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*Contributors are requested to send in their contributions written legibly in ink on one side of the paper only.—Editor.*

**The Fifth College Day and Conference.**

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The Fifth College Day and Conference was held this year from the 10th to 12th July. The work of conducting the various functions was entrusted to two committees, one for Sports and the other for Entertainments. From amongst the Staff and Students a Volunteer corps was also raised for the occasion under the Captainship of Mr. M. R. Ramaswami Sivan assisted by Messrs. A. K. Subramania Iyer, C. Narayana Iyer, K. Unni Krishna Menon and K. Ramiah as Lieutenants who did good service in attending to the comforts of the visitors of whom a large number from the various parts of the Presidency attended the Sports and Conference. As usual the hostel catered to the wants of the Indian visitors while the European officers of the Estate entertained the European guests.

On the evening of the 9th, the Sports ground was made ready and preliminary heats were run in some of the items under the able guidance of Mr. F. R. Parnell.

Among the most illustrious visitors that attended the function mention may be made of the Hon'ble Mr. Buckley the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Hon'ble Mr. E. F. Barber the President elect and the Hon'ble Mr. Ramarayanaiyengar Honorary Visitor, Mr. Chadwick, Mr. and Mrs. Anstead, Mr. and Mrs. Hilson and Messrs. H. C. Sampson, A. K. Yegnanarayana Iyer of Mysore, I. Raman Menon of Cochin, K. Ramasastrulu Naidu, Mr. Md. Miran Sahib and J. Chelvaranga Raju and a large number of departmental officers kindly deputed by the Director in addition to numerous other old students and well wishers of the Union.

What with flags and buntings and tents scattered all over, the College Maidan presented a very gala appearance and all arrangements were completed by the forenoon of the 10th instant. The usual crowd began to gather even from the early hours of the afternoon and the day was specially fortunate this year in having had a bright and clear sky. An English band from St. Michael's orphanage was in attendance throughout the evening. During the evening Messrs. R. C. Wood and D. Ananda Rao were at Home to the guests.

A cross country race was run on 4th July when Messrs. R. C. Wood and F. R. Parnell kindly acted as judges. The rest of the events were gone through on the afternoon of the 10th commencing at 3 p. m. Messrs. Mac

Carthy, Hart and Hilson acted as judges and Messrs. Filson and Humphreys as starters and Mr. Tottenham and Rev. Mathews as time keepers. Mrs. Cumming very kindly gave away the prizes at the termination of the Sports.

**The following is the list of prize winners.**

Cross Country race of 4 miles.	{ 1. Andinaraya Rao. 2. Venkatachela Mudaliar. 3. Arulanandam Pillai.
100 yards race.	{ 1. K. S. Ramana Rai. 2. Dharmalinga Mudaliar. 3. Achuthan Nambiar.
Long jump.	{ 1. Achuthan Nambiar. 2. Ramana Rai. 3. S. Dharmalinga Mudaliar.
Putting the shot.	{ 1. Ramana Rai. 2. Samuel Nalla Thambi.
Quarter mile race.	{ 1. Venkatachela Mudaliar. 2. K. Achuthan Nambiar. 3. S. Dharmalinga Mudaliar.
Throwing the cricket ball.	{ 1. Andinarayana Rao. 2. Anantharamaier.
Half a mile race. -	{ 1. K. Sanjeeva Rao. 2. Venkatachela Mudaliar. 3. Andinarayana Rao.
High Jump.	{ 1. S. Dharmalinga Mudaliar. 2. Ramana Rai. 3. T. G. Anantharamier.
Slow Bicycle Race.	{ 1. K. Rangaswami Pillai. 2. K. Sanjeeva Rao.
Hurdle Race.	{ 1. Venkatachela Mudaliar. 2. Ramana Rai.
One mile race.	{ 1. Andinarayana Rao. 2. Venkatachela Mudaliar. 3. Arulanandam Pillai.
Obstacle race.	{ 1. Kuphappa Nambiar. 2. Venkatachela Mudaliar. 3. Kuppaswami Iyengar.

Relay race.	Class II Students 8.
Tug of war.	District Staff team Captained by Mr. D. T. Chadwick.
Half a mile race open to outside students.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John—L. M. H. School</li> <li>2. Narasimhalu—L. M. H. School.</li> <li>3. Meran—Police Recruit School.</li> </ol>

The Vengail Krishna Nayanar Championship Cup was won by Venkatachela Mudaliar, a second time. A few small prizes were awarded to school children, peons and coolies for whom special races were run. The thanks of the Committee are due to the gentlemen who acted as judges and to Mrs. Cumming for giving away the prizes. The Principal wound up the proceedings of the day by a short speech thanking Mrs. Cumming and other ladies and gentlemen who kindly responded to the invitation and made the function a success.

