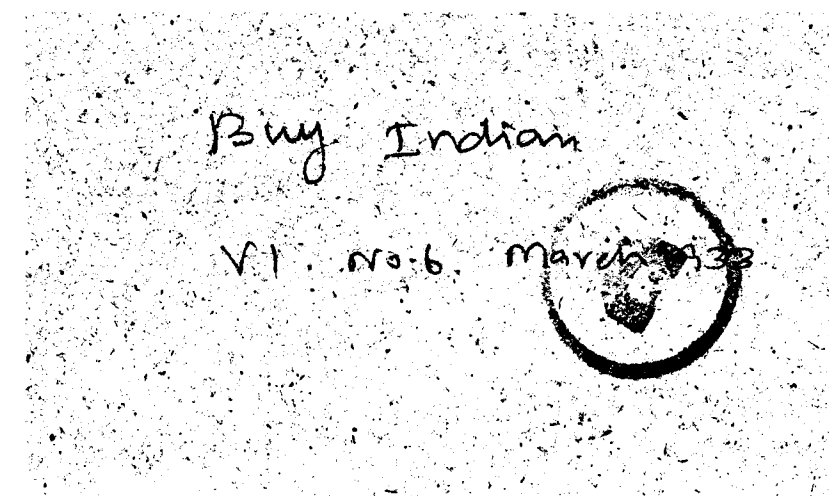




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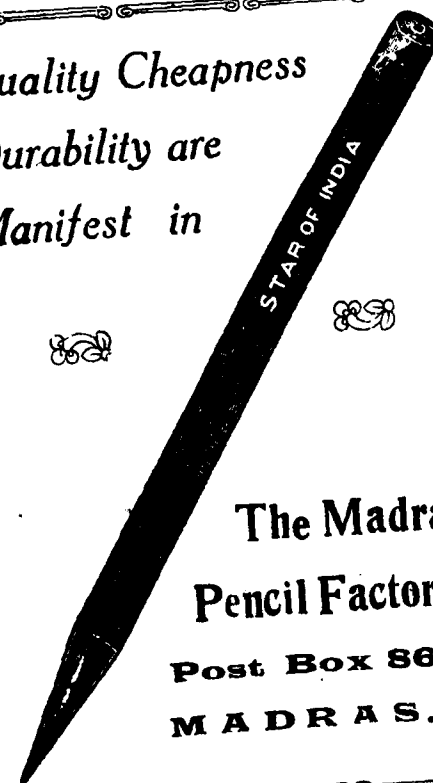
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Publishers :

**The Buy Indian League,
Madras.**

Editorial Office :

**Hindusthan Buildings,
Armenian Street,
Madras.**

Editorial Board :

Mr. T. R. Venkatrama Sastri, C. I. E.

Mr. Yakub Hassan, M.L.C.

Editors :

Mr. B. Shiva Rao

Mr. M. Subbaraya Aiyar

Printers :

**Devi Press,
1/17, Mount Road,
Madras.**

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**Official
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of the
Buy Indian
League**

Vol. I. No. 6.

March 1933.

**Annual Subscription Rs. 1-8-0
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THE INDIAN BUDGET

SIR George Schuster's budget speech was couched in optimistic terms; and, in commending the budget proposals for the coming year to the acceptance of the Assembly, he made a few observations on India's economic position which are of special interest to us. Sir George said that the monsoon had been fairly normal for India as a whole, and that so far as climatic conditions were concerned, India might be said to have been enjoying a year of normal prosperity. The anticipated rise in rupee prices had, of course, not materialised and prices towards the end of the period under review had shown a falling tendency. The world economic position had been growing from bad to worse and India had also an adequate share along with other countries in the slackness of export trade. India's export figures for the 10 months from April 1932 to January 1933 showed only a total value of 110½ crores, as compared with 134½ crores for last year. Sir George observed that in the case of practically all the main items, the decline is accounted for by a fall in the quantities rather than in the value of the articles exported. We notice decreases in cotton exports by 6½ crores; jute 1½ crores grain, pulse and flour about 2 crores; and seeds just over 2 crores. The Finance Member further stated that a study of the table of the export figures for 1931-32 and the forecasts for 1932-33 clearly showed that the value of India's exports had declined to a terrible extent compared with what had come to be accepted as a normal level in the post-war period. For example, we find that exports of raw cotton had fallen in quantity by more than a half and in value by three quar-

Buy Indian

Progress of the Movement

MADRAS, 12TH MARCH 1933.

As we are going to the press, we are informed that the Exhibition has been extended till March 12. A *Hindusthan Times* account says that large numbers of people are daily coming to Ajmer from surrounding towns to see the Exhibition.

Ajmer

The Indian Mills and Agents Association, Amritsar, has decided to hold an All India Swadeshi Exhibition and Swadeshi Bazaar in Jallianwala Bhagh, Amritsar, from the 10th April, to the 25th April. All kinds of mill cloth spun from Indian yarn, hosiery goods, hand spun and hand woven cloth, made from cotton, wool and silk, toilet requisites, medicines, sports goods, pottery and hardware, and artistic Indian products will be allowed to be exhibited. The conveners invite the attention of all those who are interested in these articles to book stalls at the earliest opportunity as arrangement for only 100 stalls has been made. Gold and silver medals and certificates for the best exhibits will be awarded.

Amritsar

The travelling van of the Buy Indian League was sent to Arni on March 2 with Swadeshi goods for the purpose of exhibition and returned to headquarters on the 12th.

Arni

The Buy Indian League consisting of eleven popular members was started on 15th April 1932 and was affiliated to the Head Office at Madras. The All-India Swadeshi Day was celebrated grandly on 29th May 1932. Taking advantage of the crowd gathered during the festivals at Muthupattanam, Kunnakkudi, Vairavanpatti, Pallattor and Kandanoor, many public meetings were held last year. Besides, monthly meetings were conducted here. Several members were recruited to the League. Pamphlets in thousands were distributed to the

Attangudi

public. Khaddar and Swadeshi articles worth about Rs. 2,500 were sold during Deepavali. One of the committee members Mr. Rm. A. C. Arunachalam Chettiar opened the "Arunagiri Swadeshi Stores" last year.

An *Associated Press* telegram of February 12 says:—Mr. B. Shiva Rao opened the Swadeshi Exhibition to-day. He said that the Swadeshi movement had made most remarkable progress during 1932 but it would be dangerous to allow any sense of satisfaction to relax their efforts. He asked the audience to undertake organisation on a systematic basis. Exhibitions were excellent in their own way but he would make the suggestion that at these Exhibitions not only things made in India but gaps in articles of daily necessity should be represented, so that, it might be brought home to the people that their industrial position was sad and humiliating. He referred to sugar, paper, glass, vegetable oils, dye-stuffs, provisions and even fresh fruit and vegetables and asked, if in these, out of several other items, India could not make a determined effort to be self-sufficient.

Bagalkot

The Syndicate of the Calcutta University has appointed a committee to consider the possibility of establishing an agricultural college which might serve the double purpose of improving the agriculture of the province and, at the same time, help in solving the problem of unemployment among the Bhadralog class.

Calcutta

The Swadeshi Commercial Museum is organising a Swadeshi Exhibition and Mela under the name of "Basanta Utsav" at Bhavanipur. Dr. B. C. Roy, Mayor of Calcutta will open the Exhibition. The date will be announced shortly.

At a meeting of the Municipal Council held on Feb. 9, the request of the Hon'y Joint Secretary of the Malabar Buy Indian League for permission to put up boards containing Swadeshi slogans at the Municipal Bus stand, Prince of Wales chattram, Municipal lamp posts etc was granted.

Calicut

A *Free Press* report says that it has been decided to hold an Industrial, Agricultural and Health Exhibition at Comilla from the 2nd of April 1933. Arrangements are being made for exhibiting all Swadeshi industrial products and for the demonstration of scientific methods of cultivation. Cloths of different varieties, hosiery, woollen goods both hand-spun and Swadeshi-mill-made, khaddar of superior quality etc. will be on show.

Comilla

The Secretary, The Buy Indian League, Madras writes:—The generosity of the Pachaiyappa's trustees enables us to hold an Exhibition at Conjeevaram this year at the time of the Garudotsavam festival which falls on 6th June.

Conjeevaram

The following resolutions were passed at the Provincial Swadeshi Conference held in the Exhibition grounds, when the Delhi Exhibition had nearly come to a close:—

Delhi

It is the considered opinion of the Conference that unemployment, trade depression and the general poverty of the country is mainly due to the dependence of India on foreign countries for the supply of necessary articles of consumption and neglect of Indian enterprise. This Conference, therefore, calls upon Indians to make an organized effort to promote Indian industry with a view to make the country self-reliant and to provide work and wages for the unemployed; and thus enrich the economic resources of the people.

This Conference draws the pointed attention of the people to the use of Indian-made cloth, especially khadi and such other Indian-made articles as are available, and assures them that every pie spent on foreign-made articles in preference to Indian-made goods means a blow to the poor. (Moved by the Chair.)

This Conference urges upon the Government to take necessary steps to confine all purchases to Indian-made goods.

This Conference calls upon the members of the municipalities and the district boards of the Province in particular and the people in general, to persuade municipalities and district boards to support the Swadeshi movement in the following ways:

- By allowing hand-spun and hand-woven khadi into municipal limits duty free.
- By allowing swadeshi goods into the municipal limits at preferential rates of duty
- By buying khadi and other Swadeshi goods for their requirements.

Museum And Market

This Conference hereby resolves to establish a permanent Swadeshi museum and a Swadeshi market at Delhi for selling and exhibiting the indigenous products of the Province, particularly and other Indian products in general.

This conference is of opinion that the Ottawa Pact is against the best interests of the country in as much as it gives preference to British goods at the cost of infant Indian industries and, therefore, condemns it in the strongest possible words.

The following office-bearers were then elected.

President—Mr. Desh Bandhu.

Vice-President—Mr. Jyoti Prasad, Advocate, Meerut, and Shrimati Memo Bai.

General Secretary—Mr. Jugal Kishore Khanna, Pleader, Delhi.

Secretary—Mr. G. S. Jaiman, M. A., LL. B.

Treasurer—Lala Hardhyan Singh.

The All-India Industrial Exhibition was opened by Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray on 11th March '33. He hoped that the spirit which had prompted them to hold the Exhibition would lead them on to larger industrial and commercial Exhibitions that would increase the wealth of the country and bring happiness and contentment to India's poor millions.

Buy Indian

Buy Indian

Mr. Hotha Veerabhadraya, the Zamindar and proprietor of Gangoli estate has expressed his willingness to co-operate with the working of a co-operative society in his area and help to start cottage industries in his zemin villages for the benefit of his tenants. Arrangements are being made to organise a society at Hukumpeta with jurisdiction over villages in the vicinity.

An Exhibition of new designs was held on Feb. 5 at the Cottage Industries Institute by the Commerce and Industry Department of the State. The articles that were on exhibition included printed cloths, bedspreads, table-cloths, silk embroidery, sarees, gold and colour work in Paithan sarees, basket-work, carpets, etc.

The Government Rural Development Centre at Pattancheru was declared open by Sir Kishen Prasad Bahadur on Feb. 26. The Centre which embraces 12 villages is to do rural uplift work by introducing industries subsidiary to agriculture such as poultry-keeping, goat-keeping, vegetable and fruit-growing etc.

