

CONTENTS

1. The Highlights of 1978	...	...	...	...	3
2. House Notes	...	...	...	...	8
3. Games and Sports	...	...	...	...	12
4. General Knowledge Competition	...	...	...	...	27
5. Senior Speech and Prize Distribution Day	...	...	...	...	29
6. Class Prizes			...	...	30
7. Junior School Entertainment	...	...	...	...	34
8. Senior Section	...	...	...	...
Essays	...	...	...	...	35
Verses and Sayings	...	...	...	...	40
9. Junior Section Essays	...	...	...	...	42
10. Old Boys' Corner	...	...	...	...	46
11. I. C. S. E. Results	...	...	...	...	48
12. Principal's Report	...	...	...	...	49
Hindi Section					





THE STAFF



Prefects, Monitors and Table Monitors

THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 1978

The year followed the usual pattern with Republic Day as the first big occasion. This is a National day with flag-raising and speechifying both by the Principal and later by Senior boys. It is also an important day in the school as the Head Boy, Vice Head Boy and Prefects are commissioned and the Monitors and Assistant Monitors are appointed, all at an impressive parade.

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The Second event of the year was the Long Distance runs on the Race Course. These went off well on Feb. 3rd and the Division 5 record was broken.

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Easter came on almost the earliest possible date - March 26th. So Ash Wednesday was also early - Feb. 8th - and Christian boys went to Church. A week later, sport heats began. As all boys take part, these have to be during school hours. Then there was March Past practice to be done, ready for the sports finals, and there were two afternoons spent on Tug of war heats and finals. Class-work seems to take a back seat in February!

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As there were State Elections on the Saturday fixed for Sports Day, we had sports the day before (one more day lost to studies!). Happily, the weather was rather cloudy and the finals were run in less hot conditions than normal. We were glad to have Brigadier and Mrs. F. O'Leary as guests of honour for this enjoyable occasion. Being a Friday, there was a film show in the evening, which brought the day to a pleasant conclusion. After the film, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme boys left for Matheran, returning by 11 p. m. on the Sunday. In fact, the DEAS has been quite active throughout the year.

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From March 6th till the end of term in April, there was morning school, starting earlier than usual and finishing at 1.30, to avoid classes during the baking hot afternoons.

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Monday, March 13th, ended a period of anxious waiting when the ICSE results came. Out of 88 boys, 78 passed. The remaining ten would have got Statements in previous years as they all passed in four out of the required six subjects. As usual there were some surprises, but generally speaking the result was pretty well what we had expected - neither very good nor very bad.

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Two weeks before this, classes 8 to 10 had enjoyed an hour and a half of scenes from A Midsummer Night's Dream, the Merchant of Venice, Julius Caesar, and Twelfth Night (the last two by popular request), put on by Geoffrey Kendal and Laura Liddell. We should have liked more but "Time and Tide (represented by Cama and other buses)

wait for no man (or boy)", and so we were unable to see the Brutus and Cassius quarrel scene. Perhaps they will be able to fit it in next time they come.

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Eire's national day - St. Patrick's Day, March 17th - saw a lot of early morning activity with three groups leaving - the Hockey team for Panchgani, later the Scouts also for Panchgani, and the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme Bronze medal boys for the railway station, with six masters involved. There was wild excitement in the Dining Hall that evening when it was announced that we had beaten St. Peter's 1-0 and that our team would therefore be going to Bombay later. The boys then went to enjoy the Friday film show in high spirits, little knowing that Mr. John John the Catering Superintendent, after supervising supper had gone for a quick trip to the bazaar and complained of chest pains on his way back. He was taken to the Military Hospital at about 8-30 p. m. and six hours later he died there of a massive heart attack.

The sad news spread round the dormitories early next morning and Saturday, March 18th, was a day of deep gloom. All the boarding side had loved him, and boys, staff and servants felt a sense of personal loss coupled with great sympathy for his widow and family - sympathy that was shown practically by a generous donation to help pay for the funeral that took place at Hadapsar that evening, attended by almost everyone who lives in the school, including several boys who had hurried back from Panchgani.

It was our second staff death in six months, Mr. (Bill) Wright having died equally suddenly the previous September. There were to be other deaths in the school later in the year, when Mr. Nair's mother passed away, and Mr. Donoghue's mother, who used to sell in one of the Tuck shops, also died. Bachu, one of the old school servants, after a long illness, died during the ICSE exams. Life is a transient thing and we all have to be prepared for it to end sooner or later. Meanwhile, we all extend our sympathies to those who have recently suffered bereavement. To end this section on a less sad note, it is nice to be able to say thank you to Mr. Balakrishnan and Mr. Jamadar who have each offered the school a gift as a memorial to their sons K. Balakrishnan and Anis Jamadar. The details will be given later; for the moment we merely accept the generous gifts gratefully.

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Good Friday and Holi coincided on March 24th, and many boys who had not gone home for the long week-end brushed up on their geography as they watched the lunar eclipse in the evening.

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Rarely has the Harding Hall been so clean as it was for the two Prize Days at the end of March! This was because the Head Boy (Ayaz Gadhiya) had recruited a large volunteer force from the boarders and given it a real 'Spring Clean' the day before. It was a pity that this did not shame or inspire the Hall bearer and other servants into keeping it clean and tidy afterwards, but it has given us all a concrete example of what can be done.

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The Prize days went off very well. The first of the two was the Junior one, with Mr. and Mrs. I. Coltart (from the Wadia Hospital) as Chief Guests, and the following day was the Senior one with Lt. Gen. and Mrs. A. M. Vohra as Chief Guests. Full reports on both the events follow later in the magazine.

March was comparatively cool, but April decided to make up for it! The end of term tests were thus held in hot and oppressive weather, with a welcome and entirely unexpected downpour on April 10th to bring the temperature down a bit. The boarders had quite a lot of swimming and there was an inter-class Basketball "Cake" tournament conducted by the Head boy after the tests. Teachers went through their papers with their classes, and the PTA organised a G. K. Competition on one of the post-exam days. It was a relief to put one's feet up for a time when the school closed for the hot - weather holiday on April 21st.

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The boarders returned for the monsoon term to find that the lighting in the dining-hall had been changed from overhead to the sides. Besides improving the lighting, this meant less insects dropping from the lights on to the table. This re-wiring and re-positioning was done at the same time as the installation of new cables and modern fuses for most of the school and the electrification of the new Junior School block. This has removed much of the overloading that led to frequent current failures in the recent past.

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During the year perhaps the most welcome event for some of the senior boarders was the opening of bathrooms and toilets attached to the Cambridge dormitory. As a result, there is no need for these boys to wander round the school in various states of undress for baths. The Staff also have a new toilet in the same block.

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The first week of the monsoon term was highlighted by the welcome annual visit of Mr. Rod Gilbert for three days during which he met the boys in four different groups each day and visited the dormitories in the evening.

The A S P T always invite some boys and staff to their Annual P. T. Display in June, and the high standard of the P. T. and gymnastics gives inspiration as well as mere enjoyment to those who go. We are very grateful for these invitations.

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The P T A meeting in the monsoon term is replaced by an open day on a Thursday when parents are invited to visit the classrooms and consult their sons' teachers there. This arrangement suits the Junior School well as in each class one person teaches nearly all subjects, but in the Middle and the Senior School, parents find it rather inconvenient since as many as ten different people teach their sons and at any one time, these ten are in ten different places, entailing a lot of walking round the school in search of them. The Harding Hall meetings are more convenient for all save the Junior school, the only disadvantage — if it is one — being that the boys are not there to join in any discussion between their parents and their teachers.

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The Monsoon term is basically a term for studies, but this is not to say that there are no other activities. Inter-Class and Inter-House football competitions were played and the Boxing competition was held. Table Tennis and Badminton competitions, both Individual and Inter-House, were played too. Visits were exchanged for football with St. Peter's, Panchgani, their Seniors coming here and our Juniors going there.

Another activity of this term was the Elocution Competition held for the Middle and the Senior School on August 15th after the flaghoisting by the scouts and the special Independence Day Assembly and Commissioning/appointment of further prefects/monitors. The Juniors had held theirs a few days previously, but one of their youngest prize-winners came and stole the limelight with a performance of his party piece during this competition. Congratulations, young Mark!

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The last two activities of this term were the Junior and Senior Inter-House G. K. Competitions organised by the P T A and conducted in a lively manner by Mrs. Aga on the last two days of August. Every one seemed to enjoy these, and the participants answered everything with great gusto, especially the "catch-questions" put in to try out their intelligence.

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17 boys and 3 staff members went to Barnes School, Deolali, for the first few days of the monsoon break. In football they reached the final, in which they lost to Barnes 0-1.— a very creditable effort indeed.

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Very few boarders remained in the school for the Monsoon break. An extra film show "Do Phool" was arranged for them and this was also enjoyed by the servants. It was a pity that the end of these holidays and the Diwali holidays was spoilt by so many boys returning late for unacceptable reasons. One of the things that we aim to teach the boys is reliability, and late return from leave shows that they have not learnt this.

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The stage in the Harding Hall had been getting weaker and weaker for a long time and when the back part of it gave way, under the weight of folding chairs stored there, minor repairs proved impossible. Instead, starting in September, the whole floor was re-built on metal beams with a spacious store room at the back. At the same time the Staff toilet next to the Hall was enlarged and modernised for use by visitors.

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There were some heavy thunder-showers in September. The monsoon all over the rest of India was said to be a good one, but here, though it started on time, it was rather weak and we had fewer rainy days than usual, though there were some unexpected showers in late October and November.

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At the end of September, the zero period was introduced again to allow time for rehearsals for Founder's week P. T. display and the Thanksgiving Service. As the Week drew nearer, periods got more and more upset, as boys were wanted for further practices in gymnastics and so on. How badly the rehearsals went! Yet on the day, Tuesday, October 24th, all went smoothly and well. The P. T. display was held at a later hour than last year so as to avoid having half the spectators being roasted in the hot sun. As a result, half of the display was in daylight and half by artificial light, and this proved to be very successful. The final item was Torch Drill, done in the pitch dark and very impressive to watch as the kerosene flames flared when the boys did their club drill in perfect timing.

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After the success of the Independence Day Elocution competition some of the boys decided to enter the Inter-School Elocution Contest organised by the Lioness Club, Pimpri. The team - A. Vaidya, C. Shetty, and K. Ghosh - won the 1st prize, and the first two boys also came first in their divisions. So they returned very proud of themselves! The rest of us gave them a good clap next day at the Assembly.

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During the unusually long Diwali break, it was not a holiday for everyone as the ICSE examinations began for those taking French and Portuguese, and all the ICSE boys had the thought of the Science practicals due to start the day after the holidays.

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Mid-November brought, as usual, the Annual General Meeting of the P. T. A. This was very poorly attended, many parents meeting their boy's teachers during the hour which preceded the A. G. M. but leaving before it.

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On November 22nd, the main written papers of the ICSE started. This is the last November ICSE, because, as parents were informed in a circular sent out in October, in future the ICSE will be in February. As a result of this decision of the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, all ICSE schools are changing their school "years" so that they will end in April and begin in June. This means that there will be no ICSE exam or promotions in the year 1979; the "year" that begins on Jan. 15th 1979 will continue till early April 1980. The first reaction to this has been the obvious one that the boys have "lost" several months. In fact they have not, as the Colleges open in July, and, in the past, boys have had a rather unprofitable six or seven months' wait between the end of the ICSE and going to college. This period of waiting has now been reduced, and parents will be relieved to have their boys unoccupied, with school or college work, for a shorter time.

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A day or two after the ICSE examinations were over, there was a special Farewell Tea at which the Principal and the teachers of Class X said a good bye and thank you to the prefects and monitors of all categories. Now some rather self-conscious acting prefects from Class 9 took over the running of the school!

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Class 9 took over from Class 10 in the Harding Hall too, as they had their exams there. Throughout the school, the end-of-year exams were on. On December 9th, a group of boys went off with Mr. H. O'Connor to Singapore—missing the end of term “functions”. At the end of the term, another group left for Goa under Mr. D. Choudhary. Reports on these two groups’ experiences are sure to appear later in the magazine. The vast majority of boys came away from the final markreading relieved, as promotions were very lenient this year and few boys were detained. However, the edict has already gone out – this leniency will not – repeat, not – be repeated in March/April 1980 – you have been warned !

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ARNOULD HOUSE NOTES

House Masters : Mr. N. V. John
Mr. A. K. Thakore

House Captains : Neville Mehta
Munir Asharaf Aly.

House Prefects : M. Mogre
S. Addagarla,
S. Bahl,
N. Malkani
R. Sydney
R. Van Eyk

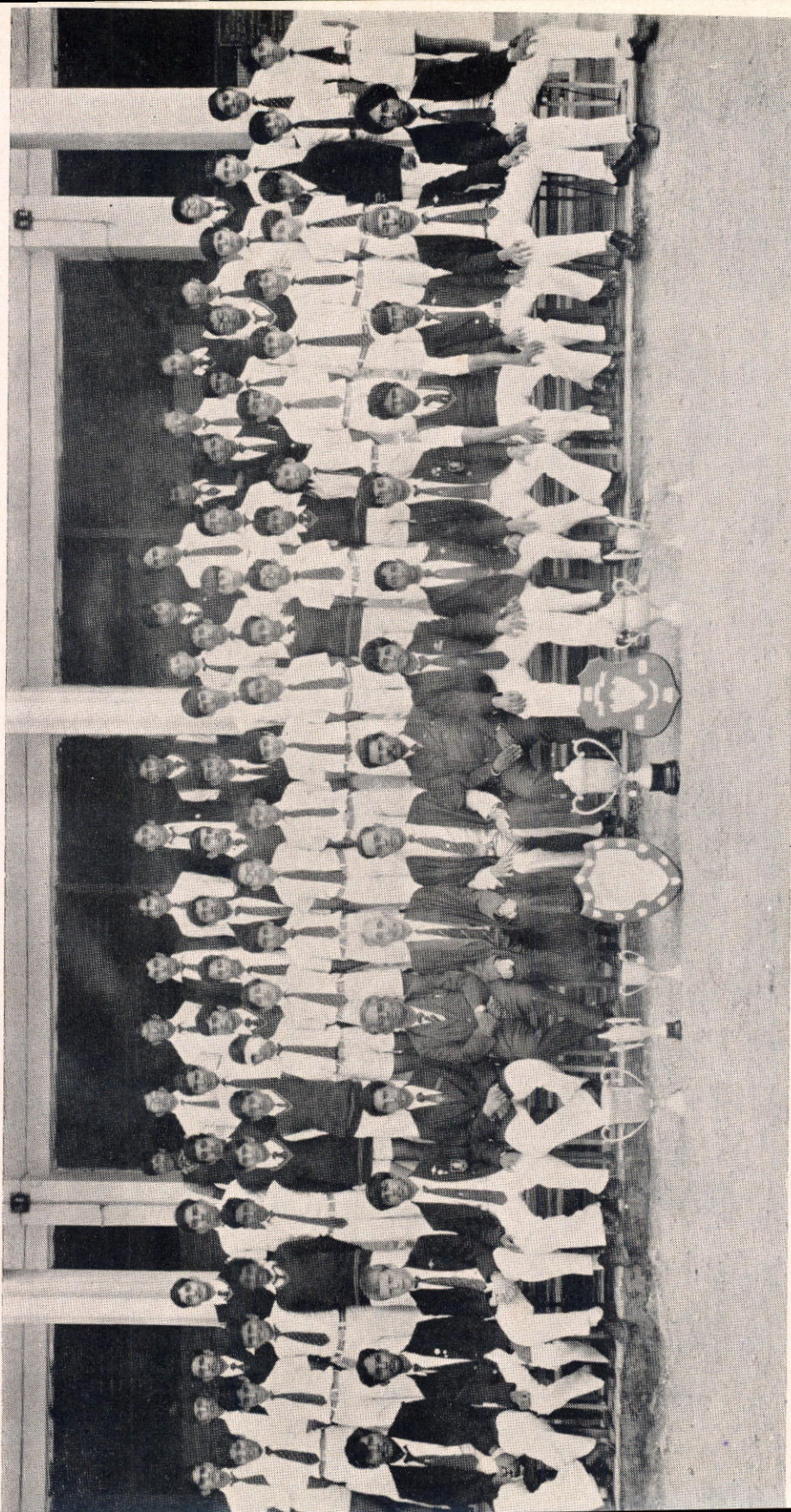
Hey boys, we have done it, we have done it, our colours are flying again, we are the Cock House !

This year started very well for us, with Long Distance runs being held at the race course. In this competition we came out victorious, securing the first place. Our Sub-juniors contributed the most points.

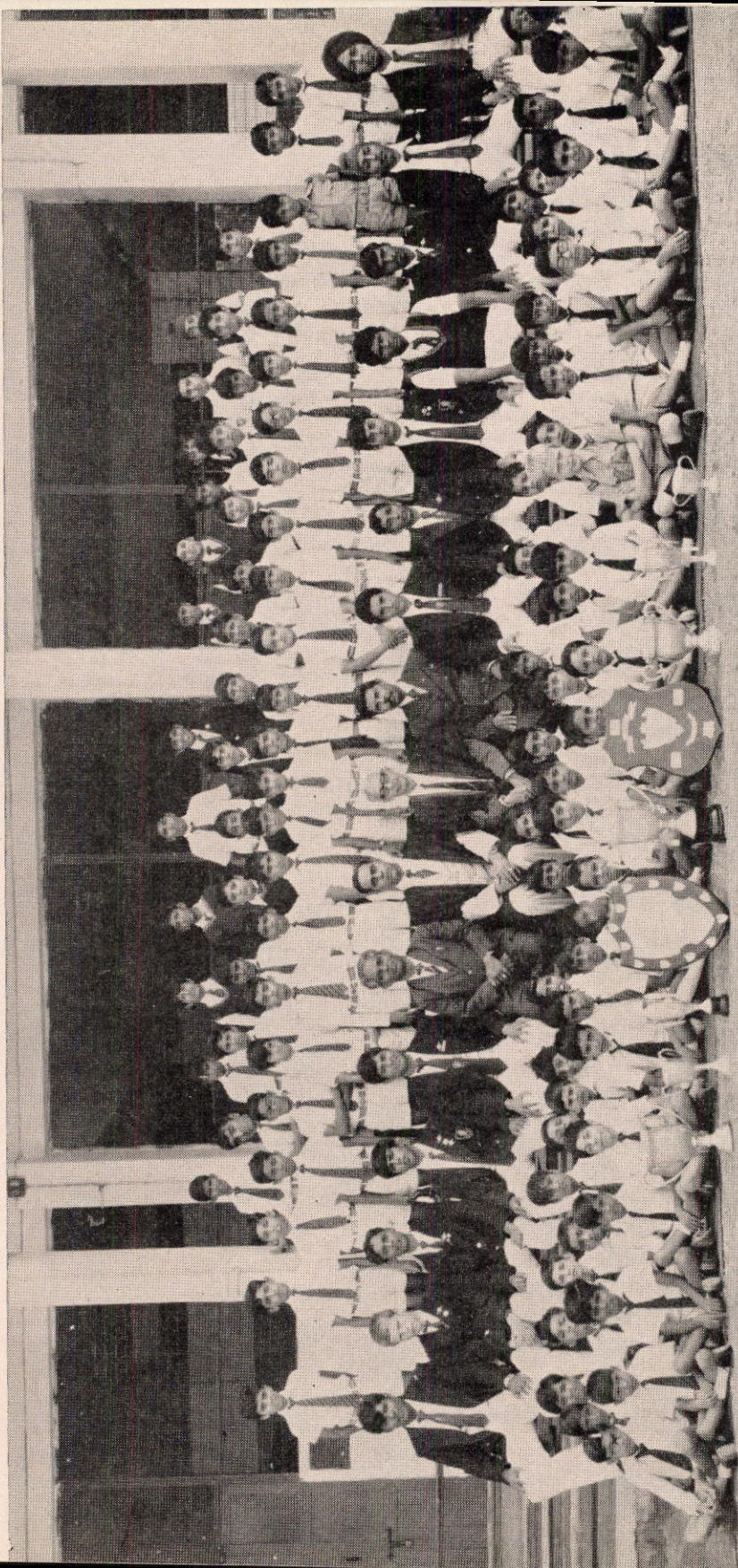
Athletics followed the Long Distance runs. The heats and the finals were held at the Sub-area ground. Arnould stood first, thus breaking the long era of Mansfield. It was here when we first got our lead for the inter-house championship.

Hockey was our game this year. We outclassed all the other houses in all three sections. Arnould stood first everywhere achieving the maximum number of points possible (21 points).

When the second term began, the football season arrived. For the last three years, Arnould had been coming first. This year too, we would have come first, save for certain mistakes. The other houses had boys playing in wrong divisions but action was not taken against them because the boys themselves were not at fault as they go according to the house lists. Due to this Arnould was literally prevented from being first and please, dear Reader, do not think that this is meant as an excuse. Let's hope that this kind of error does not occur in our school in the future. Arnould stood third in football after all the problems were settled.



Cock House, Seniors (Arnould)



Cock House Juniors (Arnould)

Indoor games followed football. Arnould stood first overall. In table tennis mention should be made of Chavan, the Junior champion, who represented the House and brought honour to it. For Badminton, S. Bahl and S. Delvis formed a formidable partnership.

The third term began with cricket. There, we stood first in the Sub-juniors, second in the Juniors and third in the Seniors. Overall we fared quite well.

The last games for the year were Volleyball and Basketball. In Volley Ball, though we had a good team, everyone in the team was inexperienced and we had never played as a team before. In Basketball, we stood firstequal. No one had expected us to do so well, but we, the players representing the House, had a feeling that we would do well and we did.

Thus ended the year and we were the winners of the Inter-House Championship with a lead of 16 points, a feat yet to be achieved by any other house.

I would like to thank all the House prefects, who co-operated with us—the House captains, throughout the year.

I wish the boys all the best for the next year's Cock House Championship, and wish they retain the Cock House Trophy.

Last but not least I would like to thank the House Masters, Mr. John and Mr. Thakore, for all the guidance that they gave us throughout the year.

— Munir Asharaf Aly
(House Captain)

MANSFIELD HOUSE NOTES

House Captain : D. More

House V. Captain : A. Irani

The year started very well both for Mansfield and Arnould when they topped in the Long Distance runs. In Tug O' War, Mansfield came second (this was the first time in 10 years).

Athletics brought a big big, disappointment and upset as some boys in the junior section bunked with the result we had to march after Arnould House during the final march-past on the track. We ignominiously came last in Hockey even though we had the best player in the Seniors A. Irani, who failed to come. Undeterred by these great upsets, we made up in Football by coming second; the seniors doing their best came first. Chainani, a well-known and an excellent Table-Tennis player, helped us to come first in Table Tennis and as a result we came second in the indoor games. Arnould had by now gone too far into the lead for us to catch up, but undaunted we went on trying hard and came second along-with Arnould in Cricket. This of course didn't reduce their lead. In Basket Ball and Volley Ball, a rather strange thing happened; all the Houses tied.

Ultimately we finished as Runners-up.

The boys who made very useful contributions in the seniors were More D, Potnis N, Irani A, Panchal A, Young J, Datt J, and Mahtani J.

Among the Juniors, the names most mentionable are Nayak G, Mubarakai M, Dholoo F, Chainani A, and Netto R.

In the subjuniors, Nelthropp of Div. V, broke the Long Distance Record. Sondhi S, was the best midget athlete, breaking the 200 metres record. Other midgets who covered themselves in glory in other games were Modi, Mazumdar S, Wood R, Mahtaney S, and Chothia K.

Last but not least, in love and respect, we would like to thank our House masters Mr. Barrow, Mr. S. Fernandes and Mr. Choudhari who trained us and did not allow our morale to go down with these words always ringing in our minds "Play up and Play the Game."

Let us hope that success comes upon us with the rising sun in 1979 and once more at the end of the year we sit for the Cock House photograph.

HARDING HOUSE NOTES

House Masters	:	Mr. W. Daniell
	:	Mr. M. Fletcher
House Captain	:	H. Mehta
V. Captain	:	L. Rodrigues
Monitor / Prefect	:	H. Charles
	:	B. D'Souza
	:	A. Joshi
	:	M. Nimbalkar
	:	P. Pires

The year 1978 began with all the boys practising for the Long Distance runs. Our House masters, Mr. Daniell and Mr. Fletcher, found time to take us for practice. J. Mathews, P. Joshi, M. Pillay and P. Singh tried very hard and succeeded in bringing up the house Points. From the Senior side, we had expected much of H. Charles, but due to unforeseen circumstances he did not succeed in doing very much. Even A. Joshi who had pulled a muscle in his leg could not succeed. L. Rodrigues came second in this race. The overall result of the Long Distance runs was that we came 3rd with Bishop's. Even in Athletics we were not successful and landed third. In Hockey we didn't fare too badly; we came second in the overall result.

In the second term, the most awaited game, football, came and the boys began thorough practice. This proved good when we came first in the overall, with exceptional playing by L. Rodrigues (sub-juniors), R. Bereket (Juniors) and M. Nimbalkar (Seniors). In the indoor games we came last, though we tried our best. The good players for Table Tennis were S. Hathiramani and A. Panjwani, and for Badminton, A. Joshi and H. Mehta.

In the third term everybody had come prepared for Cricket, Basket Ball and Volley Ball. By this term we were just one point behind Mansfield. Actually Cricket let us down, though we tried very hard. B. D'Souza, H. Charles, H. Mehta and R. Poduwal were amongst the good players from the senior side, P. Joshi, A. Sharma and G. Kewalramani from the juniors, and Kumar, Sasane and Pandhare from the Sub-juniors. In Basket Ball, we came first equal and in Volley Ball, third equal.

Overall we did not move from our last year's position of third place.

I wish to thank our House Masters, Mr. Daniell and Mr. Fletcher, who helped us, not forgetting the boys who co-operated with me.

I wish M. Nimbalkar, A. Panjwani and N. Parmar all the best for the coming year.

H. Mehta, 10A
House Captain

BISHOP'S HOUSE NOTES

At the outset we must congratulate a number of boys in the House on their splendid effort in many of the activities. Many among these like Henry D'Souza, the Doshi brothers, young Sant Singh and others literally put their best foot forward to try and pull us through. Bishop's House suffered with an acute shortage of Seniors this year which made our performance in Athletics and in the team games suffer to quite an extent. As usual, the boarders made up the back-bone of the teams and despite coaxing and convincing by the House masters, very few day scholars came forward.

The year began with the Tug-O'-War, which we won at the cost of Mr. H. O'Connor's voice, which had given us confidence.

The Long Distance runs were not very successful with only A. Ghadiya finishing among the higher pointers in the Senior division.

The 2nd term's team games saw us ding-donging between IInd and IIIrd places fighting Arnould and Mansfield Houses for the privileged First place. Among our more successful ventures were Basket-ball, Volley Ball and Badminton with H. D'Souza and Karandikar in the van, and the debating and G. K. Competitions were also taken.

We wish Bishop's House all success in 1979 / 80.

Captain - A. Gadhiya
V. Captain - A. Unni.

INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS-1978

At last we were on the Athletics Fields which seemed to have suddenly changed from the drab grey brown to a bright mixture of the Four House.Colours.

The Division I 100 m. was a close race between Jadhav, Irani and Nimbalkar. (Jadhav came up in front with a time of 13.2'')

In the 200 m and 400 m, A. Unni was the undisputed winner. Ayaz Gadhiya clocked the best times for the 800 and 1500 m events. A. Irani won the Long Distance and his follow up was O. Morris.

Jhutti's was the best High Jump (4' 8'') and the Triple Jump (34'.11''). Gadhiya threw the shot put 31' 10''. Jhutti and Bais followed up in the second and third places.

Mansfield came first and Bishop's second in the Senior Relay. The Medley Relay, too, was won by Mansfield with Bishop's Second. But the Tug-O'-War was won by Bishop's followed by Mansfield.

For Division I, the Victor Ludorum was A. Unni.

In Division II, the 100 m race was a close neck and neck race with More and Potnis drawing along side each other. Bahl came third Potnis won the 200 m and More came second. J. Young stood first in the 400 m, the 1500 m and the long distance races. Potnis came first in the Long Jump and Triple Jump events. A. Joshi won the High Jump event.

The Victor Ludorum was N. Potnis.

In Division III, the 100 m was won by V Deboo who also stood second in the 200 and 400 m races. He was led by G. Naik. The High Jump winner was V. Billampelly whereas the Long Jump winner was N. Mehta. J. Mathews won the Long Distance. The winner of the relay was Bishop's and the runner up was Arnould.

The Victor Ludorum was G. Naik.

In the Division IV, 200 m, S. Salvi (who also came first in the 100 m, 400 m and Distance events) broke the record with a timing of 29'0''. S. Cherian won the Long Distance. The winner for the 4x100 m relay was Mansfield.

Obviously the Victor Ludorum was S. Salvi.

In Division V, W. Nelthropp and S. Sondhi broke records. W. Nelthropp got the record for the Long Distance and Sondhi for the 200 m. S. Sondhi also won the 50 and 80 m races.

