Mr. Arulanandam succeeded Mr. Ranganathan as Principal on 14th July 1919 and continued till his retirement on 13th March 1926 with a short break for about a year (1.7.1922 to 29.6.1923) during which time Mr. Statham carried on the administration. During this period of 7 years the college witnessed steady progress. New courses of teaching were introduced and buildings added. Getting a college carve out a new shape calls for patient and silent organisation, sympathy, kindness and understanding without which it is impossible to ensure harmony between the infant organisation and its environment. Mr. Arulanandam had all these virtues to a vast degree. He was a Christian in the strictest and highest sense of the term. He was kind and gentle in his discharges with students. He could sympathise with their needs and difficulties. By his Christian principles of love, charity and piety he was able to guide the college with conspicuous success through six difficult years of early development.

There was quite a brisk and substantial expansion in the courses of studies and of buildings.
and other facilities even from the beginning of Mr. Arulanandam’s period of administration. In 1919-20 steps were taken to enrich the library equal to the needs of a first grade college. More than a thousand volumes costing nearly ₹3300/- were purchased for the library. In 1919-20 the hostel got a sub-warden. Mr. N. Ramani was the first person to hold that office. Mr. Arulanandam gave impetus to sports activities also. A cricket team was born in the same year 1919-20.\(^1\) The second year of Mr. Arulanandam’s administration was even more eventful. The World War having come to a close, laboratory equipments were again available. The Ceded Districts College, Anantapur got affiliation to the University of Madras in Group (VI - Sanskrit) with early Indian History of the B.A. degree course.\(^2\) In July 1920 Group-I consisting of Mathematics and Physics was revived with affiliation to the University of Madras.\(^3\) The most notable event of the year was the first College Day celebrated on the 23rd October.


1920 Dewan Bahadur, P. Kesavapillai as the President. The programme of celebrations gone through on that occasion became a model for all subsequent college days. A permanent college day committee was formed. The function aroused the wildest festive enthusiasm and in this particular respect the First College Day has remained also the grandest.

In the year 1921 there was a heavy rush for admissions into Group-I (Physics and Chemistry) at the Intermediate Course. To provide more accommodation, on 29th October 1921 the Government sanctioned the extension of the college buildings. On the 19th January 1922 the Government ordered to place the building of the Central Police recruits school at the disposal of the college. It was at this stage that Sir Neville Statham had become the Principal4. A great majority of the students took very keen and sustained interest in games such as cricket, hockey, foot-ball and badminton. The college union had a very successful year also in literary activities. A.J. Curgwenven Esq., I.C.S., District Judge presided over the celebrations, and his words of appreciation and

4. The Government Arts College, Anantapur Magazine 1957-58, p.43
encouragement brought the year work to a happy conclusion. In addition to the main hostel a sub-hostel was opened by renting a building near the main hostel. Now the total strength of the hostel on 31st March 1922 was 47.

The second Ceded Districts College day was celebrated on 28.10.1921. The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur, A.P. Petro, Minister for Education, presided over the function and made a powerful appeal to the public of the ceded districts to give the institution their material and moral support. The Registrar of the University of Madras sent seven students from this college to take part in the welcome that the university gave to His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales in the Senate house Madras. During the year 1921 Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Mohammed Habibullah Sahib Bahadur, Member of His Excellency the Governor's Executive Council and the Hon'ble P. Ramasuyingar, the Minister for Local Self Government, visited the Ceded Districts College. The strength of the college on 31st March 1922 was 155. The discipline and tone of the college were satisfactory. All the members of the staff discharged their duties with zeal and heartily
cooperated in every part of the college life and work.  

