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An
All-India
Weekly.

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(DEVOTED TO ECONOMIC AND WELFARE PROBLEMS)

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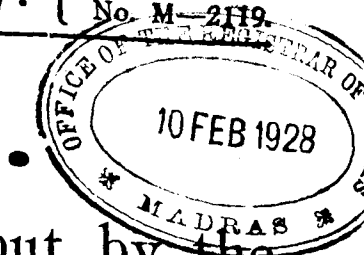
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For God, Crown and Country.

Wealth & Welfare.

Lucknow, Friday, 25th November, 1927.

EDITORIAL

EMIGRATION.

In the course of our study tour we have been meeting several planters and land-owners both Europeans and Indians. We have discussed with them the conditions of labour in India. This editorial on emigration of the Indian Labour will interest them. All the Indian labour employed throughout the Federated Malay States is free. Labourers are landed there free

of debt and are at liberty to leave their employment at any time on giving a month's notice. Further, no emigrant from India can enter into any written contract to serve there as a labourer. The number of local engagements of Indian local labourers registered during the year 1926 under section 54 of the Labour Code of 1923 (—the law on the question of labour in Malaya) —was 81,397, a fee of 1 dollar (one rupee eight annas) being collected for every labourer registered. The fees are credited to the Indian Immigration Fund in Malaya. The returns rendered by employers in Malaya including Government Departments, under section 82 of the Labour Code show that 76,977 Indian labourers were locally engaged. The local Malay labour in Malaya is of very little importance. No large estates depend to any great extent on Malays and the total number engaged at any one time on estates in the Federated Malay States is roughly about 3,400 persons. The reason why more Malays are not employed is that they are unwilling to work regularly on such employment. They merely use the Estates as a convenience to supplement whatever livelihood can be made out of their Kampongs and cannot be relied on to remain on the estates when their services are most urgently required. They are not as a rule desirous of earning any more money than is sufficient to support them. As is the case with the locally engaged Javanese there, small numbers of Malays supplement regular labour forces of Indians or Chinese on many estates but the Malays work even less regularly than the Javanese. In Malaya there are also the Chinese labour and the Netherlands Indian labour. The total number of emigrants from Southern India at Penang (Straits Settlements), the port of disembarkation for Perak and the first port of call for all immigrants for the Federated Malay States was 174,795 in 1926 as against 90,708 in 1925, showing an increase of 84,087. Out of this the assisted immigrants—free labourers imported into Malaya for the purpose of working on estates, mines and elsewhere—numbered 1,49,414 and the rest viz: 25,381 were other immigrants such as traders, labourers and others who paid their own passages. This constitutes the largest number of Indian immigrants into Malaya in a single year ever recorded. The assisted immigrants include 21,622 children, under 12 years of age and the other immigrants 2,291 children, a total of 23,913 children as compared with 11,705 in 1925. Of the other immigrants more than 62% were of the labouring classes, the remaining being traders and others. It is estimated that about one-third of these proceeded to the Federated Malay States which received a total of 108,120 as compared with an estimated total of 54,802 in 1925. The average number of deck passengers taken each trip from India to Penang was 2,270 as compared with 2,015 in 1926; the average number returning was 1,325 as compared with 1,116 in 1925. Of the immigrants who arrived in Malaya in 1926, 15,986 adults (11,825 males, 4,161 females and 2,748 minors (1,534 males and 1,214 females) had previously lived in the Malaya. The corresponding figures for 1925 were 13,074 adults and 894 minors. The Indian population of the Federated Malay States on 24th April 1921 is given in the Census Report as 305,219. This includes 281,539 Tamils, Telugus and Malayalis. The corresponding South Indian population at the end of the year 1926 might be put at approximately 360,000 persons. The Colonial Government made a subsidiary agreement with the B. I. S. N. Co. Ltd. that with effect from the 12th May 1926 a weekly mail steamer of immigrants from South India would be provided and the Government guaranteed 35,000 tickets for persons to be carried. Statistics show that the number of tickets taken was far in excess of the number guaranteed. The increase is to be directly attributed to the revival of the appointment by the Government of Malaya Peninsula of a Government Recruiting Officer whose duties are to assist the Government labour employing departments in the selection of Kanganies and to supervise the work of the latter in India. The great majority of labourers were recruited by licensed Kanganies. During 1926 licenses were issued to 10,712 Kanganies as compared with 6,561 in 1925. The

following table gives the distribution of licences and the results obtained :—

The following tables give the distribution of licences and the results obtained :

	Number of licences issued in 1926.	Number of adult labourers recruited in 1926.	Average number per licence in 1926.	Average number per licence in 1925.
Federated Malay States.	6,625	69,057	10.42	6.84
Straits Settlements	826	8,995	10.89	6.71
Unfederated Malay States—				
Kedah	1,745	11,490	6.58	5.22
Johore	1,314	10,552	8.03	6.23
Kelantan	198	2,004	10.12	8.37
Brunei	4	57	14.25	...
Total	10,712	102,155	9.54	6.56

The number of adult labourers recruited by licensed kanganis for the Federated Malay States during 1925 was 29,799. Non-recruited labourers to the number of 28,618, who emigrated from India on their own account were provided with free tickets. Of this number 17,400 proceeded to the Federated Malay States. Twelve thousand two hundred and fourteen and six thousand and one such labourers entered the Federated Malay States in the years 1925 and 1924 respectively. The figure for 1926 is by far the largest number of non-recruited labourers to arrive in Malaya in any one year and the progressive increase in this class of immigrant must to some extent be attributed to the experiment of paying a small bonus on arrival to each non-recruited immigrant which was begun in January 1925. Of the total number (120,796) of recruited labourers for all destinations only 27 adults and two minors redeemed their obligation to labour at Penang, and 25 adults and one minor at Port Swettenham. At Penang, 275 adults absconded from or on the way to Sungei Penang Depot. At Port Swettenham, 76 adults and two minors absconded from or on the way to the depot, 8 adults on the way between the landing Jetty and the Quarantine Camp, 51 adults and four minors from the Quarantine Camp and 12 adults and one minor from Klang Hospital. The numbers of adult assisted passengers shipped from Negapatnam and Madras during 1926 and the preceding four years were :

	Negapatnam.	Madras.
1926	72,833	54,959
1925	37,224	23,111
1924	20,168	16,941
1923	13,680	13,188
1922	22,796	12,278

The following tabular statement summarises the work done at Negapatnam and Madras from the beginning of January to the end of the year.

