DIAMOND Jubilee

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THE DECCAN EDUCATION SOCIETY & THE FERGUSSON COLLEGE

1884-1945

कला मुवन

Her Highness Sri Tarabai Maharaj, Senior Maharani Saheb and Regent of the Council of Administration, Kolhapur
(President of the D. E. Society)

Sir James Fergusson

PREFACE

The inception and the birth of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College synchronise with the birth of the Indian National Congress, and of the spirit of national awakening and self-respect which that association embodies; and the various stages in the progress of the Society are coeval with the various stages in the advancement of our nation on the path of social and political progress. Founded by stalwarts, that included the great Tilak—the father of Indian unrest; nursed by Gokhale, the suave and persuasive politician, the apostle of sweetness and light, who played his part in the national struggle and added to the stature of the Indian in Britain and abroad by his powerful and reasoned advocacy of India's cause before progressive and freedom-loving groups; and sustained and raised to the heights of glory by Paranjpye, the Senior Wrangler at Cambridge whose achievements in the intellectual field were emulated and in a sense surpassed by his pupil, Principal Dr. Mahajani, the *b** wrangler and Smith's prizeman,—the Society and the Fergusson College have come to occupy a premier position in the social, political and intellectual life of Maharashtra. If Gokhale was associated with the Morley-Minto reforms and Principal Paranjpye became the first popular minister of Education with the advent of the Montague-Chelmsford reforms, the Golden Jubilee year of the College (1935) saw the end of the non-cooperation phase and the installation in power of popular ministries under the Irwin pact, while the Diamond Jubilee year 1945 saw the end of the war and the Simla Conference where the seeds of the Interim Government at the centre were sown. It is also significant that in the Diamond Jubilee year of the Fergusson College the Government should announce their intention to take the necessary steps to found the Poona University for Maharashtra which according to the generally accepted view is now overdue.

In the pages of this little brochure, a forthright report of the speeches delivered and the messages and donations received on the occasion is given. The main function took place in the evening of the 17th November 1945, while on the 18th morning, the past students of the College, who were present by the hundred, witnessed the planting of the Jubilee tree at the hands of the grand old man of Poona, the revered guru Dr. D. K. Karve. Group photographs of all those present on the occasion were taken in three batches, after which the past students were addressed by Mr. N. C. Kelkar, who presided at the meeting, followed by Mr. V. M. Potdar and Mr. G. S. Sardesai, the famous historian, who belong to the 1st batch of Fergussonians, while the idea of a Past Students' Association, its aims and objects was explained to the meeting by Rao Sahib N. D. Abhyankar after which the association was formally inaugurated by the President, himself an "Old Boy" of the College.

The Jubilee was celebrated in a suitable manner by past students in Delhi and other places, and an account of some of these meetings is also given here.

The tributes of great personalities are more illuminating than whole volumes of exposition. On behalf of the Society, I convey our sincere thanks to all the great men of light and leading for the very kind messages they sent on the occasion and express the hope that it shall ever be the endeavour of every member of the Society to deserve the high praise in the fullest measure. We feel very happy to have received from General Sir Charles Fergusson and Brigadier Bernard Fergusson, the son and grandson respectively of Sir James Fergusson after whom the College is named, such heartening messages of good-will on the occasion. To our donors we owe a debt of gratitude for the spontaneous manner in which they responded to our appeals, and I have pleasure, on behalf of the Society, to make grateful acknowledgments to them.

C. R. DEVADHAR

The Alma Mater

Adorable shrine, Fergusson, thy name
Immortal lives; glories garner'd in fight
Lead thy earnest vot'ries their flames to light
At fire divine; raptur'd they play the game,
Each in skill excelling, in joy the same;
Forget they their self; beautiful and bright
Their memories shine—fountain of delight;
Service, pure unselfish, their only fame;
Buildings, grounds, libraries, museums,
Majestic, vast, brought up to date are seen;
They are but raiment rich and radiant
The queenly Alma Mater wears; she hums
The song of service to them that have been
Her sons, daughters gladly obedient.

R. K. KHANDEKAR

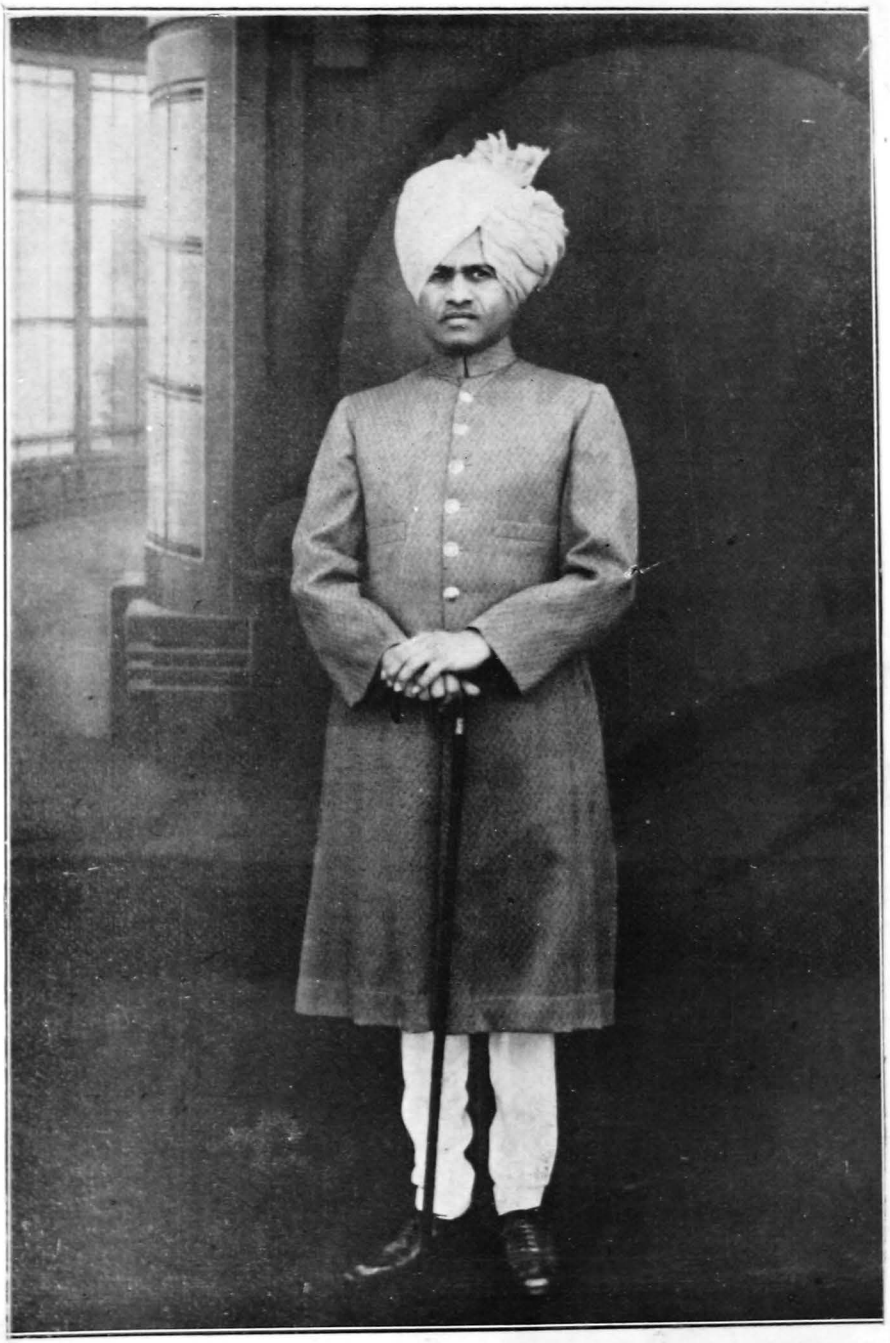
Dr. Sir Raghunath P. Paranjpye

Principal of Principals, let me pay
My homage kind, tribute of admiration;
Greatness superb in life, worth-veneration,
Is your triumph, splendid like sunny day;
Success supreme in maths did you attain,
Exalting self, college, country-their name,
Pervading the world with fragrance of fame,
"Prodigy of numbers," renown maintain;
Picturesque in person, tall, fair, impressive,
Thundering good in class, in words expressive;
Principal glorious, Minister great
Ambassador, in lands foreign, of state,
Guardian Angel of College: are roles
You play with honour reaching farthest poles.

R. K. KHANDEKAR

H. H. The Rajasaheb of Sangli
with Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru

Dr. D. K. Karve, planting the Jubilee Tree



H. H. Sir Chintamanrao Dhundiraj alias Appasaheb Patwardhan, K. C. I. E., K. C. S. I.,
Raja of Sangli, (Senior Vice-President D. E. S.)

WELCOME SPEECH

OF

His Highness The Rajasaheb of Sangli

Senior Vice-President Deccan Education Society

SIR TEJ BAHADUR SAPRU, SARDAR KALE, YOUR HIGHNESSES, PRINCIPAL MAHAJANI, PAST AND PRESENT STUDENTS OF FERGUSSON COLLEGE,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We are assembled here this evening to celebrate a great occasion in the life of two great Institutions, viz., Fergusson College and the parent body of which it is the off-spring—the Deccan Education Society. It is my pleasant duty to extend a warm welcome to you all in my capacity as the Senior Vice-President of the Deccan Education Society, and I will do myself the honour of performing it with the sincerest pleasure. You have come from far and near in response to the invitation of the authorities of the College and the Society, braving the hardships of travel at a time when one's impulse is not to travel even if one must. Nor are some of you very comfortably seated in this Hall. But I depend upon your attachment to these institutions and your indulgence, to overlook the unavoidable discomforts incidental to festivities on the grand scale.

On this momentous occasion, I find myself called upon to fill a part which naturally belongs to the President of the Deccan Education Society, Her Highness Shrimant Maharani Tarabai Saheb, Regent Mother, Kolhapur. Her gracious personality would have lent charm and distinction to this gathering. She is unable, however, to be with us to-day. She desires her good wishes and congratulations to be conveyed to the Society on its long history of successful and devoted work. We are indeed deeply grateful for this encouragement. Let me call your attention to the traditional connection of the illustrious House of Kolhapur with the Deccan Education Society. That connection is as old as the Society itself—His Highness Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaj having been elected the first President of the Society in 1884. This, therefore, is the Diamond Jubilee of that uninterrupted connection as much as of the institutions which are honoured by it.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we could not have hoped for better auspices for our celebrations than the benign presence of the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. Sir Tej Bahadur is a universally respected figure in Indian public life. His greatness and uniqueness are acknowledged in all quarters. He can pass easily from the Viceroy's House to Parnakuti and the other way round. As you know he was Law Member of the Government of India. His talents and

energies have been always ungrudgingly given to great public causes. We all recognize with gratitude the rôle of the indefatigable "Peace Maker" which he has played in grave national emergencies. Such is our Guest of Honour this evening, rich in years and wisdom, one to whom we can look up with confidence for words of inspiration and enlightenment, for all of us to treasure and ponder over as a memento of this eventful day. Ladies and Gentlemen, with your permission, I will convey to Sir Tej Bahadur the most respectful thanks of the Deccan Education Society and of every one assembled here for his kindness in participating in this day's proceedings at great personal inconvenience, and by participation enhancing their commemorative significance.

Ladies and Gentlemen, not many words are needed from me, nor would they be quite appropriate, by way of eulogising the educational work of the Deccan Education Society and the national significance attaching to it. Handsome tributes have been paid to those services, time and again, by all ranks and sections of an appreciative, if often critical, public. Sir Chandrashekhara Raman spoke as follows in the course of his Golden Jubilee Address ten years ago: "Standing here to-day I feel that History has been written again in Poona; history of self-help, history of self-reliance, history of great constructive national efforts has been written on this very spot." In Gokhale's view, Fergusson College stood for an idea and an ideal: "The idea being that Indians of the present day can bind themselves together and putting aside all thoughts of worldly interests work for a secular purpose with zeal and enthusiasm which we generally find in the sphere of religion alone; the ideal being that of self-help, that we must learn to rely less and less on others, however willing to bear our burdens, and more and more upon ourselves." Fergusson College has been widely acclaimed as an early monument of renascent Indian Nationalism. The messages of good wishes received on the present occasion are indeed remarkable for variety and generosity. Their Excellencies the Governor General of India and the Governor of Bombay on the one hand, and Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on the other have borne testimony to the good work of Fergusson College. Unanimous praise from such far-flung quarters is praise indeed. We also have had letters of good wishes from General Sir Charles Fergusson, the son of Sir James Fergusson, whose name the College bears, and from Col. Bernard Fergusson, the grandson of Sir James. These surely are ties light as air but stronger than hoops of iron, in the words of Burke. His Excellency Sir John Colville says: "May such unseen ties of esteem between Great Britain and India be long cherished." Every one of us will subscribe to this noble sentiment.

The historic greatness of Fergusson College imposes upon it onerous obligations for the future. The proposed University of Poona is a fresh challenge to that pioneering spirit, which laid the foundation of national education in the most depressing conditions imaginable. An extensive educational structure has been reared in the Deccan on those foundations by the ceaseless efforts of three generations of educationalists. It is now for you—Members of

Fergusson College—to put the coping stone on that structure by bringing about the realisation of the University project. The Government of Bombay have recently given an indication of their acceptance of the main recommendations of the Jayakar Committee. The making of the University is now in the hands of the educational bodies in Poona. I cherish the sanguine hope that the Deccan Education Society and Fergusson College will play in connection with the University a part commensurate with their position in the world of education in Poona. Even as it is, a resolution was moved in the Bombay Legislative Council in 1937 by Principal Dr. Mahajani recommending to Government the establishment of additional universities within the Province, and the discussion upon it brought forth from the Congress Ministry an enunciation of policy in favour of regional universities on a linguistic basis. The Maharashtra University Committee was appointed by Government five years later, under the Chairmanship of the Right Hon. M. R. Jayakar. Sir Raghunath Paranjpye was a member of that Committee, and Prof. P. M. Limaye, the Report of whose educational tour will be officially published this evening, was associated with it as its Secretary in the later stages of the work.

The grateful thanks of the people of Maharashtra are due to the Rt. Hon. M. R. Jayakar and his colleagues on the Maharashtra University Committee for their pre-eminently practical and enlightened Report on a very knotty problem. Their recommendations must command the respectful attention of any Government which may be called upon to tackle the problem of University education in this Province. With such wise guidance at hand, and strong government support assured, the University of Poona should become an accomplished fact in the near future. As an interpreter of lay public opinion I will take upon myself to say that the public feel strongly on the question of the University of Poona. Judged by any test Poona appears to them to be eligible for a university. The number of students and of colleges; variety and abundance of educational resources; genuine and sustained interest in education which has led to the establishment of educational institutions with nation-wide reputation; social environment and atmosphere in which learning seems to take easy root and thrive in the course of nature; these favouring circumstances point to Poona as a University Town par excellence. I may tell you that people from other Provinces often express surprise at the delay on the part of the Government and the public of Bombay Province to set up a new university in Poona. I hope and trust that this leeway will be very soon made up.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I must not overstay my time in making this welcome speech. I will once again offer to Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and to every one of you our most cordial greetings, and proceed to begin this evening's proceedings by calling upon Prof. Dhavle to read the messages of good wishes.*

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* Vide appendix A.

SECRETARY'S SPEECH

SIR TEJ BAHADUR, YOUR HIGHNESS, LADIES & GENTLEMEN,

It is but proper that the Secretary of the Deccan Education Society should read before the distinguished gathering assembled here on this great and memorable occasion, a brief account of the origin and progress of the Society. When in 1880 the patriotic and far-sighted founders of the New English School launched that institution on its career of usefulness and service, they started a new era, which recognised the fact that education alone can build up a nation and fit it to occupy its proper place in the world. Out of that small beginning has now grown this magnificent structure, which has given inspiration and hope not only to its alumni but to all others who wanted to serve the country in a like manner.

After conducting the New English School for five years with great success, it was decided to found the Deccan Education Society and also to widen the sphere of activities by opening college classes. Thus was started in 1885 the Fergusson College, which has now completed the first sixty years of its proud existence. The history of the Deccan Education Society from 1885 to 1945 is, one might say, the history of education in the Deccan. The aims with which the illustrious founders had started attracted young men with great abilities to the educational career and the number of institutions conducted by the Society increased from decade to decade. They also established traditions of efficiency and self-respect, which were the envy of many a better-endowed institution in this and other provinces.

I shall not tax your patience by a recital of the names of persons whose valuable advice and guidance was available to the life-members in the early years of the existence of the Society nor go into the details of its constitution and working. These are now matters so well known as hardly to require mention. The phenomenal growth of the institutions of the Society can be very easily understood from the following short account. The Fergusson College become a full grade Arts College in 1892 and added B. Sc. classes the next year. In 1894 it sent out its first B. Sc., who was none else than Raghunath Purushottam Paranjpye, who was later to become its Principal for nearly twenty glorious years. The College shifted to its present buildings in 1895 and during the fifty years of its existence here, it has gone from success to success. In 1899 the Society started the Navin Marathi Shala as a model primary school and as a feeder for its High school and this institution also occupies an important position in the educational structure of the Deccan.

In accordance with the original aim of establishing a net-work of educational institutions in Maharashtra, the Society started the New English School in Satara in December 1899, and took over Mawjee Madhavjee English

School in Umbergaon in 1919, and the Dravid High School Wai, in 1934. In 1919, we took the important step of opening the Willingdon College in Sangli, which recently celebrated its Silver Jubilee under the distinguished chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. Dr. M. R. Jayakar.

At the time of the celebration of the golden Jubilee of the Society and the Fergusson College in 1935, the Society decided to enter the field of technical education and started the Technical Institute for Paints and Varnishes and although the war, which started almost immediately afterwards, has impeded the progress of this small beginning, we are hoping that the impetus given to technical education in the post-war period will afford opportunities for its development into a well-equipped polytechnical institute.

In 1939, the Deccan Education Society entered the field of secondary education for girls and started the Ahilyadevi High School for Girls in the historic premises of the Holkar Wada, which was generously donated to the Society by His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Sawai Shri Yeshwantrao Holkar Bahadur G. C. I. E., Maharaja of Indore, who also gave a generous donation of Rs. 25000 to the school. In the short space of six years the school has become one of the most important institutions of its type in this city.

