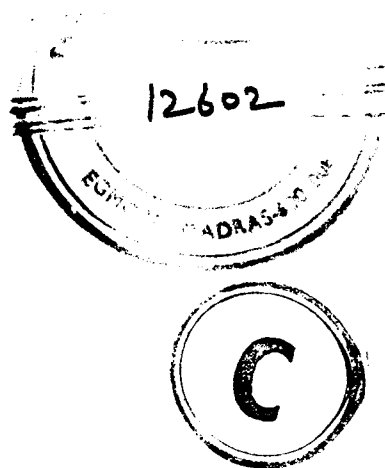

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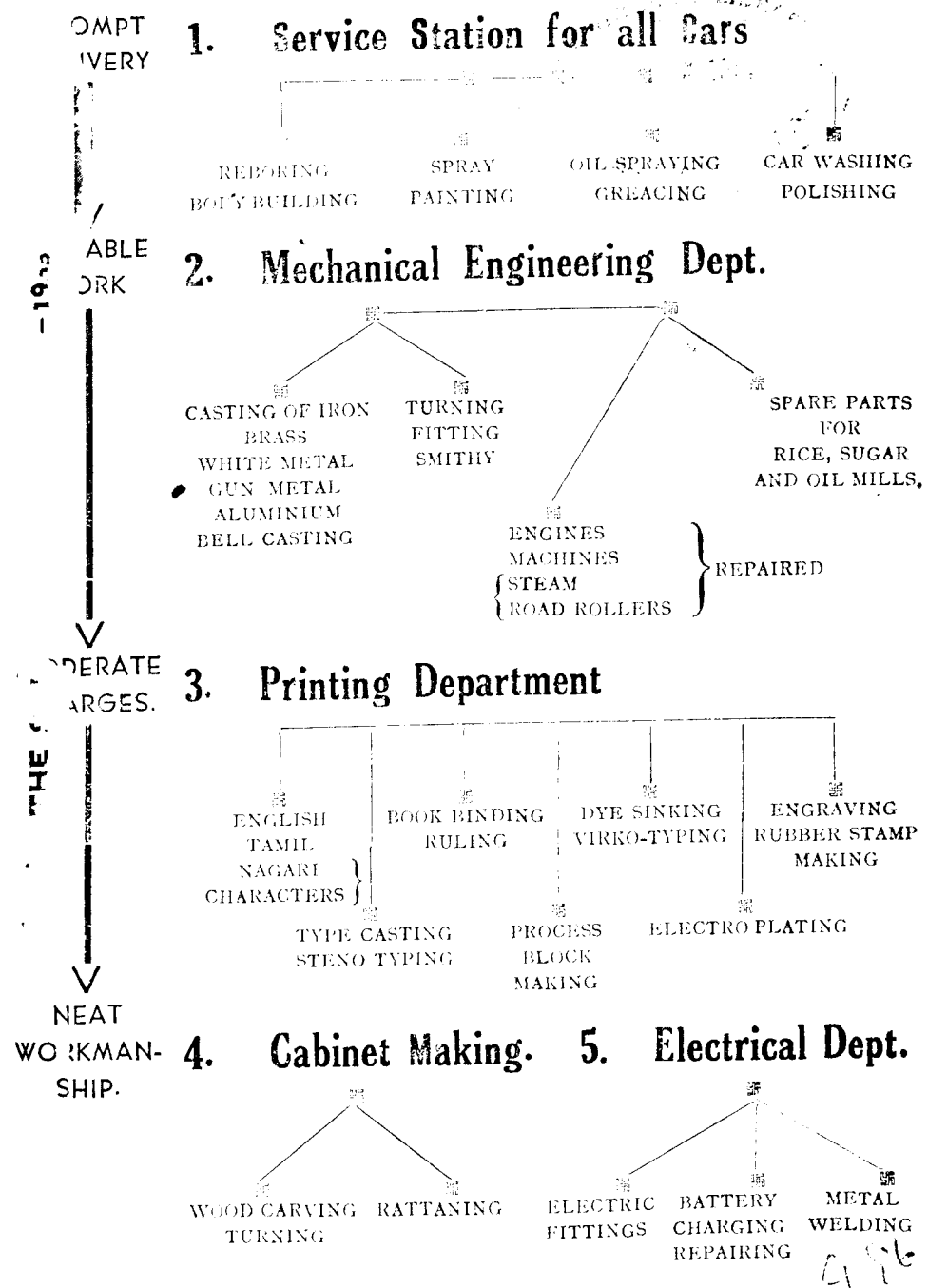
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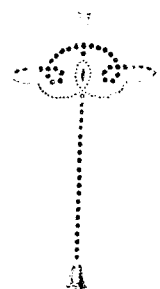
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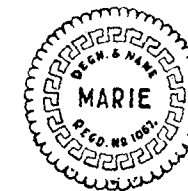
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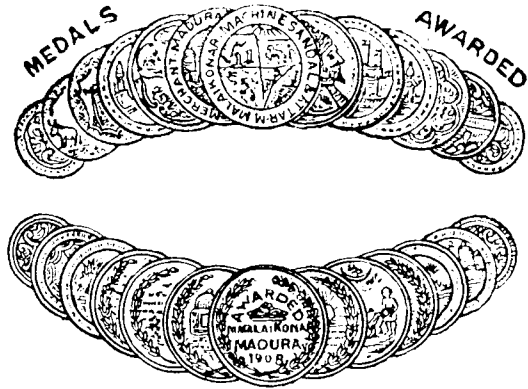
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PREFACE

In bringing out the First Edition of the Southern India Educational, Commercial and Industrial Directory, we may confidently tell the reading public that we have tried our best to satisfy the demands of all businessmen and others of varied interests in providing efficient information on all avenues of human interest practically available.

Features, unattempted yet, are included in this Directory illuminating latest happenings in Agriculture, Business Psychology, History, Music, Radio, Cinema, Flora, Insurance, Enigraphy, Industry, Rural and Urban Economics of Southern India in cyclopaedic range. Special prominence is given to the Educational Development from times out of mind and much care is bestowed upon stressing the literary eminence of Southern India in all its phases. Details of Exhaustive Trade Lists and Commerce are given for the information of traders abroad who desire to enter into commercial relations with Southern India. No stone is left unturned in providing the Tourists the site information to stay at the principal towns and only the important places of interest in each district. The economic wealth and commercial importance of the States have assisted us to bring out the grandeur of West Coast, Mysore and Hyderabad in this Directory which contains first hand and up-to-date information about these magic regions in all their aspects. Ours is the pioneer Directory to hail from Tamil Nad.

We have strained every nerve to ensure that facts and figures given are correct to the detail in this publication. We are keenly aware to what extent a Directory may prove a bright and indispensable guide for all. When life is a competition and a challenge, when the market is fast becoming a puzzle and when a world is moving with speed haphazard, it is the Directory that minimizes all handicaps and effectually disciplines all isolated efforts, so that man's successful activities may be scheduled in a scheme of unified excellence.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OF

Our grateful thanks are due to the Ceylon Government for their Annual General Report; Reserve Bank of India, Agricultural Credit Department, Bombay, for their article on 'Reserve Bank of India'; Pudukottai Durbar for their Administrative Report and the life-sketch of His Highness The Maharaja of Pudukkottai; the Madras Local Self-Government for the list of Members of M. L. A. & M. L. C.

We are highly indebted to all those, especially the distinguished Dewans of Indian States and our illustrious Madras Ministers, who have kindly sent their life sketches and photos for Who's Who Section. We also thank the Advertisers for the insertion of their esteemed matter.

We welcome valuable suggestions for increasing the utility of this Directory in future editions.

TRICHINOPOLY, }
Jan. 1939. }

SHIVAJI PUBLICATION

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INDIA

GENERAL INFORMATION

INDIA is a vast continent by itself, jutting far into the Indian Ocean from the Central Asian Plateau. The area of this mighty country is about 1,800,000 sq. miles with a population of over 350 millions equal to that of Europe without Russia.

It is surrounded on all sides by natural boundaries. The snow-clad peaks of the Himalayas act as an impregnable barrier in the North, protecting effectively India from the lusty pestilence of cold arctic winds and the hanging pendant of South India, dipping its jewelled splendours into the Indian Ocean, is fairly shot with high mountain links.

To a TOURIST India is a storehouse of wonders. He carries with him to his native land a fund of glorious memories: glittering palaces, moonlight nights in the jungle, princely hospitality, the lure of the mountains, the enchantment that lies in great Taj Mahal that haunts him like a passion, the awe-inspiring grandeur of architectural temples, the æsthetic appeal of Indian arts and culture.

Though isolated from the rest of the world by the oceans and the high mountains and deserts, India has developed magnificent indigenous civilisation, enhanced by the spiritual message of Buddha.

THE CRADLE OF CULTURE was rocked in our woods. As Mr. Smith remarks 'no literature in any Indo-European or Aryan language is nearly as old as the hymns of the Rig-veda which stands quite by itself high up on an isolated peak of remote antiquity'. The mighty contents of Vedas bear eloquent testimony to the eminence of Indian culture in those remote days.

India is an EPITOME of the whole world geographically. The lofty mountains defy the spirit that reposes in leagues of ice in any part of the Globe's elevation. Indo-Gangetic Plain is famed for its fertility and beauty. The rapacious hunger of the invaders to lay waste its virgin glory has stood the test of times. The deserts of Rajputana with their bleaching summer fires stand as a monumental contrast

to the icy pinnacles of the Himalayan peaks. Regions of genial warmth and noon-tide brilliance abound.

Rice, Cotton, Sugar-cane, Coffee, Tea and all tropical products find their home here. Forests are numerous. Animals of all kinds roam through the wilds of this mighty continent. The skill of our indigenous industries have cast a spell over monarchical gatherings of the west from times out of mind. Garments, silken wares, fabrics and brocades have won universal admiration from foreigners in the dim past.

Her fabulous wealth and vastness of her fertility have been the age-long temptation for invaders who at every phase of history swept over this land in countless numbers, pillaging and devastating and robbing the dumb millions and the lack of proper leadership under one sovereign had inflamed the cruel desire of the invaders, drunk mad with the wine of avarice to launch upon invasion after invasion. India from the remote past has been the battle-field of conflicting interests. Mighty empires have risen and fallen to dust, but yet again her prosperity has persisted the rapacity of invasions. Moghul courts were held in such a great pomp and splendour that no instance can be found parallel to it in the history of the world.

At last the advent of modern means of transport had overcome the natural barriers of India which became a happy hunting ground of traders from the west. The rise of territorial expansion of the British Power in India lay externally in its struggle with the various foreign powers for commercial and naval superiority and internally in its contention with the native Indian Powers for territorial supremacy all over India.

The struggle with the foreigners that began by competing for, and establishing the political superiority on the Indian littoral, finds its various interesting stages in the struggle with the Dutch in the seventeenth century and with the French in the eighteenth century, which laid the

foundation of the British dominion in India. In the passage of time, India is growing to political manhood. She has made one more stride towards political freedom by gaining Provincial Autonomy and an extensive electorate.

THE SPIRITUAL GREATNESS of India is pre-eminent. This is a land of mystics and sages. A peep into the dim distances of India's remote past brings up before our vision a league of saints, doing penances on the peaks of mountains. Her spiritualism still prevails despite the vehement invasions of materialisms, pouring in floods over this mighty land. She has kept ablaze her beaming torch of Divinity, undimmed by the persecutions of Invaders. Thanks to the timely far-sightedness of Mahatma Gandhi, the depressed classes are kept within the folds of Hinduism. India has given to the world monumental religions like Buddhism, Jainism, Vaishnavism, Saivism, etc.

THE ADMINISTRATION of the Empire is vested in the hands of Viceroy and Governor-General, assisted by an Executive Council. There are two Houses of Legislature—the Legislative-Assembly and the Council of State. The introduction of Federation is contemplated in the India Act which is being stoutly opposed by almost all shades of political parties. In the eleven provinces, each working under a Governor, the Ministers are running the Government. The Native States are ruled by Rajas or Chiefs, the descendants of ancient dynasties. They cover an area of 700,583 sq. miles.

India has 6,000 miles of land frontier and 5,000 miles of sea frontier. It measures 2,500 miles from east to west, 2,000 miles from North to South.

Her commerce with Europe is greatly facilitated by Suez canal.

India is formed of **THREE MAIN REGIONS**: the Himalayan Region, Indo-Gangetic Plain, with its grand valleys of three rivers, the Indus, Ganges and Brahmaputra and the Deccan. Burma composed chiefly of mountain ridges and long river valleys is now segregated from India proper. Ceylon is the only important island lying off the coast of India, to which it is nearly joined by a line of sandflats and rocks called Adam's Bridge.

The long stretch of Himalayan peaks lying like a huge python has enabled

India to nourish a civilisation of her own. It feeds its tributaries with perennial floods and effectively obstructs the passage of rain bearing winds of Bay of Bengal to progress northward, and affords plenty of rains to the Southern valleys. The immense rainfall is a great impetus to Hydro-electric stations. The torrential flow of the water-falls are employed for the generation of power. The wealth of forest productions are incalculable. Vegetation is immense. Assam is the best field for Tea cultivation. In Punjab Silk is abundant. The passes in the mountains were used as trade routes in olden days.

The fertility of Indo-Gangetic Plain is proverbial. This region is thickly populated and the rivers are navigable.

THE DECCAN covers the whole peninsular portion of the country. Extending from the Vindhyan mountains, Deccan plateau gradually tapers to the south, ending at Cape Comorin. This triangular table-land is bordered by Western and Eastern Ghats. The plain slopes towards the east generally. There is much of rainfall in the Malabar coast due to the unbroken range of high mountains.

THE CHIEF RIVERS of the Deccan are the Narmada and Tapi, flowing into the Arabian Sea and the Mahanadi, Godavari, Kistna, Cauvery and Tamraparni flowing eastward. Cauvery, 'Ganges of the South', rising from the Coorg Mountains, flows through Mysore State and waters the Tanjore and Trichinopoly Districts. The whole of Deccan lies within the Tropics.

The influence of *rainfall* is very great in India. Ours is a foremost agricultural country and seasonal dependence tells upon the prosperity. So, 'the Indian Budget is a Gamble in rain'. 'The economic prosperity, of India, the ease and plenty of the Agriculturists, as well as of the manufacturers, her trade and commerce, finance and currency, all depend upon a steady and constant rainfall'.

THE SOIL varies to different climates. The alluvial soil in Sind and the Punjab grow wheat, sugar-cane and rice. The crystalline tracts of South Deccan is fit for rice. The Deccan trap soil is suitable for oil seeds, cotton, etc. Black cotton soil of Central India comes under this group.

Thus, India is well situated for commercial and industrial prosperity. Situated

as she is in the centre of the Eastern Hemisphere and at the head of the Indian Ocean, it is the nerve centre of numerous trade-routes to East and West.

FORESTS in India cover nearly one-fifth of its total area. The wealth of forest is great in Bengal and Western Ghats. There are many Sandalwood tracts in Deccan and hills of Mysore. Forest research is receiving much attention at the hands of the Government. The bamboos furnish the best raw material for Paper Industry which is flourishing by leaps and bounds. Lac is produced and Match Industry is provided with large materials. Tea chests are made out of Himalayan woods.

THE FISHERIES are growing into prominence. Madras takes the first place. The backwaters of Travancore play a leading part in fishing. Pearl fishing is done by Native States. River fishing is prominent in Bengal and Punjab. Fish manuring is gaining popularity in the country.

INDIA'S SHIPPING and shipping Industry had made her, for ages the 'Queen of the Seas'. 'For full 30 centuries', says Radha Kummud Mukerji, 'India maintained her position as one of the foremost maritime countries. She had colonies in Pegu, Cambodia, Java, Sumatra, Borneo, and even in the countries of the farther east as far as Japan. She had trading settlements in Southern China, Malaya Peninsula, Arabia, and in all the chief cities of Persia and all over the east coast of Africa. She cultivated trade relations not only with the countries of Asia, but also with the whole of the then known world including the countries under the dominion of Roman Empire and both the east and west became the theatre of Indian commercial activity'.

Her dexterity in the manufacture of extiles, dyes, cement and steel work was an established fact. The lure of India loomed large in the eyes of the westerners when the ship-loads of precious metals left Mediterranean shores, firing the envy of Romans and Greeks.

It is said that about 40,000 vessels plied on the Indus alone in the Mauryan Age. Ship-building was a monopoly of the Government then. Chandragupta had a board of Admiralty and a well-drafted code for the regulation of Sea traffic and for the collection of port dues. Under the

Guptas, colonisation was encouraged. In the 10th and 11th centuries, under the Chola Kings, South India 'witnessed a remarkable outburst of naval activity.' During the Moghul Period, the size of ships gradually increased. Akbar and Aurengzeb revised the rules of Admiralty and a well-trained navy was the fruitful outcome. Even the East India Company was witnessing the heyday of naval superiority. But the year 1840 marked the decline of shipping and by 1863 this once brilliant Industry passed away beyond the limbo of oblivion. But attempts there are to revive this Industry to its pristine glory. Companies have sprung up. But lack of training and heavy competition mar its progress. But India's foreign trade has not suffered under this handicap. It told on her status and reduced her to a mere supplier of raw materials to the world. But there should be some dynamic rejuvenation.

India has built a culture of her own. Her pre-eminence in art is yet unchallenged. The children of her soil are holding aloft in the Empire and World Exhibitions held in the Capital cities of Nations like New York, the greatness of Indian painting and Indian culture.

It would be interesting to go into details to see whether India in the past is indebted to any Hellenic influence.

THE GREEKS first came to India in 326 B.C., when Alexander invaded India. Alexander's fierce invasion perhaps produced no direct effects upon either the ideas or the institutions of India. But the question as to the extent of Greek or more accurately, Hellenistic influence upon Indian civilisation, later on, is of interest and has been widely discussed by many European and Indian Scholars.

ART: The territory around Gandhara country was the centre of Hellenistic culture in India and from it have come almost all examples of Greco-Indian Art. As Dr. Smith says, at Sanchi, Bodhgaya, Ajanta and other adjoining places proofs may be given that the local styles of art was modified by contact with that of the western world, but the evidence does not lie upon the surface. But the Gandhara and Mathura sculpture show strong classical influences; the influence at Sanchi is not so very evident.

Of the influence of Greece on Gandhara and other kindred schools many different kinds of estimates have been made by scholars. Dr. G. N. Banerjee says that Indians as well as the Greeks are equally responsible for the production of the Gandhara sculpture. With regard to the paintings at Ajanta Dr. Smith observes that the artists were indebted to the West. But Banerjee differs from this view.

Dr. Marshall says that Hellenistic art never took a strong hold upon India because the temperaments of the two peoples were not similar. To a Greek, beauty and intellect was everything but these things alone did not stir the minds of an Indian. The vision of the Indian was filled with the ideas of the immortal soul and the problem of creation. He had a spiritual outlook whereas the Greek thought was not so. The Greek thought was rational while that of the Indian was emotional. These higher aspirations found full expression especially in the time of the Guptas.

Whatever may be the precise extent of the indebtedness of Hindu art to Greece the conception that gave birth to it and the spirit that animated it are essentially Indian. Dr. Smith is finally of opinion that Indian art is subsequently original. He says that actually proved borrowings by Indians are confined to details.

COINAGE: The name of 'Punch marked coins' is given by Scholars to the coins discovered from almost every important site in India. These are rectangular and circular flat pieces of silver much alloyed, cut from a hammered sheet of metal and also clipped to a certain weight. The coins are covered by a number of punches. Sometimes the coins are covered by many devices which are wonderful in their variety. They include human figures, arms, trees, birds, etc.

All available evidence goes to prove the fact that these coins were prevalent in Northern India during the 4th and 3rd centuries B. C. Scholars are almost unanimously of opinion that these coins were indigenous in origin and owe nothing to any foreign influence.

There are also ancient die-struck coins but in this also there is little trace of foreign influence but in only some of them which

were perhaps designed in the North-west there are signs of some foreign influence. Thus it is clear that India possessed a system of indigenous coinage which developed on indigenous lines for some time when Hellenic influence attributed to it, further progress.

When writing about the indebtedness of the Indian coinage to Greek influence Mr. C. F. Brown remarks that the coinage of the Indo-Greeks, the Kushanas and the Sakas shows that the very strong influence of Greece and its art had passed away before the reign of Kanishka. He further adds that art should have been produced in India and largely, if not, wholly, by Indian craftsman. We may take for instance the splendid coins produced in the Gupta period with its inscriptions in Sanskrit, which are one of the finest examples of Indian art.

ASTRONOMY: As regards astronomy, the general opinion is that Hindu Science in that sphere is original. No doubt certain Greek words are found in Varaha Mihira's works but this only proves that there was some contact between Hindu and Greek Sciences and no case can be made that there was any borrowing.

Mr. Coolebrooke is of opinion that the Hindus received from the Greeks that knowledge which enabled them to correct and improve their own imperfect astronomy. He also quotes several instances how Hindus went beyond the other nations in their astronomical knowledge. It is highly probable that if Hindus borrowed at all, it was after their own astronomy had made considerable progress. Whatever may be the precise nature of the indebtedness of India to Greece in this respect, it is beyond doubt that Hindu astronomy was benefitted by its contact with the Greek Science. The extent of advance of Indian astronomy may be noted from the fact that Arya Bhatta was acquainted with the true theory of solar and lunar eclipses as well as with the diurnal revolution of the earth on its axis the idea of our modern II.

ARITHMETIC, ALGEBRA & GEOMETRY: It is a well-known fact that the works and achievements of our ancient Mathematicians are very original. It is only necessary to sum up their important achievements. They were inventors of numerical figures with which the whole world reckons and

of the decimal system. They became as a result, the greatest calculators of antiquity, just as the Greeks were the greatest Geometricians. Yet the Indian showed a great amount of Geometrical knowledge. The conceptions of the square and cube roots were but elementary to them. They unquestionably attained the greatest eminence in Algebra, to a degree beyond anything achieved by the Greeks. Bhaskaracharya of the 12th century A.D. is regarded as the Indian Newton, because he discovered the principle of Differential calculus, as well as its applications to astronomical problems and computations.

MEDICAL SCIENCES: The works of Fharaka are supposed to show a knowledge of Hippocrates, the father of Greek medicine, but really the indebtedness of India to foreigners stands on a very slender basis. Many of the principles of Hindu medicine are good. In all probability Hippocrates took some of his theories from the Rig-veda. He refers to "very remarkable views of the Hindus". As Elphinstone observes the Hindus were the first who found the use of mineral drugs internally. Their great variety of surgical instruments proves the great advance in this branch of medical science and the nicety they showed with regard to surgery. The doctrine of antidotes is dealt with by both Fharaka and Sushta. Surgery was the speciality of the latter while medicine was that of the former. Many Hindu treatises on medical science were translated from Sanskrit into Persian and Arabic languages.

CHEMISTRY. The Arabs derived the knowledge of chemistry from India and as the original treatises were unknown in Europe they got the credit of being original. The Hindus knew how to prepare nitric and sulphuric acids. They were also familiar with a number of metals and with

the various process of solution, evaporation and distillation. They knew the chemical arts of bleaching, dyeing, tanning, soap and glass making. The oxides, sulphides and carbonates were used medicinally.

ART OF WRITING: With regard to the art of writing, the idea that Hindus derived anything from the Greeks may be dismissed since it is beset by many difficulties.

LITERATURE: Opinion is divided as regards this branch of Indian culture. Dr. Smith says that Weber and Windisch are right in tracing Greek influence on the form of Sanskrit literary drama. He however, mentions the difficulty to form a conclusive opinion. But Professor Rawlingson says that the arguments of Weber and Windisch are not true. He adds that it is impossible to convince that Kalidasa could not only read Menander but also Terence; and that stray comparisons between the Ramayana and Iliad are absolutely made much of. There can be no doubt that the drama in India was developed on independent lines.

To conclude in the via media policy advocated by the distinguished scholar Dr. G. N. Banerjee "Greece has played a part but by no means a predominant part in the civilisation of ancient India". In India Philosophy and Religion developed independently. Though India had begun both coinage and astronomy, Greek contact certainly improved them to a certain extent. With regard to poetry, grammar, literature, the art of writing drama, mathematics and medicine, it was far advanced and there was no need to wait for the help and initiative of Hellenism. Most probably in the plastic arts flattical sculpture had instilled some ideas in the minds of the Indian artists in order to brush up their inborn native talent "without robbing them of their originality and subtilty".

SOUTH INDIA

HAVING taken a bird's-eye view of India's geographical, economic, commercial, industrial and cultural features, past and present let us go to the subject ahead.

'The geographical division of India, forming a three-sided table land and

covering the southern half of the Peninsula is an extensive tract known in ancient times as the Deccan or the South. The Tungabhadra and the Krishna rivers form the dividing line of the Deccan, to the south of which lies the country generally distinguished as South India',

SOUTH INDIA embraces major number of the districts of the Madras Presidency and Native States of Mysore, Cochin, Travancore and Pudukottai.

While the fair skinned Aryans settled in Punjab, a horde of yellow races whom the Sanskrit writers called the 'sons of Gods' emigrated by sea to South India and Ceylon. Most of the Mongolian tribes migrated to South India from Tamalitti, a centre of trade on the banks of Ganges and this accounts for the name Tamils. Testimony is unanimous on the high degree of perfection they have attained in Grammar, Music, Astronomy, before the advent of Brahmin immigrants.

India is a beaming star in the British galaxy. And it is in South India the memorable seeds of a luminous Empire were sown. Before a Karachi or a Bombay was thought of Madras occupied the distinguished position of military and trade importance. Even to-day Madras is the most senior of the three great Presidencies and her Governor ranks second only to the Viceroy.

The Madras Presidency comprises 27 districts with five native states. It has a total area of 1,42,260 sq. miles excluding the area occupied by the 5 states. Its extreme length is 950 miles and extreme breadth 450 miles.

The three-cornered table land of Deccan forms a vast mass of thick forests, ridges and imposing peaks—reposing their venerable heights on the liquid bosom of the air, oft wafted by undulating valleys. These divisions are determined by the two great mountain ranges, the Eastern and Western Ghats, which meet at an angle near Cape Comorin at the southern extremity of India, thereby completing the three sides of the table-land. The inner plateau lies far below the shade-line with an ordinary elevation of 3,000 feet. Nilgiris shoots up its peak to a height of 8,760 feet at Dodapetta. Among the minor hills are the Shevaroy in Salem, the Anamalais in Coimbatore and the Palni Hills in Madura. River Cauvery is renowned for its sanctity and its basin area is 28,000 sq. miles, its length being 472 miles. Besides there are small rivers such as the North and South Pennar, the Palar, the Vellar, the Vaigai and the Tampravarni.

THE CLIMATE varies considerably with different parts of South India. The western hills have the effect of arresting the lower strata of rain clouds brought up from the Indian ocean by the periodical winds of the South-West Monsoon and of causing excessive rain precipitation on the narrow strip of coast line on the western side of the Peninsula.

THE WESTERN GHATS influence the climate. The vagaries of the monsoon has driven the peasants to the necessity of providing themselves against the dearth, and hence innumerable tanks or reservoirs abound at all places. The three districts on the western side of the mountains produce abundantly.

The most important staples of South India are rice, cholam, cumbu, ragi and varagu among food grains, gingelly among oil seeds and chillis, tobacco, sugarcane, plantains, betel leaf among garden crops. Cotton is well grown. The groundnut is extensively cultivated. Cocanut, arecanut, tamarind, and mangoes are widely grown trees.

THE ANTIQUITY of Tamil literature speaks volumes in the works of Plini, Ptolemy and in the Periplus Maris Erythræi. We know from their writings that the people acquired wealth and civilisation at this early period by their commercial intercourse with foreign nations like Arabs, Greeks, Romans, and Javanese. Solomon reigning over Palestine about 1,000 B. C. said that once in every three years, the ships of Tarsish came bringing gold and silver, ivory, apes and peacocks.

Mr. R. D. Oldham thinks that there was a continuous stretch of land connecting South Africa and India. The South African beds are clearly coast or shallow water deposits like those of India.

In the dim ages of the past living beyond the ken of history or tradition, South India had its history. Many distinguished ethnologists regard the Australians as closely related to or associated with Dravidians of India. The affinities are based upon linguistic considerations. The wearing of the Bamboo combs by the women of Dravidian tribes are also found in Australian and the allied tribes. But the Australian skull is heavier and foreheads much receding that this racial affinity remains an open question.

The great fusions of various tribes has brought such a superficial uniformity amongst great masses of settled and urban population, even amongst the out-castes and wild tribes, that the deeper discrepancies are overlooked, the primordial constituent elements obscured and forgotten, and on anthropometrical grounds the whole of India is declared by some distinguished ethnologists to be inhabited by a homogeneous tribe.

Deccan was the seat of well-ordered monarchical Governments. The principal kingdoms of Pandya, Chola, and Chera contained towers and citadels. Capital cities had palaces of considerable size with an upper storey, with dining halls sufficient to hold 500 guests at a banquet. The palaces contained dancing girls. The festive dresses included silk garments. They worshipped Devas.

FOREIGN COINS: The coins of the Persian Empires circulated well in ancient India.

In the ports of Chera and Pandya kingdoms viz. Muziris, Neleynda, and Bacare, one chief item of import was 'coin, in great quantity', while their exports consisted of diamonds, pearls sapphires etc. The influx of gold and silver coins served the purpose of financing trade, though it is told that gold and silver coins yielded a profit in the exchange at Barygaya. This profit was due to the superiority of Roman coins to indigenous issues which were crude in workmanship. Every year the Romans had to send to India more than 6 crores of rupees worth of coins and bullion. This shows the fondness of the Romans for eastern luxuries.

The coins of Roman Emperors have been excavated in different parts of Deccan. The coins of Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, and Nero are numerous, while those of Vespasian and Titus are rather rare.

The Madras Government Museum possesses almost a complete series of coins of the Roman Emperors of the time, when the Indian commercial intercourse was so active in the early centuries of the Christian era.

The recent drainage of gold and the sterilisation of 7/11 of the World's gold stock in the vaults of American and French Banks will have their repercussions on the international trade of India. The Roman example augurs ill.

TAMIL NAD is a combination of the Dravidian and the Aryan classification of castes. They come under 4 categories, Brahma, Kshatriya, Vysia and Sudra.

Here in Tamil districts we find an assemblage of memorable temples which keep ablaze the religious fervour of the people. The magnificent scale in which each temple authorities conduct their festivals, lavishing thousands of rupees in decorations, strikes the aesthetic tastes of the worshippers who pour in hundreds every year. There are temples as in Srirangam that scarce let slip a day without festival. It is a matter of pride to say that every village owns a temple and though sulkiness and the iron hammer strokes of decadence are working at the venerable quadrangles of these fanes, the villagers never forget to celebrate the leading festivals.

The foreigner will be struck with awe and wonder at the architectural splendour of these great temples which throws open rich avenues of epigraphical research. Each temple has its own property which is looked after by a Board of Trustees. The skilful dances of girls are an attractive feature in festivals.

South India is a museum of wonders. Thrills of rapture pervade our being as our eyes survey the majesty of a Mettur Dam, the defying splendours of the grand anicut, the magnificent peaks in the paternal bosom of the air, the architectural skill of grand temples, the mystic silence that resides in green fields and the mysteries of dark caves.

The buses ply to all places. There is not a village left unconnected to bus route. But there is a keen competition between Rail and Road. This problem is a complicated one. Town buses are being introduced in every town.

MALABAR is the magic land of wonders. Who could not be touched by the incommunicable charm that pervades the picturesque landscapes the mystic silence that broods over the sequestered vales rich in their floral wealth and the flowing plenty that is a characteristic splendour of this land of enchantment.