	Number of persons apply- ing for assisted passages.	Net number of emigrants and dependants accepted.	Number refused.
NEGAPATAM.	Adults	Minors	Adults
1st quarter, 1926	11,014	1,284	9,212
2nd "	41,862	4,713	31,194
3rd "	23,151	3,915	18,361
4th "	17,574	2,185	13,278
Total, 1926	93,601	12,097	72,045
MADRAS.	Adults	Minors	Adults
1st quarter, 1926	7,792	1,573	6,823
2nd "	20,965	5,110	19,744
3rd "	21,987	4,888	19,356
4th "	11,336	1,818	9,676
Total, 1926	62,080	13,389	55,599

Note.—Figures are for both recruited and non-recruited labourers.

The proportion of males and females over 12 years of age amongst assisted immigrants into Malaya during the last five years has been as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Percent- age of females.
1922	28,273	6,801	19.39
1923	20,966	5,902	21.97
1924	27,944	9,165	24.70
1925	46,285	14,050	23.29
1926	98,136	29,656	23.21

The percentage figure for 1926 is slightly lower than that for 1924, which was the best year on record. This is no doubt due to the large increase in the number of non-recruited immigrants amongst whom the percentage of females is lower than amongst the recruited immigrants. It is interesting to note that amongst the arrivals of persons over 12 years of age :

(i) Four thousand three hundred and fifty-three females accompanied 21,264 males in the case of non-recruited immigrants, i.e. persons provided with free passages who had not been recruited by kanganis.

(ii) Twenty-five thousand three hundred and three females accompanied 76,852 males in the case of kangani-recruited labourers.

(iii) One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five females accompanied 21,295 males amongst the ordinary passengers.

Thus as before a far bigger proportion of women came with the assisted immigrants than with their wealthier fellow countrymen. Taking the assisted immigrants alone, 29,656 females over 12 years of age accompanied 98,136 males over 12 years of age. That is, one female arrived in Malaya for every 3.3 males approximately. Taking all classes of immigrants over 12 years of age, 31,451 females accompanied 119,431 males or one female arrived for 3.8 males approximately. The figures for 1926, 54,668 males and 7,424 females, over the age of 12 years, left Malaya for India, or one female departed for every 7.4 males. These figures serve as a further illustration to show that the tendency among the resident South Indian population is towards sex equality. That this tendency has been in continuous operation is the natural inference to be drawn from a comparison of census figure for 1911 and 1921, when the sex ratio on estates improved from one female and three males to one female and 1.8 males. The period that has elapsed since the last census has unquestionably seen a further improvement. With regard to conditions in India as affecting recruiting, the Emigration Commissioner for Malaya, Madras, reports :

(a) In the first quarter the frequent closing of taluks on account of disease seriously reduced the numbers coming in.

(b) In the second and third quarters the number of emigrants strained the accommodation of the Emigration Depots.

LABOURERS IN NEED OF RELIEF.

A Home for Indian Unemployed was opened at Kampong Bharu, Penang, in the early part of 1923. It is managed by a Committee composed of unofficials, all of whom are Indians, with the Deputy Controller of Labour, Penang, as Chairman. The expense is borne by the Immigration Fund. The admissions numbered 606 adults, 59 minors and 21 infants. Of these, 133 adults and 26 minors were repatriated, and work was found for most of the others. Eighteen adults and one minor remained on at the end of the year. A sum of \$ 3,293.38 was spent on the maintenance of Home between the 1st October 1925 and the 30th September 1926, when the half-yearly balance sheet was drawn up. There were 1,973 admissions to the Home for Decrepit Indians Kuala Lumpur, during the year, the number of inmates on the first January 1926 being 83. In the course of the year 947 inmates were repatriated, 228 were discharged as fit for work, 556 were transferred to the District and General Hospitals and 135 absconded. There were 188 inmates remaining at the close of the year. The total expenditure for the year on account of the Home, which is entirely supported by the Immigration Fund, amounted to \$ 17,675.

SAVINGS.

(a) *In Banks*.—The amount standing to the credit of Indians in the Post Office Savings Bank, Federate Malay States, on the 31st December 1926 is given in the following statement supplied by the Secretary for Postal Affairs, Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements :—

	Number.	Amount.
Merchants	449	62,536
Clerks	4,223	580,396
Labourers	8,279	596,717
Others	3,828	787,506
Total	16,779	2,027,105

Average per depositor :—

	Number.	Amount.
1922	...	76
1923	...	92
1924	...	104
1925	...	115
1926	...	121

The classification into clerks, labourers, etc., can only be regarded as rough. The total amount of deposit has increased by \$ 517,780 since 1925 or rather more than 34 per cent, while the total number of depositors has increased by 3,681 or about 34 per cent. The number of depositors of the labouring class increased from 5,657 to 8,279 during the same period, while the amount to their credit has increased by \$ 257,724.

(b) *Remittances*.—The number of money orders issued by the Posts and Telegraphs Department for payment in India in 1926 and the amount so remitted are shown below :—

	Number.	Amount.
Madras Presidency	31,226	22,22,652
Non-labourers	38,172	26,50,753
Rest of India	15,372	17,19,935
Total	84,770	65,93,340

The total remittances to India for the preceding three years were as follows :—

	Number of remittances.	Amount remitted.
1923	45,164	33,57,215
1924	46,171	32,24,483
1925	58,278	41,92,153

The amount remitted to Madras in 1926 by 31,226 labourers averaged Rs. 71-3-0 a head as compared with Rs. 67-3-0 a head in 1925.

(c) The majority of labourers carry their savings on their persons when returning to India either in cash or in the form of jewellery. No action has been taken to ascertain the value of savings nor is it considered practicable to attempt to do so.