S. Sondhi was thus the Victor Ludorum.

These races ended the Inter house Athletics, and the boring school periods now re-started.

INTER HOUSE ATHLETICS - 1978**DIVISION V**

Event	1st	2nd	3rd	Time / Dist.
50 metres	S. Sondhi	D. Bhamvra	W. Nelthropp	8" 0
80 Metres	S. Sondhi	W. Nelthropp	D. Bhamvra	12.5"
200 Metres	S. Sondhi	W. Nelthropp	D. Bhamvra	32.1" Record
Long Dist.	W. Nelthropp	S. Daswani	A. Shinde	10'36" Record
Victor Ludorum	S. Sondhi			

DIVISION IV

100 metres	S. Salvi	S. Sant Singh	S. Mazumdar	14.6"
200 metres	S. Salvi	M. Jadhav	R. Thakur	29.0" Record
400 metres	S. Salvi	M. Jadhav	S. Cherian	73.7"
Long Dist.	S. Cherian	A. Doshi	B. Marley	10'18.4"
Long Jump	S. Salvi	H. Seymour	N. Mody	12' 10"
4x100m Relay	Mansfield	Arnould		62.2"
Victor Ludorum	S. Salvi			

DIVISION III

100 metres	V. Deboo	G. Naik	S. Dewasthale	13.7"
200 metres	G. Naik	V. Deboo	S. Dewasthale	27.2"
400 metres	G. Naik	V. Deboo	S. Dewasthale	62.4"
High Jump	V. Billampelly	P. Joshi	J. Mathews	4'.3"
Long Jump	N. Mehta	J. Mathews	M. Auja	14'.6"
Long Dist.	J. Mathews	G. Naik	P. Singh	9'26.7"
100x200x200 x100 Relay	Bishop's	Arnould	Mansfield	87.1"
Victor Ludorum	G. Naik			

DIVISION II

100 metres	D. More & N. Potnis		S. Bahl	12.5"
200 metres	N. Potnis	D. More	H. Charles	26"
400 metres	J. Young	D. More	M. Mullan	69.7"
800 metres	H. Charles	J. Young	M. Mullan	2'26.4"
1500 metres	J. Young	H. Charles	R. Sydney	5'9.6"
High Jump	A. Joshi	L. Rodrigues	D. Basu	4'6"
Long Jump	N. Potnis	D. More	C. Rohamare	17'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Triple Jump	N. Potnis	C. Rohamare	J. Young	33' 8"
Putting	N. Vazir	R. Singh	M. Nimbalkar	30' 1"
Long Dist.	J. Young	R. Sydney	L. Rodrigues	18' 57"
Victor Ludorum	N. Potnis			

DIVISION I

100 metres	J. Jadhav	A. Irani	A. Nimbalkar	13.2''
200 metres	A. Unni	J. Jadhav	A. Nimbalkar	26''
400 metres	A. Unni	C. Dupratt	B. Chakranarayan	59.8''
800 metres	A. Gadhiya	A. Irani	O. Morris	2'26.8''
1500 metres	A. Gadhiya	O. Morris	A. Irani	5'7.4''
High Jump	J. Jhutti	A. Gadhiya	R. Poduval	4'8''
Long Jump	A. Unni	J. Jadhav	S. Bais	16' 4½''
Triple Jump	A. Unni	J. Jhutti	A. Nimbalkar	34' 11''
Putting	A. Gadhiya	J. Jhutti	S. Bais	31' 10''
Senior Relay				
200x400x400x200	Mansfield	Bishop's	Harding	
Medley Relay				
50x50x3x100	Mansfield	Bishop's	Arnould	55.5''
Tug-O'-War	Bishop's	Mansfield	Arnould	
Long Dist	A. Irani	O. Morris	A. Gadhiya	19'.0
Victor Ludorum	A. Unni			

SENIOR XI HOCKEY

The year starts with Hockey in Bishop's. The first team that most of the boys like to join is the Senior Hockey school team.

About 50 boys tried for the team but Mr. Jagtap was satisfied with only 18 of them. Just before the start of the Class matches, the number was reduced to 14. A few matches were played with Vijayan's XI and the school lost all three of them. From 14, the number of boys was increased to 16 with the inclusion of a goal-keeper and a half back. A full team now coaching under Mr. Jagtap got under way with Mr. A. Fernandes helping later. The coaching was regular and a bit rigorous as the team had to play with St. Peter's school in Panchgani for the opening quarter finals of the Anglo-Indian School Hockey tournament.

Due to unknown circumstances, we had to play with St. Peter's on Friday the 17th of March instead of the next day. The school team left for St. Peter's on Friday morning at 5-00 a. m.

The match started at 4-30 p. m. on the dot. We were the underdogs and were given no chance to win. From the bully-off we gave everything we had in us and kept St. Peter's on the defence. Then in the 28th minute of the first half, Ashok Unni of Bishop's scored a clean goal after a goal-mouth melee. The second-half saw us get many chances but they were saved by the desperate defenders of St. Peter's. The crowd stunned after the first goal kept urging their team (St. Peter's), to win. The Bishop's goal had many close shaves. In the dying minutes of the second half, the local school team were awarded a penalty corner. The ball was hit very hard but alas it got an upright and ricocheted away. After

that there was just desperate hockey till the final whistle. We all jumped for joy as the "Kiddy" team from Poona defeated the "local giants". Mr. Cabral, our school photographer who accompanied us was busy taking photographs of us.

With the victory in Panchgani we were off to Bombay. The following day, we heard the depressing news of the sad demise of Mr. John John, our school kitchen-in-charge.

For the match in Bombay, there was hardly any practice as the school's terminal exam and the ICSE selection tests were just three days from the match. On Saturday, the 1st April, the team left for Bombay, by the 5-00 a. m. train. It was the same team which was fielded in Panchgani. That evening at 4-30 p. m., the match between Bishop's and Christ Church School of Bombay started. At half time, we were leading with two magnificent goals scored by Amin Irani. Then came a fight back by the local team who with a bit of help from the referees banged in 3 goals. The final score was a 3-2 verdict in Christ Church School's favour. We were very depressed indeed as we were on the verge of winning when the tables turned.

In both the matches we played, special credit goes to both the school team captain, D. More, and A. Irani for their excellent playing which helped us beat St. Peter's and do nearly the same against Christ Church. The forwards consisting of Lyndon Rodrigues, and Ashok Unni, Maqsood Ansari, Mohan Mogre and Hebron Charles did an excellent job too. The half-backs, Jayendra Jadhav and Sumanth Addagarla gave able support to Amin Irani. Amar Nimbalkar and D. More did a fine job in the back line and last but not least, the goal-keeper Chandrakant Rohamare who did his best in both the matches. The other players, Johnny Mahtani, Neville Mehta, Randhir Singh, Murlidhar Nimbalkar and Dipankar Basu who were confined to the side-lines did all the cheering for the school side when there were no Bishop's school boys on 'foreign' lands.

Finally, on behalf of the school team, I would like to thank Mr. V. Jagtap, Mr. A. Fernandes and Mr. A. Cabral for the way they taught us and helped us and Mr. Barrow of St. Peter's, Panchgani for the kindest hospitality he showed towards us. Thank you, sirs.

— Sumanth Addagarla

JUNIOR XI HOCKEY

This year Hockey was taken quite seriously. As a matter of fact, a lot of boys turned up on the first three or four days. Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Innis chose 16 boys out of about 25. The team was comprised of D'Souza H, Mubarakai M, Joshi V, Joshi P, Aujla M, Mehta R, Dholoo F, Addagarla S, Pillay M, Johnson M, Deboo V and Netto R.

We made up the Jr. Hockey team for 1979. We carried out our practices on the O'Connor field, and used to slog it out for about one and a half hours. While practising we had matches between ourselves and the Senior XI team of our school. We had a lot of stamina exercises and a lot of dodging, scooping and other such practices to improve our skill in playing hockey.

We usually waited impatiently for the last period of school to get over as we really loved and enjoyed playing hockey with our coaches, Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Innis. On the hockey field when the time came to be serious, we really were serious and worked really sincerely. We loved the matches we had with each other, cracking jokes, hitting each other on the legs with the hockey sticks and then laughing at the way the boys kept swearing. If a boy came late he cursed himself as he had to run extra rounds around the field, while the rest of the boys would laugh and make him feel lousy. With this treatment for late comers, we rarely had any late comers.

During week-ends, the boys of the team played either at home or at school. Some boys did not practise sincerely. We wanted to play against outside teams as we were really fit and sure of ourselves. But we were disappointed as, due to certain circumstances, we did not have any matches this year with outside teams.

Nevertheless, we thank our coaches, Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Innis, for spending their precious time and coming every evening to coach us into what we really became. I am also grateful to all the boys who took part and came every evening for practice for the Jr. Hockey team for 1978.

— Ronnie Mehta, 9 B

FOOTBALL (SENIOR XI)

Football this year in Bishop's started with great enthusiasm as usual, all the boys going down to the race course for a game.

Finally, it was announced that selection for the school team was starting. The coaches for this year's Senior XI were Mr. M. Fletcher and Mr. D. Innis. On the first day, round about 30 boys, full of hope and ambition, turned out. From that day, practice began. Every day, boys were being eliminated so as to get the best 16. At last, the 16 were chosen and rigorous practice began.

At first, we cursed the coaches as we thought that we (the players) were overburdened with rigorous, strenuous exercise, and after all that to play an eight-a-side game killed us. By the time we left every evening, we were 'pooped out'; yet, this developed our stamina (horse power) and helped us to achieve the standard of physical fitness, required for us, which many of us lacked. But this concept was only in the beginning. Later we realized the importance and hence we started enjoying it.

Later we learnt to master the art of ball control and coordinate with each other and play as a team. We were developing rapidly to form a really good team. Practice kept going strong, day after day, in 'rain and sun', in 'muck and dust' but still we slogged on. Our objective was to win the trophy at the Anglo Indian Inter-School Football tournament held at Deolali.

During the practice sessions, we played a few matches here and there against a team which consisted of Ex-Bishopites called Don XI. Though they were superior, we managed to beat them a couple of times.

Football — 1st XI



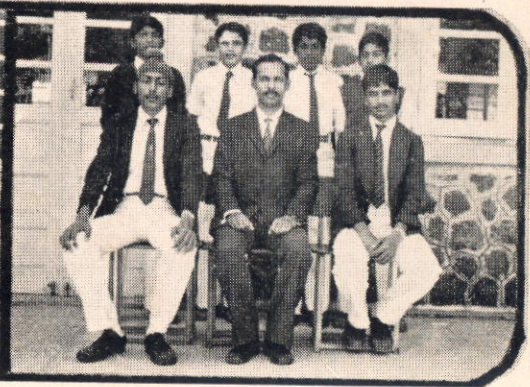
Basket - ball

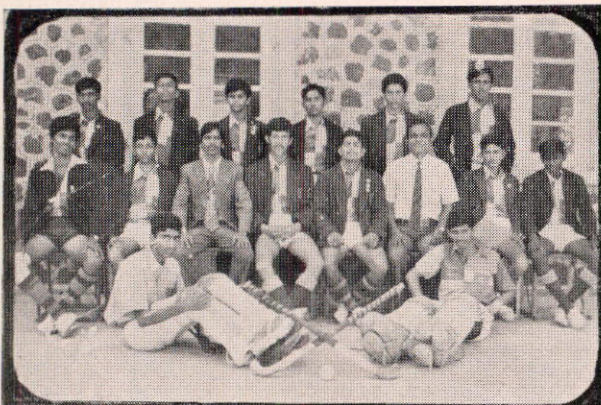
Badminton top notchers



Junior Foot ball XI

Table Tennis Stars



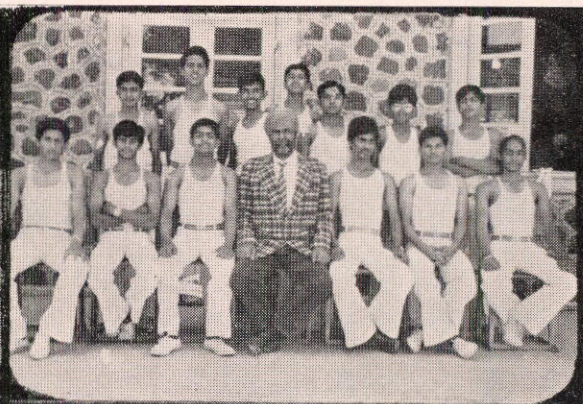


1st XI

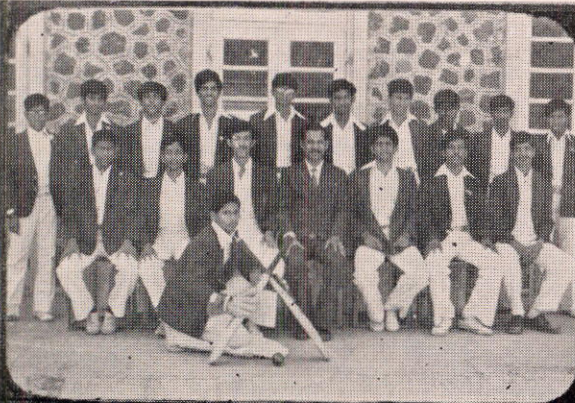


Junior XI

HOCKEY



GYMNASTICS



1st XI



Junior XI

CRICKET

A few important games we played were : St. Peter's Panchgani, where we won 3-0. Our scorers were J. Jadhav (2) and D. More (1). Next we played De Nobili College where we were 'hammered' losing 6-0. Our next game was against A. S. P. T. where our players were in perfect harmony, the combination superb, because of which we won 4-1, though we expected a thrashing. Our goal-getters were Rodrigues (3) and Bereket (1). Though the game was clean, we met with a few tragedies. Our right back, A. Ghadiya, dislocated his knee and was thus paralysed for the rest of the season. Our goal keeper, N. Mehta, got his tongue cut and N. Potnis, our left half, chipped his wrist due to a nasty fall. Our next match against St. Vincent's ended with the score being 4-1, in their favour—our only goal being scored through S. Doshi.

Later, more practice and exercise kept on adding to our physical fitness and prepared us for the Anglo-Indian Football Tournament.

Finally, reaching the venue of the tournament (Barnes School), we had an hour's practice to get the feel of the ground, on the first day.

Our first match, against Christ Church, Bombay, ended in a 2-0 victory for us. Our scorers this time were J. Jadhav and L. Rodrigues. The combination in this match was good.

Our second game, against St. Peter's, Bombay, was a gruelling one. Each side got into the opponent's goal but the two goal keepers were excellent. Finally, a solitary half-line goal, scored by Capt., D. More put us one up, thereby enabling us to enter the finals.

The last match of the tournament and the season was against the hosts of the tournament, Barnes, for the trophy. Each goal was attacked but both keepers kept watch well. In all the excitement, Barnes netted the ball. We put up a tough fight but all in vain. Thus we were adjudged Runners up.

Thus ended the football season for the Senior XI for 1978.

Our Captain, Dnyaneshwar More, was declared 'Best Player' of the tournament which he very rightly deserved. Other players who received 'Colours' for outstanding performance were N. Mehta, M. Nimbalkar and A. Unni.

Last but not least, we wish to thank our coaches Mr. M. Fletcher and Mr. D. Innis for their encouragement, coaching and moulding us to form a marvellous team. THANK YOU SIRs.

The team was Neville Mehta, Murlidhar Nimbalkar, Dnyaneshwar More, Johnny Mahtani, Henry D'Souza, Ashok Unni, Nachiket Potnis, Jayandra Jadhav, Lyndon Rodrigues, Russom Bereket, Shekhar Doshi, Carlos Dupratt, Ganpat Dhumal, Ajay Panchal and Minocher Mullan. WELL DONE BOYS !

— L. Rodrigues & N. Potnis

JUNIOR XI FOOTBALL 1978

Thirty or more spirited enthusiasts arrived at the football field in response to the announcement made at Assembly on June 6th, 1978 regarding aspirants to the Junior XI football team. From this talent was chosen the Junior XI football team for the season.

On the first day more briefing than exercises was done by our vociferous coach. From the second day onwards we started our regular practice. Practice comprised exercises and matches among ourselves.

We carried on practising the exercises and playing these matches till eventually the day came when our Coach, Mr. W. Daniell finalised the team. The selected members of the team for 1978 were Delvis K, Yusufali I, Adagarla S, Dholoo F, Deshmukh G, Joshi V, Mubarakai M, Netto R, Deshmukh B, Bitew T, Mehta R and Pillay M.

We played our first match against St. Vincent's school and though the other team was stronger than our own, we played a hard game; we fought back hard, but unfortunately the ultimate score turned out to be 3—1, in favour of St. Vincent's.

After the match against St. Vincent's, we came to know our weak points which we corrected. We then played our next match against St. Peter's School Junior XI football team at Panchgani.

The spectators held their breath throughout the thrilling match. With the mist and chill in the air, we too felt currents of excitement and extreme tension each time we controlled or lost the ball. The outstanding players were Mubarakai, Netto and Adagarla. All this was attained because of the hard work of our coach, Mr. Daniell and we are very much thankful for that.

On returning from Panchgani with the score of 0—0, we continued our football practice with our coach. Later, we got news that our coach was to go out of town for about a month; this left us to practise on our own.

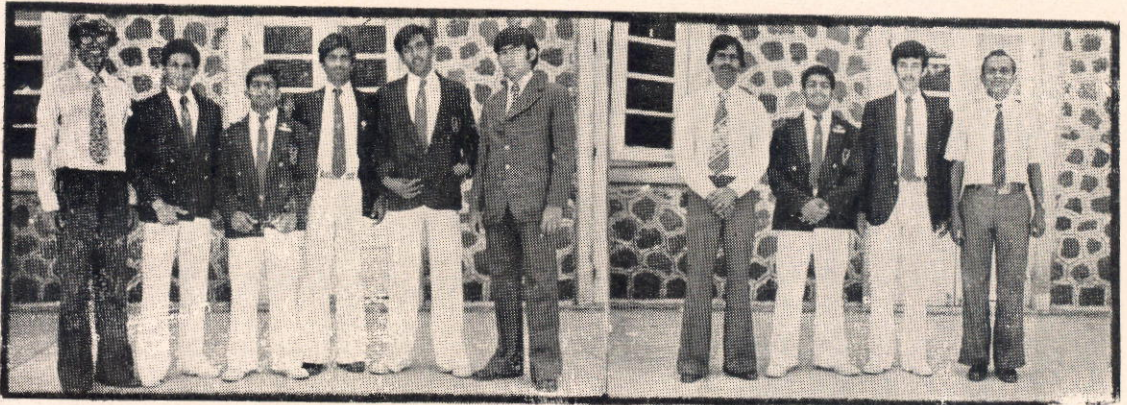
Well! when I say "practise", I mean that we go to the race course at 4.00 p.m. and there we run around the race course (one round is good enough). After the run-around, we do a little stomach and stamina exercises. Then we split up into two teams and play a match against each other—we carried on with this procedure every evening after school, till the close of the football season.

Later on, we were rewarded with certificates to show that we were members of the Jr. XI Football Team for 1978.

—Ronnie Mehta



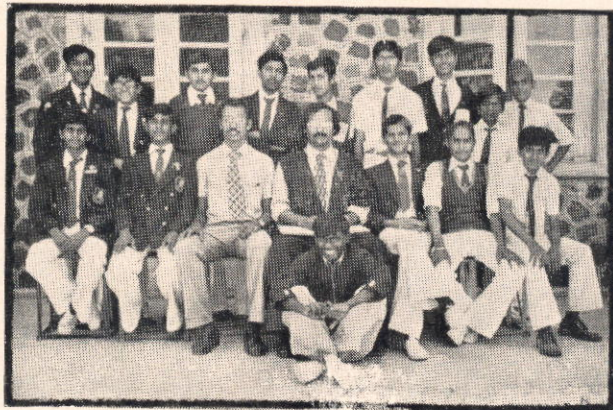
The Principal is now a happy grandfather



Football

Colours

Hockey



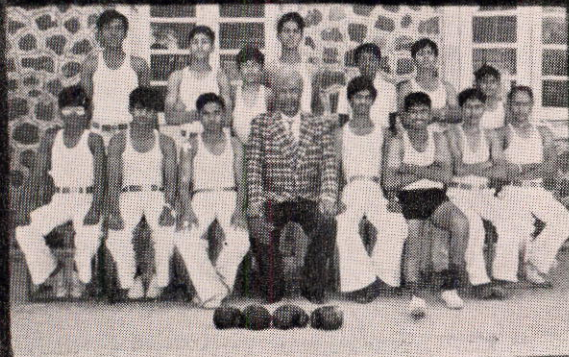
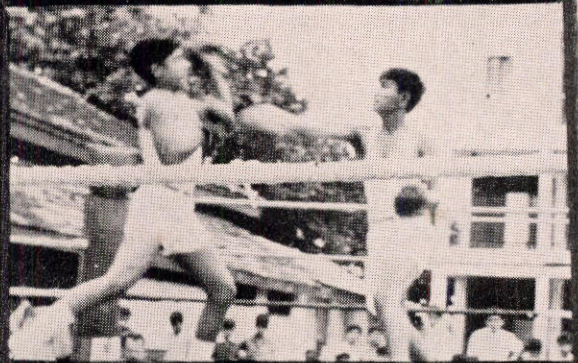
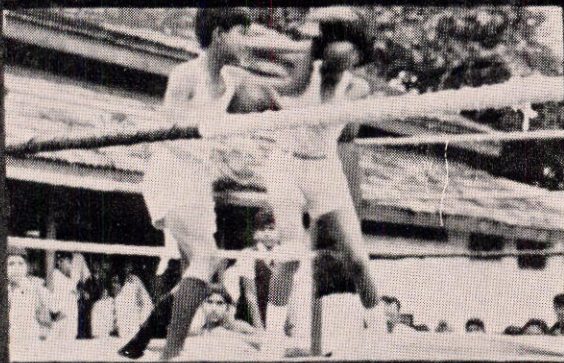
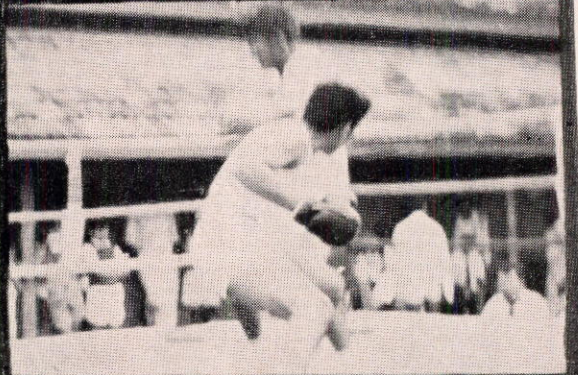
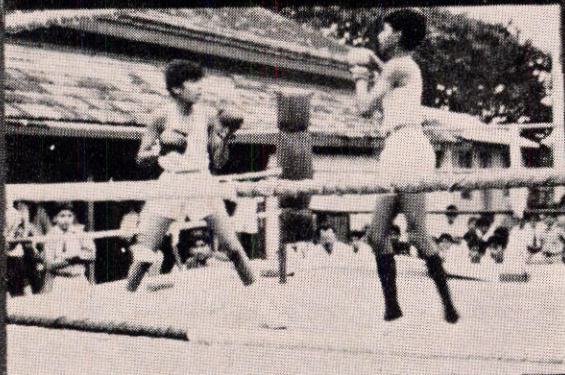
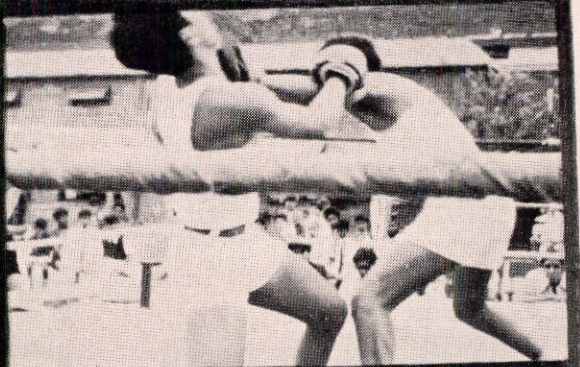
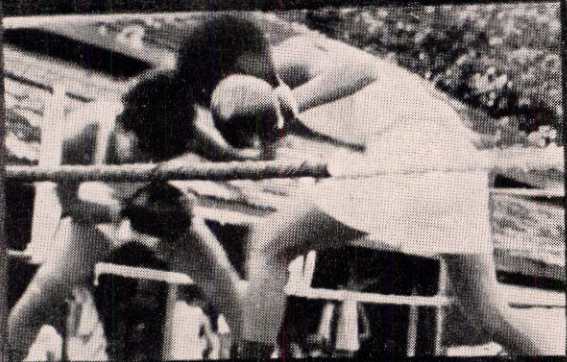
Duke of Edinburgh boys with Dukes !



I. C. S. E. CLASS, 1978



Art & Craft - Senior School



Getting tough

B O X I N G

Thanks to all those who helped organise boxing bouts this year. Special thanks to Mr. Bajwa (2 years National and 10 years army heavyweight champion) and Mr. Lestyne, both of whom encouraged and coached many boys in boxing.

Thanks are also due to people who willingly gave a helping hand.

Boxing is fighting turned into a sport in the sense that a school master may say to two boys : ' If you must fight, then go to the gym, put on gloves and have a referee present to see you fight fair '. In saying this, the master understands that aggression is a part of the human make-up, but that for the young, it can be channelled into an expression which is acceptable to a large section of society.

About a month before the elimination bouts, the boxers started practising. They were made to spar, skip and prior to do special exercises. The elimination bouts lasted for a little more than a week as the bouts were delayed because of rain on the first day when only one bout was fought and the rest had to be postponed. Referees from the Poona Region Amateur Boxing Association came to our help and we are very thankful to them.

Since 1975, Boxing has become an internal affair and it is steadily losing its popularity in the school. It could well be a popular sport in the school if only the parents of the boys would co-operate.

The M. C.'s on the evening of the finals were Neville Mehta and M. Ashrafali, who after all the formalities introduced the boxers to the spectators.

The first bout of the evening was between Arun Tipnis Menon and K. Bhutekar. Both boys were new entrants. Theirs was a punch for punch fight but Menon pulled through as the winner.

The next fight was between S. Salvi and T. Abdulgani. It was a good bout enjoyed by everyone. Salvi, with his speed and reach, easily beat Abdulgani, a tough opponent.

Then J. Jadhav with more experience in this manly art and with his short, snappy, hard-hitting jabs won a decisive victory over Polan, also a good boxer.

After this, I, K. Bhamvra found myself in the ring facing last year's Rookie of the year winner A. Gavane. I was, as might be expected, glad to win, but must say I had a worthy opponent.

The next encounter was between R. Mehta and R. Sydney. This was an interesting bout. Mehta R., with a height and reach advantage, beat Sydney, a good opponent.

The next fight of the day was between Mullan M and Pawar S. Mullan was less experienced and a new entrant, but still he put up a good show. Pawar, who had a height advantage, used a left jab to good effect and so overcame Mullan.

Doshi M. then faced Deokar S. Doshi, being a new entrant, was less experienced and could not keep up with Deokar's speed. In addition to this, Deokar had the longer reach. None the less, Doshi fought courageously till the final gong.

The Ansari M and Dhumal G bout was a hard-hitting affair with some good ducking and jabbing by Dhumal. But Ansari was snappier with his punches and quicker on his feet. This brought him the victory in a good-to-watch, and very well contested bout.

Doshi S and Rohamare C also showed that they were not new-comers to this sport. Doshi was a little faster than his opponent and after a keen struggle, overcame Rohamare—a tough opponent.

The next bout between Young J and Bajwa R proved to be one that riveted the attention of the onlookers. It was indeed a well contested encounter which ended in Young's favour and secured for him the much coveted belt for the best boxer. Of course a participant cannot be adjudged the best boxer unless he has a worthy opponent, and that's just what Bajwa was.

The Unni and Chakranarayan clash was a much awaited affair. Unni, a good all-rounder, overcame Chakranarayan with a flurry of 'straight from the shoulder' punches.

Delvis S and Addagarla S fought next. This was a punch for punch fight which ended in Delvis's favour.

Karl Marshall fought sportingly against Lyndon Rodrigues, but the latter who had obviously been going in for body building exercises, showed that it paid to cultivate muscle power. He reaped the reward.

The fourteenth bout for the evening was between Mullan M and Mehta H. Mullan was more experienced than the latter and gave Mehta quick hard punches which forced the end of the bout. Nevertheless, it must be said for Mehta that he took the punishment he received, manfully.

The last bout between Sydney R and Irani I was an exciting and well worth watching encounter. Both boxers fought scientifically and received and gave hard punches. The judges were left with a hard decision to make. They made it in favour of Sydney.

In the Seniors, J. Young was adjudged the Best Boxer and received the belt. The best loser was G. Dhumal.

In the Junior Section, the best boxer was S. Salvi and his opponent T. Abdulgani was the best loser.

The 'Rookie of the Year' was R. Sydney.

It is necessary to request all parents to encourage their sons to take part in this manly art. Boxing is an art that will develop a sense of fitness in their sons. Some parents think their sons will be badly beaten, but this is where they are wrong. In School Boxing, a boy will never be beaten to death, neither will his face be disfigured. Bouts are stopped long before anything like this can happen.

