood, at which the teachers were introduced to them. This was followed by an assembly in the Ottley Hall at 10-20 a. m. On the platform Rev. and Mrs. Sydney K. Bunker were garlanded by Mas. S. Ponnampalam and Mas K. Chelvanayagam respectively. Mas. D. Thurairatnam garlanded Mr. E. C. Lockwood. A beautiful bouquet of pink carnations was presented to Mrs. Bunker and a 'chendu' was given to Mrs. Lockwood. After the service, Mr. E. C. Lockwood in a short speech introduced Rev. Sydney K. Bunker who addressed the assembly. The dinner given by the Old Boys in London, the welcome accorded to him at the Jetty and the subsequent Tea Party at Colombo, where the Old Boys assembled to greet him, capped now by the warm reception by the present students of Jaffna College were all factors which appealed to him very much. In appreciation of the grand reception accorded to him and Mrs. Bunker, he declared the day a holiday. Then Mr. E. C. Lockwood very felicitously reminded the students that the following day (the Dipavali day) too was a holiday. Glorious and impressive was the chapel on this memorable day. The whole reception was a unique success.

V. S. CHANMUGAM,

*Hony. Secretary,*

Bunkers Reception Committee.

## II—THE BOARDERS, RECEPTION TO MR. AND MRS. S. K. BUNKER.

Friday, the 5th November saw one of the most beautiful functions that have been held recently in College. It was the occasion of a garden-party organised by the Boarders and the respective Wardens of the Dormitories in honour of the newly arrived Principal and Mrs. Bunker. The Hunt Dormitory by the touch of the Boarders was suddenly transformed into a gorgeously decorated palace. The pot palms were such that certain spots resembled shady groves in the Elysian Garden. The staff members were surprised that their pot-palms looked more beautiful here in the Hunt Dormitory, than in their homes. We think that the proper place for these palms is the Hunt Dormitory.

At 5 p. m. this place was filled with gentlemen in their Sunday clothes and ladies wearing sarees in various colours.

The function was started by the cutting of the cake by the chief guest, Mr. Bunker. As the refreshments were served, the party was entertained by the amateur musicians of Jaffna College. We are indeed thankful to them for having entertained us with their songs. Special mention must be made of Miss Sivaguru who by her song enthralled all those present. This was the first time that we Boarders had the opportunity of hearing her.

In the course of the Tea-Party, the Hunt Dormitory Master took Mr. and Mrs. Bunker and introduced the hosts to the Bunkers.

At the close of the function, Mr. Earnest Appadurai, amidst applause, rose up to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Bunker. He paid a tribute to the late

Rev. Bicknell and said that they were all confident that Mr. Bunker would prove a worthy successor to our late beloved Principal.

Mr. Bunker in reply said that he did not have enough words to express his gratitude for the warm reception accorded to them. Mrs. Bunker also thanked feelingly. The Secretary of the Reception Committee proposed a vote of thanks. The function came to a close with three hearty cheers to Mr. and Mrs. Bunker.

S. PARAMANATHAN,  
Secy.

*Boarders Bunker Reception Committee.*

## **THE HUNT DORMITORY UNION.**

There are various Associations for different groups of students, but the need of some such Association for the boarders was felt for some time. And when our Patron, Mr. M. Rajasundaram, started this Hunt Dormitory Union, it was most gladly and enthusiastically welcomed by the boarders of the Hunt Dormitory. This Union was reborn into the same old world at the beginning of last term, for we are told that some sort of "Union" had been existing in our Dormitory years ago. The whole of last term perhaps was spent in laying the foundation and now everything goes on smoothly and in the most desirable fashion. Much of this success is due to the energetic and enthusiastic leadership of Mr. M. Rajasundaram, who is the founder and patron of our Union. As recorded in our constitution, the aim of

our Union is to improve the general tone of the Dormitory and to give the members a chance of managing the affairs of the Dormitory by themselves, also to develop the literary and debating of the members, and as a Union to suggest to the authorities any improvements, either in the Boarding or in the Dormitory. This is perhaps the first time that the Dormitory Union has taken up such an aim in hand and may I add that various suggestions have been made to the Principal, who has been kind enough to respond to them most beautifully.

As regards the meetings, we have been having them very regularly on every Sunday. We were fortunate in having Mrs. D. Lockwood and Mr. C. O. Elias to come over and speak to us at our weekly meetings, and our thanks are also due to Mr. E. C. Lockwood, who by occasionally presenting himself at the meetings and by his good words of encouragement was really a source of inspiration and help to us. Finally, let me on behalf of the Hunt Dormitory Union, thank our new Principal for the amount of interest that he takes in us and in our procedure at the meetings.

A synopsis of the work that has been done during this term is given on the next page.

J. NAVARATNAM APPADURAI,  
Secy.

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| Date      | Chairman              | Subject   | Speakers   |
|-----------|-----------------------|---|--|
| 26-9 37.  | S. Paramanathan       | "War is the best means of maintaining World Peace"            | Prop. -R. Maheswaran<br>Opp { A C. M. Thawfeek<br>D. T. Wijayanathan |
| 3-10 37.  | N. Narendran          | "Little Things".  | Mrs. D. Lockwood, M. A   |
| 10-10-37. | K. Devadason          | "நித்தம் போனால் முற்றஞ் சலிக்கும்".<br>and<br>"Boarding Life. | M. Sebaratnam<br>and<br>N. Narendran                                 |
| 17-10-37. | S. S. Kanapathipillai | "Our Last Experiences at Colombo",                            | Mr. C O. Elias, B. A.  |
| 24-10-37. | S. Thambiayah         | "Dictatorship is preferable to Democracy".                    | Prop.—S. Kathiresu<br>Opp. { J. Selvaratnam<br>S. Tharmaratnam       |
| 7 11-37.  | P. Nadarajah          | "The Present Crisis"<br>and<br>"திருவள்ளூர் தூல்நயம்"         | S. Navaratnathasan<br>V. Kanapathipillai                             |

| Date      | Chairman        | Subject   | Speakers   |
|-----------|-----------------|---|--|
| 14 11-37. | T. F. N Daniel  | "Boarding Life plays a greater part in moulding the character of a student than Home Life". | Prop. { D T Wijayanathan<br>S. Soosaipillai<br>Opp. V Jesudhason |
| 21-11 37. | V. Jesudhason   | "Tomorrow will be better than today".   | Prop S. Thambiayah<br>Opp. N. Wijasekaram                        |
| 5 12-37.  | S. Paramanathen | " Democracy is a Failure "  | Mr. M. Rajasundaram, B. Sc.                                      |

J. NAVARATNAM APPADURAI,  
Hony. Secretary. (H. D. U )



### **“THE ATHENIAM”**

This is an Association formed this term, by the members of the Atheniam Dormitory under the patronship of Mr. R. J. Thurairajah.

We were able to hold five meetings this sextant, conducted alternatively in English and Tamil. We are glad to record that Mrs. Bunker and Mrs. Lockwood were also present at one of the meetings. We had discussions in English and Tamil subjects and also had literary papers in English and Tamil.

The members have hitherto manifested great enthusiasm and I hope that they will keep up the same spirit in the future too.

C. KUMARASAMY,  
Hony. Secy. of “The Atheniam.”

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### **FAREWELL TO MR. AND MRS.**

#### **C. C. KANAPATHIPILLAI**

Thursday, the 11th of August, was the occasion of a well-organised farewell function to Mr. C. C. Kanapathipillai, Supervisor, Lower School, on the eve of his departure on transfer to the A. C. M. School at Tellippalai. There was a large gathering consisting of Mr. Kanapathipillai's friends and students among whom the “tiny tots” of the Lower School were most conspicuous. At about 5.30 P.M. Mr. A. C. Sundrampillai of the College staff took the chair. With him on the platform were Mr. and Mrs. Kanapathipillai.