In 1943 was started the Brihan Maharashtra College of Commerce, for which the Brihan Maharashtra Sugar Syndicate Ltd. gave to the Society a sum of Rs. 2,00,000, the biggest single donation received by it so far. This, the youngest institution of the Society, has also secured from the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust the munificent sum of Rs. 50,000 for the construction of an assembly hall. We hope that it will soon be possible for the Brihan Maharashtra College to move into its own building, the site for which has already been purchased by the Society, and we are confident that it will occupy a high position among the collegiate institutions of this city.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I shall not detain you longer by continuing a narration, much of which is well-known to you as past-students or well-wishers of the Society. But I shall be failing in my duty if I do not refer to two points. The first is the direction of future development of the work of the Society. It has become fashionable in certain quarters to say that a time has come when the principles on which the Deccan Education Society and later on other similar institutions were founded require modification and that the system of life-membership has now become obsolete. We, the workers in this Society, do not think so, and for the simple reason, that the work of the teacher can only be done properly out of a genuine love for the profession and that the task before us of giving India its proper place in the Nations of the World requires not hundreds but thousands of devoted and selfless workers. Of course we recognise that along with the "cheapening and facilitating of education", we have also to pay due and increasing attention to its all-sided development including the creation of new knowledge by research. I only hope that we

shall have the strength and devotion to rise to the fulfilment of this urgent need of the country.

The second point which I must refer to before closing this statement is to express, on this occasion, our deep sense of gratitude to all those in different stations of life and hailing from different parts of the country, who have helped us in this work by money, advice, guidance and goodwill. These have come to us in such large measure and from such varied sources, that it is impossible for me to mention any names. But I assure you all, that we are always conscious of this help and are always trying to do our best to deserve the good actions and wishes of our friends. I have only to request you to extend the same good feelings towards the Deccan Education Society in future as you have done in the past.

D. D. KARVE
Secretary,
D. E. Society.

Sirdar G. K. Kale, B. A., LL. B., Chairman, Governing Body and Council, D. E. Society, Poona

SPEECH OF SIRDAR G. K. KALE

Chairman of the Council and Governing Body of the D. E. Society.

Your Highness, the Right Honourable Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the chairman of the Council and Governing Body of the D.E. Society, I deem it a great privilege and honour to be given an opportunity to participate in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Society and Fergusson College. At the same time, I cannot refrain from alluding to the very sad demise of Mr. Babasaheb Kamat, my predecessor-in-office and a great friend and well-wisher of the Society. When the programme of the present function was being arranged, he was ailing and was in bed. But he hoped that his health would permit him to be present and welcome his personal friend, our Guest of Honour, on this historic occasion. But cruel fate willed it otherwise and he passed away in July last to our great sorrow. May his soul rest in peace.

Ladies and Gentlemen, as you are all aware, the D. E, Society was founded in the year 1884-85 by a band of enthusiastic workers, called life-members (such as Tilak, Agarkar, Apte and others) inspired by the noble ideal of securing advancement of the country by patriotic service in education in a spirit of self-sacrifice and self-reliance. They were at the outset only 7 in number, and now that number is increased to 37 or so. They commenced with one institution and now they are running 11 institutions (inclusive of three colleges) in different places in a successful manner. On this momentous occasion, I think it would not be out of place, if I venture to make a few observations on the administration of the Society during the last sixty years. From the beginning, non-life-members, holding good social position and status, were associated with the life-members in the management of the affairs of the Society, and the records go to show that eminent persons like Sir William Wedderburn, Dr. Wordsworth, Dr. Selby and Dr. Bhandarkar held the office of the chairman of the Council of the Society. Rules and Regulations were framed for the working of the Society, in 1884, when the Society was founded. Under that constitution, life-members were virtually masters of the situation, and the rôle of non-life-members was that of valued friends, guides and mentors. This went on until the year 1897-98, when public utterances and political activities of some life-members relating to the plague-epidemic measures adopted by Government in Poona engaged the serious attention of Government and led to a change in the original constitution. The old constitution was then altered and the rights of life-members were curtailed. A Governing Body, comprising a clear majority of non-life-members permanently residing in Poona, came into being and obtained powers of supreme control, indepen-

dent of the Board of life-members, in matters of discipline, education, and appropriation of funds. The life-members accepted the change in the constitution under the stress of circumstances, by way of a safe-guard against the recurrence of similar acts in future. It appears from the History of the Society (page 170) that Principal Dr. Selby, the then chairman of the Council of the Society, remarked at the time that, in the event of a dead-lock among life-members, the new constitution would prove the salvation of the Society. That remark was amply borne out by subsequent events and happenings in 1929 and 1931-32.

More than 47 years have elapsed since the altered constitution came into force, and I think I, as a non-life-member of the Council and Governing Body, owe it to the audience to give them a brief account about the relations subsisting between life-members and non-life-members during that long period. Barring the episode of 1931-32 culminating in a disciplinary action against some life-members, I am very happy to note that not a single occasion arose when the Governing Body had to exercise disciplinary powers, in opposition to the wishes of life-members. The non-life-members, fully appreciating the zeal and integrity and the high sense of duty of the life-members, were ever ready to accept the proposals emanating from them as far as possible; while the life-members on their part were actuated by the democratic spirit of accommodation, compromise, and sweet reasonableness in conducting the affairs of the Society. I may say from personal experience that the new constitution is being worked in a smooth manner and that there exists perfect harmony between life-members and non-life-members.

It can be said without fear of contradiction that the creation by the Society of a unique institution of life-membership on the basis of self-denial, and the continued success achieved in its working during the course of the last sixty years, have won the esteem and confidence of the public in a full measure. It can also be claimed for the Society that it has been instrumental in the spread of education by its example and that it has served as a model for other Societies and Institutions. It appears that the institution of life-membership, under the circumstances, has secured a firm footing and has come to stay, and is bound to prosper in the future in the days of the long-awaited Maharashtra University. On behalf of the non-life-members of the Council and Governing Body, I take this opportunity of conveying my sincere felicitations to life-members as a body on their phenomenal success in the cause of national advancement.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is obvious that the success of an institution depends upon the influence and character of persons at the top who run the same. The Society at the beginning was fortunate in having at its head towering personalities like Tilak, Agarkar and Apte. They were succeeded by brilliant men of rare qualifications, such as Gokhale, Paranjpe and Mahajani. These are names to conjure with, and they exercise a magical influence over

the public at large. It is in the best interests of the Society that such a glorious tradition should be maintained in the future. Technical and vocational training is a crying need of the day, and it is now in contemplation to develop the Technical Institute (opened in 1937) to its full extent, and to expand its activities by introduction of subjects like technology of oils and soaps etc. It is an ambitious project and is well worthy of public support. It may be remarked that a policy or scheme, however wise in conception, is apt to fail from some imperfection in the instruments which have to carry it out. I may be permitted to suggest that side by side with the progress of the Institute, steps may be taken to have capable teachers with high foreign qualifications in each subject to train the youth of the country in technical and industrial matters. Suitable persons from the existing staff may be selected, or fresh life-members with brilliant academic career may be enrolled for the purpose, and they may be deputed to Europe or U. S. A. to master the required subjects. If necessary, a definite scheme may be formulated so as to have two members at one time abroad as future teachers of technical or literary subjects The expenses in the first instance should be borne by the Society, with suitable conditions for return or repayment of the money by the persons concerned. Such a scheme is likely to preserve continuity of the Society's traditions to secure the prosperity of the Technical Institute, and thus to enhance the prestige of the Society.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the duty of requesting the Guest of Honour to make an announcement of the publication of two booklets is assigned to me.

The first is a commemoration Brochure ("Our Educational Effort, Fergusson College, through Sixty Years") by Prof. Sharma, a life-member of the Society. It is an admirable brochure containing a bird's eye survey of the progress of the Society from its beginning. It is extremely well written and serves as a valuable annexe to the monumental work (the History of the D. E Society) compiled by Prof. P. M. Limaye. The remark of the author at the end of the Brochure that Fergusson College aspires to make Poona the Oxford or Cambridge of India, is significant and is in keeping with the high aims which life-members have steadily kept in view. The Brochure is interesting reading and its usefulness is enhanced by the excellent foreword for it written by no less a person than our Guest of Honour, the Right Honorable Sir Tej Bahadur himself.

The second booklet is the Report of Prof. P. M. Limaye's Educational Tour. Prof. Limaye undertook, as a labour of love, an educational tour throughout India for about five months in 1940, and visited a large number of Universities and other important educational centres in India. He carefully studied the various systems and courses of study prevailing there and reviewed them with a view to forming an estimate, by comparison, of the relative position of the Bombay Province in the field of education. He has embodied all these together with his own observations and suggestions in a report

which is at once valuable and comprehensive and which is likely to prove useful in shaping post-war educational reconstruction schemes. That report is recently printed.

I am also entrusted with the duty of requesting our Guest of Honour to deliver his address on this memorable occasion. I have little to add to what has already been said about him. He is regarded as a great leader of the day, a sound statesman, and one of the greatest sons of India. He is always busy with his work in various spheres; yet when approached by Dr. Mahajani and Prof. Dhavale at Allahabad in March last, he readily complied with their request and agreed to preside over the Jubilee celebrations. He is not in the best of health, and has also crowded engagements of a very important nature: but regardless of health considerations, the difficulty of travelling, dislocation of prior engagements and personal trouble, he has come over to Poona in response to a call of public duty and graced this occasion by his presence, for which we feel deeply grateful to him. From the foreword to Prof. Sharma's Brochure, we know that the late Mr. Gokhale was regarded by our Guest of Honour as his *Guru*, and it is, therefore, singularly appropriate that the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Institutions with which the late Gokhale had identified himself, should be blessed at this distance of time by so eminent and worthy a disciple of his. I am sure that no better choice could have been made.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have been extremely eager to listen to the address of the distinguished Guest of the evening, and I would not detain you any longer.

I now request the Right Honourable Sir Tej Bahadur to give his address. I also request him to announce the publication of Prof. Sharma's commemoration Brochure and the Report of Prof. P. M. Limaye's educational tour.

ADDRESS BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR TEJ BAHADUR SAPRU

Your Highness, ladies and gentlemen,

My first duty is to thank you for the unique honour you have done me in asking me to participate in the celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee of the Deccan Education Society and I will ask you, sir, to accept my sincere thanks for the extremely courteous manner in which you have introduced me to this vast gathering. I shall be absolutely frank with you and I shall ask you to believe me that when the proposition was put before me that I must come to Poona to take part in these proceedings, the one supreme consideration with me was my reverence for the old political leaders who are no more amongst us. I freely confess that I came as a young man under the spell of Mr. Gokhale but even before I came to know Mr. Gokhale, I had met Mr. Tilak and also the late Mr. Justice Ranade. I can tell you by word of mouth what I have written in the foreword to this Brochure that I heard at the Lucknow Social Conference in 1899 an address by Mr. Justice Ranade on Hindu and Muslim culture, a subject in which I have been interested all my life. I wish that lecture could be printed now and distributed in thousands. The more I have studied the subject the more I have felt that at that time I heard a speaker delivering his address on a subject the like of which I am not likely to hear again in my life. I was reading it only about a year ago in one of the books which I have in my library, but I am very anxious that in these days of disunity, in these days of chaotic ideas about culture, differences in culture, civilization, the sound and serene voice of Justice Ranade should be heard by the country again, and I ask you to answer my question: Can you in the last 60 or 70 years in the history of our great country point out a single man—I mean no disrespect to any one—who can be compared with Mr. Justice Ranade so far as constructive thought is concerned? Well, after having come to know Mr. Justice Ranade I met the great Mr. Tilak and let me again be absolutely frank, for although I do not belong to Mr. Tilak's party yet I have unbounded respect for his undaunted courage of conviction and for the fearless fight that he put up for this country. We may differ from the views of any particular leader on a particular question of principle or detail but fairness only requires that we must understand the spirit in which he carries out his mission. I have no hesitation at this distance of time to say that if the question of freedom today is a live issue, the prophets of that issue were Mr. Ranade and Mr. Tilak. Then later on I came to know Mr. Gokhale and I was in very close touch with him for nearly ten years of his life. Excepting for two years, he came to take his rest after his arduous labours in Delhi or Calcutta to my humble place and I remember the happy time which I spent in his company on several occasions,

So far as earnestness of thinking, clarity of thinking, sincerity of thinking are concerned, I do not think I can mention any other name to equal Mr. Gokhale. Those were different days, those were days when the question as to whether Swaraj was a criminal offence or not had to be disposed of by two learned judges of the Calcutta High Court. Compare those days with the days of today. They seem to be very pale, timid days of the past and yet let me tell you that it would be the height of folly in our pride of accession of strength to ignore the difficulties of those leaders who worked at that distance of time and who laid the foundation of that passionate desire of freedom which exists in India today.

Well, I will say no more of those leaders, but may I make a personal reference to the great Mr. Karve who is sitting here, who with the weight of his years will put many younger men to shame, so far as hard work and purpose is concerned. Ladies and gentlemen, the place of Poona is absolutely secure, I say with confidence, in Indian history and that for more reasons than one. In the 16th and 17th and 18th century the great Shivaji and his successors, the Peshwas, showed what Indian genius and Indian talent could do. In our own time there has been a succession of leaders born in Poona who have held aloft the torch of knowledge and the torch of freedom before the entire country. In the eighties of the last century when different problems were engaging the attention of the country, one of the biggest problems was how to acquire control over your education and I believe it is out of the desire to acquire control over your education and to regulate it according to your own national feeling that the Deccan Education Society was formed. It has justified its existence. Its record of work to which we have just now listened in the speeches of the Secretary and the previous speaker is one of which you may feel justly proud. It is a record of great achievement and yet it is a record which holds out greater promise for the future. You are on the threshold of a great experiment, because I understand that the question as to whether Poona should have a University or not has now gone beyond the stage of discussion. Two years ago when my dear and esteemed friend Dr. Jayakar and I were staying together in Kashmir, he took me into his confidence and told me everything about his Committee and indeed he showed me an advance copy of some portions of the Report. I am not going to discuss the merits of a federal university as against a teaching university. That I leave to educational experts and I claim to be none. But it seems to me that it would be a great pity if an important educational centre like Poona which has so much of achievement to its credit should lag behind and not have a University of its own. It has, therefore, given me very sincere pleasure to hear that the Report of the Committee has been substantially accepted by the Government and that the Government have promised support. I do hope that you will soon have a University of your own. There are one or two questions which trouble me about University education though I am extremely reluctant to give vent to them lest I give offence to our educational experts.

One of the questions that has often troubled me is: Should we teach and instruct our youth in a foreign language? Nearly thirty years ago when I was a young man I ventured to express my doubts as to the suitability of English as a medium of instruction in this country. Frankly speaking, when I come across graduates in my province and in some other provinces also who can talk to me very easily, fluently and very glibly in English but find it difficult to express themselves in their own mother tongue, I am full of despair. I remember having read in a very interesting book of Count Keyserling that when the author went to Japan and fell suddenly ill he called a Japanese doctor. He was very interested to see that this Japanese doctor wrote his prescription in Japanese. He asked him: What is the language in which you are writing the prescription? He said: It is my own. Have you translated all the foreign words in your own language? He said: Yes. He next had an opportunity to address the Tokiyo University and in the course of his address he expressed his warm approval of having kept their own language as medium of instruction. My conviction is the same. Frankly speaking, it is no pride to me that anyone of you can speak perfect English, but I do believe and it is my sincere conviction that if you develop the resources of your own language, you can reach much higher heights than you can reach by developing a foreign language. It is for the Universities of the future to decide whether the medium of instruction shall be English or the language which is in vogue in that part of the country. I offer no dogmatic opinion, but I do certainly invite the attention of those interested in this project of the University.

I have, however, noticed one thing during the last 50 or 60 years. The best of our intellectual and cultural work has been done in our own language and not in English language. Rabindranath Tagore whose name is a household word in every cultured part of the world never wrote Gitanjali in English, he only translated it. The poet Sir Mohamed Iqbal—and I am a great admirer of him as a poet—though I differ from him as a politician—has left a priceless treasure in Urdu and Persian languages and I shall ask you to read his lectures in English at the Mysore University to realise that he was also a good scholar of English. Similarly, I could multiply instance after instance of men who have done original work, work which will stand the test of time. Inspite of my English dress and English habits of life, you may take it that I am a 'vernacular' man. Gentlemen, I therefore ask you, the citizens of Maharashtra, to develop your own language. The best work which you are capable of doing will be done by you in Marathi and not in any foreign language.

The second thing which has often troubled me is what is going to happen to the countless number of graduates of our Universities? Is it worth the while of a father to spend 50 to 70 rupees per month over the education of his son when all that he can expect to get is Rs. 25 to 30 or so. I consider all that money wasted. It is all very well for people who are well circumstanced to say: Oh, let us acquire knowledge for knowledge's sake. But taking human nature as it is, I take it that every father and every guardian has a

right to expect that his boy or girl will be able to earn his or her own livelihood and be able to maintain the family decently. Therefore, I think and I maintain very strongly that your education quite apart from its cultural aspect has to be related to the economic side of life. I had to examine this problem in my own province. I am not going into the discussion of this big question on this occasion, but I do say the time has come when the leaders of our educational movement should realise that it is far better that our young men should be given education not only in intellectual subjects in which they can cultivate their mind but also in subjects which may enable them to earn their livelihood. I am, therefore, of the opinion that our education should be of a technical bias; that is what the country wants. Poetry is not going to feed you. You may be the best of philosophers but still you will require bread. Therefore you must receive some education which has got economic value in the life of the nation. I was reading only a few months ago a remarkable report which is written by Dr. Sargent. I could scarcely believe that Report was written by an Englishman. I thought it was written by a red-hot Indian nationalist man from Poona. There are passages in it which appealed to my heart as nothing written during the last few years has appealed. Of course, he thinks in terms of hundreds of crores of rupees to be spent on education, in India. When I consider what post-war educational work means I feel diffident, but still I feel that if there is any department of life which requires looking after very closely, it is your educational department and whether you are able to spend hundreds of crores or not you have got to find adequate sum and to train your men so that they may be useful citizens of the country.

