

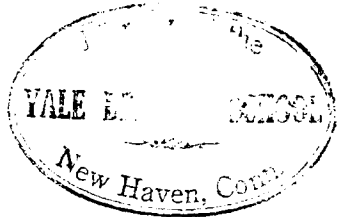
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IS THERE A DISTINCTIVELY CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE IN TIMES OF WAR ?

BY THE REV. E. C. DEWICK, M. A.

When a nation is confronted with a supreme crisis, the effect generally is to weld it into a unity which for the time being transcends all the normal divergencies and conflicts of peace-time. This is obvious in England today. The National Government comprises both the Conservatives and the Socialists, who a few months back were unwilling to co-operate in any common cause. In Germany, too, there is no reason to doubt that the war has produced an unprecedented unity and loyalty to the common leader. The same has been evident in India in times of special emergency. During the nonco-operation movement of 1921—'22, Muslims and Hindus forgot their mutual animosity in common loyalty to the national cause under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. One effect of war upon national life is National Unity.

Can we say that the present world crisis has produced a similar unity in the Christian Church throughout the world? Are there signs of any distinctively "Christian point of view," which is common to all who call themselves by the name of Christ? One of the gravest charges against the Church today is that there are no signs of this unity.

It is true that within each warring nation there is a large measure of unity among Christian folk. In England, for instance, the great majority of English Christians are enthusiastically at one in their attitude to the war. But that is not because they are Christian, but because they are English. The last Mail received in India from England

brought to me two 'Church' newspapers, which usually differ from each other with bitterness, on almost every question of Church or State. Today, the front pages of these two papers express almost identical sentiments. Both alike reiterate that the one thing that really matters is to win the war; both alike denounce with indignant contempt certain English bishops who have recently dared to suggest that, even in war time, justice should be tempered with mercy. Certainly there is an unexpected *unity* of sentiment here among Christian people, who before the war were vehemently antagonistic to each other. But is this a distinctively *Christian* unity? The point of view of these Christian journals is echoed in precisely the same accents by Mr. H. G. Wells, the Aga Khan, and the Maharajah of Patiala, (among countless others); none of whom, as far as I am aware, would profess to be actuated in their war policy by any Christian principles. Each group of Christians, communal or national, seems to do little more than echo the public opinion with which it is surrounded.

If we turn from the rank and file to the leaders of the Churches, we do not seem to find any more distinctive note. It is true that the Primate of England and the President of the Free Church Council, who issued a united manifesto on the War some time ago, expressed sentiments, admirable in many ways, but not differing in any essential from the sentiments expressed in the leading article of the more responsible organs of the secular press. Cardinal Hinsley, representing the Church which claims to be 'Catholic', has expressed similar sentiments in more strident terms; but the supreme Head of his Church, writing under the political atmosphere of Italy, has contended himself with vague condemnations of aggression and

wrong in general, without specifying who are the aggressors.

Nor is the case very different with those who hold the pacifist position. Pacifist ideals are indeed uniting today Christians of different theological and ecclesiastical outlooks. The pacifist cause in England is supported not only by the Quakers but also by Free Churchmen and Anglicans of all schools of thought, ranging from the Protestant Bishop of Birmingham to the Anglo-Catholic Arch-deacon of Stoke. But pacifist ideals are not limited to Christians. If Pacifism were a distinctively Christian ideal, we have to explain why it is held by Mahatma Gandhi and by avowed non-Christians in England such as Aldous Huxley and Bertrand Russell.

Neither Militarism nor Pacifism seems to have the power of claiming the allegiance of all Christians and both Militarism and Pacifism draw their adherents from both Christian and non-Christian camps.

So far, we have been thinking mainly of lands overseas. In India, and Ceylon, the issues are somewhat different; but here too there are not many signs of a definite Christian attitude to the world crisis.

Among missionaries, pacifist ideals seem to be rare, except in the Society of Friends. The majority of the missionaries are sincere supporters of the British cause in the war, and their influence tends to prevent any other point of view being openly expressed by flocks in their charge. It is difficult to say to what extent a similar view is shared by the members of the Church; but so far as can be judged from resolutions passed by representative Christian bodies, it would seem that the Christian

community as a whole in India and Ceylon is prepared to endorse the official British point of view,—sometimes qualifying its support by mild expressions of national aspirations, but not adding any distinctive Christian note. It is true that among the younger Christians, we hear occasional murmuring of revolt against the slogan that “the only thing that matters is winning the war.” But this revolt, again, does not seem to be due so much to any distinctive *Christian* conviction, but rather to the nationalist sympathies which are more widespread among the younger than among the older members of the Church. In short, Christian community in the East, just as much as the Western Christians, does not seem to be displaying anything that could be called a *distinctively* Christian attitude towards the world crisis.

Is this a fact which we must simply accept as inevitable? If so, there is a sharp challenge here to the age-long claim of the Christian Church that God had given to her a unique insight into His mind and will, and has commissioned her to be the authorised exponent of his Word to the world of men.

We cannot surely be content simply to accept such a conclusion as inevitable, without further effort to see whether, in spite of all that has been said about, there may not, after all, be a distinctively Christian attitude, which is within the reach of all Christians in the crisis through which we are passing.

Let us first clear away some possible misunderstandings. We are not suggesting that complete unanimity on all points is possible, even for Christians. For Christians (as well as non-Christians) stand in the midst of a world which inherits a long entail of sin, which has come down to us from our

fore-fathers ; and we ourselves have added to these many sins of our own. We are so familiar with these, that we do not recognise them to be wrong, and hardly even admit their existence.

But whether we admit them or not, we are in fact bound to live and act within the situation thus created ; and if we try simply to go ahead with an ideal programme for an ideal world, we shall soon find that this is not practicable. For a situation which has been created by sin is always a situation from which there is *no ideal* way out. This may be seen even in the Supreme Act of Divine Redemption. Dare we say that the Cross, with all its injustice and agony, was an *ideal* way out of the situation created by the sin of mankind ? Nevertheless, Christians believe that it was *God's* way out, and that it was an expression of God's will. Similarly, human sin is constantly creating situations from which there is no ideal way of escape, but only a choice between possible evils. In such cases, even sincere and honest men, who are earnestly anxious to do what is right, may find themselves differing from each other in their judgment as to what is the best way — or at any rate, the *least evil* way out of the impasse.

For instance, in a situation such as that of Palestine, that "*twice* Promised" Land, where mutually inconsistent promises have been given in the past to hostile groups in the same area, it seems to be beyond the wit of man now to devise any solution which will be in all respects fair to all parties concerned.

Or again, it seems to many of us that the issue between Pacifism and non-Pacifism is not a clear choice between good and evil ; but rather a choice between two evils, under present conditions. For if a Christian chooses the way of non-Pacifism, he

thereby commits himself to use (or to support the use of) methods of violence and cruelty which are contrary to the spirit and teaching of Christ. On the other hand, if he adopts the way of Pacifism, he finds himself largely separated from his fellow-countrymen, and unable to share with them the burdens of unselfish service and sacrifice to one's own community, which are surely close akin to the spirit of Christian love. Here again, Christians may, in all sincerity, come to adopt opposite views. The issues are so complex and confused, that unless we claim, as Christians, to possess infallible inspiration in such matters (and this has proved in the past to be a dangerous claim!) we must be prepared for divergence of opinion. Those who demand that Christians should all be united in following one clear-cut and perfect policy of absolute truth and goodness, may be asked to consider whether, in the world as it is, such a way of perfection is always possible, even (we would speak with reverence) to the Almighty wisdom of God.

Nevertheless, I believe that at such a time as this, the Christian outlook on life ought to be marked by certain distinctive features, which have their origin in the Mind and Spirit of God.

First among these is the determination to understand, as truly and fairly as possible, the point of view of others, and to sit in judgment on our own actions before we begin to criticise or condemn others. This duty receives great emphasis in the teaching and example of Jesus Christ. He approached all kinds of people—the Roman officer, the young Jewish lawyer, the degraded prostitute, the simple fishermen—with a quick understanding of their point of view, which sprang from the clear insight into what they were thinking and feeling. This enabled Him quickly to win their confidence and friendship.

and to bring to them the help and salvation which they needed,

Moreover, He laid stress on the same point in His teaching:—Who that has once seen it can forget the vivid humourous picture of the man with an enormous beam of wood sticking out of his own eye peering critically at the eye of his neighbour, trying to discover in it a speck of dust and patronisingly offering his services: “Brother, let me take out the speck of dust from your eye!”

How absurd! But yet, how like so many of us! The Englishman denounces the caste-system in India, oblivious of his own club-rules, which exclude not only Indians but Anglo-Indians, and even English merchants. The missionary is loud in his praises of democracy in other lands, but regards with suspicion every sign of independent thought in his own flock. Indian Christians denounce the communalism of the Congress and Muslim League, but their own utterances indicate only too often that, if their community were strong, it would display exactly a similar self-centeredness and aggressiveness.

Surely this ought not to be. It should not be impossible for Christian people to understand each other and respect each other, even if they differ. In some Christian circles real efforts are being made in this direction. In the Student Christian Movements of Britain and America, Pacifists and non-Pacifists have tried, not without success, to understand each other's point of view, and to agree to differ in a spirit of sincerity and love. At the Tambaram Conference we are told that the Chinese and Japanese Christian delegates showed how anxious they were to understand and respect each other's point of view.

So far, such efforts have been but few; but if these could be multiplied, so that they could be seen

to be characteristic activities of the Christian Church as a whole in war-time, then the world would come to recognise that, even though there may not be unanimity of opinion among Christians, there is such a thing as a distinctively Christian outlook and spirit, which is unique, and which might become an invaluable asset for all mankind.

This endeavour to be fair to our opponents need not involve "moral neutrality", nor a feeble refusal to express our own convictions. The Englishman who seeks to be fair to Germany is not thereby obliged to condone the crimes of Nazism, nor to say that there is 'not much to choose' between the two main combatants in the war. The Indian who tries to be fair to Britain is not necessarily committed to abstain from condemnation of British imperialism. Only, he will try, even with condemnation, to understand those whom he condemns, and not to indulge in unbalanced denunciations.

There is one other duty which lies within the reach of all Christians in war-time, and that is never to forget the central Christian ideal of love towards all men.

This may sound so remote from actualities as to be merely fantastic and unreal. It certainly is a hard path to attempt to follow a "razor-edge", as Niebuhr has described it—with perilous disaster close at hand on either side. How can the soldier fight and love at the same time? How can the Pacifist claim to be loving, while he leads his brother-men to bear the brunt of struggle and suffering? It certainly is difficult; and yet it is not impossible. It was attempted, not without some success, by Abraham Lincoln, when he bade his followers gird themselves for the battle "with malice towards none." It

is a path which is generally followed much more closely by men who actually fight, (and also by the men who have genuine, conscientious objections to fighting) than by those who remain in comparatively sheltered places — newspaper writers, members of City Clubs, or old ladies who sit at home and exult over every story of the atrocity of their enemies. It is a path which involves constant mental and spiritual struggle and tension. If a Christian decides that he cannot be a Pacifist, he will not be a better Christian by fighting *half-heartedly*. Yet while he fights with all his powers, he must never forget that fighting by itself will never bring in the Kingdom of God, or construct a better world; and he must pray, daily and hourly, for the coming back of love into human relationships, and the in-breaking of God's redemption power into the world. The *Gita* teaches that it is possible to fight without sin, if the soldier "holds as equal pleasure and pain, gain and loss, victory and defeat." (11 38.) And Newbolt was surely not indulging in mere foolish sentiment when he bids us,

"Honour, while you smight him down,
The foe that comes with fearless eyes."

To fight and always to be ready for love is indeed a hard task; but it is a task which the Christian soldier and citizen dare not shirk.

Nor is the Christian Pacifist free from a corresponding tension. As he takes his lonely path, he must be aware of the dangers of spiritual pride and aloofness, and must remember that he too is a member of a sinful society, a limb of a body which is spiritually diseased; and he cannot (nor ought he to) cut off himself and his fellow-Pacifists from the larger whole of his fellowmen.

If Christians can in some such spirit join together in facing the crisis of the present, and the call of the future, they may yet be used by God as a channel through which He will bring redemption to this war-torn world.

* எனது பாடசாலையின் குறிக்கோள்

PANDIT K. P. RATNAM,

(Ceylon Govt. Tamil Research Scholar, Madras University.)

இவ்வுலகத்தில் எத்தொழிலைச் செய்தாலும் ஒரு நோக்கத்துடன்—குறிக்கோளுடன்—செய்யவேண்டும். நானின்று இங்கே ஏன் வந்தேன்? நீங்களேன் இங்கு குழுமியிருக்கிறீர்கள்? உங்களுக்குச் சில கூறும் நோக்கத்துடன் நானிங்கு வந்தேன். அவற்றைக் கேட்க நீங்கள் இங்கிருக்கிறீர்கள். நீங்கள் ஏன் பாடசாலைக்கு வந்தீர்கள்? பாடசாலையின் நோக்கமென்ன? பாடசாலையின் நோக்கம் கல்வியூட்டல்; பரீட்சைகளிற் சித்தியடையச் செய்தல் என்றிவ்வாறு பல சொல்லுவார்கள். ஆனால் தற்காலத்தில் இந்தியாவிலும் இலங்கையிலுமுள்ள பாடசாலைகள் மாணவர்களைப் பரீட்சையில் தேறச் செய்வதையே நோக்கமாகக் கொண்டு முயலுகின்றன. இதற்குமேல் அவைகளின் நோக்கம் செல்வதில்லை, தற்காலப் போக்கும், வாழ்க்கை முறைகளும், சூழலும் எங்கள் பழைய முனிவர்கள், புலவர்கள், அறிஞர்கள் கூறிய நோக்கங்களைப் பின்பற்றி முன்னேறவிடாமல் எங்களைத் தடுத்தின்றன. நாங்கள் நாகரிகமென்று கூறிக்கொண்டு எங்கள் பழைய சிறந்த விழுமிய நோக்கங்களைக் கைநெகிழ விடுகின்றோம். கல்வியின் நோக்கமென்ன?

“கற்க கசடறக் கற்பவை கற்றபின்
நற்க அதற்குத் தக”

என்றார் எல்லாமத்தினரும் எல்லாமொழியினரும் போற்றும் சிருவள்ளுவர் கசடறக், கற்பவர்கள் எத்தனைபோ? கற்றாலுந் கற்றாங்கொழுபுவர்கள் எத்தனைபோ? இத்திருக் குறள்

“ A portion of the Inaugural Address delivered at the Madras Christian College School Tamil Association.

கற்பிப்பதன்படி ஒழுக்காமையே இக்கால உலகிலுள்ள குறைகளுள் எல்லாம் பெரிய குறை எனல் யிகையாகாது. இக்குறையை நீக்குவதற்கே: “சற்றணர்ந் தொழுகு”, என்பதை * எனது பாடசாலையின் குறிக்கோளாக (Motto) அமைத்துள்ளேன். உலகத்துள்ள பொருள்களெல்லாவற்றிலும் சிறந்தது கல்விப்பொருளே. மக்களை மாக்களினின்றும் உயர்த்தி விழுவிய சிறப்புக்களை அளிப்பது அஃகே. கல்வி இம்மையிலன்றி எழுபிறப்பினும் தொடர்ந்து விழும்மளிக்கும்.

“விலங்கொடு மக்களையரிலங்குநூல்
சுற்றரோடேனயவர்”

என்றார் பொய்யா மொழியினராகிய திருவள்ளுவர். இத்தகைச் சிறந்த கல்வியைக் கற்றுவிட்டால் போதாது. கல்வியை பயன் அறிவு, அறிவின் பயன் ஒழுக்கம், என்று நூல்கள் முழங்குகின்றன. அறிதலிலும் உணர்தல் ஏற்றமுடையது. திருவள்ளுவர் இதனை நன்குவிளக்கியிருக்கிறார். கல்வி அறிவை உட்கொடுத்து உணர்ச்சி ஒழுக்கத்தைக் கொடுக்கிறது.

“ஒழுக்கம் விழுப்பந் தரலாண் ஒழுக்கம்
உயிரினு மோம்பப்படும்”

என்றார் வள்ளுவர். இவ்வொழுக்கமே உலகத்து மக்களையாவராலும் விரும்பப்படவேண்டியது. இவ்வொழுக்கத்திலும் பார்ச்சச் சிறந்த விழுவிய பொருள் உலகத்திலில்லை. உலகத்திலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு அருமையான பொருள் அவர்களுடைய உயிரே. இவ்வொழுக்கத்தை விடவரும் காலத்தில் அவ்உயிரையே நீக்கவிடல் அறிஞர்கள் செயலானால் இவ்வொழுக்கத்தின் அருடைபெருமைகளை யாரளவிட்டுரைக்க வல்லார்?