A welcome song was rendered by Mas. A. Ayadurai. Mas. S. Kularatnam next read and presented an address which was a review of Mr. Kanapathipillai's career and work at College. Mr. J. F. Ponnambalam, Proctor S. C., and an erstwhile Old Boy of the College, was the first speaker of the day. He referred to his days here at Jaffna College when the Lower Department was under the careful supervision of the late Mr. J. N. Appadurai, and said that Mr. Kanapathipillai had most efficiently carried out the noble task handed down to him by his illustrious predecessor.

Mas. M. Sebaratnam speaking in Tamil referred to the time when Mr. Kanapathipillai was warden of the Baby Boarding and looked after the little ones under him with a parent's affection. Mas. A. Navaratnam spoke of the contribution made by Mrs. Kanapathipillai, who, he said, had spared no pains in her endeavour to raise the standard of Oriental Music at Vaddukoddai. At this stage a presentation of a drawing room suite was also made on behalf of the students. Mr. S. Nagalingam, Proctor, S. C., represented the parents of the students under the out-going head-master, and he too paid an eloquent tribute to the indefatigable services rendered by Mr. Kanapathipillai in moulding the character of the many students who had been under his care during the most impressionable days of their lives.

The Chairman in his remarks wished his colleague all success in his new sphere of activity.

The public meeting being over, the guests of honour were taken in procession around the College campus, and the function came to a close with "three hearty cheers" for Mr. and Mrs. Kanapathipillai, at the door of their home.

T. WIJAYANTHAN,  
L. M. C

## OUR RECENT RESULTS.

### *Matriculation Results. June 1937.*

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| R. Singaratnam | 1st Division. |
| K. P. Abraham  | 1st     ,,    |
| A. Navaratnam  | 2nd     ,,    |
| K. Selvadurai  | ,,     "      |
| K. Kandasamy   | ,,     "      |

### *Inter Results. July 1937.*

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| J. T. Chelliah    | Arts.    |
| V. Thambynayagam. | Science. |

### *Clerical Results.*

|                |
|----------------|
| K. Ponnambalam |
| S. Thambyiah.  |

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## SPORTS SECTION.

### REPORT OF THE PHYSICAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Our achievements this year were not so good as in the past, owing to various reasons. Many of our outstanding athletes from whom we expected much left us and we were faced, practically in all games, with the difficulty of selecting the required material to form the representative team. In my report for the year 1936, I said that the year was something in the nature of a transition period for us. I am afraid this period is still with us. I give this not as an excuse for our rather poor performance.

The year started with the usual Cricket Season, of which we are not very proud. We started with an entirely new set of youngsters who reported in numbers to try their luck in entering the First Eleven. As we proceeded with our daily practice, we disco-

vered a good number of really efficient lads. The set of youngsters no doubt suffered bad defeats, but we are sure, they are promising lads from whom we expect much next year. Our thanks are due to Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam, our Cricket coach, who under very difficult circumstances was able to give of his best in training our boys.

Specially during this season more than on any other occasion, we felt the necessity of a second team or a feeding team. Mr. E. C. Lockwood created the enthusiasm in a group of students and in a week or two we had a very good second team who were good enough to give our First Team a game. As an encouragement to these boys, matches were arranged with the first team and I should congratulate the second team on their many splendid performances. I am trying my best to make it possible for these boys to have real experience in matches with similar teams of other Colleges.

The Track and Field Sports team set out working daily on the various events under the leadership of a few members of the staff. Our preliminary Meet to the Inter-Collegiate Sports Meet was held as usual. The Athletic Committee feeling the necessity for drawing more boys in this sport, decided to hold two sports Meets: one, the usual Field Day Sports open to all, and the other, for those who would not represent the College in Jaffna, and the latter was to be called the Novice Meet. Both these Meets were run very successfully. I take this opportunity to thank the members of the staff for their kind co-operation.

Our performance at the Inter—Collegiate Sports Meet this year was not anything outstanding. Many of our Athletes who were in training had to be

dropped out at the last minute, owing to the introduction of a new rule which required a certain standard in studies to be shown by a student to be allowed to represent the College in any sports. All the points scored by Jaffna College were contributed by Mas. V. G. George, our outstanding Athlete and all-round sportsman. Our congratulations to him for his great effort to place the College in a position not too low on the board on that occasion.

Mas. V. G. George who was selected to represent Jaffna College at the All Ceylon Public Schools meet, entered for two items, Pole-Vault and High Jump. He came out first in both these events. His success was due to his careful practice on these events daily. A report of his performance at this Meet appears elsewhere on this issue. Our thanks are due to the authorities of the College who gave him and us the necessary backing.

The Football Season started well with Mas. V. G. George as captain and Mr. S. T. Jeevaratnam as coach. We were once again faced with the difficulty of selecting a team. It was really a job for the coach to try at least a dozen lads for a position. Practice matches came to our rescue and after a few games with outside teams we finally selected a team which we expected to win outright all the five matches at the competition. The failure of our team on the first two games made us open our eyes once again, for we were sure we had good material, but something had gone wrong somewhere. With a few more changes of positions our team showed definite superiority over the other three teams we met and defeated all of them. Our forwards of whom much has been said in the papers deserve special mention for their splendid team work. Our grateful thanks are due to Mr. S. T. Jeevaratnam



**MAS. V. G. GEORGE,**  
**High Jump Record Holder and Champion Pole Vaulter,**  
**All-Ceylon Public Schools Championship Meet, 1937.**

for the efficient manner in which he coached the Football team and to other members of the staff for standing by the team through thick and thin and spurring them on to victory. My thanks are also due to a number of Old Boys who were kind enough to bring in teams to give our boys real practice.

A second team in Football was also formed and a match against St. John's College was fixed up, but had to be postponed owing to bad weather. We hope to make Inter-Collegiate matches for second teams one of our regular annual features.

The internal activities of the Department go on as usual. Inter-House matches continue to arouse the same keen interest. At the Annual Prize Giving held in November the following prizes were awarded:

#### CREST WINNERS

| <i>Cricket.</i> | <i>Football.</i>   | <i>Track &amp; Field Sports.</i> |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Arianayagam R.  | George V. G        | Navaratnam R. S.                 |
| Sittampalam T.  | Ganeson R.         | George V. G.                     |
|                 | Mahalingam K.      |                                  |
| Mahesvaran R.   | Abraham T.         |                                  |
|                 | Selvaratnam V.     |                                  |
| Ganeson R.      | Victor Williams.   |                                  |
| Ganeshadas C.   | Rajanayagam S.     |                                  |
|                 | Murugesu V.        |                                  |
| George V. G.    | Kanapathipillai S. |                                  |

#### CRICKET PRIZES

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| <i>Batting Prize</i>  | Abraham T.     |
| <i>Bowling Prize</i>  | Rajanayagam S. |
| <i>Fielding Prize</i> | Mahesvaran R.  |

*All Round Prize*  
*Special Prize for century*  
*Special Prize for over fifty*

Rajanayagam  
 Abraham T.  
 Abraham T.  
 Sittampalam T.

*Special Prize donated by*  
*C. R. Wadsworth*

Ganeson R.

Gold medal presented to T. Abraham by Messrs. E. J. Jeyarajah, R. T. Chelliah, L. C. Williams, R. T. Chelliah, R. C. S. Cooke and Lyman S. Kulathungam for a magnificent performance at the St. Patrick's match, putting up a score of 103 runs.

#### *Track and Field Sports*

Intermediate Championship at the Inter - Collegiate Sports Meet — — V. G. George.

College cup to Mas. V. G. George for outstanding achievement at the All-Ceylon Public Schools Championship Meet 1937.

All-round cup to Hitchcock House.

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### **JAFFNA COLLEGE AT THE ALL CEYLON PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHAMPION- SHIP MEET.**

The above Meet was held in Colombo on the 8th and 9th of October on the Public Grounds. On the first day the programme started at 2.30 p. m. and it being a Friday there was not much of a crowd. On the second day there was a large gathering, amidst which I was able to mark out a good number of Jaffnese who had come out to see the Jaffna school boys perform. On the whole, the Meet was a success. The officials were up to the mark



as they were the best available in Ceylon. The keen interest taken by Sir Sidney Abrahams drew the attention of most of us present there.

