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THE BLUE MOUNTAINS SCHOOL, OOTACAMUND.

Volume VII-2



May 1972.

SCHOOL NEWS

We are glad to have Mrs. Pearce back with us. We also welcomed her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Helga Pearce, wife of Mr. Jai Pearce, one of the school Trustees.

Founder's Day was postponed to May 3rd due to unavoidable reasons. Mr. Kakubhai Tanna, Managing Partner, Glenmorgan Tea Estate, was the Chief Guest. The highlights of the day were the exhibitions held by the Arts and Science sections, which were very well appreciated by our guests, and the two plays put up at the Anandagiri Hall—both of them well acted and thoroughly enjoyable. (A detailed write-up on the function appears elsewhere in these pages).

Perhaps the thrill of the term was provided by the Nawab of Pataudi, who visited the school along with C. D. Gopinath, G. R. Viswanath and Swaroop. Mere names to our boys, but here they were that evening on the 9th May—willing to answer questions, chat, and go through that most tedious of duties—but the inevitable price one pays for 'stardom'—, signing autographs, (and cricket bats!) and getting photographed. 'The Tiger' was relaxed and informal in his brief talk to the boys.

Our hearty congratulations to our ISC boys on their success in the 1972 examinations, and for bringing in cent per cent passes.

Bharat J.	I
Mukund P.	I
Masud Taj	I
Mukesh	II
Pradeep B.	II
Emmanuel Park	II
Jyotindra A.	II
S. K. Rajwade	II
Shyam C. R.	II
Kishore T. K.	II
Vinod Parkkot	II
Kirit G.	III

Mohan P. R.	III
Rocky Thomas	III
Pradip Tanna	III
Anandam	II

The Junior English Debating Society had their first meeting on the 17th March under the presidentship of Mrs. Earali. The subject debated was whether we were "better off today than we were 2000 years ago", and surprisingly enough, the apparently 'mod'-oriented House voted in favour of life 2000 years ago!

The Senior Hindi Debating Society met on the 3rd March with the Headmaster in the chair. For a first attempt at public speaking in Hindi, the function went off quite well. Mr. K. N. Menon, our Hindi Master (or should we call him the Hindi Master of Ooty?) - spoke a few words to the boys stressing on the need for acquiring some proficiency in Hindi in the present set-up of the country.

The Junior Hindi Debating Society's first meeting on the 14th April under Mrs. Naik's guidance deserves special mention. The little kids have all our congratulations for the admirable way they rose to the occasion and unfalteringly delivered their little poems, short stories and the like. Considering everything, we could easily hand over the bouquet to them for being the best of the series so far.

The Science Society was inaugurated by the Headmaster on the 11th March. The boys contributed a few papers on various science subjects which were topical and therefore interesting.

Rita Kailasam and K. Srinivas participated in the symposium held under the auspices of the Inter-School Science Society at Brindavan High School, Wellington, and acquitted themselves creditably.

In addition to these activities, the boys have been speaking every week at the school assembly. All this, we hope, would go a long way towards curing them of stage-fright, and giving them confidence to face an audience.

The Annual Camps were held from the 23rd to the 26th March.

Class IV	Naduvattam
Classes V, VIII & IX	Bandipur
Classes VI & VII	Coorg
Class X	Kotagiri
Class XI	Kodaikanal

Our thanks to Mr. Mohan Rau, Director, Cinchona Plantations, through whose kindness the Naduvattam camp was arranged; to Mr. and Mrs. Appaiah, for their generous hospitality at Coorg; and to Dr. Raj Mohan of the Astro-Physical Observatory, Kodaikanal, for giving the XI Class boys a delightful 'evening with the planets'.

The M. R. C. had arranged a Band Concert at Wellington, under the auspices of the Nilgiri Choral Society and Music Association. Our senior boys accompanied by the Headmaster attended the concert.

Some of our boys attended the operetta 'H. M. S. Pinafore' at the Lushington Hall, and the Annual Speech Day of the Brecks Memorial School at Anna Stadium.

Music classes have been arranged for the whole school. We are thankful to Mrs. Marikar and Mr. Pagey-both of Lawrence School-for the lessons in Western and Indian music respectively. We are sure the boys will benefit from these classes.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS

Cricket :

Seniors :	B. M. S.	Vs	St Joseph's	— We won.
	B. M. S.	Vs	Brindavan	— We won.
	B. M. S.	Vs	Breck's Memorial	— We won.
Inters :	B. M. S.	Vs	St. George's	— We lost.

We were unfortunate to have lost all matches except for the walk-over Vs Kotagiri.

Basket Ball :

But for the match against Kotagiri School, we did not win any other.