Our most sincere thanks to Mr. Bajwa, Mr. Lestyne, Mr. Matkar and to other Staff members for their efforts in making our Boxing a success.

BOXING RESULTS 1978

Winner		Runner-up	
1	T. Menon Arun Jr.	K. Bhutekar	
2	S. Salvi Jr.	T. Abdulgani	
3	J. Jadhav Jr.	A. Polan	
4	K. Bhamvra Jr.	A. Gavane	
5	R. Mehta Jr.	R. Sydney	
6	S. Pawar Jr.	M. Mullan	
7	S. Deokar Sr.	M. Doshi	
8	M. Ansari Sr.	G. Dhumal	
9	S. Doshi Sr.	C. Rohamare	
10	J. Young Sr.	R. Bajwa	
11	A. Unni Sr.	B. Chakranarayan	
12	S. Delvis Sr.	S. Addagarla	
13	L. Rodrigues Sr.	K. Marshall	
14	M. Mullan Sr.	H. Mehta	
15	R. Sydney Sr.	A. Irani	
Senior Best Boxer		:	J. Young
Senior Best Loser		:	G. Dhumal
Junior Best Boxer		:	S. Salvi
Junior Best Loser		:	T. Abdulgani
Rookie of the Year		:	R. Sydney

SENIOR CRICKET XI

Captain : A. Irani

Master-in-charge : Mr. K. S. Aitkins

Cricket in Bishop's is not every senior's (Xth Std.) interest as the thought of exams makes him look into his books. Anyway, there are always a handful of sporting boys in the school!

The team was first selected while the Prelims were going on. Even then there were many boys present. The Final team was selected and the Sunday after the exams, the first match was played.

On Sunday, the 1st of October, the boys, still looking a bit groggy (the effect of exams), were pitted against Dastur school. Bishop's won the toss and elected to field on an unsure O'Connor field where the mat was put up. We started beautifully capturing 3 wickets all by Capt. Amin Irani. Then came a partnership which realized 20 odd runs. Soon there was a breakthrough and wickets began to fall but quite a few runs were being scored. At last, the Dastur school team was all out for 75 runs.

We began the chase disastrously losing opener Ansari in the first over. Then Irani, after being dropped on two occasions, started the fireworks. When the total score was 30, he fell but only after making 24. Then began the slide! We lost four quick wickets and the score reached 36 for 6. Then a 14 run partnership between Venkataramiah (who hit a six too) and Addagarla revived the school team's hopes. Then Venkataramiah fell and soon the team collapsed but not before last man Unni hit a blistering four. We were all out for 70 runs, falling only five runs short of the Dastur school team's total. The only 'odd' sparkle of the Bishop's team were beautiful bowling by Irani, who took five wickets, the sixer by Venkataramiah, and a lovely catch by Nimbalkar, who, after running 15 yards, caught the ball, slid on his knees and then fell down—still holding the ball.

The second match was against Vijayan's XI and this time the school team was strengthened by the presence of Mogre! The rival team consisted mainly of ex-Bishopites studying in Colleges. But this did not scare the school team. After our 'guests' had fallen for a mere 55 runs due to good bowling by Irani, the school team began disastrously losing two good quick wickets. Then Bahl and Irani, followed by Vice-Captain Potnis, steadied the batting. After these three, wickets began to fall in quick succession. But dour batting by Poduval, who kept one side up and good strokeplay by Mogre helped the school team surpass the rival team's score. Thus Bishop's won a more difficult match by a more handsome margin of 4 wickets.

The festive match between the school team and the 'Young Old Boys' of Bishop's held terrors for the school team. The thought of facing up to Raymond and Meher Homji was a bit too frightening. For the third time in three matches the school team had to field first. Soon two wickets had fallen - both to Irani. Then aggressiveness on the part of Momin and Raymond started the fight between the bat and the ball. Soon Momin was out to Addagarla and Raymond to Irani. Then tremendous batting by Sawant with Meher Homji first, and then with Tampi put the score well past 50. Soon after 55, Sawant got out but only after making 20 and it was truly a captain's knock! After this, wickets fell quickly but not before Bhoir hit some impressive shots to the boundary. Unluckily for him, he soon ran out of partners. But by this time the 'Young Old Boys' had made 85 runs, a difficult task for us as we had not previously scored so many runs.

Soon we started batting, with our openers facing the new ball against the fury of Raymond and Meher Homji. While from his end Raymond gave nothing away, Meher Homji bowled short and erratically, thus injecting confidence in our batsmen especially Bahl who started with a four. Soon Raymond struck taking Poduval's wicket. Then a 16 run partnership between Bahl and Irani helped our side gain confidence. Bahl soon left but only after he had batted 'beautifully'. Then Potnis and Irani kept the runs going before Potnis was well caught in the slips. The next over saw Raymond bowl a beautiful outswinger which sent Irani's stump cartwheeling. The score then read 40 for 4 with Raymond bagging all four wickets. Then a magnificent 30 run partnership between "small" Ansari, who played a very dedicated innings, and Samtani kept our hopes alive. Soon Ansari and then Mogre, the next batsman - 'left'. Then defensive batting by Venkataramiah made the school team run against time. But Samtani showed the way to victory and ironically the winning run was scored by 'Mr. Byes'. The school was jubilant and thus there was an appetite for the traditional lunch which was hosted by the school.

The team : (including substitutes) — A. Irani, N. Potnis, M. Ansari, S. Bahl, S. Samtani, A. Nimbalkar, R. Poduval, H. Charles, S. Addagarla, A. Unni, V. Karandikar, S. Doshi, S. Venkataramiah, H. Mehta, and L. Rodrigues.

In conclusion, on behalf of the school team, I wish to thank Mr. Aitkins for the pains he took to weld this school team into a good, respectable team. Thank you, Sir!

— S. Addagarlu, 10 B

BAD MINTON

The Badminton season began with the boarders coming back from their holidays for the second term with their badminton rackets. This was the first sign that the badminton season in our school would begin soon.

The very next day, the Hall was crowded with boys waiting for their turn to practise for the school open tournament. The day came when the boys had to give their names for the senior and junior tournaments. After a few days the draw was put up and the first round began.

Soon the day of the finals came in the Senior section for S. Bahl and S. Delvis who had fought their way up and entered as the finalists. In the senior doubles, D. More and S. Bahl entered into the finals with S. Addagarla and S. Delvis. In the Junior singles, H. D'Souza and Marley entered the finals. There was no doubles for juniors as the number of entrants was not enough.

After a very close fight in the Senior singles, S. Bahl turned out to be the winner. In the Senior doubles, after a very exciting match, D. More and S. Bahl were the winners. In the Junior singles, Marley was the winner.

Even though the tournament was over, Badminton did not end in the Bishop's School for the year 1978. Every day the boys carried on practising for the House matches.

The day of the tournament came. On the first day, Arnould beat Bishop's and Harding beat Mansfield in straight games. On the second day, Arnould beat Harding and Mansfield beat Bishop's. On the last day Arnould beat Mansfield 2-1 and Bishop's beat Harding 2-1 after a very exciting game.

The over-all results were in this order — Arnould — Bishop's — Harding and Mansfield. The participants of each House were :

Arnould : S. Bahl, S. Delvis, S. Addagarla, K. Delvis.

Bishop's : M. Ansari, H. D'Souza, V. Karandikar, A. Nimbalkar.

Mansfield : D. More, B. Mirchandani, A. Irani, H. Marwa.

Harding : H. Mehta, A. Joshi, H. Charles, S. Shashidhar.

Even though the Inter-house had finished, the Anglo-Indian Inter-School matches were still to go. The school team which consisted of S. Bahl, S. Addagarla, S. Delvis, D. More and H. Mehta practised daily but fortunately for other schools and unfortunately for Bishop's the first and third seeded players could not make it. So the school was represented by S. Delvis, D. More and H. Mehta. Unfortunately, Bishop's lost to Barnes in the semi-finals after a close and exciting fight.

We thank Mr. Thakore for the trouble he took to organise and keep Badminton alive in the Bishop's School. We are sure that Badminton will never die out as long as he is in our school.

— H. Mehta & H. Charles

TABLE TENNIS

Table Tennis started with a great bang ! Many boys were seen running to the table tennis room whenever they were free. When Mr. Aitkins announced that the draws were put up, all the boys rushed to see who their opponents were. The 'Weaker' boys were disappointed to see themselves playing the better ones in the very first round and being eliminated.

In the Junior singles, A. Chavan came out as the winner, beating K. Delvis without any difficulty.

In the Junior doubles, S. Kapoor and P. Dennis emerged winners, beating G. Kewalramani and S. Hinduja who put up a good show.

In the case of the Senior singles, A. Chainani rallied to beat S. Samtani in the finals, beating him in straight games.

Chainani also won the doubles with the help of S. Uberoi. They beat S. Samtani and B. Deshmukh. However, there was a tough fight.

Thus table tennis ended with everyone playing sportingly.

Next year, Table Tennis can be played under better conditions. Boys would be able to see the ball better if there were lights above the tables. For this, the ceiling should be higher so that the ball does not touch the lights. Finally, there should not be so much breeze coming in because this causes the ball to move in different directions.

— S. Samtani, 8 C

BASKETBALL

Basketball, that fast game full of movement, where everyone is constantly moving, was first introduced in this school a few years ago.

This year, the game reached its zenith in our school. Throughout the year, we could see the boys playing basketball, although the game is officially scheduled for the third term.

During the first term, the boys formed a team which consisted of the school's best players and played matches against the staff and the A. S. P. T. youngsters. We thrashed the staff, our score being almost thrice theirs. With the A. S. P. T. youngsters, we were not so lucky, and we lost by a small margin though we dominated the match. This team consisted of the following players - M. A. Aly (Capt), J. Mahtani, D. More, L. Rodrigues, J. Jadhav and A. Gadhiya.

Towards the end of the term there was a 'Cake Tournament' organised. The winning team won a Cake. This was an inter-class tournament. XC were the winners, and XA the runners-up.

INTER HOUSE COMPETITION

This year throughout the inter-house basketball competition, there was an excited feeling among the boys and they were held in suspense.

On the first day, Arnould played Bishop's. Arnould won the match (31-6) without any difficulty as the result demonstrates. M.A. Aly was the highest scorer. M. Ansari was by far 'the man of the match', although his team, Bishop's, lost.

The other game of the evening was between Mansfield and Harding. Everyone expected Mansfield to thrash Harding since they had in their team seven players who ranked among the twelve best of the school.

Harding won the match with ease! L. Rodrigues was the highest scorer and the player who stole the show in the match.

The next day, Bishop's played Harding. Bishop's outclassed Harding with their Captain M. Ansari, scoring the most baskets and being the best player of the match.

Then Mansfield played Arnould. It was a tough fight where the best house won. D. More, the Mansfield House Captain, along with his players tried his best but the Arnould house players fought it out and emerged as winners. M. A. Aly was the player who netted most of the baskets and in the end was adjudged the best player of the evening.

On the last day, Mansfield played Bishop's and got their only victory. This was the day when Bishop's just could not stand the pressure put on them by Mansfield. In the end, Mansfield won by quite a large margin.

The next match was between Arnould and Harding. Harding played hard and defeated Arnould. This was a well deserved victory. L. Rodrigues was the player who scored the most and played the best.

The final position was as follows :

- 1 — Arnould
- 2 — Harding
- 3 — Bishop's
- 4 — Mansfield

SCHOOL TEAM

When the third term began, it was announced that there would be a school team formed in Basketball. This was the first officially formed school team in Bishop's. Mr. W. Daniell was the coach of the team.

On the first day, many boys turned out for the selections but as the days passed by, we could see the number of the boys dwindling. At last there were 12 boys chosen to represent the school. After the selections were held, rigorous practice began. Once the practice was over, no boy was left with strength in him !

Then came the time when a boy was to be chosen by the coach to lead the team. Mr. Daniell preferred to let the boys elect their captain. M. A. Aly was elected, as expected, by everyone.

Then came the time for us to play matches. No school was willing to play against us, some because they feared our strength such as Hutchings, or others because they had exams (SSC) school prelims.

Towards the end of the season, we played against the P. T. School team, which had players in their team representing the services team; in fact one of them led the services team who are the national champions. Although we lost, it was a good experience for us and we learnt a lot from the other teams.

The season came to an abrupt end due to the ICSE exam.

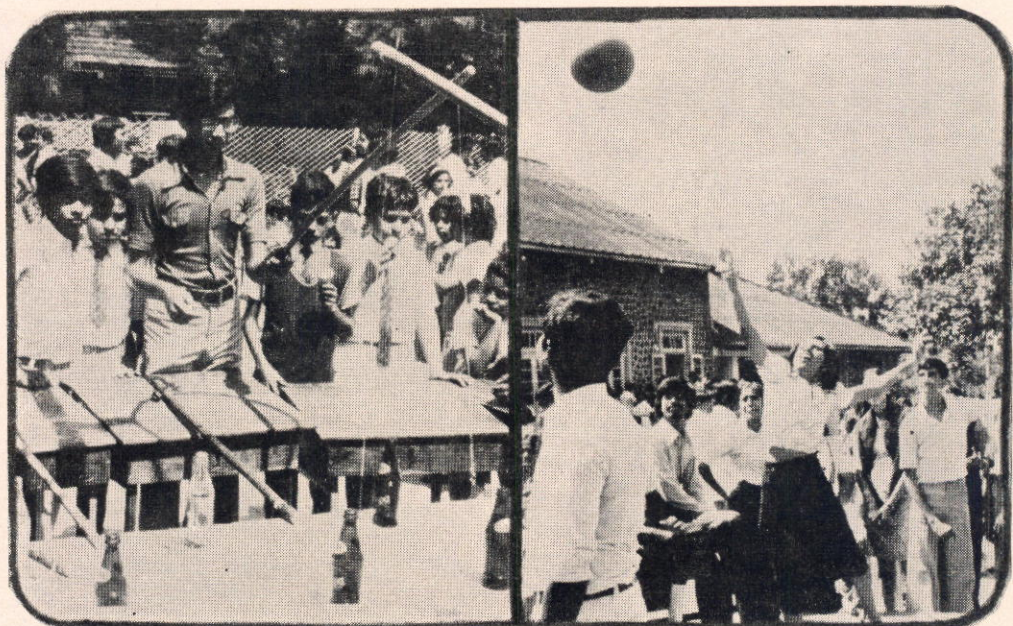
The members of the school team were :

M. A. Aly (Capt), J. Datt, L. Rodrigues, M. Ansari, J. Mahtani, C. Dupratt, H. Mehta, H. D'Souza, R. Mehta, H. Mubarakai, F. Dholoo and R. Netto.

I would like to thank all the boys for the co-operation they gave me.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank Mr. W. Daniell for all the pains and trouble he took in coaching us. Thank you sir !

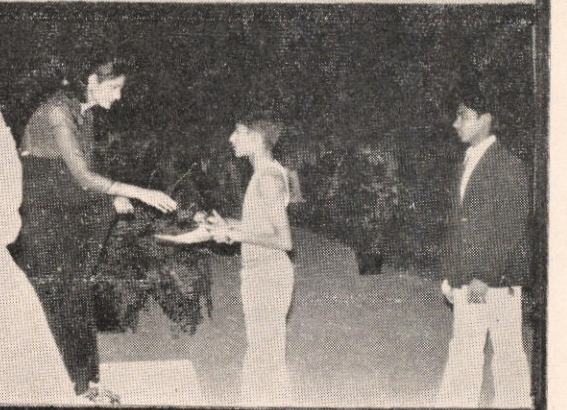
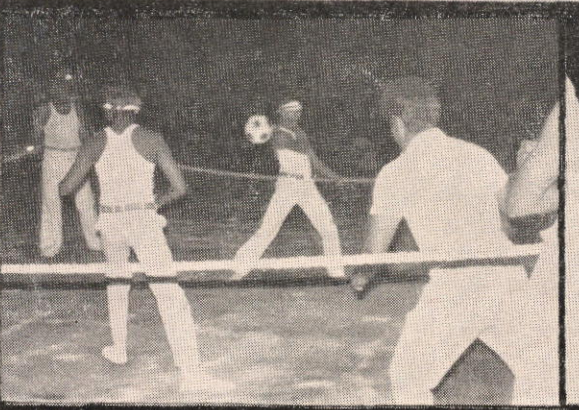
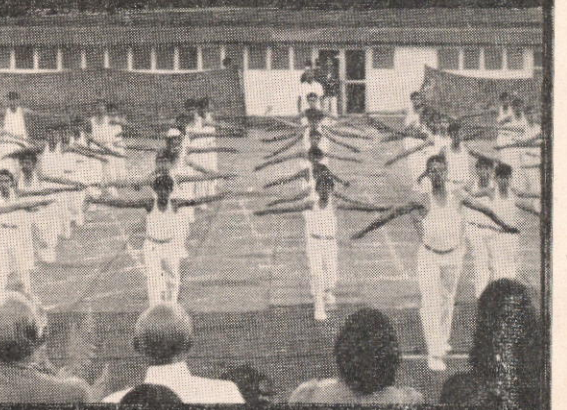
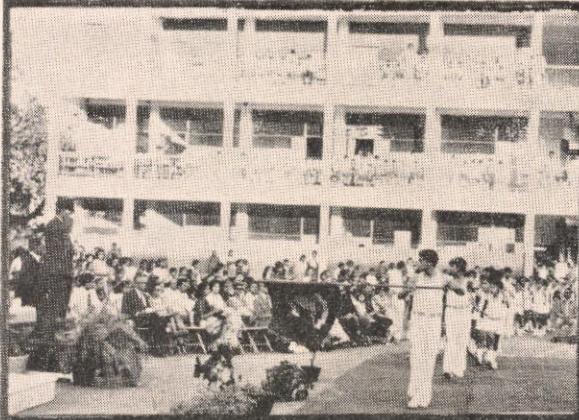
— Munir Asharaf Aly (Team Captain)



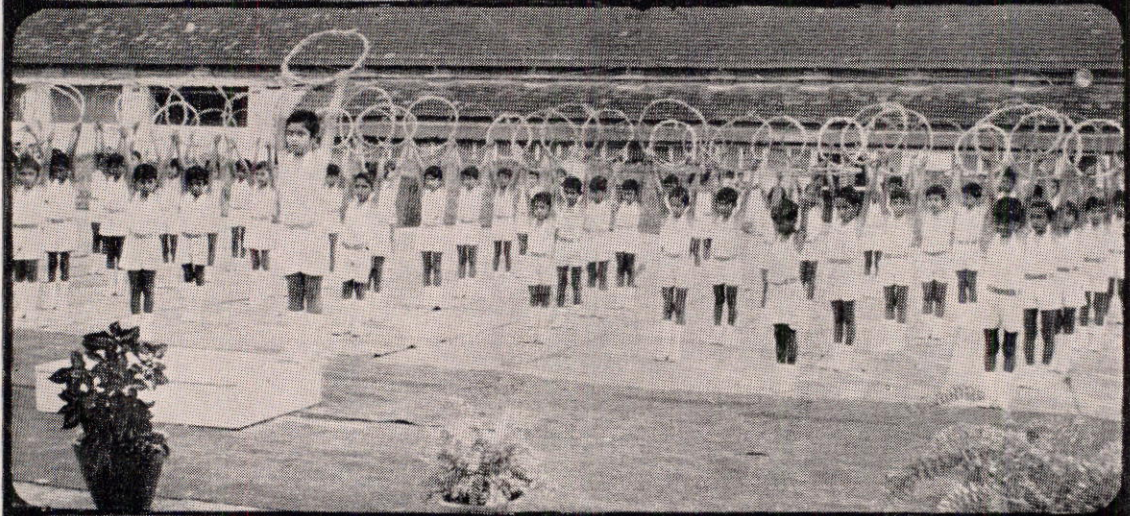
Sister Mary Frideswide Opens the Fete



The Fete in progress



Brig. and Mrs. Bagga at the P. T. Display



P. T. display

INTER-HOUSE GENERAL KNOWLEDGE COMPETITION : 1978

All the boys of our school were waiting eagerly for the last few days of the Second Term, for the much talked-about Inter-House G. K. Competition. Six boys had been selected from each of the Houses to represent their teams.

At last the 30th August arrived. The Junior Competition was presided over by Mrs. A. Aga who first read the rules to be followed during the competition. First, Mansfield were pitted against Harding. The former proved to be a formidable team. The questions asked were fairly easy with occasional more difficult ones. Mansfield beat Harding quite easily.

The next round was between Arnould and Bishop's. The latter was thought to be invincible at first. Hence, Arnould's victory was quite unexpected. The final round was between Arnould and Mansfield; it was very exciting indeed. Questions asked were mostly about Capital Cities of Europe, the political history of India, common diseases in man and of course, sports. The quick answers of the Juniors might have staggered some of the older boys. Arnould won the Junior Trophy by virtue of their superior knowledge.

The teams were as follows :

Arnould	Mansfield	Bishop's	Harding
R. Sydney (Capt)	M. Bajpayee (Capt)	P. Singh (Capt)	A. Ahlawat (Capt)
V. Sibal	S. Joshi	S. Mohite	N. Krishnamurthy
A. Kumar	K. Ghosh	J. Khaira	M. Chainani
R. Thakur	V. Kochhar	I. Sequeira	S. Devindhar
S. Salvi	P. Seth	A. Kochar	D. Das
A. Pasricha		K. Chakraborty	N. Joglekar

Preparations for the Senior Competition began early morning, the next day. It was held during the 4th, 5th and 6th periods. Mrs. A Aga presided again.

Arnould and Harding participated in the first round. Harding gained a lead from the start and won comfortably. The Bishop's versus Mansfield round disappointed some, as Bishop's won quite unexpectedly.

The finals had everybody on his toes. The riddles asked were witty and humorous. Questions centered around sports and vocabulary. Bishop's won by a narrow margin getting the Senior Trophy.

The teams were as follows :

Arnould	Mansfield	Bishop's	Harding
J. John (Capt)	M. Rajadhyaksha (Capt)	P. Vora (Capt)	S. Hathiramani (Capt)
A. Abraham	M. Vaidya	V. Deboo	L. Mahadevan
N. Kumar	N. Potnis	V. Karandikar	A. Joshi
N. Malkani	B. Mirchandani	J. Maolankar	N. Kulkarni
S. Uberoi	S. Bodas	P. Postwalla	P. Joshi
S. Delvis	P. Rao	A. Gadhiya	A. Kanga

The following were the final results :

Juniors	Mansfield	Vs	Harding
	17		12
	Arnould	Vs	Bishop's
	15		13
Finals	Arnould	Vs	Mansfield
	23		17
Seniors	Arnould	Vs	Harding
	13		21
	Bishop's	Vs	Mansfield
	15		10
Finals	Bishop's	Vs	Harding
	27		24

Both the mornings proved to be entertaining as well as educative. General Knowledge contests have always met with enthusiastic response from our School and we hope that this trend will continue in the coming years.

— Cyrus A. Meher-Homji - 9 A.

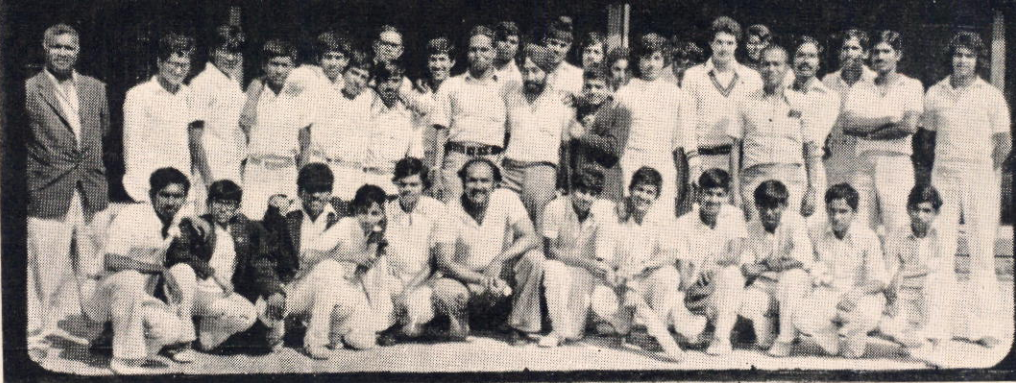
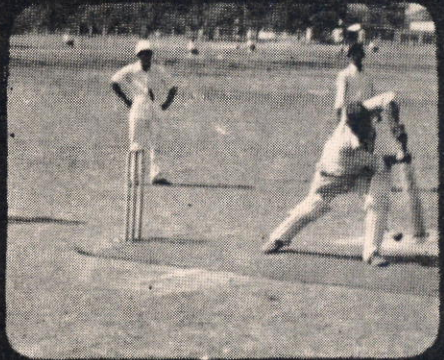
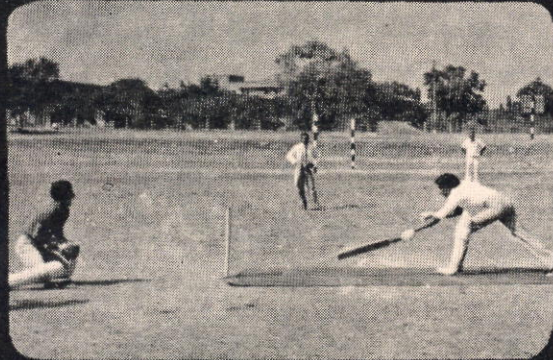
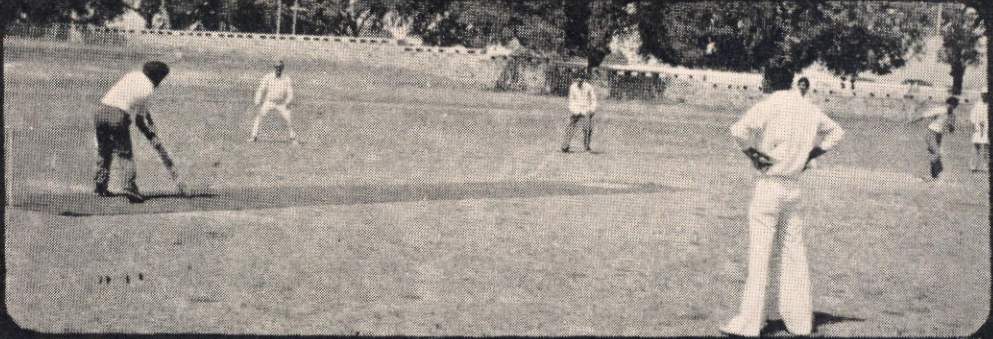
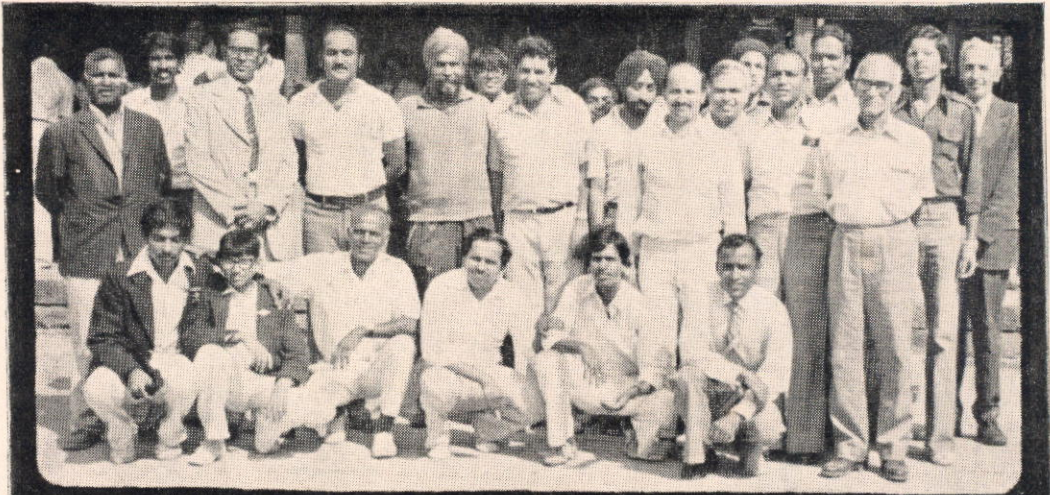
ELOCUTION COMPETITION

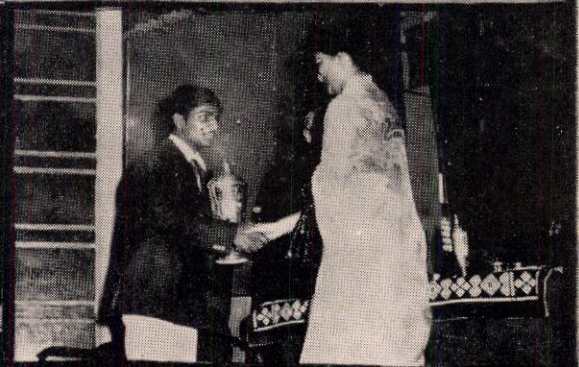
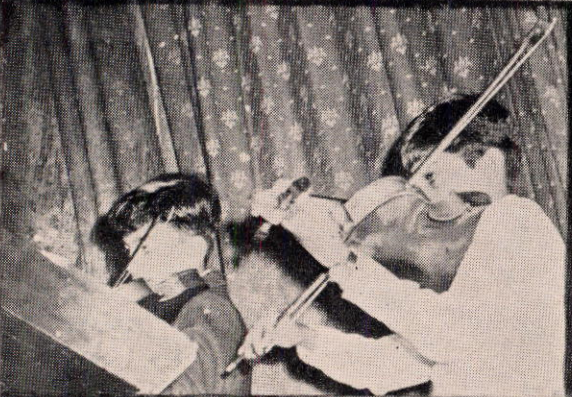
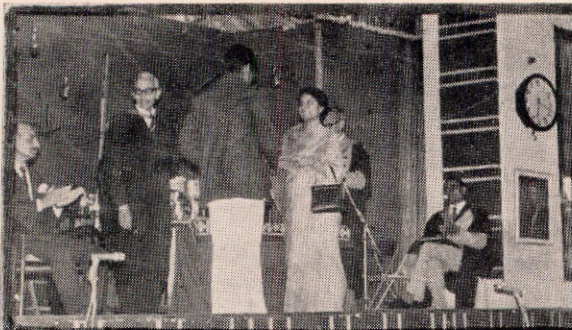
Our Annual Elocution Competition was held as usual, to coincide with Independence Day as every year. After a hectic month of eliminations, the teachers in charge had decided upon the finalists - no doubt an arduous task.