This Meet finds a place in the College diary with special note. Mas. V. G. George, the sole representative of Jaffna College, has not only earned a name for himself, but has brought a name for Jaffna College and thus places her among the leading Colleges in Ceylon in the field of sports. The "Onlooker" in *The Ceylon Observer* said, "V. G. George is not only a credit to the Jaffna Schools and his own College, but to the whole of Ceylon".

George's first place in Pole Vault was an easy victory over the many who took part in this event. For the first time he cleared 10 feet  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches in perfect style and ease. His attempt to break the existing record was unsuccessful, but has left behind an impression that he is in to be classed among the best vaulters in Ceylon. George cleared 10 ft.  $2\frac{3}{4}$  in., which was only about 4 in. less than Leembruggen's winning jump at the Ceylon A. A. A. Championship Meet.

The event that created a lot of interest at this year's Meet was High Jump, where we had the pleasure of seeing three of the future high jumpers perform. The bar was set at 5 feet and all competitors except George took a trial. George chose to start at 5 feet 2 in. George adopted two years back, the Eastern style of jumping, which today is considered the best style, and ever since he has shown a definite improvement. George was left an easy first at a height of 5 feet 8 in. The bar was then set at 5 feet  $9\frac{3}{4}$  in. and on the first attempt he cleared it in perfect form creating a new record. The

bar was raised to 5 feet  $10\frac{3}{4}$  in. and to the astonishment of all he cleared it going inches over. The officials, who were at this stage anxious to see another six footer, raised the bar to a height of  $6\text{ ft. } \frac{1}{2}$  in. The first two jumps were done in good style and he just missed it by a hair breadth.

Thus George cleared 5 ft.  $10\frac{3}{4}$  in. creating a new record for the All-Ceylon Public School boys and at the same time breaking the existing English Public Schools record in this event.

It will be interesting to note that George happens to be the first school-boy in Ceylon to break an English Public Schools record in any sports. Critics are of opinion that George could be as easily placed among the best High jumpers of Ceylon and that he will very soon create a new record for Ceylon, if he will pay special attention to the details of the style he adopts. Looking back at his progress in this event for the last four years, I am convinced that he will ere long satisfy the ambition of many of us to see him as the Champion High - Jumper of Ceylon.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to George on his splendid performance and wish him all success in his future performances in the field of sports.

R. J. THURAIRAJAH,  
Physical Director.

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**SPORTS****ROLL OF HONOUR**

(Being a list of those who featured in Championship Teams and contributed towards winning that Championship)

| NAMES                 | 1932.<br>TRACK | 1933.<br>TRACK | 1934.<br>CRIC-<br>KET | 1934.<br>CRIC-<br>KET | 1935.<br>FOOT-<br>BALL |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| U. Rajadurai          | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| E. Nalliah            | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| P. Manickavasagar     | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| W. Rajakone           | x              | x              | x                     |                       |                        |
| T. Thalayasingam      | x              | x              | x                     |                       |                        |
| V. Navasivayagam      | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| P. Jeyaratnam         | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| M. Somasundram        | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| A. Anandacumarasamy   | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| P. R. Rajendra        | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| V. S. Chelliah        | x              | x              |                       | x                     |                        |
| V. Nadarajah          | x              | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| K. Karthigesapillai   | x              | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| C. C. W. Thurairatnam | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| William Hunt          | x              | x              | x                     | x                     | x                      |
| T. Senthunathan       | x              | x              | x                     |                       |                        |
| P. Brodie             | x              | x              | x                     | x                     |                        |
| M. Muttucumaru        | x              |                | x                     |                       | x                      |
| P. Thurairajah        | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| M. Sabaratnam         | x              |                |                       |                       |                        |
| G. C. T. Rajanayagam  |                | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| P. Narayanasamy       |                | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| N. Marcandu           |                | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| S. Kanagarayar        |                | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| K. Somalingam         |                | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| S. Gnanapragasam      |                | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| S. A. Asirvatham      |                | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| V. G. George          |                | x              |                       |                       | x                      |
| Victor Jesudasan      |                | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| S. Subramaniam        |                | x              |                       |                       |                        |
| V. C. Parinpanayagam  |                |                | x                     |                       |                        |
| S. Beadle             |                |                | x                     | x                     |                        |
| S. Sivagnanam         |                |                | x                     | x                     |                        |
| George Evarts         |                |                | x                     |                       |                        |
| Victor Williams       |                |                | x                     |                       | x                      |
| P. Sivagnanam         |                |                |                       | x                     |                        |
| S. Sittampalam        |                |                |                       | x                     | x                      |
| C. Ganeshadas         |                |                |                       | x                     | x                      |
| S. Sivarajah          |                |                |                       | x                     |                        |
| C. S. B. Devan        |                |                |                       | x                     |                        |
| K. Mahalingam         |                |                |                       | x                     | z                      |
| C. Kengaratnam        |                |                |                       | x                     | x                      |
| V. T. Muttucumaru     |                |                |                       | x                     |                        |
| K. Niles              |                |                |                       | x                     |                        |
| K. Sabaratnam         |                |                |                       | x                     |                        |

| NAMES              | 1935.<br>FOOT-<br>BALL | 1936.<br>CRIC-<br>KET |  |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| S. Rajanayagam     | x                      |                       |  |
| R. Ganason         | x                      |                       |  |
| S. Kanapathipillai | x                      |                       |  |
| V. Murugesu        | x                      |                       |  |
| William Hunt       |                        | x                     |  |
| V. G. George       |                        | x                     |  |
| Victor Williams    |                        | x                     |  |
| S. Sittampalam     |                        | x                     |  |
| C. Ganeshadas      |                        | x                     |  |
| S. Rajanayagam     |                        | x                     |  |
| R. Ganeson         |                        | x                     |  |
| R. Arianayagam     |                        | x                     |  |
| R. Mahesvaran      |                        | x                     |  |
| T. Abraham         |                        | x                     |  |

**LIST OF CREST WINNERS.**

| CRICKET  | FOOTBALL   | TRACK   |
|--|--|---|
| 1930,  | K. S. Singaratnam<br>K. Rajaratnam<br>David Reuban<br>P. K. Wesley   | R. J. ThuraiRajah                               |
| 1931.  | W. Ratnam<br>P. Manikavasagar<br>T. Thalayasingam  | ---   |
| T. Pathmanathan<br>K. R. Navaratnam<br>T. Thalayasingam<br>S. K. Sabaratnam  |  |   |
| 1932.  | K. R. Navaratnam<br>C. C. W. Thuraiaratnam<br>W. T. Hunt<br>S. Ponniah   | U. Rajadurai                                    |
| P. R. Rajendra<br>C. N. Alexander<br>K. Rajaratnam<br>J. S. Ariaratnam   |  |   |
| 1933.  | Ganeshadas<br>S. Sittampalam<br>S. Arumanayagam  | G. C. T. Rajanayagam<br>W. T. Hunt<br>P. Brodie |
| W. Rajakone<br>C C W. Thuraiaratnam<br>A. Edwards  |  |   |
| 1934,  | ---  | ---   |
| V. C. Parinpanayagam<br>W. T. Hunt<br>S. Beadle<br>T. Senthunathan<br>P. Brodie<br>G. Evarts<br>Victor Williams<br>M. Muttucumaru<br>S. Sivagnanam |  |   |
| 1935   | K. Kanagaratnam<br>P. Brodie<br>S. Beadle<br>V. S. Chelliah<br>S. Sivarajah<br>C. S. B. Devan<br>V. T. Muttucumaru | T. Thalayasingam                                |
| S. Rajanayagam<br>T. Abraham   |  |   |

**LIST OF CREST WINNERS** (*Ccntd.*)

| CRICKET        | FOOTBALL           | TRACK            |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1936.          | 1936               | 1936             |
| R. Arianayagam | R. Ganeson         | R. S. Navaratnam |
| T. Sittampalam | K. Mahalingam      | V. G. George     |
| R. Mahesvaran  | T. Abraham         | ---              |
| R. Ganeson     | V. Selvaratnam     |                  |
| C. Ganeshadas  | Victor Williams    |                  |
| V. G. George   | S. Rajanayagam     |                  |
| ---            | V. Murugesu        |                  |
|                | S. Kanapathipillai |                  |
|                | V. G. George       |                  |
|                | ---                |                  |

## **REPORT OF THE TEACHERS' ROUND TABLE**

The period under review, since our last report in the Miscellany, has been, if I may so call it, one of Ingathering and of Thankoffering. Under Ingathering, I will place our receptions to Mr. K. A. Selliah when he came back to us on holiday from further studies in England, and to Mr. S. H. Parinbanayagam when he returned to us from his delegation to the World Teachers' Conference held in Tokyo, and our dinner to Rev. and Mrs. Bunker when they arrived among us. Our dinner to Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood is what I call our Thankoffering.