Vaman Apte, our Cricket Captain, played for Lawrence in its cricket match against the Aravankadu Club. Lawrence won the match.

(A detailed commentary of the cricket matches played by the school is given in these pages elsewhere)

The School Sports was held on the 8th March on the Nazareth School grounds. The certificates to the winners were distributed by Mrs. Pearce later on in school.

The lack of a proper ground for regular practice has proved a serious handicap to the boys, both at the School sports and the Inter-School Athletic Meet which was held as usual, at the M. R. C. grounds on the 8th April. And we feel that unless this facility is available, the performance of the boys would not materially improve.

P. T. classes have been resumed as a daily feature in the school routine.

MY MISCHIEVOUS LITTLE TREE

I had a little tree,
Which always kicked me.

Once when I was going to school,
It pushed me into a nearby pool.

When I was climbing it one day,
It jerked, and I fell into a barn of hay.

going here and there. The next day we left for Nakuru. The journey went without a hitch till we came to a fork. Unfortunately we took the wrong road. We soon came to a big forest, there were tall trees, creepers, and was dark. We didn't know it was a short cut to Nakuru but thought we had taken the wrong road. We went mile after mile through green forests. We saw a lion and many monkeys. Soon we came to a tarmac road and there were signs. One sign read the road was leading to Nakuru. We were overjoyed. We reached Nakuru shortly after. We went to the Menengai crater standing 12,000 feet above sea level. After seeing the crater we went to the Bird sanctuary. There were many birds, herons, flamingoes, etc. We finished seeing the sanctuary and left for Nairobi. On the third day we went to the great Nairobi Show. There was a big fun-fair with coconut shies and a merry-go-round, rifle range, giant wheel etc. After two hours I retired to my bed having seen lots of things. On the fourth day we went to the museum. We saw fossils of prehistoric times, diamond ore, muskets of the olden days used by the Arab slave traders, electric fish and species of eels. Next we went to the snake park where we saw cobras, pythons, alligators, crocodiles, grass snakes and turtles. Late in the evening we reached our camping place. On the fourth day we left for Mombasa where we reached very late in the night. Our parents were waiting and I was taken home with my father.

Kumar
VIII

FOOLISH (or clever?) SLAVES.

Once a king told his slaves to catch a tiger. So they went to a shop and bought a big tiger-trap. The man in the shop said to keep a goat or a baby cow for bait. The slaves kept a picture of a cow in the trap. They went back to the king and said, "We have set the trap."

Next morning the king and everyone went to see the tiger in the trap; they found a picture of a tiger.

Vidyasagar
VI

REALISATION

I walked alone, alone in the dark valley with dark shadows,
The dark valley.

No man within call, no friend within sight, alone
I walked.

Many things I saw, evil, but they shocked me not, for
such was the dark valley.

I found many things, the hard facts, where thorns pricked lies,
where stones stuck into flesh like jealousy, but still
I walked.

With night came fatigue, but on
I went.

At last out of the dark valley
I came-

In the distance, I saw green fields, running brooks and fresh air.
Realisation come-

"It will not always be like this."

Jerry Barali
Sid. X

THE BEST GAME OF ALL

1. Cricket is not a really fine game
and it sometimes gives you fractures and sprains,
It's fun to bat, not so to field,
And when you bowl, your fate is sealed,
For it's gone to the boundary around the field.
2. Of course this is only when you're learning,
And when your hands are burning,
From the sting of the ball, so hard and bad,
Well, in fielding too, you've to run like mad,
And then you end up very sad.
3. I tried my luck at basketball,
But I really had a bad fall,
I think I'll switch on to another game,
But mind, I may change back again,
To cricket, if to you it's the same.
4. I tried my luck being a jockey,
Then once more I switched on to hockey,
In this way it went on and on.
(In hospital from dusk to dawn)
But unfortunately my luck was gone.
5. Once more I tried to play cricket,
And yay ! I got a superb wicket,
I tried to bat and hit a four,
So I've no grudge against it any more,
I field well too, so I'm very sure.

Hashim Fatehally
VIII

SMILE A MINUTE !

1. A rich farm owner called his farmers together and said,
"You farmers do not know how to cultivate or grow anything."
He pointed to a tree and said, "I would be surprised if
you got three apples from that tree." "So would I," replied
the farmer, "that's a pear tree !"

2. A boy answering his examination was asked to write a composition on 1) A cricket match, 2) My dog, 3) Fire ! Fire !! The boy chose to write on a cricket match and finished with only one sentence - Match abandoned, Rain.
3. A man asked a taxi driver if he would take a joke. "Sure," answered the taxi driver, "where does it want to go?"
4. If all the teachers, were one teacher what a great teacher he would be,
If all the boys were one boy, what a great boy he would be,
If all the canes were one cane, what a great cane it would be,
If the great teacher, took the great cane and hit the great boy, what a great whack it would be !