The recruiting allowance paid by the Indian Immigration Committee to employers for each labourer recruited by a kangani and brought to the Federated Malay States was fixed at 12 dollars, at which figure it remained for the whole year. The number of contributors to the Immigration Fund was 2,932 on the 31st December 1926, as against 2,797 on the 31st December 1925. The Government and Public Departments contributing to the Fund numbered 222 in 1926 as against 201 in 1925.

DECEASED INDIANS.

The Chief Police Officer of each State administers every intestate estate not exceeding \$ 500 in value, more valuable estates being administered by the Public Trustee. During the year 1926 the intestate estates of 281 deceased Indians of a gross value of \$ 2,308 were administered by the Chief Police Officers, and the Public Trustee administered the estates of five deceased Indians of a gross value of \$ 97,489 during the same period. Letters of administration were also granted by the Supreme Court for the estates of 33 deceased Indians to a gross amount of \$ 300,025. The figures given above refer to both Northern and Southern Indians.

SETTLEMENT OF INDIANS.

It is impossible to get accurate data under this heading as in certain districts the information asked for is not available. From the statistics supplied the areas of land held by Indians in the Federated Malay States may be roughly estimated to be as follows :—

	Area of land.	Value in dollars.
Perak	64,567	28,470,538
Selangor	24,245	12,122,500
Negri Sembilan	15,444	6,356,725
Pahang	13,383	6,177,600
Total	117,639	33,127,363

DEATH RATE.

The general death-rate per mille amongst Indian Estate Labourers was 15.18 while the general death-rate for all races throughout the Federated Malay States was 29.22.

WAGES.

The rates of wages were much the same as in the latter part of 1925, but in spite of the large influx of immigrants both from India and China there has been a slight tendency to a rise in some places.

The rates in force were roughly as follows :—

Indians.	Perak.	Selangor.	Negri Sembilan.	Pahang.
	CTS.	CTS.	CTS.	CTS.
Stores and Factories	50—100	50—60	60—65	60—65
Tappers (men)	45—50	40—45	45—50	55—60
" (women)	35—45	35—45	45—50	50—60
Field (men)	40—50	40—45	40—50	50—55
" (women)	30—35	30—40	30—40	45—50

Apart from those on daily rates many are paid by results and a good worker on some estates can earn from 60 to 90 cents a day. There are also opportunities on many estates for overtime labour. In the Public Works Department unskilled labourers were paid from 40—45—50 cents a day and in the Railways from 44—60 cents a day. In the coast districts of Selangor standard rates were fixed throughout the year at 40 cents a day for men and 30 cents for women. These are in practice minimum rates. Arrangements were made for holding meetings of the Indian Immigration Committee to prescribe standard rates of wages for Indian labourers under section 141 of "The Labour Code, 1923," for the inland districts of Pahang and for Province Wellesley in the Straits Settlements early in 1927. Indentured labourers Javanese were paid at the rate of 45 cents for men and 35 cents for women and in many places were also given many extras in the form of food of various kinds, during festivals, etc. For free Javanese and Malays rates varied from 50 to 65 cents a day. Chinese were almost all employed on contract at rates varying from 80 cents to \$ 2 a day.

WELFARE.

One thousand six hundred and ninety-three complaints were registered in the various Labour Offices by the labourers. The chief causes of the complaints were :—

Assault by Manager or Assistant Manager	60
Assault by clerk or kangani	113
Non-payment or late payment of wages	774
Refusal to accept notice or to discharge after a month's notice	89
Wrongful dismissal	136
Separation of families	104
Miscellaneous	417

All the complaints were settled departmentally. Many were groundless and many were of a trivial nature. There were 80 convictions of employers or their agents for offences against the labour laws, seven of these being for non-compliance with orders, two for separating a labourer from his child, four for late payment of wages, one for failure to take a sick labourer (Chinese) to hospital, sixty-two for failing to send returns and four for other formal breaches of the enactment. A Health Inspector was charged for assaulting the two labourers working

under him and was fined \$ 44. Proceedings were instituted against a head kangany of an estate for wrongful restraint of a labourer and voluntarily causing hurt and conviction was obtained on both charges. Returns received from Magistrates disclosed 85 cases in which proceedings were taken by employers against labourers and 82 cases by labourers against employers, of which 136 were civil suits. There were six minor labour disturbances among Indian labourers on estates during the year. All these were investigated and settled departmentally except in the case of assault by a gang of labourers on the manager of Sapintas Estate in which the ring leader was convicted and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment. He appealed and the sentence was enhanced by the Supreme Court. There was a faction fight between Tamil and Telugu labourers on

Strathmaslie Estate and quiet was restored after departmental enquiry. The number of hospitals maintained by estates was 156, of which many were group-hospitals each serving several estates: of these hospitals, 10 were in charge of resident medical practitioners while the rest were in charge of visiting medical practitioners as in the previous year. The Health Boards Enactment based upon the findings of the Estates Health Commission of 1924 was passed in September and was gazetted to come into force as from 1st January 1927. There were 386 estates on which schools were maintained as compared with 367 in 1925 and 308 in 1924. Grants-in-aid amounting to \$ 48,830, were earned as against \$ 45,717 in 1925.

ON THE LINE.

PROVINCIAL CONTRIBUTION MADRAS.

