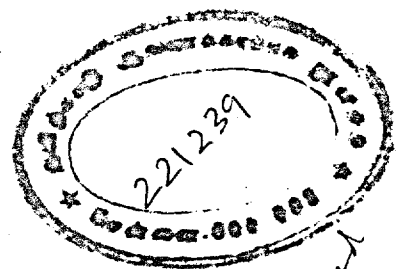


MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 15th JULY 1948

NO. 13



Verified
B

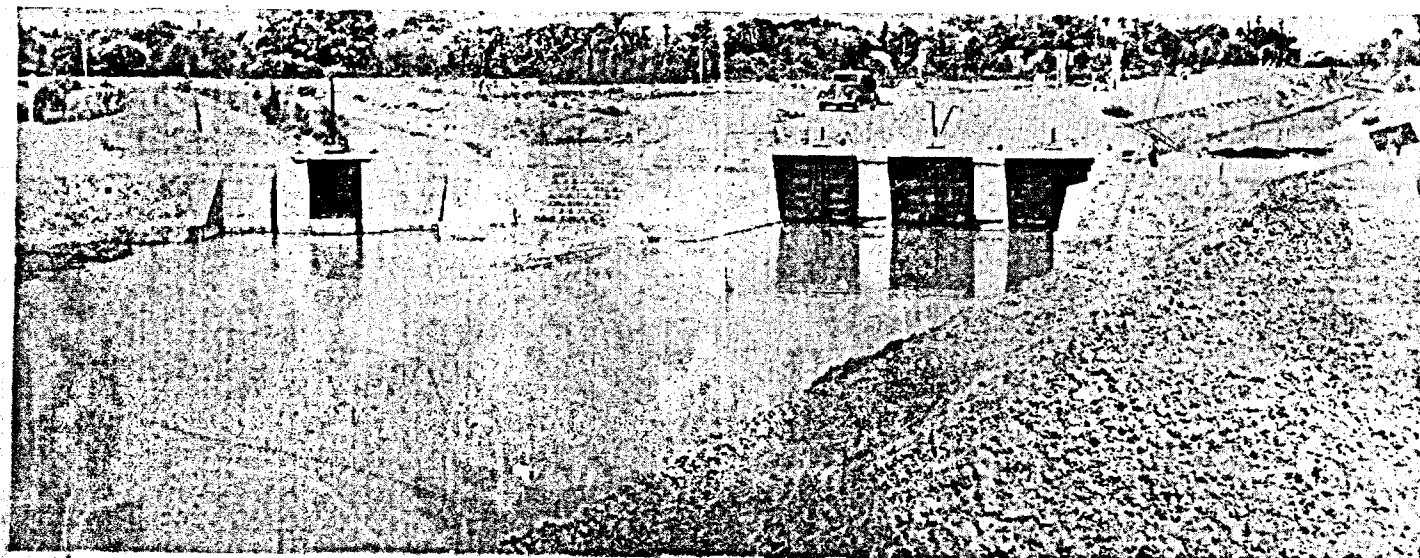
TO
Y2111, 114711
1149. 2. 114711



*Narasinga-Cauvery Channel opened recently by Hon'ble Mr. Bakthavatsalam



Mr. Bakthavatsalam addressing the gathering on the importance of the Narasinga-Cauvery Channel



A full view of the Narasinga-Cauvery Channel.

Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

Vol. II, No. 13

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

July 15, 1948

TOPICAL NOTES

Wynaad Land Colonization Scheme

Readers' attention is invited to the photos published elsewhere in this issue on Wynaad Land Colonization Scheme. About 329 persons have been settled in the colony, of whom about 161 are ex-servicemen, 139 aborigines and 29 existing settlers. Advances are being made to the colonists for putting up temporary huts, for reclamation of land, for cultivation and for meeting domestic expenses. A sum of about Rs. 1.21 lakhs has accordingly been advanced to the colonists. The

colonists have put up houses in a number of cases, are reclaiming land and, have started cultivation of paddy, tapioca, banana, ginger, yam, etc. Malaria is said to be considerably under control. More colonists are expected to arrive including a few ex-tappers. The question of organizing a co-operative society particularly for supply of agricultural requisites and for the marketing of produce is under consideration.

the case of vocational trades per month as stipend. They are provided with free boarding and lodging. The maximum amount admissible for food per trainee per month is Rs. 25 exclusive of the establishment charges. They are provided also with uniform and are also paid a small allowance for washing and for shaving, etc. On the successful completion of the scheduled course of training they are tested by a separate panel of examiners. Experts from the private industry, etc., are also co-opted to this panel. The successful candidates are, at the time of their discharge, provided with tools and equipment costing Rs. 100 to Rs. 200, required for the setting up of independent business in their villages. The trainees in the vocational trades are also given a production bonus on the work turned out by them.

Resettlement Activities

The Hon'ble Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, Minister for the Resettlement of Ex-servicemen, inspected recently the Training Centres in and near Bangalore.

training generally varies from 12 to 18 months. During the period of training, the trainees are paid Rs. 15 in the case of technical and Rs. 10 in

The Training Centre at Jalahalli is one of the three centres established specially for the disabled by the Government of India. The disabled cannot work along with the able-bodied as the former require sheltered conditions and as their period of work is restricted to only 34 hours a week. They are generally in receipt of disability pension. The trades are selected in such a manner as to enable them to supplement their pension by such an amount as to make themselves independent productive members of society, in spite of their disability and without the necessity to leave their home villages. Choice of trade is made at the Services Convalescent Rehabilitation Centres, where they undergo a period of training after discharge from the Army. While fixing the trade, special care is taken of the aptitude and disability of each person. The period of

The sanctioned strength of the Centre is 480 and the number of trades in which training is imparted, is as many as 23. The Hon'ble Minister inspected the men while at work and made a detailed examination of their outturn. Subsequently, he met them in the Recreation Hall, made enquiries of their needs and difficulties and was pleased to find that the trainees were conducting themselves in a disciplined manner and were generally satisfied with the amenities and training facilities provided for them. The training was beneficial and the instructors were discharging their duties properly. The Hon'ble Minister advised the trainees on the manner in which they should conduct themselves in civil life. The trainees were very much encouraged by the great interest evinced in them by the Hon'ble Minister and for his valuable fatherly advice.

IN THIS ISSUE

Foot of Mother India (Cape Comorin)—*Frontispiece.*

Topical Notes

Press Notes, Releases, etc.

Departments' Corner

Towards Welfare of the Masses

In the Sphere of Education

About Prohibition

Agricultural Notes

Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings

Delhi Notes

Other Provinces

Books and Publications

The training for the able-bodied men is given in the Indian Institute of Science. This is one of the 33 technical training centres located in the Madras Region for the able-bodied men. The Hon'ble Minister met the

trainees both in the workshop and in their hostel and mixed with them freely. The Hon'ble Minister was impressed with the work done at these

centres. He was accompanied by Mr. Abdul Kadir, Regional Director, and Mr. S. V. Ramanujam, Public Relations Officer.

Prohibition and Public Co-operation

The importance of public co-operation in making prohibition a success was stressed by the Premier in the course of his speech at the District Political Conference in North Arcot recently. It has to be observed that co-operation of the public in the effective enforcement of prohibition has not been received in the past to the extent needed. This is a crucial handicap for as has been pointed out by a recent writer prohibition cannot be a success anywhere without public co-operation. Prohibition is a moral reform and guarantee for the success of all moral reforms is the support of the community. Other laws stand on a different plane. In those cases even if the community does not cooperate with the Government, the aggrieved party is sure to take necessary steps to bring the offender to justice. On the other hand in the case of prohibition no single individual is the aggrieved party but the community as a whole, and the community

therefore has to play the vital role of watch and ward in regard to prohibition. Since the beginning of this century, not less than half a dozen countries both in the east and the west have tried prohibition at different stages of their history, but unfortunately in none of them does it survive today. America is the most conspicuous instance where prohibition was tried for more than a decade and then withdrawn. The main cause for failure was lack of co-operation. The examples of these countries are a warning to us, and we should profit by them. The present era is the era of the common man and his all-round welfare counts for most. Prohibition is an important factor in his all-round welfare and it is therefore the patriotic duty of the entire community to stand by the Government in the enforcement of a social experiment which is sure to bring about the regeneration of the common man.

Agricultural Production

A plea for the adoption of scientific methods in agriculture was made by His Excellency Sir Archibald Nye, Governor of Madras, recently while declaring open the District Board Agricultural Training School at Orathanad in Tanjore district. His Excellency said that the main impression he had formed during the two years as Governor was that the rural problem in this country was principally economic. Their business therefore was to decide how best they could raise the standard of living of the people. His Excellency had no doubt that their business was to put agriculture on a good and proper basis. Suggesting methods for improving Indian agriculture, the Governor pointed out that the proper way was to take advantage of the modern scientific knowledge and scientific methods with a preparedness to move from old ruts. Times out of number it has been pointed out that one of the important ways of stepping up production in agriculture is the employment on a liberal scale of scientific methods.

Economists have listed up the principal ways in which agriculture could be improved in this country. In this list they have given an important place to the adoption of scientific methods. Other ways include a careful rotation of crops, use of better seed, use of better manure and use of better agricultural implements. The Bombay planners have pointed out that in the promotion of agriculture, care has to be taken to see first that the country is made self-sufficient in regard to food. This, according to the planners, needs readjustment of the areas under food and commercial crops. Food is the most important thing and it has to be provided in the first instance. The responsibility of the agriculturist is very great in this matter. He has to move with the times and press into his service knowledge which science has placed at his disposal, and thus contribute his share to step up production in the most fundamental occupations in this country.

True Education

While declaring open recently the Devanga High School at Coimbatore, the Premier of Madras made a stirring appeal to the people to sink communal rivalry and jealousy and to work for the uplift of all communities. They should not, he said, consider academic education as a mere passport for Government jobs but as an equipment to serve the country in the industrial, commercial, scientific and other spheres. Continuing the Premier said, that education was the basis of all progress. Only through the acquisition of knowledge could a man rise to his full stature. Mahatma Gandhi's scheme of education was conceived in that spirit. There is a higher purpose in education than the acquiring of wealth through it. Education is meant to develop the moral character. Gandhi had laid emphasis on this aspect of education. It was up to them to keep this ideal constantly before their minds. Only then can the artificial distinction between man and man based on wealth disappear. Gandhiji's teachings applied to every branch of their activities. Mutual jealousy, hatred and jealousy between man and man, and between community and community should go, the Premier pleaded. The education imparted should be calculated to the achievement of this end. Government, he said, could not alone bring about this change. These words need careful pondering over. A democratic Government is not something apart from the people but forms their part and parcel. In a new India we have to steer clear of the shoals and sand banks of jealousy, hatred, etc., which have beset other countries.

A World Menace

Communists are proving a world menace. In the various countries in the world, they seem to be out to create mischief. The western world seems have awakened already to the dangers of communist menace. The Marshall plan is a reaction to this menace. Recently the Prime Minister of England referred to the activities of communists. He showed how communists used force and fraud to extinguish the fundamental freedoms by which the people preferred to live, how they aimed at not the welfare of the people but at ideological victory and how Soviet imperialism was a continuation of the same brutal process once inflicted on her weaker

neighbours by Czarist Russia. He also exposed the delusion that there was any constructive good will for humanity in the communist camp. He characterized the communists as extreme reactionaries.

In this part of the country the communists are no less active. In the recent past they have amply demon-

strated that they have no constructive but only destructive ideology. They have no programme worth the name to be placed before the people and they want to make up for this by a deliberate course of vandalism. It is however a happy sign that the common man everywhere has come to realize what a huge fraud communism is.

Garrison duty at Fort St. George

The 1st Battalion of the Travancore Nair Infantry, which was the first Indian battalion to garrison Fort St. George five years ago, is now again in Madras on the same duties. During the war the Battalion played a notable part in the protection of Madras harbour and of airfields on the south-east coast under threat of Japanese invasion.

The unit was originally the 1st Battalion of a military detachment which entered the service of the Travancore Government in 1740. It subsequently came to be known as Colonel Daly's Carnatic Brigade. The unit was reorganized in 1819 with the concurrence of the Madras Government, and in 1830 it was redesignated as 1st Battalion, Nair Brigade. It was

not till more than a hundred years later, in 1935, that it received its present name, having been further reorganized as a unit of the Indian States Forces. The unit's Colonel-in-Chief is Major-General His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore.

The Battalion served with the Indian Army in the last war, and during this period was employed on some very vital tasks. To it was assigned, for example, the duty of protecting Madras Harbour and the strategically important airfields on the south-east coast from Japanese bombing. In Assam the Battalion was entrusted with the protection of the lines of communication. After the Japanese surrender the unit formed part of the first post-war garrison of Hong Kong. It was one of the last Indian States Forces units to return to its peacetime station in Trivandrum in January 1947.

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

Deaf and dumb and blind schools

The Government have decided to train immediately teachers in the education of defective children in the existing aided schools under private managements. Twelve teachers—six (three Tamil and three Telugu) for employment in schools for the deaf and dumb and six for employment in schools for the blind—will be trained in the current year.

in the school for the blind at Palamcottah and three in the school for the deaf and dumb at Palamcottah. They have also approved the training of three Telugu teachers in the U.L.C.M. School for the blind at Rentachintla. They have instructed the Director of Public Instruction to arrange for the training of three Telugu teachers for employment in schools for the deaf and dumb, proposed to be opened in Telugu areas.

[June 10]

Controls

Till now the work relating to the administration of controls over iron and steel, coal and paper was being dealt with by the Director of Industries and Commerce. The Government have decided that work relating to these should be transferred with effect from 16th June 1948 to the Provincial Textile Commissioner who will hereafter be designated as the "Director of Controlled Commodities." The existing procedure regarding distribution will continue for the present.

[June 13]

Agricultural Training School

The Government are opening an Agricultural Training School at

Oorathanad, Pattukottai taluk, Tanjore district, in June 1948, for training students for the reclamation of lands and the improvement of Agriculture in Pattukottai area. The school will be run from the Rajah's Endowment (Chatram) Funds of the Tanjore District Board, the Madras Agricultural Department being in administrative charge of the institution. Sons of professional agriculturists who have passed at least Form III, and who are likely to take to agriculture as their profession will be admitted in the school. The course of studies at the school which will be intensely practical and will cover improved methods of farming will be for one year and no tuition fees will be levied. Intending candidates may apply to the District Agricultural Officer, Tanjore, for the prospectus and the application form.

[June 15]

Gandhi National Memorial Fund

The attention of all Government servants is drawn to the appeal of the Congress President and the Prime Minister of India that every Government servant should contribute 10 days' pay either in lump sum or in instalments not exceeding six for the Gandhi National Memorial Fund. The

Government endorse the appeal and permit all Government servants to subscribe to the Gandhi National Memorial Fund.

2. The Government wish to impress upon all Government servants that contribution to the Fund is voluntary. It may be paid either in a lump sum or in instalments, but if the latter, the total contribution should represent a fair average of 10 days' emoluments actually received during the period covered by the instalments. The Government would suggest that the Gazetted staff make their contribution in not more than three instalments and the Non-gazetted staff in not more than five instalments.

3. Contribution should be credited under the head "Gandhi National Memorial Fund" in one of the under-mentioned approved Banks:— (1) Imperial Bank, Limited, (2) Central Bank of India, (3) Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank, Limited, (4) Bank of India, Limited, (5) United Commercial Bank, (6) Indian Bank, Limited and (7) Indo-Commercial Bank, Limited.

In order to facilitate easy collection, the Government direct that there should be a 'Committee' or a responsible officer in each department or office, who would be responsible for the proper collection from both Gazetted and Non-gazetted staff, and prompt remittance of the money to the bank on the very day of collection. The collection should ordinarily be made only on the 1st and 2nd of the month and each day's collection may be remitted into one of the Banks specified in paragraph 3 above and the chalans kept in the custody of the Committee or the individual who is in charge. Receipts for payment should be granted by the head of each office. The head of the office will take a receipt signed by himself for his own contribution.

5. When the office is located in a place where there is no branch of any one of the Banks specified in paragraph 3 above, the head of the office should arrange for the safe custody of the collections until he is able to remit the amount to the nearest Bank at a convenient opportunity without incurring any special expenditure for making the remittance. [June 18]

Villages disown Communists

In a press release, dated June 18, 1948, the public were informed of the surrender to the Police of a large number of Communists in the villages

of Narasimhulugudem and Thaduvai in Kistna district. Reports have since been received that on June 7, 1948, the villagers of Jaggagudem and Ramapuram in Munagala, Kistna district, appeared before the Police Officer in Munagala Police station, and declared their hatred for the communists. They offered to surrender on June 11, 1948, 10 buffaloes and other looted properties. The villagers of Jaggagudem and Siripuram of Munagala Paragana marched to the Police station in hundreds and announced their severance from the communist Party.

On June 7, 1948, about 400 villagers of Nelamarri in Munagala marched in procession to the Munagala Police station with Congress flags to the accompaniment of music, and declared that they had severed their connection with the Communist Party, and joined the Indian National Congress. The villagers of Ramasamudram, Nelamarri and Kalikova produced before the Police looted properties such as bandies, bullocks, trunks, etc., valued about Rs. 2,000. [June 21]

Harijan Schools

In supersession of all previous orders on the subject, the Government have directed that Managing Committees, consisting of not more than 12 members, shall be constituted forthwith for all private hostels for Harijans and other eligible communities, which are subsidised by the Government.

The Government have, in this connection, issued the following orders:—

(1) In the case of hostels run by the Harijan Sevak Sanghs, the Managing Committees shall be constituted as follows:—(a) The total number of members of the Committee should not be less than six or more than twelve; (b) a third of the members of the Committee shall be nominated by the Government, and the rest selected by the Harijan Sevak Sanghs; (c) the term of office of the members of the Committee will be two years.

(2) In the case of the Harijan hostels managed by individuals and private bodies other than Harijan Sevak Sanghs, not more than six members of the Committee, of whom four will be Harijans, shall be nominated by the Government.

(3) In the case of hostels run for the benefit of eligible communities other than Harijans, which are not

managed by Harijan Sevak Sanghs not more than six members of the Committee shall be nominated by the Government.

The Managing Committees will also function as Selection Committees for admission of boarders into the hostels.

[June 25]

Public Libraries

A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs, provided in the annual estimate of expenditure for 1948-49 for grants to public libraries, maintained by District Boards, Municipal Councils, panchayats and gramasangams in prohibition districts, will be distributed to these bodies towards expenditure on the equipment of libraries (provision of books and book-cases) under their direct control or under the control of private associations registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

The distribution of the amount referred to above will be subject to the following conditions:—

(1) Before a library applies for aid, it should have worked at least for a year and should have been inspected and satisfactorily reported upon at least once by the inspecting officers of the educational department. An exception to this condition will be made in the case of libraries maintained by panchayats and gramasangams in the prohibited districts. (2) The grant will be subject to a maximum of Rs. 300 for each library under District Boards and Municipal Councils and Rs. 150 for each library under panchayats and Rs. 100 for each library maintained by gramasangams in the prohibition districts. (3) The District Board, Municipal Council or the private association, as the case may be, should provide the building, furniture and staff required for the library and should, in addition, contribute from its own funds or subscriptions a sum not less than the amount of the Government grant. (4) The panchayat and the gramasangam should provide the building furniture and staff required for the library. (5) The library should be open to the public and should be located in a place accessible to all communities. (6) The indents for books to be purchased should receive the approval of the District Educational Officer concerned. (7) A register of members and a register of books should be maintained and these records should be available for inspection, when inspecting officers visit the library, which they may do at any time. [June 25]

Revenue and Expenditure

According to the Budget Estimate for 1947-48, the revenue to the Government of Madras is Rs. 49,73,38 lakhs. Revenue account to the end of February 1948 totals Rs. 36,19-03 lakhs, as against Rs. 37,62-35 lakhs for the corresponding period in the previous year. Expenditure on revenue account to the end of February 1948 totals Rs. 36,84-44 lakhs as against Rs. 33,29-05 lakhs for the corresponding period in the previous year.

[June 25]

B.A. (War) Degree Candidates

The Government have directed that candidates, who have passed B.A. (War) Degree Examination of the University of Madras, may be allowed to start on a pay of Rs. 51, when they are appointed as lower division clerks, typists or stenotypists in the scale of Rs. 45-3-60-2-90.

[June 25]

Government Coach Building Factory

Government have established a coach building factory at Chromepet in connection with their scheme of nationalization of passenger bus services in the Province. They have since decided that the factory should be run on a commercial basis and should also attend to the requirements of Government departments, public institutions and private operators. Those interested in body building on motor vehicle chassis and such other connected works are advised to contact the Works Manager, Government Coach Building Factory, Chromepet.

[June 30]

Educational Concessions

The Government direct that the educational concessions admissible to children and dependants of Defence Services personnel under the instructions in the appendix to G.O. No. 610, Education, dated 20th April 1945, as subsequently amended in G.Os. No. 1061, Education, dated 16th July 1945, No. 1321, Education, dated 30th August 1945, No. 1400, Education, dated 12th September 1945, No. 1401, Education, dated 12th September 1945 and No. 793, Education, dated 6th April 1948, shall be awarded also to the children and dependants of all I.N.A. Personnel—those who went from the Indian Forces and those who

were recruited from civilians outside India. The award should be made only in suitably deserving cases, the total expenditure in a year on such award not exceeding Rs. 50,000. The concessions shall be granted on the

production of certificates containing full particulars of the Indian National Army personnel obtained from the Secretary, Indian National Army Enquiry and Relief Committee, Mount Road, Madras. [June 23]

DEPARTMENTS' CORNER

Labour Department

Labour situation

The Government have referred the dispute between the clerical staff and the management of the Hindustan Construction Co., Ltd., Vizagapatam, to the Industrial Tribunal, Bezwada, for adjudication.

In not less than eight cases the Government have accepted the awards of Industrial Tribunals. In two other cases they have passed orders on the awards of Industrial Tribunals.

[First fortnight of June 1948.]

Electricity Department

During May 1948, 9 extensions costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 each were sanctioned by the Chief Engineer at an estimated total cost of Rs. 1,76,731.

2. Supply to 766 domestic services, 171 agricultural services and 32 industrial services was given during the month.

3. Work on the major schemes and extensions under execution was in progress. During the month the second 2500 KW transportable set erected in the Madras Power Station was given a trial run and found to be satisfactory. The foundation block 170 KW diesel set to be erected at Cuddapah was completed and all arrangements for erecting the set were made.

Stamp Department in 1946-47

The following are the salient features of the administration of the Stamp Department during the year 1946-47:—

The total receipts by way of sale of stamps for 1946-47 were Rs. 4,66,50,436, as against Rs. 3,77,28,225 during 1945-46. The

total receipts by way of sale of judicial stamps were Rs. 1,16,78,409 during the year under review, as against Rs. 1,10,27,259 during 1945-46. The increase is due to the increase of litigation. The total receipts by way of sale of non-judicial stamps during 1946-47 were Rs. 3,49,72,027, as against Rs. 2,67,00,966 during the previous year. The increase is due to the abnormal increase in the value of property and in business transactions, general improvement in the money market and a large number of transactions involving immovable properties such as sale, mortgage, gift, etc. A sum of Rs. 17,43,895 was realized by way of sale of revenue adhesive during the year, as against Rs. 13,10,934 during the previous year. The increase is due to cash transactions for trade purposes.

The total charges during the year were Rs. 44,95,564, as against Rs. 15,16,862 during the previous year. There was an increase of Rs. 29,78,702 over the previous year.

Transport Department

During the months of April and May 1948, 57 more State buses were put on roads, bringing the total number of buses to 227. Of these 23 vehicles are diesel buses.

The City buses were thus completely nationalized on 1st June 1948.

The coach building factory at Chromepet sanctioned by the Government started functioning during the period. Some bus bodies were already under construction in the factory.

One Inspector and four Sub-Inspectors of Police sanctioned for work connected with the drive against leakage of revenue in the bus service joined duty. One Head Constable and four Constables of the Armed Reserve sanctioned for guarding the cash chests in the Bus Service also reported for duty.

The "Enquiry Committee" consisting of the Deputy Transport Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic and Licensing) and Transport Officer continues to meet week after week to take disciplinary action against defaulters in the staff of the Transport service.

Irrigation Research Station, Poondi

Madras Province being a deficit province in the matter of food, the Government have taken up for execution some of the major Irrigation Projects such as Tungabhadra and Lower Bhavani and are contemplating to take up other magnificent projects such as Ramapadasagar, Kistna-Pennar, Gandikota, etc. These projects involve construction of dams some of which are several hundred feet high and present problems of unprecedented magnitude challenging engineering ingenuity. Especially hydraulics is the most elusive science and the Philosopher Galelio is reported to have said over 300 years ago: "I have met with fewer difficulties in observations relating to the movements of heavenly bodies, notwithstanding their stupendous distances away, than in investigating the movements of flowing water which takes place before our very eyes." To harness the forces of nature for the benefit of mankind it is evidently essential that the manifestation of nature must be studied and examined in all their implications. Research is the modern method of these elaborate studies.]

The Government therefore sanctioned an Irrigation Research Station for the Madras Public Works Department in 1944. The Research Station is situated at Poondi, a village 35 miles from Madras where a reservoir with a regulator was already constructed during 1940-44 for augmenting the water-supply to Madras City. The station was opened in 1945 and has been rapidly expanding. It is operated by engineering personnel with special experience in this line of research.

Of the several studies undertaken at the station, those on the design of overflow dams are the most extensive. In most of the large projects contemplated under the Grow More Food Scheme, dams of this type are proposed. These dams will be 100 to 150 feet high and floods will have to be passed over these dams with depths rising to 15 or 30 feet.

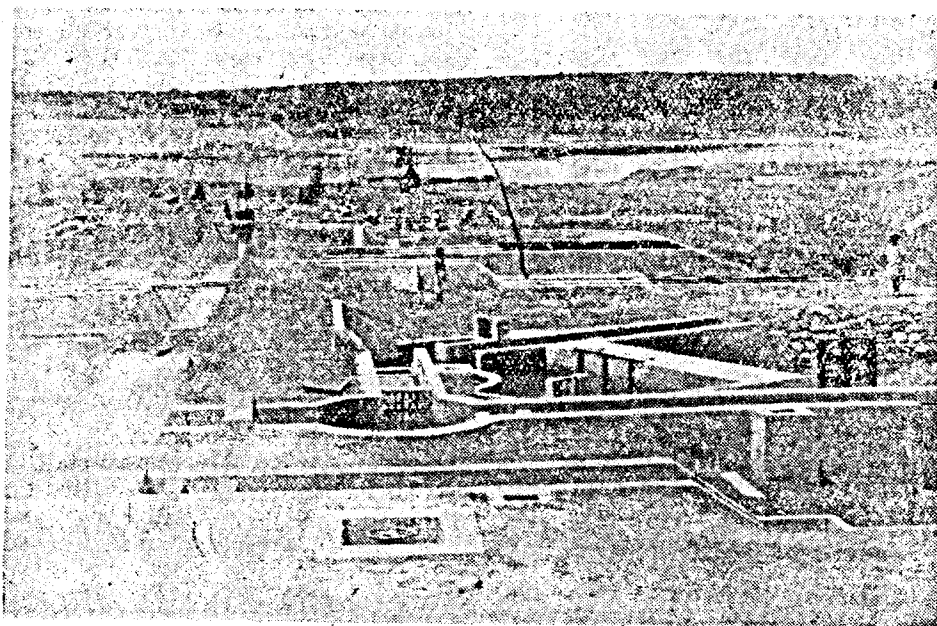
Studies on scour prevention at the piers of the proposed aqueduct across

the Hagari river in Tungabhadra Project, testing the stability of Gannavaram Aqueduct in Godavari delta, securing the existing Godavari and Kistna anicuts against erosion in the rear, exclusion of silt from the Kattalai High-level Channel in Cauvery delta, design of a high co-efficient weir across Cheyar at Uttiramerur, and Shiriya weir in South Kanara, design of several high co-efficient tank-weirs,

siphon spillways, etc., are some of the important hydraulic studies conducted in the Research Station.

The technique adopted in these investigations is interesting. Small models are accurately made to scale of rivers, canals and irrigation structures. They are operated with water flowing over them simulating the features of the prototype to the extent necessary. There is much science

POONDI RESEARCH STATION



Lay-out of the field model of the Station



Another view of the Lay-out

governing the technique of these model experiments. Some of the studies are conducted in glass-sided channels and tanks to facilitate visual observation. Photographs are sometimes taken and all observations are made with instruments of precision. The data are analysed and conclusions drawn. Big rivers such as Godavari are practically harnessed inside the laboratory and are made to operate in front of us under controlled conditions.

Hydraulic experiments are not the only type of investigations being conducted at Poondi. Soil-engineering dealing with the consolidation of earthen embankments and dams, the mechanics of foundations of structures, etc., is very much allied to Irrigation Engineering and investigation in soil-engineering too were undertaken at the commencement of the station in 1945, though in 1946 the Soil-engineering section was transferred to Madras where it has since expanded much.

At present in the Poondi Irrigation Research Station, in addition to the hydraulic studies, investigations on the economical use of building materials for the walls and roofing are in rapid progress. For the walls of buildings in the place of conventional materials such as bricks, stone, etc., soil-cement blocks, made by adding a little percentage of cement to the ordinary available soil and cast in ordinary moulds were found to be definitely much cheaper than brickwork. Again for roofing purposes plain concrete domes were found to be more economical than Madras terrace or Reinforced concrete roofing. Investigations are in progress to test the utility of bamboo reinforcement jute and coir reinforcement, etc., in cement mortar and concrete. The Government are contemplating the sanction of a separate buildings research station with headquarters at Madras, leaving Poondi station exclusively for hydraulic studies.

Sanitary Engineering Department in 1946-47

The following are the salient features of the administration of the Sanitary Engineering Department for 1946-47.

Municipal Water-supply Schemes.—During the year under review, one new water-supply scheme at Wallajahpet was brought into commission. Twenty-four schemes of water-supply were under execution by the Public Works

Department during the year under review at an estimated cost of Rs. 174.82 lakhs. The outlay of expenditure during the year was Rs. 2.90 lakhs and the total expenditure on these schemes at the close of the year was Rs. 75.78 lakhs. Six municipal schemes were under execution by the local bodies under the supervision of the Public Works Department. The approximate cost of these schemes was Rs. 8.63 lakhs. The expenditure on these schemes during the year was Rs. 0.29 lakh and the total expenditure to the end of the year was Rs. 4.77 lakhs.

Municipal Drainage Schemes.—Seven drainage schemes, estimated to cost Rs. 36.89 lakhs, were under execution by the Public Works Department. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 3.91 lakhs. The total expenditure to the end of the year was Rs. 25.44 lakhs. One drainage scheme was under execution by the municipal agency under the supervision of Public Works Department. The estimated cost of the scheme was Rs. 5.45 lakhs.

Scrutiny of Plans and Estimates.—During the year under review, plans and estimates for 22 minor water-supply and drainage works, aggregating to Rs. 2.44 lakhs, were scrutinized and technical sanction accorded. Proposals relating to water-supply and sanitary installation for educational institutions and scrutiny of plans and estimates for rural water-supply schemes were dealt with by this department.

Post-War Development Schemes.—The following items of works in connection with post-war development scheme were attended to, viz., (1) location of water-supply and drainage schemes under the first five-year plan, being indicated in a map of Madras Presidency, (2) preparing a statement of quantities of bricks and timber required for water-supply and drainage schemes in the first five-year plan and (3) preparation of revised programme for

the first five-year plan as per reduced budget allotment with statements of capital and recurring expenditure.

Revenue Department Ex-tappers in Prohibition Districts

With a view to providing employment to ex-tappers thrown out of work consequent on the introduction of Prohibition, Government permitted the tapping of palmyra trees for sweet juice for jaggery manufacture on a co-operative basis in the districts of Salem, Coimbatore, North Arcot, Chittoor, Malabar, South Kanara, Madras, Tanjore, Tiruchirappalli, Guntur and Nellore. They also permitted at select centres in the districts of Malabar, South Kanara and Coimbatore, the tapping of coconut trees for sweet juice for jaggery manufacture, on a co-operative basis.

On 30th April 1948, 378 co-operative societies—347 for palmyra jaggery manufacture and 31 for coconut jaggery manufacture—were working, with a membership of 31,725 ex-tappers. 30,195 licences were issued by these societies to their members for the tapping of the trees for sweet juice. They have produced up to 30th April 1948, about 6.8 lakhs of maunds of jaggery worth about 22.38 lakhs. The jaggery produced is marketed by these societies to the best advantage of the producer-members and in some cases it is pooled by the marketing societies and sold in public auction.

Government have recently permitted the tapping of date trees and the formation of co-operative societies for date jaggery in the districts of Anantapur, North Arcot and Chittoor for jaggery manufacture. Societies are being formed in these districts for date jaggery manufacture.

Mutual toleration is a necessity for all time and for all races. We cannot live in peace if the Hindus will not tolerate the Mahomedan form of worship of God and his manners and customs, or if the Mahomedan will be impatient of Hindu idolatry or cow-worship. It is not necessary for toleration that I must approve of what I tolerate. I heartily dislike drinking, meat-eating and smoking, but I tolerate all these in Hindus, Mahomedans and Christians, even as I expect them to tolerate my abstinence from all these although they may dislike it.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

TOWARDS WELFARE OF THE MASSES

Public Health Measures in Madras Province

NOTE.—*The importance of Public Health is a widely recognized fact. The greatest wealth of this Country is its people and the preservation of this asset involves adequate Health measures from time to time. In a recent broadcast Dr. R. M. Mathew, Director of Public Health, referred to the measures taken by the Government to safeguard Public Health. He said:*

"Health is something positive. It is not just mere freedom from disease. A really healthy man will be perfect in his build, will have plenty of strength and endurance and his performances will be good. He can enjoy the fullness of life. Good health is the birthright of all, but many do not attain it on account of various factors. There is no factor which is so important as adequate nutrition for the attainment and maintenance of a high level of positive health. Various environmental services such as pure and wholesome water supplies, efficient and prompt collection and disposal of the waste products of community life, provision of sanitary conveniences, proper drainage, clean houses, playgrounds, parks, etc., are also equally important. Unfortunately, the environmental services cost considerable sums of money and that is why it is generally stated that public health is a purchasable commodity and each community can regulate its public health according to the amounts at its disposal.

Government measures recounted

The Government have before them a report of the special committee on water-supply and drainage which are fundamental necessities for a healthy community life. The schemes recommended by the committee will cost

several crores of rupees. Provision of sanitary conveniences is another urgent necessity. The ideal should be to have a latrine for every house where such latrine construction is feasible. The present practice of using open fields for calls of nature is very dangerous as several diseases have their origin from this source. Cholera, Typhoid, Dysenteries, Diarrhoeas, etc., are caused only through certain organisms that pass out through human excreta. Public sanitary conveniences are also necessary for those that have no facilities for latrine constructions in their own houses and also for the use of visitors to the locality. There are cheap and efficient designs for flush-out latrines of the septic tank type which could be easily installed. Malaria is an important public health problem in this Province. Malaria kills thousands of people each year and incapacitates several thousands more. Many fertile regions have not been reclaimed and used because of Malaria. We are now very much advanced in our knowledge of Malaria and its control measures. The disease can easily be controlled with proper organization and preventive efforts. Many schemes for such control are now in operation in widely different areas in the Province.

Our Province is often visited by epidemics of Cholera, Plague and Smallpox and considerable time and energy of the Health staff are devoted to the fight against these diseases. Smallpox is easily preventable. The most sensible and logical method of controlling the disease is by vaccination. Vaccination and Revaccination are compulsory under law. If the community is completely protected

by vaccination, Smallpox will disappear.

Cholera is a more difficult problem under existing conditions. Safe water supplies alone can prevent Cholera. Till this is accomplished, temporary measures like chlorination of water-supplies, disinfection, anti-cholera inoculation, etc., will have to be adopted to control the spread of infection.

Plague is another epidemic disease which prevails in certain areas. It is ordinarily a disease of rats and man gets the infection only after an epidemic is established amongst rats. The rational control of plague is to break the close association between rats and man, and this has to be achieved by the construction of rat-free or rat-proof houses, which again is a question of money. Till then, temporary measures such as cyanogas fumigation to destroy rats and rat-fleas, anti-plague inoculations, evacuation of infected localities, etc., have to be carried out to control the epidemic.

Tuberculosis and Leprosy are other important public health problems which cause considerable sickness and mortality in the community. These diseases are also preventable with proper planning and organisation.

Future Programme

The future programme is to establish health centres for every fifteen to twenty thousand population. A health centre is an institution wherein are brought together the various medical services both preventive and curative, so as to function as one integrated organization. Side by side with the establishment of these health centres environmental services will also be expanded."

Housing Schemes

Co-operative Registrar's Survey

Speaking recently at Tanjore on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the New Colony of houses by His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Mr. J. C. Ryan, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, discussed the general position regarding housing schemes. He said: "During

the last eleven months, we have registered 1 Co-operative Township, 5 Co-operative House Construction Societies, 26 Co-operative House Building Societies and 21 ordinary Co-operative Building Societies. While co-operative house construction societies are intended to build houses according

to type designs as in Tanjore for being sold to their members on the hire-purchase system, the ordinary co-operative building societies only lend money to individuals so that they may construct their houses themselves according to their own plans. The co-operative house building societies

are an improvement over ordinary building societies in so far as they undertake to construct the houses on behalf of the members according to the designs they give and the co-operative townships are an improvement over the co-operative house construction societies in so far as they provide civic amenities like water-supply, drainage, lighting, etc. The Government have been providing all these kinds of societies with many facilities. They have provided state loans at 3½ per cent per annum to the extent of Rs. 1 crore of which Rs. 58.08 lakhs have been sanctioned already to these societies. They have helped them with 1,200 tons of iron and 6,440 rolls of Sommerfield track, whose rods are used for reinforced concrete work. They have also offered to supply Government timber at concessional rates and to give high priority in regard to the supply of cement. Some of the societies have been provided with the free services of the officers of the Co-operative Department to function as their secretaries. With all these facilities, it is hoped that there will be a spurt of co-operative building activity in the Province during the next few years, and as a consequence, the housing problem in most towns will be eased considerably.

Finance

A limit of Rs. 20,000 has been fixed as the maximum financial help a person can have from Government in a co-operative house construction society and a limit of Rs. 12,000 has been set for other kinds of housing societies. This definitely rules out the richer classes from Government help. It is

open to co-operative societies to construct houses of the value of less than Rs. 5,000 for their members to meet the requirements of men of limited means. Indeed, the Tanjore Society has undertaken the construction of D class houses of Rs. 3,000 each. But, none of these co-operative housing societies can help the poor man, if what we mean by a poor man is one who has not the ability to pay for his house. A co-operative society is first and last a business organization. It cannot undertake to do charity, and it is help of this variety that the poor man needs.

Various Suggestions

Yet, while co-operative societies help only those who can pay for their houses, they release an equivalent number of houses for occupation by others. An increased supply of houses also brings about a fall in house-rent. In this way, co-operative house building benefit even the poor indirectly. The Provincial Housing Committee and the Harijan Welfare Committee have recommended direct help to the poorer classes of the Province. They have suggested that the Government should provide subsidies for Harijans, for industrial labourers and for low income groups, consisting of persons with a monthly income of less than Rs. 200. In the case of Harijans, a Harijan Welfare Fund has already been constituted by Government and it is under their consideration whether Rs. 50 lakhs out of this cannot be utilized for the acquisition of house-sites for Harijans and whether Rs. 15 lakhs more cannot be given as half grants for the construction of houses worth Rs. 1,000 each. Money has to be found by Government for the Non-Harijan poor classes and whether

it can be raised by taxation is under examination. It is possible that the subsidized housing schemes may also be entrusted to co-operative institutions, in which case their members will be required to pay the full value of the unsubsidized part of the cost of the houses in easy instalments so that eventually they may become their owners.

Houses in Rural Areas

The provision of houses in rural areas is also receiving the attention of Government. There is now a scheme before them, according to which strong rural co-operative credit societies with plenty of share capital and reserve fund will secure house sites from Government or from pattadars, free of cost or for a price paid out of their own funds. On these sites, they will construct 12 to 50 houses valued at about Rs. 3,000 each on behalf of such members as will pay one-fifth of the value of the house, in advance, within an appointed date. The funds for this purpose will be provided by Government in the form of loans in accordance with the Rules governing State loans to Co-operative Building Societies. When the houses are completed, each member will occupy the house as the tenant of the society and pay a rent to the society which will amortize the loan taken from Government in a period of 20 years. When the cost of the site is also paid off by the member, the society will transfer the title to the house to the tenant. It is hoped that Government will finance this scheme of Rural Housing with Rs. 2½ crores over a period of two years. There are already applications for the construction of houses in villages under this scheme from several districts.

Miracles of Rural Reconstruction

A Thrilling Story

The thrilling story of how a Godforsaken area has been transformed into an attractive one through a process of planned reconstruction is told in this article.

Kadambalur in South Arcot district was literally a Godforsaken firka. The Hon'ble Premier once referred to the place as the 'Sahara Desert of Madras Presidency.' There are no roads in the firka worth the name or bridges. As regards drinking water the less said the better. There are only open shallow ponds, which are

used for drinking and washing purposes both for men and animals. During summer most of these ponds dry up. Hence guinea worm is a widely prevalent disease in the firka. In an area over 100 square miles covered by thirty-five villages with a population of over 50,000 there have been only twenty-five lower elementary schools of which twenty were under the management of the District Board, and three others under the management of the Labour Department. Even the system of rural medical

relief does not appear to have done much good.

A complete metamorphosis takes place

Now an honest attempt is being made to improve conditions. Formation of village roads, Improvements to the existing ponds and digging of new wells, establishment of a central library, installation of battery radio set in the headquarters of the firka are a few of the improvements effected. These have been made possible owing largely to the spontaneous and willing co-operation on the part of the villagers who

contributed not only labour but financial assistance.

Besides the above, four co-operative stores with share capital of Rs. 5,000 each and eleven credit societies have been formed and it is gratifying to note that they are efficiently working. More than half a dozen new District Board schools have been started so far. A prominent ryot has also placed 15½ acres of land at the disposal of the department for the establishment of a Basic Training School while another has given 5½ acres of land for the

establishment of a leprosy clinic. In addition, considerable progress has been made in the matter of spinning. Takklis and charkas are being stocked in the co-operative stores and many charka sangams have been opened. There is a wave of enthusiasm on the part of the people and they are ready to co-operate with the Government. The recent announcement of the grant of Rs. 50,000 for water supply and communication by the Government has aroused jubilation everywhere in the firka and the

people have come forward to contribute half of the estimated cost of rural water-supply and communication work. The water-supply work has been actually started on that basis. Youth leagues and sanitation leagues have been set up in every one of the 125 hamlets of the firka. Of the 35 villages, 5 have been selected as model villages for still more intensive development. What has been possible in this firka is possible in other places also. The most essential condition is the willingness of the people.

This Province is fast becoming Radio-Minded

Radio is a powerful instrument of mass instruction. Its potentialities are immense and Government have already set out to tap them to the fullest extent possible. The Provincial Broadcasting Department was brought into existence primarily for this purpose. This article throws more light on the scope and functions of the Department.

The Provincial Broadcasting Department was formed in May 1938. A detailed survey of the activities of the Department appeared in these columns, in the issue, dated 26th July 1947.

The Department has made considerable strides in the recent past. The Government have appointed a Special Officer for Provincial Broadcasting, to advise the Government on the development of broadcasting with special reference to rural areas. He is also to act as liaison between the Madras Government and the Madras and Tiruchirappalli Stations of All-India Radio. The main lines through which the Government have programmed development are (1) Rural Programmes, (2) Urban Talks and (3) News Publicity.

Though the planning of the rural programmes, as it stands today, is entirely in the hands of A.I.R. authorities, a certain amount of co-ordination has already been achieved between

this Government and All-India Radio. Quarterly conferences of Heads of Nation-Building Departments are now held and through these conferences suggestions are given to the Station Directors of Madras and Tiruchirappalli as to how best to plan the rural programmes so as to give maximum publicity to the various nation-building activities of the Government and thereby bring the people, especially the rural folk, nearer and nearer the Government. In addition to this, fortnightly talks are now arranged in the rural programmes of both Madras and Tiruchirappalli stations on some nation-building activity of the Government.

Urban Talks

The scheme has been in operation for some time now, beginning from 1st October 1947. Urban talks are intended to popularise the legislative and executive achievements of this Government. In the initial stages, the talks were mainly devoted to supplementing the two major activities of the Government, the prohibition and the general rural reconstruction plans, spear-headed by the Firka Development Scheme. Later, the talks covered the vast sphere of Governmental activities like Harijan Uplift,

Nationalization of Transport, Housing Schemes, Development of Electricity, Water Supply and Drainage Schemes, the Food Situation from time to time, Industrial Planning, the Sales Tax, Public Health Measures, Development of Ports in South India, Zamindari Legislation, Basic Education, Educational Reforms, Major Projects like Tungabhadra and Ramapadasagar, Development of Co-operation, Women Welfare work, etc. There are eight talks now in a month delivered in English and the other four regional languages of the Presidency. These talks given by Hon'ble Ministers, Heads of Departments, Members of the Legislature and Non-official Experts are admittedly of a very high standard and have already become popular with the listeners.

News Publicity

This is mainly intended to give publicity to the day to day activities of the Madras Government through All-India Radio News Bulletins. The main language bulletins of All India Radio are prepared by the Central News Organization, All-India Radio, and Broadcast by the Delhi Station. They are then relayed by respective radio stations.

The Narasinga Cauvery Channel

An Area of 15,000 acres will be brought under plough

The Narasinga Cauvery channel is a continuation of the Grand Anicut Extension channel which is the name given to the Grand Anicut canal of the Cauvery-Mettur Project below the Agniar Aqueduct. It is taken across the Narasinga Cauvery river by means of a syphon 160 feet long to irrigate about 15,000 acres of the area south of the river.

The system comprises of the Narasinga Cauvery main channel six miles in length with three branches called Kalakamangalam channel, Serumaradur channel and the Mahaganapathipuram channel with a total length of 22 miles. The entire scheme involves more than 23,000 units of earthwork and the construction and improvement of 127 masonry works. Besides this,

a large number of small sluices have to be built of which 50 have already been completed.

The area to which irrigation is now extended is a flat tract of land dotted with as many as 72 tanks whose water spread covers nearly 30 per cent in the area. Due to the poor rainfall in this region, these shallow tanks give only a precarious supply to their

ayacut. Though nominally the ayacut under these tanks is 10,500 acres, only about half that area could raise a wet crop in a normal year. The new channel will provide an assured supply for the full ayacut of 10,500 acres and in addition bring under irrigation 4,500 acres of new area.

The north-east monsoon was extremely disappointing last year and but for the supplies sent down the main channel and two of the branch channels, the crop in the new area

would have been a complete failure. If more than 10,000 acres yielded a successful harvest last year, the credit should go entirely to the new channel.

The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 25.3 lakhs and in spite of the increase in labour rates and other difficulties, the work is expected to show a saving of nearly Rs. 5 lakhs due mainly to the severe economies effected in the design and methods of execution and effective supervision.

The scheme could yield full results only if, as the Chief Engineer pointed out, "the owner of the land and the tiller of the soil labour hard in reclaiming and levelling the areas, that were till now waste, in ploughing the land, forming field ridges, excavating bothies and rendering the soil fit for wet cultivation. On their enthusiasm and on their energetic toil depend the rapid development of the area."

IN THE SPHERE OF EDUCATION

Educational Outlook

Education Minister's Survey

Speaking at the second meeting of the Standing Advisory Board of Technical Education, the Hon'ble Minister said:

"I do not know whether you are aware that our Province provides the greatest amount of facilities in the matter of technical education when compared to all the other provinces in this country. There were only two Engineering and Technological Colleges in the Province in 1944, their number increased to three in 1945, four in 1946 and as many as six in 1947 apart from the numerous Polytechnics that have been opened in the Province in recent years. The number of boys admitted in the colleges has also correspondingly increased. It has risen from 486 in 1945 to 1,208 in 1947. I need not mention here that in this year the number in our Engineering Colleges would also increase to a considerable degree because of the higher classes that we are opening in three of our new Engineering Colleges. There are in addition a number of Polytechnics opened in the various parts of the Province where L.C.E. of various types and grades are being trained. So also the subjects that we have provided for in our Engineering Colleges have also increased in their variety and in this meeting we will consider the advisability of opening a new course in the Engineering College that is Public Health Engineering.

I have also great pleasure in being able to tell you that the Institute for Electro-Chemical Research will be opened at Karaikudi. Negotiations

are also proceeding for the establishment of a Textile Research Institute at Coimbatore where the textile industry has come forward to contribute nearly 20 lakhs of rupees for it.

Admission to Colleges

Before coming to Public Health Engineering itself, I would like to take this opportunity to explain the position of admissions in colleges and the additional space that have been made available in our Arts Colleges. The candidates who appeared for the School Final Examination this year number 51,358 of which 26,116 have been declared eligible for admission to colleges. For the Intermediate in the Madras University area 8,080 candidates appeared of which 4,378 were considered to have passed fully in the Intermediate classes. We may roughly presume that half the number of the S.S.L.C. eligible candidates, and about three-fourths number among those who have passed the Intermediate will seek admission in B.A., B.Sc. and other post-Intermediate courses for this year. In the Intermediate in the Madras University alone including the fresh affiliation that has been given to four colleges of which one is a Government College, about 12,245 seats have been provided in the Junior Intermediate classes and 5,938 seats have been provided in the post-Intermediate classes as against 11,895 and 5,185 in the last year. In the Andhra University area also 6,578 seats are being provided this year for both Intermediate and B.A. as against 6,201 in

the last year. Thus it will be seen that there is sufficient accommodation provided for everyone who wants to go in for higher courses. In this year nearly 1,500 additional seats have been provided for in colleges and there is a reasonable chance of all boys applying for admission getting a seat in the colleges.

Now coming to the subjects in the agenda, the first is the introduction of a new course in Public Health Engineering in one of our Engineering Colleges. The Public Health Department has put forward proposals for opening a fresh subject under this head. This was considered by a sub-committee consisting of the Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, the Surgeon-General, the Director of Public Health and some Principals of the Engineering Colleges. A further sub-committee was appointed to draw up a suitable syllabus and make recommendations about staff, laboratory and equipment and these particulars have been supplied to you for your information. The Government are anxious to start this course, if possible, even in this year and I would like to have your opinions in the matter.

The next subject that is under discussion before you is the advisability of shortening the course in the Engineering Colleges from 4 years to 3 years. The interim report of the Scientific Man Power Committee appointed by the Government of India recommended as follows: 'At present the courses in engineering extend over a period varying from three to four years.

We have every reason to presume that with judicious selection for admission to engineering colleges it should be possible to reduce the period of training to three years. We understand that the All-India Council for Technical Education have prepared a draft curriculum and syllabuses of studies which it should be possible to cover in three academic sessions of 14-00 hours each as against the commonly prevailing four economic sessions of less than 10-00 hours each. We, therefore, recommend that the universities should

consider the introduction of three-year-degree courses in engineering. This would shorten the training period, and also largely help in the increase of the number of engineers.

They have also recommended the examination of the advisability of introduction of double shifts in some of the colleges. I had the honour of convening a preliminary conference of the various Principals of the Colleges, the Chief Engineers of Government and the Vice-Chancellor of the University to consider this matter and

a sub-committee consisting of some of the Principals and other experts was set up to go into the matter. That Committee has not yet published its report and I am sure that your views in the matter will help the Committee in going through the matter.

There is one other matter which may be considered at this meeting of the Board and that is the question of inclusion of the subject anti-erosion measures for the engineering courses. The Government request your expert advice in all these matters."

Adult and Social Education

The importance of adult and social education was stressed by Hon'ble Abul Kalam Azad in the course of a Press Conference, some time ago. He said:

"There is at present a great deal of confusion about the meaning of the terms Social Education, Social Welfare and Adult Education. In order to remove this the concept of Social Education must be clearly defined so that we may go ahead with the programmes that have been accepted in this Ministry.

Social Education

At the outset, let me make it clear that Social Education is not merely a study of Sociology. Sociology is the science of social phenomena and in its wider meaning covers advanced studies like Economics, Politics, Anthropology, Jurisprudence, etc. Sociology is a branch of theoretic knowledge which systematises a certain type of facts and tries to establish the laws of social inter-actions, relations and developments. By Social Education is meant something which has an immediately practical bearing.

Nor is Social Education synonymous with Social Welfare. Social Welfare is primarily an activity directed towards the removal of the many disabilities and evils from which individuals or groups suffer under existing social conditions; thus, the provision of amenities for labour class population or work among drug addicts or attempts to enforce social hygiene are examples of Social Welfare work. Social Education may lead to such activities but must not be confused with them.

Social Education may, therefore, be defined as a course of study directed towards the production of a consciousness of citizenship among the people and promotion of social solidarity among them. For this, it is obvious that there must be some knowledge of social conditions, but

it is not necessary to have detailed acquaintance with sociological laws which the study of Economics or Politics requires. Its affinity with Adult Education is more immediate. We may say that Adult Education has three aspects, namely (a) the induction of literacy among grown-up illiterates, (b) the production of an educated mind in the masses in the absence of literary education, (c) the inculcation of a lively sense of rights and duties of citizenship, both as individuals and as members of a mighty nation. We may say that Social Education in synonymous with Adult Education, but lays more emphasis upon the two latter aspects of education.

For inducing the growth of a sense of citizenship and producing an educated mind, the following seem essential:—

(a) Every citizen must know the meaning of citizenship and the way democracy functions. He should have not only some knowledge of the history and geography of the country but also of the social conditions obtaining there. In order to fulfil his duties as a citizen, he must also have some acquaintance with the working of the State. With the introduction of Adult Franchise, it is imperative for every voter to know the meaning of the vote. He should be instructed that in Parliamentary democracy, the Government is responsible to him, and his vote, therefore, is not merely a valuable right but also a great obligation. Much of the necessary knowledge in such matters can be imparted by verbal methods. In the case of illiterate adults it is obvious that the emphasis must be on the spoken word rather than on written texts.

(b) There must also be instruction in the laws of personal and public health. True citizenship implies knowledge of and respect for the laws which govern the health of the community. At present, in India, there is

often emphasis on certain rituals of personal cleanliness, accompanied by colossal ignorance of and indifference to laws of social health. One of the main purposes of Social Education must be to train people in clean and healthy living. This will involve information about ventilation and accommodation in houses, disposal of refuse, some rudimentary idea of drainage and consideration for the convenience of neighbours and other members of the public.

(c) Social Education must also mean the imparting of such information to the people as will enable them to effect some improvement in their economic status. This is necessary not only to induce an interest among the adult illiterates in the courses of study but also from the point of view of the community itself. It is obvious that adults will take a more immediate and active interest in anything which promises improvement in their economic status. Arrangements will, therefore, be made for training in a craft or introduction of better techniques in existing crafts, and for improving general efficiency of the men.

(d) Social Education, involving, as it does, the improvement of bodily and mental health, cannot ignore the proper training and refinement of the emotions. Art and literature are the instruments of this training. Folk music, drama, dance, poetry and recreative activities must be included in a scheme of Social Education.

(e) Social Education should also contain an element of instruction in a universal ethic, with special emphasis upon the necessity of toleration of one another's differences in a democracy. In a way, this will be included in the course of training under (a), but in addition, there should be special attention devoted to the inculcation of tolerance, mutual appreciation and universal principles of right conduct.

The importance of adequate methods of visual and aural education for adolescents and adults need not be stressed. The Government of India intend to encourage the production of folk drama and rural plays by the villagers themselves. Prizes for the purpose may be given from time to time and competitions held between different villages or local units. Films can also play a great part in teaching the lessons of citizenship, social responsibility, personal health, public hygiene, physical drill and other matters of immediate benefit to the community. The radio is also a powerful instrument of aural education, and I have under consideration plans for full utilization of both the films and the radio.

The programme of universal education for Delhi will therefore be as follows:—

(1) The Village School will be a centre not only of instruction but also of sports and recreation for the entire village.

(2) Separate time will be allotted to children, adolescents and grown-ups.

(3) Certain days in the week will be reserved exclusively for girls and women.

(4) A number of motor vans fitted with projectors and loud-speakers are being now secured; these will visit the Village School when films and magic lanterns will be shown and recording of talks played. It is proposed that each school will be visited at least once a week.

(5) Schools will be provided with radio sets and arrangements made for broadcasting special programmes for school children, adolescents and grown-up people in the light of the scheme of Social Education sketched above. About 140 sets have already been provided by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, and it is proposed to supply the balance of 160 radio sets as early as possible.

(6) Popular drama will be organized in the school and from time to time prizes given for the best plays produced.

(7) There will be provision for teaching national and community songs.

(8) Arrangements will be made for giving simple instruction in some craft or industry suited to the locality.

(9) Lectures will be arranged in co-operation with the Ministries of Health, Agriculture and Labour to instruct villagers in the simple laws of Social Hygiene, methods of Agriculture, Cottage Industries and Co-operative activities.

(10) In co-operation with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, suitable films and slides will be shown from time to time. Arrangements will also be made for visits of public men from time to time to speak to the villagers on problems of national importance, and the help and assistance of public bodies interested in constructive work will be welcomed to give effect to the programme of Social Education.

(11) Arrangements will be made for organizing group games and competitions will be held from time to time between different schools and villages.

(12) Exhibitions and fairs and excursions will be organized from time to time."

A New and Glorious India

Education Minister on the Task before the Province

Speaking at the Conference of Headmasters of Secondary Schools recently the Hon'ble Minister of Education referred to the scheme of reorganization of secondary education. He said:

"It has been said that though the scheme may be a good one, unless teachers are properly trained for it, it will not be a success. I entirely agree with that proposition. The Government are very anxious to get the teachers trained on this new basis. At present there are 669 high schools and 232 middle schools making a total of 901 secondary schools. The important aspects in which our teachers require retraining is in crafts, activities and in citizenship training. One of the main results of the present reorganization will be to make all teachers well-versed in crafts and the activities provided for citizenship training. Through these activities children will be taught in a practical way, civics, hygiene and other social sciences. In the transitional stage while the secondary schools teachers will learn the crafts themselves, the manual training instructors in every school might be utilized for teaching the crafts.

With regard to the citizenship training, Government have made arrangements for training nearly 1,000 teachers this year. It may be seen

that in the Adult Education scheme, published by the Government, citizenship training figures prominently. Sanction has been accorded for organizing a series of camps for this purpose. The first two camps have already trained nearly 180 persons both men and women. It is also intended to organize eight training courses each to train about 100 teachers in the various mufassal centres such as Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Salem, Cuddapah, Bellary, Bezwada and Calicut. A Special Officer also has been appointed for this purpose and so it will be seen that the Government are alive to the necessity of retraining. In the meantime orders have been issued for the reorganization of training schools so that teachers who come out even in the current year will be acquainted with these crafts and activities connected with citizenship training.

Education is a matter of continuous experiment and research and unless one intelligently follows it with zeal and interest, it will be difficult to organize a modern school. That is even more so in these transitional times, when we are planning for new education for the future of this great country. No set of rules and no more directions from higher authorities can succeed in making a good school unless the teacher

in general and especially the headmaster takes a lively interest in the day-to-day problems and organization of the school and so I would appeal to you earnestly in the name of this great country to approach with an understanding mind the various principles that form the basis of the present reorganization scheme so that you will be able to guide the numerous teachers working under your supervision in your respective schools. A model timetable that has been attached to the Government Order has been the cause of some misunderstanding that the timetable will be rigidly enforced on schools. Nothing is farther from the truth. The Government only propose to lay down the salient principles of the scheme and indicate the way in which it may be worked out. Changes that may be necessary in the course of the working of the scheme will have to be done by experience and the detailed planning is largely left to the headmasters. In a scheme like this where large activities have to be planned and when the development and the personality of the children through the activities are the main concern, where the training is for character and citizenship, it cannot be otherwise. I have faith in the ability and earnestness of our teachers. I am sure that this new responsibility placed

on them will draw out the best in the members of the teaching profession and will help to evolve a system of education which will suit the genius of our country.

The Government have also received representations that they are trying to hurry through the reorganization. People have talked about reorganization of education for nearly quarter of a century. Teachers, students and the public have never been tired of repeating the defects in the present educational system. They have pleaded for a swift reform. But when it comes, it is surprising that many should say that we are going in a great hurry. Complaints have been received about the delay in the publication of the syllabuses and the absence of text-books based on the new syllabuses. I sincerely regret the delay in the publication

of the syllabuses and I hope text-books based on the new syllabuses will be published very soon by enterprising publishers. If my friends and brothers in the teaching profession will only wholeheartedly co-operate with the Government in this great task, I am sure this tremendous work can also be done to our great satisfaction.

The creation of the new and glorious India is the task that we have set before us. It is indeed a tremendous task. We can shirk it only at our peril. Let us approach it humbly and prayerfully. Let us have the faith which in the terms of the Bible can move mountains. We are instruments for a great cause. Let us be filled with the noble ideals of service and devotion for this great country and our posterity. Let us feel conscious that upon us the future of the nation

depends. Let us dream, think, plan and do everything having in view this great task. We have great difficulties to surmount but who does not have difficulties. There is no man or woman that existed in the world or a people or a nation who achieved great things without difficulties. He is the great one who can transcend difficulties. That nation is the great one which can pass through mountain-high difficulties and have the courage and strength to achieve great things in spite of them. Let us have faith in ourselves, our people and our country and let us together put forth our best. Let us forget our little differences and work as one for the future of this great ancient land. Then our efforts are bound to be crowned with success and we will earn the blessings of posterity."

ABOUT PROHIBITION

Prohibition in the Madras Province

By MR. V. N. KUDVA, C.I.E., I.C.S.

Prohibition is an experiment in social reform of far-reaching importance. It is a human experiment the object of which is to promote the uplift of the masses. Any such programme has necessarily to include the eradication of the drink evil which is responsible for the unhappiness in many homes especially among the poorer classes. Thanks to the teachings of the various religions which have taken root in our country, drinking of intoxicants is generally regarded as a sin. It saps the physical energy of the drinker, clouds his senses, depraves his nature and reduces him to the level of a beast. The drunkard loses his power of discriminating good from bad, right from wrong, and, under the influence of drink, he readily commits theft, lustful acts and even murder. He has no respect for his neighbour and besides himself becoming a physical wreck, he sadly neglects his family and other immediate responsibilities. He gets involved in various disputes and finally finds himself oftentimes before the Court. His own wife and children are afraid of him; his own kith and kin have no regard for him; his neighbours detest him. It is to save the families of a large section of our people who suffer endless miseries on account of the drink evil that Mahatma Gandhi

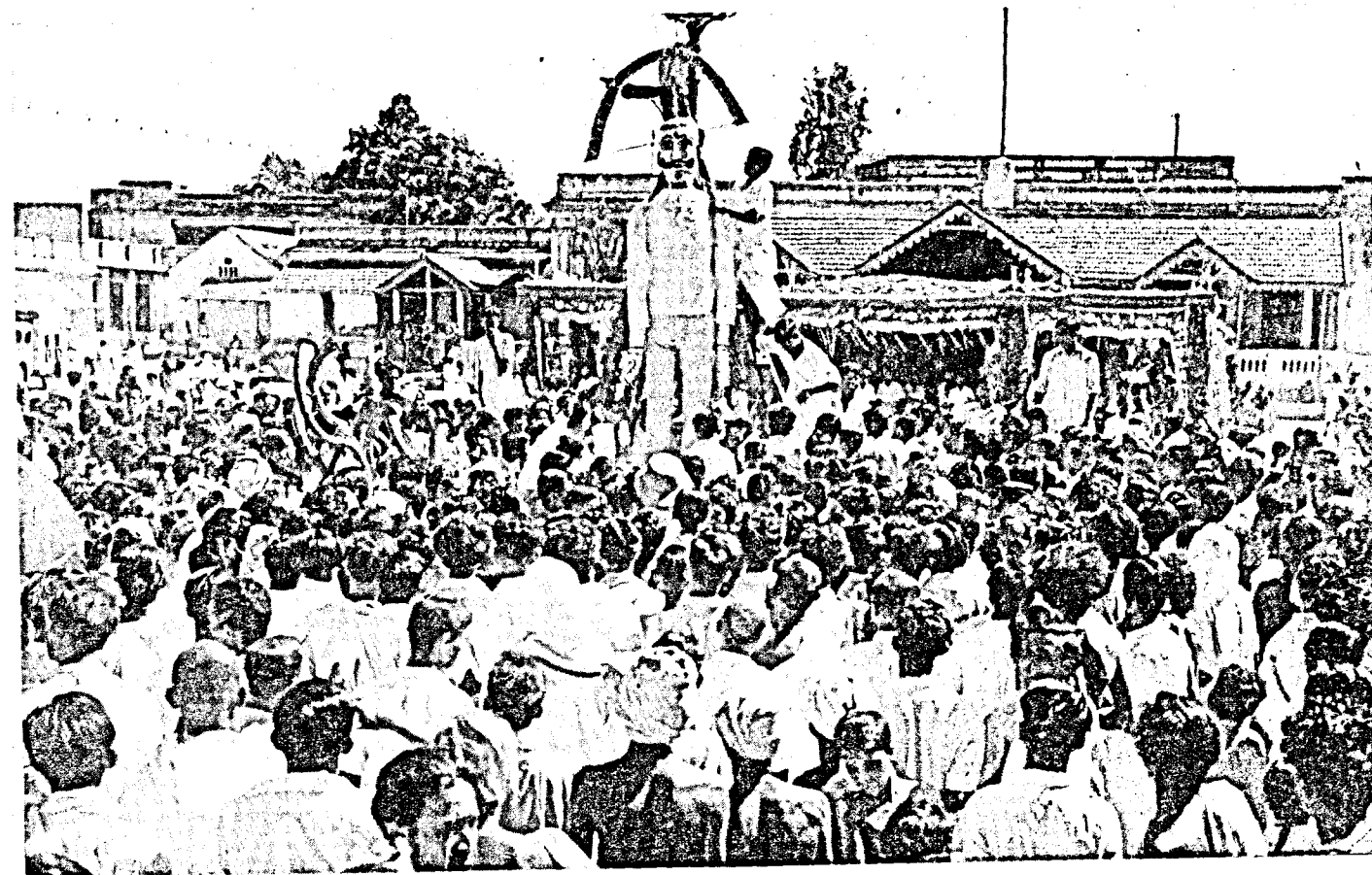
inaugurated a campaign for Prohibition. The Congress is wedded to this policy from its earliest days. Of all provinces, the Madras Government have taken the lead in implementing the scheme of Prohibition as one of the foremost schemes for the amelioration of the people of this province.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has repeatedly said that the true wealth of a nation depends upon its manhood and womanhood even more than its material resources. Ours is one of the poorest countries in the world and the standard of living of the masses is miserably low. Many factors have contributed to reducing our splendid manhood to its present low state. It is universally recognized that the drink habit is widespread among the people and that those who drink spend such a large part of their wages on drink, that they have less than the absolute minimum necessary for a healthy physical existence. India has gained political independence. But if she is to take her rightful place in the family of nations by virtue of her population and the traditions which she has inherited not only from her past but also from Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, we have to do everything that we can to raise the economic, social and moral level of the masses.

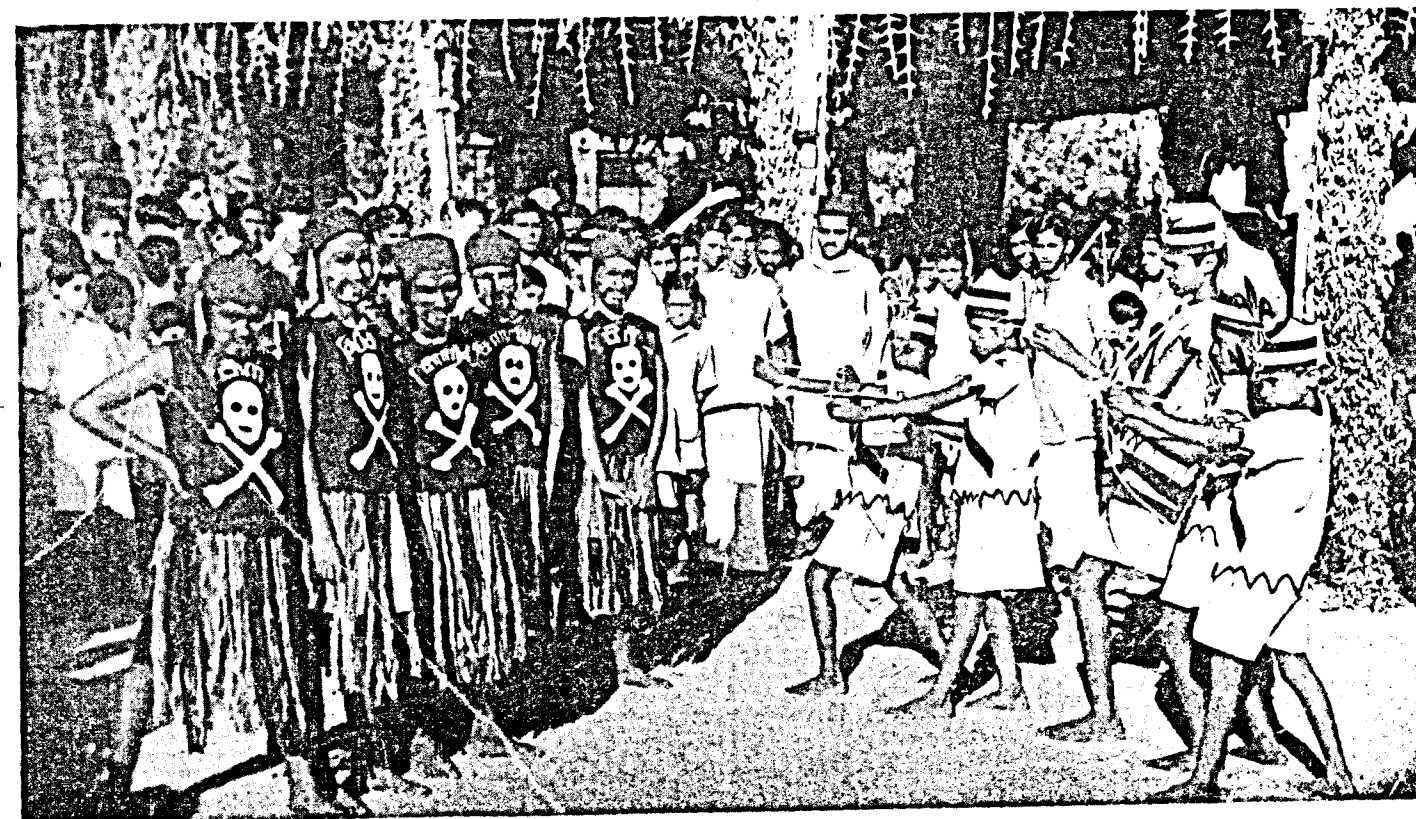
This can be done not only by increasing their earning capacity—a matter which is also seriously engaging the attention of the State but also by eliminating all wasteful expenditure so that their earnings are utilized to the best advantage to promote their well-being. It is considered that no single measure of reform can help the masses and raise their social and economic level to the same extent as total Prohibition can.

The enforcement of Prohibition involves the changing of the habits of large section of the people. For its success propaganda and ameliorative work among the ex-addicts are as important as detection and prevention of crime and the punishment of the offenders under the Prohibition Law. With this object in view, Government have introduced various ameliorative measures in the districts, in which Prohibition has been introduced. In a message to the Hon'ble Minister for Prohibition on the eve of the introduction of Prohibition to eight more districts in October 1947, Mahatma Gandhi observed:—"It is good news you are making eight more districts dry. There can be no rest until the whole Province is dry. Are you following up the law by doing instructive and educative work I pointed out the other day in the columns of *Harijan*?" In the *Harijan* under the caption "Prohibition of Intoxicants," Mahatma had dealt with the methods which the Madras Government have adopted such as the opening refreshment stalls, organizing games and counter-attractions, etc. Government have sanctioned a special staff to carry out the various ameliorative activities in the Prohibition

PUDUKKOTTAI GOES DRY



A view of the procession in connection with the inauguration of Prohibition in Pudukkottai. The demon of drink is prominent in the picture



Another entertainment in connection with the introduction of Prohibition in Pudukkottai. In the picture intoxicating drinks

PROHIBITION PUDUKKOTTAI



(Top)—Indigenous sports formed
Pudukkottai

(Centre)—Ex-addicts took an active
part in celebrating the inauguration of
Prohibition

(Left)—Even little children manifest
their irrepressible joy at the advent of
Prohibition

(Right)—Here people have decided
to devote their leisure to sports and other
amusements instead of resorting
to drink

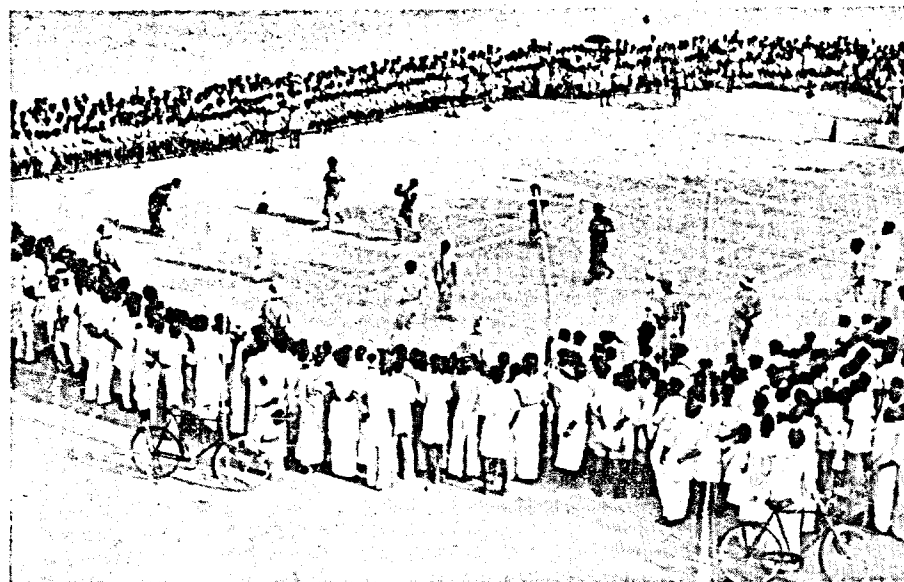
important feature of the celebrations at

in celebrating the inauguration of

their irrepressible joy at the advent of

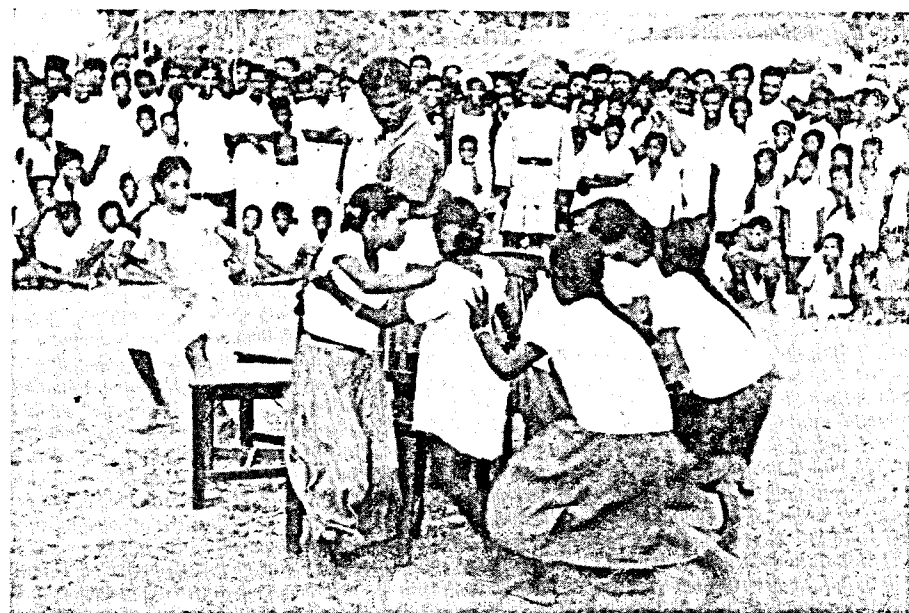
devote their leisure to sports and other
to drink





PROHIBITION NEWS IN PICTURES

Rural sports in a dry 'area' in North Arcot



Another view of the sports



The Commissioner of Prohibition laying the foundation stone of a godown-cum-community centre in North Arcot district. These centres bid fair to become the hub of village life in the future

districts. There are in each of the prohibition districts one Special Development Officer and Assistant Development Officers at the rate of one for each revenue division, besides Rural Welfare Officers and village guides at the rate of one for every taluk and ballad singers at the rate of one for each revenue division. The Special Development Officers who are recruited from Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies assist the Collectors in the ameliorative activities. The Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition (Amelioration) who is a Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies assists the Commissioner of Excise and Prohibition in this work.

The broad lines on which ameliorative work is carried on in the prohibition districts are indicated below :—

(i) *Provision of substitutes for drink.*—To most drinkers the toddy shop or the arrack tavern is a place of resort in the evening and a means of escape from the tedium of life after a day's hard toil. On the closure of these shops, arrangements were made by Government to provide substitute drinks to the ex-addicts in or near the places where toddy shops existed. Refreshment stalls were set up in about half of the total number of toddy shops in the district and run for about three months to provide ex-addicts with drinks, like tea, coffee, butter-milk, panakam, as well as eatables. Government have sanctioned the opening of 1,750 and 1,900 such stalls in the old and new prohibition districts respectively. A subsidy of Rs. 100 for each stall was sanctioned by the Government and this was supplemented by local donations. Private stalls are coming into being at several of these places where Government stalls functioned. In Madura district, the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board supplied tea freely on the day of the inauguration of Prohibition, i.e., 1st October 1947, and mobile tea vans are running in the district supplying tea and snacks at fair rates. It has recently opened a "Tea Room" in Madura Town. Mobile tea vans are now run by it in two other districts, namely, North Arcot and Malabar.

(ii) *Counter-attractions to drink.*—The most effective counter-attractions to drink are rural sports and games, folk dances, Kathaprasangams, Kalak-shepams, Harikathas and village dramas. Entertainments of various kinds have been organized to divert the minds of the ex-addicts. The most popular games, such as Chadugudu, Pillayar-pandu, Killithattu, tug-of-war, etc., and Bhajanas, Harikathas, street

dramas, folk dance and dramas by professionals and amateurs are encouraged. For this purpose, Government have sanctioned one Rural Welfare Officer for each taluk and persons especially trained in rural games and rural uplift work in the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education are appointed in these posts. The Rural Welfare Officers assisted by village guides (one for each taluk) organize rural recreation clubs, teach various games to the villagers, arrange for tournaments and create popular interest in these activities. In about 9,275 villages in the prohibition districts rural games and sports were organized. About 564 firka tournaments, taluk tournaments, 16 divisional and 6 district tournaments were held in the districts. The organization of rural recreation not only provides relaxation to the former addicts but also prepares the ground for a greater rural uplift drive. The ballad singers appointed at the rate of one for every revenue division, provide entertainment to the people, teach community songs to the villagers, encourage the amateurs to take part in street dramas wherever facilities exist and generally organize counter-attractions to drink. These ballad singers are provided by Government with musical instruments at a cost not exceeding Rs. 100 for each singer; those who organize community singing are given special rewards out of funds sanctioned by Government.

With a view to encourage local talent in the matter of providing entertainment to the villages in the prohibition districts, Government have sanctioned subsidies for dramatic troupes in prohibition districts. Folk dances, street dramas, boys scouts' displays, magic lantern slideshows, etc., are some of the other forms of entertainments provided as alternative attractions to drink. Government have also provided each district with a propaganda van equipped with a cinema outfit and public address system. Slides on prohibition are prepared by the photographer attached to the Prohibition department for being shown with the help of the magic lanterns attached to the propaganda vans. The vans are provided with gramophone records and films and they are useful both for propaganda and for providing effective counter-attractions to drink. Government have sanctioned funds for recording songs relating to prohibition over gramophone, in Tamil and Telugu languages, to be used in the propaganda vans in the prohibition districts. The recording of Telugu songs has been

completed and the records will soon be distributed to the districts.

Local boards and private bodies in the prohibition districts have been exhorted to instal radios under the Government of India Scheme. But as the number of radio sets available under the scheme is very limited, a proposal is under consideration according to which gramasanghams, local boards and other bodies are to collect and contribute the capital cost of the installation of community radio receivers, the maintenance charges of which for one year will be borne by Government. Consequently upon the abolition of the Publicity Department, Government ordered that the radio sets which belonged to that department should be allotted to the prohibition districts. Accordingly 17 main and 8 battery sets are proposed to be installed in the eight old prohibition districts. The Radio Engineer is taking steps to instal them in these districts.

Cinemas constitute an important counter-attraction to drink. Cinema houses have been increasing in the prohibition districts. Arrangements were made in one district for showing the film "Rukmangada" in the villages. There is a proposal to supply 16 m.m. projectors and 16 m.m. films to each of the prohibition districts and orders of Government are awaited. Indian Information films have been received for distribution to the prohibition districts to be shown in the cinemas attached to the propaganda vans. Steps are being taken to get films from the British Information Service (16 m.m.) for exhibition in the prohibition districts. As propaganda through films will be effective, Government have been requested to produce short films of 16 m.m. size for circulation in the prohibition districts and the matter is under their consideration.

(iii) *Promotion of thrift.*—Part of the money spent on drink will be available to the ex-addicts for expenditure on necessities of life, viz., food, clothing, etc. They will still be left with a balance, which can be saved for a future contingency. Hence a thrift campaign through home safes and hundi boxes has been launched through co-operative societies, in the prohibition districts, under the direct supervision of the ameliorative staff. Villagers including the ex-addicts are encouraged to lay by their savings. Thrift days are celebrated by the co-operative societies selected for running the scheme. The societies supply hundi boxes to the people who are willing to save. The total amount of

such savings effected up to the end of January 1948, through hundi boxes in all the prohibition districts is Rs. 1.81 lakhs. Savings under the National Savings Scheme are also encouraged by the ameliorative staff.

(iv) *Promotion of gramasanghams.*—As the ultimate object of prohibition is to promote the well-being of the poorer classes, full use is made of the occasion for organizing rural uplift work. Village betterment committees and gramasanghams are formed in the villages to promote rural uplift activities. Village officers and prominent local men are associated with these committees. These gramasanghams organize rural recreation, and village uplift activities like sanitation, street cleaning and lighting, village communication, provision of drinking water, opening of reading rooms and libraries, etc. The ameliorative staff organize and guide the gramasanghams in these activities. There are about 7,320 gramasanghams in the old prohibition districts and 2,435 gramasanghams in the new prohibition districts. In certain districts, firka and taluk associations have also been formed. About 209 firka associations in the old prohibition districts and 91 in the new prohibition districts have been organized. About 56 taluk associations in the old prohibition districts and 4 in the new prohibition districts have been organized. Three thousand three hundred and fifty-four of the gramasanghams in the old prohibition districts and 341 in the new prohibition districts are active. Having regard to the conditions obtaining in the villages and the period for which they have been in existence, there is no doubt that some of them are quite a success. They have done particularly good work in the Coimbatore district. Settlement of disputes amicably have been attended to by gramasanghams in Salem, Coimbatore, Kurnool and Chittoor districts. Radio receiving sets have been installed by the panchayat boards, co-operative societies, etc., in the districts of Salem, Coimbatore, Kurnool, Chittoor, North Arcot, Bellary and Anantapur. The gramasanghams in the districts of Salem, Coimbatore, Chittoor, North Arcot and Bellary have undertaken to construct buildings for elementary schools to educate the villagers. Arrangements have been made either to repair or to sink wells in the districts of Coimbatore, Chittoor, North Arcot, Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur through the gramasanghams. Distribution of free medicine and first-aid equipment has been arranged in the districts of Coimbatore, Chittoor

and Bellary. Manure pits have been removed to the outskirts of the villages in the districts of Coimbatore, Kurnool, Chittoor and North Arcot. In order to improve cattle wealth, stud bulls have been maintained in the districts of Kurnool, Salem and Anantapur. In the new prohibition districts, gramasanghams are being formed gradually. Street cleaning was undertaken by some sanghams in villages of Tiruchirappalli, Tanjore, Nilgiris and Madura districts. In Tiruchirappalli district, bhajana materials have been purchased by a few gramasanghams.

As these gramasanghams, which constitute a community organization for maintaining a general uplift drive in the villages, are, however, informal bodies without any legal status or corporate existence, the question of persuading the village panchayats to take over all these activities, so that they may be carried on in a more organized and effective manner, is now under serious consideration.

(v) *Rural uplift schools.*—To train young men in the methods of promoting rural welfare and to acquaint them with the facilities afforded by the various Government departments for this purpose, rural uplift schools are conducted in select centres at the rate of one for each quarter in the prohibition districts. About 50 lads with a bias for rural uplift are trained for a month. Government have sanctioned Rs. 1,000 for each school for this purpose and this includes stipends to the students at Rs. 12 each. At this school, instructions on rural uplift are imparted by the officers of the various Government departments. The best of the students are appointed as wholtime village-guides as part of the ameliorative staff. In the old prohibition districts, so far 36 such schools were conducted and 1,513 students underwent training. The rural uplift schools were first conducted in all the 8 new prohibition districts. More schools have been opened in the new prohibition districts of Madura, South Kanara, Guntur and Nellore. Two hundred and sixty-four students have so far undergone training in these schools.

(vi) *Uplift of women.*—Women especially belonging to the families of ex-addicts are the greatest beneficiaries of prohibition and they play an important role in the successful working of prohibition. The houses of most of the ex-addicts were unhappy as long as drink could be had freely and there was no peace in their homes. It was, therefore, considered necessary to enlist the support of women to the

cause of prohibition. Women organizations in the districts are contacted to carry on propaganda for successful enforcement of prohibition and to educate the womenfolk of the ex-addicts in the villages and to train them in making their homes happy. Government have entrusted this work to the Indian Women's Civic Corps (now Department of Women's Welfare) which has branches in many districts in the Province and have sanctioned a conveyance allowance of Rs. 15 per mensem for the branch leaders of the Indian Women's Civic Corps. The branch leaders and the honorary workers of the Indian Women's Civic Corps tour in the propaganda vans along with the ameliorative staff. They visit villages and address the womenfolk regarding the evils of drink, usefulness of cottage industries, etc. They also advise the womenfolk to lead an economic life and save as much as possible. Magic lantern slides are shown in the villages by the Indian Women's Civic Corps. The appointment of lady organizers in the prohibition districts for more effective propaganda among women is also under consideration.

Employment of ex-tappers—Jaggery manufacturing societies.—One of the immediate effects of prohibition has been the unemployment of a large number of tappers. This, no doubt, is a temporary phase and, in course of time, the tappers are bound to adjust themselves to the new conditions by taking to agriculture and other allied occupations. To avoid undue hardships to such of them who are unable to adjust themselves immediately by resorting to other avocations, it is aimed to provide employment of a nature which is congenial to their previous pursuits. This problem has, however, on the whole, not been serious except to some extent in Coimbatore and to a large extent in Malabar and South Kanara. Government have, therefore, permitted the tappers in these districts to tap palmyra trees for sweet juice for the manufacture of jaggery. Two hundred and thirty-three palmyra jaggery co-operative societies have so far been formed in the prohibition districts. Government have also permitted the tapping of coconut trees for sweet juice for the manufacture of jaggery and 30 societies have been formed in select centres in Malabar and South Kanara districts as an experimental measure. Similar permission has been accorded for the tapping of coconut trees for sweet juice for the manufacture of jaggery in Kunnathur area in Coimbatore

district. In all about 27,885 ex-tappers have been enrolled as members of these societies. The quantity of jaggery produced so far in the above districts is about 2.68 lakhs of maunds worth about Rs. 9.95 lakhs. The jaggery produced is sold through the societies. In some districts, sale societies arrange for the marketing as in Salem and Madura. The jaggery is also sold in public auction by the sale societies.

Besides jaggery-making, steps have been taken to find employment to tappers in schemes of milk supply, land colonization and cottage industries including coir industry on a co-operative basis. Government have provided the necessary staff for supervising the societies besides financial assistance in the shape of subsidy and loans.

A most important object of the ameliorative work is the betterment of the economic condition of the ex-addicts. This is aimed at in two ways, first by promoting thrift and secondly by encouraging people to undertake schemes to improve their resources. For the latter purposes, co-operative societies are being organized wherever possible for the pursuit of the cottage industries for subsidiary occupation. They are also encouraged to join the societies formed for ex-tappers. At Rajampet in Cuddapah district, a co-operative society for leather works was formed. Government have sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 600 towards the cost of tools and implements and Rs. 200 towards rent and contingencies. A society at Bojjayapalli in the same district for the benefit of cart-makers has been formed. Government have sanctioned the free services of a Senior Inspector of Co-operative Societies for a period of one year besides a loan of Rs. 2,100 towards its working capital. A co-operative society for mat-weaving at Bellary and another for Bamboo basket-making at Vellore in North Arcot district have been organized. Societies have been formed for the Chucklers and Potters at Potlathurthi village in Cuddapah district. A society for brick makers at Nabicot in Cuddapah district and a society for mat-weavers at Mandaram in Rajampet taluk of the same district have been formed recently.

Constructions of Godowns-cum-Village Halls in villages.—In order to enable the agriculturists to get a better return for their produce, the possibilities of putting up godowns by co-operative credit and sale societies with their surplus funds supplemented wherever necessary by long-term loans from Government were considered.

The resources of village societies would not however permit Government loans being taken by them and they may not be able to repay the loans with certainty. Subsidy from Government has been considered essential if the societies are to make any headway at all in the matter of construction of godowns. At the conference of the Special Development Officers held in December 1947 at Madras, it was considered that Government should be addressed to subsidize co-operative societies to the extent of 50 per cent of the cost of the building. Government are being approached to make provision for a sum of Rs. 1.25 lakhs to start with as subsidy to 50 societies for the construction of godowns. It is proposed that the subsidy should be equal to 25 per cent of the cost of the building or Rs. 2,500 whichever is less. These godowns will not only benefit the members who can store their agricultural produce and hold it over for a favourable market, but will also serve as a centre of social and recreational activities in the villages. They will be godown-cum-village halls with provision for a reading room, playground, park and radio, etc. When the societies put up these buildings, rural welfare work can be expected to take permanent shape in these villages as these buildings will function as community centres in the villages.

The general result of the introduction of Prohibition is a considerable improvement in the social and economic condition of the people belonging to poor and middle classes. The desire for drink among the ex-addicts is slowly waning and they are reconciling themselves to the changed conditions. Domestic quarrels and street brawls

have almost disappeared. The ex-addicts and their families are reported to be well-fed, well-clothed and cheerful besides being able to save a portion of their earnings. Prohibition is generally welcomed by the people.

The scope of ameliorative work is vast and varied and it is necessary to co-ordinate the activities of the several departments engaged in rural uplift work. One cannot also expect to get quick results. The introduction of Prohibition has given a splendid opportunity to make a start in the right direction in schemes of rural uplift. The programme of Prohibition is not intended to be a negative programme of mere enforcement of Prohibition laws. Side by side with it, there is a positive programme for all-round village uplift. The ameliorative measures represent the constructive side of the programme. This work which involves bringing about a general change in the rural conditions is of a stupendous nature and calls for patient and sustained effort on the part of all concerned. While the record of work done so far is by no means discouraging, much more remains to be done. And substantial results cannot be obtained without the public co-operation however much the officers engaged in the work may be zealous in the discharge of their duties. The success of the ameliorative measures will depend on the measure of co-operation from the public even more than any financial assistance from Government. It is the fundamental duty of every citizen to co-operate with the Government in matters of great reform. Such public co-operation is essential especially in respect of prohibition for without it in abundant measure it cannot be a success anywhere.

Prohibition Machinery in Bombay

Prohibition was introduced in Bombay on 1st April 1947 and the Government have set up an elaborate machinery for enforcing it successfully. The one remarkable feature of the Bombay set-up is that in addition to the staff of the Prohibition Department there are several non-official organizations to assist them. It is common place that for the success of Prohibition, public co-operation is essential and in order to secure public co-operation non-official organizations can be employed with good advantage. To start with, therefore, they have set up a Provincial Prohibition Board at the apex. Its main functions are to educate and organize public opinion in regard to Prohibition, to provide facilities for

counter-attractions as well as for non-alcoholic drinks and to assist the Government to further their activities in the direction of Prohibition. There are a number of sub-committees functioning under this Board. They are mainly:—

- (1) Education and Propaganda Sub-Committee.
- (2) Recreation, Counter-Attraction and Social Welfare Sub-Committee.
- (3) Research and Statistics Sub-Committee.
- (4) Nira Sub-Committee.
- (5) Molasses Sub-Committee, and
- (6) Vigilance Sub-Committee.

The nature of the functions of most of these Sub-Committees are evident from their titles. The Research and

Statistics Sub-Committee is to find out among other things, the social, economic, moral and physical effects of alcoholism on the people. The Nira Sub-Committee is intended to further the possibilities of Nira as a beverage.

In addition to the Provincial Prohibition Board, there is an Executive Committee which is manned by the Chairmen of the six Sub-Committees under the Provincial Prohibition Board plus one of the elected representatives from each of the Sub-Committees. It is the function of the Executive

Committee to examine and consolidate the recommendations of all Committees, to initiate schemes and to execute the decisions of the Provincial Prohibition Board. There are also Honorary Advisers to tender advice and guidance in respect of the different activities of the Provincial Prohibition Board. District Prohibition Committees constitute another link in the chain. The functions of the District and City Committees are the same as those of the Provincial Board in so far as they concern the districts. There are also District Honorary advisers to assist the District Committees.

Bombay Minister on Prohibition

In the course of an address recently Hon'ble Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise, Bombay, referred to the Prohibition policy of the Government and said:

The Prohibition programme was intended to achieve the basic aim of complete eradication of alcoholic drink and would certainly be enforced with the utmost vigour. But if, despite all that the Government did, there were solitary instances of breaches of the law, that need hardly lend itself as an argument against introduction of the Prohibition programme itself. There were incidents of murder, thefts and other crimes despite the legal enactments and penal code. "Should we withdraw all these legal enactments

and close down prisons merely because there is some incidence of crime?" asked the Minister.

Earlier in another place, the Minister explained both the Prohibition programme and the Government's policy of village uplift and reconstruction. Both had been inspired by the single aim of bringing happiness and progress to the agriculturists and working class, the Minister said. The Government was prepared to forego the annual liquor revenue of Rs. 9 crores because it was tainted money. The sacrifice of this revenue meant also avoiding the waste of the people's hard-earned money that amounted to the annual liquor bill of Rs. 36 crores, the Minister pointed out.

Prohibition Recreation in Bombay

Organization of recreation, counter-attraction and social welfare activities in the urban and rural areas according to local needs of Prohibition propaganda was considered at the meeting of the sub-committee dealing with these subjects held in the Secretariat recently.

The sub-committee also decided to adopt the canteen as the pivot round which self-supporting co-operative

Prohibition—The Primary Need

"A better deal for the underdog is the guiding principle of the Government. The Government have accepted the task of building a strong State based on principles of equity, justice and fairplay; and that is why all the constructive schemes are receiving top priority to-day," said Mr. Morarji Desai, Home Minister of Bombay, when he presided over a

meeting jointly organized by the City Prohibition Committee and the Labour Welfare Centre, Worli, at the Centre's Recreation Hall recently.

Prohibition was the primary need and social welfare was closely linked with it, said the Home Minister. The habit of drink had brought misery and ruin to the masses and it was necessary for the people to co-operate with

the Government in eradicating the social curse, he added. He appreciated the fine humanitarian and social welfare work undertaken by the Centre and said the Government would lend the fullest support to its useful activities.

Do Fishermen Need Alcoholic Drink?

"That fishermen need alcoholic drink because of their profession as they are exposed to all types of weather is a complete fallacy," said Mr. G. D. Tapase, Minister for Fisheries, when he recently addressed an audience of nearly 5,000 people at Dharavi at a meeting organized by the Bombay City Prohibition Committee.

Far from being a necessity for persons engaged in any vocation, alcoholic drink has worked havoc amongst the villagers, ruined them physically and destroyed their happiness and chances of prosperity in life, the Minister pointed out. He described the effects of degeneration and degradation that drink produced and warned his audience against being misled by the propaganda of vested interests that the Prohibition programme would not succeed because it had failed in America. The Government, he said, had carefully thought out the plan and had provided against every contingency.

Ameliorative Activities

The following is a brief summary of the reports received from Prohibition districts on ameliorative activities. The reports relate mainly to June 1948.

Trichinopoly.—Three firka associations were formed. A gramasangham collected more than Rs. 1,000 to form a new road. A Khadi Spinning and Weaving Centre was organized in one place. A volley ball court was opened in another place. A Milk Supply Co-operative Society was started on work and a Kora Weaving Co-operative Society was also formed.

Nilgiris.—There was a circus show in Gudalur taluk in aid of a gramasangham. A library was opened in another place, under the auspices of a gramasangham. Thrift day celebrations were held in one place, and hundi boxes distributed. One gramasangham has opened a community centre at a cost of Rs. 650. The students of the rural uplift school staged a drama at the Blue Mountain Talkies. The school also held a rural exhibition.

NOTICE

It is proposed to bring out a special number of *Madras Information* on 15th August 1948—the first anniversary of India's Independence. The number will contain a rich variety of articles as well as plenty of delightful photos.

Guntur.—A Tenants' Co-operative Society and a Co-operative Milk Supply Society were organized during the week ended 3rd June 1948.

Chittoor.—Three Grama Sanghams, three Rural Recreation Clubs and two firka associations were organized in Chandragiri Division during the week ended 1st June 1948. Rural games were conducted in 10 villages of Chittoor Division, 8 villages of Madanapalle Division and 15 villages of Chandragiri Division. Inter-village matches were held. Bhajanas and folk dances were also performed. Harikathas formed another distinctive feature. Dramas were staged in several villages. Thrift days were celebrated in a number of villages. Street-cleaning drives were also launched in some villages. A medical chest was introduced in one village. Defence Savings stamps were sold during the period. Signposts indicating the names of villages were put up in 9 villages. One Grama Sangham collected Rs. 200 for the construction of a community hall. Two night schools were started during the period. A free reading room and a library was opened under the auspices of a Grama Sangham.

Anantapur.—There was a firka tournament at the end of May. Several teams competed and prizes were distributed to winners.

South Kanara.—There was a volley ball tournament in one place.

Bellary.—A firka tournament was conducted in one place. Other activities included mainly the opening of a recreation club and staging of dramas. Ex-addicts were admitted free to the dramas. Malaria pills were distributed free in a number of villages. The Adoni Co-operative Stores has ordered for a tractor which when received will be sent round to villages for use. Thrift day was conducted in two villages and hundi boxes were distributed.

Cuddapah.—The Collector switched on a radio.

Malabar.—There were two firka tournaments and prizes were distributed to winners. A Coconut Jaggery Production Co-operative Society was organized in Kottayam taluk in the early part of June.

Salem.—The Collector opened a public park and switched on a radio.

Madura.—A volley ball match was conducted in one village. The Firka Officers' Association has decided to start a manuscript journal containing

news of rural uplift work undertaken by Grama Sangham. A bhajana party also did good work in one place. A co-operative society for coir workers has been organized in one place. One Grama Sangham has purchased two radio sets and another one set. The Palni Municipal Council has resolved to open a park and playground for the benefit of municipal scavengers who are all ex-addicts. There are further instances of individual economic improvement as a result of prohibition. In one place, an ex-addict was able to save Rs. 95. In another place, an ex-addict saved Rs. 30 and cleared off his debts. There are several cases in which substantial amounts had been saved by ex-addicts and utilized for constructive purposes. A thrift day was celebrated at one place and the Special Development Officer explained the scheme of savings through hundi boxes.

North Arcot.—The Special Development Officer distributed 20 hundi boxes. Firka tournaments were conducted in some places and prizes in the shape of utility articles distributed to winners. The Firka Development

Association in one place has arranged for the construction of a high school building on a site costing Rs. 5,000. The building is estimated to cost Rs. 50,000 and the whole amount is expected to be met from private donations. The Special Development Officer and the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies met the members of the housing scheme at Arkonam and a co-operative building society has been arranged to be formed. During the week ended 18th June, a firka association at one place gave a demonstration before the Commissioner for Prohibition. The Arni taluk tournament took place on 16th June. There was a public meeting held in that connection over which the Commissioner presided and spoke about prohibition and the importance of ameliorative activities. Variety entertainments formed another feature of the function. Special mention has to be made of the tug-of-war for ladies and potato race for scavenger women and musical chair for girls. An agricultural exhibition was also held in which there were exhibits of Women Cottage Industry Society.

Tanjore.—During the week ended 3rd June, seven licences were issued for tapping sweet toddy. Thrift day was celebrated in some places. There were recreational activities too. Hundi boxes were distributed to 30 persons. Speeches were also made on the various schemes of village uplift. Educational films were shown to the public. A Milk Supply Society in one place has started functioning. A Cattle-breeding Society was organized in one place.

Nellore.—Thrift day was celebrated in one place and hundi boxes were distributed. A Tape makers' Co-operative Society was formed in another place.

Prohibition and Individual Liberty

"Many argue that Prohibition affects individual liberty. It is an incorrect assumption that the alcohol habit is an individual matter. Drink affects society intimately and deeply; it is a national issue. The parents who drink are responsible for the horrible conditions in the home, and starvation and neglect of children. It leads to the spread of vice, increase in the number of accidents, assaults and murders. This poor country does not have enough food for the millions; cannot allow any of its precious resources to be destroyed in this matter."

—The Hon'ble Mr. B. G. KHER.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

The Sweet Potato Vermicelli

The sweet potato is a crop cultivated for its tubers which are edible. It comes up well in light soils and gives a good outturn, but its cultivation is limited, chiefly on account of its poor keeping quality. It has to be consumed within a month or two after harvest. The tubers can be consumed in a variety of ways, either boiled in water or toasted on hot embers. Due to war conditions when import of foodstuff into India became difficult, the possibility of using sweet potato as a substitute for foodgrains had to be explored. On account of the difficulty in storing over any length of time it was found necessary to devise methods of storing it in other ways—in a form more to the taste of the general public. With this object in view certain preliminary trials were conducted by the Millet Specialist at the Millet Breeding Station at the instance of the Director of Agriculture. It has been found as a result of these tests that the tubers could be easily made into vermicelli or any of its allied preparations like spaghetti or macaroni.

The method of making vermicelli.—The operations which lead to the production of good vermicelli are sufficiently simple and inexpensive to be taken up by ordinary villagers as a cottage industry. The tubers are first washed clean of adhering soil. The dry ends of the tubers and hair-like rootlets are removed and the tubers boiled in water until they become quite soft. The water required for boiling should be sufficient to cover the tubers completely. A small quantity of salt added at this stage not only to improve the taste of the prepared vermicelli but also prevents the tubers from getting over boiled. Cooking takes about an hour to be completed. The cooked tubers are peeled and mashed to free them from fibrous materials. The mash is then put through a hand press provided with fine holes. A slow, steady and even pressure is necessary to get a product of uniform quality. For efficient working without interruption it is desirable to have at least two mould plates, so that one could be cleaned when the other is in use. It has been found in practice that the mould plate gets clogged with the mash and needs frequent cleaning. The wet vermicelli is received as it comes out of the press

on a clean sheet of white cloth and dried in the sun for about an hour. By this time it becomes sufficiently dry to be removed easily from the sheet. It is then transferred to another clean sheet and dried in the sun thoroughly and stored for subsequent use. The taste and quality of the vermicelli prepared in this manner was found to compare favourably with that prepared from wheat or American flour. As vermicelli it can be kept for a long time without losing its flavour.

The economics of production.—The preparation of vermicelli from sweet potato is possible as a cottage industry as elaborate equipment is not necessary. If the process is taken up on a semi-industrial scale, it is possible to cut down the cost of production and increase the output.

The costs given below are worked out from the actual expenditure of making vermicelli from half ton of tubers.

Preparation of vermicelli from sweet potato—Working details.

Quantity of tuber taken at a time 200 lb.

Labour required for it—
Washing and cutting tubers

24 woman hour.

Tendering fire

1 "

Peeling and mashing

24 "

Pressing

12 woman

hour and

8 man

hour.

Drying

6 woman

hour.

Total labour required.

67 woman

hour

and

8 man

hour.

RS. A. P.

Cost of labour—woman at

1 anna an hour and

man at 2 annas an

hour

5 0 0

Cost of 200 lb. of sweet

potato tuber

10 0 0

Cost of firewood for boil-

ing

0 10 0

Total

15 13 0

The cost of vermicelli

obtained—31 lb.

15 13 0

The cost of vermicelli

per lb.

0 8 3

When handling larger quantities, the cost of tubers, the cost of firewood, labour charges for tendering fire and drying will be considerably less than eight annas.

Virginia Tobacco seed and its Utilization

There is an area of about 1½ lakhs of acres under Virginia tobacco in the districts of Guntur, Kistna, East Godavari and West Godavari. On an average an acre crop is expected to yield about 250 lb. of seed. In some cases the yield may go even up to 500 lb. an acre. If clean seed is procured and supplied there is a ready demand for purchase at about Rs. 8 per bag of 140 lb. of seed Bezvada Mill delivery, provided the seed does not contain more than 20 per cent of foreign matter. If perfectly clean seed can be supplied even a higher rate can be had.

In regard to the quality of seed being offered for sale at present there is always an undue proportion of foreign matter in the shape of husk, mudlumps and particles of dust of organic nature and fine earth. It is not necessarily a wilful act on the part of the ryots to have added foreign matter to the seed. If seed is threshed on an earthen threshing floor, without obtaining a good surface dressing with cow dung, lumps, particles, and earthy dust are bound to be present. Imperfect cleaning would result in a fair proportion of husk and organic dust. Two or three men can easily harvest the heads, bundle, convey to the threshing floor, beat with sticks, clean and winnow the seed and bag an acre crop, in all costing about Rs. 3 to 5. Threshing can best be done by beating with sticks just like horsegram or any

other pulse. The material so threshed has to be first sieved by the type of sieve used for cleaning paddy seed and the capsules and other materials in the sieves that do not pass through have to be beaten a second time to get seed out of them. The seeds so sieved out will contain mudlumps, and particles of earth, leaf and capsules and dust of all kinds, to eliminate all excepting dust from this seed sieves of metallic mesh generally used for sieving "Ravva" is to be used. The seed that passes through this sieve will only contain some fine dust. By winnowing with the aid of air, all the dust can be removed. It is often contended that tobacco seed is lighter and gets blown off in the process. Experience while handling large quantities had shown that if the winnowing is done quickly, the dust and dirt get blown off even if the breeze is strong, and perfectly clean seed free from dirt and dust can be obtained. The margins of the heap of the seeds thus winnowed on the rear side may have to be cut to some distance and rewinnowed, just, as is done in case of any other grain similarly winnowed. If this process followed, perfectly clean seed can be got, free from foreign matter. If the seed of this quality absolutely free from foreign matter can be supplied, it may be possible to secure even a rate higher than Rs. 8 per bag.

The Virginia tobacco growing ryots are requested to collect as much seed

of the standing tobacco crop as possible and realize a net profit of about Rs. 15 per acre on an average. Even others who can find time may take up this enterprise. Ryots do not mind to let go the heads free of cost, if any body wants them. If the seed is secured and oil extracted out of it, the needs of the Province in its requirements of semidrying oils will be met to some extent, besides giving substantial impetus to the local production of paints and varnishes with an assured supply of drying oil in the Province itself. It has been till now depending on linseed oil annually imported from outside the Province. It has been proved on large scale production that tobacco seed oil can nearly replace linseed oil in the paint and varnish industry and a large scale production is at present going on in a magnitude likely to outbeat even the biggest concern in India.

The tobacco seed oil cake obtained as a by-product will add to the manure supplies of this Province by about 10,000 tons a year. The manurial value of the cake is at least on par with that of castor cake with a nitrogen content of about 5 per cent.

All tobacco growing ryots and those interested in tobacco crop are requested to see that Virginia tobacco seed is collected from the standing crop in the four districts of Guntur, Kistna, Godavari East and Godavari West without allowing such a precious material to be burnt as fuel along with stalks.

CLIPPINGS FROM GANDHIJ'S WRITINGS

Communal Unity

Everybody is agreed about the necessity of this unity. But everybody does not know that unity does not mean political unity which may be imposed. It means an unbreakable heart unity. The first thing essential for achieving such unity is for every Congressman, whatever his religion may be, to represent in his own person Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Zoroastrian, Jew, etc., shortly, every Hindu and non-Hindu. He has to feel his identity with every one of the millions of the inhabitants of Hindustan. In order to realize this, every Congressman will cultivate personal friendship with persons representing faiths other than his

own. He should have the same regard for the other faiths as he has for his own.

In such a happy state of things there would be no disgraceful cry at the stations such as "Hindu water" and "Muslim water" or "Hindu Tea" and "Muslim Tea." There would be no separate rooms or pots for Hindus and non-Hindus in schools and colleges, no communal schools, colleges and hospitals. The beginning of such a revolution has to be made by Congressmen without any political motive behind the correct conduct. Political unity will be its natural fruit.

We have long been accustomed to think that power comes only through

Legislative Assemblies. I have regarded this belief as a grave error brought about by inertia or hypnotism. A superficial study of British History has made us think that all power percolates to the people from parliaments. The truth is that power resides in the people and it is entrusted for the time being to those whom they may choose as their representatives. Parliaments have no power or even existence independently of the people. It has been my effort for the last twenty-one years to convince the people of this simple truth. Civil Disobedience is the storehouse of power. Imagine a whole people unwilling to conform to the laws of the legislature, and prepared to suffer the consequences

All the photographs published in "Madras Information", both on the cover pages as well as the inside pages, are available for sale to the general public. Those who want to have copies of any of these photographs, either singly or in bulk, may get them at the rates mentioned below:—

Size.	Price.	Cost.
12" × 10"		Rs. a. p.
8½" × 6½"		1 0 0
6½" × 4½"		0 12 0
4½" × 3½"		0 8 0
3½" × 2½"		0 4 0

Apply to:

The Director of Information and Publicity,
Fort St. George, Madras.

of non-compliance. They will bring the whole legislative and executive machinery to a stand-still. The police and the military are of use to coerce minorities however powerful they may be. But no police or military coercion can bend the resolute will of a people who are out for suffering to the utter most.

And parliamentary procedure is good only when its members are willing to conform to the will of the majority. In other words, it is fairly effective only among compatibles.

Here in India we have been pretending to work the parliamentary system under separate electorates which have created artificial incompatibles. Living unity can never come out of these artificial entries being brought together on a common platform. Such legislatures may function. But they can only be a platform for wrangling and sharing the crumbs of powder that may fall from rulers whoever they may be. These rule with a rod of iron, and prevent the opposing elements from flying at one another's throats. I hold the emergence of complete independence to be an impossibility out of such a disgrace.

Though I hold such strong views, I have come to the conclusion that so long as there are undesirable candidates for elective bodies, Congress should put up candidates in order to prevent reactionaries from entering such bodies.

Kisans

The programme is not exhaustive. Swaraj is a mighty structure. Eighty crores of hands have to work at building it. Of these *Kisans*, i.e., the peasantry are the largest part. In fact, being the bulk of them (probably over 80 per cent) the *Kisans* should be the Congress. But they are not. When they become conscious of their non-violent strength, no power on earth can resist them.

They must not be used for power politics. I consider it to be contrary to the non-violent method. Those who would know my method of organizing *Kisans* may profitably study the movement in Champaran when *Satyagraha* was tried for the first time in India with the result all India knows. It became a mass movement which remained wholly non-violent from start to finish. It affected over twenty lakhs of *Kisans*. The struggle centred round one specific grievance which was a century old. There had been

several violent revolts to get rid of the grievance. The *Kisans* were suppressed. The non-violent remedy succeeded in full in six months. The *Kisans* of Champaran became politically conscious without any direct effort. The tangible proof they had of the working of non-violence to remove their grievance drew them to the Congress, and led by Babu Brij-kishoreprasad and Babu Rajendraprasad they gave a good account of themselves during the past Civil Disobedience campaigns.

The reader may also profitably study the *Kisan* movements in Kheda, Bardoli and Borsad. The secret of success lies in a refusal to exploit the *Kisans* for political purposes outside their own personal and felt grievances. Organization round a specific wrong they understand. They need no sermons on non-violence. Let them learn to apply non-violence as an effective remedy which they can understand, and later when they are told that the method they were applying was non-violent, they readily recognize it as such.

From these illustrations Congressmen who care could study how work can be done for and among *Kisans*. I hold that the method that some Congressmen have followed to organize *Kisans* has done them no good and has probably harmed them. Anyway they have not used the non-violent method. Be it said to the credit of some of these workers that they frankly admit that they do not believe in the non-violent method. My advice to such workers would be that they should neither use the Congress name nor work as Congressmen.

The reader will now understand why I have refrained from the competition to organize *Kisans* and Labour on an all-India basis. How I wish that all hands pulled in the same direction! But perhaps in a huge country like ours it is impossible. Anyway, in non-violence there is no coercion. Cold reason and demonstration of the working of non-violence must be trusted to do the work.

In my opinion, like labour, they should have under the Congress, a department working for their specific questions.

Labour

Ahmedabad Labour Union is a model for all India to copy. Its basis is non-violence, pure and simple. It has

never had a set-back in its career. has gone on from strength to strength without fuss and without show. has its hospital, its schools for children of the mill hands, its class for adults, its own printing press, *khadi* depot, and its own residential quarters. Almost all the hands of voters and decide the fate of electors. They came on the voters' list as an instance of the Provincial Congress Committee. The organization has never taken part in party politics of the Congress. It influences the municipal policy of the city. It has to its credit very successful strikes which were wholly non-violent. Mill owners and labour have governed their relations largely through voluntary arbitration. If I had my way, I would regulate all the labour organizations of India after the Ahmedabad model. It has never sought to intrude itself upon the All-India Trade Union Congress and has been uninfluenced by that Congress. A time, I hope, will come when it will be possible for the Trade Union Congress to accept the Ahmedabad method and have the Ahmedabad organization as part of the All-India Union. But I am in no hurry. It will come in its own time.

Mahatma Gandhi's Legacy

Horace Alexander in the course of a full-column article in to-day's *Spectator* dwells at length on Mahatma Gandhi's legacy to India. According to him, out of all controversy on Mahatma Gandhi's actions two things stand out :-

"A part of his legacy to India is that he helped to train a group of leaders who are robust men of integrity, many of whom commended themselves to him further by demonstrating their genuine concern for public good. Further, when Mahatma Gandhi could see no way of immediate advance towards India's political freedom he would remind his followers that there was a constructive programme to get on with. And so to-day India is sprinkled all over with societies and their branches directly inspired by Mahatma Gandhi for all manner of social and economic improvements."

Concluding the article, he observed: "If rulers of free India allow themselves to respond to the secret influences of Mahatma Gandhi's life and teaching and think first, not of power of State, but of needs of men, women and children of India's 100,000 villages then miracles may begin to happen."

DELHI NOTES

All-India Marketing Board

The establishment of an All-India Marketing Board to co-ordinate the work being done in this country in connection with the marketing of agricultural products, has been recommended by the Marketing Sub-Committee of the Policy Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in a report recently submitted to the Government of India.

The Marketing Sub-Committee, which was presided over by Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya, was set up to "examine the question of marketing in India including the improvement of marketing, the maintenance of standards of purity and quality, establishment of warehouses, the organization and functions of the Central Agricultural Marketing Department and all matters relating thereto."

The functions of the All-India Marketing Board, according to the Sub-Committee, would be to co-ordinate the present activities on research with special reference to quality characteristics of agricultural produce, introduction of grade standards, demonstration and publicity of improved methods of marketing, determination of prices, and quota and tariff restrictions.

Holding that the provision of proper marketing facilities is one of the greatest incentives to the farmer to produce more, the Sub-Committee has made a number of recommendations to further this aim.

It gives the highest priority to the creation of a network of co-operative marketing societies, to be extended, by compulsion if necessary, to any village where 60 per cent of the producers agree to join such a society. There would be unions of such societies with provincial federations as the apex. The societies would arrange for the proper storage, grading and eventual marketing of the produce of the members. Where such co-operative organizations cannot be set up, special marketing committees on the lines of the Foodgrain Procurement Committees of the U.P. and Madras should be set up.

Another prime necessity, according to the Committee's recommendations, is the linking of every village with the

nearest *mandi* by means of a good all-weather road which should be maintained in proper condition. The Committee has also suggested rationalization of road and railway freight rates and the provision of adequate storage facilities at rail and road traffic stations including cold storage at assembling points and in transit.

The need for a comprehensive survey of the existing storage facilities has also been stressed.

The enactment of special Central legislation for controlling the quality of exports has also been recommended. This should be supplemented by a continuous study of the quality demand of buyers from abroad, and the results of that study should be made available to the trade in India free of cost. In the case of heavy staples standard contracts should be enforced by legislation. The system of grading under Agmark should be extended, by compulsion if necessary, both in the case of internal trade and export.

Improvement in the methods of statistical compilation, statistical co-ordination between various Departments of Government, the establishment of comprehensive market news services and the standardization of weights and measures are some of the other recommendations. Then enforcement of anti-adulteration laws even in the primary and assembling markets has also been urged.

Dairying in India

At the first General Body Meeting of the Indian Dairy Science Association, held recently at Bangalore, it was decided to bring out a monthly scientific journal devoted to the advancement of the dairy industry in the country. The first issue will be published shortly.

The Indian Dairy Science Association was formed recently with the object of advancing the cause of the science of dairying in India.

Addressing the General Body Meeting, Sir Datar Singh, who presided, said that the Association has fulfilled an urgent and long-felt need for an organization which could co-ordinate and unify the activities of dairy scientists in the country towards rapid advancement of the nation's dairy

industry. Dairying, he added, held a very important position in the agricultural economy and prosperity of the country. If the problems of increased milk production, improvement in quality, and the economic utilization of milk in subsidiary food industries were to be tackled successfully, intensive research was called for.

Department of Scientific Research

The Government of India have set up with effect from the 1st June 1948 a Department of Scientific Research. The Department will work under the Prime Minister. It will take over the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Board of Atomic Research and such other functions of the Director, Scientific and Industrial Research which the Government might decide to transfer to it.