Contributed by
P. Murali and K. A. Chengappa.
VII Std.

WILL TIGER BE ON THE PROWL AGAIN?

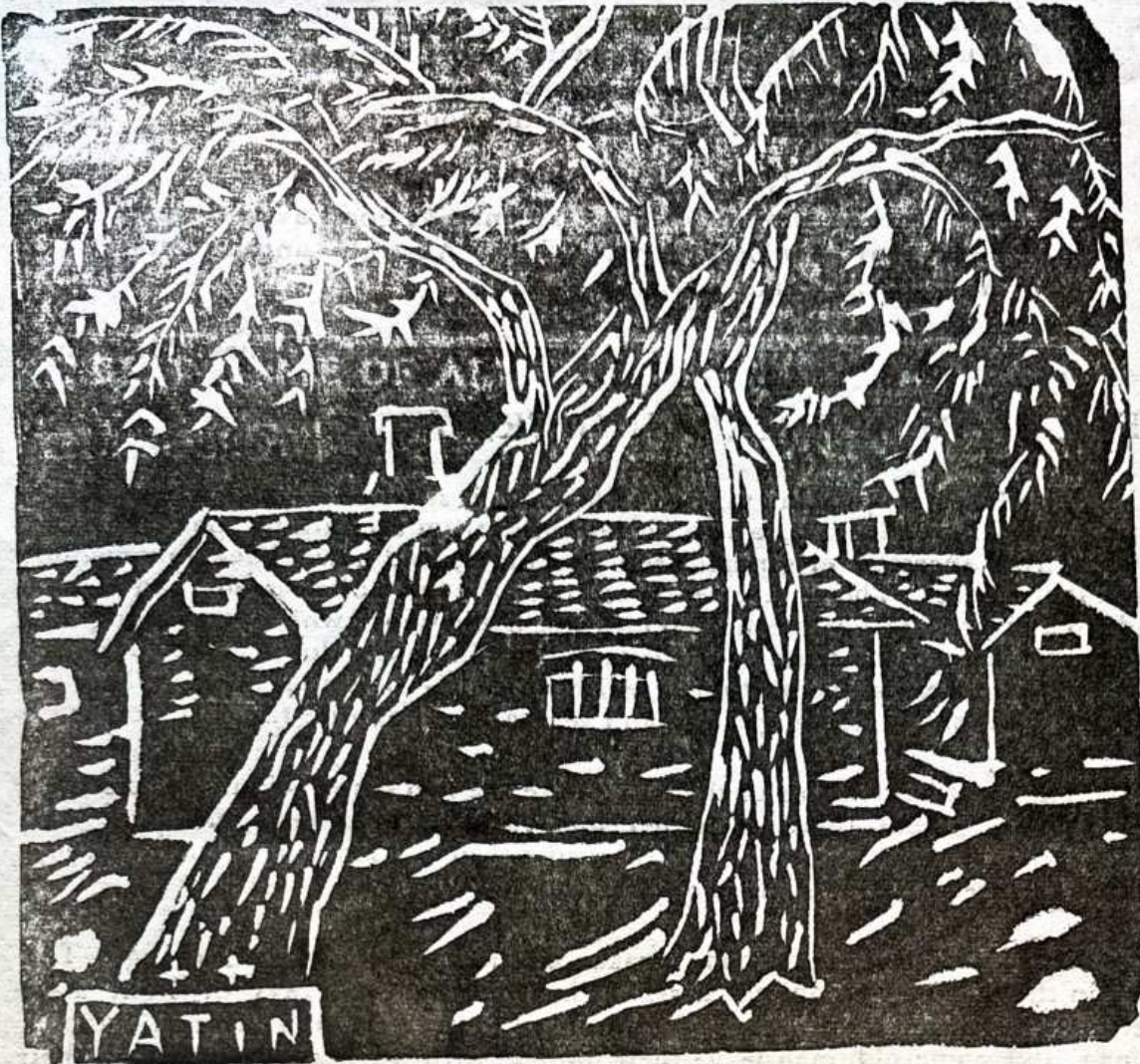
Good question this. Will he be? Will this debonair stage a comeback? By the form which he is in now - yes. He has scored runs in basketsful this season while his comrades were struggling. For Hyderabad and S. Zone he has made ample runs to more than show his class. He has completed 1000 runs in Duleep Trophy. He alone dealt dutifully with Durrani, Ghatlani & Co. at Hyderabad and also against Bengal in the Ranji semi-finals. Doshi had Hyderabad struggling, but Pataudi scored brilliantly and compiled a fine toss. Before this when Durrani was mesmerising the S. Zone batsmen, Pat again stood bravely in the rubble to score 92 brilliant runs. What about the S. Zone Ranji trophy? Kumar and Venkat had Hyderabad on it's knees but not dear old Pat. He followed the old version of "Hit your way out of trouble" and scored freely to steer Hyderabad through. The selectors are very much aware of his form and he is challenging the selectors to omit him. But what remains to be seen is whether Messrs Gopinath & Co. will reinstate Pat or prefer promising youngsters like P. Sharma or Parkar to him.