With reference to paragraphs 104 to 109 and 200 to 207 of the report on Indian Constitutional Reforms, before 1st April 1921, Provincial Governments had no separate resources of their own, their income being obtained mainly from a share of divided heads of revenue and from lump assignments from Imperial revenues. There was consequently no contribution from the Provincial Government to the Central Government before 1st April 1921. The revenue and expenditure for 1884-85 and the following four years were:—

	Revenue. Lakhs. Rs.	Expenditure. Lakhs. Rs.
1884-85 ...	236.17	244.90
1885-86 ...	254.95	240.28
1886-87 ...	250.73	242.86
1887-88 ...	273.54	263.00
1888-89 ...	282.73	271.34

The amounts contributed since 1921-22 have been:—

	Lakhs. Rs.
1921-22 ...	348.00
1922-23 ...	348.00
1923-24 ...	348.00
1924-25 ...	348.00
1925-26 ...	221.98
1926-27 ...	165.19

The amount of Provincial (Madras) contribution released this year is Rs. 116 lakhs recurring and Rs. 49 lakhs non-recurring. The budget estimate for this year provides for schemes of new expenditure costing Rs. 89.49 lakhs; of this sum, about 72 lakhs was provided in anticipation of the remission of the Provincial contribution, the balance being met from the Revenue surplus of the year. The 89.49 lakhs were distributed among departments as follows:—

Department.	Amount. LAKHS. Rs.
<i>Transferred</i>	
Excise ...	83
Registration ...	28
General Administration ...	09
Scientific departments ...	01
Education ...	12.10
Medical ...	4.59
Public Health ...	7.50
Agriculture ...	1.11
Veterinary ...	34

Department.	Amount. LAKHS. RS.	Reserved-cont.
<i>Transferred—cont.</i>		
Co-operative Credit ...	23	General Administration ... 18
Industries ...	2.73	Administration of Justice ... 35
Fisheries ...	12	Jails and Convict Settlements ... 34
Civil Works, including establishments ...	23.89	Police ... 48
Grants to local bodies for civil works ...	20.92	Education ... 78
Stationery and Printing ...	21	Medical ... 56
Miscellaneous (compassionate grants to local bodies) ...	47	Public Health ... 02
		Miscellaneous (Labour) ... 3.91
		Civil Works (Agency) ... 3.87
		Stationery and Printing ... 46
		Total ... 14.07
		Total (Reserved and Transferred) 89.49

Demands for supplementary grants will be placed before the Legislative Council, amounting to Rs. 21.08 lakhs recurring and Rs. 24.92 lakhs non-recurring. The following statement shows the distribution of these sums by departments:—

Departments.	Recurring. Lakhs Rs.	Non-recurring. Lakhs Rs.	Ultimate cost. 1927-28.	Total in 1927-28.
<i>Transferred.</i>				
Education ...	18.52	3.84	14.26	1.11
Agriculture ...	32	2.58	13	1.56
Co-operative Credit ...	1.48	.55	.62	.55
Veterinary ...	1.25	.95	.64	.09
Industries ...	.09	1.20	.01	.45
Fisheries ...	.03	.37	...	.22
Excise ...	.24	...	.09	...
Medical ...	10.01	9.66	4.00	1.24
Public Health ...	1.00	11.19	1.00	7.37
Grants to local bodies ...	...	12.14	...	9.68
Civil Works ...	...	.58	...	.58
Total ...	32.94	43.06	20.75	22.85
				43.60
<i>Reserved.</i>				
Forest ...	.07	...	.03	...
Irrigation ...	...	.68	...	.68
General Administration ...	...	.16	...	.14
Administration of Justice ...	.02	...	.02	...
Education ...	.03	1.31	.01	.62
Public Health ...	.28	...	.08	...
Veterinary ...	...	.14	...	.10
Labour ...	.22	.50	.19	.50
Civil Works (Agency) ...	...	.20	...	.03
Total ...	.62	2.99	.33	2.07
				2.40
Total (Reserved and Transferred).	33.56	46.05	21.08	24.92
				46.00

TIRUMANI LEPER SETTLEMENT.

A complaint was received by the Government of Madras from a leper alleging harsh treatment on the part of the Superintendent of the Settlement. Partly in the interests of discipline and partly because the allowance was excessive, the Superintendent ordered a reduction for two days in the rations of 25 men from the ordinary allowance of 24 oz. to 20 oz. The lepers refused to accept rations for about half an hour. The lepers are each given a prescribed quantity of raw rations and they cook their own food. The only abuse discovered was that the lepers were selling part of their rations. The number of lepers admitted into the settlement during the six months, February to August, was as follows:—

February	66
March	89
April	44
May	64
June	44
July	32
Total	339.

There was no one waiting for admission in July 1927. The number of persons discharged at their own wish during the last six months was:—

February	41
March	55
April	34
May	51
June	22
July	21
Total	231.

The number of lepers discharged or dismissed during this year were five, four for selling rice to villagers and one for beating a small boy who was suffering from tuberculosis as well as leprosy. Two hundred and seventy-seven lepers left the settlement from January to August 1927, compared with 502 in the same period in 1926.

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES.

The following statement will show the number of Female patients that attended the hospitals in the City of Madras for the treatment of Venereal Diseases:—

Name of Institution.	Number of female patients treated during 1926.	In-patients.	Out-patients.
Government General Hospital	113	435	
Royapuram Hospital	343	751	
Royapetta "	37	170	
Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital	94	273	
Hospital for Women and Children	76	111	

There are lady doctors in the Royapetta Hospital, the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital and the Hospital for Women and Children to attend to such patients. Lady doctors have not been appointed to the General Hospital or the Royapuram Hospital. The General and the Royapuram

Hospitals are used for the training of medical students. The majority of the students who attend the General Hospital and all those attending the Royapuram Hospital are men. As these students must, in the course of their training, necessarily examine female patients, there is no urgent need for the appointment of lady doctors in these two hospitals. Female patients who object to being examined by male doctors can, without difficulty, go either to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital or to the Hospital for Women and Children.

AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS.

The total value of raw cotton and cotton manufactures exported in 1926-27 from India fell from Rs. 105 crores to Rs. 70 crores. Raw cotton declined by 24 per cent., in quantity from 745,000 tons to 569,000 tons and by 38 per cent., in value from Rs. 95 crores to Rs. 58½ crores. Raw jute increased in quantity by 9 per cent, from 647,000 tons to 708,000 tons but as the previous year's high range of prices was not maintained, decreased in value by 29 per cent., from Rs. 38 crores to Rs. 26½ crores. Exports of gunny bags and gunny cloth also increase in quantity while the value realised fell. The total value of raw jute and jute manufactures shipped fell from Rs. 97 crores to Rs. 80 crores. Exports of food grains fell from 3,063,000 tons to 2,429,000 tons in quantity and from Rs. 48 crores to Rs. 39 crores in value. Shipments of rice fell from 2,549,000 tons valued at Rs. 39-2/3 crores to 2,035,000 tons valued at nearly Rs. 33 crores and of wheat from 212,000 tons valued at Rs. 3-2/3 crores to 176,000 tons valued at Rs. 2½ crores. Exports of barley and pulse also decreased. The total quantity of oil seeds exported again decreased by 412,000 tons to 838,000 tons while the value of shipments fell by Rs. 10½ crores to Rs. 19 crores.