ஒருவனையுயர்த்துவதும் தாழ்த்துவதும் அவனுடைய கல்வி அல்ல; அறிவல்ல; இவ்வொழுக்கமே. ஒழுக்கத்திலேயே உலகம் நடக்கின்றது. ஒழுக்கத்தை அடியோடு யாவரும் இசுழ்த்துவிட்டால் அல்லது கைகொழிவிட்டுவிட்டால் உலகம் அழிந்து போகும் என்பதில் ஐயமில்லை. இந்த ஒழுக்கத்தை மேற்கொள்ள கல்வியும் அறிவும் இன்றியமையாதனதான்; ஆனாலும் கல்வியையும் அறிவையும் பெற்றவுடன் ஒருவன் ஒழுக்கமுடையவனாக வரமுடியாது. அவன் ஒழுக்கமுடையவனாக — இழுக்கமில்லாத ஒழுக்கமுடையவனாக — ஆவதற்கு உணர்ச்சிவேண்டும்.

* மூலாய சைவப்பிரகாச வத்தையாசாலை,

கற்றறிந்த மாந்தர் பலர் உணர்ச்சியின்மையால் ஒழுக்கத்தை யடையாது இழுக்கத்தை யடைகின்றனர். இழுக்கத்தை யடைவ தால் அவர்களுடைய கல்வியறிவு வீழலுக்கிறதைத் தீர் போவாகி விடுகிறது. ஐரோப்பாக் கண்டத்தைப் பாருங்கள்! அங்கே கல்வி யறிவ்லையா? அறிவுக்குக் குறைவுண்டா? இல்லை! இல்லை!! அங்கே கல்வியுமுண்டு; அறிவுமுண்டு; அதிகமுண்டு. அப்படியா னால் ஆண்டு நடக்கும் மிருகத்தனமான பயங்கரப் போருக்குக் காரணமென்ன? சற்று ஆழ்ந்து சிந்தித்துப் பாருங்கள். அங்கே உணர்ச்சிக்கு இடமேயில்லை. மெய்யுணர்ச்சியை ஆண்டுள்ளவர்கள் பெற்றுக்கொள்ளவில்லை. அவர்-ளுடைய கல்வியுறியும் அவர்களை அழிக்கிறது; சிதைக்கிறது; கல்லதன் நலனையும் தீயதன் தீதையும் அவர்கள் அறிகிறார்கள். ஆனால் கல்லதைச் செய்யவேண்டும். தீயதை அரவே ஒழிக்கவேண்டுமெனும் உணர்ச்சி அவர்களிடத்தில்லை. ஐரோப்பாக் கண்டம் முழுவதும் ஆலயங்கள் (Churches) உண்டு. ஆனால் உணர்ச்சிக்குறைவால் கடவுள் வணக்கமும் நம்பிக்கையும் குறைந்து விட்டன. மனிதத் தன்மையைத் தெய்வத் தன்மையாக மாற்றுவது உணர்ச்சியே. உணர்ச்சியில்லாதவர்கள் மனிதத்தன் மையைக் கைகொழிவிட்டு மிருகத் தன்மையை அடைகிறார்கள். மிருகத் தன்மையின் குறிகள்தான் இப்பொழுது ஐரோப்பாவில் காணப்படுகின்றன. மிருகத் தன்மையை யடைந்தவர்கள் கடவுளை நினையார், வணங்கார். தெய்வ நீதியும் அரச நீதியும், மனுஷ நீதி யும் அவர்களிடையே நிலையாது. அநீதியே அங்கே தாண்டவமாகும். மனிதன் கடவுளை நினைந்து வணங்கி அவரருளைப் பெறவேண்டுக. “தெய்வமென்பதோர் சித்தமுண்டாக வேண்டும்.” இதனை உண்டாக் குவது உணர்ச்சியே. உணர்ச்சியுடையவர்களே மெய்ப் பொருளைக் கண்டவர்கள்.

“கற்றீண்டு மெய்ப் பொருள் கண்டார் தலைப்படுவர்
மற்றீண்டுவரா நெறி” என்ற தேவர் திருவாக்கை நன்றாய் அலசிப் பாருங்கள்.

ஓர் தள்ளம் உள்ளது உணரின் ஒருதலையாப் போர்த் தள்ள வேண்டா பிறப்பு”. என்றதனையும் நோக்குங்கள்.

“கற்றதனாலைய பயனென் கொல்வாலறிவன்
நற்றான் தொழா ரெனின்” என்ற இம்மாத் திரையையே இப்பொழுது மிருகத்தன்மையை யடைந்து ஒருவரை யொருவர்

கசக்கிக் கொல்ல, முற்படுபவர்களுக்குக் கரைத்தாட்ட வேண்டியது. கற்றுணர்ந்தவர்கள் தான் கடவுளை வணங்குவார்கள். கல்வியின் இறுதியான பயன் கடவுளை வணங்குதலே எனும் மெய்யுணர்ச்சிதான் யாவற்றிலும் சிறந்தது. உணர்ச்சியைப் பற்றியும், அதன் இன்றியமையாதையைப் பற்றியும் திருவள்ளுவர் மெய்யுணர்வு என்னும் அதிகாரத்தில் நன்கு விரித்துரைத்திருக்கிறார்.

இக்காலத்தில் உலகத்திற் குறைவாகக் காணப்படுவது உணர்ச்சியே. என்னிடம் கற்றமாணவர்களுடன் ஊடாடி நான் நன்கறிந்துகொண்ட குறைகளுள் ஒன்று அவர்களிடத்துக் காணப்பட்ட உணர்ச்சியின்மையே, ‘கனவெடுக்காதே’ என்று கற்கிறார்கள், அறிகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவ்வாறு ஒழுதுகிறார்களில்லை. காரணம் உணர்ச்சியின்மையே. உணர்ச்சியின்மைதான் இக்கால மாணவருலகத்திலென்ன ஆசிரிய உலகத்திலென்ன முழு உலகத்திலேயுமுள்ள பெருங்குறை. உணர்ச்சி உலகத்தில் நிரம்பி வழியும் பொழுது இவ்வுலகமே சுவர்க்க உலகமாக மாறிவிடும். இத்தகைச் சிறந்த உணர்ச்சியின் இன்றியமையாமையைக் காட்டவே அகலின எனது பாடசாலையின் குறிக்கோளில் நடு நாயகமாக அமைத்துள்ளேன். இன்னும், கல்வி உணர்ச்சியையுண்டாக்க வேண்டும் உணர்ச்சி ஒழுக்கத்தை உண்டாக்க வேண்டும், எனக்கற்று உணர்ந்து, ஒழுக்கவேண்டிமென்பதே அக்குறிக்கோள் குறிப்பது. கல்வி, உணர்ச்சி, ஒழுக்கம் எனும் இவற்றைப்பற்றி வள்ளுவரே திருக்குறளில் வரைந்து சாட்டியிருக்கிறார். உலகம் போற்றும் உத்தமராகிய காந்தியடிகள் கற்றுணர்ந்தொழுதுபவர். அவரைப்போல் எல்லோரும் ஒழுக்கினால் இவ்வுலகம் எப்படி இருக்குமென்று சிந்தித்துப் பாருங்கள்

அன்புடையீர்! ஆங்கிலப் பெரும்புலவராகிய பேக்கன் (Bacon) என்பவருடைய கல்வி பற்றிய கருத்தும் கற்றுணர்ந்தொழுக வேண்டுமென்பதே. அவர் எழுதிய (Of Studies) ‘கல்வி’ என்ற ஊடாசனதைப் பலமுறை படித்துப் பாருங்கள். “Studies serve for delight, for ornament and for ability. Their chief use for ability is in the judgment and disposition of business. Read not to contradict and confute but to weigh and consider”.
என்று அவர் கூறுகிறார்.

மாணவர்களே!

‘கற்றுணர்ந்தொழுது’ எனும் குறிக்கோள் எனது பாடசாலைக்கு மாதிரிமன்று. எல்லாப் பாடசாலைகளுக்கும் எல்லா நாட்டினருக்குமே இன்றியமையாதது. ஆகையால், நீங்கள் இதை உங்களுடைய குறிக்கோளாகவும் கொண்டு ஒழுதி உயர்வீர்களாக.

IMPORTANCE OF PARENTS — TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS

BY C. COOMARASWAMY, C. C. S.

*(Text of an address delivered at the Parent's Day
Celebrations of Jaffna College on the 20th ultimo)*

I have first of all to express my thanks for the great honour that has been done to me in being asked to speak on this occasion. I consider it indeed a privilege that I should be called upon to speak to a gathering composed of learned teachers and anxious parents. I say anxious parents because these are days when parents are filled with anxiety about the future of their children. There was a time when only parents who had daughters were troubled with the necessity of providing dowries and procuring husbands for them and parents who had sons were considered very fortunate. Now the situation has changed and it may be said that the sons cause even greater anxiety to parents than the daughters. I shall, however, not refer to the question of unemployment in my remarks. When the Honorary Secretaries came and invited me to speak on this occasion, it was suggested that I might select some subject and speak on it. But not being a pedagogue or demagogue, I was wondering in what capacity I should speak to you today. It seemed to me that the only capacity in which I could speak to you would be as a parent myself. So I decided that I would make a few observations on certain points

which may be of interest to parents and teachers. But what I say must necessarily be the views of a parent.

It would be idle to expect parents and teachers to have the same views on any question, nor is it likely that all parents themselves will have the same views. Therefore, the first point I would make is that it should be recognised that everyone is entitled to hold his own views on any question. Even when we feel that our views are right, it is just possible that we might be mistaken. As we are aware, even the great Mahatma Gandhi himself has changed his views on certain things from time to time. But others do not have the same courage to own and admit their mistakes as the Mahatma does. No doubt, we should have the courage of our convictions but we should have no quarrel with those who do not share our views. I think it would be a good thing if we cultivate the habit of agreeing to differ when we cannot convince each other of the correctness of the views we hold. Until the contrary is proved, we should always put a charitable construction on the action of others and not ascribe to them improper motives.

We are living in times which are changing fast. We all profess to believe in democracy and democratic institutions, and in fact we want to act in a democratic manner in everything possible on earth, but there is danger of democracy going mad. It is well and good to have no fear of anybody or anything, but that does not mean that we should have no respect for others and their feelings. It is rather regrettable to observe a tendency on the part of students not to pay proper respect to their teachers and elders. They seem to be getting wrong ideas of equality and freedom. It is said that liberty

has its privileges and no less its responsibilities. Freedom is not licence. It is difficult to understand how teachers and pupils can be said to be equals. As two human beings they are no doubt the same, but in age, experience and knowledge how on earth can it be said that the teachers and pupils are equals? Unless the pupil has the due respect and regard for the teacher it would not be possible for the former to derive the best benefit from the teachings of the teacher. For the pupil or student the teacher should be the greatest person on earth. Now for various reasons that respect and regard which should be shown by the pupil to the teacher seem to be wanting. One reason appears to be that some young teachers themselves who as students had got the wrong idea of the equality of the pupils with the teachers do not mind being treated as the equals of their pupils. The result is the absence of that discipline which is so essential to progress and an ordered society.

Another quality which often makes a lamentable display is the habit of unpunctuality. I was told the other day by no less a person than an Inspector of Schools how this habit is encouraged in some schools by the teachers themselves. It is a matter of common occurrence in Jaffna that an event or function which is fixed to take place at a certain hour seldom takes place at the appointed time. Sometimes even hours elapse before it takes place. It is highly necessary that children in their infancy itself should be trained to be punctual. The persons primarily responsible for the training and the future of a child are undoubtedly its parents and the teachers. The best teaching is more by example than by precept. If the parents and teachers themselves set up a high standard of conduct and morality and act accordingly, it will have a better effect on the children than any amount of

preaching. There is no use in a father telling a child to be always truthful and a few minutes later if some inconvenient person comes to see the father, asking the child to go and tell the visitor that the father is not at home. The child begins to think that precept is one thing and practice is another and the effect of the teaching is destroyed by the subsequent conduct of the father.

Then in order to produce the best results, there should be loyal co-operation and mutual confidence between the parents and teachers. The formation of parent-teacher associations in schools is undoubtedly a step in the right direction. The close association and free discussion of all questions affecting the children between the parents and teachers, cannot but result in great benefit to the children, and will help to produce a better understanding between the parents and teachers, and facilitate the solution of any difficulties that may arise. As I said before, there should be mutual confidence between the parents and teachers. The parents should always remember that whatever the teacher does is for the benefit of the child. We know of instances where parents become angry if their children are not given promotion or allowed to sit for an examination. What is the use of promoting a child to a higher class when he or she is not fit for promotion? Then what is the use of presenting a child for an examination when it is clear that the child has no chance of passing? The teacher must be presumed to be the best person who knows about the capabilities of the child. If the teacher gives a certain advice in respect of a child, I think the parents should accept it cheerfully and take it as one in the best interest of the child.

On the other hand the teachers themselves must take the utmost care in deciding on a course

of action in respect of a child. They should give the fullest consideration as to what would be in the best interests of a child and see that the child is given every possible chance. In this connection I may be pardoned if I refer to what may be called the tyranny of withdrawal tests. No one can for a moment say that these tests are unnecessary. There is no point in allowing any students to sit for an examination when such students are apparently incapable of passing it. But I am afraid that these tests are sometimes applied with undue severity, resulting in dissatisfaction among parents and keen disappointment among students, some of whom in their desperation have gone to the extent of committing most rash acts. It would appear that instances are not wanting of students who were withdrawn by the school authorities afterwards sitting for the examination privately and passing it. It may perhaps be said that the withdrawal by the school had the effect of making the student redouble his efforts to pass the examination. However, in applying the withdrawal test, the object of the school authorities should be not to withdraw all possible failures, but to allow all students who have any chance at all of passing the examination to sit for it. It has been said that the object of the application of the withdrawal test with severity is to keep up or enhance the reputation of the College in the percentage of passes. While the results in an examination are no doubt to some extent an index to the work done by the school, even a 100% pass from a school does not necessarily prove that that school has succeeded in transforming donkeys into horses. It may perhaps show one thing more than anything else, and that is that the withdrawal test had been applied with the utmost rigour. I do not think the reputation of a school should stand in the way of every student

being given every possible chance, if he and his parents so desire.

There is another important matter which has recently raised some controversy both in the press and the platform. Although I have been thinking about it for sometime, I was wondering whether it would be wise on my part to refer to it on a public occasion. After careful consideration I have come to the conclusion that it is my duty both as a citizen and as a parent to express my own views for what they are worth. Don't for a moment think that it is the District Judge of Jaffna who is expressing his views, but I ask you to take what I say as the views of an anxious parent and a humble yet honest citizen, who is anxious about the welfare of all children and the country at large. I have no quarrel with anybody who does not share my views. My duty is to express them for what they are worth. I only wish that they should be considered by those who are primarily concerned with the question. It is the knotty question of teachers and politics. Here again please don't think that I have come to beard the lion in its own den, because it is generally believed that the Jaffna College teachers are among the foremost who take an interest in politics. Although it was an accident that I thought of referring to this question on this occasion. I am glad now that it has happened to be at Jaffna College. There is nothing like speaking direct to those most interested in a question. I belong to an older generation, whose ideas of a teacher and the pedestal on which he should be placed, seem to be different from those prevailing at the present day. I do not think it can be denied that the teaching profession is the noblest in the world. With the advent of democracy and the passing of power into the hands of the people, the

responsibilities of teachers have increased manifold. The shaping of the character and the destiny of men who will be the future leaders of our country is in their hands. We have therefore to consider whether the active participation of teachers in politics is in the best interests of the children and the country. An esteemed head of a local institution has made a complaint on behalf of the teachers, that an attempt is being made to deprive the teachers of their civic and political rights. I do not think it would be correct to say that anybody is jealous of the rights and privileges enjoyed by the teachers and consequently an attempt is made to deprive them of their freedom of action and their rights. We ought to realise although in theory we are all free to do anything and act in any manner we like, yet in actual practice all of us have not the same freedom. There are rules and conventions which restrict or which ought to restrict the freedom of action of persons according to their position in life. His Majesty the King is perhaps the person whose freedom of action is most restricted in the British Empire. Persons in positions of responsibility are subject to restrictions and limitation according to the nature of their positions. We cannot have all that we desire. If we accept a certain position we should certainly be prepared to accept any restrictions and limitations which are necessary for the efficient discharge of our duties. As I said before, I consider the profession as the noblest in the world and one involving increasing responsibility. It cannot be said that teachers should have nothing to do with politics. On the other hand, it is very necessary that they should make a careful study of that subject and give a lead in political thought. It is their duty to guide the students at their proper age, and help them to think and act independently and consider all questions dispassionately. But I think it would be wrong

to impose on the children, in their most impressionable ages, any peculiar views of the teachers and mar for ever their free and independent thought. In my humble opinion, the active participation by teachers, apart from merely giving their own votes at elections in local or party politics, is not in the best interests of the children and consequently of the country at large. Such action on the part of the teachers must naturally expose them to all kinds of abuse and attack and drag them into the mire. When the teachers are in, it would be difficult for the children to keep out of it. We all know how elections are fought in this country. It would be disastrous for the country if the children are to base their ideas about politics on the number of pots of toddy and bottles of arrack consumed at the elections. And where there is a clash of interests between the parents and teachers, the position of the children would be most lamentable. A teacher who really loves his work as a teacher, and who has the best interest of the children at heart, will in my opinion find no difficulty in denying himself the excitement and the doubtful pleasure of active participation in local elections. I place the teachers on a pedestal by themselves. It is for them to decide for themselves how they should act and create a tradition which should be kept up by them and maintained, if necessary, by disciplinary action taken by themselves.