Mr. K. S. Selliah, who is at present prosecuting his studies further in England, was home on leave in August. We entertained him to tea on August 18th and he spoke to us about his first impressions of England and of English character. This reception was very much of the nature of a happy family reunion, as was also our reception to Mr. Perinbanayagam.

Mr. Perinbanayagam came back to us in September from the Tokyo World Teachers' Conference to which he had gone as a delegate from the N. P. T. A. We entertained him to tea on the 28th September, and he came in loaded with a lot of information and many souvenirs. His talk, about his 'impressions of Japan' was interesting and informative and well-illustrated with pictures and magazines and even with quaint tea-pots. He told us of the Noh Drama, the Tea ceremony, and the Flower arrangement, which seem to hold a high place in Japanese life.

Mr. and Mrs. Bunker arrived here among us on the 2nd of November, the former to assume duties as Principal. We sent our President, Mr. A. C. Sundrampillai, to receive them at the station, for the staff. And on November 4, we had them and Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood to dinner. The dinner served a two fold purpose, as a reception to Rev. and Mrs. Bunker and as an appreciation of the services of Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood, during Mr. Lockwood's acting principalship. Mr. M. I. Thomas and Mr. C. R. Wadsworth spoke for the staff and welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Bunker and thanked Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood. Mr. Lockwood, in his speech, thanked the staff for their co-operation during his regime; and Mr. Bunker told us how glad he was that there was already in existence here such a body as the Round Table where the Principal and all the teachers could meet together as members and discuss various subjects academic and other, but all of educational value.

C. A. GNANASEGARAM.  
Secretary.

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## WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

BY WELCH T. W. KUNASINGAM

Vth A.

*(Reproduced from the "Young Idea")*

*(A delightful article—Ed. Y. I.)*

"A snake"! rings out some frightful voice, and the thoughts that simultaneously arise in the minds of many are always associated with poison and death, whether the wriggling reptile be but a poor rat-snake or the dreaded rattle snake. There are few who on such occasions hold their presence of mind and thinking of naught but the snake alone snatch up whatever rod lies within their reach and strike a true stroke.

If a snake is found, as it was found the other day in the Teachers' Rest Room, coiled snugly in a room which is not meant to be a snake hole or a zoo, what impulses are set free in the minds of the many who discover it! The more timid of the number might take a long run without ever glancing back to see how the sleeper fares. Another may find his vocal chords grow suddenly stong and may utter emotional shrieks. The inquisitive gentleman may aim a stone at it just to see it "take a photo"—as we say in Tamil. And a fourth, more bold than the rest might strike the reptile on the tail, for there he has heard lies hidden the secret of the creature's existence.

If "Mr. Wordsworth," the poet, did ever chance to witness such a sight what would he have done? Though quaking with fear he would have 'given the creature a soul.' He would have addressed it in

the human tongue and would have divined the thoughts of the unfortunate reptile. And finally he would sit down to write a long and monotonous poem on it and finding himself in a quandary while trying to name his poem would have called it "Lines," for want of a more suitable title.

What would a lecturer in Mathematics have done? "Let A. B. be the snake 12 ins. long and C. D. a straight rod 12 ft. long," he would say. "Required to place C. D. on A. B. so as to bisect it." And then standing full 12 ft. away would with mathematical accuracy "do the construction" and finally would in satisfaction perhaps utter "Yes! Very Good. Q. E. D."

And the 'Ideal Scout' finding the poor snake bisected would true to the Scout law "be kind to the animal." He would render it "first aid" and alas! kill the poor creature in the experiment.

This is how different people would look at the matter but what would you say, if one cold rainy night you should find a snake coiling itself round your warm leg while you sit, gazing at your book with your thoughts far away at "Home sweet home," in the crowded study hall of the Jaffna College boarding?

What would you say?

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## OLD BOYS' SECTION

WELCOME TO REV. & MRS. BUNKER BY THE

COLOMBO OLD BOYS.

The Rev. Sydney Kittridge Bunker B. A., B. D., B. Litt. (Oxon), Ph. D., who is appointed Principal Jaffna College, in succession to the late Rev. John Bicknell, arrived in Colombo on Saturday the 30th October 1937 at 7. a. m. accompanied by his wife. They were met on board the s. s. Orcades by Mr. E. C. Lockwood, Acting Principal, Mr. K. Kanagaratnam, the active Vice-President of the Colombo Association, Mas. Balasingham Kanagaratnam, Miss Kamalambihai Kanagaratnam, Mr. M. Ramalingam, the Secretary, Messers J. V. Chelliah, M. M. A. Raheem, S. Rajanayagam and Mr. C. Thurai-samy, the Ex-Assistant Post Master, Vaddukoddai.

Representatives of the Times of Ceylon and the Ceylon Observer photographed Rev. & Mrs. Bunker on board the ship. "From what I have read of education in Ceylon it seems imperative that Ceylon should have her own University developing an educational system which fits one for life in Ceylon" said Rev. Bunker to the press representatives. "Education modelled to suit the country will not produce unemployable graduates", he added "but will stimulate the intellectual life of the Island. Choose the right type of education and the University will justify itself." (His motto, like His Excellency the Governor's will be "Hemin! Hemin!") "We will have to wait and work it out as we go along. Conditions are changed and institutions have to change to keep pace. I mean to hold up new schemes until I see what the position is. I have heard that Jaffna has made a distinct contribution to the

life of the Island. Although I have decided to go slow with changes I want to see Jaffna College continue to give men the best training for a well-rounded life. I am aware that tremendous responsibilities are being placed on me and I hope to live up to the possibilities that lie in it."

The Bunkers were received at the lower jetty by representative gathering of Old Boys resident in Colombo. On behalf of the Colombo Old Boys' Association, Mr. D. S. Seevaratnam garlanded Rev. Bunker and little Miss Kamalambikai Kanagaratnam presented a Chendu to Mrs. Bunker. Let me place on record my sincere thanks to Mr. K. Kanagaratnam and particularly Mr. D. S. Seevaratnam for having lent their cars for the use of the Acting Principal and Rev. Bunker during their short stay in Colombo.

The Bunkers were accorded a warm welcome at the Annual Tea by the Acting Principal and Mrs. Lockwood to the Jaffna College Old Boys' Association (Colombo Branch) at the Central Y. M. C. A. Colombo the same evening at 4.30. p. m. Mrs. Lockwood was unavoidably prevented from being present at the party. Refreshments were lavishly served. My sincere thanks are due to Mr. W. M. S. Kingsbury, the Restaurant Manager of the Y. M. C. A., also an Old Boy of the College for the excellent catering.

Mr. Lockwood said that at the last examination Jaffna College had produced very good results. In the field of sports one of the students, V. G. George, at the All-Ceylon Sports Meet, had carried away two first prizes for the pole vault and the high jump. He had established a record better than any English school-boy's record. Among the many

record-breakers, Mr. Lockwood added, was Sir Waittialingam Duraiswamy, the Speaker of the State Council. They were all looking forward to the new regime of Mr. Bunker, which would have the co-operation of the Old Boys, the students and the staff, as a turning point in the history of Jaffna College. He extended a hearty welcome to the new Principal of the College and to Mrs. Bunker.

