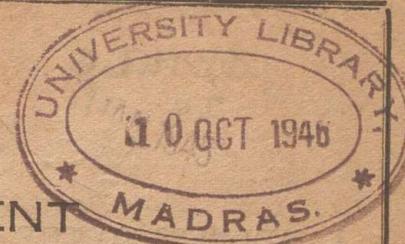


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THE  
GOVERNMENT

**BRENNEN COLLEGE  
MAGAZINE**



MARCH 1943

Vol. XIV

Edited by Dr. M. Karamchand Wade, M. A., Ph. D, (London)

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### The Editor regrets

that, due to the high cost and scarcity of paper, he is constrained to make this number of the College Magazine a very lean one without its usual features.

### But the Editor hopes

that, next year, with better conditions and improved finances, the magazine will appear in its usual form with articles from students, past and present, which have had to be unavoidably withheld from publication this year.

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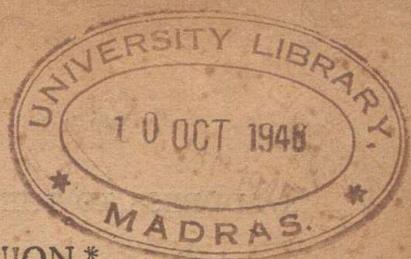




COLLEGE DAY : The President, Alijanab S. Kadir Muhammad Nainat, M.A., B.L., District Judge, Tellicherry with the Principal Dr. M. Karamchand Wade, M.A., Ph.D.



COLLEGE DAY : A view of the audience.



## ADDRESS TO THE COLLEGE UNION \*

By

The hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Wadsworth, I. C. S.

*Dr. Karamchand and my young friends.*

As I stand before so many young faces, my mind goes back to my own youth and College days, rather a long time ago; I think it is 30 years now. One thing I remember about that period of my life is that I was then quite sure, quite sure about everything, quite sure about what was the true political faith, the true religion. In fact, there were few things that I was not sure about. I suppose most students are like that even now. I am now getting older and I am not so sure of things. One difference between youth and middle or old age, I think, is that, when one is young, one sees only one side of a question and when one gets older, one sees both sides of the question. The advantages of youth are enthusiasm, energy, and interestedness and the disadvantages are an inability to see both sides, a danger of being carried away by that enthusiasm and a lack of balance. I suppose that some of you read history. Do you realise that you are now in the midst of history? I doubt whether there was any period in the world when current events have been so important for the history of the future as they are to-day. The future history will contain many of the outlandish names with which we are now becoming familiar, which will constitute landmarks in the history of the future.

Your children will be taught that there were two sides in this war of which one was right and the other wrong. One was the side which was fighting for justice, decency in life, law and morality and the other was fighting for domination, power to crush the weak, to snatch away what belonged to another, to prevent people from thinking freely, and living freely. Which of these sides is right and which is the wrong side? I do not think that any reasonable-minded man, or woman, or boy or girl, will have any doubt about the verdict of history in the matter. This great war which is causing so much misery will, in future, be regarded as a war of right against wrong.

I do not say that we, who are fighting for what we believe to be right, are always perfect. There may be things in our past record which we are ashamed of. We may have done in the past much we should not have done; but, we are fighting this war to serve humanity in general. In this war, on our side we have the Americans,

\* Delivered on 10th February 1943, the Principal presiding.

## ADDRESS TO THE COLLEGE UNION

the Russians, the Chinese along with the British and the Indians. We are all fighting against evil. All of us have our faults. But I maintain that, in the long run, looking at the thing broadly, my country, your country and America will be seen to have been striving to do what is right. It is true we have not always achieved that. But we have been striving for freedom, for justice, for law, for the right to worship God in the way we choose.

Now, I am a judge. My business is to try and do justice and administer law. If I have got a case between two litigants, each of them thinks that he is right. Probably, both are partly in the wrong. My business is to find out to what extent one is wrong and the other is right.

"In the present fight, there is no doubt that all the combatants have done some things in the past which they are not particularly happy over. I think there is equally no doubt that the cause of the United Nations is the only just cause. What seems to me perfectly clear is that unless the United Nations win, there will be no freedom, no justice, no law for anybody in the world. If your country and my country come under the domination of Hitler or the Japanese, it will be then the end of all freedom. Only a few weeks ago, the German government dismissed the Minister of Justice and put another in his place with instructions to dismiss every judge who did not decide in the way Hitler thought suitable to his aims. That gives you an idea of what justice you get in the Fascist countries.

You know that, at present, the Japanese are sitting on our door-step, in Burma and just across the sea at Singapore. There can be no safety and freedom in this country while this dangerous enemy is so near us. The first thing that we in India have to do is to drive away the invader who is threatening to bring us into slavery.

You are young and you will be going out into the world into positions of power and influence. But you must try to do first things first. The first thing for India to-day is undoubtedly to tackle the danger of invasion, to send back the Japanese to their own little island where they can do as they like with their own people and to prevent them from trampling on the liberties of the people of other lands. When you have got rid of that danger, the way will be clear for that new measure of freedom and independence which we expect India to enjoy in the future and which you, Indians, are endeavouring to secure.

"If we quit India now as we are often told to do, in five minutes the Japanese will be coming over and it will be only a matter of time before Tellicherry will be

## ADDRESS TO THE COLLEGE UNION

under a Japanese Sub-Collector and Japanese Police, and anybody who gives trouble will forthwith find himself in a Japanese jail.

You want your country to be governed by law; but, you want freedom and prosperity for everybody. You may not be satisfied with the measure of freedom you have got now. My personal opinion is that your country is as free as most countries of the world are. Probably, when you get Swaraj, your measure of personal freedom may not be any greater, but, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are governed by your own people which I do not grudge you. This is, however, not the moment to drive out those who have, for years past, been your protectors. Let us clear away the danger first. Thereafter, we can go with the feeling that we have done a good job and work.

We found India torn by civil war; no right of property, no safety, very little education and little or no medical facilities, not at all a pleasant place to live in. With your help, we have brought India into a position which is immensely superior to the past. It will be the duty of the young men and young women of India to carry on that process and make it perfect some day.

But do not jump before you can walk. The first thing in India to-day is to make India safe. Towards that end, you need our help. Your troops are brave, they are capable. But, at the present moment, no reasonable person will have the least doubt that you need the allies. You want technical experience and assistance in the weapons of war. Will you, all of you, make up your minds to do everything in your power to help defeat the enemy, to do nothing which will hinder the forces fighting for you? If you do that, you will have done something which is worthwhile and when your children and grand-children read the history of this war, you will be able to say with legitimate pride 'I remember that during the war, I did this job or that.' It is our duty to strive and all of you must strive to help restore to the world decency and peace.

## OUR COLLEGE DAY

January the 30th, 1943.

Principal's Report.

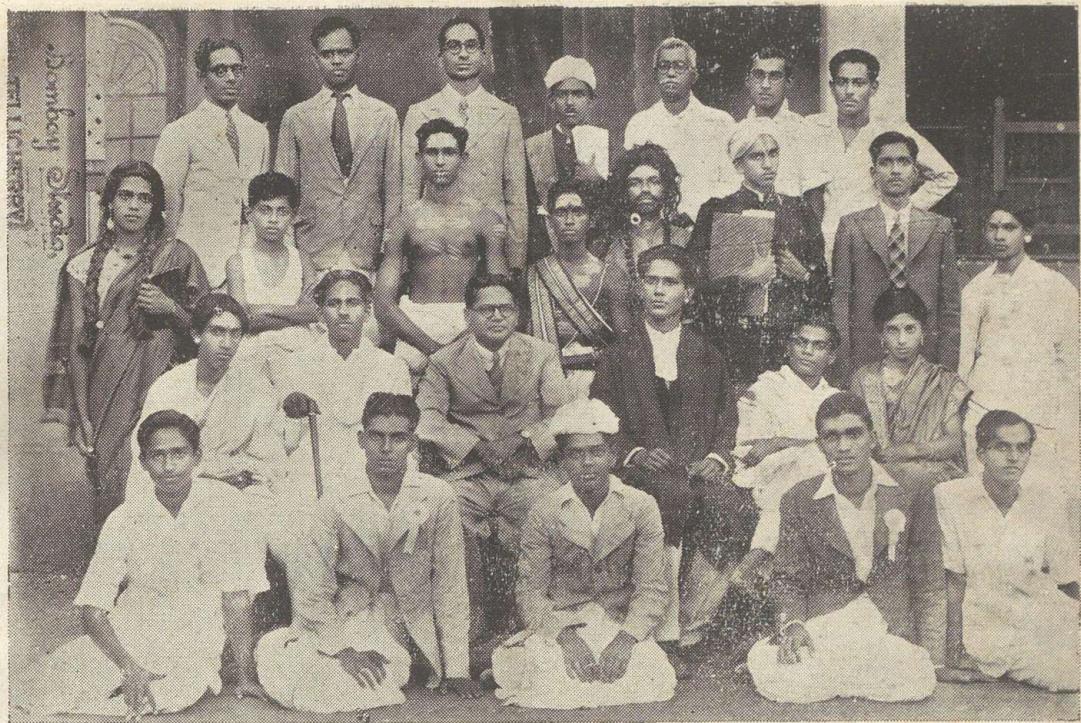
*Mr. President, Ladies, and Gentlemen.*

On behalf of the Staff and Students of the Government Brennen College, Tellicherry, I have very great pleasure in heartily welcoming you all to this College. To begin with, let us all join our hands in prayerful gratitude and render thanks to the Almighty for making it possible for us to participate in these celebrations; for, this time last year, the war clouds were gathering fast and thick and it looked as if the whole Indian sky would be enveloped by them. Fortunately for us, our apprehensions have not come true and, as His Excellency the Governor observed the other day, the chances of invasion of our land are very remote. The success of the allied arms in every theatre of war fills us with hope and cheer, and, we trust and pray that, when we celebrate the next College Day, we may do it amidst peals of victory ringing out barbarism and cruelty and ringing in a new order of peace, prosperity and progress in all parts of the inhabited globe.