It will also co-ordinate the scientific activities of the other Ministries. In its co-ordination work, the Department will be assisted by a Co-ordination Committee consisting of eminent scientists.

Village Oil industry

A Sub-Committee of the Indian Oilseeds Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, has been appointed to study in detail the position of the village oil industry in different areas with a view to developing this industry and to suggest, if necessary, measures that should be taken to protect the industry from competition from power oil mills.

The members of the Sub-Committee which will be called the Village Oil Industry Survey Committee, are Messrs. R. K. Sidhwa, Upendra Nath Barman, Ch. Mukhtar Singh, Jhaverbhai Patel and the Secretary of the Indian Oil Seeds Committee, Mr. K. C. Chetty.

Ghee Production

In furtherance of the Grow More Food Campaign the Government of India have sanctioned a scheme submitted by the Central Provinces and Berar Government for organized production and marketing of ghee on co-operative lines at ten selected centres in Jhallar tract of Betul district and have agreed to share the expenditure up to a maximum of Rs. 61,000 during 1947-1948.

This scheme envisages the formation of co-operative societies of primary milk producers at each centre and the manufacture of ghee by the cream separator method which is reported to give a higher yield of good quality ghee and also skim milk which is a nutritious and profitable by-product.

Training Course in Archives Administration

The Government of India have made suitable arrangements in the National Archives of India, New Delhi, for training a limited number of students in Archives Administration. The training is imparted free of all cost but the trainees have to make their own arrangements for stay in New Delhi.

The next term commences from the 20th July 1948. There is a two years' course in five subjects and a one-year course on any two subjects, preservation of records and documents being compulsory. The short course is for six months on one subject only, that is, 'Preservation'. The candidate for the

full course must be an M.A. in History. Graduates in History are eligible on special merit for the one-year course. Only Science graduates can be admitted for the six months' course.

Tomato Cultivation

The Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, have suggested to Provinces, Local Administrations and States that schemes for cultivation of tomatoes, wherever suitable in relation to local conditions, should be taken up more extensively than hitherto.

A recommendation to this effect has been made by the Standing Committee of the Central Legislature for the Ministry of Agriculture. The Committee has further recommended that a campaign for growing tomatoes might be started and tomato seeds distributed along with any literature that might be available on the subject.

The Central Government have offered to give technical assistance and advice that may be required by the Provincial Governments.

Education Camps, from relapsing into illiteracy after the camps are over. A complete plan of follow-up-work, employing the agencies of a stream of books and pamphlets, circulating libraries, wall newspapers, recitation and writing competitions and tournaments camps, local festivals and village stage, etc., is being envisaged. It is planned to establish societies at each centre of Social Education consisting of those who constitute the camp committees, and representatives of those who attended the classes.

Classes for the adults will be held and talks, interesting programmes and reading material will be given.

'Wall news sheets' will be provided for adults who have just learnt to read and write and attempts will be made to make them news-minded.

At the time of the local festivals, gatherings will be held in which competitions in recitation, writing and speaking will be arranged. Village stage will be revived and developed. Tournaments, camps and picnics will also be encouraged.

Adult Education in C.P.

The Provincial Government drive against illiteracy has evoked great interest among adults throughout the Province. Reports received from the 412 five-week Intensive-Drive Summer Camps of Social Education in the Province, which have just closed, give a heartening picture of the progress of the plan. The people have not only taken the scheme with enthusiasm but have recognized in it the merit of unbounded public good. Nearly 82,904 persons including 26,380 women on an average attended the 3,821 classes organized at these camps. Of 10,500 educated persons, who had volunteered to work as teachers in these camps the services of 5,522 volunteers were utilized.

Exhibition on Gandhiji

The Public Relations Directorate, East Punjab Government, is holding an exhibition on Gandhiji. It is intended to show the various phases of Bapuji's life and career and the part he played in building up present India. Books, articles, photos, paintings with bearing on Bapuji's life would be displayed.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"THE RENAISSANCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL"

By KURT LACHMANN. Published by Charles Skilton, Limited, London. Price, 7s 6d. (net).

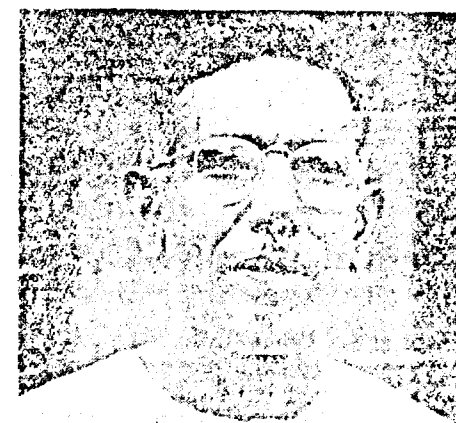
It is rarely that we come across so vigorous and so convincing a defence of the individual and his right to the enjoyment of freedom as an individual as that which we find in Kurt Lachmann's book on the "Renaissance of the Individual." The 19th century was the heyday of the individual, when every liberal thinker defended the right of the individual and the ideal of individual liberty with unmitigated fervour and demanded the need for the individual being protected against the encroachments of the State. The twentieth century, however, saw the process reversed and we had a growing tendency among political theorists and statesmen to glorify the State and emphasize that the right of the State to interfere with individual liberty in the interests of social welfare, was inalienable. But notwithstanding the glorification of the State and the idea that the individual is made for the State and not *vice versa*, the fundamental fact remains that the individual cannot be ignored that he is going to claim his inalienable natural rights, that he will defend his birth-right against all odds. The second World War was fought on the very issue of the individual versus the State. Democracy which is based on the principles of Rule of Law and individual liberty, versus totalitarianism, which overrules the Rule of Law and moulds all individuals into one set pattern.

In his book Dr. Lachmann discusses the rights of the individual and the position of the State and tries to interrelate the two on the plane of universal law, which is based on equity and justice and morality. The Sovereign State, he says, has deprived the individual of his rightful position in society and new measures must be found to allow the free development of man without interference from politics and discriminative laws. It is not derived that within the sphere of State Law, the individual's liberty is subject to certain limitations but within the sphere of the law known as Universal Law, the individual has the right of being protected and defended against arbitrary encroachments from extraneous agencies. This distinction has to be

considered at present in the light of the further fact that international law has secured a firm foothold, so that it becomes necessary to have a universal law which safeguards the rights of the individual as individual, in a state of affairs in which the State has usurped the place of the individual. This is clearly seen in the insufficient protection of the individual within the home country, insufficient protection outside the home country and insufficient protection in case of conflict between States. It is an illogical and inconsistent condition of affairs in which States which clamour for self-determination are among the foremost in denying self-determination to the individuals within the State. It is not appreciated that individual freedom is a prerequisite for the establishment of national self-determination.

Dr. Lachmann draws attention to the fact that the theory of sovereignty has undergone a change and that the theoretically sovereign state is not in a position to safeguard its own independence and when it cannot do that, what right has it to delimit the right of the individual? It is necessary, however, that States should appreciate this fundamental change and realize their responsibility for the welfare of the individuals within its boundaries. They should also realize that international obligations among States make the application of Universal Law to all individuals practicable.

In the second part of the book Dr. Lachmann goes on to discuss the questions of Federal Union among States and the Union of Man. A universalized State will naturally lead to the universalization of citizenship and that is the end towards which world thought is slowly but steadily tending. "Whilst the Federal Union seeks to merge confederation," says the author, "my own proposal is to centralize the protection of all individuals so that no collective unit—whether merged in a federation or in a single World Confederation—can infringe the legitimate position of an individual in human society." This protection can be better afforded through the primacy of the judicial over the executive power. The author believes in the efficiency in this connexion, of the creation of a Supreme Court of the World, which can create a common law applicable to the whole world. The conclusion of



Dr. S. Gurubatham, the New Minister

the author in this connexion is "A world federation must be founded in a Union of Man, not in a Union of States." "A common ideal which unites all individuals without exception must be substituted for physical power." It is only such a world federation that is the most effective guarantee against wars; it is also the best guarantee for protecting the rights of man everywhere.

In Part III, under the heading "Moral Aspects of Economic Justice," Dr. Lachmann, discusses the important and vital part that economic justice can play in maintaining peace and in renovating man's dignity. Economic justice is at present concerned primarily with applied economics, or realistic economics" but it has only a limited field of reference. "The field must be enlarged to include an economic justice to which ethical principles of a general nature can be applied and which can incorporate fundamental ideas of eternal justice." The blending of ethical principles with economic theory and practice is essential in order that economic justice may result. The introduction of ethics into the future economic relationships of mankind presupposes two conditions: first, that within the framework of future world economics the first economic claims of each individual irrespective of nationality or race, shall be taken into consideration and be met on a basis of equity and justice. And secondly, that the world's economic resources shall be pooled and adopted to ends which shall subserve universal justice."

OTHER PROVINCES

Adult Education in Bihar

The Bihar Adult Education Board, which is an expanded form of the old Mass Literacy Board, has set up the ambitious project of educating approximately ten lakh people annually in the rural areas in the primary duties of citizenship. Literacy will be one part of the many-sided and broad-based instructions. The Board had decided to use 25,000 primary and middle schools of the Province as centres, of which there are forty-two exclusively for women and fifty more are to be set up.

While the men are taught elementary rules of hygiene and general subjects affecting their daily lives, the women are made interested in spinning, gardening, mothercraft, first-aid and nursing. The methods used are both vocal and visual which are a departure from the original mass literacy campaign.

Education is frequently combined with entertainment for the tired husbandmen of the rural areas and dramatic performances are staged.

Village Improvement prizes in Bombay

I

A prize of Rs. 100 has been awarded to the village Lodhavade in the Manjira taluka of the Satara district, for showing the best results in the various items of village improvement in the year 1946.

II

In recognition of the best village improvement work done in the District during the year 1946 the Government of Bombay has awarded the district Prize of Rs. 100 to the village Deur Budruk in the Dhulia taluka of the West Khandesh district.

Drive against Illiteracy in C.P.

Plans are being worked out to prevent the adults who are now taking their lessons in C.P.'s over 1,000 Social

There will be general agreement that these pre-conditions are essential and fundamental not only to promote human progress but to prevent wars among nations. At the same time, within the scope of all autonomous associations and groups which strive for economic power tend to undermine its sovereignty, have to be kept under check, while every effort must be made for promoting a world economic system which is unhampered by national ambitions. What Dr. Lachmann's idea of a world economic system is, has not been explained but it must be one in which every country must have equal opportunities for industrial development and international exchange of goods must be on the basis of the equality of nations and States. In other words, a world economic system must mean necessarily the end of what is generally understood as "colonial economy".

Altogether Dr. Lachmann has done a service by striking a blow for the individual at a time when everything points to the destruction of his personality and his liberty.

—C.V.H.

"INDIAN FEDERATION—WHENCE, WHY AND WHITHER"

By K. S. RAMASWAMI SASTRI,
1/174, Royapetta High Road, Madras.
Price Rs. 12. Pages 32.

This little brochure deals with the evolution and practice of Federalist idea. The author says that India should be a Federal State composed of autonomous units with a unitary democratic constitution safeguarding the rights of the minorities and the individual. The booklet contains a number of quotations from the works of Prof. Laski, Wells, Lord Acton and others.

—M.G.

"THE STORY OF JAWAHARLAL"

By SHAKUNTALA MASANI.
Price Rs. 3-8-0.

This is a small neatly got-up book with plenty of illustrations and running to 103 pages. It deals with the story of Pandit Jawaharlal's life as narrated

to a child by a mother. The book has been written in simple style and is primarily intended to cater to the taste of children. The main landmarks in Nehru's life are broadly given with minute details here and there intended apparently to interest children.

The usefulness of such publications at this juncture is not open to doubt. It is necessary in every country that the rising generation should have a clear knowledge of the lives of their great leaders. Such knowledge invariably tends to promote a spirit of patriotism in children and strengthen their attachment to their country. It is now a matter of common knowledge as to how much was done in pre-war Germany especially among the students in schools and universities, to disseminate facts about the Nazi leader Hitler. Mussolini is reported to have said that he who wants to sow an idea firmly must sow it in children.

Hence the importance of educating boys in the proper line so that they may be able to develop qualities worthy of a true citizen. To this end publications such as these are really useful.

—T.K.G.

"INDIAN PARLIAMENT"

News—(Record and Political Miscellany)—February-March 1948.

This is an excellently got-up monthly published in Bombay. The issue in hand gives interesting glimpses into the various aspects of Mahatma Gandhi's life. There are several telling pictorial illustrations also. The magazine contains a number of articles from eminent writers. Arthur Moore, B. G. Horniman and Horace Alexander are among the many contributors. The journal makes interesting reading.

—T.K.G.

"ECONOMIC PLANNING FOR INDIA"

By MRITUNJOY BANERJEE. Published by Padmaja Publications, Baroda. Pages 104. Price Rs. 2.

Planning and especially Economic Planning is a very important problem,

that has to be tackled by this sub-continent of India with its depleted agriculture and industry. Only by a well-laid out and co-ordinated economic planning, can the standard of living of the common man in India, the lowest in the whole world, be raised to a reasonable level. The author, discusses the various plans put forth by Indian leaders and economists and strikes a via-media between these plans, which would remove several undesirable features of our economy. The New Economic Planning in Russia is highly commended by the writer who holds up the Soviet system of planning as a guide to the future economic planning in India.

Though a whole host of books on planning has sprung during the recent years, the present volume is a valuable addition, which stresses the necessity, scope and extent to which planning in India should be undertaken. This book will be extremely useful to students of economic planning.

7023

—T.K.G.

"NETAJI"

Edited by SHRI RAM SHAPAR,
Shiva Lal Agarwala & Co.,
Pages 370. Price Rs. 20.

"Give me blood; I promise you freedom," said Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, as he rallied a gallant host of freedom-fighters under the banner of the Indian National Army. This publication is a fitting tribute to the sacred memory of that immortal fighter. The saint in Subhas was perhaps not so well known as the fighter in him. Some of the articles, in this volume, throw light on his passionate yearning for the peace of the soul.

More than thirty contributions from leaders of public opinion, paying homage to the great hero, are contained in this volume, which is also richly illustrated.

—K.D.

WHY SHOULD YOU SUBSCRIBE TO "MADRAS INFORMATION"

SEVEN REASONS

1. It is cheap being priced only 2 annas per copy, 4 annas a month and 3 rupees a year.
2. It gives a bi-monthly account of the various and varied activities of the Government of which one must know as a dutiful citizen.
3. It supplies you with a consolidated digest of important press notes, releases, etc.
4. It contains topical articles bearing on Government policies and Nation-building activities.
5. It is profusely illustrated.
6. It gives interesting glimpses into the activities of other Provinces and States.
7. It is a reference book to the public servant, light reading for the arm-chair reader and a mine of information for all.

The object of *Madras Information* is to give a brief record of the Madras Government's activities and to educate the public opinion on the Government's policies.

However, the views expressed and the articles published in this journal do not necessarily represent the official opinion.

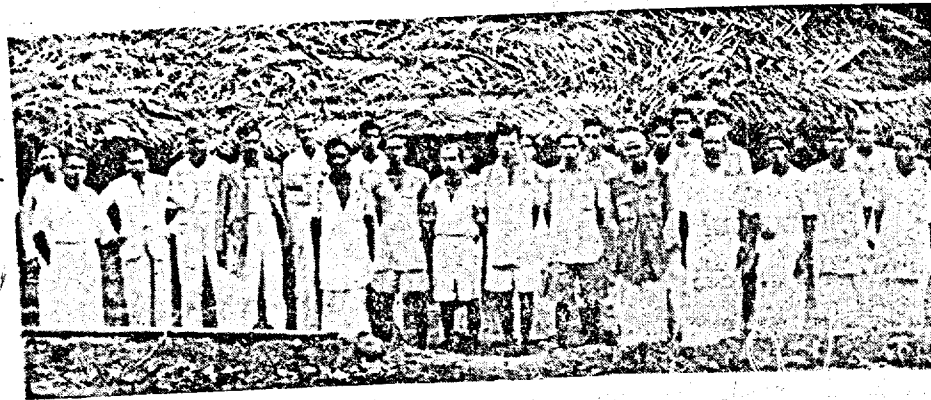
Anything except pictures appearing in this journal may be freely reproduced.

Readers are invited to send questions seeking clarification of the policy of the Government or allied matters. Answers will be published as soon as possible.

"DAKHINI HIND"

The magazine you require most is out:

1. The "Dakhini Hind" is the first and foremost monthly of its kind. It is published by the Madras Government in India's lingua franca, Hindustani;
2. It is the standard-bearer of South Indian culture;
3. It portrays prominently the lives of the great saints and seers, poets and philosophers of the South;
4. It gives glimpses of the centuries-old, wonderful shrines of South India;
5. It dives deep into the ancient lore and literature of the Dravidian languages and South Indian art and architecture;
6. It provides a vivid idea of the customs and ceremonies of the South;
7. It acquaints you with the all-round activities, welfare measures and policies of the Madras Government;
8. It improves your knowledge of Hindustani;
9. It aspires to construct a cultural bridge between the South and the North.



LAND COLONIZATION IN MALABAR

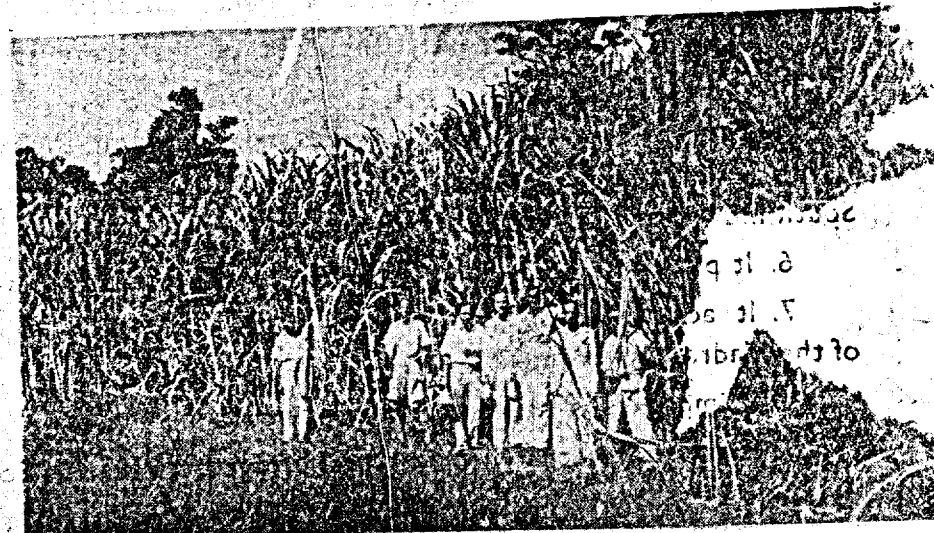
*A few settlers of the Wynad Colony.
Their enterprising spirit is highly
praiseworthy*

*These aborigines are also within the
scope of the scheme*



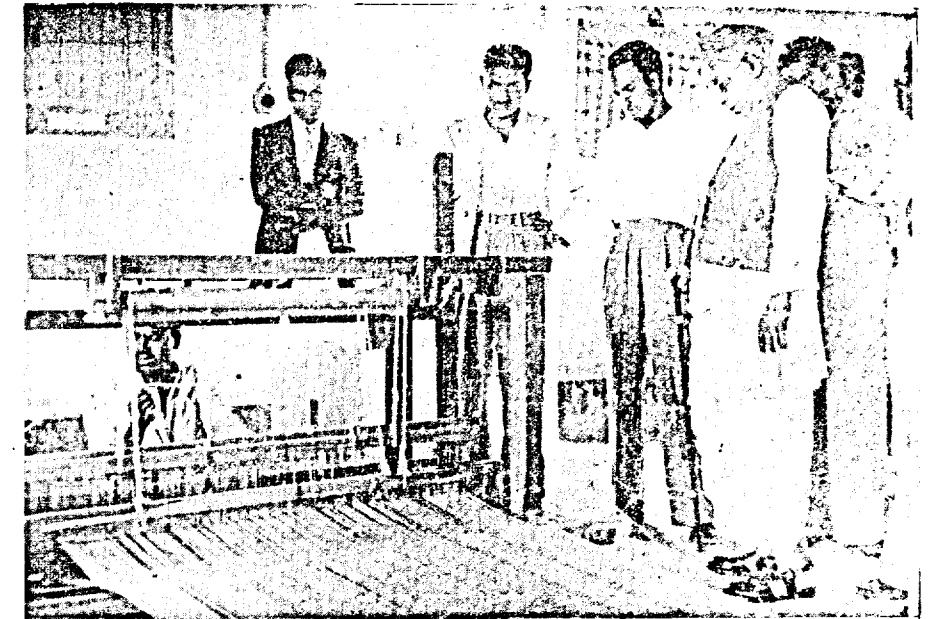
*An ex-serviceman's family
in the Colony. They
look very happy*

*Sugarcane crop raised in the agricultural
farm in the Colony. What a
bumper crop!*



RESETTLEMENT TRAINING CENTRES UNDER CAMERA

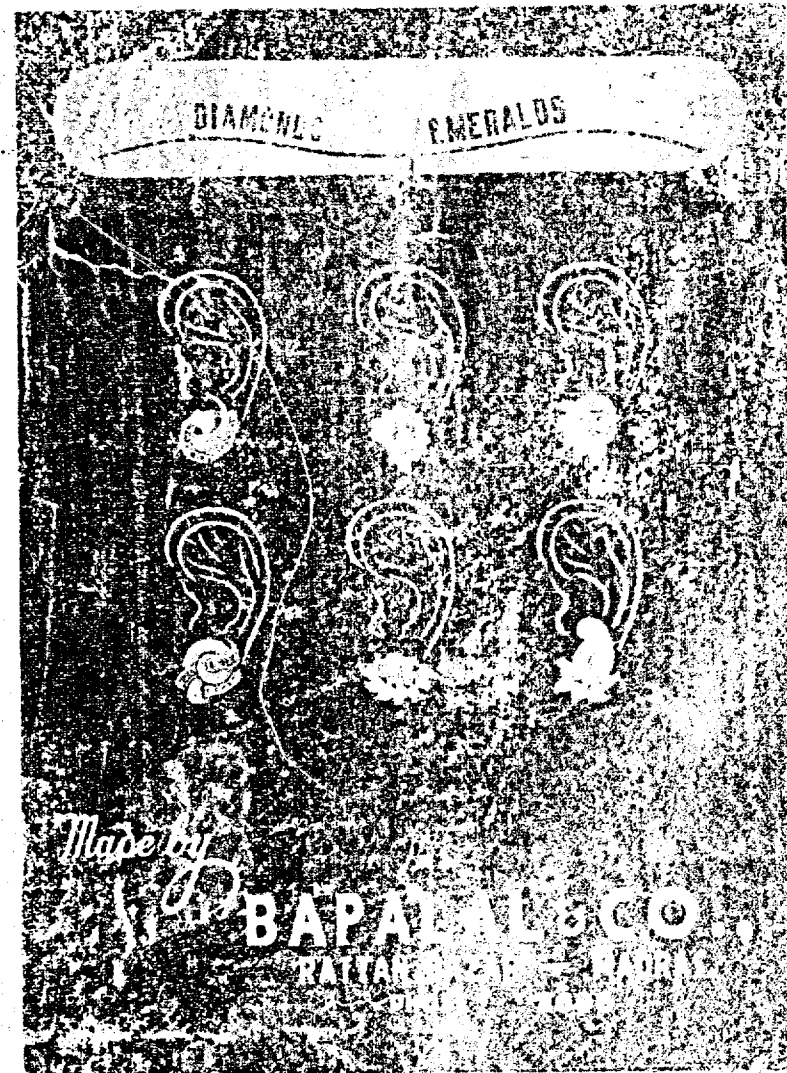
*"He is certainly not a burden to
Society. He is an asset," said Dr. Rajan,
Madras Resettlement Minister, when he
visited the Weaving Section.*



*"Mat Weaving" is our ancient craft.
The trainees should revive this trade in
every village soon after they leave the
Training Centre, observed Dr. Rajan.*

*The Resettlement Minister is seen
inspecting the products at the Upholstery
Section.*





BAPALAL & CO.,

Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewellers,
Rattan Bazaar, Madras-3

Telephone: 191 KLAGE

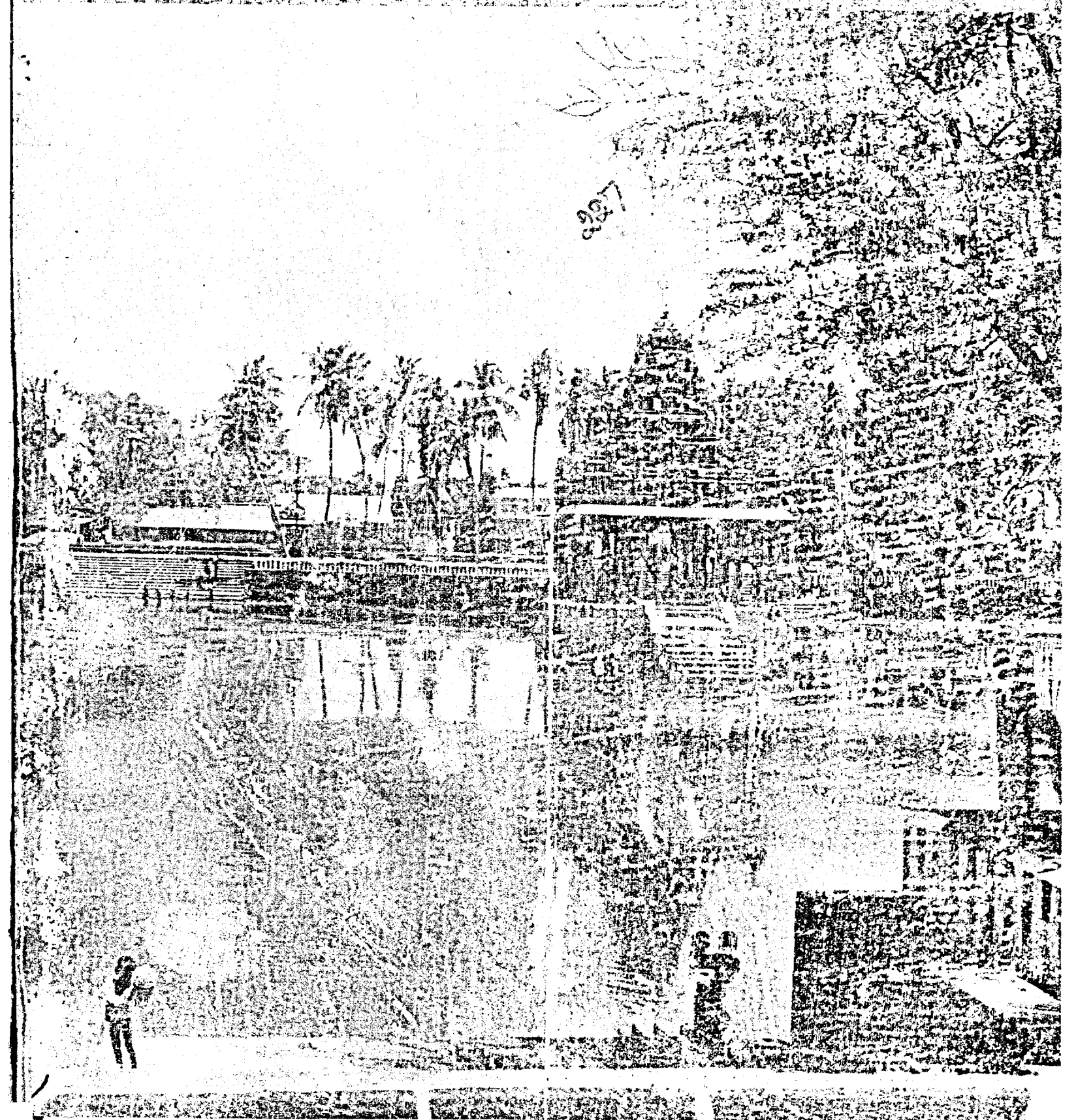
Telephone: 2696

ADDRESS INFORMATION

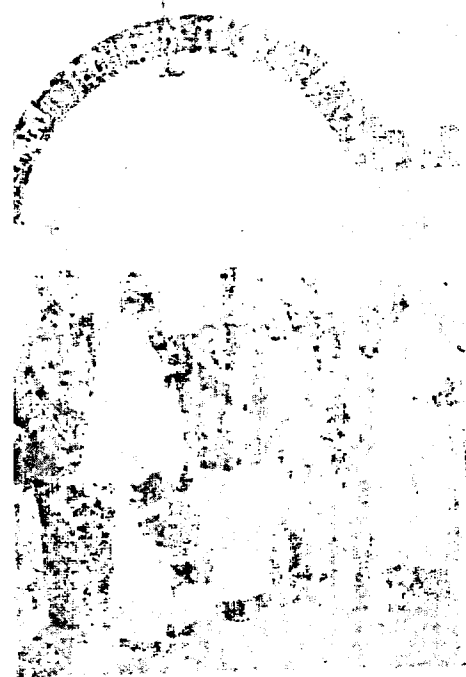
VOL. II

1947

NO. 14



PREMIER INSPECTS TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTRE



The Hon'ble Sri O.P. Ramaswami Reddiar, Premier, is seen keenly listening to the Regional Director.



The Hon'ble Premier is seen with the Regional Director, Mr. S. S. Srinivasan, and the Regional Director, Mr. S. S. Srinivasan.

The Premier is inspecting the Technical Training Centre, which is a very modern collection.

Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

Vol. II, No. 14

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

August 1, 1948

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Raising Agricultural Wealth

The problem of converting "waste into wealth" was the theme of the presidential address of the Government of India's Food and Agriculture Minister, Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, to a joint meeting of the Central Manure (Compost) Development Committee, and the Provincial Compost Conference inaugurated by the Governor of Central Provinces Mr. Mangaldas Pakvasa recently.

Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram said the economic welfare of India, which could only mean the welfare of the vast masses, had no meaning, unless the standard of life of those masses was very much higher than it was today. That must be the sole objective of our economic activity. A large amount of national energy, wealth and talent was being utilized in what must be regarded as comparatively less urgent economic activity. The Food Minister suggested that for the next five years, economic activity should be mainly directed towards four items, namely, the development of agricultural production, development of such industries as were engaged in producing agricultural implements, industries connected with national defence and the development of transport. The rest of the industries might bide their time. A five-year plan converging on the above activities was the real need of the moment.

"I have not a shadow of a doubt", he added, "that if India could secure a big rise in the production of agricultural wealth it will secure the means to the fullest economic and industrial development. It is in this setting and with this back-ground that we must view the place of natural manure called compost in the programme of the nation."

India invested over a hundred crores 'to beg for food' from other countries and used valuable tax-payers' money to

subsidize the sale of food to deficit Provinces and States in the country and even then they were unable to maintain a proper quality of the foreign food. All this was because we could not produce a tenth more than what we did today."

Citing the example of China, where the fields yielded double the quantity of grains per acre produced in India, the Food Minister pointed out that it was due to the fact that for centuries the

Chinese had converted all the refuse in the streets, and cattle excreta into valuable manure. Only 15 per cent of the municipal towns and 47,000 out of 650,000 villages in India had so far been engaged in compost manure work. If the rest of the country also took to using compost manure enough food could be produced to feed not merely the present population but almost double that number.

"We have to bring the compost programme to the door of the agriculturist," he concluded. The Governor referred to what Professor Einstein had observed regarding the effect of mechanized cultivation on the fertility of the soil and thought it unscientific to use chemical instead of organic manure. He urged the need to make the people more manure-minded.

Communal Unity

"The ambition to serve the country and to take a spectacular part in improving the lot of the people is natural and worthy. The progress of a free people requires this and it should be encouraged. But during the present

troubled times, unity is more important than even emulation in noble purposes. I would, therefore, appeal to all to call a truce to all individual and competitive ambition however noble and to canalize the talents in one stream until we have achieved our immediate object," observed His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachariar, Governor-General, in the course of his reply to a welcome address presented by the Old Delhi Municipality recently. The advice contained in these words needs to be carefully noted by everybody in this country. The problems that have cropped up after this country has attained independence are numerous and have to be tackled successfully if India is to hold her own in a competitive age. For solving the problems communal unity is an essential pre-requisite and achievement of this unity is the fundamental immediate object. This cannot be done by Government alone. The people inhabiting this vast sub-continent have also a vital part to play; in fact their responsibility is greater. First things come first and the achievement of unity being an indispensable preliminary, every citizen has to contribute his share of efforts to its establishment.

IN THIS ISSUE

A typical Teppakulam in South India—*Frontispiece.*

Notes and Comments

Press Notes, Releases, etc.

Departments' Corner

Towards National Welfare

Prohibition

Agricultural Notes

Special Article

Delhi Notes

Other Provinces

Ideas and Ideals

Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings

Books and Publications

Rural Uplift

"We have a Provincial Firka Development Officer who has done a good deal of spadework, which takes time to produce results. I, therefore, appeal to the public to be patient. We are human and are prepared to give our utmost towards ameliorative work," observed Hon'ble Dr. S. Gurubatham, Minister for Prohibition and Firka Development in connexion with the rural uplift work in this Province. Oftentimes, there is a tendency to overlook the complex character of rural reconstruction work. Rural reconstruction is not such a simple affair as many people seem to think. Its success depends on a number of factors and these factors do not generally operate

quickly to produce immediate results. Much depends upon the willingness of the people to respond to Government efforts. The Indian villager is noted for his conservatism and his tendency is to look askance at new ways and methods. This tendency has to be eradicated and he has to adapt himself to altered conditions. This attitude cannot be imposed upon the villager by the Government. The villager himself has to feel the changed outlook in things and attune himself to the new conditions. Unless he does so and responds willingly to the ameliorative efforts of the Government, results in the field of rural reconstruction are not easy to obtain.

Duties of Engineers

The advice of the Premier of Madras to students on the occasion of the opening of the new buildings of the Anantapur Engineering College has elicited the of approbation of the press and the public. As regards the duties of Engineers, the Premier observed:—"The Engineer's principal work is not only to construct and build but also discover the most economic ways of using the scarce natural resources. He should devise means to produce the maximum useful results at the minimum cost and waste. The conservation of resources wherever necessary and the substitution of alternative cheaper forces for achieving the objective should be his perpetual aim. To be an efficient Engineer capable of coping with stupendous tasks, one must not be a mere specialist. A sound knowledge of the principles of general science is becoming

ever more necessary. Students of Engineering," continued the Premier, "have perpetually to wrestle with the primeval forces of nature. There is by no means a soft-handed profession. Healthy team work is needed to push through engineering projects and the foundations of these must be laid here itself, in the sports field, in the debating hall and in the common mess. In the modern world, the Engineer occupies a pivotal position and holds the key to material success and wealth production.

"It has often times been pointed out that the material prosperity of any state depends upon the extent to which the forces of nature have been conquered by man for the purpose of improving his well-being. There is a large amount of truth in this statement. In the conquest of nature, technical men like Engineers can prove themselves extremely valuable to the common man."

Prohibition in Pudukottai

Prohibition was extended to Pudukottai on 1st July 1948. The inauguration ceremony was performed by Hon'ble Sri M. Bhakthavatsalam, and was marked by great jubilation on the part of the people. There were elaborate arrangements made throughout the State for celebrating the occasion. A mile long procession led by caparisoned elephants with officials and members of the public as well as students carrying placards was taken along the principal streets and it concluded with a public meeting over which the Hon'ble Minister

presided. The Minister in the course of his speech stressed the economic, moral and social value of prohibition and how far it would assist in the raising of the standard of living of the common man. The Minister also appealed for public co-operation in making prohibition a success and paid a tribute to the public of Pudukottai for the enthusiasm with which they had welcomed prohibition into their midst. The Minister also distributed hundi boxes to ex-addicts and stressed the need for saving money. He also distributed clothes to ex-addicts.

Throughout the State poor people were given free clothing and many thousands were fed free. The Commissioner of Prohibition also referred to the benefits of prohibition in the course of his address. He emphasized that prohibition was not merely a negative programme but a positive step towards improving the lot of the poor people. He referred also to the role of ameliorative work in the scheme of prohibition.

Well begun is half done. Judging from the enthusiastic manner in which the advent of prohibition was celebrated in Pudukottai, one has sufficient grounds to feel sure of its success there. The public of Pudukottai have shown abundant evidence of their co-operative spirit and given in full measure, prohibition is sure to prove one of the rejuvenating factors in the social, moral and economic life of the people.

Harijan Welfare

"We should be proud to know that so much of money is being spent for providing educational and other facilities for Harijans in this Province," observed Hon'ble Sri V. Kurmayya, Minister for Harijan Uplift replying to a question relating to the welfare measures for Harijans in the Madras Legislative Assembly.

The public are aware that the Government have allotted a crore of rupees for Harijan relief and they are now considering the recommendations of the Harijan Welfare Committee in order to map out expenditure from this fund. The Minister revealed that the Government have sanctioned Rs. 1,20,000 out of this fund for construction of the Thakkarbapa Vidyalaya buildings. Further, Harijan students have been exempted from payment of school fees for ten years by the Government paying compensating grants to private institutions and schools run by local bodies. The Minister also pointed out that Government have decided to help Harijan hostels. A sum of Rs. 8,00,000 has been sanctioned for hostels run by Harijan Sevak Sanghs.

The Finance Minister mentioned that due preference to Harijans will be given in the matter of recruitment of Home Guards. Madras leads many other Provinces in the matter of Harijan relief.

More Milk for the Common Man

It is an axiomatic fact that the greatest asset of this country is its human wealth. One in every five human beings in the world is an Indian. Roughly speaking the population of China and India put together constitutes half the population of the entire world. So the preservation of this human wealth is an important affair. Man power counts for most in the material prosperity of any country. The safeguarding of man power against diseases or similar other onsets is therefore a vital matter. It is a known fact that public health in this country is at a low level. Both birth rate and death rate are high and the average duration of life is short compared with countries in the west. The low public health is traceable to a number of causes. Defective nutrition is one such cause. It takes two forms, namely, malnutrition and under-nutrition. Malnutrition is the result of an ill-balanced diet while under-nutrition consists in the use of food which does not have sufficient energy value. Taking the first, namely, ill-balanced diet, it is a familiar fact that the average diet of the Indian is not balanced, that is, it does not contain the minimum of ingredients

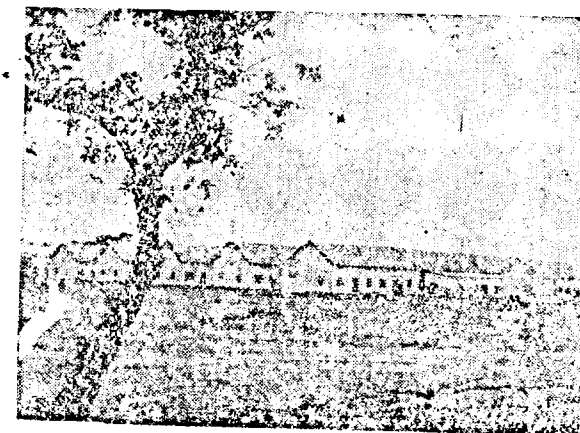
which are necessary to ensure fair health. For example, milk should form an important article of a balanced diet and experts have prescribed a minimum of 8 oz. per head. Statisticians have said that this province produces only an average of 3.6 oz. of milk per head. So the Government have to make up for the shortage and ensure a larger supply of milk in order that public health does not suffer. The Government have accordingly taken steps to make more milk available to the common man.

They are manufacturing reconstituted milk. There is a factory at Teynampet in Madras where this is being done. The factory has so far been working with only one vat producing about 1,200 measures of milk per day. With the installation of two more vats the total productive capacity of the plant has been raised to 3,600 measures per day. Most of the milk that is produced is being consumed in the City hospitals. The actual process of reconstituting skimmed milk into liquid milk is not a complicated one. For producing 1,000 lb. of milk, about 800 lb. of water is poured into the vat

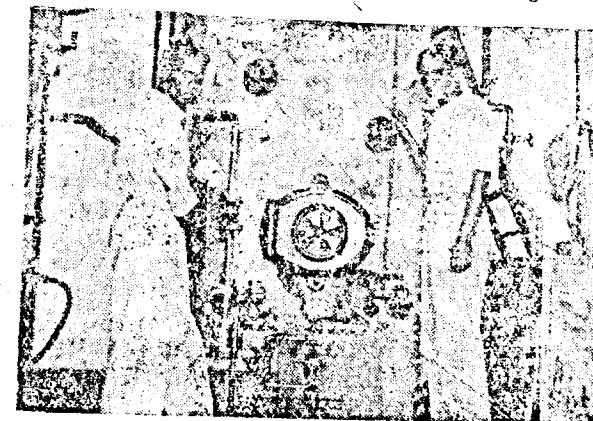
and heated. Then 100 lb. of skimmed milk powder is put into the vat. Along with it vegetable fat and other ingredients are added to give the necessary vitamin A content to the milk. Ultimately, the milk is collected in well sterilized cans and kept in one pint bottles, which are washed, sterilized, filled and corked by an automatic machine. The bottles are kept in a room, the temperature of which is kept at a particular point. The milk could be kept for two days in that temperature.

In some respects, reconstituted milk is better than the ordinary cow's milk. For example, the vitamin content in the ordinary milk is a varying factor depending upon the nature of the fodder taken by the animal whereas in the case of reconstituted milk the vitamin content will be constant. Again, reconstituted milk is practically untouched by hand while that is not the case with cow's milk.

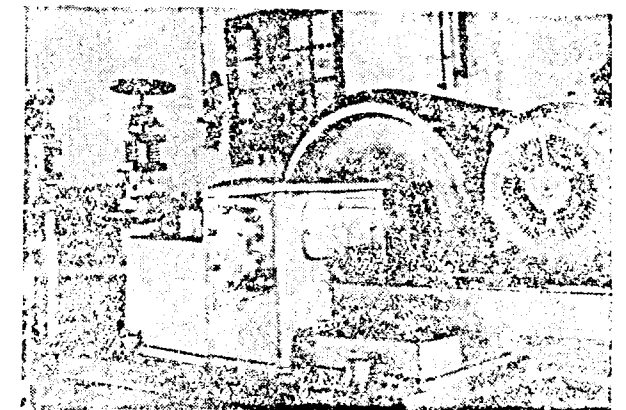
Side by side with the production and supply of reconstituted milk, the Government propose to introduce a scheme to increase the milk supplied to City dwellers through the Madras Co-operative Milk Supply Union by 5,000 lb. a day. At present the Union supplies 10,000 lb. a day.



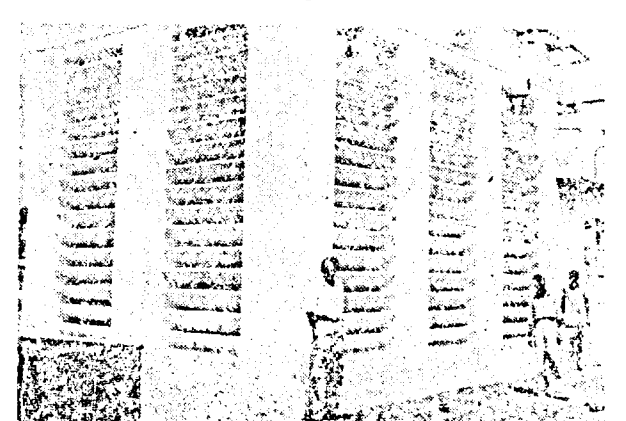
View of the Reconstituted Milk Factory



Boiler



Homogeniser



Spray Tower and Overhead Tank

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

Singing of 'Vande Mataram'

The Government have directed that 'Vande Mataram,' i.e., Sujalam Subalam and 'Jana Gana Mana' should be treated as national songs in schools in the Province and that in Tamilnad, 'Vazhiya Senthamil' (especially the first two lines) should also be considered as a national song. When these songs are sung the gathering should stand up as a mark of respect.

[July 5]

Educational Concessions

According to rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules, Harijan girls reading in Forms IV to VI and Harijan boys reading in Forms I to VI in secondary schools are eligible for half fee concessions and a Harijan pupil may retain the fee concession for a second year also in two classes during the entire period of his or her secondary school courses. In modification of these provisions, the Government direct that for a period of ten years beginning with 1948-49 full fee concession be granted to Harijan pupils, both boys and girls, reading in Forms I to VI in secondary schools and that they be allowed to retain the concession for a second year also in the same class twice during the secondary school course, once in any one of the classes from Forms I to III, and once in any one of the classes from Forms IV to VI.

The expenditure on the grant of the full fee concessions will be met entirely from the Provincial Harijan Uplift Fund from 1948-49, that is, it will be debited to the head "47. Miscellaneous—a. Labour—EE. Expenditure from the Fund for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift (Madras)—i. Expenses—(Fee concessions to Harijans in Secondary Schools)." [July 6]

Scholarships for Law Course

The Government have ordered that not more than 16 scholarships should be granted every year by the Commissioner of Labour for the Law Course. Eleven of these scholarships will be given to poor and deserving Harijan students and the remaining five to the poor and deserving students from communities belonging to Yerukula, Yenadi and other aboriginal tribes. If in any

year sufficient number of deserving students from the Yerukula, Yenadi, etc., communities is not available for the award of the scholarships the remaining scholarships may be given to deserving applicants from the Harijan community. [July 6]

Alcoholic Drinks in Parties

In keeping with their general policy of prohibition the Government have ordered that in future no alcoholic drinks should be served at official or semi-official parties given by the officials of the Government. [July 6]

Communal Representation in Government Service

It has been brought to the notice of the Government that when advertisements calling for applications for appointment to Government service in posts reserved for Scheduled Castes (Harijans) are made, Christian converts from Scheduled Castes also apply and get appointed to the posts or enjoy the concessions ear-marked for Scheduled Castes.

The Government wish to make it clear that for the purposes of communal representation in public services, converts to Christianity from Scheduled Castes should be regarded only as Christians and not as belonging to the Scheduled Castes. Such converts will not be appointed in vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes or be allowed to enjoy the concessions ear-marked to them. [July 7]

Shorthand Examinations in Regional Languages

The Government have approved the proposal to conduct Government Technical Examinations in Shorthand in Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam and in Typewriting in Tamil and Telugu twice a year as in the case of the Technical Examination in English Typewriting and Shorthand. [July 8]

Export of Salt

With a view to conserve as much of the locally produced salt as is required for consumption within the Province

and to prevent stocks believed to have been hoarded by speculators from going outside the Province, the Government have decided to regulate the export of salt to places in India outside the Province under permits issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or the Collector of the district concerned or any other officer specially authorized by the said Commissioner or Collector in this behalf. [July 13]

Land for Political Sufferers

In their Press Note No. 87 dated 3rd April 1948, the Government announced that the Collectors or districts were instructed to treat applications received subsequent to 29th February 1948 and before 31st March 1948 as having been received before 29th February 1948. The Government now desire to make it known to all concerned that the Government have further extended the time up to 31st July 1948 for the receipt of applications from political sufferers. Applications which were returned as time barred should therefore be presented again to the Collectors concerned before 31st July 1948. The Government also desire to make it clear to all concerned that applications received by the Government or by the Collectors after 31st July 1948 will in no circumstances be considered.

In their Press Note No. 305, dated 23rd December 1947, the Government announced that each political sufferer would be assigned 5 acres of wet land or its equivalent in any single case. Later, in their Press Note No. 111, dated 28th April 1948, the Government announced that in the Ceded districts and other upland areas in the Province the extent of land to be assigned would be such as would yield the same income as 5 acres of wet land elsewhere. The Collectors of all districts were asked to decide in consultation with the Advisory Committees what the appropriate extent of land to be granted in their respective districts to each political sufferer should be. The Government have considered the various suggestions received and have decided that no alteration is necessary in the general scale of 5 acres of wet or 10 acres of dry land already fixed except in the case of Ceded districts, where the extent of dry land

NOTICE

It is proposed to bring out a special number of *Madras Information* on 15th August 1948—the first anniversary of India's Independence. The number will contain a rich variety of articles as well as plenty of delightful photos. Book your orders in advance please.

Withdrawal of Petrol Pumpsets hired to Agriculturists

From early in 1946 the Agricultural department has been hiring petrol pumpsets to the agriculturists for well irrigation in connection with the Grow More Food Campaign. Some sets were also sold to ryots where they were willing to purchase the sets outright. Instances have now come to the notice of the Government that the petrol issued for running the pumpsets was not put to the use for which it was intended. Most of the pumpsets are not now required for

working as the monsoon has set in on the West Coast and there have been some showers elsewhere in the Province. Owing to the petrol shortage, the Government have ordered that all petrol pumpsets hired out to agriculturists should be withdrawn after

giving the hirers a month's notice. Petrol on the existing scale will not be issued to ryots who have bought petrol pumpsets outright from Government. The question as to what quantity of petrol should be issued to the pumpsets and under what safeguards, is under consideration. [July 14]

Cement Control

Consequent on the appointment of a separate Director of Controlled Commodities with a view to centralize all controls under one Controller, the Government have directed that the work of administering cement control, which is being exercised by the Government with the assistance of the Honorary Cement Controllers appointed by the Government, be transferred to the Director of Controlled Commodities forthwith. [July 14]

DEPARTMENTS' CORNER

Agricultural Department in 1946-47

Marked increase in the Acreage under Food Crops

As the seasonal conditions during the year under review were on the whole more favourable than those in the previous year, the Grow More Food activities which continued to be the main activity of the department, were consolidated. The area under paddy increased from 10.20 million acres in the previous year to 10.99 million acres in the year under review. The yield increased from 6.33 to 7.34 million tons of paddy. The area under cereals as a whole increased from 21.83 million acres to 22.81 million acres and the yield from 8.95 to 9.95 million tons. The area under pulses increased from 2.80 to 2.94 million acres and the yield from 2.24 to 2.54 lakhs of tons. The total area under food crops increased from 26.43 to 27.63 million acres.

Towards the end of the year, a five-year plan for food production, aiming at an over-all increased production of 5.5 lakhs of tons of rice at the end of 1951-52, was formulated by the department. This plan has since been approved by the Government of India almost in toto for financial

assistance. The cost of the scheme for the first year, viz., 1947-48, is estimated at Rs. 40,00,000 non-recurring, and Rs. 87,00,000 recurring. The non-recurring expenditure includes the cost of tractors, pumps and other items of machinery. The department has popularized all over the Province the use of manures and improved seeds, in order to increase the production of food crops. The other lines of Grow More Food activities such as distribution of manures, seeds, iron and steel, free supply of manures and seeds to poor and deserving ryots were continued during the year. For these purposes, the Director of Agriculture continued to have a permanent advance of Rs. 170 lakhs.

The Department distributed to the ryots during the year under review about 238,000 tons of oil cakes, 24,000 tons of ammonium sulphate, 1,200 tons of ammonium phosphate, 250 tons of triple sulphate and 682 tons of bonemeal and 700 tons of green manure seeds. About 12,500 tons of improved paddy seeds and about 60 tons of millet seeds were also distributed. The total quantity of iron and steel including defectives, that was distributed, amounted to 20,750 tons.

The Agricultural Engineering Branch was of direct assistance to the ryots

during the year under review. Owing to the shortage of labour and draught bullocks, the ryots readily took to mechanical means of cultivation. The branch hired out engines, pump-sets and tractors to ryots. The number of oil engines in the possession of Engineering Branch intended for hire and sale was increased. Tractor ploughing became very popular during the year. Two thousand six hundred and twenty-two acres were tractor-ploughed. Two hundred and sixty-three acres were worked on disc harness and 1,270 acres were levelled and bunded with bulldozers.

The progress of research work at the Research Institute, Coimbatore and at the various research stations continued to be, on the whole, satisfactory.

The expenditure of the department increased from Rs. 73 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 105 lakhs in the year under review, exclusive of expenditure incurred on the State Trading Schemes.

Labour Department

Labour Situation

The Government have finalized the Madras Factories (Canteens) Rules, 1948, under section 33-A (1) of the Factories Act, 1934 (Central Act XXV of 1934), for providing canteens for the use of workers in factories employing more than 250 workers ordinarily.

The Government have passed orders on the interim recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal (for tanneries) in the dispute between the workers and the managements of tanneries in Sembiam area.

The Government have also passed orders on the interim recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal (for tanneries) in the dispute between the workers and the managements of tanneries in the Madhawaram area.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the managements of Cigar Factories in Madras City.

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of the Diamond Beedi Factory, Erode, Coimbatore district, to the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, for adjudication.

The management of Rajah Mills, Madura, have opened their mills on 4th June 1948 after having arrived at an understanding with the workers.

The Government have referred the dispute between the Cochin Commercial Employees Association and the management of all Commercial Establishments in Fort Cochin to the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, for adjudication.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, in the dispute between the workers and the managements of Beedi Factories in Tirunelveli district.

[Second fortnight of June 1948]

Irrigation Department Activities during June 1948

During June 1948, the Government sanctioned the following Irrigation Schemes:—

Guntur district.—The Government sanctioned the scheme for providing irrigation facilities to Kollipara block in the Tenali taluk, Guntur district, at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,36,400 for works or Rs. 2,06,050 inclusive of direct and indirect charges. The scheme contemplates the excavation of a new channel, called the Bommavanipalem side channel, for a length of about 3½ miles with three branch distributaries which feed the ayacut through pipes fixed at suitable intervals.

The scheme is expected to bring under cultivation a total area of 1,609.02 acres and result in an annual additional yield of 805 tons of cleaned rice valued at Rs. 2,01,250.

South Arcot district.—There is no wet irrigation at present in the Vatharayanthittu village of the Chidambaram taluk of the South Arcot district. The Government, therefore, sanctioned a scheme for the excavation of a new channel from the right side of the Vellar Rajan channel in the South Arcot district to provide irrigation facilities to an extent of 428.27 acres in the Vatharayanthittu village and an additional extent of 44 acres in Kilavadinatham village in the Chidambaram taluk. The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 33,000 for works or Rs. 44,600 including direct and indirect charges.

Tanjore district.—The Government sanctioned a scheme for the excavation of a supply channel from the tail end of Neivasal Thenpathy No. 1 channel of the Cauvery-Mettur Project system for the irrigation of about 355 acres of dry lands in Kadakadappai and Sittakadu, etc., villages in the Tanjore taluk of the Tanjore district at an estimated cost of Rs. 37,400 for works or Rs. 49,300 including direct and indirect charges. The anticipated annual additional food production, by the execution of the scheme is 177.5 tons of rice, valued at Rs. 44,375.

Tiruchirappalli district.—The Government sanctioned the scheme for providing drainage facilities to the wet lands in Thimmarayasamudram village, Tiruchirappalli district, by constructing a syphon across Srirangam Nattuvoikkal and excavating a separate drainage channel for letting the drainage water into the Coleroon river through the existing Thiruvallur odai drainage sluice at an estimated cost of Rs. 27,344 including direct and indirect charges. The scheme is expected to give facilities for growing second crop on 200 acres of land and result in an annual additional yield of 60 tons of rice, valued at Rs. 15,000.

Malabar district.—The Government have under consideration a scheme for the formation of a reservoir across the Malampuzha in Palghat taluk of Malabar district. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 3.80 crores. The area likely to be benefited by the scheme is 2,000 acres of perennial crop, 38,000 acres of second crop and 13,455 acres of third crop. The Government have sanctioned the appointment for a

period of six months in the instance of a Special Deputy Collector to make a detailed investigation into administration and revenue aspects of the project.

Firka Development Department

The general plan of development of firkas drawn up by the Select Committee of the Provincial Firka Development Board was approved by the Government and orders were accordingly issued to all Collectors and heads of departments to implement the various suggestions contained in the scheme.

Arrangements are also being made to open a training centre for Veterinary Development Officers in the Salem Range in Kallupatty in Salem district by 15th August 1948.

Hindupur.—Works under village communications are making good progress. A sum of Rs. 500 was collected towards contributions. Night schools were started in three villages. Basic school at Manepalli and Srivaram were opened on 27th June 1948 by Sri Kallappa Subbarao, M.L.A.

Alur.—Four well works have been completed and two road works are nearing completion. One public reading room was opened at Halaharvi. Two sweeping campaigns were conducted one at Muddangiri and another at Bapuram.

Proddatur.—Magic lantern lectures in the villages of Dorasanipalli and Chowtapalle were arranged to bring out the evils of drink. A contribution of Rs. 300 was collected from the villagers of Kothapeta, Thallampuram and Kallur for Firka Development work. Well works are in progress. Eighteen branch libraries were started in the several villages of the firka. A cosmopolitan dinner was held near Dorasanipalle when the Firka Development Officer talked on social evils arising out of observing untouchability. Some honey boxes and prayer books were distributed.

Nagari.—Well works are in progress. A wood work training unit was opened during the month at Nagari and twenty candidates are undergoing training. One Basic Education School at Mudipalli was opened on 27th June 1948 by Sri R. Venkata Reddi, M.L.A.

Payyanur.—An adult education school was started on 13th June 1948.

A khadi spinning class consisting of 60 students was successfully completed. A meeting of the Firka Development Committee was held at Payyanur under the presidency of Mr. N. S. Arunachalam, I.C.S., to discuss various ways and means through which Firka Development activities could be intensified.

Musiri.—One hundred and sixty bags of green manure seeds were supplied free of cost to 200 persons to be sown in 1,050 acres. Thirty-four charkas and 36 taklis were distributed in the month. Two well works were completed.

Malli.—During the month, the Collector of Ramnad visited the firka and inspected certain works done. Repairs to certain wells in Alathur and Nochikulam villages were effected. A new well at Keelapattalpatty was being excavated. The Light Metal Casting and Bell-metal Work Training Unit at Nachirapurpatty has been manufacturing household articles which have a good local market. During the month, 25 Kisan charkas were introduced, 856 hanks of yarn were produced and 23 trees planted.

Veerapandy.—Two spinning centres were opened by the Regional Firka Development Officer (South), in the firka.

Kumbla.—A contribution of Rs. 106 was realised in connection with the digging of wells for rural water-supply. Seeds and seedlings were supplied to the ryots for planting trees in waste lands. Eight and a half acres of waste land were brought under cultivation by tractor ploughing. Fifty tons of groundnut cake and 1 ton and 748 lb. of sulphate were supplied to the ryots for first crop. Spinning demonstrations were conducted.

Veterinary Department Activities in the Selected Firkas

(1) **Cuddapah district.**—A stockman-compounder is attached to the Proddatur Firka for rendering veterinary aid. A Murrah buffalo bull at Nanganurpalle and an Ongole bull at Veterinary Dispensary, Proddatur, have been stationed for stud purposes. Eggs have been supplied from the London Mission Community School, Cuddapah, for hatching in the Firka. Poultry rearing is one of the Cottage Industries here. A grant of Rs. 100 was sanctioned for a 2-day cattle show held

at Sankarapuram in the firka. The stockman-compounder has treated 1,022 cases and castrated 335 animals.

(2) **Bellary district.**—The Bellary District Board has stationed five Hallikar stud bulls in Alur Firka on the advice of the District Veterinary Officer.

(3) **Kurnool district.**—The supply of hatching eggs and poultry from Veterinary Hospital, Nandyal, is confined to Kurnool and Yerragondapalem Firkas. The number of eggs distributed in Kurnool Firka was 58.

(4) **Madura district.**—The Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Tirumangalam, visits two villages a week in Tirumangalam Firka. He is assisted by a stockman-compounder in his work. There is a Kangayam bull at Veterinary Dispensary, Tirumangalam, which serves the cows in the area. Pure-bred white leghorn poultry, and eggs for hatching have been supplied to this firka for poultry development.

(5) **Salem district.**—Virapandi and Puliankurichi Firkas were selected in this district. The District Board, Salem, has supplied two Kangayam bulls, one for each centre, in March 1948. Black Minorca eggs for hatching poultry were supplied from Veterinary Hospital, Salem, to the ryots in Virapandi Firka. Poultry in the rural areas will be immunised against Ranikhet disease in the course of the year 1948-49.

(6) **Chittoor district.**—Nagari Firka was selected in this district. The District Veterinary Officer and his assistants have visited the Firka areas and advised the leading ryots on veterinary and livestock matters. All spade work has been done for opening of a veterinary dispensary. Instructions have been given to an interested ryot in Nindra village to start a poultry farm.

(7) **South Kanara district.**—Kumbla and Nileshwar Firkas were selected. Two graded Sind stud bulls were distributed free by Government. A poultry farm was started by a private person who was supplied with 5 Rhode Island Red poultry from Veterinary Hospital, Mangalur. The Poultry Development Officer, Madras, sold six cocks (white leghorn) to him. A stockman-compounder has been posted to work in Kumbla firka.

(8) **East Godavari district.**—Two cattle shows, one at Rajahmundry and the other at Tuni, the headquarters of the selected Firkas, were held, and prizes distributed.

(9) **Chingleput district.**—Tiruvallur Firka has a Veterinary Dispensary and the Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Ponneri, is rendering veterinary aid. Seven cockerels, one Black Minorca and six Rhode Island Red birds were distributed to ryots for poultry improvement. A one-day cattle show was successfully held at Ikkadu on 26th February 1948.

(10) **Krishna district.**—Two first-aid centres were opened in Vijayawada Firka, one at Rayanapadu and the other at Tadepalli. A stockman-compounder is posted to work in these two centres. Murrah buffalo bulls have been stationed for breeding at Rayanapadu, Gollapudi and Muthyalampadu villages in the firka. Besides two Murrah buffalo bulls and one Ongole bull at the Krishna Dairy Farm, Vijayawada, and one Ongole and Murrah buffalo at Veterinary Hospital, Vijayawada, are available for stud purposes. There is also a stallion at Veterinary Hospital, Vijayawada. Eggs and cockerels are being supplied from Veterinary Hospital, Vijayawada, for poultry development. Thadepalli village has been selected for stationing a bull at stud.

(11) **Ramnad district.**—The District Veterinary Officer attended four conferences of District Officers held at Malli Centre in this district. Propaganda on livestock improvement was done in the villages in the course of tours.

(12) **South Arcot district.**—The District Veterinary Officer and the Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon carried out an extensive survey of the conditions in the Firka, and useful information about animal husbandry was collected. The Firka Development Committee in its resolution, dated 14th June 1947, decided to defer livestock schemes in favour of more urgent schemes, i.e., roads, wells, etc. The district board has proposed to purchase and station a Kangayam bull at stud in Marungur village. The Government bull proposed for Veterinary Dispensary, Tindivanam, has been diverted to the Firka area. Eggs and poultry are supplied from Veterinary Hospital, Cuddalore.

(13) **Anantapur district.**—Seven thousand one hundred and sixty-two vaccinations were done against Blackquarter in the firka area. Three Hallikar bulls were distributed free by Government in Hindupur Firka.

(14) **West Godavari district.**—Dendur and Polavaram are the selected firkas. One Ongole bull was introduced

in the Government premium scheme for stud purposes and, one Black Minorca cockerel was supplied in Polavaram Firka. In Dendulur Firka Mundur was selected as a centre for this department. A stockman-compounder has been posted. There are three Ongole bulls, three Murrah buffalo bulls in the Government premium scheme besides one bull in the free distribution scheme in Dendulur Firka. One Black Minorca cockerel was also supplied to this firka. Sri M. Narayana Rao wanted to open a poultry farm; the supply of birds is awaited.

(15) *Trichinopoly district*.—The selected firka was Musiri. A temporary Veterinary Dispensary at the Firka Headquarters (Musiri) has already been opened in April 1947. It has been proposed to convert this into a permanent dispensary as a Part II Scheme for 1949-50. All the villages were visited by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon. One Murrah buffalo bull in the Government free distribution scheme is at stud. A Sindhi bull will be shortly included in the premium scheme. There is a proposal to purchase 20 bulls by the Committee for distribution in the firka. Three birds Rhode Island Red and Black Minorca were supplied to a private individual in Tiruvengimalai. Hatching and rearing chicken are briskly going on in this village. A Cattle Show was held on the closing day of the rural uplift school in the firka.

(16) *Nellore district*.—Kanupur Firka—there are three bulls in the Government premium scheme and three bulls in the Government distribution scheme. Four poultry grading centres have been opened in Kanupur, Kanuparthipadu, Konduru and Chemudugunta. To each of these centres, pure white leghorn birds have been supplied. The people have been asked to maintain records regarding egg-yield, etc. In the centre at Kondur village, the local Ascel or game breed hens are mated with white leghorn cock with a view to study whether such cross breeding will affect their fighting qualities also. With a view to grade up local sheep, a stud ram weighing 135 lb. has been taken on loan from an influential ryot and kept amidst a flock of 40 ewes in Buranpuz village. Experimental selective breeding among goats at two centres, viz., Amancherla and Chemudugunta was undertaken. Results showed an increase in milk-yield which can further be developed by the introduction of one or two bucks of the reputed Surati

or Jumnapari goats. Three Berkshire Boars, one for each of the villages of Kondayapalem, Chemudugunta and Choutapalem, have been purchased by Government. These will shortly be entrusted to their proposed custodians for grading up the local pigs.

(17) *Malabar district*.—Payyanur and Tellicherry Firkas were selected. The District Veterinary Officer and his assistants toured and rendered Veterinary aid whenever necessary. A one-day cattle show was held in Payyanur Firka and a cattle fair and exhibition were held in Tellicherry Firka during the All-India Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition at Tellicherry.

(18) *Tanjore district*.—Two Umblachery bulls and one buffalo bull have been included in the premium scheme. A Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon is posted temporarily at Ammapet for special work in the firka and a stockman-compounder is also posted to assist him. A rural exhibition was held at Saliangalam under the Firka Development Scheme in which this Department participated.

(19) *Coimbatore West district*.—Avanashi Firka has three breeding bulls under Government schemes. The district board was requested to allot a few bulls during 1948-49. The Sheep and Goat Development Officer proposes to arrange for the supply of three Bellary rams and a dozen Mandya rams to this firka.

(20) *Nilgiris district*.—Kundah Firka has three main centres—Majoor, Ithalar and Balacola—where the firka work is in force. The Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Ootacamund, is rendering all Veterinary aid necessary in the area. One Murrah buffalo bull will be stationed shortly, in this firka.

(21) *Guntur district*.—Two firkas with headquarters at Ongole and Santhanalapad were selected. The two stockmen-compounders posted rendered extensive veterinary aid. One hundred and seventy-eight white leghorn eggs were sold for hatching purposes from Veterinary Hospital, Ongole, in these areas. There were six breeding bulls before and after the scheme. Seven bulls were added to the firka for stud purposes. Four hundred and fourteen fowls in the firkas were immunised against Raniket disease.

(22) *Coimbatore East district*.—In the Vellakoil Firka, there were eight bulls in the Government premium

scheme and two bulls in the district board scheme. Ten heifer calves are being subsidised from 1st April 1947 in Lakkamnayakanpatti at Rs. 4 each per mensem. The annual cattle fair at Kannapuram was conducted successfully. In the Palladam Firka a stockman-compounder was appointed to assist the Touring Veterinary Surgeon, Palladam, in intensifying the departmental work in the firka. At the end of the year the numbers of bulls under various schemes, in this firka, were as follows:—

District Board Scheme bulls—3.
Government premium—2.
Government distribution scheme—1 (Murrah buffalo bull).

Four calves in Puliampatti are subsidised at Rs. 4 each per mensem.

(23) *Tinnevely district*.—Two young Murrah buffaloes were distributed by Government to suitable bailees, and the Firka Development Committee has recommended the purchase of bulls for stud purposes at a cost not exceeding Rs. 4,000. A school was opened at Vadakku Viravanallur the Rural Recreation Officer to educate the Harijans. The Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Ambasamudram, conducted classes and delivered lectures on livestock matters. This department participated in the Industrial Exhibition held at Sbermadevi in February 1948. A one-day cattle show was held by this department on 22nd April 1948. Sri K. N. Swamy Iyer, Banker, Therku Karakurichi, was advised to develop a dairy industry. A bull has already been supplied to him to serve the she-buffaloes. A stockman-compounder has recently been posted to assist in the firka work.

(24) *Vizagapatam district*.—The Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon visited the firka villages as often as possible. The District Veterinary Officer did propaganda for livestock improvement. Two stockmen-compounders are now available for assisting the Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeons in the firka work. The supply of Ongole bulls is also under consideration.

(25) *North Arcot district*.—In the Kalasapakkam Firka, one Cockerel and six hens (white leghorn) were purchased from the American Arcot Mission, Katpadi, and supplied to the ryots. The District Board, North Arcot district, has arranged to purchase two stud bulls and maintain them. A one-day cattle show was conducted on 19th March 1948 at Kalasapakkam by this department.

TOWARDS NATIONAL WELFARE

Public Health Problems

Health Minister's Survey

Speaking recently over the A.I.R., Madras, on the Public Health Problems, Hon'ble Mr. A. B. Shetty, Minister, observed:

"In India the Bhole Committee appointed by the Central Government during war-time have surveyed the existing health conditions and shown how low the level of health is in this country, judged by the enormous amount of sickness and the high rates of mortality prevalent here. The Committee has made recommendations of far-reaching importance for the development of our existing health and medical services with a view to meet the needs of the entire population, particularly those living in the hitherto neglected rural areas. The improvement of the quality and of the distribution of medical care among the under-privileged people of rural areas is one of the urgent problems calling for satisfactory solution.

In other Countries

Advanced countries in the west have made remarkable progress in the improvement of public health. In Britain, the great developments made in the environmental health services, the measures taken for the control of communicable diseases, and the establishment of personal health services have resulted in the virtual elimination of the great epidemic diseases, in the marked decline of death-rates, particularly among children and young persons and in a noteworthy increase in the expectation of life at birth. The reform of public health has brought about similar results in America where longevity has gone up from 47 years in 1900 to over 63 years in 1940. The effects of implementing the recent advances in curative and preventive medicine and in nutrition are revealed by a comparison of the mortality from disease in the armed forces. The health record not only of the British Armed forces but also of their civil population was maintained at a high level in world war No. 2 on account of the measures taken to prevent infectious diseases and maintain proper nutrition standards. The figures furnished by the Medical Corps of the U.S.A. Army

show a reduction of more than 95 per cent in the death-rate in 1943 as compared with the record of the first world war.

In India

No real or substantial improvement in Public Health can be achieved unless the primary conditions essential for healthful living are ensured in the first place. Good housing, adequate nutrition, safe drinking water and proper sanitation are the pre-requisites of a healthy life. Enough of the right kind of food at prices within the means of the people will do more to eliminate disease and improve health and physique than any other single measure. Malnutrition has always been a major health problem in India. Food shortage has made malnutrition and under nutrition the most serious danger to health at the present time. Efforts to improve nutrition must take precedence over other items of the health programme in this country. Good feeding must be accompanied by good housing, since housing programme will have to be undertaken for providing hygienic dwellings in healthy surroundings, particularly for the low-income groups. The provision of a safe and adequate water-supply, being a basic requirement, should receive the highest possible priority in any planning for health development. Drainage and general sanitation also should receive due attention. The committee on Environmental hygiene constituted last month by the Central Government has come not a day too soon.

War against Disease

A sufficiently large army of well-trained medical and health personnel and an adequate number of well-equipped hospitals are required for the war against disease. The number of doctors, health officers and essential ancillary personnel such as nurses, health visitors, pharmacists, technicians, etc., will have to be increased considerably, if we are to provide a comprehensive curative and preventive service for the whole community. The Bhole Committee wants the existing number of doctors to be raised four times in 25 years. Soviet Russia

was able to raise the number of doctors from 25,000 to 141,000 in the course of 24 years by increasing the number of medical institutions and making them work double shift. According to the Bhole Committee's proposals, five new Medical Colleges were to be established in Madras Province within 16 years. Unless we can have cheaper type designs for our buildings it will not be possible to think of starting new colleges for many more years to come. The medical course is too long and too costly. Soviet Russia adopted a shorter course of training and thus met the need for increasing the number of medical personnel to the maximum extent in the minimum time. Several distinguished medical men who came before the Bhole Committee seem to have expressed the opinion that by suitable modifications in the present curriculum an effective medical training could be given in 3½ years. The majority of the committee have not favoured this proposal. It is a point for consideration whether, for some time at least we can be content with producing less-elaborately trained general practitioners to meet the need for medical aid in villages. The majority of ordinary ailments can be cured by timely medical advice and simple treatment. It is only a small percentage of serious cases of illness or injuries that requires modern methods of diagnosis and specialized treatment in well-equipped hospitals. Such cases must be sent to towns and cities where scientific diagnosis and skilled medical and surgical aid can be made available. The post-war schemes of the Madras Government provide for the opening of Primary Health Centres for combined medical relief and health work in villages. Cases requiring expert medical or surgical aid are proposed to be sent to taluk or district headquarters hospitals. These headquarters hospitals are to be improved and enlarged providing laboratories and X-ray equipments for diagnostic work and special departments for the treatment of Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Venereal, Eye, E.N.T., Dental cases, etc. The measures now being taken for controlling important communicable diseases (such as Malaria, Tuberculosis, Cholera, Plague, Leprosy, Filariasis,

Guinea worm and Venereal diseases) have to be extended and made more effective. The expansion of personal health services have to be undertaken along with the campaign for elimination of preventable diseases. The Employees State Insurance Act passed by the Dominion Legislature in April 1948 is the first practical step proposed in this country towards the goal of providing a complete health service. About 2½ million workers will come under it and these workers will get free medical treatment, cash benefit during sickness and compensation in case of death through employment injury. The benefits of this scheme will gradually be extended to the families of the insured persons and others in course of time.

We want not only more doctors but also better-trained doctors. The

Central Government have just appointed a Committee to visit important medical institutions and explore methods of upgrading particular departments in them for the purpose of developing post-graduate training and research facilities. Medicine is now in a phase of rapid advance. A sufficient number of our medical men with post-graduate qualifications should be sent from time to time to foreign countries so that we may keep pace with modern developments. The standard of medical practice in the municipal stations must be kept high by providing refresher courses at Madras and other centres to enable practitioners to keep abreast of new discoveries and new techniques in medicine and surgery.

Conclusion

The maintenance of health and prevention of disease are far more important to the welfare of the community than curative work, but the medical man's attention is mainly directed at present to the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Proposals have recently been made to revise the medical curriculum laying more stress on the preventive aspect of medicine in the study of every subject. There is need for a change in the attitude of the general public also towards health and disease. At present they are more concerned with cure than with prevention. Schools have an important part to play in teaching the young the principles of health and the right methods of living so that a correct attitude to health may be developed in the citizens of tomorrow."

—By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.

Medium of Instruction

Education Minister Clarifies Position

NOTE.—The question of the medium of instruction has provoked a storm of controversy. Much prejudice, sentiment and passion have been imparted into the controversy and consequently the real facts have not been seen in the proper perspective. Perfect detachment is necessary to assess facts at their proper value. The Educational Minister recently gave a correct appraisal of the position in this regard in the course of a broadcast. He said:

The problem of medium of instruction is peculiar to India. Normally, in other countries no such question arises. In those countries, it is presumed, the language of the country will be the medium of instruction. But till recently, the medium of instruction in our schools was English and even now, it is so, in our colleges. Our foreign rulers wanted people who can converse with them in their own language so that these young men who are educated in English may be helpful to them in ruling the country. These opportunities of employment that were confined to people who knew English made people give an added importance to that language. For these and other reasons, it was considered necessary that the medium of English should be adopted in our schools also.

Foreign Medium—Two-fold Effect

The effect of this was two-fold. This created a gulf between the educated and the uneducated which is not present in any other country in the world. The so-called uneducated in other countries can become educated by their own efforts because books in the highest fields of knowledge are available in their own languages. It is not necessary to pass through a hurdle of a foreign language to get

knowledge in those countries. And so, we see the millions of men in other countries who have not gone to schools or colleges but by their own effort, perseverance and interest have equipped themselves with knowledge in a variety of professions and also qualified themselves for higher posts in public life. But this could not be in this country because English was considered absolutely essential both for higher knowledge and in public life. It was unthinkable that even the most intelligent of men or people with the highest character could attain to any high post in public life unless they knew English. This resulted in a great wastage of human material.

The second great loss was that it led people to aping western manners and customs and ideologies. Our boys are western ways. Thank God, our girls did not ape western ways as much as the boys and our homes continued to be the repositories of our culture. But it cannot be gainsaid that our culture, language and learning suffered a great deal owing to the imposition of a foreign language not consistent with the genius of our people.

Now after freedom has been won, we have to re-think of education and about our educational problem.

Trend in Universities

The Universities have been following the trends of the times. At a Conference of Ministers of Education and Vice-Chancellors held and presided over by the Minister for Education, Government of India, it was resolved that five years' time should be allowed as a period of transition and that the Universities should plan even from now to make the regional language as the medium of instruction. This was followed up by a meeting of the Vice-Chancellors of the various Universities in India and that Conference resolved as follows:—

"(1) that there should be a five-year period of transition, during which English would continue to be the medium of instruction and examination in the universities, and that this period should be utilized to prepare for the introduction of the regional language of the area concerned;

"(2) that the process of replacement of English by the regional languages should be gradual and by stages and that the English language should be a compulsory subject in all Universities."

Certain Difficulties

Certain difficulties have been mentioned in the way of introducing the

regional language as the medium of instruction. It has been said that the regional languages do not lend themselves to the teaching of higher knowledge in the various sciences as the technical terms necessary for teaching those subjects are not available in those languages. It has also been pointed out that English is an international language and as such, should be conserved. The first is a real objection and must be met. The second suggestion that has been made that English is an international language and so should be cultivated in India is also an important fact for consideration. The Conference of Education Ministers and Vice-Chancellors solved this problem by deciding that the technical terms being international in character may be adopted in our own languages. This will give us a uniform phraseology not only in this country but also throughout the world. With this end in view, it has been suggested by the Conference of Vice-Chancellors that a Board of Philologists and Scientists should be appointed to prepare a common scientific terminology for all Indian languages, making use of international terms as far as possible and in consultation with provinces and universities. They have also recommended that the Board should complete its work within five years.

Study of English

With regard to the learning of English, now that the domination of England over India is over, we can dispassionately consider the place that English should have in our curricula in schools and colleges. It cannot be gainsaid that it is of international importance. English and French are the languages that are used in the UNESCO and in international gatherings. It is an advantage to us that we should know at least one of the international languages to be useful to our students, merchants and diplomats

when they go to foreign countries. Besides, today, when our languages are not as developed as they should be in the various sciences and arts, it continues to be the gateway to higher knowledge. This position, I hope, will change in the course of a few years when our languages will make large

If love was not the law of life, life would not have persisted in the midst of death. Life is a perpetual triumph over the grave. If there is a fundamental distinction between man and beast, it is the former's progressive recognition of the law and its application in practice to his own personal life.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

strides and produce books in the higher aspects of knowledge in the various subjects. For these very weighty reasons, it is necessary that we should continue to have English as a compulsory language in our schools and colleges for at least some years to come. It may be possible that after some years, when the medium of instruction in colleges would have become the regional language, its study in high schools may be dispensed with. But it must continue to be a language to be studied in our colleges.

Hindi as a Medium

Suggestions have been made that Hindi should take the place of English

and should become the medium of instruction in our schools and colleges. We have great respect for Hindi. It is going to become the national language of India. That a knowledge of Hindi is essential to many of us cannot be over-emphasized and it is for that reason that orders have been issued by our Government that Hindi should be compulsorily provided for in all high schools. But these considerations should not cloud the issues. It is unfortunately true that Hindi is a language not familiar to the large masses of the people in this part of the country. Imposition of this language as a medium of expression and instruction in schools may have the same bad effects as the medium of English and will stunt the growth of our people. And so, while we have great respect for Hindi and while we want all our children to learn Hindi, the medium of instruction should be the regional language. This will, in the long run, develop our languages and enable even the common man and woman get the highest knowledge through the only language with which they are familiar. And it is for that reason that the Educational Conference of Ministers and Vice-Chancellors decided that the medium of instruction in schools and colleges should be the regional languages and this has been accepted by the Government of India as well as by provincial Governments.

Planning for Education

While planning for education, let us remember that we are planning for posterity and for the future. Our creation of a glorious future for this great country depends upon what we do today. These educational reforms that we want to introduce today must be solely from that point of view. Raising the status of the common man, giving opportunities for knowledge to the ordinary man or woman is of the greatest importance to the future of this country. This can be really done only through introducing the medium of regional language for instruction in our universities. This will not only develop our own languages but also will give facilities and opportunities for the common man or woman who cannot afford to go to schools and colleges to get the highest knowledge through books published in his own language and let us hope and pray that before long, we shall be able to raise the standard of knowledge in our people as high as may be obtaining in any other country through these and other reforms.

—By courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.

IN THE HOME OF COMMUNISM

Millions live behind wire in concentration camps

Many people do not realize that Communism in Soviet Russia depends upon a vast system of slave labour. This system comprises over a hundred concentration camps where millions of prisoners live behind barbed wire, and are driven to work 10 to 12 or more hours each day by armed guards.

PROHIBITION

Role of Social Worker in Prohibition

On the above subject recently *Devan*, Hon'ble Mr. Desai, Minister Bombay Government, says: America attempted to introduce prohibition by legal action and she could not secure the necessary support from the populace, which is why prohibition was a hopeless failure in that country. In spite of all attempts to enforce prohibition in America, crimes such as illicit distillation and smuggling increased. Brewers made fortunes and bootlegging was rampant on a large scale. The intoxicating drink, therefore, seeped through all police barriers and found its way to almost every hearth and home. But America's failure shall not deter us. It will, on the contrary, serve as a warning and an example of how the task of enforcing prohibition would be hazardous without the proper co-operation from the masses. America's failure need not be our failure. The circumstances which defeated their prohibition work are as different from ours as the two peoples

are. Their cultural and social habits have given a high social prestige, whereas our culture, our tradition, since times immemorial, have inspired us to abhor both the drink and the drunkard. The evil is mostly rampant amongst our so-called lower classes. The habit of drink has been the cause of their degeneration, and the decades of indulgence have eaten up their very vitals. Although they are ashamed of their vice, they would readily give it up if somebody would help them to do so. In Surat district, those who drink say, "How nice it would be if the liquor shops were closed once and for all! We know that drink has brought about our ruin, and we make up our minds to abstain, but when we pass by the liquor shops, the temptation is too great for us to resist and we succumb. We forget our determination not to drink, but the morrow finds us all ashamed, ashamed that we swore not to drink, but fell a prey to the very first temptation!"

Prohibition Committee's Findings

The main findings of the Prohibition Committee are as follows:—

(1) From all points, the present machinery for enforcement of prohibition is not satisfactory and the separation of enforcement staff from the general police staff in the police prohibition districts has not proved efficient. The method of approach towards enforcement by the official staff calls for a thorough change. Emphasis should be laid on the prevention of prohibition offences. To this end, constant vigilance, frequent visits to notorious centres of illicit distillation, intimate contact with villagers and leading men by the officers and the staff are essential.

(2) The staff in charge of societies for the manufacture of jaggery and the enforcement staff should be more vigilant and bring to book those, who carry on illicit tapping, and who manufacture fermented toddy under the guise of drawing sweet toddy for jaggery manufacture. Sale of jaggery in large quantities in centres notorious for the manufacture of illicit arrack should be carefully watched by the enforcement staff.

(3) The success of prohibition depends upon mutual help and co-operation between the public and the officials. The official should shake off their exclusiveness and take the public into confidence. The public should shed their distrust of the officials, work as partners in this enterprise, and bring about a better co-ordination in the work. The present practice of constituting Prohibition Committees for villages and taluks is found to be ineffective. Constitution of Prohibition Committees for the area of each police station is suggested. It has been suggested that cause of prohibition will be better served, if the members of the legal profession refrain from defending persons who, they have grounds to believe, have committed prohibition offences. This suggestion may be communicated to the Bar Councils for necessary action.

(4) Village officers should be given sufficient protection against reprisals by goondas against whom information may have been given by them to the enforcement staff. Apathy and dereliction of duty on the part of village officers and menials to assist the

prohibition staff in the detection and prosecution of prohibition crimes, should be severally dealt with, by suspending them or even dismissing them, whenever necessary. The village officers should be made responsible for reporting prohibition crimes committed in poramboke or Government waste lands. Government should impress on all heads of departments the need to instruct their subordinate officials to take a lively interest in the prohibition work and to offer their full co-operation to the enforcement staff.

(5) The punishment awarded for prohibition offences should act as a deterrent and instil sufficient fear into the offenders.

(6) With a view to protect the innocent public against harassment through 'foisted cases', power to stop proceedings should be vested in the appropriate authorities. In places, where the conduct of the inhabitants is calculated to impede the progress of prohibition or to affect enforcement work, it may be expedient to station punitive police and recover the costs from the inhabitants responsible for it.

(7) Gramasangams have proved themselves unequal to the task of working as efficient agencies for rural uplift work. To ensure effective ameliorative work in all its comprehensive aspects, villages should be grouped into compact units and for each such unit a village panchayat under the Local Boards Act and a co-operative society under the Madras Co-operative Societies Act should be organized, if they are not already there, to attend to the civic and the economic needs respectively of the units.

(8) Development of cottage industries among the agriculturists constitutes a second string to the bow. The work should be planned, organized and developed systematically by the Rural Welfare Officer and Deputy Registrars in conjunction with the Deputy Director of Cottage Industries in the Industries department. Tapping of palmyra trees, coconut trees and date trees for sweet juice in areas, where the trees were tapped for fermented toddy in pre-prohibition days, should be forbidden as a general rule. Colonization co-operative societies started for the benefit of ex-tappers should be run on ideal lines, in order that they should not only benefit the colonies but also serve as an object lesson to people in the vicinity. They should be adequately subsidized by Government.

(9) Rural housing should be given a prominent place in all ameliorative

ment and the Co-operative should interest themselves in schemes of rural housing, so as soon as possible no family is without its own house being provided with comfort and convenience according to its standard. State help in the shape of long term loans and priority in the supply of building materials, etc., should be forthcoming to these schemes in an ample measure. It should be possible for the village panchayat and the official machinery proposed for ameliorative work to do some special work in the provision of education facilities to the villagers.

Ameliorative Activities

The following is a brief summary of the reports received from Prohibition districts on ameliorative activities. The reports relate mainly to the activities in June:—

Bellary.—Two tournaments were conducted in which there were a number of interesting items. Several teams competed. There were also bhajanas, kolattams, folk dance and fancy dress competitions. The villagers enjoyed the events very much. Dramas were also staged. Grama sanghams were formed in three villages in one taluk and two villages in another taluk. Street cleaning drives in Harijan quarters were conducted. Reading rooms were started in three places. A bhajana mandir was opened in another place. Steps are being taken in one village to construct a school building and the grama sangham there is collecting funds for the purpose.

Cuddapah.—There was a cattle show in one place from 16th to 20th June. A public meeting was also held in this connexion, in which songs on cattle breeding and prohibition, etc., were sung. Prizes were distributed for the best exhibits.

Nellore.—A co-operative society for hand pounding of paddy and another society for labour contracts were formed. A firka tournament was conducted at one place on 13th June. A labour contract co-operative society for ex-addicts was also organized.

North Arcot.—One co-operative credit society has proposed to construct a godown-cum-village hall at a cost of Rs. 8,000. In one place the public has constructed a building for a new middle school. In another place the firka development association has

(10) The Committee suggests the appointment of District Propaganda Officers. Production of attractive films, representing beneficial effects of prohibition, may be encouraged, and these films may be shown in cinema houses.

(11) Rural uplift schools should be started for giving training to rural guides for a period of three months.

(12) Government should undertake a comprehensive programme to provide every village with a public radio set to educate the villagers and create enlightened public opinion.

opened a high school. A firka tournament was conducted in one place.

Salem.—A radio set for the use of the general public was installed in one place. The set was purchased from public subscriptions.

Malabar.—A volley ball tournament was conducted under the auspices of grama sangham in the first week of June. There was also a meeting held in that connexion. A farce was also staged bringing out the benefits of prohibition and the evils of drink.

Kurnool.—Grama sanghams conducted street cleaning drives. A cattle show and an industrial and agricultural exhibition was opened in one place. A spinning demonstration was held. The Agricultural Department displayed modern and improved implements besides seeds, etc. At a public meeting speeches were delivered on subjects relating to rural development. Thirty ex-addicts were admitted free to a cinema show. One ex-addict was able to save Rs. 250 and another constructed a house from the savings on account of Prohibition. Street cleaning drives were conducted. A new library was opened in one place. A reading room was opened in another place as well as a park. Substantial savings are reported by ex-addicts.

Tiruchirappalli.—Rural games formed an important feature of the activities. Hundi boxes were distributed. A volley ball court was opened in one place. The Proprietor of a cinema company donated a good sum for rural uplift work.

Guntur.—A building co-operative society was started on work on 12th June.

Coimbatore.—The Bhavani taluk tournament and exhibition were held

on a grand scale on the 5th June. There were 60 stalls in the exhibition. Besides several departments of the Government, many private individuals also took part in the exhibition. There were also 75 cows, stud-bulls, etc. Over 5,000 people attended the exhibition. Sports and amusements were held in this connexion. Grama sanghams continued to do useful work. One grama sangham had a school building constructed and opened by the Collector. Another has formed a village road about two furlongs at a cost of Rs. 500. It is also constructing a school building at a cost of Rs. 3,000. Yet another sangham has purchased a radio set. Another grama sangham has constructed a new w. l. Sports and tournaments were held as usual.

Chittoor.—Four grama sanghams and recreation clubs were organized in Chandragiri division and two in the Madanapalle division. Rural games were conducted in several villages; also bhajanas as well as dramas. Street cleaning drives were launched in a number of places. Sign posts indicating the names of villages were also put up in some villages. First-aid medicine chests were introduced. Reading circles were organized. A District Board Elementary School was got opened. A library was opened. Village disputes were settled. An approach road was constructed. Thrift days were celebrated. A cattle breeding and co-operative society was organized in one place.

Madura.—Thrift days and cleanliness days were celebrated in some places. A milk supply society has been organized in one place. One grama sangham has proposed to construct a road culvert. Several cases of savings as a result of prohibition are also reported.

Anantapur.—Firka tournaments were held. A labour school was opened in one place.

Tanjore.—Inter village tournaments as well as rural sports were held. A firka association was formed in one place. Thrift day was celebrated in some places. A free reading room was opened in one place. An adult night school, a free reading room and a free library were opened in one place.

The Nilgiris.—A community centre was opened. Two grama sanghams were organized. The ameliorative staff lectured on thrift and small savings scheme. There was a music party organized in one place.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Second Crop Paddy Problem and Steps for its Solution

Second crop paddy is being cultivated in the East Godavari district over about one to one and a half lakhs. The success of the second crop paddy is largely dependent upon the climatic factors and sufficiency of water-supply till the crop is harvested. Among the climatic factors, the steadiness and intensity of the cold wind "thurpugali" determine the health of the seed-beds particularly with reference to the incidence of stem borer. On the early onset of the warm southern breeze "pyrugali" and its steadiness depends the planting time, progress and health of the crop. There have been several instances when the growth of the crop is severely restricted due to the intervention of the "thurpugali." The sufficiency of the supply of water towards the end of the season is the deciding factor for well filled grains and heavy yields. Sometimes the prevalence of hot west winds affects the setting adversely converting half filled grain into chaff.

It is usually planted in February and March after the beneficial pyrugali begins to blow steadily. Garikasannavari is the variety largely grown as the

second crop paddy. An earlier and finer grained variety called Kasipichodi has found favour with the ryots in many places and has remained to stay in large areas in Ramachandrapuram and partly in Amalapuram taluks. Higher yielding strains, Mtu. 9 and Slo. 12 in Garikasannavari and Slo. 16 in Kasipichodi have been evolved after ten years and are being grown extensively in the district. In some areas where water scarcity is not felt, a slightly later but definitely higher yielding strain Mtu. 15, a cross between Nallarl and Garikasannavari is popular.

In order to steer the destinies of the crop safe from hot winds and water scarcity efforts are being made to reduce the duration of the strains Mtu. 9, 15 and Slo. 12 by cultural means. An earliness of 7 to 10 days is achieved by sowing the seed-beds in dry in the third week of December as against the normal method of sowing them in wet in the first or second weeks of January. Dry seed-bed system makes the seedling robust, unattractive to the stem borer and checks the growth of seedling in the nursery phase. When such seedlings

are planted out in the main field they seem to get a revitalising effect on account of affluence of water and manure in the well puddled and prepared land. The duration of the variety preceding the second crop paddy seems to wield some influence on the hastening of the maturity of the second crop and on its yield shorter duration varieties being advantageous as preceding crops than longer duration varieties of paddy. Slo. 16 does not lend itself quiet well to this practice.

The adoption of early sowing and dry seed-bed system has come in mandy this year in helping the crop to mature without serious sufference due to severe water scarcity towards the end of the season. Slo. 12 under these conditions could be harvested by 5th of May 1948, whereas the late sowing (January end) and late planting (end of February) and early March adopted by the local ryots have made the crop flower only in the last week of April 1948. The yield of Slo. 16 (sown in January first week and planted in second week of February) is 2,000 lb. per acre under the Cocanada channel and the yield of Slo. 12 with early sown dry nursery seedlings is 2,220 lb. per acre.

The ryots of East Godavari district particularly those having lands under the high level channels are advised to adopt early sowing and dry seed-beds for the second crop in order to make it escape the clutches of the hot weather and water scarcity and thus serve the objective of the *Grow More Food Campaign* of the department.

especially in a large country like ours. A certain amount of technical knowledge of the nature and properties of these fertilizers is necessary if the best results are to be secured from their use. An attempt has been made in the following pages to present this information in an elementary way.

Nitrogenous Fertilizers

With the exception of the leguminous plants nitrogen is necessary for all crops. Most of our soils are deficient in nitrogen and nitrogenous fertilizers are, therefore, in far greater demand than other classes of fertilizers. They are especially useful for improving the vegetative growth of plants grown mainly for their leaves (e.g.) tea, cabbage and as top dressing for cereals when the appearance of the plant indicates shortage of available nitrogen. The rate of growth following the application of nitrogenous fertilizer is very striking.

The commonly used purely nitrogenous fertilizers, their composition and properties are given in Table I-A. The nitrogenous fertilizers supplying other plant foods in addition to nitrogen are listed in table I.B.

Phosphatic Fertilizers

Most of our soils are deficient in phosphate and hence the application of phosphatic fertilizers is absolutely essential to secure good returns from the land. The most important effects of phosphates are the considerable development of the root system (hence beneficial to root crops), the hastening of the ripening process and the improvement of quality in grain, the promotion of tillering in cereals and counteracting the rankness of growth that is apt to occur on soils richly applied with nitrogen. The commonly used phosphatic fertilizers are bones and products derived from it such as bone-meal, steamed bone-meal, bone ash, dissolved bones, bone super as well as superphosphate, basic slag and mineral phosphate.

[Vide statement on the next page.]

Superphosphate

The superphosphates are the most effective and most widely used of all phosphatic fertilizers. They are manufactured almost entirely from rock phosphate by treatment with sulphuric acid and owe their effectiveness to the water-soluble mono calcium phosphate they contain. They get fixed in the soil and are not leached out in wet weather.

[Vide statement on the next page.]

Basic Slag

This is a by-product in the manufacture of steel from pig iron. It contains 14—19 per cent of phosphoric acid. It contains in addition to easily available phosphate free lime, calcium carbonate and calcium silicate. On account of the free lime present, it is preferred to superphosphate for use on acid soils. It is less effective than superphosphate and its effectiveness depends on its fineness of division. Two grades of slag are recognized, (1) high grade with 80 per cent or more of the phosphate in citric soluble condition and (2) low grade with less than 40 per cent of the phosphate in citric soluble form. Basic slag has played an important part in the improvement of poor grass land.

Mineral Phosphates

Mineral phosphates are relatively cheap sources of phosphate and contain from 25—39 per cent of phosphoric acid. They are much less effective

TABLE I-A.

Fertilizers.	Nitrogen.	Properties and remarks.
(1) Sulphate of ammonia.	20.6 per cent ..	Most important and commonly used of the quick acting nitrogenous fertilizers—white or grayish crystalline powder—absorbed by clay and organic matter and hence not leached out of the soil in wet weather—only 5 per cent less effective than nitrate of soda—physiologically acid—on acid soil continued use tends to make things worse.
(2) Nitrate of soda	15.5—16 per cent.	Speedy in action since it is in the form of nitrate that most plants take up nitrogen—most useful when growth has been checked by adverse weather or insect attack—liable to be leached out in open textured soils in districts of heavy rainfall. On heavy soils continued and heavy use may injure tilth. More suited for use on acid soils than ammonium sulphate.
(3) Calcium cyanamide ..	20.6 per cent ..	Dusty black powder formerly difficult to handle—now available for use as an oiled powder or in granular form. Must be applied a week before sowing the seed.
(4) Nitrate of lime	13—15.5 per cent.	Granular product—absorbs moisture rapidly and becomes sticky—hence difficult to transport and apply.
(5) Ammonium nitrate.	35 per cent ..	One of the most concentrated and quickest acting and economical of nitrogenous fertilizers. It has two serious drawbacks. It may explode and it is deliquescent tending to set in a hard mass. To overcome these difficulties it is used in various admixtures such as the following:—(1) Nitrochalk—contains 15.5 per cent of nitrogen—mixture of ammonium sulphate and ammonium nitrate—granular form—quick acting—particularly suitable for top dressing and on acid soils, (2) <i>Luna saltpetre</i> —contains 26 per cent of nitrogen—mixture of ammonium sulphate and ammonium nitrate. Less deliquescent and less apt to cake and explode than ammonium nitrate.
(6) Ammonium chloride (Muriate of ammonia).	26 per cent ..	Good physical condition—inferior to ammonium sulphate for those crops that are injured by chlorides, e.g., tobacco.
Urea	46 per cent ..	Most concentrated of all nitrogenous fertilizers—somewhat hygroscopic—commercially produced in granular form suitable for drilling.

Fertilizers in Modern Agriculture

The object of manuring is to provide the crop with an adequate amount of the plant food elements necessary for its growth. Laboratory experiments have shown that the plant food elements needed in quantity and generally deficient in ordinary soil are (1) Nitrogen, (2) Phosphate, (3) Potas and (4) sometimes lime. The other elements needed by the plant are either present in abundance in the soil or are required in such minute amounts that no special applications of them will generally be needed.

For maintaining the fertility of the soil and for securing increased crop yields, farmyard manure has been the safest and the most important and has formed the basis of agriculture for centuries past. The introduction of artificial fertilizers in the latter half of the 19th century, the opening up

of the Stassfurt deposits, the exploitation of the vast deposits of mineral phosphates and the Chilean nitrate deposits and the success that met the attempts of Scientists to make use of the free nitrogen of the atmosphere in the opening years of the present century have completely revolutionized agriculture and the fertilizers have become an essential feature of modern agriculture, supplementing but not supplanting the dung and other materials used since early times. If our country is to be self sufficient with regard to food and the fertility of the soil maintained the meagre supplies of farm yard manure must be supplemented by and increased use will have to be made of these fertilizers. Another great advantage of these artificial fertilizers is their concentrated form and hence ease of transport,

TABLE I-B.

N = Nitrogen. *P2O5* = Phosphoric acid. *K2O* = Potash.

- (1) Potassium Nitrate .. *N* 13 per cent; *K2O* 46 per cent.
- (2) Ammonium phosphate (Mono). *N* 12.1; *P2O5* 61.7. Slightly acid in reaction.
- () Do.) .. *N* 21.07; *P2O5* 53.35. Slightly alkaline—gives off ammonia and becomes pasty mass. Because of its unstable nature and poor physical condition not as extensively used as the mono salt.
- (3) Ammophos Series of products made up of commercial mono ammonium phosphate and ammonium sulphate to give various ratios of nitrogen to phosphate—light grey granular material—does not absorb water—two grades A & B.
A. *N* 10.7; *P2O5* 46.
B. *N* 16.5; *P2O5* 20.
- (4) Leunaphos Composed of diammonium phosphate and ammonium sulphate—*N* 20 per cent; *P2O5* 20 per cent.
- (5) Niciphos *N* 18 per cent; *P2O5* 18 per cent.
- (6) Potassium phosphate. *P2O5* 32–53 per cent; *K2O* 30–50 per cent.
- (7) Nitrophoska Mixture of diammonium phosphate, ammonium nitrate or urea and sulphate or muriate of potash—different grades 15–30—15, 12–24—12, 16–16—16, etc.
- (8) Phosphazote Mixture of urea and super phosphate *N* 7 per cent, *P2O5* 15 per cent.
- (9) Potazote Mixture of potassium chloride and ammonium chloride *N* 11–13; *K2O* 20–24.
- (10) Leuanaphoska Mixture of leunaphos and potash salts *N* 10; *P2O5* 10 per cent *K2O* 13 per cent.
- (11) Ammophosko Mixture of ammonium phosphate and potassium sulphate—different grades.

Bones.

- (1) Raw Bones *N* 5; *P2O5* 22. Containing the whole of the material including fat and gelatine.
- (2) Bone meal *N* 3.5–4.5; *P2O5* 25–32. Containing the gelatine but not the fat.
- (3) Steamed bone flour .. *N* 1–2; *P2O5* 25–32. Containing neither fat nor gelatine.

These bone fertilizers are very safe but generally very slow acting and considerably less effective than super phosphate.

- (4) Dissolved bones .. *N* 2–3; *P2O5* 15–16.
- (5) Bone ash *P2O5* 430–40.
- (6) Bone char. *P2O5* 16.

Super phosphate

Ordinary super *P2O5* 16 per cent; water soluble *P2O5* 14 per cent; Gypsum 50 per cent.

Concentrated super (double super and triple super) *P2O5* 35–50 per cent; water soluble *P2O5* 34–42 per cent; consist almost entirely of soluble mono calcium phosphate. These super phosphate give better results on heavy soils than on light textured soils.

	* Potash.	Pot. sulphate.	Pot. chloride.	Sodium chloride.	Magnesium sulphate.
Sulphate of potash ..	48	90–96	0.3–1.6	0.2–1.2	0.7–2.7
Muriate of potash ..	50	..	80–85	13–18	0–0.4
Potash salt ..	30	..	48–51	24–27	0–10
Potash salt ..	20	..	32–35	42–52	0–12
Kainit ..	14	..	22–25	45–61	0–21

than basic slag for arable land and have found some use for the improvement of grass land, in acid soils under high rainfall and for perennial crops. The effectiveness of mineral phosphates depends on their fineness of division.

Fertilizers supplying Nitrogen in addition to Phosphate

The commonly used fertilizers supplying nitrogen in addition to phosphate are given under nitrogenous manures. (Table I-B)

Potassic Fertilizers

Potash is associated chiefly with the efficiency of the leaf, the health and vigour of the plant and with the storage of starch and sugar. It, therefore, finds its chief use for crops that store large quantities of carbohydrates such as potatoes. The application of potash results not only in increased yields but also in more vigorous growth, resistance of plants to disease attacks and an improvement in quality. Potassic manures are, therefore, especially important for crops like potatoes and for intensive cultivation on deficient in potash such as light soils.

The commonly used potassic fertilizers and their composition are given in the table at * on this page.

Of the various potassic fertilizers the sulphate is the most expensive but it is the safest where quality is the chief consideration. It should always be used for good quality potatoes and for valuable market garden crops. The muriate and the lower grades of potassic fertilizers containing considerable amounts of common salt are good for certain crops such as grasses which tolerate salt.

True Democracy

"True democracy consists in having a Government not by the people, but also by the people and for the people. Such an ideal democratic Government can be established in the country and the province by reorganizing the administration of the institutions of Local Self-Government in a manner which may adequately cater to the needs of the people, in education, communication, irrigation, sanitation and public health," observed Dr. Sinha, Premier, Bihar, in the course of his address to the annual Local Board Conference held recently.

SPECIAL ARTICLE

A Peep into the Museum—The Anthropological Galleries

By MR. C. J. JAYADEV, M.A., L.T.

The pre-historic antiquities of this Museum are exhibited partly in the ground floor of the old building to the rear of the Museum theatre and partly in the first floor of the new extension at the entrance to the Museum. The former include the large classical collections made and catalogued by the pioneers of pre-historic studies in India—J. W. Brecks, R. B. Foote and A. Rea. The latter consist of typical exhibits from Mohenjo Daro and Harappa. These exhibits cover, on the whole, the vast period of about half a million years through which man passed from the crude tools of the old stone age to the early phases of the iron age. Of these record collections which are world famous and which have been augmented from time to time only selected types are on view for the public—the greater part being stores as reserve and study collections. We have also secured by exchanges representative stone age tools, and other artifacts from most parts of the world. Among such are implements from America, England, France, Egypt, South Africa, Malaya, Java and China.

Old Stone Age

The palaeolithic or old stone age in India is represented by a series of crude stone implements roughly chipped and flaked. These have been obtained from laterite beds and river terraces. They are mostly of quartzite and the hand-axe is the predominant type. An interesting exhibit is one such hand-axe hafted to a wooden handle with leather thongs showing how primitive man would have used such an implement.

New Stone Age

The neolithic or new stone age is characterized by the perfection of the art of stone tool-making. The ground and polished stone adzes, axes and celts of trappoid rocks, the fine flakes and blades of agate, chalcedony, chert, jasper, obsidian and quartz, the grinders and crushers of granite are examples. They are more widely distributed and along with them are

associated pottery and beads of various types and forms. While the old stone age is said to have been over a hundred thousand to a million years old the new stone age which succeeded extended up to 10000 B.C.

Bronze Age

The next period in early human culture is represented by the bronze age civilization of the Indus Valley. The antiquities from the urban civilizations of Mohenjo Daro and Harappa are unique in that stone implements of the late phases of the neolithic age persist side by side with weapons and tools of bronze and copper. Characteristic exhibits from this period which is about 5,000 years old indicate the high cultural level of the people. They know spinning and weaving, sculpture, bead making, working in gold, silver, copper, shell, bone, ivory and precious stones as is seen from their ornaments, utensils and weapons. Their weights and measures are accurate and made of polished stone cubes. The smaller weights follow the decimal system and the higher ones the binary system. Household articles are of earthenware, shell and stone. Pottery is wheel made, well-baked and include both plain and decorated wares. The people of Mohenjo Daro lived in cities with broad paved streets, large underground drains, big baths, commodious houses two or three storeys high, with large courtyards. They stored wheat in large pottery jars which they buried in the floor of their houses. Some wheat grains obtained from such storage jars are among the exhibits. Though these people had no shrines or temples they have left a very wide range of cult objects both human and animal. The mother goddess is prominent among the former while the latter include the bull, the rhinoceros and the unicorn. They were well-versed in the art of semi-pictographic writing which they engraved on stone seals and amulets.

Iron Age

The iron age in South India is of great antiquity. The oldest specimens of this period were found in

ancient burials of which three important excavated sites are prominently represented in the pre-historic galleries. These are the urn burials of Adichanallur in Tinnevely district, the stone circles of Perumbair of Tozhpudu in Chingleput district and the cairns and barrows of the Nilgiris district.

The large burial ground at Adichanallur covers over hundred acres. Large pyriform urns several of which are exhibited are very common here. As many as a thousand of them were found buried in a single acre of ground. Their contents are varied and form remarkable exhibits. In addition to the human skeletons there are ornaments of gold, copper, bronze, and pottery especially bowls and lids of a red and black polished ware with ringstands. The cult objects of bronze display a very wide diversity of animal and vegetable forms. The bronze sieve cups are unique among these utensils. The human remains have been identified as belonging to the Proto-Australoid and the Mediterranean racial types.

From the stone circles of Perumbair were dug out large earthenware cists or sarcophagi several of which are exhibited. These cists are oblong in shape and rounded at the ends. They have hollow cylindrical legs in two or three rows. In addition to the human remains these cists contain pottery, iron implements, stone objects and chank shell ornaments. The cists are covered with dome shaped lids.

The cairns and barrows in the Nilgiris yielded remarkable specimens of pottery, animals and human figures, ornaments of gold, bronze and iron, beads of agate and carnelian, and a wide range of iron implements and weapons. The bronze bowls are elegant and artistic in form. They have designs of lotus flowers and delicate flutings. The agate beads have very fine holes drilled in them. The carnelian beads have varied patterns engraved on them. The iron implements include spears, arrowheads, knives, razors, sickles and shears. The human and animal figures are crude and grotesque.

At the entrance to the Adichanallur gallery is a very large earthenware sarcophagus from Cuddapah district. This depicts the head and body of a ram. Around it pottery specimens were disposed of. This is unique among sarcophagus types.

Different Types of Exhibits

The more important types of megalithic monuments in South India are represented by drawings and photographs which are exhibited in the

pre-historic galleries. Information regarding such monuments is found in several classical works of ancient Tamil literature.

On the right side of the entrance to the pre-historic galleries is a huge wooden post. This is the Meriah Sacrifice post used by the Khond tribe of Ganjam district. Human beings were offered in sacrifice to the Tara Pennu or Earth Goddess by the Khonds to ensure good crops.

A pair of cage gallows used for the public exhibition of the executed bodies of notorious criminals is on view near the same place.

Next to these exhibits are to be seen some shadow play or puppet figures. These are cut out in silhouette in leather. One set from Malabar depicts scenes from Kamba Ramayana. The figures are illuminated from behind the screen wherefrom a dramatic dialogue or running commentary is kept up. This form of rural recreation is slowly dying out. The other set of coloured animal figures is from Cuddapah. A similar figure from Java is also exhibited in the first case.

Arms Collection

In reaching the opposite wing of the same building the visitor sees a very long row of spears from the Tanjore armoury arranged against the wall. There are also two huge bells from China, brought as trophies of the notorious opium war. At the entrance to the arms galleries are on view a varied assortment of halberds, pikes, spears and a set of Spanish armour from Manila.

The arms collections are arranged in two rooms while a number of huge cannon are displayed outside the Museum buildings.

In the first arms room are ancient matchlocks, musketoons, hand guns, blunder-busses, rifles and pistols arranged on the walls. Two guns richly inlaid with gold are exhibited in special cases. A set of artistically engraved powder flasks is an attractive exhibit. A series of battle axes, arrows, chain shot are fixed to the wall. Some Chinese helmets and a few stone shot are exhibited in special cases. On the floor of this room can be seen a number of cannon, mortars, wall pieces, grape-shot and some coats of mail. Of these a large breech-loading cannon is a unique exhibit. Some of the miniature models of mortars and cannon are also of interest.

In the second arms room a very large and varied collection of ceremonial and lethal weapons obtained

from the Tanjore armoury are exhibited. They include swords, daggers, maces, elephant goads, choppers, knives, shields, spears, bows and arrows. Several of them have exquisitely carved designs on them. Some interesting iron cannon are also exhibited in this room.

Ethnographic Collection

The ethnographic collections of this Museum are exhibited on the first floor of the front building. These were first collected by Dr. E. Thurston in connexion with his ethnographic survey of this province and have been augmented considerably.

An introductory set of exhibits shows the skull types associated with the racial elements of the population such as the Mediterranean, Negroid, Australoid and Mongoloid. Included in this set is a cast of a Vedda face in which the Proto-Australoid type is seen at its best. The Proto-Australoid appears to be the most predominant type in the aboriginal population of Peninsular India. The Veddans are a primitive tribe of food gatherers and hunters living in small family groups in rock shelters in Ceylon.

Some of the larger cases exhibit models of tribal huts together with the objects of the material culture of such tribes. These exhibits illustrate the different cultural levels of the tribes such as the simple food gatherers, hunters, pastoral peoples, tribes given to shifting cultivation variously styled as podu, kumari and punam and those tribes who have taken to settled agriculture.

The Kadar of the forests of Cochin and Coimbatore build rectangular huts, have a digging stick culture, use pellet bows, make utensils of bamboo and wood and gather minor forest produce. Among the exhibits are seen some of the exquisitely carved combs one of which every Kadar has to make and present to his wife on his marriage and which the woman wears in her hair. Other interesting features of this small tribe are the practice of tooth chipping for beauty and the custom of mother-in-law avoidance.

The Travancore tribes are mostly hunters and shifting cultivators. The Mannans, Muthuvans, and Mala Aryans are represented by hut models and specimens of their utensils, weapons and ornaments.

The Chenchus are a primitive Telugu-speaking tribe of the Nallamalai hills. They have a food-gathering and hunting economy. They build circular huts with conical roof. They use

flint and steel for making fire. They are allied to the Enadis and Irulas.

The Todas of the Nilgiris are a very small and decadent pastoral tribe tending buffaloes. Toda huts are half-barrel shaped. The dairy is their temple and the cowherd their priest. They speak a Canarese dialect. They used to practise female infanticide and buffalo sacrifices. The custom of fraternal polyandry still exists among them. Of the several husbands of a Toda woman who are brothers, the one who presents her with a small bow and arrow on the birth of a child becomes the child's father. Such ceremonial bows and arrows along with Toda ornaments, weapons, utensils and a hut model are exhibited.

The Khonds of the Agency Area are hunters and shifting cultivators. They used to sacrifice human beings in honour of their Earth Goddess. Among Khond exhibits are bison horn dance head dress decorated with peacock feathers, a collection of brass figures of animals carried before marriage procession, bark cloth and aprons, utensils, ornaments, musical instruments and weapons.

The Savaras are hill cultivators and hunters of the Agency districts speaking a Mundari language. They have Mongoloid features. The Savaras are highly musical people. A Savara hut model, Savara utensils, implements, weapons and several wooden figures are exhibited. In a separate case a large collection of Savara utensils and musical instruments are exhibited.

Tribal Weapons

Varied are the weapons used in tribal hunt. The Kallar and Maravar of South India were skilled in the use of the boomerangs of wood, iron and ivory are exhibited along with an Australian boomerang for comparison. It is interesting to note that South India is the country of origin of the boomerang even as the prototypes of the Australian aborigines are to be found among the Proto-Australoid or Weddid tribes of South India and Ceylon.

The blowgun is another interesting weapon used in hunting by many tribes in South East Asia. Two blowguns one from Madura and the other from Malabar are exhibited. They are used with poisoned darts.

Bows and arrows are used by the aboriginal tribes. The Chenchus, the Khonds, the Savaras, the Travancore tribes, the Kadar and the Veddans are some of them. In most of

bows exhibited strips of bamboo are used as bowstrings. Another interesting fact is that the Ulladans of Malabar are the only tribe in South India who use a cross-bow.

Personal Decorations

The articles used both by tribal and rural peoples in ornamenting and decorating their persons form a very interesting collection. These are exhibited under different heads in several jewellery cases. Two large cases of tribal and peasant jewellery show a wealth of variety, design and material in the making of ornaments. They are of silver, brass, aluminium, wood, fibre, shell and bone. Of particular interest are the heavy iron ornaments of the Kotas exhibited along with their weapons and implements; the massive brass ornaments of the Badagas and the characteristic ornaments of the Nambudri Brahmans and Syrian Christians.

The wearing apparel of primitive peoples shows a marked sense of originality, colour and attractiveness. The sedge apron of the Thanda Pulaya woman of Travancore, the bark cloth and leaf apron of the Khonds, the bark fibre cloth with its red and blue bands of the Gadabas and the highly decorative Lambadi dress fringed with cowry shells are interesting exhibits.

Of the different ways in which primitive tribes make fire three are of special interest. These are of general

use among many tribes. They are the fire-drill, the fire-saw, and the strike-a-light of flint and steel. These are exhibited in a special case. Though safety matches have replaced these tribal implements, through civilized contacts, they are still used by most of the tribes on all ceremonial occasions.

Other Exhibits

Writing implements and materials are exhibited in the next case. Iron styles, reed pens, knives for cutting palm leaves, instruments combining both knife and style in one, palm leaf cadjans, documents written on bamboo scrolls, linen account books used with soapstone pencils and bark paper are among the exhibits.

In the gallery adjoining the central Ethnology hall are exhibited a highly representative collection of most of the commonly used South Indian musical instruments. These have been classified and catalogued in one of the Museum Bulletins. Most of the musical instruments used in social and religious ceremonies in both rural and urban societies are adequately represented. Apart from these well-known types are also some unique exhibits. Among the latter are the Panchamukha Vadyam, the Burmese Harp, the Pulluvan Kudam and the Villadi Vadyam. The Panchamukha Vadyam is a huge bronze drum with five faces. The Burmese Harp is

probably the only extant exact form of the Yal of ancient Tamil literature. The Pulluvan Kudam is used by the medicine-men of Kerala in their invocation of the serpent god. The Villadi Vadyam is a long bow with about a dozen bells attached to it and played by a number of men to the accompaniment of a pot drum.

The Central Ethnology hall contains a number of exhibits relating to the magical and religious practices of South Indian peoples. Two carved wooden figures and a plant with the figure of a woman inscribed on it from Malabar illustrate the magical practices of the Moplah sorcerers. The figures were intended to exercise women possessed of evil spirits. Shamanistic practices are also illustrated by photographic transparencies of the devil-dancers of Malabar.

Rural and tribal religious practices and beliefs find expression in various ways. The objects used in ritual and worship cover a wide range. Among votive offerings a huge pair of leather sandals offered to the deity of Tirupati by cobbler is an impressive exhibit. Models of temples, temple-cars, figures of rural and tribal gods in clay, wood and brass are among the exhibits.

Mythology and folklore have their representative exhibits in the models of the Avatars of Vishnu, the Churning of the ocean of Milk and the Indian version of Dante's Inferno-yemas's Durbar.

"DAKHINI HIND"

The magazine you require most is out :

1. The "Dakhini Hind" is the first and foremost monthly of its kind. It is published by the Madras Government in India's lingua franca, Hindustani ;
2. It is the standard-bearer of South Indian culture ;
3. It portrays prominently the lives of the great saints and seers, poets and philosophers of the South ;
4. It gives glimpses of the centuries-old, wonderful shrines of South India ;
5. It dives deep into the ancient lore and literature of the Dravidian languages and South Indian art and architecture ;
6. It provides a vivid idea of the customs and ceremonies of the South ;
7. It acquaints you with the all-round activities, welfare measures and policies of the Madras Government ;
8. It improves your knowledge of Hindustani ;
9. It aspires to construct a cultural bridge between the South and the North.

IDEAS AND IDEALS

Importance of Adult Education

"There is no doubt that the wants of food, cloth, medical relief, etc., are the main problems of India. But the problems of illiteracy, lack of education and superstition stand at the top of them. It is not possible to solve other problems, if these are not solved," thus said Sri Prafulla Chandra Sen, Minister of Civil Supplies in a public meeting last week and on the occasion of his visit to Hooghly District Congress Literacy Campaign Camp at Tarakeswar.

