

BANGABASI COLLEGE MAGAZINE.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
1. The Month	17	4. Extract—The Examination	
2. Primary Education ...	22	Chaos ...	29
3. ভাষাবিভাগ	২৫	5. The College Staff	32
		6. Notices	32

Vol. III.

FEBRUARY.

No. 2.

1905.

THE MONTH.

We were in high hopes, last month, that after all these years of lethargy and backsliding, the University was going to tackle the question of educational reform in sober earnest. Our hopeful spirits have however, we confess, been damped not a little by recent events. Indeed we can hardly congratulate the re-constituted Senate on the spirit in which it has commenced work under the new Act. Instead of going to work with directness, the Senate began with technical objections openly calling into question various acts of the Chancellor, who however with a view to expedite work

50/66

has cut the Gordian knot by passing a Validation Act. Let us hope that the vessel of the University will now make a prosperous voyage to the desired haven of educational reform through the hearty co-operation and strenuous exertions of all hands on board. We understand that the Senate has divided itself into various committees for the purpose of framing draft regulations in accordance with the Act.

The event of the month was the Convocation held on Saturday the 12th instant for conferring Degrees. As usual, the really interesting feature was not the somewhat humdrum function of the granting of degrees to last year's graduates, but the addresses of the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor. We have had occasion to complain in the past of the unsuitability of the speeches to the occasion. This year proved no exception. The Chancellor's speech, which had been looked forward to with the most eager expectation, caused disappointment, and even positive pain to the Indian graduates and teachers. It is evident that the Chancellor's temper had been flurried by recent events and that whilst speaking ostensibly to the new graduates, his Excellency was really talking at their betters. We heartily wish that a great deal of what was said on the occasion had been left unsaid and it would have been far better if our Chancellor had not turned aside from the dusty field of purely educational topics. It is some consolation to us to notice that the Vice-Chancellor's speech made ample amends for this deficiency his utterances were pregnant with many valuable suggestions directly bearing on the future educational policy of the University.

'We complained last year that no invitations to Convocation were issued to the teaching staff of the College. It is a hopeful sign of a wholesome change that two of our staff in addition to the two Fellows on it, the Principal and Mr. Wheeler, received cards for admission to the Convocation. The names of two of us thus have, we are glad to find, been omitted from the *index expurgatorius* and rendered canonical. But alas, what of the rest of us? We have been awakened from the agreeable delusion we had been labouring under, that there is a good time a-coming for the teachers, now that a syndicate consisting mainly of teachers has come into power. However we need not despair. This year matters have slightly improved and we trust they will go on steadily improving in the years to come.

University reform is now in the air. The excitement over the Faculty election and the election of the Provisional Syndicate were scarcely over, when we were confronted with topics of fresh interest in the election of a President to the Arts Faculty and the formation of the several Boards of Studies. These are now done with and the Senate has now settled down to quiet work and divided itself into several committees which are busily engaged in drafting regulations, rules and by-laws under the Universities Act for the conduct of business of the University. It is hoped that this preliminary but very important item of business will be completed by November next.

Calcutta is shortly going to be somewhat of a University town. From the next session, that is June next when

Colleges reopen after the long summer recess, our college boys on returning to town will find the atmosphere of the place quite changed. Without being left as previously to shift for themselves as best they could, they will find that their colleges have kept ready for them "messes" and "hostels" where they will be provided with "seats" and, what is more important, looked after by the college authorities with parental care. The question of residence of students will be taken up by the University as soon as it is in working order; in the mean time, the Government is formulating a scheme for the residence of the students of Calcutta Colleges, a scheme which is expected to be before the public ere long.

We hear that this year there has been a falling off in the number of candidates for the Entrance Examination. It is, however, curious to note that the examiners were increased in number in anticipation of a large influx of candidates. We are tempted to condole the examiners on their gloomy prospects. But, after all, why are these appointments made before the authorities are in a position to know the actual number of candidates that will sit for the examination? Surely the interval between the last date for sending in applications for admission to the examination and the date of examination itself is sufficiently long to allow of these appointments not being made in "hot haste".

Owing to death and retirement several vacancies occurred in the list of examiners for the ensuing Entrance and F. A. Examinations. Babu Hriday Chandra Banerjee has been appointed examiner in Physics (F. A.), in the place of Babu Rajendra

Náth Chatterjée deceased, Babu Lakit Mohan Chatterjee promoted from Entrance to the F. A. list in English and three Europeans appointed to fill up three vacancies in the Entrance English Board. We are of opinion that for the Examination in English, qualified Europeans should have preference over Indians.

We congratulate Babu Satis Chandra Mukerjee M. A., on his election among others as a Research Scholar for the current year. Babu Satis Chandra passed his F. A. from this College. He then left us and obtained his B. Sc. and M. A. degrees from Presidency College in due course.

We have received several issues of the Dawn Society's new venture—*The Dawn and Dawn Society's Magazine*. The Editor has been trying like ourselves to create a taste in our students for healthy topics and to wean them if possible from the frothy politics of the day. We are fully in sympathy with the able conductor of the Magazine and wish him success in this new sphere of activity. We may venture to point out to our graduates and undergraduates that this should be an object lesson to them, in as much as it shows them how usefully they can employ their talents without wasting them over the hysterics of political agitation. There are, they should not forget, more ways of serving their country than bawling aloud at all times and in all places for political rights.