There was a great flutter in the Harding Hall, where boys, staff members and parents had gathered. The All-Lady panel of judges comprised Mrs. Makhijani and Miss Irani of St. Mary's School and Mrs. Fernandes, a professor at Wadia College.

Among the juniors were V. Menon (5B), who won the 2nd prize for his "Barbara Fretchie" and Nathani 6C, the third prize winner, who recited "Nicholas Nye". Sharaballi 6B, topped the juniors with his magnificent rendition of "King of the Tartars". Besides, we had recitations of "Two Friends" by Daswani 5C, and "The Snail" and the Hare" by V. Menon 5C.

T. Gulati of 7A, who recited "Uncle Sam's Pig" and K. Ghosh's rendering of "Saturday Party at Fairyland", made the judges' job difficult. They eventually emerged joint winners of the First prize. D. Miller 8A, won the third prize with his "And His Day's Work was Done". P. Nag 8B, impressed with a Shakespearian favourite "O Pardon me..." The others were Handa of 7C and P. Singh of 8A.





Prize Distribution - Seniors
Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Vohra grace the occasion

From the Seniors we got to hear three famous evocative passages from Julius Caesar—“ O Pardon me...” by R. Nihalani 9 B, “ Friends, Romans, Countrymen...” by K. Idnani and “ Be Patient till the last...” by M. Vaidya 10B. S. Banerjee and R. Choudhary of the 10's were placed second and third respectively for their excellent renditions. C. Shetty of 9B walked off with the first prize with an extract from “ The Rime of the Ancient Mariner ”. I was, of course, happy about this.

The piece – de-resistance of the function was the “ surprise item ” as the judges sat in conference. Young Mark Choudhari of IA, strode up on the stage to recite “ The Artist ”. With great eloquence and flourish, he stole the show and received thunderous applause !

— Chetan Shetty 9B

SENIOR SPEECH AND PRIZE DISTRIBUTION DAY

Perhaps the most important event of the first term—Prize Distribution Day—was held this year on Friday, the 31st of March. The Chief Guest was Lt. Gen. A. M. Vohra, and Mrs. Vohra consented to give away the prizes.

At 5.30 in the evening, the Chief Guest arrived. The members of the Staff and the Prefects were introduced to the Chief Guests. A bouquet was then presented to Mrs. A. M. Vohra by a tiny Bishopite. Loud cheers greeted this traditional opening. Then followed the Principal's Report for 1977 which lasted for about twenty minutes.

Just as the Principal was reading his Report, the Prize winners silently trooped out of the Hall and lined up outside. Each of them smartly went up the stage and received their prizes from Mrs. Vohra (they had been well trained by Mr. Ringrow to shake hands!) First the Class Prizes were given, after which the Special Prizes and House Awards were distributed.

The Chief Guest was then requested to address the audience. In his address, he congratulated the Prize Winners and praised the school for its virtues. After he had spoken for a few minutes, Mr. Ringrow gave the vote of thanks to the Chief Guest.

There was an interval after this, where the prize winners showed their prizes to their proud relatives. Fifteen minutes later, a short bell was rung and the parents returned to the Hall.

The Variety Entertainment by the Senior School consisted of three plays, two musical items and a surprise item. The buzz of conversation was cut down by the announcer's (Mr. H. O'Connor) voice announcing the play called “ The Bishop's Candlesticks. ” It was a serious play but well acted and everyone did their parts beautifully. While preparations were being made for the next play, the audience was enraptured by a piano solo by Cyrus Meher-Homji of Class 9A. The Hindi play, “ Akhbari Vigyapan ” was then enacted. The cast consisted entirely of the ninth standard boys, but, nevertheless, they made a nice job of it. It was, in fact, a humorous play and the audience was kept

laughing throughout. As the play ended, the two Pires brothers, Patrick and William, kept the audience enthralled with a violin duet. But next moment, they were shaken up by a dashing song sung by three ninth standard boys on the electric guitar (this was the surprise item). Then followed the Head boy's play, appropriately named " 501 ". It was so amusing that the audience rocked with laughter. This play received the lion's share of the thunderous applause awarded by the audience at the end of each play.

After this the whole show came to an end with Mr. Roberts thanking the parents the Staff and the boys for making it such a success.

— Milind Rajadhyaksha, 10B

CLASS PRIZES 1978

	Class	Class	Class	Class		
Class Prize	KG A	S. Khirid	KG B	M. Rajda		
Reading		S. Khirid		M. Rajda		
Writing		S. Khirid		S. Tabatabai		
Number work		S. Khirid		A. Pingale		
English		S. Chenoy		M. Fitter		
Progress		A. Marcus		M. Jain		
Sp. Progress		P. Khatri		A. Chawla		
Art/Craft		Z. Patell		Y. Ranade		
Elocution				M. Rajda		
General Proficiency	IA	A. Pittie	IB	M. Kelkar	IC	H. Das
English		A. Pittie		M. Choudhari		S. Badgandi
Mathematics		A. Pittie		R. Gulati		V. Arora
Hindi		A. Singh		C. Shinde		H. Das
Progress		N. Dhurandhar		S. Somasamudram		M. C. Karthik
Handwork		A. Kudale		B. Bindra		H. Das
Elocution		—		M. Choudhari		—
General Proficiency	2A	A. Kahlon	2B	P. Joshi	2C	A. Banerjee
English		D. Dey		A. Mirchandani		K. Jamuar
Mathematics		B. Ghawte		N. Sareen		N. Somani
Hindi		A. Kahlon		P. Joshi		V. Malhotra
Progress		S. Jain		N. Nageshwar		F. Rezvanian-
Sp. Progress				J. Stephens		zadeh
General Proficiency	3A	R. Pittie	3B	Y. Irani	3C	S. Gujar
English		A. Rai		A Gopal Ram		C. Iyer
				D Mukherjee		

	Class		Class		Class	
Mathematics	3A	S. Rao	3B	B. Muthanna	3C	S. Negi
Hindi		M. Berry		S. Negi		P. K. Radha- krishna
Progress		A. Hakim		D. Irani		A. Ghelani
Sp. Prize						N. Jolly
						V. Oberoi
						A. Anand
						R. Navani
						A. Jetha
						S. Mukharjee
General Proficiency	4A	S. Mukherjee	4B	K. Jain	4C	M. Irani
English		R. Venkataramiah		K. Jain		A. Khandelwal
Mathematics		S. Dhar		N. Bhattacharya		S. Mirchandani
Hindi		S. Dhanda		N. Bhattacharya		A. Khandelwal
Progress		W. Nelthropp		S. Patole		S. Momin
Sp. Prize						R. Mathure
						S. Sharma
						A. Razdan
General Proficiency	5A	A. Abraham	5B	R. Khanna	5C	S. Mirchandani
English Language		A. Abraham		R. Khanna		S. Mirchandani
Mathematics		S. Jinnah		R. Khanna		F. Irani
Hindi		M. Shaikh		R. Sasane		R. Jessani
Progress				A. Deshmukh		M. Mulla
General Proficiency	6A	R. Karkare	6B	M. Jaitha	6C	D. Das
English		R. Karkare		N. Sibal		R. Ghosh
Mathematics		R. Karkare		M. Jaitha		D. Das
Hindi		T. Khanna		M. Jaitha		P. Chadha
Progress		S. Sant Singh		A. Kombrabail		S. Dongre
General Proficiency	7A	A. Kochhar	7B	P. Singh	7C	A. Dodani
English		R. Thakur		P. Singh		A. Tipnis Menon
Mathematics		A. Kochhar		S. Damle		A. Kombrabail
Hindi		V. Rana		M. Bajpayee		V. Sangtani
Progress				P. Singh		
				K. Bhutekar		A. Pasricha
The Anand Datta Prize for the Best Scholar in Class 7 : A. Kochhar						
General Proficiency	8A	U. Belsare	8B	S. Daryanani	8C	S. Melwani
English		P. Singh		W. Pires		S. Melwani

	Class	Class	Class	Class		
Mathematics	8A	U. Belsare	8B	S. Bagga	8C	S. Melwani
Hindi		U. Belsare		S. Daryanani		S. Pramanik
Progress		S. D'Souza		Y. Kant		
				W. Shaikh		A. Maniar

The Rajendra Tembwalkar Prize for the Best Scholar in Class 8 : S. Daryanani

General Proficiency	9A	V. Deboo	C. Shetty	N. Kulkarni
English		V. Deboo	C. Shetty	J. Maolankar
Mathematics		V. Deboo	K. Idnani	N. Kulkarni
Hindi		S. Kaul	A. Sengor	B. Tripathi
Progress		N. Zingode	P. Dennis	G. Dhumal

Mrs. Anima Ganguly Cup for the Best Scholar in Class 9 : V. Deboo

Prizes for class 10 to be awarded when the ICSE marks list is received.

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR JUNIOR SCHOOL

Best Scholar	Upper Section :	M. Irani	4 C
		K. Jain	4 B
Don Olliver Prize for Progress	Lower Section :	M. Kelkar	1 B
		A. Banerjee	2 C
Art		N. Nageshwar	2 B
Best Actor 1978		A. Gopal Ram	3 B
		M. Arora	4 A

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR MIDDLE AND SENIOR SCHOOL

Mrs. Chinmulgund's Prize for General Knowledge	Middle School	M. Bajpayee
	Senior School	L. Mahadevan
Handicraft	Middle School	M. Pillay
	Senior School	J. Sadhwani
Art	Middle School	J. Postwalla
	Senior School	M. Mullan
Dramatics	Hindi	S. Bodas
	English	L. Rodrigues
Best All Round Boy in each House	Arnould	S. Addagarla
	Bishop's	A. Unni
	Harding	L. Rodrigues
	Mansfield	N. Potnis

Best All Round Boy in the School		L. Rodrigues
Rex Ludorum	Junior Senior	K. Delvis D. More L. Rodrigues
Head Boy's Prize		A. Gadhiya
Best Scholars	Middle School Senior School	D. Das
Prize for Public Speaking		M. Vaidya
Robey Study Cup		Arnould House
Head Boy's Cup for P. T.		D. More
Major Khanolkar's Cup for Gymnastics		D. More
Brig. R. A. R. O'Connor's Trophy for Leadership		A. Gadhiya

HOUSE AWARDS

	Sub-Juniors	Juniors	Seniors
Arnould	Long Distance Running Athletics Hockey Cricket	Athletics Hockey	Hockey Indoor Games Volleyball Basketball
Bishop's		Cricket	Cricket Volleyball Basketball
Harding	Football	Long Distance Running Football	Basketball Volleyball
Mansfield			Football Cricket Athletics Long Distance Run. Basketball Volleyball
P. T. A. Rolling Trophy for General Knowledge		Senior Junior	Bishop's Arnould
Cock House Runner Up			Mansfield
Cock House			Arnould

JUNIOR SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT

Mr. & Mrs. I. Coltart were our Chief Guests and we were very happy to have them with us that evening.

The programme began with an 'ARATI' by some of our old boys of the Junior Section who had reached Class V.

The K. G. had a horde of Red Indians with colourful costumes and head gear – the singers among them almost turned violent and some remained 'passive' with their chopper in their hand, forgot to sing and only looked while Mum and Dad took photographs !

The P's had the 'Bee Hive Ball.'

There were butterflies, bees, Ladybirds, fairies, and other colourful visitors to the 'Bee Hive Ball.'

The costumes were good and the dances also.

II's Hansel & Gretel – with their house of sweets, biscuits and lollipops attracted the attention of the little ones in the audience and the old familiar theme was enacted very well indeed with the dancers in colourful costumes also.

III's Mary Poppins – all the children sang well and Mary Poppins was enjoyed once again by old and young in the audience.

IV's Rumpelstiltskin's good acting, good costumes, beautiful ladies and courtiers all helped to enhance their old theme of 'Rumpelstiltskin' on the stage, and the best actor was 'R' himself (M. Arora) who kept the audience in fits of laughter with his gestures and behaviour. The Miller and his daughter were a good supporting cast and so were all the 'Lords and Ladies' at the court, especially the 'Sikh' boys who acted the part of girls; they looked very beautiful indeed. On the whole it was a colourful and exciting item to end the evening.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

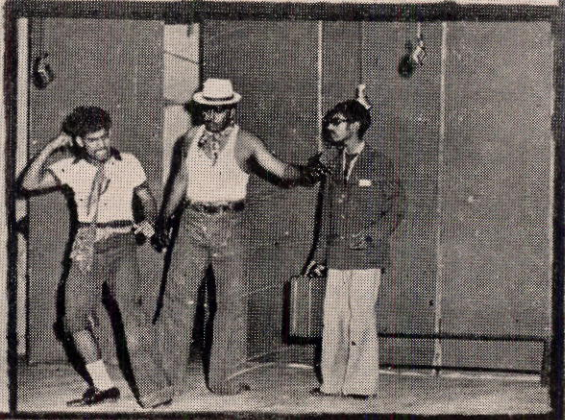
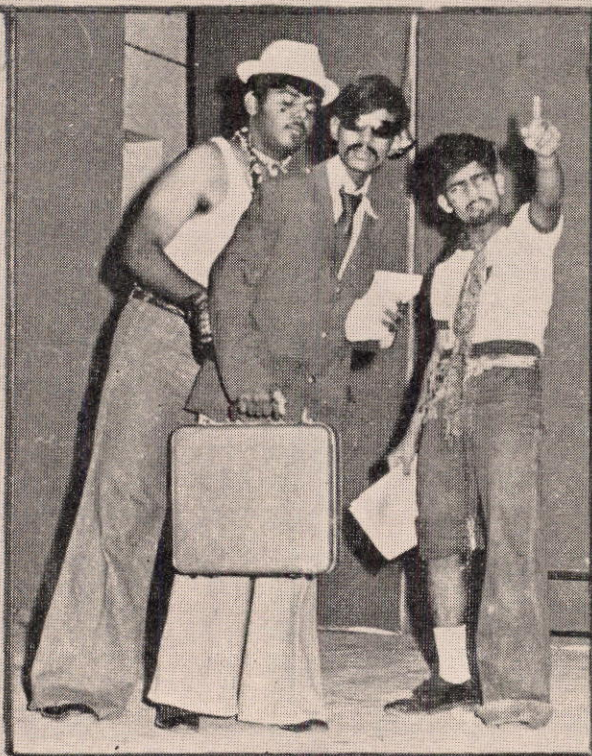
The scheme, introduced many years ago in Bishop's, as usual always starts with a great deal of enthusiasm, especially with the prospect of an expedition, but when it comes down to the more difficult parts, where sustained interest and dedication is required, many fall back and have as a result lost their award, which they may have worked hard for. Entrants tend to take the social work and the interest sections too lightly.

During the year 1978-79, 17 bronze awards and 6 silver awards were won. There are 8 Gold awards pending – some from as far back as 1976 because the age stipulations are 17 to 25 years. Few boys in our school are still here to carry on at this age as they are forced to join elsewhere due to there being only upto Std. 10 here.

The last year saw three expeditions. The first was the training camp to Matheran, which is a really great way to start as it is here that the entrant experiences all aspects of the



Junior School Prize Distribution & Handwork Exhibition



scheme. Here one really comes near nature and learns to appreciate it. I hope the area where these camps go on—"The Hermitage" a bungalow and estate belonging to the Anglican church—in Matheran, is not lost to us due to paucity of funds on their part. The second Expedition was a monsoon hike to "Bedsa Caves", near Lonavala. In spite of heavy rainfall all the way, we were thoroughly happy with the whole thing, as the prospect of hot food and dry caves urged everyone forward. The introduction of a new member of staff, Mr. G. O'Connor, injected fresh enthusiasm as he is a keen outdoorsman and mountaineer. He led an expedition to Mahuli peak, one of the higher areas of the Western Ghats, as a qualifying hike for the silver level.

The physical efficiency tests are designed to maintain a basic level of fitness and need to be practised every day—many entrants fail the tests as they believe that the once-a-week meeting is enough. No, everyday training is important and success brings the award nearer.

On the International scene, 4 entrants at the Gold level from Maharashtra are to be selected for a visit to Australia, on an exchange basis—details are available with the Regional officer, Commander Trevor de Almeida.

We are looking forward to another year of exciting activity in 1979-80. I wish all the outgoing entrants all the best and hope that many will find this Scheme an interesting way to spend their free time.

— H. O'Connor

A VISIT TO GOA

We left Poona by luxury bus at 4.30 a. m. on the 16th December. It was a very tiring journey because it took about half of the day's time. We stayed at Panjim at Rajesh Lodge. We had our baths and didn't get up till late in the morning.

Then we went sight seeing. We saw the Churches and the Shiva temples in old Goa. We also went to the Mira-Mar beach. We had a lot of fun playing on the sea shore.

Next day we went in a luxury bus that took us to the important places of Goa. We went to Marmagoa City and then to Colva Beach. Colva Beach had white sand and is the longest beach in Goa. Then we went to the Marmagoa harbour. Here we saw many ships, we had lunch at the "Vasco-da-Gama" and went for ferry rides. That evening we slept early because we were very tired after the day's activities.

Late the next morning we went for a picnic on the Mira-Mar Beach. First we had a cool swim and then ate our lunch. After lunch we went shell hunting. We found many pretty shells and a small dead star fish. We enjoyed playing in the sand.

Next evening we went to see the Arjuna beach. The water current was high on this beach. On our last day we visited the Aguada Fort and asked the guide about the history of the Fort. Then we visited the Queen of the Beaches lake. Early on the following day we were sad to hear that we had to return to Poona. We had a pleasant journey back to Poona.

— Aspandiar, Khanna and Vig, 7A

SCHOOL TRIP TO SINGAPORE - 1978

Our trip to Singapore was an eventful as well as an enjoyable one. We first went down south to Madras. Since it was evening by the time we arrived, we spent the night in a school.

The next day we boarded the ship- m. v. Chidambaram. Since we were dormitory passengers, we did not get the "high-class" food that Cabin-class passengers got. Our ship was a French one, the original name being 'Pasteur', The same evening, when the bar opened, of course, everyone of us went and had a Coke, a Seven-Up, or even a beer !

The next day, the vessel sailed. The morning was spent playing some sort of indoor game- (from Monopoly to Table Tennis). It was indeed pleasant to go and have a snooze in the afternoon on the funnel deck.

Our first stop was at Penang. After hours of waiting in a long queue (and that too, the wrong one !), we were allowed to disembark at about 6 p. m. On the 16th December (that being the next day) we went out sight-seeing in a luxury bus. We saw the Snake Temple, the aquarium and about two other places of interest.

At last on the 17th we reached Singapore. Everyone was truly fascinated by the wonderful shopping complexes (some of the good ones being Yaohan, C. K. Tang, Cortina and Metro). Boys bought everything from pencils to tape-decks and even T. V. sets (not to mention the duty that some paid on the latter !).

Quite unfortunately we had only 2½ days in Singapore. However after Singapore, we stopped at a small port Kelang (which means coconut in Chinese) and from there went to do some sight-seeing in Kuala Lumpur. Our last stop was at Penang again to finish up all last-minute shopping.

We reached Madras on Christmas night. It was drizzling throughout the next day. We caught the train (on the 26th) back from Madras to Poona and arrived safely at our destination along with our Teachers in Charge-Mr. & Mrs. O'Connor. This was on the 28th afternoon.

I am quite sure that no one will ever forget this trip to Singapore—it will be firmly imprinted in our minds.

— Cyrus A. Meher-Homji, 10 A

A TRIP TO NEPAL

Our journey to Nepal started on 23rd April '78. We left Poona Station at 11-30 a. m. and arrived at Bombay at 7 p. m. On reaching V. T. station we went to another platform to await our onward train to Patna. Our reservations were a problem as they had been given to someone else. Any how we got seats on the train. But we sat crammed up for one day and night till Allahabad. At Allahabad most of the passengers got off, so we got berths and we slept like logs till Patna the next morning. At Patna Station, Mr. Cabral and Mr. Choudhari left us in the care of three senior boys and went to find a hotel that would provide accommodation for all of us. They took us to a luxurious hotel called 'Hotel Rajdhani.' We bathed and we went to get our lunch and dinner money from Mr. Cabral. That night we slept in the hotel till 6 a. m. We got ready and boarded a waiting bus and with "Rock your baby" as background music we arrived at the air-port. The two masters got our tickets ready while everybody else either had some food or had a cool drink.

The plane journey was great fun. We got breakfast packets and orange juice. We landed at 'Tribhuvan International Airport'. After collecting our luggage we waited for Mr. Cabral to come back; he had gone to find out about hotel rooms. We finally went in a small bus to "Hotel Leo". The air in Khatmandu, which is at a high elevation, was cool and exhilarating. We explored Khatmandu that day and the next, two days. We went by bus to neighbouring places and saw a few historical places. We visited lots of shops and bought presents for every one. After three days in Khatmandu we were informed that we would be leaving the next morning for Darjeeling.

We left Khatmandu by about 5-30 a. m. The first half of the bus journey was through hilly area and yet the driver drove at breakneck speed. Some boys started to vomit. We had an early lunch. We passed through customs at the border and took two tongas to Siliguri. We spent the night at Siliguri and left next morning for Darjeeling. Our bus conked out on the way. But luckily it stopped near a park, so we camped there while Mr. Cabral accompanied by 5 boys got another bus. We had lost 2 hours as a result of which we reached Darjeeling at 3 p. m. We went to 'Hotel Everest Glory'. From our room we could get two wonderful views - the Kanchanjunga and the girls' school opposite the hotel! We roamed around Darjeeling and left the next afternoon at 2 p. m. We reached Siliguri and caught a bus to Patna, in the morning. At Patna, we went to a hotel. We left that evening for Bombay by train. This time we had reservations. The train journey was very boring and we read the same books and comics twice over. We got off one train and jumped on to the Singarah Express, back to Poona. We surprised our parents as we were expected the next evening.

We had enjoyed the trip very much, thanks to Mr. Cabral and Mr. Choudhari.

— Promeeet Nag, 8 B

TWO YEARS OF SCOUTING

At the end of 1976, a training camp was planned and put into operation. It required patrols or groups of scouts from the various schools to attend weekly training camps throughout December and the first few weeks of January 1977. Lectures were also organised and carried out by Rover Scouts for the boys who were required to be trained to merit First Class and Second Class badges. Bishop's School outshone the others in the second class group and in the senior group we teamed up with St. Vincent's to be the best First class patrol also. All the boys returned with their certificates, forming for the first time in quite a number of years a large nucleus of senior, well trained scouts who retained their interest in scouting.

The school curriculum itself allows great opportunities for the display of scouting skills. On such grand days as Republic Day and Independence day, the scouts hoist the Indian colours with all the silent ceremony that goes with it, broken only by the short barks of command. Without fail also on such days takes place the commissioning of prefects and monitors. The boys, being in the 8th in 1977, did not become prefects and monitors but in 1979, all being senior, at least eight boys who were selected prefects and monitors were scouts.

As usual the prize-distribution and concert required our services as traffic controllers and supervisors of the parking of vehicles. Again, as usual, this was carried out without any trouble on both the concert days. By turns each boy was allowed to take a look at the plays and musical pieces being played and after everything was over and all the vehicles had departed we got ample rewards for our pains—squash and biscuits. Thus each year we carry out this job of Traffic control and are rewarded in a fitting manner each year.

Traffic control also is important during the Founder's Week when the P. T. Display is held, as the display is one of the highlights of Bishop's School. Each standard puts up a show of physical exercises. Some are colourful, some showy and others plainly dangerous. The scouts too put up a show every year. They have shoulder and stomach-rappelling, coming down the face of Lunn Block. It is an exciting sight to see and an exciting thing to do. Leaping down with a rope around you or just plain walking down the wall in stomach rappelling as long as you are not very scared of heights, is all right and great fun.

Founder's week also includes the Fete. Scouts always enjoy Fetes, not that others don't, but the scouts really love them. Every year the scouts open stalls to contribute materially to the School fund. The last time, I remember, it was a request stall that we ran and later hoop-la stalls for two consecutive years. Such activities are delightful to the scouts who enjoy anything that is out of routine.

There were various other extra-curricular activities done by the scouts, such as tree planting and other things like removing stones from a piece of ground etc. In 1977 and 1978, we went camping and hiking too. I recall we went a couple of times to Katraj Lake and on to the Ghat section, through the tunnel and also climbed all over the place and up on top of the rock-pond where nice, cool water is to be found. Some of the boys even claimed to have spotted a deer somewhere. We also visited Mundhwa, hiking it there and back. It was quite pleasant sitting in the sugarcane fields drinking well water. There were also other innumerable hikes, both ordinary and the tracking type, the person or persons who knew the way having gone in advance and left signs for us to follow. It was most enjoyable.

Camping too is enjoyed by the Bishop's boys and even non-scouts turn up or join scouts immediately they come to know of a camping trip. Several trips were made. One of them was to the Bedsa Caves, undertaken after the rains—a dangerous business, but they returned with only one mishap. Our scout-master unfortunately had a slight accident in the slippery part of the trail and had to come back broken-handed. Luckily it was put right in time and being our scout-master, he was himself experienced in such things.

Another camp was that at Panchgani. We camped a kilometre or two out of the town itself in an opening at the edge of the steep slope facing the river valley. It was a strategic location and one near a well. A local man told us about how actors like Amitabh Bacchan and Sanjeev Kumar had come there for shooting of the various films by that very well and had even drunk its water. I don't know whether this is a great deed. Everyone enjoyed this camp and I can assure you that it is fun living under a tent-roof. I even brought back a bamboo staff from one of the bamboo bushes as a souvenir.

Both of the years were filled with activities such as tying a rope from one tree to the other and monkey crawling across it. We even did "Shramadan", helping other people in various ways. We also visited a school for the blind and did a bit of tree planting to help them. The gaps in between these activities were filled with tea parties and cooking outings where we either prepared tea or cooked our lunch and ate it. I must say that the scouts are excellent chefs. I am sure Mr. Roberts, our Principal, will confirm this statement, though he does claim that we might poison him one day.

— A. Khudanpur, (Troop Leader)

SOME OF OUR RARE ONES

Black-tailed prairie dogs, more numerous than their white tailed relatives, live in North American grasslands from Southern Canada to Northern Mexico. Though greatly reduced by poisoning campaigns, they still flourish in wild life refuges. These animals live at a height of 10,000 feet in the rocky mountains. One of their largest refuges has been in Alcalde, New Mexico. These sociable animals dig burrows and live generally in groups of 3 or 4.

Considered the most endangered bird in Europe is the Spanish Imperial eagle. Their total is barely a hundred birds. The adult is brownish black with a distinctive white patch on its shoulders and an ashy head; younger birds are cinnamon brown. These rare birds live in the Coto Danana refuge.

Once ranging throughout Spain and Portugal, the Spanish lynx has still survived in a few isolated spots in Southern Spain like the Cota Danana National park. Its prey generally consists of rabbits though it may attack a deer. Its chief enemy is man.

Too heavy to fly away, a rare Guatemalan water bird nearly became extinct when alien fish upset the balance of its mile-high lake. This bird is called the giant pied-billed grebe. Called "poc" by local Indians, this bird lives on Lake Atilan in Guatemala. In 1965 Operation Proteccion del Poc was started (operation for the protection of the "Poc.") These birds build large heavy nests on the lake shore line. These nests measure 3 feet deep and weigh about 100 pounds. In April 1973 a new census of these birds showed about 210 birds.

In 1961, a French priest Jean Pierre Armand David was sent by the Vincentian order to open a school in Peking. Pierre David was a naturalist who discovered these queer animals in the Imperial hunting Park. The Chinese name is mi-lou or sseupon-siang. Some of these deer were sent to England and during the Boxer rebellion in 1900 nearly all these deer were killed. The Eleventh Duke of Bedford purchased the remaining deer and set them loose in his 4000 acre deer park at Woburn Abbey. The Twelfth Duke of Bedford with the help of the London Zoological Society, a herd was build up at Whipsnade zoo. Now they number about 600 deer.