The Hon'ble Minister added: "Only fifteen per cent of the total population of India is literate and the rest is in the darkness of illiteracy. The progress of the country would be largely hampered if proper education be not given to these persons. It was the first and foremost duty of all those who love their country to take a move and fight illiteracy and superstitions.

The Minister also asked the people to follow the path of the Mahatma,

who made a great experiment to raise the standard of morals and character of the people through the doctrine of 'Ahimsa'. In conclusion he reminded everyone of his responsibility he owed to his motherland.

To Serve and Not to Govern

"The foreign Government which had been ruling India hitherto is gone and gone for good," said Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Minister for Food and Agriculture, replying to a civic address presented to him at Khurai in Central Provinces. "We are free and independent today," he added. "None of us who is in the Central or Provincial Government is there to govern the people or the country but to serve the masses."

Continuing he said: "Let Government servants, whether holding key or subordinate posts, realize that the old order is gone and that they are the people's servants and discharge their duty to the people with honesty, courage, impartiality and devotion

instead of being intoxicated with power or authority as they used to do in the days of bureaucracy."

Tourists' Organization in Bombay

Speaking on the proposal to have a tourists' organization the Bombay Premier recently said:

"As you know, many European countries have already developed the tourists' organization to a considerable extent and at present, increasing importance is being attached to what is termed as the tourists' industry because of its being an important source of foreign exchange. In the case of a poor country like ours, this consideration is reinforced by the need for providing part-time remunerative employment for several of our struggling young men in universities and offices. Besides, such organization will undoubtedly benefit, in many cases directly, the earning capacity of commercial bodies like travel agencies and shipping and railway companies.

"The real problem, therefore, is to think out the practical ways and means of bringing into existence an organization to undertake this work. We shall first have to define the exact scope of the activities which may be undertaken immediately."

CLIPPINGS FROM GANDHIJI'S WRITINGS

Students

I have reserved students to the last. I have always cultivated close contact with them. They know me and I know them. They have given me service. Many ex-collegians are my esteemed co-workers. I know that they are the hope of the future. In the heyday of non-co-operation they were invited to leave their schools and colleges. Some professors and students who responded to the Congress call have remained steadfast and gained much for the country and themselves. The call has not been repeated for there is not the atmosphere for it. But experience has shown that the lure of the current education, though it is false and unnatural, is too much for the youth of the country. College education provides a career. It is a passport for entrance to the charmed circle. Pardonable hunger for knowledge cannot be satisfied otherwise than by going

through the usual rut. They do not mind the waste of precious years in acquiring knowledge of an utterly foreign language which takes the place of the mother tongue. The sin of it is never felt. They and their teachers have made up their minds that the indigenous languages are useless for gaining access to modern sciences. I wonder how the Japanese are faring. For, their education, I understand, is all given in Japanese. The Chinese Generalissimo knows very little, if anything, of English.

But such as the students are, it is from these young men and women that the future leaders of the nation are to rise. Unfortunately they are acted upon by every variety of influences. Non-violence offers them little attraction. A blow for a blow or two for one is an easily understandable proposition. It seems to yield immediate result though momentary. It is a never-ending trial of

brute strength as we see in time of war among brutes or among human beings. Appreciation of non-violence means patient research and still more patient and difficult practice. I have not entered the list of competitors for the students' hand, for the reasons that have dictated my course about Kisans and Labour. But I am myself a fellow student, using the word in its broader sense. My university is different from theirs. They have a standing invitation from me to come to my university and join me in my search. Here are the terms:

(1) Students must not take part in party politics. They are students, searchers, not politicians.

(2) They may not resort to political strikes. They must have their heroes, but their devotion to them is to be shown by copying the best in their heroes, not by going on strikes, if the heroes are imprisoned or die or are

even sent to the gallows. If their grief is unbearable and if all the students feel equally, schools or colleges may be closed on such occasions, with the consent of their principals. If the principals will not listen, it is open to the students to leave their institutions in a becoming manner till the managers repent and recall them. On no account may they use coercion against dissentients or against the authorities. They must have the confidence that, if they are united and dignified in their conduct, they are sure to win.

(3) They must all do sacrificial spinning in a scientific manner. Their tools shall be always neat, clean and in good order and condition. If possible, they will learn to make them themselves. Their yarn will naturally be of the highest quality. They will study the literature about spinning with all its economic, social, moral and political implications.

(4) They will be khadi users all through and use village products to the exclusion of all analogous things, foreign or machine-made.

(5) They may not impose *Vande Mataram* or the National Flag on others. They may wear National Flag buttons of their own persons but not force others to do the same.

(6) They can enforce the message of the tricolour flag in their persons and harbour neither communalism nor untouchability in their hearts. They will cultivate real friendship with students of other faiths and with Harijans as if they were their own kith and kin.

(7) They will make it a point to give first aid to their injured neighbours and to scavenging and cleaning in the neighbouring villages and instruct village children and adults.

(8) They will learn the national language, Hindustani, in its present double dress, two forms of speech and two scripts, so that they may feel at home whether Hindi or Urdu is spoken and *Nagari* or *Urdu* script is written.

(9) They will translate into their own mother tongue everything new they may learn, and transmit it in their weekly rounds to the surrounding villages.

(10) They will do nothing in secret, they will be above board in all their dealings, they will lead a pure life of self-restraint, shed all fear and be always ready to protect their weak fellow-students, and be ready to quell riots by non-violent conduct at the risk of their lives. And when the final heat of the struggle comes they will leave their

institutions and, if need be, sacrifice themselves for the freedom of their country.

(11) They will be scrupulously correct and chivalrous in their behaviour towards their girl fellow-students.

For working out the programme I have sketched for them, the students must find time. I know that they waste a great deal of time. I know that they waste a great deal of time in idleness. By strict economy, they can

save many hours. But I do not want to put an undue strain upon any student. I would, therefore, advise patriotic students to lose one year, not at a stretch but spread it over their whole study. They will find that one year so given will not be a waste of time. The effort will add to their equipment, mental, moral and physical, and they will have made even during their studies a substantial contribution to the freedom movement.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"HOW TO BOX"

Illustrated foreign publication—Available from Trades, No. 14-D, Jafar Syrang Street, G.T., Madras. (Prices not given.)

The book under review contains four articles from four world famous boxers. At the outset McGovern in the course of six lessons tries to help a beginner to learn boxing. His instructions and suggestions are very sound and can easily be pursued. Fainting and weaving of legs are certainly very important in boxing. The author rightly says that fainting is a useful trick.

In the article 'How to build Muscle' James J. Corbett gives his own experiences and the preparations he made to meet Jeffries. Corbett insists on discovering quickly the weaknesses of an opponent, and also of our own. This helps us to correct ourselves to a great extent. The author further gives in detail the programme of his routine diet and exercises. In Chapter VI, he gives a good piece of advice to women about how to grow strong and beautiful.

The book under review is well illustrated, and will serve as a good guide to a learner of boxing. —S.A.H.

"RURAL PROBLEMS IN MADRAS"

Monograph by S. Y. KRISHNA-SWAMI, I.C.S.—Price Rs. 5. (Available at the Government Press, Madras.)

There is a general impression in some quarters that Government Publications are as a rule not up to the standard of private publications. The present publication of the Madras Government belies that impression. It is

excellently got up and richly illustrated. It is unique in many respects. It stands on a different footing from the general bulk of Government publications which are usually made up of stuff in the nature of administration reports or findings of Committees appointed for special purposes or statistical compilations.

Monograph on rural problems is a more or less original contribution fully packed with facts bearing on the various aspects of rural life in this Province. The author has described the aim of the book as intended to furnish background materials for those who desire to improve rural economy.

It runs into 430 pages and is provided with elaborate appendices. No other book so far has dealt with rural facts so exhaustively as in the present monograph. At a time when there is widespread awakening in the field of rural rehabilitation this book is particularly opportune. We hear frequently nowadays of various kinds of plans for rural welfare. Plans are based on data, both factual and statistical and these the book supplies in ample measure. The book is sure to prove a mine of valuable information not only to social workers but also to those who have necessarily to come into contact with rural people. It is desirable that every public servant should have an intimate knowledge of the contents of this book. It would help them a great deal in discharging their duties according to principles and ideals enunciated by the national Government. Days were when Government servants did not take the trouble of looking beyond the four corners of their office records as well as departmental rules and regulations. An outstanding economist suggested

some time ago, that promotions of Government servants should not depend upon the number of papers they had disposed of or the care they had taken to attend to routine but on the actual efforts they have made to improve common welfare. In a Free India the welfare of the masses is the dominant care of both the Provincial and the Central Governments and the plans they have drawn up are all in furtherance of this fundamental objective. It is, therefore, essential that Government servants who are normally responsible for carrying out the policies of the Government should possess correct facts and figures about rural life in this province. Till now it has been possible to complain that no suitable handbook is available on the subject. With the present publication in hand, no such complaint can any longer stand. A close study of the book is a profitable enterprise. A departmental test on this and similar other books on rural welfare may prove an effective method of enabling public servants to add to their equipment.

—T.K.G.

"THE THORNDIKE JUNIOR DICTIONARY"

Published by the London University Press—Price 15s. nett.

This dictionary strikes a different line. It does not give elaborate meanings for words as is usual with other dictionaries but tells briefly the exact meaning with explanatory pictures in necessary cases. For beginners the dictionary will be found especially useful. Perhaps, advance students of English language may not find the dictionary completely exhaustive. Nevertheless, it is sure to be a valuable reference book for those who enter the field of English literature. The get up and printing is good.

—T.K.G.

"THE MAKING OF THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION," 1939-47

By DR. A. C. BANERJEE, Published by A. Mukherjee & Co., Calcutta, Volume I—Price Rs. 15.

This volume contains all important documents relating to the constitutional developments in India during the period 1939-47. It begins with the statement of the Congress Working Committee, dated September 14, 1939 and ends with an extract from the speech of Sardar Vallabhai Patel, dated 29th November 1947. The book seems to be exhaustive as far as the constitutional documents of the period are

concerned. Of course, the book may not interest a general reader but is sure to be a valuable source-book to students of constitutional history as well as constitutional experts.

—T.K.G.

"JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND DESTITUTION IN POONA"

By MRS. GOSHASP N. RUTTONSHA, M.A., Published by the Deccan College Postgraduate and Research Institute, 10, Connaught Road, Poona-1—Price Rs. 8.

Mrs. Ruttonsha is to be congratulated on writing a most interesting analysis of the working of the Bombay Children Act, with special reference to Poona. It is refreshing to find a book of this nature in which the author does not hesitate to point out where the present system is faulty.

After an interesting historical survey of the development of thought concerning criminology and legislation with regard to children prior to the Bombay Children Act, Mrs. Ruttonsha proceeds to describe the material on which her study is founded. Thereafter, she discusses the disposal of cases, and the post-disposal history. She very ably points out the very great difficulties which obtain, because of the multitudinous and differing societies, which together constitute what we call "India". In contrast to western countries, where the social customs are more or less similar for the whole population, in India there are many groups of people with widely differing social customs. This naturally leads to a great deal of difficulty in assessing a particular child's behaviour, having regard to his background and reaching a decision as to the best course of action to pursue with regard to him. The results of the measures taken are, it is admitted by the author, not very satisfactory. The figure of seventy per cent success is given. In her conclusions the author presents her views not only of the reasons why thirty per cent of the children dealt with turn out to be failures, but also with regard to the measures which she considers should be taken to rectify this. Many of her suggestions are very valuable, and it is apparent throughout the book that she has not only taken much trouble in its preparation, but she has seriously thought about the problems, and has produced valuable results.

I can confidently recommend this book to everyone who is interested in the problems presented by juvenile delinquency in India.

—J.F.T.

"EMERSON—A CONSPECTUS," VOLUME I

By MADHAVA RAMA, Published by C. V. Krishna & Bros., Trivandrum—Price Rs. 10-8-0.

Ralph Waldo Emerson is one of those master-minds who exercised a powerful influence over the Western world in the 19th Century. There is a deep affinity between some fundamental postulates of his universal outlook and Indian philosophic thought. The Upanishads, the Gita and the Koran influenced him no less than the Platonic Philosophy. His writings, therefore, are of particular interest and appeal to us.

Emerson was not a philosopher, in the orthodox sense of the term; he was more a poet and a man of letters. But the philosophic undercurrent that ran beneath his thought was too fundamental to be ignored. He developed no cult, and founded no religion; he was rather an advocate of a new outlook, wide in its appeal, and deep in its understanding.

This volume is the first in a series of four. The author who has been a student of Emerson for more than half a century has done a distinct service by interpreting a master-mind with profound understanding and deep sympathy. The topics dealt with by Emerson, which covered a wide range have been classified by the author, so as to present them in the proper perspective. Biographical data and other materials which help us to know Emerson, the man, have also been included.

The author has indeed performed a labour of love.

—K.

"DAWN OUT OF CHINA"

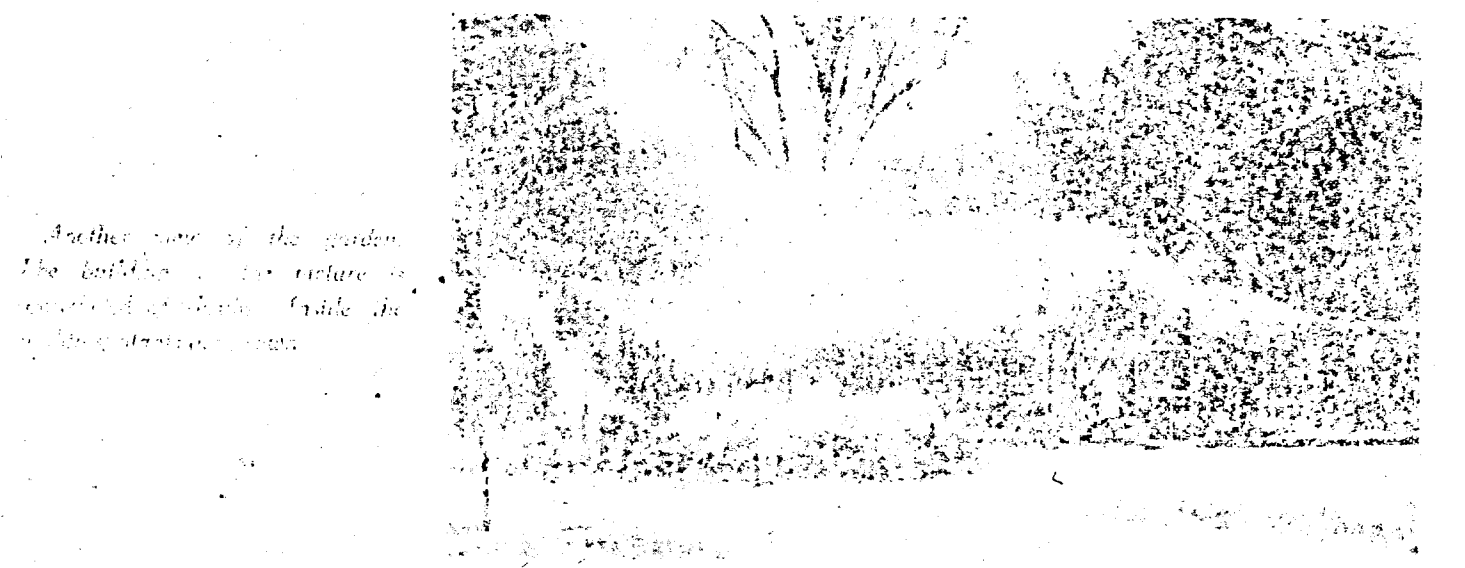
By ANNA LOUISE STRONG, People's Publishing House, Bombay—Price Rs. 4-8-0.

It was Mao-Tse-Tung, the leader of revolutionary China, who declared that no atom-bomb could kill the strength of the people. That is a commentary on the firm resolve and deep devotion, with which the people have thrown themselves into the sacrificial fire of a freedom fight. This book gives an intimate picture of life in the liberated areas, and is a helpful guide to a study of the complicated politics of China. It is a book written with passion, purpose and in superb style.

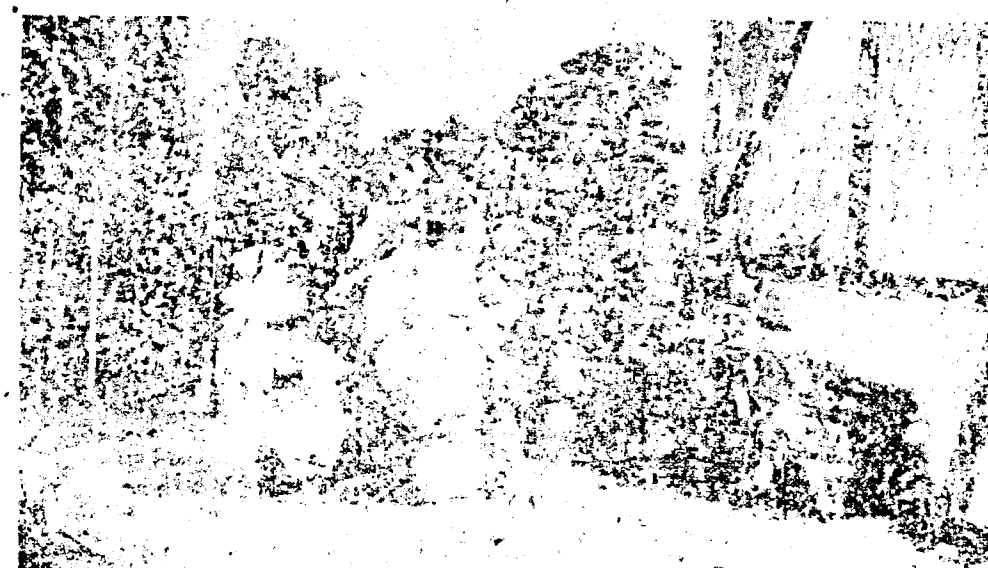
—K.D.



A beautiful garden in Malabar. In the foreground, the flowering plants are opened by lanterns.



Another view of the garden. The building in the background is a small temple, which is a very old one.



Another view of the garden. The building in the background is a small temple, which is a very old one.



BAPALAL & CO.,

Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewellers,
Rattan Bazaar, Madras

Telegram: "NECKLACE"

Telephone: 2526

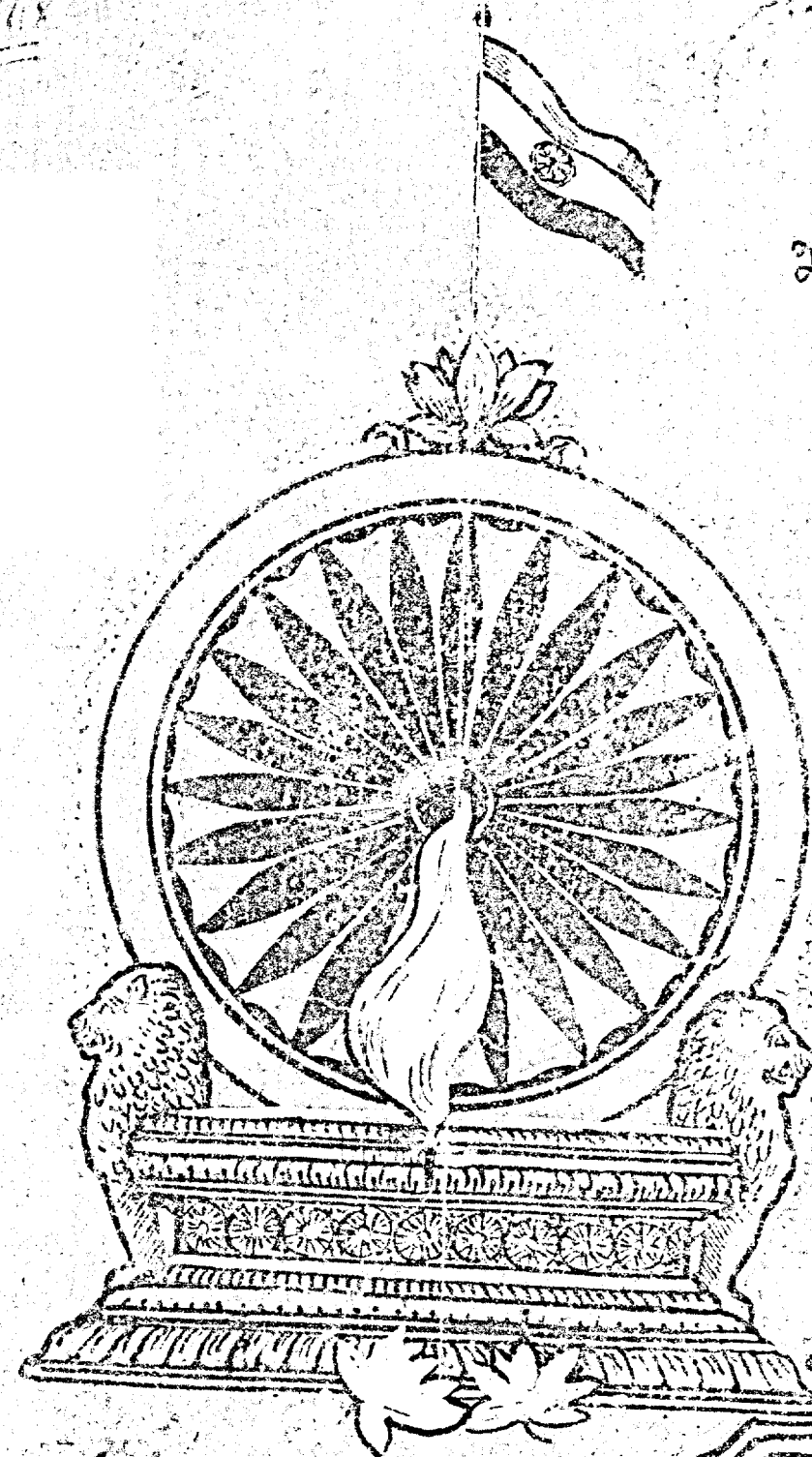
MADRAS PRINTED BY THE SUDHAKAR PUBLICATIONS, LTD. AND PUBLISHED BY THE SUDHAKAR PUBLICATIONS, LTD.

MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 15th AUGUST 1948

NO. 15



Price 2 annas

A Women's section of the Employment Exchange



Hon'ble Minister for Education making detailed enquiries during his visit



Hon'ble Minister for Education listening intently to the Regional Director of Resettlement

Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

Vol. II, No. 15

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

August 15, 1948

Governor-General's message on the Independence Anniversary

THE MOTHERLAND EXPECTS EVERYONE

His Excellency Shri Rajagopalachari has given the following message to the Nation on the occasion of the first anniversary of Independence :—

On the 15th of August 1948 we reach the end of one year of Independence. Our misfortunes have been great and unexpected. We can trace the causes now, but it is a different thing to be wise beforehand. There is no doubt that our Government and our people have had to face what they had not been prepared for. That our Government and our national leaders have not done badly is the opinion of competent international observers who have not spoken to flatter. It is through severe trials that a nation's fibre is strengthened. Otherwise, a people cannot progress.

The greatest of our misfortunes is the passing away of Gandhiji at a time when his wise and inspiring guidance was most necessary. This misfortune has compelled us, those who have been left behind, to fall back on our own light. Gandhiji brought the precepts of all the scriptures into the plane of dynamic worldly action and removed the distinction between the teachings of religion and wisdom in the affairs of the world. If we isolate his teaching from our daily activities as individuals or as a State and pay reverent worship to his memory and his word without making it give direction to our activities in the way he desired, erecting a wall between politics and the virtues and restraints which he preached, then, indeed, our worship would be an empty hypocrisy. Let us in conducting our affairs, try on each occasion of doubt, or difficulty to think as he would have thought if we had gone to him for advice. And let us act as if he were still among us and watching.

A long struggle, such as we have gone through has a tendency to leave behind a certain inelasticity of mind and hesitation in tapping all resources which the new context requires. We must learn to think constructively and to pool all talent and resources for the national work before us.

The first thing is to avoid the vanity of hatred for, indeed, there is nothing more than vanity in hatred and in the plans that follow from it, as we can see if only we read past history to purpose and not for mere entertainment.

The next thing to realize is that to be independent is only an opportunity, and it is only integrity in public life and industry in constructive work that can build and, making up for lost time, bring out the potential greatness of our country.

The Motherland expects everyone now to go full steam ahead in all work. She wants the maximum civic spirit and co-operation.

—C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE

We dedicate ourselves anew to the great cause of Free India and her people

The 15th of August came and we rejoiced at our achievement in spite of the pain of partition. We looked forward to the sun of freedom and the opportunity that freedom brings. But though the sun rose it was hidden from us by dark clouds, and for us it remained a twilight hour. It has been a long twilight and the brightness of the day is still to come. For freedom is not a mere matter of political decision or new Constitutions, not even a matter of what is more important, that is, economic policy. It is of the mind and heart and if the mind narrows itself and is befogged and the heart is full of bitterness and hatred, then freedom is absent.

Another August 15th has come and it is a solemn day for us in spite of all that has happened. The year has considerable achievement to its credit and we have gone forward some distance along our long journey. But the year is also full of unhappiness and humiliation and of a betrayal of the spirit that has been the redeeming feature of India. This year has seen the triumph of evil in the assassination of the Father of the Nation, and what greater shame and sorrow could there have been for anyone of us than this.

We celebrate this solemn day as we should, but our celebration cannot be one of vainglory and pious platitudes. It must be one of heart-searching and a fresh dedication to our cause. Let us think not so much of what we have done but of what we have left undone and what we have done wrongly. Let us think of the millions of refugees who, deprived of all they possessed, are still homeless wanderers. Let us think of the masses of India who continue to suffer and who have looked to us with hope and waited patiently for a betterment of their unhappy lot. Let us think also of the mighty resources of India which, if harnessed and utilized for the common good, can change the face of India and make her great and prosperous. To this great task let us address ourselves with all the strength in us. But above all let us remember the great lessons that Mahatma Gandhi taught us and the ideals that he held aloft for us. If we forget those lessons and ideals we betray our cause and our country.

So on this anniversary of our Independence we dedicate ourselves anew to the great cause of free India and her people. May we prove worthy. JAI HIND.

—JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.



Left—Vishnu with Sridevi, Sundraperumall
Koil, Tanjore district



Right—Pradoshamurthi (Bali Nayakar)
(Vijayanagar), Tiruveloikkudi,
Tanjore district

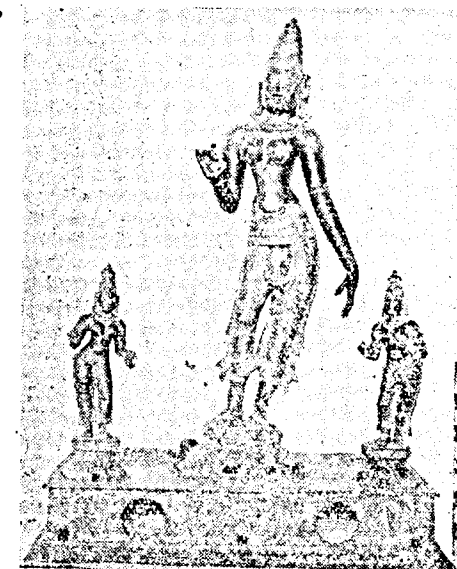
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

240 A

us dedicate ourselves afresh to the cause of unity and to the service of our country

A year ago India achieved her independence after a long and historic struggle. This achievement meant that a great responsibility was laid on the Government at very short notice and they were faced with a very difficult task; especially as the majority of those at the helm of affairs had for the past many years spent the greater part of their life in opposition, with hardly a chance of actual administrative and executive experience. In grappling with the many problems that confront us it is only natural that the Government should make some mistakes, both of omission and commission. It would be idle to deny this, but at the same time the Government can claim with pride that such mistakes have been much fewer than may ordinarily be expected and that there are on the other hand many solid achievements to their credit. While constructive criticism is always welcome, people who criticize the Government solely out of impatience at the progress made, should remember the very short time that they have had to deal with their problems and the many handicaps they suffered from. Let us all rather remember that the most essential thing in India at present is the necessity for solid work and co-operation among all classes and communities in order to build the future of this country on firm and lasting foundations. Let us therefore observe the anniversary of the birth of our independence not so much as an occasion for celebrations but for the purpose of dedicating ourselves afresh to the cause of unity and to the service of our country.

—ARCHIBALD N'E.



Left—Parvati with attendants (Darumapura
Adinam), Tanjore district



Right—Chaturbuja Pidari (Darumapuram),
Tirupanandal, Tanjore district

PREMIER'S MESSAGE

Not the End but the Beginning

The achievement of our Independence marked not the end, but indeed the beginning of our responsibilities. In the mighty task of re-building a new society, the initiative of the Government and the goodwill of the people must blend and result in fruitful activity. A public conscious of their rights and responsibilities and sympathetic in their understanding is the greatest asset to any Government.

I wish "Madras Information" all success in its efforts to build such a healthy co-operation.

—O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR.



Bombay Premier's Message

With co-operation and sympathy
we shall march forward

I extend my heartiest felicitations to the Government of Madras on the occasion of their bringing out a special Independence Number of **Madras Information** to mark the First Anniversary of Our Freedom.

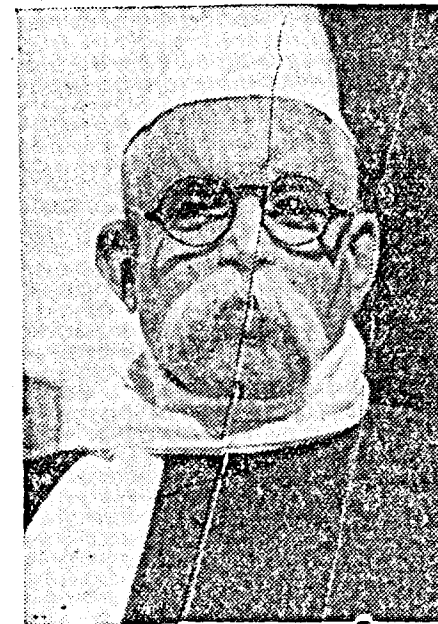
The year that has just ended was overcast with the shadow of National grief over the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of Our Nation.

Deprived of his inspiration and sage counsel, our country has been staggering along in the last seven or eight months, tackling one major problem after another. The year that we have just completed is the most eventful in our history and I am sure that our trials and tribulations have tested our capacity and left us the stronger and more united.

In serving the common people through the dark days of the national tragedy, food shortage, cloth scarcity, and housing difficulties, to say nothing of disorders and disturbances engineered by anti-national political groups, the Province of Madras, no less than my own, has had to bear an unprecedented strain. We, here, in Bombay have been following with deep interest and sympathy the various programmes and progress of nation-building activities that have been regularly publicised in **Madras Information** since the popular Government came into office.

With mutual exchange of information and co-operation and sympathy, let us all march forward to our common goal of the happiness and prosperity of the hitherto-neglected masses of our people.

—B. G. KHER.



Message from the Premier, Central Provinces and Berar

15th August is India's Date with Destiny. It symbolizes the fructification of over half a century of glorious struggle by India's millions. It is a great day in human history—a day of rejoicing for all freedom-lovers. But we shall stop and think. The Architect of our freedom and the Father of Our Nation is no more with us in the very first year of our celebrations. Let this August-day be, therefore, for us a day of solemn re-dedication to the cause of the poor and the down-trodden so dear to our Bapu's heart.

—PANDIT RAVI SHANKAR SHUKLA.

MESSAGES FROM MINISTERS

Rights involve responsibilities also

Honble Sri Bakthavatsalam

It is a year since we celebrated the attainment of Independence with mild enthusiasm throughout the length and breadth of this country. And it is time our progress and achievements are reviewed. 15th August last only meant the opening of the Gate-way to freedom. And freedom for the country only mean freedom of the people and not licence for the individual. And the rights of a free people meant new responsibilities for them, the exercise of which should lead them to their cherished goal. So the 15th August 1947 gave us large hopes and showed us a new path. We have now to see how far our hopes are being realized and whether we are marching along the right path. But our expectations are many and the path is circuitous. Whatever, therefore, be our achievements during the past one year, they look small. But the smallness of our achievements should not deter us and we have only to satisfy ourselves whether we keep the goal alright.



in a tragic manner was the greatest trial for us. We have now to see how far we are catering to the needs of the common man and how far we are resisting exploitations of all kinds. The exploited, while seeking to avoid being a victim to exploitation, show a tendency to exploit the still weaker. We should resist the tendency of the erstwhile exploited exploiting the common man. This is the problem which the popular Governments are trying to solve, and the "Madras Information" offers its continued service to the Government and the people for the tasks ahead.

The ushering in of the era of Independence brought with it sorrows and miseries which again dangled opportunities for confirmed exploiters. The serious food and cloth-shortage opened the field for unscrupulous blackmarketeers. The communal feelings and sufferings which were the products of separation gave us enormous problems to solve. And the passing away of our great leader in the midst of all this

In democracy the people could make or mar the Government. They could strengthen it or weaken it. Without discipline they would be able to achieve nothing.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.



Caste is a stumbling block to National Progress

Hon'ble Dr. T. S. S. Rajan

The year of freedom and independence to India has come and gone. But this freedom and independence has been such that none of us can say that it has been beneficial to the society as constituted today. The dawn of independence has produced a certain amount of dissatisfaction amongst political sufferers who had hoped for something to happen which would end their miseries. But instead the freedom consciousness has let loose the feelings of disappointed ambition and jealousy.

South India has been sedulously brought up on communal consciousness. Today this consciousness has developed into very ugly proportions, which well-nigh threatens to weaken the foundations of national life. Social justice is one thing, but denial of fair opportunities for knowledge is another. One cannot be against the other in the name of justice, but we in South India are suffering from extra dose of communism, which well-nigh threatens to bring chaos in society. It is better that we begin to forget these differences and divisions amongst communities in the name of religion and faith. Religion is a matter of one's own personal conviction for shaping his life, but the wider sense of freedom should not

be allowed to degenerate into sectarian consciousness for power. Freedom should be ensured with freedom of expression, freedom of thought and equal opportunities for acquisition of knowledge. These can only be assured by complete effacement of privileges on communal considerations. To put it briefly caste as prevails in South India today is a misnomer and is a stumbling block to national progress. Public institutions should be run on national lines and not on communal lines. Added to the initial weakness of society in South India, the powers at work before freedom came sedulously has increased the development of this sectarian ideas and privileges. The net result is that though freedom is brought, the old prejudices still linger and seem to prosper more vigorously. That is the greatest danger to national existence and I wish that in the year to come this threatening danger to national life shall soon be laid at rest.



Elevation of the common man is the object of the Government

Hon'ble Kala Venkata Rao

India breathed fresh air during her first year of Independence. The Father of Our Nation who won for us our Independence left us in gloom soon after independence was

achieved. We were thinking that his daily guidance would be available for us to elevate and rehabilitate our poverty-stricken and down-trodden nation. But God has willed otherwise. Strong security measures have saved the nation from much turmoil and suffering which followed the division of India. Of course, the intriguing questions of Kashmir and Hyderabad are still there leaving the leaders little time to ponder over the measures needed to rebuild the nation. Greater peace and tranquillity will lead to greater prosperity and once they are assured, the economic progress can be set in quick motion. The Congress Governments are already on the move to elevate the common man and lift him from his misery and suffering. May India live long and enjoy her freedom. Let the torch of freedom shine in August glory throughout the land.

Every man should do his duty

Hon'ble T. S. Avinashlingam Chettigar

It was Nelson that signalled to his men at a time of crisis, that England expected every man to do his duty. We are in need of reminding ourselves of this great message in our present circumstances. Today there is a new consciousness everywhere



and there is a new emphasis on our privileges and rights. These privileges and rights can be made possible only if every one of us perform our own duties consciously and efficiently.

The tendency to-day is to demand more wages and do less work. This will sap the foundations of our country. By all means, let us claim better treatment in every direction but at the same time, let us give to the Nation our best by way of labour and love translated into terms of efficiency and whole-hearted service. We want more food, more clothes, more schools, more roads and more hospitals. All these and more can be obtained if all of us are determined to work also more; for only through our work, can we achieve. The future depends upon the volume and intensity with which we work to-day and it is necessary that we should remind ourselves of that great message readopted to our own circumstances; that India expects every man, woman and child to do his or her duty.

Responsive Co-operation is the essence of Democracy

Hon'ble A. B. Shetye

The people must know and discuss the policy and programme of the Government. There must be a correct understanding of what Government is aiming at, what it can afford and what it cannot afford. The Government must know the views of the people and the needs of the country, and shape its policies and programmes in accordance with requirements. The maintenance of such relations between the Government and the people resulting in the responsiveness of Government to public opinion and in popular consent to the acts of administration are the essence of democratic Government.

The new Governments in India have taken up office in abnormal times when they are confronted with many difficult and dangerous problems. Foreign domination has reduced the country to a pitiable



plight. Poverty, illiteracy, disease and squalor are staring us in the face. Though political subjection is at an end, we are not yet free from economic domination. The war is over but the difficulties it has created are still with us in the shape of scarcity, inflation, high prices, increased cost of living, labour unrest and demand for higher wages and salaries. In the place of foreign exploiters we have business magnates of our own country who do not hesitate to go to any length in profiteering at the cost of poor consumers. Control or no control, black-marketing continues to flourish. The partition of the country is making us pay dearly for the freedom that came to us last year. The mass migration of millions of people and their relief and rehabilitation have imposed on Government a task of tremendous magnitude and also caused a drain on its resources. On the top of all this, we have now the Kashmir and Hyderabad troubles threatening peace and security in the land. The war-shattered economy and the distress caused by it has created all manner of discontents. The communists and other extreme elements have been trying to exploit the situation and make political capital out of it.

In the words of Pandit Nehru, all manner of perils faces us in India to-day and although other perils may, for the moment, be at the forefront, the ultimate peril is the slow

drying up of the productive capacity of the nation that affects us politically, economically and in every other way. Increased production in Agriculture and industry is our greatest need at present and it must be given priority over everything else. We must grow more food, manufacture more cloth and produce more of other essential consumer goods. We must produce enough not only to meet the needs of the people in our country but also to step up exports to America and Europe so that we may earn enough foreign exchange to get from abroad industrial machinery and other essential requirements. Prices cannot come down and the cost of living will not be reduced unless there is larger production. Increased production has been rightly said to be the only remedy for the malady of inflation. But the volume of production in respect of several important commodities has gone below even the pre-war level. One of the main factors responsible for the fall in production is labour unrest. The industrialists and the labouring classes have made no sufficient response to the appeal made to them by the Prime Minister and other leaders at the last Industries Conference to observe a truce for three years at least. Unless there is such a truce by an amicable settlement of their differences, production will remain low, labour and capital also will injure their own interests and the whole nation will suffer. The industrially-advanced countries of the West are improving the qualities of their goods and reducing the cost of production by mechanising the various processes of manufactures and using labour-saving devices. India cannot face the competition of such efficient foreign rivals in the market unless steps are taken to get the latest machinery, modernise our methods of production, and effect savings in the cost of labour. Tariff walls to protect our industries have helped our industrialists in the past three or four decades but the poor consumers have had to spend their hard-earned money in buying inferior goods at inflated prices for the benefit of Big Business. Our industrial concerns should not any longer be allowed to make huge

profits at the cost of poor consumers in this way.

Political emancipation gives us the power to work towards the fulfilment of our long-cherished aspirations. The Congress Governments are pledged to build India of Gandhiji's dreams. Our newly-won freedom has to be used to give a better kind of life to the common man. The only way to do this is to develop the resources of the country, create more wealth and employment, place more purchasing powers in the hands of the people and also add to the revenues of the State. Zamin-dari abolition, Prohibition, State trading, additional police and military expenditure will deplete our finances. The financial relations between the Union Government and the Provinces are still unsettled. With our finances in the present state, Government cannot carry through a really satisfactory programme of development in the matter of education, health and other projects connected with agriculture, industries and commerce. All the fair prospects hoped for from post-war schemes will vanish like Prospero's vision into thin air.

In the task that lies ahead of the Government, the help of an expert staff—a brains trust—will be essential for devising and carrying out a planned programme of development. The goodwill of the men in the services must be secured so that they may render full and hearty co-operation in the building up of future India. Matters have to be looked at from a new angle of vision. Government officers have no longer to serve the interests of a foreign bureaucracy. They have to become real public servants and the people should not look upon the police or the civil service men with suspicion or ill-will. There must be a new and more friendly relationship between the officials and non-officials.

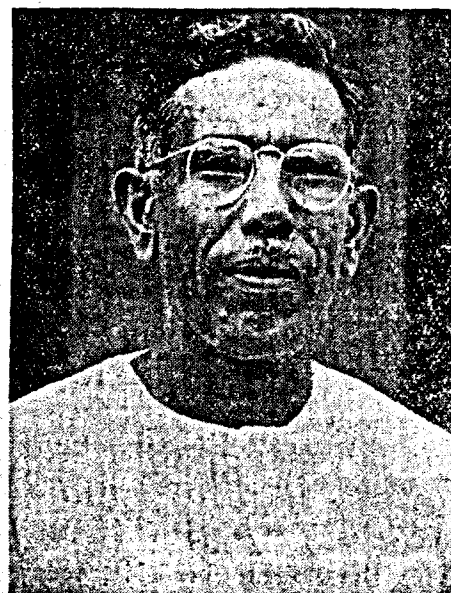
The future destiny of our country cannot but be affected by the international political set up and the policy we choose to follow in external affairs. Unfortunately the world has become divided into two rival camps with the U.S.A. on the one side and Soviet Russia on the other.

They have diametrically opposite ideologies. Britain has allied herself with America. The Prime Minister has announced that India's foreign policy will be to maintain friendship with Britain and to co-operate with the United States and also with the Soviet Union. How long will it be possible for us to maintain such a policy of goodwill all round in a world where rival power blocks are striving for domination? The future relationships of this country with the other countries and particularly with the Big powers must be a matter of supreme concern to us all. What happens in the rest of the world will necessarily have its repercussions on us. Our Foreign Minister will therefore have to follow a wise and cautious policy which will promote the interests of our own country and keep us out of conflict with other powerful nations.

The Soul of India is in the Villages

Hon'ble Dr. Gurubatham

INDIA is an ancient land, not only ancient, it has a culture or cultures which are associated with it from the heavy past. It is a 'unity in diversity.' As any other nation, it has a soul which is unique. This soul has to be preserved. In spite of migration of village people to cities during the past few decades, its population remains rural and shall



remain rural, since agriculture is its mainstay. However much we may industrialize and bring in all modern machinery, it will continue to be agricultural.

Hence the soul of India is in the villages, and in the villages, the centre of activity is the farm and the farmer. So, in all our attempts to raise the economic condition of India, our most important concern should be to improve the condition of the farmer. Every calculation we make for regeneration of India leaves us baffled, for example, if we take the question of housing alone, it will cost 1,000 crores of rupees if every family in this Presidency should have a simple decent house, leave alone other important questions like roads, irrigation, education, preventive and curative medicines, etc., etc. In these circumstances, the keynote of our attempt should be simplicity. Before we can think of providing the villager with the city amenities and instead of increasing the villager's wants, let us first provide him with the absolute necessities, viz., food, clothing and shelter. Fortunately, our South Indian climate is not exacting in respect of clothing and shelter. I am often accused of 'putting the clock back.' If we can, I would be happy to push it forward. But let us be practical. Instead of frittering away our energies by attempting all kinds of big changes, let us first meet these three main demands of the villager and when more money and services are available, we can tackle other questions.

In order that our finances may not be taxed to the breaking point, we can provide these three things within the resources of the villages. That is where the question of 'self-sufficiency' comes in. All the available land should be brought under the plough without affecting what is called 'communal lands, grazing grounds, etc.' While bringing them under the plough, their fertility should be maintained by the farmyard manure which is recognized by all as the most effective one. While preserving this farmyard manure, we could solve the problem of keeping the village clean. Cleanliness, farmyard manure, good cattle, good

farming, nutritious food, storage facilities, proper housing, irrigation, animal husbandry, all these form one circle in the village economy. If this circle is broken at one place, the whole economy will get upset.

I am not able to give details because of shortness of space. Next comes clothing. Khadi and its philosophy fit in here and next to it, other cottage industries have a place. After providing food and clothing, we shall have to tackle housing problem. In solving this, the problems of sanitation, health, manure pit, cattle shed, storage, etc., have to be related.

I do not mean that these should be taken up in the order mentioned above. These and other problems have all to be taken up as a whole, but if our resources will not be adequate, then the first things should be given precedence. Then comes the question of communications, marketing, co-operation, education, medical help, etc. As these activities are being developed, the agency that should correlate them should be taken up and people have to be trained to control them, finance them and develop them. This leads us to the Panchayat system and dispensation of justice, as different from administration of law, even policing, within a certain limit and raising of funds to keep these institutions going without always looking to the Government for help.

Thus, when the villages have become contented and happy self-sufficient units, they shall no longer look to the cities, but the cities shall look to them for their mainstay. I think that is what is called 'Grama Rajya' and after its attainment only our country can claim to have attained the real 'Swarajya.'

Let us put our heads and shoulders together and evolve a model State

Hon'ble Kurmayya.

Exactly one year ago, we achieved our national independence. The enforced partition of our nation cost us dearly. Terrible problems faced our statesmen. Millions of our countrymen, forced to leave their hearths



and homes, had to be rehabilitated. Above all, we lost the Father of our Nation, our beloved Mahatmaji. He died like a true man, a martyr to the cause of communal harmony for which he had dedicated his life. Our able statesmen at the helm rose equal to the severe tasks which confronted them. The great problems are in the way of being solved. Some sections of our own countrymen allowed themselves to be misguided by ill-understood economic and political ideologies and began to exploit the opportunity created by national independence to prepare for a social and economic revolution by creating disorder and confusion and conditions leading to insecurity. Our statesmen took adequate measures to round up such unruly elements and render them ineffective. We, as Indians, can proudly point to the undisputed fact that in the whole of the East, this is the only nation where people have stood for orderly progress, and every man is allowed unfettered self-expression consistently with the safety and security of the State. India is the only eastern nation where we can live with the sense of security. All this shows how well the great leaders of the national movement in the past have disciplined us into the

best organized nation in the East. Our statesmen have learnt deep off the lessons of human history and have been steering this State clear of those rocks which had produced revolutions and disasters elsewhere. Their supreme endeavour has been to create within our nation a state of affairs in which the exploitation of the many by a few will be a thing of the past. Every province is tackling the problem of untouchability. The happiest feature of the short history of Independent India is the avidity with which our Governments and people have been trying to root out such ancient social evils as untouchability and drink. It will not be very long before these two evils will have passed into dim forgotten history. A lot of exploratory work is being done both at the centre and in the Provinces in an endeavour to bring about a social and economic reorganization of the country suited to the genius of the nation. This work is less spectacular than real. Those engaged in this work do feel that we are not able to produce impressive results. For one thing such work which calls for a steady, planned and patient endeavour, is not capable of producing quick tangible results. Secondly we are left to tackle such problems with the help of an administrative machinery bequeathed to us by the old bureaucratic Government. The services under us are doing their best to forward our policies, but are yet to be reorganized and brought fully in tune with our national requirements. We expect to remedy this state of affairs also ere long. Let us all put our heads and shoulders together and evolve a state which shall be a model to the whole world in all respects; a State in which every man has full opportunity of healthy self-expression unhampered by his caste, creed or colour. May God bless, and Mahatmaji's soul guide us to the achievement of this great end.

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW

What Madras Government have done to improve the lot of the common man.

As a true citizen you should know what your Government have done.

Please purchase a copy of "Madras Marches on." Its price is only annas twelve.

An Year in Retrospect

15th August 1947 was an epoch-making day in the history of India. On that date this ancient country, with a civilization going beyond 5,000 years, achieved her political freedom. It was achieved not through bloody revolutions or protracted wars, but through the might of non-violence. India's record in this regard is unique. France had to wade through blood to her political freedom while America got it after a hard tussle. India, true to her traditions and ancient culture, relied on non-violence, which ultimately triumphed. It is a commonplace fact that for this happy consummation she is indebted particularly to Mahatma Gandhi. Ever since his return from North Africa in 1919 and the inauguration of the non-violent non-co-operation movement, he had like an unerring pilot guided the ship of this country through shoals and sandbanks to her happy destination. Non-violence was his weapon.

It is sometimes more difficult to keep freedom than to achieve it. History is full of instances of countries having lost the freedom which they had achieved at great cost. In India the attainment of freedom synchronized with the aftermath of a global war. Usually, freedom throws up numerous problems and in India these problems were multiplied by those created by the second World War. The food problem, the refugees' problem, the problem of inadequacy of consumer goods, the scarcity of dwelling houses and the unrest created by subversive elements in society are only a few of the many problems that awaited the attention of the Government. Fortunately, however, the popular Government elected by the people came into existence both at the Centre and in the provinces and thanks to their self-denying efforts, the ship of state was kept on an even keel. So far as this province is concerned, she has been able to pull herself through the difficult times almost unscathed due to the untiring efforts of the Government and the co-operation of the people, but things can be expected to return to normal conditions only rather slowly. A few facts regarding national building activities may not be out of place in this connection.

The Government have pursued with remarkable zeal and energy an elaborate programme of nation-building activities despite heavy odds. They have started implementing a five-year programme of agricultural development. This is expected to result in increased production to the extent of 5.5 lakhs of tons of rice per annum by 1951-52. A scheme of manure distribution

has also been undertaken by the Government. Measures have also been taken to control pests and diseases of crops. Mechanization of agriculture is being speeded up. Tractors have been and are being distributed. A Warehouse Bill is under examination in order to provide facilities for the storage of agricultural produce. Agro industries have also been encouraged. Live-stock improvement has been planned on a comprehensive scale. Cattle-shows have been encouraged and small poultry units have been opened in several places. A vast irrigation programme has also been launched and is being pushed through vigorously. A new well subsidy scheme for sinking new wells or repairing old ones has been put into operation. Agrarian reforms have also been undertaken. Legislation for the abolition of Zamindaris and Inamdars are under way. Co-operative Land Colonization Societies have been started for the benefit of Harijans, ex-toddy tappers and ex-servicemen. Co-operative societies for cottage industries are also being formed. One of the main planks in the policy of the Government is to harness the principle of co-operation to the relief of the masses. Other measures have also been taken to promote the prosperity of the rural folk. Prohibition, a nation-building experiment, is being vigorously carried out. A firka development programme has been drawn up and a separate department has been created for its execution. Labour unrest has been tackled successfully and wherever possible the differences between capital and labour have been amicably settled. Social inequalities have also been largely remedied. All social disabilities under which the Harijans were suffering have been done away with through the Madras Civil Disabilities Act and the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act. Special schools to meet the needs of the Harijans in settled localities have been opened. Educational concessions have been granted to them. These are only a few highlights. The main objective of the Government is the elimination of poverty and the raising of the standard of living of the common man. This goal cannot be achieved overnight. It is inevitably a slow work and will take time to produce results. Only a year has passed since independence was achieved and this is only a drop in the ocean. Still however during this short period considerable headway has been made in many directions. The Government are already determined to pursue their nation-building tasks unhindered by subversive activities but success

depends upon the co-operation of the saner elements. Mahatma Gandhi has repeatedly said that a democratic Government is not something apart from the people. It is a concrete expression of popular will and so public co-operation with a democratic government is a logical step. To the extent the people co-operate with the

Government, to that extent the nation-building task of the Government will be rendered easy.

A difficult year has passed. There are still clouds in the horizon. These may pass away and we may look into the future with confidence and optimism.

Prime Minister in Madras

THE unparalleled enthusiasm with which India's Prime Minister was welcomed to this City on the occasion of his first visit as Prime Minister of Free India is a measure of the profound esteem and affection in which he is held by the people of this Province. The crowds that awaited to have a darshan of him during his movements exceeded several lakhs and many of them had come from far and near at so much inconvenience. Wherever he went, whatever meetings he addressed, there were record gatherings waiting to listen to the great leader.

The Prime Minister had a very busy programme in this Province and in the course of his addresses at various places covered a vast range of subjects of great public interest. He spoke clearly and unmistakably on many of the vital issues that are before the country. Laying the foundation stone of the Electro-Chemical Research Institute at Karaikudi, the Prime Minister said that the greatness of a nation was judged not by armies but its prosperous, contented and productive people. "We have to build up," he said, "an India of this greatness so that she may become a symbol of progress, happy living and productive activity." At the public meeting at the Island Grounds, which was attended by not less than five lakhs of people, he referred to the burning issues before the country. "But these vast problems" he said, "depend on the goodwill and co-operation of the community as a whole. Unless there is that goodwill and co-operation, it is difficult to find a solution to these problems however good the Law may be. We are not getting this goodwill

in the ample measure in which it should come to us." Further on he said, "we have got into the habit from long ages of foreign domination of not looking after our own selves properly and of expecting the Government to do everything and those in authority to perform wonders. It is a wrong approach at any time. It is a completely wrong approach when you have a democratic system of Government which you can influence this way or that, control or change as you desire. Democracy cannot function unless it has the active co-operation and goodwill of the large numbers of the people." These words contain fundamental truths. Equally important observations were made by him at his speech at the Labour Rally. Much of what he said on this occasion bear repetition. The Prime Minister said :

"I find to-day people talking in terms of Socialism and more especially in terms of Communism. Excellent gospels! So far as I am concerned, I accept their fundamental principles"

"I will not," the Prime Minister said, "and do not accept the manner and method of those who call themselves Communists. In the name of economic doctrine, they are at the present moment trying to create chaos, murder and commit all manner of atrocities in this country and then come to us in the name of civil liberty to carry on these atrocities. No country worth its name, no Government or State can put up with this kind of thing. If any group or people in the country wants to declare war on the State, then, the State is at war with them and

immediately and ultimately one will triumph. Therefore, there can be nothing but war against those who make war. I want to make it perfectly clear that if the workers of this country, of this city and of the Province want not only to better their lot, as they have a right to do so, but even if they want to change the whole structure of society, as they have a right to do, the only way to proceed is, if I may say so, to peacefully and co-operatively influence the Government or change the Government. But if they go about upsetting this new State of ours, Free India, before it has fully stabilised and completely adjusted itself after the very terrible changes that we have faced and other consequences that followed, then, they are no friends of freedom, no friends of India and the working class. *They are friends of chaos and anarchy out of which they hope that something to their advantage might come. Therefore, all workers must realize that.*

"Now, I should like to say something else," the Prime Minister said, "of a different kind. You know that I have stood for civil liberty. I have stood for the freedom of the individual and the group and nothing else pained me so much as that conditions should arise in this country, when, perforce, civil liberty should be limited in the case of a large number of individuals. It pains me and it hurts me that the very thing I have condemned in the past should to some extent be indulged in by our Governments, whether in the Centre or in the Provinces. But I should like to tell you that my Government in the Centre and in the Provinces are forced to take action because of the state of affairs prevailing. They must take action because we cannot endanger the security of the State.

"But whenever there is danger to the State and when normal standards do not set in, then the primary duty of any Government worth its name is to protect the State, protect the community at large and the people at large, even though that protection means a certain limitation of liberty for some groups of individuals.

"You know," the Prime Minister said, "when there is war it leads to certain limitations of individual liberty; war means that the State is in peril, the State tries to defend itself by all manner or means. Now, we are not at war, and we shall not, I hope, be at war. Nevertheless, we are facing a situation, political, economic, external and internal which creates more or less some dangers. Taken as a whole it is a war situation.

"Therefore, our outlook should be a war outlook and we should see that we win through and overcome all these dangers. When we have a war outlook of this kind then everything else is secondary.

"Have you ever looked at the map of India? Look at it again. Look at that magnificent chain of Himalaya Mountains form the north to the north-east. There is no area in the world which is more powerful and with more potential power locked in it than the Himalayan chain. All that power had to be tapped for public good. We want to do it. We are going to do that. We have begun doing that with enormous power and human resources not only in Himalayas but elsewhere. We have everything in India except for the present the proper co-ordination of power with human resources. That co-operative spirit and the spirit of discipline will bring us all together and may serve the nation and serve the people. If we do so together then, very rapidly we build up this great nation. The building up of a great nation does not mean building up at the top but from the bottom and raising its level.

"This Province of Madras," the Prime Minister proceeding said, "is very poor. It shocks me to go in the rural areas and see the people there. We have to raise their level, and we are going to do it. You will waste your time if, in setting about that work, you simply fight and quarrel among yourselves and often spend your time and energy in wasteful strikes as some of our misguided friends are doing today.

"I beg of you," he continued, "workers—whether in the field or in the factory or

railway or elsewhere—to give thought to the present state of the world and to India in particular. The present state of the world also is pretty bad. They talk of wars, etc. If war comes, it will be terrible disaster all over the world. In India we are struggling hard to come out from the mire into which we sank last year and early this year. The first thing before us is to get the country going, to get it properly stabilized and to increase its production and do all that with one common aim in view, i.e., the raising of the standard of the masses. We should also solve the problems of poverty, unemployment and the like. You cannot undertake any Himalayan scheme of which I have mentioned; there are many great schemes here also in the province of Madras. We just cannot get going if our time and energy are spent on conflict and combating anti-social forces. We have to combat anti-social forces. Therefore, I call upon you to join the fight against them. Fight, if anything wrong is done by anybody. You have every right to challenge them, and as a union, you can face their opposition. I wish you all success in any such struggle that you may face. But if

you go the wrong way, then public sympathy will go against you, and you will be putting up a great majority of the nation against you.

"I hope", he concluded, "you will think over the words I have said; when you think, you will realise that the primary need of the day is to work for peace and order in this country and for a strong Trade Union movement which better your lot and fights for you when your rights are challenged and protects you when you are victimised. Think always of the Nation first and the interests of individuals and groups second. Jai hind."

India's Prime Minister has come and gone. He was very much impressed with his visit to this Province, and the affectionate welcome that was extended to him. But many of the things which he said are of more than passing interest. The advice he gave, the warning he administered and the exhortations he made; these are to be carefully borne in mind by everybody in this province. The country is passing through a critical stage and it is the essence of safety to follow those who are at the helm of affairs both at the Centre and in the Provinces. Subversive elements can only side track issues and create trouble.

Knowledge is Power.

1. Where can you get knowledge of the policies and programmes of the Madras Government?
2. Where can you get information about the activities of Nation Building departments of the Government?
3. Where can you get information about the activities of other Provinces as well as those of the Dominion Government?
4. Where can you see delightful photos which are a real feast to the eye?

'Madras Information' is the answer. It costs only two annas. It will bring a wealth of *Information* to your *Door* for twenty-four pies.

GANDHIJI'S LIFE AND IDEALS

Mahatma Gandhi and Tolstoy

NOTE.—On the first anniversary of Independence our thoughts go back to Gandhiji—the Father of the Nation. Though he is not with us, his ideals are not dead and our safety lies in following these ideals.

In modern times we know one great soul whose writings Gandhiji studied many years ago, with whom he also corresponded and who left a deep impress on Gandhiji. That man was Leo Tolstoy of Russia. After a luxurious life and military activity, he found great disappointment in and disgust for the selfish worldly life and turned to the Christian teaching in an unorthodox and broad-minded manner. He studied the essential teaching of Jesus and proclaimed it and tried to live up to it. He gave up his big estate and adopted a simple vegetarian diet soon after the change in his life and ideas. This is explained in his *First Steps*. He dressed like a peasant very simply and lived in an unfurnished room in his house, where the writing materials and a plough and a spade and a wood-cutter's axe and a saw, and a shoe-maker's tools were kept. He tried to live like a peasant working with the plough or sawing wood with workmen. Unfortunately most members of his family except his daughter and one son were of another mind. His eldest son hated his father, blaming him, quite wrongly, for the Russian Revolution, through which they had lost their big estate.

Tolstoy like Gandhiji was against all violence. He believed that the world can be uplifted through non-violence and passive resistance, that is, resisting evil not by evil or force but by good, as Jesus had taught. But this revival of Christian teaching was based not on mere passivity but active non-co-operation with force and violence in every form. That was what the Christians had forgotten or had not recognized after the primitive Christian cults. When Emperor Constantine became a Christian after his predecessors

had persecuted this cult, he kept his arm and the sword of empire outside the baptismal font and thus made violence sneak back into Christian thought and life.

Tolstoy left his family because he could not live fully according to his ideals in their company, as they lived in luxury and did not give back the land to the peasants as Tolstoy wished. He got ill through exposure to great cold, and died of pneumonia away from home. This was his act of martyrdom.

His position in life, his great influence among the idealists of every land made it impossible for the Russian Government to imprison him although he offered himself to be put into jail, when an admirer of his writings was tried and imprisoned for circulating his manuscript, which was not allowed to be published in Russia. But the authorities refused to try or punish Tolstoy as they did Mahatma Gandhi in India, because the Russian rule was not foreign as here.

Tolstoy belief in Truth, love and *brahmacharya* (sexual purity), not taking what belonged to others and utter simplification of life, as Gandhiji did. Like Tolstoy Gandhiji believed in cleanliness, contentment, austerity, study of scriptures, and dedicating all activities to the Lord.

Tolstoy succeeded in greatly influencing some of his friends among big land-owners and princes who gave up their estates to the peasants. Mahatma Gandhiji has also influenced the lives of many persons though few have understood him fully. But this did not discourage him, though he carried out some of Tolstoy's ideas even more thoroughly than Tolstoy could. He applied the soul force of passive resistance to Indian politics and succeeded in achieving great success in spite of the

people not having understood or followed him in a perfect manner. But there is no doubt about the success which he gained and which will go down in history unequalled by any other people before. There are some previous instances of passive resistance in history. For instance, it succeeded to some extent in Hungary after the failure of military resistance and war in about 1850. Tolstoy has also mentioned it in his works that it was going to be applied in America also by Lloyd Garrison to free the slaves, but the American Government came in and used military force to the same end. All the same those attempts are not a patch on what Gandhiji has achieved.

In the beginning Tolstoy wrote mainly on Christian lines though he was never orthodox or narrow-minded. Later on he found that all religions had very similar essential truths. He called these principles trans-divine which did not depend on any individual teachers.

For Mahatma Gandhi also, Truth had the real significance and not human or so-called divine myths which alone attract the unenlightened man. He called God Truth, even as the Arabs called Him *Haq*, and Truth he called God.

One day when a guard kicked a pregnant peasant woman on the lawn of Yasnya Polyana, for trespassing there and which was prohibited by the Countess Tolstoy to whom that estate belonged, Tolstoy wept with sorrow and indignation, but said nothing to offend her. I also remember having read some years ago that Gandhiji could not bear Kasturba use a few rupees from public money for a private purpose.

Leo Tolstoy wrote many books and pamphlets to convey his ideas to the world, beside his famous earlier stories of large and small size which had made him popular in the literary world, but which later he denounced as works of art, and he wanted the world not to read those stories but

(Continued on page 16)

NEWS AND NOTES

Role of Machine in Cultivation

Speaking sometime ago at Nagpur, India's Food Minister referred among other things to the role of machine in cultivation. He said that it should assist men and not replace them. Therefore, machine should be used only when human labour was unavailable or work was not possible through the human agency.

Calling upon the kisans once again to improve cultivation in the interest of whole country, he cited the example of Japanese cultivators. He explained how the Japanese made the best of every inch of land. In India also, he emphasized, the kisans could bring back past prosperity and happiness.

The tractor scheme, first looked with suspicion, was now a rage with them. Confidence was growing. The kisans' co-operation was laudable. Saugor district alone had 1½ lakhs acres of good wheat land, recoverable with the help of tractors. He had no doubt that the Government of India would be unstintingly extending their help; but the kisans must also assure that they deserve it. The question of erecting bunds was also being solved, he announced with pleasure, as the Government of India had agreed to allot the use of bulldozers for the purpose. He asked the kisans to come up to the whole country's expectations.

Radio as a Unifying Factor

"Apart from the many amenities it (radio) offers to the people, the radio plays an important role in the unification of the country. I would therefore on behalf of the Government of India fervently appeal to the people of the Central Provinces and Berar to instal as many radios as possible. And arrangements should be made to extend the benefits of radio to villages," observed Hon'ble Sirdar Vallabhai Patel, Deputy Prime Minister of India, on the occasion of the inauguration of the Nagpur Station of the All-India Radio recently. The Deputy Prime Minister emphasised that radio in the modern world figured as an essential aspect of national life.

The potentialities of the radio as a unifying and educative factor are no longer in doubt. Unlike any other medium of propaganda radio reaches the largest number of people at the same time. It brings urban and rural people closer and is a powerful instrument for mass education and information. The Provincial Government have already taken steps to make people radio-minded. In a recent issue of this journal detailed reference was made to these steps. In a province where only a minority are literate, radio as an educative factor has incalculable possibilities. To the extent they make use of the radio to that extent they will be able to neutralize the handicaps imposed by lack of literacy.

Rural Medical Relief

One of the causes for the high mortality in this Province is traceable to the absence of medical facilities in rural parts. Ninety per cent

of the population live in villages and many of these villages are not within easy reach of medical aid. It has been said that 50 per cent of

the total mortality in this country is preventable. A good number of cases are also lost on account of village quacks. The Government have therefore included in their post-war programme a liberal extension of medical relief in rural areas. They have also ordered the establishment of 150 combined primary medical and public health centres and 25 group centres in the post-war quinquennium at the rate of 30 combined centres and 5 group centres every year. These combined primary centres will be manned chiefly by a Civil Assistant Surgeon, a compounder and a midwife while public health staff consists of a Health Inspector and a midwife. The group centres will be under the charge of a Woman Medical Officer. It is hoped that the extension of medical relief would go a long way in minimizing the hardships now experienced in rural parts for timely medical aid.

Prohibition Laws

It is sometimes argued that prohibition laws are impossible of enforcement the increasing incidence of offences being one of the props of this argument. Hon'ble Mr. L. M. Patel, Minister for Excise, Bombay, has recently answered this argument. He said: "There were incidences of murder, theft and other crimes despite legal enactments and penal code." "Should we withdraw all these enactments," he asked "and close down prisons merely because there is some incidence of crime?"

The incidence of offences in respect of a particular law is not a factor in assessing its merits or demerits. Laws are intended to protect the community as a whole, and its ordered progress. Violations of laws are inevitable so long as human nature remains what it is. But such violations should not be made a ground for condemning the law itself. Prohibition laws seek to enforce a moral reform, and moral reforms are not easy to get through. So offences are bound to be frequent unless the people understand the spirit behind the laws and co-operate with the Government in the enforcement of the laws.

Hence the success of moral reforms depends to a large extent on the co-operation of the people with the Government who are enforcing the law. It is therefore necessary that such co-operation is extended ungrudgingly.

Communists Apologize

Fourteen communists from Malabar have apologized to the Government condemning the communist party. It is a matter for satisfaction that wisdom is dawning upon the ranks of the communists. This party has of late constituted itself into a growing menace everywhere in the world. Recently one writer said that amidst pre-occupations like Hyderabad and Kashmir, scarcity of essential commodities, transport bottle-necks, etc., the average citizen in this country is not fully alive to the menace of communism. This seems to be a real fact and is partly due to the skilful propaganda carried on by the communists in some parts of the country. But the masses cannot be fooled for all time. A mere glance of the antecedents of the communist party is enough to convince anybody of the hollowness of their pretensions. It is well-known that they were hostile to the allies in the first few months of the last war because Soviet Russia had entered into a pact with Germany. Later they suddenly became supporters of the war effort when Russia clashed with Germany. Apart from this obvious inconsistency in their conduct, their attitude and activities since 1942 have made them suspect in the eyes of every Indian patriot.

They sought to sabotage India's life and death struggle for independence during the 1942 movement. At a critical period they did not hesitate to range themselves against widespread patriotic upheaval. The communist leaders broke strikes, spied on patriots and did everything to frustrate Indian political emancipation. But soon after the National Government came into power in the centre, these people proved themselves its ardent supporters. They perhaps wanted to get into the saddle of power and at one time a suggestion was made by their protagonists for the building up of a united front to

include within its fold Congress leaders as well as socialists and communists. When this move failed they arrayed themselves against the Government and are carrying on their vandalism everywhere.

The cover page design was prepared by Sri R. Kumaran, 14, Nallanna Mudali Street, Royapetta.

People in this province need not be told in detail about the atrocities communists have committed especially in Kerala, Andhra and two or three districts in Tamil Nad. They are sabotaging every constructive effort of the Government at a time when the whole country is passing through a difficult period. They have stirred up class hatred and unleashed violence. They have hampered production. They have used the illiterate peasants and labourers as pawns in their political game. Fortunately the bulk of the people in this province are able to see through the game of communists. The fact that fourteen communists from Malabar which is a hot bed of communism have tendered their apologies and repented for their past conduct is very significant in that it shows that fissures have begun to

(Continued from page 14)

his ideas about religious and social truths which he tried to make simple and did not embellish them as artistic productions.

Mahatma Gandhi has written a good deal, but he spent more time and labour in practically carrying on his mission which was the aim of Tolstoy also.

Gandhiji seemed a little disappointed with conditions and tendencies of violence which he tried to remove and which resulted in his martyrdom. Tolstoy was also disturbed with the world conditions there. But they surrendered themselves fully to the will of God and the destiny of the world which is expressed by the resultant of all the forces of good and evil that exist here.

—Harijan.

India of my Dreams Mahatmaji's Definition

I shall work for an India in which the poorest shall feel that it is their country in whose making they have an effective voice, an India in which there shall be no high class or low class of people, an India in which all communities shall live in perfect harmony. There can be no room in such an India for the curse of untouchability or the curse of intoxicating drinks or drugs. Women will enjoy the same right as men. All interests not in conflict with the interests of the dumb millions will be scrupulously respected whether foreign or indigenous.

appear in the ranks of the communists in the province.

SOLVING INDIA'S POVERTY

"The people must put themselves to work, for no country could ever hope to be prosperous if the majority of its population were idle for six months of the year. The people must do some work, no matter how small the income derived therefrom, during the dry season. Mahatmaji had penetrated into the secret of the poverty of India when he advocated the spinning wheel, no matter if it did produce only a few annas a day."

NEW INDIA IN THE MAKING

India's Peaceful Revolution

Sardar Panikkar's Address

"The ancient land of India is throbbing with fresh vitality and a new India more vigorous, more vital and fully capable of taking her place again among the leading nations, is being shaped before our eyes," said His Excellency Sardar K. M. Panikkar, Ambassador of India in China, addressing the alumni of the National Central University at Nanking recently.

Dr. Panikkar added: "The vision of a New India which the great leaders of my country have before their eyes is not one which seeks material advancement at the cost of a neglect of moral and spiritual values. To them the welfare of the common man, his allround development and the betterment of the conditions of his life are matters of supreme importance. It is in this light of improving the conditions of the common man that we have to view the great schemes of industrial and agricultural development which are being put through. We have no desire to grow strong merely for the sake of strength. Our object, the ideal of the New India that we are working to achieve, is to seek true, moral and material greatness through the elevation of all our people.

"So comprehensive were the changes taking place in India," Dr. Panikkar said, "that it could well be claimed that India had effected a peaceful revolution and that her ancient society had achieved a rejuvenation of spirit which is truly remarkable."

Referring to geographical unification as the first major feature of the New India, Dr. Panikkar said: "On the 14th August 1947, on the eve of India's independence, nearly half the territory of the Indian Union was divided up in the hands of

sovereign Princes who, by the withdrawal of British authority, could have legally refused to come into the Indian Union. But on the 15th, a great and historic event took place, the full significance of which is only now being realized. All the Princely States of India, with the single exception of Hyderabad, signed an agreement with the Union by which they surrendered to the new Government their rights in the matter of Foreign Affairs, Communications and Defence. On the memorable 15th August what came into being was not merely an India independent of Britain, but an India integrated in a manner which few people had thought possible. The National Government which was installed on the 15th spoke not merely for what was British India before that day, but for the whole of the area of the sub-continent of India, excluding Hyderabad and the territories which had seceded to form Pakistan. Thus has come into existence for the first time in India, a unified State with the complete paraphernalia of modern administration, which in area exceeds the former British territory in India, has a larger population and a more integrated political system.

"A no less revolutionary change had been brought about in the social structure. Untouchability—one of the great blots of on the otherwise humane civilization of India—was being removed. All civil and social disabilities of the untouchable castes had been abolished by law", Dr. Panikkar said, "and the practice of untouchability had been made a penal offence. Moreover, special provision had been made for the education and economic uplift of the untouchables."

"The codification of Hindu law, and the changed position of women

in Indian society were other notable features of our changing social life. The significant fact," Dr. Panikkar commented, "is not that there are many women of acknowledged ability and achievement in Indian national life, but that Indian womanhood is now awake to their social and political rights and play their part in the shaping of New India."

Dr. Panikkar then referred to the far-reaching changes in the economic life of India. He pointed out that India "had at all times been a major industrial country," and that the National Government was now addressing itself to the tasks of industrial development.

After alluding to India's achievements in the field of pure science, and the chain of national laboratories that is being set up under the auspices of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Dr. Panikkar admitted that the results of this basic activity would not be evident all at once. "But," he added, "the programme which has already been undertaken is such that within a few years India can hope not merely to show positive advances in pure science, but will certainly produce scientifically trained personnel at all levels sufficient to shoulder the responsibility for an immense industrial expansion."

Dr. Panikkar also dealt briefly with India's food problem and spoke of "land reclamation on a vast scale, mechanization of agriculture and the introduction of chemical fertilizers, and above all new irrigation schemes" as the means now being actively pursued by the Government to increase food production. "It is impossible to foresee, at the present time, how tremendously the economic structure and the material set up of Indian life will be changed when the effect of these schemes come to be felt," he said.

Resettlement of Ex-Servicemen

Progress of a Co-operative Agricultural Colony



Guard of Honour by the ex-servicemen members to His Excellency

His Excellency Sir Archibald Edward Nye, the Governor of Madras, visited the ex-servicemen's Colony at Tirumangalakottai in Tanjore district recently.

Co-operative Agricultural Colonization Societies constitute one of the popular schemes for resettling ex-servicemen. The Tirumangalakottai Ex-servicemen's Co-operative

Agricultural Colonisation Society started work in April 1947. The Colony is situated about 25 miles from Tanjore and is connected with the Tanjore-Pattukottai main road by an approach road constructed at a cost of Rs. 35,400. The total extent of the Colony is 1,567 acres of which 1,428 acres can be reclaimed and irrigated by channels under the Cauvery-Mettur Project. So far, 548 acres of land have been allotted to members and 250 acres were brought under cultivation during the last fasli. The reclamation of the remaining land will be speeded up as soon as bulldozers are made available to the society by the Agricultural Department. Provision has been made for excavating the necessary irrigation channels.

In the Colony provision is made for 285 huts to house 285 members. Nine drinking water wells are proposed; two have been constructed and five are under construction. Provision has been made in the plan for common amenities like School, Play ground, Maidan and Park, Stores, Godown, Dispensary, etc.

The ultimate strength of the colony is 285 members. So far, 136 members have been admitted with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 6,810. More will be admitted as soon as the lands are reclaimed. Ninety-nine members have so far commenced cultivation of their lands. Eighty-two are residing in the Colony in the huts allotted to them and the rest are living in adjoining villages. More huts are being constructed, and the



His Excellency speaking to the Officers

remaining members will soon be shifting to the Colony.

Each member is allotted five acres of wet land which he can enjoy for his life-time without alienation and pass it on to a single heir nominated by him without fragmentation of the holding. The land is free from assessment for the first two years.

Besides the land, each member is allotted a house-site 100 feet by 60 feet with a thatched hut (18 by 12 feet) constructed at Government cost of Rs. 150 each. Good drinking water is available within ten feet. Many of the colonists dug their own wells at a cost of Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 each in the backyards for raising kitchen gardens. Each Colonist will be provided with a pair of bulls, and 50 per cent of the cost (up to Rs. 125) will be given as free grant and the remaining Rs. 125 given as loan repayable in three years. Already



Directors of the Colony being introduced to



His Excellency among school children. The Colony has an elementary school and the wife of a Colonist who is a trained teacher, is in charge of it

some pairs were purchased and distributed to the colonists.

A Vocational Training Centre is conducted from the Government of India grant. One Agricultural Demonstrator assisted by two Instructors is in charge of the Centre. The members are given both theoretical and practical training in agriculture and allied subjects like dairying, sheep-breeding, etc. Each trainee member is given a stipend of Rs. 10 plus a messing allowance of

Rs. 23 per month. The course is for one year.

The crop programme includes cultivation of green manure crops or pulse crops from February to June when the channels are dry. The society supplied the members with seedlings of coconuts and mangoes and proposes to supply some more. The Instructors have raised seedlings of lime, papaya, jack, etc., in the sea-beds for distribution to members.

Work for all in New India

Search Light on Employment Service

NOTE.—The Employment Service is a new experiment with all the attendant handicaps and difficulties. The span of three years is hardly enough for an organization with a tremendous task to face, to get into full stride, much less to produce spectacular results. Still it has been progressing steadily in all directions and some idea of the ground already covered may be had from this article. More and more employers have begun to seek and profit by the services of the Employment Exchanges, a testimony to the growing popularity of the Exchanges and of the confidence employees are beginning to place in them. From all indications, the Employment service is bound to play a vital role in the country's planned economy.

The inauguration of employment service in this country has been a reaction to the problem of unemployment in India, and the labour problem as a whole. The first International Labour Conference held in Washington in 1919 adopted a Convention, providing *Inter alia* for the establishment of a system of 'free employment agencies under the control of a Central authority' and emphasised the importance of providing a machinery for securing management-labour co-operation in the field of employment. This Convention was ratified in 1921 by India, which was one of the few countries to do so. Due to the complexities of the conditions then obtaining in this country as a result of constitutional changes, she had to repudiate the Convention in 1938, but this repudiation arose not from any lack of appreciation of the principles underlying the Convention but from the serious difficulties besetting the task of implementation of its provisions. Under the Government of India Act, 1935, "Unemployment" became a provin-

cial as distinguished from a federal subject, and the initiation of ameliorative measures in that field became the responsibility of the Provincial Governments.

A Retrospect

The Government of the United Provinces set up an unemployment Inquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of Sri Tej Bahadur Sapru. The Provinces of Bombay and Bihar constituted Labour Inquiry Committees. These Committees fully recognized the value of a free public employment service in fighting the scourge of unemployment, and favoured the idea of setting up public employment exchanges as a means of better organization of labour and as a safeguard against the prevailing evils of an antiquated and discredited system of labour recruitment. It was not, however, until the emergency of the war arose that the first step towards the establishment of a co-ordinated employment machinery could be taken.

To meet the man-power requirements of war-time industry, National

Service Labour Tribunals were brought into existence in 1940 and in 1943-44 nine Employment Exchanges—the first of the kind in India—were established for a limited purpose and with restricted scope. In 1945, as a result of the Government of India's decision to transfer the responsibility for the resettlement of ex-servicemen from the Defence to the Labour department, the latter decided to set up a net-work of Employment Exchanges all over India in order to undertake and assist in the task of resettlement of the demobilised soldiers and discharged war-workers.

In laying the foundations of the Resettlement and Employment Organization in this country, the wealth of experience of other countries and the programme recommended by the International Labour Conference at Philadelphia in 1944 were utilized and the broader and long-term objectives of the Employment Service, even though it was born under the stress of the War, were kept in view in formulating the plan of work. The new plan of the Resettlement and employment organization had within it the organism of self-development and expansion so that it might be possible to develop it, in course of time, into a full-fledged national agency for promoting full employment and higher living and working standards.

Structure of the Organization

The employment service consists of a Central Clearing House situated at Headquarters, nine Regional Exchanges, one in each Region and 44 Sub-Regional Exchanges (plus 15 District Employment Offices in Madras). In Madras Presidency, the organization has a Regional Employment Exchange at Madras, nine Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges in the more important district headquarters and a District Employment Office in all other district headquarters.

Functions of Employment Offices

The main function of the employment service is to tap new resettlement and employment opportunities and to examine how the various

classes of employment seekers can be fitted into these avenues of employment. The exchange organization collects the data showing trends of employment and unemployment on the one hand and it co-ordinates demand for personnel with available or potential supply on the other.

The Regional Exchange co-ordinates the work of the Sub-Regional Exchanges within their respective areas and also acts as Provincial Clearing House. A women's section is attached under the charge of a Lady Assistant Manager to the Regional Exchange to assist ex-service women in finding employment and giving them suitable advice.

The Sub-Regional Exchanges are responsible for the registration and placement of personnel within their respective areas. The extension of the Exchange work to the district by the setting up of District Employment Offices as out-houses of the Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges is a peculiarity of the Madras Region which is now being followed by other Provinces.

The District Employment Offices have been set up in this Province as the Provincial Government felt that due to the size of the Province there is need for such an office. These District Employment Offices in charge of District Employment Officers discharge the full function of an Exchange and are directly subordinate to the Sub-Regional Exchanges. They operate as out-houses to the Employment Exchanges covering the revenue districts concerned. At each of the Sub-Regional Exchange there is also an Assistant Public Relations Officer for doing publicity on the lines indicated by the Directorate in their respective jurisdictions.

To associate the public as fully as possible with the work of the Resettlement and Employment Organization, Employment Advisory Committees have been set up at the headquarters of the Regional Directorate of Resettlement and Employment and at Sub-Regional Exchanges. These Committees consist of representatives of the Provincial Government, Universities, the Services, Employers' and Workers' Organizations and advice the Regional Director

and Employment Officers of the Sub-Regional Exchanges on all matters connected with resettlement and employment.

Employment Exchanges in Madras Area

The total number of persons recruited for the Defence Services from this Province is 413,807 of whom 208,491 are reported to have been demobilized at the end of September 1947. Further demobilization has been suspended. The total number of men registered for employment assistance up to the end of June 1948 is 285,863 of which 221,899 are ex-servicemen while the number placed in civil life by the Exchanges is 56,238 of which 44,313 are ex-servicemen. This number excludes 21,638 persons placed by the Special Assistants to Collectors till the Exchanges took over the work from them. Besides these men, 4,004 persons found work on their own initiative. Thus, the total number of persons who secured employment is 81,880 up to the end of June 1948. In the other Provinces of India the resettlement of ex-servicemen was carried on only through the Employment Exchanges and the scope of these offices was extended from time to time to other categories also. In the Madras Province the services of the Employment Exchanges were thrown open to all employment seekers, the scope of the service was restricted only to ex-servicemen, other war service candidates, discharged Government employees, civilian technical personnel and Harijans.

Training of Technical Personnel

Realizing that in the post-war period of industrial expansion India will be faced with a bottle-neck in the supply of technical personnel, the Government of India appointed in 1944 an Advisory Committee on Technical Training to consider the adjustments necessary in the Technical Training Schemes to meet the peace-time requirement of civil industry. It is on the basis of the recommendations of this Committee on which employers' and workers' organizations engineering associations

and civil industry were represented that a scheme for the technical training of demobilized services personnel has been planned. The scope of training embraces a wide range of engineering and building trades for which there is a great demand at present. Since the initiation of the scheme there are 82 training centres and the number of persons undergoing training at present is 5,251. In this Presidency, there are at present 32 technical training centres with a seating capacity of 3,146 in 31 trades. The number of persons undergoing training is more than 2,600.

In addition to the technical training scheme there is a scheme of vocational training which provides facilities for training in trades other than engineering and building and covers a wide range of trades and occupations such as commerce, clerical and professional and semi-professional occupations, cottage and small-scale industries, etc. This aims at increasing the trainees' earning capacity by equipping them for gainful occupations. At present 678 persons are undergoing vocational training in this Province.

Besides the above two schemes there is also the Apprenticeship Scheme whereby persons with some kind of technical knowledge as background would be eligible to undergo training as apprentices in industrial concerns. At present 22 are undergoing their apprenticeship in various concerns.

Technical, vocational and apprenticeship trainees are given stipend during the period of training in which it should be possible to maintain themselves during this period. Industrial concerns that take trainees are also wherever absolute necessary paid a per-capita grant so that they may not be forced to spend any money on the trainees.

There is also a training centre Bangalore for the war disabled at their rehabilitation and resettlement presents a special problem requiring scientific care. Under the scheme for the rehabilitation of disabled persons it is being endeavoured to equip them for the mo-

skilled work in which their potential employability can be utilized to the maximum so that they can once again feel that they are independent and productive members of society. At present there are 365 persons undergoing training.

Provincial Government Schemes

Besides finding jobs for ex-servicemen in private industries and also to enable them to start their own trades on co-operative basis the Madras Government sanctioned a number of co-operative societies for employment of the ex-servicemen. There are at present 35 societies functioning in 17 districts as follows:—

Land colonies	...	10
Motor transport societies	...	12
Metal works	...	6
Timber works	...	5
Tailors' co-operative society	...	1
Radio sales and service society	...	1

All these societies have so far given employment to nearly 2,000 men. These schemes are financed with the aid of contributions from the Post-War Reconstruction Fund, grants from the Provincial and Central Government and by the share capital subscribed by the ex-servicemen. Several members are also undergoing training in the same societies as technical and vocational trainees of the Central Government. This has helped the societies to be self-supporting.

Besides the above scheme, mention may be made of the land colonization and the establishment of ex-servicemen co-operative societies. The land colonization schemes and the ex-servicemen's co-operatives which till recently were under the control and guidance of the Regional Directorate have since been

transferred to the Co-operative Department of the Provincial Government.

Land colonization and co-operative schemes are calculated to further the process of resettlement. Just before the transfer of these schemes in March 1948, there were in this province (1) nine land colonies with a membership of about 900, (2) twelve co-operative motor transport societies with a membership of 350 and (3) eleven timber and metal works with a membership of about 1,000.

Employment Organization Looks Ahead

The problem of unemployment in India is so colossal that all attempts to tackle the same should come from many sides—social and economic. The I.L.O. Conference held at Delhi last year has recommended the need for a proper and healthy development of the employment service in this country for securing proper utilization of the national man-power resources and for introduction of social security measures.

This organization with its network of Employment Exchanges and offices is comparatively a new institution. Naturally it had to cross difficult hurdles of many kinds. A review of the progress made so far shows that many of the misgivings and suspicions are unfounded. In the Madras Region, during the period under review closest contacts were made with employers, and different Chambers of Commerce, Trade and Labour Associations on the one hand and employment seekers on the other. The Employment Service Organization looks forward to a further period of useful service to employers and employment seekers and it will strive its utmost to live up to the expectations of those whom it serves.

objectives, the programmes drawn up for the realization of the objectives and the execution of the programmes.

Education Appropriate to Freedom

The idea has become universal that education that was appropriate to the country so long as she was dependent on Britain is no longer appropriate under the changed conditions of to-day. An independent and free India requires an entirely new type of education. Its objective should be the training of the youth of the country and also of all adults in such a manner that they will be in a position to understand and respect the ideals of freedom and independence and actively work and co-operate with one another for the promotion of these ideals. This implies that they should discard the traditional caste and communal outlook and become nationally minded. It also implies that they should become active and not remain merely passive as was the case all along. These objectives have been emphasized in the first year of independence by our leaders and ministers in their speeches as well as in the state papers that they have issued from time to time and they have also been the central themes in almost all the University Convocation Speeches of the year.

National Mindedness

It is not necessary at this time of day to emphasize the importance of national mindedness in our country. As was recently observed by Rajakumari Amrit Kaur: "If we are honest with ourselves we will have to admit that there is amongst our people, as a whole, a great lack of the sense of citizenship. . . . We are not alive to the necessity or thinking in terms of the whole rather than of a particular caste or community." It is because of this that in every province to-day elaborate schemes of social education have been drawn up and in some effect is being given to them.

Social Education

In a recent address Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad, the Education Minister at the Centre, explained the essential

Educational Trends in Free India

By PROFESSOR M. VENKATARAMAIA

With the advent of freedom the policies adopted by governments, central as well as provincial, in the field of education are undergoing

a great deal of change. There is almost a revolutionary outlook brought to bear on it. This is seen in the formulation of education

features of Social Education. He observed: "Every citizen must know the meaning of citizenship and the way democracy functions. . . . In order to fulfil his duties as a citizen, he must also have some acquaintance with the working of the state. . . . There must also be instruction in the laws of personal and public health. . . . Social Education should also contain an element of instruction in a universal ethic, with special emphasis on the necessity of toleration of one another's differences in a democracy. . . ."

Citizenship Training

In giving effect to this objective of Social Education, Central and Provincial governments have drawn up two schemes—one in respect of boys and girls attending schools and another in regard to adults. Courses and training in citizenship have been included in the curricula of studies in schools. With a view to prevent instruction becoming merely bookish, great stress has been laid on practical training. This has taken several forms. One is that scouting has been made compulsory in several provinces. It is now a matter of common knowledge that there is no more effective instrument to make the youth socially-minded than scouting. It trains the youth to habits of collective work, to service for all, to discipline under leaders and to intelligent co-operation in all socially-useful activities. Besides this, we find other schemes are being introduced. Pupils are being given a share in the administration of some of the school activities. Each class is divided into small groups of six or eight and entrusted with some responsible work. Other experiments also are being made, with the same object in view. It is here that schools have a wide scope for experimentation.

Adult Education

All adult education schemes which are now being introduced in most provinces have also the same objective. This is particularly the case with the scheme in the Madras where it is proposed to start separate institutions for adults who are illiterate and for those who are literate and have already had the benefits of

elementary education. In either case, the ultimate object is to make them understand their duties as citizens and they are to receive instruction at the hands of those who are specially trained for the purpose. The scheme of rural colleges which will shortly come into operation will naturally be watched with a great deal of interest by the discerning public.

Activity-Centred Education

Equal prominence is being given to the idea that citizens in free India should develop aptitude for an active sort of life. In actual practice, this idea has taken different forms. In the first place, it is responsible for the acceptance by all provincial governments now that education must be activity-centred. Some craft or other must form its nucleus and all instruction should be correlated to it. This is the essence of the Wardha Scheme as formulated by Mahatma Gandhi. He expected that it would serve a threefold purpose. In his view it would make education self-supporting. It would enable the pupils to obtain skill in some craft by the time they leave school and fit them for earning their livelihood. Above all, it would put an end to the bookish type of instruction which makes pupils so passive and so dull. There was a time when these views of Mahatma Gandhi were ridiculed but to-day his idea of craft-centred education has been accepted by all and efforts are made to introduce basic schools for the purpose in every province. This is bound to revolutionize the atmosphere of elementary and even secondary education.

Vocational Schools

That education should promote active habits among people and that this object can be best achieved by making it craft-centred also forms the basis of the importance that is given to manual training in secondary schools and the introduction of vocational courses in the higher secondary stage. In the Province of Madras, this has come to be known as the bifurcation of High School Courses. This is a long-needed reform and it has been welcomed also on the ground that

it will serve the needs of those pupils—who perhaps constitute the large majority—who have no aptitude for purely literary studies and whose talents are being wasted in consequence of their being forced to take to such studies at present. The system of bifurcation will avoid this waste while giving scope to large number of young men to become active and develop high-grade manual skill and mental alertness.

Physical Education

The new emphasis that is now placed on Physical Education is also closely related to the idea that in a free India citizens must be strong, healthy as well as active. The Central Government has shown its interest in this aspect of education and it is also trying to bring about a co-ordination in this sphere between its schemes and those of the provincial governments.

Students' Social Service

In a system under which the development of social-mindedness is regarded as the main objective of education, it is no wonder that the idea has gained ground in several provinces that degrees should not be conferred on students unless they have some record of social service to their credit. This is a novelty in our country although in some others it has been put into effect. There may be practical difficulties in organizing schemes of students' social services, in selecting the particular kinds of services they might be called upon to undertake and in distributing them among the students according to their aptitude. But all these can be overcome. Moreover, this is one of the best ways in which the long vacations can be utilized by the youth of the country.

Military Training

Another trend in education which has become prominent to-day is the introduction of military training in schools. Schemes for this purpose have already been worked out in several provinces and almost all provincial governments are in favour of this reform. Some may criticize it on the ground that a country which obtained freedom through the

practice of non-violent non-co-operation and which regards Mahatma Gandhi the apostle of *Ahimsa* as the "Father of the Nation" it is most reactionary to train the youth to kill others—which is what ultimately military training means. All this may be true. But we should not forget that in the real world in which we have to live it is not possible as yet to dispense with armies. And so long as this is the situation we have to face, the youth should be given military training. As in so many other fields of human life there is here also a conflict between the ideal and the actual. There is however one point for consideration. It relates to the stage at which military training should be introduced. It appears best that it should be introduced only at the University stage when students have a fuller grasp of their civic responsibilities and appreciate in a proper manner the place of the military in society. So far as boys in the elementary and secondary schools are concerned, scouting, physical education and other devices of citizenship training will serve most of the purposes which military training is expected to serve.

Question of Language

One of the characteristics of the educational system during the days of British rule was the dominant place that the English language occupied. It was the first language even in elementary schools and had to be compulsorily studied throughout the educational course—secondary as well as University. It was the medium of instruction in secondary schools and the Universities. All this was something unnatural and for the last thirty years a battle has been going on to put an end to this state of affairs and to give to the mother tongue of the pupils or the regional languages of the area of their residence, the place illegitimately given to English. Some victory was won in this battle but it was only a partial one. Now, that the country became free the victory in this field has also become complete. In all provinces the regional language has been made the first language and the medium of instruction up to the

University stage. In the University stage a period of transition has been provided for and it is expected that within a period of another five years the regional language will become the medium of instruction. Even the Public Service Examinations for recruitment to All-India Services are to be conducted through the regional languages.

This is an important as well as a healthy and wholesome piece of reform. This does not however mean that one province will become isolated from another or that India will become culturally isolated from the rest of the world. For provision has been made for a study of Hindustani in the schools of provinces where it is not the regional language. It may therefore be assumed that it will become the national language, and the means of intercourse between one part of India and another. And so far as international contracts are concerned English will continue to be studied. In the Madras scheme of educational reorganization for instance every pupil in the lower and higher secondary schools will have to learn at least three languages—the regional language, English, and Hindi, Sanskrit, Persian or Arabic. Of course the large majority will choose Hindi as a knowledge of it is made a qualification for admission to public services and as it will become the language of administration for all-India purposes. Thus although on matters of detail controversies are still going on as regards the relative place to be occupied by these languages it may be safely assumed as quite possible that while the regional language might replace English as the medium of instruction in Universities up to the degree stage English will continue to be the medium in post-graduate courses and in the All-India institutions in which research is carried on by Professors and graduates from every part of the country. This appears to be necessary mainly because post-graduate courses will attract students from all parts of the country and secondly because research institutes of an All-India character whatever be the province in which they are located should cater to the needs of graduates from all provinces. English therefore should necessarily

continue to be the medium of instruction in such institutions.

Higher Research

This is a matter of major importance as the trend in free India is to have such national institutions of research to be started in larger numbers and distributed among all the provinces. One of the first things undertaken by the national government of free India was to create a department of Scientific Research. It has already started a number of "National" Laboratories, the latest being the "Central Electro-Chemical Research Institute" at Karaikudi. In the days of the British, sufficient encouragement was not given to higher research and almost all the Universities devoted themselves to conducting examinations and preparing students for them. This policy was in consonance with the economic policy for which the British stood. Now the economic policy is being changed. Schemes for industrialization are being worked out and there is demand not merely for highly trained technologists but also for scientists who are capable of conducting research and give to industry the results of their research. It is this that is responsible for the attention that is now being paid to the establishment of All-India institutes of research. The aim is to co-ordinate higher education in the country with the economic needs of the people.

Conclusion

These are some of the educational trends in free India. There are many more of this sort and sooner or later they will determine the form and shape of Indian education as a whole. The nation has now entered on a new stage in its progressive career and it is in the fitness of things that it should have an educational system in harmony with the new phase in its history. The trends that have already become prominent give the hope that in the years to come free and independent India will have a thoroughly modernised system of education which in point of standards and quality will be the equal of the systems in all the advanced countries of the world.

Women and their Welfare

By Mrs. P. PARIJATHAM NAIDU

No event in the history of the world so far as we know it has had so many and such varied reactions on individuals, communities and countries as World War II; and these reactions have now been crystalizing themselves into a new outlook on life in many civilized countries. New kinds of emphasis on the different aspects of life have arisen; values have changed in matters which affect social existence; new policies are taking shape in every field of national life and international relationships. In fact every phase of human existence is changing and we have begun everywhere after the war a new chapter in history.

Under one name or other the foundations are being laid or the superstructures are being raised for schemes of national reconstruction. In our own country ever since the closing years of the war, nation-building schemes or constructive programmes in several spheres—economic, industrial, educational, social and political—have come into being. Madras has not lagged behind other provinces in this respect in spite of the numerous disabilities which face its people for we are not yet out of the wood in the matter of food shortage; prices of commodities are still soaring higher; and a state of suspense prevails on the inland borders of the Presidency. More than anything else, the Government have lost by the introduction of Prohibition a very large slice of revenue. Nevertheless we have not whittled our programmes of reconstruction. On the other hand we have at least in one part of that programme gained a lead and set an example for others; this we have done in the field of the welfare of women.

Women in the New Order

More than anything else the war has brought to the forefront one outstanding factor in human relationships. Women had so shared an equally great part with men in war efforts that never again in the postwar days could their potential be ignored. The realization has now come to stay that both men and women must march along together and therefore

women must be trained for their new duties and responsibilities. Consequently there can be no nation-building scheme or constructive programme worth the name if it does not provide for the general welfare and education of those who form more than half the total population in any state. Inevitably and quite sensibly too the emphasis has changed and it is being increasingly realized that the state must give priority to these programmes which aim to work for the general, education and welfare of its women.

Recently when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru visited Madras he said addressing a meeting of Women's Organizations "A nation could not hope to progress unless the women 'kept moving.' It is certain that unless women participated in the activities of the state the state could not progress. The chief function of the state became social. To-day the structure of the Government of India is becoming social-minded. Therefore we have to look at the social problems not in political terms but in terms of raising the level of the community. Here women have a greater part to play than men. The main thing ahead of you is constructive work."

Madras Leads

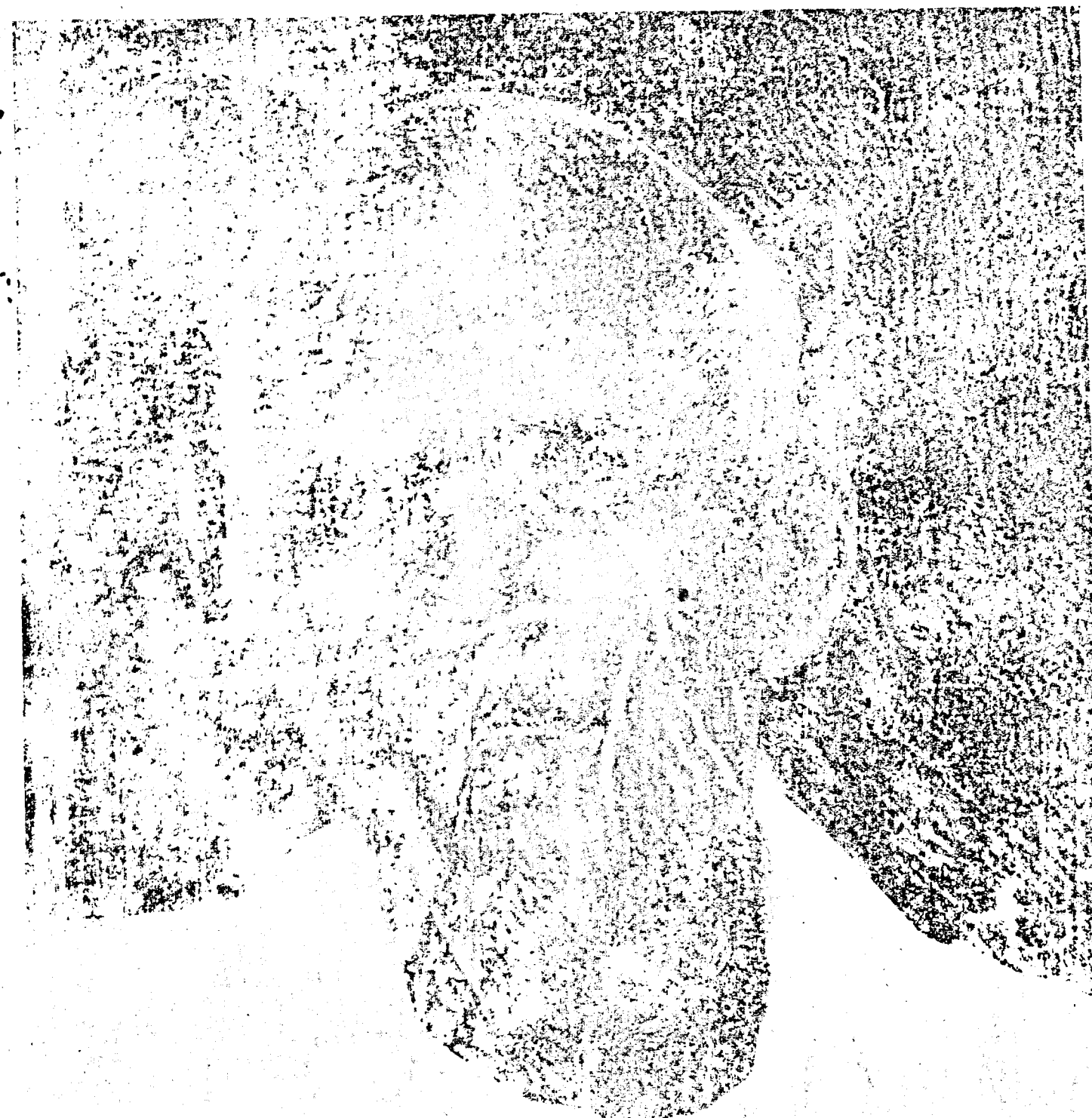
Herein lies the far-sightedness of the Madras Government who not only have put into immediate practice Gandhian idealogy of educating the women by working for their general welfare in order to so train them that their intelligence, common sense and energy are harnessed for civic, social and cultural welfare in the progressive state thereby placing the right emphasis on human values irrespective of sex, but have also with great wisdom proved to the rest of the country the importance that should be given to such a programme by placing it almost first in their list of national-building schemes. Indeed at the All-India Women's Conference held in Madras in December 1947, the resolution on Social Service Departments "notes with satisfaction that the Madras Government has already set up a new Department

of Social Service and hopes that the example will be shortly followed by the Governments of all the other Provinces and States."

His Excellency the Governor of Madras inaugurating the Provincial Conference of Social work last January remarked: "Let me take this opportunity of pointing out to you the initiative which has been taken by the Madras Government in instituting a Women's Welfare Department. This is a most enlightened and progressive step, which very few Governments in the world have yet adopted. I think I can fairly say that it not only shows great vision on the part of the Government but it also shows that they are not content with mere words but are prepared to make a really practical contribution to this most important problem." As an Editor in North India puts it in the course of his comments, "Madras has scored a place over all other Provinces in India being the first to organize a separate Department for Women's Welfare." We are happy to learn that the Chief Minister of the Mysore State, replying to a cut motion in the Assembly, has given an undertaking to institute a Department of Women's Welfare on the lines of the Madras Government.

Women's Welfare Department—Objectives

Now what are the objectives behind this particular nation-building scheme? To repeat what Panditji said "The main thing ahead of you is constructive work." We believe that the Department of Women's Welfare aims to fulfil a programme which, if worked patiently and persistently will result in bringing about in women that faith in themselves to lead fuller lives both for themselves and their families and for the State. Working towards this general welfare by means of preventive and educative methods, our women are provided with sound and necessary knowledge on all matters relating to that essential unit of society very near and dear to their hearts, namely, their homes. The home is the centre of all activities and the fundamental basis of society and the majority of women whose first and vital charge is the home and their children must be taught how to make these units places of real health and happiness.



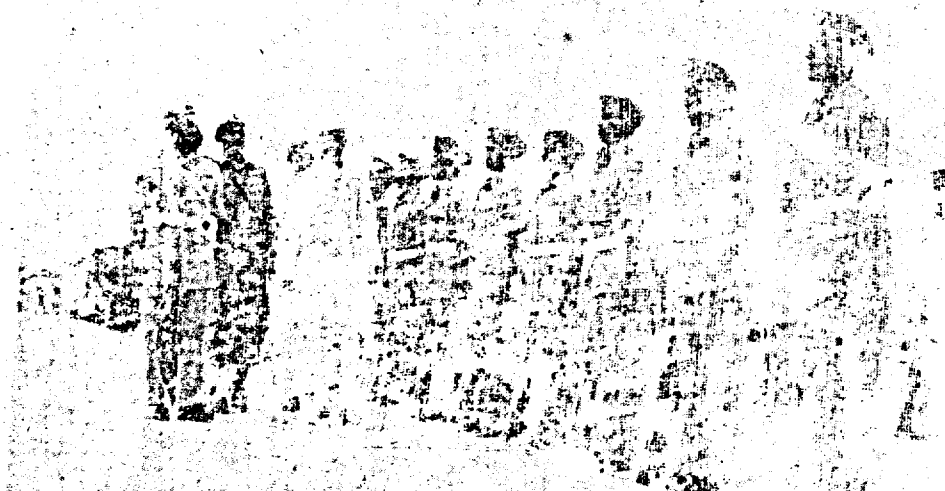
Ind. Prime Minister in the
 airplane in his own
 country.



PRIME MINISTER HAD A BUSY TIME IN MADRAS



India's Prime Minister unveiled
 the Portrait of His Ex. Prime
 Sri C. Rajagopalachari in
 the Hall of the Madras
 Legislative Assembly

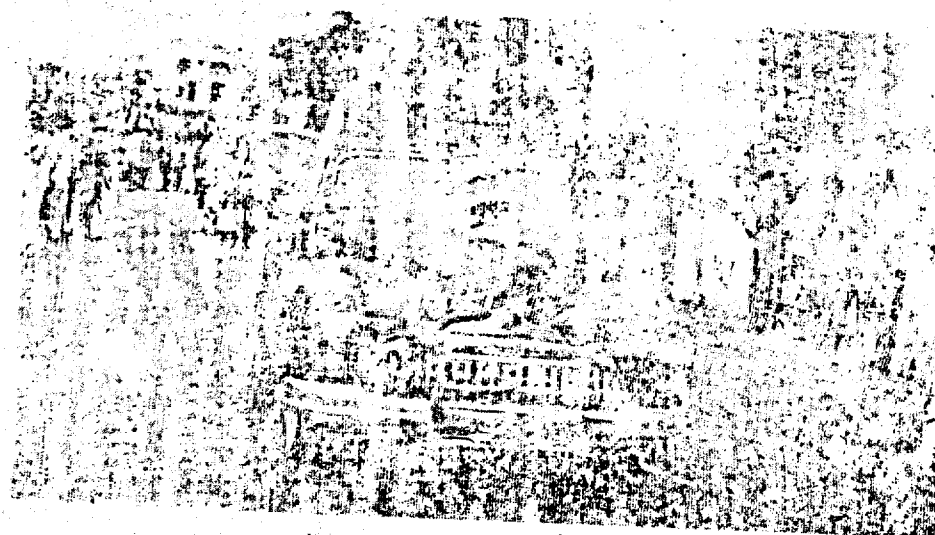


Garland presented to
 the Prime Minister on his arrival
 in Madras

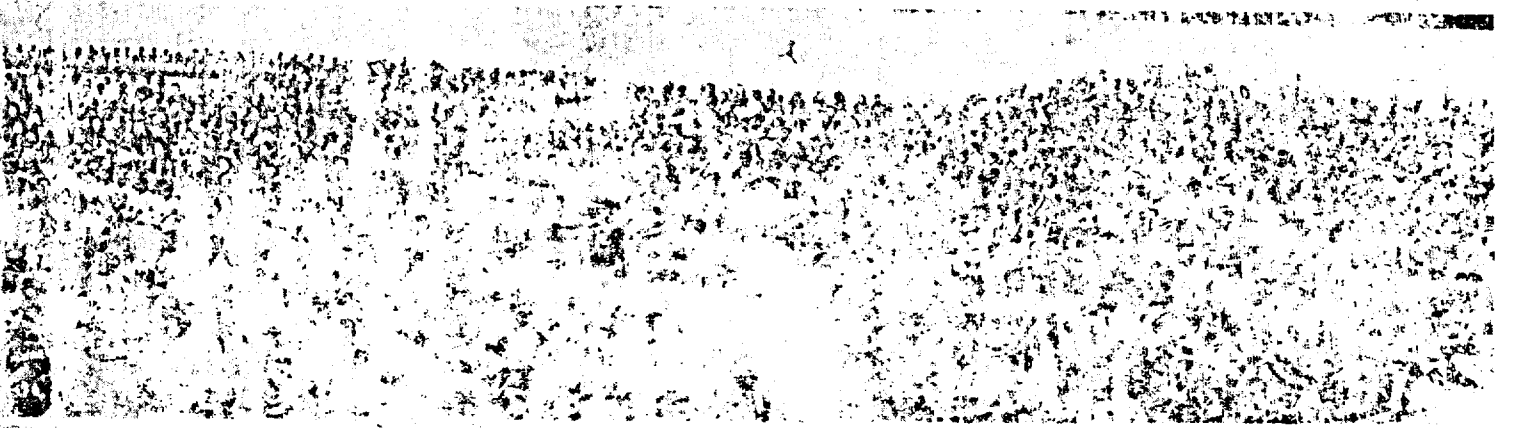
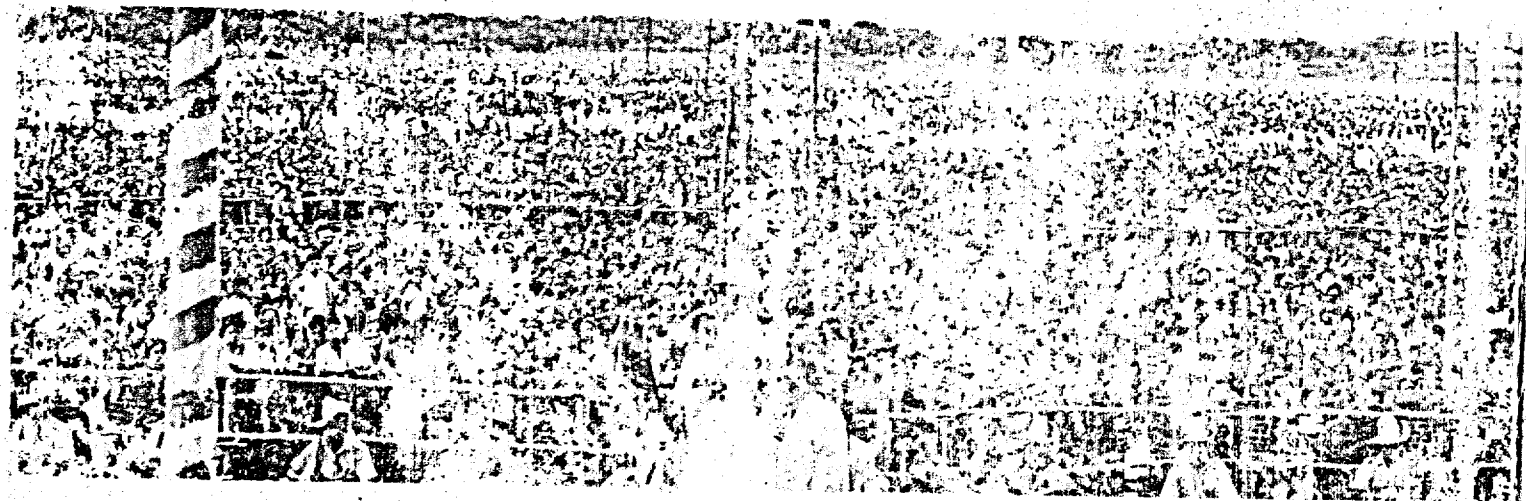
Tea Party at the Rajaji Hall



On his way to the Government buildings
 to receive the garland, the Prime
 Minister was escorted by
 the police and the army.



Prime Minister at the Women's
 Guild of Service



Top.—The Prime Minister is looking on at the vast crowd that has come to hear him at the Jalandhar Grounds.

Centre.—These crowds have come to listen to India's Prime Minister.

Bottom.—Prime Minister addressing the Scouts of Gurdaspur.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO LEBEOUR



The Prime Minister in the
at his residence at the Le
of the Corpor
Stadium

RECRUITMENT OF HOME GUARDS—A SECOND LINE OF DEFENCE



The recruits are being drilled in the
are being drilled in the
are being drilled in the

The Prime Minister addressed
a gathering at the
Stadium



The Prime Minister in the
at his residence at the Le
of the Corpor
Stadium





Uthayarajana, Garamapara Adinam
Tanjore district



Uthayarajana, Garamapara Adinam
Tanjore district



Narasimha, 15th century—Theravada
Tanjore district



Radha Krishna, 15th century—Sundarapada with Koli
Tanjore district

(Some of the objects exhibited during the Exhibition of Art and Archaeology held recently in the Fort Museum)

first and primary function, they must be slowly made to realize that in this New India they can no longer be wholly family-centred but must realize the one great factor, namely, that the happiness of their families is dependent on the happiness and well-being of other families around them. Thus, while providing instruction on all matters that must help them to build their homes better thereby raising "the level of the community," as Panditji repeatedly said, they must, at the same time be, trained to widen their outlook on life and become civic-conscious and service-minded.

Can these aims be achieved in a few months or even a few years? Obviously not; and for that very reason, here and now, a planned effort must be put into effective practice on a long-range basis.

The Plan of Work

The general plan of work consists of (1) The Several Community Centres; (2) Service Homes; and (3) A Training Institute for the welfare workers. Taking the first, the plan of work in the Community Centre is briefly as follows: A community centre is provided within easy reach for the women of the area to step in during noon hours when their household duties are over. When we have buildings of our own, the idea is to gradually include a reading room, show room and sale's depot of the finished products and an Information Bureau. At present, however, these centres are run in girls' schools and health centres. The area is covered in the morning by the welfare workers by house-to-house propaganda. These friendly visits help a great deal to gain the confidence of the women of the home and to see indirectly that the activities in the centre have their healthy and beneficial reactions in their homes.

In the centre itself, the programme is three-fold, namely, Adult Education, Adult Literacy and Cottage Industries and the work is so planned that it is calculated to bring about a social, recreational, cultural, civic and co-operative welfare amongst women of all groups and classes. A definite programme is being worked out to liquidate illiteracy amongst women in

batches of eight to ten in a centre so that, on an average at one time in the 213 centres functioning at present, between 1,700 and 2,220 adult women are attending the literacy groups. But this is only a part of the general programme which is planned to create an interest and induce them to attend the centres. Once the interest is created by the Adult Education and Cottage Industries Programme, it is remarkable to notice their genuine eagerness to become literate. It is a pleasure to watch women of 35 and above learning to read and write and to watch their joy when they are able to master a few words. This has inspired students of Women's Colleges to volunteer to take Adult Literacy Classes in these centres during vacations. Adult Literacy includes teaching of the regional language and also Hindustani.

Adult education includes organized information being imparted on such matters as are essential to them as women and related to their homes and daily life. They are taught about Nutrition and Food Values, Domestic Economy, Thrift, Practical Cooking and Kitchen Gardening; Home Remedies, Home Science and First-Aid, Maternity, Child-care and Pre-school Education; Leisure-time occupations, Physical activities, Music and simple Recreation. Debates and lectures by specialists and by the members themselves are encouraged. A definite plan for citizenship training exists and the centre activities are conducted with the aid of Voluntary Leaders and helpers drawn from the group. The Women's Welfare Journal is published which provides opportunity for the members to exchange their views and it is becoming popular. In view of the Adult Education work already done, it is the intention of the Government to entrust the Women's Welfare Department with the work of organizing and running the proposed Rural Colleges of Adult Education for Women.

Women who are anxious to supplement their family incomes, as in the case of the poor classes and slum centres, are taught a definite craft such as spinning, mat-weaving, tailoring and embroidery, basketry and rattan work, printing and dyeing.

Marketing is arranged for by the welfare workers.

Morning visits take nearly 2½ hours and the centre work in the noon takes 2½, sometimes even 3 hours a day.

Important as this three-fold programme of the Centre is, more important is the indirect objective behind all these efforts, the results of which can only be seen in the long run, provided there is no slackness either in interest or application. And that is the value of the contacts which these women establish with each other, the desire to learn and to teach, to share their experience and their knowledge with one another, the gradual disappearance of all differences and complexes and the realization that they are one, to become civic-minded and service-minded. It is real pleasure to see women of all castes and creeds freely mixing and helping one another to learn something useful and even actively participating in cooking demonstrations. At such times they do present an appearance of a happy family gathering. These as every one will agree are great virtues and no effort is too large to bring about these social values in order to build sound civic responsibility and national character.

A Valuable Testimony

Visiting one of the centres Lady Mountbatten of Burma remarked, as follows: "It is, I consider, a tremendous achievement that branches have been established in every headquarter town of the Presidency and that such a large number of centres are operating in addition to the domiciliary visiting which is undertaken. There is in India such a great need for the education of women and the awakening in them of their great responsibilities as citizens that it is most heartening to find here in Madras the very progressive steps that have been taken to achieve this. I was greatly impressed by the system of instruction that is followed and by the high standard of teaching. I would indeed like to see the scheme followed in every Province and State in India." Speaking on Social Service Her Excellency in the course of her public speech said "Here in Madras,

you have the inestimable advantage of a Government which appreciates the part that can be played by voluntary endeavour in Social Service, and which has itself taken the progressive step of instituting a Women's Welfare Department; that with its valuable instructional network throughout the Province. The close co-operation of the work of this department with that of your own organizations and other Departments concerned will, I feel sure, ensure that development which we all so much desire."

Further Details

The Community Centre where the threefold programme is carried is one aspect of the general scheme. The second is the Service Home for women. Very sad cases of ill-treatment or desertion or utter helplessness and widows whose histories have been thoroughly investigated by the Welfare Officers during their daily propaganda are admitted into the Home where instruction is given for a period of three years, both in general and vocational education. A study of the cases before us would be a surprising revelation of the extremely sad conditions in which these women are placed. Several of them are driven to utter despair and it will not be surprising if they entertain thoughts of committing suicide by way of obtaining relief. There is one case where the husband has married again on the 15th day of the marriage to the girl and deserted her. During her 15 days she conceived and she has a child 5 years old. The husband will not see the mother or the child though she tried to go to him several times. She belongs to a respectable family, but is utterly helpless because she has nothing to fall back upon and no relations would come forward to help her. She is literally stranded. In another case the man has a family of his own with three or four children, but he has deceived the parents of another girl and married her. The girl had completely trusted him and naturally it came as a rude shock when, after the lapse of nearly 2 years, his family arrived. She is asked to stay on in the house; but how could she when she

has been so shamefully and cruelly deceived? She is an educated girl and is now in her sixth month again. Another poor woman who has read up to 7th standard has been deserted with six children and with absolutely nothing to fall back upon. Any number of such pathetic cases can be recorded to show the plight and utter helplessness of these women and their children in these difficult days. It is earnestly hoped that in the Service Home for these women provided for by Government, they would find true peace and happiness that was denied to them previously and such women being brought together by virtue of their sufferings hitherto would realize the value of service to similar unfortunate sisters and will not fail to pass on the message of love and service to them when opportunities arise.