In making these observations I hope you will realise that I have no other motive but the best interests of the children, the teachers and the country at large. This is a matter that should be considered and decided by the teachers once for all and the earlier it is decided the better would it be for the interest of the country.

I thank you all for your patient listening to me.

THE UNSEEN WORLD

BY J. V. CHELLIAH, M. A.

*(A Sermon preached at a Sunday evening Service
of the College)*

Many of us are so preoccupied with the concerns of this life that we live as though there were no other world. Some of us are of the earth, earthy. The muddy vesture of clay so invests us that we cannot hear the heavenly harmonies. We are fully aware of our bodies, and it is at long intervals that we get a glimpse of our souls. There are some that are so steeped in the things of the flesh that they come at last to lose all consciousness of their spiritual heritage.

But all the same we are surrounded by an unseen world. It is nearer than hands and feet. Time in which we live is only a ledge in an interminable ocean. Shakespeare calls this existence 'the bank and shoal of Time'. We are living in the very edge of the unseen. It is only a thin partition that divides us from the Eternal.

The knock of the Unseen is there all the time at our doors. The Eternal seems to say, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." The "still small voice" sounds all the time. It plays all about us in our work, in our play and our leisure. Sometimes we are conscious of it and sometimes not. The toiler in the field, the student at the desk, the business man at the mart, the statesman in the council chamber, and the soldier in the trenches, all feel its power consciously or unconsciously. It is these glimmerings that make our humdrum lives glorious.

At special moments the knock becomes a bombardment. First, when we meditate, as Matthew Arnold says,

“A bolt is shot back somewhere in our breast
 And a lost pulse of feeling stirs again:
 The eye sinks inward, and the heart is plain,
 And what we mean, we say, and what we would
 we know.
 A man becomes aware of his life's flow
 And hears its winding murmur,
 And then he thinks he knows
 The Hills where his life rose,
 And the sea where it goes.”

The most perfect realisation of the Eternal is that of a Yogin, and I cannot give you a better description of it than in the words of Wordsworth:—

“That blessed mood
 In which the burthen of the mystery,
 In which the heavy and the weary weight
 Of all this unintelligible world,
 Is lightened :—that serene and blessed mood,
 In which the affections gently lead us on,—
 Until, the breath of this corporeal frame—
 And even the motion of our human blood
 Almost suspended, we are laid asleep
 In body, and become a living soul:
 While with an eye made quiet by the power
 Of harmony, and the deep power of joy,
 We see into the life of things”.

Another occasion in which the Eternal is fully brought home to our souls is when we are brought face

to face with death, or when we undergo great suffering. Some of us have stood, gazing at the still face of a dear, beloved relation or friend that is gone, and the waters of the Eternal come surging into our souls, and for a moment at least "we see into the life of things." Or when we are wrung with pain and agony "a bolt is shot back somewhere in our breast."

Again, when we see or hear some great heroic deed, when we come across instances of great sacrifice and service, when we feel the power of pure unselfish love, such as is shown by our mothers, do we not feel that the Eternal is breaking into Time?

I have spoken about exalted moments when the veil that stands between the seen and the unseen is lifted. But the question whether we can build permanent bridges, that span the gap that lies between the seen and the unseen occurs to our minds. When father or mother, son or daughter, brother or sister lies still in death, our souls are wrung with anguish, and we say, "Is there no way by which we can establish a constant connection with the dear one that is gone"? This longing is so insistent that some men claim to have established such a connection between the living and the dead through spiritual mediums. Without going into the question of the reliability of such mediums, we may note certain bridges that do exist between the seen and unseen.

First, there is the moral law, the law that makes us do the right and avoid what is wrong. Conscience has its roots in the very heart of God. The man that obeys the moral law in his heart not only serves his fellowmen, but is connected with eternal reality. Such a man has established a connection with the Great Beyond. He is living not only in this world, but also in the world to come.

Secondly, the man who is in search of truth and pursues knowledge and tries to unravel the secrets of Nature links himself with the Eternal. When, for instance, a Jeans contemplates the expanding Universe, and calculates the distances of stars, and counts the galaxies in the heavens, he is passing from the seen to the unseen. When an Einstein propounds his theory of Relativity he passes the flaming bounds of Earth and Time,

The appreciation of beauty is another bridge. Who is not stirred to his very depths when he hears divine music which transports the hearer to worlds unknown? The sight of a beautiful face, a perfect statue, an expressive painting, a noble building, or a beautiful landscape affects us with the same feeling of living in a transcendent world.

Again, the man who constantly lives with the courage that is born of Faith, the Joy that is born of Hope, and is inspired with love in all his actions really lives in both the worlds. Practice of this trinity of virtues brings down Heaven to the Earth.

The greatest bridge we know of belongs exclusively to the Christian. The central truth of Christianity is the Cross. The Cross means suffering and death. The Cross of Christ glorifies these. Suffering for love exhorts us to immortal joy, and death which is its culmination is transformed and glorified into an entrance into Eternal Life.

There are people who may tell you that you need not bother about the unknown, but that you should devote your whole attention to the things of this life. But the knockings of the unseen are not to be put aside in this way. It is a case of the 'deep calling unto the deep'. We should not wait till we pass to the Great Beyond to know it

and live in it. We can begin to taste its glory and joy even now. We must not heedlessly neglect the mysterious promptings of the heart. We must train ourselves to practice the presence of the Eternal. We must learn to sit still and know God. An hour devoted every day that the Eternal may speak to us with the still small voice of calm will make us realise more and more the reality of the spiritual world, and make us face this world with courage and joy. Above all, let us habitually live in faith, hope and love and understand the deep significance of suffering and death. Thus we may make the veil between this world and the next wear out thinner and thinner and we may see clearly the glory of the world beyond.

I conclude with the striking words of a modern author who speaks of the value of getting into the presence of the Eternal:—

“In the castle of my soul there is a little postern gate, where when I enter, I am in the presence of God. In a moment, in the turning of a thought, I am where God is. When I meet God there, all life gains a new meaning. Great things seem small, small things, great, lowly and despised things are shot through with glory. My troubles seem pebbles on the road. My joys, they are like the everlasting hills. All my fever is gone in the great peace of God, and I pass through the door from Time to Eternity.”

THE ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING

The annual prize-giving of the College came off on Monday 3rd March 1941. The Principal, Rev. S. K. Bunker presided. The others accomodated on the platform were: Hon. Mr. G. C. S. Corea and Mrs. Corea, members of the Board of Directors of the College, the Staff, Rev. S. Kulendran and Mr. A. J. R. Vethavanam, Divisional Inspector of Schools, Northern Division. The proceedings began with devotions led by Rev. S. Kulendran. Little Sarah Elias of the Lower School recited a welcome to the chief guests and the audience. The choir rendered a special item. The Principal's report was then read and Mrs. Corea distributed the prizes. Mr. Corea then delivered his address. A vote of thanks, proposed by Mas K. Saravanamuthu, President of the Student Council, and seconded by Mr. T. C. Rajaratnam, an Old Boy and a member of the Board of Directors of the College, brought the proceedings to a close. The Principal announced the next day to be a holiday in honour of Mr. Corea's visit and the splendid results obtained in the last Intermediate in Arts Examintion of the London University.

MR. COREA'S SPEECH

Mr. Corea opened his address with the remark that he had learned to respect very highly this institution which perhaps was reckoned rightly as the earliest English School in the Island and which was founded on high ideals. Therefore he said that we ought to pay a tribute to the American Ceylon Mission in Jaffna and other missionary bodies in the island. Mr. Corea said that it was perhaps on a useful occasion like that the thoughts uppermost in their minds, especially in the minds of the

parents, should be those of gratitude, particularly so in these days of short memories.

Answering the question as to what the future held for their young men, Mr. Corea said that the question was one of the greatest importance. There were some who felt doubtful as to the future, but he for one felt no need for pessimism of any kind—no room for doubt. “We can see a future, bright and rosy if we look with understanding and courage. We can see the vision of a New Ceylon, in which the people of the country will find a new and definite place if only they will understand what the future demands of them.”

Mr. Corea then made an appeal to the youth of the land to take the lead in an Industrial Revolution. The wealth of the land and its producing capacity must be increased, for this were necessary young men of high ideals, sound character, honesty, sincerity, courage and fearlessness. Therefore the parents must be prepared to realise the necessity for the industrial development of the country and turn the attention of their sons towards it. Industrialisation of the country was not only a dream with him. He said he was convinced of the fact that this alone would save the country now, and that there are resources in the country which can be tapped. He asked why we should be content with what we have and with what we can get from abroad, when there were resources and possibilities waiting to be made use of. The Government of the country had already taken the lead in proving the existence of these resources and possibilities. It was now for the people to follow the lead of the government. In that direction was a future for the educated youth of the land. He therefore appealed to the youth not to feel ashamed about going into

commercial careers or industrial occupations. It was high time he said that the mentality of the parents who feel proud of having their sons as clerks must be changed.

Before concluding, Mr. Corea said, that he greatly appreciated the example set by the College in teaching Sinhalese. He hoped that that example would be followed by the Southern, Central and Western parts of the island in teaching Tamil in their Schools.

Such a step would be one of the means of removing the barrier however slight it might be, that existed at present between the two major communities in the island. Mr. Corea added that to his knowledge there was no real difference, but he felt that there was still something to be done to bring about a much better understanding between these two communities in order that they might march forward hand-in-hand as "Ceylonese" towards the common goal of a "United Ceylon"

THE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. and Mrs. Corea, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Board of Directors, the Staff and the students of Jaffna College I welcome you here this evening. Most of you have been here many times before on similar occasions—it is good of you to come again to show your interest in the College and thus to strengthen us in our endeavours to carry on that most important work in any society: education. We hope that the new entrance to the College by which you arrived did not confuse you or mislead you into

thinking that this is any other place than the Jaffna College you have always known. You, Mr. and Mrs. Corea, are probably among the few who have never been here before, since we Jaffna folk are very good neighbours and always attend one another's functions more religiously than some of us practice our own religion. One excuse for a Prize-Giving is the opportunity it gives the schools to invite distinguished citizens of our country to come and inform us of the state of the nation and in return to acquaint them with some of the work that is being done with the future citizens of the land.

We are particularly happy to have you here, Sir, because we sincerely believe that you stand for the very best in public service to our country—for integrity, industry, imagination and principle. On previous occasions here I am afraid I have given expression to some rather pessimistic views about the future of our economic life in Jaffna, for so many of the sources of livelihood we have had are now being closed to us. As will appear later, we are not unaware of the opportunity that agricultural development will offer to many, but the more one studies that solution to our problem, the more one realizes that it is only partial. The land cannot absorb all our likely boys, nor are many of them fitted to try such work. You and your Ministry must help us. One thing that strikes a person who has lived most of his life in a land like America is the way that most boys here are utterly oblivious to the possibilities of good and useful work in trade and industry. Certainly there are obstacles placed by tradition and lack of capital in the way of persons seeking happiness and success in this type of work, yet it is surely a sad commentary on the Jaffna man that for all his industriousness he has so little of industry here. We look to you then, Sir, to open our eyes

to possibilities in this direction, to give us a lead in the way we can take advantage of them, and thus to help this part of the island as well as every other part of the island to develop that balanced national economy which alone will bring prosperity and the chance for a good life to all the people of Ceylon.

To you also, Mrs. Corea, we extend our welcome and our thanks for coming so far to honour us by giving away the prizes.

The year which has just passed has seen a number of changes at Jaffna College besides the new entrance. The Board of Directors has changed its constitution to be more representative by making a place on it for representatives of the Jaffna Council of the South India United Church beside those of the American Ceylon Mission whose number has had to be reduced. The Vice-Principal has been made an honorary member of the Board. We have also made provision for membership in the Board of regularly-appointed missionaries on the staff of the College. At present this last article brings in a foreign Missionary, Mr. Lockwood, but in course of time we hope that he will be joined by missionary nationals recruited to the staff on a missionary basis of service and salary. Others, notably the staff and alumni, have asked for representation on the Board. It was not considered possible to acquiesce to these requests at the present time, but it is the hope of many of us that these also may become constituencies in the near future.

Another change has been the division of the school into more definite departments. The Tamil School has been made definitely a part of Jaffna College under the supervision of Mr. Ariaratnam, the Supervisor of the Lower School. It will remain

much as before, the instruction being in Tamil, but a small beginning will be made with a few English words and phrases. The Lower School is now largely independent with its own staff and time-table suited to its needs as a primary school. We are introducing Basic English in the beginning classes this year as the best method of approach to English. Two of our teachers, Mrs. David and Mr. Beadle, qualified for the Basic diploma in the course offered by Mr. Adolph Myers in Jaffna last Christmas vacation. Miss Vytialingam, the new teacher added to our Lower School staff this year, also holds the Basic certificate, while Mr. Ariaratnam attended the course of lectures. It will be interesting to see how this experiment in method works. We are sanguine of its success.

The Upper School remains the largest and determining unit of the College, but our Collegiate department is growing and is largely independent, being governed by its own teachers, since its approach to students and subjects must be different from that of the Matriculation and lower classes. The faculty, as in the past, is in charge of the Upper School and has authority over all matters affecting the whole College.

We have introduced a new time-table this year, starting half an hour earlier in the day, putting five periods as well as drill in the morning, leaving but three periods to be suffered in the heat of the afternoon. Considering our situation here and the long distances the boys and even some of the teachers have to come, it would seem that we are starting rather too early and we are considering setting the whole time-table back by fifteen minutes next term. The mid-morning break for drill and the shorter afternoon session giving more time for games will not be lost by such a change.

Another change which we regretfully had to make was in the matter of fees. We found our scale of fees was considerably lower than that of any comparable institution in Jaffna. The total of fees collected added to the Government grant failed to pay the salaries of our national staff, let alone the American staff and all the other expenses of the College. The increase has averaged from about fifty cents to one rupee a month.

The changes in our staff have been few this past year. Mr. K. E. Mathiapparanam has gone to Annamalai University on study leave for work in Tamil and he writes to us enthusiastically of the opportunities there opened to him. Mr. P. Navaratnam, a graduate of the same university, is his substitute. Miss Vytialingam has come to us from Uduvil this year to take the place of Miss Ruby David whom we are sorry to have leave us. Mr. T. K. Welch has been added to the staff as the Principal's private secretary. Mr. D. S. Devasagayam has taken his degree from Calcutta University. I must also not fail to mention that one of our teachers, Mr. S. H. Perinbanayagam, is President this year of the Northern Province Teachers' Association. To all the staff I would here express my thanks for their loyalty to the school and their co-operation in our work. Without their unsung achievements the College would not be here.

From the point of view of numbers of students last year was a good year for the College. I reported a year ago that we had just reached the largest number in the history of the school—635. We kept very close to that throughout the year, and this year we have gone over that mark slightly — the number is 642 for the whole English School, divided as follows: Lower School 231. Upper School 343. Collegiate Department 68. If we count the 98 children in the Tamil School, we have a grand total of 740

children in our charge in the school compound. A few more figures may interest friends of the College: 123 of the 642 in the English School are girls — 63 in the Lower School, 48 in the Upper School and 12 in the Collegiate Department. We have 122 students in the Boarding Department, including 18 girls in the Women's Hostel. There are 32 boarders out of the 56 boys in the Inter classes.

I think the most notable figure among those just given is that of the Collegiate Department where we have 68. For some time it was as high as 80, but the recent clerical service selections have reduced the number. But even a figure of 68 shows that there is a real demand for Intermediate work in Jaffna and we believe that we are well able to supply the demand. We divide the work into two years, having Junior and Senior Inter classes. Admission to the Senior Inter comes only after passing our entrance examination which is based on a syllabus considerably more advanced than that of the London Matriculation. We know from experience that the Intermediate is a two year's course. However, we allow those who passed the Matriculation in the first division to try the Inter examination in one year, but we advise against it. 12 girls are studying in these classes and the demand for accommodation in even an expanded Women's Hostel has been so great as to be a factor in our decision hereafter to accept into that Hostel only girls who have passed the London Matriculation examination or its equivalent.

I might point out one other noteworthy fact: the proportion of girls in our classes has been steadily increasing since girls were first admitted to the College, being now 19% of the total. It seems to me that this is going to be a constant and general

tendency in all schools, situated as we are, at a distance from other large schools. It is related to another tendency which is also apparent, viz. to have secondary schools develop in almost every area, thus making unnecessary the expense for parents of sending their children to boarding schools. It is doubtful whether these two tendencies are wholly to be welcomed. The attendance of girls at mixed schools is really attendance at boys' schools. Until mixed schools are prepared to go to the expense of providing as fully for the girls in their schools as for the boys we cannot say that we have co-education. Also, the disappearance of boarding schools will certainly be a loss. Girls' schools and boarding schools undoubtedly are able to offer to their pupils a richness of curriculum and fullness of school life which mixed and day schools either do not or cannot. It is a pity to have straitened economic conditions thus again dictating to an already economy-framed educational system.