Some of the world's rarest horses are found in Western Mongolia. These are the Przewalski horses. Now only 30 of these horses survive in the wild.

The Japanese imperial crane now breed in a colony on the island of Hokkaido. In 1924 they numbered about 20. These birds are called "tanco" in Japanese which means red-crested.

The 2,80,000 acre Bialowieza forest in Poland has some of the rarest species animals like the tarpan which was extinct in 1851 and the European bison.

The most efficient predators of the Savanna are the wild dogs. They move in packs and run at a speed of 30 miles an hour for several miles till their prey has run to exhaustion. These predators can even challenge formidable rivals like the lion if they are in a pack.

The Gir forest in Gujarat now harbours a number of Asiatic lions. This forest spans over 500 miles of semi-arid hills. A census showed a dramatic decline in these animals from 285 in 1963 to 177 in 1968. However there have been suggestions to re-introduce these beasts elsewhere to increase their chance of survival.

— A. N. Kanga, ICSE

VERSES AND SAYINGS

Better try to do something,
And fail in the deed.
Than try to do nothing,
And always succeed.

Our income is like our shoes,
If too small, they pinch,
If too large, we stumble.

The web of life is like a mingled yarn,
Good and ill together.

There is one thing bigger than
a beggar's stomach, his appetite.

From the errors of others a wise
man corrects his own.

— Sanjeev Bagga

A HARROWING INCIDENT

It was late in the night and everyone was asleep. It was quiet except for the leaves rustling in the moonlight. My friend Marco and I sat talking on the porch and I was commenting on how dreary African nights could be. We went on talking for some time and started getting sleepy. We both went into our room and got into our beds when we heard a cry. We ran out of the bungalow and looked about. Again we heard the cry, closer now. I was all for telling my parents and waking them up, but Marco said that we should not trouble them unnecessarily. After all we would just have a peep at what was happening.

We both went on running for nearly half an hour following the screams until we reached a river where we saw a terrible sight. A crocodile was dragging a poor boy into the river. The boy's leg was bleeding profusely and he was hanging on to a stump. The crocodile suddenly wrenched at the boy and pulled him under as we ran forward. For a moment we looked at the swirling waters and then we turned round and I told Marco that we had better get back to the house, But Marco looked around saying that he didn't know the way back. We had been running so fast that we had forgotten to mark the way and now we were lost. Both of us looked about; then, since we were feeling sleepy we both curled up next to the trees and were soon fast asleep.

I was suddenly awakened by a snarl and there in front of me, about 100 yards away, was a leopard growling savagely. I looked at it, then turned round and saw Marco opening his pen-knife and looking at the leopard. We looked at it and saw that it was coming towards us slowly. We both got up and ran towards a tree. Marco turned round and flung his pen-knife at the leopard and it stopped for the sharp blade had cut its shoulder; both of us scrambled up the tree. After some time the leopard went off and both of us got down, took the penknife and headed into the forest. For an hour we were wandering aimlessly when we heard a yell. Someone was calling for us! We both yelled out again and again and the voice came closer. Suddenly we heard a snarl and looked back and saw the leopard. It was walking closer and closer looking about and then it stopped and crouched ready for the spring. Both of us closed our eyes and then opened them and yelled. It was then the leopard leapt. We both fell down as shots sounded and we saw the leopard fall dead. Out of the bushes my Dad came with his rifle. He smiled, looked at the leopard and took us back to the house.

MY LIFE AS A SCHOOL - BAG

I am a school bag. I was made at a factory, with a lot of other bags. I was made of leather. From the factory, I was sent to the English Book Shop, where the shopkeeper put me in a glass case outside the shop-with a board "for sale". After a few days, a little boy bought me and I was very happy. He took me home and put his books, coloured pencils, and paint box in me. He took me to his classroom and put me in his desk and kept me clean. He did not throw me in the mud. He used me for 5 years and then I tore, and he threw me away.

— W. Rawlins, 3B

A BIRTHDAY PARTY

This morning a card came to us. It was from a friend who stayed near me. His name is Dippy. The time of the party was 6 o'clock. When evening came, I dressed up quickly in my best clothes and went to the party. When I went into the room, it was empty. I was the first to arrive. After a little while everyone started to come. Then the boy's mother brought a cake with 8 candles. The candles were lit and we sang. The cake was a ship in shape. We had sweets, cake, wafers and many other things. We played musical chairs, and passing the parcel. I won a prize in passing the parcel. When the party finished, we all went home.

— D. Bhagat, 3B

ROAD SAFETY

Edgar and Yohan were flying kites in the park. It was a very busy day and people were doing their morning shopping. There were cars rushing around the streets and buses going from place to place.

Edgar and Yohan were at the edge of the park flying their kites. Edgar's kite got cut and it sailed away in the air. Edgar ran after it, as fast as he could, without looking at the busy road, and being very careless, while he was running across, a big car knocked him down. Yohan ran and picked him up.

Yohan took him home and told his mother, who washed his leg and tied a bandage. Edgar's mother phoned the doctor. The doctor came and had a look at Edgar and said "Road Safety is an important thing".

— A. Gopal Ram, 3B

A SPARROW'S LIFE

A sparrow builds its nest very often in a house. She uses grass, twigs, paper, feathers, wool and rags. She lays 5 eggs. They are blue in colour. When they hatch, the babies are very hungry. She feeds them on crumbs and worms. When they are hungry they chirp. The mother bird teaches them to fly. Sparrows grow very fast. We have a lot of sparrows in our house.

— S. Nandrajog, 3B

MY LIFE AS A CHAIR

I am a chair. I am made of wood. Long ago, I was a big tree in a forest. I was cut down, one day, and taken to a large mill. There the carpenters cut me into shape and nailed me together. Oh! I can still feel the pain of it all.

I have four beautiful carved legs. Many chairs do not have arms. I have two lovely strong arms with cushions on them. My back is high and straight. There are pretty jewels on my legs and arms and back.

The King sits on me. I am treated very well. The King's servant cleans me every day. I am a very proud chair.

— V. Malhotra, 2C

MY LIFE AS A FROG

My mother laid her eggs in a pond, one day. After some time the eggs hatched and I and my brothers swam about the pond, as tadpoles. We began to grow bigger and bigger, and slowly our back legs also grew. As my tail grew shorter my front legs started growing too. At last I became a frog. I can swim in the pond and hop in the garden. I eat all the insects too.

— N. Somani, 2C

MY FATHER

My father's name is Dr. S. K. Jamuar. He is fat but he is tall too. He works at the Pfizer Office. He goes to work at 9 o'clock and comes home at 6 o'clock in the evening.

I love my father because he takes me out to a hotel. He makes me laugh by telling me jokes. My father loves me because I sing songs for him and I study hard. My father is a strict man. He takes up my lessons, and plays with me.

— K. Jamuar, 2C

AT THE CIRCUS

I went to the Circus with my father, mother and my brother. When I entered the tent, I saw many animals. There were bears, hippopotamus, lions, tigers and chimpanzees. There were many clowns doing funny tricks. An elephant rode a wooden tricycle. The items I liked best were a motor-bike going through fire and the chimpanzee riding a bicycle. The show ended with a parade which was very colourful. I liked the Circus.

— D. Mukherjee, 3B

A RAINY DAY

Suddenly clouds get grey and dull, and they soon burst. Rain falls and we hear thunder claps. Cars skid and lightning strikes trees. People take shelter in shops, buildings, and sometimes wires are broken and poles fall. Children play in puddles. We see tadpoles, earthworms, snails, butterflies and dragonflies. Then the sun shines and the rain stops and the Rainbow comes out. Plants grow well for they have lots of water.

— Y. Irani, 3B

A HOLIDAY BY THE SEA

One day my father had a great surprise for my sister and myself. It was that my father was going to take us to the beach. What rejoicing there was ! My Mother made a nice meal, my father got the beach umbrella and four deck chairs for the four of us. My sister and I got our bathing suits and we set off.

When we came to the beach we hopped out of the car and ran into the sand. My mother and father set up the deck chairs and the umbrella. My sister and I went to play on the sand. Just then it worried us that we had forgotten our spades and buckets. So we went to find shells. When we came back we had tea. Then we were going to sail a little boat, but we couldn't because the clouds became black and so we had to go home.

— Arun Gopal Ram, 3B

GALLANT SCOUT

Some scouts were travelling by train. They were playing, singing and playing the flute. There was a man and a woman with a small boy in the same compartment. After some time, the compartment caught fire and the train halted. Everyone jumped out. The small boy was left behind in the compartment. His parents were getting very panicky about their child. But one scout went through the flames and brought back the child. The parents were very happy and thanked the scout. The scout master awarded him a medal for his gallantry in rescuing the child.

— Ashok Samir Rai, 3A

ADVENTURES OF A DOG

My name is Caesar. I am an alsatian and I am very brave. I think you will like to hear one of my adventures. One day I was just walking in the garden, when I saw a man coming towards me. I barked loudly, but when I saw the man taking out a lump of meat, I kept quiet and wagged my tail. The man gave the lump of meat to me. But when I ate it, I fell down unconscious. The man put me into a truck and took me to a dark cave where he and his friends sat near a fire. I was tied to a rope, so that I could not run away. At night I tried my best to break the rope and run away. At last I broke it and ran away, but there was a guard at the door. I jumped on him and scratched him. He called for help. The other thieves woke up, but were too late. I had already got out of the cave. They chased me until I found a large trap. I put it in their way and they got caught. Then I ran out of the jungle. I looked here and there. At last I found a police station. I barked and my master recognised my voice. I took him to the place where the thieves were. I got a gold medal for my bravery.

— Sandeep Kharkar, 3A

OUR NATURE WALK

Yesterday after breakfast at 11.20, we set out for a long walk. There were three classes—3A, 3B, and 3C. We went from Exhibition Road. It was a busy road. Then we came along to Elphinstone Road, where it was very quiet, without any traffic. We could walk safely. As we were walking we came to the war memorial. There we saw three cannons. They were the cannons of the world war. Then we came to East Street. There was a lot of traffic there, but we could see a lot of things. We saw the Chinese Restaurant and many other things. Then we went into Wonderland and came out to Main Street. There was so much traffic that we couldn't walk and there were hundreds of shops. After half an hour we reached Exhibition Road and returned to school. We enjoyed our walk very much.

— Ravi Pittie, 3A

MY LIFE AS A BIRD

I am a Swallow. My name is Blackie. One day on our way to a hot country, we saw a big island in the sea. We went to the island. It was very hot there, so we stayed on the island. After a few days, we heard a big noise. We all got frightened, but I was not afraid, and stood there bravely. Suddenly a giant came out of the sea. All the other swallows flew away, but I suddenly flew up and pecked him in his eyes. He became blind. Then we all killed him. The swallow made me their king. I lived a very happy life afterwards, and we found a nice warm island to live in.

— Sanjay Rao, 3A

OLD BOYS' CORNER

Azeem Sayyed : Senior Cambridge 1962; is now a captain in the 19th Maratha Light Infantry. Address : C/o. 56 A. P. O.

Arvin Patel : SSC 1967, now has AAAI, MIAS after his name, is the Financial Director of the London Printing Press. Address 7-11 The Broadway; Cricklewood, London NW2 3JX.

Rakesh Mehta : ISC 1974 - 3 Baheroba Road; Wanowrie, Pune 1.

Homi K. Mistry : ISC 1971 - B. Sc. DEM; has taken Entrepreneur Management Course; is now working for printing ink manufacturers; Address - 712 Mehr Naz, 91, Cuffe Parade, Bombay 400 005.

Mohan Sinha : ISC 1974; is working in Garware Nylons. Address - D-26 H. A. Colony, Pimpri, Poona 18.

Bharat Bhagat : ISC 1971, is in textile engineering in Surat. Address - 111 EL-CID, BG Kher Marg. Malabar Hill, Bombay 400 006.

Ashok Manik : ISC 1971, did his B Sc. and is now in business. Address - 3110 K Manik; 122 Jolly Maker Chamber II, Nariman Point, Bombay 400 021

Deepak Julka : ISC 1973; is now a graduate and is working for Tenacity Filters, Hadapsar. Address - 435/A Salisbury Park Road, Poona 411 001.

Ashwini Mehta
Neeraj Bhalla
Kevin Singh
A. Maria

} They all are in the A F M C, Poona

Amit Alok : left in class IX in 1973, has done his "A" levels in England, intends studying medicine. Address - 31 Langley Drive, Wanstead, London E11 2 LN.

Atul Chintamani Joshi : ICSE 1974; got an Honours Degree in Biology from St. Edmond's College, Shilong - first class and 3rd in the North Eastern Hill University. He is now studying for the M Sc. (Zoology) Poona University.

Gopal Rathi : ISC 1967; B. Tech, Chemical Engineering - Benaras; M. S. Chemical Engineering, University of Oklahoma; is now working in Sahyadri Dye Stuffs. Address 67, Raviwar Peth, Poona 411 002.

Purushottam Rathi : ISC 1967; BA Wadia College; has studied law and is now in business. Address - 671 Raviwar Peth, Poona 411 002.

Nandkishore Rathi : ISC 1973; is now in Manipal Engineering College, Final year B Tech. (Chem. Engineering.)

R. K. Dastur : left Bishop's in about 1950 - became a private pilot, joined a Tea Estate in 1957; opened a car repair workshop; has now settled in Madras.

Girish Konkar : ICSE 1976; stood 4th in the All-India UPSC examination out of about 15,000 candidates.

Michael Mendonca }
Mickey Uberoi } ICSE 1976; both secured very high positions in the UPSC Examination.

P. Karve : ICSE 1975; is studying in Fergusson College, Poona. Address - 63, Shilavihar Colony; Erandavana, Poona 411 004.

U. Magar : ICSE 1975; is studying in Fergusson College. Address - Hadapsar Magarpatta, Poona 411 028.

U. Rohmare : ICSE 1975; is studying in Fergusson College. Address - Parvati Plot Association; Plot no. 62, Near Shahu College Hostel, Poona 411 009.

Anurag Godha : ICSC 1975; passed H S C with 81%. Address - 6 Koregaon Park, Poona 411 001.

Nitin Rajore : ICSE 1975; secured 77% in the H S C examination. Address - F 17, Gita Society, Poona 411 001.

Datta Gaitonde : ICSE 1975; 1st in Maharashtra in the H S C examination 1978 - 88.6%.

Mohammad Abbas : ISC 1969; Address - C/o. Madras Race Club, Guindy, Madras 32. - he trains race horses.

Jungoo Mistry : ISC 1969 - is now Branch Manager, Avery Ltd. Address - 4/93 Jail Road; Raipur (UP)

Vijayraj Pathak : ISC '73 - 2nd officer Shipping Corporation of India.

Devraj K. Banerjee : ISC 1973 - 2nd officer Shipping Corporation of India.

☀ An expectant father rang the hospital to see how his wife was getting on. By mistake he was connected to Lord's cricket ground.

"How's it going?" he said.

"Fine;" come the answer. "We've got three out and hope to have the rest out before lunch. The last one was a duck."

☀ A slip fieldsman had a particularly depressing day during which he dropped no less than ten catches, all off the same bowler. After the game he was talking to the bowler when he broke off and looked at his watch.

"I must go," he said, "I have a train to catch." The bowler looked at him bitterly. "Let's hope you have better luck with that, then."

I. C. S. E. RESULTS 1978

NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
M. Vaidya	9	D. Kishnani	25	L. Malhotra	33
S. Hathiramani	10	V. Mathur	25	R. Bajwa	34
M. Rajyadhyaksha	12	H. Pathak	25	J. Sampat	34
J. John	13	A. Kohli	26	K. Shahani	34
S. K. Banerjee	14	R. Van Eijk	27	O. Morris	34
N. Malkani	16	P. Rao	27	A. Nimbalkar	34
M. Dodani	18	A. Panchal	27	I. Modak	35
A. Roy Choudhary	18	I. Allarakhia	28	M. Mogre	35
A. Vagha	19	A. H. Charles	28	S. Sarker	35
N. Seth	20	A. Kanga	28	G. S. Hoonjan	36
V. Shivdasani	20	N. Potnis	28	S. Delvis	36
A. Joshi	21	B. D'Souza	29	J. Jachak	36
P. Pires	21	F. Firozgary	29	K. Marshall	36
M. Shah	21	V. Subbiah	29	N. Mehta	36
V. Singh	21	M. Chadha	30	S. Philip	36
S. Addagarla	22	S. Sathe	30	P. Choudhary	37
S. Ohri	23	H. D'Souza	31	D. More	37
S. Uberoi	23	L. Rodrigues	31	D. Basu	38
K. Vacha	23	K. Shashidhar	31	S. Beltangadi	38
B. Bindra	24	M. Asharaf Aly	32	P. Postwalla	38
P. Chitale	24	M. Bajwa	32	R. Poduwal	39
A. Jyoti	24	A. Desai	32	S. Bais	39
N. Kumar	24	S. Rao	32	M. Marwa	40
B. Mirchandani	24	R. Pereira	32	M. Ansari	41
P. Vora	24	S. Bahl	33		
V. Karandikar	24	A. Daryanani	33	No. of Candidates Presented	83
A. Gadhiya	25	M. Karkaria	33	% of passes	94

ANALYSIS OF I. C. S. E. RESULTS 1978

Grade	Very Good		Credit			Pass		Fail		Total	Result
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
Subject											
English	2	4	6	25	26	15	4	1	0	83	98.8%
Hindi	-	-	3	6	34	26	9	1	0	79	98.7%
Maths	2	5	9	9	18	12	15	10	3	83	84.3%
History	4	9	6	15	28	11	8	0	2	83	97.6%
Geography	1	8	16	20	21	8	8	1	0	83	98.8%
Science	4	7	14	13	9	20	12	4	0	83	95.2%
Portuguese	1									1	
French			1						1	2	
German				1						1	
Additional French					1		1			2	

Principal's Report 1978

General

1978 was a stormy year in the life of Bishop's but like the mighty Oak, Bishop's stood firm through the storms and ill winds that blew. During the year, we had to face hurdles and road-blocks, and there was a sustained effort by some to discredit almost anything done in the School. There were times when the loyal staff and I faced undue harassment and difficulties. But with God's help these were bravely faced and overcome.

Disloyalty is a curse that slows down the march of progress of any institution. It is very sad that there was a constant endeavour, by some from within our walls and fold, to spread deliberate lies and false rumours, to twist and exaggerate facts. There was a calculated campaign designed to discredit the management and the faithful and all done here. I am very glad indeed that nearly all our parents, friends, and well wishers were able to see through this and their faith in the School remained unshaken and with God's grace our good name remained untarnished in the eyes of all who really matter and care.

Despite all this I am proud to say that the tone and life of the School was hardly affected and that 1978 was a year full of activities achieving a good high all round standard, and I can say with confidence now that Bishop's has proved that it can stand firm and deliver the goods even under heavy odds.

Thanks to the Governing Body

I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to the Governing Body of our School Society, for their solid unwavering support, their deep concern and their help and guidance; these are Mr. C. G. Young the Chairman, and other members Mr. O. D. Bason, Mr. E. Dique, Rev. D. Rae, Mr. J. Timmins and Mr. D. L. Amore, our M. L. A. All are truly committed to serving the cause of Anglo-Indian Education.

Head Boy

Our head boy Ayaz Gadhiya had a challenging job, and he proved to be an excellent leader, he was generous hearted, loyal and very faithful. He did an excellent job in spite of being confined to bed with a broken leg for quite a long period.

Discipline and Religion

It is well known that the 'turn out' and discipline of our boys is generally excellent. We refuse to abandon the old value system that insists on punctuality, good manners, short hair and proper uniform.

But over and above all this is our belief in the paramount value of religion, the outward symbol of which is our daily prayers and hymns, and Scripture reading and our annual Thanks-giving Service at St. Mary's Church.

We are happy that, in a world of growing intolerance, boys from many parts of India and the world and of different faiths soon adjust to life in Bishop's because of its friendly tolerant atmosphere.

Social Service

Our boys learn to give generously to a worthy cause. They help with their time and talent as well, and they are taught to appreciate the dignity of labour.

Staff and Boys helped to organise the Eventide Home Fete, we had School films in aid of Charity, boys donated books and clothes for the poor. The Head Boy and other boys helped needy boys with clothes, books and pocket money. The Junior Section collected over Rs. 4000/- for the blind....all boys collected about Rs. 2000/- for flood relief, Chief Minister's fund, the Leprosy Misson and other causes.

For Work experience they clean class rooms, uproot congress grass, clean the compound, carry chairs, remove stones etc....all in a happy cheerful way. Unfortunately sometimes it's the odd parent whose vanity gets hurt.

Games and Extra Curricular Activities

We have a programme of games and extra-curricular activities that will put most schools in the shade, and in this respect we have a record that is the envy of schools all over the country. We spend more money than most unaided schools.

Our programme of games, extra curricular and character building activities are so packed that there is not much scope to add more. We have Football, Hockey, Cricket, Basket Ball, Volley-Ball, Long Distance Runs, Tug-O' War, Athletics, Table Tennis, Badminton, Swimming, P. T. Displays, Dramatics, Quiz and G. K. Competitions, Art, Craft and Science Exhibitions, Boxing, Elocution, Rappelling, Road Safety Patrol, Educational tours, Hikes, and more.

Many of these activities are on an Inter-House basis and some on an Inter Class. basis P. T., Athletics, Long distance runs, Elocution and Junior Dramatics etc. are organised in a way so as to give all the boys in School a chance to participate and that too during School hours.

In boxing some of our boys took part in the Poona region championship and won prizes. Both in Hockey and football our School XI were runner-up in the Inter-Anglo-Indian Schools of Maharashtra tournaments held in Bombay and Devlali. The team that beat us in football were Class XII boys playing against our class ten. They just about beat us (1-0) with a team in which their boys were 3-4 years older than ours. D. More of our School was given the best player's prize from among all the A. I. Schools of the State. The credit for the football XI goes to Mr. M. Fletcher.

Bishop's were winners of the Inter-School elocution competitions organised by the Lioness Club, and Chetan Shetty and M. Vaidya came 1st in their respective age groups.

Cyrus Meher-Homji excelled in Music and topped the Country in some items.

The Duke of Edinburgh award scheme is very active under Mr. H. O'Connor assisted by Mr. G. O'Connor. Several boys are working towards the Bronze and Silver awards and some for the Gold.

Tours to Singapore and Goa were organised by Mr. H. O'Connor and Mr. D. Choudhary.

Photography is taught by Mr. Choudhary assisted by Mr. Innis, and special Art Classes conducted by Mr. Smith.

Two Scout troops make good progress under Mr. A. Fernandes and Mr. S. Fernandes. Parking arrangements and Traffic Control are done very efficiently by them. Mr. Daniell and Mr. Matkar organise swimming at the Parsi Gymkhana pool.

The Scripture Union boys attend the annual camps at Nasrapur.

Mr. G. O'Connor has recently introduced Karate and this coincided for reasons unknown with the flu epidemic.

The Arts craft and Science examination were excellent and the P. T. display was the best in many years and of a very high standard.

Our boys in the N. D. A. / I. A. T., and College continue to excel in various competitions, and we are glad that Shashi Menon (despite losing an important cliff hanger) is doing so well in Tennis.

I could fill pages with our achievements and activities and those of our ex-boys, and I am very surprised when it is said that we need more well directed extra-curricular activities. We have two qualified P. T. Is. and residential staff are especially appointed and given Free quarters, Electricity, Food, and other facilities, to assist with games and activities. We also get a lot of help from the army. However if anyone can help us do more with our limited time and resources I shall be the first to accept their help.

I wish to assure all that the rich traditions of our School have not died nor need to be revived. However Parents of dayscholars must encourage their sons to attend regular games after school rather than let them go to the cinema and parties. There is ample opportunity for a boy to enjoy a real benefit from the programmes of activities. If boys listen to daily orders they will gain so much more.

I am indeed very grateful to the Army authorities especially Gen. Vohra, Lt. Col. Darshan Singh of the ASPT, Maj. Narayanan, Col. Chopra, authorities of AFMC, MH/S. C., P. T. School / C. M. E. Commander Sub Area, and many others for help with grounds, coaches, equipment, transport etc.

Boarding Section

The good high all round standards of this section are due to the devoted labours of Mr. C. D. Beaman and as always he hardly ever takes a break not even during Holidays. I do hope he will get a break this vacation, a well deserved one after six years. I place on record my gratitude for his sincere hard work, that goes above and beyond the call of duty.

Junior School

Mrs. L. Roberts and her staff do an excellent job in the Junior School. Their progress and standard in Handwork, P. T. and Dramatics remains very high and I find it impossible to cope with the demands for admission to this section. I must thank Mrs. Roberts for all her hard work.

Academic Standards

Our academic standards are good, and taking into account that we give a number of boys a fair chance we must expect a few failures. Our results are generally good.

Our boys who go to College generally do well and this year our ex-boy Gaitonde topped the HSC (12); he was in Bishop's till X, and several of our boys were among the merit lists.

If we were to resort to a policy of weeding out boys then we can get the sort of brilliant result that can impress.....but I would rather stick to the concept of all round development which accounts for the fact that most of our boys are successful in life. They are good in games and studies.

P. T. A.

I thank Mrs. Aga and the other ladies of the P. T. A. who organised the Inter-House G. K. Quiz and 'on the spot' painting competition.

Regular P. T. A. meeting as indicated in the Calendar were held.

The School Management and I feel that the purpose of the P. T. A. is to bring parents and teachers together in the interest of their sons.

However the P. T. A. must adhere to the purpose for which it was formed otherwise more problems are created than solved. It must not interfere with the management of the School.

Individual parents having problems concerning their son are encouraged to meet me and I shall do my best to help parents and boys in the matter.

When parents complain, they should be careful because often a boy misleads his parents in order to try and get even with a prefect or master; for example a parent complained about boys breaking bounds from a particular dormitory and when an investigation was carried out his son turned out to be the ring leader! Another parent bitterly complained that a master was hard on his son; an investigation revealed that the boy was a problem to many teachers and that he had been driving them up the wall. So do make sure that what your son tells you is really true and remember we are here to help you and your son.

Buildings and Repairs

New Toilets were constructed near the hall and new furniture added to various sections. The boundary wall around the school was completed.

The new Dormitory in the Junior Block was completed and 'Framji' moved in there. They now have a large airy 'dorm' with proper baths and toilets.

We have an improved water system and we now have a plan for a Physics and Biology laboratory and a plan to replace the old unsatisfactory toilets. Work on these plans should begin in the new year.

Remember we run the School on fees only, so what we can do is limited.

Underground cables have been laid to cater for half the main estate — the dangerous old overhead wires, fittings, mains etc. replaced. Last year we spent about Rs. 37000/- on this alone. The school is old, and replacements of this nature increase our expenditure.

The entire stage was renovated, as it had been attacked by white ants, and a room added to the rear portion of the stage. 100 new chairs have been added to the hall making the total we own now 500.

Staff and thanks to them

We welcomed to the staff last year. Mr. A. L. Raj, Mrs. W. Shah, Mrs. S. Mirchandani, Mrs. K. Jadhav, Miss J. Bhalerao, and Mr. G. O' Connor; and during the year Mr. A. Cabral left us to go abroad.

I wish to thank all categories of staff especially the loyal faithful ones for their work in 1978. I extend special thanks to Mr. Nair for looking after the sick and Mr. Suttle and Mr. Lestyne for the work in the Kitchen.

I thank Mr. R. Ringrow for his work and help and especially what he does to organise public functions like athletics and displays.

The emoluments of all categories of staff were increased with increases ranging from Rs. 50/-, to Rs. 80/- and teachers in class X a further Rs. 25/- Teachers in class X got a Rs. 75-100 increase and we hope to do something more in the new financial year.

I would also like to thank Mr. H. Amod, Mr. S. Salve and Miss J. Chopde who taught here for short periods last year.

Conclusion & Message

This is the International Year of the child and a lot is being said and done this year to restore the rights of a child. How does this concern you personally as regards the rights of your son?..... Your son has a right to your love and companionship, a right to encroach on your time and talent, a right to get devoted care and attention. Of course most of you will heartily agree, but yet some place coffee parties, club activities, business dinners, and such social engagements higher up in their list of priorities, or social organisations that keep them in the limelight. They are too busy to stop and help their son with his personal problems, too busy to give him his right, too busy to offer him a close friendship or share his childhood or share his joys and sorrows, his trials and fears, his failures and successes.

Some people spend a lot of money on their sons, they put him in a good school, give him enough to satisfy his wants and desires. They stock the home abundantly with all they think he needs, employ servants to look after his meals and comforts, and, then, build up a false sense of satisfaction that they have done their duty, they feel free to follow their own course assuming that there is no reason now why their son should not grow up happy and successful. How wrong they are. In 25 years of schoolmastering I have often found that some of the problem-children come from the homes of the very rich and well to do and invariably the sad reason for this was that they were given all that money could buy but starved of the parents personal involvement in their life, their love, devotion and companionship for which there is no substitute.