Sir Waittialingam Duraiswamy in welcoming Rev. and Mrs. Bunker assured the new Principal that he would receive the cordial co-operation of all who were interested in the progress of Jaffna College. He expressed the fervent hope that under Rev. Bunker's regime the College would improve and that Rev. Bunker would leave behind a record of work that would live for ever in the memories of the College.

Mr. K. Balasingam said that they were proud that Jaffna College was to have a Principal who was anxious to follow in the footsteps of his great predecessors. He too expressed the hope that Rev. Bunker would make the College a centre of scholarship and culture as it was in the past.

Rev. Bunker then addressed the gathering and thanked the Old Boys for coming out to greet Mrs. Bunker and himself in that happy fashion. He said he had no ready programme for the College because he had first to see what the situation was. One thing he would like to say was that they must go slow in making changes. He had read the history of the Batticotta Seminary and College and it was with a sense of humility that he came to take up the Principalship of the institution which had such a splendid history. "I realise and I am sure you realise that we are in changing times, and

therefore, it is probable — indeed it is certain — that changes will have to be made. I am sure life in Ceylon is changing, even as it is changing in America, in Europe, all over the world. It is changing fast and so we have got to make changes. I want to give you what my idea of running a College is. It is not a dictatorship in which one man or two or three men decide the policy and expect others simply to fall in line and carry on. That is sometimes apparently the most efficient way. But what kind of results does it get when men are not brought up to think for themselves and live their own lives! I would rather see a life led efficiently but more deeply and with a greater understanding of the possibilities in life.

Mr. P. Sathasivam expressed the thanks of the gathering for the hospitality of Mr. Lockwood.

Mr. J. V. Chelliah next offered a few remarks commenting on the “mella, mella” maxim of Rev. Bunker.

The Party broke up at 7 p. m.

M. RAMALINGAM,  
Hony. Secy. J. C. O. B. A.,  
Colombo Branch.

## **THE OLD BOYS' ANNUAL REUNION**

**1937**

The Old Boys' Day has always been a regular event every year when Old Boys foregathered to spend a whole day at the College. This day was celebrated this year on the 14th of August.

The celebrations began at 7.30 a. m. with a cricket match between the Old Boys and present boys and ended in a victory to the former.

At 12.30 p. m. eighty two Old Boys and the Acting Principal had lunch at the College dining hall.

At 2 p. m. singing and elocution contests were conducted for the present boys at the Ottley Hall and prizes were awarded. Mr. J. V. Chelliah, the retired Acting Principal of the College, presided over these contests. The following were awarded prizes:—

English Declamation and Oration :

Group I.

Mas. A. Ratnasingam—First Prize.

Mas. Mahendram—Second Prize.

Mas. Devasundram—Third Prize.

Group II.

Mas. R. Devarajah—First Prize.

Mas. Sivasubramaniam—Second Prize.

Group III.

Mas. Ernest Appadurai—First Prize.

Mas. T. Vijayanathan—Second Prize.

Mas. J. F. N. Daniel—Third Prize.

Tamil Declamation and Oration:—

Group I.

Mas. R. Kugarajah—First Prize.

Mas. P. Gnanasundram—Second Prize.

Group II.

Mas. Edwin Rajah — First Prize

Mas. K. Rasiah — Second Prize

Group III.

Mas. M. Sebaratnam— First Prize

Mas. Rajawanniar — Second Prize

**Tamil Singing:—**

Miss P. Kanapathipillai— First Prize  
Miss P. Elias — Second Prize

Our thanks are due to Dr. C. T. Chelliah, Messrs. T. C. Rajaratnam, K. Subramaniam, E. J. Jeyarajah and S. Vinayagamoorthy for liberally contributing towards the prizes. The declamations and orations in both English and Tamil, and the Tamil singing reached a high standard.

This was followed by the business meeting presided over by the Acting Principal, Mr. E. C. Lockwood. The following resolution was moved by Mr. J. V. Chelliah and was passed solemnly, all members standing:-

“That we the members of the Jaffna College Old Boys’ Association wish to place on record our profound regret at the untimely death of the Rev. John Bicknell, and express our heart-felt condolence to the bereaved, especially to Mrs. John Bicknell and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bicknell.”

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

*President:* The Principal (ex-officio)

*Vice-Presidents:* K. Balasingam, Esq.  
J. V. Chelliah, Esq.  
K. Kanagaratnam, Esq.  
T. Buell, Esq.

*Secretary:* B. K. Somasundram, Esq.

*Treasurer:* R. C. S. Cooke, Esq.

*Auditors:* J. F. Ponnampalam, Esq.  
E. J. Jeyarajah, Esq.

Additional Members of the Executive Committee

I. P. Thurairatnam, Esq.  
A. C. Sundrampillai, Esq.  
Rev. S. Kulandran  
A. W. Nadarajah, Esq.

The following resolutions were passed:



1. That the Jaffna College Old Boys' Association agrees with the sentiment expressed by the Executive Committee of the Jaffna College Y. M. C. A. as regards the Y. M. C. A. Buildings and requests the Board of Directors, the Building Committee and the Principal to sympathise with their request.

2. That this Association recommends to the Board of Directors that they so amend the constitution of the Board as to include two representatives duly elected by the Old Boys' Association.

After the business meeting the Acting Principal was "At Home" to the Old Boys. The Football match which was fixed for 5 p. m. had to be cancelled owing to want of time.

At 6.30 p. m. a short but soul stirring thanksgiving service was conducted by Rev. S. Selvaratnam at the Church.

This was followed by the dinner at 7.30 p. m. on the lawn in front of the Y. M. C. A. building. Covers were laid for ninety. M. K. T. Sandys, Esq., the Government Agent, Northern Province, Dr. Wm. J. Jameson, Director, Green Hospital, Manipay, A. Cumarasamy, Esq. Principal, Jaffna Hindu College, were among the guests of the evening.

The following toasts were pledged :

*Loyal Toasts*

*The College*

Reply

M. K. T. Sandys, Esq.

The Acting Principal.

*The Guests*

Reply

B. K. Somasundram, Esq.'

A. C. Nadarajah, Esq.

*Sister Associations*

Reply

A. W. Nadarajah, Esq.

A. Cumarasamy, Esq.

*Old Boys' Association*

Reply

Dr. Wm. J. Jameson

S. R. Kanaganayagam, Esq.

The celebrations came to an end at eleven p. m. with the singing of the College song at the close of the dinner.

B. K. Somasundram.  
Hony. Secy. J. C. O. B. A.

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#### THE J. C. O. B. A. SECRETARY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

1. The members of the Old Boys' Association are kindly requested to send in their annual membership fee of Re. 1. before 1st April, 1938.

2. The Jaffna College Miscellany will be sent to the Old Boys who wish to get a Copy of it. Rs. 1.50 will be charged per copy, kindly inform The Manager, The Jaffna College Miscellany, if you wish to get a copy of it.

3. The name of "The Bicknell Jubilee Fund," is now altered to "The Bicknell Fund". This fund is expected to be closed in July 1938. Those Old Boys who have not yet contributed to this fund are kindly requested to do so as early as possible.

4. December 17th is the first anniversary of Rev. John Bicknell's death. The office-bearers of the Old Boys' Association will lay a wreath at the grave on that day. As many Old Boys as possible are requested to join them. Wreaths from the Old Boys will be welcome. The time will be announced in the 'Morning Star'.

B. K. Somasundram,  
Hony. Secy. J. C. O. B. A.

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**Dr. W. S. RATNAVALE**

*Retired Medical Superintendent, General Hospital, Colombo.*

**(A Distinguished Old Boy).**

**OLD BOYS' NEWS.***Gathered by Alumnus.***GENERAL**

—Mr. S. Alalasundaram, Advocate, Chilaw, acted as the District Judge of Batticaloa for sometime recently.