There are two rules which we have passed recently, which have a restrictive effect upon our numbers. We have set an age limit beyond which a pupil applying for entrance to any particular class will not be admitted. Through an error in our Prospectus this limit was set one year too high, so another year we will receive students into any class only if by normal yearly promotions they will not be overage when they reach the Matriculation class. The other restriction affects the Matriculation class only: we will not allow students to stay on in that class more than two and a half years.

Our Matriculation examination results this past year were not up to our usual standard. In January 1940, forty were allowed to sit and twelve passed, one in the first division; in June the figures were twenty-four and seven. However, in the Inter-

mediate Examination our results were better. Seven were presented in July 1940 for the Inter-Science Examination, three passed and one was referred in one subject. The Inter-Arts results are not yet known, though eight months have passed. This extreme delay simply drives home with added force the difficulty, and scandal, of our dependence upon external examinations. We cannot blame London University when we think of conditions of communications in England. On the other hand local examinations have not been such as to inspire confidence in them. Yet surely with our highly educated public and our University College we have talent enough to set fair examinations of an even standard which will also be adapted to our needs and problems in Ceylon. That we do not have them is not wholly the fault of the Education Department or of the schools; a large share of the blame rests on you parents and the general public. It is the examinations you insist upon that your children take.

Public examinations are, I fear, the bane of our educational existence, yet when rightly used and controlled examinations can be of very great assistance to schools. We are starting on a regular course of intelligence and achievement tests which we believe will truly aid us in our task. Beginning last term we gave a battery of these tests, selected from American and Ceylon materials by Mr. K. A. Selliah and Mr. Stuart Wright, and as we keep on giving them we expect to build up an accurate standard of achievement and aptitude for each class which will enable us to decide promotions and give advice far more rationally than we have hitherto been able to do.

Two things started last year are progressing satisfactorily. The study of Sinhalese has been introduced into the first three forms, and some of

the older boys, and even teachers, are studying it privately. Here we think we are at least laying the foundations for bridges. The agricultural experiment, with Mr. Lockwood at the helm, is under way. We are advancing slowly, but I think surely: slowly because all things do not grow fast. It takes time for chicks to hatch, grow, and develop to the place where they can lay eggs, time for local olive and lime trees to grow until they are ready for grafting, time for a swarm of bees to fill the honey-comb. The coming year we are thinking of extending our interest to ginger and onions as well as the other vegetables we have already worked with, of experimenting with various kinds of fodder grass, and of the possibility of raising goats. In the meantime eleven boys have gone down to Anuradhapura for the exhibition there of rotational cultivation by ten villagers under Government supervision. We shall soon be starting an Agricultural Club of all those boys who have been showing an interest in the work. Through its members we hope to distribute eggs for hatching and fowls which we raise, as well as the knowledge which they will be getting on all these other things. To help us in this program we have engaged Mr. Ehamparam who has undergone training at Tinnevely Farm School and whose knowledge and enthusiasm are a very great help to our experiment.

In sports we have had another good, if not wholly successful, year. The close of the cricket season last year found us tied for second place among Jaffna Schools. We won five matches, lost one and drew one. In athletics we were placed third in the J. S. S. A. meet. In football we reached the finals in the championship, but were beaten in a close and exciting match by St. Patrick's. This year's cricket season has only just started and so far we have won

the two matches played. The outstanding individual feat in the past year was in cricket when S. Dharmaratnam set up a new College batting record with 137 runs scored against Manipay Hindu College. House matches in all sports have been held as usual. These give all boys who are at all interested in sports a chance to play several games. Of the minor sports, volley ball and thatchie are the favourites. One other feature of the Physical Department's work this past year was the physical examination given to all boys in the Upper School. We hope through this to detect physical defects in our pupils and then to aid them to correct the defects with the help of the doctor whom we hope to have making weekly visits to the school.

The literary societies are now but two: the Academy, for Inter students, which carries on in its often stormy career, and the Brotherhood with Mr. Kulathungam as its guide. Both societies have done well in inviting a number of interesting and stimulating speakers to address them and sometimes the whole student body. The Junior literary societies have given way to the rhetorical period which finds a place in our time-table and where more systematic training in speech can be given.

The religious life of the College has gone on much as usual. The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. have been carrying on their activities without fanfare, but no less usefully for that. Scripture is taught, as ever, to Christian students, but we have not yet found a way around the difficulty of finding a time for these classes which will also allow Christian students to profit from the civics classes at present taught at the same time. We have been able to introduce a class on religion for Christian students in the Inter classes. Members of the staff, as usual, are playing a very large part in

the life of our churches and of the S. I. U. C. community, thus Mr. Kulathungam is Secretary of the Jaffna Council and Mr. Ariaratnam is Treasurer, while Mr. D. S. Sanders is Treasurer of the Council's Board of Education.

We have two newcomers in the list of student societies this year in the form of the Photographic Club and the Tamil Study Circle. A number of the boys are very greatly interested in photography and have been learning a good deal under the guidance of Mr. Wright and Mr. Thurairajah in and around the dark-room. The Tamil Circle, made up of Senior boys and teachers, has started its life very vigorously. The Geographical Society has also been active recently. It has had a number of interesting speakers here and has been doing useful work.

In this connection I would record that we had a visit from Mr. Mahadeva, the Chief Engineer of Designs of the P. W. D., who spoke to us on the water-supply of Jaffna. It was a most interesting and instructive lecture and one which will make all our students far more intelligent citizens of Jaffna, I hope. The Scouts and the Rover Troop have had a successful year.

Our Parent-Teachers Association has completed its second year of useful life. It closed its year recently with a fine Parents' Day Program well-attended, and with a thoughtful address by Judge Coomaraswamy. While a good company came, we are not satisfied, for we would like every parent to come and take part in the discussion of problems which touch them and us very closely. We want the expression of opinion by parents which we have been getting, though it may not always be possible

to agree in every particular with all the suggestions made.

The physical plant of the College has seen no large increase this past year. We had to put up a semi-permanent hostel for our Junior Inter boarders. The Women's Hostel was enlarged by the addition of one room and by the renovation of two others. The outside walls of the remaining classrooms in the Lower School have been built up. We added one more to our houses for our staff members when we built up the house started a long time ago but which was used for a go-down until a place had to be found for Mr. S. T. Jeevaratnam last year. One of the few serious handicaps of our situation here in Vaddukoddai is the fact that there is not a sufficient number of suitable houses so that all our staff members can live near the College. It is a difficulty which at present we see no way of overcoming.

One piece of land was added to the property of the College during the year under review. The palmyrah grove, together with the high land beyond it, which has projected in into Bicknell Field and interfered seriously with its full development has been purchased. When this can be cleared and levelled it will add very greatly to our sports facilities.

To turn now from the College to our Affiliated Schools, there is little that is new to be said except with reference to Chavakachcheri. There the steady gain in attendance of the Drieberg English School and the fine response of the public to the provision of a Senior School Certificate class has led on to the establishment of a senior secondary school under the name of Drieberg College. There is no doubt that this development fills a real need since that whole area has no school of this standard. Mr. Sara-

vanamuttu and the staff are to be congratulated for the fine service they are rendering, and the generosity of Old Boys of the school, of Mrs. Driberg and of the public in subscribing towards the expansion of the school buildings is very heartening. Uduppiddy also is growing and we have recently purchased from the Bilingual School the house next to the English School, in which the headmaster lives and into the grounds of which a wing has been extended which will serve as a science laboratory. For the schools in general I might say that the financial problem remains a problem the answer to which has not yet been found. As for results in the J. S. C., I am unable to give them since, as you know, two of the papers have had to be re-set. I wish once again to express my thanks to Mr. J. V. Chelliah for the time he has given to these schools.

The Alumni Association here in Jaffna and the Old Boys' Association in Colombo have had their usual meetings and activities. The very difference in their names seems to me to point to a possible weakness in the organization especially in view of the larger responsibilities they are seeking. It seems to me that if the Old Boys throughout the Island, and even those in Malaya, could speak with a united voice after deliberation in common their views would receive a better hearing. The difficulty presented by geographical distance is certainly a formidable obstacle, but I would invite the Associations at least to consider the problem seriously again. We probably cannot expect those responsible for the affairs of the College to see eye to eye with the Old Boys on all points, certainly there have been instances of disagreement in the recent past, yet it is imperative for the good of the school that there be mutual respect and understanding between all concerned. A strong and representative Alumni As-

sociation is essential for this, and none have done more to create just this than the officers of the associations the past years or two, and I know the present officers will carry on the good work.

Now I must record with great regret the passing away of three Old Boys of the College who were particularly well-known to us because of their special interest in the College and all its functions—Messrs. E. V. Nathaniel, A. Thillainathar and V. Kandiah. To their families, of which a number of the members are also Old Boys, we would express our sympathy. I would also record two noteworthy honors which have come to Old Boys. No one could be more loyal or active on behalf of his old school than Mr. K. Kanagaratnam, and therefore it was with very special pleasure that we heard a year ago that he had been appointed Deputy Auditor-General. The other recognition of great merit came to Dr. S. L. Navaratnam when he was recently made a Fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. To them both our hearty congratulations. We would also congratulate two Old Boys who have recently been selected as Divisional Revenue Officers: K. Ponnampalam and George Sabapathipillai.

Thus we close the record of another year. I hope we are duly thankful that such a normal report can be made in a world that is convulsed by so many mortal struggles. A young Englishman recently wrote to an American friend urging him to do all he could to keep America out of the war. His reasons were not pacifist nor disloyal in the slightest—he was writing from his post in the army, believing Britain's cause was just and good—but he said the only thing that would keep him sane amidst the horrors of bombed cities and towns he loved so much in Britain was the knowledge that insome

part of the world men were living out normal happy lives based on the principles for which he was fighting. I wish that in the agony of the nations we here in Ceylon - in Jaffna - might be living in that spirit, establishing, by giving vital expression to those fundamental principles of democratic countries, freedom of thought and discussion, respect for personality, tolerance coupled with devotion to truth. That is what we are trying to do at Jaffna College.

PRIZE LIST

LOWER SCHOOL

1ST YEAR B. 2.

<i>Leelavathy C.</i>	English 1st Prize
<i>Karthigesu K.</i>	Arithmetic 1st Prize
<i>Kanagasabai K.</i>	Arithmetic 2nd Prize

1ST YEAR B 1.

<i>Kandiah S.</i>	General Proficiency, English 1st Prize, Arithmetic 1st Prize, Writing 1st Prize, Tamil 1st Prize.
<i>Nagaratnam P.</i>	Arithmetic 2nd Prize.
<i>Thilakavathy T.</i>	Writing 2nd Prize

1ST YEAR A 2.

<i>Manickavasagar V.</i>	Writing 1st Prize
<i>Sewadurai N.</i>	Writing 2nd Prize

IST YEAR A 1.

<i>Nagulambikai K.</i>	English 1st Prize, Writing 1st Prize
<i>Kanagasabapathy S.</i>	Arithmetic 1st Prize
<i>Velayuthampillai K.</i>	Arithmetic 2nd Prize

IIND YEAR C.

<i>Henry Worthington</i>	English 1st Prize, Writing 2nd Prize
<i>Sivasubramaniam N.</i>	Arithmetic 1st Prize, Writing 1st Prize, History 1st Prize

IIND YEAR B.

<i>Sivapiragasam S.</i>	English 1st Prize, History 1st Prize
<i>Veluppilai S.</i>	Writing 1st Prize

IIND YEAR A.

<i>Satchithanantham A.</i>	English 1st Prize, Writing 1st Prize, Moral Teaching 1st Prize, Arithmetic 2nd Prize
<i>Rajendram N.</i>	Arithmetic 1st Prize
<i>Thangaratnam V.</i>	Writing 2nd Prize

STD. V. A.

<i>Chandraranee K.</i>	General Proficiency, English 1st Prize, History 1st Prize, Geography 1st Prize, Arithmetic 2nd Prize, Writing 2nd Prize
<i>Rasiah S.</i>	Arithmetic 1st Prize
<i>Thiruchelvam K.</i>	Writing 1st Prize
<i>Susan Thomas</i>	History 2nd Prize

UPPER SCHOOL

FIRST FORM B.

<i>John Chelliah</i>	Drawing 1st Prize
<i>Sivasubramaniam K.</i>	Sinhalese 1st Prize

<i>Alagaratnam P.</i>	Sinhalese 1st Prize
<i>Navaratnam P.</i>	Carpentry 1st Prize

FIRST FORM A.

<i>Arasaratnam S.</i>	General Proficiency, English 1st Prize, Maths. 2nd Prize, Geography 1st Prize, Science 2nd Prize, Scripture 1st Prize, Sinhalese 1st Prize.
<i>Devasundararajah N.</i>	General Proficiency, English 2nd Prize, Science 1st Prize, Carpentry 1st Prize, Sinhalese 2nd Prize.
<i>Velayutham E.</i>	Maths. 1st Prize, Tamil 2nd Prize.
<i>Arumugam K.</i>	Tamil 1st Prize
<i>Chandran W. K.</i>	Carpentry 2nd Prize

SECOND FORM B.

<i>Mahendran V.</i>	Maths. 1st Prize
<i>Sivasubramaniam V.</i>	Maths. 2nd Prize, Tamil 1st Prize, Sinhalese 2nd Prize.
<i>Jeyarajah T. R.</i>	Carpentry 1st Prize
<i>Patmanathan T. M.</i>	Sinhalese 1st Prize
<i>Vijayaledchumy R.</i>	Sinhalese 1st Prize

SECOND FORM A.

<i>Kunaratnam S.</i>	General Proficiency, Maths. 1st Prize, Science 1st Prize, Scripture 1st Prize, Carpentry 2nd Prize.
<i>Thirunavakarasu K.</i>	General Proficiency, Maths. 2nd Prize, Geography 1st Prize, Science 2nd Prize, Tamil 2nd Prize, Sinhalese 1st Prize.
<i>Yoganathan R.</i>	Geography 2nd Prize
<i>Rajasingham W.</i>	Scripture 2nd Prize

Theagarajah K. Civics 1st Prize
Nageswary N. Tamil 1st Prize
Alfred Paul Carpentry 1st Prize.

SECOND FORM A.

Jesuratnam M. Sinhalese 2nd Prize

THIRD FORM B.

Sivaguru S. General Proficiency, Science
 1st Prize
 Maths 2nd Prize, History 1st
 Prize, Tamil 1st Prize.
Puvanendram G. Maths. 1st Prize
Kanesan K. K. Maths. 2nd Prize
Gladstone Niles Geography 2nd Prize

THIRD FORM A.

Ratnasingham R. General Proficiency, Maths.
 1st Prize, Latin 1st Prize,
 Tamil 2nd Prize.
Patmajeyan S. General Proficiency, Maths. 2nd
 Prize, Latin 2nd Prize, Science
 2nd Prize.
Jeevarajah J. General Proficiency, History
 1st Prize, Science 1st Prize.
Seevaratnam I. General Proficiency English,
 Scripture 2nd Prize.
Balasingham N. General Proficiency, Tamil 1st
 Prize
Kirubairajah V. S. Geography 1st Prize
Ratnasingam A. Scripture 1st Prize
Mankaiyakarasy S. Drawing 1st Prize
Mahendran W. S. Drawing 2nd Prize
Subramaniam C. Drawing 2nd Prize

FOURTH FORM B.

Sugirtharatnasingham S. Geography 1st Prize, Tamil
 1st Prize

Pushparanee J. Chemistry 1st Prize,
Geography 2nd Prize.

FOURTH FORM A.

Sanmugam S. History 1st Prize, Latin 1st
Prize.

Mahesan S. Civics 1st Prize, History 2nd
Prize.

James Rajanayagam Maths. 1st Prize

Balaraman S. Maths. 2nd Prize

Ganesan S. Latin 2nd Prize

FIFTH FORM B.

Thambimuttu M. Tamil 1st Prize.

FIFTH FORM A.

Jegatheesa Iyer K. General Proficiency, Maths.
1st Prize, Tamil, Chemistry 2nd
Prize, Latin 1st Prize, Physics
1st Prize.

Kumarasamy K. General Proficiency, Chemistry
1st Prize, Maths. 2nd Prize,
Latin 2nd Prize, Physics 2nd
Prize.

Buvasundram V. General Proficiency.

Velupillai A. History 1st Prize, Civics 1st
Prize

Ruby Appadurai Logic 1st Prize, History 2nd
Prize.

Balasundrampillai K. Civics 2nd Prize

Balakrishnar S. Logic 1st Prize

LOND. MATRIC B.

Nadarajah M. General Proficiency, Chemistry
1st Prize, Maths. 1st Prize,
Physics 1st Prize.

Sathasivam K. General Proficiency, Chemistry
2nd Prize, Maths. 2nd Prize.

LONDON MATRIC. A.

Ponnampalam H. N. General Proficiency, Eng. Lang.
2nd Prize, Chemistry 1st Prize,
Maths. 1st Prize, Physics 1st
Prize.

Vijyaratnam G. N. English Lang. 1st Prize, English
Lit. 1st Prize, Tamil 1st Prize.

Rajaratnam K. History 1st Prize, Latin 1st
Prize.

Mahurkadan S. English Lang. 2nd Prize.

Chelliah D. Maths. 2nd Prize.

Seevaratnam S. J. English Lang. 2nd Prize.