Y. Levin.

THE FOOLISH KING.

The foolish king came,
only to lose his fame,
Battles he lost,
at his own cost,
He went to war in great grace,
but came back losing his own place,
All night he thinks,
but in the day he has forty-five winks.

Suresh M. R. & C. Chockalingam.
VIII



SUNIL GAVASKAR

His name stands high in the country,
He's Sunil Gavaskar.
The hero in England and the West Indies,
You call him a run maker.

Four centuries in a row,
The West Indies couldn't stand
This stupendous blow,
Taken on their own land.

He performed the double and single centuries,
In one single rest only,
Doing this second to Walters only,
What a great batsman he was, you can see.

He aggregated seven hundred and seventy four runs,
The highest ever by an Indian.
Hitting the ball with speed like bullets out of guns,
He has proved India's best opening batsman.

In England too he did fine,
but didn't have the run flowing line.
Still he scored some good scores,
When opportunity knocked at the doors.

So keep it up Gavaskar,
We'll never find an opening batsman as good as you were.
Let's beat New Zealand, S Africa, Australia and Pakistan,
And let the champs be Hindustan.

Ganesh Moorthy .

"FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD....."

The lonely unpopular village of Mukola is situated in the valley of the young ghat hills in Kerala, about eleven miles from the fishing port Ponnani. My maternal ancestors originated from this place, and now I have unknowingly taken their place. The village centre is along the bend of a tarred road which leads to a river. The centre has about three coffee shops which are along the track to the three main temples of the village. There is a dull, elevated ration store, that is next to the post-office, with a sleepy - looking keeper. There are also two other shops selling grocery and vegetables, opposite the post - office.

The most lively spots of the village are the two schools- junior and senior, the temples, where there is either one thing or another going on, and occasionally the fields where the workers sing their old songs of sadness and joy, to keep themselves alive at the work they do.

People, both rich and poor awaken at about 4.30 in the morning. The work in the houses is completed first. Then as the first rays of light start peering through the thick leaves of the tall arecanut trees, old women, young women and some old men leave their homes, with white towels slung on their shoulders, heading towards the temple tanks, to have their baths. The familiar beating of clothes on the steps of the tank is followed by the more familiar call of the temple "shankh" echoing across the valley.

The rooster's third crow sends many jogging along to their place of work, and others from the temples after their morning prayer. The sign of the awakened kitchen maid is seen as the thick smoke from the fire-wood stove is seen mingling with the low morning mist.

The dry season is approaching and the trees are drooping their heads in want of water. Diesel engines of different powers are heard throbbing away, pumping up water from the shallow wells to the thirsty plants.

The school children fresh after their morning baths, are anxiously waiting for their porridge, sitting cross-legged in the corner of the blackened kitchen. The early labourers, like the irrigators, the sweepers and the house cleaners await enthusiastically in front of their empty bowls with shaped jack fruit leaves as spoons, in the small thatched outhouse for their 'kanji.'

Students now fill the place. The little boys and girls dressed neatly, are seen running along the crumpled bunds of the paddy-fields, hurrying to school from all directions. Now the friendly ring of the newspaper boy's bicycle is heard. Newspapers in the morning are a must even in that small village.

Once when I was reading a book,
It threw water on me just like a crook

When I go out, any time,
It bends down and hits my spine.

If you ever come across that mischievous tree,
Bear all the mischief and leave none for me !

Ahmad Fatchally,
VI Std.

A MESSAGE IN FIVE VIGNETTES :

I

I had always known that at last I would take this train ; yesterday I did not know that it would be today.

II

The story about Sir Alexander Fleming, that appeared in the Reader's Digest (Feb. '72), seems apt.

Sir Alexander made his discovery of penicillin while working in a DUSTY OLD LABORATORY. A mould spore, which had blown in through a window, landed on a culture plate he was about to examine.

Some years later, he was taken on a tour of an up-to-date research lab, a gleaming, air-conditioned, dust-free, super-sterile setting.