Agreeably to the custom on occasions like this, I wish to place before you an account of our activities during the academic year that is drawing to a close.

3. CHANGES IN THE STAFF:—Sri Nedungadi went on leave on the 22nd of July, last preparatory to retirement and was succeeded by Sri V. K. Krishna Menon. In Sri Nedungadi who was Principal of this College for 13 years, we all miss a very familiar figure. During his long stewardship of this institution he won the esteem of the people as well as the Government which is no easy feat in these days of difficult loyalties. I am sure all of you will join with me in wishing him many years of health and happiness in his richly-earned retirement.

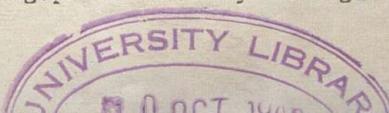
Sri Krishna Menon was here for a short while, but even during those 9 weeks, he left behind a record of good work effectively done. Having been transferred to the Arts College, Rajahmundry, Sri Menon handed over charge to

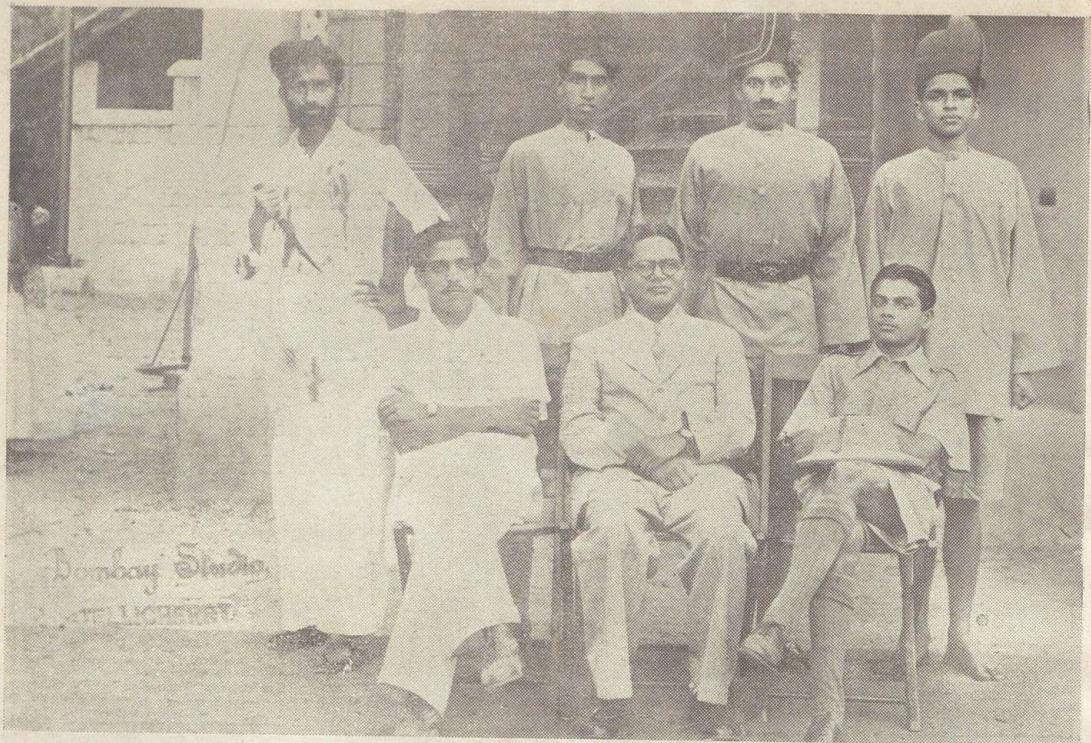


Actors in the Malayalam drama "Isvaradheenam"

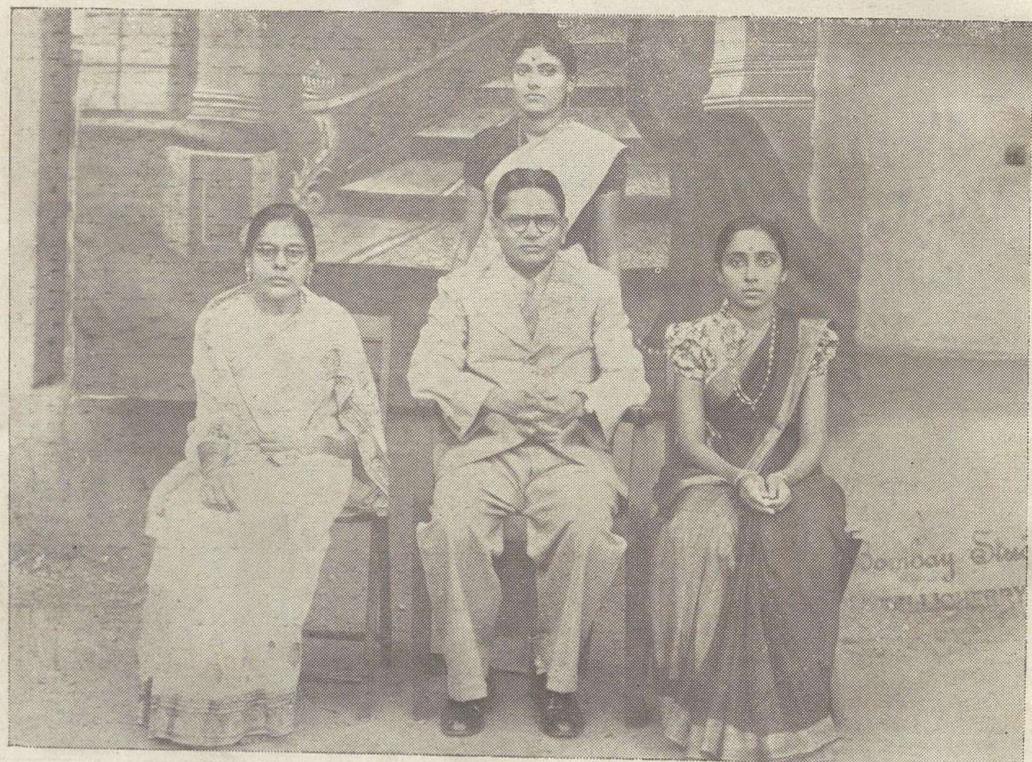


Malayalam playlet: "Balagopalan" acted by the High School Girls.





Hindi playiet: "Das Minat"



"Shakespeare as an A. R. P. Warden", An English feature acted by the College Girls.

## OUR COLLEGE DAY

the present Principal on the 30th of September. But for the personnel of the lecturership in Chemistry which underwent a series of quick changes, the staff, on the whole, enjoyed an unbroken continuity. Messrs. Suryanarayana Murthi, Appu and Sundar Raj left us one after the other and now we have my old friend and pupil, Sri V. C. Subbiah Naidu. Sri S. Palaniswami, who was lecturer in English for the past five years, was transferred last December to Kumbakonam. The staff and students showed their appreciation of Sri Palaniswami's meritorious services to the College by a round of functions in his honour. His successor, Sri Rama Ramanan Unni, comes to us with reputation as a short story writer.

That the High School Department was not forgotten by the authorities is evidenced by the transfer of Messrs. S. S. Harihara Ayyar and V. R. Varada Rajan and the presence in our midst of Sri A. V. Harihara Ayyar. From the Branch School at Tiruvangad, Sri P. V. Subrahmania Ayyar and K. Kunhambu Nair retired after long and meritorious service in that institution. I wish to take this opportunity of giving public utterance to our high appreciation of the loyal and devoted service which these two gentlemen rendered to the school and trust that they will find happiness and comfort for the rest of their days. Theirs has been a record of duty well done.