The Government are considering certain applications received both from Hyderabad and outside for permission to start sugarcane industries in the State. The Agricultural Department have completed their investigations into the possibilities of the industry in the areas under the Niyamsagar Reservoir and Dr. Mann has reported that the areas are favourable for such an industry.

A correspondent writes :—Mr. Balaji Rao, Agricultural Demonstrator, Tadpatri came here on Feb. 18 with the agricultural Exhibition Van. A number of ryots attended the daily Exhibitions. Mr. Rao explained to them the need for securing good seeds, scientific manure, cattle shed etc.

A correspondent writes under date Feb. 23 1933 :—Advantage was taken of the presence of nearly a lakh of pilgrims at Kotipalli (who had come there for the Mahasivarathri festival) by the Secretary of the Provincial Co-operative Union and head of the Rural Reconstruction Centre at Alamuru to educate the

village folk on various aspects of rural advance with the aid of a varied Exhibition. The Exhibition showed several varieties of paddy, silk cocoons, bee-rearing and various agricultural products.

The Mahamagam All-India Swadeshi Exhibition organised by The Buy Indian League of Madras and the All-India Spinners' Association was opened on Feb. 25 1933 by Mrs. Nurgis Captain before a large and distinguished gathering. We are informed that large crowds are visiting the Exhibition. The actual number of those who have visited the exhibition is not available at the time of going to the press. The following is taken from a letter of a Kumbakonam correspondent appearing in the Hindu of March 9 1933. "The All-India Mahamagam Swadeshi Exhibition organised by the Buy Indian League and the A. I. S. A. is daily attracting thousands of visitors. This Exhibition is a clear indication of what India is capable in the field of industrial development....." The Hindu correspondent of Kumbakonam says in his report of March 5 1933 that the total khadi sales in the Exhibition up to the time of writing stood at about Rs. 9,200.

The All-India Mahamagam Fair and Exhibition organised by Mr. Shaikh Dawood was opened by Mr. A Rangaswami Ayyangar, Editor, "The Hindu" on Feb. 15 1933.

An Exhibition will be held from 25th April to 18th May in the building of the Sethupatti High School. The Exhibition synchronises with the annual Chitrai festival which attracts large gatherings at Madura.

At a public meeting held on March 4 1933, it was resolved to hold an Industrial Exhibition in the second week of Chitra. The Exhibition is to last for three weeks.

Buy Indian

About 15,000 cattle gathered at the Show organised by the Palace Authorities on Feb. 27 1933. In distributing prizes to the winners, the H. U. Secretary remarked that cattle-breeding was one of the most important industries of the State and that he was glad to find that the number of cattle had almost doubled since last year and that the sales were going on briskly.

The recently published review on the Administration of the Government Gardens and Hill-stations says that there is a great future for the fruit industry in the State; and that over five thousand fruit plants consisting chiefly of apples, oranges, and grapes were imported from Australia and supplied to fruit growers

At a meeting held in this place on Feb. 14 under the presidency of Mr. C. H. Masterman I. C. S. Collector, to concert measures for starting a purchase and sale society for paddy grown in the district, it was resolved to start a society for this purpose shortly.

Mr. R. Suryanarayana Rao, the Jt. Hon. Secretary of the Malabar Buy Indian League opened on March 8 the Swadeshi stores organised by the Malabar Swadeshi Emporium Ltd. Messages from Messrs B. Shiva Rao, S. Satyamurthi, C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar and others were read at the function.

An Associated Press Telegram says: The Poona Industrial Exhibition was opened on Feb. 27 by Rajah Dhanrajagirji. The Exhibition, which will be kept open for a month contains exhibits from all parts of India.

Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar in a message to the *Free Press* says :—The production of khaddar in Maharashtra has improved most remarkably. The beautiful varieties exhibited in the Poona Bhandar must convince backward centres that, where there are willing and energetic workers, a khadi depot can present the most

attractive choices to fastidious customers. I must ask Tamil Nadu workers to study the Maharashtra and U. P. Centres. The old fable of "Hare and Tortoise" has a way of coming up in every walk of life".

Mr. Hilton Brown, I. C. S. Collector, Tanjore performed on Feb 8 the opening ceremony of the soaking farm of the Coir Works on the beach at Rajamadam, Pattukottai Taluk, before a large gathering. He said that the revival of such an industry was a necessity for the poor agriculturists who were at present labouring under peculiar disadvantages.

At a meeting of the District Board held on Feb 18 the resolution of P. T. Subbiah Pillai that, for the requirements of the Board, Indian goods should be bought as far as possible was passed.

A Swadeshi Emporium was opened in this place on Feb 5 1933.

The Secretary, The Trichinopoly Civic and Social Progress League writes :—At the meeting of the committee of the League held on 11th February, it was resolved to circularise the local bodies regarding their purchases in Swadeshi and Swadeshi propaganda in schools.

An Exhibition of products of Indian manufacture will be held in April and May when there will be a big fair known as the "Singhast Mela". The Fair which takes place once in every twelve years attracts thousands of visitors from all parts of India. Manufacturers and their agents will be given special facilities. The Exhibition will open on April 25 1933 and last till May 10 1933.

The Vizagapatam District Agricultural Exhibition was held in the second week of February.

Buy Indian

FACILITIES FOR A SUGAR SCHEME IN HOSPET

BY

R. NAGAN GOWDA Ph. D.

THE river Tungabhadra forms the boundary line between Kopbal Taluk (Nawab Sir Salar Jung's Estate and Hospet Taluk in Bellary District.) Thus, the Tungabhadra Valley is situated partly in Kopbal Taluk and partly in Hospet Taluk.

On both sides of the river, canals have been constructed on contour and the area lying between the canals and the river is irrigated. These canals were constructed by the ancient kings of Vijayanagar and most of the land that is commanded by these canals is under cultivation. The only exception to this is the last ten miles of the Basavana canal which was extended recently and is expected to bring in an additional area of about a thousand acres.

IRRIGATED AREA. FASLI 1340

	Sugar Cane Acres	Paddy Acres
Hospet Firka	3006.77	1951.70
Narayanadevrakeri Firka	913.67	740.61
Kamalapur Firka	1526.11	2011.56
Kambli Firka (16 miles off)	1534.74	1647.23
Kopbal Taluk (approximately)	1000.00	1500.00
Total Acres	7981.29	7851.10

In cultivation, sugar cane is alternated with paddy (rice). Usually cane comes every other year; sometimes twice in 3 years.

In Hospet Firka, all the land is between Hospet town and the river, the railway station being in the southern end of the wet land area. The Kamalapur Firka extends from about 3 miles off Hospet. The Kamalapur Tank, which is 6 miles off Hospet is fed by Raya Canal and has about 500 acres of wet land. Narayanadevrakeri Firka starts from 6 miles off Hospet. Here the cane is grown both on the banks of the tank and the canal.

Out of these three Firkas, it would be quite easy to get 3500 acres of cane within a radius of 5 miles from Hospet. Within 3 miles radius of Hospet, about 2500 acres of cane are available.

Cane in Kopbal Taluk is found on the banks of the river. The M. S. M. Meter Gauge line connects this area with Hospet; and, consequently, the cane can be easily obtained.

Kambli Firka is connected with Hospet by a good road and is one

of the best cane-growing areas. The cane from here can be easily transported.

There are roads to almost all the interior villages of the wet land area. Some of these roads are not in good condition but they can all be improved.

Location of Plant

The plant may be located near Hospet close to the Railway Line.

Good Canes

Rao Sahib T. S. Venkataraman, Sugar Cane Expert to the Government of India (Coimbatore Cane Breeding Station), who was here last February, was pleasantly surprised at the vast area of cane we have here. He thought this cane belonged to the Pundia variety. This is one of the best canes in India and has about 14 per cent of sucrose. This cane is not affected by diseases in this area. The average yield per acre is about 25 tons of cane. When an adequate amount of fertilizers and manures is applied, an yield of 35 to 40 tons of cane can be obtained.

Price of Cane

Cane as such is not sold and hence its rate has to be determined by that of jaggery. The average price of jaggery of this year would put the price of cane at about Rs. 11.

About the prospects for a factory at Hospet, the Director of Industries has this to say:—

"From the information supplied by you, the area of sugar cane available is more than sufficient for the purpose of setting a factory. You have the advantage that you can get cane at 12½ per cent less than the rate suggested by the Tariff Board. There is also the additional advantage that Madras canes contain a higher percentage of sucrose than the Northern Indian canes which the Tariff Board had in view, in preparing their estimates. I, therefore, consider that, with the protective duty in force, a factory located at Hospet should pay handsome dividends".

General

The cultivators of sugar cane in this area are anxious to co-operate in every way with those who are interested in manufacturing sugar here. Others, the landlords and sahuks are also willing to give their co-operation to such a scheme.

THE HILL PRODUCE OF MADURA

by

K. C. RAMAKRISHNAN, M.A.

Economics Department, The University of Madras.

MADURA has a larger percentage of her total area under hills than most other districts in the Madras Presidency.

Many of the Madura hills are well-wooded, though the destructive work of man in cutting fuel or raising fugitive crops for food for a while has laid bare or converted the old excellent forests into thorny sub-jungle regions. Such wasteful exploitation has been to a large extent arrested and a wise policy of conservation of the timber forests has been substituted. It is not known how much of the forest area in the Madura district (which is 14 per cent of her total area and is just the Presidency average too) is really bearing valuable timber or other trees, how much yields 'minor produce' of a miscellaneous character (which in the aggregate often yields more income than 'major produce') and how much is really an apology for forest. Fortunately, the forest wealth of the Madura district forms the subject of another paper. In this paper, I shall confine my attention to the three most important special crops raised in the Madura hills by the whole sale or partial clearance of forests: *plantains, coffee and cardamoms*.

Plantains

The most ubiquitous of the Madura hill produce is the *hill plantain* which is now hawked in almost all the Tamil districts as far north as Madras city and for which the demand seems to be ever on the increase. No other district produces this variety, though we come across a few costlier varieties of hill plantains in other districts like Malabar. In fact, Madura district has next to Malabar the largest acreage under plantains in the Presidency. Published figures (in the Season

and Crop Report) do not reveal to us how much of the 15,000 acres under plantains in Madura are on the hills and how much on the plains. Returns from the zamindari tracts are neither complete nor accurate; and there are hills in such tracts growing plantains. The increase of the acreage is generally attributed to the extension of plantain cultivation on the hills.

The *Sirumalai plantain* has been famous from ancient times; and even now discriminating consumers show a distinct preference for the peculiarly aromatic though small-sized plantain from the Sirumalais. But with the increase in demand, other hills, particularly in the lower Palnis, are cleared for plantains which go on, in spite of little care, bearing for 20 years at a stretch.

Some Good Varieties

Though there is a perceptible difference among the fruit coming from different hills of Madura—due perhaps to the difference in climatic and soil conditions which need investigation—they have all in common certain qualities which have commended them so much to the consumers in the Tamil districts. There is a fine distinctive flavour about these fruit, though all are not equally sweet; there is nothing of the 'sourness' or 'acid' taste that is felt in some of the plain plantains—particularly the 'Puvan' of the Cauvery valley. More than that, the Madura hill plantain has a buttery consistency sadly lacking in the several varieties of the fruit on the plain, which leave a 'thready' feeling on the tongue. The hill plantain is, besides, universally acclaimed as the most nutritious and healthy—or, at the worst, the least un-

Buy Indian

Buy Indian

healthy—among the plantains of the country. This is a fit subject for investigation by research workers on dietetics.