The first of such Homes has been opened in Madras and Government have in view the starting of a Home in Tamil Nad, one in Andhra Desa and one in the west coast. Each Home will have a strength of 200 inmates. When these women go out on the completion of their training, the Welfare Workers who are also their Investigation Officers before their admission into the Home, will continue to be in touch with them and give them "after-care" assistance.

To give proper training for the women welfare workers, a Training Institute of the Department of Women's Welfare is functioning in Gandhigram, Chinnalapatti, along with the Kasturba Training School. Here the workers are given training for nearly a year and the syllabuses are framed in a manner that would help them to carry on welfare work both in urban and rural areas. This is necessary particularly as welfare work among women is to be started in Firka areas. The Hon'ble Dr. Gurubatham declared open the Training Institute early in August 1948. Government also have in view the idea of arranging for short-term Training Courses for honorary workers since the work in the Department has to be carried on mainly with the co-operation of voluntary helpers.

It will thus be seen that the whole scheme in its different aspects namely Field work or Community Centre work, the Service Home and the Training Institute is so planned that the maximum amount of co-ordination is secured, while tackling the whole problem in different ways ensuring at the time both efficiency and economy. "The main thing ahead of you is constructive work." Yes, and the task before us is both tremendous and difficult and not much headway is possible unless the public, both men and women, officials and non-officials, come forward in a spirit of understanding, co-operation and service, to guide and help the efforts of those who are eager to dedicate themselves to this great task. Mistakes are inevitable, omissions are possible, but no appreciable progress can be achieved unless the difficulties all round in this pioneering venture are understood and guidance is given. The experience of all great veterans must be made available, criticism must be constructive and helpful and while men should not look upon the Departments as no concern of theirs, the women engaged in the departments work, should never feel that men have no place in their work. Both should work in happy co-operation. Worked in this way, there is no doubt whatsoever that in the course of a very few years a happy and a most welcome change is bound to come in the social life of the Province.



Articles of domestic utility are produced in an Ex-servicemen's Co-operative Workshop.

BUILDING UP A NATION

Basic Education

By SRI R. V. RUDRAPASWAMI, Basic Education Officer, Southern Range

We are living in a period of adjustment from slavery to independence and the Basic Education Scheme is a programme of adjustment in the educational field. Under the British rule, the problem of mass education was not taken up seriously; education was mainly intended for the classes who directly or indirectly represented the ruling class, not only in Government affairs but also in trade and commerce. Hence the English language occupied the centre of the educational structure even from the very bottom upwards. This cannot continue in a free India. The real interests of the people and of the child must now mould the course of our educational development. It is accepted on all sides that for a number of decades now, the educational system has not taken note of the vast changes in human affairs, so that the system is quite out of date and remains to be thoroughly overhauled. A new system of education with creative ideals and capable of training individuals to become useful and self-dependent is the real need of the country now. We are now here to examine the Basic Education system from this point of view and see how far you and I can help to spread it.

India—A Land of Villages

About 90 per cent of our population live in villages. Therefore we cannot ignore them or their present condition, as the existing system does. The Government have tried to introduce compulsion at least for sometime past. They have completely failed. Why? The boy or girl who comes out of these schools is almost capable of adjusting to the needs of the country. He would not condescend to touch the plough or weave or take to carpentry, pottery, tanning or any of the industries that sustain social life. The one thing

for which he has a taste, and for which he is perhaps fit, is desk work. A system of education that leaves the child in this helpless state can never be made universal, if society is to avoid complete disintegration and failure.

Gandhiji's lead

So when the Congress Ministries in 1937 took up the question of free and compulsory primary education, the whole field had to be reviewed. Gandhiji gave a new lead. He emphasized that any system of universal education must answer to the basic needs of the community. He posited that free and compulsory education must be for at least seven years, say up to the age of 14, and that the medium of instruction must be the local language. He added that a productive craft should be at the centre of the curriculum, that knowledge should be correlated to it and that it should receive such careful attention that the class-room produce should not be wasted but must be made to meet the running expenses of the school.

The modern educationist could easily appreciate the idea of emphasizing useful activities in schools but he could not easily reconcile himself to the idea of making it the very core of the curriculum. Gandhiji explained his position in the columns of the "Harijan" and in October 1937, there was a conference of educationists at Wardha to discuss his ideas on New Education.

At the end of the conference, a committee with Dr. Zakir Hussain of Delhi as Chairman was appointed to go into the question in detail and submit a report. Within four months, the so-called Wardha Scheme of Education was published and it was accepted as a working basis for future work by the Congress. The Hindustani Talimi Sangh (All-India

Basic Education Board) was constituted at Sevagram, with Dr. Zakir Hussain as President and Sri Aryanayakam as Secretary. A Basic school was started at Sevagram to put the new scheme into action under the personal guidance of Sri Aryanayakam and his able wife Smt. Asha Devi. Gandhiji himself took continuous interest in the development of this school and till the very eve of his unexpected death he was giving instructions regarding the standards to be maintained by a scholar of a Basic school.

Sevagram School

Now I must give you a brief description of the Sevagram school. This description will give you an idea of both the method and the content of Basic Education.

Sevagram is a typical Maharashtra village, surrounded by thin coloured black cotton soil, not very fertile but responsive to human labour. I knew this village at the time of the inception of the school and have seen it recently also. The village has been very much transformed and new life has entered it. The Basic School has played its part, in bringing about this change. It is a community centre having intimate connection with the parents of all the children. The school educates not merely the children who attend it but their younger sisters and brothers and their parents as well, though this work is not yet systematic.

There is a pre-basic section of the school serving the needs of children below seven and a maternity centre taking care of babies and pregnant mothers. Basic Education thus begins from the day the child is conceived. The pre-natal care of the mother and education in mothercraft is entrusted to a specialist worker who takes care of all expectant mothers. When the child is 2½ years old, he is free to attend the pre-basic school but attendance is not compulsory. When he is seven years old he enters the Basic School and stays there till he is fourteen. After fourteen he enters the post-basic school. The post-basic section of the Sevagram school has been started only recently and the syllabus

and the course of instruction are in the formative stage. The adults in the village are served by another able worker Smt. Shanta Narulkar. She helps the adults to improve their agriculture, weaving and other industries initiates them in co-operation, village administration, etc. She is just developing a programme of adult education.

The work of the basic school however has taken a definite shape and a revised syllabus based on the experience gained since 1938 has been published. The school is partly residential. Let us follow the children in their daily routine. They get up at 5 a.m., finish their bath and attend the morning prayer at 6. Breakfast follows. Then a general cleaning up of all the rooms and the space around, including the cleaning of urinals and latrines. There are no scavengers or menials to help them; yet the cleaning is done in such a clean manner that one need not bathe again. How they do it, is a subject by itself and I shall not now take your time by describing it. At about 8 a.m. they are ready for their regular classes. The class work begins with either agriculture or weaving for the higher classes and spinning and allied processes in the lower classes. Then follows a period of discussion and recording of the work done. At 11 a.m. they wind up the work for the forenoon and go for lunch. Then rest. At 2 p.m. there is silent community spinning on the takli for half an hour. Then the classes. The school closes with an hour or so at the garden or the craft room. Then, games of a non-equipment type, like Kilittattu, Chadugudu, Koko. 5-30 p.m. Dinner and then all go on a walk, free as birds. 7 p.m. Prayer and News. 8 p.m. Study hour. 9 p.m. Silence Bell.

This is an outline of the day's work. You see it is not like a day in the existing schools. Early to bed, early to rise; and a definite piece of work for each minute of the day. The child's mind does not wander without purpose. Idleness, bodily and mental, is entirely out of the question. He completely forgets himself in the work of his group and is thoroughly happy and cheerful. The fearless and confident look in

the face and the quick steps as he passes from stage to stage in his work, will show that the new generation would be more alert and their lives would be filled with a purpose. The children are healthy. Their bodies are well built and they have remarkable physical endurance. They organize themselves democratically and each group has its own elected leader whom they implicitly obey. Therefore the community life is well regulated even without the immediate presence of the teaching staff. The magnitude of this achievement will be appreciated if you have ever seen the chaos that prevails in our schools when some teacher is absent. Training in self-discipline is training in freedom. This is realized in Sevagram as nowhere else. Training in responsible work is so thorough in this school that one day I witnessed the opening ceremony of a building conducted entirely by the children. A retired professor of the Benares Hindu University presided. The children took to the function so naturally that I left the place with the impression that even the Headmaster and his staff could not have conducted the proceedings with greater thoroughness and dignity. This is real education in citizenship. How can this efficiency be measured in an examination paper?

Method of Teaching

A word about the method of teaching. All teaching here is based on actual work. The teacher and the children sit together for planning their work, the time, the place, the raw materials to be used, etc. They gather the materials necessary and execute their assigned work according to plan. They sit together after the work has actually been executed. Each pupil records whatever he does, so that there is enough writing exercise in language and numbers and the recording is done with a purpose and in a real and concrete manner. What a great improvement this is upon the old method of writing and reading any matter, relevant or otherwise, printed in a book, you will realize only if you personally see the work of a Basic School.

The income through craft work is very little in the lowest class but

it is considerable in the higher classes. At present 75 per cent of the expense of the Sevagram school are covered from the income through craft work. If the manual worker comes to his own in society and the products of manual work are given a fair price I am sure that Gandhiji's prophecy will become true and 100 per cent of the expenses of the school will be covered by the income through craft work in the class-room. To put conversely, the manual worker will be assured of a fair wage in society the day the value of the school produce equals the expenses of the school. For the present the self-supporting aspect of a Basic School is only an ideal which we should strive to reach.

Field of Basic Education

Let me now say that Basic Education is not confined to children of 14 only as was originally intended. It covers the entire field of human life from conception to death, covering (i) the pre-natal and post-natal stage, (ii) the pre-basic stage from 2½ to 7, (iii) the basic stage from 7 to 14, (iv) the post-basic stage from 14 to 18 and (v) adult stage 18 upwards. In all these stages there is to be an economy in the art of acquiring skills and knowledge; there must be an emphasis upon essentials and non-essentials must be eschewed. Hence, the name Basic Education may remain. Basic—Essential. Or you may rename it as New Education as they have done in Hindustani, Nayee Talim.

This Nayee Talim movement is an integral part of the constructive programme planned by our leaders and should be viewed in that background. The underdog in the remotest village ill-nourished, under-clad, ill-paid, must be before your eye in planning the education of the country. His need is the greatest therefore he must be attended to first. The national budget should take care of this. If it does, through Basic Education you will be introducing handicrafts in the village homes and improve their agricultural sanitation and hygiene; you will be putting greater cheer into the village by celebrating festivals, arranging

(Continued on page 48)

RURAL TOPICS

Rural Unemployment

Very few people have realized the extent of rural unemployment and under-employment, in this country. Agriculture, which is the main stay of the Indian village, is a seasonal occupation and it cannot provide enough jobs for men throughout the year. Mr. Calvert estimated that the work done by an average cultivator in the Punjab did not represent more than 150 days' full labour in twelve months. Another author, Dr. Rushbrook Williams, has observed: "The cultivator in many provinces of India is obliged by climatic reasons to remain idle for more than one-third of the total working days of the year." In his "Economic Life of the Bengal District", Mr. J. C. Jack said: "The time-table of the cultivator, therefore, when his land is unfit for jute, shows 3 months hard work and 9 months idleness; if he grows jute as well as rice, he will have an additional six weeks' work in July and August. As regards this Province, Dr. S. Slater in his book "Some South Indian Villages" observed: "As for the Madras Presidency, on one-crop land the agriculturist works for only about 5 months in the year and on two-crop land only for about 8 months."

It is here that the importance of cottage industries comes in. Says Mr. Tellents, a former Census Officer of Bihar and Orissa: "There are periods in the cultivator's year when all the members of the family are busy in the fields but there are also periods when this is not the case and when the family are idle. At such a time there is much labour running to waste and ample scope for some form of secondary occupation." If the cultivator pursues some craft which will employ himself and his family at times when they are not required in the fields—a craft in which continuity of employment is not essential—the proceeds of the craft are a saving from waste and therefore a clear gain. *The most typical of such crafts is the production of home-spun cloth.*—It is an established fact that in the absence of organized rural industries chronic unemployment and under-employment have become one of the outstanding characteristics of Indian rural life. It is therefore necessary that every agriculturist should utilize his period of leisure in some cottage industries, and production of home-spun cloth has got with it many advantages.

Rural Indebtedness

Rural debt is a chronic problem in this Province and elsewhere. According to a recent survey aggregate rural indebtedness of the Province in 1939, i.e., before the War, stood at about Rs. 272 crores. In 1945, as a result of the rise in the prices of agricultural produce, it came down to Rs. 218 crores. The net reduction in thus only Rs. 54 crores, but if the Rs. 27 crores contracted during War years for purchase of land are taken into account, the gross reduction of debt comes to about Rs. 82 crores. Of this, Rs. 10

crores has been due to the operation of the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act, about Rs. 47 crores has been computed to the due to the sales of land and only about Rs. 25 crores due to the War time rise in prices. Thanks to the present day high level of prices for agricultural goods, the real burden of the debt is not seriously felt for the present. The Government of Madras have recently extended the scope of the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act by an amendment and its effects are being watched.

Consolidation of Holdings

One of the foremost planks in the programme of land reform is the consolidation of holdings. Subdivision and fragmentation of holdings are going on apace in this Province. The average cultivated area per head of agriculturist is only about 0.86 acre and for a family about 5.29 acres. Over 50 per cent of families own less than 2 acres, 30 per cent between 2 and 5 acres, 7 per cent between 5 and 10 acres, while those who own above 10 acres are hardly over 10 per cent. The pressure of population on land, the law of inheritance, the absence of subsidiary occupations, and false social values attached to possession of land—have all tended to hasten the pace of subdivision and fragmentation. Something has got to be done to arrest this process. In Madras voluntary co-operation has been tried; but all that have been achieved is to bring about 20 societies in a period of ten years and consolidate an area of 1,463 acres. So other methods need to be tried.

Land Reclamation

The reclamation of cultivable waste has been recognized as one of the important methods of increasing agricultural production.

The essential thing needed for reclamation is man-power. This is at present readily available in the form of demobilized soldiers. A few colonization schemes for them have been set up in this Province, where also experiments in co-operative farming are being conducted. The Wynaad scheme provides for reclamation of 28,000 acres. Several other schemes for reclamation of waste lands particularly in Gudalur and the Agency tracts are being scrutinized by the Government. The development of these areas depends also on irrigation facilities and cheap electricity. Madras has some big hydro-electric projects and a major part of it is covered by a grid system.

Economic and Maximum Holding

The question has been raised, what should be the size of an economic holding and of the maximum holding. The Economic Programme Committee have clearly expressed the view that for the maintenance of a fair standard of living, an average family should be able to get at least Rs. 100 per mensem. It is on this basis that the size of an economic holding

should be determined. Calculated this way, an economic holding may be 20 acres in the case of wet land, 10 acres in the case of garden land and 30 acres in the case of dry land. This, again, is a broad estimate. Similarly in fixing the maximum land a person may own, it is but fair and equitable to compare his income with that of the industrialist.

Food Crops

Madras has 10 million acres under rice, Bengal 22 million acres, Bihar and Orissa 15 millions, United Provinces 7 millions, Central Provinces and Bihar about 6 millions, Assam about 5 millions, Bombay and Sind about 3 millions. The corresponding percentage of land under rice to the total area under grain are roughly 40, 93, 57, 18, 28, 95 and 12 respectively. Madras Presidency has a population of roughly 50 millions. Assuming that an adult would require at least 16 ounces of rice per day, the annual production of rice required for

the Presidency will be roughly 6 million tons multiplied by a co-efficient say three-fourths to allow for the reduced rations for children. Allowing for growth of population and also a minimum of 24 ounces per day, and taking credit for millets, etc., it has been calculated that Madras should produce another two million tons of rice to satisfy its full needs. That means nearly four million more acres of land should be brought under paddy cultivation. Every agriculturist has to assist towards this end.

Firka Development Scheme

By SRI L. N. GOPALASWAMI, Secretary, The Tamil Nad Harijan Sevak Sangh

Recently I had the good fortune to visit the constructive workers training camp in the village of Nedungulam, Madura district. This is one of the villages taken up for intensive work under the Firka Development Scheme. Even before this camp sufficient spade work had been done in the village, which consists nearly of 300 houses. The roads have been levelled up and are clean. There is a good system of drainage and separate provision for lavatories and manure pits. All these things have been done by the villagers themselves with some little help by the Government. The entire thing is due to the efforts of a good village development officer who had been concentrating on it for a long time.

There have been many training camps during the last two years where

workers have been gathered and given lessons in Gandhian ideals and village work. They have also been trained in spinning and carding. In addition a disciplined life of regular work from 5 a.m. to 9 a.m. was followed in the camp in order to give the trainees an all-round knowledge of things and the practical way of living a simple life. A

good amount of money was collected both from the trainees and the public. Often the trainees came from far off places. Only a few stuck to this work after training. There is nothing wrong about it. They had no opportunities because of the want of proper atmosphere.

By experience gained from these camps many such shortcomings have been eliminated in this camp. The whole show is not run by anybody else, but by the villagers themselves. They contribute for it. Thus they are forced to watch the whole thing and are made to take an active interest in it. Being located in their midst even the indifferent people are made to react to what is taking place around. Thus the aloofness is removed, more interest is created and the problem of finance is also solved. Another great improvement here is that all the trainees selected here are from the firka itself. The idea behind it is that by running such camps in a few places enough workers can be produced to take care of the villages by themselves. The secret behind village work which has been emphasized by Gandhiji in and out of season is, that *the villager himself ought to be trained* to take care of the village. Otherwise it will be mere spoon-feeding and however great the worker he cannot achieve any results.

The idea behind, and the method of approach is commendable and will afford a good example for other firkas to copy. The propagation of such ideals and the creation of self-sufficient villages is the real need of the hour. The firka development, it hink, should take up intensive work in such villages, concentrate on them, and create at least a few villages of the Gandhian dream.

A FAVOURITE POEM OF GANDHIJI

For a bowl of water give a goodly meal;
For a kindly greeting bow thou down with zeal;
For a simple penny pay thou back with gold;
If thy life be rescued, life do not withhold.

Thus the words and actions of the wise regard;
Every little service tenfold they reward.
But the truly noble know all men as one,
And return with gladness good for evil done.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

Small Savings Scheme—Reorganized

Early in 1944 the Government of India inaugurated the Small Savings Movement with the twin object of inculcating the thrift habit among the masses to check inflation which was inevitable during the war. The scheme was introduced in every province and state and in all centrally administered areas. The scheme actually began functioning in Madras Province in February 1944.

Details of the Scheme

As in other Provinces the scheme was worked in Madras under the administrative control of the Government of Madras with a Provincial National Savings Officer as the Provincial head of the scheme assisted by nine Assistant National Savings Officers working in districts. The scheme was worked through authorized agents who were to collect money from subscribers for the purchase of National Savings Certificates, obtain the certificates from the Post Offices and deliver the certificates to the parties. The authorized agent for all this work was getting a commission of 2½ per cent on the face value of the sales of certificates effected through them. Every village headman in the Province was *ipso facto* an authorized agent. Besides, there were some non-official agents. The Collectors of Districts were given all assistance in matters of publicity to the scheme.

The system of authorized agents did not work well. The agents were bent upon earning handsome commission by contacting the rich and getting large investments. They therefore neglected to contact the small savers and thus frustrated the very object of the scheme. The village-headman-authorized-agents in rural areas did not do any work after the end of the War in 1945. Many potential investors got themselves appointed as authorized agents and drew commission on their own investments. There were other authorized agents who went to the extent of sharing the commission with the

investor. The Government had to pay to the extent of Rs. 3½ lakhs towards commission to agents in 1947-48. Besides the commission, the Government was also paying the Assistant National Savings officers a bonus of 1-16 per cent on the sale of National Savings Certificates effected through authorized agents in their jurisdiction. The Government of India after reviewing the position decided to abolish the system of authorized agents and commission from 1st June 1948. They also decided that in order to integrate the movement and to secure proper co-ordination and control, they should place the Provincial Organization which was hitherto under the administrative control of the Provincial Government under the direct control of the National Savings Commissioner. Thus the scheme was taken over by the Central Government from 1st June 1948. The Government of India have reorganized the scheme in the provinces from that date.

Re-organisation

To run the reorganized scheme in this Province there is a Provincial National Savings Officer assisted by a Deputy Provincial National Savings Officer and 5 Assistant National Savings Officers, 35 District Organizers and 3 lady organizers. The assistants and the organizers have not as yet been appointed.

The Small Savings Scheme which was started in 1944 as a war-time measure has now been conceived to be worked as permanent scheme for the social uplift of the masses and the economic well being of the country. The scheme especially now after the 15th of August 1947 has gained a special significance of National Importance. India has achieved independence but it is not economically independent. It is far behind so many other countries economically, and therefore has to make all efforts to get over this. The Government of India are now planning in this

direction and have placed in forefront their post-war economic and social programme. The problem of food shortage has been engaging seriously the attention of the Government. Large quantities of food are now imported from foreign countries at a very heavy price. Government of India with a view to solve this shortage have undertaken big projects like the Ramapada-sagar—Krishna project and several others in other provinces. Projects like these and other post-war reconstruction enterprises cost crores and crores of rupees and for financing these enterprises our National Government are in need of money. To quote the words of the Hon'ble Dr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, the Finance Minister of India, "Up till now the Government depended purely on banks. Hereafter there must be an entirely new orientation of public borrowing. Every citizen should feel it his duty to save as much as possible and after saving not to hurry and hoard it, but lend it to his own National Government. I say that we must tap the middle classes and even the industrial worker and launch a huge campaign of Savings so that the entire resources of the country may be mobilized by the Government for launching upon the great Productive enterprises."

From 1st June 1948, the Government of India have issued two new series of National Savings Certificates with a view to facilitate investment by the middle and lower middle class people. These two new series have a currency of 5 years and 7 years with a redemption yield of 3 per cent and a little over 3½ per cent. These are in addition to the already existing National Savings Certificates of 12 years currency with a redemption yield of little over 4 per cent. The certificates issued under the new series can be encashed at any time. This has the distinct advantage over the old certificates for the reason that the subscribers to these series need not lock up their money for a long period and so minimum period has been prescribed for encashing the certificates. The certificates under the new series are issued in denomination of 5, 10, 100, 1,000 and 5,000. The maximum holding of an individual in the series including Post

Office Cash Certificates is Rs. 15,000. The interest from all these certificates is FREE of income-tax. The certificates are sold at all Post offices. It is now the duty of every right-

thinking citizen of free India to save as much as possible and to invest his savings in National Savings Certificates thereby helping himself and his country.

Some Phases of Indian Corporate Life

By PROFESSOR C. S. SRINIVASACHARI

I

The wisdom of corporative discussion as the basis of conduct in life was best seen when the Buddha founded a *Samgha* (Order) for the regulation of the life of his followers; he had been familiar with the working of similar institutions in his own Kapilavastu and in the clan republics of the neighbourhood. In the rules for the regulation of the *Samgha*, we find the norm for the conduct of any democratically organized assembly. In the republics that were scattered throughout Northern India in those days, seven basic conditions were recognized as essential for the welfare of any public institution. All the members of a corporation were bound to meet together, in full and frequent assemblies. So long as they met together in concord and carried out in concord the duties and so long as they honoured and esteemed and revered and supported the elders of experience and long-standing and held it to be a point of duty to listen to their words only, so long the institution should be expected not to decline, but to prosper. This principle of institutional discipline prevailed in all the clan organizations of Ancient India. The need for united counsel and decision and the recognition of the authority of age and experience was recognized and stressed in the books laying down the fundamental laws of discipline (Vinaya) of the *Buddhist Samgha*. We quote, *in extenso*, from the *Mahavagga*, the words delineating the methods of deliberation generally observed in the Buddhist monasteries and gatherings; and in these may be found what may be deemed to have been laws of democratic organization and polity. "Then the venerable Maha Kassapa laid the resolution before the *Samgha*: 'Let the venerable *Samgha* hear me. If the time seems

meet to the *Samgha*, let the *Samgha* appoint that these five hundred bhikkhus (monks) take up their residence during the rainy season at Rajagaha: The *Samgha* appoints accordingly. Whosoever of the venerable ones approves thereof, let him speak. The *Samgha* has appointed accordingly. Therefore is it silent. Thus do I understand.' "If an official act, O bhikkhus, is performed unlawfully by an incomplete congregation, it is no real act and ought not be performed." Along with this caution against incomplete congregations went the injunction against "unlawful acts." In the following extract, the *Mahavagga* mentions some of those acts that have to be ruled out as unconstitutional: "They performed unlawful acts before an incomplete congregation; they performed unlawful acts before a complete congregation; they performed seemingly lawful acts before an incomplete congregation: they performed seemingly lawful acts before a complete congregation; a single bhikkhu pronounced expulsion against a single one; a single bhikkhu pronounced expulsion against two; a single bhikkhu pronounced expulsion against a number of bhikkhus; a single bhikkhu pronounced expulsion against a *Samgha*." As no unlawful acts were to be permitted within the church or among the church chambers, Sakya definitely laid down the rule: "Therefore, O bhikkhus, you out to train yourself thus: Lawful acts which are performed by complete congregations—such acts we will perform."

It was not proper for a portion of the assembly to meet and to pass or implement an act, claiming that the other portion might be persuaded to consent to the act when they should come. The rule of the

majority as decided in a full assembly was accepted as the regular procedure. The opinions of the members on the resolutions passed were ascertained by making use of coloured pins of wood. These were collected by a taker or teller appointed by the assembly to explain the meaning of the colour symbols to the voters and then to collect their votes. We find that there were three ways of taking the vote—the secret method, the whispering method and the open method. According to the first method, the teller was to take the voting pins of different colours round to the members, and as each voter comes up he was to tell him thus: 'This is the ticket for the man of such an opinion, this the ticket for the man of such an opinion. Take whichever you like' and when he has chosen, he is to add "Do not show it to anybody."

II

These principles of *samuha* organizations were not peculiar to the Buddhas or the Jainas, but were common to all guilds of merchants and artisans, to the political *gana* or *small* republics, as well as to the administrative *sabhas* or *samitis* controlling villages and local areas. Craft and merchant guilds were as old as the age of the Buddha at the lowest; and investigations would take their life to even the age of the Rig Veda and therefore Indian guilds have been held to be coeval with those of Ancient China. Our Law books devote special attention to the principles regulating guilds as economic institutions. These guilds were generally governed by committees of two, three or five persons, and they conducted all important business in public assembly. They were competent to make contracts with private individuals or as well as among themselves. Their power of attorney and their representation by duly authorized agents were recognized in law courts and in public offices. Their joint-stock and property of other kinds, were sacrosanct in the eye of the law. They had the right of joint action even in relation to the State.

The usual method of co-option to the membership of the guild was

by *sarvasammathi*, i.e., unanimous approval. These guilds or *srenis* whether composed of capitalists, merchants, artisans, peasants or shepherds, trade unions or commercial fraternities enjoyed all the rights of a corporate personality, and were the analogies of the real group-persons of mediæval European Law. Most of the *srenis* had an exclusive or monopolistic organization in their respective areas. They sought to regulate the number of apprentices employed under them and their hours of labour. They helped Government to fix the taxes to be paid by traders and other inhabitants. Their *Mukhyas*, *Setthis* and *Jetthas* (chiefs and elders) constituted an important estate of the realm. The influence of these *srenis* on the administration and on the public was naturally great. They had their own judicial tribunals and their judicial decisions were held to be binding even on regular courts of law. They also claimed and exercised some law-making power; and, in this regard, state officials could not institute any regulations over-riding these guild customs. In the suits brought before the regular courts in appeal from the decisions of the guild tribunals, the judges were expected to give their decisions in accordance with what were declared to be in the rules and conventions of the guilds.

The Chola Empire of the tenth and following centuries and the adjacent States of that epoch enjoyed a system of local autonomy which is well known to students of the South Indian History and in which village *sabhas* and rural assemblies of varying composition enjoyed a remarkable degree of responsibility for the entire administration of their areas. These *panchayats* claimed absolute proprietary rights over the village lands, as well as ownership over the newly cleared tracts. They had the authority to punish their elected officials for faults and inefficiency, receive taxes and to render village lands tax free and, if necessary, even to exempt landowners from customary dues. Sometimes, the temple authorities were given jurisdiction over certain lands by the authority of a village *sabha*. We learn in epigraphs that, on several

occasions, the *sabha* could sit in judgment even over capital offences and had discretionary powers in inflicting penalties. But, in this picture of local autonomy, the control exercised over the village by the officials of the king in matters where royal interference was necessary should be carefully noted. The autonomy of these villages was legally subject to central control.

III

It was also a most welcome feature that corporations controlled higher education and learning in a large measure and we can take two instances one from northern India and another from the south to illustrate the efficiency of *parishads* or *academies* corporately organized for the prosecution of research and the promotion of learning in all its variety. *Nalanda* in Bihar was an academic *Parishad* which flourished for about 700 years from about 500 A.D. It was a powerful corporation and a residential teaching university like the *El-Azhar* of Cairo, and it gave instruction, lodging and boarding and medical help free of any cost whatsoever and it inspired the foundation of the great Monastery College at Hieiyei near Nara in Japan. The famous Tamil *Sangham* at Madura was a corporate institution which anticipated by about fifteen centuries the French Academy founded by

Richelieu in 1637, and its services to the upkeep of the various Tamil literature are well known. The facility with which even scholars and teachers could lend themselves to corporate effort and life is well illustrated by these as well as by the gatherings of *sanyasis* and learned men in the periodical *Kumbhamela* gatherings.

Learned *parishads* or *academies* have been known to have flourished in our land from times immemorial. In fact, the Indian genius had always laid stress upon co-operative research and authorship and the clubbing together of intellects and the consequent effacing of individuality. Co-operative investigations were really the rule and the foundation of schools or systems of thought. "Most of the names in the annals of science and philosophy in India are those of masters or pioneers and these again are but pseudonyms associated with the patronymic saints or gods, the Prometheuses and Apollos of Hindu Culture." Many of the great treatises in art or science go by the general title of *samhita* or composition. Almost all our encyclopædic works in the past are the result of the co-ordinated labours and cumulating experience of many minds. All these are factors that should go into their places in the scheme of valuation of India's democratic attainments.

Savings, Investment and Capital Formation

DR. B. NATARAJAN, M.A., D. LITT., *Economic Adviser to Government of Madras.*

Incomes, individual as well as national, are either spent or saved. Spending on consumption goods is considered a meritorious act when nations are deep in the trough of depression but saving, an imperative need when the boom is on. The virtues of spending and saving at any moment are dependent upon the cyclical weather experienced. When prices go "sky-high", speculation is rampant and wages chase prices; an austerity campaign and a vigorous drive for saving are the only means

for curbing runaway prices and softening the bulge. Saving is a corrective of booms just as spending of slumps. The art of saving should be practised in normal times as well. A nation that recklessly spends away all its national income year after year on consumption goods will be heading towards economic collapse. No nation can eat the cake and keep it too. Out of the national product, a definite and, in modern times, an increasing percentage must be saved to keep capital intact. Not only

wear and tear, but also in an ever growing measure, premature obsolescence of plant and machinery, require a large share of the national dividend for repair, replacement and renewals. This is the barest minimum even in a stationary economy to maintain the status quo in economic and technical equipment. In a dynamic and expansionist economy, demand for saving is all the greater. The urgency for saving is greater in the case of undeveloped and backward economies having much leeway to make up than in that of advanced economies. In a competitive world, that nation which does not move forward, really moves backward. No nation has tread the path of prosperity without imposing severe restraints on the propensity to consume, in other words, without effecting adequate saving.

The progress of civilization and the attainment of higher living standards for the masses of the population has everywhere been the outcome of a ceaseless endeavour to save and invest. The prime need of a progressive economy is a high rate of saving, and capital formation. In a high capital economy, every pair of human hands is ably assisted by a larger number of mechanical hands than in a low-capital economy. Heavy capital equipment in the form of advanced technical equipment and plant increases *protanto* the volume and flow of the national income. It is the poor rate of capital accumulation and application that is responsible for low incomes in countries like China and India. The supreme need for the achievement of rapid industrialization and a higher standard of living in India is an intense and organized drive for capital formation.

A propitious moment

No more favourable moment than the present can be imagined in this country for a vigorous and concerted campaign for saving. There is an unprecedented degree of inflation, the amount of notes in circulation having risen from Rs. 178.36 crores in 1938-39 to 1,256 crores on 16th July 1943—that is to say, more than six times. The index number of wholesale prices has shot up to 383.6 (26th June 1948). Thus conditions

of hyper-inflation have come to persist, in spite of the fact that it is three years since the war ended. Almost universal short supply of goods, aggravated by bad harvests in consecutive years and bottlenecks of transport of every description, has forced prices to soar. The phenomenon of wages chasing prices has been evident for a long while. During war years at least stern fiscal measures were adopted to curb the inflationary tendencies. Heavy taxation to mop up surplus purchasing power was imposed, supported by a public loan policy. During the three years 1943-46, the total public investment was of the order of Rs. 1,950 crores. With the cessation of hostilities, the principles of war finance have been replaced by those of peace-time finance. In other words, the forces against inflation have got considerably weakened. Instead of being one of the major planks in the programme of "disinflation," the national savings campaign has been carried on on the now discredited commission basis. The actual saving effected and the target originally set up appear to be poles asunder. Vast quantities of superfluous purchasing power are pressing on the meagre supply of goods available. Further, the spent-up demand of the war years has also been unleashed and has caused spurts in price level. Certain classes of the population have been indulging in extravagance, squandering their income on tinsels and baubles and directly forcing the prices to race upward. Propensity to consume appears to be strongest and the inducement to save at the lowest ebb. Habits of thrift and saving, cultivated assiduously in the past are being discarded, and even disinvestment takes place among fixed income earners under the pressure of high prices and of eagerness to uphold customary standards of comfort. Scarce commodities are being bought at fancy prices and incomes that should fructify are being dissipated on empty or transient pleasures.

Such a torrent of expenditure is taking place when industries are clamouring for capital. All the schemes of post-war reconstruction, whether be they of Government, industrialists or labour origin, have

laid equally great stress on the capital required for their full fruit. The authors of the Bombay wanted no less than Rs. 1,400 crores in 1938 currency for its execution in the first five years. The Reconstruction Committee of Council of Government of India, in their report would like both "Government and the Public to think in terms of figures which would frightened an older generation." To cite only two instances, annual net cost of a national system of education, when in full working order, will amount to Rs. 277 crores approximately." (b) The All-Health Survey and Development Committee announced on December 25th, 1945, that the cost of a comprehensive ten-year national health plan for British India would be Rs. 1,220 crores. According to People's sponsored by the Indian Federation of Labour, the initial finance for the plan for the first three years will be Rs. 1,600 crores." (c) Labour Planners have under the enormous demand for capital necessary to carry out any scheme of expansion. The more "pocket plan" of Mr. G. D. proposes a total expenditure of Rs. 1,220 crores over a five year period. Notwithstanding the ideological and other differences among these authors of the various plans, one thing stands out significantly of them, it is the urgent need for the planners for enormous capital.

Capital—Its sources

It is no small task to accumulate capital of the magnitude required for economic planning in any country and particulars so in India. Technically there are two ways of raising capital—externally and internally. The former method comprises investment of foreign capital, earning of favourable balance of payments, sale of foreign assets, and in the present Indian context, sterling balances. The latter, of domination, economic if not political, subtle if not flagrant, almost ruled out foreign loans as well as investments in this country. And India has too little foreign capital to sell. Although prior to partition India used to enjoy a favourable balance of trade, at present capacity to export particularly

products, cotton, oil seeds, etc., is comparatively low. However, she cannot help exploring other possibilities; perhaps mica, shellac, bauxite and a few others may help to produce some net export surplus; but it requires nursing and expansion. There remains sterling balances. Although they boomed large in all discussions of financing economical plans, their utility to the cause of nation-building programmes had been grossly exaggerated. The latest agreement between the two Governments of the U.K. and Indian Union has made it clear that for a period of three years a sum of only £80 millions, or a sum of Rs. 107 crores will be released together with the unspent balance in Account No. 1 of another £80 millions. Regarding our dollar requirements, the U.K. will make available for the first year only £15 millions for conversion. On the whole, not more than Rs. 213 crores will be available from this source. To secure capital from external sources thus seems to be subject to severe limitations. It is, therefore, imperative that every nerve should be strained to tap capital of the requisite quantity from internal sources.

Domestic capital has to come from genuine domestic savings. As savings are the excess of income over expenditure on consumption goods, they depend on the quantum and distribution of national income, the level of average *per capita* consumption and the share of Government spending. Indian national income has been computed by G. D. Birla to be of the order of Rs. 5,290 crores and by certain others even so low as Rs. 4,500 crores. The *per capita* income then ranges from about Rs. 130 to Rs. 110. It is an accepted axiom that only high incomes lead to high savings. In the case of low incomes, the margin of surplus is extremely narrow if not non-existent. According to Colin Clark's empirical computation, India is saving at the rate of only 6 or 7 per cent of her national income; current savings will be between Rs. 275 and Rs. 360 crores. Investment of capital in diverse industries on the lines of a well-thought out priority system is the desideratum for effecting disinflation and augmenting the supply of consumption goods.

Importance of Saving

The question of increasing the savings if possible and steering the entire amount to immediately productive channels is of great import in India. Only a rough estimate of the national income and a vague guess of the rate of savings are available in India unlike in advanced Western Countries. Annual publications like "The Economic Survey" and "National Income" in the U.K. place much valuable data in the hands of the public from which calculations regarding consumption in private and public sectors as well as saving and capital formation can be made with a fair degree of accuracy. In the U.K., it is possible to say that in 1947, out of 10,220 million pounds, personal consumption accounted for £6,161 millions, Government consumption 2,225 and gross capital formation at home £1,944 millions. Statistics on these lines in India are not only meagre but also not quite reliable; hence calculations made as in the U.K. are not feasible in India. However, it is possible to say that saving at the rate of 6 or 7 per cent of the national income compares very unfavourably with the rate of 14 per cent in inter-war Britain, which in that country is considered to have been too inadequate even for replacement of the capital assets. The needs of the immature and undeveloped Indian economy are greater than those of the mature and advanced British economy.

Capacity for saving depends not only on the aggregate national income, but also on the manner it is distributed among the population. Huge inequalities in the distribution of income, as found in India, render complex the process of capital formation. The propensity to consume, which is strong at the present time, must be weakened by offering strong inducements to save and invest. A determined effort to absorb both the surplus purchasing power of the rich and the smaller savings of the middle and lower income groups is an imperative necessity. The same kind of inducement for all income categories will hardly produce maximum success. The very rich for whom saving is painless and almost automatic require only milder inducements

than the lower income groups for whom postponement of consumption is irksome and has to be deliberately cultivated. For instance, the idea of Rs. 10 becoming Rs. 15 in a period of 12 years will not greatly appeal to the poor man who in proportion to his sacrifice of present enjoyment, wants tempting returns. It should be possible to devise for the various classes appropriate inducements in the form of short-term returns, higher interest rates, bonus or prize to suit their respective tastes, temperaments and capacities.

Savers and Investors

The savers and investors in a community may be broadly classified into the rich with high personal incomes, the middle class with moderate incomes, the poor with periodical accretions to their incomes, and institutions with vast resources; all these belong to the private sector, while the Government is also capable of saving and investing in the public sector. Among the various categories, the high personal incomes and institutions respond in the same manner to inducements. Heavy taxation like super tax and death duty discourages saving. If undistributed profits and profits ploughed back into industry are not subject to concessional rates, all the earnings of individuals as well as institutions may be diverted to consumption uses. Fiscal policy can cut both ways and it is necessary that it should be made to subserve the vital objective of increased capital formation. This principle has been accepted and acted upon in the first budget of the Indian Union. "The aim of our policy," said Dr. R. K. Shanmugham Chettiar, the Minister for Finance, in his budget speech, "should be to secure that, while the level of taxation is reasonably high, a genuine margin is left for savings which would flow back into investment and thereby add to the productive wealth of the community." It is also necessary so to adjust our taxation as to provide a real incentive to the ploughing back of profits into fresh business." He has accordingly reduced the rate of Business Profits tax from 16 per cent to 10 per cent and also raised the amount of abatement,

which would result in a loss of Rs. 2 crores. Further, the rate of super tax has been reduced and within the slabs has been re-adjusted at a loss of Rs. 1 crore to the exchequer. Reduction of the tax on undistributed profits at a loss of Rs. 2 crores has also been effected. Concessions to small companies and exemption of donations to approved institutions at a loss of Rs. 12 lakhs and Rs. 75 lakhs respectively have been granted by the Finance Minister. Establishment of the Industrial Finance Corporations and National Investment Trust are calculated to secure the savings of institutional investors for productive purposes. If these inducements to save do not produce the desired result, the causes will have to be looked for elsewhere. Persistence of transport bottlenecks, labour unrest, unsettled stock market situation, fears about nationalization and limitation of dividends may be answerable for the shyness of capital. The terms of the industrial policy announced by Government of India also seem to be insufficiently understood with the result that investors have become hesitant. Both the problems of Kashmir and Hyderabad might have their influence on investment.

In the aggregate, on account of their smaller number, savings from the rich individuals and institutions alone will hardly serve as an effective brake on the inflationary spiral. Strenuous and concerted efforts must be made to stimulate and mop up all the savings of the middle and lower income groups. Among them special references must be made to agriculturists and industrial workers. The former at the present time, despite higher cost of cultivation and living, have got a surplus to save. But the traditional habits of thrift are fast disappearing. If all the profits of agricultural boom of today are frittered away, a delayed depression will overwhelm them. Hence, the savings campaign of the present day must be so conceived as to impound their excess purchasing power and release it in the days of incipient depression. The grain levy that is made under the modified procurement scheme by the Food Department in Madras is paid fully in cash at the present time. If half

or one-third of the sale proceeds were to be exchanged for special savings certificates, carrying higher rate of interest and maturing in 5 years, perhaps a more effective measure for mopping up surplus money would have been devised. This system of levy must be extended in its scope to cover all the major food grains and commercial crops. Savings thus collected and released at the appropriate moment, might serve to cushion off the effects of the depression.

The industrial workers are paid dearness and other allowances to meet the rising cost of living. In addition, they also earn bonuses of various kinds which are usually wastefully spent. Arrangements must be made to direct a major portion of these bonuses to savings and investment. Again the immediate benefits of prohibition lie in the unexpected windfall surplus in the family budgets of the working classes. An organized drive to collect daily from the erstwhile addicts 25 or 30 per cent of their earnings by methods which would yield a preferential rate of interest is an immediate necessity. These savings are not to be frozen for 10 to 12 years as the case is at present. The poor, it must be understood, have little interest in a remote future. The return of these savings must be so timed as to inject more purchasing power when signs of depression begin to assert themselves.

The execution of these two schemes affecting agriculturists and working classes requires a change from annual budgeting, at least the framing of yearly budgets with the long-term objective steadily in view.

A Summing Up

To sum up :

(i) A dynamic economy requires a high rate of capital formation. All planners, irrespective of their ideological differences, unanimously held that there is an urgent need in India for vast sums of capital.

(ii) In the prevailing political and economic climate, much reliance cannot be placed on foreign capital for India's industrialization. Nor

has India abundance of foreign assets needed for a planned economic development; the amount of sterling balances, released for India needs in the next three years, be only about Rs. 213 crores.

(iii) The bulk of India's capital requirements, therefore, will have to be met from domestic savings. Unfortunately the present rate of savings, even according to C. Clark's empirical estimate, does not exceed 6 or 7 per cent. We must have at least to double the rate.

(iv) Capital accumulation becomes a function of savings and investment and intense and organized drive to a stimulating savings and apply them to well-thought out schemes; investment is imperative.

(v) Under the existing conditions of hyper-inflation and short supply of goods, such a campaign conducted on appropriate lines offers ample chances of success.

(vi) High personal incomes of institutional investors have to be induced to save and invest at a high rate. Although reduction of B.P. and grant of other concessions mentioned in the first national budget together with the Industrial Finance Corporations and National Investment Trusts are steps in the right direction, more important, however, is restoration of the investors' confidence the lack of which has hitherto been capital shy.

(vii) Where the Savings campaigns have to play an important role is among the middle and lower income groups. In impounding the stream of savings from this sector we would have served two purposes: fighting inflation and accelerating capital accumulation.

(viii) This calls for substantial changes in the existing savings schemes. Schemes ensuring high rates and shorter period maturity might attract the surplus income of agriculturists and working classes. A compulsory scheme providing issue of such short-dated, high interest bearing certificates again say, one-third of an agricultural product levy or the annual bonus paid to industrial workers might be thought of.

Rural Development

By SRI T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIAR, B.A., B.L.

Everybody knows and says that more than 80 per cent of the population of the Province live in villages, and agriculture is the main stay and the chief occupation of the Province. There is a lot of lip sympathy for the rural population, but the fact that there is a large movement of the rural population to urban areas shows clearly that the attention paid to the rural areas is not satisfactory. The living conditions in the villages are very deplorable. Agriculture is not helped as it should be and the population employed in agriculture are suffering from unemployment and under-employment. It was expected that on the coming into power of the Peoples' Government sufficient attention will be paid to the villages and their requirements and the outlook of the Government will change. It is a good augury that the present Government of Madras has appointed a Minister for Rural Development, but the mere creation of a ministry will not benefit the people. A proper organization to work out the development that is necessary and the enunciation of a definite policy will be necessary. The finances at the disposal of the Government are being frittered away in various ways without bringing the desired benefit. There should be a concentrated effort and an organization with powers and resources if the rural areas are to develop and get at least the essential requirements of good living.

Present Position

At the present moment the village panchayats which are the administrative bodies to look after the essential services like water-supply, sanitation, village roads, etc., are placed under District Boards and are not working efficiently. Those so-called panchayats which are working with some efficiency are the bigger unions with large populations which are of an urban character. The other efficient panchayats can be counted by tens and not even in hundreds. Elementary education is placed directly under District Boards and the

interest District Boards take in village administration is very little. The funds that ought to be spent for rural areas is diverted to other purposes. Agriculture in rural areas is not helped very much by the agricultural officers whose duty it is to help them in all possible ways. The research work that is done in the agricultural institute and farms has not so far resulted in large improvements, nor the improvements that are possible even on the results of research and experiment have been carried to the rural areas for adoption by the people. A lot of demonstration and propaganda will be necessary to popularize the improvements either in the methods of cultivation or in the use of implements, machinery, etc., or in the introduction of new crops or improved crops. There should be greater connexion between the field work and the research work and those employed in field work should be in greater touch with the ryots and help them in every way. It is well-known that agriculture occupies only a portion of the time of the ryot engaged in it. There are several months during which he has no work and even during the months of cultivation there are slack periods. It is also well-known that the holdings are very small and they do not engage the services of more than two people at a time, whereas the number of persons depending on the holdings are on an average about five. So, in the rural areas people are generally unemployed to the extent of over 50 per cent and the rest are under-employed. It has been urged that for the under-employed, side occupations like kitchen-gardening, fruit-gardening, poultry-keeping, bee-keeping and the raising of cattle grass and manure may be systematically introduced and worked. For the unemployed, cottage industries of varying character and requiring varying skill and training should be introduced. Even under-employed can take a share in working the cottage industries. All these require organization, technical knowledge and propaganda. The financing of all these and the marketing of the

produce of all these would also require close attention. Co-operative societies have been formed here and there for these purposes and the Industries department has also started some industries in a few places. The ameliorative branch of Prohibition work is now starting a few industries like jaggery-making. The new Department of Firka Development is also starting some industries.

The same can be said of rural medical health which is practically non-existing at present. A large body of opinion demands that both preventive and curative work should be undertaken in rural areas and that environmental improvement should be taken up in an equal measure to the curative work. It has been proposed to have rural medical centres with full equipment of doctor, midwife, compounder and health inspector, etc. This will be a costly machinery and if the scheme is to be extended to the whole Province it will be beyond the means of the Province even at the end of 50 years, and it will not be possible to get the necessary personnel and other facilities within the next 20 or 30 years. A less ambitious scheme has been proposed which will make it possible to have three times the number of centres served with the same amount of expenditure. It has been suggested that about six centres may be selected for each taluk and in each one of them there may be located a midwife and a compounder and a health inspector, with provision for four beds, two for labour cases and two for emergency cases. There may be two doctors employed in the Taluk hospital. Each one of them may visit three centres twice a week. All cases which require hospital treatment may be taken to the Taluk hospital and an ambulance car may be kept for the purpose. In this scheme, it is considered that the necessary prevention and curative requirements will be met and it may be possible to get doctors who will have to live at the headquarters of the taluk and not in the villages, themselves. It has been very difficult, if not impossible to induce the doctors to go and settle in villages. If this scheme is adopted, it may be

possible to cover the whole of the Province with such institutions in the course of the next 10 years. Under the scheme, the dispensaries where they do exist at present will continue. There will be no necessity for the appointment of vaccinators as the Health Inspector will do the vaccination work. The centre will also look after the register of births and deaths and make the registers more or less reliable. It may be considered to what extent the services of doctors trained in Indian medicine may be utilized in the scheme. They will be less costly and they will be more acceptable to the villagers for medical cares.

The way out

For the achievement of results, it is necessary that a proper organization should be set up. In each village there ought to be a village panchayat who will do the essential services mentioned above and also look after elementary education. There should be a village co-operative society which will undertake all the economic work connected with the village including the helping of agriculture, cottage industries, etc. There should be a village guide for five or six villages who will look after the proper working of these panchayats and co-operative societies and also the rural medical centres and bring the help of officers of all departments like agriculture, veterinary, livestock and industries to the villagers wherever and whenever they are required. He will be the officer-in-charge for working in the area as well as getting the requisite help from outside. For an area of 15 villages or thereabouts there may be a group organization consisting of the representatives of the villages which will undertake the administrative work and a similar organization to take up the economic work. Market roads, medical centres, dispensaries and veterinary hospitals will be the functions of the group administrative body. The village guides and any engineering staff that may have to be employed for constructing roads, wells, etc., will work under the group organization. The group economic body will serve as a loan and sale society for lending on agricultural produce and serve as a marketing organization.

It will serve to collect all the agricultural produce which is surplus in the area and the produce of the cottage industries for marketing at the group centre or in an emporium located in a district or provincial centre. They can advance money on the goods they collect and recoup after they are sold and pay the balance to the producers. Schemes for development on a scale higher than that of the village whether they be with reference to the land development like irrigation, the processing of agricultural produce or having small-scale industries will all be formulated and worked by this group organization. An arrangement like this is necessary if rural development is to mean progress on the old order of things. There is a lot of red-tapism at present. A co-operative officer says that the co-operative society should be under him, while the industrial officer says that since technical aspects are involved the society should be under him and similarly there are conflicts between the agricultural department and the co-operative department. In all cases of rural development, finding of employment for the people, increase in production and a rise in the standard of living of the people should be the aim and not the interest and prestige of the several departments concerned. A lot of damage has already been done by these departmental compartment system and their fights among themselves. I can quote cases where seed

production, distribution of seeds and manures and things have formed the bone of contention between the departments to the lasting detriment of agricultural development and the denial of facilities to the agriculturists. A rural development organization which will take charge of this work will be a sure remedy for bringing about an all-round development within as short time as possible and getting the best for the money that is spent on the activities.



An apprentice at work in a Technical Training Centre for Ex-servicemen

LET US UNITE

"All this business of Hindu and Muslim and Christian and Sikh must cease so far as our political life is concerned, and we must build a united, but composite nation where both individual and national freedom are secure.

"We have passed through grievous trials. We have survived them but at a terrible cost, and the legacy they have left in tortured minds and stunted souls will pursue us for a long time. Our trials are not over. Let us prepare ourselves for them in the spirit of free and disciplined men and women, stout of heart and purpose, who will not stray from the right path or forget our ideals and objectives."

—JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Discipline and Dutifulness are Fundamentals of Life

"Education is incomplete without sense of discipline. No organization can function without discipline. Discipline begets the sense of coordination which is so essential for the harmonious working of the different units. Our boys should, therefore, develop the sense of discipline, the sense of duty and the sense of

obligation to the suffering humanity; for it is to them that we look up to as the pilots of the India's destiny in future", observed H.E. Sri Madhao Srihari Aney, the Chief Scout of Bihar, in the course of his address to the boys scouts of Jamshedpur, who held their first rally recently.

Stimulate Initiative of Villagers

A fervent appeal to officials and non-officials to create enthusiasm in the minds of villagers in executing programmes of rural development, was made by Mr. Morarji Desai, Minister for Home and Revenue, Government of Bombay, inaugurating the Provincial Rural Development Boards Conference at the Council Hall.

Mr. Morarji Desai advised the boards to devise their programmes and methods in such a way that the initiative of the villager would be encouraged and his efforts would be supported. Thus the tendency to depend upon others for everything would be checked and ultimately removed. Looking up to the Government to take up all kinds of schemes was a tendency which was a legacy from the past; a foreign Government could carry on only if the people were helpless; it took away all their initiative and made them helpless so that they might never rise in revolt; thus the people of India gradually got into the habit of asking the Government to do everything for them. Now this tendency must disappear.

The people had also developed the tendency of asking for the enactment of a law to get over any impediment; that was the surest way to ruin. There should be the minimum of law and maximum of voluntary effort; in this spirit, they must

create the maximum enthusiasm among the villagers for their rural development programmes.

For its part the Government must see that the voluntary efforts of the villagers met with success and that impediments in their way were removed.

Turning to the duties of a public servant, Mr. Morarji Desai stressed that every public servant must be prepared to give up everything, even his life in the service of the people. Mahatma Gandhi had taught them by his own personal example, and more so by his death, what a public servant should be. If they constantly strove after that ideal, the difficulties in their way could be removed with ease.

Proceeding, Mr. Desai said that the Boards must explore all possibilities of increasing irrigation, producing the best seeds, supplying better manure, and improving the breed of cattle which could also contribute to an improvement in agriculture.

They must be firm and fearless and act upon their convictions in executing their programmes. Otherwise they could achieve nothing because there were various elements who wanted to deflect them and thus achieve their own purpose, namely, catching votes in the next elections.

Concluding, Mr. Morarji Desai drew attention to the destruction of

all morality as a result of the last war, they saw everywhere that there was no respect for truth or for morality in the proper sense; that was eating into the vitals of administration as well as society; it was, therefore, the duty of all responsible persons to devote their attention to this problem and to see that the traditional respect for truth and morality was restored.

Enemies of Foodgrains

The Dominion Agriculture Minister said recently that it has been estimated that last year 33 million tons out of the foodgrains produced in the world were destroyed by insects, fungi and rats. This is about the quantity which is available for sale to deficit countries. That is, the world's surplus could be doubled if these enemies of food could be defeated.

In India the destruction of foodgrains by these enemies has been calculated to be about 30 lakh tons which is equivalent to our maximum food deficit in recent years. If we but could save all this, we need import no food from outside nor would we feel any scarcity of food in the country. The preservation of food is, therefore, a very important question. It is so in India as it is all over the world, and we would fail in our duty if we do not give it due attention while handling other problems relating to food.

Agriculture—A way of life

Speaking at Allahabad recently Hon. Dr. John Matthai said that agriculture was not merely an economic activity but also a way of life. It ought to be so developed that it not merely provided the means of life but also the means of a good life. That meant that they should so develop their resources that people could be relieved from the struggle for bare physical existence and be enabled to engage themselves in work which would give real enjoyment and do the same in an atmosphere of good fellowship.

It was necessary, therefore, Dr. Matthai continued, that life in the countryside should be organized in communities based on self-help through co-operation and on the basis of self-sufficiency in the essential requirements of life, such as food, clothing and shelter. He laid particular stress on the importance of regional self-sufficiency in essential things. He thought that in the near future there would be vast economic fluctuations resulting not merely from movements like trade cycles but also from sudden and radical changes in the international situation. It was important that the mass of people in India should be sheltered from disorganization likely to be caused by these fluctuations. He also thought that the supply of essential things in a vast country like India would mean the creation of an unnecessary number of middlemen and distributors whose charges would make essential commodities too expensive to the villagers. He feared that unless local resources were fully developed, the burden on transport would be so heavy that with its present limited capacity it would be unable adequately to cope with it. For all these reasons he considered regional self-sufficiency in essential commodities a matter to which Government and people should direct immediate attention.

The development of cottage industries would also assume a significance in that connection, said Dr. Matthai. Essential consumer goods would be provided with difficulties in Indian villages if the possibilities of cottage and domestic industries were not fully exploited. Mahatma Gandhi saw much farther than many people of his time in that matter. Dr. Matthai said that he himself was one time extremely sceptical about Mahatma Gandhi's ideas regarding village industries but circumstances had now so developed that if they trusted the large manufacturing industries, they should not be in a position to provide a solution in the near future because of the difficulties in obtaining machinery, technical skill, finances, etc. Therefore as far as elementary things of people were concerned what was needed was a net-work of cottage industries.

Dr. Matthai said that in their anxiety to develop an industrial civilization they must not forget that there were certain spiritual human values of life which western countries had lost in the process of industrialization. It was important that India should retain those values in whatever sphere they worked for the future development of the country. He thought that the usual distinction made between East and West, namely, that the East was spiritual and the West materialistic; that the East was passive and the West active, did

not rest on any fundamental distinction between the two groups of human beings. There was a good deal in common between India and mediæval Europe. The difference arose largely as a result of the mechanical industrial environments which grew up in Europe since the 18th century. If they could organize in India economic life based partly on co-operative agriculture and partly on the development of cottage industries, they should be in a position to avoid the pitfalls of western countries.

(Continued from page 36.)

music and dancing and drama. You will be introducing culture in the language they talk and the little things they do, be it cooking or grinding flour or decorating their homes. The school will help in the development of a casteless classless society where all will share equal responsibility for better, social and national life. Then all will be assured of the necessities of life and such luxuries as will increase

their efficiency in the particular calling which they have made their own. Let us hope that the great dreams that Gandhiji dreamt about the future of this glorious nation will be realized by the spread of Basic Education on a nation-wide scale. Such universalization of Basic Education is the only fitting monument of Gandhiji. That alone will give him peace. Let us all work together to realize the dreams of the Father of the Nation and thus give him eternal peace.



Bronze Buddha of the Burmese kind and a bronze bell in the Fort Museum Madras

PROHIBITION

Does Prohibition Curtail Civil Liberty?

By Mr. JOHN BARNABAS

When social, economic and moral arguments fail him, the anti-prohibitionist finds the "personal liberty" excuse a handy peg to hang his troubles on. The intellectual, both the original and the carbon copy, the moralist, and that elusive creature, the champion of the down-trodden, all try to hold up a social reform on the plea that the State has no right to regiment the nation to a given pattern of morality, for one's likes and dislikes, are one's own private affair. Prohibition is wrong because it attempts to make a man moral against his will! It deprives him of his liberty to do wrong. It is intolerable because forced sobriety is a social liability. Therefore it is that the champion of civil liberty finds prohibition irksome. He demands the liberty to have his own morals, to do an anti-social act if he so wishes, to remain intoxicated if he chooses to. But the man of religion slants the argument and asserts "Intoxication is bad. Man no doubt descends to the realm of the beast and commits anti-social acts when drunk. But do not force him to be moral; educate him to be moral."

It is my contention that prohibition promotes personal liberty and helps a man to choose his moral codes conscientiously. For, intoxication negatives a man's capacity for discerning action. He ceases to have the right to exercise civil liberty.

What is individual liberty?

But then, what is individual liberty? The concept of liberty is changing. It changes from place to place, from time to time, from custom to custom. A study of the history of civil liberty shows clearly that there

is no accepted standard of liberty that is static. It does not therefore lie in the mouth of the anti-prohibitionist to say "this is personal liberty and this is not." Forces of history necessitate a change in the concept of liberty.

The freedom to be intoxicated is a demand for absolute liberty. Political philosophers have shown clearly that there is nothing like absolute, unlimited liberty. There is only relative liberty. A man has the freedom to walk only on the foot-path, but even there he cannot go about swinging his arms. For his liberty ends where the other man's nose begins. One's liberty is circumscribed by his neighbour's rights. Our liberties are therefore hedged in by needs of society. The liberty of the individual is subject to public necessity, social necessity, and the group's necessity. The individual exists only in relation to the society in which he lives and his conduct is controlled by the needs of that society, the moment a given liberty is curtailed. Who can deny that drink, whether in moderation or otherwise, encroaches upon the rights of the family for food, peace, and comfort, of the citizen to walk the streets in safety. Hence the need for prohibition.

The progress of civilization is, to a degree, marked by an increase in social legislation. And social legislation is more often than not a curtailment of the liberties of some members of society. With the march of civilization the rights of the individual are increasingly subordinate to the welfare of society as a whole. In the modern State the individual has to sacrifice his personal needs, inclinations and desires to the will and the needs of the group. The devoted wife can no longer offer her life on the pyre as a symbol of her

love for her husband. You can no longer marry as many wives as you will, you cannot beat your own wife cruelly; you have to send your children to school even if you personally do not believe in education. You have your pen, but you are not at liberty to write fanning communal hatred. You cannot even cross the road except in marked places. Your life is not your own for you cannot commit suicide and if you succeed religion tells you that you will be found in hell and if you fail the law tells you that you will find yourself in prison. You cannot go naked in public or even dress entirely as you wish to. No doubt all these make it irksome for the individual and he wishes for absolute personal liberty. But the State imposes these restrictions on you in the interest of public welfare as a whole.

Very often the protagonists of personal liberty—the right to eat, or drink what he wants—overlook the important fact that every right is accompanied by a duty. You can exercise a right only so far as the exercise of that right fulfils all the obligations incumbent upon the exercise of that right. The man who takes intoxicants is cutting into the rights of his family the obligations he owes to society. In the very large majority of cases it is a fact of economic investigation that he deprives his wife and children of their daily necessities of life and indulges in his so called liberty to spend on intoxicants. The family, whether among the classes or masses, is a responsibility of the State and the State has not only the right but the duty of regulating the behaviour of every individual member of the family so that the interests of the family are not sacrificed to the whims of the individual. Therefore if the exercise of a given right militates against a duty, that right must be curtailed.

Liquor enthusiasts tell us that one man has as much right to drink a glass of whisky as another has to drink a cup of tea, but you never heard of one man killing another while he was under the influence of tea, and this fact has something to do with the question of what a man has a right to drink. You are not

CAUTION
JOINT AHE

permitted to spend your wages as you please if you have a family to support—you must provide for your family. Slaves, women, children—these have come to their own because a new conception of rights and duties had dawned upon men. They discovered that there is a more fundamental question than property rights—that duty is a bigger word than rights. Let us not forget that in the lives of men duty and sacrifice—for the sake of the weaker members of society—is far greater than the insistence on one's rights and the man who is ready to give up his rights when the well-being of mankind as a whole is concerned, is a bigger man,—the little man always stands out for his rights no matter what happens to others. Thus viewed prohibition does not take away one's liberty at all, because as Blackstone says, "Laws when prudently framed are by no means subversive but introductive of liberty."

Evils of alcoholism

It is not necessary to dilate upon the physical, social, economic and normal evils of alcoholism. Both the rich and the poor know the ravages of intoxicants on the individual, the family and the society. But then there are those who argue "Why not let the individual who can drink in moderation, without becoming a menace to the family or society have the liberty to drink?" That intoxication even in moderation (though there is no standard concept of moderation) are physically injurious to the habitual is the predominant medical opinion apart, one should not forget that social legislation cannot be discriminative. It is the duty of the State to help the weak individual, who has no sense of proportion, to lead a normal sober life that he desires to live, by creating an environment which makes such life possible for him. Ask the poor labourer and the kisan and he will readily plead with you that he knows drink is bad, that he wants to give it up, but that as long as it is available he is too weak to resist the temptation. The right to drink is a licence to social evils. So long as human nature is susceptible to unbridled natural desires irrespective of conse-

quences so long will the State have to regulate the lives of its citizens.

Prohibition in the interests of the masses

Prohibition is therefore in the interests of the masses and it is the duty of every citizen to sacrifice a part of his liberty in the interest of the weaker members of the society. "If man were to live in a state of nature unconnected with other individuals, there would be no occasion for any other law than the law of nature and the law of God. . . . But man was formed for society and is neither capable of living alone nor indeed has the courage to do it. The community should guard the rights of each individual member, and in return for this protection each individual should submit to the law of the community, without which submission of all it is impossible that protection should be extended to any. . . . Hence . . . the law, which restrains a man from

doing mischief to his fellow-citizens, though it diminishes the natural, increases the civil liberty of mankind."

The laws given by Manu or Moses, Jesus or Mohaminad, whether as regards alcoholism or otherwise, are a series of "Thou Shalt Not" and no doubt limit one's "Natural" liberty only with a view to regulate human behaviour in society. But we do not shout against those laws as a curtailment of our liberties. When the manufacture of drugs and liquors makes life more burdensome to all the people, and when it creates social and economic problems which threaten the finest things in human life, when it destroys men's bodies and souls and becomes a menace to society, then the State has a right to destroy that traffic. We accept this principle in every other relationship in life—why not accept it with regard to alcoholics?

—Sanjeevan.

Findings of a Prohibition Committee in Bombay

During the regime of the first Congress Ministry in Bombay, the Government appointed a committee to enquire into prohibition which had been introduced as an experimental measure in Ahmedabad—one of the leading Industrial cities in the Province. The committee drew up an elaborate report. Some of their findings are of more than local interest and they are given below:—

The consumption of alcohol in India is remarkably small.

Of all the countries for which production figures of potable alcohol are available, India produces the least quantity of alcohol for human consumption.

Nearly 62 per cent of the ex-drinkers attributed drinking for the first time to bad company.

Nearly 68 per cent of the drinkers continued the drink habit for convivial reasons. Drinking in company for the enjoyment of social life has been classified under convivial drinking. Some part of this

convivial drinking appears to be really misery drinking.

More than ten per cent continued drinking because of parental habit. The hereditary transmission of the drink habit as such does not seem to be scientifically established. With the dying out of the present generation of ex-drinkers, the next generation and the one following that will be brought up in a different atmosphere.

Nearly ten per cent of the ex-drinkers continued to drink in order to overcome industrial fatigue and disgust.

The average expenditure on drink on ordinary days was Re. 0-4-2, on weekly holidays Re. 0-13-0 and on pay days Rs. 1-5-8 per drinker.

The deeper causes of alcoholism and the drink habit may be traced to the special environment in which the individual or the generation has been brought up.

A low standard of life resulting from poverty leads to drinking. A vicious circle of poverty leading to

drink and drink leading to poverty is set up. The improvement in sobriety in recent years in England is due to a change in the standard of living rather than the converse.

A large proportion of the population was living in one-roomed tenements which has become more and more overcrowded.

The average price paid by ex-drinkers works out at Re. 0-5-9 per dram in the case of country liquor, Rs. 3-7-6 per bottle in the case of foreign liquor and Re. 0-3-9 in the case of toddy.

The average monthly expenditure on drink per drinker constituted 16.6 per cent of the average drinker's income and 13.0 per cent of the average drinker's household income.

Considering the comparatively low per capita national income of India the proportion borne by the expenditure on drink to income is unconscionably high.

The drink expenditure of the Indian worker is incurred not at the expense of conveniences and luxuries but at the cost of necessities.

Although the percentage of expenditure in the higher income groups may be low it should be noted that the actual expenditure is high.

The average monthly expenditure on items incidental to drink comes to Rs. 1-0-2 for the drinkers.

As many as 28.5 per cent of the ex-drinkers stated that drinking had led to indebtedness in their cases. The average debt incurred on account of drink was Rs. 167.

The behaviour of ex-drinkers in restaurants and cinemas is reported to have improved since Prohibition and the neighbours have borne testimony to the absence of brawls, molestation and unneighbourly behaviour of drinkers when they were not in their senses as a consequence of drinking.

If as a result of Prohibition we may assume an increase of 10 per cent in productive efficiency, the annual gain would be more than Rs. 13 lakhs in the case of industry in Ahmedabad taking the average earnings of the drinker to be Rs. 30 per mensem.

Eighty-nine per cent of the ex-drinkers now reach home before a p.m. whereas only 37 per cent used to do so before Prohibition was introduced.

Eighty-four per cent of the ex-drinkers appear to have spent from 1 to 4 hours and more on account of drinking.

Nearly 92 per cent of women in ex-drinkers' families say that their experience regarding domestic peace and treatment at the hands of the ex-drinkers is considerably better than before.

More than 96 per cent of the ex-drinkers stated that their relations with their neighbours were better than before.

MONSTROUS ROBBERY

"The poor people unfortunately take liquor. It is not the rich that contribute the main part of the revenue to the Government. Do not go away with that impression. It is the poor wage-earner, rural and industrial, that contributes and not the rich. A very poor people, at that, make up all the money that the Government wants to be spent on all the people. Let me take my own Province, and it is the same thing in your Province too. We get one-fourth of our revenue, and you get here between a third and a fourth of yours from these poor people. Four crores in my Province and in your Province three crores are extracted from a very few people to be spent on the whole population. Is it right? If they were rich people it could be right. But it is the poorest. And, then, why do you extract it inappropriately?—by creating and keeping regular shops, by inviting the people to get in and by selling them an article which creates a craving even if the whole family is against it. The consumer's reason against it is the whole of the 20 hours of the day, and on the 21st hour we create a feeling of that kind and there we extract money from him to serve other people. What a monstrous form of robbery! If you only see the reality of it, the ordinary robber does not take the money in this way. We do much worse.

"We create a desire which makes him pay without a bill collector going to him. All the other taxes have to be recovered with great difficulty. We have to go from place to place to collect them, remind the people again and again of the same—a Revenue Minister knows all the troubles and difficulties of collecting taxes. But here the man comes himself; nobody need go to him, he comes and pays the money, more than the taxes you want. The machinery is greased with first-class lubricants; and the money rolls in day to day, systematically without any difficulty—all because we create a craving, because we want that man alone to pay for all the rest, because he is in a position to be defrauded whereas the others are not."

—HIS EXCELLENCY SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

AGRICULTURE IN OTHER COUNTRIES

Agriculture in Britain—Tractor for Every Farm

Britain has planned to increase her food output by another 20 per cent, or Rs. 133.10 crores in terms of money value at the farm gate.

Even before World War II the value of her food output exceeded that of the whole of Canada, or of Australia and New Zealand combined, and to-day, at the farm gate, it amounts roughly to Rs. 732.05 crores annually.

Britain probably has more machinery to the acre than any other country in the world. The last machinery census showed a total of 203,420 tractors to cultivate her 28,736,000 acres of crops and grass, or a tractor to every 140 acres including grassland. That was in 1946. Tractors have further increased since then, and expenditure on farm machinery of all kinds is now at the annual rate of Rs. 53.24 crores a year.

At the present time, the problem is not to persuade farmers to invest in farm machinery of all kinds but to persuade them to be patient in waiting for supplies. This is particularly true of some of the newer machines, such as oneman pick-up balers, combined seed and fertiliser drills, and combine-harvesters. The British farmer uses them to save labour. Without machinery he could not have produced a record quantity of food with 250,000 fewer men than thirty years ago. Machinery also enables him to farm more efficiently. There is also an array

of new machines for digging and cleaning farm ditches, for trenching and laying land drains, necessary to farming in many parts of Britain. There are in Britain highly mechanized grain farms, mostly on the eastern side of the country, where a few men and machines can harvest prodigious quantities of grain. But grain-growing is by no means the mainstay of British agriculture.

Before World War II, all the grain grown in Britain did not equal the value of poultry output, but livestock production is sure to remain an important subsidiary occupation of British agriculturists.

Up to the war, farm labour, at Rs. 23-8-0 a week, was not dear. In Britain the farmer is further helped by the Institute of Agricultural Engineering for research, testing and experimental work, as well as a great deal of research carried out by private firms.

There are social problems also. The farms are small, but this brings the advantage of intensive production per acre and of that personal supervision that is important in livestock farming. The Britishers do not like the idea of designing their farming. They do not like the idea of designing their farming to serve machines; they think the engineers should design machines to meet the needs of the average farm. So research is not only going on among the engineers to produce suitable machines, but people are working out ways

for the smaller farmer to enjoy benefits of the larger machine without paying too heavily in outlay.

The system of agricultural co-operators is being developed to heavier cultivations for the man, or even to harvest his crop. There is co-operative ship in a few instances, but progress in these lines has been achieved by getting farmers to their machinery, and even labour, at peak periods such time and harvest. In some this is working quite remarkably well. Elsewhere, it is purely a neighbourly arrangement by a larger farmer uses his machine to do his smaller neighbour's chores for him, at an agreed price. Some countries have created of farm implements that he can hire out at fixed charges.

One thing is fully recognized: practically every farmer in Europe. Farm mechanization has cost a great deal and no one can think of it successfully, without making use of it. We know also how we are from finality in almost every aspect of it. The average farmer has a headache at the moment how to use machinery, but he gets it, for the makers' orders are full and overflowing into the market. There is already more than a tractor to every farm above 50 acres in Britain.

100 Million Dollars Spent on Thousands of Projects Every Year

I. Agricultural Research

Agricultural research in every state of the United States has resulted in significant advances in production enabling the nation to feed its own growing population and also to export substantial volumes of food abroad. Research is conducted jointly by Federal and state governments as

well as by private industry, to the tune of 100 million dollars every year, in thousands of new projects. The Office of Experiment Stations of the United States Agriculture Department is the co-ordinating agency of this nation-wide programme.

Few activities designed to increase the nation's output of goods and services have been as rewarding as the joint work done in agricultural research by Federal and state governments and private industry in the United States.

(Continued on page 54)

PROBLEMS AND PROGRESS ELSEWHERE

II. Central Provinces and Berar

In Pandit D. P. Mishra's Social Education Scheme, Central Provinces has given a lead to the whole country. It was given to Pandit Mishra to recognize the first need of schooling adults in the responsibilities of citizenship of a free country. In a five-year plan, costing about a crore and half, the Provincial Government have undertaken not only to eradicate illiteracy in the Province, but to turn the average citizen.

The Scheme of Basic Education, first given birth to by Mahatma Gandhi, was processed and developed in the educational laboratories of this Province.

Second Line of Defence

In its Home Guards it has produced a second line of defence which can hardly be compared by anything of the kind in the country's civil life.

Central Provinces has once again shown the way to the rest of the country in its plan to salvage natural manure-wealth. The first joint session of the Central C.P. Compost Conference and Central Compost Development Committee held at Nagpur in the first week of July and presided over by Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram, Food Minister, Government of India, took first practical steps to save India's crores of tons of natural manure wealth.

An ambitious scheme for the multi-purpose development of Central Provinces' river systems is under consideration of the Government with a view to providing cheap electric power for industrial and other purposes. Underway is a large multi-purpose project 90 miles south-east of Nagpur on the Wainganga river, providing 250,000 K.W. of electric power, one million acres of irrigation and 320 miles of navigation in the first stage, power generated increasing to 600,000 K.W. later. It would incidentally be the biggest man-made lake in the world when constructed. The cost of power

supplied would be incredibly low—in the neighbourhood of 0.1 anna per unit. The estimated costs over the scheme would come to a total of Rs. 34 crores in the first stage going to Rs. 50 crores in the second stage. With the ultimate multi-purpose development of the river systems it may be possible to establish through navigable tanks across the country. The lakes formed by impounding water on the river-systems may also constitute a chain of sea-plane bases right across the country of immense strategic value.

The five-year electrification plan formulated earlier to be worked through three zonal grid-systems would be retained as complementary to the hydro-system.

A tractor scheme is at work at Khurai as part of the drive to reclaim kans-infested lands. Already 7,000 acres of such land have been reclaimed within four months.

Special attention was paid to encourage fruit and vegetable production. An experimental fruit, and vegetable station has also been opened with a view to evolve varieties of fruit and vegetables suitable to the Province. A survey of tanks and rivers in the Province has been undertaken towards development of fisheries, and dairy units near important urban centres are being set up to increase supply of milk.

In order to carry on experiment in co-operative farming, the Provincial Rural Development Board have decided to select two villages in each of the four revenue circles of the Province and work out a scheme. During the period of controls, the co-operative agricultural and multi-purpose societies which had multiplied manifold in number had come to the rescue of the farmer and secured him fair prices. The co-operative movement in the Province has been fast developing on non-credit side. In what is the biggest cottage industry in the Province—weaving 50 per cent of

the total of 915,000 working looms have been brought under co-operative fold.

The Provincial Government have been devoting particular care to revive and develop cottage industries. To utilize the Province's large quantity of oil-seeds, an oil-ghani industries scheme has been introduced. Under the scheme, improved Wardha design ghanis are propagated and loans are granted to co-operative societies for the purchase of oil-seeds and ghanis. Other village industries schemes engaging Government's consideration are manufacture of gur from juice of date palm and 'palmyra' trees, production of Khadi establishment of a Nim Products Institute and manufacture of ink from 'hurra' products.

With a view to improve the condition of the 45 lakhs aborigines of the Province, Backward Areas Welfare Scheme evolved by Thakkar Bapa has been at work. Under the scheme areas have been divided into ten zones. Co-operative societies have been formed to bring economic welfare to the aborigines, schools and hospitals have been opened. To bring about their social and cultural development, educational propaganda is carried through bhajan parties and film vans.

In the sphere of public health the Government have been going ahead with various schemes, anti-malaria units and mobile dispensaries have been bringing relief to remote villages. Indigenous systems of medicine like unani and ayurvedic are being encouraged and recently a Board of the Province's vaidyas and hakims was constituted at the instance of Dr. Barlingay, Minister of Health. An act gives better status to these therapies. A Nutrition Section which has been carrying on feeding experiments in schools has been opened. A Public Health Engineering Department has also been constituted and the problems

relating to urban and rural water-supply are being investigated into by the department.

Prohibition

Soon after assuming office the Congress Government announced its decision to declare the whole province 'dry' during the next few years. The total dry area is now 40,000 square miles extending nearly to half the province's area.

Labour Welfare

Labour welfare has been one of the main concerns of the Government with the help of Trades Disputes Bill. Industrial Truce has been maintained fairly successfully in the province. A shop Assistants' Bill fixing 8 hours day is also in force.

Problems of the East Punjab

East Punjab, as everybody knows, is a new province created consequent upon the partition of India. It consists of 13 districts with an area of 30,541 square miles and a population of 12,409,924. The province is faced with a number of difficult problems. Refugees come first. Then there is the question of provision of irrigation facilities. Incidentally, out of a total of 14 million acres irrigated by canals only three million acres fall to the share of the East Punjab. Several new irrigation projects are under way. A new capital has also to be built up, Lahore the capital of the United Punjab having gone to the West Punjab.

Partition has badly hit this province. Anyway no pains are spared to place the province on its feet.

Independence means democracy. Democracy demands that every citizen has the opportunity of receiving wisdom as distinguished from a knowledge of facts so-called.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

(Continued from page 52)

About 100 million dollars per year is currently being expended on agricultural research by Federal and State governments alone. The U.S. Government makes grants to the 48 States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico to be used for specific agricultural research projects approved by the Office of Experiment Stations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture at Washington, D.C., which acts as a clearing-house for all research projects in which Federal funds are involved. The individual states supplement the Federal grants with their own appropriations for agricultural research which generally far exceed the Federal share of the total for study and experimentation.

Joint Federal-state research for the advancement of agricultural crops and practices has been in effect since 1888 under Congressional authorization and has been expanded by subsequent acts since that time. Most recent and of major importance was the approval of the Research and Marketing Act of 1946 calling for a co-operative attack on problems in broad fields of agricultural research.

The research work is carried on at the state agricultural experiment stations—closely integrated with agricultural colleges—in each of the 48 states in the United States and in Puerto Rico, Hawaii and Alaska. There, specialists in the various fields of research, supported by

Federal, state, and private grants, deal with agricultural problems which originate from the "grass roots"—the farms, ranches, and grazing ranges. These problems relate to the conditions of the soil, crops, livestock and poultry, plant pests and diseases, farm buildings and rural housing.

More than 60 per cent of American Farms Electrified

The Rural Electrification Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture has extended electrical service to about 1,000,000 rural farms and establishments since August 1942. Including those farms serviced by private utilities, numbering about 1,250,000, about 3,500,000, or more than 60 per cent of the total farms in the United States are now

receiving central electric station service.

A Farm Modernized in a Single Day

Two hundred American volunteer workers recently transformed a drab, 105-acre farm into one of the most modern farms in the State of Virginia—in a single day. The volunteers, war veterans participating in the on-the-farm training program given them by the U.S. Government, accomplished five years of work in a single dawn-to-dusk operation.

More than 30 tractors, fertilizer spreaders, post hole diggers, and earth-moving machinery were used to plow, terrace, fertilize, and seed the entire farm according to the latest advances of agricultural science.

Harijans in Bombay

"In assessing a Government servant's efficiency, Government will take special notice of the way in which he furthers the policy of Government in regard to the removal of untouchability" says a circular issued by the Government of Bombay. The circular enjoins on all heads of departments and offices and also their subordinates to be careful to see that Harijans who come within the sphere of their departments and offices are enabled to exercise without any impediment all the rights and facilities accorded to them.

Refresher Courses in Bombay

In order to provide refresher courses throughout the year for the different categories of primary teachers to enable them to improve the standard of teaching in schools, the Government of Bombay have sanctioned the opening of two training colleges for Teachers' Refresher Courses. Each college will normally hold three to four such courses in a year according to the length and nature of the course and will conduct two classes of 40 teachers each at a time. Each college will have a practising school attached to it.

DELHI DIARY

Compost Production Drive

The Central Manure (Compost) Development Committee at its first meeting held recently at Nagpur made a number of recommendations for the rapid expansion of compost production in the country.

The Committee recommended that legislation should be introduced in all Provinces and States to give power to the respective Governments to compel Municipalities to convert the whole of their refuse and night-soil into manure. In order that distribution of compost is not hampered for lack of motor trucks, Provincial Governments have been advised to give high priority to compost work after meeting the defence and food transport requirements.

As for the village compost scheme, the Committee recommended that Provinces and States should adopt legislation for expeditious requisitioning of lands in village surroundings needed for compost work and tree planting.

In view of the fact that nearly half of cow-dung produce is at present burnt for fuel, a sub-committee has been appointed to examine the issues involved and prepare a suitable scheme for large-scale expansion of tree planting in villages so as to provide alternative fuel and release cow-dung for manure purposes.

New Variety of Cotton

A new variety of cotton known as Mysore-American V. has been evolved by crossing Co. 2 (a Cambodia pure strain) which is much superior to local Doddahatti grown in the northern and central tracts of the Mysore State since 1850.

M.A.V. cotton grows well both under irrigation and rain-fed conditions. It is fairly resistant to Red Leaf Disease unlike Doddahatti which is very susceptible to it. The plants are characterised by broad leaves and big bolls which open well. Its staple length is 1-1/8 inch and its ginning out-turn goes up to 35 per

cent. Its cotton spins up to 36s Highest Standard Warp Counts.

The yield varies with the type of cultivation from 400 to 1,350 lb. of kapas per acre.

Mechanization of Fishing Industry

In view of the fact that development of fisheries will, to some extent, solve the question of food shortage, the Central and Provincial Governments are engaged in reorganizing the fishing industry and in mechanizing it.

The Central Government is subsidizing the Provinces for fisheries development under the aegis of the "Grow More Food" campaign. Tanks, ponds, etc., are being surveyed and supplied with fry or fingerlings of quickly growing varieties of fish. Experimental deep sea fishing is also being conducted in Bombay and Madras Provinces. In Bombay, a trawler is being worked for surveying potential off-shore fishing grounds.

A brochure on the marketing of fish in India has been issued by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India in the Ministry of Agriculture, which contains useful information on the present condition of the fishing industry in the country.

Fisheries may be broadly classified into marine and riverine. The annual production of fish is estimated at 179.3 lakh maunds, a third of which is fresh water fish, allowing on a per capita basis a consumption of only 0.2 oz. a day. The present supply of fish is most inadequate. Due to primitive methods of capture, preservation and transport, and above all the inadequacy of marketing facilities, a good percentage of the meagre catches landed at present is unfortunately allowed to go waste.

Development Schemes

The second issue of "Agricultural Situation in India" dated May 1948, published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry

of Agriculture, Government of India shows that the scope of the journal has been expanded.

The statistical portion has also been improved by the addition of tables relating to commodity trade movements, estimates of acreage under certain forecast crops for non-reporting areas and harvest prices.

The chapter dealing with research and development shows that efforts are being made to establish the old gur manufacturing industry from palmyra and to increase production of fruits and vegetables.

The number of tappable palms in India is estimated at 5 crores which are capable of increasing gur production by about 10 lakh tons. The Ministry of Agriculture has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1,40,000 for the current year for developing palm gur schemes in the provinces. Vegetable production schemes are under progress in the various Provinces and States. In United Provinces the Horticultural Section of the Department of Agriculture is developing fruit nurseries at several places. A scheme has been sanctioned for the production of seedlings of fruit trees which will be supplied at cost price to food growers and ex-soldiers.

In regard to dairy development, the West Bengal Government have a scheme for the establishment of a Central Livestock Research-cum-Breeding Station, Cattle breeding, dairy development, poultry breeding, goat breeding, etc., will be the main features of this scheme which is expected to produce 1,400,000 lb. of milk, 13,000 lb. of butter, 2,7000 eggs, 1,500 goats and 17,00,000 maunds of fodder each year. The United Provinces Government are planning to increase milk supplies at Lucknow, Allahabad and Banares through co-operative milk unions. The Government of Bombay propose to start cattle breeding farms in Ratnagiri and Poona districts.

Special Allotment for Aboriginal Welfare in Bihar

The Government have allotted Rs. 40,800 for improvement of Educational and Cultural institutions, etc., for the benefit of aboriginals up to November 1948.

OTHER PROVINCES

Village Panchayats in Bombay

"Mahatma Gandhi had fully visualized the importance of Village Panchayats in free India and it is from him that the Bombay Government derived inspiration to amend the Bombay Village Panchayat Act with a view to vitalising these Panchayats and giving them sufficient power and financial help, so that these would be able to look after the interests of nearly 5,000 villages of Bombay Province," said Mr. G. B. Vartak, Minister, Local Self-Government, in reply to a civic address recently.

Mr. Vartak described the importance of these institutions before the British rule and said that these bodies were in those days real centres of power in every village. But with advent of British rule these bodies soon lost their former importance.

The Spirit of the Mahatma

The spirit of democracy cannot be established in the midst of terrorism whether Government or popular.

I assert in all humility that liberty and democracy become unholy when their hands are dyed with innocent blood.

A democracy prejudiced, ignorant, superstitious, will land itself in chaos and may be self-destroyed.

Wars will never ensure safety for democracy.

Truth is not to be found by anybody who has not got an abundant sense of humility.

If you would swim on the bosom of the ocean of truth, you must reduce yourself to a zero.

It is my firm faith that we can conquer the whole world by truth and love.

Scholarships in U.P.

The U.P. Government have decided to give scholarships to all students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, who are reading in degree and post-graduate classes.

THE MEANING OF FREEDOM

"Freedom brings with it responsibility," Pandit Nehru, declared. "Democracy means responsibility. Democracy is not just holding public meetings of approbation and your leaders doing what they like. In a democratic system, you have to work with your leaders, support them, check or even remove them if you like. You must be in touch with what is happening and share the burden with your leaders. Freedom does not merely mean being free from the domination of other people. It means much more. The individual in a free country, man or woman, functions as a free individual with the rights as well as the duties and responsibilities that freedom brings. Now that process is rather a difficult one. Although India is independent now and can go anyway it chooses, subject to certain conditions, nevertheless people have not got out of their old habit. People claim the rights of freedom loudly enough, they complain loudly enough, but they are not quite prepared to assume the responsibility and the burdens that freedom brings. There is a law in life. You cannot have the right unless you also assume the responsibility accompanying that right.

—PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

Village Improvement Prize

The Government of Bombay has approved the recommendation of the District Rural Development Board, Nasik, and has awarded the District prize of Rs. 100 to the village Madkijamb in the Dindor Taluka, in recognition of the best village improvement work done by it during 1946.

Advisory Board in C.P.

An Advisory Board to advise the Government on important matters and questions of policy pertaining to the Medical and Public Health Departments has been constituted by the Provincial Government. The Hon'ble Minister in charge of the Medical and Public Health Departments is the Chairman of the Board.

Fruit Development in West Punjab

To encourage fruit plantation private individuals in the West Punjab the Agricultural department is maintaining large stocks of pedigree plants at Government nurseries.

EX-SERVICEMEN ARE PUTTING THEIR HANDS TO A VARIETY OF JOBS



Ex-servicemen are seen engaged in their craft.



Vegetable cultivation is one of the important Vocational Trades taught.



Some of the Ex-servicemen are experts in ratan work and other cottage industries.

DIAMONDS EMERALDS Sapphires

Made by
BAPALAL & CO.,
RATTAN BAZAR — MADRAS.
PHONE 2696

BAPALAL & CO.,

Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewellers,
Rattan Bazaar, Madras-3

Telegram: "NEC.LACE"

Telephone: 2696

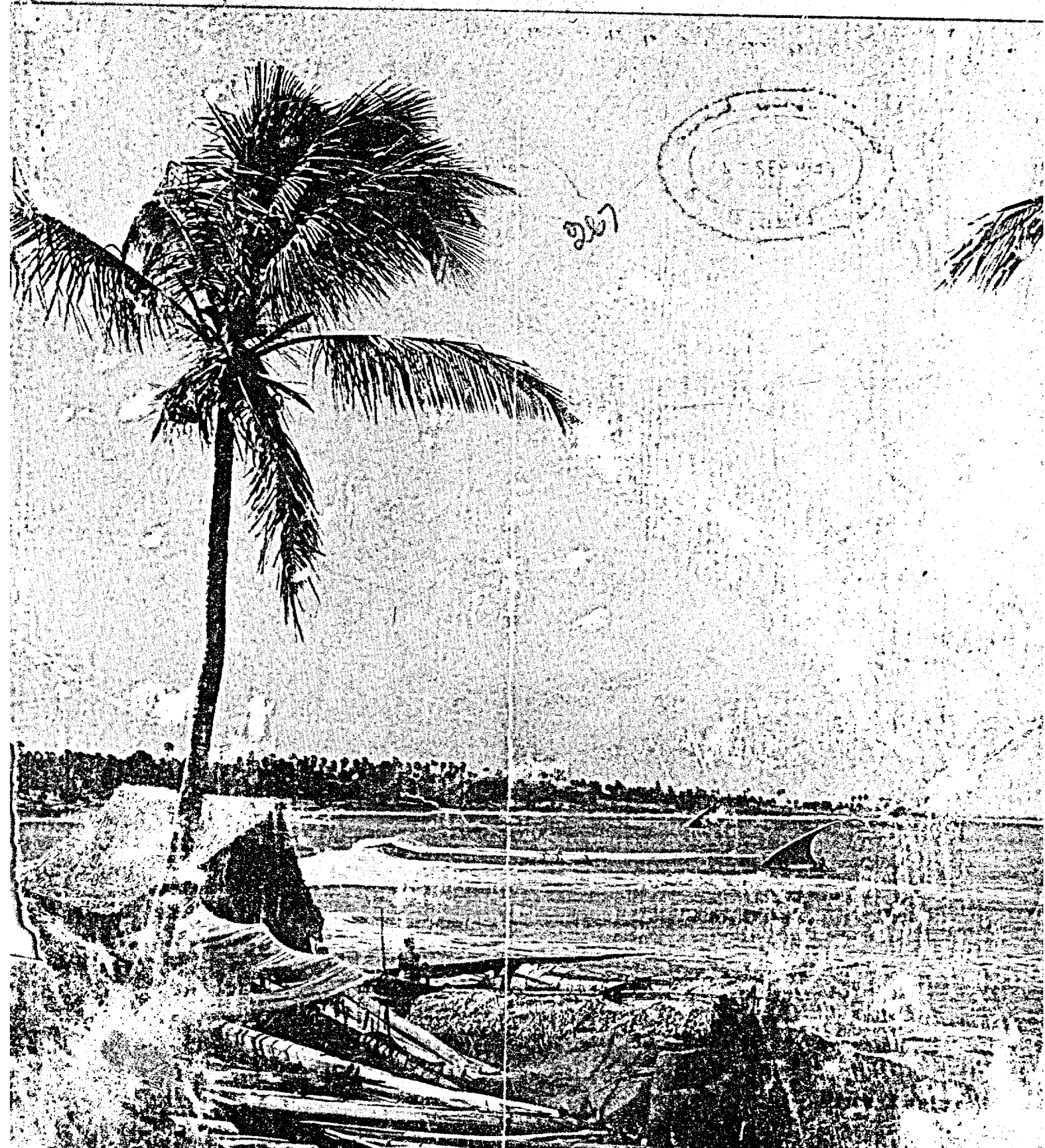
MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

564/18

MADRAS, 1st SEPTEMBER 1948

NO. 16



Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

Vol. II, No. 16

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

September 1, 1946

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Medium of Instruction

The Government of India have defined their policy regarding the medium of instruction in educational institutions. A Resolution on the subject, says: The principle that a child should be instructed during the early stage of his education through the medium of the mother-tongue has been accepted by the Government. All educationists agree that any departure from this principle is bound to be harmful to the child and therefore to the interests of society.

Unfortunately the application of this educationally sound principle in practice raises some difficulties. One question is what is to be considered as the mother-tongue through which education has to be imparted. It is well-known in every region, Province and State in India, a number of dialects are spoken. Children learn dialects at home; are they to be all adopted as media of education? Unfortunately their number is large and most of them are without literature and therefore without necessary pabulum to nourish education. There are, however, about dozen languages more or less developed, which possess literatures and which seem to be marked out to become such media.

Here a second difficulty arises. Although in some Provinces one of these languages is predominant, in others speakers of two, three or four of them live together, and there is hardly a Province in which besides a principal language there are not considerable number of inhabitants speaking other languages.

In the Madras Province four principal languages are used, viz., Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarese and in the City of Madras there are numerous

speakers of both Telugu and Tamil. Similarly in the Bombay Province there are Marathi, Gujarati and Kanarese speaking people, and in the City of Bombay a mixed population of Marathi, Gujarati, Urdu and Hindi speakers. In Bihar and United Provinces there are certain districts and cities where along with Hindi, Bengali is spoken by many. Calcutta again is a sort of a cosmopolitan town with a mixed population speaking a number of languages. In Orissa, Oriya is the main language but in some parts Telugu is used. The Central Provinces have large areas of Marathi, and Hindi speaking inhabitants. Nagpur is a city of mixed speakers of Hindi and Marathi. East Punjab has two languages—Hindi and Punjabi.

Conditions like these make it impossible for any State or Province to adopt any single language as the medium of instruction. An attempt to adopt one language in a Province where groups of people speaking different languages reside and to impose it on all is bound to lead to discontent and bitterness. It will affect inter-Provincial relations and set up vicious circles of retaliation. Provincialism will grow and Indian nationalism will suffer.

The history of European countries is a warning. England sought to impose English on Ireland, Germany, German on Poles, Eastern Europe on countries their particular languages on pockets of inhabitants speaking foreign languages. In every case the results have been disastrous.

In the case of India there does not exist any justification for adopting a policy which Europeans followed to their discomfiture. All Provincial languages are Indian languages and there is little reason why any Province in India should seek to deprive children inhabiting that Province of their fundamental right to receive education through the medium of the mother-tongue.

It is obvious that if a Province has adopted any particular language as the language of administration, it will be to the interest of those whose mother-tongue is different, to learn it in order to claim participation in the life and privileges of the people of the Province.

The principle of teaching through the mother-tongue then is of general application, but practical consideration suggests two limitations.

In the first place the principle applies mainly to the first stage of education, i.e., the stage of compulsory primary education, or to the group of children at the junior basic stage from the ages of 6 to 11, for the reason that at the stage of compulsory education, children should not be forced to study a language which is not their mother-tongue. In the higher stages after the junior basic,

IN THIS ISSUE

A Sea Coast Scenery—*Frontispiece*.

Notes and Comments

Departments' Corner

Prohibition

Topics and Talks

Problems and Achievements

Observations and Exhortations

Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Topics

Special Article

Problems and Progress Elsewhere

Delhi Notes

Books and Publications

or pupils to learn Province.

ment of the mother-ation of the children are extremely small administrative and financial nce it is desirable that a minimum number should be fixed for the use of their language. The Provincial or State Government should

not only refrain from forcing any particular language on such groups but should place the same facilities of education at their disposal as it does for the other children.

The Government of India is of opinion that in the larger interests of the country it is desirable that the policy enunciated above should be followed by all Provincial and State Governments.

Premier's Appeal

Declaring open the Tuberculosis Hospital, Perambur, recently, the Premier of Madras made a fervent appeal to the public to co-operate with the Government in their efforts to tackle the problem of poverty and elimination of disease. He appealed to the rich to realize the gravity of the times and put their resources to good use by munificent deeds instead of frittering them away on wasteful expenditure on themselves. Very few people know the extent of havoc done by Tuberculosis in this country. The Government have planned to effectively

combat what has really proved to be a grave menace to public health.

The Premier's appeal to the rich to identify themselves with humanitarian efforts to alleviate the distress of the common man is one that should be heeded by them with enthusiasm. In the elimination of poverty and disease to which both the Central and Provincial Governments are pledged, there is much scope for voluntary efforts on the part of the rich. The marvels achieved by such voluntary efforts in the sphere of social and economic amelioration in the West are a lesson

"Let us give out of love that respect to the authority and prestige of our own Government which the old Government was able to extort through force and fear.

"We have to work hard, everyone in his job. Every weaver, every peasant, every trader, must make up his mind to do his best, each in his own sphere, avoiding deceit, avoiding idleness. Public affairs are only the sum total of private lives. The Motherland wants the maximum output of work and mutual trust and honesty."

—H.E. Sri C. Rajagopalachari.

to this country. Government cannot do much single-handed but with the co-operation of the more fortunate section of humanity, they will be able to make considerable headway.

Dominion Speaker's Independence Day Message

The key to the solution . . . is the personal conduct of each citizen

It is now a year that we have got constitutional independence. The British have withdrawn, and we have now, therefore, the freedom of shaping ourselves as best as we can. Independence has been achieved only to this extent.

But that is just a beginning of our march in the direction of independence. We are not even on the fringe of independence, if we can conceive it for the benefit of the four hundred millions of India.

What is it that we want independence for and for whom do we want it? We want independence not for this or that section, or this or that individual, or any persons of a particular sect, province, race or religion. We want it for all who consider this country as their own. We want it for equal opportunities to all, for a square meal and sufficient clothing for everybody. We wish to see everybody living under the shelter of a roof and having some kind of employment which would enable him or her to live a life of self-respect with sufficient leisure to enjoy the fruits of labour, the company of the family and at least some time of the day to remember our Creator.

Are we marching on in this direction? On the answer to this question depends our answer to the question as to whether we have really achieved independence and whether we have any occasion to feel that we are conducting ourselves as citizens of an ancient independent nation, with a proud and rich past.

We may have a number of schemes but the key to the solution of the problem is the personal conduct of each citizen. If each one of us realizes what independence means and discharges his duties, there need be no doubt that the rights of all will be well protected and respected and every one will be enjoying independence.

G. V. MAVALANKAR,

Speaker, Constituent Assembly (Legislative), India.

DEPARTMENTS' CORNER

Provincial Broadcasting in 1946—1947

A Record of Quick Progress

For spreading knowledge among the rural people by means of the spoken word, the Government have decided to increase the number of community receivers in the Province. The main difficulty in installing more community sets has been the non-availability of cheap receivers within the reach of the poor villagers. Successful experiments were, therefore, carried on in the laboratories of the Provincial Broadcasting Department for the designing and assembling of a suitable community receiver, which could be supplied to the villagers at pre-war rate. The community receivers maintained by this department helped during the year under review, to give up-to-date and correct news and other information to the public, living in the remotest villages in the Province. One hundred and thirty-two new battery sets and 22 main sets were installed during the year under review and some of the battery sets with drawn previously were installed.

The total number of rural radio receivers working on 31st March 1947 was 612 and the total number of sets installed in municipalities on the same date was 182. Besides these, 105 sets have been installed for the Madras City Police and Malabar Special Police. Sixty-eight sets have been installed in district boards, Government and private

institutions, etc., thus making a total of 967 sets. The Government have since sanctioned the installation of 30 additional sets in Malabar and South Kanara districts.

The panchayat boards were being allowed a concessional rate of maintenance charges of Rs. 90 per annum per set, exclusive of the annual licence fee of Rs. 10, payable to the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department. In September 1946, the Government extended the concession of maintenance charges allowed to municipal councils, to district boards also. The district boards and municipal councils enjoy concessional rates of maintenance charges.

The Special Officer, Provincial Broadcasting, is organizing the broadcast publicity to the activities of the Government and is acting as a liaison officer between the Government and the All-India Radio authorities. The Special Officer has submitted a scheme for utilization of the existing broadcasting facilities in the Province for Government publicity. The Government have decided to introduce that part of the scheme relating to Government talks and news publicity in the current year, and the part relating to rural service in the next year. He has also submitted an interim report for the further development of broadcasting in this Province.

Department of Women's Welfare

Activities Expanding

The Department of Women's Welfare has made another stride in the expansion of its activities by starting a training Institute for social workers at Gandhigram alongside the Kasturba Training School, Chinlapatti. A batch of 20 students are undergoing an intensive training

in social service. Proposals to train up successive batches of honorary workers are also under consideration.

Preparations are in progress for the opening of a Service Home for destitute women in the Madras City.

Cottage Industries have been introduced in all the branches

on a small scale according to the availability of raw material in the local markets. Spinning, Mat-weaving, Coir-making, etc., are some of the industries which are engaging the attention and interest of the members who attend the centres at present. The poorer women specially are keen in learning these industries as it helps them to earn some money and thereby supplement their family income. Spinning has become popular with all the members and if more charkas could be made available, a greater output of yarns could be turned out.

Adult literacy classes have been intensified in each and every centre of the branches.

Home Department

More Buses on the Road

Sixteen more petrol buses were added on to the fleet bringing the total to 243 vehicles including 23 diesel buses. Steps have been taken for a study of the traffic conditions in each route and the extent to which the time schedules, etc., conform to them with a view to effect any changes that may be necessary in the interests of economy and efficiency.

A proposal is under consideration to run more vehicles during peak hours to avoid running empty buses during non-peak hours. The buses thus released will be taken up for maintenance during the non-peak hours.

The Enquiry Committee continued to meet during the period regularly every week for taking disciplinary action against offending employees.

Electricity Department

Several New Extensions Sanctioned

During June 1948, nine extensions costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 were sanctioned by the Chief Engineer at an estimated total cost of Rs. 1,48,220.

Supply to 776 Domestic Services, 129 Agricultural Services and 42

Industrial Services was given during the month.

Work on the major schemes and extensions continued to progress.

Labour Department

The Government have accepted the interim award of the Industrial Tribunal for engineering firms and type foundry in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Essor Engineering Works, Madras.

The Government have also accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the American Arcot Mission Industrial Institute, Katpadi, North Arcot.

The award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the East India Distilleries and Sugar Factories Limited Nellikuppam, South Arcot District has also been accepted.

The Government have passed orders on the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Deccan Sugar and Abkari Company, Limited, Pugalur, Tiruchirappalli.

First fortnight of July 1948.

Education Department

Educational Reorganization under way

Government have ordered that teachers trained in the principles of Basic Education at Wardha may be treated as Secondary Grade Trained teachers for purposes of scales of pay or grant in aid code according as they are employed in Basic Schools under public or private management provided that the general educational qualifications of the teachers are not lower than those of S.S.L.C. holders.

Compulsory Elementary Education.—In connection with the scheme of compulsion Government have sanctioned 60 posts of Attendance Officers in the cadre of Junior Deputy Inspectors to be tried as an experiment in a few districts.

Reorganization of Secondary Education.—

Main Features

Provision of three types of schools of study after III Form (Trades Schools, Technical High Schools and Academical High Schools) and introduction of bifurcated courses.—

The question of opening Trade Schools is under separate consideration. The Government do not

consider it necessary to open separate technical high schools at present. They have decided that it will be sufficient if the diversified secondary school courses are introduced in the existing high schools providing for literary or academic courses. They have accordingly issued orders sanctioning the introduction of the bifurcated courses of studies noted below in selected high schools commencing from Form IV in the current year :—

- 1 Engineering.
- 2 Secretariat.
- 3 Agriculture.
- 4 Domestic Science.
- 5 Music and Dance.
- 6 Drawing and Painting.

Abolition of the optionals in High School classes.—The Government have directed that optionals be abolished in High School classes.

This will come into effect from 1949-50 as the reorganized courses will be begun in the IV Form this year 1948-49.

Position of various languages.—

(i) that Hindustani should be taught in Forms I to III instead of in Forms II to IV, (ii) that students should

be allowed the option to take Hindustani or any other Indian language or any other classical languages such as Sanskrit, Arabic or Persian or Urdu in Forms I to III and once they exercise the option they should appear for the examination in that language. Students who offer Urdu should learn Nagari script also at both the stages of Forms I to III and IV to VI, (iii) that henceforth throughout the Secondary School course, the regional language should be the first language, Hindustani or its alternative should be the second language and English the third language, (iv) that the study of Hindustani or its alternative in Forms I to III should be compulsory in all parts of the Province, Andhra, Kerala and Karnataka and Tamil Nad. In Forms IV to VI pupils will have the option to study in addition to the regional language a second language such as Hindustani or Sanskrit or Persian or Arabic or Urdu or any other Indian or any foreign language.

Introduction of craft in all schools.—The curriculum of studies for Forms I to III should be based on a main craft and that teaching of all subjects should be correlated to that craft.

Introduction of bifurcated courses of studies in Secondary Schools.—The Government have decided that to begin with the following courses of studies should be introduced in 50 selected high schools from the school year 1948-49 and the question of extending the system to other high schools should be taken up later. (1) Secretarial, (2) Engineering, (3) Agriculture, (4) Drawing and Painting, (5) Domestic Science and Cookery, (6) Music and Dancing. "Teaching Practice" will also be one of the varied courses to be introduced under the new scheme. The question of introducing this subject in 1948-49 is under separate consideration; other subject will be added as and when necessary.

Pupils taking academic courses will move on to University courses as they do at present. The question as to whether the pupils taking the technical courses should also be enabled if they wish to do so, to move on to University courses is

under consideration of the Government. In keeping with the main intention of the scheme of bifurcated courses it is being arranged that pupils taking the Engineering Courses under the scheme would not only be eligible but would be preferred for admission to the Poly-Technic Courses appropriate to the particular subject chosen by them under the bifurcated scheme. It has been decided also that the Secretarial Course will alone be the primary qualification for appointment to the post of lower division clerks and similar posts in Government service except that this would not preclude Government from fixing higher qualifications for such posts in any department or office where the special nature of the work requires it.

With a view to enable local bodies and the managements of aided secondary schools to meet the extra cost involved in the organization of the new courses the Government have decided that teaching grants should be made as a special case calculated at three-fourths of the net cost of running the courses during the preceding financial year subject to the maximum of Rs. 1,450 per annum to each school for a period of five years from the introduction of the courses and that the question of reviving the arrangement should be considered at the end of the period. In addition to the teaching grant, a non-recurring grant equal to three-fourths of the cost of the equipment to be purchased for the new courses will be paid in the current year subject to a maximum of Rs. 5,700 for each school.

Adult education.—Government Training Schools for adult school teachers were opened in Koilpatti, Mettur Dam, Calicut and Udupi and the necessary staff was given special training by the Adult Education Officer at the Teachers' College, Saidapet. Sri C. Harisarvatham Rao, M.A., President, Andhra Library Association, was appointed Honorary Director of Adult Education, Andhra Desa.

Rural reconstruction.—Government have permitted the working of 25 night schools for the benefit of

adults in Palladam firka in Coimbatore district by the teachers working in the local, aided, district board and panchayat board schools on a monthly subsidy of Rs. 15 for each school.

The Provincial Citizenship Training Courses.—The first training course for teachers to equip them to teach the newly introduced subject of "Citizenship" in the secondary school curriculum commenced on the 6th May 1948 and terminated on 20th May 1948. Ninety-five trainees underwent training. Of the 95 trainees, 74 were men and 21 were women. The training course was located at the Teachers' College, Saidapet, and the Special Officer in charge of the training is Sri T. V. Nilakantan, B.A., B.L. The trainees during the period of the course of training were permitted free of charge to reside in the hostel rooms attached to the Teachers' College, Saidapet. They were provided meals at the cost of Government for the entire period of the training course with an additional mess charge of Rs. 5 each collected

from the trainees. Certificates were also awarded to these trainees.

Another Citizenship Training Course was also conducted at the Teachers' College, Saidapet, for the second batch of 85 trainees. The course commenced on 5th June 1948 and terminated on 19th June 1948.

Regional conferences of local body representatives and inspecting officers at Madura and Masulipatam.—A conference of the executive officers of local bodies and inspecting officers for the southern area was held at Madura attended by the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Madras, Divisional Inspectors, District Educational Officers and Inspectresses on 17th May 1948.

Regional conference of the executive officers of local bodies and inspecting officers of the northern area held at Masulipatam.—A conference of the executive officers of local bodies and inspecting officers of the department was held at Masulipatam on the 10th, 11th and 12th June 1948 presided over by the Hon'ble Minister for Education.

II

Basic Education

Nine of the existing Government Training Schools have been converted into Government Basic Training Schools and they have begun to work as such from 2nd July 1948. An Aided Basic Training School has been started at Tirur, Kistna district. This brings the number of Government and recognized Basic Training Schools in the Province to 17.

The teachers (trained) in these institutions will serve in Basic Schools that will be organized in the compact areas encircling the Basic Training Schools.

Secondary Education

With the introduction of the reorganization scheme of secondary education, July has been a busy month for all the secondary schools in the Presidency. As is natural in the case of any new endeavour

and a number of problems arose in connexion with the practical details of the reorganization and many of them have been solved by joint conferences of departmental officers with teachers' organizations. Such conferences were held in Madras City under the auspices of the Madras Headmasters' Association on the 23rd and 25th of July 1948 and on the latter occasion the Hon'ble Minister for Education was himself present and clarified many of the problems. On the 16th July, the Hon'ble Minister for Education addressed a meeting of the Headmistresses of Girls' Schools in the Madras City held at the Presidency High School, Egmore. Both the Hon'ble Minister and the departmental officers have been visiting schools individually during the month to watch the beginning of the scheme and to guide the staff in making a right beginning with the new scheme.

Communal hatred is perhaps the worst kind of leprosy imaginable. How I wished that people would develop abhorrence and horror of this leprosy so that they can be cured of the fatal malady!

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

With the distinction between Tamil Nad and other parts of the Province in relation to the study of Hindustani as a second language abolished and a wider choice given for the languages to be studied as second language so as to include any Indian language, many of the difficulties expressed have been clarified. Permission has been granted as a temporary and transitory measure for schools to utilize the services of artisans to assist the teachers in instruction in the main basic crafts. Provision has been made for grant towards the equipment required for these crafts.

Two guide books for teachers are now in the Press and are expected to be published towards the end of July or beginning of August 1948. One of these relates to the use and hoisting of the flag of the Indian Union and the other to the organization of classes in Citizenship Training in secondary schools.

The Irrigation Department

In July 1948, the Government sanctioned the improvements to Kilivanur large tank near the Kaliveli swamp in South Arcot district. It is expected that as a result of the improvements an extent of 200 acres of dry lands will be brought under wet cultivation resulting in an annual additional food production of 100 tons of rice valued at Rs. 25,000.

The Government have also sanctioned the investigation of the scheme to restore the Vayali and Malayadipatti tanks in Tirunelveli district. The tanks, if restored, are expected to bring under cultivation 780 acres of land producing 390 tons of rice annually.

(Continued on page 13).

PROHIBITION

Ameliorative Activities

The following is a brief summary of the reports received of the ameliorative activities in the Prohibition districts. The reports mainly relate to the latter part of July 1948:—

Tiruchirappalli.—Villagers in one place have constructed a school building at a cost of Rs. 2,500. A grama sangham in another place has constructed a building at a cost of Rs. 200 to be used as a reading room. The Harijans in one place staged a drama. Village games and tournaments took place as usual.

Chittoor.—Rural games and sports were conducted as usual. Bhajanas were performed in some villages. Thrift days were celebrated. Street cleaning drives were launched. Reading circles were formed. Stone signposts were put up indicating the names of hamlets and villages. One grama sangham has collected Rs. 350 for the construction of a reading room and a community hall. Another grama sangham has purchased a breeding bull out of public subscription. Approach roads were also constructed in some places. One library was opened in a place, and a radio set was installed in another.

Nilgiris.—Sports and games were organized as usual. Steps were taken for organizing Egg Marketing and Milk Supply Societies. Ex-addicts are improving economically as a result of Prohibition. Two reading rooms were opened. New grama sanghams were organized in some places. Proposal for organization of cottage industries societies are under way. Thrift days were celebrated. A milk supply society was organized in Kotagiri.

North Arcot.—Tournaments were held as usual. A radio was installed in one village. One grama sangham has purchased a site for constructing a community hall at a cost of Rs. 3,300. In one village, the villagers planted 40 plants on both sides of the road and steps are being taken by some co-operative societies to develop poultry farming.

Malabar.—A Coir Workers' Co-operative Society was organized in one place. A grama sangham was organized in another place. The cart tracks between two places in Palghat

taluk were got repaired by the villagers.

Coimbatore.—The Collector addressed public meetings in not less than 15 villages on the methods of rural uplift, duties of grama sanghams, etc. These meetings were largely attended. Rural sports and amusements were held as usual. Grama sanghams have also done good work. One grama sangham is sinking a well. Another grama sangham has constructed a radio cabin. Yet another grama sangham has collected Rs. 1,000 for purchasing two radio sets.

Kurnool.—Sports were held as usual. Dramas were enacted. Thrift days were celebrated. Ex-addicts are reported to be saving substantially. A special scheme to encourage thrift among casual labourers in and around Kurnool town was launched. An adult education centre was also opened.

Madura.—A co-operative society for ex-tappers was organized in one place. Fifteen hundi boxes have been distributed through a co-operative society. Private subscriptions to the extent of Rs. 530 were collected for putting up a community centre in one place. Rural games were held as usual. One grama sangham has opened a night school for adults.

Bellary.—Sports and tournaments were held as usual. Dramas were staged. Under the auspices of the Village Betterment Committee in one place, an elementary school was opened. A reading room and library was also opened in another place.

Tanjore.—Thrift day was celebrated in some places. A free reading room was declared open by the Special Development Officer in one village under the auspices of a grama sangham. An adult night school was also opened. One firka association was formed, and one milk supply co-operative society was started.

Guntur.—The villagers in one place constructed a library building at a cost of Rs. 2,000. Tournaments were held as usual. In a public meeting Harijan ladies recited a song on prohibition.

Salem.—In one firka, four charka sanghams were organized and started

on work. In another place the construction of an elementary school at a cost of Rs. 10,000 is nearing completion. Sports took place as usual. One co-operative credit society has collected Rs. 109 through hundi boxes. Two grama sanghams assisted the police in detecting cases of illicit distillation.

Anantapur.—A firka tournament was held in one place. A night school was also opened.

Nellore.—In two selected societies in one taluk, hundi boxes were distributed to ex-addicts, and in another "Thrift Collections Day" was conducted. A firka tournament was held in one place.

facilities for thieves to indulge in their propensity for thieving. I hold drink to be more damnable than thieving and perhaps even prostitution. Is it not often the parent of both?

(V)

In a climate like ours there is no need for drinks whatsoever. Nothing but ruin stares a nation in the face that is a prey to the drink habit. The great community to which Shri Krishna belonged was ruined by that habit. The monstrous evil was one of the contributing factors in the fall of Rome. If therefore you will live decently, you will shut this evil whilst there is yet time.

(VI)

There is no halfway house between drunkenness and prohibition. Well-to-do men may pretend to be moderate. But there is no such thing as moderation possible among labourers.

(VII)

If I was appointed dictator for one hour for all India, the first thing I would do would be to close without compensation all the liquor shops, destroy all the toddy palms, such as I know in Gujarat, and compel factory owners to produce human conditions for their workers and open refreshment and recreation rooms where these workmen would get innocent drinks and equally innocent amusements.

Mahatmaji.

Lest We Forget

The Drink Evil

(I)

The use of intoxicants like wine and the rest not only leads to mental and physical decay, but also deadens the moral instincts and destroys all power of self-control.

(II)

Drugs and drink are the two arms of the devil.

(III)

I hold drinking spirituous liquors in India to be more criminal than the petty thefts which I see starving men and women committing and for which they are prosecuted and punished. I do tolerate, very unwillingly it is true and helplessly because of want of full realization of the law of love, a moderate system of penal code. And so

(IV)

You will not be deceived by the specious argument that India must not be made sober by compulsion and that those who wish to drink must have facilities provided for them. The State does not cater for the vices of its people. We do not regulate and license houses of ill-fame. We do not provide

AN INDUSTRIALIST'S VIEW.

"The gap between the people and their leaders is nowhere more discernible than in the matter of liquor. You must find the people's sentiment where the people live. In common decency the liquor generation should be allowed to die in silence. Its agencies should not be the constant topic of American journals.

"The coming Prohibition has put more of the workman's money into saving banks and into his wife's pocket-book. He has more leisure to spend with his family. The family life is healthier. Workmen go out of doors, go on picnics, have time to see their children and play with them. They have time to see more, do more and incidentally, they buy more. This stimulates business and increases prosperity, and in general economic circle the money passes through industry again and back into the workman's pocket. It is a truism that what benefits one is bound to benefit all, and labour is coming to see the truth of his more every day."