**STRENGTH OF THE COLLEGE:**— We have more students in the Intermediate classes this year than last year. The number of girls is much larger than before, they being as many as 30. While on this, I must express my gratification at the fact that one of our students in the college is a Muslim girl and, I hasten to congratulate Miss Sultana, niece of our honoured President of to-day on being the first, may I hope, of many other girls of her community who will come to receive the benefit of higher education. I heartily commend her example to the Muslim parents of this locality and trust that they will send their girls to this college giving the go-bye to conservatism. The Muslim men-students form a considerable part of our strength and, among their number, are a good many who prove that, given the opportunities of higher education, they can render a very good account of themselves both when they are here and after leaving this college. I would only urge that they are put to school at a much earlier age than they seem to be so that they could finish their course much the same time as their brothers of other communities.

## OUR COLLEGE DAY

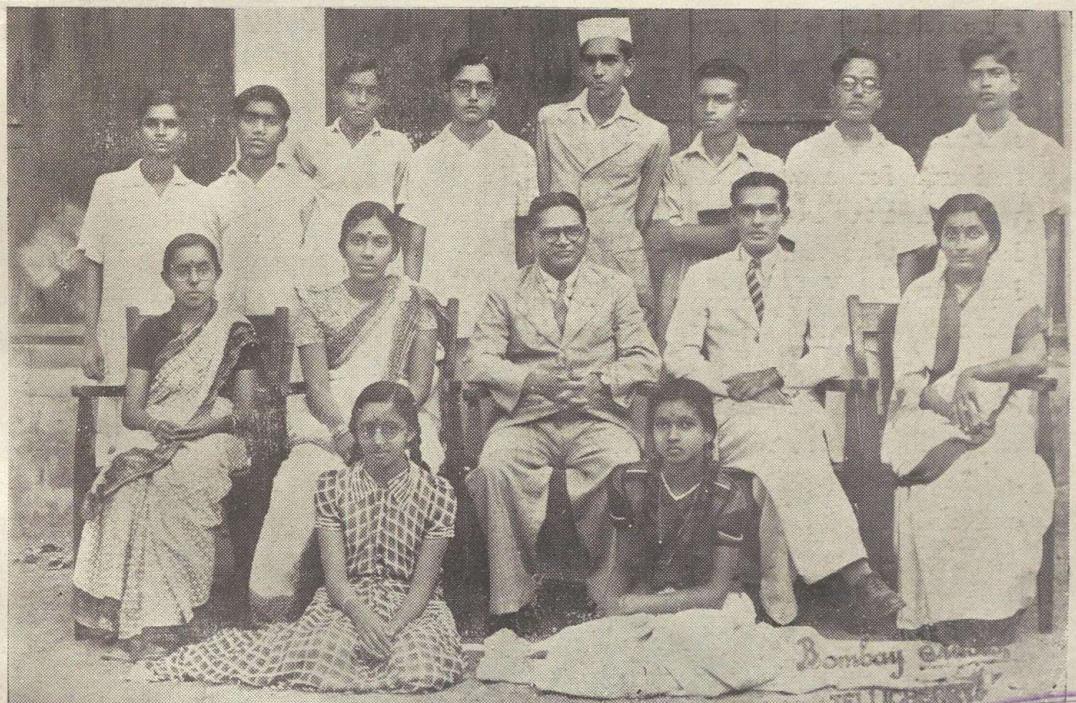
**EXAMINATION RESULTS:**— Our results in the last University and S. S. L. C. Public Examinations were highly gratifying. For the Intermediate Examination of last March, we presented 84 candidates, 42 of whom came out successful, 17 of them being placed in the first class. Of the remaining 42, most passed in one or more parts so that there were few total failures. To the S. S. L. C. Public Examination we sent up 62 students and 35 of these were declared eligible for a University course. You will be interested to learn that, among the High Schools of North Malabar, our school stands first in the percentage of passes in this examination. I do not claim that these results are by any means the best absolutely, but, I am told, and from what I see about me, I agree, that this is a no mean achievement considering the handicaps and distractions which academic effort inside these halls has to contend against. I am not without hope, however, that we could improve and I am sure that my students will emulate their predecessors and do even better in their examinations next March.

**ACCOMMODATION:**— Since you met here last, the accommodation in the College has not increased. Plans for putting up a fresh suit of rooms here had to be given up as we could not get requisite priority over more emergent war work; yet, within our means, we have added a few rooms for one or two small classes and a Museum, and have found accommodation for a Students' Reading Room. Despite the fact that another Secondary School is coming up in our midst, our High School continues to attract a large number of students and owing to lack of accommodation, we are constrained to limit our admissions to the several classes. Our College halls are quite inadequate for our Intermediate classes and the inevitable crowding on the benches detracts from efficient instruction. May I not appeal to the citizens of Tellicherry to take a live interest in this matter and exert themselves to provide, by their munificence and Government support, spacious buildings for their college worthy of its needs and its importance? I know the people of North Malabar have a long purse and a large heart and I beseech them to combine the two, directing them to this institution which ought to be as much their concern as of the Government.

**9. THE COLLEGE ASSOCIATIONS:**— As usual, the College Associations have been functioning with commendable vigour and vitality. A wholesome change that has been effected is to bring the meetings of the College Union inside



College Day Volunteer Corps.

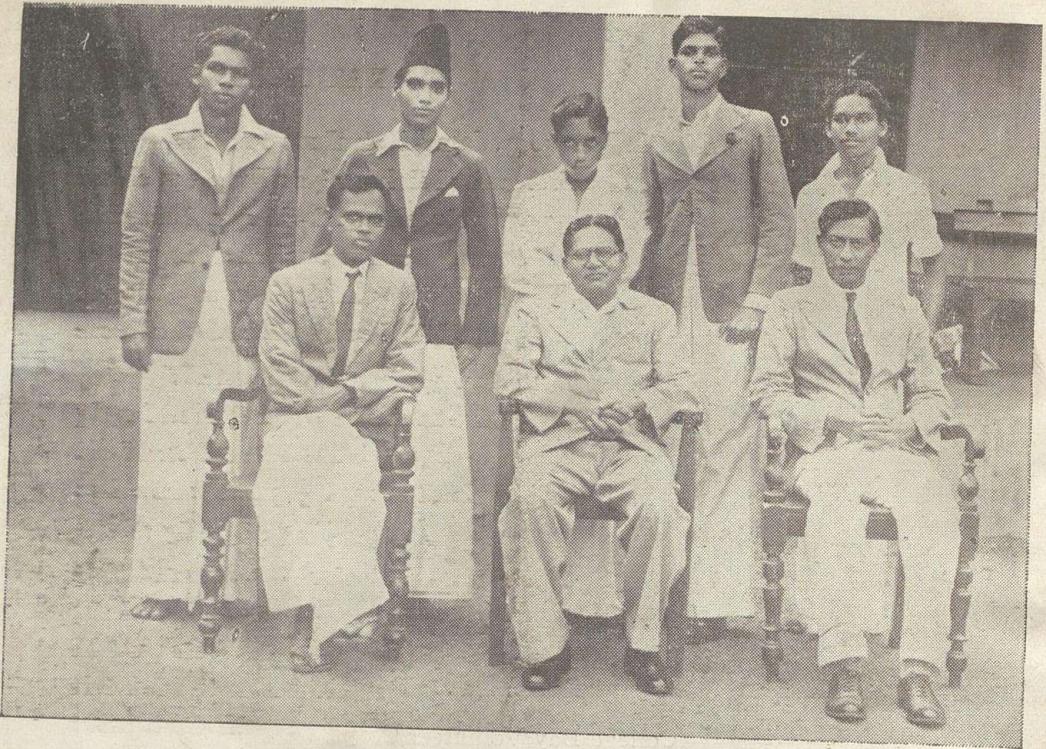


Winners of Proficiency Prizes, College and High School.