There are certain other virtues of the hill plantain which make it a far better commercial proposition for producers and traders than other plantains. It is not lightly bruised or spoiled in transport—which, by the way, is far more difficult on the hills where porters or pack animals have to be employed. Besides, this fruit keeps for a much longer time after it is harvested and grows sweeter as the days go on until it becomes far too ripe. This condition is generally and easily averted by the vendors. There are perhaps few luscious fruits in the tropics which inflict so little loss in handling and selling as this does. There is now no need to wonder at the increasing popularity of this hill plantain—which may be measured by the increase in the consignments from the South Indian Railway stations especially Dindigul and Kodaikanal Road—not to speak of tracts opened up by the new railway line. The prospect of exporting the Madura hill plantain abroad, as is done in the case of bananas from West Indies, is not bright, as the distance to be covered is far too long; but the home demand is on the increase.

There are certain serious problems which the extension of plantain cultivation on the hills gives rise to, which are not presented by the cultivation on the plains. We find analogous problems more in the West Indies where the banana is cultivated on the hill-sides by more or less the same methods.

Difficulties

Forest trees, some of them very valuable and not quickly or easily replaceable, are felled; and all (but the stumps sometimes) are burnt; the ashes are roughly ploughed in and the suckers are burnt in the rich virgin soil thus rendered available. There is little or no tillage, no irrigation, no manuring, no rotation of crops. After 15 or 20 years of bearing, the groves are abandoned and the land relapses into an impenetrable thorny waste in place of the original forest of great beauty and beneficence. There are other consequences more disastrous if it is the hill slopes that are so treated; for it leads to rapid soil erosion especially as the plantain has no elaborate root system binding up the soil; the inundation of fields below after a heavy rainfall becomes a certainty.

On the other hand, the encouragement of plantain cultivation, not on the hill slopes but on more or less level land in the plateau above, may besides averting such disasters lead to a positive improvement in the methods of cultivation and of yield. For the soil on level land admits of better agricultural treatment, and even virgin soil is not necessarily of unbounded fertility as is usually assumed; ploughing instead of hoeing, manuring and rotation may all be practised. Instead of the land being abandoned after such a heavy initial expenditure and trouble it may well be cultivated for all time, though the expenses and trouble of such permanent and settled cultivation are bound to be higher on plateau than on level land; particularly, as the better set of labourers from the plains have fought shy of staying on for a long time on the hills. The question of ridding the hill settlements of malaria is a vital problem to be solved in this connection.

Coffee

Coffee plantation on the hill slopes does not raise similar difficulties; for the root structure of coffee has a tendency to bind the soil and does not so lightly allow the rainfall to lead to soil erosion. Besides, coffee, as well as cardamom, requires some shade to maintain the moist atmosphere in the hot season; and the original forest is not completely cleared of trees before coffee is planted. Some of the old trees are retained for shade or new special varieties of quick-growing shade-trees like the silver-oak or even rubber trees are planted. Coffee, on the other hand, requires perfect drainage like tea; and, therefore, hill-slopes are preferred to level land. It does not mind rocky soil, provided there are pouches of loam into which its long tap-root may strike.

Climatic Control

The striking control exercised by geographic, particularly climatic conditions in respect of coffee plantation may be illustrated in the case of the Madura district as compared with Malabar. Coffee is not grown on the western slopes of the Western Ghats where tea and rubber are the favourite plantation crops. Tea is a hardier plant and withstands the much heavier rainfall and the furious winds that blow in the S. W. monsoon period. Coffee thrives better when it is sheltered from winds and gets a moderate amount of rainfall—80 inches or thereabouts—in an

open and bracing atmosphere as is found on hills of 3,000 feet and above and not in the humid atmosphere of low lands. It, therefore, thrives on the Sirumalais (3,000 feet above sea-level) where it was first introduced 90 years back by Judge William Elliott who got his seeds from Mysore, which is far and away the most important coffee-growing region in India. Next follow Coorg and the Nilgiris in respect of area and yield of coffee. Madura is the most important district in the Madras Presidency for coffee, where it is now grown on the lower Palnis as well as on the Sirumalais. The coffee grown on the latter is said to be superior to that from the Palnis, where it was first introduced by a Frenchman M. E. de Fondclair. But the climate of neither Sirumalais nor the lower Palnis would seem to suit the European planters who made several efforts to settle but abandoned them gradually, so much so, that with the exception of the Jesuit Mission which owns a considerable area (of nearly 1,000 acres), all the planters are Indians. The hills are still pronounced to be malarial and our workers seem to fight shy of settling therein.

Future Of Coffee

A few observations on the future of coffee may not be out of place. Apart from the unsuitability of climate to civilised man on hills of less than 4,000 feet (higher hills seem to be free from malaria), so terrible has been the havoc wrought in the past by a few pests and blights on the coffee plant, that many a garden had to be abandoned on that score, while it could not be replaced by tea as in Ceylon. Tea has no doubt to encounter more numerous pests, but they are never so ruinous; the few pests affecting coffee "make up for their specific paucity by their individual voracity". Pest control is now being seriously tackled and planters need not be so pessimistic.

Foreign Competition

A greater danger to coffee has been the formidable competition of the heavy supplies from Brazil (constituting 60 to 70 per cent of the world's export), which in spite on all her 'valorization' schemes could not keep up prices for long, as there was no restriction of planting or output. There has been in the 20th century a tremendous increase in coffee production in Central America and the Dutch East Indies. But Indian coffee has

not had much to fear as most of it was of a superior grade and catered to a different market altogether. In the post-war period, however, coffee of a fine sort has been introduced in British East Africa, and the yield in 1930 was said to be 15 times that of 1913, and the prospect of increase is quite great. On the other hand, Indian coffee, as in all old areas, is said to be losing its sharpness or 'bite' in flavour, and, therefore, its popularity in high grade markets abroad in favour of coffee from some of the West India Islands and East Africa. Indeed, that would seem to be, in course of time, the fate of all countries growing coffee (as was the case with tea in China), unless by scientific experiments what is lost in natural fertility is replaced by artificial manures. There is no doubt that the best product is obtained from virgin soil; there is even an apprehension that any amount of artificial fertilisers cannot be a substitute for 'natural' manures. In fact, the decline in acidity or 'bite' of our coffee is attributed to the use of chemical manures. There is, however, some prospect of an expanding market for our coffee in our own country. 20 to 25 per cent of our crop is now consumed within India. There has been a fourfold increase in our home consumption in the quinquennium of 1925-30 alone—in spite of the fact that tea is a much cheaper and a more advertised drink. Perhaps, Southern India like the 18th century England has more faith in

"Coffee which makes the politician wise,

And see through all things with his half-shut eyes".

Cardamom

Cardamom is the hill produce in which Madura has the largest acreage in the Madras Presidency; it has 4,000 acres under the crop, while Malabar follows far behind with 1,500 acres. One might expect a larger acreage in Madura from the fact that one side of the whole of the Cardamom Hills forms part of the Madura district. But, unfortunately, the steep eastern slopes of these hills are not suited to the growth of cardamom, which requires a higher elevation and heavier rainfall and the plantations are, therefore, all on the western side of the hills in the Travancore territory. Only the produce is mostly obliged to pass through the Madura district eastwards for export via Tuticorin. Most of the planters are British Indian

Buy Indian

Buy Indian

citizens living along the Cumbum valley and they have recently organised among themselves a co-operative sale society with headquarters at Bodinayakanur and branches at Thevaram, Kombai and Cumbam.

Cardamom has, however, been introduced on the Sirumalais and the Palnis, the planters being all Indians with the exception of the Jesuit Mission which has 350 acres at St. Mary's. Cardamom is a very valuable "perennial" crop and bears well for over 30 years. Like coffee it is grown under shade trees which afford protection from strong wind and sun; but it loves more moisture than coffee and is, therefore, little found on the eastern slopes of the Cardamom Hills.

The post-war depression has affected the trade in cardamom, as it has done in many other crops. While, on the one hand, it is more

a luxury than a necessity, and, therefore, suffers from any increased output, it is, on the other hand, used in such small proportions to other foods that its consumption is not likely to suffer very badly even in times of bad trade. Cardamom is in demand not merely as a spice for giving flavour to food, but as an ingredient in the drug and confectionery trades which are steadily expanding.

We find, however, we are far too insufficiently equipped with data on the conditions of demand and supply of this precious produce to launch out on a sea of conjectures as regards the future of cardamom. On the whole, the hills of the Madura district afford ample scope for a detailed geographic and economic investigation of the three most fascinating crops we have dealt with above and which are met with only in a few other districts in the Madras Presidency.

ARE YOU A MEMBER
OF
THE BUY INDIAN LEAGUE?
IF NOT
ENROL YOURSELF TO-DAY
AND
Contribute Your Quota Towards The Economic
Advancement Of Your Country.

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COTTAGE INDUSTRIES IN SALEM DISTRICT

THE Salem district is mainly an agricultural one, and hand-loom weaving occupies a prominent niche among its cottage industries, being concentrated in the taluks of Salem, Rasipur, Namakka! and Trichengodu. The total number of weavers in the district is just above 50,000 or 2.4 per cent of the total population. Fabrics from fine to coarse qualities are woven in the district.

Silk And Lace Sarees

A survey of the hand-loom weaving industry can begin with the manufacture of silk and lace sarees in the district. In Ammapet, silk with designs in gold lace are woven ranging in value from Rs. 60 to 500. The industry in this locality was confined some thirty-five years ago to the manufacture of cotton fabrics; and when silk cloths from Kambakonam were being imported, the weavers started weaving cotton fabrics "with silk borders and silk mixed with cotton in imitation of the Kumbakonam pattern". The weavers are also weaving pure silk cloths out of imported china silk. The most popular among the Salem silk sarees is the "motor-car saree", this name being given to it because the design of a motor car is woven in lace on the saree. South Kanara absorbs most of these manufactures. The weavers have their stores in Salem, where these fabrics are bought by exporters.

Angavastrams

Silk angavastrams with coloured solid borders are made in Ammapet and Shevvapet out of silk and lace purchased locally. Cotton angavastrams with plain or with lace borders are made in Ammapet, Guruswamipalayam and Taramangalam and are sold in the Salem town market.

Gundanchu cloths of 40s, 60s and 80s with silk borders are made in Shevvapet, Attiampatti, Attanur, Vennandur, Guruswamipalayam, Kummarapalayam, Pillanallur, Kunavelampatti, Pudur, Rasipur, Paramatti and Namakkal and have a wide market in the Presidency.

Sarees with mixtures of yarn and silk are made in Hosur, Bagalur and Kaveripatnam and there is a large demand for them during the marriage season.

Artificial Silk Cloths

Fabrics made of artificial silk are very popular in the district, because the poor who cannot afford to buy genuine silk cloths are anxious to purchase cloths made of "imitation silk". The artificial silk required for the industry is purchased from Bombay, which receives large imports of this kind of silk from Italy and England. A local Government publication commenting on the artificial silk industry says: "Artificial silk cloths are now being worn by all classes, so that the sowcar-weavers of Gugai, Jalakantapuram and other places employ any number of workmen and export the cloths to other districts also. Cloths of a lower value are largely exported to Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, where the agents of the local merchants carry on an extensive trade".