On 11th morning a group photo of the members was taken prior to the conference which was held in the big lecture room. The Hon'ble Mr. E. F. Barber took his seat as President of the conference amidst loud cheers. The President having declared the conference open, the Principal as the ex-officio President of the Union welcomed the visitors to the conference in the following speech.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen. This is the fifth Agricultural Conference held at Coimbatore under the management and through the activities of the Madras Agricultural Students' Union. It falls on me, this year, as it has on every year since the inauguration of the Conference, with the exception of the third meeting, when I was absent on leave, to assure the Visitors who have so kindly attended, welcome. I cannot say

that they are more welcome this year, than on any previous occasion, because at all times we are glad to see friends from the outside world, to stir us up, to criticise us and to make us remember that there is a world outside our own small community. It is my pride, as well as my regret, that, as the years go on, a large and larger proportion of those who come will be ex-students of the College, and regret, because the fact implies the passing away of familiar faces and of old friends, and pride because I have confidence in the careers of those who have studied here. We have a special cause of grief on this occasion in that the past year has seen the death of one of our Vice Presidents, the late Rao Bahadur J. Dharmaranga Raju who passed away at Egmore in November last. He was one of the most ardent workers in the cause of Agriculture for the whole of his all too short life and could always spare time in the cause of our Union. The words which occur in the speech which he made at the opening of the First Conference may aptly be quoted here and convey a lesson which all members of the Union may lay to heart.

“Gentlemen, let me seriously impress on your minds the responsibilities you are under in joining this Union. Those who have any regard for the welfare of the Union and are desirous that the work of the Union should be a success cherish the hope that much will be accomplished by the rising generation of Agricultural students. In each succeeding year, it is hoped that the work of the members of this Union will be a step in advance of the preceding year. If we do not aspire to this advance, the doings of all of us in the celebration of the College Day year after year will be something like going round a circle without any object, starting from one point and coming round to the same again, not having risen one step higher. We ought, on the other hand, advance as if we ascended a spiral staircase and attain real, though slow, progress.”

That progress I can assure all non residential members of the Union has been maintained. In all the several directions in which the activities of the Union are manifested, progress, and by no mean slow progress has been made. I cannot claim much share in the work which has brought this about, but your General Secretary as is the duty of all good Secretaries, brought me his report for perusal a day or two ago, and I do not wish to forestall him after all he has done the work and not myself in giving you the facts. You will agree with me that they are satisfactory.

There is one direction in which steady progress is being made, which does not and cannot figure in any report, and which to one who was not intimately connected with the students as I am, might not be very evident. I refer to the growth of a tradition among the students of this College, due to the more established conditions under which it is now at work, and to the bond which it is the one of the objects and aims of the Union to maintain between the past and present. One direction in which I notice it is the more resigned way in which the newly joined students accept, what must be to them a novel experience, the manual labour of the field classes. There is a feeling that it always has been so that the classes of the previous year, and the year before that, and for many years back have had to do the same, and that it is an accepted part of the curriculum. It may be also of course, that the Principal, is getting older and fiercer each year, and that his wrath is more to be feared, but I hope this is not so. This growth of tradition is shown in other ways and is fostered undoubtedly by the energy of the Union. We have, through the munificence of the Government, a College which in its architectural beauty and in its setting among the hills of Coimbatore, forms a centre round which this tradition may crystallise but to the district worker struggling in some remote village with some more than usually thickheaded and

argumentative ryot, our monthly journal forms no doubt a source of inspiration.

Gentlemen: I must again remind you that I am an ex-officio President, and as such am independent of public opinion and cannot therefore be expected to undertake much of the labours and responsibilities which the Union calls for from its members. An onlooker is said to see most of the game and I certainly can qualify—as I do little but look on, and you may take it from me that the Committee have done their best to make your visit a success, and that it will be successful I have little doubt. I will now ask the General Secretary to read the Annual Report.

The report published in the last issue was then read.

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### Presidential Address.

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At the conclusion of the reading of the Annual Report the Hon'ble Mr. Barber, delivered the following Presidential Address.

The Director of Agriculture, in asking me to preside at this Conference, has done me a great honour, and moreover I feel that he is honouring the community to which I belong. I own that I felt some diffidence in accepting, but when the Director said:—"Just to show there is some connection between planting and agriculture,"—well, I felt I had to come. Of course I had to ponder on those words of the Director's, and I wondered if they had some hidden meaning. The conclusion I have arrived at is, that the Director has asked me to be here to-day that I may help to prove, in some small way, the sympathy which must and does exist all the world over among men engaged in agriculture, a sympathy which covers every climate, creed and colour. You know how one rejoices to see good crops. This is not only because the crops are good and because a good crop is a sight of joy in itself,