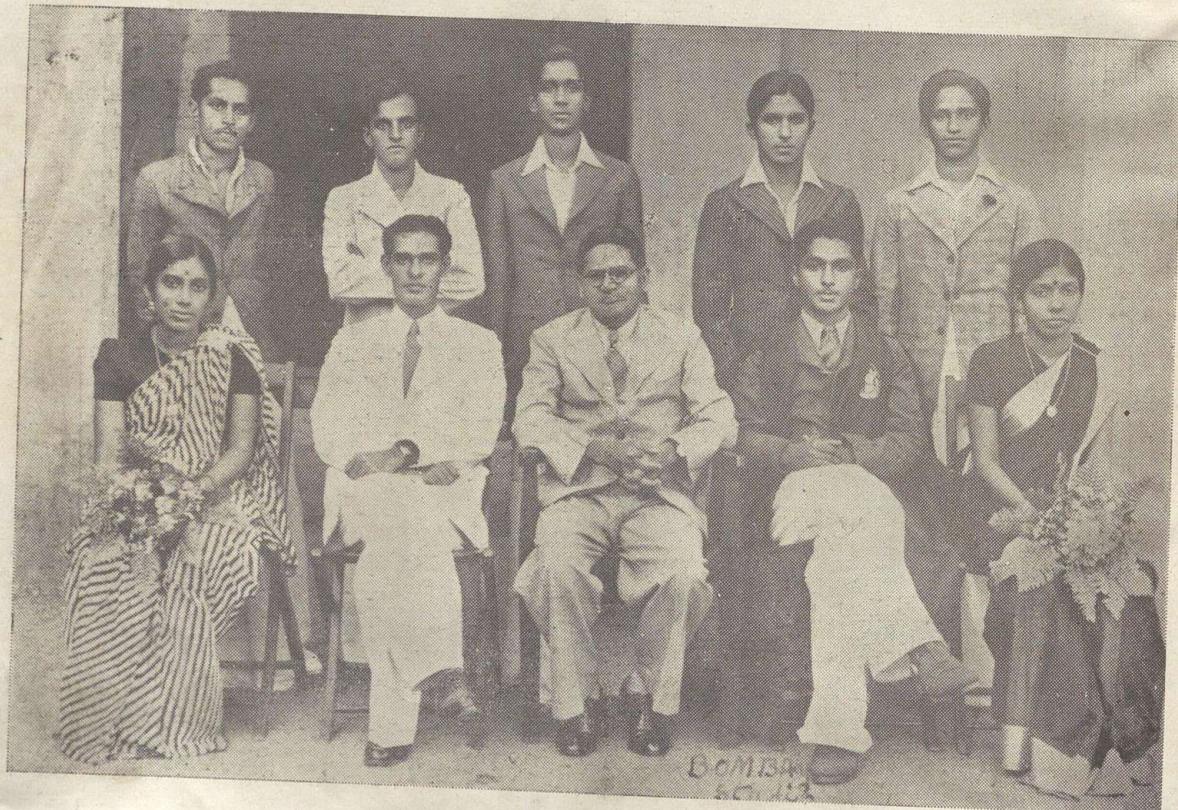
Bombay University  
TELLICHERI

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY  
10 OCT 1946

The College Co-operative Union.



Board of Directors.



College Union Council 1942-43.

## OUR COLLEGE DAY

YACHTING 1930

the hours of secular instruction and this ensures the double advantage of getting all students to attend them and of not interfering with the sports and games conducted on evenings. I am thankful to my friends Sri K. M. K. Nair and Captains Toyle and Harvey for addressing our students.

**THE COLLEGE CO-OPERATIVE UNION:**— Sri T. I. Chimmer continued to be the Secretary of the Union and conducted its affairs with his usual energy. The total volume of business done in 1942 amounted to Rs. 7,300 Agreeably to the principles of co-operation, it has been decided not to sell articles even on short term credit, but to sell only for cash payments thus fostering a greater sense of thrift than would otherwise be the case. We propose not to collect the deposit of Rs. 5/- from each student from next July as we know this practice has had the effect of swelling the amount of fees and other payments each parent or guardian had to make at the beginning of the year. But, I trust that all this will not have the effect of crippling the activities of the Union, but that the members will purchase their requirements from it as loyally as heretofore. When I tell you that, with commendable foresight, our Secretary stocked the requisite quantity of notebooks of various kinds for our students and was able to meet their requirements on a rationed basis, you will appreciate that, in this line, among others, the Union has done very good work considering the acute shortage in paper we are going through. I have in mind certain other plans of re-organisation of the Union; and I hope, when they are brought into effect, the Union will be a source of economic usefulness to its members in a more real measure than ever before.

**PHYSICAL TRAINING—SPORTS AND GAMES:**— It is gratifying to note that students of the College and High School sections have, on the whole, evinced great interest in the Sports and other Athletic activities of this institution, and that, notwithstanding limitations of space, under which we have long been labouring, we have been able to push forward a fairly crowded and successful programme of Intra-mural and Inter-Collegiate Competitions.

As usual, Cricket, Hockey and Football among the major games, attracted the largest number of participants, followed by Basket Ball, Volley Ball, Badminton, Tenekoit, and Field Sports and seasonal activities like Tennis and Rowing which had their own enthusiastic votaries.

## OUR COLLEGE DAY

Women students have been provided with better facilities for games inside the quadrangle and it is our desire to give them exclusive use of play-grounds for an all-the-week play programme by shifting the men's play courts to the public maidan where the Government has been pleased to permit us to lay out a court for Volley Ball and another for Basket Ball. My grateful thanks are due to Mr. Allardice I. C. S. for his courtesy to us.

We have had a fairly successful record in the Tournaments we have played in so far. We were at our best in Hockey and did very well indeed in local matches and at Palghat, where we played in the Asher Hockey Tournament, and won the trophy for the third time running.

In the first round, we gave a beating to the Government College, Coimbatore, by 3 goals to nil and followed this up by another victory in the finals against the Government Victoria College, Palghat, by 3 goals to 1. Our Hockey triumph was soon followed by another in Cricket in the Rukmini Memorial Tournament. We played the Zamorin's College in the first round and beat them hands down. In the finals, we had stouter opposition from the Government Victoria College team and it was only towards the fag end of the second day that we were able to snatch a victory by a narrow margin of twelve runs. Besides the trophy won by the team, the Ramu Cup for the highest individual score has been awarded to Mr. E K. Varadan, our Physical Director, who was top scorer in three of the four innings that we played in this tournament. Our Basket Ballers also had an opportunity of competing in Palghat, but they were badly beaten and taught humility by the Municipal High School team from Pollachi.

Close on our return from Palghat, we entered for the West Coast Tournaments, and had the satisfaction of being the winners of the Zone finals in Football, Badminton, and Basketball and all but won in the finals of the Basket ball Tournament at Calicut where just one point weighed the scales against us in our match against the Christian College team.

The College Athletic Team visited Calicut to compete in the Grigg Memorial Sports held on the 22nd and 23rd January. We put up a fine show and were able to annex the Kallat Raghavan Athletic shield for the second year running. P. Vijayan proved to be in a class by himself and won 5 first places

## OUR COLLEGE DAY

out of the 6 events he competed in and three of the records that he set up, 19 feet 11 inches for the running Long Jump, 5 feet  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches for the High Jump and 41 feet  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches for the Hop, Skip and Jump will take a lot of beating in any Inter-Collegiate Athletic Meet on the West Coast. Our heartiest congratulations to our hero, Vijayan. In the Junior Section also we did almost equally well, but were unlucky to lose the Championship to the Zamorin's College by just half a point.

We would also mention that our Girl students did well in the Badminton and Tenkoit Tournaments conducted by the West Coast Committee. The girls' Badminton team beat the local Mission High School in the preliminary round after which they visited Calicut to play in the finals. They were, however, beaten by the Christian College team after a well contested 3 games set. We dare say that, with improved facilities for games and more practice, our girl students will be able to give a much better account of themselves in future contests of this kind. This is the first occasion in the history of this college when girl students went to another station to take part in games. I congratulate the girls on their sportsmanship. We have also gone through a crowded programme of Inter-class tournaments and Track and Field sports as also Athletic Competitions, in which girl students of the College and High School sections participated with great zest. These competitions have been an annual feature preceding the College Day Celebrations and, from every point of view, have proved an unqualified success this year.

On the whole, we have had a successful year of sports and games in which, winning or losing, our boys and girls have played the game and made the most of the happy hours of recreation after humdrum class work.

I take this opportunity of placing on record our appreciation of the unremitting zeal with which the captains and leaders of the different games clubs of the college have discharged the duties that have fallen to them in the numerous competitions in which they had the privilege of leading class or college teams. My heartiest congratulations to our energetic Physical Director, Sri Varadan, on a fruitful year and on his deserved promotion to the Selection Grade.