The origin of Malabar according to the tradition is that a demi-god Parasurama reclaimed from the sun the portion of the

land extending from Bombay to Cape Comorin and from the Western Ghats to the sea. This demi-god having killed 21 times all the Kshatryas and having surrendered to Rama all his possessions after the trial of battle, wanted a place to live in. He ordered the sea to recede and thus formed these lands. Malabar is a portion of this land. What historical facts are concealed in this tradition is not easy to know but it may be guessed that in general organising of the Deccan, a certain number of Aryans crossed the Western Ghats and reclaimed the lands from the forest and wild beasts, making it habitable for the civilised man to live in. They might have dominated the original inhabitants by their superior civilisation and Parasurama might have been the leader of the little band of Aryas. The tradition says that the demi-god gave all the lands that he created to 64 Brahmins who became the leaders of 64 villages into which the whole of the land was divided. These 64 Brahmins formed the original Brahmins or Nambudiris and they formed an assembly and decided matters of common concern. Individual villages decided their own matters and in every discussion of their affairs the Brahmin was the President and his opinion had perhaps the force of law. The whole village belonged to him and he was the chief man in the village. As time went on the one important family extended its branches and each branch had an equal voice in the affairs of the village. The one became many.

Each village belonged to the Brahmin family. The soil was still theirs but the products belonged to the buyers. The right of the original family is the Janmam right *i.e.*, the right of the original family of inheritance to which Parasurama gave the land. Every year the Janmam holder receives certain sum from the occupier. But the Nambudiri Brahmins are still the Janmies. But the general confusion that arose on Tipu's invasion was availed of by the sudras who usurped the right. In other cases the Brahmins themselves gave up the Janmam right in favour of temples, friends, sudra wives, and through immoderate living. So this system has left the agricultural population in a state of lethargy since their ambition to earn is sapped.

For many years past, there has been no attempt towards scientific cultivation. The advent of scientific measures are dreamed. This resulted in the terrible deterioration in the production of lands.

Tanks and wells abound. Tanks are used for bathing and agricultural purposes.

Only traders use the Banks. The sowcars pursue their age-long custom.

The villagers use the cattle dung for fuel and agricultural purposes. Fish and muddy water are used as manure for cocoanut. Salt manure is also used, and this accelerates the harvest. The outer cover of the cocoanut, the major trunks serve as fuel and they are in abundance.

Home industries flourish grandly. Rope-making, umbrellas, and such other crafts are in vogue.

The passion for jewellery which was monopolised by Brahmin is spreading like fire. They pride in this hoarded wealth. Agricultural indebtedness remains a bane of the society. Economic backwardness and failure of ambitious projects, excessive display in marriage has deepened the crisis. But the caste below non-brahmins spend very paltry sum for marriage festivities.

Town planning is in full swing. The roads are broadened and town civilisation is gradually growing. Hotels and up-to-date Restaurants abound. The evening recreation afforded by the growing cinemas almost in all towns, act as soothing balm to the weary labourers haunted by the sad music from the workshops of the world. The Hill stations are much resorted to. The scientific development that make easier the cheap amenities of life have thoroughly modernised the rural people and the walls of orthodoxy are tottering.

The Urban population has received great impetus in the past years but with the introduction of electricity that has converted into day all the villages and illuminated the dark high roads at nights, the people in the villages are contented to stay in their village homes since all amenities of life are placed within their reach. The proverbial ignorance of the Indian peasant is past receding and the

villager is not a stranger to the dynamic changes that are revolutionising the urban areas. The installation of Madras Radio in June is a boon to them.

Post Offices are established almost in all villages. The introduction of Empire Air Mail service has drastically cut down the barriers of Time and Distance and the Tata's Air Mail service since February 1938 connects Ceylon with Madras by air. It takes only three days for a plane to reach London from Karachi.

The dynamic changes in the habits and customs of the people are telling upon

ladies of the land. The feverish growth of Ladies Club in even Taluq Towns speaks volumes about the ideals of freedom, our sisters are realising in the social sphere. They have proved themselves no way inferior to men in the political sphere and the heroic way in which they have withstood the agonies heaped upon them in the recent Satyagraha campaign has shot them into political eminence. Lady graduates are coming out every year and the spread of education on these lines tell favourably on the hygiene and energies of our nation.

SOUTH INDIAN HISTORY.

THE history of South India reads like romance. The invasions of foreigners who swept over North India with their magnificent plans of universal plunder, worthy of the heroic name of their originators, had their repercussions on the serene tranquillity and peace of this ancient land. The antiquity of South India is highly venerable and the glimpses of its ancient historic greatness glisten with immemorable lights on the dim footprints of time. The antiquity of this godly land is traced to divine origin.

The Aryans entered South India between the 7th and 4th centuries B.C. There is a reference in Magasthenis to the Pandya country, which had an army of 500 elephants, 4,000 cavalry and 1,30,000 infantry. Pearl fisheries brought in substantial revenue. The edicts of Asoka recognise the Tamil Kingdoms as beyond the fall of the Empire.

Memorable are the Great three kingdoms of Chera, Chola and Pandya. The period of the first Chola ascendancy might be reckoned as early as 100 B.C. Chola Karikala invaded Ceylon and brought as war hostages as many as 12,000. Woraipur, now in ruins — on account of the divine wrath — was the capital of Chola kingdom.

Chera king won Himalayan celebrity by carrying his invasions as far as distant Himalayas. His no less powerful son claimed the 'Garland of the seven crown' of his father.

The first Pandyan king known to fame historically is the Pandyan victor over

the Aryan forces with Madura as his Capital.

We gleam the height of prosperity and Trade success, these kingdoms enjoyed, from the song of Tamil poets on whom the kingly munificence was grandly showered. The three Sangams have left a constitution. Great poets who have read the eternal deep, haunted for ever by the eternal mind, resided in this age and have left behind unexplored mines of literature. The presence of Pallavas is reflected in the famous pillar inscription of Samudragupta. Martial connections paved the way to their sovereignty in South. According to the latest epigraphical researches, the history of the Pallavas falls under 4 stages. After the period of Prakrit Charters, comes in Sanskrit Charters.

The reign of Narasimhavarman deserves special mention. During this period comes the famous Chinese traveller Hiuen-Tsang who has left Chinese a grand account of the civilisation in those days.

Constant fighting with the three kingdoms was a notable event in the phase of this history.

Magnificent are the monuments left by Narasimha. The Chola king Aditya I gave a death knell to Pallava Empire that broke up into pieces in the middle of the thirteenth century.

The Cholas emerged from a temporary eclipse of victory and carried on their whirl-wind progress of campaigns. They remained a thorn in Pallava supremacy. The battle near Kumbakonam sealed the doom of Pandyas and Cholas took advantage of this. They carried out their

greatness and with Vijayala the prosperity of Chola kingdom went by leaps and bounds up to the time of Rajaraja the Great.

Rising from the ashes of Pallavas, they early began their conquests at Thondaimandalam. One of the mightiest exploits of Rajaraja in tenth century is the conquest and conciliation of the eastern Chalukya dominions of Vengi, the Telugu country. Matrimony strengthened their alliance.

For three generations the Cholas and Chalukyas contended for the mastery in Peninsular India. Then came Vikramaditya's usurpations and here commenced the battle of Royal between the contending nations. Usurping the Empire, Vikramaditya perhaps rendered a service to it by preserving it from disintegration for 2½ decades, and he added to it southern and eastern Mysore. This bore germs of dissolution and the Hoysala benefactors of the Empire were the chief instruments which brought in the collapses.

Kulottunga planted military colonies. He shot into prominence by his conquest of Northern Kalinga. The then half century was a period of consolidation for the chola empire. Kulottunga's age was one of the religious and literary revival. Ramanuja carried his reforms during his reign.

With the death of Kulottunga, Chola dynasty decayed.

The Village assembly was the sole government of the village in all its departments. It received deposits, granted loans, received all taxes, had several committees to look after each portfolio of administration. It was also a court of justice. Direct election was not unknown in those days.

The Empire was divided into 8 divisions, each administered by a Viceroy.

Lands were carefully surveyed. The Emperor transacted office business. He sent his orders to the Royal Secretary who sent it out through a regulated medium.

The long list of taxes stand in comparison to seigniorial duties of Europe before the French Revolution. But the chief source of income came from land. The unspent part of revenue collections were kept up in reserve. So plentiful was the peace and prosperity of the land that remissions were unknown.

Civil administration formed an integral part of the public works expenditure. Public works were carried on a grand scale. Even a navy was kept up.

Cholas were great builders. Irrigation works were extensively executed. Public Works Committee of the Sabhas looked after them. Vadavaru, along the road to Trivadi was cut to flow a big irrigation tank in the now Postal town of Vaduvur. Another artificial re-ervoir is at Gangaikondacholapuram in Udaiyarpalayam Taluq of Trichinopoly District.

The grand achievement of Grand Anicut on Coleroon is a lasting poem in stones. This magnificent relic lost greatness and the forgotten empire was the work of the great son of a greater father. The single block of granite, 25 feet and ½ ft. sq. in the main tower of Tanjore, 200 feet high, was raised to its present position by an incline which rested on the ground 4 miles away from the temple. Grand palaces and temples were built by Cholas. The Lingam in Gangaigondapuram, made of single block of polished granite is now unfortunately split into two by a stroke of lightning.

The standard of life was high, and the average income of a family per month would have been Rs. 16.

The Cholas were Saivas in religion but religious persecutions was unknown. They were patrons of art and letters and Tamil poets found a fountain light of encouragement from their benign Monarchs.

Tamil Nad could not escape the rapacious waves of Musalman invasion. While the Architectural splendour of the Northern temples served as tragic anvils to the hammer strokes of Muhammad Ghazni's fanatic hatred that found diabolic expressions in the demolition of the sacred temple of Somanath and Punjab rolled in floods of innocent Hindu blood and human slaughter permeated with blood the plains, Tamil Nad was blessed to escape their rapacious shadows.

But the unhappy appeal of a Successor to the Pandyan throne for help to Delhi Sultanate brought Muhammadah army to the gates of Srirangam in 1310, and a musalman garrison was left at Madura. But the hold did not last long. The Governor of Madura revolted and declared his independence in 1334—35.

The Delhi Empire could not penetrate its sway into South India because of the kingdom of Vizianagaram was supreme and kept up Hindu independence intact for over 2 centuries.

Tamil Nad was the largest slice that broke away from the Delhi Empire and the rebel Amirs chose one among themselves for their new leader.

Then the Nayaks of Krishnadeva Raya's administration governed the distant Provinces like Gingee, Tanjore and Madura. With the destruction of Vizianagar, these Nayak Governors became independent. The Nayaks of Gingee disappeared before the advance of Bijapur and the Nayak kingdom of Tanjore was soon swallowed up by the Marathas who came in the wake of Bijapur.

In Madura the Nayak rule lived long. Tirumalai Nayak, (1623—59 A.D.), the famous of the Nayaks built the celebrated Palace. The last Nayak ruler Rani Minakshi was overthrown by Chanda Sahib and Trichy and Madura came under Muhammadan sway.

The Nayaks beautified the temples of Madura, Srirangam and Rameswaram.

The first English fleet to trade with east reached the Indian Ocean in 1595. On the east coast, Masulipatam was the greatest port in the 17th century. It traded in diamonds of Golconda kingdom.

The English planted a factory at Masulipatam. Another place, Armagaon was occupied before Madras, when in 1639—40, its founder Francis Day, a member of the council of the Masulipatam factory, built a factory and named it Fort St. George, 'the first piece of soil apart from the mere plots on which our factories were built.'

Gradually the Fort was strongly fortified and garrisoned. The Dutch and French rivalry was a serious handicap to the growth of their supremacy.

The French entered India later than the English or the Dutch. Martin acquired Pondicherry in 1674 and left it a well fortified and a prosperous settlement. Dupleix's ambition set on foot the outbreak of rivalry between the English and the French.

The growing Anarchy in the Carnatic induced Dupleix to befriend the Nawab and

other country powers. The outbreak of a war between the English and the French set ablaze the flames of hatred and in all earnestness the French and English forces threw themselves into the vortex of warring events. A series of battles ensued.

The French captured Madras in 1746. Then ensued the celebrated quarrel between Dupliex and La Bourdannis as to the relation of Madras in French hands.

Madras surrendered unconditionally. La Bourdannis accepted the bribe of a lakh of rupees paid as from the English. This is proved by official records themselves.

The wrath of the Nawabs was imbibed resulting in the battle of Santhome. Desperately the English clung to Fort St. David, their only remaining possession in Tamil Nad. Fortunately further Pondicherry was blockaded by sea and land. The Peace of Aix-la-chapelle was concluded, "The sword was unsheathed and it depended on the Agents of the companies to resume in tranquillity their mercantile occupation".

The next struggle lasted for 7 years. The English captured Devacotah, a fort at the mouth of the Coleroon, in defiance of a contract which they had entered into with the ruler of Tanjore. The French dived into the local Politics and attempted to place on the throne rulers favourable to them. Dupliex concealed no design of his in celebrating the proclamation of Muzafar-Jaung and Chanda Sahib as the Nizam and Nawab respectively as French candidates. He received grants of money and territory round Fort St. David. In retaliation the English obtained a grant of Santhome. The English sent Muhammad Ali to Trichinopoly. They saw that the French movements threatened their trade and their very existence. In the second phase the French and English fought as auxiliaries of the native rulers.

The operations round Trichy lasted 3 years, resulted in the death of Chanda Sahib and the defeat of his allies and the final triumph of the English. Not all the success and gains of Bussy in Deccan could prevent the final failure of the French before Trichinopoly.

Then appeared on the British horizon the indomitable Clive who gave up his pen for a sword. His inestimable marshal powers shot him into accredited fame and

with whirlwind progress of campaign he laid sole foundations of a vast Empire. The refuge of Duplex into the fortress pagoda of Srirangam facilitated Clive to catch him in a trap and in July 1752, the French surrendered Chanda Sahib who had struck on to Law, now surrendered to the General of the Rajah of Tanjore who however mercilessly put him to death, as the English were indifferent as to his destiny. But undaunted, Duplex created troubles. Clive and Lawrence won in the end and French were deprived of all their possession except Pondicherry and Gingee.

The hostilities resumed. But Duplex was recalled. In all his schemes there was something of the gambler's rashness, the Gambler's desire to advance from success to success, staking at each throw the whole of his past aims.

Then followed a series of misfortunes for the French. Pondicherry fell in 1761 and Gingee was captured. The latter's fortifications were levelled to the ground. Clives' triumph in Bengal and the final defeat of Lally in the Carnatic closed the epoch of French rivalry for ever.

Hyder Ali Khan spread the fires of destruction as he dived into the deep recesses of Carnatic. He captured Arcot. It was the genius of Hastings and the stand made by Coote that saved English dominion in the Carnatic from the fury of Hyder. After a series of wars the Carnatic passed under British rule.

In 1783 Coimbatore was taken from Tippu by an English army but was restored to him in 1784. In the third Mysore War it came under British control. By the treaty of Seringapatam in 1792, Tiruppattur and Krishnagiri came to the British.

Till 1857 the Maharatta dynasty ruled in Tanjore. Tuljay was deposed from the throne by the Madras Government, but

reinstated sometime later. Maharaja Shivaji was the ruling Prince of the line.

In 1762 Nawab Muhammad Ali set up a claim to the suzerainty of Tanjore and claimed from the Raja a large arrears in tribute due to himself and even appealed to the English for Military help in enforcing his claim. Through the mediation of the Madras Government the Raja agreed to pay the Nawab 22 lakhs as arrears and a fixed annual tribute of 4 lakhs—in 1771 sent a force to recover from the Raja certain districts. Vellum fell under British control.

Finally Tanjore was taken in 1773 (September) and the Raja with his family was imprisoned in the Fort. Amar Singh the new Raja, concluded two treaties with the English. But his claims were cancelled and Sirfoji recognised as Raja in 1798. He died in 1832 and with his successor's death in 1855 the English declared the titular dignity of the Raja of Tanjore to be extinct.

Devacotta was ceded to English by Pratap Singh, Negapatam and Nagore captured by them and Tranquebar was ceded by the Dons to the English in 1845.

After the extinction of the Nayak line of Madura the Nawab of Arcot held sway over Trichy, Madura and Tinnevely. Yusuf Khan was appointed to the sole charge of the districts. But he threw off the British Allegiance. He was imprisoned and put to death as a traitor. The Paligars were put down and the districts were controlled by the British.

Then under the peaceful rule of the British, all the regions of the Madras Presidency were surveyed and mapped. Legal codes and Courts were established and systematic administration introduced, on whose heels came the Posts and Telegraphs and establishments of numerous Banks and Joint Stock Companies.

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

E DUCATION is the life-blood of any nation. It is the foundation on which the whole structure of the society is built. It is the bedrock of civilisation, the cornerstone of democracy.

'Education is co-extensive with life. When Adam and Eve entered Eden, the tree of knowledge had already grown large enough to bear fruit. Education is also universal; the young birds learn their

language lessons of a morning and get their vocational instructions from their mothers in the arts of flying and feeding. Education is the single comprehensive word we have got for representing human progress from a state of savagery to security, civilisation and modernity, that go to make up the present century. It has also explored the inner world of spirit, discovered the Americas and Australias of the mind—there have been Columbus' of the mind, instructed through heart and spirit.'

India has a history, the glory of which has no parallel in the entire history of the world. Our civilisations dates back to remote antiquity. Before Greece attained her supremacy, before Rome built her capital among the seven hills on Tiber, India has produced poets and artists whose monumental productions are outstandingly superior to any in any age.

Herbert Spencer defines education as the training for completeness of life. These were the ideal educational endeavours the ancient Indians aimed at. They imparted intellectual education in the magnificent forest universities. Dr. Anne Besant's speeches bear eloquent testimony to this fact. In ancient India the pupil used to retire to meditation to ponder over the aphorisms given to him by his teacher. This splendid exercise encouraged his latent powers. Such were the educational ideals that prevailed in the Universities of Taxila of Nalanda and of Vikramasila.

The Greeks emphasise the civic and cultural aspects of education. The Romans emphasise the close tie that should exist between the Home and the School, as well as the importance of oral composition and declamation in the school curriculum. The modern Indian educationalist has to have these objects before him in any change he brings in.

The Roman Empire is the golden bridge that connects together the two great periods of History, the Ancient and the Mediaeval. The mighty warrior and the fierce barbarian became the law abiding knights of chivalry. The theological disputation kept his wits alert and their educational ideals gave a striking similarity to the forest universities of Ancient India. But in the modern world the education in west has become pre-eminently secular.

It is purely vocational and technical then liberal and cultural. In Oxford, the various tricks and pranks of the under graduates, their passion for sports and their apparent indifference to their books make us believe that the students are out to enjoy life, rather than carry intellectual pursuits. But tutorial supervision makes it supremely difficult for the student to neglect his studies. Utmost liberty coupled with strict discipline should be the aspiration of the present day Indian Universities.

ANCIENT INDIAN EDUCATION: Throughout the long centuries of India's past, educational development was taking place. It began with the vedic times. Sacrificial ritual marked the first beginnings and this Brahminic education has persisted the passage of ages. But Buddhism under monarchical patronage, largely influenced Indian education; the Moslems brought a foreign influence. Running parallel to the knightly education of the Middle ages of Europe, the young nobles were educated.

In 1835 a momentous decision was made by the Government of Lord William Bentinck, acting on the advice of Macaulay's famous minute to make English the medium of instruction in higher education in India. This revolutionised the whole outlook of Indian education and dynamic changes were brought out in the intellectual, social, political and religious spheres.

Before going to the study of present developments, a survey of Ancient Indian Education will prove very illuminating.

DRAVIDIANS were the early inhabitants of South India. The several waves of Aryan invasion established dynasties in many parts of India. Brahmins, the intellectual priestly class, moulded the religion, philosophy, science, art and social systems of the land. Brahmins had nature worship. The vast blue, bedecked with the gleaming tapestry of beaming starry diadems, the lure of the mountains, the enquiring breeze, the mysteries that lie huddled in the depths of mystic seas, the vagrant grandeur promenading the corridors of cathedral space, fired their imagination and in their breathless inebriation they broke into their poetic vein and poured out their volcanic contents on the blue expansive sheets of scriptural immensity.

VEDA really means 'Knowledge; and the four Immortal vedas, Rig, Yajur, Sama

and Adarvana are monumental, intellectual treasure we have richly fallen heir to. Space does not permit us to read the eternal deeps, haunted for ever by the eternal mind, brimming in profusion in Vedic Text. The Rig-veda means 'Veda of Hymns'—a lamentary stanza—much needed for sacrificial use.

Sama veda contains all the stanzas to be chanted at the Soma sacrifice, forming a special musical collection.

Yajur veda is a collection of prose formulas or mantras among which many verses, mostly taken from Rig Veda are also interpolated.

At arvana veda is a book of magic and sorcery and consists of spells used for incantation.

UPANISHADS are treatises on philosophic speculation nourished in the solitude of the forests. They represent the last stage of the Brahmana literature.

The central idea is that the world has been evolved from the Atman, or universal self and that is also the self within us. The Doctrine of Karma explains the inequalities of man.

From the Upanishads we glean the perfections our ancestors have achieved. They show us the theory of four Ashramas or stages of life.

Then comes the literature of sutras on or about 600 to 200 B.C. These 'Sutras' or 'Threads', consist of aphorisms or pithy phrases.

Dharma sutras relate the rules of education. The word 'Dharma' is one of the most comprehensive and important terms in the whole of Sanskrit literature. It deals about the ideas of sacred law and duty, justice, religious merit, religion and morality. It is applied to the established practice or custom of any caste or community.

Education in ancient days was the heritage of the Priestly class and the Brahmins covetously treasured ancient literature. Vocational training was devised for the sons of noble families. The Brahmins controlled the education of the Vysyas as well.

THE EDUCATION OF GIRLS in India was entirely domestic and vocational. The position that women held in Aryan days was one of authority and honour. The

Dancing girls or Devadasis—servants of God—have been famous for their wit and intelligence. They received education to get by heart the songs for public recitals. The education of Dasis is a very ancient custom in India.

WOMEN had a very high ideal of virtue and devotion and when opportunities were given to them they had acquitted themselves capable of intellectual attainments. 'It was almost entirely an ideal of domestic virtue and capability that was set before the Indian girl and though it was certainly very narrowed and circumscribed it was in many ways a great and noble one. And the high degree to which the Indian women in the past has realized the ideal which her somewhat narrow education held before her, is a promise that when her educational horizon shall have become enlarged, she will achieve still greater excellence in wider and yet more noble ideals'.

BUDDHISM had a telling effect on Indian Education. 'Apart from monasteries, Buddhist education influenced the general mass of people, and provided opportunities of popular instruction. The valuable picture of Buddhist learning and education in the monasteries at the time of I-Tsing's visit shows a great amount of intellectual activity going on. The main course seems to have been framed on an elaborate study of Sanskrit grammar which led on to logic and finally to metaphysics and philosophy. Tsing says, 'there are two traditional ways in India of attaining to intellectual power. 1. Committing to memory; 2. the alphabet fixes one's ideas. By this way after a practice of ten days or a month, a student feels his thought rise like a fountain and can commit to memory whatever has been once heard. This is far from myth for I myself have met such men; it was such men apparently who got royal appointments and whose names were as a reward written in white on their lofty gates. Nalanda was at the peak of his glory.'

Buddhism has passed away from India. It has left considerable influence upon Indian philosophic thought and religious ideals. Its curriculum was meagre, mostly borrowed and adopted from Brahminic schools. The Vedas were replaced by its own sacred books. Medicine and Logic

were distinguished subjects. 'Mediaeval Indian Logic from about 400 to 1200 A.D., was entirely in the hands of Jains and Buddhists and their books on this subject are very numerous. Buddhism has done something to extend among Indian people the desire for popular education besides the training of the young craftsmen and to have stimulated a demand which led to the growth of the popular Elementary Schools.

MUHAMMADAN EDUCATION was at best confined to that minority of population which embraced the religion of Islam. At first this minority was small and it has never induced more than about one-fifth of the population. For centuries the Muhammadans were little more than an armed garrison in a foreign land, and though many inhabitants in India joined the Muhammadan religion the learned class of Brahmins held firmly to their old faith. In spite of this, however, the extent and influence of Muhammadan education in India was by no means inconsiderable. Its fluctuating and uncertain character was very largely the result of despotic rule which indulged in sudden impulses and afforded no certainty of the continuance of any new undertaking as shown in many Delhi which were built and deserted. Moreover the poverty of the country and the rapacity of officials stifled the popular demand for education. The Maktab attached to the mosque was probably the most permanent of Muhammadan educational institutions in India, and those of them which taught Persian, a language which was required for official use, were resorted to even by Hindus who wished to acquire this language and this had an influence on a considerable proportion of the population. Rev. Keay in his renowned thesis says that at a certain period in the history of the Middle Ages, Muhammadan learning in the west was full of intellectual vigour, and in many ways was the means of stimulating thought and mental activity amongst students in Europe. But the zenith of its influence was passed before it became widespread in India and it is perhaps for this reason amongst others that it never attained to such an excellence and fame in India as in more western lands. The criticisms of Aurengzeb had become formal and scholastic with a strong emphasis on grammar, and having as its

climax the discussions of dry, abstract and metaphysical trivialities. That it often included more than this, as did the mediaeval education of Europe, we may be quite sure. Science of some kind was studied and literature and history were also taught. History was, in fact, a very favourite subject amongst the Muhammadans in India, and the large number of historical works written by Muhammadan writers is in striking contrast with the paucity of Hindu historical literature. The critical and impartial spirit which modern scientific historians seek to cultivate is indeed lacking, nor could we really expect to find it in those days. In the matter of arts and crafts there were little difference, if any, between the training of the Hindu and Muhammadan craftsman.

Under the Tughlak Monarchs, Muhammadan education in India made considerable progress. Many libraries were started. Akbar took very great interest to further education.

UNIVERSITIES carry the torch of knowledge undimmed. The function of a University is well portrayed in the illuminating words of Bertrand Russell, "All great art and all great science spring from the passionate desire to embody what was at first an unsubstantial phantom, a beckoning beauty, luring men away from safety and ease to a glorious torment. The men in whom this passion exists must not be fettered by the shackles of a utilitarian philosophy. For to their ardour we owe all that makes man great".

THE GROWTH OF UNIVERSITIES: In 1845, the Council of education in Bengal first proposed to found an University in India. But the Board of Directors of the East India Company did not accept, considering the scheme premature. This assumed prominence after the famous despatch of Sir Charles Wood in 1854, demanding a well ordered scheme of education in India.

In accordance with this declared policy of the Government of India the foundations of University Education were laid and in 1857 the University of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras came into existence. Then came the University of Punjab in 1882 and the University of Allahabad in 1887.

To reform the constitution of Universities, Lord Curzon appointed an University

Commission in 1902. The Act of 1904 gave the Universities the power to appoint professors and lecturers of holding and managing endowment, of erecting, equipping and maintaining libraries, laboratories and museums. Though the bulk of the teaching remained with affiliated colleges, higher education now began to be concentrated under University management.

Then came the Hindu University in 1916 at Benares, largely through the mighty efforts of the revered Indian leader Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya. In 1920 the Aligarh University started working.

In their wake were started a series of new Universities at Patna in 1917, the Mysore University in 1916, Osmania University at Hyderabad—Deccan in 1918 where the medium of Urdu is upheld in the teaching.

The Calcutta University commission marked a new era. Presided over by Sir Michael Sadler (1917-19), the commission recommended the establishment of Unitary and Residential Universities. The endeavours of Sadler commission's recommendations witnessed the starting of Rangoon University in 1920, the Decca University in July 1920, the University of Lucknow in 1920, Delhi University in 1922, Andhra University in 1926, Agra University in 1927 and Annamalai University at Chidambaram in 1929 which came into being out of the munificence of Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar of Chettinad. The Travancore University is the latest addition.

'THE UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS' was founded under the Act of Incorporation XXVII of 1857. This Act was in operation until 1904 when as a result of the Commission appointed by the Government of India in 1902 to examine the working of the Universities under that system, the Indian University Act VIII of 1904 was passed with the intention of reorganising the Universities in India and of enlarging their functions in the matter of University Teaching and of supervision of affiliated colleges. This Act again has been superseded by the Madras University Act No. VII of 1923, and came into force on 1st May 1923. This New Act was passed by the Legislative Council of Madras early in 1923, so as to reorganise the University with a view to establishing a teaching

and residential University at Madras while enabling the University to continue to exercise due control over the quality of the teaching given by colleges which are to constitute the University or are affiliated to it. The Chancellor, the Pro-chancellor, the Vice-chancellor, the Senate, the Syndicate, the Academic Council and the council of affiliated colleges constitute the body corporate of the University. The visitor of the University is the Governor General; the Chancellor is the Governor of Madras; the Pro-chancellor is the Minister of Education; the Vice-chancellor is a whole time officer, to whom a salary may be paid, who holds office ordinarily for three years, and is appointed by the Chancellor from among five persons recommended by the Senate. The authorities of this University under this new Act are (1) the senate, (2) the syndicate (3) the academic council, (4) the Faculties (5) the Boards of studies. (6) the council of affiliated colleges and (7) such other authorities as may be declared by the Statutes to be authorities of the University.

EDUCATION IN MADRAS: "The report of the Director of Public Instruction for the quinquennium ending the 31st March 1937, is in the main a record of continued progress. On account of financial stringency in the earlier years of the quinquennium it was necessary to adopt several measures of retrenchment; these were, however, so designed as not to cause any curtailment of the facilities for education already available," observe the Government of Madras, reviewing the report of the Director of Public Instruction for the period under reference. Proceeding, they state:

Towards the close of the quinquennium a new class of superior inspecting officers known as Divisional Inspectors of Schools was sanctioned by Government. There are four such Inspectors and their duties are mainly to exercise control over the District Educational Officers and Deputy Inspectors and to ensure that the large funds allotted for grants-in-aid are properly utilised.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION: The quinquennium was in many respects an important period in the history of the Madras University. Besides a large extension of research work, the constitution

of the new faculty of Veterinary Science, the institution of new research degrees, the formation of a University Student's Union and the organisation of the Inter-Collegiate and Inter-University Tournaments, the period saw the completion of the University building scheme at an aggregate cost of about 20 lakhs of rupees and the completion of the Tamil Lexicon. As a result of the transfer of the Madras Christian College to its new buildings at Tambaram since the close of the quinquennium, the institution has ceased to be a constituent college; but enjoys the privileges of affiliation to the Madras University.

As regards the Andhra University, the construction of buildings with hostel accommodation and appurtenances for the University Colleges and the opening of the University College of Science and Technology, the latter made possible by the munificent endowment of the Maharaja of Jeypore, represent two of the most outstanding events. A general inspection of affiliated colleges was conducted in 1933 by a University Commission, the first of its kind since the inauguration of the University. Arrangements were also made for conducting, with effect from January 1934, the Andhra University Medical Examination independently of the Madras University.

The most noteworthy developments in connection with the Annamalai University were the incorporation into the University in 1932 of the Raja Annamalai Music College and the Oriental Training College and the organisation of a department of research in Tamil. The tutorial system was introduced in the University Colleges of the Andhra University and in the Annamalai University.

The number of Arts Colleges for Men and Women and their strength decreased from 44 and 12,646, respectively in 1931-32 to 42 and 12,168 respectively in 1936-37, the slight decrease in both cases being due to the transfer of two colleges, viz., the Parlakimedi Raja's College and the Kallikotta Raja's College, Berhampur, to the Orissa Province in April 1936. The number of women students attending Arts Colleges showed a further increase from 681 to 1,024. Although the number of professional

colleges remained the same as in the previous quinquennium, viz., 12 their strength increased from 2,121 (1,983 men and 138 women) to 2,530 (2,355 men and 173 women).

SECONDARY EDUCATION: The number of secondary schools for boys has remained practically stationary, but there has been a steady growth in the number of high schools accompanied by a decline in the number of middle schools. The continuous decline of the latter is largely due to the increase in the number of higher elementary schools which in many cases function as cheap middle schools. This is an unsatisfactory feature and the question of devising means for arresting such unhealthy competition between the two classes of schools by prescribing different syllabuses of study is engaging the attention of Government.