PUBLIC HEALTH OF BENGAL.

The total number of births recorded during the year in Bengal was 13,77,097 against 12,03,244 in the preceding year, while the number of deaths recorded fell from 12,03,244 in 1924 to 11,58,473 in 1925. The provincial birth-rate shows an increase of 34 per cent., over that of the previous year. Mortality from cholera was 34,276 in the year. Fifty Sanitary Inspectors were sanctioned by the Government for inoculation and disinfection of the sources of water supply. The measures taken by the Government in order to grapple with kala-azar are gratifying. Every endeavour was made by the district boards to eradicate the disease by utilizing the dispensaries and kala-azar centres of the district boards and opening new centres. Fourteen water-supply and drainage schemes were prepared and 13 detailed projects of municipal water-supply were drawn by the Chief Engineer. Two sewerage schemes were completed and two water-supply projects were partially completed. Under the recently sanctioned scheme for rural health organization there will be a rapid expansion of the staff and its duties will not be confined solely to public health work but much new administrative work will fall upon it.

PUBLIC HEALTH IN ASSAM.

"The Public Health of Assam for the year 1926-27 continued to show general improvement in the health of the Province and the successful campaign against "Kala-Azar" as a result of the new treatment by "Uria Stibamine." There was however no improvement in the mortality from Cholera and Small-Pox, though the death rate from the last mentioned disease for the province as a whole was considerably less than in the preceding ten years and mortality from Small-pox was very much higher than in the preceding decennial period. As regards "Kala-Azar," a satisfactory decrease of over 1,000 in the number of patients who stopped treatment before cure was complete was recorded, while the number of deaths decreased by over 30 per cent and the number of cases by nearly 20 per cent."

BIG DEFICITS.

In Longwood Hotel in Simla, the rents realised for this hotel and for the quarters for orthodox members of the Legislature show a considerable fall during the year. The total deficits on the last five years' working of the Longwood Hotel and of two years' working of the orthodox members' quarter amount to over Rs. 1,03,000 and Rs. 30,000 respectively.

RICE IN AUSTRALIA.

The Australian Tariff Board reports that rice-growing in Australia is a commercial proposition to compete with the East.

EDITORS' TABLE.

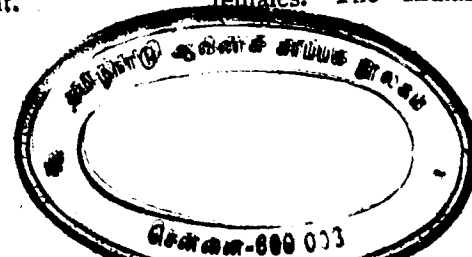
The value of free issues of publications by the Madras Government department during the year 1926-27 was Rs. 35,233-2-7 against Rs. 37,522-3-3 during the previous year, the decrease being due to less expensive publications having been distributed. The total number of papers, books, etc., supplied apart from sales was 4,18,866 including 27,580 copies of proceedings placed on the Editor's table. The Madras Government department can afford to distribute more widely copies of proceedings and publications of the department to educate the public.

FARMING IN HYDERABAD.

About two hundred acres of land have been acquired for experimental and demonstrative purposes by the Agricultural Department of the Hyderabad State to start a main farm near the Himavat Sagar Tank. Another main farm has been started in Prabhani and steps are being taken to acquire land for the extension of this farm. Messrs. Mahendra Bahadur and Ardeshir Kursheed, both American qualified men, have been placed in charge of the farms respectively with Superintendents and Inspectors to assist them.

EMIGRATION.

It is understood that the object of the Controller of Labour in Malaya's visit to India was to confer with the Indian Government with regard to the clause in the Indian Emigration Act that at least three out of every eight Labour Emigrants embarking for Malaya through the Agency of the Malayan Government Emigration Depots in India must be females. The Indian Government has



sanctioned the exemption for a further period of six months, it is stated, from operation of the clause in Malaya.

THE MINIMUM INTERFERENCE.

Dr. Harold Mann, the able Director of Agriculture of Bombay, is to retire on the expiry of time of office this month while the people of Bombay and their Legislative Council are anxious to retain his services especially in connection with the Sakarand Farm Scheme in Sind. The Redtapism of this Secretariat has driven Dr. Mann to retire though he is willing to stay a few years more in India and render invaluable services to a cause for which he is eminently fitted. Secretariat intransigency should not stand in the way. The quarrel between the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and the Director of Agriculture ought to be settled by the minimum interference with the work of the Director by the Secretariat. On the assurance of minimum possible interference with him specially when freed from the shackles of technicalities Dr. Harold Mann ought to continue his special duties which will be in the interests of India.

GROUND RENT.