Rich or poor high or low your son is God's precious gift to you, is your sacred trust and has certain rights; he needs you, and it is a sin before the sight of God if you deny him his right. He needs you not only in this International year of the child, but through the years from the tender years of childhood till well past the stormy teens, and remember if you neglect him he will grow up crippled inside his mind and you will be guilty of an unforgivable sin.

So disengage yourself from the fruitless social obligations and commitments that deprive you and your son of a fuller life, and remember that there is no experience in life greater than the experience of watching children grow,

Let us sincerely attend to this God given task with a sense of urgency before it's too late and our sons lost to the vain things of life.

सर्कस

सर्कस एक ऐसा मनोरंजन है जो बच्चों और बूढ़ों को रोचक लगता है। हमने अपनी सर्दी की छुट्टियों में दिल्ली में एक सर्कस देखी। इसका नाम था अपोलो सर्कस। इस सर्कस के तम्बू लाल किले के पास राम-लीला मैदान में गाड़े थे। हमने इस सर्कस की बहुत प्रशंसा सुनी थी और हमारा भी मन देखने को ललचा आया। तम्बू के चारों तरफ बत्तियों की लड़ियाँ जगमगा रही थीं और सर्कस की शोभा को बाहर से दिलचस्प बना रही थी कि हम काफी देर तक बाहर खड़े उस मनोहर दृश्य को देखते रहे।

आखिर हम सबसे रहा न गया और हमने अपनी टिकटें खरीदीं और अन्दर जानेवाले दरवाजे पर पहुँच गए। वहाँ बहुत भीड़ थी और सब बच्चे अन्दर जाने को उतावले हो रहे थे। हम अन्दर जाकर सर्कस शुरू होने की प्रतीक्षा करने लगे। हर मिनट घंटे के समान लग रहा था। यकायक ब्रेण्ड बजना शुरू हुआ और पर्दा उठते ही कार्यक्रम शुरू हो गया। सर्कस के आरंभ में सबसे पहले हमने झूले के ऊपर कुछ कलाकारों को अपना अभिनय पेश करते देखा। जब वह एक रस्सी से दूसरी पर कूदते थे तो हम आश्चर्यचकित रह जाते थे कि वह नीचे ना आ पड़े, पर वह बहुत अभ्यास के बाद उस योग्य हुए थे। बच्चोंके मनोरंजन के लिए कुछ जोकर भी थे जो अपना अभिनय अलग-अलग दिखा रहे थे। जोकर की शैतानियाँ देखकर हम लोग हँसी से लोटपोट हो रहे थे। उनमें एक बौना भी था। हमने रीछ और बन्दर को भी नाचते देखा। इसके बाद घोड़े आए। इनके साथ बहुत से घुड़सवार भी थे। घोड़े, सर्कस के गोल मंच में बहुत जोर से दौड़े और अपने मालिक के हुकम पर चारों पैर एक टेबल पर रखकर खड़े हो गए। हाथियों का खेल हमें सबसे अच्छा लगा। एक

हाथी ने दो पैरों पर खड़े होकर भगवान की आरती की, घंटी बजाई, नारियल फोड़ा और मूर्ति को फूल-माला पहनाई। एक हाथी ने फुटबॉल खेला। उसने इतनी जोर से बॉल मारा कि एक पापड़ बेचनेवाले की टोकरी में जा पड़ा। लोगों ने बहुत तालियाँ बजाईं। मैं जानवरों की कला देखकर दंग रह गया। लड़के-लड़कियों ने अपनी करामात दिखाई, जैसे-रस्सी पर चढ़ना, एक-दूसरे के ऊपर खड़े होकर मिनार बनाना, कसरत करना आदि। वह इस तरह से उल्टे-सीधे होते थे कि मानो इनका शरीर रबड़ का बना हो। इसके बाद पहलवान की वारी आई। उसने लोगों को बहुत भारी वजन उठाकर दिखाए। वह बहुत लम्बा और तगड़ा था और उसे देखकर हमें डर लगने लगा। मैंने सोचा कि अगर किसी को उसने एक तमाचा मारा तो उसे दिन में ही तारे नज़र आ जाएँगे। बच्चों का जी बहलाने के लिए सर्कस में एक जादूगर भी था। उसने बहुत मजेदार खेल दिखाए। और पता नहीं वह कहाँ-कहाँ से चीजें प्रस्तुत करता था। यह जादू नहीं था, केवल हाथ की सफाई।

सर्कस देखकर हमें बहुत ही खुशी हुई, लेकिन घर आते हमें यह ज्ञान हुआ कि कलाकार कितनी मेहनत और अभ्यास के साथ इतना अच्छा कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत करते हैं। हमें इस सर्कस से एक शिक्षा भी मिली कि उस जोकर के जैसे हमें भी दूसरों को हँसाना और खुश रखना चाहिए। अपने मन के दुख और बोझ भूलकर लोगों को प्रसन्न रखना चाहिए। सर्कस के जैसे, हमारे जीवन का भी यही उद्देश्य होना चाहिए।

— पवनदीप सिंग चड्ढा
७ वीं सी

जीवन का एक अविस्मरणीय प्रसंग

यह मेरे जीवन की पहली दुर्घटना थी। छुट्टियाँ काटकर मैं और मेरे माता पिता सिमला से लौट रहे थे। हमारे पास गर्म कपड़े थे और तीन बक्स थे।

हिमाचल प्रदेश में रेल बहुत कम चलती है इस लिए हमें वहाँ से बस पकड़नी पड़ी, यह हमें जम्मू तक पहुँचा देगी।

सुबह सात बजे हम अपनी नानी के घर से निकले, उस दिन पानी बरस रहा था और ठण्डी हवा चल रही थी।

वर्षा तो बन्द होने का नाम नहीं लेती। छाता लेकर बस स्थानक पर पहुँचे वहाँ पर और बहुत लोग भी थे। वहाँ सबसे ज्यादा पुरुष थे। बस के कोने पर बड़ी बड़ी मूँछोंवाले चार आदमी कम्बल ओढ़े हुए थे। बस चल पड़ी। टेढ़ी सड़क पर कभी इस तरफ कभी उस तरफ, और वर्षा भी होने लगी। बस आखिर पालपुर आकर रुक गई। यह चार घंटे का सफर था और अभी करीब पाँच सौ मील और आगे जाना था। दो बजे तक मौसम ठीक हो गया।

बस फिर चल दी। लोग अब छोले खा रहे थे। कोई मूँगफली, कोई मिठाई और कोई किताब भी पढ़ रहे थे।

रात को बस रुक गई एक जगह, जिसका नाम काँगड़ा था। वहाँ हमने खाना खाया और सो गए। दूसरे दिन हम फिर से चल दिए। मैं तो सारा दिन खिड़की के बाहर की चहल-पहल देखता रहा। दोपहर को पठानकोट पर बस रुकी, वहाँ पर हमने खाना खाया और फिर चल दिए। अब बहुत यात्री सो रहे थे पर वह चार आदमी कुछ बातें कर रहे थे।

अब शाम हो रही थी जब जम्मू सिर्फ पचास मील दूर था। शाम की चाय के लिए बस एक जगह पर खड़ी हुई। ड्राईवर भी बदली हुआ।

बस अभी पाँच मील चली, कि वह चार आदमी उठे और उनमें से एक ने एक पिस्तौल निकाली। और ड्राईवर को कड़ककर बोला—गाड़ी रोकी बरना गोली मार दूँगा। ड्राईवर एक पठान था उसने गाड़ी नहीं रोकी तो उसने उसे पिस्तौल की नली लगाकर कहा, “आखिरी बार कह रहा हूँ” गाड़ी रोको।”

सबको अपनी जान प्यारी होती है ड्राईवर ने गाड़ी रोक दी और तब उन लोगों ने कहा जिसके पास गहना, घड़ी, पैसे तथा अच्छे कपड़े—सब जमीन पर फेंक दें अगर चालाकी करने की कोशिश की तो अच्छा नहीं होगा।

सबने उनके कथन के अनुसार सब मूल्यवान वस्तुएँ फेंक दी, तभी बस के ड्राईवर ने गाड़ी तेज कर दी। उसने देखा कि एक बस और आ रही है।

तभी एक डाकू ने एक गोली चलाई तो ड्राईवर ने पीछे देखा तो तभी एक झटका लगा जैसे कि बम फट रहा हो।

दोनों बसें टकराकर खड़ी हो गईं, मैं तो ड्राईवर के पीछे बैठा हुआ था। ड्राईवर की सीट झटके के कारण बाहर आ कर मेरे आँख पर लग गई थी मैं बेहोश हो गया। इस के बाद मेरे पिताजी ने मुझे शेष बातें बताई, “तुमको जब चोंट लगी तो हमें पता नहीं लगा क्योंकि दूसरी बस में पुलिस के कुछ आदमी थे। उन्होंने उन चारों को गिरफ्तार कर लिया।”

तभी मेरे पिताजी ने देखा खून! वह भी मेरे चेहरे! से तभी मेरे पिताजी ने मुझे उठा लिया।

भगवान ने जैसा चाहा वैसा ही हुआ। वहाँ से एक डाक्टर की गाड़ी निकली। उन्होंने मेरे पिता के साथ बिठा लिया, ड्राईवर भी थोड़ा जखमी हुआ था उसे भी साथ ले लिया।

जब मेरी आँख खुली तो मैंने अपने को बिस्तर पर पाया। मेरी दाईं आँख पर पट्टी बन्धी हुई थी और हाथ से खून जा रहा था।

कुछ ही दिनों में मैं ठीक हो गया पर मेरे चेहरे पर से वह दाग नहीं गया।

एक विचित्र घटना

कुछ वर्ष हुए रामू और मैं दो दिन की छुट्टियाँ बिताने के लिए माथेरान गए थे। माथेरान पहुँचने तक शाम के पाँच बजे गए थे। हमारे पास पैसे कम थे और सभी सस्ते होटल भरे हुए थे।

थके हुए हम सोच रहे थे कि रात कहाँ गुज़ारेंगे। उसी समय एक आदमी हमें मिला। उसने पूछा, क्या तुम्हें रहने की जगह चाहिए। दाम पूछने पर उसने एक रात का एक रुपया बताया। हम खुशी से उसके साथ चल पड़े।

वह हमें जंगल के पास एक खाली बंगले में ले गया। जब हमने कमरा देखा तो हमें बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ। कमरा बहुत बड़ा और साफ था। उसमें मेज़, कुर्सी, पलंग आदि सब थे।

मैंने उस आदमी से पूछा कि इतने अच्छे कमरे का किराया इतना कम क्यों? उसने बताया कि लोग इस बंगले को "भूत बंगला" पुकारते हैं। कई साल पहले मकान मालिक के मरने के बाद लोगों के अनुसार उसका भूत सफेद कपड़ों में इस बंगले में रहता है। यह सुनकर राम और मैं मुस्करा दिए। हम दोनों को भूत-प्रेत में कोई विश्वास न था।

नहा-धोकर हम बाज़ार में भोजन के लिए गए। रात के दस बजे जब हम कमरे में लौटे। रात को चारों ओर अन्धकार था। हम दोनों ही अब बहुत ही

थक चुके थे। कुछ देर तक भूत-प्रेत का मज़ाक करके हम दोनों गहरी नींद में सो गए। आधी रात गई, मेरी आँखें अचानक खुलीं। मेरी रेडियम की घड़ी तीन बजे का समय बता रही थी। इतने में मुझे गड़गड़ाहट की आवाज़ सुनाई दी। मैंने जल्दी से टॉच जलाई। इस बीच रामू भी हड़बड़ाकर पलंग से उतर गया।

हम दोनों की घबराहट बढ़ने लगी। हमने देखा कि रामू का पलंग खिसक रहा था। गड़गड़ाहट की आवाज़ बढ़ने लगी। खिड़की की ओर देखा तो सफेद-सी छाया कमरे की ओर झपटती नज़र आई। रामू चिल्लाया "भूत"। अब हमारा साहस टूट गया और हम कमरे से निकल कर भाग पड़े।

रात हमने जंगल में बिताई। सुबह हम बाज़ार पहुँचे तो हमें पता चला कि रात को कोयना में भूचाल आया था और माथेरान में भी उसका असर पड़ा था। जब हम भूत बंगला वापस लौटे तो देखा कि खिड़की के बाहर एक सफेद चादर रस्सी पर लटकी हुई थी। यह था हमारा भूत।

डी. मधोक, ६ 'ए'

होस्टल में मेरा पहला दिन

पिकनिक

जब मैं दूसरी कक्षा में था, तब मुझे होस्टेल में रखा गया। मैं जब होस्टेल में आया तब मुझे एक डॉमेटरी में रखा गया। उस डॉमेटरी की एक मेट्रन थी, उसने मेरे सब कपड़े गिन लिए और मुझे एक बिस्तर दिया। एक छोटी अलमारी भी दे दी। उस अलमारी में हम सब हमारे कपड़े और दूसरी छोटी-छोटी चीजें रखते थे। मेरे सब कपड़ों रखने के बाद मैंने मेरे बिस्तर पर चद्दर और मच्छरदानी डाल दी। ये सब होने के बाद मैं डॉमेटरी के बाहर गया। दूसरे लड़कों के साथ पहचान करने के लिए गया। मेरे बहुत दोस्त हुए और मैं उनके साथ खेलने गया।

हमारे खाने के लिए बेल हुई तो हम सब हमारे डायनिंग हॉल में गये। डायनिंग हॉल में मैंने देखा कि सब अपनी-अपनी जगह पर बैठे थे। मेरी जगह डायनिंग हॉल के एक कोने में थी। पहले दिन का खाना मुझे अच्छा नहीं लगा। पर थोड़े दिनों के बाद मुझे आदत हुई।

मैं जब घर छोड़कर आ रहा था, तब मुझे थोड़ा डर था, कि मेरे मित्र कैसे होंगे, मेरी मेट्रन कैसी होगी। पर मैं जब होस्टल में आया तब मैंने देखा कि मुझसे भी छोटे लड़के थे, इसलिए मुझको बुरा नहीं लगा। मेरे मित्र और मेट्रन जिसका मुझे डर था, वह सब अच्छे थे, और मेरा डर दूर हो गया। जल्दी ही मैं उन सबमें घुल-मिल गया।

एक दिन मैंने अपने दोस्तों को बताया कि वे मेरे घर पर सुबह को आएँ और हम सब शिकार खेलने के लिए जाएँगे। दूसरे दिन मैं बहुत ही जल्दी उठा, जब अन्धेरा था। मैंने अपनी माता को उठाकर नाश्ता करने को कहा और फिर मैं अपने दोस्तों को मिलने के लिए बाहर चला गया।

फिर हम गरम चाय लेकर चल पड़े, हम तालाब की तरफ गये। रास्ते में मैंने एक बटेर मारा और जो दूसरे बटेर थे वे उड़ गए क्योंकि मेरे दोस्तों ने बहुत शोर मचाया। जब रोशनी आई तो मैंने एक घुग्घी मार दी। फिर मैंने अपने दोस्तों को बंदूक दी और उन्हें मारने को कहा। उनमें से सिर्फ एक दोस्त ने घुग्घी मारी।

फिर नाश्ता करने का समय हो गया और हमें बहुत भूख लग रही थी। फिर हमने एक पेड़ की छाया में बैठकर खाने लगे। जब हम खा रहे थे तो मैंने सोचा कि हम पीकाक-बे जाएँ।

पिकाक-बे ऐसी जगह है जहाँ हम बोटिंग करने जाते हैं, जब हम वहाँ पहुँचे तो हम एक मोटरबोट में तालाब की सैर करने गए। जब हम तालाब के कहीं बीच में पहुँचे तो मैंने एक बतख को मारने की कोशिश की मगर गोली बतख को नहीं लगी। हमारे मोटरबोट में मेरे पिताजी के दोस्त मछलियाँ पकड़ रहे थे और जब उन्होंने मछलियाँ पकड़ी तो मुझे दी। मैं फिर बहुत खुश हुआ। बहुत देर के बाद हम सैर करने से थक गए।

फिर हम सब मिलकर वापस अपने घर चले गए। हमारा पूरा दिन बड़े मजे से बीता।

मैं पायलट बनूँगा

मेरी दिनचर्या

पता नहीं क्यों पर बचपन से ही मुझे हवाई जहाज चालक या पायलट बनने का शौक है। हो सकता है कि मैं भी अपने पिता को देखकर वही बनना चाहता हूँ। मेरे पिताजी भी टेस्ट पायलट थे। उन्होंने देश के लिए विमान की जाँच करने हुए अपनी जान दे दी। कुछ दिनों तक मुझे हवाई जहाज देखकर नफरत होती थी। वजह यह थी कि मेरे पिता का देहावसान हुआ था। पर अगर सब यही सोचने लगें तो फिर हमारे देश की रक्षा के लिए कौन शहीद होगा ?

जब मैं छोटा था तब कोई चित्र बनाने की माँ कहती तो मैं झट से हवाई जहाज का चित्र बनाता। कभी-कभी उसमें सौ पहिए रहते, कभी उसकी पूँछ मछली की तरह होती। और हर एक चीज का मेरे पास जवाब रहता कि वह ऐसा किसलिए है। खैर, तब तो मैं सिर्फ चार साल का था। अब मुझे हवाई जहाज के बारे में खूब सा पता लग गया है।

काश, मैं एरो-मोडेल क्लब में भी जा सकता। सबसे पहले मैं हवाई जहाज में बैठा तब मैं पाँच साल का था। वह था 'पुष्पक' हवाई-जहाज। मैंने मद्रास का पूरा समुद्र देखा, मैं बहुत ही खुश हो गया। जब उसके विमान-चालक ने पूछा कि, 'बेटे, तुम क्या बनोगे?' तो मैंने झट से कह दिया 'मैं भी आपकी तरह पायलट बनूँगा।' कानपूर में ग्लाइडर में बैठने का मौका मिला था। मैं अपने पिता की गोद में बैठा था। मुझे ऐसा लगा कि मेरे खुद पंख आ गए हैं और मैं एक पंखी की तरह उड़ रहा हूँ।

जरा बड़ा होने पर पिताजी ने समझाया कि प्रोपेलर और जेट विमान में क्या फर्क होता है। बॉम्बर और फ़ाईटर हवाई-जहाज किसे कहते हैं। व्हेम्पाईर, नेट,

मैं सुबह छः बजे उठता हूँ। अपना मुँह-हाथ धोने पर चाय पीने के लिए जाता हूँ। इस के बाद अपनी पढ़ाई के लिए जाता हूँ। पढ़ाई के बाद अपना नाश्ता कर लेता हूँ। फिर हमारी पाठशाला आरम्भ होती है। हम एक कतार में खड़े होकर सभागृह में प्रार्थना के लिए जाते हैं जहाँ रोज सामूहिक प्रार्थना होती है। पाठशाला का कार्य प्रार्थना से प्रारंभ होता है। फिर मैं अपनी कक्षा में जाता हूँ। वहाँ पढ़ाई आरम्भ होती है। ग्यारह बजे पंद्रह मिनटों की छुट्टी मिलती है। उसके बाद एक बजे भोजन की छुट्टी होती है। भोजन के बाद फिर से पाठशाला का कार्य शुरू होता है। तीन बजे चालीस मिनटों पर पाठशाला छूटती है। तब मैं चाय पीने के लिए जाता हूँ। चार बजे अपने मित्रों के साथ खेल के मैदान पर खेलने जाता हूँ। कभी हॉकी, फुटबॉल, क्रिकेट, टेबिल-टेनिस, बैडमिंटन आदि खेल खेलता हूँ। खेल खत्म हो जाने पर साढ़ेपाँच बजे मैं स्नान करता हूँ। उसके बाद फिर से एक घंटा पढ़ाई करता हूँ। रात के सोने से पहले मैं अपने दाँतों को साफ करता हूँ तथा भगवान की प्रार्थना के बाद सो जाता हूँ।

राजेंद्र करकरे, ७ ए

हंटर, कैनबरा, पेकेट किरण, ये सब नाम मालूम हुए। जब इंग्लैंड में था तो कार्नबरी में अलग-अलग तरह के हवाई-जहाज देखकर मन नाचने लगा। कोनकोर्ड देखकर ऐसे लगा कि मैं खुद चलाने लगूँ। जम्वार अब तो हमारा देश भी खरीद रहा है। वह बड़ा आधुनिक हवाई-जहाज है।

अब यही चाहता हूँ कि मैं भी पायलट बनकर अपने पिता की तरह हमारे देश की सेवा कर सकूँ।

एस. यादव, ७ सी

मेरी इच्छा

बचपन से मेरी इच्छा है कि मैं बड़ा होकर डॉक्टर बनूँगा। यह इच्छा मेरे पिताजी को देखकर हुई है। मेरे पिताजी फीज के एक बड़े सफल डॉक्टर हैं। जब वे किसी कठिन रोग का सफलतापूर्वक इलाज करते हैं, तो उनकी खुशी का कोई ठिकाना नहीं होता। डॉक्टर बनना एक बड़ा आदर्श काम है। इसमें लोगों की सेवा करने का एक मौका मिलता है।

हमारे देश में बहुत से गरीब लोग हैं जिन्हें बड़े-बड़े अस्पताल में इलाज कराने के लिए पैसे नहीं हैं। गाँवों में छोटे-छोटे दवाखाने खोलना यह गरीबों पर बड़ा उपकार होता है। मेरी इच्छा है कि मैं भी बड़ा होकर डॉक्टर बनूँगा तब गरीब लोगों की सेवा करूँगा और इनसे रूथ्या नहीं लूँगा। उनको अपने शरीर का स्वास्थ्य बनाए रखने की शिक्षा दूँगा।

लेकिन यह सब इच्छा पूरी करने के लिए मुझे मन लगाकर पढ़ना चाहिए। आजकल के दिनों में डॉक्टर बनने के लिए परीक्षा में अच्छे अंक प्राप्त करने चाहिए। नहीं तो कालेज में स्थान नहीं मिलता।

यह इच्छा पूरी करने के लिए मैं अभी से पढ़ाई में ध्यान देता हूँ। मेरे पिताजी भी मेरी इच्छा को पूरी करने के लिए तैयार हैं।

अभी मैं भगवान से रोज यह प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि मेरी बचपन की इच्छा पूरी हो जाए और मुझे लोगों की सेवा का मौका मिले। भगवान करे मेरी यह इच्छा शीघ्र ही पूर्ण हो।

मेरा परिवार

मेरे परिवार में पाँच आदमी हैं। उसमें मेरे माता-पिता, एक बहन और एक भाई हैं। मेरे परिवार के लोग अब विदेश में हैं।

विदेश के विद्यालय अच्छे नहीं हैं, इसीलिए मेरे माता और पिता ने मुझे इधर भेजा है। मुझे उनकी बहुत याद आती है। कभी-कभी मैं चुपचाप रोता हूँ। मुझे कभी-कभी पुरानी बातें याद आती हैं।

जब मैं छोटा था मैं विदेश में पढ़ता था। छोटी-छोटी बातों पर मैं रोता था। तब मैं तीन बरस का था। मैं बोटल में दूध पीता था। तब मेरा भाई पंद्रह बरस का था, और मेरी बहन तेरह साल की थी। मेरी बहन और भाई मुझसे हररोज खेलते थे। मेरी माँ और मेरी बहन बहुत मीठे गीत सुनाती थी। मैं मेरे परिवार में सबसे छोटा हूँ।

अब मेरी बहन और भाई बड़े हो गए हैं। अभी वे परिवार काम कर रहे हैं। मेरी बहन स्कूल की अध्यापिका है। मेरी माँ घर में काम करती हैं। मेरे पिता हररोज सुबह से रात तक ऑफिस में काम करते हैं। मेरा भाई भी दूसरे ऑफिस में काम करता है। पाँच साल के बाद, मैं भी काम करूँगा। अब मैं दस साल का हूँ। मैं सातवीं कक्षा में पढ़ता हूँ।

मेरी माता और पिता दोनों की भारत में पढ़ाई हुई है इसीलिए उन्होंने मुझे भारत भेजा है। मैं हर हफ्ते मेरे घर पत्र लिखता हूँ। मैं मेरे घर के लोगों को बहुत प्यार करता हूँ।

मैंने अपनी गर्मी की छुट्टियाँ कैसी बिताई

गर्मी की छुट्टियाँ शुरू हो गई थी। मैं घर में बैठे बैठे तंग आ गया था। मैंने अपने पिताजी से हमें कुछ दिनों के लिए कोई अन्य स्थान में ले जाने का अनुरोध किया। मेरे पिताजी ने गोवा भ्रमण करने का निश्चय कर लिया। हम लोग वहाँ जाने का इंतज़ाम करने लगे। अन्त में वह दिन आ गया और हम १४ मई को ट्रेन से गोवा के लिए रवाना हो गए। रास्ते में ट्रेन ऊँचे-ऊँचे पहाड़ों के ऊपर से गुज़री। एक ओर ऊँचे पहाड़ थे और दूसरी ओर गहरे गढ़े थे। यह देखकर दिल काँप उठता था। हमलोग १५ मई को गोवा पहुँचे।

हमलोग अपने रिश्तेदार के घर वास्को-द-गामा में ठहरे। उनके घर के पास ही एक समुद्र तट है। दूसरे दिन सुबह होते ही हमलोग अपना नाश्ता करके वह समुद्रतट की सैर करने चले गये। मैंने और मेरे छोटे भाई ने वहाँ रेत का छोटा-सा घर बनाया। फिर हम दो-पहर का खाना खाकर वापस चले गए। रात को हम अपने रिश्तेदार के साथ होटल में खाना खाने गए।

दूसरे दिन हम लोगों ने गोवा के मंदिरों के दर्शन किए। गोवा में बहुत मन्दिर हैं। हम लोग शाम को घर पहुँचे।

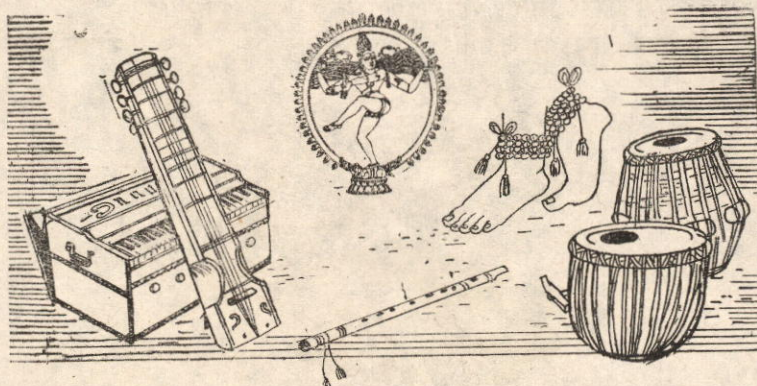
तीसरे दिन हमलोग गोवा के मशहूर सेंट फ्रेंसिस चर्च में गये। वहाँ हमने सेंट फ्रेंसिस का १०० वर्ष से भी पुरानी मृत-देह देखी। इसका बहुत ऐतिहासिक महत्व है।

हमने गोवा के अनेक समुद्रतट भी देखे जैसे:- कोलवा, कलंगुट आदि।

समंदर की लहरें देखकर दिल आनंदित हो जाता है। समुद्र तट से दूर समुद्र गगन से मिला हुआ लगता है। सूरज डूबने के समय समुद्रतट पर उसकी शोभा मनोहर होती है। समुद्रतट पर खड़े खड़े ऐसा लगता है कि हम कोई स्वर्ग-राज्य में पहुँच गये हैं।

हम लोग दस दिन गोवा में रहे। गोवा का वह भ्रमण मैं कभी नहीं भूलूँगा।

देवाशीस दास, ७ सी



मेरा गाँव

मैं बेलगाँव का रहनेवाला हूँ। वहाँ पर मैं तीन साल रहा हूँ। उसके बाद मुझे अपनी पढ़ाई के लिए यहाँ आना पड़ा। मुझे बचपन की कई घटनाओं की याद आती है। मेरा जो चाहना है कि लौटकर वापस चला जाऊँ।

मुझे अच्छी तरह याद है कि मेरे घरके सामने आम का एक बड़ा पेड़ है। उस पर हम सभी बच्चे खेलते थे। इस पर दो झूले भी बँधे हुए थे। जब कच्चे आम पेड़ पर होते थे तो हम पत्थर मारकर उन्हें तोड़ देते थे। मेरे पिताजी हमें डाँटकर भगा देते थे।

हमारे घर से कुछ दूरी पर हमारा बड़ा-सा खेत है। मेरे चाचाजी ने खेत पर काम करने के लिए चार नौकर रखे हैं। वे भी स्वयं खेत में काम करते हैं। सुबह से शाम तक खेत में रहने में बड़ा ही मजा अता है। खेत में एक बड़ा कुआ है जिसमें पानी इतना है कि बस पूछो नहीं। दो-दो दिन तक कुएँ पर चरस चलता है जिससे पूरे खेत को पानी मिलता है। खेत की मिट्टी का रंग लाल है।