It is gratifying to note that the movement for the use of the mother-tongue as the medium of instruction in high schools made further progress during the quinquennium and that 184 high schools for boys representing 51 percent of the total number of schools have adopted the change. The Government consider that there should be a more extensive use of the mother-tongue as the medium of instruction in high schools and necessary instructions in this regard are being issued.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION: At the end of a decade of rapid numerical expansion of elementary schools for boys their number had reached 50,121 in 1930-31. Since then, the number gradually decreased till at the end of 1936-37, there were in the Presidency 41,128 schools. The strength in these schools had on the contrary increased during the quinquennium from 2,264,776 to 2,492,909 or by 10 per cent. Similarly, although the number of elementary schools for girls decreased from 5,672 to 4,807 their strength increased from 358,394 to 380,495 or by 6 per cent. This is partly due to the wholesome reaction in favour of a policy of concentration and consolidation of schools as against one of expansion without regard to either the geographical distribution or the organisation of schools. The distribution of pupils among standards I to V at the beginning and at the end of the quinquennium was as follows:—

Percentage of pupils in each standard to the total number on rolls in standards I to V.

		1932.	1937.
I	Standard ...	49.5 p.c.	47.0 p.c.
II	Do. ...	20.7 p.c.	20.7 p.c.
III	Do. ...	14.7 p.c.	15.2 p.c.
IV	Do. ...	11.1 p.c.	12.3 p.c.
V	Do. ...	3.7 p.c.	4.6 p.c.

The position as revealed by these figures is very unsatisfactory. The majority of pupils in elementary schools leave school without attaining permanent literacy and there is much stagnation in the first two standards. Considerable attention has been paid to this matter recently and rules have been framed with a view to improve the efficiency of schools and to ensure that as far as possible children enrolled in schools complete the full primary course. The Government hope that the measures adopted will bring about a rapid improvement in the present state of affairs.

WOMEN'S EDUCATION: The progress in women's education was kept up. The number of girls reading in public elementary schools increased by 24 per cent while the number attending secondary schools increased by about 46 per cent. The percentage of girls under instruction to the total female population rose from 3 to 4 during the quinquennium.

MUHAMMADAN EDUCATION:—There was a satisfactory increase in the number of Muslim boys and girls under instruction in public institutions, the increase being 9 per cent in the case of boys and 26 per cent in the case of girls. Reference was made in the previous report to a Committee appointed to consider the question of Muhammadan education. During the quinquennium orders were passed on the various recommendations of the Committee. The most important of these relate to religious instruction for Muslim pupils in schools under public management. The Government accepted the principle that instruction should be provided within school hours in institutions under departmental management chiefly intended for Muslims and that local bodies should be at liberty to incur expenditure from their funds on the provision of Muslim religious instruction in schools under them.

EDUCATION OF THE SCHEDULED CASTES: The education of the scheduled castes continued to receive special

attention. The Government framed a rule to the effect that if no pupils of the scheduled castes actually attended a school, the school should be deemed to refuse admission to such pupils thereby rendering itself liable to forfeiture of recognition unless the management showed that no pupils of the castes in question resided within a distance of one mile from the school or adduced other satisfactory reasons. The rule has had a salutary effect and the number of schools not accessible to the scheduled castes is rapidly diminishing. The Government are glad to note that there was an increase of 8 per cent in the number of boys and of 27 per cent in the number of girls of the scheduled castes attending schools."

ANCIENT AND MODERN UNIVERSITIES: The great difference between ancient and mediaeval universities is the cultural aspect of the former and the vocational traits of the latter. Many of the professions had not then been clearly known. With the cropping up of stranger walks in life, answering the call of the times, the University halls were converted into 'Marts' instead of remaining mines of true knowledge. From an examining body the Universities changed into teaching one. This change brought in unpleasant results. 'To sharpen the intellect or illuminate the mind up to a certain extent is not difficult with most men but intellect that can create is rarity and the development of such an intellect if undertaken in an organisation must be different from the less gifted ones. Whilst general education is a necessity—so beautifully represented in the Soviet Educational Poster by a blind man about to fall down a precipice—and to day a birth-right with most, the higher cultural centres are useless for their immediate purpose'.

THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: Sir P. C. Ray in his Convocation Address at the Mysore University opines, 'the first outrage that we find we committed was in making a foreign language our vehicle of instruction. It is surprising that this principal reason for our intellectual sterility was not discovered till very recently and it is still more surprising to find that some of the well-known educationalists of the time continue to regard this relegation of the English language to an inferior position as fraught with disastrous consequences'.

To avoid this conception, I must here, once for all, make it clear that the study of English or other important foreign languages is by no means discouraged, they open up newer vistas of thought and ideals; there is no need of entertaining that fear that the language in which Shakespeare and Milton wrote will be left uncultivated. Only it must not be looked upon as the medium of instruction. A man of education must, in the first place be well up in all-round information, and he can gather it best and in the minimum of time if he does so in a language he learned to lisp in, while sucking his mother's breast—the language of his nursery. Arithmetic, History, Politics, Economics, Logic and Geography, in short, the book of Knowledge, can readily be mastered in one's own vernacular. That should be the first stone in our educational edifice, if we want to build well and high!"

A sound secondary education enables him to carve out his own intellectual empire.

THE ILLUMINATING PASSAGE from the Broadcast of Rt. Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri from the Madras Radio Station reads grandly thus:—'Another University problem, always present, but now of great urgency, is that of the media of instruction. The practice of generations has now come under examination from all points of view. The adoption of English as the sole medium of instruction in Secondary and University education is a grave anomaly which has aroused dissatisfaction and even resentment. It is scarcely possible to test the proposed solution by reason. Sentiment asserts itself. Patriotism will not be balked. English must be dethroned. All that we can do is to ensure that the change is effected with the least damage to the real interest of learning. The need of this reform has been acutely felt for a generation. But our Government till the other day looked upon the innovation with disapproval or indifference. Secondary schools were allowed to make an experiment, if they chose and to the extent that they chose. The work of deciding up a common nomenclature and body of technical terms was not undertaken in earnest and passed to a satisfactory consummation. Reformers and conservatives are at logger-heads as to the result of the experiment. The evils of a lack

of planning are woefully evident. Good text books are not available. In this confused state of Secondary education, the Wardha scheme has suggested the elimination of English from the pre-university stage, producing what must be a great hiatus between it and the university stage. Within the last few weeks the Madras Government have ordered that henceforth the northern tongue must be the medium in all non-language subjects. Great difficulty will attend the introduction of this change. Though long contemplated, it has not been adequately prepared for. In the circumstances, one must counsel patience and circumspection. A uniform terminology must be evolved and prescribed for universal adoption in each language area, though it may not be free from defects. Till this preliminary work is fully accomplished, it is difficult to carry the reform into the University stage. And yet how will the students bear the sudden transfer from the mother tongue to English when they matriculate? The Gurukul scheme of education in the north, the Women's University of Poona and the Osmania University are the three institutions that have done pioneering work in this direction in the sphere of higher education. But an impartial observer will prefer to suspend judgment; at any rate, the success attendant on the reform cannot be pronounced the triumphant. My mind is very uneasy on this subject; and I only hope that the government, the Universities, the Educational Department and learned bodies will collaborate most earnestly before introducing the reform into the University sphere. The situation is exceptionally hard; the change is necessary but may be effected without long preparation."

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA: A survey over the great educational institutions in India will be highly illuminating.

The mighty efforts of Dr. Rabindranath Tagore, have borne fruit in the formation of Visva-Bharati at Shantiniketan or Abode of Peace, situated about two miles from the Bolepur Railway station which is 99 miles from Calcutta on the loop line of the East Indian Railway. The research institute is for advanced scholars who carry on investigation in the domain of Indian Literature, thought and culture. Rich avenues are thrown open for the

exploitation of original talents. More than ten languages are taught. There is no regular course of studies. It depends entirely on the requirements of individual cases. The library is best equipped and has an excellent collection of oriental books, besides 3,000 manuscripts mainly Sanskrit.

The Visva-Bharati Santiniketan school is a monumental gift to the nation by the Poet—Seer Rabindranath Tagore. The intellectual, moral and physical tone of the students are raised to pinnacled glory. Besides University requirements, cultural subjects like music, drawing, domestic science, dramatic experiments etc., are taught. The Scholars are not harnessed to any type of training but they are left to develop their individuality. Studies are taken as a recreation and training as an intellectual treat.

The Asiatic Society of Bengal carries on research work.

There are a host of science institutions of international repute. The Indian Science Congress under the management of the Asiatic Society of Bengal encourages research, gives opportunities for personal intercourse and scientific companionship, promotes public interest in science and holds Congress annually at different centres.

The Indian Academy of Science at Bangalore promotes the cause of science, both in pure and applied branches. Its membership of fellows is limited to only 200.

The National Science Institute at Calcutta directs scientific enterprises. The Indian Institute of Medical Research carries on research works on deadly diseases. The Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research, Pusa, established through the munificence of Mr. Henry Philipps, an American Philanthropist, trains students in Practical Agriculture and supplies information and advice on agricultural topics. The institute was damaged during the last Behar earthquake and its shifting to Delhi is decided.

The International Academy of Indian Culture, Lahore, established in November 1934, seeks to find and develop the one live and creative soul that lies hidden behind the historic and pre-historic India. The Monuments of Art and Literature are minutely studied, pulling the dead tissues

apart and the rest it would direct along fresh channels of beauty and utility.

A host of other international institutions like the Indian Association for the cultivation of science at Calcutta, the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore, the Indian Institute of Political and Social Science at Bombay, Indian Institute of Philosophy at Amalner, the Gokale Institute of Politics and Economics at Poona, the Indian Society of Oriental Art at Calcutta, the Indian Chemical Society, the Indian Mathematical Society, the Institution of Engineers, the Bose Research Institute at Calcutta, the Harcourt Butler Technological Institute at Cawnpore, keep ablaze the glory of India in pristine brilliance in their respective fields.

The Tata Iron and Steel Company considers applications for admission to the Jamshedpur Technical Institute from Indians and selected students are given two years theoretical and works training at Jamshedpur. On completion of this period, some are absorbed by the Company itself.

The Forest College at Dehra Dun trains forest Rangers. The Indian School of mines, Dharbad, started by the Government of India provides high grade instruction in Mining, Engineering and Geology.

India to-day is raised to the forefront of glory by Rabindranath Tagore who by his magic wand of writing has cast a spell over the literary world. The world has acknowledged his glorious genius by awarding him a 'Nobel Prize.' Sir C. V. Raman has proved to the world that in scientific world an Indian is as pre-eminent as any one under the Sun. Sir S. Radhakrishnan is a marvel in the domain of philosophy.

The wakeful, ageless God of India, as Poet feels, calls to-day on our soul, the soul that is measureless, the soul that is undefeated, the soul that is destined for immortality, to rush to take our rightful place in the march of humanity towards peace and plenty divine.

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, addressing the students of the Osmania University on June 23rd, illuminatingly says, "India's culture is a united culture of many streams, some that are rich and wide and some that are narrow and small but all merged in

to make the river of life from which the Indian Nation draws its sustenance, inspiration and strength. My own faith teaches me that all things, the majesty of the sun, the frugidity of the dead drops, the ancing of the lotus leaves, the storm in the night, the terror and the twilight that brings the little glow worms that glitter bright on the earth, all these are manifestations of the same spirit. They teach me to be one with the Universe, one with mankind and to acknowledge difference between kind and kind".

LITERATURE. 'It is not perhaps extravagant to say that in its poetic form Tamil is more polished and exact than the Greek and in both dialects, with its borrowed treasures more copious than the Latin. In its fullness and power it more resembles English and German than any other living language,' so wrote Winslow.

In the dark ages of Indian History, the advent of Agastya marked the land mark in the history of Tamil literature. Agastya opened a Tamil Academy at Kapatapuram, the capital of the then Pandya king. Unhappily the city was submerged and a Second Academy was started at Korkai which had the same fate.

The Third Academy at Madura became far reputed. The regime of Chola Karikala is considered the first Augustan age of Tamil Literature. It is said that Tolkappiyam is the oldest composition.

As Caldwell remarks, "whatever antiquity may be attributed to Tolkappiyam, it must have been preceded by many centuries of literary culture. It lays down rules for different kinds of poetical compositions, which must have been deduced from examples furnished by the best authors whose works were then in existence. A rule is only an observed custom. Grammar as well as poems had preceded the Tolkappiyam for it continually cites rules which had been laid down by preceding grammarians. In endeavouring to trace the commencement of Tamil Literature we are thus carried further and further back to the unknown period".

The ancient poets who have read the eternal deep haunted for ever by the eternal mind have produced marvellous poems whose splendour challenges the classics of any age. These come under five volumes.

Kural, treating of virtue, wealth and love, is the immortal work of Tiruvalluvar who is considered an avatar. The pithy sayings have passed down to posterity and the wealth of knowledge contained there is considered the precious possession of Tamil intellects.

The epics of the age, Sillappathikaram and Manimekalai, breathe the grand ideals of virtue, chastity and unerring fate. Other Tamil works Chintamani, Kundalakesi and Valayapathi form the five great Tamil epics. Bharatha Venba running 12,000 stanzas is the master piece of Venba mettoo. All these works are realistic. They abound in poetic excellences. They reflect the political events of the day.

The advent of Jains marks a land-mark in Tamil literature. Sanskrit terms crept into our language with them.

The Jains were great lexicographers, grammarians and poets. They wrote on Astrology. But their frequent bickerings with the Hindu Poets received a dead shock to their literary developments. The Saiva and Vaishnava devotees seeking the protection of their sovereigns persecuted them and rooted out Jain religion.

The age of Kulothunga Chola is called the Second Augustan age of Tamil. Auvaiyar of this time is a homely poet. 'She is called the Sapho of the Tamils'.

The beaming star in the literary galaxy of that age is Kamban who earned his name in memorable letters of gold on the classical edifice by his immortal work Kamba Ramayanam wherein full many a gem of poetical excellence is scattered serene.

But Tamil literature in modern times is undergoing a revolution. The age-long defect of Tamil literature is the absence of Prose work. With the springing up of innumerable journals and dailies the whole tone of our language is changed. The Poetic prose in Tamil is initiated by the great poet Bharathi who has left behind him radiant fires of imagination. He has struck the anvil of heavens with his magic wand and treasured the shooting stars in his monumental poems. He is a poet of the age. His patriotic songs are on the lips of the people.

High class novels have sprung up. Novels like Kamalambal by Mr. Rajam Iyer

are needed to-day. But the fiction world is deluged with the romantic works of Arani Kuppusami Mudaliar, Kodhai Nayaki Ammal and Doraisamy Iyengar.

LITERARY DEVELOPMENT IN MALABAR: The last hundred years have witnessed a tremendous progress in Malayalam literature. The violent feuds and the horrible scores of battles in the past centuries have put an effective brake to the grand growth of Malayalam literature.

Malayalam literature falls under four distinct epochs viz. Karin Tamil, Old Malayalam, Middle Malayalam and Modern Malayalam. Malayalis have won great renown by their works in Sanskrit. Vararuchi and Bharathrahari are venerable names to conjure up. Sankaracharyya who has read the eternal deep, haunted for ever by the eternal mirror was born at Kaladi. Among the host of celebrities, Meppathur Narayana Bhattachiri, Manavedan Raja, K. Ramavarier deserve mention.

The Malayali nation lisped in numbers from 3100 B.C. to 100 B.C.

The history of Malayalam literature commences with the Ramacharitham, the oldest Malayalam poem composed by the Maharaja of Travancore. Then came Krishnagatha of Cherusseri Nambudiri, who was raised to kingly breed to attain starry diadems. Before this all poetical epics were written in Manipravalam.

The metres of the Malayalam slokams resemble that of Sanskrit and Kathakali is very interesting.

The beaming star in Malayalam literature is Tunjathu Ramanujan Eluthachan whose literary radiance is transcendent. He blazed his age with his genius.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

AGRICULTURAL products of India won her fame even in the classical days of Rome and Greece.

With the half of the World's acreage under sugar cane, India's output is only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the world's supply of sugar cane. Indian Sugar Committee States that India's output of Sugar per acre is less than $\frac{1}{3}$ of Cuba's, $\frac{1}{6}$ of Java's and $\frac{1}{4}$ of Hawaii's. Her once famous indigo industry received a mortal blow owing to

With the establishment of the British Empire the land flowed in peace and plenty. The advent of Christian Missionaries greatly facilitated printing. The University education raised the intellectual tone of the masses that began to read with great avidity the writings of poets. Women authors became plentiful.

Koil Thamburan enriches the literature with his valuable works. His work, Mayura Sandesam shot him to literary eminence. His prose writings acted as tonic to many but he has flared effulgent path in literary skies that shed hosts of beaming lights.

Poets rose in great numbers and their elegant contributions are greatly read in Malabar and abroad. Chandra Menon is regarded as the Thackeray of Malayalam literature. C. V. Raman Pillai has illuminated Travancore history in his writings. Scientific treatises have come out in abundance.

Malayalam literature is rich in its gems of philosophical thoughts.

Newspapers and Magazines have created a unique atmosphere. They have pruned the juvenile productions of rising poets and they have created the thirst for reading in the minds of the populace.

Vidya Vilasini was the first Malayalam Magazine. Then came Vidya Vinodini. Wit and elegance won for it great popularity. But these literary journals have failed.

Basha Poshini is illustrious for its inimitable articles. Great journals have sprung up. 'Scholar' is addressing all its energies for the spread of culture and is enjoying international reputation. The Dailies are doing invincible services to the people.

the competition of synthetic substitutes. Even in the matter of food production, she has now receded to the back-ground.

The universal lesson of agrarian history is that of cultivation in need of credit. The ryot's capital consists in land and stock. Capital has wings. It can fly whither it wills but labour cannot.

Immobility, conservation, fragmentation of holdings, the seasonal quality and the operation of unseen forces cripple the

peasant's progress. But the recent enactment of Agricultural Debt Relief Bill is a great penance to agricultural ills and the idea of installing radios in villages is highly laudable.

That a tropical country like India with all its rich agricultural resources, should turn from the cultivation of the soil which seems its natural avocation, and enter into competition with Industrial countries which have for long been specialising in their own lines of production has seemed to many economists, misdirected activity. Keynes says that industrialisation is not desirable and likely. He fears that every diversion of capital from agriculture where her relative advantage is great will be to India's detriment.

But Mr. Pillai, a veteran economist, objects to this. The seasonal conditions prevailing there and the normal dryness of the soil make agriculture an exceedingly precarious occupation. The annual rainfall is liable to extraordinary variations. There is excessive pressure on the population of the land. The total cultivated area has diminished to less than 9/10 of an acre per head of population.

But the lure of the peasant to turn sand into gold is yet alive. About 90 per cent of the Indians live in villages and 9/10 of the population live directly or indirectly upon agriculture. The villager lives a simple and contented life. As Sir Charles Metcalfe says 'the village communities are little republics having nearly everything they can want within themselves and almost independent of foreign relations. Dynasty after dynasty tumbles down, revolution succeeds to revolution; Hindu, Pathan, Moghul, Mahratta, Sikh, English are all masters in turn, but the village community remains the same'.

RICE:—The Director of Agriculture, Madras, writes:—As an average of ten years ending 1936-37, the area under rice in Madras Presidency was 11.3 million acres compared to 73 million acres for the whole of India (excluding Burma). The revenue estimate of yield based on normal yields of the dry and irrigated for each district averaged 5.2 millions of cleansed rice for the Presidency as compared to 27 millions for the whole of India. Notwithstanding the high production both Madras as well as the rest of India import rice particularly from Burma. There appears therefore some scope for increased

production in the Presidency as well as India, but the rice conditions of our country are dependent on a number of world causes, and it is therefore worth while to have a picture of the world rice situation in considering any improvements in our methods of rice marketing.

WORLD PRODUCTION: During the past quinquennium the acreage under rice in the major rice growing countries was as follows:—

India 73 million Acres, Burma 12½ million Acres, Indo-China 13.3 millions, Siam 7.4 millions, and Japan nearly 8 millions. The corresponding production was Burma 4.8 million tons, Indo-China 5.7 millions and Siam 4.7 million tons. Although Madras production is slightly higher than Burma and Siam and some what less than Indo-China the position of these countries is decidedly advantageous in the matter of export. About 70% of the crop of Madras is irrigated and costs of production are correspondingly high. In addition, Burma with a rice production almost equal to Madras, but only a population of one third of it has considerable surplus for export. In fact, the exports from Burma amount to about a million tons annually or 60 per cent of her production. With such large surplus markets so near and easily accessible by sea India and particularly Madras have in spite of their enormous production a great dependence on these markets. World prices follow the course of surplus markets and the course of Madras prices in all important Rice Markets is mainly influenced by the course of Burma Rice.

IMPORTS INTO THE PROVINCE: The imports of rice and paddy in terms of rice into Madras Presidency including Cochin from Burma and from Foreign Countries during the past five years were as follows.

Year.	By Sea from Burma only.	By sea from Foreign Countries.	Imports by Rail from other places.	Total.
1931-32	500	23	47	570
1932-33	481	35	43	559
1933-34	588	81	47	716
1934-35	724	335	63	1122
1935-36	864	146	86	1096
1936-37	708	51	89	848

(000 Tons)

The imports from the Foreign Countries, Indo-China and Siam rose to formidable proportions during 1934-35, but have considerably decreased after the levy of an import duty of Rs. 0-12-0 per maund since 1935. Imports from Burma have declined during 1936-37 but still stand at a fairly high level of 700,000 tons. The trend of import shows a pronounced increase from 1930-31 to 1935-36 and a decline thereafter. Our import trade consists of medium, coarse and broken rice from Burma, coarse rices from Central Provinces and Berar and a small quantity of fine rice from Punjab and North India.

The export trade of Madras declined considerably from 1931-33 but has slightly recovered during the past few years. The main importing countries are Ceylon by sea and Bombay, Nizams state and Mysore by rail. The export trade is mainly of finer rice as Sirumani to Ceylon and fine rice of the type of Delhi Bogum, Akkulu and G. E. B., 24 to other Provinces. The total exports during the past five years of rice and paddy in terms of rice were as follows:—

EXPORTS FROM MADRAS PRESIDENCY.
(000) Tons.

Year.	By sea mainly to Ceylon.	By rail to Bombay Hydrabad Mysore etc.	Total.
1930-31	104	65	169
1931-32	63	62	125
1932-33	66	30	96
1933-34	76	105	181
1934-35	76	130	206
1935-36	73	139	212
1936-37	84	136	220

The export trade both by rail and sea is becoming stronger in the past few years.

Allowing for imports and exports and the quantities imported and re-exported by the Cochin State the nett supply of the Madras Province proper and consumption in terms of rice is estimated as below in thousands of tons.

Year.	Production.	Nett import.	Nett supply for consumption
1932-33	5379	220	5599
1933-34	5290	283	5573
1934-35	4956	579	5535
1935-36*	4856	445	5301
1936-37*	4771	335	5106

(*Excludes portions added to Orissa)

The Madras Presidency is thus a net importer but the above figures show that this import is generally in line with all deficiencies of production. In the international trade of the world our province does not figure much as an exporter except to Ceylon although it does so markedly in inter-provincial exports. In world trade the largest consuming markets for rice are China, Ceylon, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands and Germany, but these are supplied by the surplus countries—Burma, Indo-China and Siam and Korea in Asia, and Italy and Spain in Europe. Only Burma figures in international markets; but even in this case exports to foreign countries are declining while the export to India is on the increase during the past few years. Some of the finer rice of the Province are as good as those in demand in England from Burma and it is possible to popularise them in western markets provided they are taken to ensure quality. But in the production of coarse rice our Province is markedly in deficit.

Madras Province being an importer of coarse rice and exporter of fine ones improvements in marketing should be directed to export as well as import trade. Better prices to the grower can be got by giving greater facilities for storage and stocking of produce instead of rapid disposal after harvest as at present. The present facilities for loan on the strength of stock which are enjoyed by the trade larger growers can be rendered available to smaller growers by the organisation and financing of Co-operative Societies. Due to the efforts of the Marketing Board the Railways have agreed to accord facilities for erection of godowns in their premises for stocking paddy and producers organisations can well take advantage of this. It is desirable that such organisations are started in the major growing areas,

and arrangements made for direct export to different consuming areas, thereby reducing unnecessary expenses in marketing.

IMPORTS FROM BURMA: The imports from Burma call for some attention. Although the quantity imported varied from 10 to 15% of our production in the past five years, these imports have the effect of depressing the prices at Madras and delaying the tendencies of any rise of prices in Madras Markets even for a long period after harvest. The fixation of a quota system with Burma will tend to improve price levels in Madras. There are certain difficulties also in the direction of distribution of rice in our province which require remedying. Madras rices have some times to travel such long distances as 600 miles to meet deficit areas and distribution costs are high. Imported rices have however easy access to all ports in several directions of the province and a short lead to consuming areas. The districts of Coimbatore, Salem, Malabar, Vizagapatam and Kannad stand out prominently as importing centres and a properly regulated system of special rates from producing areas will tend largely to improve distribution. In the matter of imported rices it is worth while having a system of licensing of wholesale importers and undue imports in certain months checked by the issue of certificates of authorisation as is now done for Cotton, under Cotton Transport Act. It is well to remember that the practice of adulteration of imported and broken rices with local ones is common.

TRADING IN FUTURES: As contrasted with wheat there are no association or organisations of trade in rice to regulate market charges and standardise market prices. Facilities for trading in rice futures are also conspicuous by their absence. In view of the stabilising influence which futures have on ready prices and also in view of our large import and export trade it is well to establish organised futures exchanges in the larger markets in the presidency as Bezwada, Tanjore and West Godavari. A good beginning in the control of marketing and direction of improvements can be effected by extending the operation of the Commercial Crops Markets Act to the paddy crop which is the main crop of our presidency.

COFFEE MARKETING IN MADRAS:

The Director of Agriculture, Madras, writes: The average area under coffee plantations in India was about 200,000 acres of which Mysore represented 52%, Madras 26%, Coorg 20%, Cochin and Travancore 2%. Brazil is undeniably the most important producer of coffee in the world producing nearly 60% of the world output. India's share of production is only about 1% of the total world production.

The cultivation of coffee in Madras is mainly confined to the hills, the main centres of production being the hill slopes of the Nilgiris, the Shevaroy's in Salem, the western and the eastern slopes of the Western Ghats in Malabar, Coimbatore and Madura Districts. The most suitable elevation for the proper growth of coffee bushes and the development of the beans have been found to be between 2,500 to 4,500 feet above sea level, although coffee grows even in the plains and at elevations above 6,000 feet. Places above 5,000 feet are considered unsuited for coffee as they are liable to frost. The quality of coffee is not only influenced by elevation but also by many other factors such as rainfall, soil, manuring, etc. Shade also affects the quality. The general saying is "good shade, good prices." Coffee from the Nilgiris and the Shevaroy's is considered better than that grown on the Pulneys, Mysore and Coorg.

ACREAGE AND OUTPUT: The coffee area in the Presidency has increased from 50,892 acres in 1909-10 to 56,987 acres in 1936-37. During the same period the area under tea increased from 14,625 acres to 75,349 acres.

The bulk of the coffee grown in this Presidency is coffee Arabica; Robusta variety which is grown in Wynaad (Malabar) and to a small extent on the Pulneys (Madura) is considered inferior and sells for almost less than half the price of Arabica.

Coffee bushes flower in the second or third year of planting, but are not allowed to bear a heavy crop till they are 5 or 6 years old. The bushes come to full bearing when they are 10 to 12 years of age. The crop is said to be a gamble on the weather. The yields fluctuate considerably from year to year. A heavy crop is generally followed by a poor one.

The annual average yield of a series of years works out to 191 pounds of clean coffee per acre. The estimated average annual production of coffee in the Presidency is about 4,400 tons as against 21,800 tons for the whole of India. On the Pulneys the coffee picking season is from August to December while in the other centres—the Shevaroy, the Nilgiris and the Anamalais, the crop is about a month later. The ripe berries are pulped on the estates in pulping machines and the coffee in parchment is dried in the sun and sent to curing houses in the plains.

CLASSIFICATION OF VARIETIES: Parchment coffee or coffee in husk is shelled by machines. The process consists in stripping off both the parchment and the silvery skin from the beans. The coffee is then sized into different grades. It is sorted into two main grades Peaberry (round) and flat. The ripe coffee fruit or cherry consists of usually two seeds. But in some there will be only one bean which, on account of the shape, is known as 'Peaberry'. Flats are again graded into A, B, C, triage, blacks and bits. 'A' being the biggest and best of the flats. All abnormal, defective and damaged beans are classed as 'trriage.' At Coimbatore, coffee is graded into Peaberry, royal extra-bold zero, A, B, C. and triage.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS: The imports are only from other Provinces and States in India. The average annual imports by sea amount to about 320 tons. The main supplies are from the Portuguese ports which are only the produce of North Mysore. Small quantities are being received from Bombay, Burma and Bengal. Due to the increased lorry transport direct from Mysore to Mangalore the imports via Portuguese ports are diminishing. The rail borne imports also amount to about 300 tons annually and are mostly from Mysore. Almost the whole of the Coorg crop and a major share of the production of Mysore are taken either to Mangalore or Tellicherry for curing and export. The estimated annual receipt of coffee by road from Mysore and Coorg is about 9700 tons. The exports by sea to foreign countries are only of raw beans. The total exports of coffee to foreign countries in 1935-36 amounted to 10,688 tons valued at 101.4 lakhs of rupees, but declined to 6,658 tons of value 53.9 lakhs of rupees

during 1937-38. France is the main buyer and exports to France represent nearly 30 per cent of the total exports. The shipments to the United Kingdom rose from 2,160 tons in 1931-32 to 3,531 tons in 1935-36 and declined to 1,449 tons during 1937-38. Exports to France increased from 2,154 tons to 4,128 tons in 1935-36 and declined to 2,075 tons during 1937-38.

OVERSEAS MARKETS: The other countries importing coffee from this Presidency are Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Belgium, Australia, New Zealand, Denmark, Algeria, Ceylon, Canada and Sweden. Generally high grown coffee of Mysore goes for consumption in England. Average quality of Mysore or Coorg Coffee is exported to Germany, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Holland and Italy. Plantations 'B', 'C' and triage have good demand in France and Australia. Peaberry is mostly in demand locally, but small quantities are going to the United Kingdom. Cherry dried coffee known by the trade as Native coffee and small quantities of 'monsooned' coffee are exported to France. As a rule monsooned coffee is shipped to Scandinavia.

Shipments of coffee to foreign countries during the period 1931-32 to 1937-38 were as follows:—

	Quantity.	Value in lakhs.
	cwts.	Rs.
1931-32	153,180	92.92
1932-33	171,811	108.88
1933-34	184,688	101.61
1934-35	140,577	72.50
1935-36	213,750	101.36
1936-37	205,842	82.02
1937-38	133,163	53.86

The share of Madras is more than 90 per cent of the total Indian exports. The shippings start in January with the commencement of the new crop and continue upto the end of June. Nearly 86 per cent of the total exports is over in this period. During the monsoon months July—August, the shipments are negligible. In October—November exports are only of monsooned coffee. Nearly 75 per cent of the total exports are from Mangalore.

INTER-PROVINCIAL EXPORTS: Besides the shipments to Foreign Countries, supplies are being made to other Provinces in India. The Exports to Indian Provinces

have definitely been on the increase. The average annual export amounted to about 635 tons valued at 7.33 lakhs of rupees. Bombay gets the major share of over 50 per cent of the total. The average annual exports to Burma is about 200 tons. The intake of Bengal averages about 50 tons. The exports are high during January to June and the trade is slack during the rest of the period. The average annual rail borne export is about 400 tons of which nearly two-thirds are to Mysore.

LOCAL CONSUMPTION: The estimated average consumption of Coffee in the Presidency in Terms of Raw Beans is about 50,70 tons.

PRICE LEVELS: Peaberry Coffee always gets a premium in price. The difference between the price of Peaberry and that of 'A' is about Rs. 8 to Rs. 12 per cwt. in favour of the former at Mangalore market. If the price is taken as an index of quality, all grades of Nilgiris coffee are superior to similar grades from other sources. The normal difference in prices between those of 'A' and 'B' or 'B' and 'C' is about Rs. 4 per cwt. Triage sells about Rs. 4 per cwt. less than the prices of 'C'.