The Government have had under consideration the question of amending the rules for the levy and revision of ground-rent in the towns other than Madras City of this Presidency. The rules which are now in force are contained in Board's Standing Order No. 21. It has been represented that these rules are too rigid and that they require revision particularly in the direction of abandoning the attempt to obtain the equivalent of the whole freehold value of a building-site in the shape of an economic ground rent. In the vast majority of cases, is charged under the rules on a piece of building-site newly assigned in a town has to be estimated by a series of elaborate and largely arbitrary calculations. There is therefore room for a very large amount of error to creep into the calculations; but as under the rules now in force the Government levy a 'rack-rent' as ground-rent, there are no means by which such errors can be corrected when the lands are disposed of. The application of this principle at the time of the revision of ground-rents and the claim which has to be made in the shape of an increase in the ground-rent under the rules now in force for the whole of the unearned increment which has accrued to the rental value of the land is open to similar objections. Such an attempt to take the whole of the unearned increment cannot but hamper the development of building-sites and discourage enterprise and industry. Moreover, it is exceedingly difficult in practice to calculate the amount of unearned increment accruing to the rental value of the land, and to distinguish it from the increment which has accrued as a result of the enterprise of individuals. The Government have already recognized the undesirability of attempting to take the whole of the unearned increment in G. O. No. 1016, Revenue, dated 29th June 1923, in which they have deliberately held in the case of Vizagapatam that ground-rent was to be revised at resettlement in such a way that only one-half of

the unearned increment would be represented by the increase in ground-rent. For these reasons the Government consider that the ground-rent rules should be amended. While municipal councils are entitled to a large share in the increment in land values, which is due to the development of urban life in the towns, the Government should collect for themselves only an assumed agricultural assessment on the land. Municipal councils in this Presidency have already power, granted to them under the District Municipalities Act, to secure that share to which they are entitled in the increment in land values by the levy of a property-tax on the annual value of lands situated within municipal limits. The Government consider that in all cases in which land outside the limits of Madras City is sold subject to the payment of ground-rent, the assumed agricultural assessment should be taken as the ground-rent due to the Government and the land should ordinarily be sold in auction subject to the payment of this ground-rent. The assumed agricultural assessment is at present fixed at the rate of Rs. 6-4-0 an acre, but this rate will be revisable for each district at the resettlement of the district in accordance with the principles governing the revision at the resettlement of the assessment on agricultural lands.

LAND ASSIGNMENT.

Two applications for land on behalf of individuals or associations which are understood to represent the interests also of Messrs. Brooke Bond Co., Ltd., have been received by Government—one in 1925 and the other in January 1927—for tea cultivation in the Kundah Firkha and other portions of the Nilgiris for a few thousand Acres of land. One of the applications has been rejected. In the case of the other application—evidently of Messrs. Brooke Bond & Co., Ltd.—permission has been granted to enter on such land as is necessary for tea nurseries pending orders of disafforestation and assignment of a portion of the land applied for.

IRRIGATION CESS FUND.

These cess funds are voluntary institutions and have arisen in the past where the ryots interested have joined together and agreed to their formation. Where they no longer exist, they have ceased either through the ryots being no longer willing to contribute or through Government's undertaking the work (that the fund was constituted to carry out) after a reclassification and resettlement of the lands affected. There used to be similar funds in some villages of the Tirutturaipundi and Mannargudi taluks in the latter half of the last century but they were wound up before 1900 for what reason exactly the records so far traced do not show. The total assets of the fund at the close of the year 1925-26 were Rs. 47,653 of which Rs. 30,338 related to Trichinopoly. The operations of this fund extended over Chingleput, Trichinopoly, Madura, Coimbatore and Salem. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 59,635/ against Rs. 56,541/- in the preceding year and the expenditure during the year amounted to

59,454/- that is Rs. 1,824/- more than the preceding year. The balance to be collected was large in Trichinopoly and Salem.

DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION.

The Co-operative Department has no direct control of any sort over this Federation. The function of the Co-operative Department is simply advisory in the case of the training to be given to the supervisors and in selecting them for such training and examination. Only the Supervisors who have been duly trained and qualified and certified by the Registrar as fit to do independent work can visit independently a society affiliated to any union. The Co-operative Department does not interfere with the appointment and dismissal of supervisors by the District Co-operative Federation.

EXEMPTING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras, recommended in 1921 that the Co-operative Societies should be exempted from the payment of profession tax; subsequently, however, the Registrar had no objection to the assessment of Co-operative Societies and Municipalities to profession tax on their net profits. The Government issued a circular to all Municipalities to levy profession tax instead of Company tax. Since the term "profit" has to be defined for purposes of assessment to profession tax, the question of amending the District Municipalities and the Local Boards Acts of 1920 is under consideration.

MUSLIM CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

There are 24 co-operative societies in the Presidency of Madras solely for and entirely managed by Muhammadans. The number of Muhammadan members of co-operative societies is increasing as shown below:—

1923	...	...	31,430
1924	...	...	37,854
1925	...	...	42,874
1926	...	...	45,980
1927	...	...	49,117

LAND MORTGAGE BANKS.

There are 14 land mortgage banks in the Madras Presidency; they are situated as shown below:—

District.	Place.
Arcot (North) ...	1. Ambur.
	2. Chengam.
	3. Sholinghur.
Arcot (South) ...	4. Tiruvannamalai.
	5. Kallakurichi.
Chingleput ...	6. Conjeevaram.
	7. Chingleput.
	8. Madurantakam.
	9. Kilacheri.
Coimbatore ...	10. Kambliampatti.
Kistna ...	11. Gudlavalluru.
Tanjore ...	12. Tanjore.
Tinnevely ...	13. Tinnevely.
Trichinopoly ...	14. Kulittalai.

Proposals have been received in the current year for the starting of land mortgage banks at the places noted below:—

1. Kattumannargudi in South Arcot district.
 2. Tiruppur in Coimbatore district.
 3. Kamalapur in Ganjam district.
 4. Berhampur in "Godaveri" (East) district.
 5. Pithapuram in "Godaveri" (East) district.
 6. Kurnool in Kurnool district.
 7. Mayavaram in Tanjore district.
 8. Tanjore in Tanjore district.
- The Government do not sanction land mortgage banks.

CLOTHING FOR PRISONERS.

The value of cloth used for clothing the prisoners in all the jails in 1926 in Madras was Rs. 43,962-15-9. All the clothing was manufactured within the jails of the Presidency. Rs. 31,793-1-6 was the value of yarn used in manufacturing this cloth, and no part of this yarn was manufactured within the jails of this Presidency.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

As regards the Industrial Schools during the last eight months three schools in the mufassal were recognized during the period. One school teaches engineering and workshop mathematics. Another school provides instruction in dress-making and general needle work. Its strength is 24. The third school with 40 students on its rolls teaches agriculture and allied industries.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES.

