



August 20, 1972

Colleges Urged to Prepare Youth for Democracy

MADRAS, Aug. 19.

Mr. K. K. Shah, Governor, today stressed the important role educational institutions could play in moulding the character of the boys and girls and in preparing them to behave like masters of the country's destiny.

The Governor who was presiding over the concluding day function of the three-day silver jubilee celebrations of Stella Maris College, said that when the question was posed to Mahatma Gandhi soon after the attainment of Independence whether he wanted some one among the top-ranking political leaders to be a dictator for 15 years, Gandhiji replied that the people alone should become the masters and not the 'vote-catchers'. In an ideal democracy, people should not vote in the name of caste, language or community. The fever of "vote-catching" had progressively reached the peak during the mid-term elections, beginning from the 1952 general election, the Governor said.

Mr. Shah said that there was a vast gap developing between parents and children. Parents had time for every thing else except for their children. Proper care could be bestowed on children only by educational institutions. He was happy to note that in this College personal contacts were established between students and professors and that the handicaps from which students suffered were being investigated. Unless educational institutions prepared the future generations to be "doctors", the "ailments" afflicting politicians could not be cured.

AWARDS FOR STAFF

Mrs. Madhuben Shah distributed silver jubilee awards and medals to professors and members of the staff who had put in long years of service.

Mrs. Ramani, Professor of Economics, welcomed the guests. Mrs. S. Padma, presented on behalf of the old students, a 'Pavai Vilakku' to the Governor who handed it over to Mother Klemms, Superior Provincial, Stella Maris College.

The students of the College presented a cultural programme of dance and music. Sister Angela, Superior of Stella Maris Convent, proposed a vote of thanks.