

authority and illustrative references to the usage of poets or to such works as the *Bhatti Kāvya* and the *Dhatu Kāvya*, which were designed to illustrate rules of grammar. In regard to disputed points, the different views are set out briefly, and the editors' preference indicated with supporting arguments.

By bringing to this task profound knowledge, keen judgement and high editorial integrity, the late Śāstraratnakara Panditaraja S. Ramasubba Sastri, the first Head of the Department of Teaching and Higher Studies in the Society's Institution, who was also the first compiler and editor of this work, set up a standard which has been an inspiration as well as a challenge to his successors. He passed away shortly after the publication of the first volume. But he had compiled the greater part of the work. And the two pupils who had received from him, under the auspices of the Society's higher education centre at Pettai, a thorough grounding in *Vyākaraṇa* after having fully qualified themselves in Nyāya, and had been his assistants in the preparation of the first volume, were able to continue the work along the lines laid down by him. Under the general supervision of Dr. V. Raghavan, to whom goes the credit for proposing the undertaking of this work in the first instance, and with the advice and help of outstanding experts in the field, they have now completed the work. These two scholars, Pandit V. Srivatsankacharya and Pandit T. K. Pranatharthiharan have fully justified the high expectations their *guru* had formed of them. Pandit Srivatsankan, to whom has fallen the major share of the basic work of preparation of the material is, besides being a proficient in Nyāya and Vyākaraṇa, well instructed in Mīmāṃsa and the Viśiṣṭādvaita Siddhanta, and has a good knowledge of Tamil and Telugu and a working knowledge of Hindi and English. On Sri Pranatharthiharan, who too is a proficient in the two Sāstras, devolved the main responsibility for seeing the work through the press.

The Society is shortly bringing out a comprehensive *Avyāya Kōśa*. Plans have been made for publication of other volumes which may serve as easy introductions to other Sāstras, for republication of important works that are out of print and for bringing out in print valuable material that still remains in manuscript. In the tasks of higher teaching, research and publication, which the Society has set before itself, it hopes it will continue to receive the fullest co-operation of scholars and of enlightened and public-spirited Sanskrit lovers and philanthropists.

N. RAGHUNATHAN,

May, 1971.

(President of the Society).