—Mr. S. Gunaratnam has joined the staff of Richmond College, Galle.

—Dr. J. M. Somasundaram has assumed duties as the Provincial Surgeon of the Eastern Province.

—Mr. J. C. Arulampalam, Excise Inspector, Wadduwa, has been transferred as Officer - in - Charge at Chilaw.

—Mr. N. R. Balasingham has passed the examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and has been stationed as Sanitary Inspector at Hettipola, Kurnegalle.

Dr. K. Nadarajah of the Ceylon Medical Department has proceeded to England for higher studies.

—Mr. S. Ariathurai has also proceeded to England for prosecuting his studies in Science.

—Mr. K. Sivanandham has joined the Sanitary Department as a Learner and is undergoing training.

—Mr. V. C. Kathiravelu has been elected the President of the Village Committee of Vaddukoddai.

—Mr. R. N. Sinniah, Officer in Charge of the Experimental Farm Station at Tinnavelly, Jaffna, has been appointed Maniagar of the Valigamam West Division.

—Mr. S. P. Rajaratnam, of the staff of the Manipay Memorial English School, has been appointed as its Headmaster.

—Messrs. C. R. Ratnasingham (of the staff of our Affiliated School at Tellippallai) and A. Aruliah have been selected as candidates for training at the Government Training College, Colombo. They will go into training from January of next year and will spend two years at the Training College.

—Mr. V. Arasaratnam of the Colonial Store keeper's Department has passed Class II Clerical Examination.

—Messrs. T. Monaguru and D. A. A. Rajamanickam of the Income Tax, Department have also passed Class II Clerical Examination.

—Mr. P. J. Thambiratnam of the Government Electrical Department has passed the first efficiency bar examination.

—Mr. K. Thillainathan of the Income Tax Office has passed the second efficiency bar examination.

—Mr. A. Mathiapparanam, B. A., has joined the staff of a school at Matale.

#### EXAMINATION SUCCESSES.

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

#### LONDON UNIVERSITY B. A., HONOURS.

Mr. A. E. Rajaratnam Hist. Branch IInd Class.  
Mr. S. Jayaveerasingham Hist. Branch IIIrd Class.

#### B. A., GENERAL.

Mr. F. W. C. Saverimuttu.

#### B. SC.,

Mr. M. Rajasundaram: (General IInd Class Honours.)

Mr. C. Kumaradasan: (General)  
 Mr. B. K. Somasundaram: (General)  
 Mr. N. Ganapathipillai: (General)  
 Mr. T. V. Thambu: (Special, Mathematics)  
 Mr. P. Tharmalingam (Special, Chemistry.)

INTER ARTS.

Mr. G. J. Sabapathipillai

INTER - SCIENCE

Mr. T. V. Kanagasabai  
 Mr. K. Sellathurai  
 Mr. K. Theagarajah (Referred in Physics.)

CEYLON LAW COLLEGE.

*Advocates' Second*

Mr. S. S. Ariaratnam  
 Mr. Nambi Kooyat.

*Proctors' First.*

Mr. K. Velauthan  
 Mr. S. S. Nambikai  
 Mr. G. J. Sabapathippillai.

*Proctors' Second.*

Mr. K. R. Navaratnam  
 „ C. D. Singaratnam  
 „ S. V. Somasundram  
 „ V. E. Vaitilingam

*Ceylon Government Clerical Third Class.*

Mr. A. Pathmanathan  
 „ A. Kulasingham  
 „ Sivanandha Iyer  
 „ S. Thirunavatkarusu  
 „ S. R. Navaratnam  
 „ S. Tissaveerasinghe.  
 (Lower Division) K. E. Thambirajah

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

—Mr. Edward Mather, J. P., died on the 22nd October, 1937.

—Mr. A. E. Clough, J. P., died on the 28th October, 1937.

—Mr. E. Aruliah died on the 20th September, 1937.

—Mr. K. Arunasalam died on the 20th September, 1937.

WEDDINGS.

Our felicitations to the following newly wedded couples.

—Mr. Earnest B. Anketell and Miss Thapomany Somasundram.

—Mr. E. C. Navaratnasingham and Miss Regina Soranam Pedrupillai.

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**EDITORIAL NOTES** (*Continued*)**LADY ABRAHAMS AND THE KING'S ENGLISH**

"Shakespeare spelt his own name in five different ways, each one of them correct" says Havelock Ellis; and George Bernard Shaw, who claims to speak and write perfect Irish—the Irish used by Edmund Burke and Jonathan Swift—and who is England's most recent 'Nobel Laureate,' has taken many liberties with the King's English. He has given short shrift to such time honoured conventions as the full stop after abbreviations like Mr. Mrs. etc., and the apostrophe in words like don't and can't. To them he attaches only an antiquarian value that can be well ignored.

Many of the rules of grammar, that the present writer learned at school, are already obsolete. The English language has grown within the memory of living men—wherever it has gone it has adapted itself to the living needs of the people. In America it has become almost a different language so much so that H. L. Mencken predicts that, before long, American will usurp the place now held by English and English will become a dialect of American. In England itself, there are diversities of idiom and vocabulary between different parts of the country. Therefore, to expect or to desire that people in Ceylon, to whom English is after all an alien tongue, imposed upon them by political events and economic considerations, should follow the model set by the people of the South of England, is somewhat unreasonable. To learn anything well is desirable. But to make a fad of anything is an unwholesome attitude. It is our belief that this insistence on better English, nay perfect English, (if there be such



a thing) is an intellectual error due to a lack of sane educational values. No doubt, every teacher of English should in the class room insist on correctness and frown on slipshod work. We are not pleading that carelessness in English should either be encouraged or tolerated in schools. But in the work-a-day life, to make much of a slip in pronunciation or a peccadillo in grammar reveals an immature mind. Furthermore, with the majority of people who use two languages with almost equal frequency, it is inevitable that the idiom of one creeps unconsciously into the other, often with ridiculous consequences. But that cannot be wholly prevented as long as our speech and thinking are bilingual. Then there are practical difficulties encountered by all who try to express the ideas indigenous to their soil in an idiom which is strange to them and which has no equivalents for the indigenous terms. To take one example from the Tamil language, there are to our knowledge four words—each denoting a different stage—to convey the idea signified by the English word, ‘fruit’—**பழை** denoting the early and tender stages, **காய** denoting the next stage near to ripeness, **செம்மழம்** denoting the next stage near to full ripeness, **பழம்** the fully ripe condition. There is also the adjectival form **முற்றல்** denoting in most cases a stage prior to **செய்யுழம்**.

We do not know whether expressions like mango-fruit and jak-fruit are included in the offending category of Ceylonisms. Whether they are or not, whoever criticises the Ceylon boy for using such expressions must bear in mind that he is only trying to be specific and precise in his speech. When he says mango-fruit, he means the fully ripe one, ready to be eaten. We wonder why in the interests of a purposeless purism the boy who uses such an ex-

pression should be penalised, when even people with better command of the English language find it hard to translate into intelligible English the nuances of their own mother tongue. Many of the so-called Ceylonisms have their grounding in such psychological conflicts natural to a mind torn between two idioms of thought and speech. We are not defending a wholesale disregard of idiomatic English. We are only pleading for a little sanity from those who insist that the English spoken and written in Ceylon should not deviate even a jot or little from the pattern set by the products of English Universities.

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#### SIR J. C. BOSE, F. R. S.