Yarn sarees with and without solid borders are made in Gugai and Arsipalayam, Ethapur, Tiruchengodu, Mallasamudram, Modamangalam, Krishnagiri and other places. The middleman has no place in this industry, the weavers themselves selling their products in the local shandies. In Rasipur and Gugai, cloths are placed on the market, where they are bought for purposes of export to Ceylon and the Straits Settlements.

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White cotton *veshtis* and towels in coarser counts are woven at Trichengodu, Mallasamudram, Kumaraswampatti, and Attiampatti. These cloths do not find a responsive market because mill-made cloths are preferred.

A Labour Problem

The weaving industry in this district has not shown signs of prosperity because the weavers are mostly illiterate and are slow to accustom themselves to improved and scientific methods of production. Moreover, their skill is being considerably impaired by their strong liking for drink and they invariably find themselves in the clutches of the sowcar. Hence, it has been said that the problem of the weavers in Salem district is more a labour problem than anything else. Unless and until the weavers are trained in skilled methods of production and made to realise that the drink-evil will ruin them, there is not much of a hope for this industry. The Government publication, referred to elsewhere, puts the matter succinctly thus: "As this cottage industry employs a larger number of persons than any other, it seems necessary to tackle the problem with great sympathy and find a solution for the emancipation of this class of workmen. Any improvement of their condition must come from within. It is only education that can make them realise their condition and have the way for betterment".

Hand-spinning

Hand-spinning is a subsidiary occupation in the district and provides work for 2,500 workers. The industry exists in about 175 hamlets in the Trichengodu and Namakkal taluks. The Gandhi Ashram supplies the cotton to weavers, who in return give it their finished products for sale.

Wool Spinning And Weaving

This cottage industry exists near the hills, where sheep are reared and is particularly found in Viraganur, Vellayur, Pagadapadi, East Rajapalaiyam and other places. *Cumblies* with dead wool are made at Nallapalli. The workmen engaged in this industry are not educated and the blankets they make are not durable.

Dyeing And Printing

Dyeing of khaddar, chintz, coat and shirt cloths, shawls, *duppatis* etc., is being carried on in the Gandhi Ashram at Pudupalaiyam on a small scale. German dyes are largely used in the process. The industry is not in an organised condition because the weavers, who are mostly illiterate, have not understood the value of organised effort. They generally prefer working for sowcars to carrying on the industry themselves.

Metal Works

Kudam, vellakku, chembu, padi, gadaram, bogani, koppari, tavalai, kundan, sarvisetti, kuthu vellakku, and thambalam are made in Muthunayakampatti, and Rasipur. No scientific appliances of a modern character are employed in the manufacture of these vessels. The market for these vessels is very limited and covers only the locality in which they are made.

Bronze vessels are made in Odavankurichi village, five miles from Rasipur and sold in the local market.

Ploughshares and karandies are made in Muthunayakampatti; and country locks are manufactured in Ariagoundenpatti. The latter have a large market in the rural areas.

Iron chairs, cots, easy chairs, camp stools, cradles etc., are made in Denannikotta and orders pour in for these articles of furniture from Namakkal, Salem, Krishnagiri, Hosur, Bangalore, Trichinopoly and other places.

Basket And Mat-making

Baskets have a great demand in the district because they come under the category of necessary articles and the demand is met by Kichupaliem, Kondappanayakampatti, Gollapatti, Bairanattam, Pallipatti, Krishnagiri, Tiruchengodu, Hosur and other places where the industry is to be found. This industry is, however, in a primitive condition and requires financial aid.

Mat-making is a minor industry in this taluk and is confined to Papparapatti, Tadangam, Vannur, Indur, Bussettipatti, Palakodu and other villages, where the korai grass is found in abundance.

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Date mats are made in Muddanahalli, Noganur, Tavarakarrai and other places. These are used for packing tamarind and find a large local market.

Ropes are made out of cocoanut coir in Kuppindiyyur and other villages.

Stone Vessels, Toys Etc.

Pot-stone vessels called *Kalchetti* in Tamil are made in the district particularly in the Omalur Taluk and exported to Palghat, Bezwa-da, Nellore and other districts. In Sambandapatti, toys (miniature cooking vessels etc.) are made. Vighrams in blackstone are also made in this village.

Lace and waist-thread making are two of the cottage industries of this district, particularly found in Krishnagiri and they are used in the weaving of breeches and *pavadais*.

The manufacture of imitation rubies and precious stones is an industry that is found in Tiruchengodu and Mallepalli. The stones find a good market in Salem and Madras.

Wooden combs are made in Nallapalli and Veerasettipalli which meet the requirements of the rural areas.

SWADESHI STORES

We have been urging in the press and on the platform that all of us should see that Swadeshi stores are started in all places in the mofussil, and this is one of the many ways in which we can translate into practical terms our love for swadeshi. It is of interest to note that at Pithapuram there is no Swadeshi stores. It should be possible for the patriotic-minded citizens in the place to organise a company on a modest share-capital and co-operative basis.

We are told that there is no organised Swadeshi store in Vizagapatam and that there is an idea to start one shortly. We hope that the idea will bear fruit.

Harmoniums are made in Salem town. Castor-oil is extracted in Edappadi village of Tiruchengodu taluk.

Sericulture

Mulberry is grown on a very small scale in Hosur but the sericulture industry in the district is in a backward condition because the workmen are mostly illiterate.

From the foregoing survey, it will be seen that the hand-loom weaving industry is the most important one in the district. The weavers are intelligent and understand easily the requirements of the market. If they only try to break away from the control of the sowcar, then the industry will get a great fillip, for it must be remembered that an essential condition for the prosperity of any industry is the happiness of its workmen. And in Salem, the weavers are always at the mercy of the sowcars. The woollen industry has a good future if better breeds of sheep are reared and the wool is shorn and spun on modern lines. Sericulture has been grossly neglected, and, if special concessions in the form of remission taxes for a few years and the grant of loans for sinking wells and raising mulberry are granted, the industry can be placed on an organised basis. The sericulture industry has a future in Salem for the climatic conditions are very favourable to the growing of mulberry plants.

At Bangalore and Negapatam, there is a possibility of starting a Swadeshi stores.

At Bhadravathi, we are told, there is no stores and we trust that some public-spirited citizens will give a lead in this direction. At Kolar, Porayar, Samalkot, Mettur, Sreevaikuntam, Kuttalam, Dharmapuri, Madurantakam, Rajapalayam, Berhampore, Chicacole, Kovilpatti, Udumalpet and Vellore, no effort has been made to organise Swadeshi stores and we trust that in the near future stores will spring up in all these places. At Kovilpatti, there is, however, a branch of the All-India Spinners' Association.

At Rajapalayam, there is an idea to start a Swadeshi stores and it is hoped that it will materialise.

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THE following is an extract from the Report of the Indian Central Banking Enquiry Committee and is particularly interesting in view of the fact that the banking system of our country is shortly to be reorganised with the establishment of the Reserve Bank. It is a matter for regret that our universities so far have not given a vocational bias to higher general education, with the result that the products of our universities have in recent years become almost unemployable.

No co-ordination of effort exists at present between the universities and the banks in India. The universities do not appear to have devoted much thought to the question of giving their commercial courses a more practical turn than is the case at present. On the other hand, banks do not appear to attach much value to the theoretical instruction in banking given in the commercial schools and colleges, nor do they provide facilities for supplementing such instruction by practical training. A few banks give facilities to students preparing for the examination of the English Institute of Bankers, but this is rather to enable the students to be admitted to the examination than to train them with a view to recruitment in the service of banks.

No Special Facilities

As a rule banks in India do not provide any special facilities for the training of boys in the banking business. Judging from the information available to the Committee, with the exceptions of the Imperial Bank of India and the Peoples' Bank of Northern India, there is no bank in the country that has a definite scheme for training young men in banking business with a view to

recruitment in the bank's service. Under the probationers' scheme of the Imperial Bank of India, preference is given to candidates who have obtained the degree of Bachelor of Commerce; to graduates of a recognised university of the United Kingdom or India; to persons who have passed the examination of the Institute of Bankers in England, Scotland, Ireland or India; and to those who have had previous banking experience. Facilities for training are given to selected candidates. Staff officers have in the past been largely recruited in England, but such posts are now to an increasing extent being filled by promotion. It may be noted, however, that some of the witnesses have complained that the process of Indianisation of the superior staff has been far too slow.

The scheme of the Peoples' Bank of India is designed to select suitable candidates for employment with a view to their being trained in the theory and practice of banking. The selected candidates are required to join the school maintained by the bank. After a time they are again examined and the final selection is made.

Theoretical And Practical Education

It is the opinion of some that the practical training received by the employees in a bank in the course of their employment meets all the requirements of the bank and that it is not particularly necessary to institute theoretical courses of study in banking in schools and colleges. Some of the witnesses have, however, expressed the opinion that the development of banking has been hindered owing to the paucity of Indians trained in theory as well as in the practice of banking. Owing to lack of co-ordination between the banks and the educational institutions, there are at present, on the one hand, many men trained in the banks in the business of banking but devoid of sound general education and sufficient knowledge of the theory of banking, so that they are not considered fully qualified to hold posts of bank manager or assistant manager. On the other hand, there are graduates well versed in theory but devoid of practical knowledge, who are not readily taken up by banks.

Wanted: A Practical Course

It has been suggested that the Institute of Bankers should serve as liaison between the banks and the universities in connection with the training of youths in banking. Close co-ordination of effort is essential on the part of universities, the banks and the institutions engaged in imparting or promoting banking education (1) to make the courses practical; (2) to provide for practical training; and (3) to arrange for the employment of trained youths in the banks. In these directions there is much scope for useful work for the Institute of Bankers. For instance, it can make useful suggestions to the universities concerning the courses of studies and may approach educational institutions and secure their co-operation in arranging courses of lectures of special interest to bank employees. It may also arrange to receive enquiries from its members for suitable candidates for vacancies in their banks and pass on such enquiries to the educational institutions concerned.

Higher Training Outside India

Generally speaking, higher training outside India is not necessary for youths aspiring

to a successful career as bankers. It appears to be the general opinion that there are better opportunities for bank probationers and bank assistants to get a sound training in this country than in England. An Indian student passing the examination of the London or the Indian Institute of Bankers, with a few years' practical training in India, would, it is stated, be better qualified for, and prove more efficient in, the discharge of his duties than one who works in a branch office of a London bank and returns to India with the idea of having received special training outside India. An Indian apprentice in an English bank would not ordinarily have the opportunity to get an insight into higher banking problems. He would be more or less employed on routine work, and the knowledge gained cannot be of material assistance to him in his future career. The best results could only be obtained if practical knowledge and experience were combined with theoretical study. It would, however, be desirable, if it could be arranged, to send young Indians possessing high qualifications after they have had a good preliminary training in banks in India for the study of advanced banking, especially for the practical study of international exchange and other subjects connected with currency and exchange, in exchange banks abroad. A note of warning may, however, be sounded. Deputing recruits of mediocre ability for the study of banking in foreign countries would serve no useful purpose. Only students possessing high qualifications and having good practical banking experience would be able to take real advantages of such studies, provided they were given adequate facilities.

It is suggested that, should it be found difficult to secure for Indians adequate facilities for such advanced studies in foreign banks abroad, Government might make special arrangements for such training and that exchange banks doing business in India should be required to provide the necessary facilities in return for the business facilities they enjoy in India. It is also suggested that scholarships should be given by Government and by banks to the employees of banks proceeding to Europe for such studies.