THE HIGH SCHOOL:—The strength of the School this year is 211 as against 215 last year. The number of girls on the rolls is 38. Sri Krishna

## OUR COLLEGE DAY

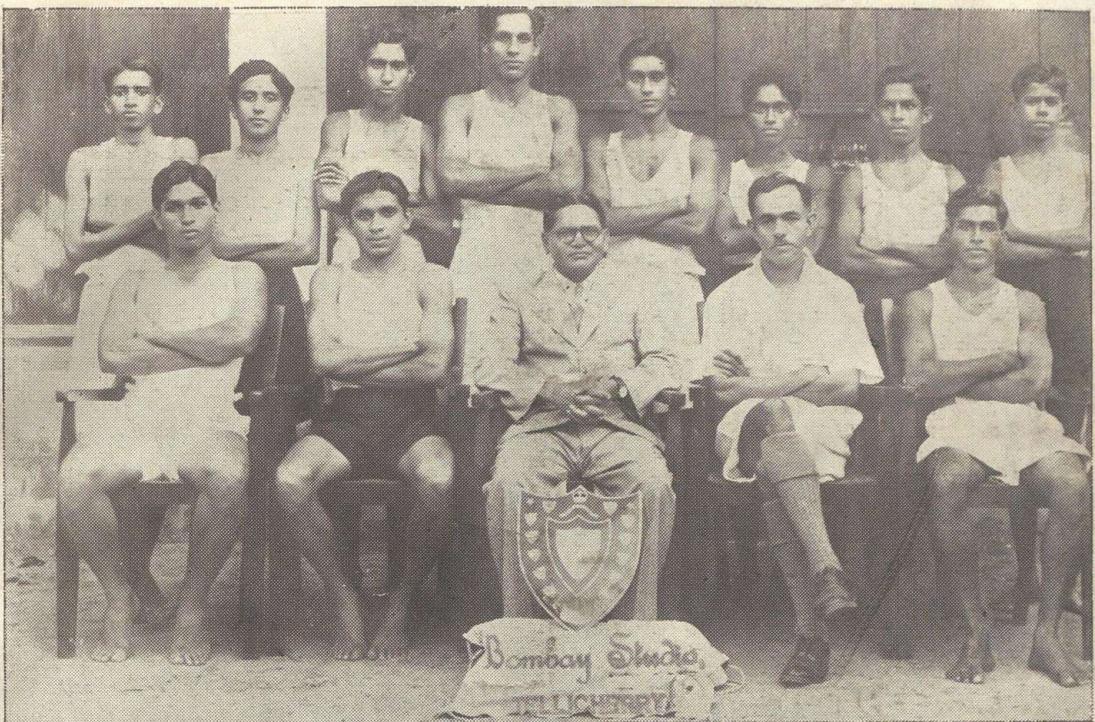
Ayyar has been in charge of the School which has recently developed a few new features.

**READING ROOM:**—Till October last, the open verandah of the Library was used as a 'Reading Room'. It was not a room and there, no reading could be done. By enclosing part of the Physics Laboratory, we have brought into being a respectable reading room which is well furnished and where the pupils are provided with a large number of papers and periodicals out of the Reading Room Funds in addition to those paid for out of the Provincial Funds.

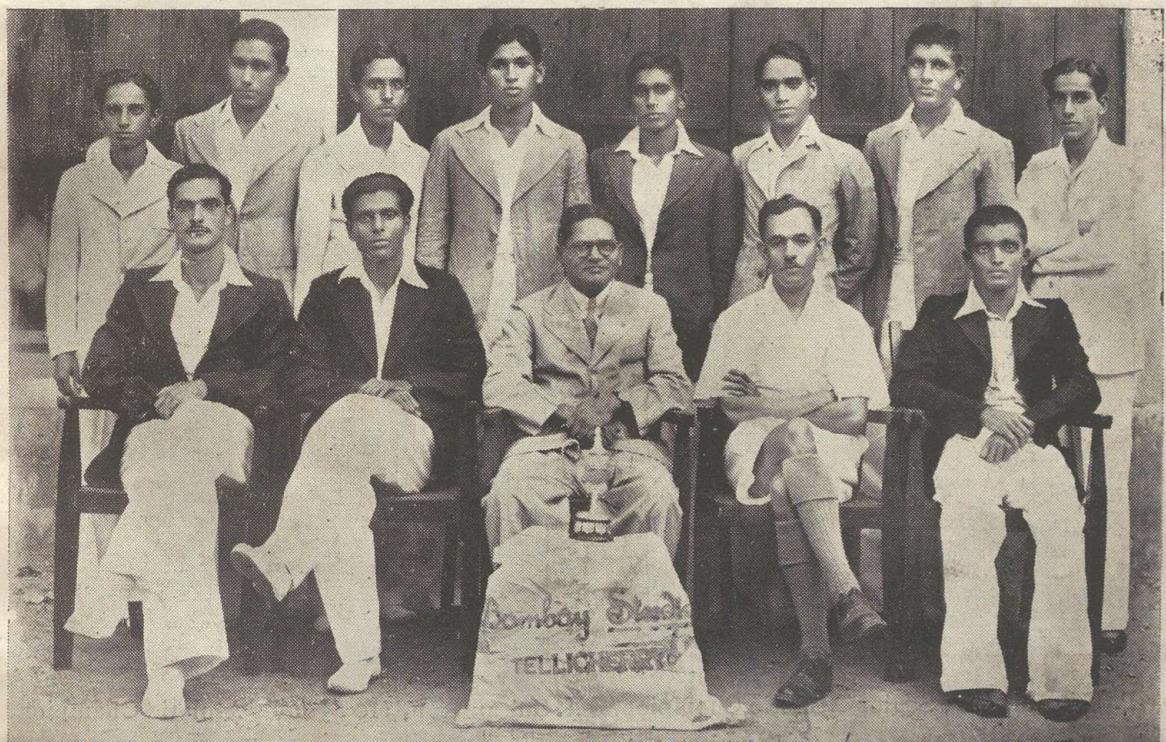
**THE MUSEUM:**—A note-worthy addition made to the institution is a School Museum which has been formed by the endeavours of a committee of our Staff under the able leadership of Sri M. Narayanan. Already the collection includes about a hundred articles of varying interest representative of the arts and crafts of Malabar, thanks to the persuasive 'arts and crafts' of our dynamic Commercial Instructor Sri P. Rama Pisharodi. All of them were presented to the college by several ladies and gentlemen who were approached for the purpose and who responded to our request with a generous alacrity which far exceeded our expectations. I wish to express our deep sense of indebtedness to them for their encouragement and support. Subject to the limitations of space that we suffer under in this, as in other things, we have endeavoured to display the specimens to the best advantage and I invite you to visit the museum one of these days and help this adjunct to our school to grow into its fitting proportions.

**MANUSCRIPT MAGAZINE:**—The pupils of the High School brought out a charming bi-lingual manuscript magazine which they have very appropriately called "Bala Sobha". It is beautifully illustrated with drawings and sketches depicting a large variety of people, from Mr. Gandhi to Mr. Churchill and bespeaks great originality on their part. I must congratulate my colleague Sri K. Narayanan Nair on his having discovered so much of journalistic and artistic talent in our pupils and for helping to give it expression.

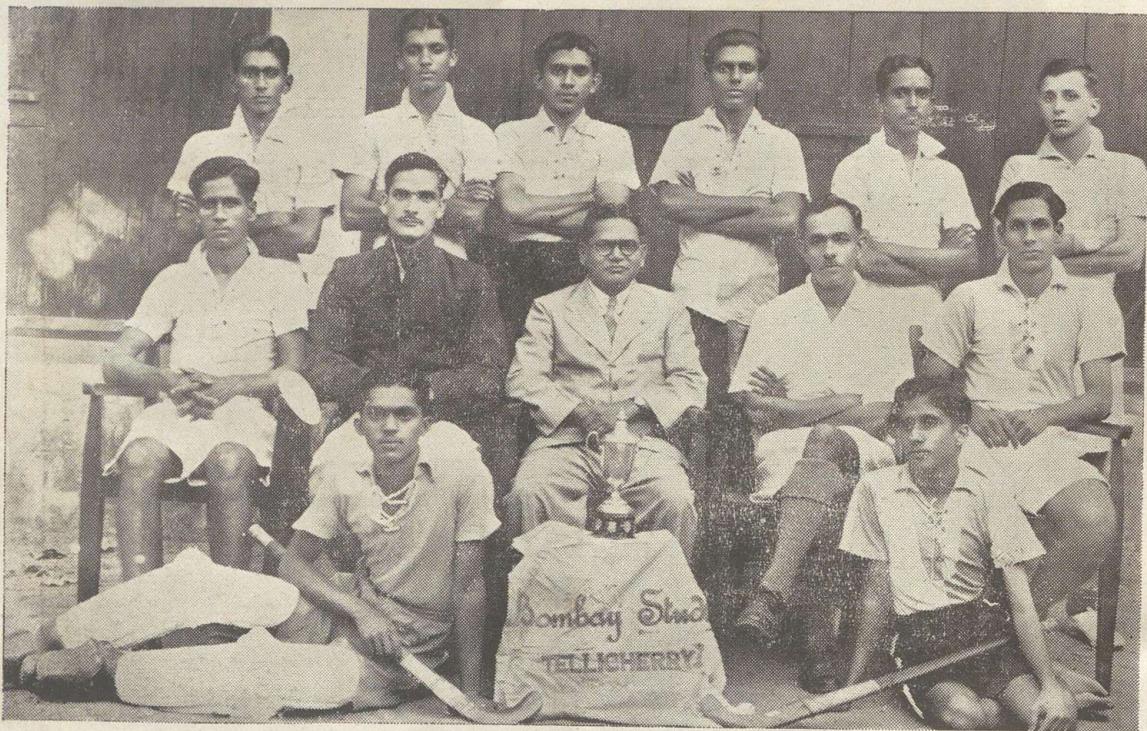
**SCOUTING:**—In response to my request, Mr. Justice Lakshmana Rao has very kindly promised to send a Scout Officer here to help us to start a Scout Organisation which will soon come into being.