The intellectual world is to-day the poorer by the passing away of Sir J. C. Bose. It is one of the incidents inherent in political subordination, that even Literary and Scientific geniuses find it hard to come by their own if they belong to a subject-nation. Therefore, that Sir Jagadish Chander Bose attained a world-wide recognition and was among the foremost of living scientists is clear proof of his outstanding abilities. His contribution to the thought-life of the nations lay in demonstrating that even plants are endowed with life in the same sense as animals and that they too possess a nervous system similar in kind to that of animals, and susceptible to electric and other shocks. It is said that when he gave demonstrations of his conclusions before some Western audiences and actually showed the pain and shrinking displayed by plants when they were electrocuted, the ladies present in the hall screamed with horror. But it must be said that his conclusions have not yet been fully admitted by some

at least of the scientists of the West. Some of his opponents maintained that oneness of all life—including vegetable life—is a cardinal postulate of Indian philosophic speculation and Dr. Bose's mind, warped by the philosophic doctrines of his nation, was already predisposed in favour of his conclusions and did finally find what he was looking forward to find in plant life. That even those severest in self-criticism sometimes slip into the error of objectifying their subjective predelections is not to be denied. But these critics of Dr. Bose should not forget that the evolutionary doctrine now holding sway in the West itself not very different from the Indian doctrine that is supposed to have warped the mind of this scientist. Evolution itself postulates the oneness of all life including plant life. His scientific discoveries have not been without practical results in agriculture and allied sciences. But what compels our admiration is the passion for truth that dominated him through life and led him to found a research institute to continue the good work when he is gone.

#### OUR CONTRIBUTORS.

*Rev. S. K. Bunker* is our new Principal and has been, for the present, adequately dealt with, elsewhere in these notes.

*Mr. S. H. Perinbanayagam* is one of the Editors of this Magazine and modesty constrains us not to sing the praises of one of us. But without transgressing the bounds of decency, it may be said that he was a member of the Ceylon delegation to the World Education Conference held in Tokyo.

*Mr. S. Muthucumaru* has already been introduced to our readers, for this is the second article we are publishing from his pen.

*Mr. M. Ramalingam* too is no stranger to our pages. Another contribution from him has already appeared in an earlier issue.

*Miss Rance S. Paul*, B. A., of the staff of Uduvil, was the only lady delegate from Ceylon, to the Tokyo Conference, and true to the traditions of Indian womanhood, which always regarded itself as the custodian of beauty and charm in the home, has made a special study of the artistic aspect of Japanese life. The fruit of her studies, partly descriptive, partly hortatory and homiletic, has been made available to our readers. We too without any pretensions to heightened sensitiveness in aesthetic perceptions, are only too conscious of the poverty of our home-life in regard to beauty and urge our readers to give sober heed to her suggestions about taking a leaf from the Japanese in this regard.

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### NOTES FROM A COLLEGE DIARY

*Monday, Sept. 13.*

—The College reopens for the third term of the year. Glad to welcome once again Mrs. Lockwood and children, who drive out of the Principal's Bungalow the strictly "official" man and his "offices".

*Wednesday, Sept. 15.*

—The College Football eleven plays a practice match against a selected team. It ends in a draw.

*Thursday, Sept 16*

—We draw a deep sigh of relief at the return of Mr. Handy Perinbanayagam, who comes back to us from Japan safe and sound through "the valley of death," and in fact heavier both intellectually and physically.

*Friday, Sept. 17.*

—A practice Football match with the Jaffna Jubilee team. As is usual with all our practice matches, no loss is sustained and the game ends in draw.

*Sunday, Sept. 19.*

—Mr. C. R. Wadsworth speaks at the Sunday Evening Service.

*Monday, Sept. 20.*

—Mr. Handy Perinbanayagam, delights the morning chapel assembly with a talk on his tour to Japan. This is the first of a series of talks. He confines his address to his journey, making particular mention about places and persons he saw.

*Tuesday, Sept. 21.*

—The girls of the Upper School form themselves into a Girls' Club under the patronage of Mrs. Lockwood. It supplies a long-felt want — an opportunity for the girls to meet together in games and for common fun.

*Wednesday, Sept. 22.*

—Mr. P. W. Ariaratnam, the President, addresses the weekly Y. M. C. A. meeting.

*Friday, Sept. 24.*

—A decisive victory to our Football eleven by 6 goals to nil in a practice match against Manipay Hindu College.

*Sunday, Sept. 26.*

—M. Thamboe Buell, J. P., speaks at the Sunday Evening Service.

*Monday, Sept. 27.*

—Mr Handy Perinbanayagam gives his second talk on his Japan Tour at the chapel assembly.

*Tuesday, Sept. 28.*

—Mr. Handy Perinbanayagam speaks at the Round Table meeting on "Some Educational Aspects of Japan."

*Wednesday, Sept. 29.*

—Unlike the immortal Ancient Mariner who forced his tale on unwilling listeners, Mr. Handy is himself compelled to tell times without number his tale of adventures on board his steamer and in Japan. He speaks at the Y. M. C. A. meeting on "The Social Aspects of Japan."

—The flag day of the Deaf and Blind School at Mt. Lavana. Red flags are much in evidence.

*Saturday, Oct. 2.*

—We play our first Inter-Collegiate Football Match against Jaffna Hindu College. Misfortune continues to pursue us in Inter-Collegiate Matches. We lose by three goals to two.

*Sunday, Oct. 3*

—A sing-song service at the Principal's Bungalow.

—Mrs. Lockwood speaks at the Hunt Dormitory Union on "Little things."

*Wednesday, Oct. 6.*

—Mrs. Lockwood speaks at the Chapel assembly.

—Dr. C. T. Chelliah speaks at the weekly Y. M. C. A. meeting.

*Friday, Oct. 8.*

—We hear, with delight, of the unique success achieved by Mas. V. G. George, who creates a new record, at the All-Ceylon Public Schools Meet held at Colombo, in High Jump clearing a majestic height of 5' 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ " and obtains the first place in Pole Vault clearing a height of 10' 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". We extend to him our proud and sincerest congratulations and expect to

see him break, perhaps, the world record as envisaged by the Speaker of the State Council.

—Simultaneous with the jumping into fame of George, a number of our girls sing themselves into honour. The following students receive their silver and bronze medals, which they won at "the Times of Ceylon Music Festival," in another part of Colombo: Miss Pushparanee Kanapathippillai, Miss Annamah Elias, Miss Rangitham Sundrampillai, and Miss Elizabeth Elias.

*Saturday, Oct. 9.*

—We listen with pleasure to a musical broadcast given at the Colombo Radio Station, by three of the girl students at College, Misses Annamah, Elizabeth and Mary Elias. We congratulate them and their proud father at this unique privilege. This is perhaps the first time that we actually listened to a performance through the College new radio set, although attempts had been made earlier to tune the instrument.

*Sunday, Oct. 10.*

—Mrs. Lockwood speaks at the Sunday Evening Service.

*Wednesday, Oct. 13.*

—The Flag Day of the S. I. U. C. Great enthusiasm is evinced.

*Friday, Oct. 15.*

The College is vacated on account of the annual Festival of the Jaffna Council of the S. I. U. C., which takes place at Uduvil. A few of the Jaffna College students successfully stage a play called "The Good Samaritan" at the concert in the evening.

—We play the second Inter-collegiate match against St. Patrick's College and lose by 3 goals to nil.  
*Sunday, Oct. 16.*

—We listen through the radio to His Excellency the Governor's first speech to the people of Ceylon at 8 p. m.  
*Sunday Oct. 17.*

—A sing song service at the Principal's Bungalow.

—Mr. C. O. Elias speaks at the Hunt Dormitory Union on "Our last experiences at Colombo."  
*Wednesday, Oct. 20.*

—Mr. S. A. Visuvalingam speaks at the Y. M. C. A. meeting on "Valluvar's Conception of Woman."  
*Sunday, Oct. 24.*

—Miss E. Peak speaks at the Sunday Evening Service.

—As requested by Mrs. Bicknell, 60 flowers which were sent by her in remembrance of the late Rev. John Bicknell at his sixtieth birthday were first kept at the Church and then in the Hall. On Monday, the 25th, three students took them and placed them at his grave at the American Mission cemetery.

*Tuesday, Oct. 26.*

—Mrs Lockwood speaks at the Inter Union.  
*Wednesday, Oct. 27.*

—Dr. V. Nadarajah, M. O. H., Jaffna, who had already made his connection with Jaffna College through the medium of the needle, speaks at the Y. M. C. A. on "The Value of Public Health."

*Friday, Oct. 29.*

Mid term Break.



