

In the unavoidable absence of the Vice-Chancellor, I have been given the privilege of ^{on behalf of the Reception Committee and the University} welcoming ~~the delegates~~ members of the Indian Mathematical Society to this their Seventeenth Conference. It was in the year 1926, exactly a quarter of Century ago that we have had the pleasure of having the inviting the Fifth Conference of the Society to Bangalore. Thus we share with Madras the proud privilege of being the only centre in India to invite the Conference on a second occasion. This is very-appropriate, for ~~this~~ ^{the} City of Bangalore, the chosen abode of Science, has been the venue of so many Conferences national as well as international. ~~With the Science~~ There is another reason too why this should be so, for the relation between your Society and our University has been very intimate indeed. your Society which was started in 1907 in only ten years older than the Mysore University, but even before the formation of the University the alumni of the Central & Maharaja's Colleges in the Department of Mathematics were closely associated with the Society. In fact the late Prof. M. T. Naraniengar the First Editor and one of the Foundation Members of the Society served with great distinction in the Central College in which you are ^{now} holding your Conference. What is perhaps is not so well-known is the fact that the real Founder of the Society the late Dr. Ramaswami Aiyar was also connected with the Central & Maharaja's Colleges.

I can hardly refrain from quoting ~~from~~ a few sentences from the Presidential Address delivered by Sri V. Ramaswami Aiyar at the Fifth Conference held at Bangalore in 1926. He says "In 1893 I took the M. A. Degree. In the following year -- among us. In 1895 -- branch. My service in Bangalore -- 1895."

I shall not keep you long with any more reminiscences. I shall only say that we in this University have always tried to give

mathematics a prominent place in our scheme of studies. The early associations with your Society are still being maintained by us. We have always tried in this University to give mathematics a prominent place in our scheme of studies. We have recently revised our courses of study in the studies in the Honours and M. Sc. courses, and introduced mathematics as two units at the pass level as pure and applied mathematics. A course of elementary mathematics as a part of general education, and the introduction of mathematical statistics at the Intermediate level are two other experiments which we have recently been attempting. I see from your programme that you have an interesting discussion on the role of Mathematics in Engineering and many other symposia and reading of papers. I feel sure that as a result of your deliberations will be of great value in furthering the development of mathematics.