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SUGAR MANUFACTURE IN INDIA

BY EAVESDROPPER

IT strikes me that Rajas and Maharajas, land-holders and zemindars (gentle readers! do not misunderstand me; let me assure you, this is no advertisement for Royal Yakuti) can play an important part in the hectic activity that prevails in the capital market as regards sugar manufacturing companies. I had occasion, nearly two months ago, to deal with the problem of raw materials for the umpteenth concerns that have sprung up since 1931. And I took the view that nearly 75 per cent of the undertakings are to have their factories in Behar and the United Provinces, and as most of them will have to rely on outside sources of supply for sugarcane, there might well be a squeeze for the raw product, resulting in a smart spurt-up in the prices of the latter. From this point of view, the Belapur Company (Managing Agents: Messrs. W. H. Brady and Company) enjoys a supreme advantage, in that it has its own sugar plantation on a scale adequate to feed the factory for the best part of the year. In the comments I offered on this subject, I was conscious that I was a mere layman, with no other guide than such horse-sense as one possesses. I had the pleasure and privilege of a detailed and informing discussion with Sir Joseph Kay during his stay in Calcutta a fortnight ago. And I was happy to receive authoritative confirmation from him of my views.

Must Have Raw Materials

This had led me to a further investigation of the possibilities of sugar manufacture in India, with special reference to the supplies of the raw materials at an economic rate in adequate quantities and on a reliable basis. I am now convinced that the new floatations that may be launched hereafter, should seek to secure the co-operation of landed magnates, who could either lease out the requisite area of land on suitable terms or who

would be prepared to enter into a contract to earmark such an area for sugarcane cultivation on behalf of the concern. In other words, what I would like to see in the case of the new ventures is a combine between the big capitalist and the big landholder. I understand that in a few of the 1932 floatations, the zemindars of Behar and U. P. have taken a great interest. I also learn that a project in the western presidency has secured a similar association with a small Indian State in it. By all tokens, there is bound to be, in the near future, considerable competition amongst the indigenous sugar companies. However great the consumer's market in India; whatever the student of trade figures may say of this country importing foreign sugar six times as much as home-produced sugar; the fact is undeniable, and must be faced, that both in the purchase of raw materials and in the disposal of finished products, there is going to be severe and growing competition. This pressure would result in the stiffening of the price of the sugarcane and the declining of the price of sugar. There is, it is true, a comfortable margin of profit to-day; but the margin will tend to melt into thin air if suitable measures are not taken in time to ensure, to each company, a sufficient supply of the raw materials at a reasonable price. Zemindars who have *khas* lands; and ruling chiefs who wish to open up waste but suitable land to new cultivation, should bestir themselves, and, in alliance with business and finance, exploit the fullest possibilities of sugarcane cultivation, both from the agricultural and industrial standpoints. If a sugar company grows its own cane, it can secure the maximum yield of cane per acre and the maximum yield of sugar per ton of cane, and eliminate waste and all avoidable increase in costs, necessitated by inefficiency and crude practices in all the stages from field to factory.

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A Bhopal Idea

In pursuance of this idea, I was recently invited to visit Bhopal; and the three days I spent in this Central Indian State have strengthened my belief that the sugar industry is, essentially, one in which those who control money and business experience must join hands with those who control land. My visit to Bhopal was interesting in more ways than one. The whole episode was the result of a random remark I had made to my friend Mr. Ghulam Mohamed, who is now on foreign service with His Highness, the Nawab of Bhopal. Could His Highness provide 10,000 acres of land in a single plot; near a railway station; with irrigation facilities; suitable for sugarcane cultivation and on a basis of rent which would induce the capitalists to undertake the venture? This was a simple query, intended more for eliciting information than in reference to any definite, practical scheme. Do come immediately—Mr. Ghulam Mohamed's reply. Wire after wire. He was keen as mustard; and it was I, the author of the idea, that delayed and kept him hanging on for days on days. Not that parties at this end to whom I had spoken were less keen on the project if Bhopal could give the facilities. But for a humdrum scribe, who has to maintain regular features and fulfil definite commitments, to get away is not so simple an affair. Anyway, when I did reach Bhopal, Mr. Ghulam Mohamed was at the station; and took me straight to the Palace, after giving me a bare quarter of an hour for wash and breakfast. His Highness had already fixed up a conference of the officials of the connected departments, to discuss the proposal with me in all its bearings. Conference No. 1 was over by sunset; a memorandum of the proceedings was drawn up immediately thereafter; and a copy was sent to His Highness.

The next day, immediately after breakfast, I was summoned for a conference with His Highness. The officials concerned were present. The discussion lasted two hours. Here was no garish Oriental court, with a bejewelled prince seated in arrogant pride amidst an assembly of obsequious courtiers. I felt like being in

the Board Room of a Clive Street house, with the help of the departmental heads. His Highness was prim and simple; his manner, easy and unaffected; his observations, direct and to the point. His officials marched to their seats as, for instance would Mr. Chapman Mortimer when called in by Sir Edward Benthall; they did not "Your Highness" it all the time; they conversed and discussed, equally direct and to the point. The overnight memorandum on the proceedings of the earlier day's conference had been read, re-read, digested, and neatly noted on, by His Highness. And from the way he took part in the discussions, I could see he could make up his mind and say what he had to say in a tone of firmness and finality. Not that he was not open to listen to arguments. He was, all the time, keen on knowing "all about it" and then came to quick and sharp decisions. I have had dealings with Maharajahs (ruling chiefs and otherwise); and, in all my experience, what struck me most was the leisurely way in which everything is done—the dilatoriness in stage after stage—the suspense and vacillation which the negotiators must needs put up with. In this instance, however, His Highness and his trusty Ghulam Mohamed disposed, in two days, of a matter which, in the case of any other "Highness," might have taken two years. I came back, pleased with the beautiful, undulating country which Bhopal is—with the keen, business-like ruler, which the Nawab is—and convinced that a most promising prospect for sugar industry is offered by this Central India State.

It is, I fully believe, the start of a good business; I hope, it will soon be accomplished. And the moral of it all is that like propositions should be possible, and could be fruitfully put through, in relation to a good few states and zemindari estates. For, I repeat rationalisation of the sugar industry should mean in India a getting together of those who own land and those who have enterprise to venture the money and manage the business. If such a definite idea of rationalisation were not kept in view, it may turn out that sugar is sweet, but the sugar industry is bitter.

Buy Indian

THE MALABAR BUY INDIAN LEAGUE

The wave of enthusiasm which has recently swept the country for the gospel of Swadeshi and the promotion of the Buy Indian movement did not leave even distant Malabar unaffected; and the Malabar Buy Indian League was formally inaugurated on 23—3—32 at a meeting of the citizens of Calicut held in the Annie Hall. A working committee consisting of important citizens of the town with Mr. B. S. Tripurantaka Mudaliar as the President was appointed to carry on the work of the League. It was resolved to adopt the constitution and methods of work of the Buy Indian League, Madras, with such alterations as were deemed necessary. The League was also affiliated to the Madras League. Pledge forms were printed and signatures of persons interested in the movement were obtained. To create enthusiasm for the cause, regular hawking of swadeshi goods was undertaken by the members of the committee for some weeks. In order to sustain the interest of the public and enlist greater support for the cause, the committee considered and devised various methods of propaganda. They may be mentioned in the order in which they were undertaken and carried out.

1. Opening of Swadeshi Stores.
2. Show Van.
3. Posters, Leaflets and Magic Lantern slides.
4. Swadeshi and Onam Weeks.
5. Organisation of Branch Leagues.

Swadeshi Stores

The League felt that any amount of propaganda would be of no avail unless there was a well-equipped store, wherein all articles manufactured in the country will be available for sale. So a special committee was appointed to consider the question of opening a store, if necessary by floating a limited company. While the question was being seriously considered, Mr. V. R. Ghore Sastri, a member of the League, kindly came forward to open the store under the auspices of the League, involving no financial responsibility to the League. The offer was thankfully accepted and the Swadeshi Vastu Bhandar was formerly opened on 8th June, 1932. At first though the sales were not encouraging, the Bhandar has been considerably improved and Mr. Sastri under-took an all-

India tour to study the markets for various goods. He has stocked all available Swadeshi articles required by the public. It is gratifying to state that there is considerable improvement since the cloth department was opened; and the League may venture to take credit for the fact that its propaganda is to some extent at least responsible for the improved sales. The League is grateful to Mr. Sastri for so generously coming forward to run the store and thus meet an urgent need. One of our Vice-Presidents, Mr. Manjeri Rama Iyer had the pleasure of opening the Swadeshi Stores at Cannanore started by an enthusiastic Gujarathi friend.

Show Van

While the Swadeshi Vastu Bhandar no doubt serves a useful purpose in catering to the needs of the public, it is felt that there is a large section of the public, who do not know yet whether the articles of daily use are manufactured in India. So, the League decided to construct a Show Van fixed to a hand-cart in which swadeshi articles are arranged and taken round the various parts of the town and outside. Swadeshi slogans in English and Malayalam are painted on the glass shutters of the Van. It is learnt that to many, especially in the surrounding villages, it is an eye-opener as they were not till now aware that the quantity and quality of articles available manufactured in the country are so good and so varied. The educative value of the Show Van cannot be assessed. But there is no denying the fact that it is one of the best means that can ever be devised for the spread of the Swadeshi gospel. The Van usually attracts large crowds of people eager to see and understand; and the man in charge distributes leaflets imploring the people to support the Buy Indian movement and to encourage Swadeshi by purchasing Indian goods. The League also considered the question of sales of goods stocked in the Van. In view of the cost and trouble involved in making arrangements for sales, the idea was dropped and the Van continues to be a mere Show Van.

Posters, Leaflets Etc

Soon after the constitution of the League, it was decided to print small posters, frame them and sell them at a nominal price of 4 as each. The members of the Committee went round in the town finding sales for the boards. It is encouraging to

Buy Indian

note that many shop-keepers and house-owners gladly purchased them and the boards are seen hung in many places. The League also requested the municipalities in the district and the managers of educational institutions to hang these boards in the schools and colleges. The League is grateful to the Chairmen of Calicut, Tellicherry, Cochin and Cannanore Municipalities for kindly acceding to the request of the League. Boards were supplied free of cost.

The League also purchased 6 dozen enamel boards of "Buy Indian" and distributed them to bus-owners through the agents of petrol companies. As the buses ply in the interior of the district, the value of this method of propaganda is great. The League has ordered for 350 Malayalam enamel boards at a cost of Rs. 125 for further distribution among bus-owners and also fixing the boards to the lamp posts in prominent places in the Calicut Municipality. Two big boards with "Buy Indian" slogans have also been prepared for putting them up in two prominent places. It is proposed to prepare a few more boards for the same purpose. The League is grateful to agents of petrol companies for so kindly helping the League in this work.

Besides posters, about 22 leaflets in Malayalam dealing with the various aspects of the movement were printed and widely distributed all over the district. In order to minimise the cost of printing and paper, whenever possible, advertisements from dealers in Swadeshi goods were obtained; and the League takes this opportunity to thank them all for this help.