"What a pity you did not have a place like this to work in," his guide said. "What you could have discovered in such surroundings."

"Not penicillin", Fleming observed dryly.

III

An Old Blue Mountaineer has written to say that many times he remembers the school and misses it very much. He hopes to see it soon and asks to be FILLED with school news. The point of mentioning this sentiment is that this boy, a very likeable young man, had become rather restive in his last term and made fun of his classmates if they said they would miss school or even Ootacamund. Just proves what an awful place the young old school is and Ooty's deep woods' woven shades.

IV

Date : 23 Feb. 1972

Time : A tender afternoon of the Nilgiris

There are times when, slipping from the clasp of the commonplace, each sound and sight on some shoal of inward feeling lies new and clear and bright. It was so then at the unexpected and overwhelming coming together again on the Ootacamund Railway Station and it is so now many days and hundreds of miles away. Did I put a passion of thanks in my look ?

V

Farewell, and for your instructive frenzy, GRATITUDE. The fruit that we shall pick tomorrow await us, weighing the unstripped bough.

SMKM

[A mesage received from Mr. Sardar Mohamed for the Blue Print from Indore - Our thanks - Ed.]

THE PICNIC

I went to the woods for a picnic
And a terrible picnic was it.
With trees all round,
I felt giddy, and,
Started going round and round.

After a time we took shelter
under a banyan tree who
with it's roots hanging, looked like snakes,
We had our jeep with us and,
I felt safe

While going deeper suddenly
We stopped to have a look.
Our guard spotted something,
It was a herd of bison.

We came back happy,
We were lucky,
But my mother was scared,
and I was scared too.

Balakrishnan.
VII Std.

MY JOURNEY TO NAIROBI

My four day excursion to Nairobi was simply wonderful. On the day of departure I was so excited that I did not eat anything. We left the school after some time. We reached Voi after a very dusty drive. Soon we had started again for Nairobi. We reached Nairobi at 2 a. m. On the next day we saw Nairobi. It was a beautiful city, full of buildings and hotels. We saw the Parliament buildings and the President's State House. We were given some shopping time. After doing everything we were just

Meanwhile the coffee shops are bustling with men chatting about the latest news, which eventually spreads as a rumour among the illiterate. The tarred main road is occupied with the morning traffic, that is, the first bus to the closest town, a taxi with some newcomer, a few bullock carts and some men walking fast to reach their destination.

Back in the fields, the lands are being ploughed by the yoked buffaloes. The sounds of the woodcutters' axes falling on soft dry wood is heard resounding, as his tired hands collect pieces of wood and lay them out to dry in the blazing sun.

By one in the afternoon the school children rush home to have an appetising meal. The labourers wait in the outhouses for their share of food to renew their exhausted energy.

Dogs with dull colours and muddy paws, licking the used green banana leaves, and occasionally yelping at the stray cats and the cunning crows, are another sight by two in the afternoon.

School children, workers and everyone else get down to work by two fifteen. Grazing cows and other cattle are led into the stables and water given to them. The hot afternoon is usually spent relaxing, by the older people.

By four thirty the "sweets stall" is packed with the little school children who are thinking of their swim after tea. The merry, full-throated shouts of the joyous children having their swim and baths, start to fade as the setting sun throws his last few rays on the blessed valley. The tall coconut trees start swaying their heads in rhythm with the cool breeze from the Arabian sea.

The late crow flies fast to its distant nest, and the black flying foxes and the little eerie bats now begin to haunt the skies.

Again as in the morning, the temple 'Shankh' is heard, and the devotees are seen rushing to the place of worship. Each house that has its own deity, has its oil lamps lit and the fragrant joss-sticks burnt. Only after this the other lights are lit. Petromaxes and other pressure lamps start hissing as the beauty of the night rises. The clear cut crescent rises to hear the prayers of the chanters. Eight o'clock or eight-thirty is the time when most families have their dinner, which usually consists of at least one dish of freshly cooked, aromatic fish curry.

Shopkeepers stay at their shops only up till nine. One would be able to hear these people and maybe some others, having their baths in the night. Occasionally, someone carrying a lantern and hurrying somewhere is seen in the distance.

After eleven o'clock my village which I love goes to sleep-everyone, the hardworking labourers, the students, the parents, the shopkeepers and even the cows in the stables. The wailing foxes are heard last.

Such a harmonious and peaceful spot I have never seen. The calm of the night, the gracious starlight and the radiant moonlight re-charge us for the day to come.

P. Radhakrishnan
XI

ON THE BATTLEFIELD

12

On the battlefield

Guns giving out sharp stacatto bursts
merging with the noise of shells above.