On 1.7.1922 Mr. Arulanandam had to leave the college on transfer. He was succeeded by Sir Neville Statham as the Principal of the college. The year commenced with a very important development viz., the introduction of Natural Science as a Part-III subject in the Intermediate classes. In July 1922 the Government sanctioned the proposal of the Director of Public Instruction for the opening of Group (II) (Physics, Chemistry and Natural Science) in the Intermediate level in the Ceded Districts College. It was formed with a strength of twelve students. Under the Indian Universities Act, 1904, the Government sanctioned further affiliation to the University of Madras of the Ceded Districts College, Anantapur in Group (II) (Physics, Chemistry and Natural Science) of the Intermediate courses of study. The strength of the college was now nearly 200 and the pressure on space was heavy. The presence of the secondary training classes was


7. Ibid., G.O.No.469 dated 27.3.1923 (Andhra Pradesh Archives).
making the accommodation problem all the more acute. Later the secondary training school attached to the college was shifted to Bellary.

In the B.A. examination seven candidates appeared in April, 1922, out of whom five passed the whole examination. In Intermediate 13 students passed the whole examination. K. Venkatanarayana Rao who passed in B.A. Group VI (Telugu) was awarded the Maharaja of Bobbili's Gold medal by the University of Madras. During the year 1922, 307 books were added to the library. The total number of books in the library on the 31st of March 1923 was 5037. There was sustained atheletic activity throughout the year. In addition to the main hostel, two sub-hostels were rented during the year. The total strength of the hostel had now risen to 72. The third ceded districts college day was celebrated on 9.12.1922. Mr. C.Ramalingam Reddy, M.L.C., presided over the function. Their excellencies Lord and Lady Willington visited the college in July 1922. The Telugu Samajam (the progenitor of the Andhra Saraswathi Sangham) and the History Association started during Sir Mevarel's

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tenure of principalship. These steps of far-reaching importance taken during the nine months of his association with the college show how fast the college would have grown if his contribution to its history had been a chapter and not a page. The college played an important role in the Freedom Movement. The first phase of the national movement had little impact on the students, when some students began to wear Gandhi caps, which was discouraged by the authorities.

The Ceded Districts College was fortunate in that the learned public not being merely content with the efforts of the Government for the growth of higher education, voluntarily came forward and generously instituted a number of scholarships and prizes. Six scholarships were instituted by Hampayya—two of Rs.110/- each per annum in III Class (the present I B.A. class) and four of Rs.88-8-0 for Intermediate for students belonging to non-brahmin community; Avula Pedda Konda Reddy scholarship Rs.55/- per annum to be given to a Reddy student in the I class, Khan Sahib Khannur Imman-ud-din Sahib scholarship of Rs.55/- per annum to a Mohammedan student in I class, Madigubba

Sanjeeva Reddy scholarship of Rs. 55/- per annum to the best student in I class and Cheemala Vagulapalle Chenna Reddy scholarship of Rs. 110/- per annum to be given to the best Reddi student in III Class. The prizes were Kudair Krishna Rao prize to be given to a candidate securing the first place in Sanskrit in B.A. Degree examination, Adimirthi Rao's prize to be given to the first in English at B.A. degree examination and Marur Narasimha Prize to the first in Indian History at III Class annual examination.

On 29.6.1923 Sri Meverel Statham handed over charge of the college to Mr. Arulanandam. Thus began Mr. Arulanandam's second term as Principal of this college. He was back in the college, back among his old friends and amidst the problems of accommodation in the college and in the hostel. The accommodation in the hostel was very inadequate. A building near the college was rented and used as an additional hostel, to start a non-vegetarian mess. The central police recruits school building was again lent temporarily to the college. It was used as hostel till the police department took it back on 21.1.1925.

10. The Madras Year Book 1923, Anantapur Ceded Districts College, p.111 (Tamilnadu Archives)
In March 1924 the wooden stair case was fitted up, and in the summer vacation of 1924 Department of English and the other languages, the library and Natural Science department moved into the new wings. Having got this Mr. Arulanandam began pressing for new laboratories for Physics and Chemistry built on a larger scale. The Physics and Chemistry laboratories, designed originally for a high school, were absolutely inadequate. When the Director of Public Instruction visited the college in 1924, Mr. Arulanandam submitted to him rough plans for the extension of the laboratories. The Director of Public Instruction called for further particulars of the proposed opening of Science class in Group II A and II B of the B.A. pass course. Mr. Arulanandam submitted them on 19.1.1925 which were accomplished facts in July 1925.\(^\text{11}\)

Sixteen students of the college appeared for the University examination in April, 1924. Seven students passed the whole examination. Five students passed in Part II only. Seventy students appeared for the Inter examination in March, 1924. Eight students of Group I, one of Group II and eight of Group III passed in both the parts. One of the students in Group I took a first

class and secured distinction in Mathematics and Physics. 369 books were added to the library. The total number of books on 31.3.1925 was now 6130. The 5th College Day was celebrated on 24.1.1925 with Mr. Ry.K.Koti Reddy garu, Member of the Legislative Council, as President.