At Mangalore, coffee season commences in December-January and weekly auctions are held by the Curers' Association till the end of May. In January 1936, fair average quality plantation assortment coffee was selling at Rs. 33-11 per cwt., while Peaberry was quoted at Rs. 45. There was a gradual fall in prices since then and by the middle of May 1936, the price of fair average quality plantation assortment dropped to Rs. 26-12 and Peaberry to Rs. 39-12 per cwt. Prices improved slightly since then and in December 1936, plantation assortment was selling at Rs. 35-2 and Peaberry at Rs. 49 per cwt. and in March 1937, the corresponding prices were Rs. 41-8 and Rs. 61-8. Since then there was a gradual fall in prices. On 7th May 1938, the auction sales fetched Rs. 33-12 for plantation assortment and Rs. 50 for Peaberry.

POLISHING PROCESS: There are a number of factories, large and small, engaged in roasting, grinding and blending coffee and they are distributed mainly in the southern districts of the Presidency.

Raw coffee is polished by machines by removing the silvery skin covering the beans. At Madura the consumers mostly go in for polished coffee. But polished coffee loses its flavour sooner than unpolished stuff. As bluish green colour is an indication of good quality, old and discoloured coffee is artificially coloured by machine at Mangalore, Virudunagar and Tuticorin, by first polishing, moistening, adding small quantities of white and green colouring materials and working in a machine for 20 to 30 minutes. Annually 1,000 to 1,200 tons of coffee are artificially coloured at Virudunagar alone. The charge for colour polishing is only 10 annas to 12 annas per cwt. The colour is maintained for about two months. When artificial colouring was first introduced, coloured coffee fetched a premium of about Rs. 6 per cwt. Now coloured stuff is looked on with suspicion by the buyers and the process of colouring is gradually going down.

Most of the South Indian consumers of coffee prefer to purchase raw beans and do their roasting at home in iron pans. When the beans turn into light dark colour, the stuff is taken out and spread on the floor for immediate cooling. By such sudden cooling the loss of volatile oils is minimised.

ADULTERANTS: With the fall in the prices of coffee, adulterants other than chicory are not very much used. Annually about 300 to 400 tons of chicory valued at about a lakh of rupees annually imported represents nearly 6 to 7 per cent of the coffee consumed. Chicory is imported in powder form packed in iron drums, mostly from the ports of Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Antwerp and London. Chicory being cheaper than coffee, some of the coffee hotels mix a fair proportion (10 to 15 per cent) of chicory to coffee powder. Poor people use even husk of the coffee cherry as a substitute for coffee.

EXTANT BLENDS: The two chief blends of coffee in the market are 'pure' and 'French coffee.' The latter is labelled to contain varying proportion of chicory from 25 to 45 per cent. Inferior grades of coffee like triage, blacks and bits are used by many of the coffee blenders. Even cherry husk is utilised by retailers selling coffee.

powder. Triage coffee is roasted, powdered and mixed with chicory in varying proportions and sold as powder or tablets coffee. In some of the coffee tablets in the market, the proportion of chicory is as much as 90 to 95 per cent.

TOWARDS INCREASING CONSUMPTION: There is great scope for increasing coffee consumption in India as well as Madras. The per capita annual consumption of coffee is only 0.24 pound in terms of raw beans for Madras Province and for India 0.07 lb. The consumption is more in Madras City and in the districts South of Madras. In the Ceded Districts the consumption is negligible. In the West Coast, tea is more largely used than coffee. In many parts of North India, coffee is almost unknown, and tea is the common beverage. At present, the major share of Indian production is exported to the European countries and the prices depend entirely on foreign demand. If a steady demand is created in India itself, the prices will increase especially as the import of raw coffee from outside India is prohibited. Intensive propaganda is necessary to bring home to the village the usefulness of coffee as a beverage. The work is rendered easier in districts where prohibition has been introduced. Among foreign countries, the United States of America and Canada appear suitable markets for exploring the export trade of India. At Bombay the opening up of "an Indian Coffee House" has greatly stimulated coffee consumption.

GROUNDNUT IN MADRAS: In the course of an interesting Press Note on marketing of groundnuts in this presidency the Director of Agriculture states:

The total area under groundnut in the world is about 185.2 million acres. The main countries of production are:—

1935 season area in 1000 acres.	
India	5857
China	3310
Senegal	1729
United States	1724
Netherland Indies	482
French Sudan	457
Ivory Coast	333

Other producing countries are South Africa, Tanganyika, North Australia, British Malaya, Spain, Japan, West Indies and South America.

The area shown with groundnut in this presidency in 1937 is estimated at 4.56 million acres—against 3.43 million acres in the previous year. This is the highest area estimated so far. The main centres of production are (1) Ceded District comprising the Districts of Kurnool, Bellary, and Anantapur (2) the central districts—South and North Arcot, Chittoor, Salem, and parts of Coimbatore and Trichinopoly (3) Guntur and Kistna and (4) Vizagapatam. There is practically no cultivation in South Canara, the Nilgiris and the major portion of Malabar.

PRODUCTION: The yield of groundnut varies considerably depending on variety, soil treatment and the season. The Mauritius variety generally gives a higher yield than the Bunch type, the average yield being 1000 to 1200 lbs of unshelled nuts per acre as against 800 to 1000 lbs. of the latter. In red loamy soils the yields are 40 to 50% more than in black soils while the irrigated crop gives even double the yield of the rainfed crop. The production of groundnuts in the current season is estimated at 1,902,300 tons of unshelled nuts as against 1,657,280 tons in the previous year, an increase of about 14.8 per cent. The normal annual output in the presidency is estimated at 1,540,280 tons unshelled nuts. The groundnut crop in the province is largely rainfed being sown between May and August and harvested between October and January. The irrigated crop comprising about a lakh of acres is sown in February to March and harvested in July to August.

EXPORT FIGURES: In this presidency the export business with foreign countries is carried on mostly by three firms only. Exports from Madras Presidency form 75 to 85% of the total exports of India and ranged from 4.6 lakhs of tons in 1930-31 to 6.4 lakhs of tons in 1936-37. Exports were low in 1932-33 and again in 1935-36. The value of exports from the province ranged from 500 lakhs of rupees in

1934-35 to 1,060 lakhs of rupees in 1936-37.

Exports of groundnuts from India and Share of Madras.			
Year.	Exports from India		Share of Madras Percentage of quantity.
	Exports from British Ports.	Exports from Madras Presidency.	
	Quantity in tons.	Quantity in tons.	Value in lakhs of rupees.
1930-31	601,204	457,204	76
1931-32	671,973	495,911	74
1932-33	433,012	349,962	81
1933-34	546,546	455,337	83
1934-35	511,194	436,350	85
1935-36	412,607	332,230	80
1936-37	739,487	638,577	86
			Value in lakhs of rupees.
			735.02
			714.74
			559.68
			544.60
			499.76
			538.89
			1060.52

The exports from this Presidency are mostly to France, Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Belgium and the United Kingdom. Nearly one-third of the total exports during the last seven years went to France. The exports to the United Kingdom and Italy are on the increase, while Germany and Netherlands have considerably reduced their demands. The shares of United Kingdom rose from 6.4% in 1931-32 to nearly 13% during 1936-37 partly due to the Ottawa Agreement and partly to removal of Soyabeans from the United Kingdom free list.

The Coastal Exports are mainly to Burma, Bengal, Bombay and Sind and averaged annually about 12,600 tons during the past five years. Groundnuts are also being exported by rail to Bombay, Mysore and Bengal to the extent of about 30,000 to 40,000 tons annually. During 1936-37 52,225 tons of groundnuts were imported from the Nizams' State and Mysore by rail to Madras as against 15,000 tons in the previous years. Coastal Imports are negligible, the annual average being only about 350 tons in the last five years.

The exports of groundnuts represent about 48.2 per cent of the total production.

The quantity reserved for sowing represent about 10 to 11 per cent of the production.

COASTAL EXPORTS OF OIL: The Total Coastal Exports of oil increased from 366,146 gallons in 1931-32 to 1,613,637 gallons in 1936-37. Exports to Foreign Countries rose from 20,157 Gallons in 1930-31 to 103,246 in 1936-37. The demand for the Indian groundnut in England increased during the past few years, the share of total imports rising from 1% in the quinquennium ending 1930-31 to 6.8% in five years ending 1936-37. But there were no exports to groundnut oil from this presidency to the United Kingdom. The export trade of groundnut cake from this presidency has steadily improved from 9287 tons in 1930-31 to 32,757 tons in 1936-37. United Kingdom is the chief buyer and imports annually 25,000 to 30,000 tons. Other countries receiving supplies from this Presidency are Germany, the Netherlands, Ceylon and Belgium. Cocanada and Masulipatam are the chief ports of shipment. Locally groundnut cake is used for manuring sugarcane and paddy crops and as a cattle feed.

PRICE LEVELS: As a large share of the produce (groundnut) is exported abroad, the wholesale price entirely depends on the rates offered by the exporting firms, which depend on the price of groundnut oil and cake prevailing in England and other continental ports. Groundnut oil prices vary according to the prices of other vegetable oils and marine oils. The wholesale prices of groundnut kernels of standard quality at all ports on the Coromandel coast are fairly uniform, any slight variation in the rate quoted by different firms being due to the difference in shipping freights and their commitments for export. The prices in the interior markets depend on the incidental charges, cart hire and railway freight, etc. from the nearest railway station to the nearest port. Wholesale prices quotations are for a candy of 531 lbs. but the units of sale for unshelled nuts in the villages vary from place to place.

The downward trend in groundnut prices began in 1929 and towards the end of 1930 the decline became substantial and prices of machined Coromandel for port delivery dropped from about Rs. 53 per candy to nearly Rs. 24 a candy. Prices

improved slightly in 1932 but dropped again during 1934 to Rs. 17 per candy. Since then prices improved and recovery was substantial after January 1935, and touched about Rs. 45 a candy. Prices dropped again and machined Coromandel is now selling at Rs. 27—28 a candy. The present low price is due partly to the heavy crop and the world conditions. The rate for peanut is invariably 8 annas to the rupee one less per candy (531 lbs.) than that for Coromandel.

POTATOES IN MADRAS: The following is a Press note on marketing of potatoes in the Madras Presidency issued by the Director of Agriculture:

The area under potatoes in the Madras Presidency has been steadily increasing from about 8,500 acres during 1923—30 to 13,000 acres at the present day. The factors that have led to the increased cultivation were the increasing application of artificial manures to the crop in places removed from villages. The development of the motor lorry trade for transport from the hills up to Mettupalayam and last but not least the introduction by the Agricultural Department of popular varieties as Great Scot and Ben Crushan which have established a reputation locally and in North India. The main growing district is Nilgiris in which Ootacamund Taluq nearly 59 per cent and Coonoor 39 per cent of the total Madras crop of 1935—1936. There are four seasons of sowing the crop at Nilgiris the harvest periods corresponding to the months June to August, September to October, December to January, and May (irrigated crop), the glut period being from August to October. Production has increased from 1.113 million railway maunds in 1932 to 1.421 million railway maunds during 1936. The export by rail from the Nilgiris has increased from 5 lakhs of railway maunds in 1932 to 7.8 lakhs during 1936.

POSITION OF EXPORT TRADE: The position of Madras Province in the export trade is a prominent feature of potato marketing. Altogether 333,000 railway maunds or $\frac{1}{4}$ of production or 40 per cent of the total exportable surplus of Nilgiris District was exported to other Provinces during the calendar year 1936. The trend of export trade is definitely on the increase and rose from 148,000 railway maunds during 1932 to 333,000 in the year 1936.

WORK DONE: The marketing section in co-operation with the Co-operative Department has already started some lines of work in improvement of potatoes. A Co-operative Sales Society exists in the Nilgiris District and arrangements have been made to finance the grower for supply of manure. The opening up of godowns in suitable areas in the hill stations as at Kotagiri, Ootacamund, Ketu, etc., to help the grower is also under consideration. Arrangements for sale of produce of society through the Provincial Marketing Society at Madras is well under way.

The export trade in potatoes outside the province which is a profitable line of advance has received considerable attention and the help of Marketing Officer in Bombay and other places have been requisitioned for sale of the coming seasons crop. Considerable information on the requirements and state of markets in other Provinces has been supplied to growers and Co-operative Societies for the expansion of export trade. The question of a specified grade to establish a continuous and steady demand according to the varying needs of different markets which is a question to be decided along with the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India will also receive due consideration in due course. The Railway authorities have also been advised on the need for providing greater facilities for movement of Nilgiris potatoes. The main improvement in marketing of potatoes is the provision of easy finance to the grower to relieve him his chronic state of indebtedness and the success of societies in improved methods of marketing will depend largely on the strength of finance and extent of organisations they are able to command.

THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES, MADRAS, WRITES:

COTTON: The average of the areas under cotton in the Madras Presidency during the five years ending 1935—36 has represented 9.5 per cent of the total area under cotton in India.

The Area under cotton in the Madras Presidency in 1937—38 is estimated at 2,556,100 acres as against 2,578,400 acres for the corresponding period of last year and 2,512,000 acres according to the forecast issued in February. The present

estimate for the Presidency represents an increase of 1.7 per cent as compared with the finally recorded area of 2,512,194 acres in 1936—37. The final estimate of last year exceeded the actuals by 2.6 per cent.

Normal yield is expected in Chittoor, North Arcot, Tanjore, Madura (irrigated Cambodia only) Malabar and South Kanara. A yield below normal is expected in the other districts. The estimated yield is lowest in Anantapur (57 per cent). Bellary comes next with 60 per cent.

The seasonal factor for the Presidency works out to 96 per cent of the average for irrigated and 80 per cent for unirrigated cotton the corresponding figures according to the Season and Crop Report of last year being 94 per cent and 86 per cent respectively. On this basis the yield works out to 505,200 bales of 400 lbs. lint as against 497,120 bales last year which represents an increase of 1.6 per cent. The yield in an average year is estimated at 506,570 bales. It is, however, too early to estimate the yield with accuracy as much will depend on future weather conditions and their effect on the second crop and on the amount of damage done by insect pests.

GINGELLY: The average of the areas under gingelly in the Madras Presidency during the five years ending 1935—36 has represented 15.2 per cent of the total area under gingelly in India.

The area sown with gingelly in 1937—38 is estimated at 814,400 acres. When compared with the area of 783,000 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals an increase of 4 per cent. The present estimate also reveals an increase of 1.5 per cent as compared with the finally recorded area of 802,143 acres last year—the area in an average year is estimated at 764,060 acres.

268,000 acres have been reported as sown since the previous forecast report was issued in January as against 271,100 acres during the same period last year. These late sowings were mainly on wetlands in the Circars, South Arcot, Trichinopoly and the South where gingelly was raised as a second crop after paddy.

As compared with the actual area sown last year there has been an increase in area in Kurnool, Nellore, Central Districts

(Chittoor excepted), the South and the West Coast, partly counterbalanced by a decrease in the other districts. The estimated area in respect of Nellore, Salem, Coimbatore and Ramnad is the highest on record since 1923—24 whilst the area in respect of East Godavari and Kistna is the lowest estimated since the same year.

The yield is estimated to be below normal except in Guntur, Cuddapah, Nellore, Salem, Ramnad and South Canara where it is expected to be normal. The condition of the late sown crop is generally fair.

The seasonal factor for the Province works out to 90 per cent of the average as against 91 per cent according to the Season and Crop Report of the last year. On this basis, the yield is estimated at 99,100 tons as against 100,050 tons according to the Season and Crop Report of last year and an average yield of 104,020 tons.

FRUIT PRODUCTION IN MADRAS:

The Director of Agriculture, Madras, States: The Marketing Section has completed the surveys of the following fruits, namely plantains, grapes, pineapples, apples, pears, oranges, limes, other citrus fruits and mangoes. Some of the salient features in the marketing of these fruits are presented in this note.

Among the several provinces in India, Madras easily leads in fruit production, the area under these fruits during 1936—37 being as follows:—Mangoes 244,945 acres, plantains 132,777 acres, oranges 13,000 acres, limes 8,500 acres, pineapples 330 acres, grapes 250 acres, and pears 500 acres. The marketable production, exports, imports and nett available supply are given below:—

	Marketable Production	Imports	Exports	Nett Supply
(Figures in 000 railway maunds.)				
Mangoes	20,000	...	400	19,600
Oranges	447	134	20	561
Plantains	33,291	...	206	33,085
				(as bunches)
Limes	1,215	5	117	1,103
Pineapples	45	4	...	49
Grapes	18	7	1	24
Apples	...	13	...	13
Pears	215	...	9	206

MANGOES: Madras Presidency exports annually about 400,000 railway maunds of Mangoes, the chief importing provinces during 1936-37 being Central Provinces (83,000 maunds), Bombay (55,000 maunds), Punjab (52,000 maunds), Hyderabad (51,000 maunds), Bengal (41,000 maunds), North-west Frontier Province (22,000 maunds), Bihar and Orissa (32,000 maunds), Burma (26,000 maunds), Delhi (11,000 maunds), Indore (8,000 maunds), and Sind (8,000 maunds).

The largest exporting districts are Vizagapatam, East Godavari, Cuddapah, Chittoor, North Arcot and Malabar. Except in the case of Malabar which has the advantage of an earlier crop in February-March, mangoes of all producing centres of the Madras Presidency compete in local and North Indian City Markets, with results disastrous to exporters in a short producing season. There have been instances when even the railway freight and incidental charges have not been recovered. There is, therefore, need for restricting the extension of mango cultivation of the main crop, and limiting the plantings to choice varieties and to off-season bearers, as in Tinnevely and parts of Coimbatore, Tanjore and Cirkars. Expansion of export markets offers one way out of the difficulty and there appears scope for foreign trade especially as the mango crop is cultivated very little out of India except in Mexico, Peru and Egypt. For the above purpose, cold storage methods with choice fruits are essential. In the already existing trade to North India, regulation of exports by a properly controlled system of producers' organisations, as is being done in America, is a useful step. The Marketing Section has recently organised Fruit Growers' Associations in Vizianagaram, Koduru (Cuddapah District) and Puttur (Chittoor District) to help export trade. The utilisation of the mango and other crops in the preservation industry will be dealt with in a later section.

PLANTAINS: The Plantain crop is next in importance in export trade. The quantity exported during 1936-37 being 206,000 railway maunds distributed among other provinces as follows:

Mysore State (90,000 maunds), Bihar and Orissa (46,000 maunds), Nizams' State (40,000 maunds), Delhi (11,000 maunds),

Central Provinces (11,000 maunds), Bengal (5,000 maunds) and Punjab (3,000 maunds). From the Cauvery and Godavari areas exports to Mysore State have declined from 130,000 railway maunds in 1934-35 to 90,000 railway maunds during 1936-37, mainly due to increased cultivation in the State. The trade from the Godavari area has moved to places like Delhi and Lahore, due to special reduced rates, recently given by the Railways, on the recommendations of the Agricultural Department. The plantain crop offers more risk in export trade than many other fruits. For trade to such a place as Delhi, the railway freight per wagon is about Rs. 800, cost of fruits Rs. 600 and incidental charges about Rs. 300 or a total of Rs. 1,700 invested on every wagon. The difficulties in export to North India are greater from the Cauvery area, where the railway freight is Rs. 400 more per wagon. The city of Madras consumes annually about 250,000 railway maunds of Poovan and Rasthali varieties from the Cauvery area, 60,000 railway maunds of Mauritius or green plantains from South Arcot and about 30,000 railway maunds of hill plantains from the Madura Hills. Other markets for hill plantains are mainly in Madura and nearby districts, and the prospects of export trade to North India appear remote although Malabar is a large producer of plantains. It is still a net importer. In world trade the importing countries for plantains are the United States, France and United Kingdom, the chief exporting countries being Jamaica, Mexico, Panama and Guatemala. The variety exported is mainly Mauritius under cold storage. In our country besides reduced rates to North India, for long distance traffic, wooden wagons with ventilators have been arranged for plantains by the Marketing Section and the extension of such facilities is under consideration.

CITRUS FRUITS: The area under citrus fruits in the Presidency has increased from 10,000 acres in 1931-32 to about 22,000 acres at present. Still our Presidency is a large importer of oranges, mainly from Central Provinces of Sangtara variety (74,000 maunds) and of Coorg oranges (60,000 maunds). There is, therefore, scope for increasing cultivation both on account of increasing demand and increasing imports. About 65 per cent of the

orange gardens in the province are yet to bear fully. The estimated Madras production by varieties is Sathgudi (96,000 maunds), Batavian (99,000 maunds), sour oranges (130,000 maunds), other types (139,000 maunds). On the side of marketing of oranges, a fruit Growers' Association was started recently at Koduru in the Cuddapah District and sold about Rs. 23,000 worth of Sathgudi oranges last season in Madras City which consumes annually over a lakh of maunds of oranges, comprising Sangtara (52,000 railway maunds), Sathgudi (33,000 maunds) and Batavian and Kamala (18,000 maunds).

The lime crop also figures prominently in export and about 117,000 railway maunds of the fruits were exported during 1936-37, 80 per cent of which was to Calcutta and the rest to Travancore and Burma. Due to large production, restriction of cultivation at any rate in the larger-producing areas is indicated. The consumption of Madras City is annually 32,000 railway maunds of limes. Recently a Lime Growers' Association has been started at Palakole to help in export trade.

GRAPES: The area under grapes in our province is small and the production of 18,000 railway maunds is mainly of sour grapes from Kodaikanal and Krishnagiri. Consumption is mostly local as in Madras City and Madura and a very small quantity (900 maunds) is exported to North India from Krishnagiri. The grape season February-May has the advantage of production when Northern India supplies are scarce, but the main line of improvement is the evolution and acclimatisation of choice types akin to those from Chaman and foreign countries. A Grape Growers' Association has been started in the Madura district and exports to places in Madras and outside are in full swing. In the first one month of the starting of the Society nearly 7,000 baskets (1 basket=25 pounds) of grapes have been marketed in Madras and mofussil centres of the Presidency. International trade in grapes is of the order of 2.42 lakhs of tons annually and the large exporting countries are Spain, Italy, United States of America and South Africa.

PINEAPPLES: Pineapples are grown in Malabar and Vizagapatam districts and production is reaching a surplus stage, and

comprised Kew (22,000 maunds), Mauritius (5,000 maunds) and local types (17,000 maunds). The wholesale prices range about nine pies per pound in local markets and from nine pies to one anna per pound in city markets as Madras. Imports are made from the Travancore State.

APPLES: The apple is pre-eminently an imported crop confined to cities and the quantities imported are small compared to our vast supply of local fruits. Apple production in the province is small (70 maunds) and foreign imports amount (70 maunds) and foreign imports amounted during 1936-37 to 9,500 railway maunds of value Rs. 91,800 mainly from Japan (2,650 maunds), South Africa (1,929 maunds), United States of America (1,215 maunds) and Australia (2,418 maunds), besides 3,800 maunds from North India.

On account of our vast production and frequency of gluts in the producing season, there is scope for industrialising our vast fruit resources in such crops as the mango where production is 9 lakhs of tons, of pears (8,000 tons) and pineapples (1,800 tons). Research investigations on the technique of canning these fruits to suit local conditions and demand have to be immediately taken up. There is also a very profitable scope for the beverage industry in such fruits as limes (50,000 tons) and also of the sour oranges of Guntur (5,000 tons), which, in addition to reputed medicinal value, makes an excellent squash. Our Presidency imports annually about 2½ lakhs of rupees worth of canned preserved fruits. Even if a fraction of our surplus fruits be canned, the imports will be checked considerably and the grower will get better value during the glut season.

RESEARCH: Improvements in the marketing of fruit should be directed to our immense resources of supply. A planned distribution for choice commercial varieties, restriction of areas in surplus crops as the mango and lime, encouragements of off-season bearers are the lines of attack on the research side. Centralisation of research to suit different fruits and growing areas appears a useful line of improvement. On the side of development of exports investigations of cold storage methods are indicated for choice fruits in order to prolong the marketing season.

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

INDIA occupies a strange place in the industrial sphere. Her once industrial celebrity, though to-day is yet in the phantom cloud of illusion, is reflected in the beaming shadows cast by the industrial revolution, she is undergoing in the present times. India stands eighth in importance among the Industrial nations. She is the 6th most important country in the international exchange of commodities from the point of Imports. The Chemical, Oil, Paper, Glass and Salt industries give an effective challenge to any product produced in any clime. On the tide of nationalism has come a legion of others like soap-making, tanning and leather, sheltered by heavy indirect taxation.

India is on the threshold of an industrial development. The three main lines of development are the modernising of plants and factories, the starting of new lines of industry and the encouragement and systematic formation of the cottage industries. Industry is waiting for the man and makes the first trial with a view to cheapening production in that way and then others will follow suit. There is oil enough in India more and cheaper than in Germany. The demand in India with its population of 36 crores is big enough to justify the starting of any line of industry which supplies food provisions and household articles. There are a multitude of goods which are manufactured in only a few and small factories, i. e., shoes, buttons, hooks, pins, knives etc. There is only one manufacturer for spoons and forks, two factories for razors and one for building ice boxes. India is not covering home demand for paper. The Indian dhobie still resorts to the time honoured method. Modern Laundry plants are still a novelty to many.

The cottage industries must be further developed. The German cottage industries are well-known all over the world and India will have to look to Germany for the requisite information.

Indian poverty is proverbial but there is no use of complaining of the poverty storm and wondering when the rain will stop.

Mr. Monier Williams, M.A., C.I.E., says "India is a small world by itself. She

can scorch you with heat or shrivel you with cold. She can present to your gaze every imaginable physical feature of plain and desert, river and torrent, fen and forest, hill and dale, dark crag and snow white peak, towering to twice the altitude of the loftiest Swiss mountains. She can call forth your admiration by matchless examples of Industrial and decorative art, of unrivalled manual skill, of consummate taste and dexterity displayed in every kind of manufacture. Let us not forget that India had only attained a high degree of Commercial eminence and Industrial skill but had besides made great advances in Science and Philosophy when our ancestors were half naked savages". The Glass industry was at the height of its glory.

Old Testament affords clear evidence of the great antiquity of Indian trade. Moses, 1,500 years before Christ, mentions various Indian products.

The artists were held in high favour at Moghul court and many of their names have been preserved.

The Industrial development which received blessings from Swedeshi movement got a fresh impetus during the Great War which engulfed the world a few years after King George had come to the throne. India experienced unique hardship when the foreign supplies stood the danger of being cut off. The Government realising the awkwardness of the situation came forward to support a number of nascent industries that were fighting the dewy morn of negligence. Under the new constitution, India was fortunate to be granted fiscal autonomy. The launching of the Reserve Bank was a crowning achievement.

India has to-day launched upon manufacturing Engineering Stores of diverse nature, chemicals, electrical, bulbs, rubber goods etc. A scheme for motor car manufacture is in full swing.

The Tata Iron and Steel Works Ltd., the most important of 4 steel manufacturing works in India, was started in 1907. The production has attained a record figure in 1934-35, being 726,000 tons of coal, 892,000 tons pig iron, 834,000 tons steel ingots, and 104,000 tons salable steel.

At the end of 1910, Indian production of coal was 12 million tons. But in 1930 it was 23.8 million tons. The economic crisis, the production was only 22.1 million tons at the end of 1934.

In 1920 there were 263 textile mills equipped with 6,195,671 spindles and 82,725 looms, employing 23,362 persons but in 1935 there were 365 mills equipped with 96,85,175 spindles 1,98,867 looms employing 414,884 persons. In Coimbatore, Madura and Madras Districts, mills abound. The workings of the Trichinopoly Mills forebodes a bright future.

The growth of match industry dates from 1922 when a high revenue duty was imposed on the imported matches so as to facilitate the growth of match industry. In 1925 factories were numerous and the production went hand in hand with the rising demand.

	1932-33	1933-34
Safety	18,411,741	17,847,542
Sulphur	408,466	235,998
	18,820,208	18,083,540

(Figures in Gross.)

SUGAR PRODUCTION: Second Memorandum on the production of sugar directly from cane in modern factories in India during the season 1937-38 issued by Mr. R. C. Srivastava, B.Sc., O.B.E., Director, Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology, India, Cawnpore states:—

Important feature of the present forecast is that most of the factories in Bihar have for the first time reported inadequate supplies of cane and a consequent reduction in the production of sugar by about 20 per cent from the figure published in the first forecast. The All-India production shows a decrease of about 7.3 per cent of which Bihar alone is responsible for over 5.4 per cent.

The present forecast places the total quantity of cane crushed in modern factories in India during the season 1937-38 at 10,329,000 tons as against the actual figure of 11,687,000 tons in season 1936-37. The total production of sugar is estimated at 968,800 tons as against the production of 1,111,400 tons last year—a decrease of about 143,000 tons. Bihar alone shows a decrease of about 98,000 tons.

The total production of sugar refined from Gur in India during the season 1937 amounted to 19,500 tons as against 50,067 tons during the season 1936 or a decrease of 30,567 tons. Out of the total production of sugar refined from Gur during 1937, 15,900 tons were manufactured by factories which are purely refineries while 3,600 tons were made by cane factories equipped with auxiliary refining plant.

During and after the Great War, India experienced shortage in sugar supply for the daily consumption. Since that time, the Indians have been opening factories in India itself. The Government came to their help in raising protective duties. In India so far there are about 166 sugar factories. The value of the machinery imported is approximately Rs. 1,05,45,439. The average of the sugar cane crop also has been increased by 45 % than in 1935. As a result of larger cane crop in India, the price as well as the import of sugar from Java and other countries have been seriously affected.

India occupies a predominant position in the world market as a producer and an exporter of oil seeds. In certain seeds, India possesses almost a monopoly of the world's supply. In groundnuts out of the total world production of about 40 a little over 30 lakhs of tons are to the credit of India. In the rape and mustard seeds also India contributes almost $\frac{1}{2}$ of the world's demand, and the same is true of castor seeds. The exports go mostly to Europe.

In recent years new industries are springing up every year. It has been the fashion to speak of India as a great agricultural country. Though this statement is correct, very few people realise that Industrially India to-day is one of the Greatest countries in the world. The holding of Exhibitions from time to time bears eloquent testimony to the high perfection, our native industries have attained. Especially during the last quarter of a century India is growing into great economic manhood. What is deplorable is the lack of proper appreciation of their achievement partly to want of advertisement. The growth of sugar industry is phenomenal especially during the last decade. She need not depend on

Java for supplies. She has also attained the stage of exporting.

South India throws open rich avenues of industrial exploration. Given requisite conditions and requisite enthusiasm, her vast enormous resources could be harnessed into most fruitful channels.

RUBBER.

RUBBER REGULATION: The production and distribution of Rubber is now operated by what is called the international Rubber Regulation Committee. This Committee was found in 1934. After long and arduous International negotiations an agreement was reached between Governments controlling over 90% of the world's rubber production. Signatories to the scheme comprised Governments of the following countries:

Malaya, Netherlands, East Indies, Ceylon, India (including Burma), French Indo-China, North Borneo, Barawak and Siam.

EXPORT QUOTA: For the purpose of determining from time to time the amount of rubber which may be exported from the distinctive countries the following basic quotas have been fixed.

Countries.	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Malaya	504,000	538,000	569,000	589,000	602,000
Netherlands Indies...	352,000	400,000	500,000	520,000	540,000
Ceylon	77,500	79,000	80,000	81,000	82,500
India	6,850	12,500	12,500	12,500	13,000
Burma	5,150	8,000	8,500	9,000	9,250
North Borneo	12,000	13,000	14,000	15,500	16,500
Barawak	24,000	28,000	30,000	31,500	32,000
Siam	15,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000

The International Rubber Regulation Committee decided from time to time the rate of allowed Exports of basic quota as follows:—

		Of basic Quotas.
Jun. —	July. 1934	100%
Aug. —	Sep. 1934	90%
Oct. —	Nov. 1934	80%
Dec. —	— 1934	70%
Jan. —	Mar. 1935	75%
Apl. —	Jun. 1935	70%
July. —	Sep. 1935	65%
Oct. —	Dec. 1935	60%
Jan. —	Jun. 1936	60%
July. —	Dec. 1936	65%
Jan. —	Mar. 1937	75%
Apl. —	Jun. 1937	80%
July. —	Dec. 1937	90%

STATISTICAL POSITION: For some time after the introduction of the scheme, there was no improvement in statistical position. But it is only during 1936, there was a marked improvement, the world's stocks declining to no less than 430,000 tons or about 46% of the annual rate of consumption.