"The term 'cottage industries' should be taken to refer only to industries carried on exclusively for the benefit of, and by, the workers themselves, and not to industries carried on for the benefit of middlemen though the workers happen to work not in factories but in their own cottages." Assistance will not be possible under the Act to the handloom industry as at present organized, which is far the most important cottage industry in the Presidency. For the greatest proportion of the workers in the handloom industry are dependent on middlemen capitalists who advance them yarns or money and sell their finished product. These middlemen are in many cases small capitalists doing a comparatively small local business. For many years to come the industry will not be independent of such middlemen. Capital is required which the weaver cannot supply for himself and it is immaterial whether it is supplied in the form of a loan or advance of yarn or money to individual weavers or whether the weaver working in his home or in a factory works for wages paid by the capitalist middleman. The interdependence of labour and capital is coming to be recognized by enlightened labour opinion in England where labour is highly organized and the necessity for this interdependence must be still more obvious in this less organized country. If this definition will bar the handloom industry from receiving aid under the State Aid to Industries Act, the Act is thereby deprived of a great deal of its potential usefulness.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEMES.

Now that the Chief Engineer for Hydro-Electric Development for Madras has taken up his office, the Government hope to have some definite proposal to consider

regarding the Papanasam Reservoir Scheme which is still under investigation.

INDIGENOUS SYSTEM OF MEDICINE.

The Principal of the Government School of Medicine, Madras, has proceeded to the United Provinces to study the encouragement and development of the indigenous system of medicine and his report is anxiously awaited.

SYSTEM OF PROHIBITION.

There is no "total prohibition" of liquor in force at present in any area in the Presidency of Madras. The sale of arrack only is prohibited in the selected five taluks. No decision has yet been made by the Government of Madras concerning the introduction of total prohibition in any area. No additional expenditure has been incurred in enforcing the prohibition of the sale of arrack in the selected five taluks. It is not possible to say what the loss of estimated revenue in future would be in extending the system of prohibition.

TEMPERANCE.

With the object of encouraging the temperance movement (by which is understood temperance in the consumption of alcoholic liquor) the possibility of introducing experimentally in selected areas the following measures is being investigated in the Presidency of Madras.

- (1) A system of selling arrack in sealed bottles of two sizes only.
- (2) The abolition of the foreign liquor taverns.
- (3) The abolition of the fixed fee licences for the sale of foreign liquor and the substitution of a system of licence fees which will depend upon consumption.

(4) The prohibition of the sale of cheap foreign liquor.

The possibility of increasing the duty on arrack to a uniform rate of Rs. 10-10-0 per proof gallon throughout the Presidency is also being investigated.

The investigation was started in July 1927. It is not possible to say when it will be completed. As regards an estimate of the probable cost of introducing a policy of total prohibition in two selected districts. It is not possible to say when the Government will arrive at a decision on the subject.

JURORS AND ASSESSORS.

Jurors and Assessors who are not public servants are paid travelling allowance and batta at the rates allowed to witnesses of the second class attending criminal courts. These rates are prescribed in rule 87 of the Criminal Rules of Practice.

COMPASSIONATE GRATUITIES.

Since 1902 the Government of India have been maintaining a fund designed to afford relief to the families of deserving public servants left in indigent circumstances through the premature death of the individual upon whom they depended for support. With the inauguration of the reformed constitution and the introduction of the revised rules relating to expenditure on reserved and transferred subjects, the Government of India have

decided to deal only with cases of compassionate gratuities to the families of those Government servants who are paid from Central revenues (and from Burma revenues for the time being). The Provincial Governments will deal with cases of officials paid from Provincial revenues. Up to now, the Compassionate Fund then constituted (of Rs. 22,500 a year, raised with effect from 1918-19 to Rs. 35,000 a year) has been maintained by the Government of India for the services directly under them and those under Provincial Governments. With the inception of the reformed constitution and the introduction of the revised rules relating to expenditure on reserved and transferred subjects which place no limitation upon the powers of local Governments to grant gratuities for the relief of families of Government servants, the Government of India have now decided to deal, by means of an annual grant of Rs. 15,000 and a total expenditure of Rs. 20,000 in any single year, only with cases of compassionate gratuities to the families of those Government servants who are paid from central revenues (and from Burma revenues for the time being) and to leave it to the other Provincial Governments to deal with cases of officials paid from Provincial revenues. A copy of the rules followed by the Government of India in considering applications for grants from the Compassionate Fund (which is at present administered by a committee consisting of three Members of the Executive Council of the Governor-General sitting at intervals of about three months) is enclosed, as the information may help the Provincial Government to evolve rules for their own guidance on the same principles. The Compassionate Fund is intended for the relief of families of Government servants left in indigent circumstances through the premature death of the person upon whom they depended for support. It is formed by an annual grant of Rs. 35,000 which is cumulative, the unexpended balance of one year's grant being carried forward to the credit of similar expenditure in succeeding years. The maximum limit of expenditure in any single year is Rs. 45,000.

ENGINEERING SCHOOL AT TRICHINOPOLY.

It was urged on the Government that the separation of the subordinate classes from the Engineering College in 1920 had not tended to increase the efficiency or popularity of the classes and that the classes should be re-transferred to the College in view of the more efficient instruction imparted in the College. The Government have accordingly directed that the Engineering school at Trichinopoly should be closed with effect from the end of the current school year and that the classes should be re-transferred to the Engineering College. In this School only Civil Engineering is taught and not mechanical or electrical engineering. Students receiving instruction in Civil Engineering are not required to undergo training in a workshop and the facilities afforded by the South Indian Railway Workshop will be of no use to them.

ORPHANAGES.

The rates of boarding grant for *Euro-pean* schools is Rs. 15 a month in the Madras City and Rs. 12 a month in the mufassal for a child. No rates have been laid down by Government in the case of grants to *Indian* orphanages. The usual procedure is to distribute the budget

provision available each year *pro rata* among the eligible children, subject to a maximum of half the net cost to the management. The grant paid in 1926-27 worked out to Rs. 8-9-2 per head for a year.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

The Government of Madras have been sanctioning every year from 1924-25 sub-

dies and grants for the opening of Elementary School in school-less centres with a population of 500 and above through the agencies of local bodies, Village Panchayats and private managements. It is expected that by 1928-29 all school-less centres with a population of 500 and above will be provided with schools.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE CONQUEST OF WEALTH.