Mr. Arulanandam retired on 13th March 1926, a great man, loved and respected by all. His greatest services to the college consisted not only in what he did for studies, improvement of buildings and such things but also in the unique example of uprightness, gentleness and piety that he set for a long period which gave the tone and atmosphere of the college, a rare moral purity and elevation.

From the 5th April 1926, the college had the unique distinction of having the longest stewardship of Sri N.R. Krishnamma. There was rapid expansion of buildings and increase in the intake of pupils. He encouraged systematically the cultivation of a multiplicity of intellectual and other interests which make for culture. Mr. Krishnamma was steeped in the traditions of the English public schools and universities, and the story of his ten years in Anantapur is the story

of the daring experiment of rearing on Indian soil the native traditions of English Education—halls, play fields, theatricals, student initiative, training for leadership, character building and an abundant extra mural social life uninhibited by the rules of classroom discipline. Mr. Krishnamma gave the life of the college a range and fulness, a rich variety, which it had not known before. The busy life on the college play grounds today is an enduring monument to Mr. Krishnamma's devotion to the cause of physical recreation and education. He was not a mere magnanimous patron of games and sports, but an active sportsman himself. As Mr. S. E. Ranganathan, the first principal of the college wrote in his annual report in 1919 "whatever the intellectual limitations of the students of these districts I am glad to say that the majority of them have a healthy love of sports". Mr. Krishnamma fostered this love with the greatest care and skill and made it the basis of a powerful tradition which retains its vitality to this day. This he achieved despite a multitude of handicaps, such as insufficient funds due to general economic depression and moderate

college strength the absence till 1931 of whole time supervision on the play grounds by a trained and qualified Physical Director. In his time, the college used to conduct quite a few annual tournaments regularly, the most important among them being for the Hockey Silver Cup, presented by Rao Sahib, J.Papayya Chetti of Bellary (1926-32), for the T.Kesava Rao football Silver Cup presented by an old boy (1929-1932) and for the inter-class challenge shield instituted in 1929-30 by the college day committee.  

When the Andhra University was constituted by the Act II of 1926, the Ceded Districts College came to be affiliated to the Andhra University. In June 1926, Government sanctioned an expenditure of Rs.75,400/- on the extensions to the Science (Physics and Chemistry) laboratories. As per the Rc.No.114/27 dated 16.3.1927, proposals were submitted to the Director of Public Instruction for further extensions for opening Group III Natural Science in the B.A. pass course. 517 books were added to the library during the year 1927. The total number of books in the library on 31st March 1927 was

The percentage of passes in Part I (English) of the Intermediate examination, March 1926 was 36 and in Part-II of Group I (Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry), Group II (Physics, Chemistry and Natural Science) and Group III (Indian History, Modern History and Logic) were 32, 53 and 27 respectively. In Part I (English) of the B.A. examination there was 64 percentage of passes and in Part II of Group I (Mathematics) and V-A (History) it was 42 and 76 respectively.

Hockey tournaments for teams of schools and colleges in the ceded and Chittoor districts for the cup presented by Rao Sahib J. Papayya Chetti was organised in October 1926 under the auspices of the college. In 1927 the hostel celebrated its hostel day for the first time under the presidency of Mr. L.C. Horwill, I.C.S. When Mr. Krishnamma took charge of the college in 1926, the college hostel could accommodate only a maximum of 84 students. On 1.3.1927 Government sanctioned the expenditure of Rs. 87,000/- on the construction of a new block for the hostel to hold a hundred residents.