JR. INTER. ARTS

Nadarajah K. English 1st Prize, History 1st
Prize.

Ayadurai K. Tamil 1st Prize

Thambiah M. J. Economics 1st Prize

Navaratnarajah K. History 2nd Prize

JR. INTER SCIENCE

Amirtharane Rasiyah General Proficiency, Applied
Maths. 1st Prize. Pure Maths.
1st Prize, Chemistry 1st Prize,
Physics 1st Prize.

Malmoon Lebbe Pure Maths. 2nd Prize, Chemis-
try 2nd Prize.

Kanthasamythurai V. English 1st Prize

Gnanasambanthar K. Physics 2nd Prize

MATRIC. FIRST DIVISION

Sivalingam A.

INTER SCIENCE PASSES

Selvaratnam D. N.
Guaratan S. M.
Navaratnam R. S.

INTER ARTS PASSES

S. Soosaipillai
V. Kanapathipillai
T. K. Welca
K. Lakshmana Iyer
S. C. Nadarajah
I. Ilanganayagam
N. Appadurai
E. Jeyaveerasingam
C. Swagnanam
A. K. Sabapathipillai

SPECIAL PRIZE IN GEOGRAPHY

This prize, offered by Mr. N. Kanagasiam, has been won by Mr. K. Lakshmana Iyer of the Intermediate in Arts Class as the student scoring the highest yearly average in Geography in the Matriculation and Collegiate classes.

CURRENT EVENTS PRIZES

V. Kanthasamythurai (Jr. Inter Science) Senior 1st Prize.
M. Navaratnam (Fifth Form B.) Intermediate 1st Prize.
R. Yoganathan (IIIrd Form A.) Junior 1st Prize.
R. Tharmarajah (IIIrd Form A.) Junior 1st Prize.

SPORTS PRIZES 1940

N. Kantharatnam Fielding Prize
 Cricket Colours
 Football Colours.
K. Kandiah Bowling Prize
 Cricket All-Round Prize.

<i>D. J. P. Jeyasooria</i>	Batting Prize Special Prize for Century.
<i>S. Dharmaratnam</i>	Special Prize for Century, Special Prize for new College record of 137 runs. Table Tennis Champion.
<i>N. Ratnasamy</i>	Special Bowling Prize, present- ed by Mr. E. J. Niles the Crick- et Coach.
<i>G. Jacob</i>	Cricket Colours, Football Colours.
<i>G. Joseph</i>	Football Colours
<i>C. Gunaratnam</i>	Football Colours.
<i>K. Gnanasambanthar</i>	Football Colours.
<i>R. Jeyarajick</i>	Athletic Colours.

THE Y. M. C. A.

To be frank, I have no record of work to present. The business meeting, which was delayed owing to unavoidable circumstances, saw the following elections for the year.

<i>President:</i>	Mr. L. Jeyasingham, B. Sc.
<i>Vice-President:</i>	S. O. A. Somanader
<i>Secretary:</i>	R. C. Thavarajah
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Thomas Thavarajah
<i>Additional Member:</i>	S. O. Thuraisingam

We hope to make up for the loss, by definite work during the second term. However, the Sunday School Classes at Thunavy and Kanavakai have not fallen low, thanks to the perseverance of N. S. Ratnasingham and T. Thevarajah. Some of our members represented the Y. M. C. A. at the Inter Collegiate Fellowship Social held at the Christa Seva

Ashram where the chief event was the Dedication Service of Miss Violet Mather.

Our thanks are due to Mr. C. R. Wadsworth for having led a devotional meeting. I would be failing in my task if I do not thank all those who contributed their share in the successful activities last year.

R. C. THAVARAJAH,
Hony. Secy.

THE STUDENT COUNCIL

The business meeting of the Jaffna College Student Council saw K. Saravanamuthu and R. C. Thavarajah unanimously elected President and Secretary respectively. Mr. L. S. Kulathungam assumed duties as Faculty Advisor for this year also. His enthusiasm is a definite impetus to the progress of the Council.

We are proud to record that never before in the history of the Student Council have the elections been unanimous. The members have already felt the sense of responsibility entrusted to them. Meetings are well attended and discussions take place with real interest. Steps have been taken by this body to meet the wants of the Boarders.

It is hoped that the Council would help the College authorities in some way or other, and thereby assist them in the observance of regulations. With a good start to stimulate the members, I hope they will complete a successful year of activities.

R. C. THAVARAJAH,
Hony. Secy.

THE ACADEMY

<i>Patron:</i>	The Principal
<i>President:</i>	K. Ayadurai
<i>Vice-President:</i>	P. Murugesoe
<i>Secretary:</i>	M. Kantharatnam
<i>Asst. Secretary:</i>	U. Kanapathippillai
<i>Treasurer:</i>	G. Jacob
<i>Auditor:</i>	K. Tharmalingam

This term the Academy concentrated more on its primary objects—which brought it as much credit as extraneous activities had done during previous terms.

The members, especially during the second-semester, displayed keen enthusiasm in making the literary activities a definite success, thereby helping me in my arduous duties. This zeal, which showed our latent capabilities, culminated in our breaking new ground and holding an Inter-Collegiate debate with the "Inter Union" of Jaffna Hindu College. In the above V. Kanthasamythurai, K. Saravanamuttu and M. K. Segaram represented us well. At the conclusion of the debate, the members of both associations sat down to a sumptuous dinner.

We had also as usual several lectures under our auspices. Mrs. E. C. Lockwood spoke on "Sissal," Mr. S. J. Gunasegaram, M. A., Inspector of Schools, spoke on "Conservatism and Radicalism" and Mr. S. Swaminathan, B. A. Principal, Saiva Training School spoke in Tamil on "Historical Research" (ஹிஸ்டரி ரிசர்ச்). In conclusion I wish to thank the members of the Academy, and especially the President for their co-operation which has enabled us to make this term an undoubted success.

M. KANTHARATNAM,
Hony. Secy.

THE BROTHERHOOD

<i>President:</i>	C. W. Paramsothy
<i>Vice President:</i>	K. Kandiah
<i>Secretary:</i>	K. Kumarasamy
<i>Assistant Secretary:</i>	P. Patnasabapathy
<i>Tamil Editor:</i>	N. S. Ratnasingam
<i>English Editor:</i>	K. Palasundarampillai
<i>Treasurer:</i>	K. Tharumaratnam

The term under review has been a successful one for the Brotherhood. We held as many as seven meetings. In most of the meetings interesting speeches both in English and Tamil were delivered. The Editors did their duties promptly. Among the subjects debated were; "Woman in Jaffna needs emancipation," "Foreign examinations should be abolished" and "Co-education should not be adopted in Jaffna schools".

Two public lectures were delivered under the auspices of the Brotherhood. Mr. Sivagnanasundaram, Advocate, spoke on "Educational Aims." Mr. R. S. D. Williams, Principal of Jaffna Central College, spoke on "West African Folk-lore." We are very much indebted to them. Owing to the crowded programme of activities of the College this term, viz. the Prize-giving, the Parents' Day, Cricket Matches etc., we could not hold our anniversary celebrations, which have been postponed to next term.

Our newly organised Dramatic Club, with S. Arulrajasingam as its enthusiastic Secretary, is preparing to stage a play "Poothathamby" written by Mr. J. V. Chelliah. It is very appropriate that the Brotherhood for which Mr. Chelliah did much should stage it. Circumstances have prevented the play from being staged this term. We hope to stage it early next term.

K. KUMARASAMY,
Hon. Secy.

THE SENIOR GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

<i>Patron :</i>	The Principal
<i>Vice Patrons :</i>	Mr. W. L. Jeyasingham Mr. C. R. Wadsworth
<i>Director :</i>	Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam
<i>President :</i>	K. Lakshmana Iyer
<i>Vice-President :</i>	Miss Lily Joseph
<i>Secretary :</i>	K. Krishnapillai
<i>Asst. Secretary :</i>	M. Kathirgamasegaram
<i>Treasurer :</i>	A. Rajadurai

The Senior Geographical Society inaugurated this year to promote the study of Geography outside the classroom is shaping very well under the directorship of Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam. We have had a number of meetings and all of them have been well attended.

The first two meetings were confined solely to the passing of the constitution and the election of office-bearers. At the third meeting, Mr. Gausson Vice-Principal, St. John's College, delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture on Iran (Persia).

At the subsequent meetings, papers of geographical interest were read by members of the society: M. K. Segaram read a paper on "British Malaya" and Miss Lily Joseph on "Arctic Explorations."

Under the auspices of the Society, a party of some twenty one members visited the Tinnevely Farm to study the agricultural possibilities of Jaffna, and spent a whole day in studying the condition of trade in the Grand Bazaar area in Jaffna.

We very much regret that our President, K. Lakshmana Iyer, has to sever his connection with our Society as a result of his success in the London Intermediate Examination in Arts. We shall miss him and his enthusiasm for our cause. We wish to congratulate him on his well merited success and on his winning the special Geography prize offered for the best student in the Matriculation and the Collegiate classes.

M. K. SEGARAM,
Asst. Secy.

THE JUNIOR GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

We meet with the Seniors when speakers from outside address our Society. Otherwise we meet once a week to listen to the reading of papers by our members. Though we recognize the value of excursions in the study of Geography, we were unable to undertake one for fear of being accused of non co-operating with the Sports Department of the College. This is a problem which the authorities have to solve for us. Should other activities come to a dead halt when the College eleven is engaged in week-end matches.

In the unavoidable absence of our President, Mr. C. R. Wadsworth, the pleasant task of conducting our meetings fell to the lot of Mr. Jeyasingham. We are grateful to him for efficiently filling the gap. In conclusion we wish to express our thanks to the following members who read papers on "The Modern Economic Problems of India" and on "The cultivation of some of the commercial crops of Ceylon."

N. Devasundarajah
 W. Chandran
 A. Ramachandran
 A. Ratnasingham
 C. Kanagasabapathy
 W. Weerasinghe

V. SIVASUBRAMANIAM,
 Secretary.

யாழ்ப்பாணக் கல்வாரித் தமிழ் அபிவிருத்திக் கழகம்

போஷகர் : Rev. S. K. Bunker. B. A., B. D., B. Litt.

தலைவர் : திரு. P. நவரத்தினம், B. A.

இணைச்செயலாளர் : (K. ஜியார்சனா
 (K. கிருஷ்ணபிள்ளை

எமது சல்லூரியில் தமிழ் இலக்கிய அறிவை வளர்க்கும் நோக்கோடு நேர்ப்பு கழகம் 1941ம் ஆண்டு சைத் திங்கள் 21ந் தேதி ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்டது. ஆசிரியர்சேந், Intermediate, Matriculation மாணவர்களிடம் அச்சுவர்சனாயித்யாத் தகதி வாய்ந்தவரென்பதும் அங்களுக்கு சேமலிநர்ப்பு கலை ஆசிரியராயிற் சூபய் ஒன்றும் மாணவராயின் சசம் ஐந்தாம் பிரிவுசப் பணமாகக் கொடுத்துச் சேர்ந்துகொள்ள வேண்டிமென்பதும் இக்கழகத்தின் பிரதான வித்கமாகு.

இக்கழகத்திற்கு ஆசிரிய அங்கத்தவர்களுள்ளொருவரே தலைவராவர், மாணவ அங்கத்தவர்களுள்ளிருவர் செயலாளர்களாகவும் ஒவ்வொரு வருடத் தொடக்கத்திலும் அங்கத்தவர்களால் தெரிவு செய்யப்படுவார்கள்.

our debates with very keen enthusiasm. We had six successful meetings and the debates reached a high standard. Subjects like (1) Sex Education should be taught in Schools, (2) Prefect system should be introduced into Jaffna College, gave the members a good scope for debating.

I shall be guilty of an unpardonable mistake if I fail to mention our gratitude and thanks to Mr. Stuart Wright, and Mr. S. A. Visuvalingam of our tutorial staff for their interesting and instructive lectures on "Social custom in America" and "Ramanam: Soodamani Padalam" respectively.

In conclusion before relinquishing my duties, I wish to express my thanks to the members, and the executive committee for their kind co-operation and especially the President S. Kumarasamy and Treasurer S. Rajaratnam for their good work.

The members of the Executive Committee are as follows:—

<i>President:</i>	Mr. S. Kumarasamy
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Paul Thuraisingam
<i>Honorary Secretary:</i>	F. J. Ratnasingham
<i>Asst Secretary:</i>	S. Rajaratnam
<i>Additional Member:</i>	S. Dharmaratnam
<i>Representatives to the Student Council:</i>	S. Kumarasamy and N. S. Ratnasingam

HARTLEY M. THAMBYAH,
Hony Secy.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Advisors: Mr. R. S. Wright
 Mr. R. J. Thurairajah
Secretary: P. Ratnasabapathy
Treasurer: T. Sinnapapillai

The Photographic Society had a very successful term, though the increase of members has been gradual. At present we have twenty five members including the advisors.

This year we have begun a course for beginners in Photography instead of the usual lectures and demonstrations by Mr. Wright. The first lecture was on the "Construction of the Camera," the second on "Choosing a Camera and Lenses," the third on "Composition," and the fourth on "Developing." These lectures were delivered by Messrs. R. S. Wright and R. J. Thurairajah. Later Mr. A. W. Nadarajah who has donated a prize for our annual competition took us on a "camera walk," and we had some very good pictures taken on this occasion. He also showed us his camera and explained to us how to use it. Next term we will continue the course and if there are many new members the course will be repeated.

We thank them all for having been so interested in the welfare of the society.

P. RATNASABAPATHY,
 Hony. Secy.

THE ROVER CREW

Rover Master : Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam
Rover Leader : Mr. M. Ehamparam
Asst. Rover Leader : M A. Mahendran

The clash of other College activities and ours was an impediment on our way to progress. Much that we planned at the very outset lies unattempted today. With a more definite and well arranged programme, we hope that next term will be of great success.

Mr. Ehamparam, the Agricultural Instructor of our College, is now at our helm. We are happy to follow and to assist him in his sincere endeavours to improve the Rover Crew and its activities. He has given us instruction in First Aid by a series of lectures. Our thanks are due to him,

Our activities will be quickened if we are provided with a Rover Den. It is our fervent hope that the College authorities will pay due consideration to our request for a Rover Den.

I will be failing in my duty if I omit to mention the help rendered to us by our enthusiastic Rover Master Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam and by Mrs. S. T. Jeevaratnam. On behalf of the Rover Crew I thank Mr. A. T. Vethaparanam for his invaluable help rendered on various occasions. We had tailoring classes and Mrs. S. T. Jeevaratnam gave us instructions on tailoring. Our sincere thanks are due to her for her ready consent to help us.

R. C. RAJARAYAN,
Hony. Secy.



THE SCOUT TROOP

THE ROLL OF HONOUR OF THE TROOP

<i>Scout Master:</i>	Mr. Stuart P. Wright
<i>Troop Leader:</i>	R. C. Thavarajah
<i>Secretary:</i>	C. S. Nagalingam
<i>Treasurer:</i>	R. Jeyarajah
<i>Lion Patrol Leader:</i>	C. S. Nagalingam
<i>Lion Asst. Patrol Leader:</i>	C. Guaratnam
<i>Dove Patrol Leader:</i>	H. M. Tambyah
<i>Dove Asst. Patrol Leader:</i>	W. S. Mahendran
<i>Raven Patrol Leader:</i>	G. Kurien
<i>Raven Asst. Patrol Leader:</i>	W. Rajasingam

At the beginning of the term we heard the sad news that our beloved chief was dead. It was a great shock and loss to us but we did not denounce Scouting because our founder had died. We held a meeting that Saturday to commemorate his death. At this meeting the G. S. M., Mr. A. T. Vetharanam, the Scout Master, Mr. Stuart Wright, and the Troop Leader, R. C. Thavarajah spoke about the Chief. We were in mourning for two weeks. Some of us attended the memorial service held in his honour at St. Peter's Church, Jaffna.

The strength of the Troop at present is 23. These twenty-three scouts are divided into three patrols: viz. Lions, Doves, and Ravens. Out of the twenty-three scouts, 2 are first class; 3 second class, 11 tenderfeet, and 6 recruits. This term we were un-

able to have many camps owing to a very crowded programme. Practically every week-end was occupied. However we had one camp at Vallalai, fourteen miles from College. Though we did not have many camps, we had regular scout meetings when we did scout work.

The Troop has sent out a challenge to all the Troops in the Peninsula in Semaphore Signalling and Knottying and hopes to have these contests in June, when it will invite all the Troops in Jaffna. We are very fortunate to have two people from the Troop attend the Wood-Badge course at Pedro. One is the Scout Master and the other is Mr. Ehamparam, who was formerly the Scout Master at Tinneveli.

The Court of Honour met four times a week, when inactive members of the Troop were pulled up for various reasons. The Troop is going to be re-organised on a new basis. All the inactive members will be put off the Troop; most of them have left and by next term we hope to have a smaller and more active Troop.