The dark gloom of sky lit by shells exploding
like festival fireworks but not now in play.

Men with and without purpose, come to fight
and settle their leaders' whims and fancies.

Men extinguished like candles, their lives
snuffed out to satisfy man's desire for power.

Man kills man, brother kills brother, for the
law of the battlefield

With all man's attempt at civilisation,
Is the law of the jungle,
"Kill or be killed."

Jerry Earali,
Std. X

TRY IT !

Mrs. Black: Wake up, I saw a mouse under the cushion. It is not going away.

Mr. Black: What do you want me to do - oil it ?

Vidyasagar
VI

OUR TRIP TO NADUVATTAM

This is my first excursion from the Blue Mountains School. We, the Class IV boys went to Naduvattam for an outdoor camp. After breakfast we left by two taxies. We reached Naduvattam after two hours. It was a bright day. We dumped our luggage in the Inspection Bungalow, and had something to eat.

That evening we were taken to the Factory. The Government Cinchona Plantations are in Naduvattam. On our way we saw a lot of cinchona trees. On arriving at the factory we saw more and more eucalyptus trees. The Director told us many of them were the lemon-scented variety of eucalyptus trees. Here we went round the Factory seeing the preparation of many other essential oils, like geranium oil and ginger oil. The distillation of eucalyptus oil was shown to us. We proceeded to see the felling of the trees, and cutting of the logs, with the power-chain saw. All the boys also tried it. We saw the melting of the iron and the boys were given a chance again to beat the hot iron with the hammer on the anvil; we beat small pieces of iron into different shapes. The Factory has a lot of machines. Many of them are run by water power. Though we were taken into the laboratory and

shown many tests, it was difficult for us to understand. The making of camphor tablets was more interesting to us than this, and our walk in the forest with the shikari with his gun was even more exciting. We spotted a leopard, but Miss told us it was only a wild cat. But we imagined we saw a lot of wild animals. A few boys heard wild roars, after coming back also. We dreamt of shooting animals like we read in stories.

The harvesting of cinchona was also very interesting to understand. Several trees are felled in a day, and the barks are removed. They are sent to the Factory. The Director told us that our Government wants us to prepare more quinine once again.

The visit to the Tea Factory near Naduvattam was also enjoyable. We were shown how they plucked two tender leaves with a bud. We saw the weathering and packing of the tea leaves. We were given small packets of dried tea leaves. We liked this visit very much, because we have learned about tea in our lessons.

We were sad to leave the place and come back. Every morning I think of the mist and the scenery from the Inspection Bungalow.

Ravi Annamalai,
Std. IV

POCKO DAY

1. November 14th is Children's Day,
September 5th is Teachers' Day,
November 5th is Guy Fawkes Day,
But Pocko Day is our greatest Day.
2. Want to buy a dinky car,
No - it is fifteen bucks!
We have to only go to Kingstar,
And add to our tuck.
3. Break a pane—Pocko 'll be cut,
Dodge P. T.—Pocko 'll be cut,
So they say, they also may,
Pocko Day, Pocko Day is our Greatest Day.

Bobby Naik,
Std. IV

OUR FOUNDER'S DAY

The much awaited day was celebrated on the 3rd of May. Mr. Tanna, Managing Partner, Glenmorgan Tea Estate, and a parent of the school was the chief guest.

A highlight of the celebration was the Art and Science exhibitions. The paintings done by the students made very good exhibits indeed. The Science exhibition was divided into three sections—Physics, Chemistry and Biology. The 'Melting Man' and the 'Rainbow' done in the dark room attracted attention. Other Physics exhibits were 'Test Your Lungs, (smokers flopped!),' and a B. M. S.—made Computer. The Biology Section put in some hard work to make a few first rate exhibits.

'The Cell' was particularly commendable. The D. N. A. molecule and some others were rather high-brow. The usual aquarium was for consumption by the Juniors. The Chemistry section was interesting. A number of simple, but colourful experiments highlighted the principles of Chemistry—the educated mothballs, disappearing orangeade and others.

This was followed by high tea, after which, the guests and all the Blue Mountaineers—past and present—moved down to the beautiful Anandagiri Hall. Some beautifully arranged flowers caught one's eye as one entered. The hall was packed with an interesting cross-section of the people of the Nilgiris. We were happy to see so many distinguished guests, including the Heads of other educational institutions. Bouquets were first presented to the chief guests. The Headmaster initiated the proceedings with a speech referring to the Trustees, the Chief Guest, the Founder and the school. The Chief Guest spoke next, in appropriate terms. Then came the two plays. The first one was 'The Oyster and the Pearl'; 'Mischievous at Midnight' followed next. Both were well acted and the first one was especially hilarious.