The extensions to the Physics and Chemistry laboratories were sanctioned in G.O.Ms.No.636 Public.

Works Department dated 14.6.1926. On 9.4.1927 Government sanctioned the expenditure of Rs.30,000/- for furnishing and equipping the new Intermediate Science laboratories. On 2.4.1928 Government consented to open Group II A (Physics main) and II B (Chemistry main) of B.A. pass course, and sanctioned Rs.6,000/- for converting the old Intermediate laboratories into B.A. laboratories.16

In July 1928 the laboratories though not quite complete, were handed over by the Public Works Department. A Commission appointed by the Syndicate of the Andhra University visited the college to report on the proposed affiliation of the college in the Physics, Chemistry groups with effect from 1.7.1928 the Groups II A (Physics main) and II B (Chemistry main) of B.A. pass course were opened17.

The college magazine was issued for the first time under the auspices of the literary union on 4th February 1928. In 1928, 654 books were added to the library. The total number of books in the library on 31st March 1928 was 7665. The Papayya Chetti Hockey cup tournament was organised under the auspices of the college and conducted

16. Ibid., G.O.No.1540 dated 23.7.1928 (Andhra Pradesh Archives).

17. Seventy of the Silver Jubilee of the Ceded District College, Anantapur February 1946 p.15
in October 1927. The Ceded Districts College team won the cup. The eighth college day was celebrated on 4th February 1928 under the presidency of Rao Sahib P. Adimurthi Rao of Anantapur.21

The status of the college was raised during the year 1929 as it was affiliated to the Andhra University in Group II A (Physics main) and II B (Chemistry main) of the B.A. pass course. An extra amount of Rs. 3000/- was sanctioned for the library. 1242 books were added to the library. The total number of books as on 31.3.1929 was 8,907. All the usual games were played with vigour and the students as a whole took interest. In 1928 Papayya Chetti Hockey Cup organised under the auspices of the college was conducted in October 1928. The cup was won by the Municipal High School, Kurnool. The Andhra Saraswatha Sangham celebrated successfully the birthday of the Telugu Poet Peddanna on 17.2.1929. The anniversary of the Literary Society and Andhra Saraswatha Sangham was held in March 1929 under the presidency of the Collector Rai Bahadur N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar. The 9th college day was celebrated on 19.1.1929 under the presidency of Mr. N.S. Subba Rao, Director of

16. Ibid., G.O.No.1540 dated 23.7.1928 (Andhra Pradesh Archives)
Public Instruction of Mysore.

Anantapur was seized by the cholera disease in the year 1928. Some students were inoculated in September 1928. The medical inspection of the whole college was conducted by Dr. Pothan, the Assistant Medical Surgeon for the first time. The discipline of the college remained good and the college put in a year of sound work inspite of Malaria which affected both students and staff. The social activities of the college progressed satisfactorily and at all such functions the students and staff rallied and took active part. The status of the college remained as First Grade College and it continued to be affiliated to the Andhra University. The Madras University Commission inspected the college on 27.9.1929 under the Chairmanship of Dr. A.G. Hogg. In letter No. 1491-A-28 dated 18.3.1930, the Director passed certain orders on the Commission's report. Accordingly the college was to be affiliated further to the Madras University from July 1930. The senior classes of 1930-31 would continue to take the Andhra University courses. The Papayya Chetti Hockey Cup was organised

under the auspices of the college and was held in October 1929. The cup was won by this college team. T. Kesava Rao's Football cup was organised under the auspices of the college and was held for the first time in 1929 and the cup was won by this college. 30. The discipline of the college remained good though for a short time.

Apart from the improvements of buildings and expansion of different courses, there was a distinctive touch of moral purity and elevation given to the academic atmosphere during the regime of Sri Arul e n a n d a m, the second Principal, who set an example of uprightness and gentleness. During the second decade, the college had the unique distinction of having the longest stewardship of Sri N.R. Krishnamma. There was rapid expansion of buildings, and increase in the intake of pupils. Co-curricular activities were the order of the day. A strong and sturdy foundation was laid to the training of leadership21.