Ladies and gentlemen, coming now to the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College, there is another aspect of education which has got to be borne in mind and it is the scientific use of the teachers. This Society and this College have proved beyond all demonstration that there is a vast capacity for self-sacrifice among educated Indians. One case is that of Prof. Sir Raghunath Paranjpye who might have earned thousands and thousands if he had joined the legal profession. But these men contented themselves with the small pittance, they get here, only because they had a higher and a nobler view. I was delighted to hear that some of your best professors get a very small pittance which I fear would not attract some of our best men in our province. We have got five Universities in the United Provinces. I am not alarmed by the number; the more the better; but I doubt very much whether any of our distinguished professors will be prepared to accept Rs. 180 per mensem; all honour to the D. E. Society; all honour to Fergusson College. That is real sacrifice, sacrifice for an ideal, for a purpose. Now if you can set an example like that for the rest of the country even though the country will not follow, you have every right to feel proud of yourself and I do say with confidence that the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College have every reason to feel proud of their work. Gentlemen, I do not know when your University is coming into existence. I hope, it is coming into

existence very soon. There are one or two things I should beg you to remember. While I am not in any sense of the term a revolutionary, at the same time I do maintain that I am strongly opposed to conservatism which is reluctant to move with the spirit of the time. Your professors, your thinkers, those who have organised this University will have to ask themselves a question point blank. Are they going to multiply another University of the type of the Universities that exist in the country or are there going to be any special features of your University? I do hope they will respond to the needs of the times and they will realise that it is no use producing third-rate, fifth-rate, semi-educated graduates.

The time has come really when stress and more stress should be laid on efficiency and intensity of learning than on mere book knowledge derived in a very summary fashion, from reading different books. And again I will beg you to remember that in the broadening times of freedom which are approaching there will be different standards required from your young men and also from old men. Now it would be the task, the duty and the purpose of this University to give education of a type to our young men which may enable them to fit in with the new conditions which are bound to arise in this country in a few years. Gentlemen, I am afraid, I have taken too much of your time but I have not said one thing and before I conclude I should say that and that is on behalf of my own province and on behalf of the educated India in the north, I tender to the Society and the Fergusson College our most respectful greetings and wishes for a long life of prosperity and success.

SPEECH BY PRINCIPAL G. S. MAHAJANI

Sir Tej Bahadur, Your Highnesses, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Despite the lateness of the hour the present occasion will, I trust, suffice for my excuse if I detain you a little longer than is usual in proposing the vote of thanks.

It is not only here—at the seat and headquarters of the Society and the College—that we have gathered to recall in grateful reverence the useful rôle that Providence has allowed the two institutions to play during the first sixty years of their existence. In various other cities in India including her Capital, Delhi, Fergussonians are celebrating the Jubilee with hearts beating in unison in prayer to wish their *Alma Mater* a future worthy of the past. There are those again, connected and some not connected directly with the Society, who have heartened us with their greetings and messages of good-will. To all of them we are greatly beholden.

H. H. The Rajasaheb of Sangli has already paid an eloquent tribute to Sir Tej Bahadur's unique personality and given expression to our sense of gratefulness for his consenting to be the guest of honour. And indeed who could have filled this rôle better than he—the embodiment as he is of India's culture at its best? He has on the moral as on the intellectual side, endowments rare in themselves but still rarer in their combination. The amplitude of his interests covers a very wide range of what constitutes civilised existence–Law, Literature, Politics and Education. Yet he is not content to live a life of cultured repose. In spite of his age, physical ailment and domestic anxieties (his son has been ailing for two years), every day of his is devoted to the service of the Country. We are, Sir, indeed very thankful to you for having spared your time and taken the trouble of coming to Poona to preside over our function.

My next duty is to offer our warmest thanks to His Highness the Rajasaheb of Sangli. All of us have always felt that the Rajasaheb combines humane qualities with the princely attributes natural to his station in life. We certainly reckoned on his humanity in requesting him to take the chair at a short notice. He has already referred to the connection between the Deccan Education Society and the Rulers of Kolhapur. May I say on this occasion that His Highness has been himself our Vice-President for over 35 years—a span of ten years greater than the Silver Jubilee? I am also thankful to the other members of the Princely Order who have honoured us by their presence this evening.

Ladies and Gentlemen, students past and present, your part in these celebrations lends to this gathering a peculiar charm and significance, For,

the commingling of the various elements of Society with this sanctum of learning naturally raises the glorious vision of a fine blending of provincial India, Indian India and the Young India, in a rich synthesis.

I have yet a debt to acknowledge. We can, of course, never repay it. The founders of the Society launched the Society into existence with some ideals before them. Have they been realised? Well Sir, I once likened Fergusson College to a great ocean liner. To keep up that image,—ideals are like stars, that may not be reached but that still guide the big ocean liners to their appointed destination. The Society, with its institutions, looks for its stars not in the heavens,—(not on the screen),—but within the ranks of its teachers and alumni. On this very platform is sitting by my side the grand old man of Poona, Prof. D. K. Karve, who served the College for twenty years and later founded the Women's University! On the other side of the equator, in Australia, we have Sir Raghunath Paranjpye, at once the product and the maker of the Fergusson College. Don't you agree, that literally our stars are shining in both the hemispheres? I wish I had the time to refer to some others—Prof. G. B. Kolhatkar whose devotion to duty is something exemplary—Principal G. C. Bhate who served the Society for 38 years with steadfast zeal—Prof. V. G. Kale who has earned a name for himself among the Indian Economists. Our past students will parden me if I refrain from the baffling task of choosing a few names out of thousands, for special mention. I may say in a general way that in every field and walk of life the wealth of achievements of our alumni is such as leaves no doubt as regards the potency and reality of our ideals. After all, ideals live in the lives of great men and women nurtured by the Society. They keep the lights shining. May they, these stalwarts, live long and may their race continue. With this prayer to Providence, I commend to your acceptance my proposal for a hearty vote of thanks.

G. S. MAHAJANI.

फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजचा हीरक महोत्सव

(श्री. न. चिं. केळकर यांचें जुन्या विद्यार्थ्यांपुढें भाषण)

फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजच्या जुन्या विद्यार्थि-गणांतील माझ्या बंधु-भगिनींनो–

आजच्या या सभेचें अध्यक्षस्थान मला दिलें याकरितां मी प्रस्तुत कार्यक्रमाच्या चालकांचे आभार मानतों. हें अध्यक्षपद केवळ वडीलकीच्या नात्यानेंच मजकडे येत असेल. तथापि सुदैवानें मजपेक्षां वयानें, व या कॉलेजाच्या ऋणानुबंधानेंहि, वडील किंवा समवयस्क असे अितर पंधरा-वीस विद्यार्थी अद्यापि जिवंत असतील असें वाटतें. फ० कॉलेजच्या विद्यार्थ्यांचें १८८५-८९ सालांचें रजिस्टर तपासूनच हें मी म्हणूं शकतों. हीं नांवें अशीं–(१) रा. ब. गोविंद सखाराम सरदेसाअी, (२) वामन मोरेश्वर पोतदार, (३) नीळकंठ पांडुरंग पाटणकर, (४) विनायक विष्णु रानडे, (५) अनंत लक्ष्मण देशपांडे, (६) दत्तात्रय व्यंकटेश बेळवी, (७) विष्णु बळवंत गणपुले, (८) नरहर त्रिंबक राजमाचीकर, (९) दामोदर गोविंद जेस्ते, (१०) नीळकंठ कृष्ण बापट, (११) पुरुषोत्तम रघुनाथ अवस्ती, (१२) काशिनाथ खंडेराव गर्दे, (१३) डॉ. गोविंद सखाराम सरदेसाअी, कोल्हापूर, (१४) गोपाळ रघुनाथ भिडे (?), (१५) रामचंद्र केशव बाळ, (१६) यशवंतराव पटवर्धन, वकील, (१७) दाजी नारायण साठये, (१८) गोविंद चिमणाजी भाटे, (१९) गणेश लक्ष्मण ढेकणे.

संकेताप्रमाणें तरी आजच्या सभेचा समाज विशिष्ट प्रकारचा व अेकजिनसी आहे. म्हणजे या कॉलेजांत गेल्या साठ वर्षांत केव्हां तरी आपल्या विद्यार्थि-दशेंत शिक्षण घेतलेल्यांचा आहे. अर्थात् या विशेष संबंधामुळें आपला अेक गट किंवा गणच बनतो. त्यांत १८८५ सालीं असलेला विद्यार्थी, व १९४५ च्या पहिल्या सहामाहीच्या शेवटीं हें कॉलेज सोडून गेलेला विद्यार्थी, दोघेहि समानाधिकारानें बसूं शकतात, पण माझ्यासारख्या जुन्या-पुराण्या विद्यार्थ्याची अेतत् कॉलेजविषयक निष्ठा जुनी मुरलेली म्हणून ती अधिक मूल्यवान–आणि गतवर्षी या कॉलेजांतून बाहेर पडलेल्या विद्यार्थ्यांची निष्ठा ताजी कोंवळी म्हणून तिचें मूल्य कमी–असा भेद करतांच येणार नाहीं. साठ वर्षांच्या मानवी स्त्रीचा पाळणा हलूं शकत नसो, परंतु शिक्षण-संस्था ही अखंड तारुण्यवती, येवढेंच नव्हे तर, वर्धमान तारुण्यवती असते. आणि वाढत्या वयाबरोबर अधिकाधिक अपत्यें प्रसवण्याची दैवी शक्ति तिला लाभते. म्हणून तिला साठ वर्षांपूर्वी झालेलीं व कालपरवांच थानतूट झालेलीं दोनहि प्रकारचीं मुलें आपल्या अंकावर घेऊन समान प्रेमानें लालवितां येतात. म्हणून माझ्या तान्ह्या भावंडाविषयीं मी अशी आशा प्रकट करूं इच्छितों कीं, मी १८८९ सालाचा ह्या कॉलेजाचा विद्यार्थी व आज १९४५ सालीं त्याच्या मुख्याधिकार-मंडळाचा अेक सभासद, असा माझा जो अखंड संबंध या संस्थेशीं राहिलेला आहे, तसा संबंध कोणत्या ना कोणत्या नात्यानें आपणहि ठेवूं अशी अीर्षा त्यांनींहि बाळगावी. या अखंड संबंधामुळें त्यांच्या मनाला अभिमान व आनंद, आणि कॉलेज-संस्थेलाहि त्यांच्या द्वारें कांहीं लाभ, होऊं शकेल.

गणनाम ही अेक जडलेली उपाधि खरी. परंतु ती उपाधिहि मनुष्याच्या अभिमानाला कारणीभूत होऊं शकते. अेका विनोदी संस्कृत पंडितानें असें म्हटलें आहे कीं, व्याकरणकार पाणिनीनें अेका सूत्रानें अेका गणांत आपणाला बसविलें आहे असें कळल्यापासून, श्वा युवा मघवा हे अेकमेकांचा अभिमान बाळगूं लागले ! आपलेपणाचा ऋणानुबंध त्यांच्यामध्यें उत्पन्न झाला ! अिंग्रजींत 'एस्प्रि दि कोअर' (esprit de corps) असा शब्द आहे. त्याचाहि अर्थ गणसमावेशामुळें उत्पन्न झालेला अभिमानच. स्वतः मीहि फर्ग्युसोनियन, मी राजारामीयन, मी डेक्कनीयन असा तीन प्रकारचा अभिमान निरनिराळ्या वेळी निरनिराळ्या कारणांनीं प्रकट करूं शकेन. यांचें कारण मी या तीन कॉलेजांचा विद्यार्थी अेकेक वेळ होतों. केवळ शिक्षणसंस्थेच्या अेकाच पटावर नांव असल्यानें अभिमान उत्पन्न कसा होतो, यांचें वर्णन अिंग्लंडांतील सुप्रसिद्ध अीटनशाळाविषयक 'अीटन पोट्रेट' नामक पुस्तकांत वाचलें. त्यांत अेक अीटोनियन विद्यार्थी म्हणतो:—

"There were two good fellows I used to know
How distant it all appears !
Now one of them has wed, and the other is dead,
So long that he is hardly missed,
But not by us who messed with him
For, we are all in the *same school list* !

पन्नास वर्षांपूर्वी तुम्ही-आम्ही कॉलेज विद्यार्थी म्हणून अेकाच प्रोफेसराच्या हाताखालीं शिकलों, किंवा अेकाच मैदानावर खेळलों, किंवा अेकाच क्लबांत जेवलों अशा अेखाद्या किरकोळ आठवणीनें, अर्धशतकाचा काळ तुटून जाऊन, तुम्ही-आम्ही गळ्यांत गळा घालूं शकतों, तुमच्या-आमच्यांत अेक प्रकारचें बंधुप्रेम उत्पन्न होऊं शकतें, हा त्या कॉलेजजीवनाचा केवढा प्रभाव ! आपण कॉलेजांत तरुण वयांतच असतों. तें वय नवे मित्र जोडण्याचें असतें. आणि तरुणपणीं जोडलेले मित्र आपल्याला पुढें जन्मभर प्रिय राहतात. पुराणांतरीं श्रीकृष्ण व सुदामदेव यांच्या मैत्रीचें उदाहरण आढळतें. या सुदामदेवाच्या शाण्णव-सुती कोंकणी पंचाच्या पदरांत बांधलेले पोहे द्वारकाधीश श्रीकृष्णानें मोठ्या आवडीनें खाल्ले, व त्या खाऊचा मोबदला म्हणून सुदामदेवाला सोन्याची नगरी बांधून दिली ! असलें अलौकिक मित्रप्रेम ! पण त्याला हेंच कारण कीं, ते दोघे गुरुबंधु अेकाच गरीब ब्राह्मणाच्या घरीं राहून अेकत्र जेवूनखाऊन अेकच अभ्यास करणारे सहशिष्य होते.

मी या फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजांत १८८९ सालीं अेक 'टर्म'भर होतों. तसेच माझे वडील बंधु नारायण चिंतामण हे १८८६ सालीं, म्हणजे कॉलेजच्या दुसऱ्या वर्षी, या कॉलेजमध्यें अेक वर्षभर होते. त्यानंतर १८८७ सालीं माझे दुसरे वडील बंधु महादेव चिंतामण यांनींहि या कॉलेजमध्यें प्रथम नांव घातलें. पण लगेच ते कोल्हापूरच्या राजाराम कॉलेजमध्यें गेले. आम्हां तिघां भावांचा फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजाशीं असा तुटका संबंध येण्याचें कारण, आमचें कुटुंब आमच्या शिक्षणाच्या वेळीं गरीब स्थितींत होतें; आणि मिरज हायस्कूलचे विद्यार्थी म्हणून आम्हां तिघांहि बंधूंना मिळण्यासारखी राजाराज कॉलेजमध्यें दहा रुपयांची अेक शिष्यवृत्ति होती. शिवाय १८८७ पर्यंत मिरजेस आगगाडी झाली नव्हती. यामुळें कोल्हापूर हें पुण्यापेक्षां केव्हांहि जवळच वाटे. तथापि आज फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजचा जुना विद्यार्थी हें नातें मी गाजवूं शकतों. म्हणूनच या सभेचा अध्यक्ष.

आमच्या या भूषणास्पद कॉलेजला अजून एका फर्ग्युसन साहेबाचें नांव अद्यापि कां असा एक प्रश्न मला कोणी कोणी करतात. त्यांना वाटतें कीं, मी नियामक मंडळांत असल्यानें मीं हें नांव बदलण्याचा प्रयत्न करावा. परंतु तें शक्य नाहीं व करूंहि नये, हें माझें मत मी त्यांना सकारण समजावून देत असतों. शक्य नाहीं याचें कारण असें कीं, हें कॉलेज स्थापण्याला कारणीभूत अशी जी पन्नास हजार रुपयांची देणगी कागलकर आबासाहेब घाटगे यांनीं दिली, तिची अट अशी होती कीं, कॉलेजला नांव तेव्हांचे मुंबईचे गव्हर्नर सर जेम्स फर्ग्युसन यांचें दिलें पाहिजे. अर्थात् ही अट कायद्यानें बंधनकारक ठरते. पण समजा, आज पन्नास हजारच काय पण दोन लाख रुपये देणारी एखादी बृहन्महाराष्ट्र शुगर सिंडिकेटसारखी संस्था आम्हांला उपकृत करण्याला पुढें आली तरी, व कायद्याची अडचण मार्गातून निघून जाणें शक्य असलें तरी देखील, कॉलेजचें जुनें नांव आहे तेंच रहावें. कृतज्ञतेच्या दृष्टीनें तेंच नांव चालविणें इष्ट आहे. शिवाय या कॉलेजच्या उत्पादकांवर कोल्हापूर प्रकरणीं झालेल्या खटल्याचा, त्यामुळें कोल्हापूर महाराजांचा, त्यामुळें आबासाहेब कागलकरांचा, आणि त्यामुळें सर जेम्स फर्ग्युसनचा संबंध येतो. ही त्या नांवाची एक ऐतिहासिक बाजू आहे. परवां नुकताच सर जेम्स फर्ग्युसन यांचा नातू इकडे आला तेव्हां, या कॉलेजला भेट देऊन त्यानें आपलेपणाचा अभिमान व्यक्त केला. म्हणून व्यापक दृष्टीनें असेंहि वाटतें कीं, उद्यां आमच्या देशांत सर्वस्वीं आमचें राज्य होणार व झालें, व इंग्रज निघून गेले तरी जुन्या राज्यकर्त्यांचे आमच्याशीं केवळ निखालस सांस्कृतिक संबंध असतील ते राहूं देणें गैर होणार नाहीं. राजकारणाचा संबंध हा सर्वस्वीं अप्रिय, परंतु सांस्कृतिक संबंध प्रिय वाटतात.