At the last meeting of the Troop, for the term, final competitions in First Aid and Knot-tying were held to give a chance to the Patrols which were handicapped to make up, but they were very unfortunate. A cup was donated by Mr. L. Savuntharam Williams, a member of the College Staff, to the best Patrol and a decorated Kandyan staff was donated by the Scout Master to the best All-round Scout. After the final competitions the distribution of prizes took place. The cup for the best patrol was presented to the Lion Patrol which came first with 39 points, giving a lead of 23 points to the Dove Patrol which came second with 16 points. The Raven Patrol got 7 points. The prize for the best

All-round Scout was given to C. S. Nagalingam who got 42 points, and R. Jeyarajah who got 30 points came in for special mention. Unfortunately the prize did not arrive in time, so a token was given. Our congratulations are due to the All-round Scout and to the Lion Patrol.

The Troop is very much handicapped in not having a scout room and it hopes that its patience will be well rewarded by the College authorities.

Our sincere thanks are due to the following ; to Dr. R. M. Kennedy for his talk on 'Jaffna's worst Diseases, prevention and cure." It was really very useful to us. To Mr. Savuntharam Williams for taking so much interest in the Troop and donating a cup. To the Troop Leader for the enthusiasm and the spirit he showed in scouting. Though he had to play for the College cricket eleven he made it a point to be present at least for fifteen minutes at the scout meeting. To the Scout Master for donating a prize for the best scout.

Once again we congratulate the Lion Patrol and its leader and hope they will keep up for three successive years and make the cup their own.

In conclusion we wish to say that the scouts are well represented in the college cricket eleven by Thavarajah and Gunaratnam both in spirit and inability.

C. S. NAGALINGAM,
Hony. Secy.

PHYSICAL DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Cricket: Up to date we have played four Inter-Collegiate games and won all the four. Before we close for the Easter vacation, we would have finished all our Inter-Collegiate games. The Team under Mr. E. J. Niles as coach, and M. Kantharatham as Captain is doing well, and we wish them all success as they go in to play the next two games. I will be failing in my duty if I fail to mention how grateful we are to Mr. R. S. Nalliah for all that he has done to help Mr. Niles coach the team.

With a view to improve the standard of Cricket at College, we organised three teams, other than the first team, under the leadership of teachers and students. These teams meet daily for practice and we are happy to find the youngsters take up to it with seriousness. In the second team we find some very promising Cricketers, who will in another two or three years make a bold bid for the Inter-Collegiate championship. Our thanks are due to all those who helped in coaching these youngsters.

The Inter-House competition in Cricket will be held during the second term. We hope that the extension of the Cricket season will be another step towards raising the standard of Cricket at College.

Track and Field Sports: During the past years we have experienced very poor attendance in the Athletic Team. A move to find out all possible talents, resulted in the Compulsory Individual Tests for all those boys under 19 years of age. These tests were held during this term and we are happy to say that both students and teachers co-operated to make these a success. Some very useful and in-

teresting results have been collected which will help us in the selection of the College Athletic Team. My thanks are due to the Class Masters of the various classes, who made it possible to carry out this programme.

Gymnasium: The long felt need of a Gym. has finally been served. We have started with a few apparatus in the open, and hope to add more as we go along. The few apparatus we have are drawing the attention of both young and old. The constant use of these apparatus, practically every hour of the day, made us limit the hours of use of these apparatus, and we have today boys turn up for exercise under the leadership of Mr. K. V. George, from 3-20 P. M. to 6-15 P. M.

Grounds: The addition of the lands next to the Bicknell field has been of definite advantage. Not only does it give a shape to the Bicknell Field, but also the advantage of a quarter mile track. The clearing has already been started and by about the beginning of the second term we will have all the grounds for games.

"Games and more games" has been the cry from the Women's Hostel for a long time. Work has been started to enable them to have a Badminton court in addition to the existing Paddle Tennis Court.

Volley Ball: There is a move in the J. S. S. A. to introduce an Inter-Collegiate Volley Ball competition. This has given life to the dying interest in this game. Four teams turn out for practice daily and we hope to have teachers take charge of practice with these teams during the second term.

**THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
JAFFNA COLLEGE ROUND TABLE FOR
THE YEAR 1940**

There were 11 meetings of the Round Table during the year under review. Nine of these meetings were devoted to lectures and discussions on religious, educational and historical subjects.

- Mr. S. H. Perinbanayagam*—Paper on Kraemer's Book
— "The Christian Message to a non-Christian world."
- Dr. Stanley Jones* — Frustration
Rev. D. T. Nies — The Church in the war torn West
- Mr. R. S. D. Williams* — Uzacoli College, Africa—
An experiment in Education.
- Mr. K. A. Selliah* — Home-work.
Dr. Daniel John — History of my researches into the ancient history of Jaffna
- Mr. A. M. Brodie* — Teachers' Refresher Course.
- Dr. G. C. Mendis* — Caste and Communal problems.
- Mr. A. J. R. Vithavanam*— The Teacher.
Our thanks to these speakers

At one of the other few meetings the revision of the constitution of the Faculty was taken up. We understand that the revision of the constitution of the Faculty has already taken place. The form in which the new Faculty has emerged has been rather unexpected. The other meeting was specially convened to consider ways and means of raising money towards War Charities. The total

amount realised was Rs. 441.25. Of this Rs. 65.00 was sent to the Jaffna Send a Plane Fund and the balance Rs. 376.25 was sent to the War Charities Fund.

We had to bid farewell to Mr. K. E. Mathiparanam who left us in June on study leave. We wish him well at the Annamalai University and hope his stay there will enable him to enrich his services to the College on his return.

The furnishing of the Teachers' Room has been a gradual one. The Committee presented the Principal with a fair list of things required. We are very much thankful to the Principal for what he has given us this year and we trust that it will be possible for him to add some more in the coming year.

I also wish to express my thanks to our President and members of the Committee for having helped me in carrying out my duties as Secretary.

P. W. ARIARATNAM,
Honorary Secretary.

**THE JAFFNA COLLEGE OLD BOYS'
ASSOCIATION (COLOMBO BRANCH)**

i. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The twenty-seventh Annual General Meeting of the Jaffna College Old Boys' Association (Colombo Branch) was held at the Central Y. M. C. A., Colombo, on Saturday, the 8th March, 1941, at 5.30 P M. with Rev. Sydney K. Bunker, the Principal of the College, in the chair. Over 150 members were present at the Meeting.

The Hony. Secretary of the Association read the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and distributed printed reports of the activities of the Association for the year under review, both of which were confirmed. The Hony. Treasurer being ill, the Hony. Secretary read an audited report of the accounts of the Association. This was duly accepted.

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

President : — Rev. Sydney K. Bunker (Ex-Officio)
Vice-Presidents : —

Sir W. Duraiswamy
Mr. K. Balasingam
Dr. E. V. Ratnam
Mr. G. C. Thambiah
Mr. K. Kanagaratnam
Mr. W. H. T. Bartlett
Dr. S. L. Navaratnam
Mr. C. Arumugam

Hony. Secretary : Mr. M. Ramalingam
Hony. Treasurer : Mr. P. Jeyaratnam
Hony. Auditors : Mr. K. Nagalingam
Mr. A. Ponniah

The following members were elected to form the Executive Committee:

Dr. S. K. Chinniah
 Mr. P. E. Rajaratnam
 „ R. M. Thevathason
 „ S. Kulasingam
 „ K. T. Chittampalam
 „ P. Sathasivam
 „ V. K. Kandaswamy
 „ V. Sabapathy
 „ A. S. Peraeravar
 „ A. Velupillai

The following motions were discussed and passed.

The Principal then addressed the gathering.

(1) The members of the Jaffna College Old Boys' Association, Colombo Branch, assembled at this Annual General Meeting, associate themselves with the resolution passed at the annual general meeting of the Jaffna College Alumni Association held on 15th July, 1939 to request the Board of Directors of Jaffna College to appoint to the Board, Old Boys to be elected by the Alumni Association and the Old Boys' Association Colombo Branch. The members feel strongly that this request is in accordance with the practice in similar educational institutions, even of Christian denominations, and also in keeping with the modern spirit of democratic institutions. The members further urge that such direct represen

tation of Old Boys on the Governing Body will encourage all the Old Boys to take a larger and more active interest in the affairs of their Alma Mater.

(2) In view of the serious and alarming state of unemployment among the educated youth of this country, this Association strongly recommends that in the engagement of teachers to the staff of Jaffna College, preference should be given to Old Boys of the College.

(3) In view of the reported monetary loss in the editing of the Jaffna College Miscellany, the Association is of opinion that representatives from the Alumni Association and the Old Boys' Association, Colombo Branch, should be elected to serve on the Editorial and Management Board of the College Miscellany, so that its financial stability might be assured, by a more extensive issue and circulation of the Miscellany among, as far as possible, all the Old Boys of the College, and its instructional usefulness extended by the enlargement of the Board.

(4) This Association, being informed that the reduction of the Vaddukoddai Post Office to a one-man office and the consequent curtailment of office hours are causing much inconvenience to Jaffna College in particular and the Vaddukoddai Public in general, requests the Honourable the Minister for Communications and Works and the Postmaster General to restore it to its former status by increasing the staff to two officers. In view of the traditional importance of the village of Vaddukoddai and the existence therein of the oldest educational institution in Ceylon, it is of paramount importance that this essential unit of the Government Public Utility Service should meet the convenience of a large body of citizens representing various trades and professions in the many villages served by the Post Office.

(5) That with the changed conditions necessitated by the admission of Old Girls to our Association it is desirable to change the name of the Association to "Jaffna College Alumni Association (Colombo Branch)."

(6) That this house resolves that a committee composed of five members be appointed in Colombo with the purpose of rendering general assistance to Old Boys who are new-comers to Colombo and this be referred to the Committee for action.

ii. REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 8, 1941

I have great pleasure in presenting to you the 27th Annual Report of the Association. The year under review has been a particularly successful one. The financial position is quite satisfactory. There has been an unprecedented rise in the membership. The year is also remarkable for the increase in the activities of the Association, in various directions. In his rambles through the Government and Mercantile offices, the Honorary Secretary was able to locate more than 50 Old Boys, who had received appointments very recently. The Association has grown steadily in strength and usefulness. Every endeavour has been made to bring under its fold Old Boys of the College, scattered in and about the Metropolis.

Membership.—When I first became associated with the O. B. A. in 1933, there were only 215 members. Every one of us should be proud to hear that

today the number of members has crossed the 500th mark. There are some more members whom I have not got at. It is not possible for me to know every Old Boy of the College. Therefore, I request every member present here to make a personal effort to add one member at least to the list. I have not the least doubt that every one in this house is keenly interested in the welfare and progress of the Association and such an interest can best find expression in his contribution to the increase of membership. There lies the path to make our Association a real live wire, radiating strength and influence.

Committee Meetings.—Two or three members of the Association had certain suggestions to offer in the best interests of their Alma Mater. On invitation, they were present at a Committee Meeting. They stated their views to the Committee and the latter had shaped their suggestions into four resolutions which would be moved formally by me a little later. I take this opportunity to thank our Vice-President, Mr K. Kanagaratnam, for giving us the use of his house for the meetings and for the hospitality extended out to the members who attended the meetings.

Old Girls.—In the year 1933 it was predicted that the time would not be far off when the necessity to alter the designation of our Association would arise. The prediction is about to be fulfilled. Many of our Old Girls are prosecuting their higher studies in Colombo, and it is exhilarating to find that a good many of them are dining with us to night adding to the conviviality of the occasion by their presence. The monotony of the masculine attire, barren of aesthetic value, has been happily relieved by the penetration of the multi-coloured sarces of the fair sex. To-day you refer to the Hony. Secretary

as "he"; but the day will come when you may have to address the Hony. Secretary as "she"; it is not a metamorphosis on my part, of course some girl may guide the destinies of this Association.

The distinction of being the first Old Girl to pay her subscription and enrol herself as a member of our Association goes to Miss Sivapackiam Sivaguru of the staff of Ferguson High School, Ratnapuram.

The Principal's Tea.—This was an innovation introduced by the late Rev. John Bicknell with a view to renewing and strengthening the ties of cordiality and friendship with Old Boys. The first Tea was organised in 1933. It was a silent event. Later on it was held at times when a new professor for Jaffna College arrived or an old professor departed. Even later it was marked with a speech by an outsider, and during the year under review we had the pleasure of listening to three speakers, namely Messrs. G. A. Wille, G. K. W. Perera and K. S. Arulnandhy.

Activities.—One of the activities of the Association worth mentioning is the appeal of the Association to the Post Master General, directly and through members of the State Council, to restore the privileges enjoyed by the students of the College and the Vaddukoddai public at the Vaddukoddai Post Office. As an economy measure, the Postal Department reduced the working hours of the Vaddukoddai Post Office with effect from November, 1959, and made it a one-man office.

The Hony. Secretary of the Association addressed two appeals to the Post Master General and followed them up by getting Hon. Sir Wytialingam Duraiswamy and Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam to represent the views of the Association and the Vaddukoddai public to the Post Master General. The Honorary Secretary

is thankful to them both, particularly to Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam who interviewed the Post Master General on more than three occasions and made personal and written representations on behalf of the Association.

The last communication received from the Post Master General is as follows:—

No. AF. 12-752
General Post Office,
Colombo, 21st February, 1941.

Vaddukoddai Post Office

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 10th instant I wish to inform you that a complete report regarding the arrangements at Vaddukoddai Post Office has been made to the Hon'ble the Minister for Communications and Works who has explained the position to the Hon'ble Sir W. Duraiswamy. The member for Point Pedro, Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, proposes to have the matter discussed by the Executive Committee for Communications and Works. A further communication will be sent to you as soon as a final decision is reached.

2. I may mention that the mid-day break has been altered to 11.50 a. m. to 12.30 p. m. to avoid any inconvenience to the students of the College.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) A. E. P. WIJEYAGOONEWARDENE,
for Post Master General.

The Hony. Secretary,
The Jaffna College Old Boys' Association,
Income Tax Office,
Colombo.

Finance—A statement of accounts duly audited is being separately submitted by the Hony. Treasurer. Owing to the fact that members are scattered in various parts of the City, it is not possible for the Hony. Secretary and Hony. Treasurer to call on every member for subscription. It will greatly facilitate the work of the Hony. office-bearers if members can send their subscriptions to them in time.

In this connection, I wish to intimate to you an experience of mine. Not disposed to interrupt the Hony. Treasurer's honeymoon with the task of collecting subscriptions, which even under normal times he felt tedious, I thought that I could undertake that task myself. I made my appearance with the proverbial exercise book at a friend's house. His child, thinking that I was one of the habitual alms-seekers, (I may be an annual habitual) ran in and intimated the mother with my presence, who in turn asked the Ayah to dismiss me with a five-cent piece. The Ayah brought the five cent coin and offered it to me. I told her politely that I would like to talk to the mistress. The Ayah frowned and told me that I would not get a cent more even if the mistress were to come. This dialogue brought the mistress to the scene. We understood each other and thus it ended in a comedy.

Demise of Old Boys.—I should like to take this opportunity of placing on record our deep sense of sorrow at the passing away, during the year, of two loyal Old Boys. I refer to Mr. E. V. Nathaniel, retired Station Master, Fort, and Mr. S. Rajaratnam Broker, Darley, Butler & Co., Colombo.

Conclusion.—This Association has completed 27 years of useful life. Today it enters on its 28th year of existence. The record of its achievements in the

past is by no means an inconsiderable one. The success we have had in the past should serve as an incentive for more intensive work in the future.

May I, on behalf of the O. B. A. congratulate the Principals, and the Staff in charge of the Intermediate-in-Arts Form for their meritorious achievement in securing 10 passes and 2 referred passes out of 14 in the recent Intermediate-in-Arts Examination.

M. RAMAINGAM,
Hony. Secretary,
J. C. O. B. A.

**iii, STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF THE JAFFNA COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION,
COLOMBO BRANCH, FOR THE YEAR 1940-41.**

<i>Receipts</i>	Rs. Cts.	<i>Expenses</i>	Rs Cts.
Balance brought forward from 1939 -40	169 84	Dinner of 1940 .	250 00
Annual Subscriptions and dinner fees for 1939-40 collected after the closing of accounts for 1939-40	121 00	Printing .	47 85
Annual subscriptions and dinner fees for 1940-41	312 25	Stamps and Stationery .	44 11
		Travelling Expenses of Secretary and Treasurer	19 36
		Contribution to the Miscellany -	52 00
		Cash in hand .	18 77
Total	<u>603 09</u>	Total	<u>603 09</u>

Balance in the Bicknell Silver Jubilee Fund is Rs. 133-27 No Contributions were received during the year 1940-41

Audited and found correct.

Sgd. K Nagalingam,
7-3-41.

Sgd. A. Ponniah,
7-3-41.

Hony. Auditors

Sgd. P. J. THAMBIRATNAM,
Hony. Treasurer.
7-3-41.

Sgd. S. K. BUNKER,
Colombo,
8th, March, 1941

iv. ALUMNI DINNER

Tributes to the many-sided activities of Jaffna College and in particular to its tradition of eschewing narrow sectionalism were paid by several speakers at the 27th annual dinner of the Jaffna College Old Boys Association, held at the Central Y. M. C. A. on Saturday the 8th March, 1941.

The Principal the Rev. Sydney K. Bunker presided and covers were laid for 175.

