

## CANNING HOSTEL SARASWATI PUJA, 1929.

The Goddess of Learning is a sacred deity to the Bengalees, specially to the students. For the students are the seekers of knowledge and in order to achieve their ends, they annually worship the Goddess Saraswati, the presiding Deity of Learning. The boarders of the Canning Hostel, following the great traditions of their predecessors, worshipped the Goddess this year in her universally accepted form whose presence, of course, they adore every day in their books. She is that day represented in her concrete appearance rather than in her abstract speculation in the pages of books. So the boarders arranged for her celebration.

As the time approached a wave of enthusiasm passed over the minds of the boarders and all of them became equally interested to perform the function in the best possible way. So plans were devised and the items schemed were under the following heads :—

Puja, Decoration, Feast, tiffin for the invited gentlemen, Kanglebhojan (beggar-feeding), and procession. The last two items were reserved for the day following the Puja. The item of amusement was altogether abolished from the list owing to some differences of opinions amongst us.

The hostel was tastefully decorated, not because money was spent lavishly, but because the work was undertaken by the boarders themselves who showed superior taste and skill in decoration.

The Puja was performed unusually at late hours, an acid test of the eagerness of the students. All the Professors were invited to the feast but many of them were absent.

Next day came *Kangali Bhojan* (beggar-feeding) and it was the crowning glory of the occasion. Nearly nine hundred beggars were fed and the work was done quite efficiently and smoothly without any noise and confusion. The success was due to the active part taken by Prof. Satyananda Ray who, with the Superintendents of the hostel, supervised every thing from beginning to end. It will not be out of place to mention that Prof. Satyananda Ray included the above item last year, and we hope that it will be celebrated annually, as a tradition of the Canning Hostel. We are sorry that we could not enjoy the company of Prof. Nripendra Chandra Banerji this year as he was out of station. After the work was done a photograph was taken of the workers.

In the evening the Goddess was let in procession and the image was carried not by hired coolies but by the boarders themselves and it was immersed in the holy waters of the Ganges. We have no mind to dilate upon this point, for it was a parting scene, the reminiscence of which draws tears from our eyes.

In conclusion, we must admit that the grand success of the Saraswati Puja of this year owes its origin to some of the boarders whose sincerity and honesty of purpose cannot but be admired and to the superintendents who guided us from beginning to end. Before the Puja Committee was hatched up, hostile feelings burst between two parties and everything was going to be spoiled. But by the intervention of Prof. Sukhendra Kumar Ray, the situation was saved and the matter was amicably settled. We owe much to him. There was a real change of heart, and the forces, which were antagonistic to each other, now being combined together in a favourable direction by tactful handling of the crisis, worked wonders. This is the secret of success of this year's Puja. It puts us in mind of the

representation of Indian lives in a tragedy which may have a happy termination.

Similar has been our case and this is not to be regretted for "all's well that end's well."

Ramani Mohon Paul Chowdhury,  
Punyabrata Bhattacharjee,  
Monoranjan De,

*Boards of the Canning Hostel.*

### COLLEGE ATHLETIC CLUB.

At a meeting of the general body of students and the staff, held on the 11th January 1929 in Room No 1 at 3. 30 P. M. under the Presidency of Prof. N. C. Banerjee the following gentlemen were elected office bearers for the current year (1929 )

President and Treasurer—Principal G. C. Bose M. A.  
Vice-Presidents :—

- (1) Prof. N. C. Banerjee, M. A.
- (2) Prof. J. N. Chakrabartty, M. A.
- (3) Dr. S. C. Chowdhury, M. A. L. L. D (Cantab).
- (4) Prof L. M. Mitra, M Sc.
- (5) Prof P. C. Ghose, M. A.

Hony. Secretary—Sj. Pankajendra Nath Mukherjee (3rd year B. A.)

Assistant Hony. Secretaries—(1) Sj. Monoranjan Deb  
(3rd year B. Sc).

- (2) Sj Niren Chowdhury (1st year D).
- (3) Sj. Purnyabrata Bhattacharjee (1st year C).