आजच्या सभेच्या छापील कार्यक्रमांत, व इतरत्र जाहिरातींतहि, कोठें कोठें येथें जमलेल्या तुम्हांआम्हांला 'ओल्ड बॉईज' असें नांव दिलेलें आढळलें. हा शब्द इंग्लंडांत प्रचलित व रूढ असलेला म्हणून आपण इकडेहि वापरतों. पण आतां तो आपण टाकून दिला पाहिजे. याला अनेक कारणें आहेत. उदाहरणार्थ, मला स्वतःला 'ओल्ड बॉय' हा शब्द लावावयाचा तर, इतर कोणी मला आज बॉय म्हणजे तरुण मुलगा म्हणूं शकत नाहीं; आणि मी स्वतःला ओल्ड म्हणजे म्हातारा म्हणवून घ्यायला नाराज आहें. कारण विद्येच्या आस्वाद्यतेंत तरी मी आज कोणाहि तरुण विद्यार्थ्याची बरोबरी करण्याची उमेद मनांतून बाळगतों. 'म्हातारा इतुका न अवघें पाउणशें वयमान' हे शब्द लावून शारदा नाटकांतील श्रीमंताच्याप्रमाणें माझें वर्णन कोणीं केलें तर तें मला खचित आवडेल, मात्र विद्यावधूच्या विवाहाला उद्देशून तें असेल तर! तसेंच ओल्ड बॉय हा शब्द इंग्लंडांत अशा वेळीं रूढ झाला कीं, तेव्हां कॉलेजांत तिकडेहि स्त्री विद्यार्थिनी घेतल्या जात नसत. आणि हल्लीं तर आपल्या कॉलेजांतून स्त्री-विद्यार्थिनी शेंकडोंनीं शिक्षण घेत आहेत. मग त्यांपैकीं कॉलेजांतून बाहेर पडणाऱ्या एखाद्या 'मुलीला' तुम्ही ओल्ड 'बॉय'च म्हणणार कीं काय? तुम्ही तिला अर्थातच बॉय म्हणूं शकत नाहीं. आणि तुम्ही तिला 'ओल्ड' म्हणाल तर तुमचें हसूं होईलच; पण तीहि तुमच्याकडे एखाद्या मारक्या म्हशीप्रमाणें रागावून गुरकावून पाहील. म्हणून यापुढें ओल्ड बॉय या शब्दाचा खरा अर्थ लक्षांत घेऊन, त्याऐवजीं आपणाला एखादा मराठी प्रतिशब्द बनविला पाहिजे. तो बनवितांना अनुयोगी प्रतियोगी शब्दांच्या जोड्या डोळ्यांपुढें आणाव्या लागतात. कारण ओल्ड म्हटलें कीं न्यू या विरोधी शब्दाचा परिहार कल्पावा

लागतो. याकरितां कांहीं जोड्या सुचतात त्या अशा—जुने-नवे. पण जुने हा शब्द ऐकला कीं कोठून तरी बुरसटल्याची घाण येते, अडगळीची कल्पना येते. म्हणून मला तो शब्द नको. पूर्व-अपूर्व म्हटलें तर खरी उगवती तरुण विद्यार्थ्यांवरच प्रकाश पाडते म्हणून तेच खरे पूर्वाभिमुख. उलट म्हातारे हे पूर्वविद्यार्थी म्हटले तर तरुण हे अपूर्व ठरतात, आणि अपूर्व म्हणजे लोकविलक्षण चमत्कारिक असा अर्थ होतो तो त्यांना आवडणार नाहीं. प्राचीन-अर्वाचीन ही जोडी तर अति-व्याप्ति दर्शकच ठरते. वडील धाकटे ही जोडीहि कानाला बरी लागत नाहीं. म्हणतातच ना, कीं नकटं व्हावं पण धाकटं होऊं नये. गत-वर्तमान म्हणावें तर गत या शब्दाला एक अशुभ अर्थ जडलेला आहे म्हणून ती जोडी नको. भूतपूर्व-विद्यमान या जोडींतील शब्द वापरण्याला फारच अवजड. मला तरी तूर्त 'आगील' व 'मागील' ही जोडीच सर्वांत अधिक बरी वाटते. पण कोणताहि नवा शब्द ठरेल तो तुम्हां-आम्हां सर्वांना लागावयाचा आहे. म्हणून तो कोणता ठरवावा याचा आपण येथें जमलेल्या सर्वांनीं सावकाशपणें विचार करावा असें मी सुचवितों.

मी या फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजांत एक सहामाही होतों तर डेक्कन कॉलेजमध्यें दोन व राजाराम कॉलेजांत तीन टर्मस् होतों. अशा रीतीनें माझा तीन कॉलेजांशीं संबंध आला आहे. पण यामुळें त्या 'गणिती' प्रमाणांत माझा अभिमान तीन ठिकाणीं वांटला गेला आहे असा अर्थ नाहीं. कारण आपण ज्या स्थानीं ज्या नात्यानें उभे राहतों तेथें आपला अभिमान एकवटतो, मात्र तो त्या वेळेपुरता असतो. डेक्कन कॉलेजविषयीं अभिमान म्हणून डेक्कन कॉलेजच्या पुनरुज्जीवनाच्या किंवा कायाकल्पाच्या खटपटींत मीं भाग घेतला, आणि त्या खटपटींतून निघालेल्या डेक्कन कॉलेज इन्स्टिट्यूटचा आज अेक ट्रस्टी आहें. राजाराम कॉलेजच्या जुन्या इमारतींत समोरच लाव-लेल्या फलकावर 'या कॉलेजांतून बाहेर पडलेल्या नामवंत विद्यार्थ्यां'च्या इतर अनेक नांवांबरो-बर माझेंहि नांव पिवळ्या अक्षरांनीं लिहिलेलें आहे, याचा मला अभिमान कां न वाटावा! आणि आज पुण्यांतील शिक्षण प्रसारक मंडळीचा मी चेअरमन असतां डेक्कन एजुकेशन सोसायटीच्या नियामक मंडळाचाहि सभासद आहें. तात्पर्य, आश्रयभेदामुळें निमित्तभेदामुळें अभिमान नामक वृत्ति वांटून राहते, पण ती परस्पर विरोधी असण्याचें कारण नाहीं.

मी फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजामध्यें १८८९ मध्यें होतों तेव्हांची कॉलेजाच्या साधनसामग्रीची व आजची तीच स्थिति पाहिली, म्हणजे या साठ वर्षांत झालेल्या उत्कर्षाची व प्रगतीची कल्पना होते. माझ्या वेळीं एका प्राध्यापक मंडळाशिवाय या कॉलेजामध्यें कांहींच समाधानकारक नव्हतें. मात्र टिळक-आगरकर-गोखले-गोळे अशी मंडळी त्या वेळच्या कॉलेजाच्या शिक्षक-संघांत होती ही गोष्ट आम्हांला आमचा अभिमान जन्मभर पुरविण्याला पुरेशी होईल. पण १८८९ सालीं मी जसा घरचा गरीब होतों, तसेंच फर्ग्युसन कॉलेज हेंहि साधनसामग्रीने गरीब होतें. गद्रे-वाड्याच्या त्या अर्ध-अंधेऱ्या माडींत पी. ई. क्लासाचे शंभर-दीडशें विद्यार्थी कसे अडचणीनें अंगाला अंग भिडवून दाटीनें बसत असतील याची कल्पनाच करा. कधीं वाट बघत उभें रहावयाचें झालें तर अंगण टीचभर. मधल्या सुटीचें खाणेंपिणें फराळ विश्रांति यांची कांहींच सोय नाहीं. आमचें वाचनालय व ग्रंथालय म्हणजे त्या अंगणांतील एक खपरेली खोली. मनाजोगें खेळावयाला क्रीडां-

गण मैदान नाहीं. जिम्नॅशियम नाहीं. तालीमखाना नाहीं. तात्पर्य, चार तास सावलींत बाकावर बसून अभ्यास करण्याच्या सोयीव्यतिरिक्त त्या वेळीं कॉलेज म्हणून कांहींच नव्हतें.

मात्र आज कॉलेज-विद्यार्थ्याला असणाऱ्या गोष्टींपैकीं तेव्हां नसलेली एक विशेष गोष्ट सांगावयाची ती केवळ विनोदबुद्धीनेंच सांगतों. कारण तिच्याविणें अडलें होतें असें नव्हे. ती म्हणजे स्त्री–विद्यार्थिनींचें सहशिष्यत्व व साहचर्य! वर्गांत शिकण्याला आपणाबरोबर स्त्री–विद्यार्थिनी असल्यामुळें एक लाभ आहे. तो हा की, स्त्री-दाक्षिण्य शिकण्याची व त्या दाक्षिण्यबुद्धीचें प्रदर्शन(!) करण्याची संधि मिळते. पण याच्या उलट हानि ही होत असावी कीं, अभ्यास व्याख्यान वाचन चालू असतां, स्त्री-विद्यार्थिनींकडे दृष्टि गेल्यानें चित्तवृत्तींत येणारा विचारतरंग व त्यामुळें प्रस्तुत-विषयीं क्षणभर अनवधानता. असो. एकहि स्त्री-विद्यार्थिनी आमच्या वर्गांत नव्हती. १८९५ त फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजांत नांव घालण्याकरितां मुलीचा असा पहिला अर्ज आला. तो कोल्हापूर येथील सुप्रसिद्ध डॉक्टरीण कृष्णाबाई केळवकर यांचा. आणि शेवटीं तो मान्य झाला, परंतु याविषयीं कॉलेजाच्या चालक-वर्गांत मतभेद झाला होता म्हणतात. हें अरिष्ट अंगावर येऊं नये असें कांहींना वाटत होतें इतकी पुरुष विद्यार्थ्याविषयीं अनुदार दृष्टि तेव्हां होती म्हणावयाची! पण शेवटीं कृष्णाबाईना कॉलेजांत घेतलें तरी, त्यांच्या संरक्षणाकरितां प्रोफेसराच्या खुर्चीजवळ त्यांना राखीव जागा देऊन सभोंवतीं चिकाचा पडदाहि बांधला होता. इतकी पडद्पोषीची व्यवस्था केली असून, शिवाय येण्याजाण्याला प्रोफेसराकरितां राखून ठेवलेला जिना वापरण्याचा, म्हणजे प्रायव्हेट एंट्रीचा, हक्कहि त्यांना देण्यांत आला होता. पण अशी संभाळून वागविलेली स्त्री-विद्यार्थिनी संस्कृतच्या विषयांत परीक्षेमध्यें सर्व मुलांत पहिली आली तेव्हां पुरुष विद्यार्थ्यांना राग आला म्हणतात! मी हें सर्व केवळ मौजेखातर सांगत आहें. त्यांत तेव्हांच्या चालक वर्गाला किंवा विद्यार्थ्यांना नांवें ठेवण्याचा माझा उद्देश नाहीं. सांगितलें तें एव्हढ्याचकरितां कीं, गेल्या पन्नास वर्षांत सामाजिक मतांत किती परिवर्तन झालें आहे हें कळावें. आज अमेरिकेंत कॉलेज-विद्यार्थ्यांमध्यें शेंकडा पस्तीस स्त्रिया असतात. पुण्याच्या कॉलेजांत हें प्रमाण आजच शेंकडा पंधरावीस तरी पडत असेलसें वाटतें. आणि हें प्रमाण दिवसेंदिवस वाढतच राहणार. कारण आज मध्यम वर्गांत असें घर नाहीं कीं त्यांत भावाबरोबर बहीण हिरीरीनें शिक्षण घेत नाहीं. आतां सहशिक्षण व समशिक्षण यांविषयीं माझे खोल मौलिक विचार मांडण्याचा हा प्रसंग नाहीं. परंतु मीं स्त्री-विद्यार्थिनींचा उल्लेख एव्हढ्याकरितांच केला कीं, फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजानें स्त्री-शिक्षणाचा प्रश्न सोडविण्याला आणि सामाजिक प्रगतीला, पुरुष विद्यार्थ्याबरोबरीनें स्त्री-विद्यार्थ्यांना सर्व सवलती देऊन मोठेंच साहाय्य केलें आहे.

फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजच्या विद्यमानपैकीं परगांवच्या विद्यार्थ्यांना वसतिगृहें व भोजनगृहें यांची आज जी सोय झाली आहे ती माझ्या वेळीं नव्हती. या सोयीला मी विशेष महत्त्व देतों. याचें कारण हें कीं, विद्यार्थिदशेंत समवयस्क सहव्यवसायी मुलांना संगतींत एकत्र दिवस घालविण्याला संधि मिळाल्यास नवे मित्र लाभतात, आणि क्लबासारख्या संस्थेनें सण समारंभ सहभोजनें साजरीं करण्यास मिळाल्यानें उत्साहवर्धन होतें. आतां वरील प्रकारच्या सोयी नसल्या तर विषयांचा अभ्यास नीट होत नाहीं असें नाहीं. कारण माझ्या वेळीं फर्ग्युसन कॉलेजांतू या सोयी नव्हत्या आणि डेक्कन

कॉलेजांत त्या होत्या म्हणून डेक्कन कॉलेजांत माझा अभ्यास अधिक चांगला झाला असें मी म्हणूं शकणार नाहीं. परंतु त्याबरोबर हेंहि खरें आहे कीं, कॉलेजमध्यें जीं वर्षें तरुण मुलांचीं जातात, तीं अशीं असतात कीं त्या वेळीं सर्वांगीण विकासाचीं जितकीं साधनें मिळतील तितकीं इष्टच होत. या काळांत तरुण विद्यार्थ्याच्या शरिराची व मनाची अशा दोनहि वाढी समांतर समान होत असतात. या जीवनकाळाला मी उसाच्या मधल्या कांड्याची उपमा देईन. मुळापासून वाढ्यापर्यंत सगळीं ऊंसच खरा, तथापि मुळ्या चोखून खातां येत नाहींत, आणि वाढें खातां येतें तरी तें सपक लागतें. त्याप्रमाणें अगदीं लहान वयांत अंगीं रसास्वाद्यता येत नाहीं आणि म्हातारपणीं आस्वादाची गोडी कळली असली तरी प्रत्यक्ष ती अनुभवण्याची पात्रता अंगीं राहत नाहीं. विद्यार्थिदशेंत तरुणाला मिशा व मतें एकदमच म्हणजे बरोबरच फुटतात हें जें गडकऱ्यांनीं म्हटलें आहे तें अगदीं खरें आहे. मिशा फुटणें हें जसें शरिराची वाढ पूर्ण झाल्याचें लक्षण, तसेंच मतें फुटणें हें बुद्धीची वाढ पूर्ण झाल्याचें लक्षण असतें. प्रकृतिजन्य त्रिगुणांतला मध्यम म्हणजे प्रवृत्तिपोषक जो राजस गुण तो या विद्यार्थिदशेंत प्रभावी होतो. आमच्या आद्य कवि ज्ञानेश्वरानें, विद्यमान ताजा कॉलेज-विद्यार्थी व उतार वयाचा शिळा जीर्ण माजी विद्यार्थी यांना लागू पडण्यासारखें वर्णन दोन निरनिराळ्या ठिकाणीं दोन ओव्यांत केलें आहे त्या ओव्या अशाः —

इहीं पांचै द्वारीं । ज्ञानासि धांवे बाहेरी ।
जैसा का हिरवे चारी । भांबावे पशु ।

निम्मा पाऊस पडून गेल्यावर पावसाळ्यांत गवतें उगवून वाढून रानें हिरवींगार होतात. अशा रानांत एखादा बैल मोकळा सुटला तर त्याला तें हिरवेंचार रान पाहून कुठें तोंड लावूं नि कुठें तोंड न लावूं असें होऊन तो भांबावतो. त्याप्रमाणें कॉलेजदशेंतील विद्यार्थ्याचें ज्ञानार्जन व ज्ञानप्रगटीकरण या दोनहि बाबतींत होतें. त्यांचीं पांचहि ज्ञानेंद्रियें प्रभावी कार्यतत्पर कार्योत्सुक होतात. उलट कॉलेजचा जुना विद्यार्थी मी, त्या माझी स्थितिच जणुं कांहीं ज्ञानेश्वरांनीं खालील ओवींत वर्णन केली आहेः—

परिमळु गेला पवनापाठीं । मागे वोसफूल राहे देठीं ।
तैसे आयुष्याचिये मुठीं । केवळ देह ॥

खरेंच आहे. मी व माझे समवयस्क यांची अशीच स्थिति आतां झाली आहे. आमच्या जीवनामध्यें जो रस सुगंध किंवा परिमळ होता तो सत्तरी उलटल्यानें जीवनवायूबरोबर वाहून गेला. त्यानें कांहीं चांगलें कार्य केलें असेल. पण आतां तो परिमळ सर्व निघून गेल्यानें जीवाचें पुष्प नाममात्र होऊन शुष्क व ओस असें केवळ देठावर टेकून राहिलें आहे आणि तें तेथून केव्हां गळून पडेल तो क्षण ठरविणें आयुष्याच्या मुठींत आहे. तेव्हां अशा स्थितींत आमच्यासारख्या जुन्या पिढीच्या माजी कॉलेज विद्यार्थ्यांनीं नव्या पिढीला आशीर्वाद देऊन एवढीच आशा व इच्छा प्रदर्शित करावयाची कीं, 'जें कांहीं चांगलें असें आम्हीं केलें तें सर्व तुम्हीं वाढवावें, व जें आम्ही करूं शकलों नाहीं तें तुम्हीं नवें करावें आणि या दोनहि मार्गांनीं जाऊन ज्या शिक्षण-संस्थेनें तुम्हां-आम्हांला शिक्षण देऊन सत्पात्र केलें तिचें नांव उज्ज्वल कीर्तिमान् करावें'. कॉलेजच्या शिक्षण-कालाला कोंकणी भातशेतीच्या कारभारांतली एक उपमा देण्यासारखी आहे. भातशेतीकरितां भात-

जमिनीचा एकच लहानसा तुकडा शेतकरी प्रथम पसंत करतो; व कवळ टहाळ वगैरे घालून तो ती जमीन भाजतो. तसें केल्यानें त्यांतलें तण निघून जातें व नाशक जीवजंतु मरून जातात. मग त्या जमिनींत निवडक बींबियाणें पेरलें जातें आणि पावसाळा सुरू होऊन तें उगवून आलें म्हणजे भरपावसांत मुठीमुठींनें तो रोपा सर्व जमिनींत लावतात. त्याप्रमाणें कॉलजचें शिक्षण हें होय. कारण येथें रोपाच्या स्थितीला येऊन पोंचलेल्या मनाच्या वृत्ति व बुद्धीचे कोंब या अफाट जागतिक जीवनक्षेत्रांत लावणी करण्याला तयार होतात. मग लावणी केलेल्या त्या रोपांतील कांहीं रोपें किड्यांनीं खेकड्यांनीं खाल्ल्यामुळें अकालीं मरोत, कांहीं नाममात्र फलभार धरोत, किंवा कांहीं, आश्चर्य कौतुक करण्याइतकें, प्रदर्शनांत मांडण्याइतके, भातदाण्याचे लोंगर धरोत.