The following table presents a clear picture of the development of the statistical position since the introduction of the scheme.

	Average price of rubber.	Stocks (including afloat).	Consumption.	World Shipments.	Other countries.
	Per lb.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
	3-7/32	616,370	821,400	13,600	839,900
	6-3/16	681,362	942,100	14,400	1,017,900
	5-31/32	586,282	938,700	19,200	810,200
	7-3/4	429,729	1,015,678	23,600	843,033
1933					
1934					
1935					
1936					

Both in America and elsewhere Rubber has also been utilised in other directions. Further more with road construction proceeding on a large scale throughout the world, and the tendency of less developed countries to prefer motor transport to railways, it is certain that the consumption of rubber will continue to increase.

In the last 8 years, the average rate of increase has been nearly 7% per annum, and if the rate of increase is halved, the world absorption will be well over 1,400,000 tons in 1945. It is open to doubt whether supply of crude rubber in 1945 will meet that figure.

SYNTHETIC RUBBER: The development of synthetic Rubber was first started in Russia. Then Germany entered the field and lately both Italy and Czechoslovakia began to manufacture synthetic rubber on a large scale. These four countries, Russia Germany, Italy and Czechoslovakia - used in 1936, 128,000 tons of crude rubber i.e. about 12% of the world's absorption. The consumption of natural rubber and synthetic rubber in Russia is as follows for the last three years:

	Natural Rubber.	Synthetic Rubber.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1934 ...	47,300	10,000	57,300
1935 ...	37,600	25,000	62,600
1936 ...	31,000	35,000	66,000

All authorities agree that the cost of synthetic rubber is at least 2sh. per lb. or more i.e. more than double the present price of natural product, and that it cannot compete with crude rubber in an open market both from the point of view of price and quality also.

From very early times some of the products peculiar to the Malabar coast have won reputation in several of the Asiatic and European nations, and were the objects of maritime enterprise and Commercial aspect throughout the succeeding centuries. Each nation had its share in the trade with the Kerala country and English are carrying on a healthy trade with this ancient 'Land of Pepper'.

As one wanders over a rubber estate it is difficult to understand what led the pioneer planter to the selection of what was originally a piece of waste jungle land without roads of any kind. They must have been of knowledge and quick to see the possibilities of such areas. The owners of the land were only too ready to dispose of their useless property even at eight annas or one rupee an acre: it then steps to make this jungle into an estate bearing valuable crop of rubber.

The course generally followed was to plant up a small acreage and then to form a syndicate to whom the land was sold naturally at a greatly enhanced price

The manager starts a nursery where plants from selected seed are grown. This seed is usually taken from trees which are at least ten years old. The young plants are placed in the ground and at a later stage in their growth it is necessary to be sure which of these are suitable for the final planting in the estates. They are pulled up the bottom of the tap root, all the smaller roots are removed and those plants which are absolutely straight in the stem and quite free from any marks of injuries are planted into the holes prepared for them. There has been considerable difference of opinion as to the number of plants to be planted per acre but the tendency now seems to be to reduce the number considerably from 100 to 125 being considered a suitable number. In some of the Indian plantations, the planting was much too close and managers have deemed it best policy to reduced planting of numbers, in some cases even as much as a half. This allows more light and air to reach the soil and the trees thrive better and reach maturity sooner.

Next comes the patient waiting for the development of the trees, the necessary weeding being almost all that is required. At last it may be after four or five years the trees are tapped. Moplahs and others of the West Coast people have taken to this work with great success and it is surprising how quickly they get proficiency. Near to each tree is the half of coconut shell and by means of a small bamboo fixed in the ground near the tree this is kept in position. Quickly the tapper makes the round of his trees before the sun gets

too hot. Then about 10 in the morning he goes round with his bucket and the latex is poured from the cocoanut shell in it. When he has finished his round the latex is taken to the factory. A good man can tap 400 trees in a morning but not many can keep this quantity.

Here the latex is passed through strainers and treated with acid which causes it to coagulate into a large pulpy mass. The acid is usually acetic acid which separates the water from the latex. The coagulating takes place in flat pans. In less than 24 hours each tin contains a slab of white rubber elastic and flabby enough to be kneaded out by hand like pastry. It then passes through the rubber mangle and the pressed out sheet now a greyish colour is left to dry. The following morning the sheets are removed to the smoke room and this process changes the article into the finished article the pale golden brown rubber sheet which is despatched to England and America for manufacturing processes.

One of the great problems connected with the running of rubber estates as with all the estates is that of labour. No doubt much depends on the manager and his ability to handle his labour properly. Though it is difficult to get the necessary supply on some estates on account of climate and health conditions a tactful planter usually finds that the requisite men and women are available. Not all planters have the secret of handling labour successfully, yet it is generally conceded that this is one of the first essentials of successful work. In most places care is taken that the coolies are properly housed that the men in charge are not allowed to bully them and that suitable medical attendance is available. Under the best conditions work on a rubber estate demands greater deal from manager and workmen alike and where there is the right relation existing between them, the estate is generally satisfactory.

CEMENT INDUSTRY IN INDIA: The rapid development within recent years in the manufacture of Cement, one of India's youngest industries; the great part which that Industry plays in the economic and national welfare of the country; and the wide scope for building up cottage industries offered by its subsidiary products, these factors will

naturally revet the attention of every right minded individual interested in the current problems of the country.

The majority of people are unaware that Cement is not a new invention; It was known to the Romans in the classic days and also the Indians of old, as evidenced by the roads and castles built in Britain by the former and by the prescription for the compounding of a special enduring mortar given in the Brihat Samhitha written by the gifted Indian author, Varaha Mihira. The art was lost for some centuries but was revived and vastly improved by John Smeaton, an eminent English Engineer, in the third quarter of 18th century. The real credit, however must, be awarded to James Aspdin, an English brick layer, for the discovery of the Portland Cement of the present day and the establishment of the first Cement plant in 1825.

It was due to the enterprise of the South Indian Industrials Ltd., Madras, that the first Cement factory in India was opened in Madras in 1902. The capacity of the plant was exceedingly small and the methods employed were far from being technically efficient according to the present day standards and probably due to these factors and also to the high cost and lack of encouragement the factory had laterly to be closed down.

It was actually in 1912 that the real foundation of the present industry was laid down. The Indian Cement Co., Ltd., was registered in that year and started work in Porbandar.

The next two years saw the formation of the Katni and Bundi Companies. These factories were also of restricted output to begin with. However the great war broke out when they were still in their infancy and left them without competition to cater for practically the whole of India's Cement requirements. The success of these factories naturally lent a fillip to industrial promoters in the country with the result that no less than 9 large factories were set in operation in 1923.

India is a conservative country.

The Cement manufacturers realised the gravity of the situation. The Indian Cement manufacturers' Association, formed in 1925, successfully directed

their efforts towards the stabilisation of the prices at an economic level.

The truth of the modern slogan, "Publicity Pays" has now been recognised by all. The Concrete Association of India was inaugurated in 1927,

Another Progressive step - the formation of the Cement Marketing Co., of India, Ltd., in 1930.

In conjunction with the Concrete Association, offices were opened in the chief cities of India and staffed with competent Engineers trained in Cement Concrete work.

Cement is acknowledged to be an economical building material.

With this end in view a merger company was formed with the main object of consolidating and reorganising the entire business of the various cement manufacturing companies, not only in respect of sales and selling prices but also in regard to manufacture, administration and the erection of new Factories where and when needed, together with the all-important matter of economic distribution.

Such a merger offered possibilities of considerable saving on bulk purchases of Indian coal, jute bags and other stores required by the Industry. The quota system could be abolished and the fullest advantage taken of the Production capacities of the existing works favourably situated with regard to the markets, whilst production in the less economic centres could be restricted.

The merger received the unqualified approval of that farseeing industrial Magnate, the late Mr. F. E. Dinshaw.

The advantages and future possibilities of the merger scheme were so overwhelming and convincing that it received the unqualified approval of that far-seeing industrial magnate the late Mr. F. E. Dinshaw and it finally became an accomplished fact in August, 1936, under the name of the Associated Cement Companies of India, Ltd.

A Concrete School is now maintained in Bombay in which young men from various parts of the country are trained.

Students are mostly of the sub-overseer and maistry class.

Demonstration lorries move from place to place.

The Cement Industry affords employment to about 10,000 men in the factories alone. The Jute industry is benefitted. Huge freight revenues accrue to the Railways.

The Cement Industry is the only one which can enter into everyone of the four main schemes of the National Programme.

The manufacture of bye-products can be developed as a cottage industry. In the villages the poorer classes benefit.

Cement concrete has the property of combining with steel without corroding it.

This growing industry has a glorious future before it.

DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES: The need for a bold policy of fisheries development in Madras is urged by Dr. Sundara Raj, the Director, in his report on the administration of the department for 1936-37. The time he says, was never more opportune for such a development.

He observes:

"A more direct appeal urging the Government to develop Madras fisheries has been made by 'Nature' a scientific journal of the highest standing. No more forcible argument than the facts which the paper brings forward is needed to convince one of the critical position in which the Indian fishing industry will soon find itself. A large firm owning 40 Japanese trawlers has commenced fishing operations on the Indian coast and is landing hundreds of tons of fish into the Calcutta market. The consequences to the Indian fishing industry particularly that of Madras the journal emphatically points out will be disastrous. The fullest exploitation of the natural resources of the country for the benefit of the people is the avowed aim of the present autonomous provincial governments. The menace of foreign exploitation in the wake of the Trawler's survey of the fishing grounds of the East Coast of the presidency already foreshadowed in my reports for the years 1931-32 and 1935-36 has assumed startling proportions. Not only is a depletion through over fishing likely to result as in the Pacific and more recently in the shell fisheries of the Andamans and the Nicobar islands, which 'Nature' says will take many years to recover from overfishing by Japanese vessels but the chief market for Indian fish products which hitherto has been Japan

will automatically cease, spelling ruin to the local fisherman, the industry and the country at large. The time, it would seem, was never more opportune for a bold policy of fishery development in Madras. But it is surprising that the proposal for seriously curtailing the activities of the department has been revived for the eighth time within fifteen years. This demand for drastic retrenchment it will be seen, is all the more unreasonable as the average surplus revenue of the department has definitely increased since last year from Rs. 13,403 to Rs. 15,944. Even in advanced countries expenditure on Fisheries is a recognised debit on public revenues while this department more than meets such expenditure and is not a burden on the tax-payer. A wide awakening to the need for fishery development in India has led to the resuscitation of the Fisheries Department in Bengal and Baroda who have each applied for fisheries officers trained in this Presidency for organising their departments on the model of Madras.

For the third time the attempt to improve the catches and methods of the sea going fishermen had to be unexpectedly terminated as the Master Fisherman recruited to demonstrate the possibilities of the Yorkshire 'Coble' developed mental abnormalities almost immediately on arrival in India and had to be repatriated.

The fishing season was on the whole favourable though a marked decline from last year's record was noticeable on both the coasts. On the west coast both oil sardine and mackerel were available in moderate quantities, the catches of mackerel being distinctly less than those of last year. On the East coast the most abundant fisheries were ribbon fish in the extreme south where they have been scarce during the last few years and white bait throughout the east coast from Ramnad to Vizagapatam. The fish curing yards showed a surplus revenue of Rs. 48,048 against Rs. 97,153 last year.

FINANCE: The total revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 423,043 against Rs. 5,48,667 in the previous year. The decrease was mainly due to a reduction in the quantity of salt sold in the fish curing yards to a less favourable fishing season than last year, and a non-disposal of the year's catch of chanks

within the years under report. The fish curing yards were responsible for a net excess of revenue over-expenditure of Rs. 48,048 as against Rs. 97,153 last year. The chanks of 1936-37 were not sold before the end of the year and they have been taken credit for at production cost hence this section shows an apparent debit balance of Rs. 16,606. Since the close of the year however an offer of Rs. 212-8-0 per 1,000 full sized chanks as against Rs. 163-12-0 last year has been received and recommended to Government; this will convert the apparent deficit into a profit of Rs. 25,003. The Aquarium brought a net revenue of Rs. 4,799 against Rs. 5,796 in the previous year though the gate collections were actually larger than last year. The revenue from inland fisheries were almost the same as last year, the actual receipts during the year being Rs. 69,738 against Rs. 69,739 in the previous year.

The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 5,84,007 against Rs. 5,93,861 in 1935-36. The decrease was chiefly due to a smaller quantity of salt purchased and transported to the west coast yards than in the year previous.

TRADE OF MADRAS "There was a substantial improvement in the volume of trade passing through the port during the year under review. The improvement was particularly marked in the imports of oils and coal, and in the export of groundnuts," says the report of the Madras Port Trust for the year 1937-38 just published.

The value of the total trade of the Port of Madras on private account, as furnished by the Collector of Customs, representing 39 per cent of the aggregate trade of the Presidency being the same percentage as in the previous year, amounted to Rs. 3,403.48 lakhs or an increase of Rs. 236.67 lakhs as compared with the previous year. Imports accounted for Rs. 1,795.88 lakhs and exports Rs. 1,607.60 lakhs as against Rs. 1,596.68 lakhs and Rs. 1,570.13 lakhs respectively in the previous year. Foreign traffic (imports and exports combined) increased from Rs. 2,425.27 lakhs to Rs. 3,063.38 lakhs and coasting cargo decreased from Rs. 741.54 lakhs to Rs. 340.10 lakhs.

Excluding the sum of Rs. 1,00,000 contributed from the Madras Port Fund

and the sum of Rs. 2,15,944 transferred from the Landing Charges Fund, the net revenue receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 34,13,565 as against Rs. 30,40,918 of the previous year. Excluding contributions to capital account and reserve funds, the net expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 27,24,474 as against Rs. 27,11,175 of the previous year.

With effect from the 1st April 1937, the Government of India assumed direct control of the administration of the Port of Madras.

During the year under review, the privilege of ten days' leave with pay in a year was extended to all daily rated employees in the Trust's service.

TRAFFIC: The total tonnage of imports and exports which passed through the Harbour during the year under review was 1,117,733 tons, or an increase of 10.4 per cent on the previous year, the tonnage for the previous six years, being 1,012,857 tons in 1936-37; 1,019,560 tons in 1935-36; 1,158,876 tons in 1934-35; 1,009,192 tons in 1933-34; 1,010,890 tons in 1932-33 and 1,155,748 tons in 1931-32.

The total tonnage of imports during the year was 746,544 tons, an increase of 11.7 per cent on the previous year. The imports of raw cotton and other textiles advanced from 4,750 and 6,860 tons to 5,669 and 9,179 tons respectively. The import of twist and yarn and cotton manufactures (piece goods) fell from 4,943 and 6,788 tons to 3,830 and 4,869 tons respectively. The number of motor cars imported during the year was 1,572 as against 1,221 in 1936-37. The imports of ordinary cycles and parts and accessories of cars and cycles showed an increase, the figure for the current year being 12,763 tons as against 9,828 tons for the previous year. Of this quantity, 37.5 per cent came from Europe, 51 per cent came from America and 9.4 per cent from Japan.

The aggregate tonnage of mineral oils imported into this port advanced from 159,093 tons to 196,539 tons. The imports of sugar were negligible.

The imports of rice during the year increased from 60,947 tons to 63,556 tons. Of this quantity, 60,192 tons came from Burma and 2,845 tons from Calcutta. The imports of other food-grains including pulses and flour have fallen from 36,631 tons to 26,913 tons. The total tonnage of

chemical manures imported has advanced from 32,659 tons to 33,882 tons.

The tonnage of coal imported into the port during the year amounted to 109,712 tons or an increase of 40.1 per cent on the previous year.

EXPORTS INCREASE: The aggregate tonnage of goods shipped from this port during the year under review amounted to 371,189 tons as against 344,257 tons of the previous year or an increase of 7.8 per cent.

The shipment of ores increased from 17,521 tons to 18,512 tons or by 5.6 per cent. The following table shows the shipment of the several kinds of ores during the past three years.

	1937-38.	1936-37.	1935-36.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Chrome ore	7,774	10,657	6,223
Magnesite	7,654	4,765	4,070
Others	3,084	2,099	1,064
Total	18,512	17,521	11,357

The tonnage of groundnuts shipped at the port amounted to 176,813 tons or an increase of 20 per cent on the previous year. Europe took 93.8 per cent of the total quantity shipped. The shipment of tanned hides and skins fell from 32,723 tons to 29,149 tons. Of this quantity, 89.4 per cent was shipped to Europe. Exports of raw cotton fell from 29,290 tons to 18,785 tons. The shipment of scrap iron fell from 24,083 tons to 15,175 tons. Onion exports advanced from 20,187 tons to 22,310 tons.

The railway traffic handled during the year under review amounted to 388,252 tons broad gauge inwards and outwards and 96,663 tons metre gauge inwards and outwards, aggregating in all 484,915 tons.

The largest quantity of cargo shipped on any one day during the year was 2,752 tons of groundnuts on 12th January 1938 in S. S. "Jean L. D." To quote, an instance of good work the S. S. "Kotohira Maru" which arrived on the 19th November 1937, discharged at West Quay No. II 1,950 tons of general cargo in 13½ working hours at an average rate of 142 tons per hour. M. V. "Haller" which arrived on 12th September 1937, was the first tanker to discharge a consignment of petrol using her own steam.

IMPROVEMENTS IN SERVICE: On the first October 1937, the Trust took over the landing of general cargo. In this connection it purchased a fleet of lighters to deal with cargo which is not landed direct on to a quay.

On 1st October 1937, the Trust took over the handling of non-dutiable coasting cargo, and of iron and steel landed at the Iron Yard; this service was previously performed by handling agents under an agreement with the Trust.

To meet the increased demand for electrical energy, a new sub-station of 400 K.V.A. capacity was installed at the South Quay with the most modern type of switch gear. An order was placed during the year under review with Messrs. The Hooghly Docking and Engineering Co., Limited, Calcutta, for a new 900 H. P., Twin Screw Steam Tug fitted with 'Kort' Nozzles. This will be the first deep-sea tug of its kind in India.

Plans and estimates were submitted to Government during the year for the construction of a new warehouse on the South Accretion, 540 feet long by 80 feet wide, equipped with rail and road facilities.

Observations taken during the year under review show that the waters bounding the approaches and entrance to the harbour continue to deteriorate. The sand accretion opposite the East Quay is growing rapidly, and observations show it to be moving steadily in a northerly direction.

The number of vessels that entered the harbour during 1937-38 was 720 as against 708 in the previous year and the total tonnage increased from 2,540,911 to 2,612,681. The average tonnage of each steamer or motor vessel increased from 3,674.77 to 3,767.49 registered tons.

The report contains a statement showing the progress of Indianisation in the superior services under the Trust.

WORLD TRADE STATISTICS: The February number of the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics of the League of Nations contains, inter alia, a summary of the movement of world trade, of world production and of the prices of certain basic commodities in 1937 and the preceding four to five years compared with 1922.

The recovery in world trade which started slowly in 1933 gradually gathered momentum in subsequent years, especially

in 1937. The gold value in that year was 23.7 per cent higher than in 1936, but still amounted to only 43.2 per cent of the 1929 value.

As the gold price index for international trade in 1937 is estimated to have been only about 47.5 per cent of the 1929 average, the quantum of world trade in 1937 was probably only about 2½% less than in 1929. It rose by 1 per cent in 1933 from the low point reached in the previous year, 3.5 per cent in 1934, 4.5 per cent in 1935, 5 per cent in 1936 and 13.5 per cent in 1937.

In December 1937 the gold value of world trade was slightly higher than in the preceding month.

IMPORTS: The gold value of world imports increased by 24.2 per cent from 1936 to 1937. Among the 36 most important trading countries only. Algeria shows a substantial decrease in imports (—30 per cent); in China and in the U. S. S. R. imports were maintained at the same level as in 1936. In none of the remaining countries did imports increase by less than 9 per cent.

The largest increase in imports occurred in Italy (+70) whose opportunities for trading had of course been restricted in the previous year. Imports into Roumania, Bulgaria and the Netherlands Indies rose by more than 50 per cent, Finland by 44 per cent, the Argentine, Norway, Japan, British Malaya and Brazil by 34 to 39 per cent.

Increase of about 30 per cent are recorded for the Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, Belgium-Luxemburg, India, Yugoslavia and New Zealand.

The percentage increase lay between 27 and 20 per cent in Canada, Poland, U. S. A., Chile, Czechoslovakia, Egypt and the United Kingdom and between 19 and 9 per cent in a group of nine countries comprising inter alia Australia, Switzerland and France.

EXPORTS: The gold value of world exports increased in 1937 by 23.3 per cent. The largest increases have taken place in Chile (+75 per cent), Roumania (58 per cent), Italy and British Malaya (46 per cent), Yugoslavia (44 per cent), the Netherlands Indies and the Argentine, (41 per cent) and the U. S. A. (36 per cent.)

In the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Belgium-Luxemburg, Finland, Bulgaria, U. S. S. R., Austria, Ceylon and Germany the increase lay between 33 and 24 per cent.

Imports rose less than 10 per cent in the Union of South Africa, Canada (8 per cent), France (2.5 per cent), Ireland (0.5 per cent); they dropped only in Algeria (—7 per cent).

The world production of pig-iron, steel, zinc, copper, coal and petroleum, according to the provisional figures now available, was substantially higher in 1937 than in 1936. The increases were: for pig-iron about 14 per cent, steel about 9 per cent, zinc about 11 per cent, copper probably roughly 33 per cent, coal 5½ per cent and petroleum about 14 per cent.

The world production of petroleum was about 40 per cent, of copper about 20 per cent, of steel and zinc about 12 per cent and of pig-iron about 6 per cent higher than in 1929, while coal production remained 2 per cent below the 1929 level.

Steel production in 1937 increased most in Czechoslovakia (+48 per cent). Luxemburg, Poland and Canada, (+26 per cent), Belgium (+22 per cent), France (+18 per cent), the United Kingdom (+11 per cent) and the U. S. S. R. (+9 per cent). The increases were relatively small in Italy (+3.2 per cent), Germany and the U. S. A. (+3.6 per cent).

Zinc production increased most last year in the U. S. A. and in Germany (+20 per cent).

WHOLESALE PRICE INDICES: The general wholesale price indices for 39 countries indicate throughout 1937 a higher level of wholesale prices than in the preceding year. Wholesale prices (annual averages) have risen most in France (41 per cent), Indo-China (34 per cent), Netherlands Indies (32 per cent), Latvia (25 per cent), Japan (21 per cent), Chile (20 per cent), the Netherlands (19 per cent), Portugal (18 per cent), Iran and Italy (17 per cent), and in Belgium, Switzerland and Norway (16.4 per cent).

The rise lay between 15 and 10 per cent in 11 countries including the United Kingdom (15 per cent), Sweden, the Argentine, Canada, India, Denmark and Poland.

In another group of nine countries including the U. S. A. (6.8 per cent), the increase lay between 9 and 6 per cent.

The smallest increase is shown for Germany (+1.7 per cent), Union of South Africa, Albania, Egypt, Austria and Turkey (between 2 and 4 per cent).

In the great majority of countries the upward movement of wholesale prices was checked or turned into a decline during the last months of 1937. The rise in prices has continued only in the Union of South Africa, Albania, Bulgaria, Iran, Italy, New Zealand and Yugoslavia.

PRICES OF BASIC COMMODITIES: The movement of prices of certain important basic commodities discloses some divergent tendencies and considerable differences in the amplitude of the movements.

In the case of foodstuffs, the upward movements have either continued (e.g., wheat, sugar) or the decline has been relatively small as compared with the increases since the middle of 1936 (e.g., butter, beef). The prices of coffee and copra show, however, a marked decline since the beginning of 1937.

Among textile raw materials, prices of American cotton have fallen about 40 per cent since the spring of 1937, those of Egyptian cotton by 33 per cent. Prices of wool also dropped rapidly by about 30 per cent as from August but the steep fall in cotton and wool prices would appear to have been checked towards the end of last year. Prices of raw silk fell by 20 per cent during 1937 whilst prices of artificial silk were maintained.

Prices of timber and of wood-pulp, which rose rapidly in 1936 and in the first months of 1937, show a relatively small decline in recent months.

Rubber prices and prices of certain base metals (copper, tin, lead, zinc), which showed the sharpest rise during the second half of 1936 and the first quarter of 1937, have since fallen most but there was some check in the fall at the year-end.

Prices of pig-iron and steel, which are fairly strictly controlled, participated in the rise of 1936 and the early part of 1937 and have been since maintained, as has been also the price of nickel.

BANKING

Money is not wealth. It is only a claim to wealth. It facilitates the accumulations of savings. No other kind of wealth, as Mill remarks, confers so immediately and so certainly as Money the power of attaining purposes in general. It is an incentive to save and a means to save and saving is done by a claim on the bank. To save and invest became at once the duty and delight of a large class in the 19th century. The morals, the politics, the literature and religion of the age joined in a grand conspiracy for the promotion of saving. A rich man could enter the kingdom of god if only he saved. A new harmony sounded from the celestial spheres. Hence Banks canalise savings.

The growth of Banking has a telling effect on the prosperity of the nation. Since our system of production is built on calculated pre-vision of future, credit plays a strategic part in the economic life of the nation.

In India we do not suffer from dearth of banks but the melancholy feature that cannot be left unnoticed is the dearth of Banking sentiment. We desire to keep our money liquid.

The antiquity of Indian Banking is venerable. The absence of reliable statistics is, no doubt, a serious handicap but history throws open new avenues of rich exploitations.

Bankers have always been prominent members of Indian society in Hindu and Muhammadan periods. No Royal or Imperial council was complete without their inclusion. Ministers have been great Bankers. State bankers fed the exchequers. Issue and discounting Bills were not unknown. Deposits and issue of paper money were in vogue. As Mr. C. N. Cooke remarks they may be divided into three classes, the city shroffs, the Zillah Bankers and the village Mahajans. But these charged exorbitant rates that ranged from 30 to 50 per cent interest. The dishonouring of the Hundi was a rare phenomenon.

Hundis commanded great respect. They were cashed even in distant Kashmir and Persia.

Agency Houses of Calcutta, initiated by Europeans who dazed by the fortunes of their contemporaries, began to do regular banking business. They acted as Agents for the European Planters and merchants settled in India. The hurricanous progress of the commercial crisis worked such a havoc upon the merchant princes that Joint Stock Companies sprang up in huge numbers. The failure of Agency Houses saw the starting of the Government Banks, more familiarly known as the Presidency Banks of India.

INDIGENOUS BANKERS like Nattukottai Chettiars, Sowcars, Chit funds and others play a large part in money-lending business. But their operations are local. The Kalladaikurichi Brahmins do large lending business. The Nattukottai Chettiars have branches in far off Burma, F. M. S., and Straits, and Shanghai. They lend money to agriculturists but the financial stress of the times have necessitated them to resort to the Co-operative Banks for help.

INDIAN JOINT STOCK BANKS: They are started with a rupee capital raised in India. The feverish haste of India to grow industrially bears fruit in the cropping up of numerous Joint Stock Companies to finance trade. The Directors strain every nerve of their being to extensively expand their business connections. Branch Banking is receiving large impetus. The German Banks' financing industry is proverbial. Japan's prosperity is largely due to the Banking sentiments prevalent among their enterprising spirits. In France Credit Lyonnais, having hundreds of branches, finance peasants. The Co-operative Credit Unions in India serve this purpose. The historic houses of England and the United States, the Barings, the Morgans, the Rothschilds carry on chiefly deposit banking.

EXCHANGE BANKS are established after the failure of Agency Houses for financing foreign trade. They are 18 in number. Thomas Cooke & Sons and the American Express Co., finance tourists, traffic. The eleven others do most of their business abroad; having less than 25% of their deposits here. They receive

deposits on current accounts, purchase bills, make loans against shipping and other profits, finance import of bullion and take some part in financing internal trade.

While capital and reserves are steadily increasing deposits and cash balances are decreasing. They enjoy the banking monopoly of India's foreign trade. They finance exports about 600 crores and imports—300 crores—from one port to another. The competition with well established non-Indian banks with large capital and the absence of branches in London and other centres and trained staff have incapacitated our banks to finance India's foreign trade. As many bills are drawn in London that the Exchange banks have from time to time to remit vast sums to India by exports of gold and silver sterling in London.

LAND MORTGAGE BANKS: Land is the right basis of aristocracy. Its problem is a baffling one. Practically 75 to 80% of the population of this country depend upon the fluctuations of the fortunes in land. In the life of the nation as in the life of the man, agriculture plays a prominent part.

The Royal Commission on Agriculture has rightly said that the biggest problem for India is to develop its agriculture. The menacing calamities that hover above the head of the ryot, writ large on the brows of the nations in perplexed letters of rural indebtedness, deepens the agrarian problem. The mission of land is as vital as the Sermon on the Mount and stellar talents have in vain tackled to gauge the immensity of its propitiousness and the energies with which the Co-operative Societies started their being to redress the telling grievances of peasants have borne laudable fruits. The appreciable Government help in this direction, and the marvellous success they have achieved in the last 25 years have gone a step further than previously expected.

Now short term credits have been given by these societies for a considerable period of time but the problem of meeting long term credits for debt redemption or for acquiring land for carrying on agricultural operations though it occupied the attention of Co-operators from as early a period as nineties of the last century, it was left to the Townshed Committee to tackle in the Madras Presidency the problem thoroughly and expound the basis on which the Land

Mortgage Banks might work to redeem the indebtedness of the ryots.

Agrarian reforms are patriotic. Germany, France and Denmark possess an elaborate system of agricultural instruction. The Credit Fonier in France is a splendid system of lending money on the security of landed property. The loan is repayable by a terminal annuity. Denmark is the home of all forms of agricultural co-operation.

England was rather late in establishing Agricultural Mortgage Loan Societies for long term credits. Until the Haversham Commission was appointed to investigate the grievances of tenant farmers, the position of the farmers was precarious. The Agricultural Credit Act of 1928 for long term credits granted loans up to 40 years subject to the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Central Banking Enquiry Committee investigated the amount of agricultural indebtedness in the presidency. The long term debts amount to more than 150 crores. The Debt Conciliation Boards are promulgating drastic reduction in individual debts. But the Land Mortgage Bank is the best way of reducing the chronic agricultural indebtedness. It would ensure equalled payments. It avoids litigation and encourages thrift and co-operative effort. The recent Debt Relief Act is a great boon to the ryots.

We are on quasi-co-operative basis i.e., limited liability. The purposes of Land Mortgage Banks are the redemption of lands and methods of cultivation, construction of houses, liquidation of old debts, sinking wells, excavation of tanks, purchases of lands and costly instruments and long term credit. No loan exceeds half the value of the mortgaged property. Interest on debentures is guaranteed by the Government. The maximum amount of loan is Rs. 55,000 and loan period is 20 years. In Germany, the loan period is 60 years. At present we have about 37 Land Mortgage Banks limited to areas of 10 miles.

POST OFFICES: They form part of the Money Market in India. In 1870, District Savings Banks were established all over the Presidency. In 1872 Post Office Savings Banks were created. In 1931 there were about 12,800 such banks. They encourage thrift but there are very bad

rural deposits. Net deposit per head should not exceed Rs. 750. The number of depositors is about 2½ millions. They provide insurance facilities to Government servants.

POSTAL CASH CERTIFICATES form popular form of investment with minimum risk. They are issued, tax free between 6 to 3½% according to stringency.

GOVERNMENT LOANS are issued from time to time in Rupee loans, Bearer Bonds, Promissory Notes—transferable only by endorsement. Since 1917 Government borrows by inviting tenders or Bills repayable in 3, 6, and 12 months.

THE IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA was founded in 1921 with the amalgamation of the three Presidency Banks of Madras, Bombay and Calcutta. There is a central Board of Governors and Local Boards transact all business at the three centres.