—Excerpt from an article by HENRY FORD in the Forum

TOPICS AND TALKS

Ravages of Tuberculosis

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur's Address at Madanapalle

Hon'ble Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, India's Health Minister, recently inaugurated the B.C.G. Campaign at Madanapalle. In the course of her speech, she said—

Tod-day we are launching a new campaign against a dreadful disease which has been rightly called the "Captain of the Men of Death." Tuberculosis is not only responsible for the loss of precious lives but also for an enormous amount of prolonged disability, suffering and economic loss. There are at least two million tuberculosis patients in the country and half a million die of this disease every year. And when I say two million sufferers and half a million deaths it must be an under-estimation because our vital statistics cannot, in the circumstances, be either accurate or up-to-date. That the disease is spreading and spreading rapidly is undeniable. It is essential, therefore, that a total war should be waged against this dangerous Public Enemy by utilizing all the weapons that are available in our armoury.

Elaborate schemes for the control of tuberculosis have been prepared by our technical advisers. One such scheme is protective inoculation with B.C.G. vaccine. The manufacture of the vaccine is under way.

Though it is our intention to bring the benefit of anti-tuberculosis vaccination to all those who are in need, as expeditiously as possible, it is considered desirable to proceed with caution in attempting to expand the vaccination programme, in order to avoid bringing this valuable measure of prevention to undeserved disrepute by accidents occurring through ill-conceived haste. It is, therefore, advisable for the present to confine ourselves to certain selected places like Madras, Bombay, Baroda, Mysore, Delhi and Calcutta. I should make it clear, however, that it is the Central Government's intention and desire to introduce, as circumstances permit, B.C.G. vaccination all over the country for we are of opinion that the B.C.G. programme should prove to be a valuable adjunct to other measures of tuberculosis control. I use the word

'adjunct' advisedly because I do not want to create the impression that

Note.—Tuberculosis is a growing menace to the Public Health of this country. Half a million people die in this country every year on account of Tuberculosis. The disease has to be successfully combated and Government's campaign to this end are under way.

vaccination with B.C.G. is sufficient to prevent tuberculosis. We have to

Labourers at Tungabhadra Project Headworks

At present there are 7,300 skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers working at the dam site. Accommodation has been provided for them at a cost of Rs. 4.69 lakhs. In the case of unskilled workers every family has been provided with hutting accommodation of about 170 square feet area, either with thatched roof or with Asbestos Cement roof. This works out to an average expenditure of about Rs. 110 per family in the case of thatched sheds and about Rs. 250 in the case of sheds with Asbestos sheets roofing. The total number of huts constructed is 1,090 for about 6,916 members including children and other non-workers. In the case of skilled labourers each family has been provided with a semi-permanent hutting at a

Those who think that labourers are not having a square deal in the new dispensation will find enough to disillusion them in this article.

fight against this disease on all fronts. How can we hope to overcome it unless we can provide sufficient food, proper houses, proper drainage and sewerage, pure water and milk supply, enough clinics, hospitals, sanatoria and after-care colonies for the entire population and for the sufferers from T.B.? And, above all, we must banish the darkness of ignorance of the laws of health and good living that envelopes our country at present.

The success of the campaign is, therefore, largely dependent on the intelligent co-operation given by the public and the assistance rendered by Provincial and State Governments. In order to place the B.C.G. vaccination programme on a sound basis it is considered essential that the Government of India should make itself responsible for the production and supply of the vaccine to different parts of the country; should control the use of the vaccine for immunising the people through steps taken in close co-operation with Provincial and State Governments and should bear a share of the financial burden in respect of the Demonstration Centres to be set up in selected areas for the next few years.

cost of Rs. 600 each. Six-hundred numbers of such huts have been constructed in the Permanent Labour Colony.

The labour colonies which are in four separate blocks are served with good drinking water supply. The Nissen Hut Colony and the Permanent Labour Colony are supplied temporarily with water pumped from the Basavannah Channel, and treated by sedimentation, and chlorination as for the main Headworks Camp. The Main Vizagapatam Colony is supplied through a separate pump installed at the margin of the Basavannah channel near the right flank of the dam. The street taps which have been provided in sufficient numbers are connected to a storage tank which is filled up by pumping. The East Vanka Colony is supplied at present by three water lorries working 16 hours a day in two shifts of 8 hours each. Water is also supplied to labourers at the dam line during working hours by water lorries conveying treated water. The permanent water supply arrangements for the entire township including all the labour colonies are being expedited

There is a Hospital with 20 beds and with an isolation ward with a Civil Assistant Surgeon in charge. There is also a woman Sub-Assistant Surgeon and a Midwife. In addition to attending to the out-patients coming to the Hospital every day the Assistant Surgeon goes out to work-site to attend on labourers who might not be taking the trouble of going to the Hospital. The labourers, when in the Hospital as in-patients, are provided with free diet. Systematic anti-malarial operations are being carried out by the Public Health Department and malaria has been rooted out from the dam-site and camp area.

Three primary schools have been opened one in each of the labour colonies. About 80 children are attending classes in each school.

Two creches built near the workspot with necessary establishment are employed to look after the children in the creches during working hours. The labourers' children are supplied with free milk. Parks and a radio stand have also been provided.

There is a Special Deputy Collector with three Deputy Tahsildars for looking after the Labourers' Welfare, including rationing. A Co-operative store is functioning at the Tungabhadra Project Headworks. Increased rations are allowed to the hard manual labourers and necessary quota of rice for such supply is specially arranged for from Bezwada every month and stored at the Co-operative Stores, and supplied to the labourers. Though statutory rationing has now been stopped in Bellary district, special quotas are being obtained and the labourers are supplied at 12 oz. of rice per adult per day at 2½ seers per rupee.

Rice, ragi, cholam and all articles of grocery available in the stores are regularly sold to the labourers. In addition there are several retail provision shops near the permanent labour colony and the Vizagapatam labour colony run by private agencies.

Street-lighting with electricity has been provided for in the main Vizagapatam labour colony and in the Nissen Hut colony and the East Vanka. Street-lighting to the entire area on the southern side of the railway could not be taken up so far, as permission for the cable-line to cross the line has only been recently obtained from the railway, and the work of extension of the lines to this area has now been taken up.

Kerosene oil is now being sold to the labourers as for others, at the rate of

one bottle per card, once in two weeks or once a month depending upon the stock of kerosene oil available. As everyone knows, kerosene oil is a controlled article and every attempt is being made to get an assured supply for distribution to the labourers.

Every case of accident to the labourers engaged on the work is properly and immediately attended to by the Civil Assistant Surgeon. There is a net work of telephones in the camp area

and the Superintendents and Executive Engineers rush to the spot if any accidents are reported. The compensation to be paid to disabled persons is determined by the Workmen's Compensation Act and invariably a generous view is taken of each case consistent with the rules. Disabled persons are given permission to open petty shops in the camp area and thereby secure a livelihood. Some have been given railway fare for returning to their homes.

Improving the Lot of Aborigines

Possibilities of Co-operative Principle being exploited

The following are the most important aboriginal and hill tribes scattered over this Province, viz., The Kondhs and Borans of Vizagapatam Agency, the Koyas of East Godavari Agency, the Chenchus of the Nallamalais (Kurnool district), the Yenadis of Sriharikottah, Nellore district, the Kurumbas and Todas of Nilgiris, the Malayalis of hill tracts of North Arcot and Salem and the jungle tribes of Kollegal, North Coimbatore, Palghat and Wynad, the Mannadis of the Upper Palni and the Pallyans of the Western Ghats. These constitute the most primitive and backward sections of the population. The question of amelioration of the social and economic condition of these tribes has always been a pressing one with the Government. Several enquiries were held into the conditions prevailing in these tribal areas and ways and means of tackling the problem from more than one angle suggested. Of them the co-operative method occupies a primary position. The chances of success of the suggestion for the betterment of the people have been limited by several powerful factors, characterizing these areas. Firstly, thrift and forethought, which are the essentials of a sound co-operative movement, are not qualities normally associated with these primitive people. Secondly, though some of these regions are rich in soil and natural resources, yet they remain practically cut off from Plains for want of communications. The want of roads and consequent lack of

access have prevented the flow of civilization with its conditions for progressive development. As a result the aboriginal tribes have been left in continued subjection to the vagaries of the local traders and the neighbouring Plainsmen who are not slow in taking advantage of their ignorance. Thirdly, the lack of education on their part and their age-long seclusion from civilized society have in the past seriously handicapped the success of co-operative endeavour among these people.

Application of Co-operative Principle

Notwithstanding the above obstacles the co-operative method has been tried and successfully too in some of the tribal areas. Among these areas, the Agency tracts of Vizagapatam, East and West Godavari, the Nilgiris, the Kolli hills of Salem district, the Nallamalais of Kurnool district, deserve special mention. The need for co-operative endeavour among the aboriginal tribes is felt in these important directions. Firstly, there is the need for the supply of essential household commodities in demand in tribal areas, but procurable only from the Plains; secondly, the provision of cheap credit; and thirdly, the marketing of the minor hill and forest produce collected by the hill men with a view to fetch them the most reasonable and competitive price. It has been found from experience that the co-operative

method, if it should achieve the desired results should be simultaneously tried in all the three directions as they happen to be closely inter-related.

Details of Application

The supply of essential articles required by the tribesmen at cheap rates is easily the most important of all the above three methods. The exploitation of these people at present by the merchants of the Plains who purchase the hill produce at ridiculously low prices and sell at unduly high prices the articles required by the tribesmen such as salt, oils, onions, match boxes, clothes, etc., is too well known to need any mention. Besides high prices, the ignorant and unsuspecting hillmen suffer in the matter of purchases by way of inferior stuff and false measures and weights. It is with a view to spare this economic exploitation that the organization of co-operative stores or sales depots of stores in proximity is advocated. This work has already engaged the attention of the Government and some real headway has already been made particularly in the Vizagapatam and Godavari Agencies and Nilgiris hills where stores and sale depots of stores were opened. The opening of more provision stores wherever chances of their success exist in the tribal areas is under the active consideration of the Government.

Next in importance is the need for marketing of the several items of the forest produce in the collection of which the hillmen are generally engaged. The way in which the hillmen are rewarded for their produce at the hands of the trader of the Plains is a matter for sad comment and the exploitation involved in this sector is almost unsurpassed in the history of human endeavour. The need for a suitable organization for the marketing societies for the hillmen than any other type of society. At least one such society has so far been organized and is being successfully run. Even with its modest volume of business, the Atmakur Chenchu Loan and Sale Society has been doing yeoman service to its members of the Chenchu tribe.

Third, but no less in importance is the granting of loans and advances by the organization of co-operative credit societies. The hillmen need provision of cheap credit to carry on their operations and to purchase their essentials during the off season. The one important obstacle on the way of the successful working of the credit societies is the generally undependable character of the tribesmen and their tendency to elude the creditor. Hence the co-operative institution started for the purpose should invariably adopt the same methods as the private money-lender does to secure its assets, except that unlike the private money-lender, it is not the object of the co-operative credit society to fleece its borrowers. Even in the midst of these difficulties credit co-operation among hillmen has made a comparatively much better headway than other types of co-operative endeavour. Thus as on 31st December 1947 there were above seventy societies for hillmen in Nilgiri district alone.

Conclusion

One important lesson emerging from the application of co-operative effort for amelioration of the condition of hillmen is that co-operative enterprise in the sense of voluntary and joint effort by the people for the promotion of their economic interests does not hold out many chances of success. At least for some time to come, i.e., until there is a substantial improvement in communication for the better, and there is sufficiently widespread education among the hillmen official control over the organization and management of the co-operative institutions is necessary. It may, however, be slowly withdrawn by stages to the extent there is the growth of consciousness among the hillmen.

On the whole, even amidst the several limitations the co-operative method has made useful headway in tribal areas, and wherever it has been successfully tried its importance can hardly be exaggerated.

WHERE MADRAS INFORMATION COMES IN

India's Prime Minister said "In a democratic system, . . . you must be in touch with what is happening. . . ."

How to keep touch?

Madras Information provides the means. It gives you a picture of Governmental activities and plenty of other information too.

The cheapest journal in South India.

PROBLEMS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Recent Developments in Indian Agriculture

Remarkable Strides Made

The solution of some of India's most pressing problems lies in increasing agricultural production so as to make our nation self-sufficient in food in the shortest possible time. For, the primary need, without which neither freedom nor life itself can exist, is food. There is no disentangling of this theme from the future politics and economics of our country. It is in the realization of this basic fact and in the steps taken to meet the challenge of recurring food crises in the country, that the last twelve months of newly won freedom register the greatest change.

August 1948 is an appropriate month for looking back at what has been accomplished in agriculture in the past twelve months. It has generally been a good year for crops and for the agricultural producer. It has been a year without heart-breaking losses through crop diseases or mortifying reverses because of disastrous failures of the monsoon or unprecedented floods with one exception, Madras where because of a prolonged draught there was a shortfall in production by over a million tons.

For four years prior to August 1947, the Government had concentrated their efforts largely on food distribution. This was inevitable because as a result of the loss of Burma rice all available internal supplies of foodgrains had to be distributed on an equitable basis. Before the appropriate machinery could be set up, came the tragic Bengal Famine, which, more than anything else, focussed public attention on the seriousness of India's food problem. The Report of the Foodgrains Policy Committee of 1943 formed the basis of Government policy during the next four years. Its main planks were: controlled prices of foodgrains, their controlled distribution and procurement under the aegis of the Government. This policy worked with remarkable success and received unqualified praise from international observers and missions. But its continuance depended upon the willing co-operation of millions of cultivators scattered throughout the country, who had to sell their grain to Government at 'controlled' rates. Dissatisfaction at the 'controlled'

prices paid to the agriculturists for their produce gradually grew, and this gathered momentum with the coming into power of popular Ministries in the Provinces. Internal procurement decreased; a section of the popular opinion rebelled against regimentation in food, and Mahatma Gandhi's powerful voice was raised in favour of self-reliance. This led to the appointment of the Purshotamdas Committee in September 1947 charged with the "more important task" of recommending measures which would "secure a definite increase in food production within the country during the next five years."

Grow More Food Campaign

Before we pass on to the recommendations of the Foodgrains Policy Committee, it is necessary to clear up some prevalent misunderstandings of the Grow More Food Campaign and its achievements. The aim with which the campaign was started in 1942, was to offset the loss of rice supplies from Burma. This emergency was not expected to last more than a couple of years after the end of the war. To convert that emergency measure into a scheme for covering the existing deficit in India on the basis of a 12 oz. or 1 lb. ration for the whole population is to throw the blame on measures which were never intended to solve the problem of ever increasing demands. To quote a high government official in this connexion, "This is to make the same kind of mistake as was done by the British in India when emergency measures to deal with political unrest became the permanent feature of their administration."

Two other facts are apt to be forgotten in this connexion. Agriculture in India still depends upon the closest obedience to the calls of the seasons and a few weeks of cloudy weather or drought may affect the food supply of a year. This happened in two successive years in 1946 and 1947. And, secondly, agriculture is a provincial responsibility. The Centre can allocate part of the funds for provincial schemes, it can offer technical advice, carry out research, offer guidance, co-ordinate

supplies of essential materials and undertake complex organization and technical schemes, e.g., planned irrigation by tubewells served by electric power, or land reclamation through mechanized means, but it is ultimately a provincial responsibility to "make two blades of grass grow where one grew before." It is a wise provision in the proposed new constitution, therefore, to place the responsibility for food production fairly and squarely on provincial governments.

Increased Production

Compared with 1946-47, the estimated total outturn of the seven major foodgrains, i.e., rice, jowar, bajra, maize, wheat, gram and barley, shows an increase of one million tons, the figures for two years being 39,423,000 and 40,419,000 tons, respectively.

The Foodgrains Policy Committee's Report has recommended a target of increased annual production of 10 million tons, within the shortest possible time. This is to be achieved through large multi-purpose projects which will provide assured irrigation, intensive efforts to raise the production from the soil already under cultivation by increased use of water, manure and improved seeds, and the development of culturable waste lands. The expected increase in production from multi-purpose projects is 4 million tons, from the existing food production plans of Provinces and States within the next 5 years, 3 million tons and the balance is to be bridged by the reclamation and cultivation of culturable waste lands of all types.

Land Reclamation

One of the most important development in agricultural production since the advent of freedom, has been the undertaking by the Dominion Ministry of Agriculture of large land reclamation projects in different parts of India with heavy tractors and ploughs. On December 16, 1947, a scheme of land reclamation through mechanization—described as the largest in the East, excluding Soviet Russia—was put into operation in the Meerut district of the

United Provinces, when heavy mechanical machinery moved up the first sods of 50,000 acres of culturable waste land overgrown with jungle and tall grasses. This scheme has since been followed by two other similar schemes in the United Provinces, one in Central Provinces and one in the Matsya Union. The Ministry of Agriculture has, therefore, assisted Provinces to reclaim about 45,000 acres of land so far through tractors, either imported from United Kingdom and the United States of America or rehabilitated in their own workshop at Pusa.

The Report of the Foodgrains Policy Committee is being examined by the Government of India in detail, but in view of the difficulties and the time required in obtaining the necessary machinery and other equipment it may not be possible to reclaim more than 6 million acres in the next 5 to 6 years. Preliminary survey work cannot be carried out on more than 2 million acres per annum. This in itself will limit the speed with which land reclamation work can be undertaken. And if the country accepts the target of reclaiming 6 million acres of new land, it will be necessary to purchase additional 1,000 machines. In the present state of world production and demand, we cannot expect more than 300 machines at the end of the first eighteen months and thereafter 300 machines every year. These machines will require an equal number of heavy reclamation ploughs and an adequate number of brush clearing and drainage equipment sets. It is possible to manufacture heavy reclamation ploughs

in India but certain component parts will have to be imported.

Machines v. Bullocks.

It is necessary to emphasize that tractors cannot replace bullocks in India. There are certain basic factors which must limit the extension of tractor cultivation in India. The minimum area of land on which a 25 to 30 H.P. tractor can be economically used is 150 to 200 acres. The rotation of crops must be of an intensive nature so as to ensure employment of the tractor for at least 1,800 hours in a year. This means that the land must be fully irrigated and must be double cropped. Rice cultivation, therefore, in India does not lend itself to mechanical cultivation, nor the large areas under other crops which do not have an adequate supply of rainfall. Bullocks must, therefore, continue to be the main source of power for cultivation in India for all time unless there is an economic revolution in the country.

As has been stated at the beginning of this article, agriculture is a long-term undertaking; several months have to elapse between the sowing of the seed and the garnering of the crops in the fields. No revolutionary change or dramatic advance can, therefore, be registered during the brief period of a twelve month. What however cannot be missed is the anxiety of the Government to solve the problem quickly, and the realization probably for the first time that in any scheme of national uplift, the actual tiller of the soil has to play the leading part. With characteristic impatience Mr.

Jairamdas Daulatram, the Dominion Agriculture Minister, told the member of the Purshotamdas Committee: "I hope that the scheme of food self-sufficiency which you will produce can be implemented in a very very limited number of years—not beyond five. I wish it were two." And the one theme which runs through all his speeches is the urgency of the problem.

Symbolic of the changed attitude of the Government to the primary producer is the increased emphasis which is now being laid today on the manufacture of compost from town refuse and gur from palmyra juice. Today about 20,542 village centres are manufacturing nearly 1,250,000 tons of compost from refuse, and nearly 200,000 tons of gur is being made from palmyra toddy. These are small beginnings, but they have blazed a new trail. Instead of intoxicating people, the conversion of palmyra juice into gur is helping to resuscitate a dying industry and to provide supplementary occupation to our cultivators spread over lakhs of villages.

In theory, much more could have been done for the actual tiller of the soil. But it must not be forgotten that our *kisan*, with the mentality to obey the quiet order of the seasons, does not easily acquire the facile optimism of the city dweller. Too often he has seen drought, flood or pest destroy the fruit of his toil and learned from it patience and submission. His is a minute economy to which a small loss means ruin. All attempts to reform Indian agriculture must fit in with the *kisan's* economy.

proper planning in the matter of housing and in crowded areas occupied by the poor, sanitation and hygiene are hopelessly neglected and the drainage is often poor or non-existent. Adequate attention is not always paid to a proper water-supply. It must be the aim of local bodies to see that all slum areas are cleared and the provision of proper housing for the Harijan and other workers must be their primary concern. In this matter I have always felt that a single room tenement to accommodate a family must be absolutely banned. It is unnecessary to dilate on the grave evils, both physical and moral, that must inevitably result from such over-crowding. The poorest amongst us must have at least two

living rooms, a kitchen and a bath room, a verandah and a little courtyard, where they can sleep in the hot weather. The solution of these problems of housing, slum clearance, pure water-supply and improvement of sanitation will, no doubt, require time and money, but I am sure all of us will agree that it is high time they were tackled in right earnest by the authorities responsible for local administration.

Lack of Civic Sense

Maternity and child-welfare centres provided by local authorities in most parts of the country are inadequate and often badly run and it is also common knowledge that hospitals when they have been run by local bodies have generally been so neglected that those in charge of them have begged for them to be provincialized. This is only another instance where the lack of a proper sense of citizenship has resulted in bad and inefficient administration. It is as a consequence of the same lack of a proper civic sense that bribery and corruption are rampant during elections and afterwards too because self-interest comes before the general good. These and other defects, of which you who are in charge of local administration must be far more aware than I am, have to be remedied if the community is to progress and if the people are to be given those facilities and opportunities which are the right of every citizen. It is for us assembled here to discuss ways and means of bringing about the necessary improvements. People should be educated to conform to certain standards of behaviour as citizens. Only if we set them ourselves can we demand standards of integrity from others. Co-operative association in the matter of health, education, agriculture and building will help, I feel sore, to inculcate in us a better sense of citizenship. It is largely because we have been used to think in terms of cast and community that we have been unable to work as a team.

Social Service

I have long been in favour of a department of social service in all branches of administration. This would mean training centres for would be municipal and district board employees. There should also be committees of voluntary workers who would keep in touch with local needs, help in organizing co-operation and keeping the peace, impart civic and health instruction to adults, supervise the distribution of, for example, milk to children, run community kitchens,

assist the local bodies in every way, keep abreast of local opinion and maintain a high standard of integrity as well as of efficiency. I found in my own home town where I served for three years as a member of the municipality that my health centre worked exceedingly well when it was run by a committee of voluntary women workers. The Health Visitor-in-charge was then freed from rendering special service to the members of the municipality or district board. The same applied to the inspectress of municipal girls' schools. Women teachers often have a hard time when their appointments or dismissals are in the hands of men. That is one of the reasons why I have always been most anxious for women to serve on local bodies. Their presence on municipal and district committees should raise the tone and standards of deliberation and work, as they should be expected to bring in a finer spirit of service.

Amenities for Better Living

There are many other things which local authorities will have to do to provide amenities for better living in both rural and urban areas. Children's playground and park for the public are essential in any plan for building model townships and it is high time that the authorities responsible took up the remodelling of our villages. No longer can villages be neglected. It should be possible to solve the problem of remodelling villages effectively if the problem is tackled in a systematic manner. Surely, remodelling of one or two villages a year should not be beyond the bounds of possibility for every local board.

As everyone is aware, food and milk adulteration is widely prevalent in this country constituting a very grave threat to national health and in the matter of suppression of this evil the local authorities have to play a very considerable part. They could also play a most useful part in organizing dairies to ensure a proper supply of milk to the cities.

Beggar Problem

Most of our cities are infested with beggars, many of whom are children of sick persons. It is essential to see that these unfortunate children are reclaimed and given opportunities to develop into useful members of the community and that the sick destitutes are properly cared for. It is the duty of local authorities to deal with this problem in an effective manner. Every city must have a poor-house and an alms-house for the aged.

There are no doubt many other points concerning local self-government which will occur to you. But whatever may be the needs to be met, ultimate success will depend on the existence of a proper organization with adequate means, which will be honest, efficient and vigilant.

Having recently been in both Switzerland and England I was able to have a glimpse of what local administration there is doing for the people committed to their charge. In spite of what they have already achieved there is the constant urge to improve conditions. We must do likewise. I am confident that where there is the will to do there is bound to be success.

Departments' Corner

(Continued from page 6)

Labour Department

The Government have accepted the interim recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal in the dispute between the workers and management of Spencer and Company, Madras.

The Government have also accepted the interim recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal in the dispute between the workers and management of Gordon and Woodroffe Leather Manufacturing Company, Limited, Madras.

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers of Label and Tobacco section and management of Taj Mahal, Kareem and Bavetta Beedi Factories in Madras to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication.

They have also referred the dispute between the workers and management of the Associated Transports (Madras), Limited, for adjudication.

The Government of Madras have accepted the interim recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal for engineering firms in the dispute between the workers and managements of Messrs. Massey's Engineering Works, Madras and Standard Engineering Works, Madras.

The Government Transport Employees and General Workers' Union, Madras, have accepted the terms offered by the Government and have withdrawn the notice of strike, dated 11th July 1948.

The Government have also passed orders on the interim recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal (for engineering firms) in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Commonwealth Engineering Works, Mangalore, South Kanara.

Second fortnight of July 1948

Problems before Local Bodies

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur's Illuminating Address

Speaking recently at the First Local Self-Government Ministers' Conference, the Dominion Health Minister referred to some of the social problems which local bodies have to tackle successfully. She said, "I would like to mention a few points which deserve close attention from authorities responsible for local administration, whoever those authorities may be or whatever forms they may take.

Neglect of Schools

In most of our cities, and here we must not think so much in terms of a few capital cities but in terms of the mufassal areas, schools are neglected, their buildings are poor, the teachers are badly paid and hence their quality

is poor. This applies particularly to girls' schools. There is no provision of milk or free meals for children such as exist in even the poorest towns of a country like Britain. There are, generally speaking, no proper playgrounds for them, no nursery schools, no creches and no medical examination for children.

Housing Problem

Another social need which has been sadly neglected by our local authorities and needs urgent attention is the provision of proper housing for the people, especially for the poor. Harijan quarters and quarters of labouring people everywhere that I have seen are deplorable. There seems to be little or no

OBSERVATIONS AND EXHORTATIONS

Improvement of Agriculture

Bombay Minister stresses the Urgency of Conserving Soil Fertility

In the course of an address, the Agriculture Minister, Bombay, said:

"To my knowledge, manuring is perhaps the quickest and the cheapest method of increasing the yield of crops. I am told that in China the farmer does not allow any cattle dung or night soil to be used except for manuring. Let us, in this country, follow the example of the Chinese farmer. Our capacity for compost making is 84 lakhs tons. This quantity of manure would be sufficient to fertilize about 34 lakh acres of non-irrigated crops. The additional yield of foodgrains on account of the application of compost would be about 170,000 tons. Our capacity to produce night soil manure is estimated at 20 lakh tons. This quantity would be sufficient to manure 8 lakh acres of

non-irrigated foodgrain crops, which would give an additional yield of about 40,000 tons.

"The total quantity of additional food crops which we could get by the full use of our resources of compost and night soil manure would be equivalent to about 30 per cent of our total deficit in foodgrains. I would like to mention here the scheme adopted recently to encourage co-operative effort in villages in respect of compost making. Every village which digs more than 150 pits is now offered a prize of Rs. 25.

"There can be no two opinions about the necessity and urgency of conserving soil fertility and moisture. The principle of persuasion of the cultivator for understanding an improvement and of

giving active help to him in carrying it out, once he has agreed to take up the work, has been adopted in the case of land improvement as elsewhere.

"The Government has given considerable attention to the revival of village industries. An organization has been set up for providing technical knowledge and equipment to the village artisan. Greater emphasis is laid on co-operative effort amongst them. The Village Industries Committee has been set up for enlisting the active participation of non-official workers in the attempts of Government to rehabilitate village industries. During 1948-49, over 7 lakhs of Rupees would be spent for assisting village industries through the Village Industries Committee."

Role of a Public Servant

Public Servants should think of their Obligations first and then of their Rights

Addressing the Agricultural Conference His Excellency Sir C. L. Trivedi, Governor of East Punjab, said: "The Premier and I myself are public servants, i.e., to say we exist to serve the public, and we have got to serve them honestly, impartially, vigorously and to the best of our ability. For officers in the Agricultural Department that conception is not very difficult to understand, for unlike officers of several other departments, who have executive powers, their capacity of doing good depends entirely on the influence they wield and by persuasion they have to bring about improvement in agricultural production and change the outlook of the cultivators. In fact none of you can succeed unless you have got influence. You have a fine opportunity of doing good to the public and I trust that you will rise equal to the occasion.

The Department ought not to be a mere collection of individuals. Its members should work like a team, harmoniously and happily, not only within the sphere of the particular department, but also in other departments, because no departments can easily achieve full success or get complete results unless it co-operates with other allied departments and similarly other beneficent departments co-operate

with it. It is important to bear in mind that there is at present great danger of isolation and departmentalism. The work of the Agricultural Department is closely allied with the Veterinary, Co-operative and Forest Departments, and in the interests of our own work it is essential to establish very close personal and cordial relations with brother officers in other sister departments. There is a tendency now a days on the part of

the officers to look more to their rights than to their obligations. For public servants it is most important that they should think of their obligations first and then of their rights. I need not stress the importance of discipline in the department. We must all do our level best to maintain discipline and show obedience to the authorities, where obedience is due. A department without discipline is without foundation."

Public Services—Corruption—Detection during March 1948

During the month of March 1948 corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 215 persons including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the previous month. Of these 19 were let off as charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 186 were pending at the end of the month. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of the remaining 10 persons and they were suitably punished. The names and designations of these persons and the punishment awarded to them are as follows:—

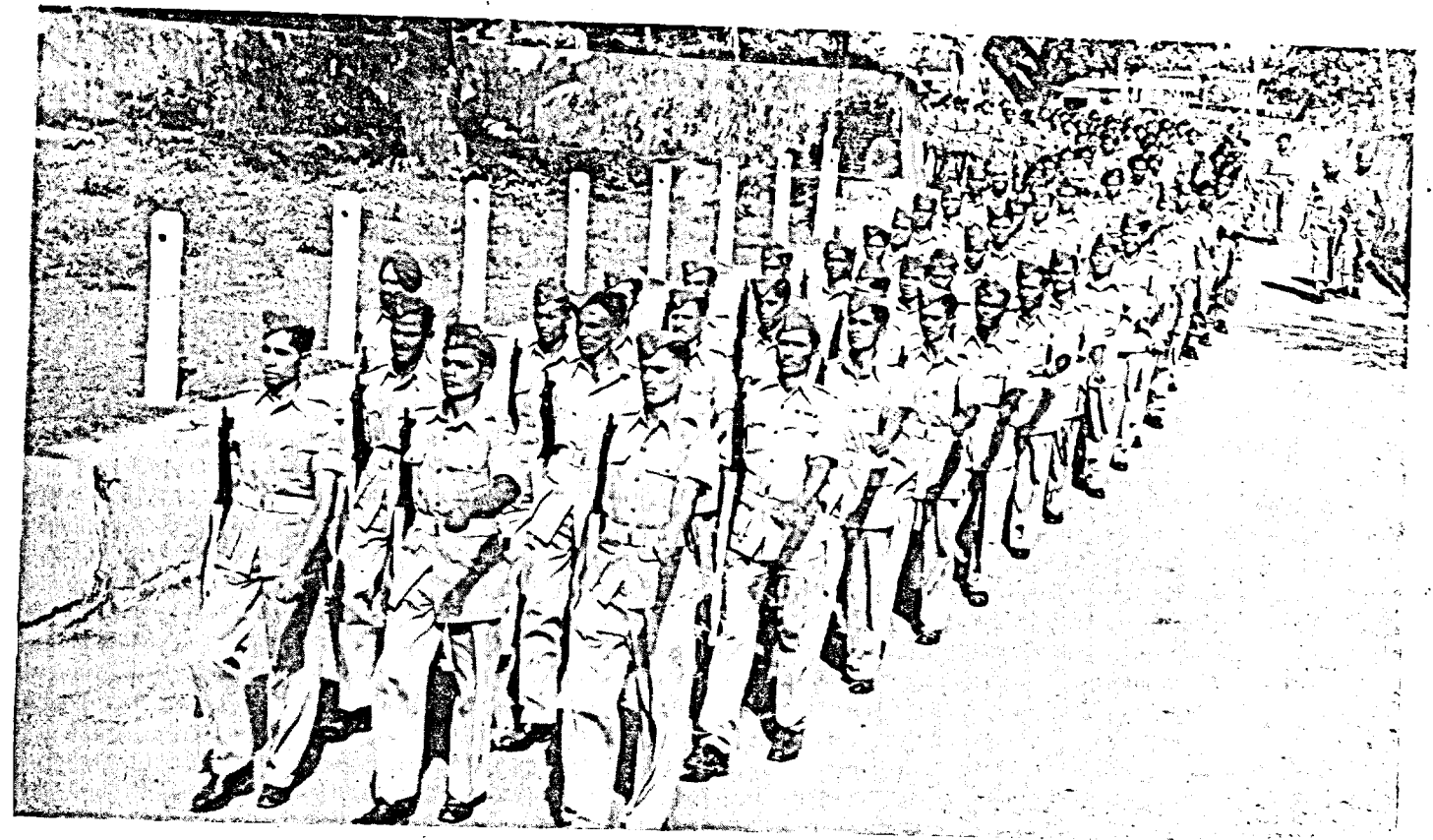
S. Subbiah Pillai, peon, Sub-Registrar's Office, Tenkasi, Tirunelveli District (Pay reduced); Pitchiah,

Police constable, Nellore District and Veeraswamy, constable Railway Police Tiruchirappalli (Dismissed); Arockiaswamy, Constable, Railway Police, Tiruchirappalli (Compulsorily retired); D. M. F. Mitchell, Assistant Transport Officer, Civil Supplies Transport Unit, Bellary (Dismissed); J. Satyanarayana Rao, Overseer, P.W.D., Bezwada Circle (Censured); P. Subbarao, Temporary irrigation gumastha, P.W.D., Dowlshwaram Circle (Pay reduced); S. Ramachandran, Tahsildar, Dharmapuri (compulsorily retired); C. Jogarao Head Clerk, Revenue Divisional Officer's Office, Chicacole, Vizagapatnam District (Dismissed); and Veera Pillai, temporary clerk, Factories Department (Discharged from service).

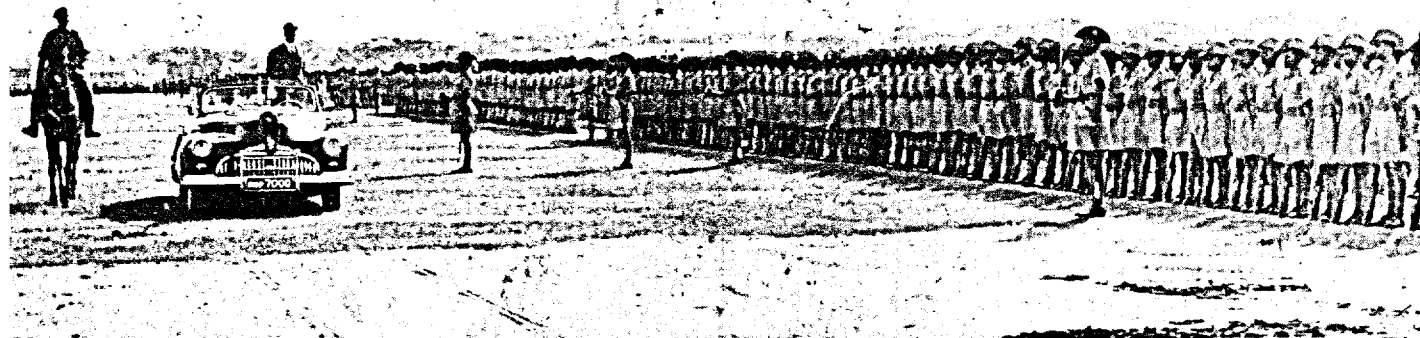
INDEPENDENCE DAY IN MADRAS 974



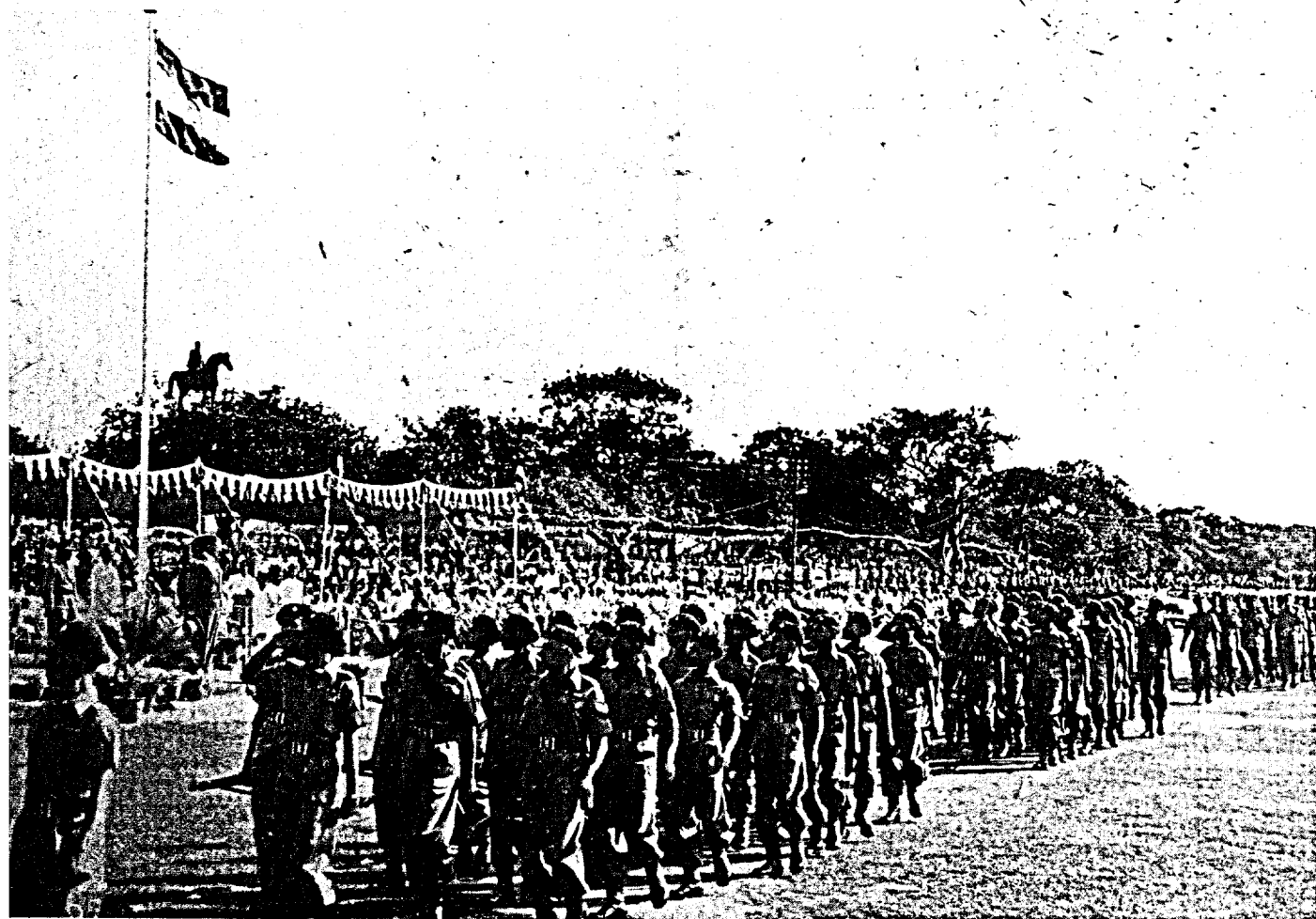
The Premier with Major-General A. A. Rudra at the Parade grounds



INDEPENDENCE DAY—MORE PICTURES



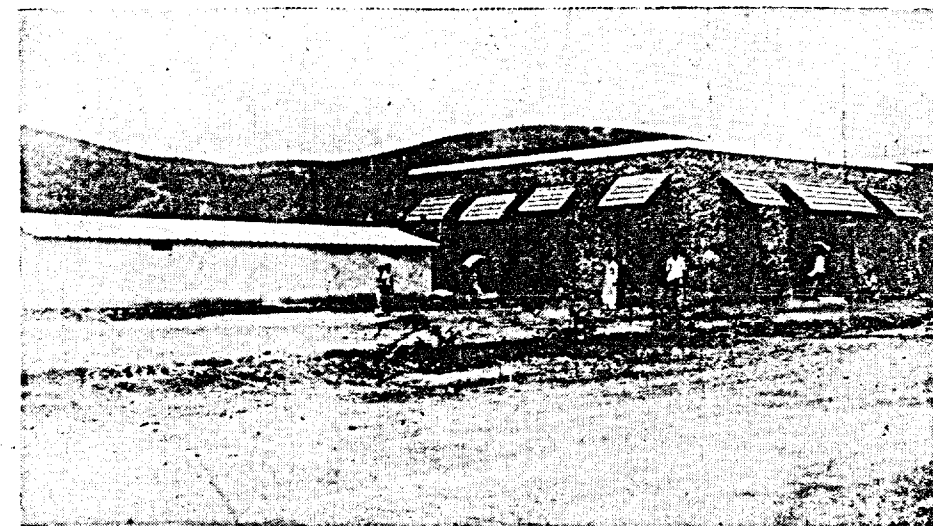
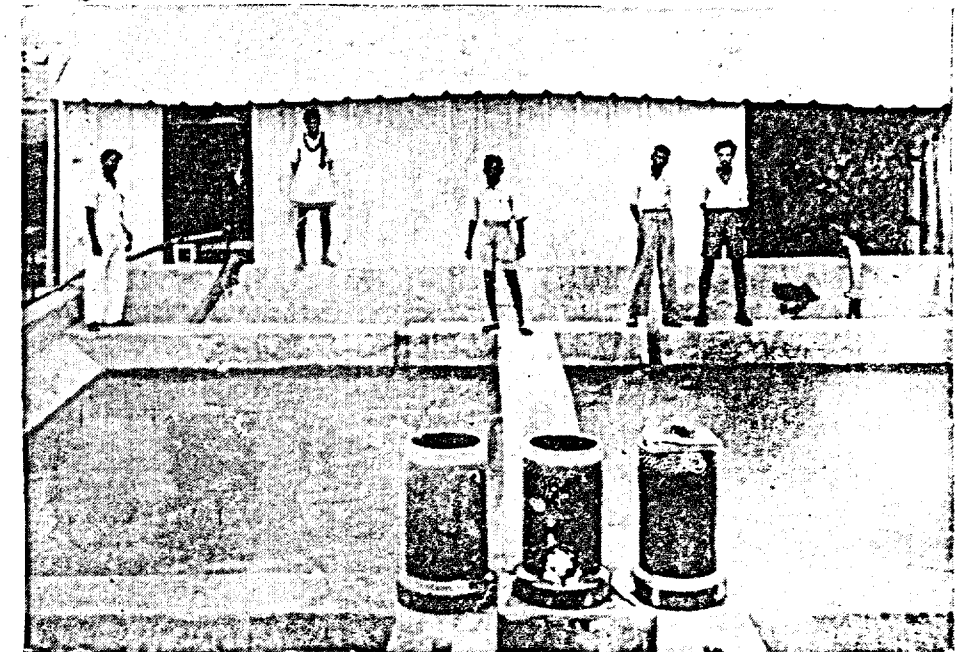
His Excellency the Governor of Madras reviewing the ceremonial Parade at the Island Ground on 15th August 1948



March Past at the Island Ground

AMENITIES FOR LABOURERS IN TUNGABADRA AREA

Coagulation Tank and Pumping Shed for temporary Water Supply

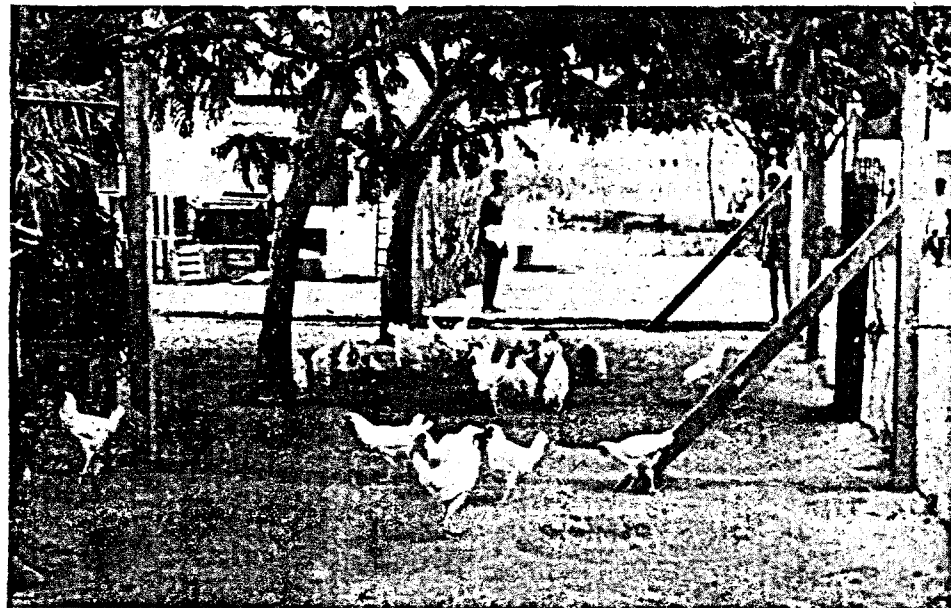


*Co-operative stores and godown—
a safeguard against
high prices*

*The Hon'ble Minister for Industries
enquiring about the welfare
of the labourers*



A general view of the Government Poultry Farm, Madras



Some of the inmates of the Government Poultry Farm. Poultry-keeping is a paying job



This is an incubator. Rows of eggs are arranged in it. Several incubators are maintained in the Poultry Farm

AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY TOPICS

Compost Making

Rao Sahib N. Murugesu Mudaliar spoke about compost manure recently from the A.I.R., Madras. In the course of the broadcast he said:

"Let us see how this compost manure is prepared. A suitable site outside the town or village is selected and pits of about 20 feet long 6 feet broad and 3 feet depth are prepared. Rubbish should be heaped into the pit up to a layer of about 10 inches. Nightsoil or cowdung is then added on up to a layer of 3 inches. These layers are covered over with a thin layer of earth of about one inch in order to prevent bad smell and fly breeding. This process should go on till the whole pit is filled. Within a few days of filling up the trench, a high temperature of about 70° C. developed in it and it persists for about three or four weeks. As a result of this heat, the nightsoil and rubbish are completely decomposed and the pathogenic organisms that may originally be present in the nightsoil and refuse are destroyed. At the end of about four months the product is found to be a well decomposed, odourless and innocuous manure ready for application to the soil. This process is called the 'Bangalore Process'. The advantages of this method are that the nightsoil and refuse get decomposed quickly because they are added in small layers. Fly nuisance is obviated and the sanitation of the neighbourhood is not affected. The nitrogen content of the organic matter is not also lost to the same extent as it is in the method of open trenching. This process is most popular to-day. The compost manure prepared by this process contains 1 per cent nitrogen, 0.9 per cent phosphoric acid, 0.9 per cent potash. One ton of compost (roughly two cart-loads) is estimated to contain 15 to 20 lb. nitrogen, 12 to 15 lb. phosphoric acid, 300 to 400 lb. of organic matter and a good amount of lime, potash and other nutrients. This compost is considered to be superior to the ordinary farmyard manure in manurial contents.

"The one advantage of the compost manure is that it can be easily had in any place and the price is very cheap. A ton of compost, or about two cart-loads costs roughly on an average about three to four rupees exclusive of cartage. In China and Japan, compost manure is extensively used, as a result of which the yield of crops per acre is much higher than in our country. Western countries which used to incinerate their rubbish or wash it down into the sea are now returning it to the soil to increase agricultural production.

"Compost manure can be prepared in towns and big villages by municipalities and panchayat boards, from nightsoil and street refuse. In villages, farmers themselves can join together and prepare compost from cattle dung, vegetable waste matter and other village refuse. Outside the village, pits should be prepared and all the refuse should be thrown into it in the manner described above. After the compost is prepared the villagers can share it among themselves. By this they will not only keep their villages clean, but they will also get valuable manure worth many thousands of rupees.

"Compost manure can be used for wet as well as dry lands because it is easily dissolved in the soil by previous decomposition, and crops come out very well by the use of this manure. Paddy, ragi, cumbu, cholam, plantain, betel, etc., come out very well with this manure. Vegetables and root crops also give better yields.

Government Measures

"You would now like to know what the Government have done to increase the production of this valuable manure. In 1942 and 1946 the Government gave training at their cost with a grant from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research to 68 Sanitary Inspectors in all from various municipalities in the process of compost manufacture. They have also issued instructions to all municipalities and big panchayats to undertake the preparation of compost and

sell them to ryots through co-operative societies or direct. They have also arranged with the Revenue department to give on lease to municipalities, vacant spaces for preparing compost. For the transport of rubbish and compost, the Agricultural department has been asked to lend their lorries to the municipalities. Further, with a grant from the Central Government, a subsidy of 12 annas per 50 c.ft. of compost is paid to municipalities in order to be passed on to ryots who purchase it and put it on the soil. An expenditure of Rs. 63,000 was sanctioned in 1947-48 on account of this and half the expenditure is met by the Central Government. The Government have also sanctioned the carrying out of experiments to study the relative response of farmyard manure and compost of various crops at various Agricultural Research Stations at a cost of Rs. 54,000. They have sanctioned the opening of demonstration plots at 82 centres near municipalities and panchayats to prove the value of compost manuring. The Agricultural department has been asked to popularise the use of compost by leaflets and films. The Government have also sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 24,000 for digging compost pits for compost making in villages. Village composting is done in about 2,300 villages producing a total quantity of 300,000 c.ft. or 6,000 tons."

—By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.

Fight Against Insect Pest

The Government of India have been holding Storage and Inspection Courses at the Centre as well as in different regions of the country in order to minimise depredations of foodgrains by insect pests both in the field and storage, and to improve the quality of grains marketed in the country.

It has now been decided to hold a course in Plant Protection also. One such combined courses is in progress in Nagpur.

The Common Contagious Diseases of Poultry in the Madras Presidency

The poultry industry, is receiving more attention in the Madras Presidency now than in the past and it is desirable that all of you who are interested in poultry breeding should have some knowledge of the contagious diseases that attack poultry. The economics of the industry are governed solely by disease and there is nothing more disheartening to the poultry breeder than to see his entire flock wiped out. This evening I am going to speak to you about the most serious contagious diseases that attack poultry in this Presidency and I hope my talk will help those of you who keep poultry to recognize an outbreak in its early stages so that control measures can be put into operation at once before the epidemic gets out of hand.

Poultry diseases are now receiving more attention by the Veterinary Department and I might mention that Government have appointed a special officer to investigate into poultry diseases. He is at present confining his attention chiefly to Ranikhet disease, a disease which is perhaps the most fatal disease of poultry and one which is the most difficult to control.

The diseases about which I shall talk to you this evening are Ranikhet disease, Fowl-pox, Fowl cholera and Spirochaetosis.

Ranikhet disease.—This disease is a new disease to India and was reported first in this Presidency in 1927. It is the most fatal contagious disease of fowls and is fairly widespread. It is very contagious and when it breaks out, many fowls will be found dying in quick succession. When the disease runs a very acute course the birds are not seen to be visibly ill, death resulting in twelve to twenty-four hours. In other cases, the affected birds show dullness, disinclination to move even when disturbed, a gurgling noise is heard in the throat, and mucous saliva dribbles from the beak. The bird loses weight rapidly and there is weakness of the legs follows later by paralysis and drooping of one or both the wings. A greenish white diarrhoea is present. Exhaustion follows terminating in coma and

death—the fowl being ill about a week. Some fowls may live longer but become paralysed.

The infective agent is contained in the saliva, nasal discharge and droppings. The disease is, therefore, spread by contamination from the droppings and the nasal secretions. The feet of man and animals, utensils and clothing coming in contact with the contagion may transmit the disease. Birds introduced into the flock from unknown sources often spread the disease.

Prevention consists in the destruction of sick birds; separating the flock into as many batches as possible, thorough disinfection of the poultry yard, and quarantining for not less than three weeks any newly purchased aduilty and those that have returned from poultry exhibits. It is advisable not to import fresh stock till the subsidence of the disease. A new vaccine for the protection of birds against the disease has been evolved and owners of fowls may apply to the nearest officer of the Veterinary Department for protecting their fowls against the disease. Potassium Permanganate crystals or a few drops of Tincture of Iodine may be added to the drinking water.

Fowl-pox.—Another common disease is Fowl-pox, also known as 'Chicken-pox.' It is a rapidly spreading infectious disease which affects fowls, pigeons and turkeys. It generally occurs during the hot season.

The introduction of new birds is frequently associated with an outbreak. It takes about 4 to 10 days for the first symptoms to appear and it is advisable to isolate during this period, all new birds purchased. Birds get infected by coming into contact with diseased birds.

The first signs of the disease are small red pimples which appear on the comb, around the eyes, upon the wattles and upon the thinly feathered parts of the head. The pimples develop into rough, yellow, warlike nodules, from the size of pinhead to that of a pea, which tend to join together into Cauliflower-like masses. The nodules contain a small

quantity of whitish fluid which is rich in the disease producing organisms. Later these nodules erupt on the surface and result in the condition known as sore-head. In a mild form, the nodules heal up quickly leaving a dry scab and the bird slowly recovers from the disease. In severe cases, these nodules spread to the surrounding parts as the eyes, mouth, nose, etc., in which case death may occur. The nasal passage becomes blocked with the exudate and the birds breathe through the mouth. When the mouth is affected the bird does not feed properly and when it affects the eyes, the exudate completely sticks the eyelids together and causes temporary blindness. Diarrhoea may be present and death occurs generally in 4 or 5 days but sometimes the birds linger for weeks when they become extremely exhausted and die.

The disease is transmitted from one bird to another very rapidly by the infected pus of the sick bird coming into contact with wounds caused by pecking and fighting, or it may be spread by the attendants looking after poultry.

Prevention consists in the careful observation of new additions to the flock and quarantining them before they are mixed with the flock; the sick birds should be separated at once and treated; the poultry cages, feeding and water troughs, utensils, runs, etc., should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected; sick birds should be given soft and easily digestible food such as wheat or rice bran, greens, chopped cabbage and onions; the drinking water should be medicated with a few crystals of Potassium Permanganate. Curative treatment for sore-head consists in washing the lesions with an antiseptic such as 2 per cent carbolic acid lotion and applying carb-zinc ointment. The eyes should be washed with 2 per cent boric lotion. All the incontact birds should be vaccinated which is very valuable and this can be arranged by reporting the outbreak to the nearest Veterinary Officer.

Fowl cholera.—This is another highly contagious disease affecting poultry and is usually acute and rapid

in its course and accompanied by high mortality. It is caused by an organism which can be seen in the blood of affected birds by microscopical examination. The disease is so acute that often no symptoms are observed and the birds are found dead under their roosts or in their nests. The disease is characterized by high fever, the temperature rising sharply to 109 to 112 degrees Fahrenheit. The affected birds become droopy with disinclination to move; if forced to move, they will stagger in their gait; the feathers are ruffled; the breathing is laboured. The droppings are watery greenish yellow and foetid and the feathers around the vent are soiled.

The germs are eliminated from the body of diseased birds in the bowel discharges and in the saliva, both of which infect the soil and pollute the drinking water and feed of the flock, thus spreading the disease to healthy birds. Droppings may remain infective for as long as three months. The disease is generally introduced by newly purchased infected birds into the healthy flocks.

If the disease breaks out, segregation and disinfection are the first

steps to be undertaken. The infected birds should be destroyed and burnt. Great care should be taken that no blood is spilt, as this would contaminate the soil. Buttermilk which inhabits the growth of bacteria in the intestines with the aid of the lactic acid it contains, can be freely given. The drinking water can be medicated with potassium permanganate crystals.

The injection of an anti-serum is helpful in cutting short the progress of the disease. In farms where the disease is enzootic the best measure is to protect the birds periodically with a vaccine which is available at the Serum Institute, Madras. This inoculation can be arranged by reporting to the nearest Veterinary Assistant Surgeon.

Fowl spirochaetosis.—This is fairly widespread in India and is usually fatal in young birds particularly those of highly selected strains. It is also known as the tick fever of poultry because the disease is spread by the bite of a tick which attacks the fowls at night.

Sometimes the disease occurs in such an acute form that birds

apparently healthy at night are found dead in the morning. In sub-acute forms, there is drowsiness, somnolence, loss of appetite, bluish comb and greenish diarrhoea. Birds rapidly weaken, are unable to roost, spread eagle on the ground, the bird lying helpless death occurs suddenly with convulsions.

The radical method of controlling the disease is by eradicating the ticks and this is a matter which requires patience. In fire-proof poultry houses, using fire in the form of a blow-lamp to the crevices and joints where the ticks usually lurk, isolating the birds at night and keeping the roosts under receptacles containing tar have been claimed to attain this objective.

Ailing birds may be cured by injecting specific drugs which can be done by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon.

To sum up, the first essential in poultry diseases is a correct diagnosis and then prophylactic measures can be adopted accordingly. Poultry can be immunized against ranikhet disease, fowl-pox and fowl cholera and successfully treated when suffering from spirochaetosis or tick fever.

Agricultural Research in America

In their effort to produce more food on the same amount of land to meet the needs of an increased population at home as well as the huge overseas demand, American farmers are receiving valuable aid and information from various sources of extensive agriculture research like U.S. Government agencies, agricultural schools and private concerns. Various machines have greatly stepped up efficiency in field work. New mixtures of feed, new feeds from industrial waste and many time and labour-saving methods have resulted from such research.

American farmers, faced with the problem of increasing production on the same amount of land to meet the needs both of an increased population at home as well as huge overseas demand, are receiving valuable information from various sources of extensive agriculture research. In the national effort to produce and conserve foodstuffs, the scientific

research being carried on by the U.S. Government, agricultural schools, and private concerns has assumed a vital role.

Many of the 5,000 feed firms in the United States operate research farms, which are constantly seeking better mixtures of feed that will result in bigger hogs for marketing, more eggs per hen, more milk per cow. By improving these feeds, less amounts are necessary.

Furthermore, these research farms demonstrate better methods of feeding. These methods are often as startling in their simplicity as in their results. For example, the General Mills Research Farm near Detroit, Michigan, found that hogs grew much faster if they had been given plenty of water when small. They also discovered that it is better to market hogs at a certain weight, since their growth beyond that weight requires excessive amounts of feed.

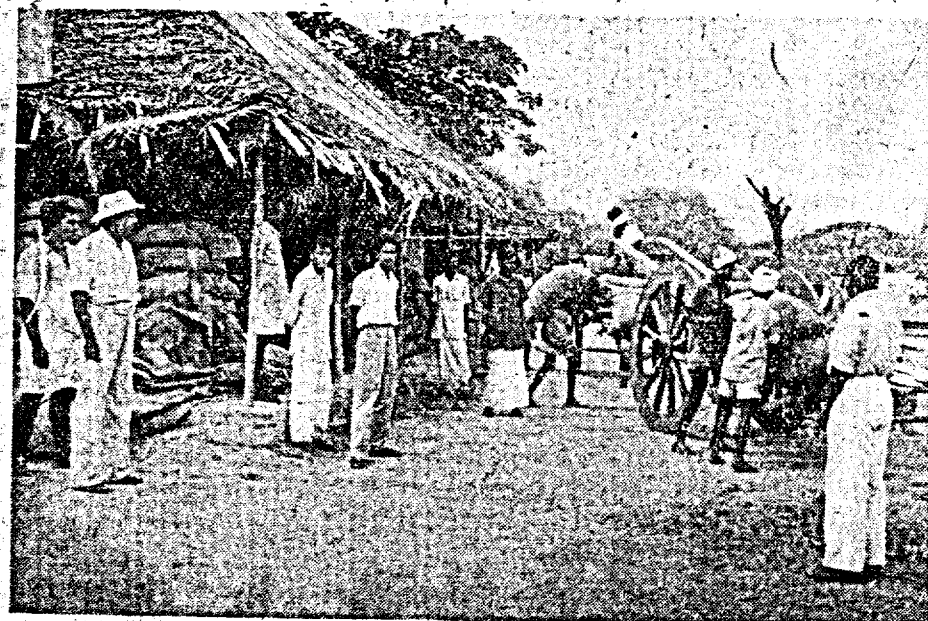
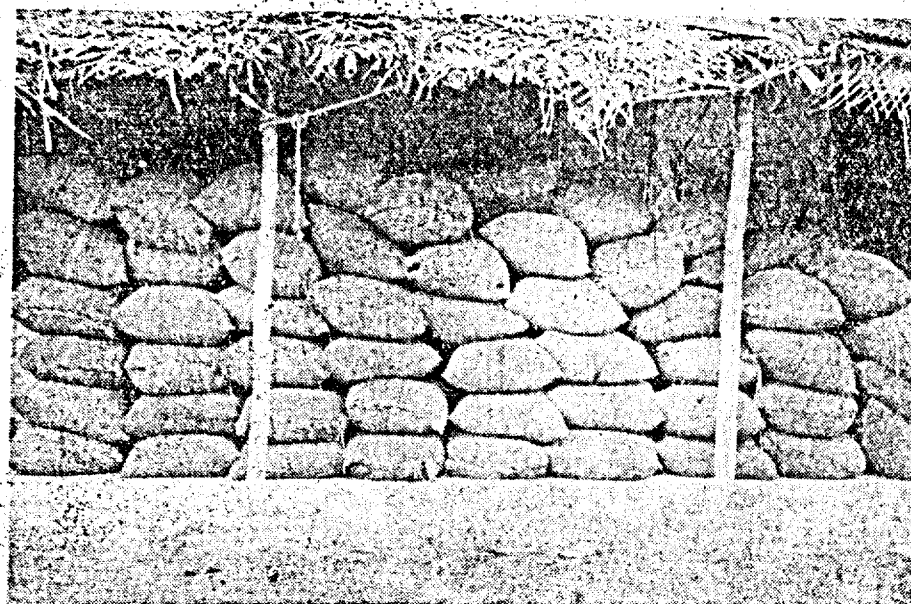
Other discoveries include ways of weaning calves sooner, producing more eggs per hen through a balanced diet, methods of culling out unproductive chickens. Cows were found to produce extra milk if dandruff was removed from their skins several times a week with an electric vacuum cleaner such as that used by the farmer's wife in the house.

Further savings are being made by discovering feed uses from new sources, including industrial by-products which formerly had been hauled away as waste.

Meanwhile, agricultural schools and experiment stations have been helping farmers to do their jobs faster and easier. Machines have greatly stepped up efficiency in field work, and Government studies show that a greater part of the farmer's time is now spent around the farm buildings and in caring for animals.

HELP TO AGRICULTURISTS

*Groundnut cake is good manure. These
groundnut cake bags are awaiting
distribution to agriculturists*



*Groundnut cake bags being loaded in
bullock carts for agriculturists*

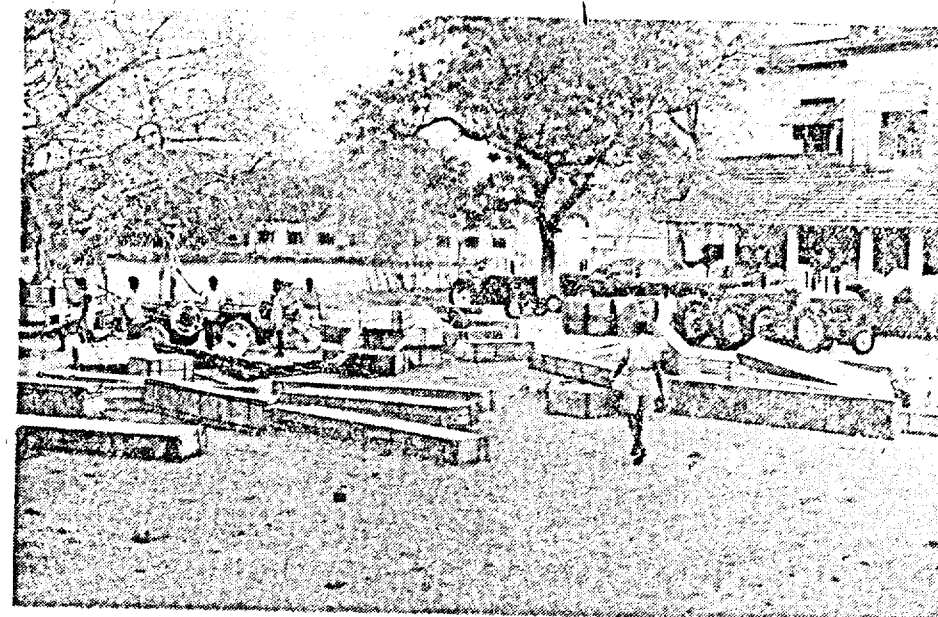
*Ammonium phosphate is being sold
in retail to agriculturists*



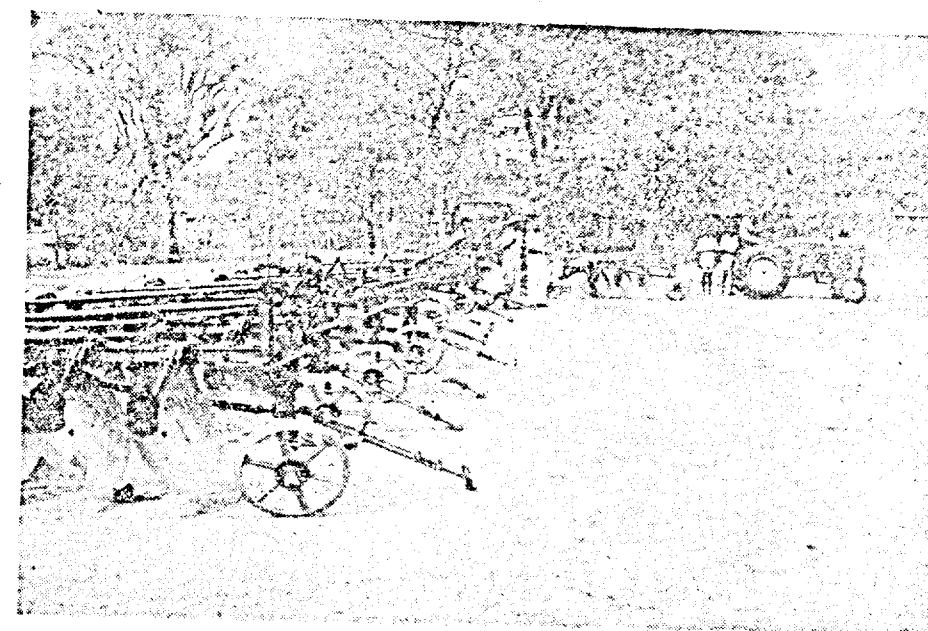
273

MECHANIZATION OF AGRICULTURE

*These boxes contain spare parts
of Tractors. These parts are
assembled in Madras*



*The Tractors are awaiting
despatch to various
districts*



*Agricultural implements are also
distributed to ryots at
cost price*

SPECIAL ARTICLE

Museums and Education

By DR. A. AIYAPPAN, Superintendent, Government Museum, Madras

The United States of America has the most effective museum service in the whole world. By effective I mean the capacity to reach the public and draw it to the museum galleries and raise the level of knowledge, information and critical appreciation of our vast environment which is now the whole world. Some of the larger museums of Europe, such as the British Museum and the museums of Paris and Berlin, may have larger collections, but none of them can claim the wide popularity and effectiveness of the museums of the United States.

It seems as if museums have become an integral part of the cultural life of Americans. Some of the largest museums of the United States are privately endowed institutions, and a good proportion of others are supported by subscriptions. Every one of them is the centre of the intellectual life of the public.

The following note in a recent issue of *Nature* gives us an idea of the directions in which American museums are advancing:

"The Cleveland Museum of Natural History has again shown commendable enterprise in extending its educational influence to a much larger public than habitual museum visitors . . . through the courtesy of the American broadcasting station, W.E.W.S., it is now presenting a monthly television programme called 'Your Museum of Natural History.' Two general programmes have already been televised, one dealing with the timely subject of the Navaho Indians, and the other with the recent gift to the Museum of the works of John J. Audbon, including the famous early nineteenth century English prints of Havell. There is also a weekly television programme built round the

Museum's explorers club for children; subjects so far presented include the Apache Indians, fur-bearing mammals, care of pets, bird migration and signs of spring."

Museums are potent instruments of creation. In America their resources are being fully utilized. In U.S.S.R. the peasant museums have done wonderful work. This article, *inter alia* refers to what museums can do in the reconstruction of this country.

Television, of course, is the latest of the means of public contact which American museums have adopted to extend the scope of their activities. In fact, the Americans have pressed into service all propaganda devices to do publicity for their museums.

Americans and Museums

This attitude towards museums requires explanation because we, in India, have, so far, followed the unprogressive ideals of the English in this respect. Americans, it is sometimes suggested, are so wealthy that they spend their surplus money on museums and art galleries. This, of course, is too native an explanation to be acceptable to any but the detractors of American culture. According to the Americans themselves, "the task of museum authorities is often primarily political to arouse the community to a sense of democratic need in the sharing of artistic and intellectual culture." The museums of America are the results of the general recognition of the right of every citizen to enjoy the cultural opportunities which in Europe and

Asia were until recently the privilege of the aristocratic few. In the United States, the leaders of public opinion, the leaders in education and others in position of authority very clearly realized that it paid in the long run to have well-informed voters. In this democratic task, the museums of America have played a very important part by actively helping in the education of the young and old. The greatest outside propaganda done for museums is by the American Association for Adult Education.

Museums in U.S.S.R.

From the scanty literature on Russian museums available to us, it is found that the museum movement in the U.S.S.R. is getting very strong. Several of the old palaces there were converted into museums for the working classes. In his address to the National Academy of Sciences, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, then President of the Indian National Congress, referred in the following terms to the peasant museums of the U.S.S.R.:

"I should like an aggressive and widespread tackling of our problems by experts. I should like permanent museums for the education of our masses, especially the peasantry, to grow up in every district. I remember the wonderful peasant museums which I saw in the U.S.S.R., and I compared them with the pitiful agricultural exhibitions which are organized here from time to time."

The common man's cultural and intellectual needs are better met in Russia than in most European countries though perhaps not to the same extent as in U.S.A., but the significance of the development of museums in Russia cannot be underrated; it very definitely shows that the Government there too is wedded to the task of creating a well-informed body politic.

Museums in India

The museums of India came into being about a century back to meet the commercial and scientific needs of the European ruling group but they very considerably allowed the tax-payers to view the collections in

the galleries which were arranged in such a way as to be of use only to those knowing English. Art collections to which the public had access were very few indeed and the position with regard to art galleries still remains very bad. The best collections of paintings in India are in the possession of Rajas and zamindars, several of whom would not even lend them for public exhibitions. With the exception of the Tatas and very few others, no rich possessors of art collections in India have made them over to the public. If one may put it so, the democratic idea has influenced the rich in India to be sufficiently public-minded to think of the common man and let him experience the joy of appreciating "things of beauty." But conditions will not remain static, the common man is likely to demand his legitimate share in the cultural, intellectual and artistic life of the nation, and the Government and the leaders of culture will respond adequately. Then will the museums of India too come to their own but museum workers are already alive to the calls that will be made on them and are preparing for their future tasks.

Hitherto the functions of museums in India were recognized to be threefold: (1) the collection of exhibits, (2) their conservation and (3) the interpretation of the collections. In the first category comes the very important task of protecting for posterity the artistic treasures valued by the nation, of which the larger museums contains several examples (see for example the specimen in fig. 3). The bombing of museums during the last war was regarded with as much horror and concern as the bombing of hospitals: this is an index of the value attached to national museums and the collections in them by all civilized nations of the world. Education of the public did not find the place which it deserved in the programmes of work of most of our museums; the education of the young was considered as the special field of the teachers for which museums had no contribution to make; and no one thought that the adult in India stood in any need of being educated. The museums of free India have to reorient their

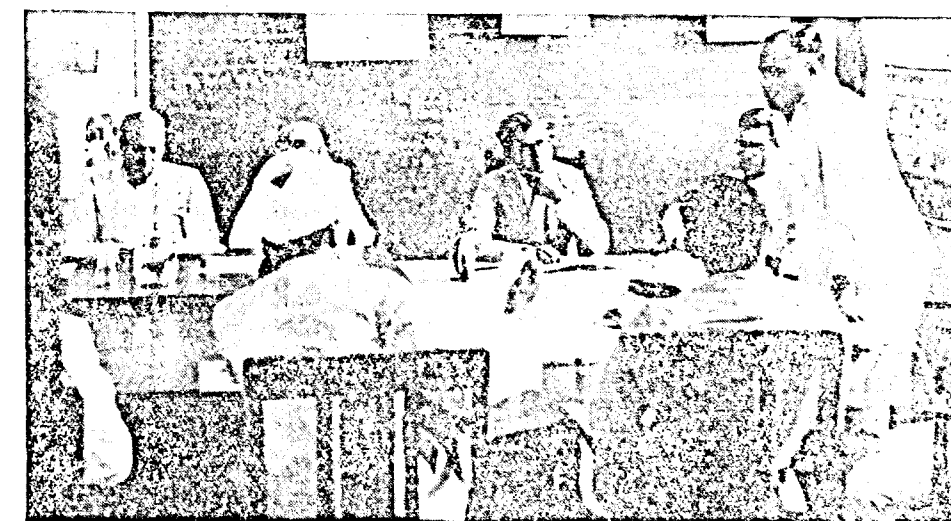
policy to make themselves useful to the common man.

Value of Museums

With the brilliant examples of American and Russian Museums before us, there need be no doubt about the capacity of museums to be effective instruments in adult education. I shall however illustrate the point by telling an example. When Shrimati Susheta Kripalani visited the Madras Government Museum in April 1947, among the exhibits which attracted her special attention were a number of charts. These charts show the evolution of the scripts of the various South Indian languages from the Brahmi script used in Asoka's inscriptions. The various modern scripts of North India are also derived from Brahmi. Thus, with no central authority imposing a common script on the peoples of the North and South, India of the third century B.C. had a common script. These charts and the original inscriptions exhibited in the Madras Museum demonstrated factually, without any recourse to arguments, to Mrs. Kripalani one fact of the unity of India long long before any one thought of the question. Now, if you want to impress on any one the fact of the cultural unity of India—there are still many who doubt it—is there a better way of proving it than the one I have cited here? Every museum worth the name contains within it ample materials which

can be turned to good use for the better education of the common man, though, of course, a change of emphasis is needed. In an article published in *Madras Information* some time ago, I have indicated how museums can help in the basic education plan of the Government. With a view to this end, more habit at group are being put in. To make it possible for the illiterate visitor to profit by his visit to the Museum, the Government of Madras have sanctioned the appointment of two assistant curators whose chief duty will be to explain the exhibits in the Museum to parties of illiterate and semi-literate visitors. Explanatory labels in Tamil and Telugu are being added in the various galleries, but the Chief difficulty at present is the paucity of technical terms. Slowly but surely the Madras Museum is adapting itself to perform its cultural functions in a free democratic state.

Another new line of work, now in the initial stages, is the extension of museum service to the rural areas. The real India is in the villages and a few museums in urban areas can never hope to cover the thousands of villages. As experiment in rural museum will soon be tried in the firkas selected for intensive development; and if the experiment succeeds, we might envisage the free flow of circulating collections from the Provincial Central Museum to the rural museums.



Public are associated with working of the Employment Exchange. Picture shows the Collector of Madras addressing the representatives of Employers and Labour.

PROBLEMS AND PROGRESS ELSEWHERE

Bombay

The total achievements of the Government of Bombay during one year of India's freedom are inextricably bound up with the policy and decisions taken by the Ministry earlier. Many of the plans and schemes sanctioned earlier were, during this period, either implemented administratively or continued in their implementation. In view of this continuity in administrative action, it is necessary to trace back the beginning of the various reforms introduced actually before August 15, 1947, inasmuch as they were continued during the year of complete freedom.

Education

Primary education.—The recent legislation makes the way clear for free, compulsory primary education throughout the Province. It involves 32 lakhs of children in villages. First, larger villages will be taken up and the system extended later to smaller ones. Government will bear 50 per cent of expenditure.

Craft training.—The Government has introduced craft training in schools and has been getting crafts teachers trained in private institutions. The cost of training is Rs. 1.30 crores for three years non-recurring and Rs. 60.8 lakhs recurring. The crafts consist of spinning, weaving, agriculture and wood-work.

Physical education.—Physical training was reorganized with the introduction of revised and improved diploma course comprising of Indian games and all modern features. Some of the measures adopted by the Government are special pay for teachers holding P.T. diploma, appointments of 12 Assistant Deputy Educational Inspectors for P.T., recognition to private institutions holding P.T. short-term courses, grants to gymnasias and grant for the library and laboratory at the Kandivali Institute.

Technical education.—The mechanical and electrical engineering training facilities have been established at the V.J.T. Institute of Bombay and a large number of students trained there. Degree courses have also been introduced.

Adult education.—A scheme of adult education costing Rs. 58 lakhs with a target of 665,000 literates between the age groups of 15 and 40 beginning with 900 classes in the first year increased gradually to 1,780 in the tenth year was sanctioned. Under this scheme, each taluka is to have a centre at an estimated cost of Rs. 9,400. Special provision has been made for equipment and other grants in backward areas. One of the features of this scheme is that children are employed to teach adults. Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Minister for Labour, was appointed President of the Bombay City Adult Education Committee.

Visual education.—The Technical Advisory Board for Visual Education and Visual Education Advisory Board were appointed to advise Government in organizing audio-visual education in the Province and a five-year scheme of visual education costing Rs. 14,60,000 was sanctioned. Under this scheme, projectors are to be purchased and educational films both purchased and

produced to meet the demands of audio-visual education.

Agriculture.—A new policy of tenure of waste lands was formulated during the period under review. Preference was given, in accordance with the Government's policy, to co-operative societies while the terms of tenancy were re-fixed with a view to preventing misuse, exploitation and neglect of potentialities of the land for improved food production. Twenty-thousand seven hundred and eighty acres of land were given for growing more food. A five-year scheme for growing vegetables was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 3,00,000 and subsidy offered to encourage cultivation of sweet potatoes. A nucleus seeds scheme was similarly sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 59,000 and it covers a period of five years.

Another scheme of purchase of ammonium sulphate and its supply to agriculturists was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 4,00,000. Agricultural implements were frozen for distribution to the needy agriculturists and legislative action taken to deal with the

"Our troubles during the past year were largely the result of this narrowness in outlook, and pettiness in action which is so foreign to India's great cultural inheritance. Communalism threatened to crush the free spirit in us, the communalism of the Muslim, of the Hindu, and of the Sikh, Provincialism came in the way of that larger unity which is so essential to India's greatness and progress. The spirit of faction spread and made us forget the big things that we had stood for.

"We have to find ourselves again, and go back to the free India of our dreams. We have to rediscover the old values and place them in the new setting of a free India. For freedom brings responsibility, and can only be sustained by self-discipline, hard work, and the spirit of a free people.

"So let us be rid of everything that limits us and degrades us. Let us cast out fear and communalism and provincialism. Let us build up a free and democratic India, where the interest of the masses of our people has always the first place to which all other interests must submit. Freedom has no meaning unless it brings relief to these masses from their many burdens.

"Democracy means tolerance, tolerance not merely of those who agree with us, but of those who do not agree with us. With the coming of freedom our patterns of behaviour must change also so as to fit in with this freedom."

PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

problems of agricultural pests and diseases as some landlords appeared to be apathetic towards the need of controlling them.

A five-year compost-making scheme was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 5,00,000. The scheme is expected to yield 500,000 tons of compost manure sufficient to meet the needs of 100,000 acres of irrigated land with a corresponding crop production of 390,000 maunds of additional foodgrain.

Land improvement.—Government has concentrated on improving agricultural production and launched a number of schemes of land improvement, improved methods of cultivation and various types of aid to agriculturists.

Water-supply facilities.—Engines, pumps and belting have been supplied to agriculturists. An order for more of these of the value of Rs. 26,45,000 has been placed with the Government of India.

Power and hand-boring machines have been lent to agriculturist to establish well water facilities. Larger number of wells, tanks and bandharas have been constructed to provide water for irrigation purposes. Agriculturists are also given expert advice in well boring.

Mechanical cultivation.—Mechanical tractors are lent at concessional hiring rates for deep and shallow ploughing and thousands of acres have been ploughed in various districts.

Agriculturists' sons are given free training in handling and repairs to oil engines.

Supply of iron and steel.—Agriculturists are helped with supply of iron and steel and implements at controlled rates through the agency of the District Rural Development Boards, co-operative societies, etc. The sales amounted to Rs. 25,30,000 during the period of October 1946 to July 1947.

Research.—Important soil research has been carried out and schemes have been introduced for land improvement, arrest of soil erosion, etc.

Minor irrigation.—A new section has been established under Agricultural Department to carry out minor irrigation works, i.e., construction of tanks, bandharas, etc. The annual expenditure on this organization is Rs. 7,50,000. During the current year it is proposed to spend Rs. 19,50,000 on works which form part of a five-year post-war reconstruction scheme.

Taluka demonstration centres.—Practically each taluka has had a

demonstration centre where agriculturists are given help and advice to adopt improved methods of production.

Foodcrops Act, 1944.—This Act has been introduced to encourage improved production of foodcrops and has been applied to various districts.

Seeds improvement schemes.—Five schemes have been continued. In addition, three more for improvement of paddy and other cereals have been introduced. Their cost is estimated at Rs. 13,27,000 spread over five years.

Subsidies of Rs. 15 per acre are paid for encouraging hot-weather crops.

Seed is also distributed for rabbi and kharif season.

Other schemes.—A sweet potato extension scheme in several districts has been sanctioned at a cost of two lakhs. It will bring about 1,000 additional acres under cultivation.

Labour welfare.—A special department attends to the welfare of labour. There are welfare centres in Bombay, Ahmedabad and six other industrial centres in the Province. These have been developed and their service improved and extended.

These centres provide recreation of every type, instruction and training to workers and their children. Cinema films, sports, circulating libraries, theatres, music, gymnastics, literary classes, sewing classes for women and other amenities are offered at these centres. There are 151 library posts at the centres. An industrial training centre has been opened at Ahmedabad which imparts useful training to workers for alternative employment and improves their technical efficiency.

Industries.—The Provincial Industries Committee has been set up for policy-making. Help and facilities have been given to textile, cement and other industries in the Province. Other industries, are silk manufacture and bobbin production and they are being developed.

Aid to industries.—Valuable assistance has been given to various enterprises in the form of loans, facilities of supplies of raw materials and stores. A grant of Rs. 75,000 per annum for five years to the India Government's Indian Standards Institution for development of industries has been sanctioned.

Bureau of economics and statistics.—The bureau has been established with a small staff to prepare statistical

studies in various subjects of administrative importance. It brings out a *Bulletin* and carries out surveys for the various Departments of Government. Statistical studies are necessary for planning and the Bureau has been found very useful not only to this Government but also to other Governments and Agencies.

Public Works

Roads.—Considerable expenditure has been incurred on the maintenance and repairs of roads. The new programme covers 30,881 miles and Rs. 5.66 crores have been allotted for five years. The Government of India has allotted Rs. 3 crores for the national highways during this period.

Irrigation.—The Deccan canals system with the capital outlay of Rs. 9 crores has been maintained to aid the increased food production drive. Important concessions have been given to agriculturists who grow foodcrops. The area under sugarcane cultivation has been curtailed to encourage growth of foodcrops.

Twenty-five irrigation works of construction of tanks and bandharas have been taken up. Out of these, 12 have been completed and others are in progress. River lift irrigation schemes were also taken up. These works, when completed, will irrigate an area of 33,567 acres and bring yield of 13,056 tons of food-grain and 1,310 tons of fodder.

In addition a big and ambitious, longrange programme of projects costing Rs. 9.5 crores during five years has been drawn up and various dam projects are to be completed during this year.

Public Health projects.—Valuable help has been given to the various municipalities and local bodies. Thus, water famine during the summer of 1947 at Sholapur was averted with the construction of an emergency scheme costing Rs. 13 lakhs. The Government has undertaken to execute five big water-supply schemes during the next five years although they are a liability of the municipalities concerned. A provision of Rs. 9.5 crores has been made for the five-year programme.

Mobile hospital units.—Three 50-bedded mobile hospital units have been sanctioned and one has already started work. Thirty-six centres of combined medical and health units have also been sanctioned. Fifteen units have been partially established and others are being formed. They will co-ordinate

curative and preventive aspects of medical work in the districts.

Rural Relief Scheme.—Under the scheme, medical practitioners are subsidised to practise at main centres in villages. In addition to the large number of such centres, 125 more are to be added. Where these centres cannot be opened, the Village Aid Scheme is to be introduced.

Cottage hospitals.—The existing dispensaries are being converted into cottage hospitals with facilities for aftercare treatment. Five such hospitals have already been opened.

Medico-cum-propaganda units.—There are 9 units of this type that serve aborigines and hill tribes and cater to their needs.

Village water supply.—The programme of supply of clean water to villagers includes digging of wells, construction of tanks, etc. At the end of September 1947, 145 works were completed and 1,016 were in progress. Rs. 26 lakhs have been provided for during this year while the five-year scheme is estimated to cost roughly Rs. 2½ crores.

Co-operation.—The Government of India's Saraiya Committee recommendations have recently been examined by the Government in the light of the local conditions and a definite plan of expansion outlined.

Animal husbandry.—Government has introduced a number of schemes in order to improve cattle, sheep and poultry. Efforts are made to popularize improved breeds of cattle and promote dairy development.

Assam

Education

In the field of education, the Ministry has made remarkable progress. As already mentioned, the Gauhati University has come into existence and substantial funds have been provided to the University. Generous grants for spread of primary education and encouragement of vernacular education in the Middle Schools in view of the importance of the vernacular language was made during the year under review. Training Centres for primary teachers were opened in important towns.

Ministry passed the Assam Compulsory Primary Education Act 1947 with a view to introducing compulsory primary education in the Province. A Special Officer has been engaged for

the purpose of preparing the preliminary work in that connection. Necessary budget provision has been made and it is expected that from April this year the Act will be put into operation. The Mass Literacy Campaign which was already there could not yield satisfactory result due to lack of public interest. The Ministry has proposed to intensify this campaign in the current year.

The Government has given special stress on basic education but have not been able to obtain adequate results. At present teachers for Basic Education Schools are being trained at Jamia Milia or Wardha. Government have already taken a scheme in hand for training College where such teachers would be trained. This college will also train teachers for Academic High Schools. Five centres of compact areas have also been established by the Government in five places in the province.

With a view to meeting the growing demands of the students particularly of the tribal areas, the number of scholarships has been considerably increased. The primary school teachers' pay was raised last year from Rs. 12 to Rs. 20 per month which will be raised further to Rs. 30 this year. The increased grants-in-aid to the Government Aided High Schools and raising of dearness allowance are some of the measures which the Ministry has been able to take for the amelioration of the grievances of the non-Government School teachers.

The language policy of the Government has not yet been announced, but it is intended that English will have no place in the curriculum up to the middle school standard.

Rural Development

The blue print for rural development of the province was announced by the Ministry in October 1947, on the occasion of the Gandhiji's birth-day. The Premier placed it before the country in appropriate terms emphasizing that the rural development schemes which the Government have in view would form the very basis of our society and the country. The Government propose, according to the Five-Year Development Plan, to develop the villages under 720 rural development centres spread all over the province at the rate of 142 every year. In addition to these 78 Model Villages will be started during the period of 5 years and these Model Villages will be built on scientific lines so that the rural population may develop themselves on these lines. Self-sufficiency

and self-help will be the guiding principles of the plan. It is expected that if the plan is implemented under capable men, it will give the 96 per cent of our villagers real Local Self Government and ultimately usher in an era of "Real Swaraj" of Gandhiji's conception.

In the estimate of the Government the Rural Development project has been of great importance and the Government are going to start a Rural Development Workers Training Institute so that the persons entrusted with rural development schemes might be properly trained.

The Ministry has already brought in the Assam Assembly the "Assam Rural Panchayat Bill, 1948" with the said object in view. Over rupees six crores have been allotted to spend on the rural development scheme.

A separate department called the "Rural Development" department has been set up. Other departments such as the Co-operative department, the Industry department and other such departments of the Government will co-ordinate the activities connected with the welfare affairs of the villagers.

The Government has in the meantime decided to appoint officers so that the Rural Development Scheme, according to the Premier of Assam, is a revolutionary measure, that Government want to launch, may put into operation immediately after the Bill becomes an Act.

Industry

Having regard to the importance of nationalisation of Industry, the Minister has already accepted the principle and appointed an Industrial Adviser to collect facts and figures in respect of large-scale and small-scale industries of the province which may have to be undertaken by Government as State-owned, or quasi-State-owned. The Government decided that for the present textile, paper, and sugar industry should be taken up and accordingly have placed orders for machineries, etc., from abroad.

In Assam there is no major industry except the tea industry, petrol and possibly some coal. The tea industry involves a huge capital already sunk by the private individuals and companies. It seems it will take long time before the proposition of nationalisation of the tea industry can take definite shape. As regard Nationalisation of Transport, Government are going to take very important decision soon. As an experimental measure, a route is already under Government management

But Government propose to take some routes soon in any of the following alternatives:—

(1) Those completely owned and run by Government.

(2) Those in which Railway and Government will participate.

(3) Those in which Private parties, Government and Railway will participate.

Labour

The labour problem which is closely related to industry but to which adequate attention was not given hitherto has engaged special attention of the Ministry. An Advisory Committee to suggest measures to the Government for welfare of the labourers was set up and the Government has a scheme for better housing and educational facilities for the labourers which is in process of implementation. Lot will depend on the decisions taken by Dominion Government in regard to these and allied question.

There was generally good relationship between the industry and labour. Whatever minor difference took place between the employers and the employees were amicably settled, by the Labour department of the Assam Government, in spite of the fact that both the Communists and Socialists disturbed the troubled waters.

Miscellaneous

It would not be out of place here to mention the progress that has been made by the Ministry in reference to development of hydro-electric power, river-training and drainage and embankment works. These matters are vitally connected with the progress and development of the natural wealth of the province and welfare of the people. The Ministry therefore did not lose time to command the services of special officers for examining the possibilities of hydro-electric power and else to examine the mineral wealth in Garo Hills and other parts of the province. The Government have been able to collect necessary facts and figures so far and it is expected that projects will be put through as early as they are fully ready for works being undertaken.

Government are also carrying on the Opium prohibition campaign and are determined to remove the evil. A new Act to that effect was passed and is being enforced from April 1, 1948.

United Provinces

The United Provinces has made considerable strides in many fields of activity since August 15, 1947.

Rural uplift is one of the main planks in the rural reconstruction programme of the Government. Every effort is being made to promote the standard of living of the common man. Steps have been taken to eliminate agricultural intermediaries. Tenants have been protected against unlawful ejectment. The tank digging drive and the compost drive have been carried out successfully. It has been estimated that that province could produce 130 crores of maunds of compost annually. Land reclamation operations are being carried out in some places. Establishment of panchayats marks the beginning of a new era of democratisation. The provision of adequate medical relief to the rural areas, has received special attention. Electricity output has been planned to be increased five-fold. The Road programme of the Government envisages among other things the construction of 6,566 miles of new metal roads. Schemes for irrigation aims at bringing 36.6 per cent of the total cultivated area under irrigation. During 1946-47, 250 miles of new canals were added. 300 miles of further canals have either been constructed or are under construction. A ten-year programme of universal education has been drawn up and it has been decided to open 2,200 schools every year. A social service training scheme has been put into operation. Under the scheme 600 graduates have just finished their training. Prohibition is also fairly under way. A special department for

Harijans has been organized to promote their welfare. Removal of Social Disabilities Act, which had been passed earlier, was put into operation. Special provision has been made for the education of Harijans. The Government have decided to impart training in masonry, poultry, and basket-making to Harijan youths and work has been started in a number of districts.

Recreation Board in Bombay

A Recreation Board has been constituted by the Government for the purpose of achieving the effective co-ordination of the recreational activities conducted at present by the different departments, viz., Labour, Education and Industries and Prohibition.

Backward Classes in Bombay

All other things being equal, the candidates belonging to the Backward Classes will henceforth be given preference *vis-a-vis* others, while making recruitment to all services under the Government of Bombay. This rule will be followed in addition to the other orders issued from time to time prescribing the minimum percentages of recruitment from the members of the Intermediate and Backward Class to certain Class III and Class IV services.



A view of a typical Technical Training Centre in South India

DELHI NOTES

Fisheries Advisory Council

It is reliably learnt that the Dominion Ministry of Agriculture is setting up a Fisheries Advisory Council to advise the Government of India on fisheries research and the development of the fish industry. The Council will meet twice a year.

The Advisory Council will have the Agriculture Secretary as Chairman, the Fisheries Development Adviser or his Deputy as Secretary.

Health Ministers' Conference

"A service which is designed to provide only curative measures for the rural areas will not meet the requirements of the people and that the organization of an integrated curative and preventive health service is essential," says a Resolution, passed at the second Health Ministers' Conference, which concluded its four-day session in New Delhi yesterday. The Resolution continues, "It is urged that the whole question should be reviewed and suitable recommendations made to the Central and Provincial Governments in order to assist them in taking decisions on this important question. The appointment of a suitable committee for the purpose by the Chairman is recommended."

The Conference has made several recommendations to the Central, Provincial and State Government on various important aspects of public health. Some of the recommendations briefly are:

Governments should explore the possibility of restricting private practice by doctors in their services in successive stages; steps should be taken to ensure that the operations undertaken by the Railways, the Works Department and other Central Government authorities concerned with engineering operations do not create malarious conditions; a country-wide attack should be organized against eye diseases by bringing treatment facilities down to the remotest villages; the Central Government should appoint a Registrar-General of Vital and Population Statistics attached to the Ministry of Health and the Provincial and State Governments should have their own organizations under the charge of a Registrar of Vital and Population Statistics with district organizations for the registration of vital statistics,

the Central Government should take early steps to create an all-India Medical Register which should include medical licentiates also; the Drugs Act should be more strictly and uniformly enforced and early steps should be taken under Governmental auspices to set up factories for making essential drugs and appliances in the country; health services should be expanded in the Provinces and States in order to make it possible to absorb a large part of the remaining displaced health personnel; the Provincial Governments should set up Nutrition Committees and Nutrition Units should be formed and considered as integral parts of the Health Departments at the Centre and in the Provinces; and the Provincial Governments should appoint provincial tuberculosis and leprosy officers and generally strengthen their campaign against these diseases.

The Conference expressed its gratification at the Government of India's efforts to promote, in collaboration with Provincial and State Governments the development of post-graduate education in all branches of medical science. The Conference urged expansion of facilities for the training of dentists and ancillary personnel and an enhancement of the status of the nursing profession in order to attract suitable women to this essential service.

The broad outlines of the scheme for the development of an industrial health service put forward in the "Memorandum on the Formation of an Integral Industrial Health Organization in India" was also approved by the Conference.

Cottage Industries Board

The Government of India have decided to constitute a Cottage Industries Board under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister for Industry and Supply. The Board will consist of representatives of Central Government, Provincial Governments, major States and Unions and of important organizations representing the interests of small-scale and cottage industries. Some non-officials will also be nominated as members of the Board.

The main features of the Board will be—

(i) To advise and assist Government on the organization and development of cottage and small-scale industries,

(ii) To examine and advise how cottage and small-scale industries can be co-ordinated with large-scale industries,

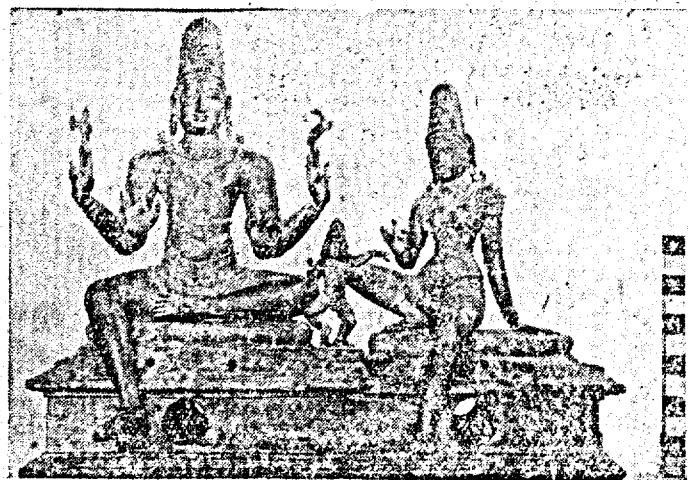
(iii) To examine the schemes of the Provincial and State Governments for the promotion of cottage and small-scale industries and to assist in co-ordinating them, and

(iv) To advise the Government on the marketing of the products of cottage and small-scale industries in India and abroad.

Manufacture of Compost

During the year 1947-48 1,745,066 tons of compost were prepared from town and village refuse, said Shri Jairamdas Daulatram, Minister of Agriculture, in a written reply to a question in the Dominion Parliament recently.

Of these, 486,080 tons were produced from 566 urban centres and 1,258,986 tons from 27,950 village centres.



Somaskanda—
Vaitheeswaran Koil,
Tanjore district

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"INDIAN ART"

Edited by SIR RICHARD WINSTEDT. Published by Faber and Faber, Limited, 24, Russel Square, London. Price 7 s. 6 p.

This nicely got up and well-finished book is comprised of essays written by the people who know the job. Prof. H. G. Rawlinson, the well known historian, has explained in lucid terms the historical background to the growth of Indian art from the ruins of Mohenjo-Daro to the British period in India in an appealing manner arresting the unabiding interest of the reader. The contributions of J. V. S. Wilkinson, K-de-B Codrington and John Irwin on such comprehensive subjects on Indian art as Indian Painting, the Minor Arts of India and Indian Sculpture, written respectively, are sure to stir up the imagination of the world artists. Indian art is the expression of Indian thought. The philosophic implications are fully expressed in Indian Sculpture. The brotherhood of man and the gospel of reincarnation proclaimed by Buddha, aroused the intense feeling for nature and animal life which is fully displayed in the reliefs of Bharhut and Sanchi. One would agree with John Irwin when he says in his essay on "Indian Sculpture": "the treatment everywhere is full of sympathy, kindness and affection, and the theme is unique, for its period, in the history of art."

A reader will sympathize with the remark of J. V. S. Wilkinson made in his essay on 'Indian Painting' that "Indian Painting is a comparatively new discovery in Europe." Wilkinson attributes this European blindness to "the almost complete absence of art criticism by Indians themselves". It is certainly unfortunate that great Indian Philosophers of Art have not illuminated Europe with the illustrious interpretations of the Indian Paintings and sculpture, which, as a consequence, have so unjustly been underestimated and misunderstood there.

The book under review abounds in plates. There are sixteen plates of which seven are devoted to sculpture, six to painting and three to textiles and the minor arts. There are sixteen pages of halftone illustrations and twelve line drawings.

The book is sure to rouse interest in Indian art and has much to reveal to a western reader.

S.A.H.

"TOM MUNRO SAHEB."

By P. R. KRISHNASWAMI, Higginbothams, Madras. Price Rs. 4-8-0.

This is a short biography of Sir Thomas Munro, who was the Governor of Madras (1821-27), and whose huge equestrian statue still adorns the Mount Road. The author drew his material from Gleig's life of Munro first published in 1849 prepared from the copious papers and letters of Munro placed at Gleig's disposal immediately after the death of the hero in India in 1827. Though Munro has left many permanent marks on the Government of Madras Province during his military and civil career through a lifetime of forty-eight years, as a man of action in the suppression of misrule and as a pioneer of good government of the subjected territory, he is scarcely remembered in more recent days except for the remarkable defect left on his statue by its famous sculptor Chantrey. Munro can easily head the list of many a humane Scot to whose selfless labours Southern India owes much of the cultural uplift of its masses. The reconstruction of Munro's life from this personal aspect is quite opportune now, when we are starting life as an independent nation. The author's efforts are more laudable as the details for the picture were lying hidden in Gleig's compilation of Munro's letters. Gleig himself was a contemporary of the novelist Thackeray who was born in India

and whose uncle was for long the associate of Munro. Our author claims the merit of originally identifying Munro with the character "Colonel Newcome" in Thackeray's famous novel "The Newcomes." The present work supplements the author's disquisition on the Cornhill Magazine of the close copying of Munro's personality in Colonel Newcome. Appended to this biography is a selection of Munro's letters, extracted from Gleig to illustrate the author's sketch of Munro as a patriot of India. Here is how the General Munro appeals to His Governor-General the Marquis of Hastings for placing Indians in offices of trust in the Government. After enlarging on the demerits of retaining the country in subjection, where the inhabitants cannot aspire to anything beyond a mere animal state of thriving, Munro writes:—

"There is perhaps no example of any conquest in which the natives have been so completely excluded from all share of the Government of their country as in British India."

The letters of Munro alone show a wealth of experience and originality of thought. The author deserves praise for placing these within the reach of the masses.

M.A.K.

"1947-48. THE ALL-INDIA BUSINESS DIRECTORY."

Compiled by P. J. JACOB, M.A. Published by Messrs. M. Paul Varghese & Co., Kanjirapally, Travancore, India. Price Rs. 45.

The task of compiling a directory of this scope is not only difficult because of the wide field to be covered and the vivid nature of information to be gathered, but also because of the rapid pace in the expansion of trades, industries and professions due to post-war demand.

The directory which runs into well over 2,000 pages is divided into

eleven sections namely, India-Pakistan, Far East, Australia, Canada, the United States, South America, Great Britain, Europe, Switzerland, Africa and the Middle East. Each section containing thousands of business addresses classified according to the subject-matter in alphabetical order. Maps of major railway systems in India and statistics of commercial production have been given.

All subjects in the entire volume have been systematically classified and arranged so as to ensure maximum usefulness to all businessmen.

M.A.K.

THE MARKET

Fortnightly Commercial Magazine Published in Madras. Price 6 annas per copy.

The name of the fortnightly indicates the nature of its contents. In the words of the Editor, the object of the magazine is to serve the mercantile community in general incorporating reliable and latest market quotations and information relating to all departments. The first issue contains a variety of commercial information. There is also an article entitled "Economics Marketing." The get-up is fairly good.

T.K.G.

"SPLENDOR OF ISLAM"

By MUHAMMAD AMIN. Published by Pakistan Publications, 54, Railway Road, Lahore. Price Rs. 2.

The greatness of a race depends upon the discipline and regulations imposed by either state or religion. The regulations imposed by a State will not be so revered and scrupulously obeyed and adhered to as that by the religion. It is spiritual greatness that marks the splendour of the race. In observance of these regulations the individual acts and behaves in a manner befitting the honour and prestige of their religion. The author of the book under review, has endeavoured, to explain the rich heritage of Islam.

In this book, articles by eminent authors like Sir Philip Gibbs, Annie

Besant, O. Cleveland, J. A. Froude, Lord Headley, Charles C. Adams, Lady Evelyn Cobbold, Rev. Bossworth Smith, Thomas Carlyle, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Gibbon, Dr. A. Lorand and others of different aspects of Islamic religion and society have been published.

The book will be an usual reference book to students of Islamic History and a valuable guide to others who like to explore the gems of truth from religions other than their own.

"ILLUMINATING STORIES"

By SWAMI SIVANANDA, Published by The Sivananda Publication League, Ananda Kutir, Rishikesh (U.P.) Price Rs. 3.

Those who are spiritually illuminated and have divine facilities try to grasp the truth and wisdom from every particle belonging to the universe and likewise from the teachings and traditions of various religions of the world. Although the forms of expression of the truth in various religions differ, yet the eternal truth is taught unaltered. The author of the book under review is a personality famous for his non-sectarian and non-communal writings. No episode in any religion, has been exaggerated or belittled. The stories comprising this book are, as the title of the book suggests, really illuminating. There are altogether seventy-nine stories on different aspects of life like Spiritual Sadhana, Guru Bhakti and Sat-Sangh. The Greatness of women and chastity, Great Acts of merits, Temptations and attachments, etc. Under each of these headings several stories are told. The book would be of immense and abiding interest for one and all.

—S.A.H.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF BRITISH BROADCASTING (1922-1948)

Published by the British Broadcasting Corporation. Price 2 shillings.

An illustrated record prepared for the Silver Jubilee Year of the British Broadcasting Corporation, this neat little brochure shows how the history of a great institution can be told in pictures—pictures that please and

teach. With the crest of the B.B.C. adorning the front page with the emblazoned motto "Nation shall speak peace unto Nation," the brochure starts with a foreword by Sir William Haley, Director-General of the British Broadcasting Corporation, adapted from a broadcast given by him on 14th November, 1947. Says Sir William Haley:

"Broadcasting has its place in the life of nations, of the community, and of the individual. Its use between nations has been a mixture of good and evil. On the debit side there has been—and there still is—the out-pouring of propaganda, the ceaseless sapping and erosion of other nations' beliefs and morale, the misrepresentation and abuse of theoretically friendly Peoples, which some broadcasting systems undertake. On the credit side, there is the power of Broadcasting to pour out over the world a continuous, antiseptic flow of honest, objective, truthful news to which—as Hitler found during the war—the common man cannot permanently be denied access. On the credit side, too, there is the power of Broadcasting, without any unneighbourly purpose, to make the ways of life and thought of different peoples better known to each other."

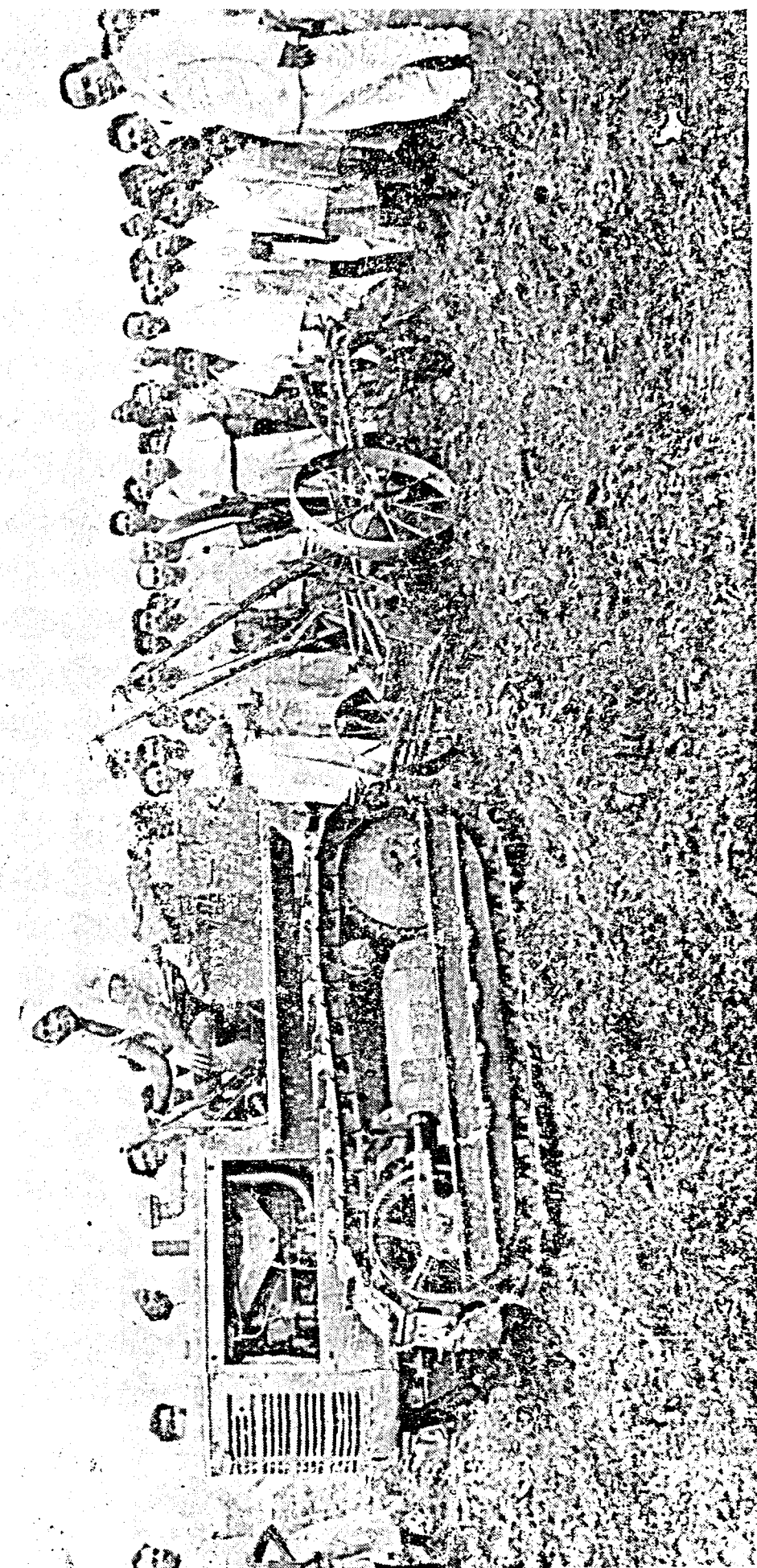
Then starts the history of the British Broadcasting Corporation, beginning from the pioneering days of Mr. J. C. W. Smith, right to the present all told in delightful pictures. A series of photographs showing the microphone 'at the Aldershot Tatoo,' 'Abroad the QUEEN MARY,' 'With Mac at the Zoo,' 'with Lyle at the Oaks' show the potentialities of the radio to bring to the hearths word-pictures of what is happening abroad. Latest technical developments in the control rooms and technical aids for co-ordinating multi-studio programmes are all there, explained and illustrated. Priced at 2 shillings this brochure is a useful publication both for the layman and the specialist.

K.B.N.

Rural Programmes

With effect from 1st October 1948 special programme for villages will be broadcast from the A.I.R., Tiruchirappalli between 6.15 p.m. and 7 p.m. daily.

Tractor has come to stay



The picture shows a tractor in operation under the auspices of the North Vizagapatam District Agricultural Improvement Co-operative Society

MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 15th SEPTEMBER 1948

NO. 17



BAPALAL & CO.,

Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewellers,
Rattan Bazaar, Madras-3

Telegram: "NECKLACE"

Telephone: 21



Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

Vol. II, No. 17

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

September 15, 1949

Governor-General's Visit

Delhi dur est—Delhi is far away observed, some commission some years ago implying thereby that India's capital was not centrally situated. However, in the recent past, this province, which is the southernmost in this sub-continent did not experience the distance of Delhi, for within the last few months, it has had the honour of being visited by the last English Governor-General, the first Indian Prime Minister and the first Indian Governor-General. His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari had a crowded programme in the City and spoke in a number of functions. His speeches were characterized by clarity of thought, profundity of ideas and perspicacity of expression. They contained ideas of more than of passing interest. Some of them bear repetition. Laying the foundation stone of the Muslim Orphanage, His Excellency observed :—"We are a government and a people both unchangedly pledged to treating all people alike. Not only our Government, but the dharma of our people also commits them to treat all people with perfect equality, irrespective of caste or creed. I want you to make that your mode of thinking and acting. We will not achieve our goal or glory in the world, if in India we swerve from this path. We must treat all people alike."

Speaking on another occasion regarding the responsibilities of freedom, His Excellency *inter alia* said :—

"Freedom has assuredly given us a new status and new opportunities. But it also implies that we should discard selfishness, laziness and all narrowness of outlook. Our state of freedom implies toil and new values for old

things. We should so discipline ourselves as to be able to discharge our new responsibilities satisfactorily.

If there is any one thing that needs to be stressed more than any other in the new set-up, it is that we should put into action our full capacity, each one of us, in productive effort each one of us in his own sphere, however, humble. Work, unceasing work should now be our watchword.

Work is wealth and service is happiness. Nothing else is. The greatest crime in India today is idleness. If we root out idleness, all our difficulties, including even conflicts, will gradually disappear.

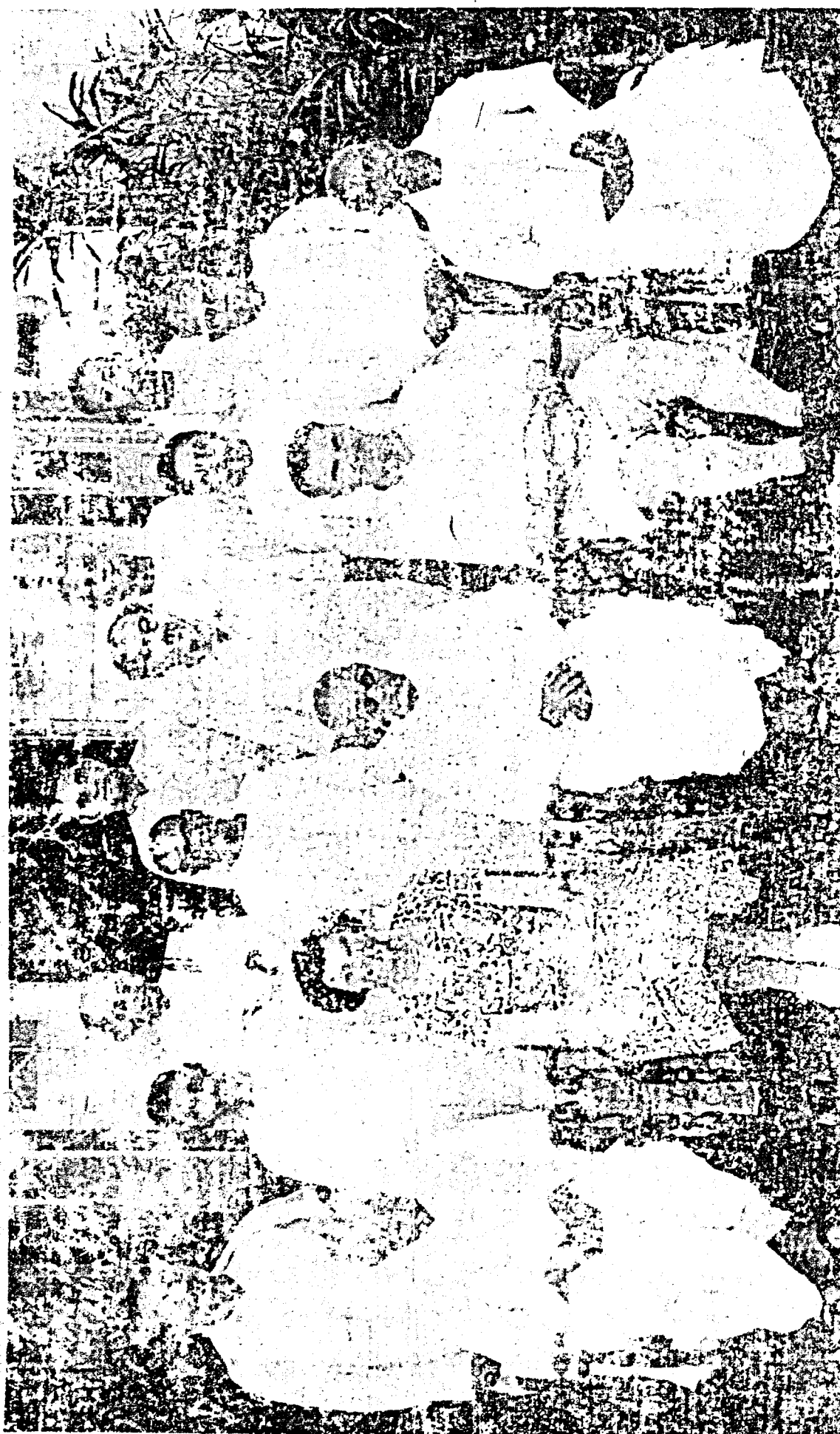
Whether as a constable or as a high official of the State, whether as a businessman or industrialist or artisan or farmer or peasant, all of us are discharging our obligation to the State and making a contribution to the welfare of the country. Honest work is the sheet-anchor to which if we cling we shall be saved in spite of every danger or difficulty. Honest work is the fundamental law of progress.

Next to honest work is the habit of respecting other people's feelings. It takes all sorts to make this world and the highest virtue of every citizen is to try to conduct himself so that a mode of life may be evolved by which people of differing religious faiths, occupations and attainments who constitute our society may live together in peace and amity. The law of love is a practical code of life

Again His Excellency observed :

"Independence is a goal for which we worked and struggled for several years. But we must now overcome the habit of mental

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL WITH THE MADRAS CABINET



resistance and opposition which was our pattern of behaviour until now. We must forget all the disappointments and frustrations we have suffered. We must turn all our experiences now to positive ends.

The years immediately ahead when our freedom has to be consolidated must be years of strenuous work. We cannot take out of life more than we put into it, ourselves. The new opportunities that present themselves in our country may seem to be opportunities for individual advancement, but they are also, and perhaps more truly, opportunities for service to the country as a whole.

What is wanted is not competitive ambition but intense co-operation. The furtherance of the welfare of the people as a whole in constructive channels is the warp and woof of patriotism now. Melodramatic reiteration of past struggles and dwelling on episodes of suffering may feed our pride in a way, but it is wholly irrelevant and is, therefore, a waste of energy in the present context

when what is wanted is speed of realization of civic duty and energetic positive effort in reconstruction."

These words are not to be read and forgotten. They need to be thought over and acted up to. Competent leadership is an essential condition for progress in a democratic society. It is not enough if such leadership is available. The masses have to follow their leaders implicitly and act up to their exhortations. In the abnormal times such as we are passing through the importance of implicit obedience to leadership cannot be over-estimated. It is such implicit obedience that has saved many a country from sinking into back-waters.

In these critical days, therefore, it behoves everybody to keep to the line chalked out by the trusted leaders of this country, co-operate with the Government most willingly and ungrudgingly and assist in the building up of New India.

TOPICAL NOTES

Policemen as upholders of Structure of State

Addressing the policemen at a ceremonial parade recently, His Excellency Shri Mangaldas Pakvasa, Governor, Central Provinces and Berar, urged upon them to maintain a reputation for honesty and efficiency that would create respect for them amongst the people who would now regard them as reliable supporters upholding manfully the structure of the State.

In older times under the British rule Services belonged to a foreign power whose main object was to govern India and keep law and order, and all other things were of not much importance.

Now the Government is not of any foreign power. The Government is of the people and based on people's goodwill. It is the people who make their Government. Therefore, as the times have changed, the requirements from Services have also changed, but the change in your case will be more a change of mind and attitude. You are now servants of the people and servants of this country doing your duty as a part of your contribution to the national well-being not as you were before as merely the hired agents of a foreign Government.