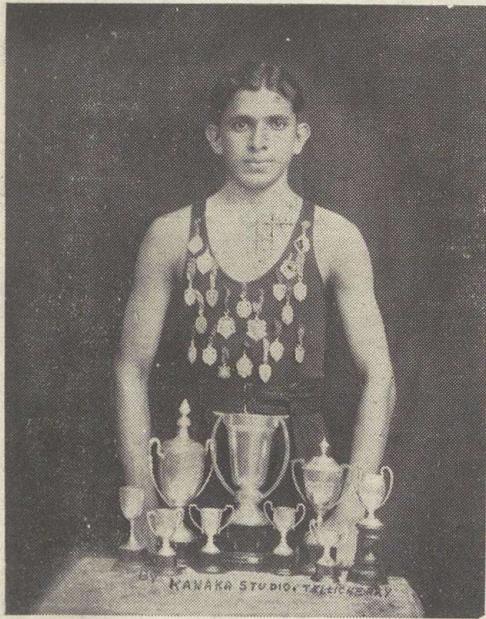
College Athletic Team—Winners of West Coast Athletic Championship.



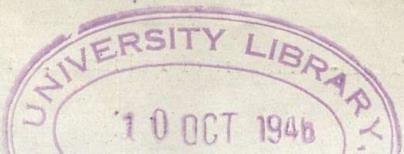
College Cricket Team—Winners of Rukmani Memorial Cricket Cup.



College Hockey Team—Winners of Asher Hockey Tournament 1942.



P. Vijayan, IIC, Senior Athletic Champion. K. Sukumaran, IIC, Junior Athletic Champion.



## OUR COLLEGE DAY

I congratulate Sri Krishna Iyer and his talented staff on an excellent year of achievement.

**RE-ORGANISATION OF THE HIGH SCHOOL COURSE:**—Members of the public may be aware that the re-organisation of our Secondary School Course has been engaging the attention of the authorities for some years and that, of late, the University has been insisting on making the Matriculation Examination the passport to Collegiate Education. Government have now decided to bifurcate the Secondary School course into two kinds, one preparing for the University and the other for vocational Secretarial courses. To the former will be admitted only such pupils as exhibit distinct aptitude and ability for higher education and the rest will be diverted to the latter, which, providing for instruction in subjects relating to commerce, accountancy and ministerial work, will qualify the pupils for clerkships and similar offices under Government. In fact, it has been decided by the authorities that those who wish to sit for the competitive examinations for ministerial posts under Government should have undergone the vocational Secretarial course in their High School and those who choose the preparation for a University career are debarred from competing for them. So, parents and guardians of pupils going to the V Form from next June will have to choose, once and for all, what career they intend for their boys and girls hereafter. This reform will, I dare say, go a long way to stem and avoid the woeful waste that we experience in educational effort and confine higher education only to those who are likely to profit by it. On the other hand, it will provide useful avenues for others without waste of labour or money in channels in which they are misfits, but, into which they now drift as a matter of course in the absence of anything better. It may interest you to know that our High School here and our sister institution, the B. E. M. P. High School, have been chosen for this vocational course. I invite parents and guardians to discuss the future of their children with us and we shall be always happy to advise them with regard to their capacity and aptitude.

**BRANCH SCHOOL:**—The strength of the school is 256 as against 246 last year. The number of girl-pupils has risen by 12. Till recently Sri Balakrishna Menon was in charge of the school and I am thankful to him for running it efficiently. The present Head Master is Sri Harihara Ayyar who,

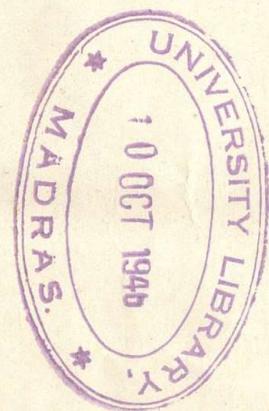
## OUR COLLEGE DAY

till the other day was District Educational Officer, North Malabar, I am sure that the school will benefit greatly by its association with Sri Harihara Ayyar.

In the Branch School, we have broken fresh ground this year by the appointment of a Mapilla as one of the teachers. Soon a retirement is occurring and the Director has very kindly agreed to my appointing a lady teacher who will be of great help to its 89 girl students.

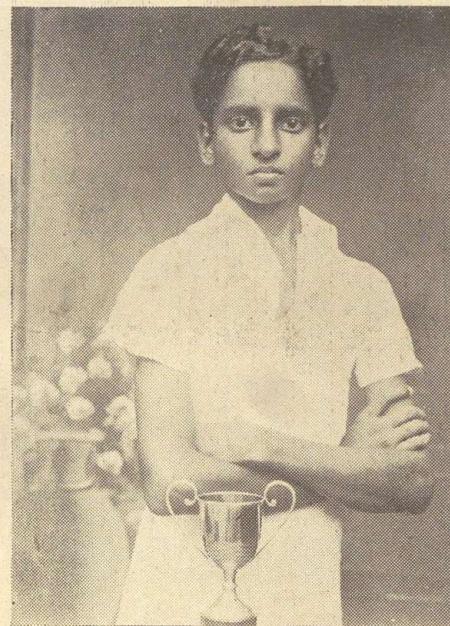
**ENDOWMENTS:**— I am surprised and pained to find that in this College which has catered to the needs of this district for well over 70 years, there are only a very few endowments for prizes and scholarships. Even within the short time that I have been here, numerous instances have come to my notice of boys and girls who were in distress unable to find the money for paying their fees and in time. Speaking to you last year, my learned predecessor said, "Though I have been appealing on every College Day for one or two scholarships more for the benefit of poor students, none has so far come forward to endow any." This is a very sad reflection and it points to a state of affairs, which, highly regrettable as it is, I trust, is not irremediable. Surely, the springs of charity in North Malabar are neither dry nor shallow and the philanthropists of the place cannot be ignorant or oblivious of the hard lot of the suffering poor who, in these days of acute economic distress, find it quite beyond their means to keep the pot boiling at home and send to school their young ones on whom their hopes for the future are centred. I wish to repeat the request of Sri Nedungadi that more endowments may be founded in this College and I am sure it is unnecessary for me to dilate on the double benefit this charity confers both on the giver and on the receiver.

While on this, I wish to announce with pride and joy two noble examples that have been set by my brother-teachers. Sri K. Kunhambu Nair, who was till recently on the Staff of our Branch School, has placed in my hands a sum of Rs. 105/- as an endowment for a prize to be awarded to the best pupil of the III Form in memory of his late uncle, Kandoth Jotsyar Kunhikrishnan Nair. Sri T. Rama Pisharody, our popular Commercial Instructor, has offered to create an endowment of Rs. 200/- for a prize in memory of his daughter A. Amminikutty. She was one of the most brilliant students that this college





P. C. Ramani Bai IIC. Lady Champion  
(College Section.)



V. Balasubramaniam VIA. Sub Junior  
Athletic Champion.

## OUR COLLEGE DAY

ever produced and was unfortunately snatched away by the hand of death in the middle of her bright career at the Medical College, Madras, leaving her teachers and parents extremely disconsolate. These offers are all the more valuable coming, as they do, from members of the teaching profession whose resources can, by no stretch of imagination, be said to be adequate even for their daily needs. Considering how much of incipient talent in our struggling youth is wasted for want of support and encouragement, may I not beg the rich and well-to-do ladies and gentlemen of this locality, not merely to commend these donors for their gifts, but themselves do likewise? I am glad to take this opportunity of publicly acknowledging these bounties of Sri Kunhambu Nair and Sri Rama Pisharody.

**THE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION:**—One of the usual adjuncts to any educational institution so common everywhere else is, I am surprised to find, absent here. I refer to an Old Boys' Association. I am told that, some years ago, an attempt was made to start one, but without avail. It is needless for me to remind you that the contact of its Old Boys with this College must not be confined to our meeting like this one day in the year, but must be oftener than that. In some Colleges, the College Day is celebrated by the Old Boys' Association which is a registered body with funds of its own. This College has been in existence for over 70 years now and the number of its alumini must be legion. Though at present managed by Government, it is primarily your concern. I earnestly appeal to its Old Boys not to consider their connection with it as having terminated when they leave its doors, but to take an abiding interest in its well-being and progress. Many things like addition to its buildings, opening of new courses in the Intermediate, raising its status to the First Grade, finding playground facilities for its students, etc., need your attention. All this the Government cannot be expected to do by itself. An influential and strong Old Boys' Association, working in co-operation with the public, should act as a leverage to raise the degree and standard of the usefulness of this ancient institution. I do hope that the many Old Boys gathered here will bestir themselves to this end.

