

# BANGABASI COLLEGE MAGAZINE.

प्रणिपातेन परिप्रश्नेन सेवया  
By Reverence : By Questioning : By Service.

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## THE MONTH.

The new Senate, having been unable to draw up a complete body of Regulations for the University in the course of one year since the promulgation of the Act, was granted an extension of time for six months. This period has come to an end and we are sorry to hear that the work is not yet completed. Nay the work of the various Sub-Committees has not yet been placed before the Senate. Another extension for six months has we understand, been prayed for. The Vice-Chancellor Sir A. Pedler has spared no labour in pushing forward the work; it would be a pity if the work be not completed before his retirement from the service and from the country. We trust the Government will see its way to retain his services in order to enable him to bring to a satisfactory conclusion a work with which he has identified himself for above a year and a half.

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We hear that the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashutosh Mukherjee M.A.D.L, is to be our next Vice-Chancellor. A better selection could hardly be made. The Vice-Chancellors of this University are usually recruited from the High Court Bench or from among the Law Members of the Viceregal Council. Only in two exceptional cases has the choice fallen in recent years on members of our profession—Sir Alfred Croft and Sir A. Pedler. We have therefore no right to complain that an eminent teacher has not been named as the successor of Sir A. Pedler. Dr. Ashutosh who is not a teacher only by accident possesses scholarship of a very high order. As Senator, Syndic, representative of the University on the Legislative Council, local member of the Universities Commission, and member of the Imperial Legislative Council when the Universities Bill was under discussion, his services have been simply invaluable. His present appointment, therefore, we regard as a happy culmination of his long connection with the University and we doubt not that he will do full justice to the exalted office he has been called upon to fill. We congratulate him as well as ourselves on the appointment. This is the second instance in which an *alumnus* of this University has been thus honoured by the Government.

We printed in our last issue the list of examiners for the ensuing Arts Examinations. Our readers have no doubt noted that several departures from the practice of past years characterise the present year's list. None but *bona fide* teachers have, as a rule, been appointed and several school teachers have been given preferential claims over College Lecturers. The number has been slightly reduced although we venture to think that there is still further room for retrenchment in this direction. But perhaps the most noteworthy principle enunciated this year, a principle by the way that has produced considerable irritation of feeling—is the

ruling that key-makers should be excluded from the work of examination. We have every sympathy with the Provisional Syndicate with regard to the various useful reforms they have been able to introduce during their tenure of office. But whilst professing our hearty endorsement of the principle that cram-books should by every means in our power be discouraged, we can not congratulate the Syndicate on the manner in which they have given effect to the principle. Besides, the information they have proceeded upon is, we are afraid, neither adequate nor reliable, and sufficient care has not been taken in the elimination of all key-makers. But after all we fail to understand how the eliminating process resorted to will check the prevalence of cram. We anxiously wait to see what steps the Syndicate intend to take with a view to dispense with vicious methods of teaching and with a large body of teachers who are nothing better than crammers.

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The annual convocation of the University for conferring degrees will be held on Saturday the 3rd March at 4 P.M. His Excellency the Viceroy in his capacity as Chancellor will preside on the occasion.

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The old practice was the appointment of a number of Fellows just before the convocation. May we suggest that it will be a very graceful act on the part of the Chancellor (considering that it will be virtually his first public appearance in connection with the University) if a few Fellows are appointed on the occasion. We may point out that the maximum number allowed by the new Act has not yet been reached, and that a few vacancies will ere long occur owing to the forthcoming retirement of the present Vice-Chancellor and some High Court Judges who are also Fellows. The advancement of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mukherjea to the Vice-Chancellorship will also create a vacancy in the rank of the ordinary

Fellows. We may mention the names of eminent teachers like Dr. P. C. Ray and M. M. Pandit Satis Chandra Vidya-bhushan as eligible for the honour. The teaching element should by all means be strengthened on the Senate especially in view of the important consideration of the new Regulations.

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We wonder when the Boards of Studies are going to prescribe text-books for the F.A. and B.A. Examinations of 1908. If they are waiting for the completion of the new Regulations, they must wait for goodness knows how long, and the students who will join our Colleges in June next will be quite at sea in the matter of text-books. Sufficient time we may be permitted to point out must be given to the book-sellers to indent books from England and to those useful drudges, the key-makers, to prepare their keys, commentaries, annotations, analyses, *et hoc genus omne*.

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The question regarding the minimum age-limit for the matriculation examination has been settled in the Punjab University. In a resolution in November last the Senate proposed 14, but when asked by the local Government to reconsider the matter, 15 was adopted by 18 votes against 17. The Punjab Government has now given sanction to 15. The Bombay University has raised the minimum limit of age for admission to the matriculation examination from fifteen years to sixteen. The Calcutta University also has fixed the minimum limit of age at sixteen.

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The office had busy time of it in the early part of the month in collecting the Fees for admission into the ensuing Entrance, F.A. and B.A. Examinations. It is sad to think that the examinations are annually held in the unhealthiest season of the year so far as this town is concerned and not a

few students are prevented from sitting for the examinations by attacks of small-pox and other epidemic diseases.

We have duly received the February number of the Central Hindu College Magazine and the *Magha* issues of the vernacular fortnightly *Utbohdana*.

We are glad to welcome a new College Magazine entitled the Dayananda Anglo Vernacular College Union Magazine, the January number of which has been sent to us. As we have always thought that every College should have its own literary organ, we are ready to congratulate the conductors of the above-named Magazine on their venture, which we understand has been in existence for a little above eighteen months. It would have been more seemly however if the Magazine had contained more of literary matters and matters of academic interest; the pages devoted to politics and other alien topics are certainly not a desirable feature in a College Magazine.

At the annual meeting of the Calcutta University Teachers' Association held at the Sanskrit College on Wednesday the 14th February 1906, the annual report for the year 1905 having been read and adopted, the following office-bearers were elected for the year 1906 :—

COUNCIL

- Mr. W. H. Arden Wood, (*President*)  
 „ C. Russell, (*Secretary*)  
 „ G. C. Bose, (*Treasurer*)  
 „ M. Prothero,  
 „ C. Little,  
 M. M. Haraprasad Shastri  
 Rev. A. B. Wann  
 „ A. Tomory  
 „ R. Gee.