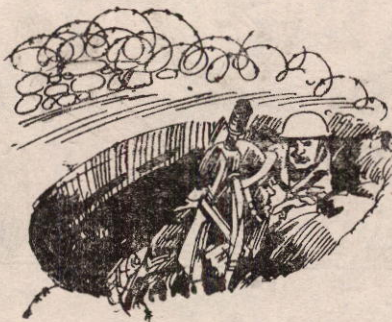
बेलगाँव में लोग कन्नड और मराठी बोलते हैं। गोवा के भी लोग वहाँपर हैं जो कोकणी बोली बोलते हैं। वैसे देखा जाए तो यहाँ रहनेवालों को तीनों

भाषाएँ आती हैं। वे उनको समझते भी हैं और बोलते भी हैं।

यहाँ पर लकड़ी के बड़े-बड़े बाजार हैं। डांडेली और कारवार से खूब लकड़ियाँ आती हैं। वह अच्छे दामों पर बिकती हैं। यहाँ साग-सब्जी भी बहुत सस्ती मिलती हैं। फल भी बहुत सस्ते मिलते हैं। यहाँ के कटहल बड़े ही अच्छे होते हैं। मिठाइयों में खास 'कुंदा' मिलता है। दूध के बड़े अच्छे पकवान भी मिलते हैं।

बेलगाँव को लेकर महाराष्ट्र और कर्नाटक में सीमा-वाद चल रहा है मगर उस से वहाँ के सामान्य लोगों पर इतना कुछ भी प्रभाव नहीं है। सभी अपने-अपने कामों में व्यस्त रहते हैं। यहाँ पाठशालाएँ, कॉलेज, मेडिकल कॉलेज तथा अस्पताल भी हैं। आज-कल बड़े-बड़े कारखाने, दफ्तर तथा कार्यालयों का भी विकास हुआ है। विशेष कर यहाँ से बने फर्नीचर तथा अन्य सामान दूर-दूर तक भेजा जाता है। ऐसा है यह मेरा बेलगाँव।

शीतल अमनाजी, ७ 'बी'



मेरी लोनार यात्रा

मेरे पिताजी, मेरी माँ, मेरी दो बहनें और मैं लोनार की यात्रा पर गाड़ी से जा रहे थे।

हम जब पहुँचे तब दोपहर हो गई थी। हम विश्राम-गृह में ठहर गये। वहाँ से लोनार का तालाब दीखता था। हम खाना खाकर खेलने लगे। शाम को हम तालाब देखने चले गये। एक आदमी ने हमें बताया कि बिजली गिरने के कारण उस जगह पर यह तालाब बना था। यह तालाब पहाड़ियों के बीच में था। तालाब में खारा पानी है। इस की वजह से तालाब कितना गहरा है पता नहीं चला है। पहाड़ियों से कई झरने आते हैं। तालाब के पास बहुत ही घना जंगल है। वहाँ शेर और लोमड़ी जैसे जानवर आते हैं। लोनार में हम दो दिन ठहरे थे। दूसरे दिन सुबह उठकर तालाब के पास गये।

वहाँ एक बहुत पुराना मंदिर है। लोनार के लोग उस देवी को बहुत ही मानते हैं। देवी के मंदिर को जाने के लिए जो रास्ता है उस पर एक मंदिर है। उस मन्दिर में एक पत्थर की गाय बनी है। और गाय के मुख से हमेशा मीठा पानी आता है। पर मालूम नहीं पड़ता कि पानी कहाँ से आता है, कारण कोई भी नदी लोनार के आस-पास नहीं है।

तालाब के किनारे कई टूटे-फूटे मकान हैं जिनमें देव-देवताओं की मूर्तियाँ हैं।

हम वहाँ से जब वापिस आये तब हमारा मन नहीं था घर जाने का। मैं अपनी लोनार यात्रा कभी नहीं भूलूँगा। मेरी यह इच्छा है कि हम लोनार वापिस जाएँगे।

रुपये की आत्मकथा

आज के युग का मैं ईश्वर हूँ। मुझे पाने के लिए लोग दिन रात मेहनत करते हैं। जिसके पास मैं रहता हूँ, उसका जीवन खुशहाल रहता है।

मेरा जन्म भारत के एक पर्वत की खान में हुआ था। एक दिन कुछ मजदूरों ने मुझे खोदकर ज़मीन में से बाहर निकाला। फिर एक टकसाल में लाया गया। उसके बाद मुझे साफ किया गया। भट्टी में गलाया गया। मुझे निकेल नामक धातु में मिलाया गया और गोल बनाकर मेरे एक भाग में अशोक चक्र और दूसरे भाग में मेरा मूल्य और जन्म वर्ष अंकित किया गया। मेरे साथ मेरे लाखों भाइयों का निर्माण हुआ।

रुपया बनकर मैं बहुत घूमा। एक हाथ से दूसरे हाथ जाता रहा। मैं कहीं महलों में पहुँचा तो कभी झोपड़ियों में। कभी मैं भगवान के चरणों में अर्पित किया गया तो कभी जब कतरों के हाथों लग गया। इसी तरह मेरी यात्रा होती रही। मैं एक आदमी से दूसरे आदमी के हाथ में जाता रहा, बदले में उस आदमी को अपनी मन पसंद वस्तु मिलती रही। इस तरह एक जब से दूसरी जब में जाते हुए अनेक वर्ष बिताए।

इस तरह भटकते एक दिन मैं एक लड़के की जेब से कचरे में गिर गया। महीनों किसी ने मेरी खबर न ली। अन्त में एक झाड़ूवाले ने मुझे उठाया। उसकी खुशी का कोई ठिकाना न था। पर मेरा रूप इतना बदल गया था कि कोई मुझे लेना ही नहीं चाहता था। उसने बहुत कोशिश की लेकिन कहीं सफलता नहीं मिली। हारकर उसने मुझे भिखारी को दान में दिया। भिखारी ने मुझे मिट्टी के साथ बहुत रगड़ा। मेरे शरीर पर काफी लकीरें पड़ गयीं। मुझे बहुत ही दर्द हुआ। पर वह बहुत ही जालिम आदमी था। उसने मुझे बहुत तंग किया। रगड़-रगड़ कर मुझे पतला कर दिया। आज भी मैं उसके कब्जे में हूँ और जीवन की अन्तिम घड़ियाँ गिन रहा हूँ। काश ! मीत मुझे जल्दी आती।

एन्. चतुर्वेदी ९ वीं

कोचर ए., ७ वीं ए

जरा-सी मुस्कान -

ऐसा भी एक दिन

उस दिन मैंने सुबह पाँच का अलार्म लगाया और सो गया। दूसरे दिन मुझे अपने मित्रों के साथ पिकनिक जाना था। हम सब अपनी ही कक्षा के लड़के थे। हमें लोनावला जाना था। गाड़ी सुबह सात बजे की थी। रात में तो जल्दी ही सोया था। दूसरे दिन सुबह अलार्म पाँच बजे बजने के बजाय एक घंटा देरी से बजा। अलार्म बजते ही नींद खुली। मैंने देखा घड़ी में छह बजे हैं और गाड़ी छुटने में एक ही घंटा बाकी है।

जल्दी-जल्दी मैं तैयार हुआ और अपना सामान जुटा लिया। जब मैं घर से निकल रहा था, पिताजी ने कहा, 'बेटा, गाड़ी तो छूट गई होगी, अगर तुम वहाँ पहुँचोगे तो वापस लौटकर आना पड़ेगा।' मैंने पिताजी से कहा, 'नहीं पिताजी, ऐसा नहीं होगा, मैं ठीक समय पर पहुँच जाऊँगा।' पिताजी ने कहा, 'अच्छा, तो ठीक है। जाओ और ठीक सँभलकर जाना।'

मैं निकला। रास्ते में रीक्षा को देख रहा था। उस दिन एक भी रीक्षा नजर नहीं आ रही थी। मैं मन में ही कोस रहा था। अंत में एक रीक्षा दिखाई दी। मैंने आवाज दी—ओ रीक्षा! वह आया। मैं प्रसन्न था। फिर भी दिल की धड़कन बढ़ रही थी। कारण सिर्फ दस मिनट बचे थे। रीक्षा निकली मगर ऐसी चाल थी कि जैसे मैं पैदल ही चल रहा हूँ। जैसा तैसा करते स्टेशन पहुँचा तो गाड़ी निकल चुकी थी। अब क्या करें। दूसरी गाड़ी से चलने का निर्णय लिया और लोनावला पहुँचा। मगर मेरे मित्र पहले ही पहुँचकर कहीं चले गए पता नहीं। मैंने उन्हें काफी ढूँढा मगर पता नहीं चला। अब शाम हो चुकी थी। मैंने वापस घर चलने का विचार किया। स्टेशन पर पहुँचकर टिकट कटवाने गया तब पता चला कि मेरी जेब कट गई है और पैसे गायब हैं।

मेजबान (मेहमान को चाय में ग्यारह चम्मच चीनी डालते देखा) आपने चाय में इतनी चीनी डाली है, उसे मिलाते क्यों नहीं?

मेहमान (मुँह बनाकर) दर असल बात यह है कि मुझे मीठी चीज पसंद नहीं।

“दादाजी, जन्मदिन पर आपका दिया हुआ भोंपू सबसे अच्छा उपहार रहा” पप्पू ने कहा।

दादा बोले, “कैसे?”

तो पप्पू ने कहा, “जब भी मैं भोंपू बजाकर शोर करता हूँ तो पिताजी दस पैसे का सिक्का देकर भेज देते हैं।”

एक सेठजी जो कि बहुत बीमार थे बोले—“अब मैं जा रहा हूँ। मेरा दम निकल रहा है।”

उनका ड्राईव्हर जो वहीं खड़ा था बोला—“मैं गाड़ी निकालूँ सेठजी।”

मास्टर साहब—“बच्चों धरती गोल है। बिल्कुल नाम की डिविया की तरह” (चौकोनी डिविया दिखाते हुए)

इन्स्पेक्टर ने पूछा—“बच्चों धरती कैसी है?”

एक बालक—“सर, कल तक गोल थी पर आज चौकोनी बन गई।”

संग्राहक

ओवेश मसंद, ८ बी

अब तो मेरा हाल ही बेहाल हो गया। मैं सोच में पड़ गया कि अब क्या होगा? तब मुझे मेरा एक साथी जो स्टेशन पर आया था। उसे मैंने सारी रामकहानी बतलाई। तब उसने मेरी मदद की और मैं अपने घर आया। मेरा सारा मजा किरकिरा हो गया था। मैं अपने आपको कोस रहा था अगर पिताजी की बात मानकर न जाता तो कितना अच्छा होता। मगर होता है ऐसा भी एक दिन।

डी. मायानी, ८ 'बी'

दिल्ली के दर्शनीय स्थान

दिल्ली भारत की राजधानी है। दिल्ली भारत का दिल और मस्तिष्क दोनों हैं। दिल्ली यमुना नदी के किनारे बसा हुआ है। यह भारत के दो-चार नगरों में से भी एक है। दिल्ली दो भागों में बँटा हुआ है— पुरानी दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली।

पुरानी दिल्ली की प्रसिद्ध इमारतें हैं। लाल किला, जामा मस्जिद आदि। लाल किले का ऐतिहासिक महत्त्व है। स्वतंत्रता प्राप्ति के बाद इस पर हमारा राष्ट्रीय झण्डा लहरा रहा है। १५ अगस्त को स्वतंत्रता दिवस का समारोह भी यही होता है। लाल किले का निर्माण शाहजहाँ ने कराया था। यह लाल पत्थरों से बहुत ही मजबूत बना हुआ है। लाहौरी गेट पार करने के बाद आधा अन्दर जाने पर दिवान-ए-आम मिलता है। पहले सम्राट शाहजहाँ यहाँ बैठकर जनता से भेंट करते थे। इससे सुन्दर बना है, दीवान-ए-खाउस कभी इसी में रहता था, तख्त-ए-ताउस जो मोर जैसा सुन्दर रंगों एवं रत्नों से जगमगाता सिंहासन था, वह लाल किले के पास है— राजघाट, शांतिवन और विजयघाट है। यहाँ हमारे तीनों महान नेताओं महात्मा गांधी, पं. जवाहरलाल नेहरू, लालबहादुर शास्त्री की समाधियाँ हैं।

किले के पश्चिमी ओर चाँदनी चौक मिलता है। मुगलकाल में यह संसार का सबसे बड़ा बाजार समझा

जाता था। लाल किले के पास ही है जामा मस्जिद जो भारत का सबसे बड़ा मस्जिद है। ईद के नमाज का दिन जामा मस्जिद का सौन्दर्य वर्णनातीत करता है। महरौली के पास कुतुबमीनार है। यह संसार के प्राचीन ऊँची इमारतों में से एक है। यह ८५ मीटर ऊँची है। कुतुब मीनार लाल पत्थर की बनी है। कुतुब मीनार के पास ही है प्रसिद्ध लोहे का खम्भा।

नई दिल्ली की इमारतों में राष्ट्रपति भवन, इंडिया गेट आदि दर्शनीय हैं। ये इमारतें भी दर्शनीय हैं। इंडिया गेट के पास की नहरों में ग्रीष्म ऋतु की शाम को बोटिंग का आनंद लेना बड़ा ही सुखद अनुभव होता है। गणतंत्र दिवस २६ जनवरी को तो दिल्ली देखने लायक होता है। गणतंत्र दिवस हमारा सबसे प्रमुख राष्ट्रीय पर्व है। कनाट प्लेस की शामें बड़ी रंगीन होती हैं। कनाट प्लेस के पास ही है जंतर-मंतर। नई दिल्ली जितनी खुली है, उतनी पुरानी दिल्ली उतनी घनी बसी है। दिल्ली भारतीय राजनीति का ही केन्द्र नहीं है, बल्कि प्राचीन और अर्वाचीन का संगम भी है।

संजय रे, ७ सी



रोटी की आत्मकथा

अशीष भाई की माँ ने जब मुझे अशीष भाई की थाली में रख दिया तब मुझे अशीष भाई से बातें करने को मन हुआ ! वह जब मुझे तोड़ के खाने जा रहे थे तब मैं झट से बोल पड़ी कि 'ठहरो, मुझे मत खाओ' तो अशीष भाई इधर उधर देखने लगे, फिर मैं बोली, 'इधर-उधर मत देखो, मैं थाली में से बोल रही हूँ।' और इस तरह मैं अपनी आत्मकथा सुनाने लगी—

गेहूँ से जो आटा बनता है उससे मेरा जन्म होता है। जब किसान गेहूँ के बीज बोने का समय आता है ! तब वह थोड़े से बीज बाजार से लाता है ! पहले वह सारे खेत में हल चलाता है और फिर उस मिट्टी को एक एक करके मिट्टी में डालता है ! थोड़े दिनों के बाद वह मिट्टी में खाद डालता है ! धूप, पानी, हवा और अच्छा खाद मिलने पर मेरे गेहूँ के पौधे बड़े हो जाते हैं ! किसान इस पौधों की बराबर देखभाल करता है ! कुछ दिनों बाद पौधों में गेहूँ के दाने नजर आने लगते हैं !

जब फसल काटने का समय आता है तब किसान और उसके परिवार के सभी आदमी फसल काटने में लग जाते हैं ! इस कटे हुए फसल को हाथों से या बैलों की मदद से दाने अलग किये जाते हैं ! इस गेहूँ के दानों को फिर बोरीयों में भरकर किसान उसे बाजार में बेचने लाता है !

इस गेहूँ को बाजार से खरीदकर फिर उसे आदमी चक्की पर पीसने को लाता है ! इस पीसे हुए गेहूँ को आटा कहते हैं ! इस आटे में से मुझे बनाया जाता है ! मैं कई प्रकार के आटों से बनती हूँ ! गेहूँ का आटा—जवारी का आटा—चावल का आटा—बाजरे का आटा और चने के आटों से बनती हूँ ! मुझे खाने से आदमी की भूख मिट जाती है ! अमीर और गरीब

सभी मुझे खाते हैं ! मैं सबके मन पसंद का खाना हूँ ! कोई मुझे दाल के साथ खाता है तो कोई मुझे भाजी के साथ खाता है ! मेरे अपने कई नाम हैं ! जैसे कि कोई मुझे चपाती कहता है तो कोई मुझे रोटी कहता है ! पराठे कहता है तो कोई मुझे तन्दुरी रोटी कहता है ! मैं सभी को प्यारी लगती हूँ ! मुझे खाने के लिये सभी तरसते हैं ! मैं ज्यादातर उत्तर भारत और पश्चिम भारत में खाई जाती हूँ !

मुझको सभी प्यार से खाते हैं। मुझे कोई खाने को ना नहीं कहता है ! मैं घरों में और सभी होटलों में पाई जाती हूँ ! मेरी कहानी बड़ी लम्बी है। सभी ने मुझे अपनाया है !

अशीष दोशी, ७ वीं सी

चुनाव

एक नेता म्युनिसिपैलिटी का चुनाव लड़ रहे थे। वे एक बस्ती में भाषण दे रहे थे। काफी भीड़ इकट्ठी हो गयी थी। नेता कह रहे थे—“ भाइयो और बहनो पिछली बार जब आप लोगों ने मुझे चुना था तो आपकी बस्ती में पानी का नल आ गया। और इस बार ...

भीड़ में से किसी सज्जन ने बात काटते हुए कहा, “ और इस बार उन नलों में पानी आ जाएगा। ”

संग्राहक
भारत त्रिपाठी
१० 'सी'

देखो, हँस न देना !

एक बार एक आदमी किसी होटल में गया जहाँ उसने आलू बड़े खाने के लिए मँगवाये। जब उसने बड़े खा लिए तो वेटर से पूछा—‘क्यों वेटर, मैंने तुमसे तो आलू बड़े माँगे थे, मगर इन बड़ों में तो मुझे एक भी आलू न मिला।’

इस पर वेटर ने जवाब दिया—

‘आप जब रामफल खाते हैं तो क्या, उसमें से रामजी मिलते हैं क्या?’

कभी एक छोटी सी लड़की अपनी माँ के साथ रेलगाड़ी में सफर कर रही थी। रेलगाड़ी कोयले के इंजनवाला था। अचानक एक छोटा सा कोयले का टुकड़ा उस लड़की की आँख में चला गया। उसने अपनी मम्मी से कहा,—‘मम्मी, मम्मी देखो न मेरे आँख में कोयला पड़ गया है।’

इस पर उस लड़की की मम्मी ने जवाब दिया,—‘अरे बेटे, शोर मत करो, घर चलो, वहाँ जलावन के काम आयेगा।’

किशन अभी उसी दिन जूते की दूकान में नया सेल्स-मैन बनकर आया था। उसने ग्राहक को जिसे एक जूता बहुत पसन्द था, मगर पूरे पैसे न होने के कारण असमंजस में पड़ा हुआ था, उससे कहा—‘महाशयजी, यदि आपको जूता इतना पसन्द है तो ले जाइये और शाम को बाकी रकम दे जाइयेगा।’ इस पर वह ग्राहक उस जूते को ले गया।

मैनेजर यह सब देख रहा था। उसने किशन से डाँटकर पूछा—‘तूने जूते तो दे दिये मगर इस बात

का क्या सबूत है कि वह बाकी पैमे शाम को लेकर आयेगा।

इस पर किशन ने जवाब दिया—‘सेठजी घबराइय मत, उस जूते की जोड़ी का एक जूता अभी मेरे पास ही है।’

एक सज्जन ने एक होटल ने जमकर खाना खाया। मगर पैसे न होने के कारण बिल अदा न कर सकते थे। इस पर मैनेजर ने कहा—‘घबराइये मत, आपका बिल हम आपके नाम के साथ सामनेवाली खूँटी पर टाँग देंगे। जब आप पैसे दे जाइयेगा तब वहाँ से बिल निकाल लेंगे।

सज्जन ने घबराये स्वर में कहा—‘मगर मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि लोग मेरा नाम देखें। नहीं तो मेरी बदनामी होगी।’

मैनेजर ने जवाब दिया—‘आप बिल्कुल बेफिक्र रहिये, आपका नाम कोई नहीं देख सकेगा। क्योंकि आपका कोट भी उस खूँटी पर टंगा रहेगा।’

पत्नी—तुम हमेशा मेरे रिश्तेदारों से चिढ़े रहते हो।
पति—बिल्कुल उल्टी बात। मैं तुम्हारे सास-ससुर का तो बहुत सम्मान करता हूँ। चिढ़ता तो अपने सास ससुर से हूँ।

मैनेजर इस मिल में सारा काम बिजली से होता है।

कलकं—तभी पहली तनख्वाह से भुझे जोरदार धक्का लगा था।

भारत त्रिपाठी, १० ‘सी’

वलासरुम में

“भारत, तुम बड़े होकर किस चीज़ का आविष्कार करोगे ?” विज्ञान के शिक्षक ने पूछा ।

“सर, एक ऐसी मशीन का जो बटन दबाते ही मेरा सब काम कर दे ।” भारत ने जवाब दिया ।

“तब तो तुम बड़े आलसी हो । खैर, राकेश अगर तूम वैज्ञानिक बने तो क्या करोगे ।” शिक्षक ने राकेश से पूछा ।

“सर, मैं तो एक ऐसा यंत्र बनाऊँगा जो भारत की मशीन का बटन दबा दे ।” राकेश ने उत्तर दिया ।

“वह कौन सा फल है जो मीठा, खट्टा और चटपटा होता है ।” अध्यापक ने पूछा । “परीक्षाफल ।” छात्र ने उत्तर दिया ।

“मिस, क्या आसमान में बराबर पानी बरसता रहता है ?”

“नहीं तो, क्यों ?”

“तो हवाई जहाज से कूदनेवाले सदा छतरी लेकर क्यों कूदते हैं ।”

अस्पताल में एक बच्चे ने अपनी माँ से पूछा, “माँ, क्या यहाँ बच्चे बिकते हैं ?”

“नहीं तो बेटे, क्यों ?” माँ ने कहा ।

“तो फिर वह सामनेवाली महिला उस बच्चे को तुलवा क्यों रही है ?” बच्चे ने उत्तर दिया ।

कम्पाउण्डर—डाक्टर साहब, आप, उसे सेठ का ऑपरेशन किसलिये कर रहे हैं ?

डाक्टर—पाँच हज़ार रुपयों के लिए ।

ऑपरेशन थिएटर में एक डाक्टर ने दूसरे से कहा, “यही वह बच्चा है जिसके गले में कंचा अटक गया है ।”

“अच्छा, और जो बच्चा बाहर खड़ा है वह क्या इसका भाई है ?” दूसरे डाक्टर ने कहा ।

“जी नहीं, उसी बच्चे का तो कंचा इसके नले में अटका है । वह अपना कंचा लेने के लिए खड़ा है ।

पहचानो तो ...

१. नारी में नारी बसे
नारी में नर दोग ।
दो नर में नारी बसे
बूझे विरला कोय ॥



२. मीठी मीठी बात बनावे
ऐसा पुरुष वह किसे भावे ।
बूढा बाला जो कोई आए
उसके आगे सीस नवाए ॥



३. माटी रौंठू चक धरूँ
फेरूँ बारंबार ।
चातुर हो तो जान ले,
मेरी जात गँवार ॥



४. बात की बात ठठोली की ठठोली ।
मरद की गाँठ औरत ने खोली ॥

५. अरथ तो इसका बूझेगा ।
मुँह देखो तो सूझेगा ॥



६. नारी से तू नर भई और
श्याम बरन भई सोय ।
गली गली कूकत फिर
कोइलो कोइलो लोय ॥



नहीं पहचाना तो लो—

१. नथ २. नाई ३. कुम्हार

४. ताला ५. दर्पण ६. कोयला.

संस्त्राहक

आर. ठाकूर

ट ' ए '

भारत त्रिपाठी, १० ' सी '

एक कुत्ते की अजब दास्तान

अपनी सबसे प्यारी वस्तु खो जाने पर जो दुःख होता है, वह बताना कठिन है। ऐसी ही एक घटना मेरी पड़ोसी शर्मा आंटी के साथ घटित हुई। शर्माजी के पास एक बहुत ही सुन्दर बर्फ जैसा झबरे बालोंवाला एक कुत्ता था। अल्सेगिअन होने के नाते वह बहुत ऊँचा, लम्बा, चौड़ा था। उसका नाम सीज़र था। मुझे सीज़र बहुत अच्छा लगता। मैं अक्सर उसे सुबह-शाम शर्माजी के नौकर के साथ घूमते जाते देखता। शाम को बच्चों के साथ बॉल खेलता। बार बार वह मुँह में पकड़कर बॉल लाता और बच्चों के साथ हाथ मिलाता। यह सब देखकर मेरा मन जलन से भर जाता कि काश मेरे पास भी इतना सुन्दर कुत्ता होता! मैं जब-जब सीज़र के पास जाकर उससे दोस्ती करना चाहता, वह मुझे देखकर गुर्रा उठता, इससे मेरे मन में उसके लिए डर बैठ गया और फिर मैं उसके पास कभी नहीं गया।

एक दिन सुबह जब मैं स्कूल जा रहा था तो मैंने सीज़र को शर्माजी के नौकर के साथ टहलते देखा। मैं डर से उसे प्यार और प्रशंसा भरी नज़रों से देख रहा था। मैंने उसे पुचकारा तो वह मेरी तरफ लपका और पूँछ हिला-हिलाकर मेरा हाथ चाटने लगा। मैंने प्यार से उसकी पीठ के सफेद मुलायम बालों को सहलाया। उस दिन से सीज़र मेरा दोस्त बन गया। मैं शाम को उसके साथ बॉल खेलता। हर सुबह स्कूल जाते समय वह मुझे मिलता। अक्सर दरवाज़ा खुला होनेपर वह मेरे घर के अन्दर घुस आता और हम दोनों छत पर बड़ी देर तक खेलते रहते।

एक दिन शाम को मैं स्कूल से सीज़र के बारे में सोचता हुआ घर लौट रहा था, तो देखता हूँ कि शर्मा अंकल के घर में गमगीन एवं दुःख भरा वातावरण

छाया हुआ है। एक कोने में दीपक शर्मा आंटी का छोटा बेटा सुबक-सुबक कर रो रहा था। आंटी अन्दर सोफे पर मुँह लटकाये बैठी थी। खाना पीना छोड़ उनकी आँखें रो-रोकर लाल हो गई थीं। पड़ोसी व हितैषी उन्हें तसल्ली दे रहे थे। पूछने पर पता लगा कि दोपहर से सीज़र लापता है। मुझे बहुत दुःख हुआ और मेरी आँखों में आँसू झलक आये। शर्मा अंकल सीज़र की फोटो व हुलिया सहित पुलिस में रिपोर्ट दर्ज कराने गए थे। एक कोने में आया और मोटी आंटी सीज़र की गुणगाथा गा रही थी। “कुत्ता (सीज़र) क्या था कालोनी का हीरो था। उसकी बुद्धि व समझदारी की दाद देनी पड़ती है।” तभी आया बोल पड़ी, “मैं उसे खुशबूदार साबुन से नहलाती थीं, ब्रश करती तो कैसा सफेद झाक प्यारा लगता था। सेन्ट और पीडर तो मेमसाहब उसे स्वयं लगाती थीं। उनकी बातचीत सुनकर मैं मुस्कराये बिना न रह सका।

उदास, दुःखी मन से मैं घर पहुँचा। माँ ने मुझे दूध व नाश्ता दिया। पर मेरा मन खाने में न लगा। मैं सब छोड़ भारी मन से उठकर छत पर आ गया। तभी मैंने देखा कि सीज़र दुम हिलाता मेरे पास खड़ा है। मेरी खुशी का ठिकाना न रहा। मेरे प्यार से उसकी पीठ थपथपाई और खुशी व आनन्द से चिल्ला उठा। “सीज़र मिल गया।” शर्मा आंटी गिरती सँवरती, दौड़ती ऊपर छत पर आ गई और “मेरा सीज़र, मेरा सीज़र।” कहती हुई सीज़र से लिपट गई। सब लोग खुशी, संतोष व व्यंग्य भरी मुस्कराहट लिए अपने-अपने घर को चल दिए। आज भी जब यह घटना मेरे विचारों में आती है तो मैं हँसे बिना नहीं रह पाता हूँ। वह थी एक अजीब दास्तान थी कुत्ते की।

— मनीष बाजपेयी, ८ वी 'बी'

सिंहगढ़ की सैर

मुझे बचपन से ही पहाड़ियों से बहुत प्यार है। मेरा जन्म एक पहाड़ी स्थान में हुआ था। पहाड़ियों को देखकर मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि वह मुझे अपनी तरफ बुला रही हैं। शीतल काठ में बर्फ से नदी, पहाड़ की चोटियाँ कितनी भली प्रतीत होती हैं। गर्मियों के मौसम में पहाड़ पेड़ों से भरे होते हैं। मुझे ऐसा लग है कि आसमान पहाड़ों की चोटियों को छू रहा है। मैं कई बार सोचता कि अगर मैं पहाड़ की चोटी पर चढ़ सकता तो मैं भी आसमान को छू सकता। जब भी मुझे कोई ऐसी पुस्तक मिलती जिसमें किसी पहाड़ी यात्रा का वर्णन होता तो मैं उसे बड़े चाव से पढ़ता और पढ़ते-पढ़ते मुझे ऐसा लगता कि मैं भी उस टोली के साथ यात्रा कर रहा हूँ।

जैसे-जैसे मैं बड़ा होता गया। पहाड़ पर चढ़ने की मेरी इच्छा बढ़ती रही। फिर एक दिन मेरे पिताजी का तबादला आई. ए. टी. पूना हो गया। मैंने सोचा कि आई. ए. टी. भी और शहरों की तरह होगा, मगर यहाँ आकर मैं हैरान हो गया, क्योंकि आई. ए. टी. छोटे-छोटे पहाड़ों के बीच बना हुआ एक छोटा सा स्थान था। सुबह उठते ही अपने घर की छत से ही पहाड़ देख सकते हैं। पहाड़ घरों के पास होनेके कारण कोई खतरा भी न था। मैंने यहाँ आते ही फैसला कर लिया कि अब मैं अपनी बरसों की इच्छा पूरी कर सकता हूँ।

एक दिन मैंने अपने दोस्तों के साथ एक पहाड़ी यात्रा की योजना बनाई। सभी ने कहा कि हम सिंहगढ़ जाएँगे। सिंहगढ़ शिवाजी का एक पुराना किला है। यह एक ऊँची पहाड़ी की चोटी पर बना है। हमने सोचा कि हम इतवार को जाएँगे और सैर के साथ-साथ किला भी देख सकेंगे। अगले दिन इतवार था, हम सब बहुत खुश थे। मैंने अपनी माँ से कहकर सब

दोस्तों के लिए पूड़ियाँ और चने बनवाए। मेरा एक दोस्त फल लाया। हम सबने चार-पाँच पानी की बोतलें भरीं और चल दिए। मेरा भाई जो शिकारी बनना चाहता था जल्दी से अपनी बन्दूक ले आया। हम सब उसका मजाक बनाते चल दिए।

चलते चलते हम गाना गाने लगे। तेज धूप थी, हमारे पैर गरम हो गए क्योंकि हमने खेलने के जूते पहने थे। पहाड़ की चढ़ाई इतनी आसान न थी जितनी मैंने सोची थी। पूरा रास्ता छोटे-छोटे पत्थरों और जंगली झाड़ियों से भरा था। धीरे-धीरे हमारा पानी खत्म हुआ जा रहा था। तभी एकदम आसमान में काले बादल छा गए और थोड़ी देर में ही पानी बरसने लगा और हम भीग गए। हमें खुशी हुई और हम भीगते-भीगते किले में पहुँच गए। तब तक बरसात रुक गई थी। फिर हमने अपना खाना खाय़ा और एक पेड़ के नीचे लेट गए। आधे घंटे के बाद हमने घूमना शुरू किया। उधर एक कब्र दिखाई दी, उस पर तानाजी का बूत था। हमें मालूम पड़ा कि यह कब्र तानाजी की थी। हमें वहाँ के गाईड ने तानाजी की बहादुरी की कहानी सुनाई। हम सबकी आँखों में आँसू आ गए। तभी हमें मालूम हुआ कि अगर हम अभी न चले तो रात तक घर न पहुँच पाएँगे। दो घंटों का रास्ता था और अभी पाँच बजे थे। फिर हम चल दिये।

दो घंटों के बाद हम घर पहुँचे। सब बहुत थक चुके थे। पाँव बुरी तरह दर्द कर रहे थे। हमारे सारे कपड़े मिट्टी से भरे थे। बारिश से भीगने के कारण हमारे बाल भी गीले हो गए थे। घर आते ही मैंने गरम पानी से स्नान किया, गरम-गरम दूध पिया और सो गया।

जसप्रीत सिंग, ८ वी 'सी'

चल अकेला, चल अकेला !