The Bank cannot make loans and advances for more than 6 months, (2) on the security or shares of other banks (3) on the immovable property or promissory notes with less than 2 signatories. They cannot discount bills. It is authorised to hold a branch in London but it cannot receive deposits or open cash credit to any but clients of Free Banks or to old clients. The paid up capital of the Bank in March, 1934 was 5,67,50,000 and reserves were 522 crores. But the dividend has come down to 12%.

The Imperial Bank has about 163 branches. In a sense it is a Bank of Banks. It manages 11 clearing Houses. It finances internal trade, stimulates joint stock banks but the three Head Offices mean top-heavy expenditure. Indianisation of officers is slow.

Since the inaugurations of the Reserve Bank the Imperial Bank acts as its agent at all places in British India where there is a branch of Imperial Bank of India and where there is no branch of the Banking department of the Reserve Bank of India.

THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA was established in April 1935 under the Reserve Bank of India Act 1934. Before its establishment, there was no Central Bank in India. The Government of India and the Imperial Bank of India between them performed the functions usually undertaken by Central Banks. The need

for a Central Bank which by mobilising the currency and banking reserves of the country would regulate credit satisfactorily had been long felt and various royal commissions emphasised the need for one. But it was only in 1934, when the impending constitutional changes rendered the need for a Central Bank imperative that the Reserve Bank Act was enacted. The Reserve Bank commenced operations in April 1935.

Under the above Act, the Reserve Bank has the sole right to issue notes in India and in Burma. It has also the duty of supplying subsidiary coins and transferring funds within the territory. Against the notes issued by it, the Bank has to maintain an adequate reserve of which at least two fifths should consist of gold coin, gold bullion, or sterling securities. Further the value of gold coin and bullion should not fall below forty crores of rupees. For the supply of currency and transfer of funds both on public as well as Government account, the issue department of the Bank maintains currency chests in different parts of the country.

The Bank is further charged by the Act with the "keeping of reserves with a view to securing monetary stability in British India and generally to operate the currency and credit system of the country to its advantage." For this purpose, every banking company in India with capital and reserves of more than Rs. 5 lakhs is required to maintain with the Reserve Bank a minimum balance of 5% of its demand and 2% of its time liabilities. The Government of India and the Provincial Governments have also to keep their balances with the Reserve Bank free of interest. The Bank manages the public debt of the Central and Provincial Governments, issues treasury bills for them and generally performs their remittance exchange and banking business.

The Reserve Bank has also to maintain the exchange value of the rupee by the purchase and sale of sterling at the rates fixed by the law.

To meet the internal credit requirements of the country the Reserve Bank is authorised to make loans and advances to scheduled banks and provincial Co-operative banks against gold, silver, trustee securities and certain approved types of

bills of exchange. The Bank can also purchase, sell or rediscount bills of exchange of not more than 90 days maturity under certain conditions. Bills drawn for the financing of seasonal agricultural operations and maturing within 9 months can also be similarly dealt in by the Reserve Bank.

The Bank has also been entrusted with a special responsibility in the matter of agricultural credit. For this purpose the Bank maintains an Agricultural Credit Section whose functions are to co-ordinate the operations of the Bank in connection with Agricultural Credit and its relations with provincial co-operative banks, to study questions of agricultural credit and to be available for consultation by the Central and Provincial Governments, Co-operative Banks and other banking organisations.

ORGANISATION OF THE BANK: The Reserve Bank is a shareholder's bank with a capital of Rs. 5 crores divided into five lakhs of shares of Rs. 100 each. The general superintendence and direction of the Bank is vested in a Central Board of Directors. The executive head of the Bank is the Governor, who is appointed by the Governor-in-Council after consideration of the recommendations made by the Central Board in that behalf. He is assisted by a Committee of the Central Board which meets every week. Besides, there are five Local Boards, which act mainly in an advisory capacity.

At present, the Bank has five offices in India viz., Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Rangoon and Delhi and three branches viz. Cawnpore, Karachi and Lahore. It has also an office in London.

OFFICERS OF THE BANK: Governor: Sir James B. Taylor C. I. E. Deputy Governor: Manilal B. Nanavati Esq.

There is a real opportunity for the Reserve Bank to plan wisely and well, so as to put agricultural finance on the right ways and thereby rehabilitate it for lasting good of the country. It must help in creating an agricultural bill market for India through indigenous bankers. Sir George Schuster estimates that indigenous banker does 90 % of the total banking business of the country but he must be brought within the orbit of the Central Banking System.

Reserve Bank could not lend long term loans. The Land Mortgage Banks are fed. The Federal Farm Loan Banks in America raise funds by means of long term debentures.

Long term loans and adequate marketing facilities are the crying needs of the hour and we fervently hope the Government will leave no stone unturned in fulfilling these age-long wants.

Since India is purely an agricultural country and the peasant's prosperity depends upon the vagaries of the season an examination into the whole relation of the Bank with agriculture of the country is very important. The agricultural debts amount to Rs. 900 crores.

The agriculturist needs both short term and long term credits. The U. P. Banking Committee of 1930 found that co-operative societies supply only 5.3 % of the total needs of the cultivators. The steps contemplated by the Reserve Bank were to purchase, sell and discount Indian Bills of Exchange and promotes bearing 2 or more good signatures. Mr. Darling was put on special duty to organise the Agricultural Credit Department to centralise the control of the co-operative movement. The main objects were to stimulate the growth of co-operation amongst producers and secondly to provide for orderly marketing. The Reserve Bank might also be authorised to issue debentures on the lines of Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

THE MANAGING AGENCY SYSTEM has been held to the public not only as pernicious and harmful to India's industries but existing solely for exploitation at the hands of unscrupulous swindlers of the helpless and ignorant investigator.

The early pioneers of industry in India were British merchants who started industry and promoted partnership. After nursing losses in their infancy, they enjoyed the fortunes of trade in later stages. The British managing agents were primarily responsible for the rapid growth of jute, tea, coalmining and transport industries. In providing capital for new industries or the expansion of existing ones he continues to render an essential service. Hence the anxiety of the

managing agents to occupy a dominating position of control with respect to other companies is understandable.

In a country like India the absence of deposit system would mean the monopolising of large scale industries by a handful of multi-millionaires. It is only because of the deposit system that the industrialisation of the country even to the extent we witness to-day has been possible in spite of the absence of banking facilities and Government aid.

INSURANCE

THE cow loves her calf; the hen her chicks, and the bitch her pups. So do women love their children. The rending cries of the orphans would melt any one. Life Insurance, exotic in its origin, is a blessing to India.

Insurance crystallises our sweet dreams. It gives an effective challenge to death. The partner in life who has stood beside her husband in sunshine and shower, braved violent storms from tumultuous seas and combated lifely agonies and doleful sufferings, when left a widow, is not thrown on rack of indigence. The vagaries of fate are safeguarded. The threatening visitations of crippling age need not be painful reminders.

During the Great War, when England was seeking the aid of America and America would not touch any contract for munition with a pair of tongs—it was an Insurance company that saved England's honour.

We have various types of Insurance companies and various purposes for which Insurance is offered. But they are mostly proprietary companies and few are termed 'Mutual Companies' that number only 41 out of 189 companies in India.

The Mutual Company has no shareholder with financial interest. The debentures that help the company to existence are terminable after a lapse of time. These are necessary to pay the deposit required by the Government of India. In regard to paid up policies the companies are still very niggardly.

In Insurance, the sorrowful spectacle is that Insurance agents do not come in of

Our population as Sir S. N. Pochkhanawala remarks is three times that of the United States, whereas banking offices in India are only 600 as compared to 12,000 in the United Kingdom. There is one bank to 100 sq. miles in U. S. A. Deposits per head of the population are £.73 in the United States and £.67 in the United Kingdom against 15 shillings in India of banking is acknowledged as the backbone of economic activity. What wonder if our agriculture, trade and industries remained undeveloped and suffer.

themselves. The Agents act as mediators. They play a stratagic part. The Insurance sentiment being in its infancy in India, the agents have to play a dominating role. Insurance agent is often unwelcome. But he is the fulcrum of the Insurance lever.

In the early history of Life Assurance business, the Life Assurance business was transacted on the assessment basis. The premiums varied from year to year. This system is extinct save in Canada and U. S. A.

THE HISTORY OF INSURANCE:—Provisions for widows assumed prominence. Then came Life Assurance. The Madras Equitable was the pioneer in the field. As early as in 1829, sponsored by Messrs Arbuthnot & Co., Madras, this company worked successfully for many years but the war witnessed its collapse. So Bombay Mutual, founded in 1871 is now the oldest Indian Mutual Life Assurance Company.

In 1874 the Oriental of Bombay was launched into being. Its prosperity went by leaps and bounds. Then came the Indian Life of Karachi, the Empire of India of Bombay and the Bharat of Lahore. The oldest proprietary company in Madras is the United India, established in 1906. The swedeshi movement in Bengal saw the rise of many proprietary companies. It is highly gratifying to note that these companies are efficiently and scientifically managed. Like a huge octopus, several of these companies have branches from Himalayas to Cape Comorin.

The number of Companies which came during 1931 under the provisions of the Indian Life Insurance Act of 1912 and the Indian Insurance Act of 1928 are 282. Of

them 136 companies are constituted in India and 146 companies are constituted outside India. Most of the Indian companies carry on life assurance only.

The net income of the Indian companies under their life assurance business mounted about 6 crores of rupees in 1931. Under annuity contracts, negligible amount of business is done.

It is really a matter of pride to note that that some Indian life offices have extended operations in distant British East Africa and in the near east and in 1931 the total few sums assured by these offices outside India amounted to Rs. 66 Lakhs.

Since 1919, the Indian companies have taken fire and marine insurance but the major portion of the business lies in the hands of the non-Indian Companies. They transact a substantial amount of fire or marine business outside India.

There were also 265 Provident Insurance Societies in 1931, doing mostly life Assurance business. Since 1883, the Government of India are running the Post Office Insurance Fund for the benefit of the Government employees. The Fund is exempted from the Provisions of the Life Act.

The New Insurance Act is a great blessing to the Insurance world. The interests of the Insurance Agents are safeguarded.

The middle of the 18th century saw the promulgation of the level annual premiums and single premium methods of Life Assurance. The underlying principles is the accumulation of the excess premiums. The three important elements that enter into the calculation of office premiums of a life office are mortality, interest and loading. Interest enters into account on account of the fact that life offices have to earn interest on the reserves built out of the premiums paid. Further loadings are added to cover the commission and expenses of management, to safeguard the office against averse fluctuations in the

mortality and interest rates assumed and to provide for profits and shareholders. The prospective methods of valuation are net premium method and the gross premium method. The former has been in vogue in United Kingdom and other western countries. The unparalleled stability of life offices in the whole world and particularly in America and United Kingdom is due to the sound principles and methods of valuation and bonus distribution. The enviable position that British Life Assurance Companies enjoy is due to the very solid foundations laid by the Actuaries who have been and are in charge of their affairs.

As Indian Finance remarks, the danger of general weakening of actuarial reserves held by many Indian Life Offices is imminent. They leave very little margin for fluctuations in experience. Further the undue advantage taken by them of the high level of prices in stock exchange securities has resulted in the unhealthy growth of high bonus rates.

The Insurance Act of 1938 provides for the appointment of a Superintendent of Insurance. For the original incumbency of this post the Government of India has obtained the services of Mr. J. H. Thomas of the Government Actuary's Department, London for a period of five years.

The total new business completed by Indian companies in the year 1935 is Rs. 32,81,41,000 of which Oriental completed Rs. 8,85,19,000, Hindustan Co-operative Rs. 2,51,73,000, Bombay Mutual Rs. 1,82,57,000, National Rs. 1,72,55,000, New India Life Rs. 1,31,87,000, Bombay Life Rs. 1,18,62,000, and Lakshmi Rs. 1,16,54,000.

Mr. Thomas is a fellow of the Institute of Actuaries and an established civil servant with 23 years' service. For the first few months he will be engaged in completing necessary preliminary measures prior to the Act being brought into force.

MUSIC

MUSIC is the language of mankind. It thrills the inmost fibre of our being and with cherubic melodies raises its hearers to a sphere of immense rapture. Captivating tunes bring the rich and poor akin and its charms transcend senses.

Music is eternal. It is God's divine breath. Its history dates before creation. The ringing note of all pervading OM are ringing the music of the spheres. Sama Veda is music itself.

Its origin is divine. Vedic chants are musically rhapsodic. Gods revel in musical fantasy. Gandharvas, Apsaras and Kinnaras are the fount of music. Saraswathi is the Goddess of learning and Music. Narada it is believed to have brought music to earth.

In the sixth century Bharatha was supposed to have received a revelation direct from Brahma who entered into meditation and out of the depths of the divine thought brought forth the Natya Sastra (science of Dancing) for the joy of the Universe.

Music and religion were so inter-twined in the vedic age. The chief functions of ancient Aryan music are the discipline of emotion and the creation of a state of meditative consciousness. The result was breathless inebriation. "Music brings a sudden concentration of the mind and directs it towards a given object. The music, having concentrated the mind and the words O! God Thou art endless, used by the operator, constantly directing him towards god, is sure to bring on the salvation of the soul". God lives in the songs of His Bakthas.

In ancient days the style called 'Desi' or that which pleases the people was created. It was lyrical while 'Margi' music was recitative and 'Nibadha' (set in and bound by word). This was probably the beginning of Alap or improvisation of a given melody.

Hindus conceive musical sound to be 22 within the octave and were called 'Srutis'. From these srutis were extracted melodies. Certain swaras in the octave were recognised as pure or Shudha Swaras, and formed a scale of seven notes, designated as sa, re, ga, ma, pa, dha, ni.

The melodies derived from these 22 srutis are known as 'ragas' which mean 'colour' or 'temperament'. Colour of the mind or the power to move the heart. Definite rules exist to the prominence of certain notes and phrases, their proper sequence and proper intonation in singing these ragas which have to be sung only at definite season and particular hour of the day.

Historically there are only 6 ragas—Bhairavai, Hindola, Regh, Siri, Dipak, and Mekams,—the first five emanating from the face of Shiva and the last from Parvati, his spouse. Bhairavi is dedicated to Shiva three-eyed sage seated on the crest of the Himalayas with the crescent moon on his forehead, his head, and arms encircled with the Serpents, and wearing a Necklace of skulls. He signifies DIVINE WILL.

Megh is of the cooling rainy season, clad in yellow, and seated on a cloud. Hindola is a swing. Siri is dressed in scarlet and adorned with budding leaves. Dipak shining in darkness is the raga of fire and Malkans is a proud warrior.

To these six ragas many secondary ragas were Raginis added with children called putras and these were then broadly classified into four systems attributed to Shiva, Krishna, Bharat Rishi and Hanuman.

Miyan Tan Tew, the famous musician of Akbar's reign breathed stranger melodies, adding excellence to Hindu music. But he has not left no scientific treatise on music, and only through his descendants we are able to hear his music to-day. It is rare to hear the pure classic Ragas.

Ragini Devi sums up in soul-stirring words:

Indian daily life being permeated with a sense of sacramental values and joy in nature is divided into auspicious periods of worship and meditations, repose, and merriment. The early hours before dawn are always associated with meditation and prayer. The afternoon is for peaceful repose; the twilight hours for reverie and prayers. Evening is for merriment and the hours after midnight for seriousness and solemnity. Each ragas has its appropriate hours. Such an arrangements

may seem purely imaginative but to the Hindu mind the time theory appears to be the definite design of master minds of the past. Any analysis of the distinguishing features of many ragas shows that the whole arrangement of the melodies is in keeping with the theory of their emotional appropriateness according to the hour.

The periods of sunrise and sunset where there is a junction between night and day evoke certain responses in the Hindu mind. These periods of twilight and dawn are called Sandhi Prakash and ragas sung during those hours are called Sandhi Prakash ragas.

Midnight and noon are also transition points when the merry and mellow evening tunes gradually change to the dreamy and plaintive tunes of morning and vice versa.

Ragas sung before dawn are slow, dignified and full of pathos. Thus the Raga

Jogia, meaning 'mystic' very appropriately belongs to that period, before sun-rise, when ascetics in India are given to religious meditation. The raga Bhairavi is devoted to the morning praise of Shiva, the lord of creation. Then come Asaveri, sweetly devotional and pleading.

Again, from noon time on to four O'clock tunes suggest coolness and repose in the tropic heat of the afternoon. Sarang sung at midday is reminiscent of Megh raga of the rainy season and has a gliding style which is refreshing and soothing. The melody called Talang sung at about three in the afternoon is dreamily smooth, light hearted and lyrical in character.

There is again a touch of pathos in the tunes of twilight hour suggestive of evening prayers or longing of the absent loved one. Then follow evening melodies, sparkling and romantic.

RADIO

THE Radio has revolutionised the world of Music and has opened up vast possibilities hitherto undreamed of. It facilitates the popularity of songs.

In South India, Broadcasting made its appearance in May 1924, when a representative of Marconi Company toured these parts. The Marconi Engineers gave demonstrations by means of a small Transmitter erected in Crompton & Co.'s premises in Mount Road and the receivers in Ripon Buildings. The elite of the town were present on this occasion. The fruit of this gathering was the formation of the Radio Club in Madras. The Club was at first located in Holloways Gardens, Egmore and twice a week broadcasting was done. A percentage of licence fees amounting to Rs. 2,442-8-0 was contributed by the Government of India during the first year. The members stood at 92. A Piano, Harmonium and a gramophone were presented to the Club. The gramophone records were broadcast on Tuesdays and Fridays. H. E. the Governor kindly consented to his band playing at the Radio club on Tuesdays from 7 to 8 P. M. Further reports from Ceylon streamed in about their receiving Madras transmission. Unfortunately the

club had to wind up in 1927 since "the Director of Wireless discontinued payment to the club of proportionate licence fees, this being the date on which the Indian Broadcasting Co., opened their station in Bombay."

From 1st April 1930, a regular broadcasting service was started by the Madras Corporation. It was opened by the then President of the Corporation, Dewan Bahadur (Now Sir) Ramaswami Mudaliar.

Loud-speaking equipments were installed at Marina, Robinson Park, Spur Tank, People's Park, Panagal's Park and High Court Beach. At first amateur artistes gave musical performances in the Radio. In 1931-32, professional artistes were engaged. In addition gramophone records were broadcast.

From 1st April 1934, on all week days, except Monday, musical programme by professionals were given. Gramophone music was broadcast on Mondays. The programme included Indian and European Music. Advertisements were too broadcast.

In March 1932, Rev. Charles W. Ranson wrote to the Press about the desirability of the Government taking broadcasting service in South India. The European

Association drew up a report and submitted it to the Government in October 1932. In accordance to their wishes, the Madras Government secured the services of Mr. Burlow, an expert from B. B. C. Mr. Burlow carried on his survey and on submitting the report, the Central Government extended All India Radio Service to South India.

The Madras Broadcasting Centre of All-India Radio was opened on the 16th June, by Hon'ble Sri. C. Rajagopalachariar. It comprises the studio and administration building at "Eastnook", Marshalls Road Egmore; a 0.25 medium wave transmitting station located at the Studio Building; and a 10 K. W. short wave transmitting station at Guindy. Mr. A. H. Van Assum, representative of Phillips, put up the two transmitters for the Madras Station. Four studios are provided at the studio building

really—the Indian Music Studio, European Music Studio, the Drama Studio, and the Talks Studio.

Incalculable are the benefits of the Radio installation. Trichinopoly is fortunate in having its studio about December.

The network of village receivers will not only dispell the murky gloom of the rural audience but keep them in touch with the progress of the day-to-day events.

Further the world at large is given an opportunity of having the soul-stirring melodies of Karnatic Music. Madras can keep abreast with the spirit of the times.

Under the benign guidance of Mr. Victor Paranjoti, Station Director, the Madras Radio has an excellent future before it. Mr. Paranjoti's name is synonymous with music. Rightly feeling the pulse of his listeners, he has proved himself a marvel in the Radio world.

CINEMA IN SOUTH INDIA

THE Cinema Industry is progressing headway. Numerous producing companies have sprung up. Theatres abound. Stellar talents are exploited and dragged to the blaze of limelight. Occupation it certainly gives to the deserving few and with deep sense of pride we acclaim the latest releases.

Of the handicaps that threaten to call halt, much is to be said. Little is done to the promotion of production executive. The ranks to which the producing class fall in is deplorable. The lure of wealth, —rather than sincere service to the furtherance of the glorious art that West strives at and in no way fails to achieve, —looms large in the eyes of the producers that many a factor which goes into fill up the void, ever widening, receives scanty attention that our sense of patriotism has to be roused to acclaim the release as a laudable one in as much as the production is the outcome of our Tamil brethren.

Though not up to the mark, the recent releases bear germs of potential success that not on lesser occasions, brings in larger returns to the immense satisfaction of the producers though they leave their spectacular patrons in the mid air.

But we should not lose sight of the woods because of the trees. Grains of gold

suffuse, not quite rarely, the crowded heaps of chaff. The galaxy of cinema stars is proud of its votaries. The world-at-the-feet-eyes of S. D. Subbulakshmi, the superb acting of T. P. Rajalakshmi, the bewitching smiles and peurile pranks of Baby Saroja, all these keep ablaze our passion for Tamil Films. The forgotten corners of human heart thrill with rhapsody when M. K. Thiyagaraja Bhagavathar unfurls his captivating melodies.

Testimony is unanimous on the high degree of perfection some of the Tamil films have attained. The success of 'Chintamani', largely due to the ringing melodies of screen's romantic idol and glamorous K. Aswathamma, is phenomenal. Close on its heels have come 'Ambikapathy' wherein Santhanalakshmi has attained excellence and 'Dhakshayagna', kept in its pristine glory by the prince of comedians N. S. Krishnan. Sirukalathur Sama is a precious find.

Of late the cinema industry is drawing into its fold the society people too. Sri F. G. Natesa Iyer, a retired railway official has flared a new path in the cine firmament. The great success of 'Chandrasena' and 'Sita Kalyanam' are due to marvellous actions of Rajivi and Master Rajam. Society woman are doing

invincible service in raising the social and intellectual tone of the Tamil Films.

It will be interesting to study the history of cinema industry in South India.

The first film ever screened was at V. P. Hall. Mr. M. Edwards an American collected as gate money Rs. 5, Rs. 3, and Rs. 2. Lyric Theatre was the first to come into being in Madras. It was situated at Misquith Buildings, Mount Road. But fire broke out and the theatre was consumed. 'Electric Theatre' sprang up owned by one Mr. Warwick Major. But the building was soon acquired by the Government for building Post Office.

'Elphinstone' sprang up where Lyric Theatre was existing. Sri R. Venkiah bought his 'Gaiety'. Then he built 'Crown' at Mint Street and 'Globe' the present 'Roxy' at Puraawalkam. Then came 'Wellington', 'Paragon', 'West End', 'Broadway', 'Kinema Central', 'Select', 'Roxy', 'Saraswathi', 'Regal', 'Star', 'Brighton' and 'Minerva'.

The honour of pioneering Cinema industry in Madras goes to Sri Nataraja Mudaliar. It was Venkiah who took to production in all seriousness since he was himself an excellent photographer. His son Sri K. Prakash started a production concern named "Star of the East Film". 'Bishma Pratigna' was the first picture. The studio was installed behind Crown Talkies. Lack of finance saw its closure after 'Gajendra Moksham' and 'Nandanar' were produced and others.

Then with Miss. K. T. Rukmani in the leading role, Thomas Huffton produced in his "Peninsular Film Co.," 'Machavathar', 'Ramadoss', etc.

'General Pictures Corporation' and 'Associated Films' were the most prosperous among the silent producers. Mr. A. Narayanan, Managing Director, General Pictures Corporation produced mighty mythological pictures like 'Dharma Patni' etc. R. Prakash was the cameraman. Unfortunately the company was

wound up in 1932. Y. V. Rao, T. S. Mani, and Devaki are their stars.

The other company with Raja Sandow as the star and Director produced 'Devil & the Damsel' etc. Miss. T. P. Rajalakshmi was playing in these.

This company too failed. Surya Film Co., was functioning at Bangalore.

Fourteenth March 1931 is the red-letter day in the annals of Cinema Industry. The first Talkie 'Alma Ara' was released and it became the rage of the public.

The first Tamil Talkie was 'Kalidoss' with T. P. Rajalakshmi in the cast whose Kurathi dance shot her into fame. It was bilingual. Then followed 'Harischandra', 'Galava', 'Vallis Wedding'. T. P. Rajalakshmi won the heart of the millions.

Then ensued the scene of woe, the like of which no eye has seen and no heart has conceived. The dramatic world received a rude shock and the stars of the stage joined the film industry. K.B. Sundarambal took the lead and her entrancing melodies in 'Nandanar' are still ringing in our ears.

Epoch making pictures came from Telugu. They proved success also in Tamil Nad.

In the wake of impetus, came many producing companies in Madras. The first Tamil Talkie produced at Madras was 'Srinivas Kalyanam' by A. Narayanan's Srinivas Cinetone. Then were established the Vel Pictures Ltd., the National Movie-tone, Sundaram Sound Studios, and Indian Art Cinetone, etc., In the moffusil centres were started, Premier Cinetone and Central Studios, Ltd. at Coimbatore, Durga Cinetone at Rajahmundry, Andhara Cinetone at Vizagapatam.

In spite of the unhealthy competition, base pecuniary consideration, lack of broad out-look, with no market except India, discouragement to the right and cheap sneer to the left, despair in front and criticisms from behind, the Cinema industry will triumphantly march from progress to progress.

EPIGRAPHY

EPIGRAPHY is a science which deals with the study of the inscriptions of a country to reconstruct its past history.

IN TAMIL NAD: epigraphs teem in thousands that extensive is the scope. The Madras Epigraphical Department has been regularly collecting mechanical paper estampages of inscription. This department is addressing all its energies the collection of stone and copper inscriptions that throw a flood of light on the dark obscurity permeating the dim pages of venerable dynasties.

The earliest epigraphical curiosities are the Brahmi inscriptions engraved at inaccessible heights in the caverns on the hills of Madura and Tinnevely. It is inferred that these were once the sites of Buddhist monasteries or centres of Jaina religious schools.

The Copper Plate documents are written in Prakrit language in the time of the Pallavas. Copper Plate documents of the Cholas, Pandyas and Cheras are very rare. In Tiruvelangadu a huge copper ring was discovered. Even to-day a copper plate document of the Pandyas is preserved in the British Museum, London. Copper plates of the Vijayanagaram Empire were recently bought for the Government Museum, Madras.

The message they bear is an account of charity endowment to temples, brahmins and professional experts. But much light is not thrown on the national life of those times. Sendalai Pillar inscriptions contain a prasati of a southern chief in high classical Tamil verse about 8th Century.

PANDYAN PITS: A portion of the very remote past is believed to have come to light near Coimbatore owing to the accidental excavation of what are known locally as the Pandyan Kulies (Pits). Every day many people visit the scene of excavation, and it is reported that the village of Nilambur in Palladam Taluq about 500 of these pits have been excavated. The kulies are built of slabs of stone 2½ feet by 3 feet and 4 inches thick. The entrance to these pits which are usually 3 to 4 feet below ground level is only one and a half feet in diameter at the most.

According to archaeologists, the pits were built by people who inhabited this part of South India in the very remote past and where their mode of disposing of the dead it is possible that such people lived somewhere about 200 A.D. because according to Manimekalai, a Tamil classic, this method of disposing of the dead was in vogue something like 2,000 years ago.

These pits have been found to contain burnt and unburnt pans of various descriptions, pottery of different shapes and sizes, cups, vases and vessels with side spouts and also saucers. These articles show a high degree of skill and workmanship. The prevailing opinion regarding these finds is that these pits were the method of burial peculiar to the indigenous people and that the method was changed owing to some cataclysm such as an invasion which resulted in the adoption of the conquerors' customs. It is understood that these tombs have also been found in Central Bank and North India.

FLORA

TAMIL NAD

THE Tourist is struck with the picturesqueness of the landscape and the wealth of flower scenery rolls him in giddy raptures.

Over a large part of South India, the underlying rock is a crystalline gneiss or squashed granite varying in composition but overlaid generally by a gravelly clay.

The coastal range is its flora least different from other parts, due to the presents of salt water and Sand. Salt marshes and dunes compose this range. On the sandy beach grow the Goat's foot convolvulus. The sand grass and the sword grass, cyperus grow thickly.

The plants that grow near mouths of rivers have thick, cylindrical leaves quite often red. Mangroves abound near Madras.

The Coromandel coast is barren. The soil is rocky and gravelly. Small mauve flowers are abundant in every Madras Bungalow. Among larger plants are Madar with white flowers and narrow leaves. Most herbs vanish completely during May and June. The Pomogranate is common in gardens with its flowers rich scarlet. The Babool is characteristic of dry flat muddy and parts of Tinnevely are thickly covered with Palmyra trees.

On the hills and in the valley are true forests; ebony being the most important of them. The Eastern Ghats are proud of having beautiful flowery trees. The flame of the forest is common all over this region.

The black cotton soil is largely cultivated or cotton with no forests or jungles. In Tamil Nad we find an assemblage of all lowers tracing their kindred to far of continents.

As one climbs the slopes of Nilgiris or the Palni Hills he crosses through thorny hickets. Then ensue a chain of forests and Bamboos shot up their lofty heads into the skies between 2000 and 3000 feet. Orange, Banana and other fruits flourish here and when the traveller skirts the 1000 feet height he finds himself in a magic land of flowers. The beatific smiles of nature haunt him like a passion. Flowers that carpet Europe's parlour deluge this region of thrilling rills and the tree ferns remind one of New Zealand, the stick seed of Australia and Potato of South America. It is a cosmopolitan vegetation. The yellow St. Johns, Wort and others cover the hill sides with sheets of golden blossoms, the hill guava its purple flowers and fruits.

MALABAR

THE Pilgrim on leaving the shores of Malabar will carry with him the

glorious memories of not only its industrial splendours but the unforgettable impression the picturesqueness of the landscape has struck him with. The giddy raptures of nature's sensuous scenery enthrall him.

Placed on the declivity of the Mysore Plateau the rich picture of forests like a sea of green almost unbroken for 300 miles to the tip of Cape Comorin arrests his attention. Politically the long inhabited strip is classed into Kanara, Coorg, Cochin and Travancore but botanically it is Malabar. The climate is humid and vegetation luxurious. The plants have a close affinity to Malay Peninsula. Palmyra palms are abundant. The leaves of this giant are 10 or 12 feet across. The groves of arecanut greet our eyes everywhere. The trees are clad in pepper creepers. It gives us great pleasure to see the land aflame with crimson or azure hue. There are forty species of these Stribilanths in Malabar. The Balsams are homely plants.

The especial feature of the west coast is the backwaters. These are long lagoons connected with the sea only at long intervals. The water is nowhere deep, hardly more than couple of feet as a rule. All around on every bit of dry land are coconuts, not as one sees them on the easter side with isolated stems; but from base in graceful curves, but for the most part straight, the nearer ones short, those behind taller in close serried ranks. In the water itself are dumps of Mangroves. The difference is strikingly seen from a long travel from Quilon to Tinnevely. Quilon is on a backwater and from there the line passes first through paddy fields and so on to the foothills and then plunges into dense forest whose giant trees rear their crowns a hundred and fifty feet above their roots. Then the water shed is reached and suddenly open sparsely wooded country with fields under irrigation but not perennially wet, and onwards into the parched Tinnevely plains, with their stretches of scrub or Palmyra palm and fields of cotton.

The scenic splendour of Malabar has made this a magic land of enchantment and the rich vegetation leaves a memorable impression in the minds of all.

DISTRICT INFORMATION

MADRAS

THE city of magnificent distances is the most senior of the three great capital cities of India. The climate is generally hot. The city is troubled by occasional storms. It is a port of importance and carries on immense export and import trade. Two main railway lines, starting from the city dive into the interior.

Three hundred years ago, it was just a tiny fishing village with many huts. A few catamarans floating on the surface of the sea alone disturbed the monotony of their dull life. Decades rolled by, battles were fought and won, forts sprang up and sank down, sceptres and crowns tumbled to dust over the ashes of the venerable empires, and vacant sites were wreathed in vaulted domes. But catamarans lived on for ever.

