A CENTUR[illegible]EFORE 'MILK'

A unique feat by Polonowita

SCHOOL CRICKET INQUEST

By Drongun

WITH the anxiety and excitement normally associated with a general election, last week's inter - collegiate cricket matches, originally arranged for Friday and and Saturday, had to be advanced to Thursday and Friday.

As usual, one of the 'big matches' at Kandy between Kingswood and Dharmarajah fell into the common rut by following the pattern of the Royal-Thomian, while the other five matches produced decisive results. The most convincing win was, however, witnessed at Campbell Place when Ananda romped home with an eight wickets win over Wesley. The other schools to be in this happy position were Thurstan, Maliyadeva, Methodist High School and St. Mary's Dehiwala when they registered wins over St. Aloysius, Moratu Vidyalaya, Carey and St John Bosco Hanwella respectively.

One century by P. Polonowita of Ananda against Wesley and two, phenomenal bowling performances both by S. Steinwall of St. Mary's Dehiwala against St. John Bosco featured the week's cricket. (See week-end honours).

Early in the game at Campbell Place, Wesley threw in the towel when they gave us of the poorest exhibitions of fielding in their match against Ananda. Always ahead of the clock, the Ananda batsmen made merry on the lifeless matting and the fast outfield. It was here that P. Polonowita created a record in school cricket when he knocked up a century before the 'milk interval' in a period of 105 minutes.

Scrappy knock

Unlike all-rounder Mohanlal Fernando whose innings of 93 was without blemish, the innings of Polonowita was scrappy throughout.

Chances flew off Polonowita's bat at regular intervals, but not one of those catches were accepted by the Wesley fieldsmen. Gunatilleke, Wesley's express bowler did not get that bit of extra fire on the first day and his opening overs with the new ball were disappointing. He bowled more effectively with the old ball when he threatened a sudden breakthrough by capturing four of the six wickets that fell.

Gunatilleke's bouncer proved ineffective when both Polonwita and Mohanlal Fernando connected it to the boundary. With the scoreboard reading 260 for six, Ananda declared and at close, they had seven Wesley batsmen back in the pavilion for 106 runs. Fernando, who earlier paved the way for an Ananda win, blasted his way through with some explosive fast bowling and captured five of the seven wickets that fell.

Fine innings

The Wesley captain, S. R. Sinniah an artist of stroke play saved them from an innings defeat when he scored 96 well compiled runs. Together with Reimers, he pulled Wesley out of the fire. During his 105 minutes at the wicket, he treated the hostile bowling with scant respect sending the ball 13 times to the boundary. A splendid catch at short mid-off by D. de. Silva off the bowling of Amaradasa, saw Sinniah back in the pavillion and thereafter Wesley gave up the fight. Ananda had to make 33 to win and they did it with seven wickets in hand.

Batsmen had a field day on the Police ground at Kandy, when the 61st encounter between Kings wood and Dharmarajah took place. Though the match ended in a tame draw bright batting was witnessed on both days.

Inspired by V. de. Z. Siriwardena's knock of 55 runs the middle and tail end batting of Dharmarajah enabled them to take an advantageous first innings lead. H. Hemachandra going in one before last toyed with the bowling and collected 56 runs.

Kingswood's batting improved tremendously when N. Kumarasinghe, R. Dharmawardena and skipper W. M. Fernando steered Kingswood out of the woods. With 258 on the board, Kingswood made a fine declaration at the fall of the fifth wicket. Dharmarajah fared poorly and had it not been for the stout-hearted unbeaten knock by M. D. Wijekoon who scored 52 runs Dharmarajah would have been in a most uncomfortable position.

The Honours List

Batting

118 P. Polonowita (Ananda) vs Wesley.

96 P. Perera (Govt: Central College, Piliyandala) vs Kalutara Vidyalaya.

96 S. R. Sinniah (Wesley) vs Ananda.

93 Mohanlal Fernando (Ananda) vs Wesley.

72 S. P. de Silva (Kalutara Vidyalaya) vs Govt. Central College Piliyandala

66 Not out I. Jumar (Kings wood) vs Dharmarajah

63 W. M. Fernando (Kingswood) vs Dharmarajah

63 N. Kumarasinghe (Kingswood vs Dharmarajah

62 D. W. Wijesinghe (Maliyadeva) vs Moratu Vidyalaya

58 G.de Silva (St Aloysius) vs Thurstan

56 H. Hemachandra (Dharmarajah) vs Kingswood

55 V. de Z. Siriwardena (Dharmarajah vs Kingswood

54 E. Fernando (St Mary's Dehiwala) vs St John Bosco

52 Not out U. Dharmawardena (Kingswood) vs Dharmarajah

52 Not out M. D. Wijekoon (Dharmarajah) vs Kingswood

51 R. Dharmawardena (Kingswood) vs Dharmarajah

[illegible] (Central, Piliyandala) vs Kalutara Vidyalaya

Bowling

7 for 6 S. Steinwall St Mary's, Dehiwala) vs St John Bosco

6 for 2 S. Steinwall (St Mary's Dehiwala) vs St John Bosco

6 for 42 Mohanlal Fernando (Ananda) vs Wesley

5 for 38 T. B. Kehelgamuwa Dharmarajah vs Kingswood

5 for 68 Mohanlal Fernando Ananda) vs Wesley

4 for 19 D. Fonseka (St Thomas', Kotte) vs St John Bosco

4 for 22 T. M. Wijeratne (Thurstan) vs St Aloysius

4 for 26 S. Semasinghe (Ananda) vs Wesley

4 for 27 E. Jayasundera (St Thomas' Kotte) vs St John Bosco

4 for 27 C. Diasz (St Mary's Dehiwala) vs St John Bosco

4 for 31 O. Mottau (Kingswood) vs Dharmarajah

4 for 31 E. Van Heer (Carey) vs Methodist High School

4 for 32 Y. Amaradasa (Ananda) vs Wesley

4 for 52 N. Pieris (Moratu Vidyala) vs Maliyadeva

4 for 54 S. S. Jayawickrema (Moratu Vidyalaya) vs Maliya-

[illegible] 56 D. R. Gunatilleke [illegible] vs Ananda