आतां हें खरें कीं ज्यांना कॉलेजचें शिक्षण मिळालें नाहीं अशींहि कांहीं गरिबांचीं मुलें स्वतंत्र रीतीनें आपलें जीवन यशस्वी करूं शकतात. दुसऱ्या बाजूला, कॉलेजचें तुटपुंजें शिक्षण मिळाल्यावरहि शिकण्याचें असें इतकें उरतें कीं त्याला कोणाचा जन्महि पुरणार नाहीं आणि तिसराहि एक प्रकार असा कीं कॉलेजचें शिक्षण घेतलें, पदवी घेतली, मानसन्मान पारितोषिकें मिळविलीं, परंतु पुढें त्यानें सर्व जन्मभर स्वतःच्या उदरंभरणापलीकडे व सुखाचें जीवन करण्यापलीकडे जाऊन समाजाचें तर कल्याण कांहींच केलें नाहीं, पण आपल्या एकट्याच्या मनोमंदिरांतील तेज व प्रकाश देणारा ज्ञानाग्निहि अभ्यासाच्या साधनानें जिवंत ठेवला नाहीं. तथापि ज्याला नशिबानें कॉलेजांतील शिक्षण घेण्याची संधि मिळते त्याच्या जीवनप्रवासाची पूर्व तयारी तरी चांगली होते असें म्हणतां येईल. मग तो विद्यार्थी तो पुढील प्रवास कसाहि पार पाडो.

म्हण आहे कीं राज्यांतल्या सर्व वाटा राजधानीला जातात. परंतु तारुण्यरूपी राजधानींतून सर्व वाटा बाहेर फुटतात. तरुणपणचें कॉलेजशिक्षण हा एक चव्हाटा आहे. कारण याच वेळीं विद्यार्थ्याच्या बुद्धिगुणाचा विकास होतो, भावना प्रफुल्लित होतात, व आपल्या अंगच्या गुणांप्रमाणें पुढें कोणती दिशा पत्करावी याची निवड तो येथेंच करूं लागतो. एका अमेरिकन कवीनें या तरुण विद्यार्थिदशेचें गोड वर्णन खालील शब्दांनीं केलें आहे. तो म्हणतोः–

How beautiful is youth, how bright it gleams
With illusions aspirations dreams,
Book of beginnings, story without end,
Each made a heroine, each man a friend,
Aladdin's Lamp and Fortunatus' purse
That holds the treasures of the Universe,
All possibilities are in its hands,
No danger daunts it, no foe withstands,
In its sublime audacity of faith
" Be thou removed" it to the Mountain saith
And with ambitious feet secure and proud
Ascends the ladder, leaning on the cloud.

(केवळ मराठी वाचकांकरिता ढोबळ पद्य-रूपांतर)

[तरुणा तूं भाग्यवान तुजसि लाभलें दिव्य गुणीं मंडित तारुण्य तें भलें
भासे दीप जयांतिल तेल ना सरे धनपतिचा कोश अतळ जो न ओसरे
चकचकाट तव तनुचा नेत्र चमकवी आकांक्षा भ्रममय तरि तुजसि लोभवी
तारुण्य आदि नसे अंत न ठावा समधर्मी ब्रह्मार्शी मांडित तें दावा
नववाला सर्व गमति त्यास नायिका कोणीहि तरुण गमे मित्र त्या निका
भय तरुणा नच ठावें शत्रु ना कुणी तारुण्या न पराभव येत कधि रणीं
लाथाडुनि गिरिला तो 'दूर सर' म्हणे निज अंगा पंख न हें गमत त्या उणें
मेघतटीं लावुनियां उंचशी शिडी स्वर्गलोकिं घालिन मी म्हणत तो उडी]

हें झालें तरुणांविषयीं. पण आम्हां म्हाताऱ्यांनीं काय करावें या प्रश्नाचें उत्तर असें:—

जगप्रसिद्ध ट्रोजन युद्धासंबंधीं असें वर्णन आढळतें कीं तें युद्ध खालीं मैदानांत चालू असतां नगरांतले सर्व तरुण त्यांत सामील झाले होते. पण आपणाला या युद्धांत लढतां येत नाहीं, केवळ आपल्या वृद्धपणामुळें आपण त्या कामाला अपात्र झालों, याचें ट्रॉयचा राजा प्रायाम याला फार वाईट वाटे. म्हणून तो असें करी कीं, रोज अंगावर राजाचा पोषाख व राजभूषणें घालून किल्ल्याच्या तटावर बरोबरीचे कांहीं वृद्ध नागरिक घेऊन खालच्या मैदानांतलें युद्ध पाहात बसे. कानांनीं दूरचें ऐकण्याचें व डोळ्यांनीं दूरचें न्याहाळावयाचें कमी झालें होतें. तरी ती म्हातारी मंडळी प्रयत्न करकरून डोळे ताणून पाहत, कानाला हात लावून ऐकत. आणि जसें कांहीं खरेंच दिसलें, ऐकूं आलें, अशा भ्रमानें एकमेकांशीं बुलबुलासारखे कुजबुजत आणि हातानें दाखवीत एकमेकांना म्हणत– 'तो पाहा अत्रा इडिस ! इतर सर्वांच्याहून वर डोकें काढून ताडासारखा ताठ उभा आहे ! तो पाहा, मेनेलॉस ! त्यानें तर आपल्या तरवारीच्या वारानें समोरचा वीर उभा चिरला ! काय हा धाडशी ऑडिसियस् ! थेट शत्रूच्या गर्दींत कसा एकटा शिरला ! आणि हा रणांगणावरून पळून चालला तो रे कोण नादान ?'

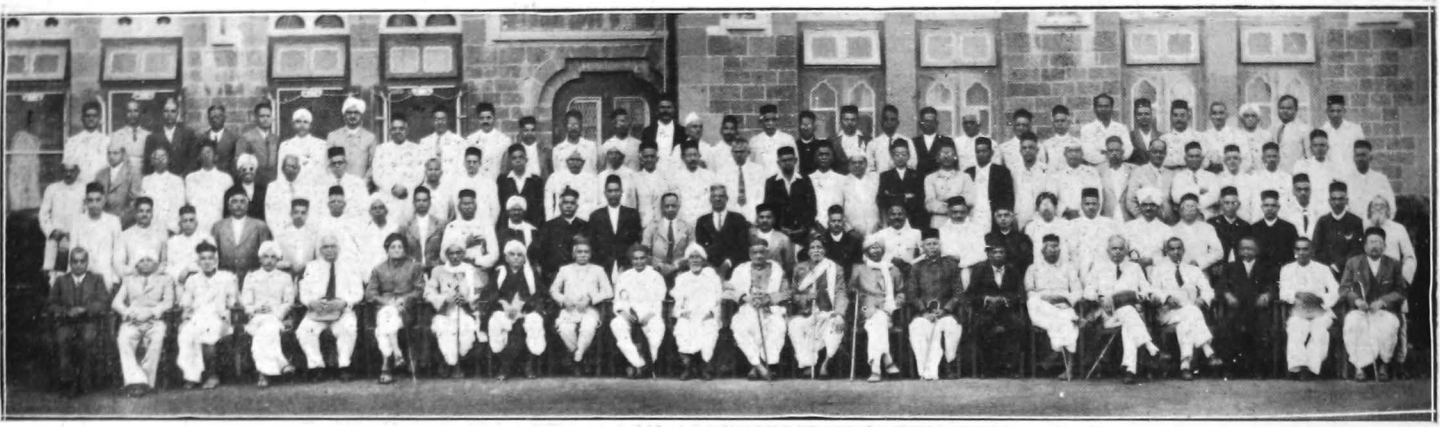
आपणा वृद्ध फर्ग्युसोनियन विद्यार्थ्यांची आतां अशीच स्थिति झालेली नाहीं काय ? अथवा याहीपेक्षां जवळची उपमा घेऊन मी म्हणेन– "मित्रहो, तुम्ही-आम्ही एक वेळ स्वतः क्रिकेटहि खेळलेले, पण आतां आपणाकडे काम आलें तें स्वतः खेळण्याचें नाहीं. तंबूंत बसून विश्रांति घेत घेत समोर क्रीडांगणावर चाललेला खेळ पाहावयाचा, आणि कोण कसा खेळतो हें पाहावयाचें आणि मतप्रदर्शन करावयाचें ! 'शाबास रेगे–अरे त्यानें दुसरें शतक पुरें केलें कीं ! ठीकच आहे. त्याच्या गळ्यांत हार घालण्याकरितां खेळहि चार मिनिटें थांबला. छेः छेः तो पहा त्या आमक्यानें सहज हातीं येण्यासारखा चेंडू सोडला की ! चलाखी कमी दुसरें काय ? झाली कीं नाहीं ऑस्ट्रेलियन टीमच्या गोलंदाजीची पुरी फाजिती ! इत्यादि.

पण हें रिकामटेकडे म्हटलें तरी वृद्धांचें तें कामच आहे. म्हणून तें आपण केलें पाहिजे. स्वतः खेळणारापेक्षां खेळ पाहणाराला खेळ अधिक चांगला दिसतो म्हणतात. शिवाय वृद्धांच्या गुणग्रहणानें

तरुण कार्यकर्त्यांच्या अंगावर मूठभर मांस चढतें. असो. शेवटीं या समाजांतील माझ्या वयाच्या लोकांना काय म्हणावयाचें तें मी खालील इंग्रजी कवीच्या शब्दांनीं बोलून दाखवितों:-

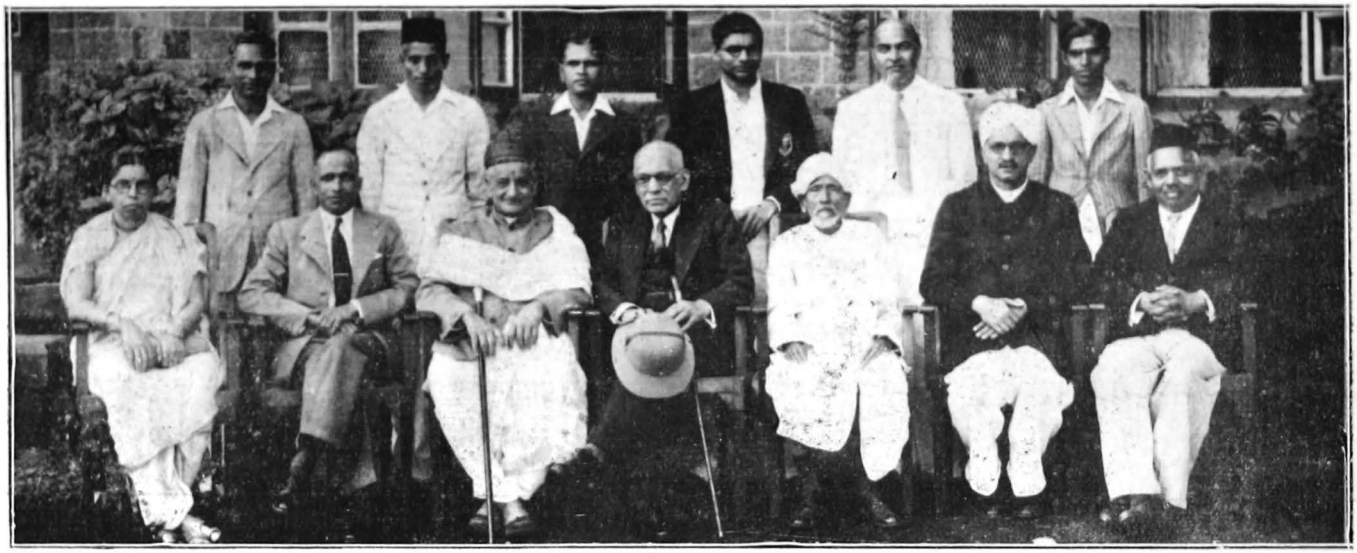
And now, my classmates, ye remaining few
That number not the half of those we knew,
Ye, against whose familiar names not yet
The fatal asterik of death is set,
Ye, I salute ! The horologe of Time
Strikes the half century with a solemn chime,
And summons us together once again—
The joy of meeting not unmixed with pain.
(Longfellow, in Morituri Salutamus.)

जुन्या पिढीच्या विद्यार्थ्यांचें कर्तृत्व व त्यांची पुण्याई या सर्वांचें फळ नव्या पिढीच्या विद्यार्थ्यांच्या पदरीं पडावें, आणि समाज व राष्ट्र यांचा भावी उत्कर्ष साधण्याचें श्रेय तिला मिळावें, अशी आशा मोठ्या आनंदानें प्रगट करून मी आपलें भाषण संपवितों.

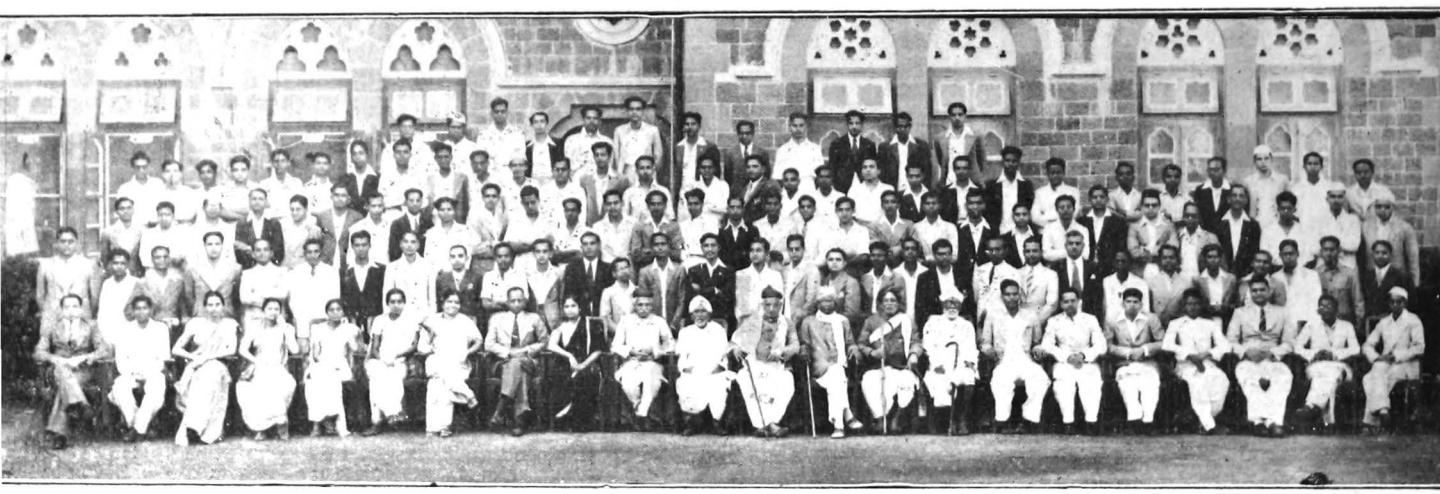


Fergussonians 1885-1925

Fergussonians 1935-1945



Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru with Members of the Executive Committee, Past Fergussonians' Association



Fergussonians 1925-1935

Report of the Work of the Committee of the Old Fergussonians' Association

When the Deccan Education Society decided to celebrate its Diamond Jubilee and issued an appeal for funds for provision of facilities for Technical Education, a meeting of the past students of the Fergusson College was held on the 7th of October, 1945, with the object of considering the best manner in which the past students can help the Society in connection with its Diamond Jubilee celebration on the 17th November, 1945, and its appeal for funds for Technical Education. At the meeting it was decided that a gathering of past students with a suitable programme be held on the occasion and an Association of past Fergussonians be formed to serve as a neuclus for forging a much needed link between the Alma Mater and its old students. A committee of the following 10 past students including 2 ladies was formed to take the necessary steps :—

Rao Saheb N. D. Abhyankar.	Mr. N. T. Thakur.
Mr. C. R. Devadhar.	Mr. K. N. Kelkar.
Mr. M. D. Sathe.	Mrs. Kamalabai Chitale.
Mr. N. K. Gharpure.	Mrs. Usha Muzumdar.
Mr. N. R. Deshpande.	Mr. S. W. Sovani

This Committee requested the Deccan Education Society to provide an 'Old Fergussonians' Home' for the office of the proposed old Fergussonians' Association and also to serve as a Guest House, if necessary. I am glad to say that the Society has accepted this proposal readily. In fact the Society had already a scheme of such a Home and Guest House in view. This encouraged the Committee which then proceeded to formulate in detail the scheme of the old Fergussonians' Association. The Committee also proceeded with the question of framing a suitable programme for the past students' gathering. The programme issued by the Committee is known to you all. While framing the programme the members of the Committee recalled from their memory the gatherings they enjoyed at one time as students of the College. Three items stood prominently before them viz., dinner and refreshments, Drama and Entertainment and Address and speeches. In view of the present food rationing regulations, the Committee could not provide for the main item of such gatherings viz., Dinner and Refreshments. For the other important item, Drama, however, the Committee was fortunate in securing the co-operation of the past students like Mr. Kelkar and his friends who staged an excellent performance of Khaḍāṣṭaka written by a well known Fergussonian Mr. S. P. Joshi of Shirpur. The address by Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru was already arranged. It was not possible within the time available to arrange for the laying of the foundation stone of the proposed Home. The Committee, therefore, decided to plant a Jubilee Aśvattha Tree which has just been done by Guruvarya

Annasaheb Karve. May this Jubilee tree grow into full foliage and spread far and wide.

This meeting of the past students has been arranged to provide an opportunity when very old past students can meet those who have only recently left the portals of the College. We are glad to find amongst us to-day a few of the first 17 students who passed the previous class of the College in 1885, which was then in the old Gadre Wada, a portion of which is now used by the girls' High School of the Society. They are Rao Bahadur Sirdesai, the great historian and Mr. Waman Moreshwar Potdar, the father of another well-known historian.