Another method of propaganda adopted was by means of magic lantern slides. Ten slides with Swadeshi slogans have been specially prepared and the proprietors of the Radha Picture Palace and the Crown Cinema have been kindly exhibiting them daily. Four slides have been given to the Devadhar Malabar Reconstruction Trust for propaganda in villages.

Onam And Swadeshi Weeks

Taking advantage of the Onam festival, when people of all classes purchase new cloth for the occasion, the League printed special posters and leaflets for the occasion, appealing to the people to buy khadi, hand-woven and Indian mill cloth during the festival. Public meetings were also organised during the Onam Week to preach the gospel of Swadeshi.

The League celebrated the Swadeshi Week from the 26th September to 2nd October 1932. The Week

began with a public meeting presided over by Swami Suvicharananda Sanyasi and ended with a procession accompanied by music, carrying Swadeshi posters and another largely attended public meeting in the Town Hall. During the Week, meetings were organised for students and labourers. At Feroke, where a large number of labourers are employed in various factories, arrangements were made to address the labourers in each factory separately. Owing to lack of speakers, it was not possible to carry out the programme fully. All the same, the League is grateful to the proprietors of factories for so generously responding to our appeal and their hearty co-operation in making the Week a success. For two days during the Week, the Show Van was taken round to all factories in Feroke, when leaflets were freely distributed.

Branch Leagues

On the invitation of the League, Mr. B. Shiva Rao, Secretary, Madras Buy Indian League, undertook a tour in the district. The League regrets it was not able to take full advantage of his presence owing to causes beyond its control. Still, as a result of his visit branches of the League were formed at Tellicherry, Badagara and Ottapalam. The Cannanore Branch of the League, which has been functioning satisfactorily, took full advantage of Mr. Shiva Rao's presence and arranged public meetings. Mr. Shiva Rao took advantage of every occasion to preach the gospel of Swadeshi. The League feels greatly indebted to him for undertaking the tour at considerable inconvenience and for the great impetus he has given to the movement by his visit. To friends who spared no pains to make his tour a success, the League is also deeply grateful.

Public Meetings And Exhibition

Under the auspices of the League, well attended public meetings were organised in Calicut from time to time when the objects of the Buy Indian Movement were explained and public support was solicited. The League is grateful to all who contributed to the success of these meetings. In addition to these meetings, more than a thousand signatures have been obtained for the Swadeshi pledge.

The Swadeshi Exhibition organised by the Exhibition Committee of Calicut was a great success. It served to rouse public interest in the Buy Indian cause. The League elected members to serve on the Advisory Committee of the Exhibition and also offered two prizes for the coir spinning competition.

Buy Indian

Committee Meetings

Since the inauguration of the League, the Committee met 30 times to transact business. These meetings were invariably well attended. A special meeting was held on the occasion of Mr. Shiva Rao's visit, when the Committee had the benefit of learning a great deal about the various methods of propaganda adopted in the different parts of the country.

Finances

From the statement of accounts given at the end of this article it will be seen the League collected Rs. 1282-15-0 and has till now spent Rs. 1095-6-6. The balance of amount is too small to enable the Committee to carry on its work. Every effort has been made to economise expenditure. It will also be noticed that a large amount has been spent on propaganda the results of which are not immediately perceptible. All the same, the League feels it is a good investment likely to yield valuable results.

General

The League takes this opportunity to thank its many helpers.

While feeling grateful to the public for the measure of response the League has received for its appeal for help, the League has perforce to invite support in an increasing measure to carry on its work. Many more leaflets and posters have to be printed; some more slides have to be made; the usefulness of the Show Van has to be increased; more branches of the League have to be organised in the district; many more Swadeshi weeks have to be celebrated to create public opinion in favour of the movement; a Swadeshi stores in every town and villages has to be organised. It is needless to state that all these items of work necessitate constant propaganda and involve expenditure of large amounts of money. Will the necessary support from the public be forthcoming? Will the Buy Indian cause become a permanent feature of our national life instead of being a passing phase of some of our hectic activities? The League appeals to the public for greater support fully believing it is a just cause, which demands the earnest attention and support of every citizen of India, be he or she small or big, rich or poor.

Statement of accounts up to 31st December '32.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	A.	P.
Donations ...	1,153	4	0
Subscriptions ...	15	0	0
Show Van Rent ...	12	0	0
Posters—Sale of framed boards ...	14	10	0
Affiliation fee ...	5	0	0

Propaganda Accounts

Advertisement charges received ...	43	8	0
Sale of seals ...	32	4	0
Shamji Sunderdoss (advances) ...	1	0	0
Interest received on S.B. A/c from Bank ...	6	5	0
	1,282	15	0

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	A.	P.
Postage and Telegrams ...	17	1	0
Stationery ...	10	5	9
Mathrubhumi printing bills ...	82	15	0
Miscellaneous ...	3	1	6
Show Van ...	155	12	10
Posters ...	91	0	9
Salaries of staff ...	304	1	0
Meeting expenses ...	9	3	6

Propaganda Accounts

	Rs.	A.	P.
Enamel Boards ...	125	0	0
Galvanised boards ...	4	11	6
Paper bill ...	24	6	8
Slides ...	30	0	0
Miscellaneous ...	23	15	3
Swadeshi Week ...	18	4	0
N. P. Bureau bills ...	72	4	0
Mr. Shiva Rao's Tour ...	23	13	0
Competition prize ...	8	0	0
	337	6	5
Seals ...	53	4	0
Advances ...	20	9	6
Moving Exhibition ...	7	12	0
Badges ...	3	1	0
Cash in Bank ...	184	1	0
Cash with Hon. Joint Secretary ...	3	3	6
	187	4	6
Total ...	1,282	15	0

R. SURYANARAYANA,
Hon. Joint. Secretary.

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INDIGENOUS INDUSTRIES

BY

C. GOPAL MENON, A. I. B.

IN my last article, I made a general survey of indigenous articles. In the present article, I shall deal with certain aspects of the question. In the first place, it is necessary to examine the raw materials which are available for industrial purposes in this country. The economic history of a nation is a record of the history of raw materials, of new sources of supply and of their application to practical schemes. All such discoveries of new materials tend to change the face of our social and industrial life. In countries where industrial development is at a low ebb, the problem of the use of raw materials is an important one.

Factory System ?

At this stage, it is necessary for us to decide whether we are fit to compete with countries whose industrial development has been achieved on the factory system; or to direct our attention to such handicrafts and cottage industries for which we possess the requisite natural resources.

Our Greatness In The Past

In dealing with industries in India, a survey of the various handicrafts and art industries has to be made; and the latter show that, from time immemorial, India has been famous for its manufactures. Under the rule of the successors of Alexander, Indian products were sold in all Asiatic countries and actually penetrated into the countries on the Mediterranean seaboard. Mechanical labour, aided by a well-trained eye and delicacy of touch—the results perhaps of hereditary instincts, have produced beautiful examples of art. The embroidery and leather works of Kathiawar were praised by the Venetian traveller, Marco Polo, in the 13th century as “marvellously

beautiful things”. He said the inhabitants were good people and lived entirely by their trade and manufactures. Nor were they lacking in the spirit of enterprise. At a less remote period, when communication was not only imperfect but at times risky and dangerous, the Indian traders visited the Western world to find a market for their wares. Metal and ivory goods, shawls, embroideries, carpets of cotton, wool and silk and calico found their way from India to Western countries. “The Indian workman”, says Sir George Birdwood, “from the humblest potter to the most cunning maker of embroideries is a true artist, although he seldom rises above the traditions of his art”. These art industries have all decayed; and, even if some are in existence now, they do not possess that artistic touch for which they were noted in the days before the East India Company was established in India. Besides, these high-grade textile products and fabrics made on the village spinning wheels and looms attracted the attention of the East India Company and European traders, who established their warehouses in India. These industries could not, however, compete with the industries of England, when the Industrial Revolution took place in that country.

What We Then Produced

It is very interesting to know the various commodities that were produced in India in that period. Indian products were on show at the sale in “Blue Warehouse”, St. Helens, and, for this information, we are indebted to Sir George Birdwood. The articles that were displayed were these:—Vermillion, copper products, mother-of-pearl, tortoise shell, quick-silver, etc. At another exhibition held at Leadenhall Street, the following articles were on show:—China raw silk, Bengal

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question will have to be subdivided into a number of sections. Universities should form a useful cell in the whole organism for carrying out this enquiry, so as to make it possible for the Government to have their co-operation in the near future. There is a danger, and everyone will admit it, that, in India, economists acquire a sort of political colour and bias. That is the worst that can happen to an economist. He should seek truth and nothing but truth. If there is an idea to start an organisation of this kind, it should be absolutely uninfluenced by any sort of political prejudice.

The Secretaries of our branch in a communication state that they are grateful to us for the generous manner in which our representatives helped them by exhibiting a large variety of Indian-made articles at the Exhibition organised by the Agricultural Association during the Brahmotsavam festival which was celebrated here recently. The incandescent lamp of Messers Pochee & Sons exhibited by our representative attracted the special attention of the visitors. Our branch at Nellore took the opportunity to enlist members and it proposes to open a Swadeshi museum ; publish a Directory of Swadeshi

articles ; and open a library consisting of books which will be of special value to those interested in the Swadeshi movement. The League requests the Secretary of The Buy Indian League, Madras, to open the museum when it is established. The indigenous industries in Nellore are making progress and particular mention may be made of the manufacture of washing soaps, wooden forks, toilet requisites and cheap khaddar cloth.

The branch hopes to open a Swadeshi Exhibition next year during the Brahmotsavam festival.

The cement industry of India seems to be least hit by the present trade depression, although in 1925 prices of cement were so low that the industry felt it necessary to apply for protection. The Tariff Board, however, found that the slump in prices was due to internal competition and overproduction, and rejected the application. By no means disheartened by the Board's findings, the industry bent its energies to organise itself and the Cement Marketing Co., of India Ltd., was formed in 1925. The output of cement of the companies represented by the Cement Marketing Company is 8,72,000

tons per annum, but, at the present time, the consumption is only about 56% of this figure. Since the formation of the Board, many innovations have been made, notable among them being coloured cements and rapid hardening cements.

The imports of cement fell from 19,440 in 1930 to 10,407 in 1931, showing a drop of nearly 50 p. c. The cement industry shows much enterprise and will be among the first to be benefited by a trade revival. The activities of the recently formed Concrete Association are bound to be effective.

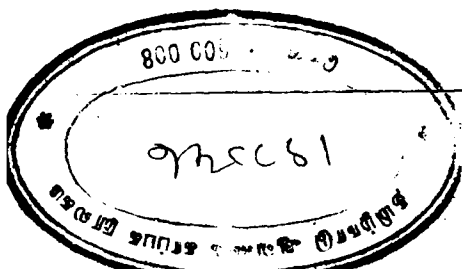
The people should be advised what commodities they could manufacture with profit from the raw materials now being exported from the country in order to provide employment for labour. In his opinion, no more practical solution of the problem of unemployment existed to-day in the country than a reduction in the imports of goods of the kind that were or could be made in India. To facilitate such development, the right of the country to maintain its new industries by means of tariffs should be recognized for that was the most powerful help any Government could render to the rehabilitation of the economic life of a country. Protection has occasionally been given in the past, but, if such protection was to be of tangible benefit to the country, Sir M. Visvesvaraya added, it should be more timely, more liberal and be operative for much longer periods than was the case at present.