Conference was intended to review the whole position as regards Local Administration in the various provinces, compare the various pieces of legislation relating to local bodies enacted recently in the different provinces, suggest means whereby the administrative efficiency of local bodies may be improved, examine the general financial condition of local bodies and investigate the possibilities of increasing their resources by local or other taxation and by grants from the Provincial and Central revenues.

The importance of local administrative bodies in the evolution of democracy was emphasized by the Prime Minister in his opening speech. The Health Minister drew pointed attention to the need for giving ample encouragement and wise guidance to local bodies in matters pertaining to local welfare in which they should be practically autonomous and for exercising due control over important matters relating to national services, like public health and education. This was embodied in the first resolution passed by the Conference. The Conference agreed that the financial resources of local bodies are now inadequate and that the available resources are not being fully utilized, the evils of under-assessment

Local Self-Government Ministers' Conference

The Conference of the Local Self-Government Ministers convened by the Government of India recently was attended by the Hon'ble the Minister

for Local Administration and the Secretary to Government, Local Administration Department, as delegates from this Province. The

Nature has so made us that we do not see our backs; it is reserved for others to see them. Hence, it is wise to profit by what they see.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

and failure to collect taxes in full being widespread. In view, however, of the complexity of the problem of local finance, the Conference recommended to the Central Government that a special Committee should be appointed to enquire into the whole question of the finances of local bodies and to make recommendations for improving it. The need for a body of persons recruited and trained for efficient local administration and who are independent and free from party or political influences was realized and the Conference recommended that the required personnel in the higher ranks, both technical and non-technical, should be recruited through an independent body like the Public Services Commission and that the higher cadres of the executive and technical staff should be recruited and administered on a Provincial basis. The Conference was of the opinion that the employees of local authorities should be subject to the same rules of conduct as applied to Government service.

The Conference recommended the adoption of the principle of adult franchise in elections to local bodies so that every citizen may be enabled to take an intelligent interest in the working of local Government in the area in which he is resident. The Conference expressed itself against the principle of communal representation in local bodies but was of opinion that there should be joint-electoral and reservation of seats only for the backward classes on the principles and lines laid down by the Constituent Assembly. The Conference suggested to the Provincial Governments which had not taken steps to establish panchayats to do so in villages on a wide popular basis with powers necessary. The Conference was of the opinion that while there should be full scope for the exercise of the popular will in matters of local administration, Provincial Governments should have adequate powers of supervision and control so as to ensure efficient administration and to prevent mal-administration or breakdown of essential services.

The Conference asked that in the matter of supply of materials for essential sanitary, water-supply and other works to be carried out by local authorities, the Central and Provincial Governments should give to them high priority and render such other help as may be possible in order to enable them to procure and transport the materials. The Conference drew the attention of all local bodies to the urgency for removing slum areas and for providing suitable residential quarters for Harijans and other low-paid staff and was of opinion that sufficient grants or loans should be made available by local Governments for this purpose as well as priority for building and other materials. The Conference suggested to all local bodies that full use of the principle of co-option of experts and persons with special experience and

People often think nothing of not keeping their word. They should never promise what they cannot do. Once a promise is made, it must be kept at all cost.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

qualification should be extensively used in Committee work. The Conference felt very strongly that the existing laws in regard to local taxation on railway and other Central Government properties were detrimental to the finances of local bodies; and it appealed to the Central Government to consider ways and means of rectifying this.

The Common Man

Reference to the common man was made by Hon'ble Sri M. Bakthavatsalam recently while inaugurating a Telugu weekly called *Bharatha Jyothi* in Cuddapah. The post-war period is considered to be the age of the common man and everywhere the question of promoting his interest is talked about. The common man forms the backbone of society and his well-being is to a large extent a measure of the well-being of the whole country. It cannot be denied that he was sadly neglected till now. This neglect has to be made good during the post-war period. The

Hon'ble Minister pertinently observed: "The common man, who is much talked of is often missed and the more he is talked about, in actual practice, he is correspondingly missed. Even those people who sought to do things for the common man very soon developed tendencies—perhaps natural tendencies—to exploit the common man for their own benefit."

The Hon'ble Minister *inter alia* referred also to rights and responsibilities. He said there were no rights that could be exercised without corresponding duties. The observation is fundamental. The fact that duties inevitably accompany the exercise of rights is often forgotten and there is a tendency to over-estimate rights and under-estimate duties. Rights and duties are as cause and effect and it is important that both these should be realized in their true perspective. Speaking next about labour, Hon'ble Sri M. Bakthavatsalam laid stress on the distinction between a private capitalistic concern and public utility concern run by a popular Government. This distinction is often forgotten and the tendency is to view Government concerns in the same light as they view individual enterprises. The distinction between the two is however very important. In public utility concerns run by the State if there is benefit it is shared by the State as a whole. But this is not the case with individual enterprises where the profits or losses are confined to a restricted circle of individuals.

IN THIS ISSUE

Topical Notes
Press Notes, Releases, etc.
Departments' Corner
Problems and Solutions
Prohibition
Special Articles
Building up a Nation
Agricultural Notes
Agriculture in other countries
Other Provinces
Problems and Progress Elsewhere
Books and Publications

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

Madras Soldiers' Gallantry— Sheik Abdulla's Tribute

The following message has been received by Government of Madras from Sheik Abdulla:—

I have been anxious for many months to convey my feelings to the people of the South. In the war in Kashmir, our brothers from the South have taken a leading part. They have fought tenaciously and valiantly and although unused to severities of a cold climate, they have held their post on top of high snow-covered cliffs and mountains with a courage which has won them the admiration of the whole Kashmiri people. Likewise the perseverance and fortitude shown by Sappers and Miners (majority of whom belong to the South) in keeping our long and difficult L of C in good order is both an epic and an exploit. The role of the "unknown soldier" in the war in Kashmir has truly been of the Madras foot soldier. The people of Kashmir will never forget the help they have received from their brothers of the South.

Even in battles of diplomacy which have raged on the issue of Kashmir, it is Southerners like Mr. Ayyangar and Sri Vellodi who have argued and debated for us, and I feel that nothing could better describe the oneness and unity of Indian than the fact that

South Indians should fight the North Indians' war of liberation. Let us, by joint struggle, prove good the phrase "from Kashmir to Cape Comorin"—let these be the limits of the country we live in!!!

[August 13]

Singing of "Vazhiya Senthamiz" in schools

The Government have directed that the song by Sri Subrahmanya Barathi beginning with "Vazhiya Senthamiz" should be sung in all schools in Tamil Nad to the tune of "Madyamavathi Ragam"—"Adi-Thalam." The song should be sung after "Janagana Mana."

[August 14]

Quinine Ampules—Further Supplies for 1948-49

The undistributed stock of 12,990 boxes of quinine bi-hydrochloride ampules with the Superintendent, Central Jail, Coimbatore, has been rationed for distribution for the period extending to 31st March 1948. The Government of India have now allotted a fresh stock of 20,000 boxes of quinine bi-hydrochloride ampules for use in the Province for 1948-49 which would be distributed

to the various classes of consumers on a rationed basis.

[August 16]

Provincial Co-operation Advisory Council

The Government of Madras have directed that the Madras Provincial Co-operative Advisory Council be re-constituted with the following members:—

(1) The Hon'ble the Minister in charge of Co-operation, Chairman, (2) the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, (3) the President, Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank, Ltd., Madras, (4) the President, M. P. C. Union, Madras, (5) Sri P. L. Narasimha Raju, M.L.A., President, Co-operative Central Bank, Vizianagram, (6) Sri Rao Bahadur V. K. Eradi, B.A., B.L., President Malabar Co-operative Wholesale Stores, Calicut, (7) Sri P. Vasu Menon, Advocate, Palghat, (8) Sri Rao Bahadur T. M. Chinnayya Pillai, President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, Madras, and (9) Sri Nivarthi Venkata-subbiah, M.L.A., Nandyal, Kurnool district.

The term of office of the last mentioned five non-official members will be two years with effect from August 14, 1948.

[August 26]

(3) Prisoners were ordered to be classified into two classes only—Class I and Class II instead of into three classes, A, B and C.

(4) Class I prisoners were ordered to be allowed the following additional privileges:—

(a) to supplement their food with articles such as biscuits, cocoa and ovaltine at their own cost;

(b) to have soaps, hair oil, etc., at their own cost.

(c) to wear private clothing during non-working hours.

(5) Class II prisoners were ordered to be allowed to write and receive two letters in a month and have two interviews in a month instead of one letter and one interview in two months.

(6) The lunatic criminals in the Mental Jail, Cuddalore, were ordered to be allowed betel leaves and nut,

cheroots, beedies, cigars, etc., as an incentive to good behaviour.

(7) The appointment of a Reserve Deputy Jailor for interviews to prisoners in each jail was sanctioned.

(8) The Madras Probation of Offenders Act was extended to Salem and Nilgiris districts.

Bus Transport—New shuttle services

Twenty-five petrol buses and two diesel buses were registered during July 1948 bringing the total to 270 vehicles of which 25 are diesel. Steps are being taken to study the traffic conditions on each route and to find out the efficiency of the several routes for the purpose of economic operation of bus transport.

Three shuttle services have been started:

(1) *Route 7-B*.—A shuttle service from Otteri to Parry's Corner via Purasawalkam has been started with two buses from 7th July 1948.

(2) *Route 12-A*.—A shuttle service from T'Nagar to Luz (Mylapore) has been started with two buses from 15th July 1948.

(3) *Route 5-A*.—A peak hour shuttle service has been started from Mylapore to Adyar with one bus from 19th July 1948.

With a view to run more vehicles during peak hours and to avoid running empty buses unnecessarily during slack hours the following arrangements have been made in Route 1 (Triplicane to Parry's Corner) and Route 3 (Mylapore to Parry's Corner):—

In Route 1 there are 13 basic and 5 peak hour buses and in Route 3, 12 basic and 4 peak ones.

Special buses are also run whenever necessary to enable people to attend festivals or similar special activities.

Electricity Department

New extensions sanctioned

During July 1948, nine extensions costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 were sanctioned by the Chief Engineer at an estimated total cost of Rs. 1,63,430.

2. Supply to 1,139 domestic services, 128 agricultural services and 36 industrial services were given during the month.

3. Government have approved the proposal of extension of 25.2 miles of 11 KV line from Rajapalayam to Watrap and from Rajapalayam to Seithur

at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,45,000 for distribution of power in nine villages in the area of the Srivilliputtur Taluk Electric Licensee.

4. Work on the major schemes and extensions continued to progress.

Education Department Expanding Activities

Two meetings of the Visual Education Board were held on the 11th and 31st July 1948 to review the progress of the Visual Education Scheme in secondary schools. At the later meeting representatives of education film exhibitors were present by invitation and offered several useful suggestions, which were then considered by the Board.

The Technical Education Officer was deputed for a special course of training at the Technical High School attached to the Delhi Polytechnic from the 15th July 1948.

Further instructions have been issued to schools on the working of the new scheme. The most important of these instructions relate to citizenship training in schools. Proofs have been passed of the guide book on Citizenship training, copies of which are expected to be available early. The subjects of Trade Schools and of reform of examinations are under the consideration of the Secondary Education Board.

A Government second grade college has been opened at Cuddapah during the current academic year. The Government College at Mangalore has been raised to the status of a first-grade college with the opening of B.A. and B.Com. courses in July this year.

Labour Department

The Government referred the dispute between the workers and the management of the Gordon Woodroffe Leather Manufacturing Company, Ltd., and Chrome Leather Co., Ltd., Chromepet, to the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, for adjudication.

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of the South Indian Bus Transport, Ltd., Madras, to the Industrial Tribunal (Sri T. D. Ramayya Pantufu) for adjudication.

The Government of Madras have asked the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, under section 19 (3) of the Industrial Disputes Act, to decide whether the award passed in the dispute between the workers and the management of the East India Distilleries and Sugar Factories, Ltd., Nellikuppam, may cease to be in operation.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Rajah Mills, Madras.

The Government have accepted the interim award of the Industrial Tribunal for engineering firms, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Messrs. Brunton & Co. (Engineers), Ltd., Fort, Cochin.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Deccan Sugar and Abkari Co., Ltd., Pugalur, Tiruchirappalli district.

The Government have passed orders on the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Sanker Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Thalayuthu, Tirunelveli district.

Irrigation Department New Schemes

During August 1948, the Government sanctioned the following irrigation schemes:—

Krishna district.—The Government approved an expenditure of Rs. 19,300 for works or Rs. 25,340 inclusive of direct and indirect charges on the scheme for extending the Ponukumad channel in the Krishna Eastern Delta from mile 7/1-360' to mile 8/0-0. The scheme is intended to provide irrigation facilities to about 440 acres of precarious wet lands in the Pattagunta village, Gudivada taluk, Krishna district, and result in an annual additional yield of 220 tons of rice valued at Rs. 55,000.

South Arcot district.—The Government have approved an expenditure of Rs. 4,000 (rupees four thousand only) for works or Rs. 5,208 (rupees five thousand two hundred and eight only) including direct and indirect charges for sinking an experimental artesian well in the Siruvangur village of the Kallakurichi taluk in the South Arcot district.

DEPARTMENTS' CORNER

Home Department

Jail Administration— Important administrative measures launched

Thirty-one per cent of the convicts in the jails were employed in the jail manufacture of various articles, the value of which amounted in the year to over Rs. 12 lakhs. This is less than the value of (Rs. 14 lakhs) of articles manufactured in the year 1946, and the decrease is attributable to the release of a large number of long-term prisoners in connexion with the Independence Day Celebrations.

The following are the important events and notable administrative measures introduced in the jails during the year under review:—

(1) The Certified Schools and other institutions connected with the reformation of juvenile delinquents were separated from the Jail Department and formed into a separate department under the administrative control of the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools.

(2) The Wellesley Sanatorium Jail, Bellary, was converted into a Civil Tuberculosis Sanatorium under the Civil Medical Department from October 1947.



*His Excellency Sir Archibald Nye, Ex-Governor of Madras who
relinquished office on 7th September 1948*



*His Highness The Maharaja of Bhavnagar who succeeded
Sir Archibald Nye on 7th September 1948*

PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Promotion of Horticulture

Inaugurating the Horticulture course recently the Premier said:—

I have great pleasure in inaugurating the course of studies in horticulture in this Province. In the advanced Western Countries horticulture has gained a place of considerable significance. In the U.S.A., the products of horticulture have exceeded one billion dollar mark and for about a third of the aggregate agricultural output excluding livestock. Most of the Western Countries have recognised the value and importance of horticulture as an art and occupation and have provided for Special degree courses. In the United States of America and Canada post-graduate courses in the study of horticulture are encouraged by award of Master's and Doctorate degrees. Here in our Province, we are just now making a beginning in imparting instructions in Scientific horticulture. Although a pioneering attempt, admission is thrown open to private candidates as much as to departmental applicants. Without any sense of narrow provincialism, the courses will be open equally to candidates from outside and inside the Province. Judged from the pioneering standards, this attempt cannot be described as small or modest.

What is Horticulture?

Horticulture consists of pomology or fruit-growing, sericulture or vegetable raising, floriculture or flower cultivation and development of nursery stocks—seedling and seeds. Horticulture as is often believed, is not the hobby of the rich or the luxury of a few. At this juncture of the food shortage, when the giants of malnutrition and undernutrition are stalking the country in a concerted drive to grow vegetables and fruits alone lie our hopes of supplementing the meagre rations. Inevitable economic condition too demand an immediate attention to it. For a growing population of 330 millions, devoid of scientific knowledge of cultivation, devoid of industries that would form a second string to the bow, fruit growing and vegetable growing alone offer the solution to maximum production of foodstuffs on minimum amount of land space. Horticulture, by its very nature is a job that can be carried on all through the year. The

seasonal unemployment, incidental to the growing of cereals, will be filled with busy days of work, if horticultural pursuit is dovetailed into agriculture of the traditional type. Fruits and vegetables, being the best compliments to cereal food, will make our diet balanced and *sadhvic*.

Horticulture is not the hobby of the rich or the luxury of the few, observes the Premier of Madras.

A Science and an Art

By harnessing the allied sciences of general botany, plant physiology, chemistry, genetics, cytology, soil science, entomology and plant pathology, horticulture has assumed the dimensions of a science; yet it should not be forgotten that it is an art too; and in art sometimes, the accumulated experience of ages has often more to teach than the apriori conclusions of a theoretical science. I may cite disease control as an instance. While disease control is an important plank in the programme of horticulture, I have often felt that the use of mechanical spraying has often been over-emphasized. I have no less an authority than Sir Albert Howard to support me when I say that these spraying practices often kill Nature's agents like the bees and earthworm. Further, has it been proved that the fruits drenched with poison sprays do not affect the health and well being of the people who consume them? Real horticulture must leave disease resistance to the plant itself by proper methods of manuring and soil management. Maintenance of perennial fertility is the breath of soil science; for, a fertile soil is the real arsenal of Democracy, the fresh produce of which nourishes and enriches human life.

A Suggestion

To the students who commence this course of Horticulture, I have one suggestion to make. You are coming to this after attaining a certain degree of proficiency in the sciences. I feel that the education in Horticulture should have commenced much earlier. Our methods of education has accentuated

the drift from country to town, and has tended to equip the more intelligent, even of country children, rather for the life of the town than for that of the country. Worse than that, it has led to the glorification of book learning and proficiency in various subjects which have no relation to day-to-day life. It pigeon-holes the boy's tender mind at school with subjects which render him unfit for the life which the countryside demands. Wisdom is capacity for seeing life as a whole and this capacity is deadened in the modern school room. Instead of an educational system, which produces prigs and manufactures intellectual and professional snobs en masse, we should have one where solitude, silence, contemplation and contact with Mother Nature form an integral part. These evils of Educational system are not peculiar to India. They are noticed throughout the World and are associated with the Industrial age we live in; but it is time the proper place of Land and Nature, of Flowers and Fruits in Man's life is understood and restored and in this understanding and restoration in a new educational system a prominent place will be taken by the art and science of horticulture. The basic education that is introduced will include horticulture and the children are taught at once the beauty of flowers and fruits and the utility of raising them. I say beauty and utility, because there can be no real beauty without utility. Let me sincerely hope that you would bear this in mind and become great horticulturists by whose spirit of service the standard of life of the countryside would reach higher and higher levels.

"It is futile on our part to attempt to memorialise Mahatma Gandhi by raising an institution here and an institution there. The entire structure of life in India will have to be a memorial for Mahatma Gandhi."

—H.E. Sri C. Rajagopalachari.

Soil Erosion and Soil Conservation

is by far the most asset of any nation, this so in India which is an agricultural country. A suitably connected with it is the proper conservation of rainfall for the purpose of crop growth and the proper use of land for increasing production. This problem, which is of fundamental importance to our national economy has not received, till recently, the attention that it deserves.

From time immemorial, ever since man first turned the top soil to grow his food, the problem of soil erosion has presented itself in varying degrees. 'Soil erosion' is the loosening of the soil from its bed and its transportation from one place to another either by wind or water. With the removal of the top soil, the nutrients of the upper layer of land are also lost. When top soils are lost, cultivation has to be done on lower layers which have poorer physical qualities. This results in further erosion. In modern times, the problem has increased because of the intensity of cultivation. In India the most serious and extensive type of erosion is caused by water.

Causes of Erosion

Throughout India, on all sloping ground not covered by forests or by shrubs and on the agricultural land which is not properly terraced and embanked, erosion of the soil is always going on. This is seriously lowering the productivity of large areas of land in India where a critical point has been reached. The causes of erosion are generally destruction of forests, grazing rights, shifting cultivation, deterioration of village pastures and faulty methods of cultivation. Serious erosion is confined to the belt at the foot of the hills and sloping ground formed by the main mountainous lower slopes. But the effect of erosion is felt in the plains more seriously, on the canal water supplies in the Punjab and the courses of rivers like the Ganges. The most striking examples of soil erosion in India are to be found south of Jumna in Bundelkhand, in Central India, in Bihar, in parts of Bombay and Madras, and the Punjab. In Assam and Bengal, river bank erosion and the depositing of sand are perhaps of greater importance.

In northern Bengal and Assam where the annual rainfall ranges from

70 to 200 inches, erosion caused by deforestation and shifting cultivation after burning patches of the forest, is severe. Where the intervals between shifting cultivations are long, the forest regrowth diminishes the effect of soil erosion. With the increase of population, however, these intervals become shorter and shorter with greater run-off and rapid loss of valuable top soil. As a result the main rivers in the plains of these provinces, i.e., the Ganges, the Brahmaputra, are often in violent flood. The violence of the Damodar floods is principally due to recent deforestation in the Chota Nagpur Hills. In the Punjab in 1852 the seasonal torrents or 'chos' as they are called locally in Hoshiarpur, covered 75 square miles; in 1896 this increased to 147 square miles and in 1939 there were 700 square miles of denuded land.

Wind erosion has also been responsible for the loss of valuable top soils in many areas. On the sea coast the wind-driven sand tends to advance inland, but its progress is arrested by the casuarina plantations of Kanara and Malabar, and on the Coromandel Coast by groves of coconut palms and cashew trees.

The problem is almost the same throughout the hill localities in India. Another danger arising out of excessive erosion is the silting up of the irrigation canals which have been constructed at enormous cost.

Remedies

The cure of soil erosion is the restoration of the vegetation so as to

protect the soil from the erosive action of water and wind, and this is secured by the afforestation of the upper catchment areas of the rivers, and the proper and sustained management of both the reserves and the village forests; by the limitation of flocks and herds to the numbers of animals which the vegetation can support; by the substitution of stall-feeding and proper pasture management for promiscuous grazing; by better agricultural practices, such as terracing, levelling and contour bunding which prevent the loss of the top soil by sheet erosion and conserve the rain water, by a proper system of drainage.

Central Government Efforts

Realising the importance of the subject of soil erosion in India, the Central Government obtained the services of Dr. D. V. Shuhart of the Soil Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture about three years ago to report on the problem. That country leads the world to-day in the application of the science of soil conservation. It is stated that where land conservation practices have been adopted in the U.S.A., productivity has increased by 25 to 30 per cent. On the basis of Dr. Shuhart's recommendation, the Ministry of Agriculture deputed a team of Indian scientists last year to make an exhaustive study of soil conservation practices in the U.S.A. They have now returned, and in collaboration with Provincial Governments they will work out schemes applicable to Indian conditions.

PROHIBITION

Ameliorative Activities

The following is a brief summary of the reports received on ameliorative activities in the Prohibition districts. The reports relate mainly to the early part of August 1948:—

North Arcot.—The foundation stone for a village hall was laid in one village in Arkonam taluk. Speeches were then made emphasising the usefulness of such halls. Firka tournaments were held in some places.

Salem.—The annual firka tournaments were held in some places during the latter part of July. Thrift day celebration was also inaugurated. Hundi boxes were distributed during the occasion. One gramasangham has decided to raise funds in connection with the running of a free library in their village. Reading of Ramayanam was conducted continuously for forty days.

Chittoor.—Rural games were conducted as usual. There were also inter-village matches. Bhajanas and Harikathas formed another notable activity. Dramas were also enacted. A Weavers' Co-operative Society has purchased a radio. Thrift day celebrations were held in some places. Rural uplift work continued vigorously. A public library was opened in one place. Reading circles were formed in another place. Street cleaning drives were organized in some villages. One gramasangham purchased a breeding bull for the benefit of the village. Stone signposts were fixed in some villages. First-aid medicine chests were also introduced in some villages. New gramasanghams were formed. One multi-purpose co-operative society was formed in one division. One gramasangham raised public subscription and improved a drinking water well. Yet another completed an approach road. A night school was started by another.

Tiruchirappalli.—Village tournaments were conducted in some places. Thrift days were celebrated.

Malabar.—Villagers got repaired a ferry landing place in Palghat taluk. Street cleaning drive was organized in some cheris in the same taluk. The cleanest inhabitants were presented with soap cakes and coconut oil.

Brisk ameliorative activities constitute the greatest deterrent to drinking. If life is made enjoyable otherwise people need not resort to drink for pleasure. In many districts this aspect of the problem is receiving increasing attention. Gramasanghams in some districts are doing useful work. "Let each man's rule be everyman's good" is an appropriate maxim in this connection.

Madura.—A milk supply co-operative society was organized at Periyakulam. Thrift day celebrations were also conducted. Several new gramasanghams were formed. Tournaments were held in some places. A number of ex-addicts are reported to have saved substantially on account of prohibition.

Nilgiris.—New gramasanghams were formed during the early part of August. One gramasangham is having a trained teacher for adult education.

Coimbatore.—The Collector visited a number of villages and addressed meetings about rural uplift work. Rural games and sports took place as usual. One gramasangham purchased a radio for Rs. 1,200 and this was switched on by the Collector. The same gramasangham has collected Rs. 1,000 for purchasing another radio set. It is also constructing a school

building at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,000. The Collector also declared open a school building. The Revenue Divisional Officer of Gobichettipalayam laid the foundation of another school building. He also switched on a radio. A labour school was also declared open and the building in which it is housed was repaired by a gramasangham.

Nellore.—Firka tournaments were conducted. Hundi boxes were distributed to members of a co-operative society and the President of a village gramasangham has agreed to gift away a site for the construction of a Harijan hostel. Thrift days were also celebrated. One gramasangham raised funds for repairing a supply channel.

Cuddapah.—The foundation stone for a community centre was laid in one place.

Bellary.—Tournaments formed an important feature of the activities. Bhajanas were also conducted. The Divisional Committee sanctioned money for conducting a rural exhibition.

Kurnool.—An adult education centre was opened. Sports were held. Public meetings were addressed.

Guntur.—Firka tournaments were held in some places, and music competitions also. Prizes were distributed to winners.

Tanjore.—Inter-village tournaments were conducted. Thrift days were celebrated.

WAR AGAINST DANGEROUS OBSESSION.

"I am surprised to find that there are some who still hope to ward off Prohibition by some providential intervention. Sooner these devotees of drink realize that they are going to be disappointed the better. If you analyse the propaganda in favour of drink you find that it is conducted by a very small section of the public. Some of these men will lose either by the loss of trade or the property tax. And the others are afflicted with a lack of vision which drives them to see an intimate connection between drink and individual well-being or social superiority. Alcohol is a drug and a poison, but has in the West become popular on account of this psychological importance. This outlook is unknown to real India and, therefore, the champions of drink are Europeans or a small section of Indians whose Indian soul has been blurred by a veneer of Westernisation." And the whole of India—the genuine, the real India, is behind the programme of Prohibition.

"The Anti-drink drive is, therefore, India's war against a dangerous psychological obsession borrowed from the West. A few decades ago, some of our forerunners saw an intimate connection between meat and respectability: a few years ago again to wear a dhoti in a fashionable club or a Court of Law was to suffer an irretrievable lapse from respectability. These obsessions have gone; and the magic of drink will similarly go."

—K. M. MUNSHI.

BUILDING UP A NATION

RIGHTS OF AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

A new conception of the role of labour in industry permeates all the protective legislation enacted recently by the free Government of India. The worker is no longer regarded as a mere commodity of commerce at the mercy of his more fortunate brethren. Not only is his dignity as a human being recognized, but he is given an honourable status as a partner in production, possessing rights as well as responsibilities.

This revolutionary change, which has come in the wake of independence, is a sign that the common man is coming into his own in this country.

India cannot yet claim to be on a par with some of the advanced countries of the West in respect of economic and social democracy, but more has been accomplished in the recent months than ever before in implementing the Government's Five-year Labour Plan. This programme aims at a uniform and co-ordinated labour policy for the entire country to promote social security and industrial peace, ensure fair wages, satisfactory conditions of work and a higher standard of living and provide for education, training and full employment.

Agricultural Workers

It is true that Government's labour policy and legislation have so far been largely confined to industrial workers. There was legitimate criticism that the needs of agricultural labourers, who are ten times the number engaged in industry, have been ignored, particularly, the landless rural population. Pledged to raise the standard of living of the masses of the entire country, the free Government of India have taken it as their first task to study the

The Government of India is pledged to ensure a square deal for the common man—the worker in the field and factory. In the wake of political freedom, he should be enabled to enjoy the fruits of his labour and a fair standard of living. To secure social justice and economic freedom even for the lowliest of the lowly, a positive policy of labour legislation is being put through.

conditions of agricultural labour with a view to improving them. A Fact Finding Enquiry will be started very soon in over 1,800 selected villages in all the provinces. A similar enquiry will also be conducted in Indian States. To this purpose, a special staff of investigators will be engaged and the survey is expected to be completed within six to twelve months. The data, which they will collect according to a questionnaire, will relate to a general survey of the villages, average daily and piece wages for men, women and children for different agricultural operations and whether they are paid in cash or kind, a general family survey and detailed investigation in respect of the family budget, the earnings of each member, indebtedness, unemployment, etc. The Government have also invited the I.L.O. to undertake a special study of the conditions of agricultural labour. When scientific data have been collected and studied, it should be possible to find ways and means of improving the conditions of rural agricultural workers, particularly the landless class.

PANCHAYAT RAJ

The world to-day is in a ferment. There seem to be as many opinions as there are people who give expression to them. "Old order changeth yielding place to new" and there is another statement "History repeats itself." Almost everyday, some one or other comes to me and tells me how Rural

work should be done—each one emphasizing his point of view from the experience he has gained. From the number of opinions we can gather how vast is the field, and the problems to be tackled are colossal. But we shall not be baffled. We have to proceed in a systematic way taking first things first.

During the past three to four decades, there has been more marked movement of people from the rural to the urban surroundings. Most of the rural people coming into the City merge into its floating homeless people that live in the open or huddled together in crowded congested small houses. In spite of this flow into the urban, statistics show that the rural remains fairly stationary, i.e., the rural population remains round about 90 per cent of the total. This may vary from decade to decade by about 2 per cent only.

To prevent this disintegration and to prevent further complications to the already existing problems, we have to make life in the villages worth while.

Firka Development

In spite of rapid industrialization, India shall remain an agricultural country, because Food is the first necessity in life and India could be easily self-sufficient in food if we do not allow the agricultural situation to deteriorate further. So, we have to give the highest priority to the development of the village. During the past thirty or forty years, we have been paying more and more attention to rural problems and to-day we have to tackle them as requiring immediate solution. Realizing this importance, Mr. Prakasam, as soon as he came into the Ministry, set apart one crore of rupees and opened a new portfolio called "Firka Development." It has taken this department nearly two years to size up the situation and start work in the proper direction while expectant public was becoming very impatient.

The soul of India lies in the villages, observes Hon'ble Dr. S. Gurubatham. So, the promotion of Villagism is imperative. Dr. Gurubatham in the course of a broadcast recently dealt with what should be the salient features of villagism.

The Government have chosen one Firka in each of the 25 districts of this Province and nine in addition, where there has been intensive khadi production. Among these 34 Firkas, one at Tirumangalam in Tamil Nad and one at Dendalur in West Godavari district in Andhra have been chosen for what is called "intensive Firka Development." Each Firka is worked by one Firka Development

officer of a Deputy Tahsildar's grade and five Village Development Officers of the grade of Revenue Inspectors. They are now called "Grama Sevaks." They are recruited from both officials and non-officials, who have shown a special interest in rural work.

Madras Presidency is too vast an area for the Government to take up all the villages. In the course of the last 30 years, followers of Gandhiji, Government and other forces have been attempting to do what is called Rural Uplift. There have been immense difficulties to overcome and there have been many failures—many a sincere worker has been crushed under the weight of this colossal task.

From these experience, the Government felt that, instead of frittering away the tax payer's money in undertaking all kinds of development work leaving behind no lasting effect, it is wiser to build up this work in a selected area and from the experience gained, to build up a larger scheme extending to the surrounding firkas and so on till the whole district is developed. Necessarily, there will be delay. This is a long range programme. While the Government carry on their present schemes in the whole Province, they have to lay the foundations and build up a new system or call it revival of the old system in a regenerated form—a system suitable to the traditions and culture of the country. This system is what is called "Panchayat Raj," a name given by the Father of the Nation who knew the country better than anyone living and evolved systems suitable to the soul of this country.

The Farm and the Farmer

Since India is an agricultural country and its population is mostly rural, the soul of India is in the villages and in the villages the centre of the activity is the farm and the farmer. So, in all our attempts to raise the economic condition of India, our most important concern should be to improve the condition of the farmer. Every calculation we make for regeneration of India leaves us baffled, e.g., only to give five cents of land free to all the Harijan families of Madras Province, to build their houses at their own cost, the Government have to purchase, in addition to their own vacant lands, land worth Rs. 5 crores. What about housing which will cost several hundred crores, and where shall we get the finance for roads, irrigation, education, health programme, industries, transport, etc.

In the circumstances, before trying to provide the villager with city amenities, let us tackle his food problem, then his clothing and shelter. Simplicity shall be the keynote of our attempt in order that it may be practical within our finances. In providing for the 50 million people of South India, we have to build up the villagers' character and self-reliance by helping him to help himself. The above two must be the fundamental principles of our development work. The staff we appoint, though small, yet, by constant and vigilant work, can create in the villager an inner urge to improve his own condition. When the man force of the village is thus marshalled, Government can give them help to complete the picture. After satisfying these three needs, if funds will allow, we shall improve his lot further by adding a few more necessities or amenities of life.

Self-Sufficiency

Self-sufficiency was the keynote of Gandhiji's rural programmes or, as Mr. Kumarappa will put it, "economy of permanence." Our foundation shall be on agriculture. All the available land should be brought under the plough without disturbing what are called communal lands, grazing grounds, etc. While bringing them under the plough, the soil has to be built up by adequate manuring and planned crops. Farm yard manure is accepted as the best all-round manure and it should be properly preserved. In preserving the manure, the question of cleanliness of the village could be tackled. The Farmer, his house, good cattle and cattle shed, farm yard manure, sanitation, good implements, selected seed, irrigation, nutritious food, storage facilities, marketing, good Government—all these form a big circle. If there is a break, the whole economy is broken.

Methods of Firka Development

A board called Firka Development Board was constituted in July 1947. This met and appointed a small committee of experienced leaders in rural service and they have drawn up a plan which is now the basis of our work. According to them, Firka Development is best organized around the following five main items of work:—

(1) *Agriculture and Village Industries.*—(a) Under agriculture, animal husbandry is included. Priority is given to foodcrops for human consumption—next to fodder crops for the cattle. After satisfying these two needs, one can allow what is called "money crops." Under the same head, we

include minor irrigations, conservation of the soil, vegetable gardening, fruit tree planting, poultry, bees, sheep rearing, fish growing, etc., cattle breeding, village dairies, common pasture land, etc.

(b) *Village Industries* shall be those which satisfy the immediate need of the surrounding villages. Twenty-five per cent of the finished product shall be consumed by the village before marketing. We choose them according to the availability of material in the area. Fourteen have been recognized—food processing including paddy husking, oil pressing, gur making, khadi production, village pottery, handloom weaving, mat and basket making, improved carpentry, blacksmithy, etc.

(2) *Sanitation, Health and Housing.*—Under sanitation, personal and collective habits of cleanliness, suitable drainage, rubbish and disposal for manure, and under health, nutrition, drinking water, preventive measures, cheap remedies, etc., are to be tackled. Housing will be a very important item. In tackling it, we have to provide for ventilation, storage, cattle yard, manure pit, hay stock, lavatory, etc., in a simple way satisfying the customs and habits of the people. In providing houses for Harijans, we shall keep in view the abolition of cheries once for all.

(3) *Village Education.*—We are committed to the policy of Basic Education. It is not merely a craft centred education, but an education which shall be imparted to all the children, making them fit into rural homes. For example, when a boy leaves the school after seven years, he shall be a better farmer than his parent or a better potter or carpenter, etc., while he is also literate without the possibility of reverting to illiteracy.

Adult literacy and rural libraries form part of this. The teacher or the headmaster shall himself become good farmer, etc. The school and the teacher shall be the intellectual centre of the village.

(4) *Village organization.*—(a) Under this, we plan for a co-operative society which shall function for co-ordinating the several activities. It shall give credit, supply the seeds, implements, manure, etc., to the villager, collect his produce, measure out to the villager what he needs, market them for him, develop co-operative farming where there is too much of fragmentation. In short, it will completely eliminate or take the place of the middleman who has so much exploited the villager hitherto.

(b) *The Village Panchayat.*—We have to develop or build up under the guidance of "Grama Sevaks" a sense of responsibility in the villager to look after his own needs and administer them. When we have built up the village to a position of self-sufficiency, the panchayat should be able to carry them on and even improve on them. I would even go to the extent of allowing them to collect the revenue and even a certain amount of policing. There should be a kind of dual control to prevent abuses. This control shall be that on items of expenditure and administration; there shall be a concurrence of the panchayat board on the one side and of a Government machinery on the other side.

In addition to a co-operative society and panchayat, we should also have Grama Seva Sang—a non-official voluntary body which can help the other two institutions.

The ultimate aim of village organization is self-sufficiency in food, clothing and other major needs of village life as far as possible, so that self-reliance and self-dependence may become the foundation of village life. We shall not forget the most neglected item, i.e., village culture, such as folk songs, artistic handicrafts, village festivals, etc.

One who listens to the above will feel whether it is possible ever to achieve these aims. I am often told that we cannot do any of these. It is all ideals and talk only. I concede that the task is colossal and the human agency that has to take it up is frail. But I turn back and ask: "Shall we give room to despair and give up our attempts? Then what shall be the result?" Certainly our country will be heading towards a fall. We are all convinced that unless the villages are built up or regenerated, we cannot hope to progress. If the villages are strong, contented, healthy, prosperous, then, the country also is prosperous. So we have to go forward in spite of failures—there is no other choice.

I always tell friends that it is "Better to have attempted and failed than never to have attempted." Failures are not merely failures. Our successes are generally built on our experience of failures. I also appeal to the public, knowing the magnitude of the work and knowing its difficulties, to be patient. There are enough sincere men still in our country who are putting their shoulders to the work and we shall have the results. Destruction is quick work, but building is hard and laborious.

To achieve effective results, we have to train workers. So, to satisfy the public, we are doing some work in all firkas. We are putting our hand to building up a training centre at Kallupatti in Tirumangalam firka and at Dendalur in the Andhra. One of these will start in September and we are selecting a staff of tried workers for this work.

This training centre will have 30 to 40 acres of agricultural land. There will be an agricultural unit, a health unit, an animal husbandry unit, a basic training school, a co-operative society, an engineering department—all integrated into the farm, and the trainees

will be taught practical work in the farm with the guidance of the staff of the units and they will also work in the surrounding villages. The experience they gain here will be utilized in their sphere of work. As we take up the surrounding firkas, this centre, which shall begin as a Firka Centre, will become the Taluk Centre, then of the Division and then the District Centre. When this ideal is reached, it is the town that shall come to the village. This scheme stands or falls—all depends upon the available human material and we shall hope for the better.

—By courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.

BASIC EDUCATION

M. ARUNACHALAM, M.A., Secretary, Tamil-Nad Basic Education Society, Chidambaram

The goal, which Gandhiji set before himself in every one of his activities, was Complete Independence. According to him, Complete Independence will be complete only to the extent of our approach in practice to Truth and

He attached the greatest importance to Basic Education and said that all the other items of his Constructive Programme were comparable to the various rivers, mighty and broad, that flowed into the big ocean of Basic Education. We can realize the truth of this claim if we understand what this system signifies.

Much of the criticism against Basic Education is traceable to an imperfect understanding of its fundamentals. During the British period, education was so moulded as to suit the ends of the rulers. In an independent India education has to be shaped to promote national interest. Hence it is inevitable that the system of education should undergo a transformation with the emergence of the country into independence. Basic Education is particularly suited to the needs of this country. The article throws a flood of light on the different aspects of this system of education.

Non-violence; it meant the independence of every unit, not only the political but also the economic independence of the humblest, the lowliest and the lost, without any distinction of race, colour or creed. The Constructive Programme was therefore conceived by him as the construction of that Purna Swaraj.

Education should always aim at the harmonious development of the body, mind and soul of the young men and women of the nation. It should draw out all that is best in the child, explore his potentialities and lead him on towards the making of the maximum integrated personality in him.

Unfortunately, nowhere is education proceeding on these lines. Illiteracy in India is notorious. But undue emphasis on literacy has resulted in the total neglect of the spirit of development and growth which should pervade the educational system in any country. Literacy is indeed necessary, but literacy is not the end of education nor is it even the beginning. Literary education in India has failed to draw out expression in the child in any form. Normally any child should use his limbs well and therefore should be able to draw freely and well. He should be able to express himself joyfully in singing. Play and games should be sources of immense pleasure in any healthy child. But no child in our schools is able to draw, much less, find pleasure in drawing; similarly in singing and playing and in any useful activity.

Gandhiji, therefore, says that the written word, that is to say, books,

lectures and examinations, which has been the medium of instruction so long, should now give place to something more real, more tangible, more purposeful and, in short, more healthy and joyful. Work is the rule of life and so it should form the basis or the medium of instruction in the new education calculated to rebuild the nation.

Something like this has, no doubt, been recognized by thinking educationists of the past. Some sort of manual training has been introduced progressively in the schools and the motto 'Work is Worship' has been displayed over the portals of the educational institutions. Constructive reforms stopped there. We should note that this manual training did not have any objective. In other words, the teachers and pupils were under no obligation to produce anything of economic importance and so this kind of physical activity in schools did not form an integral part of their academic life.

In the Gandhian system, there is no work except purposeful activity or productive work. Things produced must have an economic value. Production here does not mean competition between groups or in the market, but co-operation towards satisfying some common and primary need. The primary needs are simply food, clothing and shelter and any work that goes to satisfy any of these needs is called a craft or a basic craft.

Another serious defect in the present system of education is that it is divorced from life and reality. The student of mathematics does not know anything about the measurement of his fields. The agricultural graduate knows next to nothing about the crops produced in his village and their irrigation. The boy crams the geography of Lapland and the history of Hungary but does not know that there is a history and there is a geography for his own Cauvery. He knows all about the wars of Roses but does not know anything about the various operations and connected floral symbols mentioned in his own classics. Basic Education primarily aims at eliminating this divorce between education and life and has as its centres, the physical and social environments of the child. These two and the chosen basic craft are the three centres of education for the child. It should be clearly understood that craft is no end in itself, but is an important centre of education in the sense that it draws out all that is best in the child physically, mentally and spiritually.

The manual labour involved in the work of spinning and weaving gives the best physical development to the child. Attention to the quality and quantity of work done develops the child's brain and, when he does work, he feels one with the toiling millions of the country. When we introduce any purposeful activity or craft as one of the centres of education, it naturally leads on to the all round growth of the body, mind and spirit of the child, so necessary for the development and formation of the child's natural personality.

What is Basic Education

Now that we are living in a Free India, it is superfluous to say that all education should be through the mother tongue and that an elementary knowledge of Hindustani should be imparted to the pupils. No one need now fear, through narrow provincialism, that any Indian language will suffer because of the introduction of Hindustani. The child learns all subjects in the Basic School through the mother tongue and, when he passes out from the seventh grade in the Basic School, his knowledge and proficiency in his language and literature will be living and soulful. Literature will be a source of joy and inspiration to him. In these circumstances, Hindustani will be only a hand-maid, qualifying him for the genuine citizenship of Free India.

Basic Education is a continuous course of a period of seven years. The child of seven is trained in this system up to his fourteenth year in the seven grades. According to Gandhiji the whole course is an integral unit and cannot be bifurcated under any circumstances. The Basic School boy, when compared to the ordinary Matriculate, will be able to take better interest in life, tackle life's problems ably and successfully, and, in short, be able to live life responsibly and well. Normally the young man who comes out of school feels no responsibility towards his home, his village community and the wider public. The Basic School boy will be a happy contrast.

Education has so long been in this country only the privileged luxury of the masses. Gandhiji's aim was to make it the birth right of the masses. To-day education in schools and colleges is very costly and any child that cannot spend a few hundred rupees annually cannot hope to get through the school course. The pre-war daily income of the average Indian was only two annas and so the millions of the masses of

India can never hope to get any benefit out of the existing schools. The masses have been toiling and toiling for generations, while the leisured classes enjoyed all the benefits from public funds which simply signify the toil of the millions. This exploitation has to stop. Otherwise Independence sounds hollow.

Basic Education as visualized by Gandhiji will be the education not only of the few moneyed classes but of the teeming millions. Children find school work, both craft work and study, a source of joy. The craft work results in the production of something of an economic value and this value is expected to cover at least the salary of the class teacher. Working on these lines, an average Basic School will become self-supporting at least on a future date. And so education need no longer be thought of as costly. Real education will reach the masses. Illiteracy and ignorance will both be wiped out. Another point in the craft work of the school is the emphasis laid on co-operative production and community living. This will in turn remove the competitive spirit and put the Indian community on an entirely different footing.

A Spearhead of Social Revolution

Gandhiji's Basic Education Scheme is thus conceived as the spearhead of a silent social revolution. He never preaches socialism but always practises at least an ounce of it. The working of the various institutions, such as the A.I.S.A., founded by him, is an example of his socialism in practice. Everyone has to work and work co-operatively to produce something for himself and for others. He benefits from that work to the extent that he works. Basic Education seeks to provide all these and to eradicate the present social insecurity, the poisoned relationship between the classes and the masses and the causes for the progressive decay of our villages. It seeks to establish a just and equitable social order in which there is no unnatural division between the haves and have-nots. Everyone obtains for himself conditions for a satisfactory living in the shape of not only wages but also education. Everyone discharges his duties and exercises his rights with full consciousness.

Basic Education seeks to do all these silently and peacefully, through non-violence, and that is the contribution which Gandhiji has made to the cause of Indian freedom as well as of education.

(Continued on page 24)



The Ministers are being introduced to His Excellency the Governor-General on arrival



The Governor-General at the Assembly Chamber in connection with the unveiling of the portrait of Mahatmaji

WELCOME TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL



Governor-General arrives to address the Indian Women's Association at Rajaji Hall.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL HAD A CROWDED PROGRAMME



Governor-General at the lunch given by the Government of Madras.



His Excellency is receiving the address at the Rajaji Hall.



Guard of honour presented by the U.C.I.C. at the Madras University Grounds.



Hon'ble Premier speaking at the inauguration of the Educational class.



Tree planting campaign—Hon'ble Sri Madhava Menon is seen planting a tree in a farm near Chittoor.
Hon'ble Balaiah Prasad is also in the picture.

EDUCATIONAL REORGANIZATION

SEARCHLIGHT ON DIFFERENT ASPECTS

It is an axiomatic truth that the educational system of any country should be a reflection of its environments. The system of education which was obtained in pre-British period was different from that which was in vogue during the British period. Now that India is politically free, it is imperative that the system of education should be so moulded as to advance the cause of Free India. Hence the reorganization of the educational system is only a logical corollary to the evolution of a new dispensation of things. The lines of reorganization have however been the subject of criticisms from some quarters. Criticism generally arises from either a faulty or an imperfect perception of things. Recently however the different aspects of the educational system were discussed in the course of a series of broadcasts by personalities who are specially competent to talk on the subject. This series has covered most of the important points connected with the educational system. The series began with one on the "Medium of Instruction" by the Hon'ble Minister for Education and was followed by another on "Educational Reforms: Social Studies" by Mr C. D. S. Chetty. Mr. Santhanakrishnan Naidu talked on "Educational Reforms with reference to its technological aspects" and Mr. P. M. Joseph spoke on "Physical Education." Mr. Kuruvilla Jacob dealt with "Modern Aids to Education" while Miss A. Hellier discussed "Educational Reforms with reference to the Arts". The broadcasts were organized by All-India Radio, Madras. Extracts from the broadcasts are given below.

MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

By HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR, Minister for Education.

The problem of medium of instruction is peculiar to India. Normally, in other countries no such question arises. In those countries, it is presumed, the language of the country will be the medium of instruction. But till recently, the medium of instruction in our schools was English and even now, it is so in our colleges. Our foreign rulers wanted people who can converse with them in their own language so that these young men who are educated in English may be helpful to them in ruling the country. These opportunities of employment that were confined to people who knew English made people give an added importance to that language. For these and other reasons, it was considered necessary that the medium of English should be adopted in our schools also.

Now after freedom has been won, we have to re-think of education and about our educational problem. We have to consider the type of education that we have to adopt and along with it, also consider the medium through which we have to give education in our schools and colleges.

Certain difficulties have been mentioned in the way of introducing the regional language as the medium of instruction. It has been said that the regional languages do not lend themselves to the teaching of higher

knowledge in the various sciences as the technical terms necessary for teaching those subjects are not available in those languages. It has also been pointed out that English is an international language and as such, should be conserved. The first is a real objection and must be met. The second suggestion that has been made that English is an international language and so should be cultivated in India is also an important fact for consideration. The Conference of Education Ministers and Vice-Chancellors solved this problem by deciding that the technical terms being international in character may be adopted in our own languages.

With regard to the learning of English, now that the domination of England over India is over, we can dispassionately consider the place that English should have in our curricula in schools and colleges. It cannot be gainsaid that it is of international importance. English and French are the languages that are used in the UNESCO and in international gatherings. It is an advantage to us that we should know at least one of the international languages to be useful to our students, merchants and diplomats when they go to foreign countries.

Suggestions have been made that Hindi should take the place of English and should become the medium of

instruction in our schools and colleges. We have great respect for Hindi. It is going to become the national language of India. That a knowledge of Hindi is essential to many of us cannot be over-emphasized and it is for that reason that orders have been issued by our Government that Hindi should be compulsorily provided for in all high schools. But these considerations should not cloud the issues. It is unfortunately true that Hindi is a language not familiar to the large masses of the people in this part of the country. Imposition of this language as a medium of expression and instruction in schools may have the same bad effects as the medium of English and will stunt the growth of our people. And so, while we have great respect for Hindi and while we want all our children to learn Hindi, the medium of instruction should be the regional language. This will, in the long run, develop our languages and enable even the common man and woman to get the highest knowledge through the only language with which they are familiar. And it is for that reason that the Educational Conference of Ministers and Vice-Chancellors decided that the medium of instruction in schools and colleges should be the regional languages and this has been accepted by the Government of India as well as by Provincial Governments.

SOCIAL STUDIES

By MR. C. D. S. CHETTY, Retired, Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Boys and girls have been reading all along almost from the beginning of their scholastic career two subjects, namely, History and Geography. Civics used to find a place years ago. But it was dropped for the excellent reason that the English text book was too difficult to be negotiated even at the Fifth Form level. The changes effected now are the abolition of History and Geography as two separate entities deserving to be studied as such in a scheme of Liberal National Education; and the treatment of selected aspects of these and Civics as one homogenous whole under the name and style of "Social Studies". Accordingly, a syllabus has been drawn up for the six years of secondary school course to be done at the rate of four periods a week.

To many of the pupils the secondary School is the highest, they could reach and the training here should, therefore, be such as would unfold to them part at least of the vast treasures of man's rich experience in emancipating humanity from the shackles which bound it in the past and which continue to bind it even now. Not that much could be done by the pupils at this stage but is it

not something if on a day of rain and thunders we could see the sun even for a passing minute? Side by side it should be possible for the pupils to become acquainted with the ideals of man in other lands, the sufferings and tribulations he underwent and undergoes even now in the pursuit of these and his joys and successes.

Similarly the study of Geography can and should expand our horizon in a remarkable manner, while at the same time making us realize the essential inter-dependence of each nation or country on the rest.

The general object of the present reorganization is to make secondary education more efficient, practical and useful. The objectives of social studies have been defined as development, in the middle schools, of a broad human interest in the progress of mankind in general and of India in particular, and as helping pupils in the high schools, to understand the story of modern civilization and appreciate how the world to-day is the result of development through ages. Now, these objectives are as good as any one could formu-

late and they have the merit of being comprehensive and elastic.

Coming to the syllabus itself in so far as it sets out deliberately to train the senses, it is all to the good. Not only will social activities stimulate and vivify educational activity, they will also provide opportunities for children to break new ground; they will enrich the life of the school community and develop the personality of the child.

In passing it may be noted that even in America, American History and European History are no strangers in secondary schools. Further it should not look as though there is any attempt at re-shaping past history. Conducted tours in history as elsewhere leave the mind with a sense of frustration. Let us do all we can with our future. The past we should learn as a whole; as a civilization of places and slums, of the lords and the serfs, of the castem n and the casteless, of the Upanishads and the mariamman, not in deed to emphasize the contrast but to understand the problem as a whole in all its magnitude. You cannot cross the Ganges in the same way as you do your backyard canal on a summer day.

CRAFTS AND TECHNOLOGICAL COURSES

By MR. T. P. SANTHANAKRISHNA NAIDU, Special Officer for the reorganization of Secondary Education, Directorate of Public Instruction.

From the point of view of the educator, it is becoming more and more widely and generally accepted that academic instruction divorced from the realities of life, is not the method and process of real education. The educator and the parent alike are thus agreed about seeking to make education fully eo-related to life and thoroughly practical in its methods.

At the earliest stage, the primary or basic stage, education through purposive activity has become an accepted principle in all countries of the world. If this principle has not been translated into practice in India as widely as it has been in other countries, the reason is probably that enough training and guidance has not been given to the average teacher in the practice of this principle and that the range of activities was not sufficiently explored until the Zakir-Hussain Committee made its first report in 1937 and what was then known as the Wardha Scheme of Education was published.

Such a system of education meets the need of the child for concrete activities, both corporate or social and individual, and gives him a sense of pleasure which rarely comes with formal lessons alone for a normal child craves for activity. The child's progress in his productive capacity in the selected craft gives him a sense of achievement, and the product of his labours, being concrete and immediate, fulfils his creative urge. The processes of the learning and the practice of the craft train his judgment and sense of proportion in a most practical way. At the same time, the social activities of the basic school raise him from the individual and egoistic plane to partnership in a well-ordered group or community. And finally the generalization and systematization of experience through formal studies complete the process of harmonious and all-round development of the child. Craft training thus provides a most valuable basis of education during the first eight years, from the age of 6 to

14, of the child's school life. It supplies that practical aspect which education at this stage lacked in the past and gives reality to the social activities which form the human aspect of education. And not only does the child live a full and satisfying life at school, but the parent is also satisfied that schooling does not mean depriving the child of opportunities of developing manual skill and native qualities of observation and reasoning.

In the new scheme of reorganization of secondary education, craft-training has a chief place during the first three years of the course; and just as at teaching at the basic stage is craft-centred, the teaching at the early secondary stage is to be craft-correlated. In a sense this is an attempt to approach as nearly as possible the senior basic stage; and craft-training and other activities fulfil the same purpose of harmonious development of the physical, mental and civic or social qualities.

At the senior secondary or high school stage, the scheme of reorganization provides for different types of courses. Besides these diversified high school courses, the need for Trade Schools after the lower secondary or senior basic stage has also been recognized.

The main purpose of these Trade Schools would be to fit pupils in two or three or four years to earn a living by becoming trained workmen capable of working on their own or of being employed profitably by others. In these schools the pupils will be definitely prepared for entry into specific occupations. The courses may be arranged with fulltime classwork or part-time day classes or evening classes or on the sandwich system. These schools may be conducted on the premises of Polytechnic Institutions or they may be attached to factories or farms or they may be entirely separate institutions. Some of the subjects that may be taught in the Trade Schools are: (For boys) Engineering, building, carriage and motor-body building, furniture-making, wood-carving, printing and book binding, photography, silver and other

metal work, professional cookery, musical instrument making, tailoring, manufacture of rubber goods, boots and shoes, (for girls) dress making, embroidery, photography, upholstery, cookery and homecraft.

The diversified high school courses are, as at present contemplated, of four kinds, one of which is the academic course. As definitely and directly as the Trade School prepares the pupil for entry into a specific occupation, the academic course prepares the pupil definitely for the university; and whether the pupil joins the university or not, it seeks to give a general cultural education. The other three kinds are the Technical or Pre-technological, the Commercial or Secretarial, and the Aesthetic and Domestic courses. Of these, the first comes within the scope of this talk.

The Technical or Pre-technological courses offer a more or less alternative type of education to pupils who can benefit most by practical activities. The technical courses aim to train the pupils to enter Polytechnics, and are meant for the pupils with higher ambitions than the Trade School. To such pupils two paths of higher

technological studies are open, one of which leads him through the academic course to the university and thence to the Technological courses provided by the University and the other leads him from the Technical or Pre-technological high school course directly to the Polytechnic. If the industrialisation of the country proceeds apace, the later pupil may be in a better position at the end of the five or six years (three years' Technical High School and two or three years' Polytechnic) than his counterpart who has chosen the academic path and who even at the end of the high school will still have 6 to 7 years' university studies to complete his Technological or Engineering course.

It should here be remembered that the Technical or Pre-Technological High School course can only prepare the pupil for Technological Education, the proper place for which is the Polytechnic; and the Polytechnics are expected to provide courses of instruction in subjects which may be grouped under four heads, viz., (1) Engineering (Civil), Mechanical, Electrical, Automobile, Radio, etc., (2) Chemical Technology, (3) Textile Technology and (4) Agriculture.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

By MR. P. M. JOSEPH, Principal, Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education, Madras.

Physical Education has been receiving marked attention in recent years. Health surveys of different countries showed that India has got the poorest standard of health in the World. The greatest stimulus to physical education, in this country, came from the hope that it could make our people a physically fitter and sturdier people.

The modern conception of physical education, however, is not limited to health. To understand this one must examine the nature of the child. It used to be thought that man was composed of three parts—body, mind and spirit. Many of us still think so and, properly understood, this distinction has some advantages. But we shall be making a big mistake if we compartmentalize man into parts and then attempt to teach him and train him in parts—his body through exercises, his mind through intellectual pursuits and his soul through spiritual practices. Man, we must realise, cannot be divided into parts. The boy who reports on the playground does not bring there just his body to be exercised and developed, leaving his mind and soul behind. In

the classroom when he studies arithmetic or the languages he cannot cast off his body. He is indivisible. He must be thought of and cared for as a whole personality. When he plays football he does not do this with his legs alone. He has to use his mental qualities. He has to be alert to see where his team-mates are, what openings develop and which way the opponents are likely to move. A group of girls doing a folk dance, like Kolattam, while moving their bodies vigorously and gracefully, have to be alert about the change in the rhythm of the music and the change in the step. They get a sense of exhilaration and happiness coming from the rhythm and swing of their bodies expressive perhaps of feelings of emotion. Football and folk dances are physical education activities. Physical Education then, while it contributes to bodily vigour and development, is not confined to these. Inasmuch as every one works as whole individuals and not in compartmentalized divisions. Physical education has contributions to make in the deve-

lopment of the whole individual. Physical Education then is a phase of education and is not only just a way of acquiring big muscle or a big chest. The Committee that revised the syllabus of Physical Education to orient it with the re-organized scheme of Secondary Education in Madras presents the position in clear terms. This is what they say:

"Physical Education is that aspect of education in which the body is the primary tool. Being a part of the whole educational scheme, the aim of physical education also is education—education of the body and education through the body. A well organized programme of individual and group bodily activities under efficient leadership results in health and physical fitness, neuro-muscular co-ordination and physical alertness; and thus the education of the body takes place. At the same time through the same activities the mind is further educated. Quick thinking, ready-response, mental poise and alertness are some of the results on the mental side. And the development of character is no less

in the curriculum. Sportsmanship in its fullest connotation takes its roots in the activities of the physical education programme."

Now let us examine the place given to physical education in the reorganized scheme of Secondary education. Three periods per week are allotted to the lower forms while only two periods per week are given for the higher forms. The standard that is accepted as essential in other countries is one period of physical education every day. We fall short of this very badly. A child is entitled to an hour of activity and

play during the course of a dull day of quiet sitting and much reading and listening. He needs this to make him feel that the school is an enjoyable place. Schools must be enjoyable places. He also needs this for his organic growth and development. Physiologists state that a growing child needs several hours of big muscle activities every day. Mind you it is every day and not three a week or twice a week. Some justify this arrangement saying that boys can participate in games of their choice during the after school hours—namely, during the time after

the school is dismissed. When the choice is left to the pupils the danger is that boys who need it most may keep out of it or choose the wrong activity because of their poor skills and frail.

Health education should be well co-ordinated with Physical Education. Standards of physical skills and achievements should be set up and pupils expected to come up to these standards. Passing in a physical education test should be considered just as important as passing the examination in and academic subject.

MODERN AIDS TO EDUCATION

By MR. K. KURUVILLA JACOB, Headmaster, Madras Christian College High School, Madras.

One of the defects of our Secondary Schools has been that the education imparted is bookish. The teaching consists mainly of oral instructions, dictation of notes and reading of books. The education is narrow and uninteresting with very little contact with real life. In the scheme of reorganization of Secondary Education a serious effort has been made to correct this. Education is to include a large variety of activities including a craft and the schools are encouraged to use visual, auditory and other aids to make learning real and lasting.

Expressions such as "visual education", "visual aids", "audio-visual aids" and "visual-sensory aids" are of recent origin but the method involved is very very old. Primitive man learned to convey his thoughts by signs, gestures, facial expressions and crude imitations long before he developed a vocabulary with which to express them orally. Primitive youth learned to hunt, fish, swim and protect themselves from enemies and weather by observation and imitation. Learning through the senses is the natural and simple way of learning.

We express or convey our ideas through oral or written language. The words that we use are symbols of things we have experienced. The person to whom we talk understands us because he has had the experience which the symbol, i.e., the words that we use suggest.

This is a problem which all teacher must constantly remember. "Verbalism is at best an indirect method of presentation. A great deal of loss is bound to occur."

When a pupil sees, hears, touches, smells his experiences are direct, concrete and more or less permanent.

Therefore the natural and easy method of instruction is through sensory experience. This is the reason why emphasis is made these days on education through craft and activities so that the impressions that the pupils get may be first-hand, clear cut, accurate and meaningful.

The motion picture or the cinema is now recognised as one of the most powerful factors in the out-of-school education both of children and adults. Shortly after the First World War there was considerable interest in the use of the motion picture in the class room; but there were very few films available and it took nearly ten years for suitable class room films to be prepared. Then came the more convenient 16 m.m. films which were at the same time non-flammable. Projectors were improved and simplified and films of a wide variety of educational topics were made. During the World War Two, the 16 m.m. sound projectors made rapid progress and they were used for the training of soldiers as well as for their entertainment.

The possibilities of the motion picture are very great. They can bring to the class room, scenes of past events, scenes of distant places, which one cannot hope to see otherwise.

The use of the motion pictures in the schools is only at the early stages in this Province. Most of the schools do not have projectors and so they have to get the help of some professional exhibitors. This is not a very convenient arrangement, both because of the cost and also because of the dependence on an external agency. A more serious problem is the lack of a good film library. In all countries where visual education is encouraged

the first step taken has been the building up of film libraries. For the progress of visual education in this Province it is essential that the Government should make arrangements for a central library in Madras with branches in all districts. It is desirable also that that the Government should have some projectors to be loaned to schools. If this is properly planned, the library can be made self-supporting as the schools certainly can pay reasonable hiring charges.

Like the cinema, the radio, has become a powerful influence in the life of the people and it can be used as an aid to education. The radio has the drawback that the appeal has to be through words (except of course when it is a programme of music) but it has the thrill of being first-hand, authentic and immediate. The listener is really present, he "sets in" at the inauguration of the Independence, or the Test Match or at a musical concert.

Radio lessons in schools have in addition to the instructional value the importance of helping pupils to cultivate the habit of listening to the radio as a leisure time activity. For the cultural progress of the individual and the Society this habit is of great value. This does not mean the switching on of the radio all the time as is sometimes done. Children should be trained in wise selection of programme, in judgment and discrimination.

One device that not only provides a natural setting for teaching discriminately but also a natural setting for teaching oral and written composition and also the study of certain topics is the imitative broadcast. One group plans, prepares and rehearses

its programme and then during the class period broadcasts it from another room to the remainder of the class. At the end of the programme the group returns to the class room for a general discussion on the merits and weaknesses of the broadcast.

Radio clubs can be formed in schools, small groups around teachers or senior boys who are interested in

the radio. Some of the possible activities for a club are (a) Discussion of radio programme, (b) study of radio mechanism and even construction of sets, (c) trips to broadcasting studio and participation in programmes if invited, (d) visits from Radio officials, technicians and artists. Such clubs have great possibilities and can be started without much difficulty.

THE ARTS

By Miss A. S. HELLIER, Principal, Gnanodaya Training School, St. Thomas Mount.

By arts we mean such subjects as Music and Painting. What is their function in our education? We may call them Aesthetics to use the name given to one of the bifurcated courses in the new scheme for secondary education.

Let us enumerate the school subjects that can be gathered under the heading of aesthetics. There is music, both instrumental and vocal and we can include the solo instruction of the individual pupil and class singing or the training of a school orchestra. There is dancing in its various forms, the classical dancing of India, lately become so popular with individuals and groups, folk dancing such as Kummidi, Kolattam or the Manipuri dances of the North or folkdances of other countries. Even the traditional action songs of the little ones belong to this category. Dramatics, the performance of plays by school pupils, can be included. And then there are the visual arts, drawing, painting, modelling and such crafts as embroidery and line cutting and wood carving. Art appreciation and musical appreciation would also come under this heading.

When a pupil is anxious to learn something and enjoy it, he pays close attention and obeys orders promptly, tries his utmost to improve and learns the self-control necessary to do what is required. If he has no interest in the subject, he is slack and develops habits of laziness and inattention. In modern education we try to enlist the pupil's willing co-operation in many sides of his education and then train him by requiring a high standard of achievement that demands these qualities. A pupil has to practise long hours at musical instruments and usually does it willingly. When a group performance is given in singing, dancing or acting, a great deal of intelligent co-operation is demanded as well. We are so used to seeing children give performances of Kummidi

or classical dancing at school functions that we sometimes forget what a high degree of skill is required. It is only achieved by long practise willingly undertaken by teacher and pupils, when the level of attention and effort on the part of both is far above what is usually given in class, because both teachers and pupils enjoy the preparation. They also of course enjoy the appreciation of the audience. This too is a part of the reward of aesthetics.

Then let us turn to art in the narrower sense, to drawing, painting and modelling. This too can be a joy to the pupil in primary and secondary school. Here also the average child can acquire sufficient proficiency to be happy and absorbed and find an outlet for his personality. During the last fifteen years, great changes have been made in art teaching in the West. It has become more truly education, more fitted to the needs of the average school pupil. Instead of attempting to train pupils to great technical proficiency in pencil drawing, perspective and object drawing, the aim is to allow the child to express himself freely with paint. Although his pictures may not be correct and realistic, they are often artistic, expressing qualities of emotion, harmony and loving observation that can truly be called art, i.e. Child Art. It is amazing to see what children will do when given the chance. They draw and paint most interesting pictures, often quite large, of scenes from daily life and from imagination. In these they draw the aspect of the scene that appeals to them. Boys will concentrate on motors, girls on figures wearing jewellery and beautiful saris. Independence Day, a School Expedition, Sports Day, a religious festival, all will find their place among the products of the art class. Children draw and paint interesting patterns, they do original line black prints. They paint murals on the

In the reorganization of education it has been felt by educationists all over the World, that if education is to be natural, interesting, vital and lasting, it should not depend on verbal instructions alone, but that the fullest use should be made of activities and audio-visual aids.

walls, model and paint clay figures and puppets, construct stage scenery and costumes, do ornamental needlework, amateur pottery, make painted covers for their books, carve wood and soft stone, construct models to illustrate history and geography lessons. All these occur in the art work of secondary schools conducted on modern lines. More has been done in the West, but enough has been done in India to show that Indian children have wonderful talent when given the chance to develop it.

South Indian children seem to have natural gifts for making designs, they also love to draw or paint flowers. When it comes to making whole pictures, they need some encouragement and we must not laugh at them or call their work wrong if it does not strike us as correct in proportion. The work of the small children is like that of small children all over the world, symbolic rather than realistic, showing what the child knows is there, not the figure as it appears. The work of adolescents is often reminiscent of the Mogul and Rajput schools of art. We see figures drawn side view, dressed in brilliant colours, every opportunity being taken to put in elaborate pattern work. The buildings too are similar to those in old pictures and the disregard of the laws of perspective in favour of the laws of good composition is also found. We do wrong if we try to correct them and make them draw in a Western or photographic style. The child view is often better art than the trained expression of the professional art student who has lost his originality. Both small children and older pupils are fascinated by this new style of art work and will take endless trouble over it, the small children finishing much more quickly than the older ones.

The new syllabus for art in schools in this Province prescribes a certain

amount of art each week for everyone. The bifurcated course is intended for pupils from Form IV upwards who will spend probably up to eleven periods a week on the subject. These courses will only be held in certain schools probably mostly girls' schools. They will require teachers who have some ability as artists, who understand what are means and we have been trained in teaching it to adolescents. The classes will be fairly small and will presumably consist of pupils who have some artistic talent. So we may expect them to reach a fairly high standard for school children (a) because they are naturally gifted, (b) because they give so much time to the subject, (c) because the class is small and the teacher highly trained. Yet they are only school children, not art students and the course is no more than an introduction to professional art study.

What will all this school art work lead on to? It is to a certain extent an end in itself, the giving of joy in creative work, the quickening of

appreciation for form and pattern and natural beauty, through the attempt to portray it. This may only happen to a small extent for some pupils, but for others it will mean a very great deal. For some the bifurcated course will be the preliminary to professional training in art or music. The greater need for art masters and mistresses will provide a means of earning a living to many pupils, especially girls, who may not have thought of turning their artistic abilities to account. The bifurcated course should serve to discover talent that can be used in teaching commercial art and the cinema industry as well as in painting pictures.

In conclusion let us consider aesthetics and the wider aims of all education. Education should aim at training free personalities in a free society. In their work they should be free from fear, especially from fear of disapproval on the part of authorities and their fellows, full of confidence to be themselves to do creative work, not too much hide bound by tradi-

tion, progressively discovering their own possibilities in the course of their work. If art is rightly taught, it should make a great contribution towards the cultivation of such free personalities.

(Continued from page 14).

Conclusion

In one of the pictures of the Olympic games that appeared in the newspapers, we find the following placard, displayed prominently over a section of the Wembley Stadium:

"The important thing in the Olympic games is not winning, but taking part. The essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well."

It will be well if educationists and the powers that be remember and think of these few lines. Education is not success in the examination but preparing for life, and success or failure in life's battle is immaterial so long as the battle is fought well. The purpose of any education should be to ensure this. Basic Education aims at this.

Governor and Brigadier R. E. Mortimer Wheeler, the last British Director General of Archaeology in India, were concerned in this timely piece of Museum Curatorship.

The Fort Museum is the latest among the historical museums in India, other examples being the Delhi Fort Museum, housing the Mughal antiquities, the Labour Fort Museum, containing materials illustrative of the history of the Sikhs, and the Victoria Memorial Hall in Calcutta, presenting the relics of the British period in India. Incidentally it is the first museum to come into existence after the attainment of independence.

The best section of the Fort Museum at present is the well organised Armoury section. The weapons of war collected from various sources are housed in the ground floor which forms the armoury section. The pikes, muskets, cannons, guns, chainshots, etc., displayed here, either belonged to the East India Company or were captured by them in the many battles which they had to fight in order to establish their supremacy over the rival European powers and local rulers. The period of which they are reminiscent is the latter half of

the 17th century. Most of these have been contributed by the Government Museum, Egmore, on selection by Col. Reid. This section has been enriched by the mounted cannons, mortars, etc., presented by His Excellency the Governor of Madras.

The 'Long Hall' in the first floor which houses the remaining antiquities was, during the company days, frequented by ships' captains and other Company officers, free merchants, brokers, and their attendants who displayed their commodities for sale. This Hall besides being the "Exchange" was used for public meetings and entertainments. At the northern end of the hall is found a beautiful model of Fort St. George, as it was between the years 1820 and 1862 a delicate piece of the wood carvers' art. At the southern end is displayed in an appropriate show-case the Communion vessels of three of the earliest churches in India. St. Mary's Church, Fort St. George, the Pulicat Church, and the Tranquebar Church—including the Yale Plate, presented to the St. Mary's Church by Governor Elihu Yale in 1687, who later gave a large donation to the school at New Heaven which in 1745 developed into the new famous Yale University. At the same end can be seen the St. Mary's Church records, dating from the consecration of the Church in 1680 which include a Register of Baptisms,

Marriages and Burials, recording *inter alia* Clive's marriage with Margaret Maskelyne and Strynsham Master's Bible of 1660.

The colours of the British Regiments disbanded from time to time, the East India Company coins and China are other specimens displayed here. The national flag which was hoisted on the Independence Day (15th August 1947), on the main flag staff on the Fort Ravelin, is another notable exhibit of historical significance. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras has been kind enough to loan permanently the original letters of Robert Clive, Arthur Wellesley and others with a revolving show-case in which they are neatly displayed.

It is hoped that the public will realize the necessity to take steps to collect together, arrange and preserve at a central place all these precious objects of antiquarian interest. The Fort Museum now places itself unreservedly at the disposal of all concerned and stands pledged to preserve all such valuable relics which contribute to the glory of India. The museum authorities earnestly request the public to present to the Museum valuable relics of any variety, which will not only promote the cause of the new science of museology but also keep alive for ever the memories of life and work in Madras during the past three hundred years of her contact with the West.

no doubt, however, that successive generations of highly cultured Brahman families of Kuchipudi developed the great art, and made it their noble vocation. "Parijatapaharana," the dance-drama composed by Siddhendra Yogi, is one of the plays perfected by them. And even to this day the eldest son of each family takes the role of Satyabhama at least once during his career as a dancer. Incidentally, their dance-groups are composed exclusively of men.

That the Kuchipudi School of Dancing had attained a fairly perfect state of development even during the sixteenth century, can be deduced from evidence contained in contemporary works of that time—particularly "the Panditaradhya Charitra" of Somanatha. Somanatha, in his work, gives graphic accounts of popular entertainments—of varying degrees of technical excellence—prevailing in his time. The Kuchipudi form of dance-drama appears to have been a source of great attraction for thousands of people flocking to do honour to the deity enshrined at Sri Saila. But, unlike other forms of popular entertainment the votaries of this school seem to have laid stress on technical excellence and scrupulously adhered to the several modes of facial and symbolic expression as indicated in the works of the greatest authorities on the subject.

The themes selected by the Kuchipudi dancers are generally based on the Bhagavatam—although—occasionally—they do have stories of popular heroines as subject-matter. To qualify oneself as a duly accredited votary of the Kuchipudi School one has to acquire a remarkable proficiency in the Sanskrit language—an intimate acquaintance,

SPECIAL ARTICLES

The Fort Museum

Three hundred years is a very short period for the historian and infinitesimally short period for the geologist. Three hundred years in the development of a city and its environments however is a tremendous period, particularly when three hundred years saw the commencement of the mechanical era and the revolutionary changes which this era brought about. It is the relics of these three hundred years that the Fort Museum promises to preserve and display for public enlightenment and entertainment.

The original idea of the formation of the Museum within the Fort was mooted in 1946 by Col. D. M. Reid of the old Madras Guards and it was due, in a great measure, to his endeavours that it has been possible to have the Museum organised permanently in its present form under the aegis of the Department of Archaeology. The Museum is most appropriately housed in an

ancient building which since Wellesley's time has been used variously as the "Exchange" a Festive Hall and an Officers' Mess, and which is full of memories of the East India Company days.

The necessity for a museum such as the Fort Museum is great at the present moment, as it creates the right focus for the study of the development of Fort St. George and an opportunity to gather together in the Fort, the many antiquities, at present scattered among various individuals and institutions. Now we may properly project the British era in India into the remote perspectives of history and archaeology. It might indeed be said that the opening of the Museum has literally put in British India into a museum case and curiously enough two British officers in Indian Service, H.E. Lieutenant-General Sir Archibald Edward Nye, Governor of

The Dance Art of Kuchipudi

By HON'BLE SRI B. GOPALA REDDI.

Kuchipudi is a small village near Masulipatam in the estuary of river Kistna. For several hundreds of years this place has been the home of highly talented artists who have dedicated themselves to the pursuit of dance as a form of great art. These families of Brahmans living in this village have handed down from generation to generation a science of beautiful expression as indicated by Bharatacharya and other great exponents of dance. The first mention of the Kuchipudi school of Art appears in a local record dated A.D. 1502. According to the local record, dancers of Kuchipudi seem to have obtained audience of the ruler

at Vijayanagram and enchanting him with an exposition of their art succeeded in securing the support of the Vijayanagar king, in liberating their region from the ravages of an unscrupulous local chieftain. Thereafter groups of Kuchipudi dancers seem to have visited various places staging dance-dramas in praise of the enlightened monarch and delighting large audiences with their highly developed art and versatile histrionic talent.

There are several traditional stories regarding the origin of the Kuchipudi dance form. Some are based on incidents in History while others are to be accepted as mere hearsay. There is



Sri Lakshmi Narayana—Exponent of the art.

of 'Natyasastra' of Bharata Muni and 'Abhinaya Darpana' of Nandikeswara. One has to be fully conversant with various technical details as handed down by practical demonstration from generation to generation. A perfect mastery of Alankara Sastra is essential, as well as a good knowledge of music.

Nritya, Abhinaya and Vachaka are the three main aspects of Kuchipudi dance and they all have almost equal importance. The Kuchipudi dancer is a past-master in the art of representing various ideas both through appropriate facial expression as well as appropriate symbols (Mudras). It is a treat to watch the successive emergence of the ten Avatars, the highly expressive rendering of the love songs of Kshetraraya, and the expert portrayal of Astapadies of Geeta Govinda, as staged by the well-trained Kuchipudi dancer. The highly devotional Krishnaleela Tarangini is also apt subject for the Kuchipudi dancer. The more enterprising of them develop a lighter side of their art too—what is known as "Pagati Veshamu", meaning impersonation without the illusion of lamp light. It used to be a quite a common, at the same time attractive, feature of village life to be surprised after a night-long entertainment of "Kuchipudi Bhama Kalupamu" by a person posing as an officious district official enforcing the collection of long overdue land-rents. Considerable amusement used to be caused to the groups of awe-struck villagers listening open-mouthed to the harangue of the fully dressed official upbraiding to the negligent karnam when all on a sudden the fiery official dropped his clever disguise and turned out to be the Vidushaka of last night.

But that was only one aspect of the versatile genius of the Kuchipudi dancers.

The technique of dance as involved by the Kuchipudi school, in course of time, travelled far and wide and the exponents thereof influenced the art prevailing in quite far-off places. Thus the modes followed in dance centres in Tanjore and outlying areas still show great proximity to the Kuchipudi school. The dance-dramas current in the Tanjore School of Dance employ quite a number of the plays perfected by the Kuchipudi artists. Later a few of the more popular plays seem to have been translated into Tamil.

It is unfortunate that like some other forms of our indigenous culture this excellent dance-form should have

been relegated to relative obscurity in the last hundred years or so. One is happy, however, that with the impetus given to oriental dance during the last ten or fifteen years, some encouragement has been shared by this school of dance. As a matter of fact, quite a few enterprising film producers are now incorporating whole sequences of Kuchipudi dance-drama in their representation of puranic and historical themes, which is a good sign, provided that care is taken to preserve the purity of the traditional art.

It is said that Udayasankar, the expert dancer, had occasion to witness an exposition of Kuchipudi dance some years back, and was filled with admiration of the versatile genius of the artists. "I have rarely witnessed such excellence of art", Udayasankar seems

to have said, when he watched with unwavering interest the performance of the sixty-year-old exponent and Guru Sri Vedantam Lakshminarayana in the role of the young and agile Bhama.

We are happy to have Sri Lakshminarayana in our midst now and I understand that votaries of this noble art are arranging to recognize in a suitable manner the contribution made by the venerable master to the resuscitation of oriental dance. I understand that a beautifully engraved golden bracelet (Simhatalatam) is to be offered to Sri Vedantam Lakshminarayana before a select gathering of art lovers convened to honour him and through him the classical tradition that is ours. Let us wish this recognition of merit is an augury of great things yet to come for our people.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Maize as a Fodder Crop

A very large portion of the arable land in this Presidency is being cultivated with grain and money crops and hence the problem of fodder is an important one in South India. Here the available fodder is mostly straw which is the by-product of the grain crops. Even this straw is not sufficient to meet the requirements of our livestock and straw at its best is not always a suitable roughage for cows and growing stock. A ration consisting of straw and green stuff would be an ideal ration for practically any kind of livestock.

Green fodder including grasses have a special importance to milch cows and young growing stock. A fodder crop should be edible, palatable, digestible and non-injurious at the stage at which it is fed. The crop chosen for fodder should be a heavy yielder so as to get the biggest return for money spent on seed and cultivation.

Though cholam is one of the important fodder crops possessing the above qualities, maize is another good fodder crop possessing qualities better than cholam in some respects.

Maize is one of the green fodder crops cultivated in the Central Farm and has proved to be a valuable fodder. It grows quickly and yields

heavily. The cultivation of this fodder is on the increase in recent years, to meet the demands of the dairy and also working cattle. Periodical sowings are being done in well-drained and heavily manured garden lands to keep up a continuous supply of green fodder.

Maize yields uniformly good yield although the year unlike cholam which does not grow well in the cold weather. Due to the presence of hydrocyanic acid in the young cholam crop it cannot be fed to animals till it comes to shot blade stage. Maize is non-poisonous at all stages and can be cut and fed whenever required.

Cholam has a tendency at Coimbatore to rush to flower and give only a smaller outturn when sowings are done from September to January. Maize on the other hand takes advantage of the rains and comes up quite nicely in the cold weather.

The yield of maize ranges from twenty to twenty-nine thousand pounds per acre and yields best in the cold weather. When it is cut and fed at the right stage, i.e., when the cobs are forming the cows give increased quantity of milk. Surplus quantity of maize fodder can be converted into silage. The ensiled product of maize is even better than cholam silage.

The cultivation of this crop is simple. The land may be ploughed well and manured as far as possible heavily. To ensure a heavy yield a high seed rate of 75 to 100 lb., per acre may be used. Beds may be formed after

covering and the crop irrigated once in a week or 10 days. In a trial conducted at the Central Farm, 90 lb. seed rate gave the highest yield of about 32,000 lb. per acre.

Experiments in the Agricultural College Farm, Coimbatore

It is a well known fact that different crops require different quantities of water to bring them to maturity. Paddy for example requires a more copious supply of water than ragi or cambodia cotton. It is necessary from a practical point of view to have a definite idea of the volume of water consumed by different crops for getting the most economic yield.

2. To find out the water requirements of the major garden land crops, summer cholam, ragi and cambodia cotton, experiments were laid out in the Central Farm, Agricultural College, Coimbatore. There were two series of experiments, (1) Scheme A and (2) Scheme B.

3. The object of Scheme A was to obtain information regarding the normal requirements of water for raising summer cholam, ragi and cambodia cotton from sowing to harvest. In this

irrigation water is given whenever necessary and the quantity supplied at each irrigation is measured over a "V" notch. The rainfall during the crop period is also recorded and the normal requirements of water are determined by adding both.

4. The object of Scheme B was to determine the optimum interval between successive irrigations and the optimum depth of watering at each irrigation. The intervals of irrigation were one, two, three and four weeks, and the depth of water, two, three and four inches. In the case of cambodia cotton, for which the weekly supply of water was found to be too much, the one week interval was substituted by Scheme A interval, i.e., the supply of water was made at the same time as that for cambodia cotton in Scheme A.

5. The results of Scheme A experiments are given below:—

	Summer cholam.		Ragi.		Cambodia cotton.	
	Duration in days.	Water consumed in inches.	Duration in days.	Water consumed in inches.	Duration in days.	Water consumed in inches.
1940-41	104	22.23	140	18.42	225	33.46
1941-42	107	23.19	131	18.75	202	22.48
1942-43	103	18.49	126	18.03	218	26.07
1943-44	101	14.04	124	29.29	212	24.51
1944-45	94	19.68	131	26.63	204	36.20
1945-46	97	19.79	131	23.52	199	27.66
1946-47	97	18.67	132	32.95	219	36.70
Average ..	100	19	131	24	211	30

6. It is seen in Scheme A that summer cholam requires 19 inches, ragi 24 inches and cambodia cotton 30 inches of water.

7. In Scheme B, the results were not very conclusive. In the case of summer cholam, the indications are that for grain yield one week and two weeks intervals with three inches and four inches depth of water are the best. For ragi, irrigation at intervals of one week or two weeks with three or four inches of water may be the most

suitable. No conclusive results were obtained in the case of cambodia cotton.

College for hill tribes

The Government of West Bengal are opening a college at Darjeeling, mainly with the object of providing facilities for higher education to the educationally backward hill tribes of Darjeeling.

Fruit Products Industry

At the two-day session of the Fruit Products Manufacturer's Conference in New Delhi questions relating to fruit products industry were discussed and a number of recommendations made.

A resolution was adopted that as the Central Government is responsible for the standardization, protection, export, transport and other aspects of the Fruit Preservation Industry and as it is a basic industry, it is essential that the administration of the Fruit Products Order should rest with the Central Government both in the matter of policy and that of execution.

Representatives of the industry were asked to draw up a memorandum regarding the assistance they would like the State to render for the growth of the industry, for consideration by the Tariff Board.

Certain amendments to the Fruit Products Order were suggested. It was decided that a sub-committee should go into the question and make recommendations in the light of the discussions held.

Addressing the Conference earlier, Dr. G. S. Cheema, Fruit Development Adviser to the Government of India, said that one of the most important measures which had been adopted to get cheap material was the survey of tracts to locate sites where fruit could be grown easily. Himachal Pradesh was the first tract to be surveyed. Other Provinces would be surveyed likewise. The object was to make up the production deficiency and encourage "one-variety" zones. Utilization in future would be linked with production. The Fruit Industry could take advantage of this survey and plan its future programme accordingly.

Dr. Chema added that measures were being taken to enforce provisions of the Fruit Products Order, particularly with a view to eliminating unfair competition with the genuine manufacturers. He informed the Conference that the demand for export of fruit products to Pakistan was very encouraging and permits for 182,000 lb. had so far been issued.

About 15 representatives of the industry attended the Conference which was presided over by Mr. K. W. P. Marar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture.

AGRICULTURE IN OTHER COUNTRIES

America

Conservation Co-operation

The growing awareness of the acute need and value of soil conservation has resulted in an extensive programme of co-operation between the United States Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service and many other countries. The Soil Conservation Service now carries on correspondence regarding conservation matters with 90 countries. This correspondence ranges from letters requesting bulletins and specific information to lengthy and involved questions regarding the halting of erosion and the conservation of soil and water in the various countries.

The Soil Conservation Service has entertained 216 official and technical visitors from 63 countries; it has given a year's training to 131 agricultural technicians from 28 countries in the techniques of soil and moisture conservation. In addition, technicians or missions have been sent to 10 countries; and 60 countries have requested various types of seeds looking to their use in the control of erosion.

Since July 1942, the Soil Conservation Service has carried out a systematic programme for training

nationals of other countries. At that time, 25 technicians from Latin American countries came to the United States under a programme sponsored by the Office of Inter-American Affairs. This programme proved eminently successful and, as a result, beginning in 1944, funds were made available by the Department of State (Inter-Departmental Committee on Cultural Co-operation) to continue the training programme. During the years 1945, 1946 and 1947, 27 additional technicians were brought to the United States for training under this programme.

While these technicians' expenses were paid entirely from United States funds, others have been trained under arrangements through which their expenses were shared jointly by the United States and their country. And, since the beginning of the fiscal year 1946, many countries of the world, recognizing the value and need for conserving their soil, sent their technicians for training and paid all their expenses.

The Soil Conservation Service follows the policy of training only those who already have had at least three years practical experience in agricultural work, and who are expected to return to further conservation in their respective countries. In this way, the

Service has endeavoured to obtain the maximum good from the training programme.

That the programme has borne fruit is seen in the fact that trainees have assumed responsible positions upon their return. This has been the case in Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, Tanganyika (East Africa), Kenya Colony, the Island of Cyprus, and Palestine, among others. At the present time the Service is training eight Indian technicians who will return to become leaders in conservation work for both India and Pakistan.

As a result of the programme, six countries have passed national conservation laws, and conservation surveys are being made in eight countries. Educational and demonstrational conservation programmes are being actively promoted in other countries.

The Soil Conservation Service, constantly at work to extend sound conservation practices in the United States, is always ready to share its advances in this field with other countries—in the knowledge that on the proper and productive use of the soil depends literally the survival of the world's peoples.

recreational, educational, social, religious or charitable institutions, will be made subject to the condition (in addition to the other appropriate conditions) that such institutions will be or will forthwith be made open to all without any distinction of caste, creed and colour and that in case of a breach of this condition, the relevant grant of the land or the grants-in-aid would be liable to be revoked without payment of any compensation after giving one month's notice of the breach of the condition.

Compost manure in Bombay

In order to create healthy competition amongst villages for preparation of compost manure the Government of Bombay have decided to award prizes to the villages in each taluka for showing outstanding merit. The scheme is estimated to cost Government about Rs. 20,000.

births and 30 per cent of deaths, not to speak of diseases, are left unregistered and therefore undetected. So the Government have appealed to the people for their co-operation.

Social Distinctions in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has taken a further step to see that every thing possible is done to discourage and even to efface invidious social distinctions based on caste, creed and colour and has decided that hereafter the granting of land at concessional rates or without public auction or the sanctioning of grants-in-aid to cultural,

OTHER PROVINCES

Publicity Department in C.P.

With a view to organize proper pictorial publicity of Government activities the Publicity Department, C.P. and Berar, is soon going to have its own full-fledged photographic section.

Vital Statistics in West Bengal

For the full success of a provincial health scheme registration of births, deaths and diseases is necessary. Unless the people help in this matter, it becomes difficult for the Government to assess properly the vital events of its people. Almost 40 per cent of

PROBLEMS AND PROGRESS ELSEWHERE

WEST BENGAL

This is the last in the series under the above caption. It is profitable to know what has taken place in other provinces. Such knowledge may prove useful in respect of our own Province.

The area of West Bengal is about 28,215 square miles or 36.4 per cent of the area of the parent province. The density of population is 751 per square mile which must have risen as a result of the increase in population in recent years. According to the occupational statistics, about 50 per cent of the population follow non-agricultural occupations, and of them about 16 per cent are believed to be engaged in industry of some type or other. As regards distribution of population in West Bengal, about 22 per cent live in towns.

Agricultural lands in West Bengal have low productivity. Irrigation has been ill-developed, only about 1,648,000 acres being irrigated. Of this, again, only about 244,000 acres are irrigated by Government canals, while some 800,000 acres are irrigated by tanks. West Bengal has large agricultural

Medical facilities in U.P.

With a view to providing better medical facilities in rural areas, the U. P. Government proposes to improve the existing 400 general dispensaries and also to open 500 new dispensaries at suitable centres in the countryside during the next five years.

Co-operative Propaganda in Bombay

The Honorary Lady Organizers appointed by the Government of Bombay for propaganda work in connection with the co-operative movement among women will continue to work up to February 28, 1949.

Assistance for Bombay Cultivators

During the month of July 1948 about 1,073 tons of steel, 1,776 power-hubs, 1,728 pickaxes, 286 bundles of barbed wire, 247 crow bars and 10,747 feet of piping, valued at Rs. 4,81,425, approximately were distributed to the agriculturists of Bombay Province.

lands classified as current fallow, cultivable, waste and uncultivable; and it has comparatively little of good arable lands open up the further possibilities in the direction of development of extensive cultivation by modern means. Agricultural land per capita of population in undivided Bengal was nearly 0.49 acre. In West Bengal it is now 0.44 acre including land under food crops to the extent of 0.40 acre. The Province has been left deficit in most crops, e.g., jute, sugarcane and mustard, and possibly in rice as well. West Bengal has the advantage of a diversified economy with well-developed industries, trade and commerce. West Bengal is raising a village Defence Volunteer Corps to be known locally as "Jatiya Rakshi Bahini." The Government of West Bengal also propose to raise a National Volunteer Corps on the lines of the Indian National Cadet Corps sponsored by the army. The Provincial Government have been able to persuade the Central Government to raise a militia of Bengal youth. A number of research schemes and Grow More Food schemes were put into operation. These include the establishment of a Central Livestock Research-cum-Breeding Station, improvement of livestock industry, goat multiplication scheme, soil survey, trial of new potato hybrids, control of diseases of potato in plains and in hills multiplication of quality potato seed, survey for extension of potato cultivation, extension of commodity grading centres, development of agricultural marketing, running a Brooklyn ice plant and cold storage, anti-erosion experiments, crop survey work, establishment of a dry cow salvage farm, establishment of an Agricultural College, establishment of six seed multiplication farms, establishment of a jute seed multiplication farm, tank improvement and agricultural planning and research. Distribution of fertilizers also proceeded satisfactorily. Eighty Persians wheels were prepared for distribution. The Ministry have recognized that river control and irrigation are of enormous importance to West Bengal and have made considerable strides in this direction. The irrigation and navigation canals were executed at a cost of Rs. 2.46 crores. So also is the case with road development. Electricity

development has received marked attention. Special steps have been taken for the promotion of khadi industry. The scheme aims at making the people in the countryside economically well off by utilizing their spare hours and is based on the belief that the proper use of the spinning wheel will give a fresh outlook on their life born of self-help. The scheme is planned to be worked out through autonomous khadi workers on a self-sufficient basis. A hand-made paper industry scheme is also underway. Gur industry has also been planned to be stimulated. The structure of Credit Co-operation in West Bengal consists of a Provincial Bank, 39 central banks, 9,814 primary credit societies. There are 67 societies dealing in purchase and sale of paddy and rice. There are 1,016 irrigation societies mainly in the districts of Birbhum, Bankura and Burdwan. There are 114 Fishermen's societies. Also 148 Milk Producers' Societies. Consumers' Co-operation has, of late, occupied a prominent place in the co-operative structure of the Province. The Co-operative Movement in Bengal had not made any appreciable headway towards Co-operative Farming. Up to the partition of Bengal on August 15, 1947, there were only two Co-operative Farming Societies. The Government have decided to combine the curative and preventive measures so that there is better co-ordination and the work is carried out more efficiently. In order that practical shape could be given to the solutions Government have decided to reorganize the whole of the medical and public health services and combine them into a unified health service. For this purpose, as a first step, they propose to establish a rural health centre in each union as soon as necessary buildings are available. Equipment is ready but personnel will have to be recruited. In each such centre, there will be a dispensary and a 4 bedded emergency ward—of these 4 beds, 2 will be set apart for maternity and 2 for emergency. It has been decided that primary education should be of the basic scheme model and steps have been taken to this end. A programme for the liquidation of mass illiteracy is also underway. Adult education has also been not lost sight of.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

“SOUVENIR OF THE FORT MUSEUM”

(Published by the Reception Committee, 1948.)

This is a neatly got up publication elegantly printed and delightfully illustrated. It is published by the Reception Committee of the Fifth Session of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology and of the Art and Archaeology Exhibition, Fort St. George, Madras. It was intended to mark the opening of the Fort Museum also. There is a message from His Excellency Sir Archibald Nye, Governor of Madras, in the early part of the souvenir. An article, entitled “Madras through the Company's days and later” by Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari, is packed with facts and gives interesting glimpses into Madras of the past.

There are other interesting articles also as well as beautiful photos.

The Reception Committee deserves to be congratulated for this excellent publication. The Fort Museum enshrines valuable relics of antiquarian interest. Sometime ago, an appeal of the Museum authorities was published in the MADRAS INFORMATION asking for public co-operation. The present souvenir is sure to kindle considerable public interest in the Fort Museum. The public would be helping the institution very much if valuable specimens which they might possess are given for display in the Museum.

—T.K.G.

“INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION”

Proceedings of Meetings—Vol. XXIII
—Published by the Manager of Publications—Delhi.

The Indian Historical Records Commission, inaugurated by the Government as far back as 1919, through its annual meetings held in places notable for their historical background, serves as an impetus to the discovery and addition of valuable records which throw lucid light on

many events and movements of historical significance. Presiding over the Twenty-third Annual Meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission, Sri C. Rajagopalachariar said: “We have a great culture and a great literature of which we can be proud, but in the field of writing history or in preserving historic records and materials we must admit we have shown deplorable neglect.” Today the necessity for placing Indian History in its natural setting by conducting comprehensive research into India's past to supply the present generation as well as posterity with a standard that will enable us to steer clear of all that stood against national greatness and prosperity is more than ever before. The present volume contains proceedings of public meetings of the Twenty-third Annual Session held at Indore in 1946, over thirty papers read by eminent historians, the activities of and work done by the Commission and its Sub-Committees and numerous other information relating to records-preservation in India. It is evident from this publication that the Indian Historical Records Commission by co-ordinating the work of the Record Offices of the various Provincial and State Governments is rendering a great service to the cause of Indian History and archives-keeping.

—M.A.K.

“THE YEAR BOOK OF WORLD AFFAIRS, 1947.”

Edited by George W. Keeton and George Schwarzenberger; Published by the London Institute of World Affairs—Price, 20 s.

This is an extremely useful publication containing a series of articles and treatises on current topics written by eminent authors. The editors certainly deserve a word of warm appreciation for the broad outlook shown by them in the selection of subjects which include among others, ‘Western and Soviet Democracy’, ‘the Communal Problem

in India,’ ‘Nationalism in Eastern Asia,’ etc. What makes this publication a document of dignity, useful to any student of human affairs is the sense of objectivity with which these current and controversial topics have been viewed and dealt with by the respective authors. When intellectuals put on a cloak of objectivity to cover up their partisanship, eternal vigilance is the price which any true seeker has to pay in his pursuit of absolute truth. And this is no uncommon phenomenon these days! As such it is really refreshing to find these authors eminently successful in steering clear of this modern malady. Almost all the treatises are worth serious perusal and study.

—K.B.N.

“HOW TO MAKE CAMERA PICTURES”

By PHILIP JOHNSON, F.R.P.S.
Published by Fountain Press, 46-47, Chancery Lane, London—Price, 15 s.

This is an useful and attractive publication imparting sound practical knowledge to amateur photographers “to progress from mere hit or miss ‘shutter clicking’ to real picture-making” up to the stage of developing and printing. Of the 128 pages in this book 56 are devoted to photographs which show how good results can be produced by scientific handling and operating of even a comparative cheap camera. The author's efforts are laudable inasmuch as he tries to correct the amateur where he is likely to go wrong, with practical suggestions in a direct and appealing manner instead of telling the beginner what to do and what not to do, in a text-book fashion. The subjects that are dear to the amateur, such as, indoors and outdoor portraiture, photographing children, landscape and views, animals, gardens, interior of houses, etc., are separately dealt with, with innumerable suggestions and illustrations. The book is immensely practical and is a valuable contribution

to photographic literature. The get-up and printing leave nothing to be desired.

—T.M.J.

“MINIATURE PHOTOGRAPHY AFTER DARKNESS”

By HENRY G. RUSSEL, A.R.P.S.
Published by The Fountain Press, 46-47, Chancery Lane, London, Price 10s. 6d.

How light affects the form and likeness in miniature photography, is the theme of this handy publication written for amateur photographers who are not raw beginners, but conversant with the art of developing and printing. Photography by artificial light is a trick of the trade by which camera is made to ‘tell lies most convincingly.’ “The most graceful poses and finest models can still look blobs of dough if illumination is handled without knowledge and discrimination.” The author's illustrations bear testimony to the above statement. Still-life; Table-top; Portraiture; Social functions; these are some of the items in every-day life photography which can produce fascinating effect and lasting interest by artificial lighting. The author's treatment of the subject is explicit, and his advice sound and practical. The work is highly commended as an informative treatise on photography after darkness, which is also profusely illustrated.

—T.M.J.

“GANDHI ON COMMUNAL DISORDERS”

Edited by N. R. MEHTA, India Publishers, Allahabad, Price Rs. 2.

This is a collection of Gandhiji's writings and speeches on the communal problem in this country and covers the period from the Khalifat days to the present times. Mahatmaji was the stoutest champion of communal harmony and he has sacrificed his life on its altar. The words of such a personality must have special impart to everybody. The book is therefore a welcome publication. Since August 15th last we were having a crop of communal disorders which have thoroughly disorganised our internal economic and social life. The banishment of the spectre of communalism is therefore a first necessary step. Indian leaders are alive to this fact. They are

already doing their best in the matter. But quick results cannot be achieved. Everybody in the country tries to patiently strive to this end and in this process, publications such as these are bound to be extremely helpful.

—T.K.G.

“WORLD'S RELIGIONS”

By SRI SWAMI SIVANANDA.
Auanda Kutir, Rishikesh.

Published by the Sivananda Publication League, Rishikesh, Price Rs. 2-8-0.

This book which comes from the gifted pen of Sri Swami Sivananda of Rishikesh who needs no introduction to the religious world, is dedicated to all religionists throughout the world. The sole purpose of the book is to prove to the world that every religion, by whatever name it is called, establishes a relation between man and God or the Infinite, and that religion is the link between man and God. The purpose served by such a publication in endeavouring to establish concord in place of the horrible discord that pervades India in particular owing to the diversity of religions, cannot be exaggerated. The author's vast learning and deep knowledge of the scriptures of mankind and the scholarly manner in which the golden link between all important religions of the world is explained make the book fit for serious study and a perusal of it will be of immense benefit to all those leaders and reformers who have undertaken the responsibility of leading men from ignorance to knowledge and from serfdom to freedom, not to speak of the profit that the student of religion will obtain.

The book contains eleven chapters dealing with eleven great religions of the world, viz., Hinduism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam and Sufism, Jainism, Sikhism, Confucianism, Taoism and Shintoism and in his inimitable style, the author has clearly brought out the important fact that religious minds of all ages revolved in the same spiritual grooves and that the fundamentals and essence of all religions are one and the same. This book, like others from the same pen is eminently readable and thought-provoking. All educated people of the country—young and old—interested in good living on earth will do well to read the book so that the message of all religions, viz., the Divine Spirit of Man could be spread all over the country which would ultimately serve to avert any catastrophe in the world.

—K.C.N.

“CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT IN THE UNITED PROVINCES”

Published by the Publicity Officer, Co-operative Department, Lucknow, U.P.

The U.P. shares with Madras the honour of being the pioneer in the field of Co-operation, long before the passing of the Co-operative Credit Societies Act in 1904. This pamphlet issued by the Co-operative department shows the rapid strides made in the development of co-operation in all the walks of life in the Province after the advent of the Congress Ministry. India looks to co-operation for the integration of her ancient happy village economy, whether it be the supply of credit, agricultural implement, consumer goods, marketing facilities, better living, etc. The ideal towards which the movement should be directed is a Co-operative Commonwealth, with multi-purpose societies catering for all the needs of the villager and the peasant. The publication throws light on development activities of the Province under the Development Co-ordination Plan recently formulated.

—M.A.K.

“PHOTO FACTS.”

- (1) The camera and how to use it.
- (2) Focussing the lens.
- (3) Exposing the film.
- (4) Colour filters and their uses.

Edited by GEORGE L. WAKEFIELD, A.I.B.P., F.R.P.S. Published by The Fountain Press, 46-47, Chancery Lane, London, Price Rs. 2 each.

These nice pocket-size volumes, are the first four in a series of eight, designed to be a simple and accurate guide for the benefit of modern photographers who desire the very best results with their cameras, of whatever make or type they may be. The first volume tells us all about the camera, its mechanism, type, accessories and care; the second deals with the most important aspect of photography, namely, focussing the lens. Exposing the film requires a great deal of dexterity and that is the subject of the third and the last one explains how to use filters for securing correct colour rendering. The discourses are based on a happy combination of theory and practice in the light of latest research work and wartime developments in photography. All volumes are attractively illustrated with diagrams and photographs, together with essential data and tables which serve as ready-reckoners. This series is recommended to all those interested in developing their skill in a manipulative craft.

—T.M.J.

"RED SAND"

By A. SAULIERE, S.J., Loyola College, Madras.

The title of this book is a little bit ambiguous. The word 'red' gives the impression that the contents are something connected with communism. The author has however explained why he chose the title for the book. The book is a biography of one of the early Catholic missionaries to this country, who suffered martyrdom here. Missionaries who came to this country especially prior to the advent of the British had a lot of hardships to encounter. They were mostly Catholic and it is a tribute to their zeal and devotion that they were never frightened by difficulties. Many of them did solid work in the field of social welfare also. In this connexion one is reminded of the glowing tribute which the Simon Commission paid to the work of European missionaries in this country. Even in Free India responsible nationalist opinion is not unappreciative of the selfless labours of the missionaries in the field of social welfare in this country.

The book is interesting reading and shows abundant marks of the pains taken by the author to acquire first-hand information about the hero. Here and there the narrative is relieved by side lights on contemporary political conditions of the country which are sure to be of much interest to the student of Indian history. It is well written throughout and the author deserves to be congratulated. Mr. M. Rathnaswamy has contributed an introduction to the book.

—T.K.G.

"THE SECRET OF LIFE"

(The Human Machine and How It Works)—Translated by GEORGE ROSEN, M.D. from the original work by Dr. F. KAHN. Published by Odhams Press, Limited, Long Acre, London.

This is an interesting book running to 640 pages, neatly printed and richly illustrated. It contains 460 explanatory diagrams, drawings and photographs. The book tells simply and often dramatically the story of life itself. Through the eyes of the medical scientist the reader can follow stage by stage the development of the embryo as it sets on the journey through life to emerge later as *Man*.

The human body is here revealed in the light of the very latest biological and medical discoveries. Perhaps the ordinary layman may not be interested

to wade through the technical mass of details but for a specialist the book is sure to prove a valuable mine of information.

—T.K.G.

"THE ESSENTIALS OF MILITARY KNOWLEDGE"

By MAJOR D. K. PALIT, Published by Gale and Polden, Limited, Aldershot, England. Price 10 s. 6 d. (By post 10/9).

In modern warfare the ordinary man in the street is involved as much, if not more, as his compatriot in uniform. It is essential for him as it is for the other to have some knowledge of military affairs. In this small and arresting volume, Major Palit, an young Indian Officer has presented all the rudiments of military knowledge which are essential in forming a background for an objective study of warfare. The history and development of tactics and strategy from the earliest days to the modern era followed by a vivid discourse on the principles of war, will be a guide to the correct approach to the study of lessons taught by the Great Captains past and present. The utility of the book to young officers in the army cannot be described better than in the words of Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, former Commander-in-Chief of India; who in his foreword says, "I have found this the most interesting book to read and I am sure that young officers anxious to perfect themselves in their profession will profit greatly from a careful study of it." This book brought out by a renowned publisher on military subjects will serve as a guide not only for the army officer but also for the lay reader who wants to make a study of the art of warfare.

—K.R.D.

"THE YEAR BOOK OF WORLD AFFAIRS, 1948"

Editors: GEORGE W. KEETON AND GEORGE SCHWARZENBERGER. Published under the auspices of the London Institute of World Affairs by Stevens & Sons, London. Price 20 sh. nett.

The Year Book, now in its second volume, records notable world trends at a time when momentous events are happening all over the world brought about by a multitude of reasons such as racial and ideological differences, moral obligation of the victor to the vanquished and the need for maintenance of international peace and

security, resulting in the interplay of power-politics and group tactics on the one hand and the attempts at world economic developments and international co-operation on the other. A review of the articles points out this conflict of interests in which leading nations of the world are called upon to act with decision. A record of the year would seem to indicate that the people of the world might be beginning to learn the rich advantages of humility, honesty and restraint over intellectual dishonesty and personal ambition despite the attitude adopted by certain of the big powers. Yet we fight in peace as in war and death and disaster is always threatening the very foundations of human relationship.

A publication like the "Year Book of World Affairs" is bound to be of immense use in creating informed and unbiased public opinion on complicated world problems. Such education is imperative today for if the people of the world will not learn to live together for extended service of goodwill and international prosperity, they will surely perish. The reader will find here illuminating and informative articles on the foreign policies of the big powers and their repercussions on world affairs, deliberations of world organizations—and the need for international morality and a stable codification of international law itself. In addition it gives descriptive analysis of various works of eminent writers on sociological, economic, psychological, educational, legal and institutional aspects of world problems.

Though the volume speaks from a pre-eminently European standpoint, nevertheless, it spans the entire world and is a standard guide to the study of developments on the world stage.

—M.A.K.

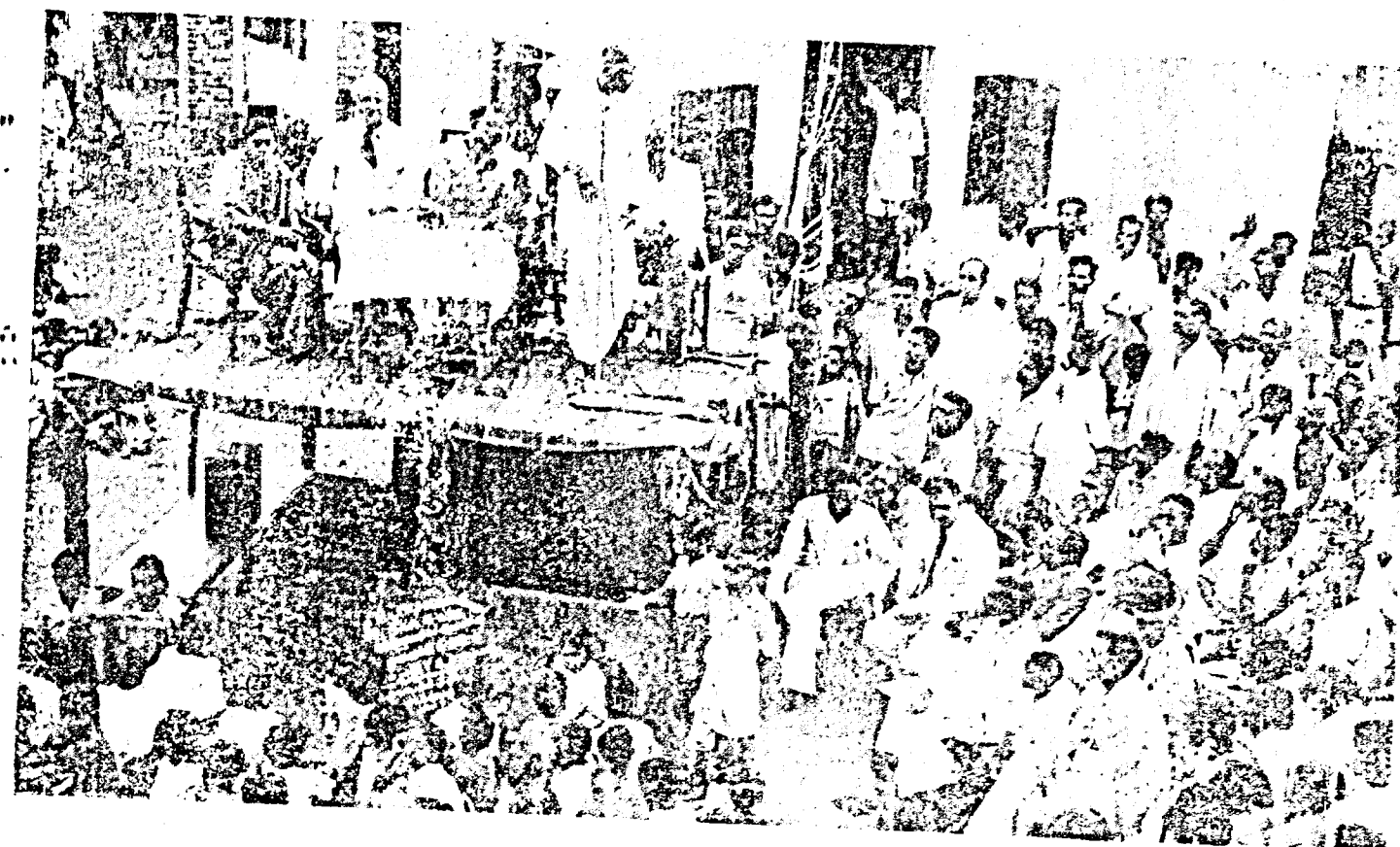
"TO HIGH KAILAS"

By WILL QUINLAN. Published by Hind Kitabs, Ltd., Bombay. Price Rs. 1-12-0.

This is the story of the experience of two Englishmen and five Indians who gathered as chance travellers in a Dak bungalow in the Himalayas. They left the plains in quest of internal peace and each tells his story of mental-conflict. The book runs only to 80 pages and the subject matter may not perhaps interest all.

—T.K.G.

NEWS IN PICTURES



A Prohibition Propaganda meeting in Madras City



Mr. V. N. Kudea discussing with some youth in S. S. P.

Registered No. M-4767.



BAPALAL & CO.,

Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewellers,
Rattan Bazaar, Madras-3

Telegram: "NECKLACE"

Telephone: 2696

MADRAS: PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS. DISTRIBUTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA.

MADRAS INFORMATION

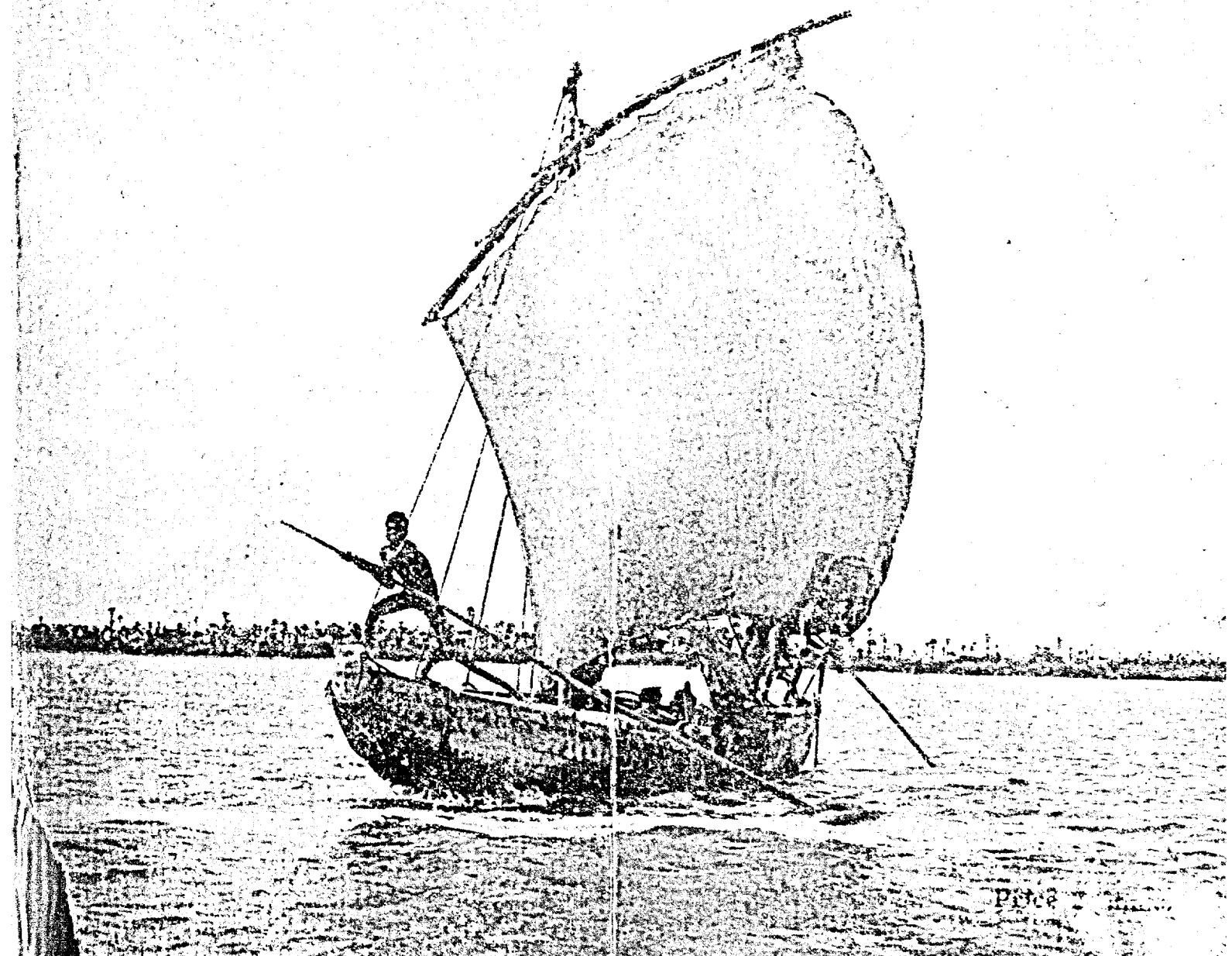
VOL. II

MADRAS, 1st OCTOBER 1948

NO. 18

630/48

302





The Picture Shows—His Excellency the Governor of Madras is reading the Vaidika Mantra. The Chief Secretary Sri K. Ramani Menon

Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

Vol. II, No. 18

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

October 1, 1948

Prohibition in the Province

On 2nd October 1948, prohibition will be extended to 8 more districts in this Province and Madras City thus resulting in the entire Province becoming dry. It is common knowledge that prohibition occupied a front place in the programme of Mahatma Gandhi and its introduction throughout India was a matter on which he was very keen. He was no more enthusiast for prohibition but one who had studied its full implications and assessed its vital importance in the scheme of Nation Building. "If I were appointed dictator for one hour for all-India," he said, "the first thing I would do would be to close without compensation all the liquor shops, destroy all the toddy palms such as I know in Gujarat and compel factory owners to produce human conditions for their workers and open refreshment and recreation rooms where these workmen would get innocent drinks and equally innocent amusements." The burning conviction disclosed by these words needs no emphasis. Nobody can deny the solicitude of the Mahatma for the welfare of the Indian masses and the considered view of such a personality admits of no doubt.

Nevertheless, critics are not wanting to condemn prohibition either as a needless measure or as something that is not practicable. They trot out one argument after another in support of their position. Some point out the case of America and say that where America has failed, India is not going to succeed. They forget the differences in the conditions in America and India. In America many drink while in India a few drink. In America drink is more or less a social habit with many people while it is not so in India. Drink in the western sense obtain in India only in places where there is heavy concentration of industrial labour, and

this is a fact admitted even by westerners. The percentage of people in this country who drink is negligible. There is a stigma attaching to drink here. There is no such stigma in America or other western countries. The two great religions in India, Hinduism and Islam stand for abstinence from drink. In view of these factors, it cannot be difficult for prohibition to succeed in this country.