**CONCLUSION:**—Ladies and gentlemen, it has been a very eventful and critical year that we are passing through. We are still in the midst of a titanic

## OUR COLLEGE DAY

struggle in which right is fighting valiantly against might. As it always has been, and as it is ever bound to be in God's good world, right is acquiring might and is beginning to vindicate itself despite overwhelming odds it has to counter. We hope, and we are sure, that the forces of evil will be frustrated in their attempts to grip the world in their tentacles. Thanks be to Providence, the darkest hour has passed and we see the glimmer of the dawn. It is the ceaseless endeavour of all of us teachers everywhere, and particularly in this College, to prepare our boys and girls for the glorious day of liberation and enable them to take their place as great and good citizens of our glorious mother-land. In this work, which we have taken upon ourselves, I would invoke your hearty co-operation in an unstinted measure. The temper of the times and the trend of events often thwart our wills and frustrate our purposes; but, we are battling bravely on despite hardships and discouragements with a tale of which I shall not weary you on this pleasant occasion. But, I beseech that you will not make our task more difficult than it is by your apathy or indifference. I pray you will look on us as fellow-guardians of your children and help us to do our bit for their future welfare and happiness.

And now, ladies and gentlemen, I have done. It only remains for me to convey my thanks to my colleagues on the staff for their loyal, willing and energetic co-operation throughout the year. I am deeply indebted to Messrs Sankara Narayanan, Chathu Achan, Koru, Lobo and Pisharodi, who in their quiet affection for me, have put in numberless hours of strenuous work to make these celebrations a success. I am grateful to several judges at various college competitions among whom were the two youthful handsome District Munsifs of Tellicherry. I must also utter a word of praise of our students who conducted themselves with commendable dignity during the days of the unrest and who allowed neither their sense of patriotism nor their loyalty to their College to suffer by any unseemly action on their part. I congratulate our girls on the high example of conduct and morale that they have set to the boys. To the Volunteers, both boys and girls, and their able Leader, Sri Karunakaran Nair, I express my thanks. To you, our beloved Judge, who have so kindly agreed to preside over this function and to you all, ladies and gentlemen, who have so cordially responded to our invitation, I am indebted more than I can convey. Thank you.

## TOAST OF THE COLLEGE

proposed by

Sri Rao Sahib N. Kelu Nair, B. A.,  
(Retired Presidency Magistrate)

*Mr. President, Principal, Ladies and Gentlemen.*

It falls to me to give the toast of the College and I do it with the greatest pleasure, for, there can be few honours more pleasing to an Old Boy than to be called upon to propose the health and prosperity of his own College. I thank the Principal for having given me an opportunity of identifying myself with the function of this evening.

Personally, I consider it a happy coincidence that Mr. Muhammad Nainar presides over the function to-day. We were at Mndura some 15 years back. It is a pleasant surprise to me that the Principal brought us together on this auspicious occasion.

The College has an interesting tradition. While I was in charge of the Madras Record Office, I came across certain interesting documents relating to this institution, in the course of my researches into the old records of the Secretariat. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Edward Brennen whose endowment in 1862, to give to all boys of all castes, creeds and colour a sound education in English formed the nucleus of the present institution. The school so endowed by Mr. Brennen was then handed over to the Mission authorities. One of the documents I found in the Madras Record Office was a memorial sent by the leading citizens of Tellicherry, including lawyers, land-holders and merchants, protesting against the continuance of the management by the Mission authorities. It was probably on account of this agitation that the school was taken under the management of the Government. The school was subsequently handed over to the local Municipal Council and eventually raised to a College in 1890, mainly through the personal efforts of the late Mr. P. P. DeRozario who was the first Principal of the College. The College was after some years provincialised. You cannot, at present, realise the difficulties and hardships experienced by students in those days for want of a college in this part of the District. There was only one second grade college at Calicut and there was then no railway connection between Tellicherry and Calicut, the line to Tellcherry having been opened only in 1904. But for Mr. Rozario's efforts, very many of us would not

## TOAST OF THE COLLEGE

have received higher education. His memory will ever be cherished with gratitude by the people of North Malabar and his portrait in the adjoining College Hall will ever remind us of his keen interest in our welfare.

I belong to one of the earliest batches of College Students; in fact, I am one of the few oldest boys living and my connection with the institution is half a century old. The course of studies in those days was different; we had no option to select any group of subjects we wished to be taught as you have to day and the compartment system of passing the examinations was not in vogue then. The games were practically nil and college associations were unknown. Our activities were confined to the class rooms and prescribed text books. The college building, then, was only a T shaped block.

To me, therefore, the college is very different today. She has, since my days, shown a steady progress in all aspects of a model educational institution, in respect of accommodation, equipment, in games and in having an up-to-date library. You have now college associations of various denominations under the guidance of your teachers, where you hold debates and demonstrations on different subjects.

A remarkable change which I note with pleasure is that we have now a fair percentage of lady students. During my days and many years after that, the college had no lady students.

The College Day is a happy reminder to an old boy of the pleasant days he had spent in the college. It brings him back to the college among the old and new boys thereby creating a spirit of unselfish comradeship. This is the spirit which the world requires today. We must all avail ourselves of this golden opportunity and co-operate with each other in doing something tangible for the welfare of the College.

After so many years spent in the school and college, the old boys naturally get scattered; some have achieved distinction in public services, some others have achieved greatness in other walks of life while a few others, less fortunate, have dwindled into oblivion; but, of this, I can assure you that each one, wherever he may be or whatever position he may hold, feels proud that he is an old boy of the institution and wishes he were worthier of his *alma mater*.

The college has been in existence for over half a century. She is fortunate to have been manned by an efficient staff. She has justified her existence with credit so far and has been of immense benefit to the youths of this part of the district. While congratulating her on the successful career during the past, I wish, in all sincerity, a still brighter future for her.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have great pleasure to give you the toast "The College".

## SPEECH REPLYING TO THE TOAST OF THE COLLEGE

By

Miss P. V. Padmini, Class I

*Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen.*

Before I proceed to discharge the duty of responding to the toast of the College just now proposed by Rao Sahib Sri N. Kelu Nair, permit me to offer my respectful congratulations to him for the very handsome way in which he has spoken about his *alma mater* Sir, we consider ourselves especially fortunate in having been able to get you to propose the toast of our college; for, not only are you one of the oldest of the old boys of this college, but also one of the most distinguished of its *alumni* who has shed lustre on it by a life of service to his fellowmen. We are aware that, by dint of hard work, by devotion to duty and by the efficient discharge of the responsibilities entrusted to you, you have succeeded in climbing from the lowest rungs of the official ladder to occupy some of the highest positions open to us in Government Service. Impartial and incorruptible to a remarkable degree, unostentatious and unassuming in your dealings with others, throughout your illustrious official career, you succeeded not only in winning and retaining the confidence and good will of the Government, but also the respect and affection of the people. Your career shall always remain a source of inspiration to noble effort for the boys and girls of the Brennen College. While we offer you, Sir, a kind and cordial welcome to the precincts of your old college, we also sincerely thank you for the love that you cherish for it.

Our Principal having decided to continue the tradition established by his predecessor, Sri T. M. Kelu Nedungadi, of asking one of the girl-students to respond to the toast, this year the lot has fallen on me for the discharge of that duty. Aware as I am of my shortcomings, I agreed to do so with a great diffidence because of a feeling that such things ought not to stand in the way of one's performance of duty. I am grateful to our Principal for bestowing on the members of my sex this signal mark of recognition which, I hasten to add, is but one example of his characteristic good will towards us. At the very outset, I beg to be excused if, in the course of my speech, I have to say more about the girls though I speak in a representative capacity for all the present students of the college. It is more the failing of my sex than any personal weakness of mine. One remarkable feature in the progress of the Brennen

## SPEECH REPLYING TO THE TOAST OF THE COLLEGE

College in recent years has been the steady increase in the number of girls seeking admission into it, and this year I am proud to say we have a larger number of them on the rolls than ever before. It gives me and all of us infinite pleasure to count among them a Muslim girl—a fact for which we have to be grateful to our worthy President. I believe this is the first time in the history of this college when a member of the fair sex from the Muslim community has had the courage to come to a mixed institution. She is a source of joy and pride to all of us and I am revealing no secret when I say that, but for the fact that her own uncle presides over today's function, she, and not I, would have stood before you and discharged this duty in a much better way than I could ever hope to do. We sincerely hope that the noble example set by her and by our liberal-hearted President will be copied by other members of our sister community and that we shall have the pleasure of welcoming many more like her.