These two Fergussonians and some others have also agreed to make short speeches to-day here. These speeches will give us an idea and information which will be representative of the different periods, during which the speakers were in the College. It is not only necessary but very desirable to see that this contact which we are having to-day with one another and with our *Alma Mater* should be more lasting and should prove more fruitful. The Committee, therefore, decided to form an old Fergussonians' Association. The Committee is aware of the unsuccessful attempts made in the past to form such an Association, but the Committee is not deterred by this past history and wishes to try to make the Association a living organisation growing in usefulness as years roll by. The scheme of the Association outlined by the Committee is as under :—

(1) The name will be the 'Old Fergussanians' Association'.

(2) Its headquarters will naturally be at the Fergusson College in Poona, but the Association will have branches in places where there is an adequate number of old Fergussonians.

(3) The minimum subscription of the Association will be Rs. 2 per annum or Rs. 50 in lump inclusive of the subscription of the College Magazine or Rs. 1 per annum or Rs. 25 in lump exclusive of the Magazine Subscription. It is hoped that this will make it possible for many Fergussonians to join the Association.

(4) The Association will maintain in its Home an Information Bureau and arrange, so far as possible, to supply up-to-date information about the various careers and openings for the young graduates of the College and try to help them in solving the problem "What next" which confronts them after graduation. In addition it is also proposed to provide, if sufficient funds become available from subscriptions and donations for giving the necessary guidance and general information to deserving graduates to appear for the competitive examination held for the purposes of recruitment to the various All India Services like the Civil Service, Indian Finance, and Accounts, Engineering,

Post and Telegraphs, Railways or to encourage them to join vocational Institutions including Technical Institutions. There is no provision in this part of the country for the sppply of detailed and up-to-date information about the various opportunities open to youths—Poona which is regarded as the Home of learning cannot continue to be Poona—of great renown-unless there is an Information Bureau for the purpose.

(5) The Association should try to organise a social gathering of old Fergussonians either yearly or at intervals in the month of May when usually a large number of past students come to Poona for some purpose.

With these objects the Committee proposes to frame rules for the Constitution and the working of the Association and will continue to function till the end of May 1946 before which it is hoped a new Managing Committee will be formed according to the constitution of the Association decided upon. The Committee will bear in mind suggestions as may be made in this meeting for the work of the Association and will try to implement them so far as possible. Past students who are outside Poona are also invited to send their suggestions, if any in connection with the Association to the Secretary, Professor N. R. Deshpande.

I now request all past students present here to-day to enroll their names as Members of the Old Fergussonians Association by filling in the necessary entry form and paying the requisite subscription, The sooner the membership increases the easier it will be for the Association to achieve its objects.

18-11-45 N. D. ABHYANKAR

Celebrations in New Delhi

The following is a brief account of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of our College on November 17th, in New Delhi.

The function took place exactly at 5 P. M., on the same day when the main function was to take place in Poona. The Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh, Education Member to the Government of India, had agreed to preside over the function but owing to sudden heart attack, he was prevented from coming to the function. The time at the disposal of the organisors was very short, just a couple of hours,—to select the Chief Guest. They, however, were lucky to get Mr. Bhulabhai Desai as the *chief guest*, who readily agreed to preside over the function.

The function began with a very interesting programme, every past student introducing himself to the gathering with a few experiences of his own about the College. The Gathering included the Hon'ble Dr. N. B. Khare, (Member, Common Wealth Relations Department, Government of India), the Hon'ble Mr. S. A. Lal, (Joint Secretary, Legislative Department and Member of the Council of State), Mr. N. G. Abhyankar, (Dy. Secretary to the Government of India, Food Department), Dr. P. V. Sukhatme (Statistical Advisor to the Government of India, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and Editor, Maharastra Vistar) Mr. P. S. Patke, (League of Nations, Indian Office, and General Secretary of the Brihan Maharstra Mandal and Maharstra Club, New Delhi), Mr. Thawani (Imperial Council of Agricultural Research) Dr. W. M. Vaidya (Delhi University), Mrs. Vatsala Abhyankar, Dr. Subhadra Chitale and many others.

All the past students were full of admiration for the College Staff and atmosphere. Two representatives of the minority communities—a Parsi and a Christian—said that the college atmosphere was so congenial and cosmopolitan that they never felt in their college career that they belonged to any other community than the general class of students.

After introductions, Mr. N. G. Abhyankar narrated a brief history of the College and the future programme of the past students. Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, in his presidential address, eulogised the services of the Fergusson College to the cause of education and younger generation. He said, "During the last 60 years, our public life has been full of controversies more so in the political field. You will be surprised to know that Dr. Sir R. P. Paranjpe and myself were colleagues. I never missed any opportunity to express my admiration for the people who have been so bravely fighting for this sacred cause of education. I have great admiration for Dr. Paranjpe's intelligence, integrity and his independent thinking. I welcome this opportunity to reiterate my

thoughts about the work of the College and pay my humble tribute to eminent men like Lokmanya Tilak, Gokhale and Agarkar and scholars like Dr. Paranjpe and Dr. Mahajani. Education is a common platform where people of all thoughts meet together, irrespective of their political and communal differences. Poona has been famous for all kinds of controversies but the Fergusson College has been the meeting place, since its childhood, for men of different views. I am proud to say that the successors of these founders have maintained the high tradition of keeping the temple of education free from political bickerings and have made it a home for all communities and thoughts. The past students who have been spread throughout India and abroad, have a special responsibility of carrying out this universal tradition of the College. I am sure you will remember your great ancestors who have been responsible for raising you to your present position. Gentlemen, I thank you most heartily for giving me this opportunity to express my feelings and admiration for your illustrious institution."

Dr. N. B. Khare, in thanking the President, said that he was not a past student of the College, still, he has seen the wonderful achievement of the Deccan Education Society, throughout the country, during his life time. When he was a medical student in Lahore, his colleagues, like Hardayal (famous revolutionary), used to point out instances of men like Tilak and Agarkar espousing the cause of education by their simple living and novel character. "I assure you," Dr. N.B. Khare said, "that people may rightly or wrongly abuse Maharastra or Poona for one reason or the other, but there is uniform admiration throughout the country for the education received in Poona. The efforts of the Deccan Education Society have been mainly responsible for what we see of education in Poona. I thank Mr. Bhulabhai Desai for kindly sparing this evening here, in spite of heavy work of the I. N. A. trials."

Dr. Khare then garlanded the President and presented him a special copy of ' Our Educational Effort, Fergusson College'.

After light refreshments the function came to a close.

Messages wishing the function a success and admiring the work of the College were received from the Hon'ble Jogendra Singh (Member, Education, Health and Agriculture), the Hon'ble Sir Ardesher Dalal (Member, Planning and Development Department, Government of India), Mr. W. R. Natu (Statistical Advisor, Agriculture Department, Government of India), Mr. K. R. Karve (Special Officer, A. I. R.), and also from Dr. Mahajani, Profs. Apte and Deodhar of the Fergusson College, Poona.

Meeting of Past-Students at Dharwar

This meeting of the past students of the Deccan Education Society who are resident in Dharwar records its keen and respectful appreciation of the Educational work done by the Society during the last sixty years and of the

noble traditions of sacrifice and unflinching service to the cause of education built up by its promoters and life-members. It congratulates both the Society and the Fergusson College on this memorable occasion of their Diamond Jubilee and wishes them a long and prosperous future.

This meeting further authorises the conveners to forward this resolution to the Secretary, Deccan Education Society, Poona 4.

Karnatak College Dharwar, November 23, 1945.	Proposed by	Prof. V. M. DIXIT PATWARDHAN.
	Seconded by	Prof. B. R. DHEKNEY.
		President—S. G. BARVE.

APPENDIX A

MESSAGES

Her Highness the Maharani Sahiba

Prime Minister's Office,
Kolhapur

No. Con. T.-38-45
Prime Minister's Office, Kolhapur,
6th Nov. 1945.

To

The Secretary,
Diamond Jubilee Cammittee,
Deccan Education Society, *Poona.*

Dear Sir,

I am desired by Her Highness the Maharani Sahiba Regent to express to you her regret at her inability to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College, Poona, on the 7th November 1945. On behalf of the Darbar, however, I am to send congratulations to the Society on its long history of successful and devoted work and to wish them continued success in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,
A. N. MITCHELL
Prime Minister, Kolhapur State.

The Viceroy of India

The Viceroy's House.
New Delhi.
October 23, 1945.

It is with great pleasure that I send my heartiest congratulations to Fergusson College and the Deccan Education Society on the occasion of the joint celebration of their Diamond Jubilee. They have a long record of valuable work and achievement and I wish them and all connected with them continued success and good fortune in the future.

WAVELL F. M.

The Governor of Bombay

Government House,
Ganeshkhind
16th October 1945.

It is a pleasure to me to send my greetings to the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College on the occasion of the joint celebration of their Diamond Jubilee. With my greetings I send my warm congratulations

to the Society and College on the sixty years of eminent service to education in Western India which they have accomplished, and my good wishes for the future upholding of the fine traditions which they have established.

I was particularly interested to learn of the bond of affection which still exists between the College and the family of my distinguished predecessor, and fellow-countryman after whom the College is named, and that messages of goodwill have been received from General Sir Charles Fergusson, his son, and Colonel Bernard Fergusson, his grandson. both of whom I have the pleasure of knowing. I was interested to learn that Colonel Fergusson visited the College in 1942 during his service in India. May such unseen ties of esteem between Great Britain and India long be cherished.

I wish long life and prosperity to the Society and the College.

JOHN COLVILLE
Governor of Bombay.

Mahatma Gandhi

पुना १०-१०-४५

भाई महाजनी,

आपका १२ सप्टेंबरका खत आजही मिलता है.

आपको जो संदेशा मैने १९३५ मे भेजा था उसे आजभी दाहरता हूं ऐसे आशासे कि दोनो संस्थाका आयु बढनाही रहे.

आपका,
मो. क. गांधी

Mahatma Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

Wardha,
25th March 1935

Dear Friend,

Who can fail to be enthused over the noble record of the service rendered by the D. E. Society and the Fergusson College to the cause of education? I wish the forthcoming function every success.

This is all I have the time to send you.

Yours sincerely
M. K. GANDHI

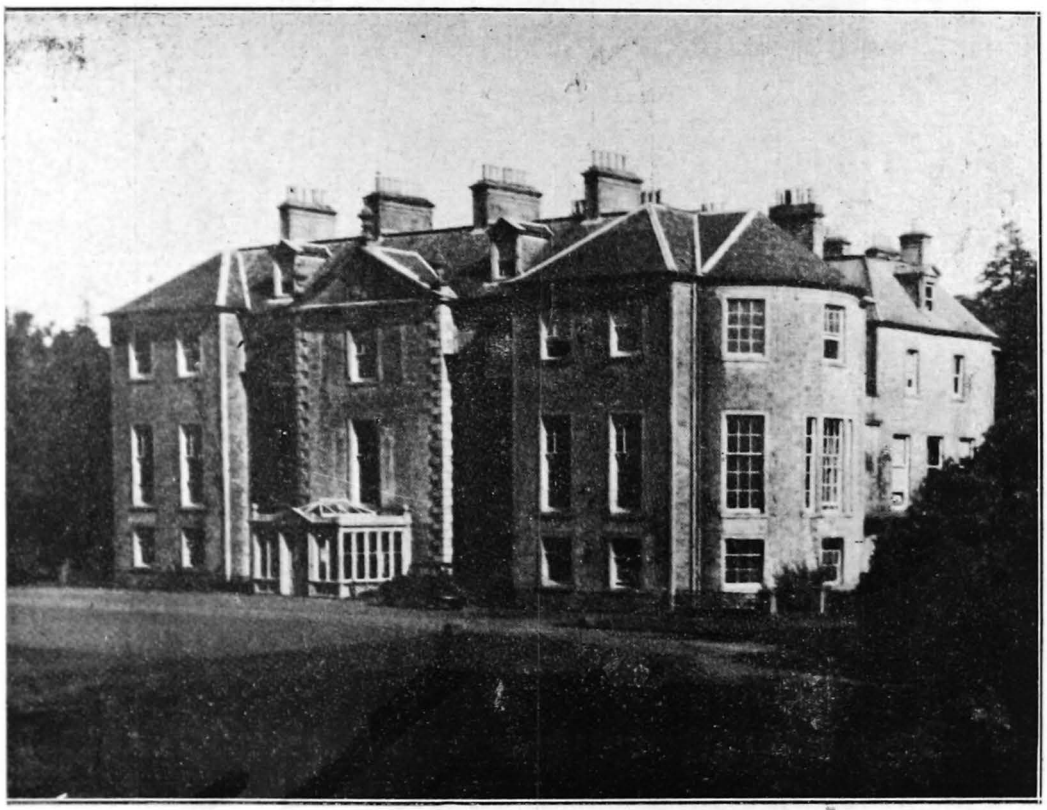
Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

Anand Bhawan,
Allahabad, October 16, 1945.

Dear Mr. Mahajani,

I gladly send you my good wishes on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebration of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College.

General Sir Charles Fergusson (son of James Fergusson after whom the College is named)



The ancestral home of the Fergussons at Maybole, Airshire, Scotland

The Society and the College have, in their unobtrusive way, probably helped to mould the India of today far more than most people realise. With their ideal of selfless service they have sent out famous men and many others not famous but none the less good workers for India's freedom and progress. So on this occasion of your celebrating your Diamond Jubilee I join with innumerable other persons to wish you ever larger opportunities of training the youth of India and of preparing true citizens of a free India,

Yours sincerely,
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

Kilkerran,
Maybole,
Ayrshire.

Sir Charles Fergusson .....

10th July 1945.

I am deeply interested to hear of the Diamond Jubilee of Fergusson College, and of the Deccan Education Society. I know how proud my Father was of his connection with both bodies, and he would be especially gratified to know that today, sixty years after the foundation of Fergusson College, it still bears his name. I have heard with pleasure from my son a verbal account of his visit to the College three years ago. supplementing the letter which he wrote to me at the time; and I am delighted to hear of its continued success.

I have myself happy recollections of my stay in Poona, although it is now sixty-two years ago-two years before the foundation of the College.

I offer to the Society and to the College my best congratulations on the past, and my best wishes for a future worthy of that past.

CHARLES FERGUSSON.

Central Office,
Jubilee Road,
Newton-Stew Art.

Bernard Fergusson

Dear Dr. Mahajani, 27th June 1945.

As you will see, I am now standing for Parliament. I was invalided home last January, and have been working in a headquarters in London. But I have now been induced to stand for Parliament in this election and am temporarily out of the Army until the result is known.

I thank you very much for your letter of 3rd May, and am delighted to send a message for the Diamond Jubilee of the College with which I am so proud to be connected.

"I take the greatest pleasure in conveying to all my friends in Fergusson College, known and unknown, my heartiest congratulations on its Diamond Jubilee. My grandfather would have been proud indeed to know how the seeds which he saw planted have grown into a great tree second to none in the educational world of India. The long, and honourable record of the College which took his name, and which has chosen still to retain it, is a matter of lasting pride to his family.

Among my happiest memories of three years in India, my visit to Fergusson College in September of 1942 remains most vivid. I retain a lasting impression of an academic atmosphere where learning, both for learning's sake and for the advancement of the land wherein it dwelt, was the paramount interest. Yet I know also of its contribution towards the winning of the war, having met former students in the front line and elsewhere, furthering the cause in uniform.

I trust that one day I may be privileged to return to Fergusson College. Meanwhile, with my congratulations, I offer my best wishes to the College and all within it, trusting that it and they may long flourish to offer service and devotion to India and the world."

I am very busy just now, as you may imagine, with Polling Day within a week. Please accept, therefore, a hasty but none the less grateful expression of my good wishes to you personally, to Mrs. Mahajani, and to all other friends.

Yours sincerely,
BERNARD FERGUSSON.

E. A. Benians St. John's College,
Cambridge.

DIAMOND JUBILEE OF FERGUSSON COLLEGE.

The Master and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, have heard with pleasure of the Diamond Jubilee of the Fergusson College and the Deccan Education Society, which is to be celebrated this year, and are very glad to send to the College a cordial message of greeting and congratulation on this happy occasion. The many distinguished scholars whom the Fergusson College has produced, have rendered great service in the world of learning and in the national life of India, and St, John's College is proud of those who have been also its own members. Confident that the Ferguasson College will

continue to render an ever increasing service to education and research, we send our best wishes for its future prosperity.

E. A. BENIANS
Master of St. John's College
Cambridge.

E. Cunningham

St. John's College,
Cambridge.
June 27, 1945.

Dear Principal,

As a fellow of your old College in Cambridge and as a friend of Sir Purushottam Paranjpye who also is a distinguished member of this College may I send to the College and to the Deccan Education Society my hearty congratulations on their Diamond Jubilee?

I have followed with great interest the services of the College and of the Society to Education in India, and wish to them a greater success in the future.

Yours very truly,
E CUNNINGHAM,
Fellow and University
Lecturer in Mathematics.

M. S. Aney

No. 11 Stanmore Crescent,
Colombo, 10th Novr. 1945.

My Dear Principal Mahajani,

I am very thankful to you for your letter of 29th October which was received here on the 5th instant. I feel grateful to you for extending me an invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College which are to take place with the Rt. Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru in the Chair on the 17th instant at 5 p. m. It is indeed a memorable event in the history of Maharashtra. It is a Diamond Jubilee of the private enterprise in the field of higher education in Maharashtra. Fergusson College ranks in the whole of India as one of the ideal institutions for the prosecution of highest learning available in India. It is not a local institution in which the City of Poona takes interest. It has attained the status of one of the first class national institutions in the country, the seminary of great scholars, public men, politicians, journalists, social servicemen, businessmen and humanitarians. It has created traditions and standards which Maharashtra will always be jealous to cherish and conform to. It has its beginnings like those of all great things in the pioneer effort of the three

great Maharashtrian patriots whose names will be engraven on the hearts of their grateful countrymen for many generations to come.

This Jubilee is indeed an occasion for every patriotic Maharashtrian to feel jubilant and rejoice.