Dr. R. Saravanamuttu, Mayor of Colombo, in proposing the toast of the College said that it was the first educational institution started in the country and soon after its inception had applied for a charter to grant degrees and to become a full-fledged university. He was very sorry that the school had been unable to obtain the charter.

It had produced men of outstanding ability whose chief characteristics were their broadmindedness and adaptability to their surroundings.

The Jaffna man was by nature an individualist and a 'separatist', but the Jaffna College boy was different. In fact there was a body of men in Jaffna who were nationalistic in their outlook and did not think along communal lines.

Important thing in Education.

The important thing in education, said Dr. Saravanamuttu, was not the mere acquiring of knowledge but the acquiring of the skill and ability to lead lives that would benefit the entire country. He expressed the hope that Jaffna College's tradition of freedom which knew no fear and which did not seek to bind people to any preconceived ideas may continue to flourish.

He hoped that this tradition of freedom from prejudice would soon make the Jaffna man look upon the whole of Ceylon as his country and not as something foreign

Noble Ideals of Freedom.

The Rev. Sydney Bunker, Principal, said that he greatly appreciated the remarks about Jaffna College and the separatism of the Jaffna man. Referring to war aims he said that they who were still leading normal lives should dedicate themselves to those things and they associated with Democracy—freedom of speech, and discussion, respect for personality and, above all, the definition of truth.

Mr. A. S. Ponnambalam, Advocate, proposed the toast of Ceylon.

Mr. P. G. B. Keuneman, who replied, referred to the beauty and the ugliness that existed in Ceylon. Besides remembering all that was honest, beautiful and noble in Ceylon, it was necessary, he said, to remember all that was ugly and rotten in it. He referred to the squalor and poverty amid which people lived in many parts.

“To drink to Ceylon and to be a true son or daughter of this our motherland,” he said, “means working shoulder to shoulder without any differences of caste, creed or community and without distrust or hate.”

Toast of Old Boys

The toast of the Old Boys was proposed by Mr. C. Suntharalingam. He stated that the better part of Jaffna, the more sincere and the more intelligent part always looked to Ceylon as their home. “Somebody” he said “has referred to Mr. D. S. Senanayake, the Minister of Agriculture, as a reincarna-

tion of Parakrama Bahu the Great. But the grandfather of Parakrama Bahu the Great was a hundred per cent. Tamil. In fact Mr. Senanayake must be experiencing some difficulty in knowing whether he is a Tamil or a Sinhalese" said Mr. Suntharalingam amid laughter. He added "I would go so far as to say that Mr. Senanayake's cheek bones are certainly not unlike mine."

Appeal for Greater Co-operation.

Mr. Suntharalingam appealed for greater co-operation and fellowship between the Tamils and the Sinhalese. Mr. S. Rajanayagam, Telecommunication Engineer, Post and Telegraph Department, replied.

The Rev. Fr. Peter A. Pillai, Rector of St. Joseph's College, Colombo, replying to the toast of the Sister Colleges (proposed by Mr. V. K. Kandasamy, Advocate) said that Jaffna College was noted for one peculiarity and that was its antiquity, an antiquity associated with Cambridge and Oxford. He appealed to them to fight that hoary old monster, caste oppression. There was no such thing as inevitability. It was a myth.

Mr. T. K. Curtis, Advocate, proposed the toasts of the guests, to which Mr. G. de Soysa, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, replied.

V—DEPUTATION TO THE HON. THE MINISTER FOR
 COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS ON THE
 VADDUKODDAI POST OFFICE.

Through the kind courtesy of Mr. C. C. Rasaratnam, Barrister-at-law, a distinguished Old Boy of Jaffna College, a deputation consisting of Rev. S. K. Bunker, Messrs. K. Kanagaratnam, K. T. Chittampalam, M. Ramalingam, Secretary of the Jaffna College Old Boys' Association, Colombo Branch, and J. F. Ponnambalam, Secretary of the Jaffna College Alumni Association, Vaddukoddai, waited on the Minister at 9.30 a. m. on Saturday, the 8th March.

Mr. K. Kanagaratnam acted as spokesman and introduced the other members of the deputation. The inconvenience caused by the reduction of the staff and the working hours of the Post Office was discussed at length with reference to the previous correspondence on the subject with the Minister and the Post-Master General. The latest position in regard to this matter was also reviewed and the Minister was informed that in addition to the present increase of the normal activities of the Post Office, the closing of the Chulipuram Receiving Office will throw additional work on the Vaddukoddai Post Office. Mr. Kanagaratnam also desired to discuss with the Postal authorities the basis on which the unit of work was calculated and the Minister agreed to ask the Post-Master General for a further report and also to request him to give the necessary facilities to Mr. K. Kanagaratnam to obtain the information desired by him.

The deputation then withdrew after thanking the Minister for the kindness and courtesy extended

to the deputation and for the patient hearing of the case put forward by the deputation.

M. RAMALINGAM.
Hony. Secy.

VI—SOME PRESS REMARKS ABOUT THE O. B. A.

ROUNDAABOUT

BY

“Contact”

Old Girls to the Fore

The Jaffna College Old Boys' Association may have to alter its designation at a not very distant date. It has thrown its ranks open to the Old Girls of the school.

Several of these Old Girls were present at the Association's Dinner last Saturday. Or as the Hony. Secretary has put it in the Report—“the monotony of masculine attire has been happily relieved by the penetration of the multi-coloured sarees of the fair sex.”

The Secretary went on to warn the audience that “the day will come when you may have to address the Hony. Secretary as ‘she’.”

“It is not a metamorphosis on my part of course” he added: “Some girl may guide the destinies of this Association..”

From— *The Observer* 11-1-'41.

AROUND THE TOWN

BY

"Tatler"

Jaffna F. P's

Some Old Girls have joined the Old Boys' Association of the Jaffna College (Colombo Branch) and it seems that the time has come for altering the designation of the Society. Multi-coloured sarees, I may mention, were a feature of the last annual dinner.

The time may come when the President or the Hony. Secretary or Hony. Treasurer of the Society may be a lady, or, indeed, all three of them may be of the gentler sex. The distinction of being the first Old Girl to pay her subscription and enrol herself as a member of the Association goes to Miss Sivapakiam Sivaguru.

The term Old Girl does not sound so well as the corresponding Old Boy, and I have known of a domestic rumpus being caused by a husband addressing his wife as "Old Girl." I suppose the College Old Boys' Association will have to become the Jaffna College Former Pupils' Association—F. P's. for short, following examples of other countries.

I notice, however, that the name-change favoured is to "Jaffna College Alumni Association."

From—*the Times of Ceylon* 11-3-'41

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of Jaffna College was held on Saturday, March 15, at Vaddukoddai. Among the items of business transacted are these which will be of general interest :

1. The process of amending the Constitution of the College was continued. Action looking toward the inclusion in the Board of one representative elected by the alumni of the College and one elected by the academic staff was taken.

2. It was regretted that owing to the failure to elect representatives in time, the J. C., S. I, U. C. was not represented at this meeting as it was entitled to be.

3. A notable change in the membership of the Board took place when Mr. C. H. Cooke informed the Board that he felt that owing to his age he should no longer serve as a Director of the College. Mr. Bala-singham, the President of the Board, expressed what was in the minds of all members when he said how sorry we were that he must leave after twenty-five years of most devoted, wise and loyal service on the Board which followed forty years of notable service to the College as a teacher

ALUMNI NEWS*(Gathered by Alumnus)***GENERAL.**

- Mr. S. Kanagaratnam* has been appointed Acting Accountant, C. D. F. Office, Slave Island, Colombo.
- „ *D. Devasagayam* has been nominated to be a member of the Dehiwela-Mount Lavinia Urban Council with effect from the 1st January, 1941.
- „ *A. J. Nathaniel* has been appointed Deputy Shroff of the Ceylon Bank, Colombo.
- „ *K. G. Rajaratnam* has been appointed Assistant Shroff of the Ceylon Bank, Colombo.
- „ *J. C. Amarasingham, B. A.*, Principal of the Sinnenatamby Memorial Training School, Chavakachcheri, has been appointed to serve on the Special Committee on Education.
- „ *M. I. Kuruvilla, B. A. (Hons.)*, has joined the staff of the Pembroke Academy, Colpetty.
- „ *S. M. Gunaratnam*, has joined the staff of Central College, Colombo.
- „ *J. Navaratnam Appadurai* has joined the staff of Carey Baptist College, Colombo.
- „ *K. Kularatnam B. A. (Hons.)* has been appointed Geologist in the Department of Mineralogy, Colombo.
- „ *V. Karthigesu*, of the Survey Department, has retired from active service and is residing in De Alwis Place, Dehiwela.
- „ *N. R. Subramaniam, B. Sc.*, has joined the staff of Drieberg College, Chavakachcheri.

- Mr. *B. K. Somasundram*, B. Sc., has joined the staff of Union College, Tellippalai.
- .. *R. Singaratnam* has joined the staff of the A. C. M. English School, Uduppiddy.
- .. *R. S. Navaratnam* has also joined the staff of the A. C. M. English School, Uduppiddy.
- .. *V. G. George* has joined the staff of Union College, Tellippalai.
- .. *G. K. C. Sundrampillai* has joined the staff of Vijaya College, Matale.
- Dr. J. T. Amarasingham* has been transferred from the Leper Asylum, Patticaloa, to be Medical Officer of Chavakachcheri.
- Dr. T. Kulenayagam* has been transferred from Vavuniya to Kandy.
- The Rev. S. Kulandran*, B. A., B. D., has been re-elected the President of the Jaffna Council the South India United Church.
- The Rev. G. D. Thomas* has been re-elected the Vice-President of the J. C., S. I. U. C.
- Mr. Lyman S. Kulathungam*, B. A., has been elected the Secretary of the J. C., S. I. U. C.
- .. *P. W. Ariaratnam* has been elected the Treasurer of the J. C., S. I. U. C.
- .. *D. S. Sanders*, B. A., has been elected the Treasurer of the Board of Education of the J. C., S. I. U. C.
- .. *T. K. Welch* has been appointed Private Secretary of the Principal, Jaffna College.
- Messrs. R. Y. Fitch and D. Navaratnam* have been taken in for training in the R. A. F.

- Mr. D. Wesley Selvaratnam*, Divisional Revenue Officer, Kalmunai, has been transferred.
- „ *A. T. Saravanamuttu*, Engineer, has passed the A. M. I. C. E. Examination and has been posted to the P. W. D., Matale.
- „ *D. S. Navaratnam* is attached to Iceland Colpetty.
- „ *K. Nadarajah* }
 „ *R. J. D. Ariyaratnam* } are attached to the
 „ *S. Sivagnanam* } Medical Department
 „ *P. Ponnudurri* } Colombo.
 „ *K. S. Thirunavukarasu* }
 „ *M. Seevaratnam* }
- „ *A. Sabanayagam* is attached to the Forest Office, Colombo.
- „ *S. Thamby Iyah* is attached to the District Courts, Colombo.
- „ *A. Kulasingam* is attached to the Public Trustee's Office, Colombo.
- „ *N. Wijayasekeram* }
 „ *P. Elanganayagam* } are attached to the Audit
 „ *C. Sivapathasundram* } Office, Colombo.
- „ *S. Ratnam* is attached to the Income Tax Department Audit Branch, -Colombo.
- „ *P. Thamby Iyah* is attached to the Government Valuer's Office, Colombo.
- „ *N. R. Balasingam*, Sanitary Assistant, has been transferred to Chankanai.
- „ *C. Coomaraswamy* }
 „ *S. J. C. Devasagayam* } are attached to Hayley
 „ *V. Kandiah* } and Kenny, Colombo.

Mr. T. Rajadurai is attached to Delmege Forsyth & Co. Colombo.

.. *V. R. Alexander*
 .. *P. Thiagarajah*
 .. *K. Mahadeva*
 .. *R. Sivapatham*
 .. *P. M. Nadarajah*

{ have joined the Government Technical College, Colombo.

.. *S. Kothiravetpillai* has joined the Rubber control Department, Colombo.

Mr. W. D. Abraham has been transferred to R. G. O. Colombo.

Mr. C. Swasundram has been transferred to C. D. F. Office, Slave Island.

Mr. T. Muttucumaroe, Assistant Factory Engineer, has retired after 40 years of public service.

Mr. K. Ramanathan has been transferred to P. W. D., Colombo.

Mr. S. Nagaratnam has been transferred to Income Tax Office (Audit Branch), Colombo.

Mr. S. Rasiyah has been transferred to Censor's Office, C. T. O., Colombo.

Mr. K. Pocrananandam has been transferred to G. P. O., Colombo.

Mr. A. K. Vythilingam has been transferred to Courts Post Office, Colombo.

Mr. R. Krishnapillai has been transferred to Mercantile Bank, Colombo.

Dr. T. Chelvarajah has been transferred to General Hospital, Colombo.

Mr. D. T. Wijeanathan has been transferred to M. O. H.'s Office, Padukka.

Mr. S. Ponnambalam has been transferred to Sanitary Engineer's Office, Colombo.

Lr. E. T. Saravanamuttu has been transferred to Chilaw.

Messrs. K. Ethirnayagam, K. Sanmugavadivel and J. C. Viswanathan are appointed Under Guards in the Railway Department, Maradana.

Messrs. A. Arumugam and K. Nesaratnam are appointed to the Motor Transport Office, Colombo.

Messrs. R. Jeyaratnam and P. C. Nadi.rajah are attached to the Dept. of Commerce and Industries Colombo.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES

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

Messrs. P. Rajaratnam, A. Coomaraswamy and C. Sinnathan by—Proctor's Final of the Ceylon Law College.

Mr. Winslow Rajakone—the section A of the A. M. I. C. E. Examination.

Messrs. C. C. W. Thurairatnam, N. Sabaratnam and S. Kanagaratnam—B. A. of the London University.

Mr. M. I. Kuruvilla—B. A. Honours in English (Third Class) of the London University.

Messrs. C. Satcunanathan, V. N. Selvaretnam, S. Tharmavarather, and A. K. Ratnavale—Intermediate in Science of the London University.

Messrs. Selvajeyan, R. G. Singaratnam—Intermediate in Arts of the London University.

Mr. E. Jayakody—Advocates First of the Ceylon Law College.

OLD GIRLS' NEWS

Miss Sounthararane *Nagalingam* has completed her course of training at the Training College Colombo, and has joined the staff of Saiva Mangayar Kalagam School, Wellawatte.

Miss S. Swaguru has joined the staff of Ferguson High School, Ratnapura.

Miss L. P. Aseervatham has joined the staff of the Holy Family Convent, Balangoda.

MATRIMONIAL

Our congratulations to the following newly wedded couples;—

Mr. P. R. Ariapooshanam and Miss Rose Packiaratnam Backus

Dr. T. Visuvalingam and Miss Amirthavallie Saravanamuttu.

Our congratulations to the following engaged couples:—

Mr. P. R. Rajendra and Miss Daisy Sabapathipillai,

Mr. C. R. Ratnasingham and Miss Ranee Niles.

R. I. P.

The death took place on the 4th February of this year at Vaddukoddai of Pundit A. Thillainather,

THE JAFFNA COLLEGE PARENT- TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The annual celebrations of the Jaffna College Parent-Teachers Association were held on Thursday, the 20th February 1941. The annual business meeting was held in the Ottley Hall at 4.15 p. m. Mr. D. S. Sanders, the President of the Association, presided.

The following were elected the office-bearers for the year 1941:

PRESIDENT Mr. A. C. Sundrampillai

VICE-PRESIDENTS Messrs. A. Sellathurai
S. Kandiahpillai
S. Annamalai
Rev. S. K. Bunker

JOINT-SECRETARIES Messrs. M. Kathiravelu
A. T. Vethaparanam

TREASURER Mr. J. Sinnappah

AUDITORS Messrs. S. Vaitilingam
S. T. Jeevaratnam

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Messrs. N. Ehamparam
D. S. Sanders
Mrs. R. C. P. Welch
Messrs. S. Ponnambalam
C. A. Gnanasegaram
G. N. C. Ponnambalam
S. Ratnam
Mrs. L. A. Rajanayagam
Mr. A. S. Ragunathan

A garden party was held at 5 p. m. which was largely attended by all parents. At 5.45 p. m. Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, District Judge, Jaffna, delivered his address which was followed by a concert. Mr. M. Kathiravelu proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker and parents.

OUR EXAMINATION RESULTS

Intermediate in Science (London)

S. M. Gunaratnam
R. S. Navaratnam
D. N. Selvaratnam

Referred

Miss Selvaranee Rasiah (Physics)

Intermediate in Arts (London)

P. A. Elanganayagam
E. A. Eladchumana Iyer
E. Jeyaveerasingham
V. Kanapathippillai
Kunasingham T. Welch
S. C. Nadarajah
J. Navaratnam Appadurai
A. K. Sabapathippillai
S. Soosaipillai
C. Sivagnanam

Referred

M. Sabanayagam (English)
K. Janaka (Latin)

Mr. Ernest S. Appadurai and Miss S. Walton having passed their referred subjects complete their examinations.

Miss Pushpamanie Buell completes from the College her referred subject.