*Saturday, Oct. 30.*

The new Principal of Jaffna College arrives at Colombo, to be welcomed by Mr. E. C. Lockwood and our distinguished Old Boys.

—As soon as he set foot in Ceylon, our Football eleven wins a match against Parameshwara College by 4 goals to one. This is, by the way, the only victory in any Inter-Collegiate match after the death of Rev. J. Bicknell. We draw a sigh of relief indeed that the spell is broken.

*Monday, Nov. 1.*

—The Principal arrives at Jaffna, and he is escorted from the Moolai junction by the students of the College in a well-decorated carriage drawn by three horses and accompanied by oriental music. Just after the procession, he meets the teachers at tea at the Principal's bungalow, and then comes off to the morning assembly. He gives an inspiring message and then declares the rest of the day a holiday. We assure him a hearty co-operation with him in every way.

*Tuesday, Nov. 2.*

—The College is vacated on account of Deepapali.

*Tuesday, Nov. 4.*

—The Round Table welcomes the new Principal at a dinner.

*Friday, Nov. 5.*

—The Boarders of Jaffna College welcome their Principal at a grand garden party in the Hunt Dormitory.

*Saturday, Nov. 6.*

—The members of the Lyceum celebrate their 33rd anniversary with a successful function.

—The tide of fortune in our matches has really changed. We win a Football match against St. Henry's College by 3 goals to 2.

*Sunday, Nov. 7.*

—The play called "The Good Samaritan" is re-staged at the College Sunday Evening Service.

*Tuesday, Nov. 9.*

—A practice Football match against the Y. M. P. A. of Manipal. We win by 4 goals to one.

*Wednesday, Nov. 10.*

—The annual prize-giving takes place, where Rev. S. K. Bunker makes his first distinguished appearance in public.

*Saturday, Nov. 13.*

—We play a practice match against the "Demon Club" of Illavalai. After a hard fight with the "demons", the match ends in a draw.

*Sunday, Nov. 14.*

—Rev. S. R. Bunker preaches at the Sunday Evening Service.

*Monday, Nov. 15.*

—Mr. A. P. Guruswamy, Secretary of the All Ceylon Temperance Society, speaks at the chapel service.

*Tuesday, Nov. 16.*

—The annual Prize-Giving of the Tennis Club takes place. Bunker distributes the trophies.

*Wednesday, Nov. 17.*

—Rev. S. K. Bunker speaks at the weekly Y. M. C. A. meeting.

*Friday, Nov. 19.*

—We play the last Inter Collegiate match for the season against Jaffna Central College and win by 3 goals to 2.

*Sunday, Nov. 21.*

—A whole day Retreat of the Jaffna Inter Collegiate Christian Fellowship takes place at Nallur. Ten students (six boys and four girls) and six teachers from Jaffna College attend.

—Rev. S. Selvaratnam preaches at the Sunday Evening Service.

*Wednesday, Nov. 24.*

Rev. D. T. Niles speaks at the weekly Y. M. C. A meeting.

—The College choir makes a trip to our sister institution at Uduvil—Oh! by the way, why has not Uduvil blossomed into a “College” as yet?—to join them in a singing practice in preparation for a Christmas Carol Service to be held later. We understand that this practice of a united service had been in vogue formerly and was the cause of “thrilling happiness” to a few individuals in the choirs.

*Friday, Nov. 26.*

—The College choir gives a singing concert at the Hall.

*Sunday, Nov. 28.*

—Mr. L. S. Kulathungam speaks at the Sunday Evening Service.

—At the weekly meeting of the Athenian Dormitory Union, Mrs. Lockwood renders a vocal solo and Mrs. Bunker reads a story.

*Saturday, Dec. 4.*

—Dr. V. Nadarajah, M. O. H., Jaffna, puts on a free educational moving picture show, relating to health, at the College Hall.

*Sunday, Dec. 5.*

—A united Christmas Carol service is held at the Vaddukoddai Church, where the Uduvil choir and the College choir join. Mr. T. S. Oppenheim is the leader:

—Mr. S. A. Visuvalingam conducts a “Kaled-shepam” at the Atheniam Dormitory Association and he is accompanied by the Jaffna College Oriental Orchestra of “radio fame”.

*Friday, Dec. 10.*

—The scholarship examinations are held.

—A concert under the auspices of the College Y. M. C. A. is held. The chief item is the staging of “The Dumb Wife of Cheapside,” by the staff and the students of the College. A comedy with a “dumb” wife, a “deaf” husband, a master physician, skillful surgeon, an efficient apothecary, a clever lawyer—keeps a full house in roars of laughter.

*Saturday, Dec. 11.*

—The Old Boys entertain Rev. and Mrs. S. K. Bunker at dinner at the College dining hall.

*Sunday, Dec. 12.*

—Mr. C. A. Gnanasegaram speaks at the Sunday Evening Service.

—A united Christmas Carol Service takes place at the Uduvil Church. The two choirs join. Mr. J. C. Amarasingham is the leader.

*Monday, Dec. 13.*

—The Term Examinations commence.

*Wednesday, Dec. 14.*

—The Delegation from Jaffna College, consisting of 4 teachers and three students, for the Quadrennial Conference of the Student Christian Movement, to be held at Rangoon, leaves Jaffna.

*Friday, Dec. 17.*

—The last day of the term and the first anniversary of the death of Mr. Bicknell. How soon has the year ended! And yet how fresh is the great sorrow caused by his sudden death! Can we ever forget him?

—Today is observed as a day of silence in the College in commemoration of this anniversary. An impressive service is held in the morning in the Ottley Hall. A tablet, in his memory fixed at the entrance of the Ottley Hall, is unveiled. In the afternoon, a simple but very solemn service, organised by the Old Boys, is held at the grave side at the Mission Cemetery at Uduvil. Wreaths are laid in remembrance.

—The College vacates for the Christmas Holidays.

*The Diarist wishes a Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year to the Readers.*

*Jan.*

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

The following exchanges were received since the publication of the last issue of the Miscellany.  
*The National College Magazine*, Trichinopoly.  
*The Hatton Methodist Boys' English School Magazine*.

*St. Joseph's College Magazine* Trichinopoly.  
*The Madras Christian College Magazine*.  
 'The Crescent'—Zahira College Magazine, Colombo.  
 'The Peterite'—St. Peter's College Magazine Colombo.  
*St. John's College Magazine*, Chundikully.  
 'Bottled Sunshine'—St. Patrick's College Magazine, Jaffna.

*The American College Magazine*, Madura.  
*C. M. S. Girls' College Magazine*, Chundikully.  
*The Kumbakonam College Magazine*, Kumbakonam.  
*The Anglo-Chinese School*, Singapore,  
 'Our Boys'—Kingswood College Magazine, Kandy.  
 'The Young Hindu'—Jaffna Hindu College Magazine.  
*St. Thomas' College Magazine*, Colombo.  
*The Madras Law College Magazine*.  
*Blue and White*—St. Joseph's College Magazine, Colombo.  
*St. Benedict's College Magazine*, Colombo.

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**THE CALENDAR FOR 1938,****FIRST TERM.**

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| <i>January 10.</i>  | Term reopens.          |
| <i>January 14.</i>  | Holiday Thai Pongal.   |
| <i>February 18.</i> | Sextant break holiday. |
| <i>April.</i>       | Term ends.             |

**SECOND TERM.**

|                   |                                 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>May 16.</i>    | Term reopens.                   |
| <i>May 27.</i>    | Holiday J. N. E. S.<br>meeting. |
| <i>June 9.</i>    | King's Birthday.                |
| <i>July 4.</i>    | Sextant break Holiday.          |
| <i>August 12.</i> | Term ends.                      |

**THIRD TERM.**

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <i>September 12.</i> | Term reopens                            |
| <i>October 14.</i>   | Holiday : J. C. S.I. U. C.<br>Festival. |
| <i>October 31.</i>   | Sextant break holiday.                  |
| <i>December 16.</i>  | Term ends.                              |

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