Ladies and Gentlemen, you are not unaware of the fact that one of the characteristic features of the modern world is the desire of women to raise their status in all departments of human activity. We, the girls of this college, have not been far behind in this general longing of women to go forward. As a small evidence of this, the girls of the Government Brennen College have this year taken the bold step of participating in some of the field games usually reserved for boys. In November, some of us went to Calicut for a badminton tournament. We won in the first round, but lost in the finals. But we do not feel ashamed of our defeat, for, it is not sport to be ashamed of a defeat and we know that our failure was due more to want of sufficient training for taking part in a tournament. Last year, one of my sisters who responded to the toast complained about the lack of a good play ground for us. I am sorry I have to repeat that complaint this year also. No separate games courts had been allotted in this college to the girls and we seldom get any practice. We had literally to steal a few occasions from our brother students for our practice. We hope that, through the efforts of our energetic and sympathetic Principal, matters will improve and that, next year, a better picture will be presented to you. While on this topic, I wish to convey to our brother student P. Vijayan our sincere congratulations on his glorious achievements in the field of sports, especially in the Grigg Memorial Sports held recently at Calicut. We are thankful that we have always been given a place in the various societies and associations and allowed to share in the extra-collegiate activities of this institution. To most of us, life in a mixed college is a novel experience. We entered it with fears and misgivings. But the uniformly courteous and considerate treatment we have received at the hands of our

## SPEECH REPLYING TO THE TOAST OF THE COLLEGE

brother students and the affectionate solicitude our lecturers and teachers have shown in our welfare have made us feel quite at home here. True we have not been able to participate in the vigorous discussions and deliberations of our parliament and allied societies, but that is due to our own nervousness and we hope to do better in the coming years.

I feel I shall be failing in my duty if I don't say a word about our Principal. We are particularly grateful to him for his deep-seated interest in our welfare and for his vigilence in exploring new ways of enhancing the usefulness of this institution to its students. During the short period he has been with us, he has introduced so many welcome changes, not the least important of which are the opening of a museum, and making much better and more convenient arrangements than we used to have in the past, and the provision of a room separated from the general library to serve as a reading room for the students. I should also like to express on behalf of all the students our sincere appreciation of the labours of our teachers for our betterment.

In short, we feel proud that we are privileged to be students of this College and we assure the old boys that it shall be our endeavour never to let down this institution. Its honour shall be our special care and we shall be its jealous guardians now and hereafter. No effort shall be wanting on our part to make ourselves worthy of this College. Thanking you, Sir once more for the kind words you have spoken about our College and with a prayer to the Almighty that His grace and blessings may never fail this institution, I heartily and cheerfully respond to the Toast of the College. Long Live Brennen College!

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

By

Alijanab Kadir Muhammad Nainar Sahib Bahadur, M. A., B. L.

(District and Sessions Judge, Tellicherry)

*Mr. Principal, Ladies, Gentlemen and my student-friends.*

You will all agree with me when I say that our first and primary duty this evening is to offer our thanks to Almighty God for having given us the opportunity of celebrating the College Day in a peaceful and calm atmosphere. If we are to transport ourselves in our minds to the various battle-fields of the world where human blood flows like water and mangled bodies lie strewn about, sometimes uncared for, our feelings of gratitude to the Most High, Who, in His mercy, has, through the strong arms of our Sovereign, spared us and our land the untold miseries of the war, must be expressed in sincere prayer and thanksgiving. At the same time, it is our duty to offer our prayers to the All-knowing but the Unseen that He, in His goodness, will be pleased to strengthen the hand that has given us our protection.

I congratulate the students of both the sexes who have distinguished themselves both in the field of sports and in the class rooms. One significant fact which struck me as I concluded distributing the prizes to the various prize-winners and which must have struck you, ladies and gentlemen also, is that not one of the prize-winners in the field of sports was a prize-winner in the academic side and *vice versa*. It looks as if the stars of one section are non-co-operating with the stars of the other. Indeed, in a healthy educational system, there must be perfect co-ordination, not only in attempts, but also in achievements between the academic side and sports side of an educational institution. And, if the present is what it is, the blame is not to be laid at the door of the student but must be laid at the door of the system in which both the teacher and the taught have to engage themselves. Be that as it may, the sound rule of action must be to make the best out of the situation. It is the duty of both the students and the teachers to pay due attention not only to the lectures in their classrooms, but also to the games in the playgrounds.

I do not propose to assume the role of a teacher and convert this huge gathering to the position of pupils in a classroom by enlarging upon the defects of our present system of education and the ways to remedy the same. But I will be certainly failing in my duty, if, on an occasion like this, I do not offer to the students

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

of this ancient institution what I think to be the three essential rules of conduct so far as they are concerned. Every student must cultivate a spirit of self-confidence which is the spring-board for success in life. He must begin cultivating this spirit both in his classroom and in the playgrounds. He must think that there is nothing in his books which he cannot master. Once he approaches his books in that spirit and perseveres in his attempt regularly and diligently, he will not begin to dread his examinations. I have known of students to whom examination is a nightmare. To them I have to say that it is all their own making. Regularity in their studies even from the beginning of the educational year, attention to the lessons in the classroom, and above all, a spirit of confidence in themselves, these are bound to bring about good feelings and fellowship between examiners and examinees.

Added to the spirit of self-confidence, every student should cultivate the spirit of self-respect. Self-respect does not mean disrespect to others. On the other hand, self-respect discountenances disrespect. If you want to be respected, you must show respect to others. The idea of self-respect is but the antithesis of self-immolation. You must not think that you are but an atom in the cosmos without any individuality of your own. The consciousness on the part of God's creations, both animate and inanimate, of their respective roles in the universe contributes, in no small measure, to the well-ordered progress of society at large. And the conscious feeling on the part of every human being that he or she has got a part to play in this world, however small it might be, is bound to add to the sum of human happiness. Now it is impossible to act well one's part unless one feels that one has a part to play. This assertion of the individual consciousness must start in the classroom and the playground.

Now I come to the third rule of conduct, namely, that of self-restraint. It is often said that youth is passionate. I however think that the statement is not correct. It is not as if the youthful persons are more passionate than the grown up ones. It is the want of restraint in the youth that makes it appear so; whereas age and experience contribute towards the curbing of the passions of the grown up, the want of experience in the youth leaves his feelings unbridled. It is therefore the duty of every student in his youthful years to curb his feelings and to practise the habit of self-restraint. Unfortunately, the youthful minds have been played upon by politicians to suit their own ends. They find in the youth an easy prey for their adventures. I would, however, say that all that should not be. I do realise that it is impossible for students to be uninfluenced by the political current of the day. But they should take care to see that they are not drawn deep into the currents and

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

submerged under the waters. Every time they feel like being drawn into the arena of political action, they must resort to the advice of their parents and of their teachers whose ripe experience and sage counsels are bound to keep them well within discipline.

Before I conclude, I have to advert to one of the topics referred to by your Principal in his exquisite and well-worded report, I mean the long purse and the liberal heart of the parents living within the jurisdiction of this district. He, however bemoaned that there are no outward manifestations of the purse and the heart by way of endowments so far as the College is concerned. I would join him in his request to the parents present here and to those absent that it is up to them to justify their wealth and their liberal heart by contributing in their own way to the many-sided activities and requirements of the college.

In conclusion, I have to thank the Principal of the College for having given me an opportunity of associating myself with the College Day celebrations of this year.

# The College Museum

The following ladies and gentlemen have been good enough to present rare and interesting specimens to the College Museum and the Principal has great pleasure in acknowledging their gifts with sincere gratitude.

(The names are arranged in the order in which articles were received.)



## *Office-bearers of the College Associations*

*President: The Principal (ex-officio)*

### *The College Union:*

*Vice-President: Sri M. Rema Ramanan Unni, M. A., L. T.*

*Speaker: T. K. Chandrasenan, Class II*

*Secretary: S. Viswanathan, Class I*

*Other members of the Council: R. Subrahmanyam, Class II,  
(Secretary, Science Association)*

*Miss P. V. Padmini, Class I,  
(Secretary, History Association)*

*P. Hari, Class II*

*T. P. Mammootty, Class II*

*T. K. Sudhindran, Class I*

*Miss Sultana Nainar, Class I*

The College Union had the privilege of being addressed by the following distinguished gentlemen during this year:

1. The hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Wadsworth, I. C. S.,  
Puisne Judge, High Court of Judicature, Madras.
2. Captain G. B. H. Harvey,  
Director of War Publicity, Madras.
3. Sri K. M. Karunakaran Nair, M. A., B. L.,  
Public Prosecutor, Tellicherry.
4. Captain R. C. Toyle, I. M. S. (Retd.)
5. Monsieur C. J. Reval,
6. Captain Wilkins.