Ceylon Government Clerical

C. Sivagnanam
 S. Ratnam
 E. Jeyaveerasingham
 K. Nadarajah
 R. Kanagaratnam
 G. Edward Ratnasingham
 U. Kanapathippillai
 P. C. Nadarajah

EDITORIAL NOTES

MR. COOMARASWAMY'S ADDRESS TO THE PARENT-TEACHERS ASSOCIATION.

We are publishing elsewhere the full text of Mr. C. Coomaraswamy's address to the Parent-Teachers Association of Jaffna College. It is the speech of a gentleman, who is accustomed to weigh his words, who has cultivated a judicial approach to life, who must perforce see both sides of a question but will not however evade the responsibility of making up his mind and stating his views fairly and frankly. The foregoing observations are necessary to indicate how profoundly we respect Mr. Coomaraswamy personally and how much sooner we would agree than disagree with him. But we are afraid we should, in fairness to the position we hold on the issues Mr. Coomaraswamy has raised, state our own views.

Mr. Coomaraswamy rightly contends that it is difficult for him to see how a teacher and a pupil

can be equal. We go further and say, it is difficult for us to see how any two individuals can be said to be equal to each other. The equality, that is contemplated in such expressions as the equality of all men, is not a mathematical equality. It is rather a legal and a moral idea. It is certainly not necessary for us to draw Mr. Coomaraswamy's attention to the equality of all persons before the law. By "equality" as a moral concept, we mean that the same standards of right and wrong should apply to all normal individuals. If education is a preparation for life, and if the student is to be brought up as an honest, fearless citizen, who will stand up for his right, and those of his fellow men, then we are afraid, he should while at school be encouraged to regard himself as a person entitled to uphold his views, however immature and erroneous in fact they may be, if he honestly believes in them. The 'equality' that the modern education seeks to inculcate is nothing but this right to stand up for one's convictions in the face of authority. The human mind is only too prone to acquiesce. To be a 'yes-man' is the easiest thing in the world. So what those teachers, whom Mr. Coomaraswamy censures for having encouraged rudeness, do and have done is to encourage a critical attitude. This attitude can easily be mistaken for rudeness and can easily pass into rudeness. The controversy as to "what is right?," often degenerates into one over "*who* is right?" We know all this. Yet we have no manner of doubt that, in spite of all this, the tendency to question, to doubt, to criticise, to resist indoctrination is entitled more to be encouraged, rather than stifled.

Once, it is said, Shiva helped a poor poet to compose a poem so that the poor man might win the reward offered for the composition. When the poet produced the poem before the Academy of

Scholars (Sangam) at Madura for their approval Nakkirar objected to a line which ascribed natural fragrance to a woman's hair as being utterly untrue to life. Shiva who was present at the Academy and who was responsible for the false line joined ssue with Nakkirar on the matter and asked him whether it would be wrong to ascribe a natural fragrance to Umadevi's hair also. Nakkirar replied that it would be false even if it referred to Umadevi's hair. Shiva, beaten in argument, tried to beat down opposition by relying on his divinity and revealed his identity by showing his adversary his (Shiva's) third eye. Nothing daunted, Nakkirar replied "the third eye does not make wrong right" (தேற்றிககண்ணைக்காட்டினாலுங் குற்றங்கழற்றமே. This story from our ancient lore can more aptly illustrate the 'equality' that those engaged in the pursuit of truth should practise.

No teacher deliberately encourages or countenances indiscipline. Some teachers recognise that discipline is not an end in itself but only a means to an end and realizing the objective of education to be not the maintaining of discipline, but awakening to fruition the human personality, lay greater stress on the latter and positive aspect of education.

We shall now make some observations on Mr. Coomaraswamy's remarks on the 'vexed question' of teachers and politics. Educational ideals have changed since the present writer (who is himself considerably younger than Mr. Coomaraswamy) was a student. Educationists today believe that the school should as far as possible seek to assimilate itself to the life of the community and that the pupils should while at school become familiar with the activities they will engage in when they are men. The modern ideal of education is not that of Browning's Gram-marian: first learn; having learnt fully, then do.

The moderns believe that the ideal way of learning any thing is to try to do it.

The Wardha scheme is itself founded on that ideal. Though the word 'politics' has fallen into evil repute, we are afraid, no life is full that does not take an intelligent interest in politics. Who should rule a country, how should the rulers conduct themselves, are questions which every citizen should seek to answer. That a man belongs to the noblest of professions should not be a bar to his playing a part in the affairs of his country. In fact, if as Mr. Coomaraswamy says, teaching is the noblest profession, we are sure the nobility must ennoble whatever comes into contact with it, even the "dirty game of politics." If the profession can retain its nobility only by practising on academic aloofness, we wonder whether this vaunted nobility has any worth. We are only too conscious of the actual practices that a political campaigning gives rise to. We deplore them. But we feel the remedy is not to ask a profession to whose nobility Mr. Coomaraswamy pays ungrudging homage to abstain from participating in politics. A virtue that remains virtuous, because it knows not what evil is, is not, humanly speaking the noblest kind of virtue. We believe, whether for the school boy or the school master, that noblest that knows ignobility, has been tempted to be ignoble, but has yet triumphed over the ignoble impulse.

This note is already too long and we do not wish to be tedious. But before we conclude the note let us add that we appreciate Mr. Coomaraswamy's fair and frank expression of his own point of view and if what we have written does not convince Mr. Coomaraswamy, we can yet 'agree to disagree.'

THE TEXT BOOK RACKET — AND A SENSE OF PROPORTION.

Recently there was an outcry in the daily press against the increasing numbers of text books and the consequent rise in the cost of education to the parent. Serious allegations accusing officials of the Education Department of corrupt practices have been made. Teachers also have come in for some censure on the ground that they have out of laziness prescribed more text books than are needful. The agitation in the press has been so sustained that a Commission has been promised to go into the question and make recommendations. We do not propose to discuss in detail the truth or otherwise of the allegations. But there are one or two points that we think should not be lost sight of in the heat of controversy. In the first place, whatever truth there may be in the allegations, we hope the Commission and the public will recognise that the only competent body to prescribe text books is the school. Any effort to interfere with this function of a school will be fatal to the whole cause of education.

But the most surprising feature in the whole story is that the sound and fury expended in the controversy is out of all proportion to the importance of the matters involved. Why single out for condemnation the expense on text books, when the whole educational system of the island seems to be aimless and to be founded on no principle whatever? The money wasted on the text books is a mere bagatelle compared to the colossal waste that is going on in the name of education. Let us take a few instances. There is a compulsory school going age in Ceylon; unwilling children are forced into school and their education is over. We wonder whether the 'indignant parent' who wrote letters on the text book racket to the press has ever considered the waste

involved in this matter. The country's money which is spent in compelling children to go to school for a minimum period is wasted unless this education is followed up with some system of night school, adult school etc. As things are, we fail to see the purpose of this compulsory schooling age. The money wasted on the "education" of these children can certainly be put to better use. Then let us follow the career of the boy who continues his education after the compulsory age. Of a class of thirty students who enter the primary classes about ten only arrive at the Matriculation standard. The others have dropped by the wayside, having done little for themselves and cost the taxpayer a large sum of money. The waste that results inevitably from the absence of a comprehensive educational policy in the country is a failing. Yet nobody seems to care. For some time past the Teachers' Associations had been clamouring for an expert Commission on education. Instead of a Commission a special Committee consisting of the Executive Committee of Education and its nominees representing various denominational interests was appointed. It is now engaged in fashioning Ceylon's educational policy for the future. When this Committee was appointed there were heard a few murmurs of protest. But soon the protest died down, because the public displayed no interest in the matter. So this Committee consisting largely of representatives of vested interests is busy evolving an educational policy, the dominating feature of which will necessarily be the preservation of the status quo of interested parties. The Public of Ceylon is more alarmed over a few extra rupees that the parent may be called upon to spend on superfluous text books than over the educational chaos the whole country is groaning under. Carlyle says "A society is judged by the heroes it worships". We may add "A society is judged by its grievances."

THE LATE DR. ISAAC TAMBYAH

In the passing away of Dr. Tambyah Ceylon has lost one of her most gifted sons—one who occupied a conspicuous place in the religious, political and cultural life of his people. His scholarship which was received with national recognition, his legal acumen, his rich conversational charm, his interest in matters spiritual are seldom found combined in the same individual. Of other aspects of his life others have spoken. To us, it is the scholar in Dr. Tambyah that appeals most. Even his achievements which are substantial enough do not claim our admiration exclusively. More even than his great achievements, what we admired in Dr. Tambyah was his sustained interest in the things that pertain to the spirit and mind of man. With most of us learning is merely a means to earn a livelihood. Once that purpose is achieved we take to other and more remunerative pursuits. Even if some of us persevere in intellectual quests for a few years more than others, the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches, soon or late, overwhelm us and learning becomes to most of us something to be venerated from a few, but profitless for personal cultivation. With Dr. Tambyah learning was an end in itself, to be cherished and loved for its own sake to the end of one's days. To the end of his life Dr. Tambyah loved knowledge and pursued it with a devotion that lesser mortals cannot understand. We of Jaffna College have a special reason for wanting to remember Dr. Tambyah with gratitude. Dr. Tambyah was at one time intimately connected with Jaffna College as one of its Directors.

A Correction

We wish our readers to note an error that crept into an article that appeared in our last issue. Kindly note that in the seventh line from the bottom

of the eleventh page the phrase 'iambic pentameter' should be replaced by 'Anapaestic pentameter.'

Our Contributors

Rev. E. C. Dewick, one time Warden of the University Christian Hostel, later the Literary Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. in India, and now a Professor in Hislop College, Nagpur, is well known in India and Ceylon for his deep scholarship and deeper spirituality. He has been for long a friend of Jaffna College and we are glad to have been able to secure an article from him for this number.

Mr. C. Coomaraswamy's address to the P. T. A. has been dealt with by us at some length elsewhere.

Pundit K. P. Ratnam is Government Research Scholar pursuing a course of higher studies in Tamil in the Madras University and we welcome his contribution to the Miscellany whole-heartedly.

Mr. J. V. Chelliah, whose stimulating sermon on "The Unseen World" appears in these pages, needs no introduction to our readers. We are grateful to him for his help and are always ready to welcome his valuable contributions to the Miscellany.

NOTES FROM A COLLEGE DIARY

Tuesday, January 7.

—The College re-opens for the new term.

Wednesday, January 8.

—The death of Lord Baden Powell is announced at College. The Scouts feel the loss very much.

Friday, January 10.

—Mr. S. Mahadeva, Chief Engineer of Designs, P. W. D., addresses the whole school on "The Water Supply of Jaffna."

Saturday, January 11.

—Practice cricket match: W. R. S. Nilliah's team vs. the College XI.

—It ends in a victory to the College XI.

Sunday, January 12.

—Rev. S. K. Bunker speaks at the Vespers.

Tuesday, January 14.

—Thaipongal Holiday.

Saturday, January 18.

—The College Scouts meet to commemorate the death of their beloved Chief Scout.

Saturday, January 19.

—The Scouts attend the memorial service for the late Lord Baden Powell at St. Peter's Church in Jaffna.

Wednesday, January 22.

—An intimation comes to us from the Education Department to the effect that the Matriculation Examinations will be held on the following Tuesday.

Friday, January 24.

—Mr. S. Sivagnanasundaram, Advocate, delivers

a public lecture under the auspices of the Brotherhood on "Educational Aims."

—The inaugural meeting of the Tamil Study Circle takes place.

Saturday, January 25.

—Cricket match. Chundikuli Youth League vs. the College XI. The opponents win.

Sunday, January 26.

—Mr. P. W. Ariaratnam speaks at the Vespers.

Tuesday, January 28.

—Matriculation Examination begins. Many a heart beats fast.

Friday, January 31.

—The last day of the Matric. Examination. A great relief to most of the candidates.

—The College Scouts go on a cycle trip to Vallalai near Thondaimanar to camp.

Saturday, February 1.

—Cricket match.

—Jaffna Tamil Union vs. The College XI. The match ends in a draw.

Sunday, February 2.

—The Scouts return home, after a jolly time at camp.

Wednesday, February 5.

—Mr. P. C. Gaussen, M. A. (Oxon.), Vice-Principal, St. John's College, addresses the whole College on "Persia" under the auspices of the Geographical Association.

Wednesday, February 12.

—Mr. Frank Wheatley addresses the whole College on "Elocution".

Thursday, February 13.

—Sextant break.

Friday, February 14.

—Sextant Holiday.

—We play our first inter-collegiate Cricket match against Hartley College.

Saturday, February 15.

—Cricket match is continued.

Thavarajah and Kuruvilla set up a new Jaffna inter-collegiate record for first wicket partnership. (156 runs). Hats off to Thavarajah and Kuruvilla. The match ends in an easy innings victory to us. A promising start for the season.

—A few members of the Agricultural Society make a trip to Anuradhapura to attend the All-Ceylon Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition.

Thursday, February 20.

—The Annual Celebrations of the Parent-Teachers Association takes place. A social is held to entertain the parents. At a public meeting the District Judge, Mr. C. Coomaraswamy, addresses the parents. The meeting is followed by a concert. A very successful day.

Friday, February 21.

—We play our second inter-collegiate Cricket match against Jaffna Central College.

Saturday, February 22.

—The Cricket match is continued. We defeat Central College by 34 runs.

Sunday, February 23.

—Mr. R. S. D. Williams, Principal, Central College speaks at the Vespers.

Tuesday, February 25.

—Mrs. E. C. Lockwood addresses a meeting of the Academy on “Not Politics or Literature—but Sissal.”

Wednesday, February 26.

—Mr. S. J. Gunasegaram, M. A., Inspector of Schools, delivers a lecture under the auspices of the Academy on “Conservatism and Radicalism.” The lecture is confined to the Inters and to the staff only.

Friday, February 28.

—A public lecture by Mr. S. A. Visuvalingam on “Ramayanam:—Soodamanippadalam” under the auspices of the Hunt Dormitory Union.

Monday, March 3.

—The Annual Prize-giving comes off. The Hon. Mr. G. C. S. Corea, Minister of Labour, Industry and Commerce, is the chief speaker.

—The Round Table entertains Mr. and Mrs. Corea at a Social.

—Inter Arts results out. Ten pass and two referred out of fourteen. Splendid achievement.

Tuesday, March 4.

—The day is declared a holiday in honour of Mr. Corea’s visit and the Inter results.

Wednesday, March, 5.

—Mr. R. S. D. Williams delivers a public lecture on “West African Folk Lore” under the auspices of the Brotherhood.

—A meeting of the Round Table takes place.

Friday, March 7.

—We play our third inter-collegiate Cricket match against St. Henry’s College.

Saturday, March 8.

- Cricket match is continued. Gunaratnam and Jacob set up a second Jaffna inter-collegiate record for last wicket partnership (115 runs.) Hats off to Gunaratnam and Jacob.

The match ends in an innings defeat to the opponents.

Sunday, March 9.

-Mr. Luther Jayasingham speaks at the Vespers.

Wednesday, March 12.

-Dr. R. M. Kennedy speaks under the auspices of the Scout Troop on "The Worst Diseases in Jaffna, Prevention and Cure."

Thursday, March 13.

-Mr. C. K. Swaminathan, Principal, Saiva Training School, Tinnavelly, delivers a public lecture under the auspices of the Academy on "Historical Research.

Friday, March 14.

-We play our fourth inter collegiate cricket match against St. John's College.

-Mr. F. J. Samaranayake of the Pro-God League delivers a public lecture on "The Philosophy of Communism", under the auspices of the Brotherhood.

Saturday, March 15.

-The Cricket match is continued. It ends in a victory to us by six runs.

-The Scout Troop holds its last meeting for the term. Final competitions in First Aid and knot-tying are held. The Lion Patrol comes out first.

Monday, March 17.

-The Scout Troop leader, R. C. Thavarajah, speaks at the morning Assembly on "Scouting".

The presentation of a Cup to the best Patrol and a Kandyan Staff to the best All-round Scout

takes place. The winner of the cup is the Lion Patrol and the winner of the staff is the Leader of that Patrol.

Thursday, March 20.

—An Inter-Collegiate Debate between the Academy and the Jaffna Hindu College Inter Union on “Federation is the Panacea for all International Ills.” takes place. The annual dinner of the Academy follows the debate.

—The Battle of the “Golds” comes off. We meet St. Patrick’s College at a Cricket match.

Friday, March 21.

—The Cricket match is continued. We defeat St. Patrick’s after seven years by 7 wickets and 17 runs. Congratulations to the team and its captain.

Sunday, March 23.
—Rev. D. T. Niles speaks at the Vespers.

Monday, March, 24.
—Holiday in honour of the victory over St. Patrick’s.

Wednesday March 26.

—Term Examinations begin.

Friday, March 28.

—The last Cricket match comes off. We meet Jaffna Hindu College on their grounds.

Saturday, March 29.

—The Cricket match is continued and ends in a victory to us by 10 wickets. That leaves us undefeated North-Ceylon Inter-Collegiate Cricket Champions for 1941. A splendid record of all matches won! Heartiest congratulations to Captain Kantharatnam and his Team!!

Tuesday, April 1.

—College closes for the Easter.

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