I very much regret that my duties cannot permit me to be present in person on this auspicious and memorable occasion. I sincerely congratulate the Council and the Society on the most happy choice they have made in asking Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru to preside over this historic occasion. Sir Tej is not only the doyen of the Indian Bar but the most respected representative of all that is highest and best in the culture of this ancient land. He is also reputed as a peace-maker.

I earnestly pray Almighty that the Society and the College may have a still more glorious career of service to the country for many more years to come.

Yours sincerely,
M. S. ANEY.

Sir Jogendra Singh

Member of Council
for Education, Health & Lands,
India.

17, York Road.
New Delhi, 7-11-1945.

Dear Dr. Mahajani,

I thank you for your kind letter of the 29th October 1945. I am sorry it will not be posslble for me to be present at the Joint Celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee of the Fergusson College and the Deccan Education Society, Poona, but I congratulate the College and the Society for their past achievements and sincerely wish them every success in the future.

Yours sincerely,
(SIR) JOGENDRA SINGH.

Sir M. Azizul Huque

Member of Council
Commerce.

5, Manaingh Road
New Delhi,
The 9th November, 1945.

Dear Principal Mahajani,

I am grateful to the Council of the Deccan Education Society for extending to me an invitation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College on the 17th November at Poona. It would have been a great pleasure to me to join these celebrations, but I regret that exigencies of State work do not permit me to leave Delhi. I take this opportu-

nity of congratulating the Society for the very substantial contribution they have made towards the progress of education in our country and for having kept abreast with modern ideas in education. I wish the function all success.

Yours sincerely,
(Sir.) M. AZIZUL HUQUE.

Sir Ardeshir Dalal

Member of Council
Planning and Development.

New Delhi
10th November 1945.

I extend my heartiest congratulations to the Fergusson College and the Deccan Education Society on the memorable occasion of their Diamond Jubilee. I wish both the institutions a very long and glorious career in the service of the country. The cause of education has been nobly served by the two institutions.

(SIR) ARDESHIR DALAL
Member for Planning and Development.

Sir Jagadish Prasad

Jargaon (E. I.)

Principal Mahajani, Fergusson College,
Poona, DG.

My best wishes for continuous prosperity of Fergusson College and Deccan Education Society.

(SIR) JAGADISH PRASAD.

Sir Chintaman Deshmukh

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA,
Bombay, 8th November, 1945.

Sir Chintaman D. Deshmukh thanks the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their kind invitation to the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Society and would have been glad to be present at the celebrations had that been possible. He has, however, to be away on tour and regrets his consequent inability to attend.

The work of the Society is too well known to need any commendation, and Sir Chintaman takes this opportunity of wishing the celebrations every success and the Society a career of ever growing usefulness and prosperity.

The enclosed is offered a token of his interest in the work of the Society and its aims for the future for being utilised towards the development of the technique of the institute.

Mirza M. Ismail

PRIME MINISTER
JAIPUR.

JAIPUR
RAJPUTANA

Western India, commercially so prosperous and socially so progressive, cannot boast of a greater educational agency than the Deccan Education Society or a nobler educational institution than the Fergusson College, whose Diamond Jubilee you are privileged to celebrate this year. What memories they recall! Tilak and Agarkar, Ranade and Gokhale, are names that live in the annals of India. It is comforting to find that those eminent pioneers of higher education in Western India have not laboured in vain and their mantle has fallen on shoulders broad and strong enough to bear the weight of an enduring tradition.

There can be no greater tribute to the work, in the past, of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College, and no better augury for their future either, than that in this eventful year a university for Maharashtra should have definitely taken shape.

It gives me the greatest pleasure to wish you the best of success and yet greater renown on the occasion of the joint celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Society and the College, and that under the presidentship of one of the most outstanding and honoured leaders of public life in India, the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru.

MIRZA M. ISMAIL.

Sir I. H. Taunton

Government of
Bombay

Office of the Adviser (Education)
Secretariat,
Bombay, 1st November, 1945.

I send my warm greetings to the Deccan Edcation Society on the occasion of their Diamond Jubilee, and congratulate them on their high record of achievement during the past 60 years. The Fergusson College has become one of the educational landmarks of India, many of whose most prominent sons owe their success in life to the knowledge acquired and character formed during their College days. I wish the Society and the College all prosperity.

(SIR) I. H. TAUNTON.
Office of the Adviser
(Revenue and P. W. D.)

Sir G. F. S. Collins

Government of Bombay

Secretariat, Bombay.
8th November 1945.

It gives me great pleasure to send a message of good wishes to the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College on the occasion of their Diamond Jubilee.

While co-operating fully with the war effort and realising and taking advantage of the new spirit which the war period has inspired, they have made equal progress in the educational sphere. I am confident that they will take a notable part in the new era of educational progress which we hope that the part transfer of University life to Poona may witness.

(SIR) G. F. S. COLLINS.

G. V. Mavlankar

My dear Principal Mahajani,

Many thanks for your kind invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College coming off on the 17th instant, under the distinguished presidentship of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. I am also thankful for your congratulations on my unopposed election to the Central Assembly. The credit for this really belongs to that great and august institution which has been serving the country for over sixty years now—The Indian National Congress.

It is possible that I may be in Poona, just on the 15th or 16th. I have to be back in Ahmedabad on the 17th inst., to join my friend Dr. J. C. Kumarappa, for tour in Gujarat in connection with village industrial work. I, therefore, feel it more that I am missing the pleasure of attending the Celebrations just by a day or two, if at all I go to Poona.

The Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College were started by great and respected patriots and have inspired generations of students for service of Motherland. Both enjoy an inspiring heritage of great patriots like the late Lokamanya Tilak, the late Mr. G. K. Gokhale, Dr. D. K. Karve and others who have left their mark on the whole of India. I only pray that the Society and the College continue to be fired with the same ideals and zeal as were visualised and demonstrated by its founders.

I wish the Celebrations all success.

Yours sincerely,
G. V. MAVLANKAR
3-11-45.

51, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Fort,
Bombay, 25th October, 1945.

B. G. Kher

Dear Dr. Mahajani,

I am much obliged to you for your kind invitation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Deccan Education Society on Saturday, the 17th November 1945. As I expect to be out on tour, I am unable to accept the invitation. The Deccan Education Society has rendered distinguished service to the cause of education in this country. I send my hearty congratulations and hope it will have a bright future.

Yours sincerely,
B. G. KHER.

26, Ridge Road,
Bombay, 8th November 45.

K. M. Munshi

Dear Principal Mahajani,

I am very much obliged to you for the invitation of the Council of the Deccan Education Society to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society. As I am going to Agra to inaugurate the All India Sanskrit Sahitya Sammelan on the 16th, it will not be possible for me to attend the function.

The Society is the premier educational agency in Western India. It has flourished on the idealism and the spirit of self-sacrifice evinced by its members. I wish it still greater development in the India of tomorrow.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely,
K. M. MUNSHI.

Mrs. Lilavati Munshi

26, Ridge Road,
Bombay, 8th Novr. 42.

Mrs. Lilavati Munshi is thankful to the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their invitation to the Society's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, but regrets her inability to attend the same on account of a previous engagement. She wishes the function every success.

Sir B. J. Wadia

Vice-Chancellor, University of Bombay

It is with sincere pleasure that I take this opportunity on behalf of the University of Bombay to send on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of the Fergusson College and the Deccan Education Society, Poona, a message of

cordial greetings and good wishes. The torch that was lit sixty years ago and handed on from generation to generation by such stalwarts as the late Mr. Gopal Krishna Gokhale and others still burns bright, and all those who are devotees of the ideals which inspired the torch-bearers of the Deccan Education Society through the sixty years of their eventful career will say on this occasion: "May the Society flourish for generations to come and brighten the many dark corners of illiteracy and ignorance wherever they are found in this ancient land."

Let me add my humble share to the heap of tributes that will be paid to the life-workers and friends of the Society for the work which they have done, which they are still doing, and which they hope to do in the years to come. I do so not only as the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bombay, but also in my own personal capacity.

Bombay, 26-10-45.

(Sir) B. J. WADIA.

Nagpur University

Nagpur
No. 17053 -
The 9th November 1945.

W. R. Puranik

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your kind invitation for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College.

I regret my other engagements prevent me from being present on the occasion.

The Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College have been the leaders of the movement for private colleges in the Western and Central India and theirs is a record of which the organizers may well be proud.

I convey my best wishes for the success of the function and a great future for the Society and the College.

Yours faithfully,
W. R. PURANIK
Vice-Chancellor.

University of Allahabad

Prof. R. D. Ranade, M. A.,
Offg. Vice-Chancellor.

Senate House,
Allahabad, 14th Nov. 1945.

My dear Principal Mahajani,

I cannot express how grateful I feel at having been the recipient of your very kind invitation to me to be present at the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

of the D. E. Society and the Fergusson College. When I recall that I was myself connected with these institutions for full eleven years during the prime of my life and when I contemplate how much I owe to the training I received as Teacher at the Fergusson College, my heart bends in humility and reverence. Had Fates willed otherwise, I would have been this very day in the midst of you all. Nevertheless I am glad that I have been able to see this day of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of an institution, which is itself a diamond among the educational institutions of India. I must confess that I never felt so proud and was never so honoured as when I was an humble missionary in the cause of an educational institution, of which many of you have been such distinguished apostles. Kindly accept my most heartfelt wishes for the continuous growth, achievements and prosperity of a premier educational institution, of which you yourself have been such a worthy, noble and self-sacrificing head.

Yours sincerely
R. D. RANADE.

Dewan Bahadur
Hiralal L. Kaji, J. P., I. E. S. (Retd.),
Vice-Chancellor

S. N. D. T. Thackersey,
Indian Women's University,
Carnegy Road, Queen's Road.
Bombay.
14th November 1945.

Dear Principal Mahajani,

All honour to the pioneers who founded the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College, which have rendered such magnificent services to the cause of education in Poona and to the present workers who have so worthily maintained the tradition.

The Diamond Jubilee on the eve of the inauguration of the Maharashtra University is a very pleasing coincidence.

I regret I shall not be able to attend the function. I wish it every success

Yours sincerely,
H. L. KAJI.

Dr. John Mathai
Tata Sons Limited.

Bombay House,
Fort, Bombay.
November 8th, 1945.

Dr. John Mathai wishes to thank the Council of the Deccan Education Society for kindly inviting him to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations on Saturday, the 17th November, but regrets very much that on account of a

previous engagement, he will be unable to accept it. He would like, however to send his greetings and best wishes for a successful function and for the continued success and prosperity of the Society and the College.

Telegram.

C. P. Ramaswami Iyer

Secretary, Diamond Jubilee Committee,
Fergusson College, Poona.

Thanks invitation wishing celebration all success.

C. P. RAMASWAMI IYER.

Sir S. Radhakrishnan
Vice-Chancellor

Benares Hindu University
10th November 45.

My dear Mahajani,

Yours of the 24th October, for which many thanks.

I am exceedingly glad to know that your great institution will be celebrating its Diamond Jubilee under the Presidentship of our veteran scholar, Lawyer, statesman, Rt. Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. I have no doubt that the College has a great career ahead of it.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,
S. RADHAKRISHNAN.

Sir Mathuradas Visanji

9, Willace Street, Fort,
Bombay, 6th Novr. 1945.

Sir Mathuradas Visanji while thanking the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their kind invitation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College on Saturday the 17th November, 1945, regrets his inability to attend. He, however, wishes the function and the Institutions all success on this occasion.

Sir Vithal N. Chandavarkar

41, Pedder Road, Cumballa Hill,
Bombay, 9th November 1945.

My dear Mahajani,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 22nd October 1945. I avail myself with pleasure of the opportunity of paying, on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College, a tribute to the great work done by the Society and the staff of the

College in the field of higher education in our country. The whole country owes a deep debt of gratitude to the founders of the Deccan Education Society and when the Poona University is established, Fergusson College authorities can look with pride to the contribution made by them to the birth of the University.

Yours sincerely,
(SIR) V. N. CHANDAVARKAR.

Sir Cowasjee Jehangir

READYMONEY MANSION,
CHURCH GATE STREET,
FORT, BOMBAY.
October 24, 1945

The whole of India, and specially the Province of Bombay, will extend to the Fergusson College and the Deccan Education Society, Poona, their most sincere and cordial congratulations on their Diamond Jubilee.

During these years, thousands must have passed through the portals of the Fergusson College and blessed its founders for the educational facilities it provided to Bombay. The results have shown that the foundation of such an educational institution was a crying need, and it can now truly be said that the College has fulfilled its functions with eminent success.

The Deccan Education Society has had, amongst its members, some eminent Indians. It is a privilege to be allowed to send a message of congratulations to a Society which had, as a member, my old friend, Sir Raghunath Paranjpye, whose selfless service to the Society, to the Fergusson College and in many other capacities to his country will for ever be gratefully remembered and acknowledged.

So long as the Society will continue to draw men like Paranjpye and Mahajani, so long will it live to serve our country and its younger generations.

May both institutions, built up by self-sacrifice, love and an honesty of purpose, grow from strength to strength, and continue to serve our mother land.

COWASJEE JEHANGIR.

Rustom Masani

TRIVANDRUM,
29-10-45.

My dear Mahajani,

Many thanks for your letter of October 23 and the invitation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College. You know my admiration for these institutions and their founders and workers and I shall be delighted to attend the celebrations. If,

Arial Photograph of the Fergusson College

Sir Dhanjishah Cooper
whose Cabinet (1937) removed the limit
on the number of students
in the Fergusson College

however, owing to unforeseen circumstances I cannot come, I shall be present in spirit and will send you a message as desired.

Kindest regards and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
RUSTOM MASANI.

Sir S. M. Bapna

Sir S. M. Bapna acknowledges with thanks the kind invitation of the Council of the Deccan Education Society to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College but regrets his inability to be present on the occasion. He wishes success to the function.

ALWAR:
6th November, 1945.

Sir Dhanjishah B. Cooper

Huntworth, Satara.
8th November 1945.

My dear Mahajani,

Your kind letter of the 22nd October 1945 has remained unacknowledged so long, because I was trying to adjust my engagements to which I was already committed with a view to being able to accept your invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of your College and Society. I regret to find it not possible to give myself the pleasure of doing so.

The Deccan Education Society was a pioneer non-official organisation and the Fergusson College a pioneer non-official academy started at a time when the demand for facilities for higher education was nowhere near its present pitch and the few State institutions in the Province could absorb all who sought admission into a college. Your celebrations, therefore, recall what a statesman-like foresight the great founders of your Society possessed and what powers of ardent self-sacrifice and arduous team-work a few of the best brains of the time in the country brought to bear on the creation of the Society and the College. At the moment we witness a good many education Societies and a good many private Arts and Science Colleges, but the common source of inspiration for them all has been the Society and College which celebrate their Diamond Jubilee on the 17th instant. The most remarkable feature about the Fergusson College is the wonderful tradition of self-sacrifice in the staff—a successive flow of men of intellect and character—which has continued from generation to generation. The College has given intellectual rebirth to thousands of young men during the last 60 years and the list of its alumni who have shed lustre on the College and the community is not short. It is the plainest and the most unmixed sincerity with which I congratulate the Society and the College on their completion of the sixtieth year of their

invaluable existence and public service and wish both of them perpetuity and growing strength in the service of learning and the nation.

With best wishes and kind regards
Yours sincerely,
D. B. COOPER.

Sir Cusrow Wadia

Refuge,
34, Koregaon Park, Poona, Tel. 576
October 31st.

Sir Cusrow Wadia thanks the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their kind invitation at the Fergusson College on Nov. 17th and regrets that owing to other engagement he is unable to accept it. He wishes every good luck to the College celebrations.

Amraoti, 11-11-45.

Sir M. V. Joshi

Dear Mr. Mahajani,

Thanks for your kind invitation to Diamond Jubilee of your Society and College.

I regret I shall not be able to attend the function.

I am sure the function will be celebrated with zest and that the Society and College will, with good wishes of all outsiders like myself, be able to promote the higher education of generations to come.

Yours sincerely,
M. V. JOSHI.

R. V. Sabnis of Kolhapur

Kolhapur, 12th November, 45.

Dear Sir,

I am grateful to the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their kind invitation to be present on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College on Saturday the 17th November, 1945 at 5 p. m. I most heartily congratulate the Society and the College on the wonderful progress they have made which I have had good fortune of observing since the very foundation of the Institutes. I am only sorry that owing to age and debility I cannot avail myself of the invitation. My regret is all the more as the occasion called back to my mind the time when His Highness the late Shri Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaj as president of the Society welcomed the then Governor Lord Sandhurst in a felicitous speech on the occasion of opening of the College building. His Highness then referred to the self-sacrificing work of the Society that made higher education accessible to all

classes of Society. His prophetic words, I shall take the liberty of quoting: "But this is not in my opinion a true measure of the real worth and merits of the Society. What I admire most is the noble example of self-sacrifice and zeal in a right cause, which the originators have set to the rising generations." Those words have come true and now many a noble son of the soil has followed in the footsteps of the youthful band of enthusiasts who founded this institute. I wish them all success and prosperity and that their activities may expand in many another useful line.

Yours sincerely,
R. V. SABNIS.

Sir Frederick Stones

Bombay,
31st October 1945

Sir Frederick Stones thanks the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their kind invitation to their Diamond Jubilee Celebrations on 17th November 1945, but regrets his inability to be present on the occasion.

He however wishes the Society continued success in the future years to come.

Sir Chunilal B. Mehta

51, Marwari Bazar,
Bombay 2.
9th November 1945.

Sir Chunilal B. Mehta thanks the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their invitation on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College on Saturday the 17th inst. at Poona, but regrets his inability to attend as he will not be there on that day.

However, Sir Chunilal wishes every success to the function.

Sir Narayan V. Mandlik, Kt.

Hermitage,
Pedder Road,
Bombay 9-11-45.

Sir Narayan V. Mandlik, Kt., begs to thank the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their kind invitation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations on the 17th inst. and 18th inst., but regrets very much that owing to his present indifferent health, he will not be able to attend the same.

Sir Narayan wishes " Every Prosperity " to the Society.

Rajasahib of Aundh

Aundh.
31ts October 1945.