As Col. Love beautifully writes, 'In the palmy days at the end of the 17th century, the voyager of those days who approached Madras from the deck of the ship, the prospect must have been exactly what the traveller of the present day may see at the same season of the year from the deck of his steamer a gentle undulating sapphire sea; a thin line of white where the swell breaks in surf upon the shore; a strip of golden sand; a continuous fringe of dark foliage which seems to cover as if with dense forest the level surface of the land, and in the background in few isolated purple hills of no great height rising abruptly from the plain; the whole bathed in brilliant light. Of the hills one, conspicuous of the steepness of its slopes, is crowned with a building the ancient church of St. Thomas Mount, which for nearly four centuries has been a land mark to mariners. Low sand hills by the mouth of the small river which expands near the shore into a lagoon from the site of the early Portuguese settlement of Santhome, which was a fortified town of wealth and importance before ever the East India Company was constituted or Fort St. George founded. Save for the tall spire of lately rebuilt Cathedral, San Thome can have changed little in its sea aspect during the hundred years. At the end of the 17th century its fortifications had already been

demolished and the almost ruined tower though still inhabited by the Portuguese was governed by the servants of the Moghul.

Three miles north of San Thome is Madras itself. Not till the City comes into view are the changes apparent that have been wrought by the hand of man. A noble marina now skirts the shore from San Thome. The towers and minarets of the public buildings at Chepauk rise among the trees. The traveller is borne past the mouth of a river close except during the rains by a bank of sand thrown up by the eternal surf. It is spanned by a girder bridge over which is seen the greensward of the island, an area sacred to martial exercises, polo and gymkhanas. The island is formed by two branches of the river or rather by two separate streams having common outlet to the sea. Next is passed the historic fortresses of St. George, the spire of its venerable church towering above the white colonnaded buildings of the eastern front, and the British Flag floating from the tall mast at the Sea Gate. Not so long ago the waves washed the face of the fortifications, but with the construction of the modern harbour the ever travelling sand has banked up against southern pier, and the foreshore has advanced until the fort looks out on the ocean across a wide expanse of solid ground.

Passing the splendid file of the High Court which bristles with domes and a gilded minarets and is surmounted by a lighthouse the voyager enters a square artificial harbour; and sees beyond its jetties and ware-houses a long line of public buildings and mercantile offices. Behind this line though hidden from view is a square mile of densely populated area covered with a net work of narrow streets and squalid slums, constituting the city proper. Known from its original as Black Town, it has lately received the more euphonious name of George Town, in memory of a visit paid by Sovereign when Prince of Wales.

Mylapore or 'the Peacock City' has shot into eminence as a centre of culture and learning even before the birth of Christ. It was once the stronghold of the Jains. Tiruvalluvar

flourished here. Mastan, the renowned Muslim scholar, lived and died here.

Equally ancient is San Thome. For architectural beauty, point of accommodation, the magnificent Cathedral is second to none in India. The Cathedral steeple stands, 155 feet from the ground. The natural beauty of the Cathedral of late has been much enhanced by the importation of artistic statues and affixing suitable biblical description on the walls.

The history of Madras is sketched elsewhere. The confidence of trade success inflamed by the lucrative spirit led to the establishment of a factory at Fort St. George. For self protection a rampart was raised and concessions were given to the natives who settled in the neighbourhood. Thus Madras sprang up. The place occupied by Fort St. George was called Chennapattanam in the honour of Chennappa the father of the Naick at Chengleput. In a few years the factory became a fortress and romantic circumstances brought about the installation of the Governor. But Madras was not built in a day. It was moulded dynamically by the mystic hand of time.

Nawab Muhammad Ali built the Grand Chepauk Palace. After 1855 the Government purchased it. Now it serves as the venerable seat of the esteemed Madras University.

A private garden house was purchased, embellished and enlarged and to day it serves as the superb gubernatorial residence. The Banqueting Hall resembles Parthenon of Athens.

Madras is really proud of her beach whose majestic splendours challenge that of any. The fort house went into ruins and a new one was constructed, at present occupied as the Secretariat. The Fort square has now totally disappeared and its only remnants are occupied by the enlarged Legislative Council Chamber.

St. Mary's church is the ancient relic of the British growth. It is the eminent Protestant Church. It contained the wealth of monuments. The modern Anglican Church in Mount Road and St. Andrews Kirk in Egmore have replaced the historic Cathedral.

Madras was once very navally famous. The Admiralty House is now the office of the Accountant General. The Town Hall

and Exchange afford vast entertainment to sight seers. Thus the fort remains a fine relic of the military architecture of the later Eighteenth Century.

The Madras Museum is a storehouse of wonders. Among the most valuable objects in the archæological section are sculptured marble from the railing of the Buddhist stupa at Amaravati in Guntur District and a fragment which is supposed to be part one of Buddha's bones, as it was found in a rock crystal casket enclosed in an outerstone case inscribed with statement that it was made to contain relics of Buddha, the armour of arms and armour from the arsenal of the fort and Tanjore Palace, the pre-historic antiquities and the numismatic collection which is specially rich in coins of the various native dynasties of southern life and of the European companies which have held sway there or other notable of this Institution.

The Marina Aquarium is the only one of its kind in Asia and hence hundreds pour in to drink in its beauties. In its 10 large wall tanks and many table aquaria, is a collection of marvellous fishes novel in shape and colour from the deeps of the mysterious seas. A special day is reserved for ladies to resort to.

Madras is supplied with water from a reservoir called the Red Hills which is fed from another reservoir known as the Cholavaram Tank which in its turn is filled by a channel and eventually led into pipes and distributed through the city. The Red Hills lake has a capacity of 100 million cubic yards but as it lies low the head of the supply channel being not quite 36 feet above sea level, only a portion of this can be drawn off at a level which will command the city and when the water in the lake falls below certain height the supply has to be maintained by pumping. But the water is pumped to a higher level and taken thence to the city in pipes under the pressure resulting from this elevation. The beautiful edifice of Ripon Buildings is now the Corporation Office.

The work of the Madras observatory is chiefly concerned to meridian observations for determining time.

The vast crimson building with sky tracing towers, crowned by a commanding cupola is the majestic Madras High Court.

It is the grandest specimen of Indo-Carnatic art. Here the highest tribunal of justice decides the destinies of the culprits. The interior is labyrinthine. The 12 courts are lavishly designed with marvellous carvings. But in 1914 a shell from the German Emden Cruiser struck the spot and carried away a portion of the compound wall.

The Light House shoots sheets of radiance in transitory glory at nights. The flight steps are skillfully designed. From the top we command the panoramic view of the whole city with its majestic domes of many coloured glasses. The light is a double flash white light visible 2 miles in clear weather.

Greatness is thrust upon the Madras Harbour. It is under the control of the Port Trust. On Sunday visitors are admitted.

Stately buildings skirt the Beach Road. St. Joseph's Cathedral in Mount Road sends thrills of rapture into every gazer of its serene grandeur.

The Tomb of Shaik-ul-Auliya is a place of pilgrimage to numerous Muslims in April. This tomb is held in deep reverence.

The Victoria Technical Institute strikes the spectator for its excellent Indian workmanship. Native arts and crafts flourish here.

THE ZOO, in the Peoples Park is a grandeur were best representatives of animal kingdom are well kept up.

The Victoria Public Hall, the Gokale Hall and others are extensively used for public meetings etc.

THE STATUES in Madras afford endless pleasures. The Statues of Queen Victoria near Senate House, of King Edward VII in front of the Government House, of King George V in Pachayappa's corner, of Lord Cornwallis in Connemara Library, of Sir Thomas Munroe in Brigadier General Hall, of Marquis of Ripon in Mount Road, of Sir T. Muthusamy Iyer in High Court, of E. B. Powell in Presidency College, of Dr. William Miller in Esplanade, of Justice Boddam in Mount Road, of Sir V. Krishnasamy Iyer in Senate House and Gokale in Senate House bring to our memory the noble deeds they have worked out for the elevation of humanity to higher spheres.

THE S. P. C. A. is straining every nerve of its being to safeguard the animals from cruelty.

THE Y. M. C. A. is deeply engrossed in its cultural mission and intellectual debates are often held, thus sharpening the debating skill of its honourable members. The Mount Road is celebrated for its length and piles of mercantile houses, throbbing with the quick pulse of gain.

Aching joys and giddy raptures pervade our being as we drink deep into the pleasure of the Marina, standing second in the world. The citizens pour in here every evening to enjoy the music of the Radio, sung by chosen stars from Madras Station. The waves washing the endless shores is a delightful scene. The luminous beach speckled with gleams of glistening stars after nightfall, and the blazing electric lights like starry lamps in the pathless heavens is a thrilling sight.

The Madras Gun from the observatory fires from the Fort daily at 12 Noon and 8 P. M.

ADAYAR clasps in her magic arms the beauties that entice millions. It is the Head Quarters of the Theosophical Society. The celebrated Banyan Tree, the library with excellent manuscripts, a beautiful prayer Hall and a small museum beckon the attention of numerous visitors from all parts of the Globe. The whole place breathes psalms of Paradise.

THE EDUCATIONAL EMINENCE of Madras is unapproachable. Students from Presidency College fall heir to coveted jobs in the high ranks of society. They gain great distinctions in London and other foreign Universities and their versatility baffles those university men. Their erudition and originality are unquestionable. Their debating skill is marvellous. The Pachayappa's College, Christian College, Layola College, Government Muhammadan College, contribute no insignificant part to the cultural mission.

The Lady Graduates from Queen Mary's College, give an effective challenge to their colleagues. They are not in any way backward in all spheres of educational activity. It is really a matter of pride that our sisters are answering the call of the age creditably and they are proving their intellectual strength and upholding the ancient ideals of women in modern light.

THE LAW COLLEGE near High Court is turning our Law Graduates every year. At present they introduce Apprentice course thus extending the course from 2 to 3 years. Still Law is enchanting many into its fold.

Subject to the authority of the Surgeon General with the Government of Madras, the Medical College is controlled by a Principal. The course runs to 5 years.

Teachers College at Saidapet is open to teachers. Formerly stipend were given. For the training of Women are Lady Wellington Training College, and St. Christophers' Training College Nungambakkam.

The College of Engineering affords theoretical and practical instruction for profession of Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineers. This College is situated in Guindy.

CLUBS abound. The elite of the town spend the greater part of the evening in Gokale Club, Madras Liberal Club, Adyar Club, Cosmopolitan, Ladies Recreation Club, Madras Club, Madras Boat Club, Madras Cricket Club, Madras Excelsior Club, Madras Gymkhana Club, Madras Race Club, Madras Sailing Club and Madras United Club.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL is doing incalculable services in curing deadly diseases. The up-to-date equipments and the brilliant staff have made this one of the creditable hospitals in British Empire.

The introduction of Electric Railway from Madras Beach to Tambaram has greatly facilitated the means of traffic. Since Madras is growing in bulk every day the citizens afraid of town congestion seek the verdant greens, rather than residing amidst the dinning workshop of the world. Further, they can live economically in suburbs. The Electric Railways have greatly come to their help.

CINEMA AND TALKIE houses abound in the city. The craze for dramas is gone and thousands flock to the theatres. Of late Tamil talkies are produced on a lavish scale and stellar stars who should have wasted their talents in oblivions haze of negligence are brought to the blaze of limelight. Many cultured people take to the talkies and the miseries of the unemployed are alleviated to some

extent. Capitalists keep money rolling. It is a matter of pride to say that our metropolis possesses more than ten cinetones where talkies are produced and they give an effective challenge to any talkie taken in the northern cinetone. People never mind spending a few annas for recreation in the evening and thus not only it has put back jobless on pay but kept India's money within herself. The craze of the people for foreign talkies is slowly dying since the radiance of our talkies are flashing their brilliance of a K. P. Kesavan and a T. P. Rajalaxmi.

THE GUINDY RACES attract many people. The greedy speculate and play a losing game. They sink their investments in a futile hunt after fortune. But the races receive high patronage from the ranks of high and low.

Of late JOURNALS are flooding the market. In Madras within a short span of few years two dailies have sprung up. The Hindu still maintains her age long standard and Indian Express is ventilating the voices of the peasant in the fields and the poor man earning his bread at the sweat of his brow. Madras Mail is independent in its tone. Justice is fighting for its party ideals. And Dhinamani is carving its memorable name on the edifice of times.

The Indian Review is carrying its cultural mission. Triveni is reflecting the ideals of the age in all its variegated colours in its limpid pages.

Swadesamitran Weekly has stolen an incredible march over other papers. Ananda Vikadan, the Indian Punch, breathes ideals of freedom in an amiable vein. Its distinguishing service to Tamil literature cannot be overlooked. Kalaimagal is maintaining a high level of culture.

Madras is connected by rail with the west coast and also with Ceylon in the South. Lines run to Bombay via Hyderabad and to Calcutta along the East Coast.

Madras is the Chief Port of the presidency. The import consists of cotton piece-goods, iron and steel, hardware, and machinery dyes, oils, sugar, leather goods, speices, grains, cement, motor cars, cycle, paper, glassware etc. The chief exports are raw produces.

CHENGLEPUT

TALUKS: Chengleput, Conjeevaram, Madurantakam, Pareni, Saidapet, Sriperumbudur and Trivellore.

Climate	Healthy
Rain-fall	46" average.

CHENGLEPUT is the chief of the district of the name. Just half a mile away is running the river Palar. The climate is very genial. It is surrounded by hills, none of them exceeding five hundred feet in height and the scenery after the rain is picturesque and grand to look at. There is a traveller's bungalow near the Railway station. The word Chengleput is composed of two words Chengal and Pattam, Chengal means Lotus i.e., town that is full of flowers.

SRIPERUMBUDUR, the birth place of Sri Ramanuja is twenty-five miles from Madras. It is considered a sacred place.

CONJEEVARAM is renowned for her antiquity, beauty and architectural fulgency of her temples. It is called the South Benares. The word itself means "a beautiful town".

It is believed that Lord Brahma performed a sacrifice without inviting his wife. She grew wild and taking the form of a stream put out the sacrificial fire. Even to-day the river Vegavathi is running through Conjeevaram.

Many references in most ancient tamil treatises prove the antiquity of the place. When Kaveripatnam was washed off by the sea, the citizens migrated to Conjeevaram. Later on Hieun Tsang, the Buddhist pilgrim from China in 640 A.D. testifies to the thick population of the city.

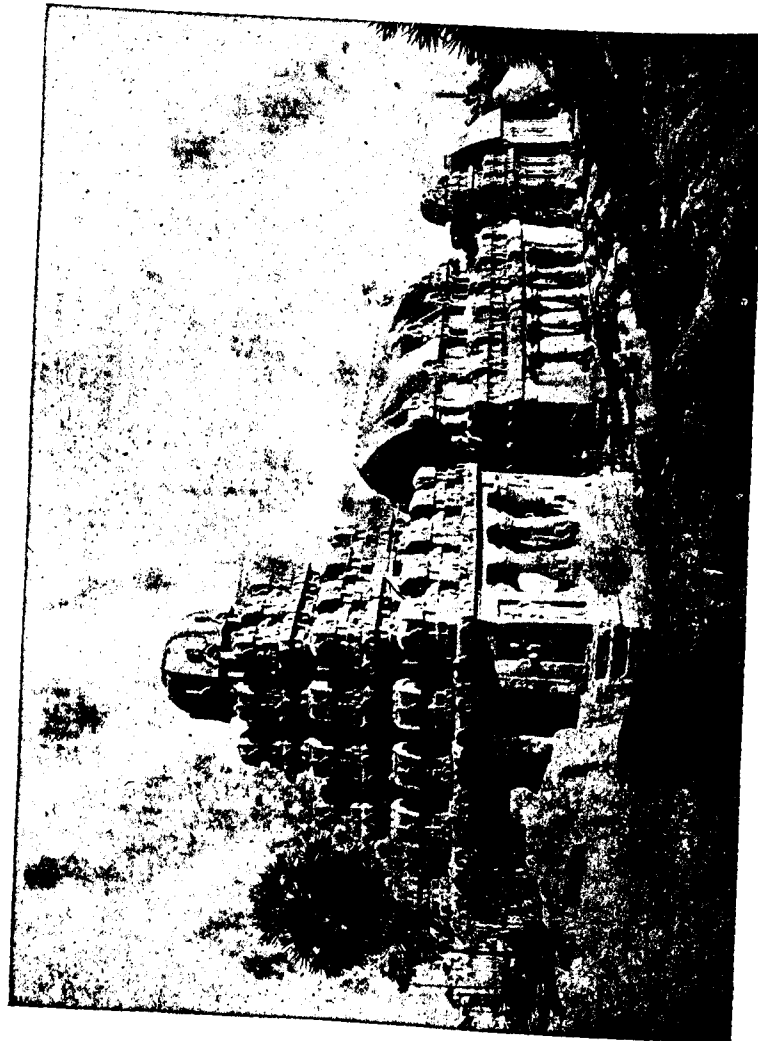
2,000 years ago, Conjeevaram was the capital of the Pallavas. Karikala Chola conquered it in the 4th century. In those days there were only wooden temples. The standing monuments of Dravidian culture were built by Narasinga Potharyan. Then Conjeevaram fell a victim to the monstrous rapacity of Allauddin's invasion and the Sultans of Golconda had their sway, which was transferred to the Nawab of the Carnatic after the annexation of Deccan, by Aurengazeb. Then Muhamad granted Chengleput District to the English East India Company in 1760. Since then,

Conjeevaram had become a British territory.

There are numerous temples.

SRI VARADHARAJA TEMPLE came out of the sacrifice performed by Brahma at Chinna Conjeevaram. The image is very beautiful and the impressive expression of the face has converted thousands of devotees to great votaries at the altar of piety. During Aurengazeb's invasion, the authorities of the temple carried away the image to Udayarpalayam in Trichy district. After the troubles were over, the people prepared to return. But the Zamindar of Udayarpalayam at first refused to part with it, since he was enraptured by the enchanting image. Only on a threat of invasion, the image was surrendered. This incident is still carved on the hearts of the people by the celebration of an annual festival. The Brahmotsava festival attracts thousands and the Garudotsvam on the Full moon day of the month of Vykasi is the grandest festival in India. The hundred pillared hall is a grand specimen of skilled architecture.

The temple of Sri Kamakshi at big Conjeevaram is very famous. Sri Ekambaranather Koil dates from antediluvian times. "Great sanctity is attached to it on account to the fact that Shiva appeared with the Goddess Parvathi under this Tree when she prayed to him near Vegavathi river". Gnanasambanda sang his hymns here of the Prithivilinga one of the Sanctified Lingas in Tamilnad—the four others being Water Linga at Jembukeswaram, Fire Linga at Thiruvannamalai, Vayu Linga at Kalahasti and Akasa Linga at Chidambaram. Kailandasamy Temple at Pillarpalayam is of antiquarian importance. Jainakanchi is a famous Jaina centre. There is a Jaina temple dedicated to Vardhmana Mahaveera. The Inscriptions are very important, bearing eloquent testimony to the history of Chengleput district—as in the case of fixing the dates of Kulothunga Chola, Krishna Devaroya and others. The painting on the ceiling speaks of unique skill and workmanship in remote antiquity. With the broad streets, Conjeevaram remains even to-day an important place of pilgrimage. There are many decent hotels and choultries in the city.



THE SEVEN RATHAS OF MAHABALIPURAM.

MAHABALIPURAM where seven Pagodas are built, remain even to-day an object of attraction to both the Scholar and the tourist. It is 20 miles south-east of Chengleput. The monument of the place are the very foundation of Dravidian civilisation on its architectural side.

According to tradition, the name of the place is a corruption of Mahamallapuram. A great controversy is centred around the the origin of the name and antiquity of the place.

The Rathas are situated to the south of the hill in which caves have been excavated and about some distance from the sea. The finest is the Dharmaraja Ratha, intended for Shiva, with a pyramidal tower of stories, and having sculptured figures on the walls. The Bhima Ratha is larger. The other three are named after Arjuna, Draupathi and Sahadeva. These Rathas strike us with their wonderful workmanship. North of the Village is the Ganesa Ratha a singularly elegant shrine.

Caves abound, executed in an animated style. A carving on these bear a wealth of puranic references—Shiva as a fan—a God with attendant ganas, Arjuna's penance.

The sea-ward Shrine is believed to have sheltered Vishnu, rendered homeless by Rajasimha in his zeal for the erection of a Shiva temple.

Mamallapuram, the outcome of the artistic genius of Pallavas is held in great sanctity by Saivites.

About 9 miles to the south-east of Chengleput is Tirukalukunram. It is called Rudrakoti where a number of Rudras worshipped the deity here. The hill of the town is Vedegiri and its fort

summit mounds are considered the representations of the four immortal Vedas.

"The gentle wind that blows softly across the green clad sides of the hill, carries with it the aroma of these medicinal herbs, and many a despairing pilgrim feels his strength revived, and health returns. It is no wonder that at Sanjeevi Ghat, the circumbulating pilgrims stop to drink in the pure air with joyous countenance, nor is it a matter for astonishment that they stay with delight for more than a prescribed period of a mandalam in the sacred place". The Pakshi Thirtham is a crystal and has very good properties. It is near this tank that daily two sacred eagles are fed, at an appointed hour. These birds are believed to be in this Kaliyuga two brothers who prayed to God and were doomed due to a slight fault to take the shape of birds and pray for their liberation. It is further told that every day the eagles bathe in the Ganges, worship at Rameswaram, feed at Pakshi Thirtham and go to sleep at Chidambaram.

The cave cut out of the rock near the temple is meant as a place of worship for Brahma, Vishnu and Rudra.

The temple at the foot of the hill is very famous and the three saints did not even got up to the shrine, lest they pollute the sanctity of the temple. Sundaramurthi Nayanar received gold in this fane. Valuable inscriptions irradiate the temple.

There are several Thirthas. Sanka Thirtham is fed by perennial streams and it possesses curative powers. Occasionally even conches are found and once in 12 years the great river Goddesses meet here.

NORTH ARCOT

THE North Arcot District is bounded on the north by Chittoor, south by South Arcot, east of Chengleput and west by Mysore and Salem.

TALUGS: Arkonam, Arni, Chengan, Cheyyar, Gudiyatham, Tiruppattur, Tiruvani, Vellore, Walajapet and Wandiwash.

Population	2,266,989
Area	4,648 sq. miles.
Languages spoken	Tamil & Telugu

Climate	Varied
Rainfall is 38" average.	

The Vellore Mutiny has shot the town to historic importance. It is the headquarters of the North Arcot District, with a population of 57,265. The old Rock Fort is in excellent condition. The beautiful temple bears in it the fine architectural splendour of the olden days and the Government grant is maintaining the beauty of the place in its pristine grandeur. Tippoo Sultan was imprisoned

in the extensive Mahal and it is worth visiting. The educational needs of the town are supplied by the existence of the Voorhee's College of the American Mission with its celebrated Industrial School and Agricultural Farm at Natham, a Hindu High School maintained by the Sri Mahant of Tirupati, a Girls' High School and a Muhammadan School maintained by the Government. The Municipal Travellers' Bungalow is situated near the cantonment railway station. There is also a rest house and a hotel in Indian style near the railway station.

The temple at the foot of the hill, TIRUVANNAMALAI, is one of the largest in South India. Parvati performed penances to obtain the left half of God Shiva's body. Near the temple is a tank called the Mulaippal Thirtham or tank. Thiruvannamalai or the Hill of Holy Beacon is the seat of one of the five sacred Lingam, Tejo Lingam. There are more than 40 Chatrams in the town. The Karthigai Dheepam attracts thousands from all parts of India. A huge fire is lit up on the summit of the hill which could be seen from miles afar. More than a lakh of people attend the Chitra Vasanta festival. Saint Ramana is a marvel of the Age.

The district is chiefly hilly. Palar is the only river. The climate of the place is very healthy and dry.

Soil is ruddy furruginous and the chief crops are rice, ragi, and cambu, varagu, cholam, groundnut, and gunja are exported. Oranges and Lime are largely exported. The trees are fed sanders chiefly used for making a costly red dye. The forests abound in teak, blackwood, sandal-wood trees. Good granite is abundant.

The important markets in the districts are Vellore and Walajapet.

THE DUS-MAMUNDAR LAKE, skirted on the east side by an attractive hill, five miles long is considered the biggest in these parts occupying an area of more than 25 square miles and supplying 36 villages with water for irrigation. The irrigation arrangements are supervised by an Engineer. In winter when the lake is full, it is very picturesque and the Europeans in the neighbourhood enjoy boating on it. There is a channel connecting the river Palar with it, whereby it is filled whenever there are floods in the river.

All diseases are treated successfully by the Ayurvedic doctors with the help of herbs. The percentage of cure with such means excels the cure through even English medicines. The people are convinced that by the mere pronounciation of certain mantrams, snake bites and poisonous wounds are generally cured.

Some decades back infant marriage was frequent. But girls are now married only after late years. In most cases consent of the boy and the girl also is taken.

For agricultural purposes people depend upon cattle imported from Mysore and Nellore. People are so ignorant of stock breeding that even when they buy well-bred cattle they allow them to mingle with ordinary breed. The breeds of Nellore cost even Rs. 250 a pair.

People are strictly forbidden to wash or bathe in the village tank kept for drinking purposes, and for this purpose two watchmen are appointed to see that nobody washes his clothes or bathes in the tank. But in the river this rule is not observed. It has been said that running waters do not get polluted.

During the 18th century it has become plain from the history of South India that for the vast majority of the people the struggle for existence must have been a very hard one. This is particularly true of the North Arcot Villages, in as much the fuming troops have descended upon carnatic with ravenous hunger for their enemies, scattering destruction wherever they went. In the absence of these magnificent plans of universal plunder, the oppression and exactions of the local pillagers in times of turbulence left the peasant deprived of all his earthly possessions. Thanks to Mr. Strutton's administration in 1801, the ryot's conditions proved satisfactory.

The population is increasing and the price of the land and food-stuffs is also increasing. This must be considered a blessing in disguise. The margin for extension of cultivation has been exhausted. The ryots are resorting to more intensive methods of cultivation, and the construction of wells is being pushed on vigorously. The cultivation of mere traditional crop is giving way to the cultivation of more remunerative ones. The establishments



A FINE VIEW OF THE TEMPLE OF VELLORE SHOWING ITS ARCHITECTURAL SPLENDOUR.

of rice mills is revolutionising the village. The selling of the paddy has been completely stopped. The mills also import paddy from distant places like Cudappah,

Bellary and Kurnool and export rice to Madras.

Oil engines are used for irrigation. Betel leaves are vastly exported.

SOUTH ARCOT

THE district of South Arcot is bounded in the north by Chengleput and North Arcot, south by Trichy and Tanjore, east by the Bay of Bengal and West by Salem.

Taluqs: Chidambaram, Cuddalore, Gingee, Kallakurichi, Villupuram and Vriddhachalam.

Population:	2,454,507
Area	4,208 sq. mls.
Language spoken	Tamil
Climate	Healthy
Rainfall	46" average.

CUDDALORE is the headquarters of the district. The population of the Municipality is 57,358. The great attraction of the town, is Gymkana around which all offices are situated. It is a port town, the river Gadilam passes by. About three miles from the place is a large Vishnu temple on the bank of the Gadilam river. September is noted for a grand festival celebrated here. There are 2 artesian wells at the criminal settlement at Aziznagar.

Nellikuppam is throbbing with the quick pulse of gain. Messrs. Parry & Co. have got a distillery works here. Recently the magical products of the Modern Essential Oil & Perfumery Co., are capturing the market gradually.

About 18 miles from Tindivanam, the ruins of the immense fortification of the FORT OF GINGEE extend over an area of several miles, embracing three hills. The outer walls built of strong blocks of granite are now preserved. The three hills form three citadels, of which the eastern is most impregnable nearly 800 feet high. Just about the middle, the hill rises up at its northern end into a steep prominence and the piled up fortifications glitter in the eerie moonshine in savage splendour.

At the base of this is the inner citadel equipped with strategic requirements. Many of the ornaments belonging to the Gods of this citadel are being carried away to Pondicherry. The Jains from the

neighbouring village have carried away a stone car for their own use. The Pattabiramaswami temple is grand for its superb architecture. There are two tanks. At the corner the former embankment is the masonry platform on which was burnt the body of Raja Desingu and his young wife committed suicide here. Prisoners were said to have been thrown into the other tank and left there to die of starvation. Nearby is the Kalayan Mahal with its extensive rooms and stores.

It fills us with giddy raptures to ascend to the summit of the Rajagiri Hills. On the top of the steep summit is the shrine of God Ranganatha. There are two springs of water. Krishnagiri contains two stone built granaries, a temple to Sri Renganatha and a strange edifice containing arcaded in the Indo-Muhammadan style. The government from time to time conserve these forts by constantly repairing them.

Deep obscurity enshrouds about the origin of the place. As a legend goes, virgin Senjiamman committed suicide with her six virgin sisters when their chastity was threatened with violation. Their spirits are even now believed to haunt the place. A shrine is dedicated to each.

GINGEE should have risen as an independent principality during the Chola period. A dynasty of shepherds ruled over it. Then it came under the rule of the Vijayanagar Rajas. Then Nayak chiefs. At last it came under the sway of Shivaji. After an eight years' siege it succumbed. Raja Desingu, immortalized in our Ballads put up a brave fight to retain it. At last it came under English rule but the whole place is in majestic ruins.

CHIDAMBARAM with its population of 25,084 citizens, venerable for its antiquity and sacredness. The famous temple of Lord Nataraja is one of the most holy temples of South India. The presiding diety is in a dancing pose. He is supposed to play his death dance on the ashes of bygone centuries scattered over the wilderness of shattered spheres emitting

their feeble splendours on the floods of deluge washing the seven corners of the world. The creation being ended Nataraja dances to the thrilling tune of his holy consort Parvati and all Gods attendant upon the diabolic jubilee of destruction.

The temple contains an ancient Vaishnava shrine and covers an immense area of 39 acres. The other fort is supposed to have been built by Virappa Naik of Madura. Since the fort is 30 ft. high, it served as a fort during the Mysore and carnatic wars of the 18th century.

All the Gopurams bear sculptured panes of stone symbolical of the mystic dance of Shiva. As to the origin it is said that 3000 Brahmins from Benares came to this shrine but found one missing. When a search was made Lord Shiva himself came down as the one. The management of the temple is in the hands of the Dikshitars who periodically meet and discuss the management of the temple.

Saint Manickavasagar's history is one of the glorification of the temple. Here he defeated in argument the Buddhists from Ceylon. His hymn connected with his victory is even sung in the temple in the anniversary of the event. It was here that his hymns were taken down from his lips and once a year the God was taken to the spot where this was accomplished. Finally it was within the shrine which he had sung so often that he at length obtained final beatitude.

The great saint Nandanar a Paraiyah by caste attained his salvation and the tank known as the homakulam is seen even to-day.

The Amman shrine is of singular elegance whose roof is supported by a skillfully arranged system of bracketing shafts. The whole fane retains its gracefulness and transcendent glory of architecture.

The Shrine of Subbramanya is rich in its aesthetic taste.

The Raja Saba of the famous 1000 Pillared Hall is magnificent to look at. It was here that the Pandya and Chola Kings crowned themselves as victors.

The Kanaka Saba is a most beautiful piece of architecture, like a celestial vehicle of Mandapam adorned with beautiful wheels and horses on all

sides. The stylobate is ornamented with dancing figures and the carvings are more graceful and more elegantly executed than any others of the class in South India. In the Chitra Sabha beside the God Nataraja is supposed to be enshrined the Akasa Linga. This is Chidambara Rahasya indicated by a small space behind the idol, faced with chakra stones and a long string of Golden Bhilva-leaves.