SWADESHI AND UNEMPLOYMENT

It has often been said that we are not technically qualified to become an industrial nation. First of all, it is necessary to examine the material resources and the scientific skill, which we at present possess. This is an age of great discoveries in science and art; and, if we should ever take a prominent place in natural science and technology, we must see that we acquire scientific knowledge before anything else. In these days, some essential things are required: raw materials and natural facilities must be secured. Coal and iron, the most essential conditions required for the foundation of prosperity, occur in many isolated regions. India has raw materials at hand; she has cheap labour and the

Can We Become "Industrial"?

raw silk, Floretta yarn, piece-goods of various kinds, satins, damasks, velvets, chiniz, painted pelongs (i. e. bed covers), gold gauze and shawls.



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as Madras does. The Bagalkot Municipality gave Rs. 400 to the Swadeshi Exhibition without any interference from the Department of Local Self-government.

I have just heard from the Director of Industries, Hyderabad that H.E.H. the Nizam's Government has sanctioned Rs. 600 for the Buy Indian League and will shortly send the products of the State for exhibition and sale at the Museum run by the League in Madras.

This is the third State to offer active co-operation, Mysore and Travancore having already preceded Hyderabad. I am informed that this question will be considered by the Cochin Government at the time of the Budget Session.

The League's Travelling Van

The travelling van of the Buy Indian League has just returned after a very successful trip to Arni, Ranipet and Wallajahpet. Intensive propaganda was done not only in these places but in important villages in the neighbourhood as well. Special efforts were made to interest schools in the Swadeshi movement. Three schools were visited and quite good sales were effected of stationery, confectionery, soaps, textiles, etc. At one place by beat of drums, an audience of nearly 1,000 people was collected and the occasion was utilised for a brief talk on

the importance of Swadeshi after which there was a sale of articles.

I am glad to give publicity to the following extract from a letter from the Superintendent, Agricultural Research Station, Aduthurai:

"I am trying to induce ladies at this station to take up plantain fig making as a profitable hobby, so that, they may set an example to others. They have an undoubted advantage over others, as they can have our advice regarding the processes of preparations at all times.

The most important point to stress in preparing figs from plantains is the danger of contamination of the product by flies and other insects with dirt and disease germs. I would recommend that figs put on the market are certified free from pathogenic germs by competent bacteriologists. I am designing a fly proof drying tray which may be even locked either individually or used in series for drying fruits in the sun. It may be possible to prevent ants and other small crawling creatures from getting into the drying trays by placing them on wooden tables or bamboo platforms with their legs standing in water.

You would be interested to know that plantain figs are selling at the Kumbakonam Exhibition like hot cakes and I am unable to meet even a small fraction of the demand there is for them".

THE SWADESHI MOVEMENT

"Swadeshi is not a movement of political character, nor of aggressive spirit, but of an economic nature aiming at a preservation of the country," said Dewan Bahadur Harbilas Sarda, M. L. A., presiding over the Swadeshi Conference held here this evening. Mr. Asaf Ali, Chairman, Reception Committee welcoming the delegates said swadeshi was not mere sentimental patriotism, but that it was essential from the material point of view as on it depended the question of life and death of a nation.

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WANTED : PLANNED ECONOMY

[The following is an extract from a speech in Calcutta at the Indian Institute of Economics by Sir George Schuster, wherein he pleaded for the establishment of an organisation for the purpose of collecting statistics in trade.]

I think an Institute of Economics is particularly important just now for two reasons; the special conditions which we find in India to-day and the world's economic position need it. As regards India, I like others to believe that India now stands on the eve of a new era, as the result of the constitutional changes in the Government of the country. Indians are more and more going to be the masters of their own destiny, and, I think their destiny is one which in fruitfulness will exceed that of any other country in the world. I say this for the following reason. India is a vast country containing, as we all know and as we often say, one-fifth of the world's population. It is a country which is accustomed to traditions of good and orderly government; and I see no reason why ordinary economic development should be interfered with. It has great many resources; for one thing, it has an industrious population. Apart from that, its standard of living is low, and, this being so, there is room for improvement.

Policy Of Planned Economy

There is room for improvement in another direction. India itself is but little developed industrially. I foresee great opportunities of industrial development in India in future. We have seen very great changes even in the last few years. I think one who studies the Report of the Tariff Board (who examined the cotton textile industry) and the figures given would be astonished at the great pace at which the cotton textile industry has advanced in the last five years. The position is quite different to that of any other country. Other countries that have organised themselves in the last century before the war find that the change of things is moving against them and I really and honestly believe that there is no country in the world, which has such great opportunities as India. We are moving more and more to a state of affairs where some sort of a planned economy is necessary

for the country. The old days are gone and more and more we will have to consider the question of adopting a deliberate policy of planned economy. I think that is a fact which has been forced on us.

A Word Of Caution

I want to utter a word of caution here. There are some people who think that changes can be brought about very quickly by introducing plans; and I wish that the same could be introduced into India. While I feel that we must move in the direction of planned economy, it is necessary also to recognise that there are limitations as to what can be done.

Then as to limitations of Government in this sphere, I think, Government cannot do very much without the co-operation of the nation and one of our difficulties at the present time is the lack of proper means of co-operation with the life which is going on in the country.

Need Of An Economic Census

I ventured to make a suggestion at the Economists' Conference at Delhi. I feel, whenever we come to discuss a problem in India, that we very much lack proper and accurate information. We have very good statistics as regards the foreign trade, but we have not, I feel, accurate statistics as to the internal industrial production. We can make some estimates of agricultural production; but, as regards the internal industrial development and concerns whose activities are not reflected on foreign trade returns, we are entirely in the dark. There will be general agreement on the need for statistics as regards internal industrial production. I hope it will be possible for economists to organise some improved methods in the collection of statistics in spite of the present financial stringency. That will be a starting point; and in future statistics will be kept

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ENCOURAGING RESULTS

BY B. SHIVA RAO

lore, Negapatnam, Bhadravathi, Kolar, Porayar, Samalkot, Mettur, Sreevaikuntam, Kutitalam, Dharmapuri, Madurantakam, Rajapalayam, Berhampore, Chiccole, Koilpatti, Udumalpet and Vellore.

Local Bodies And Swadeshi

Some time ago, I sent out a circular to local bodies pointing out the importance of passing resolutions in favour of purchasing Swadeshi. I am glad to say that a number of them has responded to my appeal. Among them may be mentioned, the Municipalities of Dindigul, Bellary, Calicut, Periakulam, and Karai-kudi, the Taluk Boards of Sivaganra, Papanasam, Palghat, Hospet, Kasaragod, Kandakur, Kumbakonam and Tirupathur, the District Boards of South Canara and Malabar. I must add that few more have intimated that, although no resolution has been passed, they have been following the rule in practice. I hope, however, that such of them, as have not yet taken action, will be stirred to follow the example of the local bodies that I have mentioned.

Following the example of The Buy Indian League of Madras in circulating local bodies and public institutions on the necessity of being strictly Swadeshi, the All-India Swadeshi Sangha at Benares adopted the plan of issuing a similar circular to all local bodies in India. When I visited Bagalkot to open the All-Karnataka Swadeshi Exhibition, I was agreeably surprised to be told that the Municipality had promptly acted on the suggestion made from Benares and decided to purchase only Swadeshi articles. It was of special interest to note that the address presented to me was printed on paper made in Bagalkot by hand-process. Apparently, the Bombay Government does not regard expenditure by local bodies on Swadeshi propaganda illegitimate.

WE have been trying an experiment which promises to be successful in its results. A number of Swadeshi Exhibitions is being held in Northern India and participation in those already held at Delhi has convinced me that it is worth the trouble to send goods manufactured in South India to these distant places. There is an Exhibition at Ujjain in April and we intend participating in it. Products of cottage industries we send at the expense of the League, but with our limited resources, we cannot extend this concession to other manufacturers.

Swadeshi Stores in South India

Will those responsible for conducting Swadeshi Stores in South India do me the favour of getting into touch with me? I want particulars regarding the nature of the stores (whether co-operative etc.) the amount of capital invested, the date of starting etc. This information, I have been endeavouring to collect for a long time but it seems much more difficult than I had anticipated. Its value will be that it will enable the League to know in which parts of the Presidency such Stores are abundant and where they are non-existent; and, secondly, an association of Swadeshi Stores will be advantageous from every point of view. With considerable difficulty, I have obtained some particulars regarding the existence of Swadeshi Stores in the important towns of South India. I cannot say that my information is even now complete. Unfortunately, the majority of our letters do not evoke replies. A full list of Swadeshi Stores in South India will be published in-formation but it is of interest to note that from a number of important towns, the reports are that there are no stores doing purely Swadeshi business. Among such towns are Pithapuram, Vizagapatnam, Banga-

OUR ECONOMIC POSITION

by

MRS. NURGIS CAPTAIN

SWADESHI means the principle of conserving the wealth of a country within the country. At the present time, the imported manufactures and products that we can replace by indigenous products amount in value to a few crores of rupees, while several crores are going out of the country without any adequate return through such services as banking, insurance and shipping, owned or promoted by foreign companies.

I shall now place before you a few figures showing the growth of some of our major industries in spite of impediments, both natural and unnatural. The Government's indifference in the matter of the growth of Indian industries is forcibly illustrated by the fact that no organised attempt has been made by the authorities to collect systematically the figures of production of the different indigenous manufactures and illustrating their progress or depression.

Khadi Production

Before I mention any other industry, let me mention the one which has brought new life and new hope into millions of homes of the poorest and the neediest, viz. khadi. The production of khadi has steadily increased, but we cannot be content with this rate of progress. It must be the endeavour of all of us, who are conscious of the untold poverty of our villagers, to see to it that this relief through khadi reaches every remote home, which can hope for help from no other source; and this help can easily be rendered, if only we make up our minds and induce others to use no other cloth save those which are hand-spun and hand-woven.

Textiles

Among the organised industries, accurate and complete figures regarding production and imports are available only in regard to the textile industry and this has been prepared by the Mill-owner's Association.

The production in the textile industry in 1926-27, was 2356 million yards and in 1931-32, 2989 million yards. That is there was an increase of 24 per cent in 5 years. Now let us look at the negative side.

Textile industry imports:—In 1926-27, it was 1787 million yards valued at nearly Rs. 55,000 lakhs; in 1931-32, 775 million yards valued nearly at Rs. 14,700 lakhs. That is a decrease of 57 per cent in yards and 73 per cent in value in five years.

You will notice the gradual increase in local production and the phenomenal fall in imports. The latter is, of course, due to more than one reason. Apart from the realisation on a nation wide scale of the necessity for doing without foreign cloth and thus reducing the imports, the world depression has not left us untouched; the purchasing power of the people has come down even more than before. The very latest import figures for 9 months—from March 1932 to January 1933—are disheartening from the point of view of our national self-respect.

Owing to world-conditions and the manipulation of currencies by free countries, their cheap goods have begun to pour into India in larger quantities than before and our people are succumbing to the temptation of cheapness. I say to you, therefore, let there be no resting in the pursuit of Swadeshi.

Other Industries

Now I will touch on a few other industries whose progress we can judge only by negative results. I mean by the drop in the imports of products.

Sugar imports:—In 1926-27, 10,22,800 tons valued at Rs. 18,89 lakhs and in 1931-32, 5,56,200 tons valued at Rs. 6,16 lakhs were imported into India. There was thus in five years a reduction of 45 per cent in quantity and 67 per cent in value.