Shrimant Pantsaheb Pratinidhi Rajasaheb of Aundh presents compliments to and thanks the Council of the Deccan Education Society, Poona for their kind invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society

and the Fergusson College, on Saturday the 17th November 1945 at 5 P. M. on the Fergusson College Ground when the Rt. Hon. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, LL. D., D. C. L. (Oxon.), K. C. S. I. the Guest of honour will deliver the Address, but regrets his inability to attend the same owing to previous engagements already fixed. He however wishes the function every success.

Rajasahib and Ranisahib Miraj Senior—Telegram

Miraj 16th Novr. 1945.

Principal Mahajani,

Fergusson College, Deccan Gymkhana, Poona 4.

Thanks for invitation. We regret inability to attend. Wish every success to function and prosperity to Deccan Education Society.

RAJA SAHEB & RANI SAHEB.
Miraj Senior.

Raja of Bhor

The Palace Bhor,
13th Nov. 1945.

Raja Shrimant Sir Raghunathrao Pandit Pant Sachiv, Rajasaheb of Bhor was much pleased to receive the invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College on 17th Nov. 1945 at 5 p. m. He regrets to inform the Chairman of the Council of the D. E. Society of his inability to attend the celebrations owing to other more pressing engagements. However he wishes all success to the intended celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee.

Chief of Kurundwad State

Shrimant Ganpatrao Trimbakrao alias Tatyasaheb Patwardhan, B. A., Chief of Kurundwad Junior State, thanks the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College on 17th November 1945 but regrets that, owing to pre-occupations, he will not be able to be present on the occasion.

Chief of Kurundwad State.

Dr. Gore **Telegram.**

Prof. Apte, Fergusson College, Poona D. G.
Good wishes diamond jubilee donating fifty rupees.

DR. GORE,
Ex-Fergussonian
Private Secretary, High Commissioner,
Canberra.

Principal, S. P. College

Sir Parashurambhau College,
Poona 2, 9th November 1945,

We, the Principal and members of the staff of the S. P. College, Poona, send to the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College our good wishes on the occasion of their Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. The Society and the Fergusson College have been the pioneers in the cause of spreading education in the masses of Maharashtra. And we gratefully record here that the pioneers of our society, S. P. Mandali, have like many others in this part of the country, derived inspiration from your society. The Deccan Education Society has given to Maharashtra many sincere workers who are doing constructive work in their different spheres and are thus helping to build our nation.

May the Society continue to produce God-fearing men ready to go forth in the world to fight the battle of life by means of a manly, moral and well-regulated cause of conduct.

Principal, Karnatak College

Karnatak College, Dharwar.
10th November 1945.

Dear Sir,

Please convey to the Council of the Deccan Education Society my thanks for the honour of the invitation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and my regret at my inability to attend.

The Diamond Jubilee of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College is an event which is not only a matter of pride for all who are connected with these great educational institutions, but of interest to all concerned with Indian Education. I associate myself, together with the Staff and Students of the Karnatak College, whole-heartedly with your joy on this happy occasion.

Yours sincerely,
Principal.

Principal V. N. Bhushan, Vijay College, Bijapur

Bijapur, 13th Nov. 1945,

To,

Prof. D. G. Dhavale, Secretary,
Diamond Jubilee Committee,
Fergusson College, Poona 4.

Dear Sir,

I write to thank you for the invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College on Saturday, the 17th Nov. 1945. As it is not possible for me to attend the func-

tion, I am taking the opportunity of sending herewith my very best wishes for the success of the function. Both the D. E. S. and the Fergusson College have done monumental work in the cause of education in Maharashtra, for which the Public owes them a deep debt of gratitude. I have no hesitation in believing that their splendid record of selfless work in the noble cause of education will be a beacon-light for other institutions of their kind in the whole of India. May the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College continue long their memorable work, growing in strength and utility !

Thanking you once again for the kind invitation, and with high admiration of the work of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College.

I remain,
Yours Sincerely,
V. N. BHUSHAN.

Hargovandas Lakhmichand College of Commerce, Ahmedabad.

No. 1057 of 1945-46.
7th Nov., 1945.

To

Principal, Fergusson College, Poona.

Sir,

I thank you very much for your kind invitation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College. I regret I shall be unable to attend. I wish the Celebrations all success and I feel sure that the Deccan Education Society will continue to render service to the cause of higher education in Maharashtra as it has been doing for the last few generations.

Yours faithfully,
S. V. DESAI,
Principal.

F. W. Levi
University of Calcutta
Advancement of Learning.

Asutosh Building, Calcutta
Binsar (Himalaya)
November 8th 1945.

To

The Chairman of the Deccan Education Society
and
The Principal of the Fergusson College, Poona.

Dear Sirs,

Please, accept my heartiest congratulations to the joint Diamond Jubilee of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College. During two generations your institutions have provided education for a large number of

students who passed the deciding years of life at the Fergusson College and other schools directed by the D. E. Society. Some of your pupils obtained a well deserved fame for their exploits as scholars or their achievements in administration. Modern development of differential Geometry is permanently connected with the name of a member of your College. As a Mathematician I feel much sympathy with the Fergusson College for its firm support of the cause of Mathematical education in India. Recently, the high degree of transferability of knowledge obtained by Mathematics to other spheres of life—a fact well known to psychologists—got fresh evidence by a distinguished Professor of Mathematics and Principal of your College being found the most suitable person to represent this country at the fifth continent.

From its foundation, the Indian Mathematical Society was closely connected with the Fergusson College to their mutual advantage. I sincerely hope that this friendly relation will be maintained in future. Forms may change, but the spirit of scientific collaboration should remain and be strengthened.

For the sake of this country, for the promotion of science and for the improvement of education, I wish to your Society and to the Fergusson College a splendid future.

Ad multos annos !

F. W. LEVI

From

F. W. LEVI, Dr. phil. nat.
Harding Professor,
President, Indian Mathematical Society.

G. B. Deshmukh
Education Minister.
Kolhapur, State

DYG. No. 5262.
Education Minister's Office,
Kolhapur, 8th November, 1945.

To

The Chairman, Council of the
Deccan Education Society, Poona.

I am very thankful to you for your kind invitation to attend the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College on the 17th November, 1945. Unfortunately my time is fully occupied at present with State business and hence it will not be possible for me to attend this important function although I wish I could.

As regards the work the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College have done in the field of literacy and liberal education, I can only say that it has carried it out so magnificently that few educational institutions could come up to its standard and efficiency. The spirit and sacrifice of the members of the Society has not only been unique but has also been a sort of

noble example to other sister educational institutions in Maharashtra and outside. I have no doubt that in the near future the Society would be successful in implementing its resolve to complement its present literary and scientific activities by technical education which is going to be the watch-word of India in the post-war period.

I heartily wish all success to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

G. B. DESHMUKH.

Ambalal Sarabhai Post Box 28
Telegraphic Address, "Business." Ahmedabad
No. 30/1161 1-11-45.

Mr. Ambalal Sarabhai begs to thank the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their kind invitation to the D. J. Celebrations on the 17th inst. He wishes the Society continuing success and useful service to the country.

Vaikunth L. Mehta Bombay, 6th Nov. 1945.

To
The Secretary,
Diamond Jubilee Celebration Committee,
Deccan Education Society, *POONA*.

Dear Sir,

I am grateful to you for your kind invitation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Deccan Education Society which comes off on 17th November. I regret very much that owing to my having to go out of Bombay on that day I shall not be able to participate in the celebration. I write this, however, to convey my greeting on the occasion, The Society is a pioneer institution of its type and its work in the field of higher education has been unique. May it continue to serve the cause in the same spirit which animated its great founders!

Yours truly,
VAIKUNTH L. MEHTA

The Times of India, Bombay.
7th November 1946.

I. H. Jehu, Editor the Times of India

On so notable an occasion as the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Deccan Education Society and Fergusson College, *The Times of India* feels particularly interested in congratulating both institutions and wishing them many happy and constructive returne of the day. So far as a daily newspaper can, *The Times of India* has taken a constant—and we hope constructive

interest in educational problems with naturally a particular concern for the Bombay Presidency, and has always been particularly impressed with the contribution made to the effective spread of sound education by the Deccan Education Society and Fergusson College.

I. H. JEHU

U. M. Mirchandani, I. C. S

Bombay.
Dated 9-11-45.

Mr. U. M. Mirchandani acknowledges, with thanks, the kind invitation of the Council of the Deccan Education Society to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College on Saturday 17th November at 5 p. m., on the Fergusson College Grounds, which he much regrets he is unable to attend. He, however, takes the occasion to send his congratulation to the Society and to the Principal and staff of the Fergusson College on the progress achieved and his best wishes for the future of the Society's institutions.

S. G. Barve **Telegram**

Dharwar 17th November 1945.

Principal, Fergusson College, Poona—DG.

Hearty congrats Wish the Society and College best of every thing in future.

From BARVE

S. G. BARVE, Esqr., I. C. S.

N. D. Bhansali

Government of Bombay

D. O. No. 5942-E
Educational Department.
Bombay Castle, 8th November 1945

My dear Dr. Mahajani,

I write to thank you for your letter dated the 19th October 1945 asking me to send a message for the joint Celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee of the Fergusson College and the Deccan Education Society, Poona, in case I am unable to come myself. I have separately written regretting my inability to come. I take this opportunity however of sending my best wishes for this occasion and to wish the College and Society all prosperity for the future. The valuable work which the Deccan Education Society, Poona, has been performing for sixty years and the high reputation in which the Fergusson College stands under the able guidance of its distinguished Principals are themselves true indications of the ideals of self-help and self-sacrifice which the College and the Society have been practising.

Yours sincerely,
M. D. BHANSALI

S. Moos

Garden Reach, Poona.
8th November 1945.

My Dear Mahajani,

I am very sorry I will not be able to attend your Jubilee celebrations on the 17th of November as I am leaving Poona for Dehra Dun but I do wish to pay my personal tribute to the excellent work done by the Deccan Education Society and the Fergusson College in the advancement of education in the Deccan. The Society has every reason to be proud of what it has been able to achieve, and I have not the least doubt that the fine traditions of the Society will be well maintained. I send you my best wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely,
S. MOOS.

Mr. Justice P. B. Gajendragadkar

Mr. Justice P. B Gajendragadkar thanks the Council of the Deccan Education Society for their invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College on Saturday the 17th November 1945 at 5 p. m. on the Fergusson College Grounds and regrets his inability to attend the same. Mr. Justice Gajendragadkar hopes all success to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and prays for a long and unbroken career of usefulness to the Society and the Fergusson College.

M. S. Patil

Judge's Bungalow,
Ahmednagar.
12th November 1945.

Dear Prof. Dhavale,

I thank you very much for your kind invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Fergusson College and the Deccan Education Society. But I regret my inability to attend the Jubilee as I have to be on inspection duty in the District on the 16th and 17th instant as per programme already fixed. Though I am bodily far away from the centre of celebrations, my mind is there in the midst of past students and professors of the College. I wish every success to the Diamond Jubilee.

Yours sincerely,
M. S. PATIL.

G. G. Kanetkar

Sangli, 13th Nov. 1945.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your kind invitation to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the D. E. Society.

I am sorry, owing to some household engagements, I am unable to avail myself of this excellent opportunity of meeting my old friends and associates and showing my love to my old alma mater. However my heart will be there

and I wish every success to the various programmes of the Jubilee. I have every hope that the D. E. Society will figure very prominently in the activities of the coming Maharashtra University of Poona.

With best wishes,

I remain,
Yours sincerely,
G. G. KANETKAR

P. Kodanda Rao

Servants of India Society, Nagpur.
7th November 1945.

Dear Mr. Dhawale,

I am very grateful to you for your kind invitation to me to attend the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Fergusson College on the 17th instant. I am honoured by your invitation. I regret, however, I shall not be able to be present on the occasion in Poona. May I send you my most-hearty congratulations and best wishes for the future of the Deccan Education Society and its institutions?

Yours sincerely,
P. KODANDA RAO.

M. L. Dahanukar

'Industrial Assurance Building'
Bombay
November 8, 1945

The Principal,
Fergusson College, Poona 4.

Dear Mr. Mahajani,

Many thanks for your kind invitation for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of your College. I regret that I am unable to attend owing to other previous engagements. However, I hereby send you my best wishes and sympathies for the success of your function.

I pray God that yout institution which has already earned a great reputation of having rendered the best services in the field of education in our country should prosper more and more and that there should be many occasions for commemorating the Centenary Celebrations in even greater glory and prosperity.

Yours sincerely,
M. L. DAHANUKAR.

Khan Bahadur Jehangir Pestonjee,
B. A., LL. B., Pleader

Sachapir Street,
Poona, 13th November 1945.

Khan Bahadur Jehangir Pestonjee thanks the Council of the Deccan Education Society for the kind invitation to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Society and the Fergusson College on Saturday the 17th inst. He regrets his inability to accept the same on account of previous engagement. He

congratulates the Society on the attainment of laudable aims and objects and wishes it every success.

M. R. Jayakar

Winter Road, Malbar Hill, Bombay—6.
October 25, 1945.

My dear Principal Mahajani,

I thank you for your kind letter of the 22nd. I am not sure whether I shall be in Poona on the 17th of November to attend the Diamond Jubilee function of your College and Society, at which Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru presides.

I am, therefore, as requested by you, sending a brief message of congratulations on the excellent work your Society has done in the field of education and also my best wishes for increasing success in the effort.

With kind regards, Yours sincerely
M. R. JAYAKAR.

Sir Raghunath Paranjpye

Canberra, Australia, 18-9-45.

On this occasion of the celebration of the Fergusson College my thoughts are with you all in Poona. I have been intimately associated with the College and the D. E. Society since 1892 and their well-being and progress have been some of the most important objectives of my active life. The College has been an achievement of which educated India may well be proud and whatever development occurs in the future in regard to higher education in India the place of the great founders in the educational history of India is assured. May the College grow from strength to strength and may it continue its work in the uplift of India with unabated vigour and with a steady eye on its ideals! Long live the Fergusson College!

(Sir) R. P. PARANJPYE.

Mangaldas Pakvasa

The Deccan Education Society is the leading and pioneer Body setting an example in this vast country of how educated and cultured people can organize themselves in the cause of education and serve the cause of education in a spirit of sacrifice. The name of the Fergusson College is a name which few people like me who are old graduates of the Bombay University can ever forget. The high standard of teaching, the exemplary character of the professors, and the remarkable ability and high intellectual attainments shown by the students of the College in various examinations and the public career of many of the products of the College are bound to leave a deep and abiding impression on those who are in any way connected with the question of higher education in this country. I offer my sincerest and humble congratulations to the highly gifted and selfless servants of the cause of higher education and pray to God that the efforts of both these institutions may ever remain a shining example and a beautiful model to follow at all centres of higher education in this country.

MANGALDAS PAKVASA.
14-11-45.

APPENDIX B

DECCAN EDUCATION SOCIETY, POONA

Diamond Jubilee Fund

(Contributions Received)

Rs. 5,000

1. The Trustees, N. M. Wadia Charities, Bombay

Rs. 1001

1. "A Sympathiser", Poona

Rs. 501

1. Vinayakumar N. Sardesai, Esq., Bombay

Rs. 250

1. Prof. N. M. Athavale, M. A., Poona

Rs. 201

1. K. S. Choubal, Esq., B. A., LL. B., Poona
2. R. K. Dravid, Esq., M. Sc., Dharwar

Rs. 200

1. D. B. Lokhande, Esq., Poona
2. D. S. Joshi, Esq., Poona
3. Prof. R. B. Phadke, M. A., LL. B., Poona
4. S. V. Ranade, Esq., B. A. Poona
5. Rao Bahadur D. K. Ranade, Poona
6. Dr. S. G. Nashikkar, M. B. B. S., D. P. H., Poona
7. Rao Bahadur Capt. N. H. Kulkarni, M. B. B. S., B. M. S., Poona
8. N. K. Ranade, Esq., Poona
9. K. K. Bhide, Esq., Bombay
10. C. S. Marathe, Esq., B. Sc., Bombay
11. N. G. Ranade, Esq., Poona
12. Rao Saheb G. V. Panse, B. E., Poona
13. B. W. Gadgil, Esq., B. Sc. (Eng.), Calcutta
14. V. G. Joshi, Esq., Poona
15. A. S. Sathe, Esq., Poona
16. Rao Sahib V. K. Mulay, B. A., LL. B., Ahmednagar

Rs. 151

1. Dr. B. N. Uppal, D. Sc., Poona 5

Rs. 125

1. H. J. Cooper, Esq., M. A., Poona

Rs. 101

1. Dr. N. N. Godbole, M. A., Ph. D., Benares
2. D. A. Dharap, Esq., B. Com., Ahmednagar
3. V. K. Sohoni, B. E. (civil), Dhond

Rs. 100

1. D. K. Limaye, Esq., B. E., Poona
2. Prof. R. K. Khandekar, M. A., Poona
   (Out of promise of Rs. 200)
3. Dr. S. P. Agharkar, M. A., Ph. D., Calcutta
4. Coln. Sir Krishnaji V. Kukday, Kt., C. I. E., I. M. S. (Ret.), Nagpur
5. N. K. Kukday, Esq., B. Ag., Nagpur
6. Mrs. Tarabai N. Kukday, Nagpur
7. V. G. Panvalkar, Esq., B. E., A. M. I. E., Secunderabad, Dn.
   (out of a promise of Rs. 200)
8. V. D. Rajlingam, Esq., M. E. S. Contractor, Secunderabad, Dn.
9. Dr. A. V. Joshi, M. B. B. S., Ratnagiri
10. C. V. Oak, Esq., Bombay
11. V. V. Oak, Esq., Bar-at-Law, Bombay
12. S. V. Deo, Esq., B. E., Poona

Rs. 61

1. S. W. Mavlankar, Esq., M. A., Bombay
2. Principal A. K. Trivedi, Navasari

Rs. 60

1. Rao Saheb S. S. Puranik, Poona
   (Out of promise of Rs. 200)

Rs. 51

1. P. C. Gadre, Esq., B. A., Bombay
2. V. G. Kanitkar, Esq., B. Sc., I. P. & Mrs. K. Kanitkar, B. A., Jalgaon
3. Mrs. Tarabai V. Oak, Bombay,

Rs. 50

1. Prof. H. V. Tulpule, B. A., LL. B., Poona
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