During the intervals, the audience was kept engaged by Miss Harriet St. Johnston and Miss Anne Davis—two U. K. girls who have come to Lawrence School on a short-term programme. The function came to a finale with the National Anthem.

Rita Kailasam,
Class IX

FROM THE CRICKET FIELD

Our cricket team has been having quite a successful season, having emerged victorious in every encounter till now.

Our first match was against Lushington. We expected no stiff opposition, but we were proved wrong. The Lushington batsmen, especially Pullen and Chote, hit out merrily against our bowlers, who struggled on the concrete pitch after losing the toss. Lushington ended up with 106 for 5 in 30 overs. Pullen batted well for his 45, while Choten wasn't as steady as Pullen, while scoring 28. Pullen was particularly strong on the leg side, and anything pitched on the leg stump was sure to rattle the boundary fence. Their diminutive opener Kiff was off form, so one headache less. We went in to bat, and there was a shock right away when our opener Nagesh was bowled by their opening bowler Robertson. Levin was in next. He and Shankar carried the score to 28, when Shankar in attempting to hit the bowlers off their length was bowled by Robertson. Shankar batted with concentration for his 15. But came Rajeev. He was promoted in the batting order. This move of Vaman paid off well, and Rajeev and Levin put on 27 runs in about 15 minutes, when Rajeev lost his patience and attempted an almighty swipe at the bowler. But he succeeded in only getting his middle stump uprooted. Vaman, our skipper, joined Levin. The score moved to 66, when Levin was out, caught in the covers. Levin, even though blessed with two lives, scored a good 29. Yatin Bhat, with his incomparable appetite for runs, (and food!) joined Vaman, and they carried us past our landmark to give us a hard-earned victory by 6 wickets. Vaman played a fine Captain's innings of 35 not out, and Yatin gave him good support, with 20 not out. The Lushington bowlers, especially Robertson pegged away and should have got more than his two wickets, as many catches were floored off his bowling. The other bowler Reinhardt, the skipper, was innocuous and didn't give us much trouble.

Our next encounter was against St. Joseph's. We again underestimated them, but were fortunate in winning the match. St. Joseph's batted first and their opener had a life straightaway, but after that they steadied themselves and carried the score steadily to 29. Then came a collapse. Both the openers were out in quick succession. The next batsman in also went for a blob. This wasn't what we expected. St. Joseph's, at one stage 29 for no loss-another half an hour, and they were all out for 50. This score was due to some lusty hitting by their tailenders, especially Milan. We went in to bat with confidence, but their bowlers gave us an hell of a scare. Nagesh hopped around trying to avoid balls. He led a charmed life for 3 overs. At last he was out-bowled by Milan for 2. Shankar was out, also bowled for a blob. Levin went in, started in a confident manner, but was out to a good catch at a square leg. The score read 4 for 3, a position which sent chills down our spine. Then came a rescue act by Vaman and Radhakrishnan. They took the score up to 26, when Radha left, bowled for 5. His innings was one of great value. Yatin joined Vaman. The score moved laboriously to 30, when Vaman was run out in a misunderstanding. Vaman had again pulled his team out of a tight position. A few more setbacks, but in the end we made it. It cost us 7 wickets to do the job. The man who gave us those initial chills was Milan who bowled at an hostile pace. He never let a batsman settle down, and occasionally let fly a bouncer. But later, we only considered it a nightmare.

Our next match was versus Brindavan, fresh from their victory over St. George's. Vaman won the toss and elected to field. The Brindavan opener, Babu, who was also their skipper, was out in the first over itself. He dragged a ball from Levin on to his stumps. Brindavan batsmen even when in dead trouble played a care-free game. They swung their bat at everything, and occasionally got away with it. Their tailenders hit with vigour till their luck ran out, and their innings came to an end for 49. Levin taking advantage of the batsman's care-free manner kept baiting them, and was successful in getting 5 of the wickets for 14 runs. We went in to bat and Nagesh again let us down as he was out for a duck making an half-hearted hook. Levin walked out to join Shankar, and they scored along steadily against negative bowling. Shankar played his favourite square cut well, and seemed to be heading for a fine score, when he was out bowled by a yorker. The pair had put on 22 runs. Shankar played nice shots for his 11 runs. Radhakrishnan who came next went out immediately bowled by a full toss. Vaman joined Levin. The score moved to 30. Vaman drove at a good length ball outside the off stump and gave the extra cover fielder an easy catch. Yatin who came in next played a couple of neat shots, and then gave a shoulder-high catch to the cover point which was safely held. Giridhar joined Levin and they took the score along to 39. A scuffle, and Giridhar was run out. Ajay joined Levin and they carried the score past 49 to give us a 4-wicket victory. Levin batted brilliantly for his 34 not out. He held on to his end while wickets tumbled at the other. Thus this victory gave us a hat-trick, a hat-trick of victories.