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Soap imports :—In 1926-27, 4,02,500 cwts. valued at Rs. 1,52 lakhs and in 1931-32, 3,09,000 cwts. valued at Rs. 88 lakhs were imported. There was in 5 years a reduction of 23 per cent in quantity, and 42 per cent in value.

Match imports :—In 1926-27, 67,02,000 gross valued at Rs. 65 lakhs and in 1931-32, 1,05,000 gross valued at Rs. 1,05,000 showing a reduction of 98 per cent in quantity and 98 per cent in value.

Cement production :—This is steadily going up. In 1926-27, we produced 4,07,000 tons; in 1931-32, we produced 5,92,000 tons, an increase of 45 per cent in five years in quantity.

Cutting Prices

You will notice in the figures that I have quoted that often the value of imported articles has dropped disproportionately to the decrease in quantity. This is partly due to the fact that foreign manufacturers, when they find that we have successfully put on the market a similar home-made product, immediately reduce their prices as they usually have got the necessary capital and means to sell even at a loss for a time, and, when we fall into the trap and succumb to the temptation of buying cheaper articles, we will destroy our own industry. Immediately, our new struggling industry is strangled, the foreign manufacturers raise their prices again to the old or higher level, secure in having got us in their grip again.

We are told much about fiscal freedom, but it is an idle and deceptive talk; for, unless our power to impose new tariffs results in the creation of new industries, that power in itself is of no help to the country. High tariffs by themselves result in tempting into this country foreign capital which adds to our state of helplessness. The match industry and the attempts now being made in regard to the manufacture of soap and vegetable products are cases in point.

Banking, Insurance And Shipping

It would be narrowing down the connotation of the term Swadeshi to confine our gaze to goods made in India and leave out of our purview the economic services which are the life-blood of the economic organisation of any modern community. The drain through the foreign control of shipping has been calculated at about 50 crores of rupees per annum, being about 9 crores in

coastal traffic, 38 crores in foreign traffic and 3 crores in passenger traffic. Even if we cannot secure by legislation the reservation of the country's coastal traffic to the country's nationals, all, who are interested in the coastal trade, can reduce the drain by patronising and giving their freight only to Indian shipping services, wherever they are available. What applies to shipping applies in a yet larger measure to banking. Compared with Indian shipping, Indian banking has made considerable headway in recent times in breaking down the monopoly established by foreign interests. And let it not be forgotten that the money deposited with foreign banks does not at all help the extension of Indian trade and industries and that the control of the banks is vested in bodies which are wholly alien, while the personnel of the superior staff is almost to a man foreign. We who believe in Swadeshi must confine our patronage in the matter of banking to Swadeshi institutions.

Insurance

In the line of life assurance business, we may feel some satisfaction at the increase in the business of Indian companies, but that very progress must make us eager to beg our people to see that even the remaining drain through non-Indian companies is prevented. The total assurance business at the end of 1930 amounted to 717 thousand policies with 154 crores insurance in force and 8 crores premium. Out of this amount, premium amounting to 4 crores belongs to non-Indian companies. Out of the new business in 1930, the Indian companies showed a lead by having to their credit 154 crores insurances and 1 crore premium as against non-Indian companies having 12½ crores insurances and 60 lakhs premium. Regarding Fire, Marine, and Accident Insurance the position is not so good. To-day, we Indians are spending per year 6½ crores as premia for fire marine and motor car insurance. Out of this amount, 5 crores go to non-Indian companies and only 1½ crores to Indian companies. If our people make it a point to insure only with Indian companies there would be a large saving in India and many more companies could be started giving employment to a considerable number of our people and money could be kept in this country.

© Extracted from a speech delivered at the All-India Mahamagam Swadeshi Exhibition at Kumbakonam.

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Cast-Iron Pipe Industry

THE Mysore Chamber of Commerce has sent a resolution to the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry for discussion at the latter's annual meeting at Delhi to be held in April next, asking for protection for the cast-iron pipe industry against the present serious competition from outside, mostly from countries with depreciated currencies such as Japan. The resolution urges upon the Government of India to enhance the tariff duty on imported pipes so as to discourage direct competition with local manufactures. The Chamber thinks that a duty of Rs. 50 per ton or 50 per cent *ad valorem*, whichever is higher would be justifiable. The resolution further states that, in view of the importance of the industry to the country, a tariff value of about Rs. 140 a ton may at least be substituted for the *ad valorem* rate now being adopted in the Indian Customs Tariff so as to secure immediate relief to the Indian cast iron-pipe industry.

The Bhadravathi Iron Works, the greatest commercial enterprise undertaken by the Mysore Durbar, manufactures cast iron pipes, which compare very favourably with pipes imported from foreign countries.

Their Exhibition Halls

A new Exhibition Hall at Olympia connecting the present building by a sub-way and galleries is to be erected on the adjoining site of seven and quarter acres at a total cost of over £1,500,000. The new building will be 525 feet long, 350 feet wide, and 120 feet high. The present grand hall at Olympia is 425 feet long. Two galleries of the new hall are each to be twice as wide

as the galleries in the present hall. The two buildings combined provide one million feet show space exclusive of restaurants, office accommodation etc.

Japanese Sugar Candy.

The extent to which the Indian sugar industry has been affected by the dumping of sugar candy from Japan is clearly borne out in the memorandum submitted by the Sugar Candy Association to the Commerce Member of the Government of India. It is stated that Japan is obtaining from Cuba and Formosa raw sugar at very cheap rates; that import duty is being refunded on all exportations of sugar candy; that bounty in Japan is being granted to exporters; and that, owing to the depreciated currency of Japan which has gone off the Gold Standard and the fall of the Yen, Japanese factories had the advantage of very low freight to Indian ports in view of the fact that Japanese manufactures are able to undersell their goods in India. It is also pointed out that by continuing the present policy, the Government will suffer a loss of Rs. 32 lakhs in customs revenues. It would also lead to the dismantling of Indian factories and throwing on the streets thousands of labourers. Japanese shipping industry is being subsidised by the Government of the country. The memorandum has further stated that Japanese sugar candy is being sold in the Indian market at about Rs. 16-8-0 per cwt. whereas Indians could not afford to sell country-made sugar at less than Rs. 18-8-0 per cwt. The memorandum, therefore, has urged that the Indian producer is entitled to claim against Japan additional import and dumping duties.

Buy Indian

Sugar Industry In Madras

In the course of a communication to the Press, the Director of Industries, Madras says, "The Madras Presidency is one of the most suitable parts of India for sugarcane cultivation and a campaign has been started by the Agricultural Department with a view to the further extension of the area under crop. The sugar requirements of this Presidency can, it is estimated, be met by bringing in an additional 35,000 acres under cultivation. The capital required for a factory to crush 100 tons of cane per day is Rs. 2 lakhs and on an average 400 acres will be required to supply a factory with cane. Of the capital of Rs. 2 lakhs, Rs. 1,50,000 will be absorbed in plant and machinery, the balance being required for land, water-supply, construction of buildings etc. Estimates of machinery and plant and other details for a 100 ton sugar factory can be obtained from me.

It is considered that the development of the sugar industry in the Presidency affords a suitable and reasonably safe field for the enterprise of capitalists, and various ways of providing the requisite finance are at present under consideration. In the case of the smaller growers of cane, however, the best course would be for owners of 400 acres of sugarcane-growing land to join together and form themselves into co-operative sugar manufacturing societies. There seems to be considerable scope for the organisation and development of the industry in this Province on co-operative lines, loans for sugar factories being raised from the Central Banks on the security of the 400 acres of land and the

plant and buildings at about 6½ per cent repayable in five annual instalments. Persons who are interested in the setting up of sugar factories with the aid of loans from Central Co-operative Banks should address the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, who will be pleased to supply further particulars and place enquirers in touch with the Central Bank who are prepared to make such advances.

Indian Railways

The Report of the Railway Board on the Indian Railways for the year ending 31st March 1932, discloses that the gross receipts of the State-owned railways were lower by 8½ crores owing to the world-wide economic depression. The total earnings of all the Indian Railways including those with which the Government of India is not directly concerned amounted to Rs. 97.21 crores of which Rs. 58.73 crores or 60.4 per cent were from goods traffic, Rs. 31.35 crores or 32.3 per cent from parcels, luggage and miscellaneous items.

Passenger earnings decreased from Rs. 34.29 crores during 1930-31 to Rs. 31.35 crores during the year under review showing a drop of 8.58 per cent resulting from smaller movement of passengers travelling long and short distances, which was due to the decrease in the spending power of the people combined with the general unrest in the country.

Earnings from goods traffic on all railways decreased by Rs. 5.68 crores chiefly under cotton, raw and manufactured fuel (coal) wheat, sugar, oil-seeds, jute, raw metallic ores railway materials and stores.

TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The cotton textile industry is the best instance of what Swadeshi has achieved. Before March of 1930 when a vigorous propaganda was launched in favour of the Swadeshi cloth, our cotton industry was in a somewhat miserable plight. It had not yet recovered from the evil consequences of the 18d ratio and the labour troubles of 1928 and 1929. Stocks kept on increasing. A substantial measure of protection was granted by the Government in 1930; still preference was given to the Lanca-

shire cloth. Under these circumstances, the wave of Swadeshi came as a godsend to our textile industry. As a result of the Swadeshi movement, stocks rapidly diminished and production increased as well as sales. Figures of production for three years prior to 1931 are given below.

Year	Yarn in lbs.	Cloth in lbs.
1928-29	648,295,956	445,656,573
1929-30	833,559,849	562,236,708
1930-31	867,044,558	590,336,923

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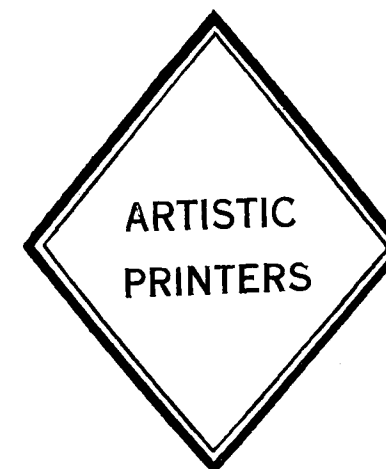
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Page V

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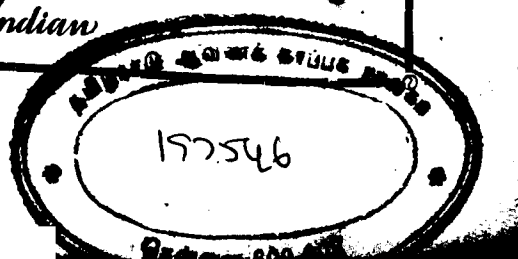
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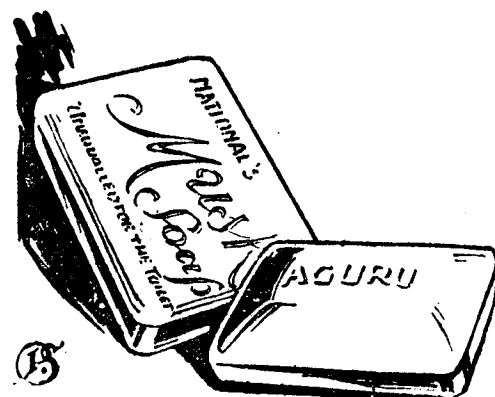
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