There is however one indispensable pre-requisite for the success of prohibition. It is public co-operation. Prohibition is a moral reform and no moral reform can succeed without public co-operation. It is a matter in which the violation of law does not affect individual interest but only the interest of the community as a whole. Responsibility therefore devolves on the whole community to see that prohibition meets with success. It has been recently pointed out in this connection that the law at the best can only drive the offence of drinking

IN THIS ISSUE

- Prohibition Topics
- News and Notes
- Topics of the Day
- Press Notes, Releases, etc.
- Departments' Corner
- Rural Topics
- Special Articles
- Agricultural Notes
- Agriculture in other Countries
- Delhi Diary
- Other Provinces and States
- Books and Publications

underground, and if it is to be exterminated, public co-operation becomes indispensable. Hence the importance of public co-operation. The justification for this co-operation will be obvious when one gets an idea of the extensive ravages of the drink evil.

Drink is most common among the lower classes of people. In this Province, the excise revenue is something roughly 18 crores and the bulk of this revenue is contributed by the poor people. An expenditure of 8 annas or one rupee a day may not be much for a middle class man or an upper class man. But a poor man in the lower strata of society cannot easily spare this money without sacrificing his vital comforts. In a survey conducted in Salem some years ago, it was estimated that more than 35 per cent of a poor man's income went for drinking, and this 35 per cent is at the cost of his necessities of life. This is why students of social welfare assert that prohibition is a necessary step in raising the standard of living. The standard of living can be raised only by adding to the income and by eliminating unproductive expenditure. By prohibition it is intended to eliminate unproductive

expenditure and to enable that amount to be diverted for more vital purposes. One modern writer has said that prohibition is not an isolated constructive measure but forms part and parcel of the programme for raising the standard of living in this country. It is in this light that we have to view prohibition. It is a great rejuvenating factor in the uplift of the masses. Much has often made of the loss of revenue consequent on prohibition. This loss is nothing compared to the gain that accrues from prohibition. India's Prime Minister has said more than once that the wealth of a country is in her manhood and womanhood. To conserve this wealth, one need not count the cost. The whole progress of a country depends upon that.

The country is now breathing fresh air and it is important that all obstacles in the way of the uplift of the common man is eliminated. Drink evil is one of the obstacles and the intention of prohibition is to eliminate that obstacle. It behoves the public to understand prohibition in its true perspective and willingly extend their hand of co-operation for its successful enforcement.

PROHIBITION TOPICS

The Problem of Liquor Control

Laws against drunkenness are to be found very generally in antiquity. But the economic organization of the ancient world did not bring about the conditions of production and distribution with which attempts to control the use of alcohol must now wrestle. In the modern world, commercialized production and distribution, especially of distilled spirits, called for legislative action early in the history of most of the modern nations. In England, what may fairly be regarded as restrictive, as distinguished from primarily economic legislation, begins in the fourteenth century. In the eighteenth century, following repeal of earlier restrictive statutes, the general use of distilled liquors called for legislation, and from that time there is a continuous history of legislative control in Great Britain. In Germany, sale of distilled liquor began to be regulated

at the end of fifteenth century. In France, regulation as distinguished

The problem of Liquor Control is not easy to tackle with. There are certain inherent difficulties. This Province will become completely dry on 2nd of October 1948 and will thus establish a record. In this connection the following excerpt taken from the report on the enforcement of prohibition laws in U.S.A. will be of topical interest.

from taxing legislation begins in 1816. In America, the history of liquor control

begins with colonial legislation as to sale to Indians and closing hours, followed by a resolution of the Continental Congress in 1777 against distilled liquor. Over one hundred and fifty years of experimenting with systems of restriction, through taxation and excise, closing hours, prohibition of selling to certain types of person, high licence, local option, state dispensaries, state prohibition, and finally national prohibition, have not disposed of the subject. It remains one of acrimonious debate, with the most zealous adherents of the latest solution compelled to admit grave difficulties and serious resulting abuses. The necessity of liquor control is universally admitted in civilized countries. But this necessity of control gives rise to a problem of how to bring it about which has vexed society for centuries and now gives concern in all lands and very likely will persist whatever regimes of regulation are set up.

To some extent the problem of liquor control is interwoven with the whole problem of the relation of an ordered society to the individual life. Much of the difficulty encountered by every system of control and much of

Results of Prohibition in C.P.

Reports from the districts having 'dry' areas indicate that prohibition has undoubtedly improved the moral, physical, social and economic conditions of ex-addicts. People have been benefited economically as the money spent on liquor is being now utilized on the necessities of life. Prohibition has been an incalculable blessing, particularly to the working classes and the agriculturists. Many vices, including drinking brawls, have disappeared and the domestic life of the drinking classes has become easier and happier. The women folk particularly feel grateful to Government

for this social reform. Prohibition has also arrested the spread of the drink evil among the younger generation. It is necessary, however, to stress the importance of sustained public interest and support in the cause of prohibition. Law with all its penalties and restrictions will only drive the evil underground unless backed by public opinion, and it is the duty of the public to carry on ceaseless propaganda to educate and convince addicts that what are apparently irksome restrictions are meant solely for their welfare.

in Salem that medical shops were issuing certificates to the people for purchase of brandy under the pretext of confinement and other excuses.

Prohibition work has got two aspects, preventive and ameliorative. The former was the harder part of the work. There was a saying that the more the law, the more the law-breakers. He would ask them to remember this aspect of their work and unless they realized their moral responsibility, prohibition would not be a success. It was very difficult to raise a man who had sunk to the lowest depths in society. They were building up the character of the people.

The Minister continued: "There is so much corruption in this country which has to be eradicated. It has penetrated into the depths of our national life. Unless character and integrity are developed, the independence of this country will not survive long. Therefore, it is the duty of every one of you to develop integrity, character and patriotism. For, this experiment depends a great deal on character and integrity for its success. I would, therefore, appeal to the people for their cooperation with the prohibition staff, and also appeal to every one of you to make prohibition a success. Unless there is a combined force of both officials and non-officials in the country, the evil of drink cannot be driven out of the Province.

Prohibition Staff College

The Hon'ble Dr. S. Gurubatham, Minister for Firka Development and Prohibition, declared open the Prohibition Staff College of the Government recently.

The college has a strength of 386 composed of 89 Sub-Inspectors, 152 Petty Officers and 125 guards. Besides lectures the students of the college will be given training in games and drill.

The training is now entrusted to a retired Police officer.

Declaring open the college, Dr. Gurubatham said that the occasion was a

unique one and that the whole world would be looking to India for the success of this great experiment in putting down the drink evil. The American experiment in prohibition proved a failure due to corruption and boot-legging. They should try to avoid those two defects. He had visited Coimbatore and Salem to find out the difficulties in working out the prohibition scheme, and also to collect figures in working of the Act. While he got very encouraging reports and was satisfied with the results in those two districts, he found in some places

A WORLD-WIDE FOE

"With a history beyond the grasp of mortals the drink curse stands today as the curse of the ages. Beneath the earth in their last sleep, a host of dumb witnesses bear testimony to the whole civilized world of the curse of alcohol. It has mastered the noblest minds, the bravest hearts and the greatest intellects. Warriors who have conquered the battle-field, statesmen who have guided the civilized nations, orators who have held us in awe, and men whose intellect have solved universal problems, leave a record stained by the most demoralizing power on earth.

"The centuries have rolled by, and the earth has claimed each succeeding generation: nations have come and gone: empires have risen and fallen, but the drink curse still remains.

"Today it threatens and defies the governments and civilized nations of the world, and by its power in the churches and politics it curtails every moral and political effort made for the welfare of the human race. It confronts the peoples of the earth as a world-wide foe, and the greatest, most practical and beneficial ideal of the twentieth century is the world-wide war to exterminate the traffic in intoxicants."

—The Battle with Bacchus.

Ameliorative Activities

Reports received from the prohibition districts show that ameliorative activities are receiving increasing attention at the hands of the authorities. The following is a brief summary of the reports. The reports relate mainly to the early part of August :—

Kurnool.—The grama sangams in five places conducted street-cleaning drives. Public reading of Ramayana was arranged in some places. One grama sangam has started a reading room and library. A night school was opened in one place. Sports took place as usual. Ex-addicts are making substantial savings as a result of prohibition. Tree planting day was observed as also thrift days.

North Arcot.—Rural sports took place as usual. Efforts are being made to start ex-addicts on poultry farming. A scheme of cattle breeding has also been evolved through the efforts of the Special Development Officer and the District Veterinary Officer.

Salem.—One village sangam has commenced construction of a school building at a cost of Rs. 2,000. Sports were conducted as usual.

Bellary.—Tournaments and other sports took place as usual. A number of villagers participated. Dramas were also enacted. A park was opened in one place and a radio was installed. Village sanitation day was celebrated in the place. Thrift campaign was inaugurated in some places. A rural exhibition was arranged in one place and a number of Government departments took part in it.

Tiruchirappalli.—The Collector opened a reading room in Musiri under the Firka Development Scheme. He

also presided over a meeting arranged by the panchayat board. Hundi boxes were distributed by the Special Development Officer. Sports were also conducted. A rural exhibition was organized in one place in which several Government departments took part.

Grama sangams in many districts are doing useful work. Village amenities have been expanded in many places. These include opening of parks, installation of radios, starting of adult schools and sanitation campaigns.

Madura.—Six grama sangams and a firka association were formed. One grama sangam has resolved to construct a road culvert. Thrift days were celebrated. Two co-operative societies have decided to construct a village hall-cum-godown. Two night schools were also opened for adults. Street lighting has been arranged for in one place. Firka tournaments were conducted. A rural exhibition was also arranged. The number of ex-addicts who are benefiting as a result of prohibition is increasing.

Coimbatore.—The Collector visited a number of villages and addressed meetings on rural uplift.

Chittoor.—Rural games, bhajanas and thrift campaigns formed the main features of ameliorative activity. Street cleaning drives were inaugurated in some places. First-aid medicine chests were introduced in some villages. A library was opened in one place. An adult school and a community centre

were opened in another. Thrift day celebrations were conducted in some places. A Jaggery Manufacturing Co-operative Society was organized in one place for ex-tappers. Grow More Trees and Grow More Green Manure campaigns were launched. Six hundred and ten trees were planted and 21,700 seedlings were sown.

South Kanara.—A Rural Housing Scheme is under examination, and a Weavers' Co-operative Society has agreed to contribute a substantial amount for the scheme.

The Guild of Service conducted a fancy sale on 22nd August 1948.

Anantapur.—Inter-village tournaments took place. Two libraries and five night schools were opened.

Malabar.—Thrift days were celebrated. In one place a reading room and a rural recreation club were declared open. In another place an adult education centre was opened. Bhajanas were conducted by a grama sangam.

Cuddapah.—A Harijan Land Colonization Society was formed.

Nilgiris.—Four grama sangams were formed. Ameliorative staff held sports and games in several villages. A drama was also staged. Street cleaning was organized in some places.

Nellore.—Thrift days were celebrated. Five grama sangams and a firka sangam were formed. A bonmalattam demonstration was held in one place. A street drama and a burakatha were performed by Harijans in another place.

Tanjore.—Sports and physical activities were conducted. A public reading room and an adult night school were opened in one place. A milk supply co-operative society was started in another place. A drama was staged, and a sum of Rs. 3,500 was collected.

the difficulty encountered in enforcement of the National Prohibition Act is involved in all social controls through law. The National Prohibition Act has brought into sharp relief features of this wider problem which has not attracted general attention. But there are special and intrinsic difficulties in liquor control and particularly in a regime of absolute prohibition. Settled habits and social customs do not yield readily to legislative flats.

Lawmaking which seeks to overturn such habits and customs, even indirectly by cutting off the sources of satisfying them, necessarily approaches the limits of effective legal action. The long history of legislative liquor control is one of struggle against this inherent difficulty. It could not be expected that legislation seeking to make a whole people at one stroke into enforced total abstainers would escape it.

by the Secretary of States and accepted by the House of Commons in 1892 were :—

1. Any extension of the habit of drinking among the Indian population is to be discouraged.

2. The tax on spirits should be as high as may be possible without giving rise to illicit methods of making and selling liquors.

3. Consumption should be reduced to the minimum.

Notwithstanding these facts, drink and drug evil has assumed a proportion to-day which unless effectively checked would prejudicially affect national welfare to a serious extent. This fact is especially important at this juncture when India is on the threshold of independence.

Prohibition was tried in America and one author has summarized its results as follows : (1) Greetings from cheerful faces. (2) Greater harmony in houses. (3) Fewer strikes and fewer divorces. (4) Less discord between employers and employees. (5) More money in banks. (6) More luxuries. (7) Increase in church membership. (8) Fall in insolvency cases. It was also tried in Bhavanagar State and the State documents testify to the fact that "disorderly behaviour and crimes of violence due to drunkenness have almost completely disappeared and the moral and material conditions of the lower classes who used to waste all their earnings in drink have steadily improved." More or less the same results were achieved in some of the districts in this Province where prohibition was tried some years ago.

Now to the question as to how prohibition can assist economic and social betterment of the masses in this country. India is the poorest country in the world barring China. It has been said that the problem in India for the masses is not how to live well, but how to live at all. One-third of the population do not have a square meal a day. An economist has said : "Their (the masses) existence is a constant struggle with starvation ending too often in defeat." The standard of living is consequently miserably low. The average earning of an Indian is roughly two annas a day while it is more than three rupees in England. The average annual incomes in other countries as noted below are comparatively high :—

	RS.
U.S.A.	2,053
Germany	634
France	636
Japan	271

"Prohibition is above Party Politics"

Presiding over a meeting on the Independence Day, Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Reconstruction, called upon every citizen to make the Prohibition Programme a complete success.

"The work of Prohibition," the Minister said, "is above party politics, and so it is the duty of every one to co-operate with the Government in that work."

Why Prohibition has been launched in Bombay

Mr. G. D. Vartak, Minister for Local-Self Government opened a labour welfare centre at Paramati recently.

The Centre is being run by the Poona District Prohibition Committee and Provides for indoor and outdoor games, amusement and recreation to agriculturists and labourers.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Vartak said that Mhatma Gandhi had placed Prohibition very high in his programme of "Sarvodaya". Agriculturists and labourers would not be happy unless they gave up liquor. The Congress Ministry, he added, was very anxious to see the people enjoy maximum happiness and that was why it had launched the Prohibition programme.

How does Prohibition help

Critics still ask whether it is worthwhile to forego a big slice of revenue and to attempt what to them is not a practical and useful proposition. For the sake of these it is necessary to analyse in detail how prohibition is calculated to bring about the economic and social amelioration of the masses. The population of country falls into two distinct categories, namely, the classes and the masses. The latter forms the vast majority and their welfare is the measure of the general welfare of the country. Drink and drug evil is more widespread among them and it is this evil that prohibition is intended to eliminate and thereby to achieve their economic and social betterment. In a country like India where the masses are economically backward, such an ameliorative measure as prohibition, is a necessary

plank in any nation-building programme.

Drink and drug habit is as old as society both in the East and the West ; but efforts were made from time to time to control it in some manner or another with varying degrees of success.

In India, Manu, the great Law-giver, took up a stern attitude and sought to bring about the summary banishment of drink and drug evil. The birth of Buddhism with its austere tenets proved a deterrent factor in the spread of this evil. Later, Hindu kings also threw in their weight against it. Sri Sankaracharya was a stout protagonist of prohibition. Under Muslim rule a more or less similar attitude was taken. This tradition was continued under British administration. The principles of Abkari administration as laid down

ON INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY

"What should be the 'Acid test' to which restriction of alcoholic drinks should be submitted? Is it not that any restriction or prohibition must increase the range of liberty in the family and in the community? I purposely substitute these two nouns of multitude for the individual, because we have agreed already that the welfare and freedom to enjoy the life of the family and the community is more important than that of the individual. The compulsory prevention of cruelty fulfils this test : so likewise do compulsory elementary education and the prevention of child labour. A higher standard of future life with increase efficiency is obtained in these instances by immediate compulsion. So also is compulsory social insurance, the general justification lies in the reduction of the burden of the improvident by making the improvident share in it.

"In the protection of the community against disease, in the prevention of immorality, of accident, of dangers of traffic and of sophistications of food, the general good is now universally held to be preferable to the 'freedom' of action involved in the 'freedom' to be careless and fraudulent."

—SIR ARTHUR NEWSHOLME.

Roughly it has been calculated in the recent past that the average income in the United Kingdom is 13 times that of India and that in the United States more than 25 times.

The first step in national amelioration is therefore to raise the per capita income in order to enable the standard of living to be improved. This can be done both in a positive and negative way. The positive way is to increase the earning of the individual by constructive measures while the negative way is to eliminate unproductive expenditure so that the earnings are conserved and utilized to promote the real well-being of the individual. It is with the latter way that prohibition is primarily concerned. It seeks to eliminate the unproductive expenditure on drinks so that the amount thus released may be utilized to satisfy the legitimate wants of the individual. It may appear at first sight that the amount spent on drink is not much and its saving would not add much to material well-being. But to the lower classes, amongst whom the drink and drug evil is more rampant, expenditure on drink constitutes a fair percentage of their income. It has been found in Salem that on an average a drink addict spends 35 per cent of his daily income on liquor. Prohibition means at least the saving of this 35 per cent and this would go to satisfy his other legitimate wants, such as better food, clothing, etc., and thus enable him to improve his standard of living. The income of the poor classes is fluctuating and when a drink addict is left without cash for drink he goes borrowing. Drink has thus proved a cardinal cause for indebtedness in this country. Discussing this subject, the Royal Commission on Indian Labour observes: "There can be no doubt that a reduction in the consumption of liquor would increase the welfare and efficiency of the industrial worker. The tyranny of debt degrades the employees and impairs efficiency. Indeed, we believe that debt is one of the principal obstacles to efficiency because it destroys the incentive to effort." These words give an insight into the terrible havoc that drink habit does on the poor class of people. Prohibition must, therefore, be a godsend for them. Drink has equally serious effects on health. There is a consensus of opinion about the deleterious effects of drink. The chief wealth of a nation is its manpower and in this country our manpower has more than one weak spot. The physical efficiency of the Indian is very low compared with

that of the inhabitants of other countries. The Indian industrial worker, according to the Royal Commission on Indian Labour, produces less per unit than the average worker in any of the countries claiming to rank as a leading industrial nation. Similarly, the outturn of the agriculturist is less than that in England, Russia, Australia and New Zealand. Sir M. Visvesvaraya says that the earning power of a Jap is three times that of an Indian. Economists have classified population on the basis of vitality as high, medium and low. India comes in the last category. The widespread drink habit is a factor in this low vitality which in turn affects earning capacity. Low vitality also invites diseases and premature death. It has been estimated that the average deaths in this country from preventable diseases is six millions a year. The average span of life is 26.7 years as against 57.6 in England, 56.4 in United States of America, 49.04 in Germany and 44.5 in Japan. India takes the last place in this respect. So also in the case of death-rate which is abnormally high. It is 24.5 per thousand as against 12.5 in England, 16.3 in France, 11.1 in Germany, 11.3 in America and 18.17 in Japan. A high death-rate and shortness in the span of life militate against the economic progress of any country. The figures quoted above in respect of other countries which are economically more advanced lend support to this point. This state of affairs may be due to a variety of causes but it cannot be denied that the drink and drug habit has a detrimental effect on health and longevity. American experience of prohibition supports this viewpoint. The health of a nation is one of its main wealth and it is important that all factors adverse to the promotion of health are eliminated in order to ensure the country's progress. A recent author on India observes: "Until he (the villager) is given a

healthier and stronger physique, a changed outlook in life and a broader education, the strength and urge to get out of the present rut of low standard will be wanting." So a healthier and stronger physique is a desideratum in India's prosperity and prohibition assists in achieving this by eliminating one of the potent causes of ill-health, namely, drink. Socially also prohibition is an incalculable blessing. The most obvious benefit is domestic happiness. This is borne out by the experience in Salem where there was a tangible increase in domestic happiness and social harmony under prohibition. The number of crimes also fell. This is important for the expenditure on litigation, both criminal and civil, is a severe drain on the country's national economy. It has been calculated that round about 70 million pounds a year is spent on litigation in this country. In the Madras Province, it has been calculated that one in every two hundred persons is involved in criminal litigation either directly or indirectly. With the fall in crimes which prohibition will bring about, there will be a marked fall in criminal litigation and the amount thus saved will be available for use to promote the larger interests of the country.

Thus the benefits of prohibition are manifold. Critics may say that social reform is outside the province of State action, but historical experience has shown that State action is a necessary driving force for social reform. The case of sati is a classic example. As a matter of fact, in a conservative country like India, social reform needs the impetus of State action and it is the fundamental duty of every citizen to co-operate with the State in such matters. Especially such public co-operation is necessary in regard to prohibition, for, without it, in abundant measure, it cannot be a success anywhere.

Wine . . . biteth like a serpent

Look not thou upon the wine when it is red,
When it giveth colour in the cup,
At the last in biteth like a serpent.
And stingeth like an adder,
Thine eyes shall behold strange things,
And thine heart shall utter forward things.

—Bible.

Prohibition and Counter Attraction

Prohibition is not merely a problem of replacing one kind of beverage with less injurious ones. One of the basic causes of the drink habit is traceable to environments. And if people are to be permanently alienated from spirituous liquors, their environments have to be definitely improved. This forms part of the constructive aspect of prohibition. This aspect were emphasised recently by His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari in the course of a message to Sanjeevan in Bombay. His Excellency said in the course of the message:—

"As for abolition of drink, although I am a confirmed prohibitionist, I am equally convinced that it will not do to create a vacuum and retire from the scene. Those who have got used to spirituous liquor of any kind cannot bear the compulsory privation, ordained by State Prohibition without a suitable

substitute. To replace wine, whisky or toddy by tea or the usual "soft" drinks is based on the fallacious notion that the problem is only a matter of selection of fluids.

Physiological thirst is best satisfied by a drink of water. But those who resort to arrack or country spirits or bottled liquor have a different kind of thirst. Their brain cells crave for joy which they cannot or do not know how to find in their own normal life. It is the duty of reformers to organise schemes of joy suitable to the large number of people at each level with whom they have to deal.

Something that can stimulate the nerve of joy would have to replace alcohol at such gatherings. It may be a drink or it may be a form of sport or some other occupation which would give a healthy opportunity for

bringing out the capacity to enjoy human company.

To the workers in the factories, tea may give satisfaction in the middle of the day. But at the close of it to those who are really tired or unhappy and feel a craving for some kind of relief without being able to find it in their own inner spirit, any kind of preaching that tea is better than sharab makes no appeal. He feels that prohibition is another form of upper class cruelty.

We must devise an attractive mechanism for giving relief and joy suitable to the men's physical and intellectual conditions. I know the difficulties too well to think that this general advice will be of much use but I have stated the problem. To men who are physically tired at the end of the day, it is no use saying, play football and be happy; nor is it easy for reformers to understand and devise what will really amuse and entertain those who live very differently."

NEWS AND NOTES

Wise Counsel

Sound advice was given by the Premier of Madras while speaking sometime ago at the Conference of Municipal Chairmen. He dealt at length with what might be the ideal of Municipal administration, the need for disinterested service and the vast scope for voluntary efforts. The points contained in his speech are of more than passing interest not only to rate payers or Municipal authorities but everybody in this country who is alive to his responsibilities to the State. In the course of the speech the Premier said:

The ancients believed in self-Government through self-help; In public regulation of affairs through private regulation of conduct in the first instance. And as they perfected this technique of civic life, to solve social ills by tackling the individual, their problems, begun to dwindle in size and many solved themselves. Self-help did away with the need for "other help" to a large extent. Self-discipline made elaborate state discipline unnecessary. Charity as a Dharma eclipsed charity as a responsibility by the State.

The modern conception of life, does not attach sufficient importance to these

values. There is a wrong emphasis on the duty of the individual to the civic body and the responsibility of the civic body to the individual. The citizen believes that his duty ends with paying taxes. If there is dirt in the streets, impurity in water and illiteracy, and poverty among the poor, he expects the civic authorities to find a remedy for these evils. The individual cannot be bothered with these. That is the attitude. It is not as if civic consciousness is lacking in him. It is the change in the emphasis, and the role.

What I plead, for therefore, is that these services now rendered by the civic bodies should be generously supplemented by the voluntary, and willing work of the people in the various spheres of civic activity, life education, public health and sanitation.

It should be the moral and religious duty of every educated man to teach at least ten others in his neighbourhood. From the passive role that the citizen plays to-day, he must turn into an active crusader against the environmental ills of Society in which he lives and has his being. Voluntary workers should form

themselves into squads to remove ignorance, disease, squalor want and idleness. The service personnel that would be required to give a thorough cleansing to the land, and to give it a new life, and a place under the sun would be so enormous and the expenditure so colossal, that without such co-operation of the unpaid services of community minded citizens, I despair of any substantial progress in the near future.

I might mention in particular the problem of refuse and sewage disposal. This is not merely a question of sanitary improvement, but a great development project that aims at returning to the soil the fertility it daily loses, as organised sewage, and refuse disposal helps the growth of more fodder, the raising of better livestock and crops, better milk supply and eventually better citizens. It gives rise to a chain of industries and is a paying proposition. I feel that many municipalities, and panchayats can be run from the income of the sewage, and refuse disposal by preparing compost manure in proper form. It would also solve our food problem. It is for you to consider the alterations you require in the structure and power of municipal bodies demanded by the changing needs and conditions of the times.

But whatever altered structure you may have, whatever increase in power you may gain, remember ultimately power flows from

structure gains strength from purity of administration. Service and purity should be the watch-words of any disinterested public work.

In seeking for more power, I would like you to bear in mind the famous words of Lords Action, that power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. It was to find a solution to the tyrannical use of centralised power that the democratic principle of de-centralisation through municipal institutions was enunciated. Devolution of power is the foundation of municipal civic life, and to the extent you succeeded in effecting further devolution, in your turn, will you have fulfilled the ideas of municipal life.

Self-sufficiency in Food

Unless more money was spent and more men were employed for the improvement and development of agriculture, India would continue to face uncertainties and put up with foreign dependence in a matter so vital as food, said Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, India's Food Minister, recently presiding over a conference of the Agriculture Ministers of the Provinces and States.

"Fulllest use should be made of such non-official agencies and organizations as may be serviceable for the great task involved in an agricultural census. These agencies and organizations will be, and should be, our constant help-mates hereafter also in our annual programme of collecting accurate agricultural data all over the country," he added.

Referring to the five-year programme of the "Grow More Food" campaign started by the Central Government in 1947-48, the Agriculture Minister said: "Last year, a sum of Rs. 2 crores was sanctioned as grants and Rs. 1,36,00,000 as loans by the Central Government. The main common difficulties which have been experienced are the inadequacy of supply of coal, cement, iron and steel, fertilisers and machinery, apart from the delays caused in transport and in securing the sanction of the Central Government provincial schemes."

to the last-mentioned Minister hoped that the would facilitate the provincial proposals. faculty might also bear. The non-ate quantity of hich the country foreign countries

Remember, power, physical or moral is for distribution. Only local self-Government can attend to the immediate needs of the people. If you happen to acquire more power, makes a generous distribution of it to those men and organizations who seek to serve the community, without thought of their own profit.

We must infuse a sense of citizenship and good fellowship as well as a spirit of service among our people. After everything is said and done, we cannot escape from the basic truth pronounced by Plato centuries ago, that the best form of Government by the best men. May God grant you the wisdom to use your power always for the good of the people.

would continue to be an important obstacle in its progress for a considerable time.

The wisest plan seemed rather to be, while expecting an improvement in these supplies from abroad, to plan our food production largely on the basis of such means and methods as were open to us within our own country.

"I have no doubt that, with determined effort backed by adequate financial support and organizational efficiency, India can before long free herself from anxiety in regard to food," he said.

"But to enable India to achieve this result, agriculture must be allowed to come into its own and receive the priority it deserves in our nation's plans. Agricultural wealth is the basis of our industrial activity and national prosperity. Unless we spend more money

Hearty repentance breaks the back of a guilt and leads the way to proper understanding.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

and employ more man-power for the improvement and development of agriculture, we will continue, to face uncertainties and put up with foreign dependence in a matter so vital as food.

Mr. Jairamdas felt that even if the country had other difficulties and bottlenecks, a great deal was going to depend upon the man-power which the country could marshal for agricultural improvements.

"We must create a series of links between the headquarters of the Government Departments and the cultivator. Some work in this line, I know, has been done in one or two provinces, but it needs to be vastly and rapidly increased. We have, in the villages of this country, 15,000 co-operative societies with a working capital of over Rs. 30 crores. We should mobilise all this man-power and divert the main energies of these societies to the programme of food production."

The key to the agricultural progress in America and some other western countries, the Food Minister said, was not so much mechanisation or other modern methods of agriculture as widespread human agency working at the organizing of agricultural development.

Service of India means Service of Millions

The past is over and it is the future that beckons to us now. That future is not one of ease or resting but of incessant striving so that we might fulfil the pledges we have so often taken and the one we shall take to-day. The service of India means the service of millions who suffer. It means the ending of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity . . . And so we have to labour and to work and work hard to give reality to our dreams. Those dreams are not only for India, but they are also for the world, for all the nations and peoples are too closely knit together to-day for any one of them to imagine that it can live apart.

—PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

TOPICS OF THE DAY

Delhi Food Conference

Important resolutions were adapted at the Food Ministers' Conference held recently at New Delhi.

The following are some of the resolutions:—

As one of the major impediments to the satisfactory use of improved methods of agriculture or the utilization of the results of scientific researches is the smallness of the holdings, leading in turn to even the use of improved seeds or manures giving only inadequate profit, every step for consolidating the holdings or for forming joint units of cultivation should be pushed through with vigour.

As food production schemes can be adequately implemented only by harnessing non-official support and participation, (a) co-operative societies, panchayats or other rural development organizations should be set up in each province to assist the Government in its food production plans; and where such organizations exist they should be utilized; (b) similar suitable bodies should be set up at the taluk, district and provincial levels; (c) special officers should be appointed in the provinces and states for creating and strengthening such organizations and further increasing the utility of such organizations as exist; (d) ad hoc committees should be organized where necessary in the village areas, and groups of areas to be assigned to each organization.

While steps should be taken to place agricultural statistics on a sound basis, the following method should be followed in estimating the results of the Grow More Food Scheme:—

(1) the progress made in terms of the various items of work done should be indicated; (2) the additional yield resulting from the works should be ascertained by more than one method, and by means of (a) estimating the increase by one unit of each type of work, and calculation of the total increase by reference to the total number of work units of that type; (b) use of the random sampling method in crop cutting experiments; (c) test checks by Provincial and Central Government officers on the spot.

In view of the short supply of materials and machinery from abroad, and the inherent advantages in maximizing the use of indigenous resources in increasing food production, the following among other steps be intensified taking into consideration the local conditions:—

(a) The number of seed farms or agencies for seed production in each province and state should be increased so as to supply the entire cropped area with improved seed as early as possible.

(b) Special efforts should be made to frame and execute a comprehensive programme of urban and rural compost making and distribution.

(c) Each province and state should have special seed farms or other agencies for the production of green manure seeds, and a definite target of increase of the area to be covered by such seeds.

In view of the advantages of co-operative organization in furthering food production schemes—

(a) Each province and state should endeavour to increase the number of agricultural co-operative societies, which should be utilized to the maximum extent for purposes of food production; and

(b) Co-operative Conferences should be called in every province and state as frequently as possible with the object of framing and examining specific proposals for the utilization of co-operatives in increasing food production.

Being impressed with the need for ensuring and equitably distributing materials and machinery essential for food production, in short supply, the Conference recommends that—

(a) a Central pool be created of declared surpluses of seeds for food grains on suitable lines;

(b) the formation of the Provincial Resources Committees recommended by the Provincial Food Ministers' Conference held in April 1948 be accelerated, where they have not been formed already; and

(c) the purchase of imported machinery be centralized to the extent possible.

This Conference considers that with a view to securing optimum results from expenditure on Grow More Food Schemes—

(a) adequate technical and administrative staff to assist and inspect on the field the execution of food production schemes is of paramount importance; and

(b) this staff, both of the Central and Provincial Governments, should constantly tour the country and keep in touch with the progress of schemes.

That schemes for production of protective foods, such as fish in maritime provinces, should receive special consideration by the Central and the Provincial Governments; and efforts for increasing the supply of such foods should be intensified.

On the question of the World Census of Agriculture, the Conference recommended that—

(a) India should co-operate with the F.A.O. in organizing a Census of Agriculture and the occasion of this Census should be made use of to collect all the basic data in the field of agriculture. The various enquiries in connexion with the Census of Agriculture should be so planned as to provide, in a comprehensive manner, all the data that is required for formulating measures on agricultural development.

(b) In view of the very short time left for the technical planning of the Census and the setting up of the necessary administrative machinery, the Census should be held in the year July 1950—June 1951.

(c) As the Census and the improvements in the collection of agricultural statistics planned would necessitate a permanent increase in expenditure, the Government of India should share any extra expenditure that will be necessary on this account to the extent of 50 per cent for the first 5 years, on the condition that the work is continued permanently thereafter by the respective Governments at their own cost and requests from particular administrations for enhanced assistance for special reasons being examined on merits.

(d) The Census of Agriculture and the proposed improvements in Agricultural Statistics will call for adequately trained personnel at all levels. The Indian Council of Agriculture should therefore expand its existing facilities for training and organize additional courses, if necessary, specially adapted to the needs of different categories of staff.

The Task before Municipal Councils

Mr. Chandramouli's address at the Municipal Chairmen's Conference

In the course of his address at the recent Municipal Chairmen's Conference, Hon. Mr. Chandramouli stressed the vital responsibilities of municipal bodies.

Speaking the other day at Delhi to the Ministers for Local Administration assembled in Conference, our distinguished Prime Minister, Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru, pointed out the supreme importance of efficient Local Self-Government in the evolution of real democracy. "Local Self-Government is and must be," he said, "the basis of any true system of democracy. We have got rather into the habit of thinking of democracy at the top and not so much below. Democracy at the top cannot be a success unless it is built on a democratic foundation." Democracy enables every citizen to take his due share in the Government of the country. In a democratic country every citizen must feel a certain sense of responsibility, each in his own field of work, however limited it may be, and take a real and genuine interest in his own town or village. This is where the importance of local Self-Government lies. In the words of Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, the Minister for Health in the Government of India, "a first-class local administration must really be the basis of universal good Government in the country." The independence which we have achieved after years of strenuous efforts and tremendous sacrifices will not avail ourselves much unless we use it for the establishment of a strong, pure and broad-based democratic Government which will have as its sole aim the good of every citizen in the country regardless of his caste, community, creed, status or intellectual attainment. The happiness of the people, the bringing about of conditions which will enable every citizen to raise to the highest that is in him, the provision of amenities which will conduce to comfortable living,—these must be the aim of all local self-government institutions in the country. People must not only have their basic civic needs met, but must also be given opportunities to find some pleasure in life. We must so administer our municipal councils and local boards that the citizens in our town and in our villages will become morally strong, spiritually great, physically fit and economically sound. The discussions in this Conference will be directed towards finding

out the ways and means by which the local administrative units may be better enabled to carry out these functions, and achieve these objects. We shall examine the changes necessary in law and procedure in order to help elected representatives of the people in municipal councils and local boards to work to the best of their abilities and capacities for the happiness of the people.

A Retrospect

Local Administration is not new to India. From time immemorial, our country had popular elections and efficient civic administration. But, unfortunately when we were subjugated to foreign rule, the incentive for local administration was put down with a despotic hand and our well-organized and efficiently administered local institutions were destroyed; and people were made less and less responsible for the administration of their own affairs. The first local governing institutions under British Rule came into existence in our Province in 1850, when consultative committees were appointed in towns. Later under the reforms effected by Lord Ripon for the introduction of elective principle, financial independence and reduction of official control, the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1884, came into being. The progress of local self-governing institutions was reviewed by the Government of India from time to time, and finally in 1915, on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Decentralization which had gone into the subject of Local Self-Government in India, exhaustively. The result was the passing of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, in which the introduction of an elected majority and an elected Chairman, wide powers for levy of local taxes, control of staff and relaxation of the control of Collectors were the main features. In 1930, the Act was again amended when the system of nominations was altogether given up. In the light of the experience gained in working the Act of 1920, a further amendment was made in 1933 when the system of appointing Commissioners was introduced. This measure did

not, at first, find favour with some municipal councils who regarded it as an inroad on their powers. But, the system has, on the whole, worked satisfactorily. Generally speaking, Commissioners have been doing useful work and have effected some improvement in the efficiency of the executive administration. But even so, we have to admit, however reluctantly, that, generally speaking, our local bodies have not yet reached that standard of efficiency, and freedom from corruption, which must be the goal of every one to attain, if the independence which we have obtained is to serve its worthy purpose. It may be that sometimes the low standard of administration and the lack of a sense of corporate responsibility have necessitated in the past the curtailment of the powers of municipal councils and governmental interference. We, as elected representatives of the people and men in charge of the civic administration of towns and cities in the Province, must see that we prove ourselves worthy of real self-Government.

Need for Co-operation

I must here say a word also about the essential need for close co-operation between the Executive Officers and the Council; and for harmony among every one connected with municipal administration. While I will not even for a moment suggest that you should tolerate laziness, inefficiency, undue self-esteem and corruption on the part of the Commissioners, Health Officers, Engineers and other paid staff, I would request you not to interfere with their executive administration or in matters pertaining to their control over their subordinate staff.

Government have always been anxious that in order to ensure a cordial relationship between the Chairman of the Municipal Council and the Commissioner there should be certain well-understood conventions in all matters which are likely to lead to friction in the administration. Harmony can be achieved only through mutual adjustments and a spirit of give-and-take—not by each insisting on his own dignity or his powers; or relying on rules and orders. If both the executive and the councillors realize that they are there for the common purpose of serving the people and work together in that spirit the people can be made more happy and more comfortable. This can be achieved only by co-operative and joint effort. With such co-operation and in such a joint effort there will be no room for difference of opinion or friction or disharmony.

Finance

The finance of most municipalities have, I know, been very seriously affected by the revision of the scales of pay of their staff, the payment of dearness allowance, and the recent enhancement of the allowance all caused by the rising cost of living. This serious depletion of your income was inevitable. I notice also an undue generosity on the part of municipal councils in making contributions to institutions and to outside funds and objects which however worthy are not really intended to be supported by public money such as you handle.

I also notice a tendency in all municipal councils generally to pay preferential attention to the more showy among the amenities they desire to provide than to the more useful ones: such for example as the opening of parks, the provision of mercury vapour lights, the putting up of a clock tower and such like. It will be wiser though less spectacular to provide suitable buildings for your schools, construct a culvert there, widen a narrow street corner here, and provide a few electric lights in the slums and cherries in your town. You must ensure the necessities and the ordinary amenities of urban life to the more obscure portions of the town and the poorer areas before going on to beautify your promenades, and your main thoroughfares. You should provide houses and tenements to the poorer classes, clear the slums, have drinking water and drainage facilities in the poorer quarters before you take up grand schemes for town development or an underground drainage scheme for the portions of the town inhabited by the wealthier classes. This will be more indicative of your real sympathy for the poorer and under-privileged among your citizens.

It is also well known that in many municipalities under-assessment of taxation is a serious evil and has seriously affected their financial position.

I am saying all this to impress upon you the need for conserving your financial resources, for avoiding wasteful expenditure and for concentrating on the essential needs before going in for luxuries.

The present policy of Government is to give more powers to municipal councils and more financial resources. The decentralization of powers and ensuring of local financial stability should be the aim and goal of a truly democratic government. Such decentralization and financial security enables both provincial Governments and Local

Administrations to discharge their respective functions and duties properly and efficiently. But the mere handing over of power and of financial resources to any local institution will not and cannot by itself confer any benefits on the people. There must be men, of character and integrity, who can handle the powers and the finances thus

handed over in such a selfless and wise manner that they will benefit all sections of the people, rich and poor, high and low, all alike.

I am confident that you will go back from this Conference with a determination that you will administer your respective municipalities in this noble and selfless spirit.

Fruit Growing

It is common knowledge that fruit is a protective food. Nutritional experts have prescribed a minimum consumption of fruits daily by everybody to ensure good health. At present the masses do not keep to this minimum. It is said that fruit growing has to be developed considerably if the minimum is to be made available. Fruit growing is therefore a national duty at this juncture. Sri V. K. Subramanya Mudaliyar, Deputy Director of Agriculture, in the course of a broadcast recently gave some useful facts about fruit growing. He said:

Those of you who had an opportunity to visit the Provincial Fruit Show held at the Government House on the Mount Road, Madras, from the 21st to 23rd May 1948 must have gained a glimpse of the rich and varied fruit wealth of South India. You must have also gathered at the same time the vast potentialities of this part of the country for extension and improvement of fruit industry. Those who were not privileged to witness that Show can yet find sufficient matter to give them an insight into our existing fruit resources and to the possibilities by perusing the show publications such as the Souvenir and the Guide, which are still available for sale at the Office of the Fruit Specialist, Chempauk, Madras.

The present talk is meant for those who have neither of the opportunities referred to above. It is aimed to tell the amateur and the professional fruit producer as well as the lover of fruit, which is synonymous with the general public, a few of the secrets for success in one of the most pleasurable and fascinating of the arts or avocations, viz., fruit growing.

Fruits in the Province

Our province grows fruits of numerous kinds and innumerable varieties. One would be foolish to dwell on all or even the major aspects of culture of even a fraction of those appearing in the list of our cultivated fruits. I have, therefore, chosen three typical fruits for to-day's discussion—the mango, the citrus and the sapota. I shall endeavour to speak on some of their chief aspects of culture.

With an area of about 250,000 acres under mango and with over 300 varieties of this fruit under cultivation, this province can legitimately claim the premier rank in the Indian Union

for the production of a wealth of mangoes of unequalled character and quality. We have luscious table mangoes, delectable juicy, types, sprightly pickle varieties and valuable off-season fruits. Yet paradoxically enough, we are far removed from the ideal mango. To breed a mango in which are combined all or most of the desirable characteristics is one of the goals of our research. To reduce the risks that are inherent in our present day unorganized and unscientific practices of mango culture, research is also indicated in several directions—in selecting the plants of the best pedigree, in choosing the optimum soil and environment for each variety, in the maintenance of the trees at minimum cost and yet with maximum profits.

In the production of citrus fruit also, Madras leads the rest of the country with an area of about 50,000 acres. In our Sathgudi orange we have perhaps the best flavoured orange of the country. Our limes provide the chief sinews for all the lime squash and lime juice cordial factories of the country. Our mandarin or loose jacket orange production is incomparably good in quality and is the cheapest to produce in the country, due to our characteristic rain-fed groves. Our lemons and pummeloos, though less known, have a great future, not only because of their quality and yielding capacities but also because of their other valuable characters such as precocity and freedom from diseases. Extension of citrus production, to secure standardized quality of a high order with the minimum production cost, should be the aim of all our work in these fruits, and it is these that are the guiding features of research projects at Kodur, Kallar and Wynaad, etc.

As a hardy fruit, sapota enjoys very great popularity in the province both in homeyards and in commercial orchards. The area on the aggregate may be less than 2,000 acres in the province, but for an easily perishable fruit with poor transportable qualities but with extremely high yielding propensities, the above area is but a poor index of the fruit's popularity or value. We have several choice varieties, differing in shape, size and eating quality. Further improvement seems to be delineating the optimum centres of production for each variety and the optimum stocks for budding or grafting. The devising of the most efficient and economic orchard practice is also a plank in the programme common to the sapota as for the citrus and the mango.

Past experience as well as research findings show that most of our failures in the field of fruit growing have so far been primarily due to the unsuitable plant material planted in our orchards. In one mango orchard, it has been found that as many as 95 per cent of the trees of two leading commercial varieties produced consistently poor or no crop during three out of the four years of study. The heavy fruiting trees in any of these four years did not exceed 2.6 per cent. These figures, which are believed to be typical of the commercial mango groves in most parts of the province, denote that our mango groves are most defectively stocked, and therefore the scope for enhancement of crop yield by a proper

selection of plant material is very great. Almost the same feature, though to a lesser extent, characterises the citrus plantations. In sapotas, the yields are less varying between trees but the variation is not entirely absent and that for quality is sufficiently appreciable to cause concern.

The loss to fruit producers by the planting of varieties and kinds of fruits unsuited to the region or site also amounts to a huge figure annually in the province. There are several known instances of orchards planted to imported varieties or kinds of fruits, from which the owners have never reaped any fruits at any stage of the life of the plantations.

Roll of Agricultural Department

The department of Agriculture through its fruit section is in a position to offer advice to the producers as to the most suitable or profitable kinds and varieties of fruits to be grown under each of the diverse conditions prevailing in this province. It does not cost you anything to obtain such advice, and no responsibility is imposed on the seeker of such advice either.

The value of tree selection, being as important as the value of selection of variety or kind of fruit, cannot be ignored particularly in mangoes and citrus fruits, and possibly also in sapotas. To ensure profitable yields, the growers will, therefore, do well to purchase plants raised only from trees selected for high and regular yields,

superior fruit quality and desirable tree vigour and health.

How to select a site and how to plant trees are questions that concern every grower at the very outset. The Department of Agriculture has dealt fully with those questions in separate publications, and copies of these are available for supply to any one interested in the subject.

Irrigation and manuring are two of the chief orchard practices on which a majority of the growers flounder. Our irrigation and manurial methods in relation to fruit trees have generally followed in the past certain arbitrary principles. For instance, it is usual for the growers to apply water and manure, as and when available, rather than to meet the tree requirements. Such a policy is fraught with disaster and explains why most of our orchards produce irregular yields. Intelligent manuring and irrigation are often the key-notes for success, and in the absence of such methods of fruit-growing is reduced to a gamble, in which few may succeed and most go to the wall. It is futile to attempt to give any hints in each of these subjects in the course of the present talk. Being complex, they warrant a more detailed treatment. I would suggest to the readers to read through the articles on these subjects in the latest Villagers' Guide and Calendar, copies of which are available at all offices of the Agricultural Department in the taluks, districts or at the office of the Director of Agriculture, Madras.

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.

Corruption among Government Servants

During the month of April 1948, corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 217 persons including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the previous month. Of these, 17 were let off as charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 181 were pending at the end of the month. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of the remaining 19 persons and they were suitably punished. The names and designations of these persons and the punishment awarded to them are as follows:—

M. D. Venkatasubbiah, Senior Deputy Inspector of Schools, Madaka-

sira (removed from service); S. A. Syed Ibrahim Saheb, Headmaster, Government Muslim High School, Madras (dismissed); Rangiah, Head Constable, Nellore district, B. L. Raju, Constable, Nellore district, Chinnaasami, Constable, North Arcot district, Appaswamy and Mayavan, Constables, South Arcot district, Mohammed Ebrahim and Govindarajan, Constables, Salem district (dismissed); Ghulam Abbas, Constable, Railway Police, Tiruchirappalli district (suspended for 15 days); Daniel Vedam, Subedar, Special Armed Police Units, Tiruchirappalli at Red Hills (discharged from service); N. Aravamudan, Assistant Secretary, Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies), Madras (dismissed); R. Krishnamurthi Rao,

Rationing Officer, Pollachi, Coimbatore district (reverted to District Board Office, Coimbatore); T. K. Maboob Khan, Peter Fernando, Muthuswami Pillai, Shamsuddin and Gulam Dastagir, Chowkidars, Rationing Office, Tuticorin (services terminated); E. Thangavelu Pillai, permanent lower division clerk, Taluk Office, Tindivanam (compulsorily retired from service).

[September 1]

National Anthem and other Songs

In modification of all previous orders, the Government of Madras have directed that in public functions organized in schools, including school

day celebrations, meetings, etc., the National Anthem "Jana Gana Mana" should be sung only at the termination of the proceedings. Other songs such as "Vazhiya Senthamizh," "Vande Matharam," etc., may be sung before the National Anthem, but no song should be sung after it.

The singing of any particular prayer songs at the morning assembly in schools will not be compulsory, and it will be left to the discretion of the Headmaster of the school concerned.

[September 3]

Permits for Cement

The press statement regarding the transfer of control over cement to the Director of Controlled Commodities appears to have been misunderstood and there is an impression that in future permits for purchasing cement will be issued by the Director of Controlled Commodities and not by the Honorary Cement Controllers. This is not correct. There is no change in the procedure obtaining till now regarding the issue of permits, consequent on the transfer of the work of administration to the Director of Controlled Commodities. Permits will be issued as before by the Honorary Cement Controllers, Madras and Coimbatore, and Tahsildars, as the case

may be. All applications for cement should therefore be made to the above officers and dealers as hitherto.

[September 3]

Corruption among Government Servants

During the month of May 1948 corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 202 persons including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the previous month. Of these, 10 were let off as charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 171 were pending at the end of the month. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of the remaining 21 persons and they were suitably punished. The names and designations of these persons and the punishment awarded to them are as follows:—

K. Sethu Rao, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Anantapur (dismissed); G. Peda Venkatareddi, Sub-Registrar, Razole, East Godavari district (dismissed); D. C. Mills, Clerk, Connemara Public Library, Madras (dismissed); Chadayan Kutty, Head Constable; Syed Ali Kutty, Khadar, Usman, Rama Krishna Nair and Ayamu, Police Constables of Malabar district, Venkatesa Naik, Venkayya, B. Chintayya and Venkataratnam, Police Constables

of Guntur district (all dismissed); Chengadu, II grade Warden, Central Jail, Madras (dismissed); Subbaraya Udayan, acting Forest Guard (increment withheld for 3 years); Kotha Goundan, Reserve Watcher (leave on loss of pay); D. Rama Rao, permanent III grade draughtsman, Bezawada Circle, P.W.D. (compulsorily retired); M. Ayyaswamy, Petrol supervisor, A.R.O.'s Office, Coimbatore (reduced to the minimum pay); Paramanatham, Enquiry Officer, R.O.'s Office, Ooty (discharged); N. D. Karkada, Enquiry Officer, North Circle Rationing Office, Mangalore (discharged); J. Shanmugasundaram, Assistant Transport Officer, Coimbatore (discharged).

[September 3]

Fee Concessions

The Government have directed that for a period of ten years beginning with 1948-49, full-fee concession should be granted to Harijan boys studying in classes I to V of secondary schools.

The fees already paid will not be refunded. The concession will be withheld from a pupil, who remains for more than one year in one and the same class, but will be revived on promotion to the higher class.

[September 13]

DEPARTMENTS' CORNER

Firka Development Department

During July Hon'ble Dr. S. Gurubatham took over charge of the Firka Development Department. According to the Hon'ble the Minister the plan for firka development should aim at raising the standard of living of the villagers and to bring about a self-contained, self-sufficient "Grama Rajyam." His idea is that each selected firka should be made a fully developed unit. All departments of the Government should concentrate their activities in the firka and their united efforts should be to make the firka an ideal one. The work of the Departments of Agriculture, Industries, Irrigation, Animal Husbandry, Highways, Electricity, Water-supply, Co-operation, etc., should be properly co-ordinated. The Sub-Committee appointed by the Provincial Firka Development Board has already drawn up a scheme for firka development. The scheme essentially aims at effecting a change in the psychology of the peasant in his social and personal habits without which it is impossible materially to improve his conditions of life. The Government are examining the plan drawn up by the Sub-Committee. According to the Hon'ble the Minister, Rural Reconstruction, should be neither purely psychological nor wholly material but should be a harmonious blending of the two. Schemes in this regard are being worked out by the Government.

A synopsis of the important activities undertaken by the Firka Development staff in the mufassal is given below.

Yerragundapalem centre.—Attention was concentrated on village sanitation. The volunteers of the Sanitation Sangam, along with the Firka Development staff, swept the main streets and roads of Yerragundapalem. The sanitation party did scavenging work. A party of the Sanitation Sangam swept the Harijan quarters. About 10,000 yards of cloth was produced by self-spinners in this intensified Khadi area which has come up for registration in Centre Khadi office and an equal amount, if not more, was also produced in this area, which has not come up for registration to the office. The Khadi staff, along with the Firka Development staff, are intensively carrying on propaganda work for the use of speed-wheel-charka and the use of medium-bow in carding. A special Veterinary Surgeon inoculated about 500 cocks and hens against Ranikhat disease in Yerragundapalem and Kothapalli. Cart tyres were distributed to the ryots.

Avanashi centre.—The Firka Development Department staff of this centre has visited 111 villages and 31 cheris during the month of June.

1948 and has given talks on Sanitation, Elementary Education, etc.

Proddatur firka.—Basic education was introduced in three village schools in the firka in the month of July 1948.

Payyanur centre.—It has been proposed to start in this firka a joint Milk and Cattle Farm. Green manure plants, fruit-bearing trees and vegetable plants are being planted in the villages.

Veerapandi firka.—In July 1948 estimates were prepared for three road works amounting to Rs. 2,780 under Village Communications. Out of seven road works already sanctioned, six road works were executed, of which five works were completed, the total length of these five works being two miles five and a half furlongs, costing Rs. 3,420. A central library for the firka was opened by the Collector of Salem. One Charka Sangam was opened at Muduthuracherry with 14 members. Spinning classes were conducted in all the Charka Sangams on all Fridays. A conference of all the Headmasters of this firka was convened and they were given instructions to use pre-vocational period exclusively for spinning. They were instructed to have charts in every school to show the progress made during every week. During the period about 20 hanks of yarn were produced in the firka.

Kurnool firka.—One bath room for Harijan women was constructed. The irrigation channel running through the main bazaar of Johrapuram village to the fields was repaired. One Central Library for the firka has been opened at Kallur and books are being distributed in all the villages. Two new Elementary Schools were opened at Pudur and Padidampadu villages. Six night schools for adult education were started. A Basic School at Gargeyapuram has been started. Two co-operative stores have been formed and registered in Kallur and in Johrapuram villages. Two hand-loom Weavers' Co-operative Societies were got registered in these villages. Charkas were obtained and distributed among the villagers in the firka.

Progress was made in respect of works under Village Communications and Rural Water-Supply. Cleaning campaigns, distribution of charkas, etc., were undertaken.

Tirumangalam firka.—A training camp for constructive workers was started at Nedumangalam.

Palladam firka.—In this firka, water table ranges from 30 feet to 50 feet. In many villages drinking water facilities for the public are very

poor. The Firka Development Officer is tackling the problem by sinking wells in 19 villages. Three new roads have been formed in three villages. Two old roads have been repaired in the villages of Naranapuram and Sinnaigoundenapalayam. On the initiative of the Firka Development Staff, six new schools have been started by the Coimbatore District Board in this firka. Twenty-five night schools are working. The public are evincing keen interest in education and they have provided rent-free buildings in four villages for conducting schools. New school buildings are being built in three villages from public funds. New houses are being built for the Harijans of Rangasamudram and Semmipalayam as a preliminary step in solving the housing problem of the poor. A special committee has been constituted for raising funds for a High School Building and a Maternity Ward; and sums of Rs. 13,000 and Rs. 9,000 respectively have been collected in this regard.

Kanupur firka.—Five Sanitation Sangams have been started in five villages and Sanitation Squads formed. Intensive propaganda in regard to village sanitation is being carried on.

Hindupur firka.—By the joint efforts of the Firka Development Staff and some other prominent villagers, a free Boarding Home for the poor students was opened at Cholor on 5th July 1948.

Santhanuthalapadu firka.—The construction of the storage shed has been completed.

Kalasapakkam firka.—A central library has been opened and branch

libraries in all the 30 villages of the firkas will be opened shortly.

Srikurman.—A Co-operative Agriculturists' Association was formed; and it has taken 100 acres of cultivable land near Vomararilli village for lease. A model agricultural farm was started on 25th July 1948 and a demonstration was also made by using the tractor and other improved agricultural implements.

Intensive Khadi Scheme.—It has come to the notice of the Government that private producers, dealers and hawkers of Khadi have been exploiting the national sentiment in favour of Khadi by putting on market spurious varieties of Khadi for sale at exorbitant prices. The Government have, therefore, decided that all private producers, dealers and hawkers of Khadi except the All-India Spinners' Association's Production centres, Government Khadi Centres, and other organizations certified by the All-India Spinners' Association should leave the Khadi field for good and that the licences already issued in 1947 should not be renewed and those issued in 1948 should be cancelled. Government, have, however, allowed time till 31st December 1948 to the private producers, dealers and hawkers of Khadi, within which to wind up their business and to dispose of their existing stocks. The licensed producers and dealers have been allowed also to export their existing stocks or any part thereof to other provinces or states within the Indian Dominion where they have a ready market before 31st December 1948 on permits obtained from the Director of Controlled Commodities.

Highways Department in 1946-47

The following are the salient features of the administration of the Highways Department for 1946-47:—

The Highways Department commenced to function as a separate department from 1st April 1946.

Road maintenance.—During the war years, all resources of men and materials were concentrated on certain roads of military importance and other projects of a high priority. There was a general deterioration in the condition of the other roads. The five-year plan of post-war development of the province was originally drawn up on the expectation that an amount of Rs. 135 crores would be available for expenditure during the five years, after the

termination of hostilities and that out of this, an amount of Rs. 27.77 crores should be allotted for road development. The provision for the province had to be curtailed to bring down the total expenditure to Rs. 80 crores. In making this revision, Government considered that priority should be given to schemes of economic development, which would increase the income of the people and their taxable capacity arising therefrom, and that schemes that provide for social amelioration and consequent heavy recurring expenditure will have to be comparatively slowed down. Hence the five-year programme for Rs. 27.77 crores required revision. Out of Rs. 25 crores allotted for works

MORE RURAL AMENITIES



Hon'ble Sri Chandramouli laid the foundation stone for a dispensary in Chingleput District

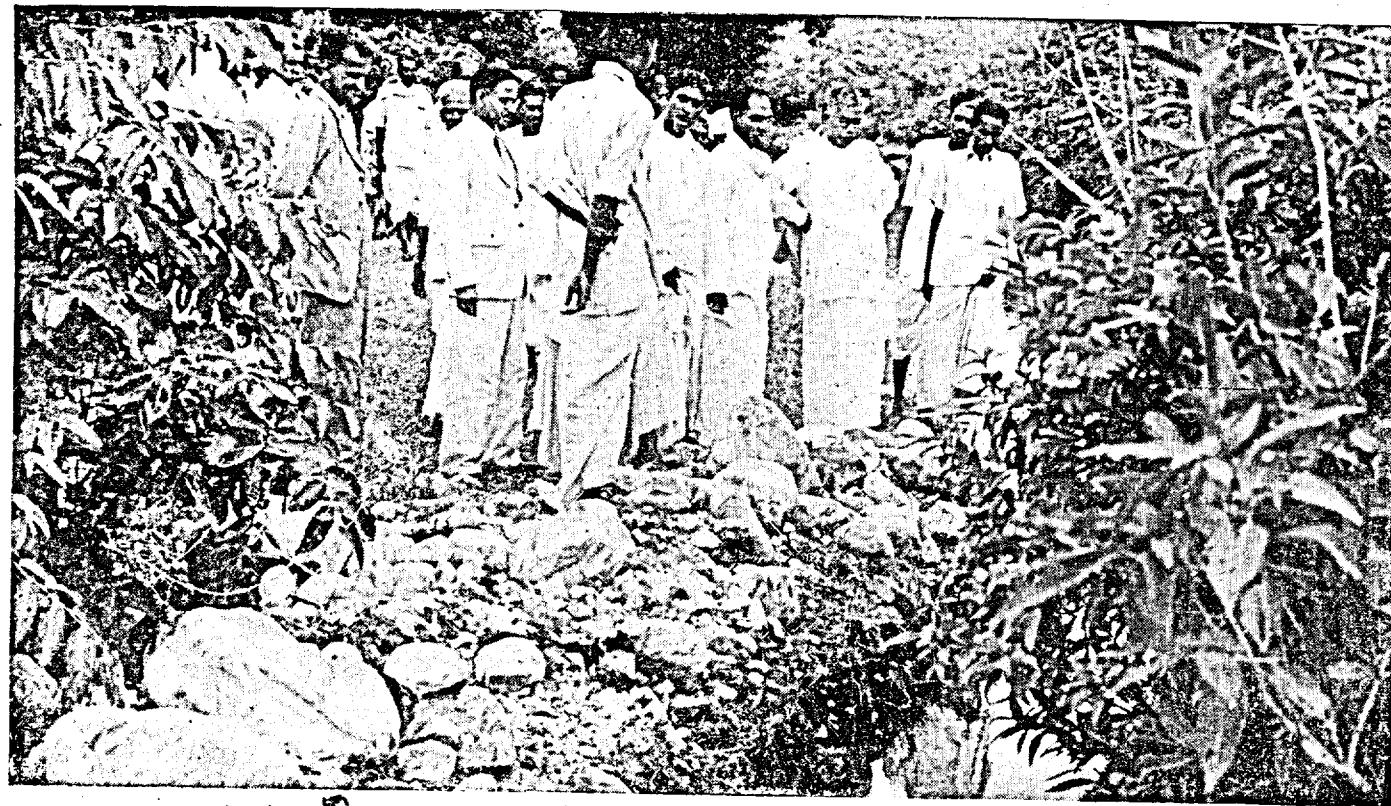


This photo was taken in connection with the foundation ceremony. Hon'ble Sri Bakthavatsalam is also seen in the picture



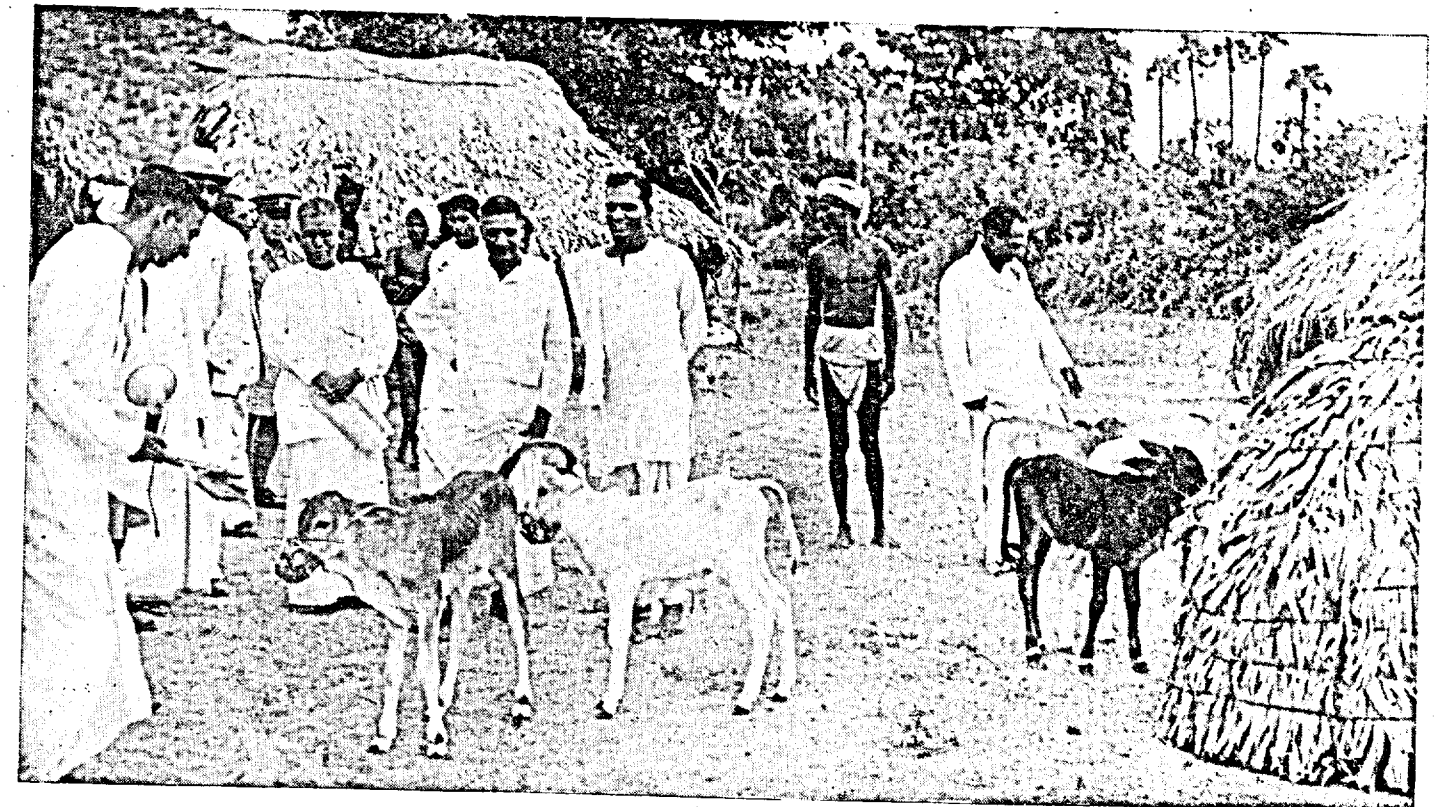
Discussing matters with Villagers

SPOTLIGHT ON RURAL UPLIFT

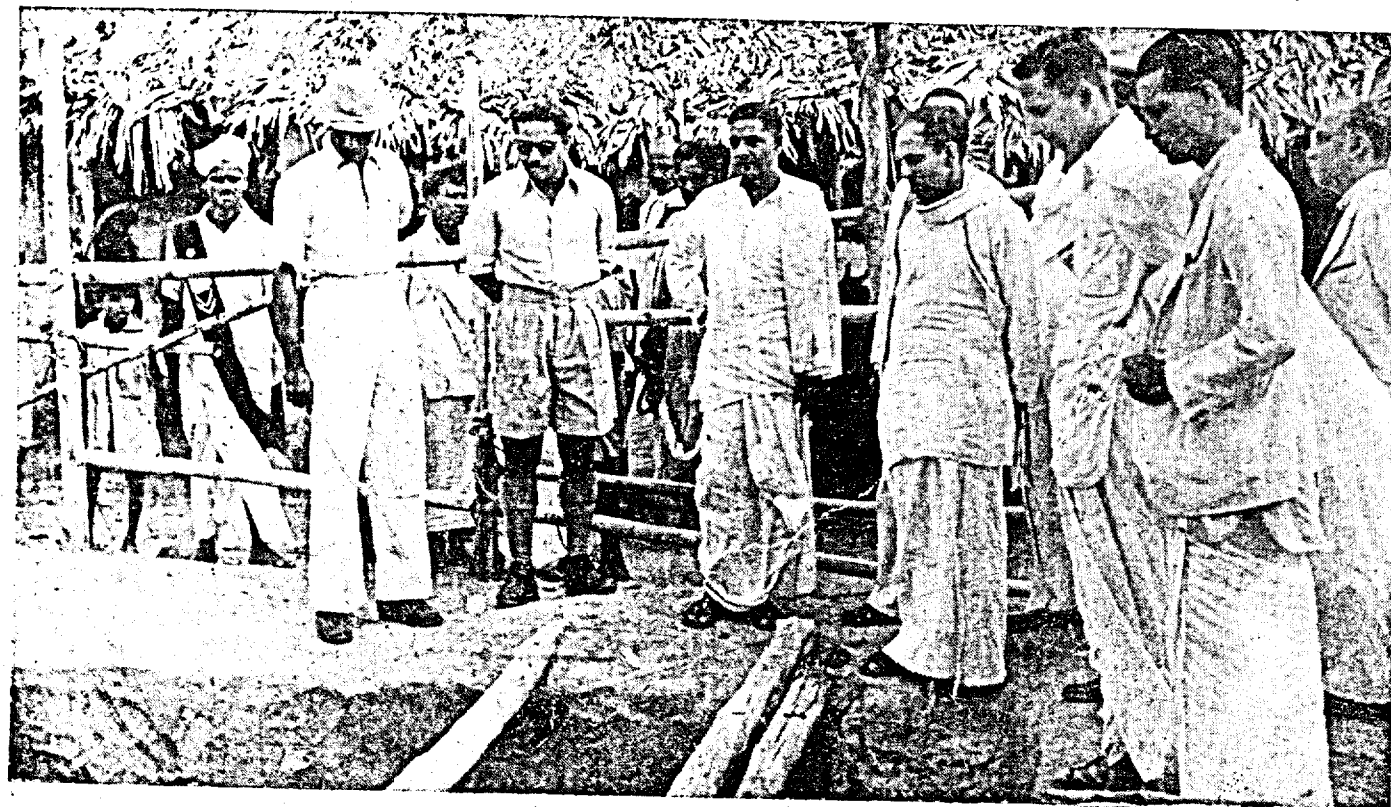


Hon'ble Sri Bakthabatsalam examining the question of utilization of water in a Forest area in Kambakkam in Chingleput District

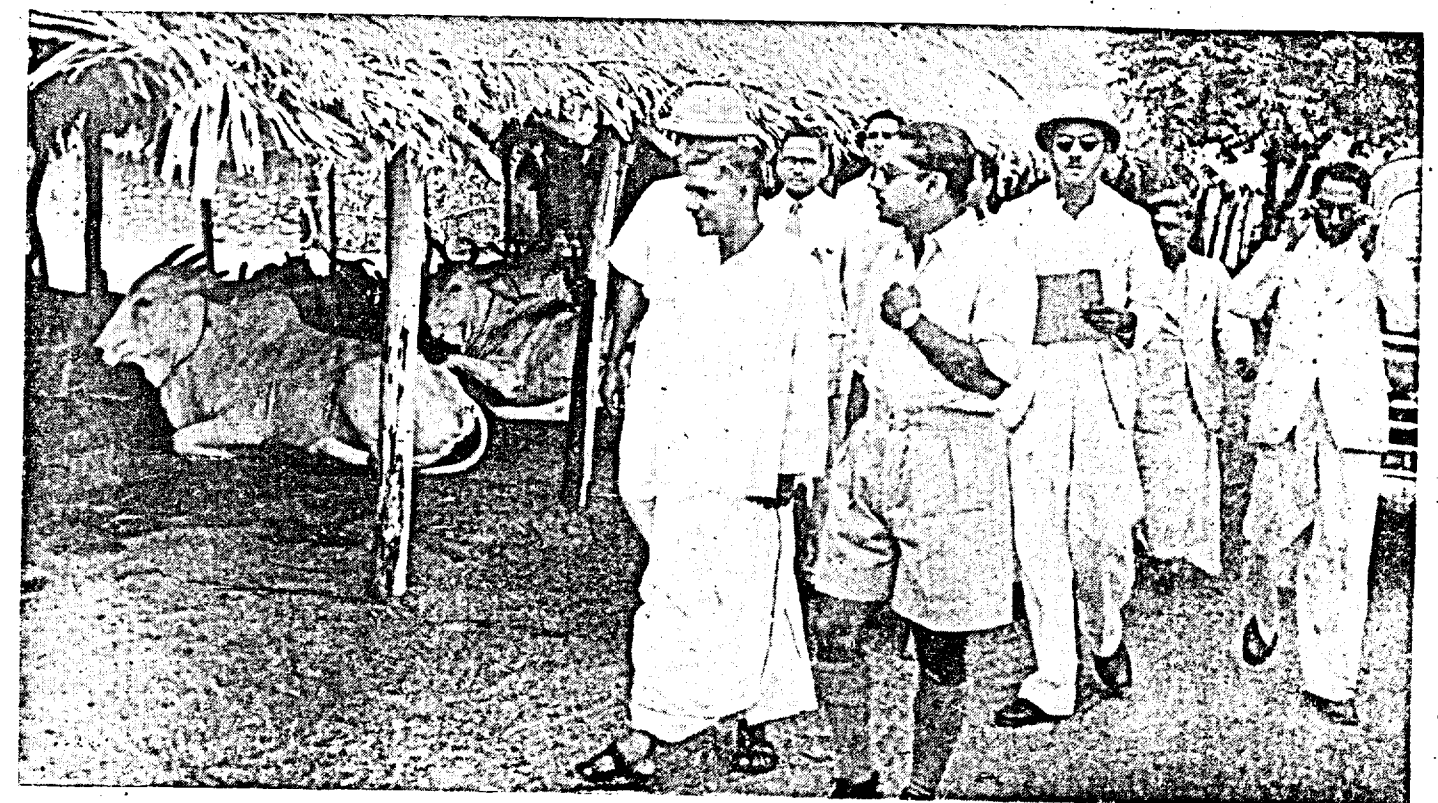
RURAL UPLIFT—MORE PICTURES 311



These calves are well cared for in the Dairy farm



Co-operative Dairy Farm at Kambakkam in Chingleput District



Hon'ble Sri Chandramouli is watching with interest the cows in the farm

FISH IS A GOOD SUPPLEMENTARY FOOD



Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Inspecting the Government Fish Farm at Kambakkam in Chingleput District



This picture shows typical fishes in the farm

on national highways in this Province, Rs. 1.5 crores is proposed for major projects and Rs. 1.00 crore for other road works.

In view of the material modification of the original programme and final one being not yet settled, no appreciable progress in maintenance of national highways was possible during 1946-47. Rs. 32 lakhs were spent on important and urgent interim schemes. Fourteen thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight miles of important roads in the Province were maintained by the Highways Department, while 737 miles of roads were maintained by the Public Works Department, and 24,912 miles of roads of local importance remained under the control of the district boards and municipal councils in the Province.

Expenditure.—A total expenditure of Rs. 159.10 lakhs was incurred during the year on the maintenance of roads under Government, besides Rs. 26.64 lakhs on special war arrear renewals to the bad stretches. Owing to the high cost of materials and labour and the accumulated arrears in past maintenance, the condition of the roads could not be improved adequately.

Three hundred and twenty-nine estimates of the aggregate value of about Rs. 3,55,67,188 were dealt with in technical section during the year. The approximate number of other miscellaneous references, including tenders, and agreements dealt with, apart from the estimates specified above, for the year 1946-47 is 2,160.

Three hundred and ninety-nine estimates in all to an aggregate value of Rs. 87.75 lakhs in respect of capital works and 5,301 estimates in all to an aggregate value of Rs. 770.4 lakhs in respect of maintenance works were scrutinized during the year in the offices of the Divisional Engineers and Superintending Engineers. One thousand two hundred and fifty-three estimates for capital works aggregating to Rs. 65.2 lakhs and 10,313 estimates for maintenance works aggregating to Rs. 132.4 lakhs in respect of district board works were scrutinized in the offices of the Divisional Engineers and Superintending Engineers. The total expenditure on capital works in all the district boards amounted to Rs. 14.68 lakhs and that on maintenance works in all the district boards amounted to Rs. 77.82 lakhs. The total mileage of roads in charge of the department as on 31st March 1947 was 14,958 miles against 5,450 miles in charge of the communications branch of the Public Works Department on 31st March 1946.

Plans and estimates aggregating to the value of Rs. 23,73,450 for 30 major works on bridges were prepared

during the year. Four other major works were investigated during the year.

Registration Department in 1947-48

The following are the salient features of the statistics of the Registration Department in the Madras Province for 1947-48:—

The number of district charges during the year under review was 29 and the number of District Registrars, including the post of Inspector of Registration Officers, was 32. The number of temporary sub-registry offices was 10, while the permanent sub-registry offices, including ex-officio, remained the same as at the close of the previous year, namely, 560. The number of permanent Sub-Registrars was 615, while the number of temporary Sub-Registrars rose from 4 to 14. The itinerary system of registry at Tangasari in Tinnevely district and Gudalur in the Nilgiris district was continued.

Surcharge stamp duty.—The amount of surcharge duty collected on certain transfers of immovable property, namely, sales, gifts or mortgage with possession during the official year 1947-48 was Rs. 1,78,22,966-15-0.

Registrations.—The number of registrations fell from 1,494,925 to 1,369,418 or by 8.39 per cent. The fall was due to the failure of the north-east monsoon, the intensification of the National Savings movement, the tendency among ryots not to part with

their lands and the tightness of the money market. There was a decrease of 8.66 per cent in the compulsory registrations and 5.27 per cent in optional registrations. The aggregate value of registered documents decreased from Rs. 92.13 crores to Rs. 88.37 crores. Owing to the decrease in registrations, the income from fees for registering documents fell from Rs. 60.37 lakhs to Rs. 59.61 lakhs. The income under search fees and other receipts showed a rise of Rs. 0.37 lakh and Rs. 3.28 lakhs, respectively. Accordingly, the total income rose from Rs. 76.04 lakhs to Rs. 78.93 lakhs. The expenditure rose from Rs. 45.50 lakhs to Rs. 49.97 lakhs, owing to the revision of the salaries of non-gazetted officers from 1st January 1947. The surplus income over expenditure (including refunds but excluding pensionary charges and interest on capital outlay on buildings) was Rs. 28.87 lakhs.

Exemptions.—Scheduled classes, who are members of co-operative societies, were exempted from payment of registration fees for a further period of two years.

Women were permitted to be employed as clerks and typists in the Registrars' offices.

Labour Department

The Government have accepted the interim award of the Industrial Tribunal for Engineering firms and type-foundries, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Nataraja Engineering Works, Madras.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal Coimbatore, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Brooke Bond Tea Company, Limited, Coimbatore.

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the managements of cinema theatres in Madura City to the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, for adjudication.

The Government have referred the disputes between the commercial

Employees and managements of all commercial establishments in Fort Cochin to the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, for adjudication.

The Government have accepted the interim award of the Industrial Tribunal for Printing Press in the Province, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Swarajya Press, Vijayawada.

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the master-weavers of Tiruchirappalli to the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, for adjudication.

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of the Nellimarla Jute Mills Company, Limited, Nellimarla, Vizagapatam district, regarding the

closure of the mills, to the Industrial Tribunal, Vijayawada, for adjudication.

The Chittivalsa Jute Mills Company, Limited, Chittivalsa, Vizagapatam,

which was closed on 28th July 1948 consequent on a rioting inside the mills was reopened on 23rd August 1948.

[2nd fortnight of August 1948.]

Resettlement and Employment

Dr. S. Gurubatham, Minister for Fiska Development, Government of Madras, visited recently the Strathie Co-operative Engineering Workshops for ex-service-men and the Training Centre.

The Hon'ble Minister visited every section of the workshop and was particularly interested in the rice

huller manufactured by the workshop. He discussed with the authorities the possibilities of introducing this simple, but, necessary machine into every household in the villages. He appreciated the skill and technique with which the articles of domestic utility were manufactured by these co-operative workshops.

RURAL TOPICS

Impediments to Agriculture

It is common knowledge that the subdivision of holdings is one of the obstacles in the way of the agriculture being remunerative in this country. It has been repeatedly stressed that unless the subdivision of holdings is minimized agriculture will continue to suffer from one of the grave handicaps which in recent times has proved a serious stumbling block. Subdivision means the distribution of land of a common ancestor among his successors-in-interest usually in accordance with the laws of inheritance. A man holding 15 acres and having five sons may be succeeded by these five sons each holding three acres. In the next generation this three-acre block will be further split according to the number of heirs and the process goes on like this as generations succeed each other. The subdivision of holdings creates a lot of difficulties for the agriculturist. It has been suggested that in order to remedy the subdivision of holdings co-operative farming is necessary.

Another factor that contributes to retard agriculture is fragmentation of holdings. This is distinct from subdivision and refers to the manner in which lands held by an individual are scattered in different parts of the villages in isolated plots. This also

has to be checked in order to make agriculture a paying business. Co-operation is the best way of solving these two evils. Rightly has the Royal Commission on Indian Agriculture stressed "If co-operation fails

The next issue of Madras Information will be Prohibition number.

there will fail the best hope of rural India." Legislation cannot completely wipe out these evils without the co-operation of agriculturists.

Repeal of Prohibition in America

America has paid dearly for the repeal of the Prohibition Act. Some time ago 50 leading authorities in U.S.A. made a careful study of the effects of repeal and published their findings in two volumes. Their figures show that beverage liquor is responsible for 20 per cent of divorces in U.S.A. to-day, 25 per cent of insanity, 37 per cent of poverty, 47 per cent of child misery and 50 per cent of crime.

It (the root of new education) lies in the application of truth and love in every variety of human activity, whether in individual or a corporate one. The notion of education through handicraft rises from the contemplation of truth and love permeating life's activities. Love requires that true education should be accessible to all.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

Cattle Wealth

The importance of animal husbandry in relation to agriculture is a point on which any amount of emphasis will not be excessive. United States Department of Agriculture Year Book for 1935 estimated the number of cattle in the world at 690 millions and according to the fourth census of live-stock held in 1935, the total cattle population in India is estimated at 215 millions. Of these 152 millions are located in British India and 38 millions in native states. India possesses one-third of the world cattle. The cattle wealth of the country has to be improved considerably. Though in point of actual strength, India takes the third place, the quality of cattle is poor and needs marked improvement. To this end, the Animal Husbandry Department has taken a number of measures. Public co-operation is essential in this as in every other nation building matter and the agriculturist has to realize that cattle constitute a hand-maid of agriculture and where the cattle wealth is poor agricultural prosperity is bound to suffer.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

Agrarian Reforms and Parity Economy

By HON'BLE SRI O. P. RAMASAMI REDDIAR, Premier of Madras

Introduction

Agricultural reconstruction was never more urgent for India than to-day. The huge deficits in the country's food supplies, the scarcity of dollar needed to import food, the immense cost to the State of a system of subsidized food purchase and the large size of the population pursuing agriculture at a subsistence level are all factors that call for the postulation of an immediate and bold policy. And yet we find that it is being given a step-motherly treatment in all schemes of post-war reconstruction. Compared with the conferences, discussions, out-pourings of literature and enactment of legislative measures undertaken for industrial reconstruction and trade revival, the interest and sympathy shown to agriculture is very little.

Time was when society revolved round land. All other forms of economic activity were subordinated to the basic pursuit of man, agriculture. Those were called the feudal times. That age gave place to an age of expanding commerce. The trader became all important. Then came the Industrial Revolution ushering in the captains of industry, and the imperialistic wars for colonial markets and raw materials. The next phase is perhaps the *yuga* of the bureaucrat. Already in Russia an army of technocrats are running a servile State.

Can this be not avoided and a balance kept between Agriculture, Trade, Industry and the Services? I have devoted considerable thought to this and have come to the conclusion that it is because we have failed to maintain a "balance of power" between these four branches of economic enterprises that many of the ills of present-day society have arisen. Lack of this balance has always led to exploitation and class struggle. In the feudal times, the feudal landowner exploited every other class. In the commercial era, the trader exploited both the tiller and the craftsman. In the industrial era, the trader by prudential alignment with the industrial magnate shares in the profits of a common exploitation of the agriculturist; and in all these phases of economic

struggle, the services always flourished, serving whichever class was in power. Perhaps they are waiting for their chance to oust all else and sit in the seats of power. (That is Communism.)

Agriculture, an Exploited Industry

The argument for giving industry, trade and the services an ever-increasing attention in public life and for conceding them a lion's share of the national dividend has always been that only through their expansion can the surplus population in agriculture be absorbed and rural poverty overcome. A little analysis of history of events would show how this stock-in-trade theory is fallacious. The late Lord Stamp, a statistician of great eminence, once said that for the last 150 years the world has been fed with agricultural products below cost. The price of the raw material for the peasant is determined not by the cost of production in raising the produce and maintaining the agriculturist and his family in decent conditions of life, but by the price the industrialist wants to charge for the finished product and the amount of profit he chooses to have for himself. In the division of the national cake, the industrialist and those who align themselves with him like the trader and the services have the first word to say. What are left behind, the crumbs, are thrown to the agriculturist.

Industrialism

After all, has industrialism really brought the benefits which its advocates claim for it? I doubt whether a proper accounting has been done and a balance struck in terms of human welfare and not merely in money-income or even in goods and services. In such an accounting, the sufferings, the misery and the loss of life which are inflicted on millions of people by the series of wars, waged in the struggle for raw materials, have to be shown on the debit side. So too the squalor, disease and degradation that the slums of industrialism have brought in. The general restlessness, unemployment, insecurity and bitterness of class antagonism that permanently tend to

impair human relationship are other items on the debit side of the balance-sheet. As against these, you have, on the credit side, the giant machines, the labour-saving devices, the motor cars, the aeroplanes, the plastic goods, the nylon silks and finally the atomic energy. Reckoned in terms of welfare, I doubt whether industrialism has really to show anything *net* to its credit. Even if there has been any improvement on the material side, there perhaps is none relatively as between the classes. The gap between them is widening day by day with grave portents for the future of society as a whole.

All this does not mean that I am against the establishment of key industries or that I am for a simple return to a peasant economy run on primitive lines. That would be a negation of the achievement of science and human progress. I am only anxious to see whether the benefits of science, instead of leading to increasing rift between different groups in the society, cannot be so harnessed that an ordered society with harmonious relationship between the different groups cannot be established; whether, the present system based on the supremacy of one group over the other, cannot give place to one based on equality of enterprises and equal distribution of the national dividend; whether money economics cannot give place to welfare economics.

Gandhian Creed

Mahatma Gandhi held that such a society is possible; and herein lies his greatest contribution as a revolutionary thinker. Far from being a set of reactionary doctrines, the Gandhian economics pointed out a new approach and a new way of life in which each economic group in the society works and has its being not for its own elevation, but for the good of the society as a whole, thus eliminating class antagonism and worldwide wars.

Parity Economy

To bring about such a society, we must reach the roots of the problem and see how the basic industry, namely, agriculture can be improved. To-day, it is run on primitive lines. The large mass of uneconomic, fragmented dwarf holdings have no rational basis for existence. The ignorance, the illiteracy and the insecurity of the peasant are a permanent source of menace to efficient agriculture. The pressure of population on land, the under-employment and the unemployment it brings, the vicissitudes of nature, and the

risks which agriculture is heir to cannot be tolerated in any society based on justice and equality of enterprises. To me it appears that the way out of this is not only decentralization of industries and a planned reversal of the present trend towards an unhealthy urbanization, but also the establishment of a Parity Economy. By Parity Economy, I do not mean that the percentage of population engaged in the primary, secondary and tertiary industries should be tending to parity. I understand by this phrase that the balance of advantages accruing from these three different occupations must have parity. At present, the remuneration for manufacture, commerce and services far exceeds that for agriculture. All these three industries are nothing but the successive three stages of the complicated process of producing the finished goods to satisfy the fastidious taste of the modern civilized man. If this is true, what justification is there for manufacture or commerce to appropriate more profits than agriculture? Apart from justice, where is the incentive to the agriculturist? So, in the parity economy of my conception, the principle of equality of enterprises will operate with equal profits for all occupations.

Co-operative Commonwealth

How is this parity economy based on equality of enterprise to be brought about? I look to co-operation. Co-operation, I am aware, has not been much of a success in India so far. Its achievements as compared with joint stock enterprising has been insignificant. This is because it relies too much on human goodness and too little on man's economic instincts. When Sir Frederick Nicholson said at the end of the last century "Find Raiffeisen", he was laying the foundations of a co-operative movement based on sheer idealism. What is wanted, however, is a form of co-operative enterprise in which the economic instincts of the individual has sufficient scope in the attainment of the common good. In other words, it has to be a judicious combination of the best elements of joint stock commercialism and co-operative idealism. The theory of 'one man, one vote' has to give place to a theory based on the individual's contribution to the common enterprise, whether it be in the form of capital, or work units. Unlimited liability should give place to limited liability.

Secondly, co-operation must not hereafter solely depend on voluntary principles for its growth. To the orthodox co-operators, even the slightest

compulsion is anathema; but without some sort of compulsion the co-operative movement in a period of nearly half a century has not touched beyond the fringe of the rural problems. What has been successful in Germany and Denmark need not be equally successful in our soil. If 45 years' of experience of the movement has to teach us anything, it is this: that some modification of its pristine principles are necessary. Whatever be the objective of the co-operative society, whether it be supply of credit, marketing facilities, consumers goods, thrift or better living, all villagers must be compelled to join the society. Only then, will co-operation get a fair trial and sure chance of success. The carrot as well as the stick will be required to bring about the maximum results.

I look forward to a society in which every sphere of human activity will be brought within the beneficent influence of the co-operative method of doing things. The ideal, towards which reforms should be directed, must be a co-operative commonwealth. In it, every village or group of villages will have a multi-purpose co-operative society catering for all the needs of the villages. It will supply every villager and every peasant his necessities of life like kerosene, salt and cloth. It will supply him with improved implements of cultivation, manures and fertilizers and pure seeds. It will help him with tractors and threshers, if necessary. It will give him loans to initiate agricultural operations in the sowing season and it will realize the loans at the harvesting season. To this society will the peasant bring his surplus grains and other products to be sold. There will be a grain bank attached to each of these societies which will serve three great purposes: firstly, by choosing the correct time to sell and the proper channel of the co-operative marketing agency, it will realize the best price to the agriculturist for the grains he deposits with the grain bank. Secondly, it will also serve to build up a buffer stock to stave off food crisis in the region in which it is located. Thirdly, it will also serve to regulate prices of agricultural commodities by its capacity to absorb all superfluous stocks without allowing them to force down the prices.

Agro-Industries

Along with the agricultural co-operative societies, must be established suitable agro-industries with the object of giving full employment to the villagers. The neglect of the agro-industries has been one of the major causes

of rural impoverishment. A scientific planning and development of suitable agro-industries would provide the agriculturists with both employment and profit. Instead of exporting abroad or to industrial centres, agricultural products in the raw, most of them could well be exported in a semi-manufactured state. Sugarcane may be crushed and converted into jaggery; oil seeds may be pressed into oil and oil-cakes; raw cotton may be ginned and so on. The diversity of Indian agricultural products affords a wide scope for the development of a multitude of agro-industries. They must be organized on co-operative lines and dovetailed in to the already envisaged co-operative framework. Apart from them, subsidiary industries manufacturing finished consumption goods like mats, rattan baskets and furniture, canned fruit, leather goods, bottoms, etc., must also be set up on co-operative lines. The industrial co-operatives in various localities may be affiliated to a central marketing organization. In each locality, the agricultural and industrial co-operatives should inculcate and develop the habits of thrift by deducting a small percentage of the sale price of goods sold through their help and accumulate this in a fund that may be called "Revolving Fund." This "Revolving Fund" is bound to grow snow-ball fashion as the two types of societies begin to hum with activity. In due course, the Fund will prove to be the keystone of an ever-expanding economic edifice.

The co-operative movement can manifest itself in hundred and one forms; the society may undertake consolidation of holding and finally introduce universal co-operative farming; the society may have a branch to provide suitable subsidiary occupations to agriculturists. It is in this context that the usefulness of decentralization of industries, supply of cheap electricity, availability of easy marketing facilities, and technological improvements can be properly appreciated. It can be utilized as the agency for silt clearance, canal-digging, silviculture, laying out roads, construction of schools, and other public and private buildings. Thus the co-operative commonwealth will usher in an epoch of prosperity and self-reliance to the villagers. However, this state of affairs cannot be brought into existence overnight; it will take time and has to be attained by stages.

Scope for Private Enterprise

Until then, the rural economy of India cannot be allowed to stay put

at miserable level. If it is not possible to bring about a co-operative commonwealth in a single sweep for some time, private enterprise will have to be allowed a fair scope to increase agricultural output and initiate new lines of activity, and such agrarian reforms necessary to attain these objectives in the near future should be thought of and implemented without delay.

Before detailing the main lines on which reforms are to be effected and the measures necessary to carry them out, I should like to sound a note of warning regarding the method of approach to the problem. Ours is a vast sub-continent and conditions regarding tenure, rents, yield, agricultural practices, facilities and relationships vary widely not only from province to province, but also from district to district and sometimes even from village to village. While this diversity should not baffle us and should certainly not prevent us from laying down sound principles and policies of a fundamental character, it should make us beware of enacting steam-roller statutes and patent remedies as though the country is one uniform tract and only one set of conditions prevail everywhere; nor should we be led away purely by what is done in Europe, America or elsewhere and try to copy them here irrespective of their suitability to the conditions of the differing tracts of the country although the practices and policies of other countries should be a valuable guide to our deliberations. With these brief remarks, I pass on to consider in detail the urgent measures of agrarian reform that should engage our attention here and now.

Consolidation of Holdings

One of the foremost planks in the programme of land reform, I consider, should be the consolidation of holdings. The high degree of subdivision and fragmentation that exists in Madras Province and the pace at which it grows from year to year can be seen from the detailed statistics appended. The average cultivated area per head of agriculturist is only about 0.86 acre and for a family about 5.29 acres. Over 50 per cent of families own less than 2 acres, 30 per cent between 2 and 5 acres, 7 per cent between 5 and 10 acres, while those who own above 10 acres are hardly over 10 per cent. The pressure of population on land, the law of inheritance, the absence of subsidiary occupations, and false social values attached to possession of land—have all tended to bring about this continuous morcellement; and as if

these are not enough, comes the latest social legislation granting shares in the property to daughters in Hindu families. Let women by all means get the rights that are their due; but something must also be done to remedy the economic effects of such social legislation. We in Madras have tried the conventional co-operation; but all that we have been able to achieve was to bring about 20 societies in a period of ten years and consolidate an area of 1,463 acres. Two things can be thought of in this connexion: firstly, compulsory consolidation of holdings through an appropriate agency, and secondly, an Impartible Holdings Act which would prevent the splitting of fields below a certain extent. Both these things are engaging our attention and very soon we hope to place the necessary legislation on the anvil; but the solution is not complete unless we simultaneously take adequate measures to absorb the population that would be displaced by this reform by starting rural industries.

Economic and Maximum Holding

The question has been raised, what should be the size of an economic holding and of the maximum holding. I have often noticed vague ideas and standardized notions prevailing in this sphere, as though agricultural conditions in our fertile deltas of Tanjore and Godavari are analogous to those in the arid tracts of Rajaputana. The Economic Programme Committee have clearly expressed the view that for the maintenance of a fair standard of living, an average family should be able to get at least Rs. 100 per mensem. It is on this basis that the size of an economic holding should be determined. Calculated this way, an economic holding may be 20 acres in the case of wet land, 10 acres in the case of garden land and 30 acres in the case of dry land. This, again, is a broad estimate. Similarly in fixing the maximum land a person may own, it is but fair and equitable to compare his income with that of the industrialist. If the latter is allowed to enjoy an income of Rs. 4,000 there is no reason why a landholder should not also be allowed to have so much of land as would yield similar income. The upper limit of income for the agriculturist must be the same as for the trader or the industrialist and the area of land a person may own must be fixed accordingly. In the case of all those landholdings exceeding the maximum size thus fixed, the surplus may be acquired at market price for the purpose of redistribution.

Tenures

Next come up for consideration the condition of the tenant, the rent he pays and his relationship with the landlord on the one hand and the worker on the other. In Madras, thanks to the far-sightedness of that benevolent statesman, Sir Thomas Munro, 75,604 square miles out of a total extent of 125,829 square miles are under ryotwari tenure for nearly a century and a half. The wide distributism that is implied in the ryotwari system has not permitted the growth in this Province of the evils usually associated with absentee landlordism—extortionate rent rates and insecurity of lease deeds. Nor has there grown separate classes are castes called agricultural and non-agricultural. All communities possess land and all take to agriculture without any stigma attached to the avocation. Nearly 60 per cent cultivate their own lands; and another 15 per cent consists of small holders who cultivate lands of others to supplement their income. Landless tenants and non-cultivating landlords constitute only 14 per cent each of the agricultural population. Even in the case of the "non-cultivating" classes, all that they desire from is hard and manual labour. Often their directing hand is felt on the cultivation process. An elaborate enquiry conducted into the conditions of over 4,000 villages in the Province shows that the majority of land sales in recent years has been to agriculturists only. The need, therefore, for restrictive measures like the Land Alienation Act on the Punjab model is not felt in Madras.

Consequently, the antagonism and bitterness that mar the agricultural relationship between the landlord and the tenant elsewhere have not been conspicuous in our Province so far, except in Malabar and in zamindari areas. In Malabar, the interests in land are so many and so complex that agricultural relationship began to be regulated by legislation from 1887. While the tenant has been protected against arbitrary eviction and high rents, the landlord is protected against rapid exhaustion of the soil. However it has been felt that an even greater measure of fixity of tenure and fairer rents should be given to the Malabar tenant and a comprehensive measure of legislation is under active consideration.

In zamindari areas, however, the problem is much more complex. Although the area covered by this tenure including whole inams is roughly one-fourth of the total (being 33,077 square miles out of a total of 125,828 square

miles) and although sub-infeudation has not gone on here to the extent of bringing about 17 intermediaries between the tiller and the landlord as in some other parts of India, conditions regarding fixity of tenure, fairness of rents and freedom of sale need very much to be improved. Successive attempts at statutory regulation during the last forty years have only confirmed that the system is very much of an anomaly and that it must be brought to toe the line with the ryotwari tenure in the rest of the Province. With the passing of the Bill for Zamindari abolition, a great agrarian reform would have been achieved and the foundations laid for a contented and prosperous peasantry.

Rents and Arrears

What has been said of the tenuous conditions above applies with equal force of truth to the conditions regarding rates of rent and collection of dues. Custom based on correctly ascertained laws of economics is the guiding factor in almost the whole of the ryotwari area. Rent varies from district to district and from crop to crop. It also depends on soil fertility, irrigation facilities and the frequency of cropping as will be seen from the appended statements Nos. 9 and 10. In terms of net produce, the variation is even wider. In the statement No. 8 it is seen that in Tanjore and Coimbatore it is rather low, but the statement conceals the customary perquisites which are given to the tenant on the threshing floor and by way of rent-free plots which are difficult of calculation in precise money terms. The elaborate enquiry into the detailed conditions of over 4,000 villages in the Province already referred to concluded that the rents are generally fair and the leases are for fairly long periods. Further, as pointed out in it, the bulk of land is tilled by owner-cultivators. Under these conditions, the need for a tenancy Act in ryotwari areas on the model of Bombay, or the urgency for establishment of Land Tribunals as has been suggested by reformers has not yet been felt in this Province except in Malabar district. There, however, permanent bodies of Land Tribunals consisting of ryots and landlords and presided over by officers of the Agricultural Department as distinct from the Revenue Department will have to be set up. Elsewhere it may not become necessary other than to appoint *ad hoc* Arbitration Boards as and when problems arise.

Remissions

Before leaving this question of fair rents, a few words are necessary regarding the system of remissions. It

is often asked whether the landlord should not be statutorily asked to grant a certain proportion of the produce as remission when monsoons fail or floods devastate. In the system of sharing of the gross produce, such as that is customarily in force in our Province, statutory measures will lose all meaning. What is needed, however, is to see that the landlord himself gets a fair deal from the State so that he might pass it on to the tenant. Under the existing scheme of remission based on the anna-wari estimate as per the Standing

Orders of the Board of Revenue, the remissions given are highly theoretica and take little account of the cost of cultivation or the need to maintain the agriculturist and his family in times of adversity like that occasioned by droughts and floods. Until a comprehensive scheme of agricultural insurance is provided for a more liberal remission policy by the State will have to be adopted. Both these are engaging the attention of the Madras Government.

(To be continued)

The Romance of Co-operation

A Lesson from Denmark

In these days when Dictators and so-called Democrats stalk the entire world with weapons of destruction to annihilate the common man, it is both a consolation and a solace to rehearse a brilliant chapter from the history of Denmark. Mutely but marvellously this little country of hardly thirty-six lacs of souls has evolved a group life through co-operation which is at once a challenge to Fascism and Socialism.

Prior to the Napoleonic wars Denmark was a nation of substantial importance. Unluckily she sided with the French warrior and lost heavily as a consequence of his overthrow. It was at this time that she lost some of her valuable colonies. America rose as her competitor in the market and Germany closed her doors by a protective tariff. This entirely dislocated her trade. In its wake came floods and droughts, epidemics and plagues which rendered the country prostrate and collapsed.

But happily the tide began to turn in the seventies. It started with new ideas of education. Bishop Grundtvig (1783-1872), who is known as the Spiritual Father of Denmark, started the People's High Schools. His education was a sort of *Nayee Talim* for his country and was related to the farm and cattle of the Danish farmer. Kold, his brilliant successor, completed the work of his master and organized the entire nation for the unique experiment of co-operation.

Denmark is an agricultural country and its farmer, therefore, instinctively turns to land and cattle for new life. Indeed, the Danish cow, the giver of plenty, gave the whole nation a new message and a new method of life. The Danish peasant took to dairying, butter

and cheese making, raising of hogs and fowls and production of bacon; and through persevering attention to details and by establishment of co-operative marketing and buying agencies he gradually won an uncontested place in the market of England.

The details of co-operation may briefly be noted. It is so naturally woven into the life of the farmer! Through co-operation he performs for himself almost all functions that in other countries are done by others for him. He assembles his milk and makes and markets his own butter and cheese. He kills his own hogs in his own abattoirs and sells them in London through his own export agency. His agents collect his eggs and bring them to his own egg-export society where they are candled, graded and made ready for shipment to a foreign market.

Co-operatively he buys food for his cattle as well as agricultural machinery, fertilizers and seeds in distant lands. He manages his own banking in his locality and establishes his own credit. Through mutual societies he insures his house and livestock. He maintains breeding societies of pedigreed hogs, cattle and horses and controls societies for selling off his products. Fifty years ago the Danish farmer was enveloped by middlemen and the consumers and had to market through hostile agencies. To-day he is, besides being a farmer, a manufacturer, a merchant, and an exporter all in one. In this way there is scarcely an activity or an agricultural need which is not represented by its own co-operative organization. It is, therefore, usual for the farmer to be a member of at least half a dozen co-operative societies covering the whole range of his needs. The work is

managed so wonderfully that Danish bacon is shipped to England in modern motor ships fitted out with cold storage facilities and 'Lur' brand bacon is a favourite breakfast dish in every English home. In like manner Danish butter too is a world-famous article. Encouraged by this success, the farmer has extended his co-operation to the manufacture of roasting coffee, chocolate, tobacco, bicycles, etc.

The co-operative movement is so pervasive that it is hardly less than an industrial system comparable to socialism. The following figures (1933) will enlighten the readers regarding the extent to which the co-operative societies have pervaded the entire nation:

	Societies.	Members.
Societies for production and sale.	2,189	431,141
Societies for purchase.	2,841	152,875
Consumer Co-operatives.	1,824	335,900
Other Co-operatives.	6	749,946
	6,860	1,669,862

It is hardly necessary to say that the farmer had to fight stern opposition from private dealers who sought to kill co-operation in its infancy by paying increased prices to the farmer to destroy their loyalty to the co-operatives. Private merchants imposed monopoly prices. But the farmer defied the trap.

The co-operatives besides being an economic solvent, served as a training school for democracy. In most co-operatives the rule of 'one man, one vote' prevails, no matter how much the share of the member. This has made the farmer conscious of his importance and power in politics. He entered Parliament and negotiated changes in the interest of the common man. Gradually he managed to eliminate big landlordism and to grow small farmsteads with State aid. In this conversion of the farmer into an owner we have an economic foundation of Danish democracy. It is interesting to note his progress from tenancy to ownership;

	Tenants.	Free owners.
	PER CENT.	PER CENT.
1850	42.5	57.5
1919	57	43

Big landlords are known as Gaardmaends and the small ones as Husmaends.

Till 1900 Gaardmaends were in the majority in the Danish Parliament. Since then Husmaends became the power. They have joined hands with the workers and artisans and have risen as Social Democrats who now rule the country.

This is the marvel wrought by the Danish farmer on the strength of co-operation. There was no revolution and no appeal to force. All this has been achieved in little more than the

lifetime of a single generation without bloodshed. The nation has trusted its liberties without reservation to the will of the majority. Is this not non-violent rule in a way? Can we not evolve in terms of Gandhij's teachings some such co-operative method to nullify the present diabolical animosities and to stabilize our hard-earned freedom?

—Harijan.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Plant Protection Measures

Various measures have been taken by the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantines and Storage set up by the Ministry of Agriculture during the last twelve months to bring under control insect pests and diseases of crops responsible for the loss of about 10 to 15 per cent of crop yields in India.

With financial assistance of the Central Government under the Grow-More-Food campaign, plant protection schemes have been in operation in Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Central Provinces and Bombay and in the centrally-administered areas of Ajmer-Merwara, Coorg and Delhi. The Directorate has also helped in setting up a Plant Protection Organization in the United Provinces.

The desert patrols of the Directorate have kept watch over the locust breeding areas throughout the year to detect developments of scattered locusts and to nip incipient outbreaks in their early stages. The country has remained free from infestation, though swarms are still active in parts of Arabia and Africa.

The Wheat Rust Committee of the Government of India that met in 1947 considered that the widespread rust epidemic of 1946-47 in Central India was due to infection by rust spores from Kharif wheat grown on the hill ranges of Southern India, in Mysore and South Bombay, carried by upper air currents to the affected parts. As advised by that Committee, steps were taken by the Central Government for securing the prohibition of such summer wheat cultivation by the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Mysore and Travancore.

A co-ordinated scheme of biological control is in progress with a Central Breeding Laboratory at Bangalore from which predatory beetles, bred in bulk in cages, are distributed for release in various affected areas, e.g., Travancore, Coorg, Mysore, Madras and Bombay for the control of a dangerous pest of oranges, wattle and casuarina. The infestation in the affected areas has been greatly reduced and the further spread of the pest checked.

In order to prevent the introduction of foreign insect pests and plant diseases by sea, land and air along with imported plant material, it is proposed to establish quarantine stations at most points of entry from abroad. Suitable sites for establishing modern fumigation plants have been selected at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, and a vacuum fumigation plant has been ordered in the first instance for Bombay. Similar fumigation apparatus will also be established at other sea ports.

The Storage Division of the Directorate, designed to devise measures for prevention of damage by insects, rodents and moulds during storage, has carried out the disinfestation of immense stocks of imported grain at the main ports of entry, viz., Bombay, Madras and Calcutta.

In June-July, 1948, a training course was arranged at Nagpur to train candidates for storage and plant protection work. Such courses are to be arranged at other centres also from time to time.

Cotton Diseases in India

The various diseases which affect the cotton crop in India and the methods of controlling these diseases are described in the publication "Diseases of Cotton in India" just published by the Indian Central Cotton Committee.

Of these diseases, wilt and root rot are considered major affections. The losses caused by wilt range from 40 to 60 per cent in different parts of the country and those from root rot vary from about 3 to 5 per cent. These diseases are soil borne and difficult to

exterminate once the soil becomes infected. The production of resistant varieties, is therefore, the main remedy. This type of control method has been fully developed in relation to wilt, and highly resistant strains have been produced for different cotton regions, for instance, Jayawant for Karnatak, Jarila for Khandesh, B.D. 8 and Vijaya for Broach and Verum 262 and 434 for Central Provinces and Berar.

These varieties are now grown every year over an area of about 2.7 million

acres and it is estimated that their growers earn an additional income of Rs. 72 to 75 lakhs per annum, in comparison with what they would have earned if they had grown the susceptible types.

As regards root rot, no resistant variety has been discovered so far. However, it has been found that the losses caused by this disease can be reduced to some extent by either resorting to early or late sowing of the cotton crop, or by inter-cropping cotton with either jowar (Sorghum) or *math* (Kidney bean).

AGRICULTURE IN OTHER COUNTRIES

Television to Educate United States Farmers

To keep the nation's farm and city people even more fully informed on important agricultural developments and home economics research, the United States Department of Agriculture is exploring the possibility of adding television to its media of information. Already, the department is providing a wealth of information through the press, special publications, personal demonstrations and the radio.

Television would augment the departments' Radio Service by adding sight to sound. For more than 20 years, the department has broadcast a daily program of information, including weather data, market reports on grains and livestock, general agricultural news, and news of advances in plant growing, livestock feeding and home-making.

One of the reasons for the departments' interest in television is that, while some things in the broad field of agriculture can be well described in publications or told over the radio, a great many agricultural practices can be better conveyed by being actually demonstrated. To-day, techniques

requiring a close-range view can be demonstrated only to relatively small groups. Television would remove limits on the size of the audience and would permit everyone to see at close range.

The fields in which television could be fruitfully employed, the department believes, include soil conservation, forest practices, poultry breeding and insecticide application. Also, many ways of using agricultural products more effectively, for example, better food canning methods, could be shown to consumers.

The television study is being conducted by the departments' Radio Service in co-operation with television networks, state agricultural extension services and other public and private agencies. The study is excepted at first to concern programs designed for the general television audience with emphasis on information useful to consumers. As television service widens however, programs would be devised to serve directly farm people and others whose responsibility it is to produce and distribute farm products—*USIS*.

Other Interesting Facts

Farm Efficiency

Each American farm worker to-day produces enough food and fibre to support himself and 13½ others whereas in 1820 the average American farm worker could support himself and only 3½ others. Taking a more recent period, the last 30 years, American

farming productivity per man hour has increased 1½ times. These estimates by the United States Department of Agriculture vividly reflect the remarkable strides in production efficiency achieved by the American farming community.

Demonstration Farm

Two hundred volunteer workers, recently transformed a drab, 105 acre (42-hectare) farm into one of the most modern farms in the State of Virginia—in a single day. The volunteers, war veterans participating in the on-the-farm training program given them by the United States Government, accomplished five years of work in a single dawn-to-dusk operation.

More than 30 tractors, fertilizer spreaders, post hole diggers, and earth-moving machinery were used to plough, terrace, fertilize, and seed the entire farm according to the latest advances of agricultural science. Twenty acres (eight hectares) of permanent pasture was fenced, and a large pond dug. The farm house was painted white, the roof given a coat of heat reflecting aluminum paint, and the lawn area around the house landscaped.

The farm belongs to Mrs. Annie Poythress, a widow of 57. Thousands of farmers from the surrounding region came to watch and to learn new farming practices. The demonstration was the latest of many conducted throughout the United States during the past few years by the United States Department of Agriculture for the benefit of farmers.

Farm Machinery's Role

Domestic production of farm machinery by the European countries participating in the European Recovery Program (E.R.P.), supplemented by imports from the United States and other countries, will enable Western Europe to achieve a far more efficient

agricultural production in the years ahead than in the pre-war period.

United States Government technicians, who have studied the farm machinery import requirements submitted by the participating E.R.P. countries, have reported that the program of agricultural mechanization outlined by these countries far exceeds anything previously attained in these countries. They believe the program will greatly expand food production in the participating countries.

One of the chief objectives of this program, they explained, is to maintain, and, if possible, to increase agricultural production while conserving labour. Another main objective, they said, is to increase food production by having enough power and equipment to do a better job of land preparation and cultivation than in the past, and to perform the critical tillage and harvest operations at the right time.

Mechanization of farm operations, they added, also releases land for food production that would have been required for food crops and pasture. In the United States, for example, 55,000,000 acres (22,000,000 hectares), or more than 15 per cent of the total crop land, have been released in this way in the last 30 years.

The report explains that part of the import requirements of the E.R.P. countries is based on planned changes in types of production and harvesting methods in other parts of the world. For example, the large expansion of oil seed production planned in African colonial areas will require power units and machines suitable for growing and harvesting these crops.

The report points out that the goals set by the E.R.P. countries for domestic production of farm machinery are high. These countries have estimated that total production among the participating countries of tractors will increase from 74,000 in 1946-47 to 380,000 in 1950-51, or an increase of 400 per cent.

"If these targets are achieved," the report continues, "production of tractors in the participating countries at the end of the recovery period will slightly exceed the current rate of production in the United States and production of other farm machinery would approach current levels in the United States. . . . In view of supply difficulties in steel, fuel and certain other materials, it is believed that production will lag somewhat behind schedule, but large increases over pre-war output are believed possible."

"In a democracy the majority necessarily must govern through duly elected representatives. That imposes upon the minority a duty to accept the results of a fair election. In a democracy the minority defeated in a fair election has the privilege of seeking to become a majority through subsequent persuasion of the voters to adhere to its principles.

"In a democracy heads are counted, not broken. Political issues are settled with freely cast ballots, thus avoiding use of force. That calls for discussion, exchange of views on political platforms and candidates as regards attainments and capacity, but not offensive verbal personal attacks or acts of terrorism. Democracy has been called Government by discussion.

"Elections in Korea, the conduct of the campaign, and the results there-

from, will attract worldwide attention. The actions of the Korean nation and its people will be watched closely by certain groups that wish to be extremely critical and fault finding. Wholehearted acceptance of democratic principles and responsibilities are part and parcel of the accountability and obligations of members of the family of nations.

"I hope to see the election supported and carried out by Koreans in a manner which will be creditable to their nation. No individual, group, or combination of groups can be permitted to nullify the workings of the democratic processes of election. This is the greatest opportunity of all time for all Koreans to demonstrate that they can completely handle their own affairs in a democratic manner and can conduct fair and free elections under laws developed by Koreans themselves"

DELHI DIARY

Scholarships for Scheduled Caste Students

About 600 scholarships of the total value of Rs. 3,85,000 will be given to Scheduled Caste students for pursuing their studies in India during the year 1948-49.

Over 1½ lakh acres cultivated by Tractors

An area of 1,20,795 acres of land has been brought under cultivation by the use of tractors by the various Provincial Governments and the expected yield from these areas is 8,642 tons, according to a statement laid on the table by Shri Jairamdas Daulatram, Minister for Agriculture, in the Dominion Parliament today.

In addition, 33,800 acres have been brought under cultivation by the Central Tractor Organization, 25,800 acres in United Provinces and 8,000 acres in Central Provinces. The yield expected in United Provinces is 8,600 tons and in Central Province 2,667 tons.

The Central Tractor Organization is also operating a scheme for mechanical cultivation of 50,000 acres of land left by Muslims in the Matsya Union. The scheme was put into operation towards

the month of July and so far 9,643 acres have been cultivated.

Province-wise the details of the area brought under cultivation by the various Governments and the expected yields are as follows:—

Province.	Area brought under cultivation.	Expected yield.
	ACS.	TONS.
Bombay ..	103,800	4,432
Madras ..	10,025	1,750
United Provinces.	355	118
West Bengal ..	200	100
East Punjab ..	4,000	1,429
Assam ..	2,140	715
Orissa ..	275	98
Total ..	1,20,795	8,642

Largest Sugarcane Research Centre in Asia

The preliminary steps to establish an Institute of Sugar Technology and Sugarcane Research which may be the largest of its kind in Asia were decided at a meeting of the *ad hoc* advisory sub-committee of the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee held in the Council House, Lucknow.

Plan for Increasing Milk Production

A five-year plan for increasing milk production in the country has been prepared by the Dairy Development Adviser of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The plan envisages eight specific projects, viz. (i) Milk-cum-bull production farms, (ii) small holder milk production farms, (iii) colonization of dislodged city cattle, (iv) artificial insemination of cattle, (v) cross-breeding of inferior milch stock, (vi) co-operative milk unions, (vii) co-operative rural creameries (ghee) and (viii) increased production of green fodder and silage.

Suggestions for implementing the plan have also been made. Copies of the plan will be sent to the Provinces for adoption as far as possible with an assurance that the Centre will provide all possible help by way of technical guidance, advice, etc., for the implementation of the same.

Tree Planting

Addressing the inhabitants of a village near Delhi, recently Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, the Food and Agriculture Minister explained the idea underlying the planting of trees. Trees, he said, would help in saving organic manure which was necessary for cultivation and which at present was being used as fuel. When the trees grew up they could be expected to yield sufficient fuel for the village so that cowdung could be utilized as manure.

Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram appealed to the villagers to develop greater enthusiasm for their work in their own as well as in the interests of the country.

Sir Datar Singh referred to Delhi's rural development scheme which was in operation with Bowana as the headquarters of the Rural Development Officer-in-charge of it. The scheme was planned by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research to develop twenty villages round about Delhi in order to put into practice all the results of economic value obtained by the Council as a result of researches carried out for many years both in agriculture and animal husbandry. The central idea behind the scheme was the improvement in the conditions of the cultivators, through their own efforts, in the direction of increasing the area under cultivation and obtaining better yields by sowing improved seeds and using better implements and more manures. The Council is encouraging cultivators to develop cottage indus-

tries such as poultry, piggery and dairying as subsidiary occupations and attention is also paid to the general improvement of the social and cultural life in the villages.

India's Power and Irrigation Projects

The various projects for irrigation and power development which are under construction or investigation in India will, when completed, add over 27 million acres of irrigation to India's existing 48 million and about nine million kilowatts of hydro-electric energy to the existing paltry half million.

It is stated that roughly six per cent of the water available in the rivers of this country and the subsoils has so far been utilized; the rest runs to waste, and in its progress to the sea does incalculable damage to life and property through uncontrolled floods. There is immense scope for utilizing this water for irrigation purposes.

Another vital need of the moment is cheap power. The total installed capacity in the country has not so far passed the half million kilowatts mark, although, on a rough estimation, the total water power potential in India must be near forty million kilowatts.

Village Oil Industry

A Sub-Committee of the Indian Oilseeds Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, has been appointed to study in detail the position of the village oil industry in different areas with a view to developing this industry and to suggest, if necessary, measures that should be taken to protect the industry from competition from power oil mills.

Marketing Measures in Bihar and Bombay

Ghee Grading is getting popular in Bihar and a number of applications have been received for grading of mustard oil. The Government of Bihar is considering proposals for establishing a laboratory at Patna, so that it might serve as a subsidiary quality control laboratory under the "Agmark" scheme. Proposals for establishing a Government Laboratory at Darbhanga for the grading of ghee of small producers are under consideration.

In Bombay a five-year plan has been drawn up in connection with the

organization of regulated markets and work is proceeding in a satisfactory manner.

Decency and toleration to be of value must be capable of standing the severest strain. If they cannot, it will be a sad day for India. Let us not make it easy for critics to say that we did not deserve liberty.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

Bombay Premier's Message to "Young Patriots"

The idealism of Youth must break down the walls and embrace all mankind as the field of its loyalty, its allegiance and its service.

Remember also that the Indian Union is a democracy. That means Government is to be carried on according to the will of the people and any changes in it must come by persuasion, propaganda and discussion. Violence, fascist methods of force, attempts to deprive any section of the people, with whom you may differ in any way, of their natural rights are totally repugnant to the spirit of democracy as also to the teachings of our beloved Bapu. Democracy does not steam-roll differences—it welcomes them and, by the exercise of toleration, friendship and reasonableness it attempts to weave the different elements into a rich, variegated but harmonious pattern.

Clean and Efficient Public Service

'Jobbery and nepotism, which were a feature of bureaucratic regime and which were the bane of the service, ought to have no place now. They must go if we want our services to be clean and efficient, satisfied and contented. It is largely on good administration that the moral and material well-being of a nation must ultimately depend. The sooner we realize this the better for all concerned'. Thus observed Mr. Gopinath Srivastava, Chairman of the Public Service Commission, United Provinces, in the course of his note on the annual report of the working of the U.P. Public Service Commission for the year 1947-48 and on the 'Role of Service Commissions.'