Our next match was against Breck's, who were very confident as they had also defeated St. George's. We were put in to bat, and the third ball of the second over slammed straight on to the face of Rajendra, our new opener with Shankar. Rajendra retired and Levin went in to join Shankar. These two batted very comfortably against the Breck's attack to add 20 runs. Then Levin attempted to turn a short ball to fine leg, but

the ball kept low and he was plumb l. b. w. for 8. Rajeev joined Shankar who was timing his shots well now. These two pushed the score at a fast pace until Rajeev lost his patience yet again, and after making an haywire swing was bowled also for 8. Vaman who went in next, helped Shankar take the score past 50 of only 14 overs. Then Shankar was out caught for a fine 24. Yatin and Vaman then carried the score to 62, when Yatin who played a very laborious innings was bowled. Yatin seemed to be out of form, as has been evident from these two matches. The scoring rate fell, so did the wickets. Vaman, Radha and Giridhar were out before the 30 overs finished, and we ended up with 95 for 7. There was nothing at all to fear in the bowling but an occasional low ball caught us napping. Breck's began their innings disastrously. Levin sent back their opener and star batsman Jayaprakash in his first over itself. Our pace bowlers kept making the ball rise which proved very successful as Breck's slumped to 11 for 6, and then to 15 for 7. But then onwards their tailenders formed a rescue squad and set about to rescue their team, and my, did they succeed! They played with such grit and determination that they took the score up to 53, which is indeed creditable. The bespectacled Joseph batted grimly for a priceless 17 not out. Levin as usual, kept up a hostile pace, and making the ball rise to a fearsome height, got 4 wickets for 11 runs. Aslam, the most accurate of our pace bowlers, finished with 2 wickets for 7 runs, while Levin's partner Rajendra also grabbed 2 for 4 runs. Thus we completed our fourth victory which takes us in the run for the championship. But the two giants of Nilgiri cricket - St. George's and Lawrence-are yet to be encountered. All these victories have been due to team spirit, courageous batting and spirited bowling. But our fielding remains shoddy, and if we put our mind to it and improve it, I cannot see any reason why we can't win the championship.

Y. L.

AN EVENING WITH THE CRICKETERS

The school was honoured by the visit of three great cricketers, the Nawab of Pataudi, Sri C. D. Gopinath, and Sri G. R. Viswanath, on Tuesday, the 9th of May. They visited us after our supper and the atmosphere was thoroughly relaxed, despite the great excitement the boys were in.

Mr. Kailasam introduced the honoured guests to the boys in the Assembly hall. He said that the name of the Nawab of Pataudi was doubly exciting, because the present Nawab's father was also a well known world cricketer. He also introduced Mr. Gopinath, Chairman of the Cricket Selection Board. Next to be introduced was Mr. Viswanath, one of the architects of the 1971 year of victories in world cricket.

The Nawab of Pataudi spoke in chaste English, reminding us of his Oxford and Public School background. He explained to the boys how the game of cricket inculcated the basic values of discipline, concentration and team spirit.

Mr. C. D. Gopinath, in boardroom style, brought home to the boys how cricket teaches humility-how a Test player who scored a century in one innings can have his ego knocked off in the next innings by an unknown player, perhaps for a DUCK !

Next the boys were invited to ask any questions they liked on cricket. A number of questions followed and they were all answered by the three cricketers in an honest, forthright manner. At the end of it all, they were given a standing ovation.

The guests stayed on till about 10, and were thoroughly at home in the school, while autographs and photographs (even cricket bats for signatures) flew around galore. It was a memorable evening, and we shall remember it for a long time to come.

Mehmood.

THE FOLLOWING FILMS WERE SHOWN IN THE SCHOOL :

Captain Newman	
Tom Thumb	
Tiko and the shark	
Blockheads	
Chums at Oxford	} Laurel and Hardy
Lady L.	
Marlowe	
The dirty dozen	
The good earth	
Flare-up	
To catch a spy	
Anne of a thousand days — at the Assembly Rooms.	

STOP PRESS

Cricket : We are happy to report that our Senior Cricket team won their match against Lawrence on the 22nd May.

Lawrence	84 all out
B. M. S.	88 for 7 declared



Next the boys were invited to ask any questions they liked to ask. A number of questions followed and they were all answered by the three men in an hour. Finally at midnight, when the boys were given a standing ovation.

The guests stayed on till about 10 and were photographed at home in