In the Ninth Chapter of the *Bhagavad-Gita*, Krishna hails his disciple as "Conqueror of Wealth," an epithet pregnant with meaning for present-day aspirants to the Sacred Science. Perhaps its significance will be more apparent if we eliminate some of the things it does not mean.

That possession and conquest are not synonymous is easily demonstrable. The owner of an unbroken steed may have a hard struggle before him in conquering his mount. The various vehicles which make up our personalities are the possession of each of us as Egos, but how far we are from their conquest none realizes more keenly than those who are earnestly trying to live in accordance with the teachings of Theosophy.

From the standpoint of material riches the expression could not connote the possession of a great fortune, because too often the rich man is obviously not the conqueror of his wealth but rather is driven helplessly by the acquisitive tendency which led to its amassing and which seeks constantly and feverishly to augment it. The rich young man in the parable, face to face with his great opportunity, "went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions."

The possession of riches, however, is in itself neither an advantage nor a hindrance. It is the attitude and conduct of their owner that constitutes them bane or blessing. He who, having any degree of wealth, clings to its meager satisfactions, physical, aesthetic, or intellectual, and lives in dread of being bereft of them, is not even a free man. He is no more the conqueror of wealth than is the man of small means who is so obsessed by the dream of riches that he makes all else subservient to their pursuit. The miser is the wretched slave of his hoard, be it small or great; while the spendthrift who squanders money to gratify his uncontrolled desires must reap, soon or late, the lean harvest of his prodigality and misuse of wealth.

Nor is he who renounces wealth its conqueror. It is not of record that the followers of Francis of Assisi, vowed to the service of the "Lady of Poverty," were proof against the glamour of riches or less susceptible to their allurements than their lay brothers. Unless the heart prompts and acquiesces in the hands' renunciation, the would-be ascetic is but "a false pietist of bewildered soul."

Repeatedly it has been pointed out that true asceticism is not renunciation but

right use of all things therein lies the clue. To conquer wealth is neither to amass nor to renounce it, neither to hoard nor to squander it, but to use wisely and beneficently whatever means we have under Karma, without elation at their increase or anxiety lest they take flight.

Futile to dream what good we might accomplish if vast wealth, boundless energy, and abundant leisure were ours. The real question is, what use are we making of such means as we at present possess, financial, energetic, or temporal. If the Cause of Theosophy, which is the Cause of Humanity, does not come first in our scheme of things now, what guarantee is there that our sense of relative values would improve with added opportunities for expansion of personal interests and gratification of personal desires? Unless the maintenance of a suitable place for the presentation of the message of Theosophy outweighs in importance the provision of attractive living quarters for ourselves; unless the giving of that message outranks our personal pleasures and comfort; unless we are using our time to the best possible advantage now, we err in sighing for the added responsibility which would accompany increased affluence, more robust health, and a larger measure of leisure.

No man is the conqueror of wealth while he regards himself as its unconditional possessor or dreams that he is accountable to none for its use. Even a slight intellectual grasp of the essential unity of all must convince the thoughtful that all individual wealth is held in trust and that each must render to Karma an exact account of his stewardship. As the student grows gradually into the realization of that unity of the race, his ethical standards relative to the acquisition as well as the use of wealth inevitably grow more uncompromising. Practices which common usage seems to justify to the man of the world become impossible to the Theosophist, who would rather suffer any deprivation than take advantage of his brother, and who would unhesitatingly relinquish even what he felt was his just due rather than stoop to questionable means to obtain it.

We may be sure that complete victory will not result from one or several decisive engagements. To gain and hold the right attitude toward our possessions will inevitably call for sustained effort over a long period. Only when we can properly evaluate and use them, many or few, maintaining an attitude of detachment while employing them with discrimination and unselfishly, shall we be conquerors of

wealth. Then, even as Arjuna was dear to the noise of battle while the Teacher spoke, shall we be able, above the clamor and din of the market-place, to hear distinctly the voice of Krishna, the Counselor, the Higher Self.—Theosophy.

ANSWERS FROM "THE FORUM"

Question—What would be the correct name for that "thing" which can be conscious of the physical body, feeling hunger, thirst, the pain of a cut or blow, then go to the state of Karma and feel passion and emotion, or enter into a state of mentality and act on the plane of thought?

Answer—Read the chapter of the *Bhagavad-Gita* which treats of Kshetra and Kshetrajna, or the Knower and the Known, as also those which describe the three qualities, their action and function. Your question deals with consciousness, and no one has yet been able to finish its definition. The Self, who is made up of *Manas-Buddhi-Atman*, three in one, is the knower and the perceiver. If there were no Self present, all that you have described would be merely motions in *Prana* or the movement of the three qualities, for it is the Self who enables us to give names, derived from sensation, to these effects. And any name given to the Self, in any language, will be but the attempt of the man to name that which is nameless. In your own remarks under the question you have skipped from one subject to another, for you began with what relates to the perception of the knower while dwelling in the body, and ended with the essential nature of the monad, an entirely different matter. This confusion of topics will only create confusion in your own mind. There is no benefit from increasing words on the self-perceptive cognition, for all that you can say of it is that you possess the *I am I* consciousness. Hence all that you have said can be resolved by the statement that the consciousness functions in many different planes of experience, and in each one uses the means or instruments appropriate thereto. And in order to so pass from one plane to another, holding intelligence in each, the presence of *Manas* is necessary as one of the integral parts or powers of the Self, for without *Manas* we are only of the brute or lower kingdoms. For one moment consider the brutes who, moving and dwelling in the mental plane with man, know nothing of our manasic sensations. It is because *Manas* is dormant in them; but in you it has begun to awake, thus enabling you as man to note the effects upon yourself of the motions of the qualities of nature.—W. Q. J.

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