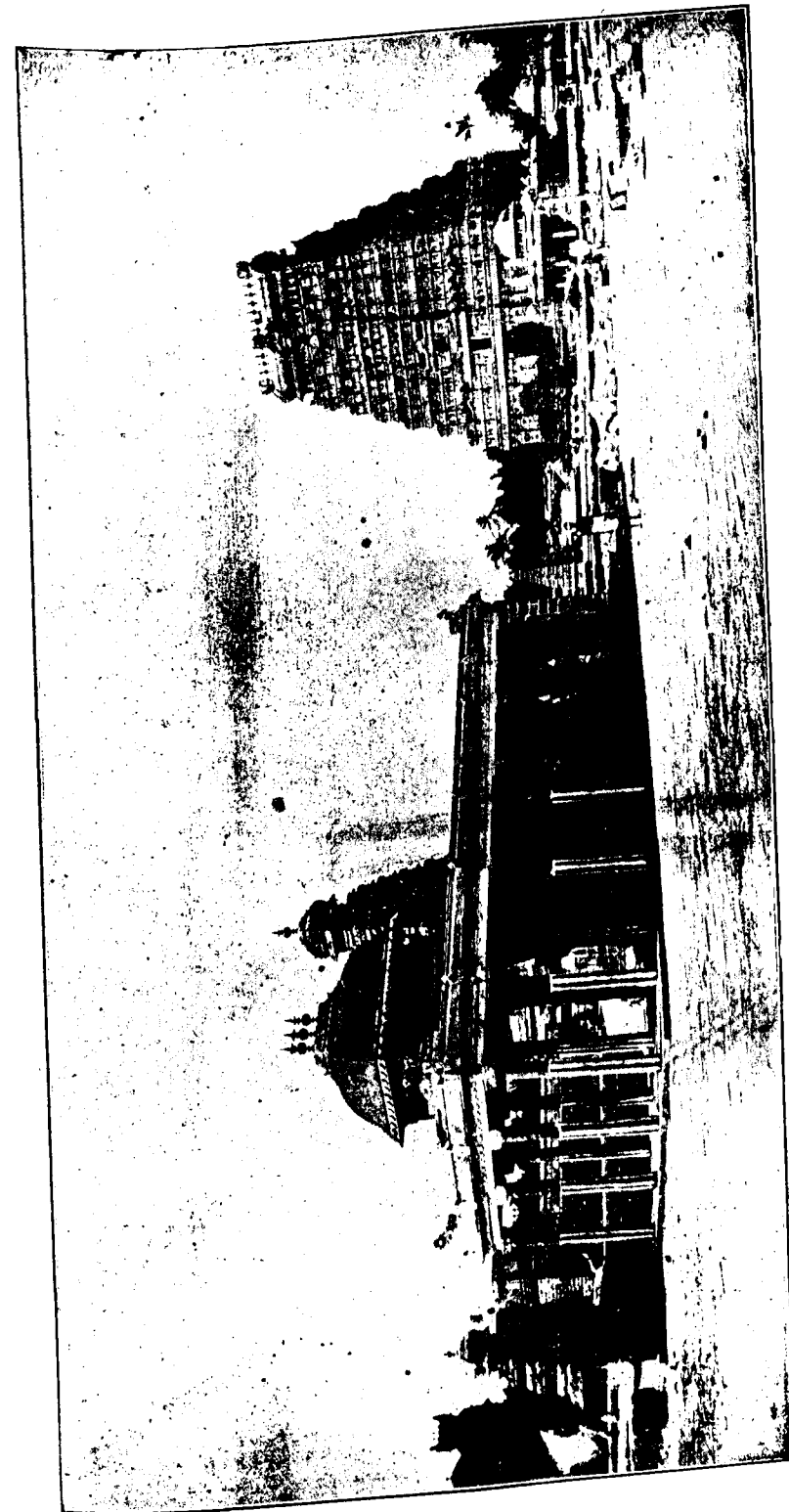
The shrine of Govindaraja is celebrated as some of the Alwars have sung their hymns about the godly glory of the presiding deity.

Tillai Kali shamed by Shiva's dance ran away to the outskirts of the town where her temple stands even to-day.

As an educational centre the city has gained gigantic importance. The residential University known as the Annamalai University named after the great philanthropist Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar, and the college buildings are located at Annamalaiagar, a suburb of the town five furlongs from the station. The courses of study and syllabus for the several examinations of the University are for the present largely based on those of the Madras University. Besides the Arts College, there are the college of Music, Sanskrit, and Tamil, Oriental Training College which form part of the University. There are provisions for a course of instruction in German and French languages. The resident tutors attached to the Hostel regulate the attendance of students in the management of affairs of each section. Physical training is compulsory. Weekly lectures are held.

There are several choultries in the town. During the festival days free meals are provided in a number of these choultries.

PONDICHERRY is a French Territory. The places of interest are the Pier, Lighthouse, the statue of Dupleix, the place of Government, the Courus-Chambrol, the Bibliotheque, the gardens, the artesian wells, the glasshouse, and factories. Hotels are numerous to suit the tastes of all communities. It is the centre for exporting groundnuts and has modern cotton mills. There is a bone mill factory and all the mineral oil companies have their storage tanks here. The roads are



A VIEW OF THE SRI NATARAJA TEMPLE AT CHIDAMBARAM.

well-planned and the place is very famous for the cheapness of its articles. Sri Aurobindo lives here in his ashramam and thousands of eminent men from all parts of the world come here every season to have a Dharsan of the saint.

TANJORE

THE District of Tanjore is bounded on the north by Coleroon, east and south-east by Bay of Bengal, south-west by Pudukottah and west by Madura and Trichy.

TALUQS: Arantangi, Kumbakonam, Mannargudi, Mayavaram, Nannilam, Negapatam, Papanasam, Pattukottai, Shiyali, Tanjore and Tiruturaipundi.

Population	2,385,920
Area	3,742 sq. miles
Rain-fall	44" average.
Language spoken	Tamil
Climate	Healthy.

TANJORE is the granary of the south. A lusty witch of romance clings about the hoary mansions that are now in majestic ruins and her wrecked splendour reflected in the grand remnants of her once voluptuous fame remains in magic casements of the forgotten past. Raja Raja the Great had built the great fortress temple of Brihadiswara. Through the succession of dynasties, Tanjore came under the family of Nayak chiefs and some of the late rulers resided at Vallam fort. They built all Vaishnava fanes. Govinda Dikshita the Minister of the last Nayak who fell before his Madura rival was a great patron of learning and literature. The tragic defeat and death of Nayak is still marked by the shattered tower of the zenana, in the south-western corner of the palace which was filled with gun-powder and set fire to by the Nayak in order to prevent his womenfolk from falling into the hands of the enemy. Shaji, Shivaji's father, is believed to have acquired Tanjore. Then ensued serious political manoeuvres. Saraboji improved the collection of his palace library. Upon the death of the last Raja in 1855 without male heirs the title and the dignity of the Raja became extinct.

THE TEMPLE OF BRIHADISWARA is a centre of life and art to the district. The great pagoda is a perfect example of a Dravidian pyramidal Shrine. The Vimana rises in stately grandeur. The pyramid topuram rises in 13 storeys to the summit.

The latter is crowned by a dome consisting of a single stone 25½ ft. sq. which was conveyed to its position almost 200 ft. above the ground level by no means of an inclined plane commencing at a village at a distance of 4 miles. The mantapa in front of the Shrine is finely carved monolith of black granite or syenite. "In the north-west corner of the courtyard is the graceful small shrine of Subramaniya Swamy, built of a pale quartzose gneiss, which is a perfect gem of carved stonework, and the tooling of the stone in the most exquisitely delicate and elaborate patterns is as clear and sharp as the day it left the sculptor's hands, it is justly an object of great pride to the people of Tanjore".

The creation of this beautiful temple by Raja Raja is an everlasting monument. It was built by a brahmin called Krishnan Raman, whose architectural genius found its expression in the gigantic workmanship which is a living poem.

THE PALACE FORT is inspiring to look at. The marble statue of Saraboji is grand. The zenana known as the Mangalavilas shows high skill. An old Anglican Church also within the fort contains a fine piece of marble structure in relief by Flaxman in the memory of the Missionary Schwartz.

Tanjore was the centre of music and fine arts. The Sanskrit College, founded by the Nayaks, still keeps its virgin glory of past splendour.

Of late, the extensions are vastly growing and have acquired new name called the George Town. The Grand Anicut Channel passes through the town and keeps up the fertile glow of the land. There are two parks in the city, affording recreation to the people. The hospital is very big and a brilliant staff of doctors does effective work. The Medical College that was formerly here, is now abolished.

KUMBakonam:—Seated on the lap of the luxuriously flowing river Cauvery, Kumbakonam enjoys the great celebrity of being the seat of brahmin culture of

ages past. This sacred city with a population of 62,317 citizens is the home of famous temples.

According to the puranas the story goes that at end of last yuga the great deluge shattered to pieces the remnants of the past centuries that Brahma again created the world. Shiva declared that after destruction of the world, a potful of amirtha would move on till at last it would settle in a certain holy spot. The divine pot reached Kumbakonam and Shiva in the form of a hunter hit it with the arrow. The pot broke and from it scattered many fragments which accounts for so many temples and tanks. Vaishnava temples abound in the city.

Great celebrity is attached to the city owing to the Maha-Maham-Tank and Festival. Astronomically the planet Jupiter passes over the Leo on the great Maha-Maham festival day, when it is said, to exercise certain powers over the waters of the tank and saturate it with mineral properties. It is too mysterious to note that a lake in Kashmir State gets a full supply of water though it continues dry for the ensuing 11 years.

Only in this place is a temple for Brahma.

There is a tale attached to the Maha-Maham festival. Shiva the Lord of Destruction, out of infinite compassion for suffering humanity, groaning under the heavy weight of sin, suggested to the Nine River Nymphs that all of them should go to the tank on that memorable day where they would be purged of their sins, in His presence. The nine great rivers the Ganges, Jumna, Saraswathi, Narmada, Godaveri, Cauvery, Mahanadhi, Payoshni and Sarau are supposed to bathe in the tank on the Maha-Maham occasion. Millions of people from all parts of India congregate on the sacred day and bathe in the Tank.

There are many temples in the city. Sri Rama is seen in his coronation dress in his Sri Ramaswami Temple.

Kumbakonam is at present the seat of the Kamakshi Peetam of Sri Sankaracharya. The Sarangapani Temple and the Nageswara Temple are the important shrines.

Silk and lace weaving have obtained perfection here.

Kumbakonam is the famous centre of bronze industry.

The city has got a First Grade College. This venerable institution has produced intellectual giants whose genius is the wonder of the world. The citizens are proud of the Kumbakonam College which is considered the "Oxford of India". The special feature of this College is the Boat Club where students go on boating in the Cauvery River.

In memory of the Pact, the Gandhi-Irwin Bridge is constructed. There is also a Park.

The Municipal School of Arts and Crafts is doing distinguished services in the town.

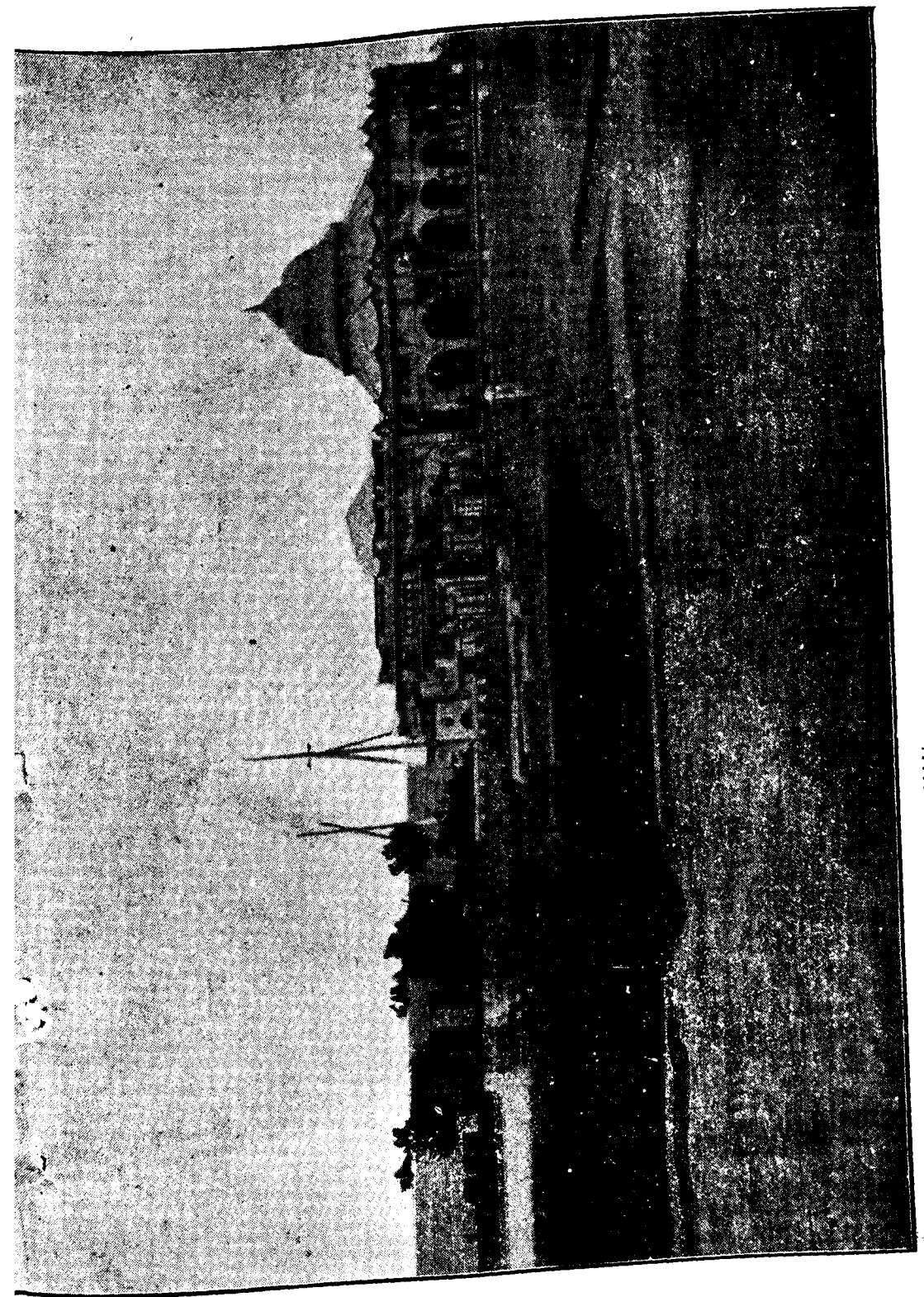
TIRUVARUR: Sri Thyagaraja Shrine attracts thousands. "The idol is supposed to have been brought down to this mundane world by King Muchukunda, who is said to have obtained it from Indira, the King of Heaven." Sri Thyagaraja performed 364 miracles here. There is also a Rahasya here. The breast of the God is always invisible to all, even to the priests. The most beautiful piece of excellent architecture is the Thousand Pillared Mandapa. Sri Sundarar sang his songs here. It is also believed that there was a short cut to Heavens through an underground passage called Nagabila. Worshippers here were assured of their heavenly seats. But Indira himself has closed this gateway to Heaven.

Those born in Benares, it is believed, go to heaven. Those born in Tiruvarur reach Paradise. Tiruvarur was once the capital of the Chola Kingdom.

There is a Shiva Temple and Vishnu Temple at Mayavaram. The bathing festival in October is largely attended.

Just hundred years before this busy seaport was in possession of the Dutch. Holland street is the principal thorough fare. The temple of Kayarohavaraswamy and Nilayakthakshi is very famous. "The deity Thyagaraja in the temple is considered very important. The metallic figure of Vinayaka and Sattayappa in a separate shrine on the west are of great sanctity. The stone work of the Guardian Angels of eight cardinal points is also a fine piece of workmanship, and occupies a prominent place over the sanctum of the deity".

NEGAPATAM seems to have been a biggest centre in ancient days and prior to that it ought to have been a Jaina colony. Even now the suburbs retain Buddhist and



Jaina relics. Recently, a man digging a well came across a huge store of Buddhist and Jaina images in gold, silver etc. The maritime importance of Negapatam is going up in leaps and bounds. Ships are running to the Far East.

Five miles north of Negapatam is NAGORE, celebrated for its temple. An eerie stillness hangs over the well illuminated temple and we remain dumb at the sight of the mysterious vapours of incense that perennially enshroud the fane. The famous Muhamadan saint Miran Sahib lived and died here. Pratap Singh, Raja of Tanjore, built the stately minaret over his tomb. The saint had performed astounding miracles and Hindus and Muslims alike throng to the Kandoori festival.

KARAIKAL is the seacoast town of the French Province. Kandoori festival is held at the Muhammadan Mosque, and the Mayo festival is held on a grand scale. Annually the 'Fete National' is celebrated on a grand scale. The artesian fountain near the Governor's residence affords a grand sight. A visit to the private marble mansion built by a rich Maricar is worthwhile.

At Thirukadayur, Markendeya has attained his immortality. There is a magnificent temple dedicated to Amirthagateswarar, richly endowed. Sacred places abound nearby.

The Pagoda at Tiruvarur is greatly ornamented.

VEDARANYAM is as famous as the Adi Setu and a sea-bath here is said to wash away all ills of the devotee. Lord Rama himself is said to have expiated in this place the scene of having killed Ravana. Here Vedas worshipped God. The inscriptions bear a wealth of his love and archaeological research. Soul-stirring songs were being sung by devotees.

MANNARGUDI known as the Raja Mannar Koil is about 25 miles from Kumbakonam. The puranic fame of the place is Champakaraja. The sanctity of the place is well borne by the accounts of the Maha Baratha, Harivamsa Chronicle and the Brahmananda Purana.

Once Brahma, the Lord of Creation, was carried by an illusion that but for him the world would end. Hence he grew more nonchalant to his work of creation.

Then on the advice of sages he did austere penance here and Lord Vasudeva appeared and gave him and cured of his Malady.

The place is considered more holy to God than even Thirupparkadal. The big tank 'Haridranath' is regarded as being very holy and sacred than even Ganges. The tank gets that name as it is supposed to contain sandal paste from the bodies of the Gobikas who are being engaged in amorous sports here. Many have attained salvation by constant repetition of the twelve letters. The floating festival attracts crowd from remote corners of India.

VELANGANNI: Tradition hands down of the three detached incidents to account for the origin of the shrine at Velanganni, six miles from Negapatam. Chronologically it is told that a Hindu boy, while taking milk for his master at Negapatam, slept under a banian tree. He heard a musical voice and woke up. Velanganni appeared in dazzling halo of splendour about her head, with a babe in her arm. She asked him milk which readily he obliged. The boy walked onward but found the pot full. Catholics on hearing this incident opined that the apparition was the Blessed Virgin with divine child. Then again the lady appeared before, a lame boy selling butter milk. He gave her on being asked willingly and was instantly cured.

Seven miles from Tiruvarur is Dheepan-gadi. The Jaina Temple is very ancient.

It is said that Lava and Kusa the sons of Rama, during their sojourn in the south visited this place. It is also considered a Jaina centre of learning in ancient days.

TRIVADI is famous as Sri Thyagaraja attained his samadhi here. The Sapthagathanam Festival is celebrated with great pomp and gaiety and it is really a grand sight to see the seven deities of seven great temples moving in an imposing array.

Tanjore is known for the fertility of her soil. Who could forget the incommunicable charm that springs from the silence of the sunsets, swooning over the fringe of the Tanjore village, the green mantle of the greener fields swayed by the mischievous fingers of the voluptuous wind, the jolly birds winging their homeward flights, the last ploughman raising his shrill voice from among the dim fields and

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The River Cauvery intersects and irrigates more than half of the district, with her numerous tributaries. Further the irrigation of the district is enhanced by the introduction of the Highway Channel from Mettur Dam. Deserts are converted into luxurious fields with the wealth of greenery. Few years back passing through the Tanjore district a train passenger will be get tired of the desert field. But to-day the ripening corn simmers and plenty has established her sovereign sway. But the cess is heavy and it is fervently hoped that the Government will come to the help of the peasants and mitigate the agrarian problem.

Cocoanuts and plantains are numerous. The chief crops are rice, varagu, cumbu, ragi, redgram, gingelly, groundnuts and cholum. Metal work and weaving of various kinds are the chief industries. Silk is now a decaying industry.

The chief exports are betel leaf, oil, metal vessel and clothes.

The imports are gingelly and cotton seed, kerosine oil, tamarind and timber.

The chief sea ports are Tranquebar, Adirampatnam, Negapatam and Ammapatnam.

TRICHINOPOLY

Trichinopoly district is bounded on the north-west and north by Salem, north and north-east by South Arcot, south-east by Tanjore, south by Pudukottah and Madura and west by Coimbatore.

TALUQS: Ariyalur, Karur, Kulitalai, Lalgudi, Perambalur, Trichy and Udayarpalayam.

Population	1,913,245.
Area	4,314 sq. miles.
Climate	Healthy.
Language spoken	Tamil.
Rainfall	33"

Rising high above the towering peaks, the majestic Rock Fort Temple is an object of enchantment to thousands. From the peak one can survey the scattered glories of nature wild with exuberant splendour. Pilgrims flock to Trichinopoly to ascend the peak of the Rock Fort and from there have a bird's eye view of the whole town—the grounds beneath clothed in verdant green, the Cathedral peak lifting its giddy height from among the trees, the Golden Rock glittering like a brown pebble on the shore of endless isles, the tongue of the Big Bazaar, throbbing with the pulse of gain, the rivers wreathing the Srirangam island like a garland and the lofty mountains from the dim distance wafting hosts of wind that pour mysterious tales of the vague past.

Sceptres and crowns have tumbled to dust. Battles were fought and won near the rampart which even to-day is grinning amidst majestic ruins. Anyone passing through Rock Fort Gate can visualise the

massiveness of the Fort that sheltered a Muhammad Ali from rapacious invaders.

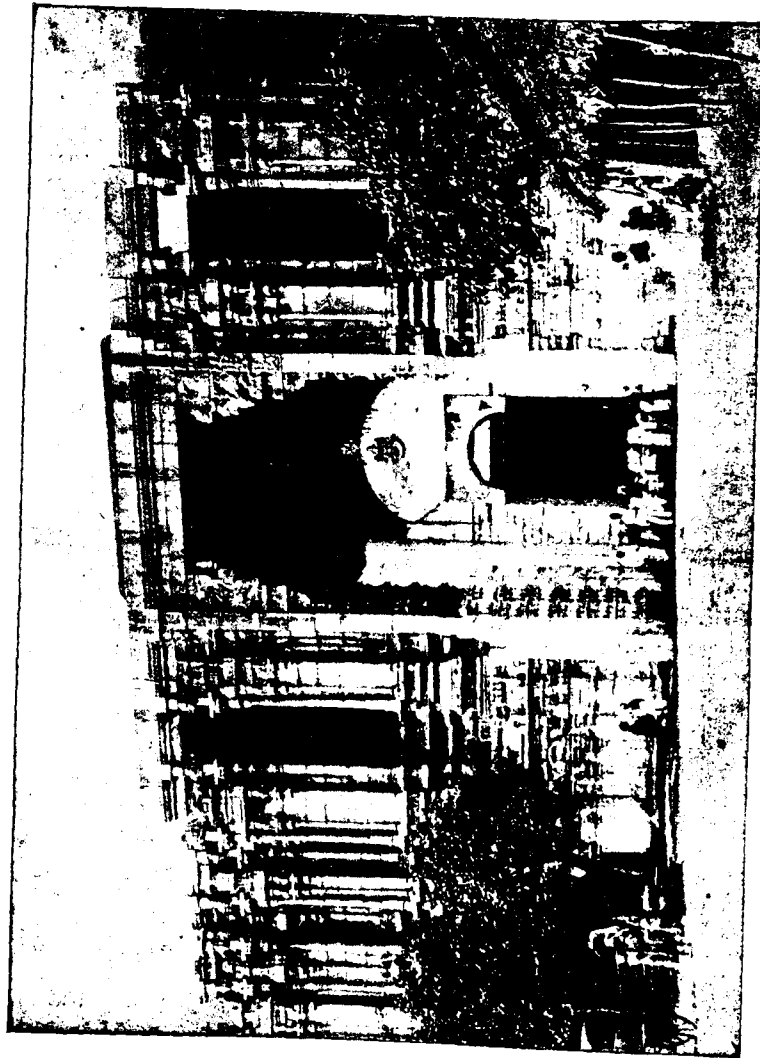
WORIUR, just a mile west of Trichinopoly, was the seat of the celebrated Kingdom of Chola. We gather gleams of its luminous history from archaeological research and from the poems left by gifted poets of yore.

The Chola King had established his fame even in such remote place of Himalayas which even to-day bears in commemoration of his conquest a rock edict. The civilisation in those days challenges even the Babylonian and the people lived in great pomp and gaiety. But we are told that due to some divine wrath the whole city was buried in sands.

To-day, Trichinopoly can modestly claim to be a model city. It is next to Madras in educational importance and with its great educational institutions and cultural developments it has a great future before it. It is not lagging behind the times. The town is extending rapidly.

Of late the suburbs Tennore, Worur and Cantonment are bristling with bungalows built on very modern lines. The Commissioner had taken special pains in broadening the roads and the murmurs of the merchants were not heeded to. This policy has lent special charms to the roads. The roads and streets and even lanes are well illuminated and the lighting time is highly appreciable. The town is lighted with Pykara Power which has installed a beautiful station near Collector's Office.

The introduction of Pykara Scheme is a great blessing to ryots. Even village



FRONT VIEW OF THE "ROYA GOPURAM," GATEWAY OF SRIRANGANATHASWAMI'S TEMPLE, SRIRANGAM.

are electrified. The peasants rich and poor advanced in their views are availing of this and the irrigation is dynamically revolutionised.

The Town Bus is doing distinguished services. It is highly beneficial to businessmen and people at large. It connects Trichy Junction and Srirangam and buses ply every five minutes. The two routes to Rock Fort Gate, two to Cantonment and to Junction via Woriur are also run.

All mofussil places are connected by bus routes regulated by time. Trichinopoly is the head-quarters of the South Indian Railway. The imposing Trichy Junction will strike one and all with its grandeur. Thousands of clerks are working in the magnificent buildings nearby.

The Mosque near Fort Station is celebrated for its sanctity. It is held in deep veneration by the Muslims. The Pantacostal church run by the venerable gentleman Pastor P. E. Williams is setting up noble ideals for noble followers. It is nearly an innovation in the mode of christian worship. The followers of this church trust in divine help alone, resigning unto Almighty all the cares of morrow and worries of to-day. They do not believe in man-made-laws and medicinal cures and they repose confidence in the touch of Divine Mercy whose fount is ever bountiful.

Trichy comes next to Madras in journalistic field in this presidency. The Tamil Weeklies are putting forth their efforts to keep alive their literary pursuits. 'Shivaji' is flaring a radiant path in literary skies. 'The City Herald', 'The Wednesday Review', 'Railway Herald' and 'Varthaga Ooliam' are among the leading journals.

Trichy is rising in her educational eminence rapidly. She has three colleges in her midst and many other cultural institutions.

THE NATIONAL COLLEGE has taken rapid strides and in a short space of few years, the College is given an enviable status. She imparts liberal education.

THE ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE has attained a high degree of educational eminence and is proud of turning out first class men every year. It will give us great pleasure to study the Geography of

that College and her staff are well chosen. With vast facilities at their call, they are able to equip their students in all branches of knowledge.

Under the expert and friendly guidance of Sister Sophia, our sisters graduate in the neighbouring HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, girls have their boarding houses, fitted with all comforts and they have games in the evening.

The Bishop Heber High School, the E. R. High School and Puthur High School with efficient staff are proud of their brilliant results. The needs of students in Srirangam are met with by the Srirangam High School.

Largely due to the philanthropy of Mr. Ponniah, the Ponniah High School is of great benefit to the students. Poor deserving boys are given free scholarship.

The educational needs of the European boys and girls are met with by Dolours Convent, Westry's School and Campion High School.

There are ten CINEMA THEATRES in the city. The houses are well crowded since the work-a-day people, tired of the sad music from the workshop of the world, pour in hundreds. There are three shows every evening. The Raja Talkies strikes the wonder of spectators and special prominence is given to screening of the best pictures of the day. Testimony is unanimous on its splendid view and marvellous construction and it is second to none in this Presidency.

Further there are four TALKIE PRODUCING COMPANIES in Trichy. The Thyagaraja Films Ltd., has released the picture 'Satya Selan' on the silver screen. The Jai Barath Film Company Ltd., is preparing 'Thayumanavar', the first release. Jothi Films is doing good work. Coronation Films is doing immense services to the cause of cinema industry.

Trichy is not lagging behind in the industrial sphere. The Trichinopoly Mills under a strong Directorate and splendid management puts on work many unemployed. This has a brilliant future before it. It is effectively fighting out its way to prosperity and challenges the competence of its sister mills at Madura and Coimbatore. This venture is new to Trichy, and since the men at the

wheel are deep in their experience, it is bound to prosper.

THE SUGAR MILLS started by Dewan Bahadur S. Rm. Ct. S. Sabarathnam Chettiar is making head-way. Sugar-cane is cheaply bought in these areas and it is forecast that this mill will enjoy great success. He is also running the Trichinopoly Bank. Trichy has got numerous Banks and even Indian Bank has started their branch for the convenience of the public. The Imperial Bank has opened a Branch near Gandhi Market.

CLUBS abound.

The elite of the town go to the 'City Club'. The major officers and gentry spend the greater part of the evening in the 'Union Club,' Cantonment. They play billiards, tennis etc.,

The European residents have got their club nearby. They spend their evenings delightfully in sports and games. On all Fridays they have dance.

The 'Recreation Club' is meant for Municipality employees. They have their Cricket Club and the Trichy Cricket Club is of late coming to prominence.

There are other clubs of which the Y.M.C.A., S.P.C.A. etc., deserve special mention.

The histrionic talents of the citizens find legitimate expression in many dramatic clubs like Rasika Kanjana Sabha, run very ably by Sri. F. G. Natesa Iyer, a retired D.F.S. His dramatic actions are very highly appreciated by the people, and he is considered an asset to the histrionic world.

The Oriental League is carrying on its activities in the literary sphere. The Trichy Amateurs enact dramas from time to time and it is really surprising how they are winning such wide applause from all parts of the presidency in so short a time.

THE KIMBER GARDENS lying a mile from the Junction, is a paradise on earth. It breathes elysian charms. The prominent members of the European community reside in palatial bungalows. The evening breeze that springs up from the dry plain is highly recreating.

THE RACE COURSE is nearby. But no races are conducted now-a-days. Around

the course many of the high Government Officials reside. There is also military barracks nearby.

Not far off is the GOLDEN ROCK, the South Indian Railway Colony. The Colony is beautifully planned that it affords a model for town planning. Wide roads are skirted on both sides by green trees and snug bungalows are well-built. The authorities are running a Cinema for the recreation of the people in the evenings.

Prominently the WORKSHOP is a museum of miracles. Gigantic machines move on massive strides that thrill the spectators with sublime wonder. Awe-struck, we gaze at their movements at one place. In another place rills of blazing iron flow in blinding radiance and streaks of lights, variegated in hues, irradiate the hall and tear down the next moment the invading gloom of dimness. The Workshop affords work to thousands. One cannot be left unimpressed by the might of human intellect which has harnessed the ferocity of nature to economic utility.

THE CROPS are rice, cholam, cumbu, varagu, ragi, gingelly, cotton etc. For agricultural purposes, bullocks and buffaloes are widely used.

Lalgudi is famous for its brass and copper idols. The chief exports are corals, pulses, chillies, cotton, gingelly, plantain, coconut, jaggery, tanned hides and skins.

WORIUR is the chief centre of Cigar-making industry. The Woriur Cheroot is famous in London and Paris and even 'Sapper' makes mention of it in 'Strand Magazine' London.

The historic importance of Trichinopoly is very great. After the Cholas, the Nayak Kings of Madura had Trichinopoly as their capital.

The religious importance is very eminent. It is called 'Dakshina Kailas' and Tiruviras obtained all his boons here.

It is also believed that an old lady to help her daughter in labour at Trichinopoly could not cross the river in floods. God, out of His infinite mercy, played the part of the midwife. So even to-day the deity on the hill is called 'Thayumanavar'. It is said that Hanuman visited the temple and even to-day a mark is left there in memory of his visit.