‘सुनिए’ ।

‘जी’ ।

यह रोड कहां जाता है ?

वैसे तो यह रोड आग्रा जाता है । लेकिन आपको कहां जाना है ? कुछ पता नहीं ।

अजीब बात है !

देखिए मुझे बहुत भूख लगी है ।

ओह !

अच्छा, आइए मेरे साथ सामनेवाली हॉटेल में ।

नहीं नहीं, मैं हॉटेल में नहीं आऊंगी ।

क्यों ? क्या बात है ?

बात कुछ नहीं ।

फिर क्यों संकोच करती हो ?

संकोच !

शायद आप जानते नहीं मुझपर क्या-क्या मुसीबतें आईं ।

शायद इन्हीं मुसीबतों के कारण मेरे साथ आने में संकोच करती हो ।

खैर बैठियेगा उस सामनेवाले बगीचे में । तब तक मैं आपके लिए कुछ चीजें ले आता हूँ ।

मैं सोचता हुआ उस अनजान लड़की के लिए कुछ चीजें लाने हॉटेल की तरफ बढ़ा । मुझे खुद अचरज लग रहा था कि इस दुनिया में लड़कियाँ भी भूख से पीड़ित हैं ? और खासकर इस जवानी में । जिनको अपनी जवानी का फक होना चाहिए । जो इस उम्र में हँसी खुशी खेले, तमाम जीवन के आनेवाले कल के अंधकार को भूलकर, लेकिन जब मैंने उस मासूम चेहरे की तरफ देखा तो मुझे लगा मानो जीवन के आनेवाले कल के अंधकार आज ही उसके सामने एक

आगंतुक की तरह खड़ा है ।

सहसा मेरी आँखों में आँसू आ गए । मैं समझ नहीं सका उस मासूम लड़की के मुकंदर को जिसने उसे बचपन में ही विधवा बना दिया था । मैं सोचते सोचते उस लड़की के पास गया और उसे कुछ चीजें खाने के लिए दीं । मैंने देखा कि लड़की दो दिन से भूखी थी । जब मैंने उसे खाते देखा तो खुद मेरी भूख गायब हो गई । पानी पानी के बाद उस लड़की ने सोना चाहा । अब मैं खुद परेशान था कि अब क्या किया जाय । उस लड़की की आँखों में नींद की खुमारी और कष्ट की झलक दोनों एक साथ दीख पड़ती थी । अब मैं उसका मूल उद्देश्य क्या है समझ गया । मैंने उसे स्वीकृति दे दी कि वह निःसंकोच सामनेवाली बेंचपर विराजमान हो जाए । सोने से पहले मुझे उसने कहा, बाबूजी कृपया आप कहीं नहीं जाएंगे ।

मैं उसे कुछ कहना चाहता था लेकिन उस वक्त मैंने ठीक नहीं समझा । न जाने उस लड़की ने मेरे ऊपर कौनसा जादू कर दिया था जिससे मैंने उसे इन्कार नहीं किया । वह लड़की तो सो गई सारी दुनिया को भूलकर स्वप्नलोक में विचरने लगी ।

मैं सोचने लगा जीवन में मनुष्य संघर्ष करते करते ही मर जाता है । कुछ ऐसे लोग होते हैं जिनको संघर्ष करने की जरूरत ही महसूस नहीं होती । एक तो बहुत अमीर लोग होते हैं जिन्हें संघर्ष सिर्फ आमोद प्रमोद की चीजों से करना होता है । और दूसरे वे लोग होते हैं जो बहुत ही गरीब होते हैं जिनसे न अपने आपकी फिक्र, न उस भगवान की फिक्र जिन्होंने उन्हें इस धरती पर एक कलंक की तरह फेंक दिया है ।

मैं जहाँपर बगीचे के पास बैठा था उसके सामने ही कुछ मजदूर लोगों की झोपडियाँ थीं। और उसके ठीक पिछवाड़े कुछ अमीर लोगों की इमारतें करीबन दस बारह मंजिले ऊँचे जब मैंने अपनी गरदन ऊपर उठाई और उन मंजिलों की तरफ देखा तो मुझे ऐसा महसूस हुआ कि वे मंजिलें उपेक्षा भरी दृष्टि से मेरी तरफ देख रही हैं और मानो मेरे ऊपर थूक रही हैं। कह रही हैं जीना हो तो हमसे सीखो वना चुल्लूभर पानी में डूब मरो। सहसा मैंने अपनी दृष्टि उन झोपडियों की तरफ बढ़ाई। मैंने देखा कि वे मुझसे कह रही हैं यह फँसाना पलभर का है। आओ हमारे पास आओ इस खुली हवा में न फिर न चिंता बस, जीने के लिए खा रहे हैं और काम कर रहे हैं, ताकि कल फिर ज़िंदा रह सके। मैंने देखा जब उनके अस्थिपंजरों को जिनमें सिर्फ हड्डियों के सिवा और कुछ नहीं था। और वे जीने की तमन्ना कर रहे थे, आनेवाले कल की राह देख रहे थे। अपने मुकद्दर के सहारे जी रहे थे आशाओं को साथ में लिए ! न जाने कितनी देर तक सोचता रहा, अपने भविष्य के बारे में जो कभी नहीं आनेवाला है। बस, एक टक देखता रहा उस आकाश को जिसमें पंछी उड़ रहे थे।

अचानक, मैंने देखा कि वह लड़की मेरे सामने आकर खड़ी है। उसका चेहरा खिला हुआ था। मैंने उससे पूछा, 'क्यों कौसी रही!' उसने शर्माकर कहा, अच्छी रही। मैंने उससे उसका नाम पूछा तो कहने लगी, बाबूजी मेरा नाम जानकर क्या करोगे ? लेकिन मैंने कहा, खैर, नाम तो हर एक व्यक्ति, हर एक जगह, हर एक चीज का होता है। फिर तुम अपना नाम बताने में क्यों संकोच करती हो। अच्छा, सुनिए मेरा नाम कहकर उस लड़की ने हल्की-सी चपत लगाते हुए मुझसे कहा, 'मेरा नाम आशा है। जैसे ही मैंने यह नाम सुना मुझे याद आने लगा, उन अस्थिपंजरों की जो इसी आशा के सहारे जीते हैं। मैं सोच में पड़ गया कि अब इस लड़की को कहाँ रखे, क्योंकि इस बृहत् संसार में मेरा अपना कोई नहीं था ! आज इधर तो कल उधर। लेकिन अब मेरे सामने एक समस्या थी जिसको हल करना मेरे लिए तो क्या इस देश के किसी भी व्यक्ति को मुश्किल था। मैंने उस लड़की से उसके जीवन के बारे में जानने की कोशिश की। लेकिन उसने

सिर्फ इतना ही कहा, मेरा इस दुनिया में कोई नहीं है। ओह ! कितना दुर्भाग्य इस का, इस देश की बेटियों का न जाने ऐसी कितनी आशाएँ निराशाओं में डूबी हुई अपनी ज़िदगी बसर कर रही होंगी !

'आशा।'

'जी।'

देखो, वैसे मेरा भी इस दुनिया में कोई नहीं है। लेकिन अब तुम जो मेरे साथ हो। अब हम दोनों। इस जीवन में संघर्ष करेंगे और उन उपेक्षित मंजिलोंसे कह देंगे, हम भी कुछ कम नहीं। न जाने आशा मेरी इन बातों को समझ सकी या नहीं। लेकिन उसने मेरे साथ रहने का वादा किया ! मैं जानता था, एक जवान लड़की के साथ रहना कितना मुश्किल कार्य है। फिर भी मैंने उसे अपने मकान पर ले गया। मकान भी मेरा सिर्फ नाममात्र का था। उन लोगों की अस्थिपंजरों की तरह। मैंने रात किसी तरह गुजारी ! सारी रात सोच रहा था आशा के बारे में। शायद मुझे ऐसा लगा, जिस आशा का मुझे बरसों से इंतज़ार था आज वही आशा मेरे सामने है। रात के उस सप्ताटे में मैंने आशा पर एक दृष्टि डाली, जवान आशा बेफिक्र सो रही थी। महकती हुई उसकी साँसें उसके सारे शरीर में घुम रही थीं। मैंने देखा कि उसके वक्षस्थल ज़ोर-जोर से काँप रहे थे। मैं आशा के करीब गया। आशा गहरी नींद में थीं। मैंने चादर उसके पास से हटाई और उसके शरीर को ढाँक दिया और खुद बाहर जाकर सो गया !

न जाने ऐसे कितने सबेरे चले गये, न जाने ऐसी कितनी रातें बीत गईं। लेकिन मैं और आशा कभी नहीं बदले। मैंने उस दिन से एक जीवन चर्या बना ली थी। सबेरा होते ही मैं मकान से निकलकर नौकरी की तलाश में निकल पड़ता और शाम को अपने मकान में आ जाता। बहुत दिन गुज़र गए। लेकिन नौकरी नहीं मिली ! मैं खुद बी. ए. पास था। लेकिन जहाँ भी जाता वहाँ पर 'नो वेकन्सी का बोर्ड लगा रहता। मैं निराशा लिए घर लौटता। लेकिन आशा मुझे सहारा देती ! मैंने देखा कि आशा उन्हीं मंजिलों में किसी अमीर स्त्री के यहाँ बर्तन माँजने का काम करने लगी है। मैंने उससे मना किया कि वह यह काम न करे। लेकिन उसने नहीं माना ! वह अमीर स्त्री उसे तीस

रुपए और भोजन देने पर राजी हो गई है। और मैं आशा को क्या देने पर राजी हो गया हूँ, कुछ कह नहीं सकता !

मैंने आशा की जिंदगी के बारे में जानकारी हासिल की तो मालूम हुआ कि वह एक यतीमखाने में पली हुई थी। जब वह जवान हो गई तो यतीमखानेवालों ने उसे किसी और ही मार्ग पर चलने के लिए कहा। जिसे आशा ने साफ इन्कार कर दिया ! और शायद इसी वजह से वह भागकर आ गई थी, मैंने जब यह सुना तो कोसने लगा उन पूँजिपतियों को जो सिर्फ शरीफों का मुखौटा पहने समाज में विचरते हैं और रात को काले नामों की तरह घूमते हैं और लिपटे रहते हैं चंदनों को अपने जीवन का रस लुटने के लिए और उन चंदनों की सुगंध में मदमस्त। लेकिन उन लोगों को कोसने से कुछ फायदा नहीं यह तो अपने अपने किंमत की बातें ! अबसर मैं इसी प्रकार कई रातें सोचता रहता, सिगरेटों को फुंकता हुआ अपने गम को भुलाने की कोशिश करता और सो जाता। कभी-कभी आशा मेरी इस हालत का जिक्र करती ! और मुझे समझाने की कोशिश करती लेकिन उसकी समझ मेरे समझ के बाहर थी। वह मेरी समझ नहीं समझ सकी और मैं उसकी समझ के बाहर था। इसी तरह कई दिन गुज़र गए। कई वर्ष बीत गए लेकिन मुझे नौकरी नहीं मिली। अबसर मैं परेशान रहने लगा, सिगरेटों पर सिगरेट पीने लगा। कभी-कभी मकान पर भी नहीं जाता। आशा मुझसे नाराज रहती। लेकिन कुछ कह नहीं सकती। वह खुद बेसहारा थी। उसे इतनी भी हिम्मत नहीं थी कि वह मुझसे कुछ कहें। लेकिन वह मेरी निगरानी अच्छी तरह से करती थी। ठंड के दिन आ रहे थे। उसने मेरे लिए एक स्वेटर खरीदा था। और मुझसे पहनने को कहा था।

आज शायद दिवाली थी। आशा ने घर में अच्छी चीजें बनाई थीं। आज उसने मुझसे कहा था कि घर जल्दी आना। और यह भी कहा था कि अगर जल्दी नहीं आयेंगे तो वह रूठ जाएगी। मैंने आशा को आज जल्दी आने का वादा भी किया था। मुझे दिवाली और त्यौहारों से कोई दिलचस्पी नहीं थी। आज कितनी दिवालियाँ गईं लेकिन मेरे लिए उसका कोई महत्व नहीं, मेरे लिए सब दिन बराबर।

रोज़ की तरह मैंने अपना बँग उठाया और सर्विस की तलाश में चल पड़ा इसी आशाओं के सहारे जिसका मुझे कोई भरोसा नहीं था। फिर भी निराशा में भी आशा के किरण नजर आते हैं। पाँच घंटों के लगातार संग्राम के बाद मुझे एक सेठ ने दो सौ रुपये माहवार इंपोर्ट-एक्सपोर्ट के बिजनेस के लिए रख दिया। जिंदगी में पहली बार मुझे अपने लिए नहीं लेकिन आशा के लिए खुशी हुई। मैं बहुत खुश था। सेठ ने मेरी नियुक्ति उसी दिन से कर दी। मैंने सेठ से विनती की कि वह मुझे कुछ अँडवांस दे। सेठ दयालु स्वभाव के थे। उन्होंने अपनी सेक्रेटरी मिस रीटा से मुझे १०० रुपया देने को कहा। न जाने मुझे उस दिन कितनी खुशी हुई थी। जीवन में पहली बार मुझे सौ रुपये एक साथ मिले थे। मैंने जल्दी से रुपये बटोर लिए और आशा के लिए एक सुंदर-सी साड़ी और मिठाइयाँ खरीदी और अपने मकान की ओर चल पड़ा। कितने विचार मेरे दिल में रह-रहकर उठ रहे थे। आज आशा कितनी खुश होगी। कितनी सुन्दर लगेगी वह इस साड़ी में। मैं उसे अपने हाथों से यह मिठाइयाँ खिलाऊँगा। इसी तरह सोचते मैं अपने मकान के पास आया।

जैसे ही मैंने अपने मकान में प्रवेश किया तो देखा कि कुछ औरतें रो रही हैं। और आशा विस्तर पर पड़ी खून से लथपथ। मैं कुछ समझ नहीं सका, मैं जोर से चीख पड़ा, आशा न जाने मुझे उस वक्त क्या हो गया था। मेरे आँसू भी निकल नहीं सके। बस एक मूर्ति की तरह चुपचाप आशा को देखता रहा। लोगों ने बताया कि अचानक आशा तिसरी मंजिल पर से गिर पड़ी और उसकी मौत हो गई।

मैंने आशा के लिए जो साड़ी खरीदी थी वह उसको सौंप दी और मिठाइयाँ उसके साथ। मैं आशा को दुल्हन के लिबास में देखना चाहता था लेकिन उसकी अर्थी लिए जा रहा था स्मशान की ओर। मैंने देखा कि वही मंजिलें दिवाली की रोशनी से जगमगा रही है। और मेरी ओर देखकर हँस रही है और कह रही है क्या मुकद्दर पाया है।

—मधुकर चौहान

भीड़ में रेल की यात्रा

दोस्ती

हम अजमेर से बम्बई जा रहे थे। हमारे पास सेक्रेण्ड क्लास का टिकट था। अजमेर से हमें आराम सीट मिल गई। साथ में मेरी बहन और माता-पिता थे। हम सुबह अजमेर से चले तो शाम को अहमदाबाद दिल्ली मेल से पहुँच गए।

अहमदाबाद पर बहुत भीड़ थी। कुली लोग इधर से उधर भाग रहे थे, क्यों कि गुजरात मेल आने वाली थी। ज्यों ही ट्रेन प्लेटफॉर्म पर आई तो और भी भीड़ हो गई। बड़ी कठिनता से हमें एक डिब्बे में जगह मिल गई फिर भी मेरे पिताजी को खड़ा होना पड़ा, हम तीनों बैठ गए क्यों कि हमें थोड़ी सी जगह मिल गई थी। मेरे पास एक मोटा सा आदमी बैठा था। वह आधी नींद में था। कभी वह मेरे ऊपर गिरता तो कभी दूसरी तरफ। एक आदमी का किसी से झगड़ा हो रहा था। एक आदमी गाना गा रहा था।

एक ऊपरवाली सीट पर बैठकर सारा तमाशा देख रहा था। मुझे उस पर बड़ा गुस्सा आ रहा था क्यों कि वह तो आराम से बैठा था और हम तकलीफ से बैठे थे। सुरत आने पर भीड़ कुछ कम हुई, फिर बड़ोदा पर और कम हो गई और सुबह होते-होते हम बम्बई के पास थे। सब लोग अपना सामान बांध रहे थे।

सुबह बम्बई पहुँच गए। इतनी मुश्किल तो हमें पिछली यात्राके समय पर कभी नहीं, हुई जितनी भीड़ में हमें अहमदाबाद से बम्बई की यात्रा में हुई।

दोस्ती फूल के समान होती है,
हर दिन नयी खुशी लाती है।
अगर उसे संभालकर न रखो,
तो वह भी मुरझा जाती है ॥
इसलिए प्यार से उसका पालन करो,
संभालकर उसे सदा के लिए रखो।
भविष्य में यह दोस्ती की कली,
सुख का फूल बनकर मुस्कराती है।

रोहित अरोरा

८ 'सी'

‘मेरी जिंदगी’

जब एक युवा बालक मैं था,
जिंदगी क्या थी मुझे पता ही न था।
खेल की तरह मैं उससे खेलता रहा,
आगे क्या होगा कभी सोचा न था।
आज जब समय आ गया है,
मैं वही बालक नहीं हूँ जो मैं पहले था।
अब मैं पछताता रह गया हूँ,
जिंदगी का यह खेल खेलते हुए।

मगर अब भी समय है, बिगड़े को बना सकता हूँ मैं,
मेरी बात मानो और अपनी जिंदगी को समझ लो।
आज जो तुम सीखोगे वह कल तुम्हारे काम आएगा,
नहीं तो सभी को मेरी तरह पछताना पड़ेगा।

शैशव काल की मधुर स्मृतियाँ

“बार-बार आती है मुझको याद मधुर बचपन तेरी,

गया ले गया तू जीवन की सबसे मस्त खुशी मेरी।

कितना सत्य है, मुझद्राकुमारी चौहान की इन पंक्तियों में। सच में कितने अच्छे होते हैं बचपन के दिन। कितना मजा आता है इन दिनों में। थोड़े दिनों पहले ही तो मैं कितना आजाद था, हर काम करने के लिए अब तो कोई भी काम करने से पहले दस बार सोचना पड़ता है कि जो मैं कर रहा हूँ वो ठीक तो है न। अभी तो मेरे बचपन की यादें बिल्कुल ताजी हैं और शायद वो दिन मैं जिन्दगी भर न भुला सकूँ।

उस समय मैं लड़के, और लड़कियों सबके साथ, बिना किसी भेद-भाव के खेलता था। हम मम्मी पापा खेलते थे, गुड़िया की शादी रचाते थे, डाक्टर मरीज खेलते थे, और न जाने कितने खेल और भी खेलते थे जिसकी गिनती नहीं है।

घर से लेकर स्कूल तक सुबह से रात सोने के समय तक हमारा खेलना जारी रहता था। स्कूल में हम खाने की छुट्टी में और घर में तो बस हमेशा तरह-तरह के खेल खेलते न छुआ-छुत की भावना थी, न अमीर-गरीब की, और न तो जात-पाँत का। एक दूसरे का झूठा खाने में हमें संकोच बिल्कुल न था, बल्कि उसी में आनन्द आता था।

अब तो मैं बड़ा हो गया हूँ। लड़कियों के साथ बात भी यदि करूँ तो देखने वाले गलत समझ बैठेंगे।

अब तो ऐसे वातावरण में रहने के कारण मुझमें ऊँच-नीच की भावनाएँ भी आ गई हैं। कुछ बचपन के साथी अभी भी ऐसे हैं जिससे पहले जैसा संबंध है, मगर अब के नये साथी तो बिल्कुल विभिन्न हैं। मेरी धनिष्ठता जिन दो-चार के साथ बहुत ज्यादा है, उनके साथ भी हर बात न जाने क्यों सोच-समझकर करनी पड़ती है। लेकिन अब तो नये साथी ही मेरे लिए सब कुछ हैं। पुराने दोस्त तो मुझसे बहुत दूर हैं। लेकिन अभी भी वे जितने मेरे दिल के करीब हैं उतना शायद कोई नहीं हो सकता। जब उनकी बात याद आती है तो आँखों में आँसू आ जाते हैं। जब मैं किसी से मिलता हूँ तो बस उसके पास से आने का मन नहीं करता है। अपनों से भी ज्यादा अपनापन महसूस होता है। सच, कितने अच्छे थे वे दिन।

मैं इन भावनाओं में मग्न बैठा हूँ कि मेरे पास मेरी माँजी आ जाती है। वो मिट्टी खा रही है और मुझे भी खाने को कह रही है। मुझे तो उसे देखकर रुलाई आ रही है, मगर जैसे भी आँसुओं को रोककर मैं उसे चूम लेता हूँ। उसके साथ तुतलाकर बातें करने लगता हूँ और उसे गोद में उठाकर बाहर बालू पर ले जाता हूँ जहाँ मैं अपनी सात वर्षीय बहन और माँजी के साथ खेलता हूँ। ऐसे ही तो मैं एक बार फिर से अपने बचपन को भुलाने का यत्न करता हूँ और कुछ क्षणों के लिए सुख का अनुभव होता है।

भरत त्रिपाठी, १० सी



अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाल वर्ष

बच्चों के अधिकार और उनकी समस्याएँ १९७९

१९७९ अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बाल वर्ष घोषित किया गया है। हमारे देश के बच्चों की दशा दूसरे देशों के बच्चों से बड़ी खराब है। न जाने कितने ऐसे बच्चे इस देश में हैं, जिन्हें पढ़ाई तो दूर की रही, खाने और रहने को नसीब नहीं है। कितने बदनसीब हैं ये बिचारे। आज के बच्चे कल के नागरिक हैं, अगर इन बच्चों की दशा न सुधारी गई तो हमारे कल के नागरिक अनपढ़ और नीच विचारवाले होंगे। 'गरीबी हटाओ' यह नारा तो कितने सालों से हमारे देश में लगते आ रहा है। गरीबी हटेगी, अगर इन गरीब बच्चों की दशा का सुधार हो तब। कम से कम इन बच्चों को उपयुक्त शिक्षा तो जरूर देना चाहिए। इस देश की महिलाएँ, जो एम. ए. और बी. ए. की डिग्री लेकर घर में खाना बनाने के अलावा बाकी समय बातें करने में व्यतीत करती हैं, क्या उनसे यह नहीं हो सकता कि इन गरीब बच्चों को पढ़ा सकें। पढ़ाने के लिए एम. ए. की डिग्री की जरूरत नहीं है। जो थोड़ा बहुत भी पढ़ी हैं, वे भी इन बेसरा बच्चों को पढ़ा सकती हैं। यदि दस महिलाएँ एक सोसायटी से १५-१५ बच्चों को रोज २ या ३ घंटे पढ़ाए तो वे १५० लड़कों को शिक्षा दान कर रही हैं। शिक्षा का मतलब पूरा-पूरा यह नहीं है कि बड़े स्कूल में जा कर प्राप्त करें। घर पर भी ये महिलाएँ कुछ बच्चों के लिए किताब-कॉपी इत्यादि का खर्च चला कर; इन्हें

पढ़ाई के अलावा, प्यार, और सफाई के पाठ देसकती हैं।

कितना खर्च पड़ेगा हर महीना, मुश्किल से २५ या ३० रुपये कुल, मैं पूछता हूँ क्या २५ या ३० रुपये से किसी के घर में कमी आ जाएगी। महिलाओं को यह नहीं सोचना चाहिए कि सरकार मुझे इस काम के लिए कुछ पैसे दे, या बच्चों का २५ रुपये का खर्च चलाए। इस से मैं मानता हूँ उन्हें कुछ लाभ नहीं होगा, मगर हाँ बच्चों के आर्थिक दशा और उनके भविष्य पर बहुत परिवर्तन होगा। इस तरह की सेवा करने वाले का एक जीता जागता उदाहरण है 'मदर टेरेजा।' वह भी तो कभी किसी से कुछ नहीं लेती, मगर कितने स्नेह और प्रेम से सेवा करती हैं गरीबों की। मैं यह नहीं कर रहा हूँ कि हर औरत 'मदर टेरेजा' बन जाए। मगर हाँ यह जरूर कहूँगा कि उनके दिखाए हुए इस पथ पर चलने की कोशिश सब करें।

अब गरीबों की बात को छोड़िए। अमीरों के घर में आ जाइए। जो पैसेवाले हैं, या जो लोग मध्य वर्ग के हैं, उनके बच्चों के साथ भी समस्याएँ हैं।

इन बच्चों के माता-पिता यह सोचते हैं कि जब उनके बच्चों को खाना-पीना, कपड़े-लत्ते, और पढ़ाई-लिखाई के लिए सब कुछ मिल रहा है तो उनके बच्चों को तब किसी भी चीज की जरूरत नहीं। यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है। बच्चों को प्यार चाहिए। उन्हें चाहिए माँ पिता की निगरानी और लाड़-दुलार। इतना लाड़ दुलार भी नहीं देना चाहिए जिससे बच्चे बिगड़ जाएँ, मगर हाँ इतना ही प्यार मिले जिससे वे अपने बड़ों का आदर-भाव करें और दिल से हमेशा खुश रहें। इस बचपन के प्यार पर ही उनके आगे का चरित्र निर्भय है। इसलिए माता-पिता को चाहिए कि अपने बच्चे की देखभाल प्यार से करें।

अगर बच्चों को इन समस्याओं को दूर कर दिया जाए तो मेरा ख्याल है हमारे देश का भविष्य उज्ज्वल है।

भारत त्रिपाठी
१० 'सी'