OTHER PROVINCES AND STATES

Road Safety in Bombay

The Traffic Control Department of the Greater Bombay Police has prepared a few short lectures on Road Safety. It is intended that these lectures be given by Traffic Police officers to school students.

Village Defence Parties in Bombay

The strength of the Village Defence Parties organized by the Government of Bombay throughout the Province with a view to putting down violent crime against property, etc., and fostering a spirit of co-operation amongst the villagers reached the figure of 275,892 recently. Many of these have received training in musketry, while some of them hold gun licences.

The parties also make use of other weapons such as lathis, spears, bows and arrows, swords and jambias.

Out of the 21,472 villages in the Province, 6,099 villages have formed defence parties.

Combating Malaria in East Punjab

To make villages in East Punjab malaria-proof, the panchayats have launched a campaign throughout the Province for the removal of manure heaps, other filthy stuff from places which germinate mosquitoes and flies and are responsible for outbreak of malaria and epidemics in villages. Besides this "keep your village clean" campaign, the panchayats are also busy educating the ignorant villagers about the elementary principles of sanitation and personal hygiene.

Rural Development in East Punjab

With a view to giving opportunities to villagers to meet together to discuss

problems concerning them and thus bring about better understanding about each other, attempts are being made to construct meeting places in every village. It is proposed to make use of such places for keeping them into touch with day-to-day developments in the country. Such places will also be utilized for settling personal disputes amongst themselves, so that litigation which has been quite popular in the past, is discouraged. The panchayat in Chhara in Rohtak district has constructed similar place and have named it Gandhi Ashram to serve as a common meeting place for them.

Board of Agriculture in U.P.

The United Provinces Government have constituted a Board of Agriculture. The Board will also consider the steps to be taken for regulating on suitable lines, the research and development work on agriculture, and to secure continuity of research, giving priority to problems in accordance with their relative importance and usefulness to the Province.

Tree Planting in U.P.

In order to meet the increasing demand for fruit and fuel trees, under the Tree Plantation Drive launched by the Government of the United Provinces, a large number of various types of fruit and fuel plants have been propagated by the Garden Section of the Agriculture Department.

Fish Shops in West Punjab

The Fisheries Section of the Department of Agriculture, West Punjab, has opened shops in eight different towns where fresh fish is being sold to the public. This measure is a part of the drive recently launched to increase the production and consumption of fish in the Province.

Farms and Compost Work in Orissa

Seven subsidized farms have been started in Puri district. Similarly, in each police station compost work has been taken up by general fieldmen demonstrators. An amount of Rs. 4,222 has been distributed to the cultivators as rewards for composting; and 1,000 cubic feet of night-soil manure and adequate quantity of compost manure have been supplied to cultivators.

Amenities in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has approved a scheme for widening the reading room and library activities in labour localities of the Province.

Cottage Industries Institute in Bikaner

The Cottage Industries Institute, Bikaner, gives training in handloom weaving, dyeing, hosiery, knitting, paper-making and in leather and lacquer work. The boys who have been trained in the Weaving Section of this Institute can earn Rs. 3 per day. Modern appliances, like power twisting machine, have been installed. In the Dyeing Section of this Institute cotton and woollen yarn and cloth are dyed, bleached, milled and pressed. Socks-making machines have been purchased for Hosiery Section.

A start has been made with hand-made paper as well. The factory has made 575 quires of blotting paper, finished and unfinished; and 200 quires of foolscap size paper, finished and unfinished, including exercise book, table pads, writing pads, envelopes, etc.

Two similar institutes were opened in 1945 and in 1947. Provision has been made to start similar centres at other places.

The object of *Madras Information* is to give a brief record of the Madras Government's activities and to educate the public opinion on the Government's policies.

However, the views expressed and the articles published in this journal do not necessarily represent the official opinion.

Anything except pictures appearing in this journal may be freely reproduced.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"BHAGAVAT GITA AND MODERN LIFE."

By K. M. MUNSHI, *Bharata Vidya Bhavan, Bombay. Price Rs. 6.*

Bhagavat Gita can well be called a world classic. It has been translated into almost all known languages of the world and its editions too are many. Recently Yale University has issued a new edition with the original printed (not in Devanagari but in English script with diacritical marks) on one side and the English translation on the other. It looks as if the Great Book of the Hindus which is literally the 'Lord's Song' is gathering momentum in its onward march as the knowledge advances in this world. The secret of its popularity deserves investigation. Mr. Munshi's book gives the clue. Bhagavat Gita preaches the philosophy of action and not of mere silence, or meditation, or seclusion. Its teachings are non-sectarian in character. The principles it enunciates could be followed by all and sundry if they possess the necessary mental equipment. It is this aspect of the Gita that appeals to moderns more than anything else.

The philosophical background of the Gita has been explained and interpreted by many a scholar and saint in Bharata Varsha. One section of them has gone to the length of even proclaiming that it contains only the essence of many Upanishads and its teachings contain no new thought or doctrine. But this view acknowledges its greatness in an indirect form. If it is only a reproduction of what Upanishads embodied, how do you account for the strange and unique phenomenon that Upanishads are forgotten, while 'Gita' has survived? Its approach to the life problem is different. Hindu philosophy for long preached isolation of the self and its union with the supreme self as the surest solution of life's problems. It bears the stamp of a defeatist philosophy while Gita asks you to face life in all its vicissitudes and trials. With a determination and will that could not be conquered. Such a will could only be the outcome of a dynamic personality, the cultivation of which is the fundamental doctrine of the Bhagavat Gita.

"Shake off the wretched faint-heartedness, Stand up, Oh, harasser of foes."

It was not easy for Arjuna to whom the sermon is preached to get rid of this faint-heartedness. He sees before him his own teachers, elders, kith and kin against whom he was forced by circumstances to fight. These include his great grandfather Bhishma whose towering personality commanded respect and reverence from all and who has hardly an equal in knowledge, heroism and sacrifice and yogic perfection. The faint-hearted Arjuna feels it is a sin to shoot his arrow against such unblemished characters for personal gain or acquisition of a kingdom or Empire. Himself a man of action, he is a victim of the circumstances, "Fearless though cautious and thorough, doubting but wanting to be convinced"—He does not want to escape from life. He is not a recluse meditating in cloistered seclusion, scorning action." Finding him in that unenviable position the Lord who was till now his comrade assumes the role of the teacher and begins his discourse emphasising on the necessity of action each human being should subscribe himself to, according to his station in life. Here the principles that govern the four-fold divisions of Society are revealed. This division has been the burden of the song for every Hindu religious teacher. In essence it is only a division according to the natural aptitudes of man to be either a Brahman—one who is versed in religious lore and ritual, Kshatriya—a fighter, Vaisya—merchant, Sudra—a servant. These four functions are essential to the well-being of Society. When the system fossilized into hereditary corporations one dominating one over the other, disintegration was the result. But in practice it displayed considerable laxity and freedom which in critical situations proved its strength and preserved the Hindu society intact, resisting inroads into it with remarkable tenacity and cohesion.

To be a man of action one should endeavour to perfect one's physical and mental qualities. Here the yogic system is explained in detail wherein besides the various disciplinary practices, the sublimation of the sex comes to play a prominent part. It is this discipline, that transforms the character of a man making him capable of great achievements in this world. It is in this respect or approach that 'Gita' makes a distinct step forward

when compared to the teachings of Upanishads. The Lord's unique achievement is the transformation of a faint-hearted Arjuna into a dynamic personality which is the quintessence as already indicated of the philosophy of Gita. This has a real bearing on life and rightly Munshi emphasises this truth about the philosophy of the Gita. His analysis of a dynamic personality is most illuminative and brilliant and forms his original contribution to the large volume of Gita literature. He does not rest content with an abstract description of a dynamic personality and elucidates his theme by giving examples from the Great Sankara down to modern Ramakrishna and the Mahatma. He also pictures for us the dynamic personalities of other countries particularly of Europe, such as Calvin, Napoleon, and Marcus Aurelius drawing our pointed attention to the qualities they lacked which marked them except the last as magnificent failures in history. This comparative study again is a new and refreshing feature of Munshi's reflections on Gita and reveals his firm grip on the fundamentals of life. Among the later day thinkers Ezuttaccan, the epic poet of Kerala (1500 A.D.), is foremost in emphasising this aspect of the teaching of Gita. In his monumental translation of Mahabharata, he has omitted Bhagavat Gita; But he has this significant observation on it: "What the Lord said is known as Gita and contains mostly truths embodied in Upanishads. But He showed his *Viswarupa* which transformed Arjuna into a dynamic personality and made him fight to the last without fear."

Munshi's interpretation of Brahmacharya is another original contribution by him to the Hindu philosophical thought. His imagination as a writer of fiction and romances seems to have moulded his view on this particular issue. Our philosophers and saints have insisted on abstinence from sex as a necessary qualification for spiritual perfection and taught us to look upon women as an evil. One wonders why God created woman if she is an evil. The very saints who denounce women owe their existence to them as mothers. What a travesty of thought evolution!! Munshi with all the force he can command turns our attention to the

heroines of our epics whose achievements are no way inferior to the heroes implying thereby that our men of letters have shown more reasonableness in this aspect. He proclaims "mere sex abstinence is not a sublimation of the sex." Sex is the source of creative energy which results only from its regulation, concentration and prevention of its waste. This purpose is fulfilled by sacramental marriage. Says he, "After such a marriage man and wife become one not merely in the eyes of law but are fused into a single personality by ritualistic magic; whom God united, no man should part." He contrasts this against the modern contractual marriage, which is akin to hunger that "prefers to change food whenever appetite hankers after a change." He quotes examples of sadhus who through abstinence of sex could never achieve anything remarkable while inspiration engendered by love has been the motive force behind many great literary and artistic achievements. Mirabai of India and Dante of Europe are standing monuments. The author says:—"If men and women are going to be led to perfection by developing creative vigour, sublimation of the sex urge cannot be left as a process to be pursued by a man or woman singly. In the past man or woman has sought his or her individual perfection. In the future marriage must mean the common effort to scale the heights of an undivided perfection."

Munshi as a creative artist is well known all over India. The present work will considerably enhance his reputation as a thinker. This publication deserves close study and attention by all who have the welfare of India and her Society at heart.

The other volumes in the series will surely be eagerly awaited by the reading public. —K.C.N.

"THE MAN-EATING LEOPARD OF RUDRAPRAYAG"

By JIM CORBETT. *Publishers: The Oxford University Press, Madras. Pages 157. Price Rs. 6.*

The author's first jungle book the "Man-eaters of Kumaon" has already earned a name for him and here he describes his exciting experience while endeavouring to kill a man-eating leopard which had established a veritable reign of terror for eight years among fifty thousand inhabitants in Garhwal in the United Provinces. Starting with the first kill in 1918, by 1926 the leopard had to its credit one hundred and twenty-five kills according

to Government records, which led to questions being asked in the United Provinces. Legislature on the terrific havoc done by this ghastly carnivore to the life and property of the inhabitants of the locality and to pilgrims who passed that way to Kedarnath and Badrinath. At the instance of the United Provinces Government, in 1925, the author proceeded to the scene of operation of this man-eating leopard. After a prolonged and persistent effort, mixed with disappointment and distress sometimes with hairbreadth escapes from the very mouth of the leopard, the brute which was attributed with "evil spirit" eventually fell to his rifles. Thus he brought relief and security to many a terror-stricken family. The author's capacity for systematic observation and scientific investigation is highly commendable. The book is well written and gives perfect material for diligent reading, giving much insight into Indian jungle life.

—M.A.K.

"HISTORY OF THE HOME LAND"

By HENRY HAMILTON, M.A., D.LITT. *Published by George Allen and Unwin, Limited, 40, Museum Street, London, pp. 600. Price 18s. nett.*

'History of the Home Land' unfolds a continuous picture of Britain through past ages, taking within its range not merely a political history of Britain, but also the ecological, sociological and economic development during the whole period. The essential assumption of history as Henry Hamilton uses the term, is not the episode of wasteful strife, diplomatic chicanery or power politics which has provoked chauvinism and promoted flag workshop, drawing mankind towards self-destruction, but a proper interpretation and renovation of a social and cultural heritage which help to convey to posterity a sense of vitality, stateliness and achievements. History as conceived by the conventional text-book writers, is irrelevant to the problems of an atomic age where "national boundaries now figure as the creation of children pegging individual claims to a place on the earth's surface, after much futile bickering and squabbling and stand-up fights." Hence the only proper approach to the history of the people is to treat it as a natural apologetics of a continuing progress intended to establish peace and prosperity on earth. The author has carefully examined the general character of the history of human life in Britain in its entirety,

beginning with Palaeolithic age, bringing to light the Neolithic revolution, the evolution of the people, the growth of their thought and civilization. There are chapters on the Land, People and their habits, on Money, Commerce and allied problems; on Social Organization, Labour movements and their progress. It also deals with the growth of the British Dominions, Economic Imperialism, Slave Trade, Social Security, Education, and the struggle for freedom of thought and freedom of person. The chronicles are undoubtedly valuable and they are unlimited in interest, and impartial in approach. There are more than a hundred illustrations and a few maps. Mr. Henry Hamilton's book is a creative publication, a product of careful and well-documented research and a full length study of the Britons. The book is as much of interest to the historian as to the student of social progress.

—M.A.K.

"THE VERTICAL MAN"

By W. G. ARCHER, ALLEN AND UNWIN, 1947. Pp. 122, 49 plates. Price 15s.

Art being the "mathematics of the heart" requires for its understanding, appreciation and interpretation, an inborn taste for it. The author of this interesting and original book seems to possess this inborn taste in an abundant measure. As an administrator, he has been taking keen interest in the art and poetry of the tribes of Bihar amidst whom his official duties threw him. Though *Vertical Man* is primarily a study of primitive art, the author has so carefully analysed the religious and ritual background of the folk art that this work would easily rank as one of the best contributions to Indian anthropology.

The Ahirs, a pastoral tribe of Western Bihar, make representations in wood and stone of their cattle-god, Bir Kuar. These stone and wooden sculptures are the highest form of offering which they make to Bir Kuar for the manifold benefits he confers upon them. Though varying in details, the images of Bir Kuar are all made in one traditional style. Not having the training or skill to attempt anything bordering on naturalism, the primitive sculptors of Bihar have stumbled on a powerful "vital geometric" style which alone would suit their supernatural theme.

So very little is known, and much less written, about the folk art of

India that we owe a deep debt of gratitude to the author. Folk art, in the ultimate analysis, will be found to be the source of the classical art of India; a proper understanding of the latter is often impossible without going to the sources of its inspiration. We want more authors of the type of Mr. Archer to interpret our icons which have long suffered at the hands of scholars whose only qualification for the work of interpretation used to be their knowledge of iconography. It required an artist, Rodin, to discover the beauty of the South Indian Dancing Siva!

A. AIYAPPAN.

"SONOPA SKETCH BOOK"

By JOHN W. HILTON, *The Macmillan Company, New York. Price \$5.00.*

This book is an interesting collection of facts about the life, habits and customs of an amazingly simple people of Sowora, a Mexican State. The author, Mr. John Hilton is an elegant writer and an excellent artist. An artist can often see in landscapes and people aspects that escape the observation of laymen and this attainment Mr. Hilton uses with rare skill. He was a sojourner in Sonora, travelling, sketching, painting and collecting scientific specimens as a semi-naturalist. The vivid description of its countryside, the short bright sketches of the common and simple folk who believe anything that strikes their imagination, who enjoy the folklore fiestas, oblivious of time, with their habits centred round rituals and long-established customs and its deep psychology, render the book particularly interesting and easy to read. The book is a labour of love and one must admire the quiet humour which runs throughout the chapters. In respect of matter, illustration, paper, print and binding this book reflects great credit on all associated with its production.

—M.A.K.

"RURAL RECONSTRUCTION PROBLEMS"

By C. V. HANUMANTA RAO. *Price Rs. 1-12-0. Copies available with the author, 11, Monteith Road, Egmore, Madras.*

An earnest study of one of the most vital problems of the day by a well known publicist and author, this book deserves the attention of administrators, social workers and all those who are interested in that ever-dynamic problem—the problem of Rural India. The problem of Indian Rural Reconstruction is not a subject which at any time suffered from any dearth of literature. Thesis after thesis has been written on the subject by economists, political thinkers and by exponents of various schools of socio-economic thought. But one finds something refreshing in Mr. Hanumantha Rao's analysis of the problem. In the following words he gives expression to the growing realization that no programme of national reconstruction can be carried to its successful conclusion without the willing and intelligent co-operation of the people for whom it is intended. Writing on the Madras Government's Firka Development Scheme, Mr. Hanumantha Rao says 'The scheme predicated public co-operation—intelligent, full and active public co-operation—and the prevalence of the will to self-help and self-reliance among the villagers. No scheme which is designed for the welfare of the people can be a success without the people themselves evincing an interest in its successful working. It calls for intelligent and active interest and co-operation of the villagers even as it demands a radical change of outlook in those connected with the administrative machinery at the top.' In eight chapters pregnant with facts, Mr. Hanumantha Rao deals with some of the basic considerations of Rural Reconstruction, Inter-departmental Co-ordination and Self-help, Government Khadi Scheme, Village Indus-

tries, Place of Co-operation in Rural Development, Harijan Uplift and Greater Food Schemes, 'Back-to-the-Village' Movements and lastly ends with a few general postulates on the fundamentals of rural reconstruction. The book thus provides an earnest and comprehensive study of some of the most important rural development schemes, sponsored by the Government of Madras, explaining and elucidating those schemes and occasionally giving helpful suggestions and hints borne out of the author's own studies and observations. With a thought-provoking foreword by Dr. B. Pattabhi Seethaiah, this book is a guide for citizens who are alert in the context of the new dispensation.

—K.B.

"THE WORLD OF INDUSTRY"

By A. P. YOUNG. *Published by George Gill and Sons, Limited, London.*

The purpose of this book has been explained as educational. It seeks to give a comprehensive and balanced picture of the world of industry showing the inter-connection and inter-dependence of four basic divisions—growing, mining, making and moving the things needed to support life and maintain continuity. The book is divided into six parts and runs into more than 300 pages. It is profusely illustrated and contains a wealth of information which may be specially useful to people engaged in industrial enterprises. One chapter is devoted to pioneers and personalities and contains pen pictures of outstanding industrial pioneers and personalities in Great Britain, U.S.A. and Germany. The pen pictures are very interesting and provide a lot of guidance and lessons.

The book is a useful publication and is worth perusal.

—T.K.



Herbert H. Harbottleman, President of the United States, with a group of women in connection with the opening of the Prohibition Staff Training College, Madras.



The Hon'ble Minister is speaking at the Prohibition Staff Training College, Madras.

MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 1st NOVEMBER 1948

NO. 19



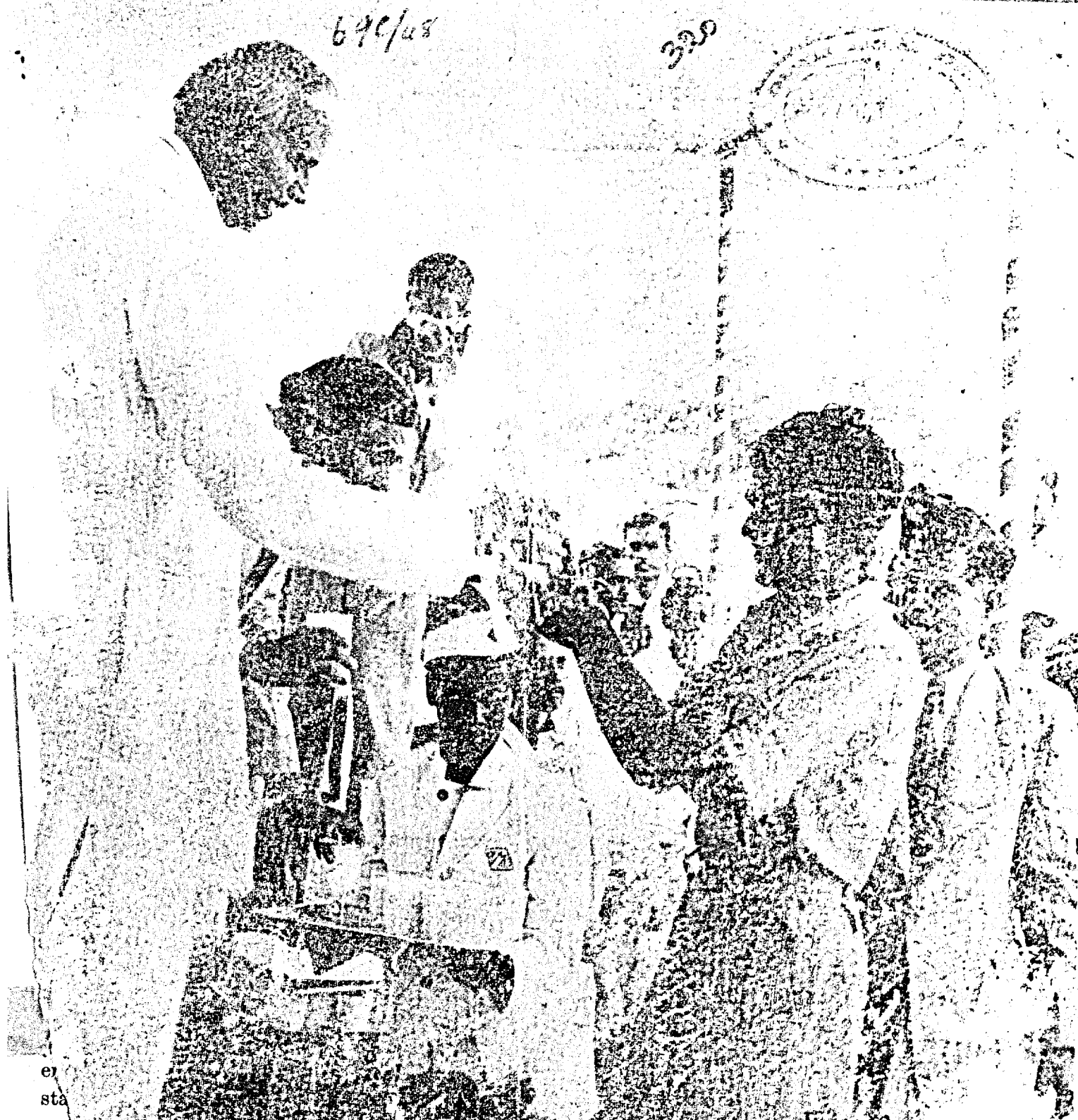
BAPALAL & CO.,

Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewellers
Batten Bazaar, Madras-3

Telephone 505

Telephone 505

MADE IN INDIA BY THE HONORABLE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS. PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY.



321

Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

Vol. II, No. 19

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

November 1, 1948

Prohibition and Public Co-operation

The entire Province has gone dry. The Madras Government have thus given full practical expression to one of the cherished ideals of Gandhiji. Prohibition is not a fad; it is a constructive, social and moral reform holding within itself vast potentialities for the good of the common man. It has an indispensable place in the improvement of the standard of living of the masses—a goal to which the Central and Provincial Governments are striving with unflagging energy in this post-war period. The immense enthusiasm with which the advent of prohibition was celebrated in this Province by the masses is a measure of the realization by the common people of its vital place as a rejuvenating factor in their lives.

But the point has to be emphasized that the mere introduction of prohibition will not by itself achieve any good. Prohibition has to be enforced in a thorough-going fashion so that the blessings that are expected to come out of it may flow in abundant measure. It has been pointed out in these columns that prohibition is a moral reform and for the enforcement of any moral reform, public co-operation is indispensable. Writers, who have studied the causes for the withdrawal of prohibition in America, opine that one of the basic factors for withdrawal was the defective enforcement of prohibition in that country due partly to lack of public enthusiasm. The truth or otherwise of this statement apart, the fact remains that for the

successful enforcement of prohibition, public co-operation is an important factor:

What forms should this co-operation take? Co-operation can be extended by the people in very many ways. Chances for evading the prohibition laws are considerable in this country and one of the ways in which people can co-operate is to assist the authorities in the detection of offences against prohibition laws. Then again considerable assistance can be rendered to the Government by disseminating correct ideas about prohibition. It cannot be denied that there is a lot of ill-informed propaganda against prohibition. An ordinary

IN THIS ISSUE

Premier giving a cup of milk to an
ex-addict in the city—*Frontispiece*
Prohibition and Public Co-operation
Prohibition in other Countries
More about Prohibition
Notes and Comments
Press Notes, Releases, etc.
Departments' Activities
Schemes and Programmes
Problems and Achievements
Rural Topics
Special Articles
Agricultural Notes
Delhi Diary
Other Provinces
Books and Publications

man who has no time to think over these things may perhaps be carried away by such propaganda. It is, therefore, the duty of the more educated to counteract ill-informed propaganda and assist in seeing that correct ideas about prohibition are propagated. The Government have also drawn up a vast programme of counter-attraction for ex-addicts. It is a common place in the literature on the subject that any scheme of prohibition, which does not reckon with the importance of counter-attraction, is bound to fail, for, the lack of diversions and amusements especially in rural parts is one of the basic factors in the drink evil. Hence the necessity for an elaborate programme of counter-attractions in order that the ex-addict may not feel the necessity to resort to the liquor shop either as an escape from this monotonous life or as a matter of diversion.

It is up to every citizen to assist the Government in making the counter-attraction programme as effective as possible.

The province has launched upon a big experiment and the people of Madras have a special responsibility. Inaugurating the prohibition in the Madras City the Hon'ble Premier of Madras said: "Let Madras take pride of place, as the province that has led the country and the world in prohibition and show that prohibition can succeed". He also warned "If we in Madras fail this time, it will only mean that prohibition has failed in the whole world". These words have to be noted carefully. The Government expects every man to do his duty. His duty mainly consists in wholeheartedly co-operating with the Government in the successful implementation of one of the greatest social experiments.

THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING IS IN THE EATING

Madras Information will amply repay perusal

The Cheapest Journal in South India

Special Features: Delightful photographs—Topical articles—
Notes on Governmental activities—News round-up of other
Provinces and the Centre, etc.—A wealth of information on
a variety of subjects

Price: Single copy—2 annas . . . Annual subscription—Rs. 3 only

Apply to:

THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

FORT ST. GEORGE, MADRAS

The Financial Effects of Prohibition

The Government stand to lose to the tune of Rs. 17 crores, as a result of total prohibition. But nearly Rs. 70 crores will be saved for the people till now addicted to drink. The ultimate savings may be even more than this, due to the "multiplier effect," points out Dr. Natarajan in this article.

17 Crores Lost; 70 Crores Gained!

Prohibition was re-introduced in this Province by stages from 1st October 1946. The following statement shows the progressive reduction in the Excise Revenue of this Province due to the introduction of Prohibition:—

Year.	Excise Revenue. RS. CRORES.
1945-46	16.795
1946-47	14.680
1947-48	10.542
1948-49	3.841

The revenue will be nil from 1949-50. Therefore within the space of five years the Government will have lost nearly Rs. 17 crores of revenue by the introduction of Prohibition throughout the Province. Though this is a serious loss to Government revenue, which

warranted by the increase in the rate of sales tax on the one hand and in the general price level on the other. The following statement shows the increase in the revenue from sales tax from 1946-47.

Year.	Sales tax. RS. CRORES.	Index of sales tax revenue.
1946-47	7.2177	100
1947-48	8.6844	120
1948-49	11.6856	162

The rate of sales tax was 1 per cent in 1946-47, an average of 1.14 per cent in 1947-48 and 1.56 per cent in 1948-49. During these three years, the general price level in this Province increased from an index of 319 in 1946-47 to 351 in 1947-48 and 416 in 1948-49, so that if the increase in the revenue from sales tax had been commensurate with the increase in the rate of tax and in the general price level the total revenue from the tax should have increased from an index of 100 in 1946-47 to 125 in 1947-48 and to 203 in 1948-49. A comparison of these indices with the previous ones shows that the increase in the revenue from sales tax has not been as high as it should have been, having regard to the increase in the rate of tax and in

general price level. This is contrary to what one would have expected in the face of the large increase in the spending power of the people addicted to drink as a result of Prohibition.

Fertile Field for Savings Campaign

The unexpected reduction in sales turnover may be attributed either to a falling off in the efficiency of collection or to the shortage of commodities in the market due to famine in the years 1945-46 and 1947-48. It is, however, clear that here is a fertile field for the savings campaign operations. The institution of shorter termed loans together with the payment of higher rates of interest is bound to attract considerable savings from the former drink addicts. The opportunity afforded by Prohibition for an intensification of the savings campaign should therefore be availed of in the fullest measure in this Province. This will also help a great deal in the fight against inflation.

Economic Enquiry must be instituted

In the above paragraph it has been estimated that the total amount that will be saved on account of the introduction of Prohibition will be roughly Rs. 70 crores. The ultimate savings may be much more than this due to the operation of the "multiplier effect." What the savings are likely to be, can be assessed only as a result of detailed enquiries in the different districts such as those undertaken by Dr. Thomas and Dr. B. V. Narayanaswamy Naidu when Prohibition was introduced for the first time in this Province. Professor Vakil is now undertaking a similar enquiry in Bombay, and it is very desirable to institute an enquiry in this Province, to properly gauge the economic effects of Prohibition.

THE MONARCH OF ALL HUMAN VICES

Drunkenness is the monarch of all human vices. Other evils are its mere satellites. It permeates and poisons and rots every department of life and every avenue and faculty of the human body. Once in a distant age intoxicating liquor was the supposed instrument of fellowship and good cheer. It is now the debased and adulterated instrument for the exploitation for profit and the promotion of personal vices. It has grown to astounding proportions. The longer it continues, the greater its evil and the more potent its strength. It has entrenched itself with human avarice and become its ally to exploit the pitiable weakness of humanity to accumulate fortunes.

From "Prohibition" by Benman.

cannot be made good easily, the benefits accruing from the introduction of Prohibition to the poorer classes addicted to the drink evil, are incalculable. It is well known that a man who buys liquor pays nearly four times as much as the tax on liquor. On this basis nearly Rs. 70 crores will be saved for the people addicted to drink, which in the case, especially of the poorer classes can be turned to better uses, such as the satisfaction of their primary wants of food and clothing and other necessities of life, which they should, previously have been obliged to deny themselves in a large measure due to their addiction to the drink evil.

Reaction on Trade

It is difficult to assess objectively the effect of Prohibition on trade and business. The figures of revenue from sales tax subsequent to the re-introduction of Prohibition were examined to find out whether the increase in the sales tax revenue was greater than was

PROHIBITION IN OTHER COUNTRIES

America

Critics of prohibition often point out that prohibition has failed in America and it is not going to succeed in this country. Comparisons are generally odious and are liable to be most misleading when two dissimilar things are compared. Conditions in America and India are fundamentally different and the conclusions drawn from a comparison of both is bound to err. Apart from this fact it is a moot point whether prohibition proved really a failure in America. Whatever that be, there is no gainsaying the fact that during the period it was in force it produced valuable results. Americans are shrewd business people and they would not have tried prohibition had they been the least sceptical about its benefits. In a country where drinking was widespread, the successful working of Prohibition was not an easy job. Prohibition involves total abstinence from anything intoxicating, and to impose it on a fashionable society was a stupendous job. Saloons are a familiar feature of American social life and prohibition which involved the abolition of this main attraction of society naturally met with serious opposition. Powerful liquor interests in America proved another stumbling block. They fought to the last ditch against the introduction of prohibition. They argued at first that the State was not within its rights in introducing prohibition which meant, according to them, interference with personal liberty. This was overruled by the Supreme Court and then they raised the bogey of unemployment of persons who will be thrown out as a result of the stoppage of liquor industry. This argument also proved futile. Subsequent experience showed that the numerous industries which received a fillip through the money released on account of prohibition absorbed not only all the people thrown out of employment but was able to provide room for more. Thus prohibition has had to clear more than one hurdle before it could become an accomplished fact.

A Chronological Story

The chronological story of American prohibition is a long one marked by persistent and sustained effort and planned action. First voluntary abstinence was tried but in the nature of

things it could not cut much ice. Later the Church stepped in and the various denominations of the Protestant Church mobilized their forces on behalf of prohibition. They issued appeals and pamphlets, educated public opinion and organized associations to further this cause. The names of Father Mathews and G. P. Gough have to be remembered in this connexion. Later Mr. Johnson familiarly known as "Pussyfoot" Johnson played a heroic role in the field of prohibition. The educational atmosphere was also prepared for the favourable reception of prohibition. Children in schools were taught the evils of drink. As a result of all these a considerable body of opinion was built up and the momentum it imparted resulted in the enactment of the National Prohibition Act in 1919. Even prior to this, some States had introduced prohibition.

Benefits of Prohibition

The benefits which accrued from prohibition may be classified as political, economic and social. Firstly, political. Prohibition resulted in the cleansing of American politics. It led to the abolition of the American saloon. Theodore Roosevelt said "The American saloon has been one of the most mischievous elements in the American social, political and industrial life." The saloons were centres of an organized traffic which corrupted elections, debauched voters, debased many legislators, and their officials. One political writer says, "Speaking generally, there has been no factor in American political life more productive of bad Government than the saloon."

Most of the suffering in the world was the result of misunderstandings. One should think before speaking and never waste a single word. One's speech should be a true reflection of one's thoughts, and actions should reflect the spoken word.

—MAHATMA GANDHI

Democracy depends on a clean ballot and a free electorate. Both these are impossible when the political boss uses the saloon as a functioning point in the interests of bad Government and corrupt politics." Economically the results were equally valuable. There was a general increase in savings; in one State alone, 15,000 new savings bank accounts were opened. The standard of living rose. Industries improved including the stage and the cinema. Industrial efficiency increased and with it productivity also. The temper and morale of workers also increased. Fatal industrial accidents decreased. Frequent absenteeism of employees fell to a minimum. Socially also, there was all-round improvement. Domestic life became happy. Complaints about ill-treatment of wives and desertion dropped considerably. The domestic atmosphere became purified as a result of the elimination of drink. Suicides and homicides also showed a remarkable fall, as also divorces. Incidence of mental diseases also decreased. Insanity fell by a heavy percentage as also venereal diseases. Prostitution disappeared largely with drink and with the disappearance of prostitution, venereal diseases also showed a fall. Tuberculosis otherwise known as white plague also declined. The average death-rate markedly fell as also that of infant mortality. Arrests on account of drunkenness showed a marked fall. Vagrancy also decreased. Women ceased to frequent criminal courts and the number of crimes also dwindled in a remarkable way.

Conclusion.

Mr. Harding, President of the U.S.A., said in the course of a message on the eve of his presidential election, "In every community men and women have an opportunity now to know what prohibition means. They know that debts are more promptly paid, that men take home the wages that once were wasted in saloons, that families are better clothed and fed and more money finds its way into the savings bank. The liquor traffic was destructive of much that was precious in American life. In the face of so much evidence . . . what conscientious man would want to let his own selfish desires influence him to vote to bring it back."

Russia

The cheaper form of vodka is distilled from potatoes. The vodka industry, therefore, required the production of vast quantities of potatoes. The Poland potato crop had been planted in the spring of 1914, but when the war came on, the Emperor of Russia issued his famous edict prohibiting the manufacture and sale of all intoxicating liquors, including vodka. At first this seemed a crushing blow to the industry of Poland, but after the country had been desolated by war and the ordinary food supplies had been exhausted, the people of Poland found themselves in possession of a vast harvest of potatoes, and these potatoes,

no longer valuable for the manufacture of vodka, provided a supply of food which kept the nation alive during the winter which followed.

Immediately after the taking effect of the edict, the savings bank deposits in Russia began to increase at a most amazing rate, and this notwithstanding the fact that Russia was in the midst of war, with her industries disturbed and all her usual business affairs depressed. A few figures may be given to illustrate this result of prohibition in Russia. The savings bank deposits in Russia, including Poland, on January 1, 1914, were 240,000,000 roubles (a rouble being about 50 cents);

on February 1, 1914, 233,000,000 roubles; on March 1, 1914, 260,000,000 roubles. It will be noticed that these figures refer to dates before the prohibition edict was issued and also before the beginning of the war. The deposits on the corresponding dates one year later, while the war was at its height, show the following savings bank deposits in Russia. January 1, 1915, 438,000,000 roubles, an increase of nearly 100 per cent over the showing of January 1, 1914; February 1, 1915, 509,000,000 roubles, an increase of over 100 per cent; and March 1, 1915, 737,000,000 roubles, an increase of almost 200 per cent.

MORE ABOUT PROHIBITION

Alcohol in relation to Health

It is no longer a disputed fact that alcohol is detrimental to health. Ill-informed critics may perhaps attribute medicinal properties to alcohol. Some others may contend that in a tropical climate it may have a sustaining power. But authoritative medical opinion has exploded the myth of the medicinal properties of alcohol. The Bhoze Committee report has referred inter alia to alcohol in relation to public health. The following extract from that report will be of topical interests.

The subject of alcohol consumption can hardly be discussed without giving rise to sharp differences of opinion. On the one hand there is a school of thought which considers that its use should be prohibited in the interests of the individual and of the community. Its consumption, except in strict moderation, may damage the health of the individual, reduce his working capacity and thus affect adversely the economic condition of himself and of those dependent on him. It is urged that total prohibition is in the interests of the individual and of society because the excessive use of alcohol is often associated with violations of public decency and with anti-social acts such as neglect of family obligations and crimes of violence, while the proportion of those who can exercise sufficient control over themselves and limit its use to such moderate amounts as will not cause harm to health is, it is claimed, small. On the other hand there is another school of thought

which claims that the moderate use of alcohol has its proper place in modern civilized life with the continuous stress and strain which it imposes on the individual. At the end of long and arduous day a small dose of alcohol promotes that relaxation of tension and that sense of well-being and exhilaration which, it is claimed, can do no harm to the man and probably helps him to readjust himself to the work that awaits him the next day. Under existing conditions there is, indeed, a considerable measure of justification for both these schools of thought. For certain members of the community, with adequate mental balance to restrain themselves and practice strict limitation on the consumption of alcoholic beverages and with comfortable incomes which make the expenditure on drinks no strain on their financial resources, the deprivation of the desired dose of alcohol after the day's work may well be unjustified. On the other

hand for the many millions in this country who, after a day's hard toil, do not earn sufficiently to keep themselves and their families properly fed, clothed and housed, the provision of a temptation to throw away a part of their wages for a transient feeling of contentment can hardly be considered as just either from the point of view of the individual or of the community.

No opportunity should be neglected however trifling.

—MAHATMA GANDHI

Certain generally accepted Facts regarding Alcohol in relation to Health.

(1) The main action of alcohol is on the nervous system. It depresses the higher centres of the brain. The stimulant action popularly attributed to it is due to a relaxation of tension. With the exception of its action on the respiratory system alcohol never stimulates.

(2) In very small doses it has a sedative effect. It therefore helps to soften the harshness of life and to increase the enjoyment of social intercourse. It produces a temporary sense of well-being which is technically described as euphoria. But even a small dose of alcohol seems to impair the precision of an act demanding co-ordination of muscular effort. Jameson and Parkinson in their "Synopsis of Hygiene" state that "Physiological tests on the competence of motor-drivers indicate that"

driving may be affected by concentrations of alcohol much smaller than those needed to affect the behaviour in ordinary clinical tests." In larger doses intellectual processes are impeded or suspended and even coarse muscular movements are rendered difficult or impossible.

(3) As a food it requires no digestion before it is absorbed into the blood. It is, however, of little value as an ordinary source of energy because of its harmful effects on the higher nervous centres. Unlike other foods it cannot be stored in the body to be drawn upon as required. If taken frequently, the human body is never free from it and certain deleterious changes in the liver and other organs are brought about.

(4) In medical treatment alcohol serves but a limited purpose. In cases of fainting a small dose of alcohol, by weakening the "excessive check on the heart action exercised by the nervous centres, and on account of its sedative influence on the higher levels of the brain" may exert a temporary beneficial influence in relieving pain and anxiety. But the general medical outlook regarding the use of alcohol in the treatment of disease has considerably changed. We may sum up the position in the following words of the late Lord Moynihan :—

"It is difficult to realise that 50 years ago the use of alcohol was considered necessary in the treatment of disease and advisable for the maintenance of good health. . . . Today medical science is of one mind that alcohol, while it has its uses, is unnecessary and often harmful in the routine treatment of disease."

(5) As regards its effect on mortality, a comparison between total abstainers and non-abstainers shows that the former are longer lived. "Insurance companies have found that the expectation of life is some three and a half years less for non-abstainers than for total abstainers." The extent to which alcohol affects longevity depends on the amount consumed by the individual from day to day. Detailed studies of mortality statistics of American and British life insurance companies seem to suggest that :

"1. Moderate users of alcohol, who touch it only occasionally and then in moderation, are probably as long lived as total abstainers, provided they always maintain moderate habits in all phases of living.

"2. Those who drink moderately, say, an average of two glasses of beer

or one glass of whisky per day, have a higher mortality than the average, partly due to a percentage of them eventually exceeding this moderate consumption.

Ameliorative Activities

The following is a summary of the report received from the Prohibition districts on ameliorative activities :—

Tiruchirappalli.—Harijans in one taluk staged a drama and this was witnessed by a considerable number of people. A volley ball court was opened under the auspices of a grama sangam. Hundi boxes were distributed to members of a co-operative society.

Thrift Campaigns, opening of Reading rooms, formation of Reading ircles and Tree Planting drive are some of the more important features of ameliorative work. The spirit of co-operative enterprise among the villagers is a healthy sign which bids fair to accelerate rural progress.

Madura.—Thrift day was celebrated in one place. A library has been opened. Night schools have been started in a number of places. Five fodder societies were affiliated to the Periyakulam Co-operative Union. Inter-village sports also took place.

Bellary.—Sports were held as usual. A rural exhibition was held in which a number of Government departments took part. The Bellary Co-operative Milk Supply Society was started on its work. Proposals for organizing a co-operative society for rope making industry are under consideration.



Before Prohibition

"3. Those who drink occasionally to the point of intoxication, or have a few protracted sprees yearly are distinctly shorter lived than the average."



After Prohibition

Malabar.—One grama sangam celebrated prohibition day. The occasion was utilized to stress the evils of drinking. Cleanliness day was celebrated in some cheries. A music party was held under the auspices of another grama sangam. The propaganda van was taken to a number of centres and films were exhibited. Prohibition day was celebrated in other places also. In Calicut division a reading room and a recreation club were declared open.

Nilgiris.—There was a cattle show in one place, which was largely attended.

Coimbatore.—Sports and tournaments took place as usual. Grama sangams continued to do useful work. One grama sangam is constructing a school building at a cost of Rs. 6,000. Three other grama sangams are similarly constructing school buildings at a cost of Rs. 4,000, Rs. 1,300 and Rs. 2,000 respectively.

Anantapur.—A Cattle Breeding Co-operative Society was started in one place. Libraries were opened in some places. A village betterment committee constructed a building at a cost of Rs. 2,000 for a library.

Nellore.—By-laws regarding Home Safe Deposits were introduced in several co-operative societies. Thrift collection day was celebrated in one place. Street dramas were enacted and folk dances were performed. Bhajanas were arranged in 23 villages. Street cleaning and sanitation drives were launched.

Salem.—Thrift day was celebrated in some places. Compulsory education was inaugurated in some places. A flag post worth Rs. 200 was donated for hoisting the National flag. A rural exhibition was conducted in connection with the closing of the rural uplift school. Exhibits from various departments were displayed and the exhibition was a great success.

Chittoor.—Two new drama sangams were organized in Madanapalle division. Rural games took place as usual. Bhajanas and thrift campaign were other features. Street cleaning drive was launched in some villages. Reading circles were formed by grama sangams. Nurseries for tree-planting were raised in some villages. Books were collected for a library. A donation was received for the installation of a radio. Stone sign posts indicating the names of villages were fixed in some places. The silt of a drinking water well was got removed with the assistance of the villagers. The Grow More Food and tree planting campaigns were given an impetus.

Kurnool.—A grain shop was opened in one place. Night schools for adults were also started in some places. A tournament was held. There were

also folk dances, community singing, kolattam and Bharatha Natyam.

North Arcot.—A firka tournament was held which was largely attended, and there were several items of entertainment in this connection. There

was a drama on prohibition enacted by the rural uplift school students.

Tanjore.—A free reading room and a public library were opened in one place. Street cleaning day was celebrated in one place. A firka association was formed.

EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL

1. The main action of alcohol is on the nerve system. It never stimulates.
2. In very small doses it has a sedative effect. It produces a sense of obliviousness in the victim.
3. As food it requires no digestion before it is absorbed into the blood. It has little value as a source of energy because of its harmful effects on the higher nerve system. Unlike other foods it cannot be stored on the body and drawn up as required.
4. In medical treatment alcohol serves but a limited purpose. The medical view of alcohol has changed quite radically in recent times. "Today medical science is of one mind that alcohol is often harmful in the routine treatment of diseases."
5. Longevity is also affected by the habitual use of alcohol. The mortality surveys conducted in America as well insurance records bear out this point.

Research into Effects of Prohibition in Bombay

The Prohibition department of the Government of Bombay has formulated a scheme of economic and social survey in urban, rural and backward areas of the Province to gauge the effects of prohibition.

Investigations would be carried on under the direction of Prof. C. N. Vakil of the University School of Economics with a team of investigators. The Standing Committee of the Research and Statistics Sub-Committee has also

secured the expert advice and co-operation of the Tata Institute of Science and Dr. N. S. R. Shastri, Director of Statistics of the Reserve Bank of India. Two groups of villages with a record of heavy and light consumption of toddy and country liquor would be selected for comparative sample investigations.

The Committee met on September 1928 at the University School of Economics when Prof. Vakil was

in the chair. The meeting discussed the plan of sample surveys and also decided to send out units of investigators amongst the Bhils, Warlis and Lamanis in the backward areas where the field-work will have to be carried out with the collaboration of the local welfare agencies like the Bhil Seva Mandal and Advasi Seva Mandal. The meeting, after full discussion, worked out the general plan of action under the survey scheme and settled the form of machinery that will have to be established to carry out the programme of survey.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Dr. Gurubatham's Exhortation

The Honourable Minister for Firka Development and Prohibition toured in Salem and Coimbatore districts in the beginning of September 1948 and examined the working of prohibition in these districts. He also inspected the ameliorative work at several centres.

He addressed meetings at various places and appealed to the public for co-operation in making prohibition a success. He emphasised that the greatest homage that could be paid to Mahatma Gandhi would be to follow his teachings and to cultivate a spirit

of unity and brotherhood, truthfulness and honesty. He said that if India was to preserve the Independence which it had obtained, it was necessary to cultivate these virtues and to maintain a high standard of discipline and integrity. He addressed meetings of district officers at Salem and Coimbatore and stressed the need to cultivate a spirit of service to the villagers, a capacity to overcome difficulties and to develop the power of creative thinking. The progress of any reform and the success of any measure, the Hon'ble Minister said, would be judged by the extent to which it benefited the poorest of the villagers.

Food Production Drive in Madras

Further fillip was given to the "Grow More Food" campaign in Madras during the month of June last by bringing an area of 5,833 acres under seed farms in order to increase food production through the use of improved high-yielding seeds. Paddy accounted for 3,929 acres; the figures for millets, pulses and groundnuts being 1,656, 200 and 48, respectively.

In addition, 41,508 acres were grown under improved paddy seeds and 28,000 acres under millet seeds, which were distributed by the Agricultural Department.

The increased demand for oilcakes and chemical fertilizers owing to the commencement of the sowing seasons was met by the sale of 9,811 tons of groundnut cake, 247 tons of other oilcakes and 1,253 tons of chemical fertilizers estimated to increase the production of paddy over an area of about 125,000 acres.

Thirty-seven lakhs forty-seven thousand and seven hundred cuttings of vines of sweet potato and 8,520 cuttings of tapioca were distributed free to ryots to encourage the raising of short-term food-crops. A large quantity of vegetable seeds was sold or distributed free to schools and other institutions to augment vegetable production.

To supplement the manure resources of the Province, which are far short of the requirements of the food-crops, ryots were encouraged to grow green manure crops and to compost all available vegetable waste matter in the villages. Green manure seeds were purchased in producing centres and sold in deficit areas, attention being concentrated on the Cauvery-Mettur Project area, where green manure could be grown over an area of 1.6 lakhs acres between June-September. If the whole of this area is covered, the yield of paddy could be increased by 23,000 tons. One hundred and

eighty-two new compost pits were opened, 1,365 filled, and 172,197 c.ft. of compost was distributed for making compost in rural areas.

At an estimated cost of Rs. 2,06,050 the Government have sanctioned the execution of a scheme to provide irrigation facilities to a block of lands

in Guntur district. The area expected to be brought under cultivation is 1,489 acres increasing the quantity of foodgrains ultimately by about 744 tons of rice.

Four more schemes for the irrigation of a new ayacut of 34,218 acres, besides providing greater irrigation facilities for an area of 24,073 acres of the existing ayacut, have been sanctioned.

The Role of Public Servants

Speaking recently at the Provincial Veterinary Conference, Hon'ble Sri Madhava Menon, Minister for Agriculture, referred inter alia to what ought to be the goal towards which each public servant should strive. The main thing, he said, was to get the affection of the people for whom they were working. The Minister regretted that as a rule Government servants in all departments as a class were not popular with the masses because they had not made the masses feel that they were working to promote their interests. Veterinary Doctors, he said, should gain the affection and goodwill of the people. It was their duty to apply themselves to their work with a sense of service and always help the owners of the cattle. Their

department should never be unpopular for if it did it would be useless. The role of a public servant under the new dispensation of things was emphasised more than once by leaders in this country. The point was stressed by all that public servants are servants of the people in the present set up and not hired agents of a foreign bureaucracy. A spirit of service has to be cultivated by them. It is common knowledge that this country is in the throes of reconstruction in almost every sphere of activity and in such a context, the importance of the role, public servants have to play cannot be over-estimated. It is incumbent on them to serve the masses with a missionary's zeal and in a spirit of service.

Fish Culture

Addressing the Fisheries Conference in New Delhi, the Food Minister, Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, emphasised the great potentialities of fish culture in India and suggested that concrete plans should be evolved for the fuller utilization of our seas, ponds, tanks and paddy fields. The output of fish works out to 111 lb. per head per annum in Japan, 190 lb. in Canada, 63 lb. in Denmark, 49 lb. in Britain, 351 lb. in U.S.A. and 18 lb. in Russia. Together with Iran and Burma, India produces hardly 5 lb. per head. We have 3,200 miles of coastline, but only

a narrow strip of 5 to 10 miles of the sea has yet been tapped. If the fishing industry is properly developed, it can extend to greater depths and distances—at least to the 100 fathom line. Experts have estimated that India has not yet tapped even 6 per cent of the entire fishable marine area at her disposal. There is little doubt that greater fish production would effectively augment food supplies in the country. To this end the Governments, both Central and Provincial are making efforts.

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.

Paddy Bonus Coupons

Under the bonus scheme of 1947, Government had announced that a bonus at the rate of Re. 1 per imperial maund would be granted to every producer who delivered paddy to the

procurement agents of Government during the period 1st December 1946 to 6th December 1947. One-half of this bonus is paid to the producers in cash and the other half in the shape of manures, such as groundnut

cake, chemical fertilizers and green manure seeds, to be used for manuring the lands of the producers with a view to increase the food production of the Province. Food bonus coupons are issued to the ryots equivalent

to the value of manures which they are entitled to get under the above scheme and manures are supplied to them in exchange of these coupons.

The stocks of manure (groundnut cake, chemical fertilizers and green manure seeds) available with the Agricultural department as well as the quantity that is expected to be procured during the rest of the year, will not be sufficient to honour all the bonus coupons in full during the current year. Several representations have also been received by the Government from the ryots who are coupon-holders that they may be paid cash instead of manures in exchange of the bonus coupons. In view of the inadequate stocks of manure and with a view to meet the demand for cash instead of manures from a certain section of the bonus coupon holders, the Government have now decided that bonus coupons may be exchanged either for manures, such as groundnut cake, chemical fertilizers and green manure seeds or for cash according to the needs of the couponholders. The bonus couponholders are therefore informed that in future they have the option to exchange their coupons either for groundnut cake from the co-operative societies or chemical fertilizers or green manure seeds from the Agricultural depots or for cash as they please and that the supply of manures is strictly subject to availability of stocks at the time the coupons are presented. As regards the pending cases wherein the producers have not yet been issued bonus coupons, the Government have issued orders directing the payment of the manure part of the bonus also in cash without issuing any coupons. The producers are further informed that 31st December 1948 has been fixed as the last date for redeeming the bonus coupons; as the Government are anxious to wind up the scheme expeditiously. The couponholders are therefore advised to avail themselves of the concession and redeem their coupons before the above date without fail.

The Collectors of districts have been requested to issue clear instructions regarding the procedure to be followed by the ryots in cashing the coupons at the District Treasuries or Sub-Treasuries and give wide publicity to the same. [September 28]

Donation Works

With a view to encourage philanthropists to put up hospital and other medical buildings, the Government

have directed that no centage charges should be recovered in the case of medical buildings to be constructed with the aid of private donations, and the execution of which is undertaken by the Public Works Department.

[September 22]

Supply of Pump Sets

The Government have accepted the recommendation of the Joint Director of Agriculture that the concessional rate of 8 annas per day or Rs. 10 per mensem for a period of one month and more be levied for petrol pump-sets, which are allowed to be retained with ryots beyond September 30, 1948, and that the concessional rate of Rs. 2 per day in the case of oil engines be continued for a further period of one year from October 10, 1948. As regards tractor pump-sets, the hire charges fixed in the Government Order, dated March 5, 1947, i.e., Rs. 2 per day, will continue to be in force.

The concessional rates of hire charges and the waiver of transport charges now extended up to September 30,

1949, will not be allowed to all hirers as a matter of course, but will be allowed only where it is essential, in order to ensure the best possible use of the pumps, i.e., in cases where applicants who cannot pay full charges, can make better use of the pumps than those, who can pay full charges.

[September 22]

Busts of Mahatma Gandhi

The Government have seen some criticisms in the Press about their decision to authorize the Principal of the School of Arts and Crafts to produce busts of Mahatma Gandhi. These criticisms appear to arise from a misunderstanding that the authorization of the production of the statues necessarily implies that only statues produced by the Principal should be purchased by Government and Quasi-Government authorities. This is not the position. Any one can purchase any statue he likes and the Government do not wish to impose the product of any one sculptor on the public.

[September 17]

DEPARTMENTS' ACTIVITIES

Home Department

Bus Transport

Nineteen petrol buses were registered during August bringing the total number to 289 vehicles including 25 Diesel Buses.

2. During the month the peak hour shuttle service from Mylapore to Adyar route 5-A which was started from 19th July 1948 was discontinued as the route was found to be unremunerative. The question of running a restricted service during certain hours is under consideration.

3. The practice of stop-checks was discontinued from 13th August 1948 and in its place mobile checking was introduced.

4. To provide greater facilities to the travelling public, the frequency of buses on routes 1-B, 3-B and 3-D was increased by reducing the headway from half an hour to 15 minutes. The number of buses on route No. 6 was increased from 9 to 11 and the trips

augmented from 125 to 185. Trips were also increased on route No. 22 with the six existing buses from 72 to 105 and two additional buses are run on Saturday and Sunday evenings to meet the demands of the holiday goers. One more peak hour bus was introduced on route No. 21-B and trips increased from 52 to 66. Similarly trips were increased in route No. 3 from 162 to 169.

5. A bus stop at Sunkumar on Marina route was erected for the benefit of the public going to the beach and Triplicane.

6. On 27th August 1948 (Krithigai festival) special arrangements were made to run 4 buses—2 from Gemini Studio to Vadapalani temple and two from Kodambakkam Railway Station to Vadapalani temple. About 4,700 persons travelled in these buses.

7. One Government Bus was placed at the disposal of the members of the Legislature residing in the Government House at Mount Road to take them to

the Fort St. George and back while the Legislature was in session.

8. On 30th August 1948 the "Express Bus Service" was introduced in routes No. 3 (Mylapore to Parrys), 11 (T. Nagar to Parrys), 7-C (Kelley's to Parrys) and 15 (Aminjikarai to Parrys). Two buses are run on each route as Express Service during peak hours—the rates being 3 annas and 4½ annas. These buses stop only at important traffic stops.

Resettlement Activities

Hon'ble Sri V. Kurmayya, Minister for Rural Development, inspected recently the Employment Exchange at Mount Road. The Minister was taken round by Mr. S. A. Qadir, Regional Director of Resettlement and Employment and Mr. Nambiar, Regional Employment Officer and explained the methods adopted for assessing the aptitudes and abilities of the applicants sent to employers on requisition. The Minister evinced keen interest and appreciated the methods of maintaining man-power statistics. He expressed the view that more and more employers should come forward to use this Employment Service which will readily meet their man-power demands.

Firka Development Department

A synopsis of the important activities in the firkas and centres selected for intensive Rural Reconstruction work, during August 1948 is given below:—

Yerragondapalem Centre, Kurnool district.—Tournaments were conducted in various rural games and prizes were distributed to the winners. A night school has been started at Kolukula in Christianpalem. A reading room known as 'Jaihind Reading Room' was also started at Naidupalem.

Musiri Firka, Tiruchirappalli district.—Thirty charkas and 100 taklis have been distributed during the month. Five hundred chittams of yarn were collected from the spinners and sent to the A.I.S.A. A spinning competition was held during the Independence Day celebrations and about 100 people, including ladies, participated in the competition. Prizes were given to the best spinners. Fifty acres of land were

brought under cultivation by tractor-ploughing. A post office was opened at Tiruvengamalai.

Gara Firka, Vizagapatam district.—From 15th to 22nd August, tree-planting was vigorously undertaken and trees were planted in all the important villages of the firka with the assistance of the Agricultural Staff in the Firka.

Palladam Firka, Coimbatore district.—The central library of this firka was opened during this month.

Nation building work in the selected firkas are going on apace. Much depends upon the initiative and enterprise of the villagers themselves. In the field of rural reconstruction self-help is the best help. Spoon feeding beyond certain limits may perhaps do more harm than good.

Veerapandy Firka, Salem district.—Seventeen branch libraries to cater to the needs of the literates were opened during the month. Nine hundred and ninety-five tree-cuttings were planted to encourage green-manure. At Kondalampatti a school building at a cost of Rs. 13,000 was constructed with the help of the public. The Hon'ble the Minister for Firka Development visited Kondalampatti on 31st August 1948, and inspected the school building.

Alur Firka, Bellary district.—Two night schools for adult education have been opened in this month in the villages of Alur and Nitravatti. A rural uplift school was conducted at Alur by the Amelioration Department. A rural exhibition was conducted at Alur on 21st and 22nd August 1948. Sports were also conducted and prizes distributed.

Proddatur Firka, Cuddapah district.—Tree-planting work was done in several villages of the firka, the Grama Seva Sangam taking the initiative in the matter.

Polavaram Firka, West Godavari district.—There was an outbreak of epidemic throughout the firka. Preventive measures were taken by regular attendance to sanitation work in the affected areas. A cart-track measuring 26 miles has been formed by channel clearance. The breaches in one of the

biggest tanks, i.e., the Kothur tank, have been filled up. Four thousand teakwood plants supplied by the Forest Department have been planned on either side of Polavaram-Kannapuram roads.

Kurnool Firka.—The streets of the villages have been got swept and were made clean. As cholera was prevalent in some other villages of the firka, disinfectant measures were taken where necessary. Inoculation was also carried out. Two illicit distillers were detected by one of the Village Development Officers of the firka and necessary further action taken. New night schools for adults in Gargeyapuram and Padidampad have been started during the period. Fifteen slates and 15 books have been distributed to the night-school going adults. Six new charkas have been introduced. Basket industry has been started in Gargeyapuram. Village games were organized. The Independence Day was celebrated. One poultry-farm has been organized in Kallur on co-operative basis. Grama Seva Sangams have been constituted in three villages and their duties regarding the upkeep of the villages in all respect were explained.

Payyanur Firka, Malabar district.—One Hundred cement slabs were distributed in this firka at cost price for the construction of latrines. Arrangements are being made to supply half a bag of cement also free of cost to these people to construct these latrines. During the Independence Day Tree-Planting Week, about 2,600 plants have been planted in this Firka.

Kadambalur Firka, South Arcot district.—The Independence Day was celebrated with all solemnity and enthusiasm in the Firka. Feeding of the poor was conducted by the philanthropic, and the Firka Development Department Staff have taken active part in it. Five new co-operative-credit societies have been newly opened and loans to the extent of Rs. 10,000 were also sanctioned for these societies. Two Panchayat Boards have newly been formed in this firka.

Dendurur Firka, West Godavari district.—The Hon'ble Minister for Firka Development visited this firka during the month. The Collector toured many of the villages in this firka, inspecting the Firka Development work and discussing with the villagers their needs and grievances. A co-operative Stores at Gopannapalem was organized to serve about 12 villages.

Malli Firka, Ramnad district.—The Deputy Director of Industries

visited the training centres in the firka, and made arrangements for the supply of tools and materials required. Independence Day was celebrated in all the villages. Large numbers of various kinds of seedlings were planted.

Kundah Firka, Nilgiris district.—Independence Day was celebrated on a grand scale. Tree-planting week was organized. Trees were planted at important places.

Kanupur Firka, Nellore district.—A new Co-operative Society was started at Chimudugunta.

Tellicherry Firka, Malabar district.—Villagers of Vadakambad have started the construction of Kuyyali-Mannayad road. Villagers are taking keen interest in this work. They have given lands required for the road free of cost.

Vellakoil Firka, Coimbatore district.—An elementary school was opened at Nadupalayam. The new building was constructed by the villagers. Two co-operative Credit societies, one at Nadupalayam and the other at Alam-palayam, have been registered. The Independence Day was celebrated in a fitting manner. Trees were planted.

Ongole Firka, Guntur district.—Spinning competitions were conducted in two villages and prizes were distributed to the successful contestants.

Electricity Department

During August 1948, one extension costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 was sanctioned by the Chief Engineer at an estimated total cost of Rs. 19,520.

2. Supply to 1,026 domestic services, 136 agricultural services and 45 industrial services was given during the month.

3. Work on the major schemes and extensions continued to progress.

Education Department

Secondary education.—A sub-committee in connection with the Re-organization of Secondary Education is now working on methods of examination and testing practical activities and on schemes of refresher courses for teachers.

The Secondary Education Board met on the 15th and 14th of August and considered the syllabuses relating to the new scheme of Secondary

Education and the connected scheme of examinations.

Citizenship training.—A Guide book on Citizenship Training in schools has been published under the authority of the Director of Public Instruction. Copies will be made available from all agents for Government publications.

Besides the Guide Book on Citizenship Training which has been published, two more guide books, one on Social studies and the other on the Regional Languages are ready for publication.

General.—The Provincial Advisory Board met on the 26th August 1948 when the Hon'ble Minister for Education ascertained the views of representative authorities on the amendments to the University Act, and other pending legislative measures connected with education.

A special meeting of the Board for Nursery Kindergarten and Montessori Schools met on 2nd September 1948 and considered the need for revision of syllabuses for the training of teachers for such schools.

A camp conference of the Inspecting Officers of the Education Department was held at the Teachers' College, Saidapet and, fulfilled a four-fold purpose of corporate democratic camp life and camp routine, conference and discussions on departmental subjects like Elementary Education, Secondary Education, Adult Education, Basic Education and Training of teachers, information to the Officers on several new subjects connected with education and visits to institutions working the new scheme of activities including demonstration of students' self-government in practice and the use of audio-visual aids in teaching. The camp was opened by the Hon'ble Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar, Minister for Education, on the morning of 4th September and was visited by Prof. Humayun Kabir and seven of the provincial Ministers on the 7th September and concluded with a tea party given by the Hon'ble Minister for Education to the Officers, conveners of the various syllabus sub-committees and other official and non-official helpers.

Labour Department

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the East India Distilleries and Sugar

Factories, Limited, Nellikuppam, South Arcot.

The Government have also accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Calicut, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Standard Furniture Company, Limited, Kallai, Calicut.

They have also accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Calicut, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the St. Vincents Industrials, Calicut.

The workers of the Nazceria Motor Service and the United Bus Service, Limited, Nellore, struck work from 10th to 14th September 1948 demanding bonus and reinstatement of retrenched workers. The Assistant Commissioner of Labour, Madras, proceeded to Nellore and brought about a settlement of the dispute. The strike was called off on the evening of 14th September 1948.

[First fortnight of September 1948].

There is no bravery greater than a resolute refusal to bend the knee to an earthly power, no matter how great, and that without bitterness of spirit and in the fullness of faith that the spirit alone lives, nothing else does.

—MAHATMA GANDHI

The Government of Madras have constituted another Industrial Tribunal consisting of one person, namely, Sri T. D. Ramayya Pantulu, Retired District and Sessions Judge, for the adjudication of Industrial Disputes in the districts of Madras, Chingleput, South Arcot and North Arcot with its place of sitting at Madras.

The Government of Madras have accepted the recommendations of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and management of Caltex (India), Limited, Madras, and have directed that the agreement filed by the parties shall form part of and shall always be deemed to have formed part of the award.

The General Secretary of the Co-operative Societies and General Workers Union, Madras, has withdrawn the notice of strike issued by him to the management of the Strathie Co-operative Engineering Workshop, Madras.

Sri Satyanarayana Spinning Mills, Rajahmundry, remained closed from 15th to 23rd September 1948 on account of boiler inspection.

The Government of Madras have accepted the interim award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, in the dispute between the workers and managements of Cigar Factories at Tiruchirappalli.

[Second fortnight of September 1948]

Agricultural Department

The Agricultural department has been supplying on hire petrol pumpsets and oil engines with a view to assist the ryots to grow food crops in the off season under well irrigation. The concessional rate of hire charges in respect of oil engines is Re. 1 per day against the normal rate of Rs. 3 per day or Rs. 75 per mensem or Rs. 200 for three months. As regards petrol engine pumpsets the concessional rates are annas eight per day or Rs. 10 per mensem for periods of one month and more. The sanction for these rates will expire on 30th September 1948.

2. The Government have now examined the question of the continuance of these concessional rates. A hire charge of eight annas per day or Rs. 10 per mensem has been fixed in the case of petrol pumpsets which are allowed to be retained with the ryots beyond 30th September 1948 and Rs. 2 per day has been fixed for trailer pumpsets. In respect of oil engines the concessional rate has been fixed at Rs. 2 per day as the working charges for these engines have risen. These rates will remain in force for one year from 1st October 1948.

Fisheries Department in 1946-47

Deep-sea fishing.—Deep-sea fishing operations were initiated in the Province in July 1943 with a view to increase the catches of shark and thus ensure an abundant supply of shark liver to the Government Oil Factory at Calicut. During the year under report there were 35 deep-sea fishing centres in existence on the East and West Coasts. In addition to the four motor fishing vessels already purchased, four more vessels were purchased during the year from the Army Surplus Stores at Cochin. The total

quantity of fish caught in the departmental centres during the year was 745,960 lb. The sale proceeds of fish amounted to Rs. 56,498.

Shark liver oil.—The total quantity of crude shark liver oil received in the Government Oil Factory at Calicut from the fish-curing yards and oil extraction centres was 75,591 lb., the quantity of standardized oil produced was 93,600 lb. and the quantity of Madras Government Brand shark liver oil sold was 102,087 lb.

Fish-curing yards.—There were 116 fish-curing yards at the end of the year as against 115 last year. The total quantity of fresh fish brought into the yards was 2,472,305 maunds, salt issued was 384,665 maunds and cured fish removed from the yards 1,541,123 maunds.

Fish manure industry.—The Special Officer, Fish Manure Industry, appointed by the Government arranged for the production of fish manure by improved methods in five centres—four on the West Coast and one on the East Coast—and the product was found to be free from sand and to have three to four times the nitrogenous content of the local commercial fish manure.

Fish preservation and transport.—The Government have sanctioned the installation of ice factories-cum-cold stores for the preservation of fish and also the purchase of insulated vans for the transport of fish. Six insulated motor transport vans have been already purchased and have proved valuable to the fishermen who till now were suffering from lack of adequate and quick transport facilities. A total quantity of 274,991 lb. of fish was transported by the vans from November 1946 to the end of the year under review and a sum of Rs. 6,459 was realized as transport charges.

Fishery marketing.—The Government appointed a Fishery Marketing Officer for the purpose of effecting a survey of the existing marketing conditions of fish, fishery products and improvements in the Province. A rapid survey of the existing marketing conditions of the following towns were completed:—

Ootacamund, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Madura, Vellore, Cuddalore, Tuticorin, Palamcottah, Koilpatti, Papanasam, Mettur, Erode, Salem, Kasaragod and Mangalore.

The improvements necessary to the markets at these places have been suggested to the municipalities

concerned, so that fish may be better displayed and sold under hygienic conditions.

Demonstration and propaganda.—The Rural Fishery Demonstration Units continued to survey waters, contact interested fish farmers and give them fish seed, advice and help. On the whole, 2,260 pieces of water with an area of 101,190 acres were surveyed. Nearly 66,000 seeds of different species of fish were supplied to 119 parties. Technical advice was given to 830 parties. The information-cum-propaganda Unit continued to answer enquiries from the public on various matters concerning fish culture.

Socio-economic activities—Education.—There were 55 Fishery Elementary Schools on the West Coast and three on the East Coast during the year under review. The total number of pupils that attended the fisheries schools at the end of the year was 9,905 of which 5,712 were boys and 4,193 were girls. The supply of free mid-day meals to fisher-children attending the fisheries schools was continued till 1st April 1947. This served to ensure better attendance in the schools and raised the general standard of health.

Co-operation.—There were 79 Fishermen Co-operative Societies on the West Coast as against 60 societies last year and 3 Fishermen Co-operative Societies were registered on the East Coast during the year. In addition to the supply of essential commodities such as food grains, sugar, kerosene, etc., a few of these societies purchase yarn, sail cloth, salt and other requirements of their members.

Finance.—A revenue of Rs. 14.73 lakhs was realized as against Rs. 12.51 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure incurred was 20.67 lakhs as against 18.52 lakhs. The increase in the expenditure was mainly due to the revision of scales of pay of the non-gazetted staff of the department, rise in transport, freight and other incidental charges.

Miscellaneous

Control has been reimposed on Cotton Textiles recently. It has been tentatively decided that one-third of the allotment of cloth for the Province may be distributed through Co-operative Societies and two-thirds through licensed trade channels. There will be licensed retail shops or Co-operative Stores to serve rural areas.

SCHEMES AND PROGRAMMES

Irrigation Schemes in Madras

More food production is one of the major objectives of the Government. To this end they have a vast programme of irrigation development. Recently the Chief Engineer for Irrigation threw more light on the short term and long term plans of the Government in the course of a broadcast. Extracts from the broadcast are given below:

Our pressing problems of the present day are food, clothing and housing for the common man. We have to grow food on land to sustain and nourish us, produce clothing to clothe us, a produce both of land and of industry, and build houses to give us shelter from the sun and rain, a product again of land giving us materials, and industry putting them into shape. Increase of food can be brought about by increasing the yields per acre, by introducing mechanical methods, and by increasing the area under cultivation. Just as power enhances the output of industry, and multiplies the power of an individual irrigation increases the produce from land, as compared to an unirrigated land makes it independent of seasons and vicissitudes of the monsoon. In the ultimate analysis, everything has to be produced in a raw shape from land, and its value increased by application of power to transfer it into more valuable forms. To build up the wealth of a country, and to increase the national income and to make all world's goods available to the common man, we must get more out of nature from land in one of the several ways in which nature will give it, namely, by application of irrigation water to the land. For its transformation into the richer products we want power. So powers and irrigation water are two main concomitants of advancing civilization. All others depend on it just as we want petrol and an engine to produce the power in a motor car, the development of a country without development of the irrigation and power resources would be unthinkable.

Power may be obtained in various ways, from coal, oil, steam and by splitting the atom. It can also be produced by making water fall from a high to a low level suitably controlled. The advantages of a project combining both power and irrigation is doubly advantageous in that it solves two problems at the same time. Besides power so produced is in many cases

likely to be cheaper than power produced in other ways.

Where We Stand

Let us now examine where we stand in relation to this food problem. We in Madras, have been short of food for several years now. Our position was much the same perhaps as in the 50s of the last century, when famines swept the land in quick succession and before the large canal projects of the Cauvery, the Godavari and the Kistna was carried out. Our population has been expanding by leaps and bounds. Before the war, we were importing nearly 6 lakhs of tons of rice from Burma when Burma was prosperous and had a surplus to export. The war gave us a rude shake up. Import ceased and for these five years we have been living a hand to mouth existence, and in spite of a vigorous drive for growing more food we are still importing over 6 lakhs of tons to maintain even our admittedly low level of 8 oz. ration for adults. We are sending about 16 crores of rupees outside the province every year to other provinces in India which have a surplus to export and to foreign countries outside in India. The food position has deteriorated even more after India, was divided with the Pakistan taking away large food producing areas, West Punjab and Sind, and we in Madras have to produce an additional 2 to 3 million tons to add to an existing production of about 6 million tons within the next decade, if we are to keep our head above water and each one of us has to have a square meal.

Background

One of the ways of increasing food production is by bringing more areas under irrigation. Irrigation of a dry land produces three times as much food as that on an unirrigated land. If we can treble the produce from land it is obvious that a considerable addition to our resources must result and the results would be more certain

than if we depended and looked to the sky for timely rains.

Almost the whole of Madras Province (east of Western Ghats) consists of area where rainfall is greatly in deficit for bringing up the crops to successful maturity. Even in areas with high rainfall its distribution is extremely unsatisfactory and even in those areas the help given by artificial irrigation would go to increase the produce from land. There are areas with only about 20 inches of rainfall and the bulk of the country has only a bare 30 to 40 inches. An additional quantity of water varying from 20 to 60 inches is required to produce a good crop of rice and rice is our staple food. So it is obvious that more than any other country our food economy which rests to a large extent on rice, requires a full and complete development of irrigation sources in this Province.

The irrigation programme is therefore to develop the available resources, taking note of the large and natural inequalities in the monsoon and turning the water available in the various rivers to the best use to supplement the natural rainfall. Luckily Madras has still some large rivers which are not fully harnessed. The Godavari and the Kistna are still sending nearly 90 per cent of their waters to the sea unused. The Cauvery has been turned to better account but even there, there is some surplus waiting to be developed. There are besides innumerable small rivers and streams some fully utilized and some partly utilized. The irrigation programme of Madras aims at harnessing these resources and turning them to good account for the use of the common man.

According to the nature of sources developed, the quantities of water available for development and the area commanded by the scheme, the size of the scheme varies. No part of the country which has any resources worthy of development should lag behind another. Developing areas all over the province makes for self-sufficiency in every small unit, eases

food transport problem, distributes the wealth and makes full use of available manpower and finally enhances self-respect.

Then there is a long-term plan and a short-term plan. While a long-term plan comprises of schemes which will take years to mature and people cannot afford to wait, a short-term plan of development is planned to fill the gap between the present and the time that the long-term plan of major projects come to fruition. There will be no waiting period and the wealth of the country will be built up gradually and the intensity of the food crisis relieved little by little, until large projects catch up the leeway.

Short-term Plan

With the above facts in the background, a programme of irrigation development has been built up. The short-term plan goes in the name "Grow More Food Schemes." This part of the programme is to be implemented in about 5 to 7 years and covers the whole face of the Province and almost every scheme considered feasible and the cost of which is less than 20 lakhs is included in the programme. The programme consists of three phases, the first phase consisting of works costing little or no expenditure and immediately effective. These include the grant of additional sources under existing canals and channels and bring under irrigation unirrigated land with a minimum of effort. The second phase consists of works costing moderate amounts in which the State gets a return adequate to the use of money from loan funds and pay interest charges thereon. These naturally consist of works bigger than those mentioned under the first phase and which are beyond the capacity of the ryot. The third phase of work consists of what in the commercial sense is called unremunerative works, the money for which has to be found from current revenues, as the financing of them from loan funds would lay a perpetual burden on the State by way of interest charges. In respect of the last class of works, the Government of India grant a subsidy to local Governments to the extent of half the unremunerative portion of the outlay. In every case, people are not affected, as any scheme considered worth while is comprised in one or the other of three phases of the programme.

The Grow More Food Irrigation programme or the short-term plans have been in operation for some years now. About 140 schemes costing about

2.1 crores have been sanctioned to the end of March 1948. The future programme contains more than about 160 schemes and includes all districts. The schemes in some districts are not as numerous as in other areas, due to the existence of zamindari system covering parts of the district. In some districts natural resources have been so fully developed that there is little scope for new schemes because water is not available every year. For irrigation schemes, we must have surplus available for utilization nearly every year and, in some systems, irrigation is so fully developed that it is only in years of abundant rainfall, possibly once in three or four years, that there is any surplus at all worth mentioning, and the probability is that, in these years, the existing areas do not need much of assistance. In such areas, it has not been possible to put up any large schemes of value.

In all the different phases of the campaign, nearly 4 to 6 lakhs of acres have been newly brought under irrigation and the expansion continues still. More works are being added to the programme and schemes not found feasible on investigation are dropped. The programme is under frequent and continuous scrutiny. The food scarcity overtook us at a time when the technical personnel in the department were greatly depleted and large and additional demands were made on them. We are struggling hard with the problem of getting suitable technically trained men and the difficulty is almost insuperable in regard to the lowest ranks. It is not a mean achievement therefore that with all the difficulties we are trying to keep up quite a large programme of Grow More Food schemes and in the category of subsidized works alone, are more than 200 schemes expected to bring an additional area of 2.5 lakhs of acres newly under irrigation.

Long-term Plan

Now, I come to the long-term plan or the major projects which have a definite place in this business of Growing food and adding to the material wealth and resources of our country. These schemes go by the name of "development schemes" and generally include all works costing over 20 lakhs. They amount to a very considerable number. There are about 50 schemes for irrigating areas generally more than 10,000 acres. Besides these, there are six schemes intended to irrigate more than a lakh of acres. There are schemes like the

Tungabhadra and the Ramapadasagar for the irrigation of 3 lakhs and 2.5 million acres in the Ceded districts, and in the Circars. In my charge are the Kistna-Pennar Project, the Lower Bhavani Project and the Gandikota Project to which may have to be added the Vamsadhara Project in the Vizagapatam district. The Ramapadasagar and the Kistna-Pennar are mammoth schemes which will bring under irrigation nearly 5 to 6 million acres covering the whole of the East Coast adjoining areas in eleven districts from Vizagapatam in the north to South Arcot in the south including also the Ceded districts, Kurnool, Cuddapah and Chittoor. These two projects overshadow every other project in this Province. Between the two, they will use up nearly 200 crores of rupees while all other big and small projects may cost only about 50 crores. Time does not allow me to give a detailed description of these mammoth projects. The Kistna-Pennar Project under my charge is expected to cost nearly 78 crores. It consists of two reservoirs, one in Kurnool on the Kistna near Siddheswaram where the river pierces through the Nallamalai range of hills and the other on the Pennar at Someswaram 40 miles west of Nellore. The water of the Kistna reservoir will be connected to that on the Pennar by a canal cut through the dividing ridge between the two rivers. This canal will carry nearly a lakh of cu ees and will be one of the largest achievements in the world, when it is completed. The waters of the Kistna reservoir will reach up to the Kurnool town and just prevent its getting submerged. The waters of the Pennar will similarly reach up to the Cuddapah town. The Kistna reservoir will be about 1½ times the size of the Mettur reservoir and the Pennar reservoir will be nearly four times that of Mettur. Between the Kistna and the Pennar, large areas would be brought under irrigation in Kurnool and Cuddapah districts and if this is feasible a canal will run to fill the Gandikota reservoir branching off from the Kistna-Pennar canal. On the north, the Pennar reservoir will have a canal to irrigate some lakhs of acres in Nellore district running as far as Tangatur. Down on the south will be one of the largest canals in the world, running for a length of nearly 300 miles through Nellore, Chittoor, Chingleput and South Arcot districts. It will run on the foreshore of the Poondi reservoir and Madras will be assured of abundant supply of drinking water. The canal

will finally fall into the Vellar and meet the waters of the Coleroon which are now passed into it from the Lower Anicut. The Project will irrigate nearly 2.5 to 3 million acres most of which will be first crop and will when completed be truly a link between the Kistna and the Cauvery and if I may say so, also a link of friendship between Tamil and Andhra country. Large blocks of power will be developed to the tune of hundreds of thousands of Kilowatts greater than any developed so far in Madras except those forecasted for the Ramapadasagar Project and provide all the amenities and the wealth that flow from the development of enormous amounts of power.

I have already referred to Gandikota Project. This project has been investigated and is intended to irrigate about a lakh of acres in Cuddapah district. In some respects, it is incomplete. With the possibilities of bringing a canal from the Kistna which is under investigation as part of the Kistna-Pennar project the main features of this project have to be modified to suit this new proposal. It might possibly mean that the site of the dam may have to be shifted downstream to enable this Kistna

canal being received into the reservoir. Investigations in progress are likely to indicate very soon the manner in which this scheme can be finalised and taken up for execution without loss of potentialities likely to result from the construction of the Kistna reservoir.

The Lower Bhavani Project is another large scheme which has been sanctioned and the execution of which, has been started quite recently. It is intended to irrigate about 2 lakhs of acres from a reservoir of the size of about a third of the Mettur reservoir built at a place about 20 miles from Mettupalayam. Irrigated cotton will be grown on the lands under this new reservoir in rotation with food crops. The project is expected to cost about 7 crores and to be completed in about six years. It should add considerably to the material wealth of the country that it commands and should add not only to food but also the needs of clothing of the large population in the province.

The Tungabhadra Project under execution in Ceded districts in charge of a Special Chief Engineer is expected to cost about 17 crores and to bring under irrigation about 3 lakhs of acres and consists of a dam across the

Tungabhadra river near Hospet and a reservoir a little bigger than Mettur reservoir. The work is a joint venture with Hyderabad, the Madras and Hyderabad Governments bearing half the cost of the dam and building their own half. Progress on the work is a bit slowed down on account of the Hyderabad situation but as soon as this clears up the work is expected to proceed speedily to completion. The project when completed will irrigate about 3 lakhs of acres in Bellary and Kurnool districts.

Then there is the big Ramapadasagar scheme. It will be the second largest dam in the world (across the Godavari) about a mile in length and full 400 feet about the rock lying nearly 200 feet below the bed and about 30 miles above Rajahmundry. The waters of this large reservoirs will lap at the feet of Sri Rama at Bhadrachalam. Two large canals will take off—one on the north going to Vizag Harbour and the other on the south running as far as Ongole and borders of Nellore district, crossing the Kistna. About 2.5 million acres of land will be irrigated large part of which will be 2nd crop, and the scheme is expected to cost about 120 crores. Enormous amounts of power will be developed.

Increased Milk Production

Five-year Plan

A proposal for a Five-Year Milk Plan embodying specific projects destined to bring about an over-all increase of milk production of 758 lakh maunds in all Provinces over the five-year period, has been drawn up by Dr. Zal R. Kothavalla, Dairy Development Adviser to the Government of India.

The plan in general aims at bringing about improvements with regard to cattle and milk by elevating the lot of the cultivator-milk producer through the improvement of his cow and organizing the production, handling and marketing of milk on an economic and satisfactory basis.

The plan has been drawn up in five parts. Part I brings out the present position with regard to cattle and

cattle feeds, milk and milk products and other cognate matters, such as dairy education, research and equipment. Part II indicates the possible ways and means of improving the dairy industry of the country. Part III gives an idea of what constitutes the Five-Year Plan. Part IV indicates the work each Province will have to do to fulfil the Plan and Part V contains the proposals for the implementation of the Plan.

In the proposed Plan the following eight specific projects are envisaged:—

- (1) Milk-cum-bull breeding farms,
- (2) "Small-Holder" milk production farms,
- (3) Colonization of dislodged urban cattle,
- (4) Artificial insemination,
- (5) Cross-breeding of inferior milch cows in hilly regions,
- (6) Co-operative

milk unions, (7) Co-operative rural creameries and (8) Production of green fodder and silage.

The programme of work under each project is extended over 5 years. For the successful execution of the different projects a total of about 6,400 technicians will be required over the 5 years' period. In addition equipment such as steam boilers, refrigerators, etc., will have to be imported and their cost is estimated at Rs. 10 crores.

Religion cannot be saved
by questionable methods.

—MAHATMA GANDHI



Problems and Achievements

Planning for Employment

Planning for employment is an integral part of any national scheme of industrial development. For nearly a decade now, we have been experiencing in this country the evil results of economic maladjustment. Many millions of our people have not had the barest necessities of life; many more millions have had employment which, however, did not give them enough to maintain a decent standard of living. A re-adjustment of our economic structure is a paramount necessity if we are to raise the standard of living. Planning for production must necessarily mean planning for employment. Mass unemployment is a danger to peace.

Employment Service

The Employment Service has established beyond doubt its usefulness as a machinery for the efficient and scientific organization of industrial and other employment. It will serve as the basis for plans of social security. Its object is to open up the prospect of increasingly gainful employment for our people and thus to bring about an improvement in their standard of living. But employment can alleviate unemployment only indirectly. A well-organized Employment Service plays a vital role in stabilizing the economic system. Industries are subjected to a process of constant change, but they can safely depend upon the Employment Exchanges for the information necessary to plan further improvement. The Employment Service has up-to-date information regarding the volume and structure of employment, is in close touch with employers and workers and is technically competent to deal with all questions of vocational guidance and selection and the distribution and transfer of labour as required by the industries. In countries where the Employment Service had developed it has been made responsible not only for the absorption into industrial life of the employable unemployed, by analysing their abilities and qualifications, but also for registered workers already in employment. Close collaboration will have to be maintained between this service and the training centres, since the former is in the best position to study where there is a shortage of workers and what qualifications are needed to fill the available vacancies, and arrange to place the

workers who have been trained or retrained. Close co-ordination has to be effected between the Employment Service and industry in order to improve the economic stability of the country. There should be a gradual extension of the functions of the Service so that it could improve and control the employment market. The Employment Service will serve as the pivot around which the industrial policy of this country should revolve, thus facilitating production, organization of vocational and technical

By S. V. RAMANUJAM

training and mobilisation of labour resources. In short, this organization should function in close touch with industrial life because its activities are directed to meet the needs of industry.

Statistical Survey

No planning for any of these essential developments will be of any avail unless a proper statistical survey is made. As the International Labour Organization has said, "in general, employment and unemployment and labour force statistics should be based on standard definitions, should cover (i) all branches of economic activity, (ii) all persons employed and unemployed who have jobs or who are seeking work irrespective of age, and (iii) all industrial statistics—statistics should show changes in total employment and in each of the industry groups. The unemployment statistics should be classified under industry and cross-classified by age sex and duration of unemployment in the various economic regions. The data so collected should be able to assist in determining the extent, trend, characteristics and causes of unemployment, and to meet the new problems set by the progress of economic development." The statistical survey will be able to throw light on the volume of frictional employment in the regions. It is noticed, specially in India, that the ordinary worker seldom remains continuously in any one job. The fall in production and the attendant economic maladjustment may perhaps be attributed to this fact. The Employment Service should play a vital part

in wiping out frictional employment and also aim at greater productive employment.

Continuous Employment

How could the State avoid frictional employment and ensure continuous employment? It is said that the State should aim at dynamic employment which entails the maintenance of all those already placed in jobs. This could only be done by assessing the aptitudes of candidates and by providing vocational guidance before placing them in employment. Nowadays, nobody doubts the importance of vocational guidance because choosing a career has become a very difficult task, indeed, and is becoming increasingly difficult as a result of the almost infinite variety of specialisation demanded by the rapid progress of industrialisation. Moreover technical inventions and scientific discoveries open out new possibilities on such a large scale that it is bewildering for any one to make the right choice without expert assistance. Employment Service offices are manned by experts who can properly evaluate abilities and find the right jobs.

A highly important factor that many industrialists overlook is the selection and training of youths for particular jobs. Investigations have shown that many employees are quite unsuited temperamentally and physically for particular occupations. It is, therefore, necessary that employers in our country should introduce a series of progressive tests during the training period, thereby obviating the risk of placing round pegs in square holes. It is here that co-ordination is most needed between the industrial planner and educational planner. The employment Service should be able to advise every student or his parent in the various regions in planning out the youth's career. There is much to be made up in providing the right kind of training and in finding the best men for jobs, and the success of this effort will depend in no small measure on a closer collaboration between industry and those in charge of education.

Shortage of Technicians and Skilled Workers

Of all bottle-necks impeding productive employment the most serious one

is the shortage of technicians and skilled workers. This shortage cannot be made good through the absorption into industry of the registered unemployed for amongst them are included workers changing from one job to another, relatively unskilled workers, and the rest possessing redundant skills. At no time was India faced with similar shortage in as acute a form as at present. Still, the age-old practice of taking up raw persons and allowing them to work in factories to learn by experience in haphazard fashion, is being followed. To meet the needs of industry satisfactorily it is necessary that a scientific and rational method of imparting training to workers at various technical training centres should be evolved. Industry needs the services of every available worker. The time has arrived to concentrate "on the improvement of training and more production". The present Training Schemes, although conceived during the War, should be adapted to the changed needs of industry. Plans should be prepared, in consultation with Indian industria-

lists to utilize the existing training centres for mobilizing the skills and techniques available in the country instead of frittering them away in unimportant pursuits.

Apprenticeship training should be made compulsory, and opportunities should be provided in ample measure to improve the skill and technique of every trainee passing out of the centres. The Employment Service Organization may be charged with the task of assessing the employment position in each factory or workshop in relation to capital outlay and productive capacity so as to supply the requisite personnel. With the object of increasing the mobility of labour and facilitating the maintenance of "full employment", greater attention has to be paid to the training of workers and to the re-training of persons for alternative jobs. Training Schemes should be modified and improved so as to accelerate industrial development which will be possible only when opportunities for productive employment are provided.

Conclusion

Planning for employment covers a study of the proper "man-power", requisite training for employment direction and re-distribution of power consistent with the needs of particular industries and industrial centres. The Employment Service can assess the country's man-power and serve as the machinery for facilitating the initiation of important socio-economic measures. The persistence of unemployment at a time when the country requires the harnessing of all resources to productive work is indeed a paradox. There is no institution better fitted to tackle this problem than the Employment Service. For the future planning of industry on a scientific basis and for preventing unemployment to the maximum extent possible, it is essential that the Employment Service should be developed, co-ordinated and integrated with the economic development of the country.

Helping the Agriculturists

Role of Land Mortgage Banks

One of the steps necessary to improve agriculture is the provision of Finance. The ordinary agriculturist frequently finds it difficult to find funds to keep agriculture going in an efficient manner. Hence the organization of Land Mortgage Banks was brought into existence in 1925. Since then these banks have done useful work. More details are given below.

There are at present 119 primary Land Mortgage Banks and they are financed by the Central Land Mortgage Bank at Madras.

Long-term loans are issued by these banks on the security of agricultural lands situated within their area of operations. Loans are given for repayment of prior debts or for improvement of lands or for purchase of lands in special cases to effect consolidation of holdings. Improvement of lands includes sinking and construction of wells and other sources of irrigation, construction of bunds to ward off inundation, important works on the purchase of agricultural machinery including electrical or oil engines, pumps. Any person over

18 years of age who is competent to contract and owning lands in his own right, i.e., having occupancy right either as a Ryotwari Pattadar or Zamindari Pattadar is eligible to take loans. The lands offered as security for such loans may be wet, dry or garden lands under regular cultivation. Borrowers may also offer house properties situated in municipalities and major panchayats commanding good rental value as additional security for the loans.

Loans are sanctioned only for members. The value of each share is generally Rs. 10 and every borrower has to take shares to the extent of five per cent of his borrowings. The individual maximum borrowing power is

generally Rs. 10,000 and in special cases the maximum is fixed at Rs. 15,000. Within this maximum an agriculturist may apply for the loan required by him. There is no minimum fixed for a loan as it is the intention that Land Mortgage Banks should cater to the needs of the small ryots. Loans are issued on the first mortgage of unencumbered agricultural lands up to a maximum of 50 per cent of their value. The valuation is done by the directors of the bank and officers of the Co-operative department on the basis of pre-war sales statistics. The income from the land and the income from all other sources should be adequate to meet the normal family expenditure, the kist and other charges

Pr on the land and the annual instalment on the loan. The basis on which the Land Mortgage Bank Scheme is planned is that by a loan from the Land Mortgage Bank a member should be able to liquidate his numerous prior debts and be free to pay back the bank loan in easy instalments from his annual income and not having to answer numerous creditors all the year round. The loan is repayable with interest at 5½ per cent in 20 annual instalments. The mode of repayment may either be equated instalment by which the borrower will be required to pay a fixed sum every year for a period of 20 years or equal instalments by which he will have to pay 1/20th of the loan amount and the interest on the outstanding loan amount. To cite an instance, a borrower who has taken a loan of Rs. 1,000 has to pay Rs. 81-15-0 every year under the equated instalment method. This includes both principal and interest. Under the equal instalment system, he has to pay annually a sum of Rs. 50 towards principal plus interest at 5½ per cent on the amount outstanding from time to time. As long as the member regularly pays the loan instalments and observes the other conditions of the loans the bank is precluded from recalling the loan within the period of 20 years. But the member may repay the loan either in full or in part in advance of the demand and derive full benefit of such payment.

How to get a Loan

The agriculturists, who are in need of loans may approach the nearest Land Mortgage Bank and inform them of their requirements. The Secretary and Supervisor of the Land Mortgage Bank would be glad to help an applicant in furnishing the required details and explaining what are all the documents that will have to be filed to satisfy the Bank about the correct title to the land. When the bank tells you that some records or statements have to be secured do not imagine that the bank is unreasonably worrying you. It is in fact helping you to perfect your title, for the property and safe-guarding your own interests and your descendants. All the documents in your possession such as sale deeds, discharged mortgage bonds, rough pattas, kist receipts, etc., may be given to the bank so that it may satisfy itself about your title to the lands offered as security. The aim of a Land Mortgage Bank is to see that the borrower discharges all his debts with the help of the loan so that his only liability may be the debt due to the

bank. The applicant should therefore disclose all his debts due by him secured or unsecured. But the borrowers are allowed to keep alongside with Land Mortgage Bank loans short term loan already taken from a credit society, Government loans or usufructuary mortgage loans, on the mortgage of properties. Other than those proposed to be offered as security to the Land Mortgage Banks.

Land Improvement Loans

There is a common criticism against Land Mortgage Banks, that they have been giving loans mostly for unproductive purposes. Of late, the banks are extending their activities by way of financing land improvements and developments. The bulk of the agriculturists consists of very small land holders and they cannot afford to invest large sums on major improvements like repairs to channels, small productive irrigation works, etc. But by collective or joint endeavour this may be possible. Some 5 or 7 ryots may pool their loans together and carry out some major improvements for the common benefit of all of them.

Secondly the importance of electrical power in its application to agriculture industry is also gaining familiarity with the ryots. The Government have schemes to extend the electrical power to the rural areas so that electrical energy may be used for agricultural purposes. Land Mortgage Banks afford the necessary facilities for long term finance. The agriculturists may avail themselves of these facilities for installing electrical pump sets for baling

out water from wells for irrigation purposes. If electrical energy is utilized for agricultural operation, the agricultural industry is bound to be economic.

Conclusion

The Land Mortgage Banks are thus encouraging the habit of utilizing money for productive purposes. The banks will afford necessary facilities to the borrowers in securing electric pump sets from the firms at Madras. The Central Land Mortgage Bank has compiled information regarding the firms dealing with pump sets and arrange for the quick delivery of this machinery. Further where the agriculturists desire electrical connections for agricultural purposes they may send up applications through the banks of which they are members. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies will then recommend such applications to the Electrical Department and request to take action to arrange for the supply. In these days, when scarcity of food is so much prevalent it should be the efforts of all concerned to step up production and when the Land Mortgage Banks are affording necessary facilities in this behalf, it is up to the agriculturists of our province to avail of them. In an Independent India, every one is expected to work hard and enhance the national wealth of the country. The Land Mortgage Bank system in this province by seeking to help the agriculturists with long term loans at cheap rate of interest repayable in easy instalments, helps the redemption of agricultural indebtedness and the exploitation of the natural resources for the increased well being of the country's population.

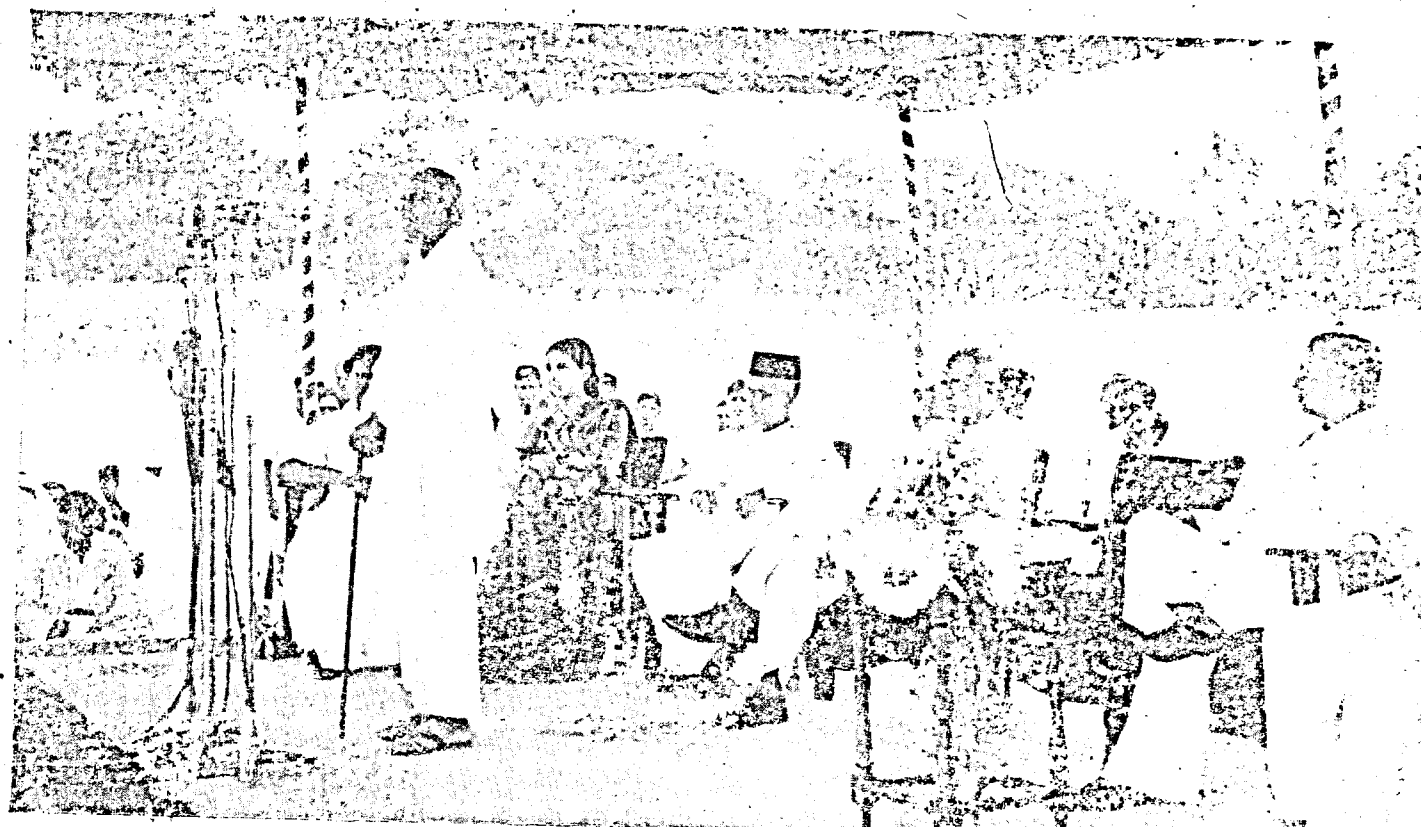
RURAL TOPICS

Rural Reconstruction

Everybody now knows about the Government's Firka Development plans. One of the basic conditions for the success of the plan is the availability of trained workers. The Government have made provision for this. There is the Tamil Nad Grama Sevak Vidyalayam in Madura district where rural reconstruction workers are trained. Recently at the inaugural ceremony of this institution Sri J. C. Kumarappa referred to the Gandhian ideals of rural reconstruction. In the course of his speech he said:

Firka Development Plan aims at educating the residents of the firka on proper lines. The goal to which we work is to attain a society based on Truth and Non-violence. Gandhiji used to analyse everything with a

INAUGURATION OF PROHIBITION IN THE CITY



Premier inaugurating Prohibition in the City. The picture shows him addressing at the Corporation Stadium.



(Left) J. C. S. Kumarappa

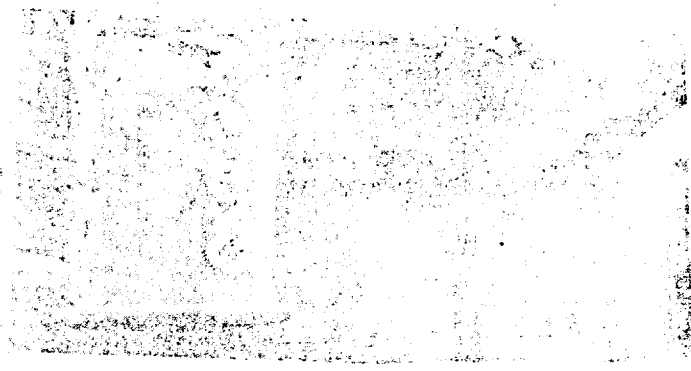


Picture shows--A. Shop being dismantled following the introduction of prohibition.



Drunk demon is being carried to his journey.

AMBIGUOUS
ACTIVITIES--RANDOM
GLIMPSES



Drunk demon in front of a building, the
drunk demon of a Peking man
is carried by a Chinese man
in a Chinese dress.

Physical feats by Villagers in the
demon



Dance by girls in Szechuan district, a
demonstration of

cover. Erosion on cultivated lands is of this type.

Wind and water are the two agencies that cause erosion. Whenever soils without cover of vegetation in a dry state are exposed to high winds we have wind erosion. The fine particles of the soil are lifted and carried over great distances. Erosion due to water is the more serious and extensive type that occurs in many parts of the Madras Presidency, notably in the coastal districts, the black soil areas of the Ceded districts and in the hilly tracts of the Nilgiris. Two fundamental types of water erosion are 'sheet erosion' and 'Gullying.' In the case of sheet erosion, movement of runoff water and eroded soil takes place in sheets, approximately the same amount of soil being removed from each place. When this moving mass assumes sufficient velocity it has a cutting action on the soil. If there is any depression at all in the field, a gully forms where the mixture of the soil and water collects at a high speed. The runoff water carrying the surface soil flows down to gully with ever-increasing velocity. If the velocity of the runoff water is doubled, its energy is increased four times and its cutting action on the soil is correspondingly increased; its capacity to carry in suspension soil material is increased sixty-four times. The gullies tend to deepen and widen with every rainfall. They cut up agricultural land into small fragments and make them unfit for cultivation in course of time. Stream erosion, Debris Avalanche, Debris slides and caving, subsidence and erosion by waves are other types of erosion capable of working havoc on the soil in different degrees.

Now that we have, to an extent, grasped the nature of this menace, let us have an idea of the extent of control, man can exercise over it. To assist the people as well as departmental officers, the Government of Madras have brought out a publication dealing mainly with the preventive measures so far experimented and found successful.



Detailed Examination

In the chapter dealing with the question of erosion control in Agricultural lands, it is said, "The simplest form of soil stabilisers are small wattle-work revetments 15-30 feet long held by stout pegs and staggered throughout the danger zones. Where available, rough stones may be formed into small bunds in front of such revetments. Where conditions are suitable shrubs can be used to form natural revetments by cutting and egging them down with crowns uphill. On steep slopes where the soil is more unstable rough stone or even pucca masonry revetments may be needed. The remedial measures now adopted all over the world to prevent or reduce surface runoff and soil erosion and increase crop production consist of contour bunding, contour trenching, gully plugging, terracing, regulated forestry, controlled grazing, revegetation, selective weeding, cover cropping, mixed farming, crop rotation, strip cropping, etc. The first three methods are mechanical and the rest are biological in operation."

Summing up the Chapter on contour bunding the book says: "Contour bunding schemes aim directly at putting the entire rainfall on the bunded lands, preventing runoff altogether, stopping erosion of soil, and increasing soil moisture in quantity and duration and thus helps good crop production."

Contour trenching is excavating trenches along a uniform level or at a particular contour across the slope of the uncultivable waste in the top portion of a catchment and forming bunds at the trenches primarily to protect contour bunds the lower down from the runoff of the upper portion of the catchment. By this method rain water is held up in the slopes for a long time and growth of natural vegetation is accelerated in the slopes. The rain water percolates through the soil slowly and travels down and benefits the better types of lands in the middle and lower sections.

Terracing steep slopes of cultivable lands is one of the many mechanical

methods of controlling soil erosion. In principle, terracing is essentially a process of constructing a series of drainage channels across the slope of hill sides whose function is to collect runoff water before it attains harmful velocity and conduct it slowly to an erosion proof outlet. The drainage channels which intercept the runoff and prevent its rapid flow down the slope are formed by throwing low and broad embankments called terraces. The three types of terraces recognized are 'the guide row,' 'the level bench' and the 'mangum terrace.'

Contour bunding, contour trenching and terracing mentioned above are all mechanical ways of preventing or minimising soil erosion and these may be likened to curing a patient by operation. The other methods of control of erosion by regulated forestry, regulated grazing, revegetation, cover cropping, etc., are biological and may be likened to treating a disease by dieting or reinforcing good health by temperate living.

Control of erosion through crops or vegetation is the biological method of control. Vegetation is nature's protection against erosion. A cover of grass is five times more effective than bare soil in the control of runoff waters and 65 times more efficient in the control of soil losses. It is only when the natural vegetation is removed and land put under cultivation that erosion becomes excessive. But this is a necessary step in raising crops. Having put the land under cultivation we could take all possible measures to see that erosion is kept at a minimum. The principle of biological control of erosion is that cultivation of crops should be done in such a way that the maximum protection to the soil is offered for as long a period as possible during the rainy season. The effect of a cover crop on the control of erosion is considerable.

This is just an attempt to invite the attention of the people to the manifold aspects of a problem vitally affecting our interests. The soil of the land demands our attention. It is our duty to safeguard it.

Special Articles

Agrarian Reforms and Parity Economy

(Continued from the last issue)

Agricultural Worker

Fundamental to all discussions of agrarian relationships is the problem of agricultural labour. The history of agricultural labour makes sad reading. Landless agricultural workers constitute nearly 15 per cent of the rural population in the Madras Province, but the vast majority of them are encompassed by the five Giants of Want, Disease, Ignorance, Squalor and Idleness and a sixth is prowling about. Kisans, led away by false prophets and violent slogans, are being asked to imitate the exploits of their confreres in the industrial sector. The Russian philosophy that industrial labour should lead and agricultural labour should follow is being deliberately preached to them.

None can, however, dispute that the improvement of the conditions of agricultural labour is at present an urgent need. The war period with its rising prices no doubt induced a higher level of wages. According to a wage census conducted in 1946, grain wages in the course of the previous five years have risen by 252 per cent and money wages by 240 per cent in the case of men field workers, and 203 per cent and 197 per cent in the case of women workers, whereas prices of grains like rice and millet rose only by 111 per cent. Although, therefore, relatively the agricultural worker to-day appears to enjoy better conditions, they call for considerable improvement. It is a recognition of this that has led the Government of India to pass the Minimum Wages Act. This Act gives the Provincial Governments a time-limit of three years for the enforcement of its provisions. However, the level of wages cannot be determined without a reference to agricultural prices. Price stabilization cannot be done successfully without the regulation of over-sea imports and exports as well as inter-regional transport. Above all, the uncertainties of agricultural economics should be removed or reduced to the minimum; otherwise, the workers cannot secure a good wage and full employment. It is quite unfair and bad economics to fix and enforce rates of wages, while leaving the wheel of fortune to decide the financial returns to the

ryot from which wages must be paid. Unless agriculture is made remunerative and placed on the same footing with Trade, Industry and Services, any attempt to raise the wages and the standard of life of the agricultural worker will be unreal economics.

By HON'BLE SRI O. P. RAMASWAMY REDDIYAR, Premier of Madras

Simultaneously with the wages question should also be tackled the problems of rural housing and other amenities. In this country, we have everything necessary for the building of cheap and yet clean houses, recreation centres and schools. Planned rural housing on a national scale, having due regard to the building materials available in the various regions, is one of the prime needs. The provision of social and cultural amenities together with rural education based on a new curriculum embodying a definite bias to agriculture and rural industries that should follow will help make the agricultural worker more efficient. The inauguration of Prohibition in this Province has already opened up a new era of great possibilities for the promotion of economic and social welfare for agricultural labour.

Place of Agricultural Worker in Parity Economy

However, the minimum requirements of agricultural labour are precise and capable of clear definition. It is paramount that the workers should be enabled to maintain the minimum standards of living. Nor should any one be able to batten on to the workers and live on the surpluses they produce. Every worker should be allowed to reap the benefit of his labour. In Parity Economy, from the proceeds of agriculture must be given, in the first instance fair shares to the labourer, contributing his work units, the landowner supplying land, capital and direction, and the tenant providing other requisites of cultivation. These

shares must be the first charge on the gross receipts and each factor co-operating in agricultural production must get such levels of remuneration as the corresponding factors in the industrial sector would get. Any surplus that is left over will be divided among the three partners on a profit-sharing and incentive-giving basis. Such a reallocation of the proceeds of agriculture will enable labour to get its legitimate share, take genuine interest in agricultural production and to improve its own efficiency.

If this scheme of share-out is accepted and, at the same time, agro-industries are also started to give supplementary employment to agricultural labourers, their share will *pro tanto* increase. To the same degree, the gap between the incomes of these two classes of labourers will tend to narrow and ultimately even disappear.

What is immediately required, therefore, is for all concerned to see that the marginal returns from agriculture are raised. In the absence of such a surplus, the agricultural worker is able to get an increase in emoluments only at the cost of reducing the relative shares of the other interests in land (which, as is well known, are already very much lower than those prevailing in the corresponding sectors of Industry and Trade) and that, after causing a certain amount of social friction. Although this friction is not occurring on an extensive scale, and *ad hoc* Arbitration Boards, as suggested for deciding tenurial disputes might be sufficient to bring about concordant conditions, such friction is not conducive to agricultural efficiency and increased output. If, therefore, the agricultural worker is to have better conditions of life, if the conditions of the rural slums that are in no way less harrowing than those prevailing in industrial centres are to disappear, the Industry, the State, the Trade and the Services must all rush to the rescue of agriculture and see that the price paid to the producer of raw materials is adequate. Only then will a lasting and realistic solution have been found and the agricultural worker, who is an important partner in the enterprise, will get his legitimate share.

Diversity of Agricultural Interests

An attractive short cut to end the difficulties of agrarian relationship is offered in the proposal to reduce all agricultural interests to one class. I have even heard that that is the ideal

land policy for any country; but nowhere have I heard this proposition seriously put forward as applicable to the field of Industry, Trade or Services. I wonder whether the reformers have thought about the logical possibility of running all industries by workers alone, without technicians, supervisors and entrepreneurs, or of all offices by an army of clerks without Superintendents, Officers and Secretaries. The elimination of the parasitic middleman should not be confused with the introduction of an unvaried, uniform structure of society. Even in Russia, where the well-being of the agriculturist has been subordinated to the supreme end of maximization of industrial output, there are different types in collectivized farming itself such as the "toz", the "artel" and the "Commune." The "agriculture ladder" represents an ever present necessity to stimulate output and improve efficiency. In the Co-operative Democracy of my conception, there will be members performing differing functions and enjoying differing rewards based on their contribution of capital, technical or managerial skill and labour.

Minimum Prices for Agricultural Products

The question of fixing minimum prices for agricultural products, although topically not of significance in the prevailing remunerative price conditions, is nevertheless fundamental to any scheme of agrarian reform; but one reason why all schemes of Supporting Price Policies have met with obstacles in countries where they have been tried is that they have been considered in isolation from the price trends in the rest of the economic sector. Unless the question of minimum prices for agricultural products is intimately linked with the establishment of a parity with non-agricultural goods and services, no minimum policy mechanism can last without being a continual drain on the country's resources. My own solution, therefore, is this.

Careful cost accounting of all the stages of production from cultivation to the manufacture of finished goods must be done with respect to all the agricultural commodities. Taking cotton as an example, the cost of production of cotton and the margin of profit must be calculated. Then the cost of ginning and the profit of the ginner, the cost of spinning and the profit of the spinner, the cost of the weaver and the profit of the weaver, the cost of dyeing and the profit of

the dyer, the cost of the dealer and his profit and so on. At present, the rates of profit earned by these various producers vary widely. It should be our aim to make the rate of profit for the various producers in the long chain of production uniform. Similar calculations for other goods will also enable us to fix the prices of other goods. Incidentally, this scrutiny of costs and prices at successive stages will throw into sharp relief the undue or excessive profits of certain classes of producers. In such cases, the reduction of the margin of profit may be effected either to raise the price of their goods to primary producer or to lower the price of the finished article to the ultimate consumer. This will be an elaborate and complex process, but it is worth the trouble. If not for this purpose, at least for fixing wages of industrial workers, a minute study of cost accounting will have to be undertaken soon; and when that is done, the benefit of the study can be enlarged to fix fair prices to agriculturists.

Rural Indebtedness

Reforms in a number of other directions call for consideration, of which agricultural financing is perhaps the most elusive one. Rural debt, as is well known, is a chronic problem. According to the Economist, who surveyed the problems at the instance of this Government recently, aggregate rural indebtedness of the Province in 1939, i.e., before the war, stood at about Rs. 272 crores. In 1945, as a result of the rise in the prices of agricultural produce, it stood at Rs. 218 crores. The net reduction is thus only Rs. 54 crores, but if the Rs. 27 crores contracted during war years for purchase of land are taken into account the gross reduction of debt comes to about Rs. 82 crores. Of this Rs. 10 crores has been due to the operation of the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act, about Rs. 47 crores has been computed to be due to the sales of land and only about Rs. 25 crores due to the war-time rise in prices. Thanks to the present-day high level of prices for agricultural goods, the real burden of the debt is not seriously felt; but if any delayed depression occurs and agricultural prices sag suddenly, the problem of indebtedness will assume grave proportions. The Government of Madras have recently extended the scope of the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act by an amendment and its effects are being watched. Schemes for launching a powerful drive to promote thrift among the agriculturists in these

days of high prices and scarcity of consumption goods are under the active consideration of the Government. The National Savings Campaign is also exerting its influence on the rural population. In order to forestall any sudden deterioration of the financial condition of the agriculturists on account of future fall in prices, methods for the liquidation of debt are being explored with the help of land mortgage banks and the Co-operative department.

Financing of Agriculture

Liquidation of rural indebtedness and provision of credit through co-operative agencies do not go far enough. To promote positive good to agriculture, joint stock commercial banks in the country must be compelled to transact with agriculturists at least a quarter of its total volume of work. The contention would be that the commercial banks cannot afford to lend to agriculturists, and get their capital frozen. But when agriculturists will have to compulsorily insure their crops against losses due to drought, floods, etc., and when that is coupled with a scheme of livestock insurance and provision of an adequate Veterinary service to fight the fell cattle diseases like rinderpest, haemorrhagic septicaemia, anthrax and foot-and-mouth disease, then indeed the agriculturist becomes credit-worthy and as good a constituent as the trader or the commission agent. If, even in these altered circumstances, the commercial banks are hesitant, the Reserve Bank of India in its Agricultural Credit department must step in and provide all the necessary facilities such as easy rediscounting of approved agricultural bills. All this might be unpalatable to orthodox banking theory and practice; but, after all much of banking is based on arbitrary guesses and unsteady factors like public confidence. When society places agriculture in its rightful place, the banker should only be willing to profit by the change.

Land Revenue Reform

The reform in the field of land revenue has been long overdue. Having been practically the mainstay of Provincial finance for decades, it manifests very regressive features. It is imperative that this defect must be remedied without the least delay. The present land revenue may be replaced by a basic tax on land, determined by considerations of extent and fertility, super-imposed by a progressive tax on agricultural incomes. This Government will take up this reform

immediately after Ryotwari system is substituted for the Zamindari.

Land Reclamation

The reclamation of cultivable waste has been recognized as one of the important methods of increasing agricultural production. Unfortunately, a correct assessment of the total area described as cultivable waste and fallow has not yet been made. Much that is now called waste, might with a little application of capital, labour and human ingenuity be converted into smiling fields. An all-India survey is therefore an urgent requisite.

The essential thing needed for reclamation is man-power. This is at present readily available in the form of demobilized soldiers. A few colonization schemes for them have been set up in the Province of Madras, where also experiments in co-operative farming are being conducted. The Wynaad scheme provides for reclamation of 28,000 acres. Several other schemes for reclamation of waste land particularly in Gudalur and the Agency tracts are being scrutinized by the Government of Madras. The development of these areas is an urgent need which depends not only on man-power, but also on irrigation facilities and cheap electricity. Madras has some big hydro-electric projects and a major part is covered by a grid system. Yet, the supply of electricity lags far behind demand.

Livestock Improvement

In the Western countries, rearing of cattle is as important a branch of agriculture as the raising of grains. While in India where the value and services of cattle are greater, it is yet to receive the same degree of attention. The two Livestock Research Stations at Hosur (Salem district) and Lam (Guntur district) are engaged in raising pure breeding bulls for supply to the districts and for this purpose nucleus herds of Kangayam, Ongole, Hallikar and Sindhi bulls are maintained. Recently, experiments are also being conducted to breed dual purpose cattle. However, much remains to be done especially in the elimination of the scrub cattle and the stamping out of epidemics which are conditions precedent for the raising of superior and healthy livestock. The distribution of the breeding bulls is now done through district boards and co-operative societies.

Electricity and Water

There is a rapidly growing demand for electric power, whether for lifting

water on crushing sugarcane or oil-seeds, or for several other subsidiary and semi-processing industries. If adequate supply of electric energy is assured, the only other requisite to enrich rural life is abundant supply of water. Given these two blessings, agriculture can make giant strides. Hence the slogan of every agricultural reformer should be "More electricity and more water."

Irrigation Systems—(1) Tanks

In the matter of supplying water, however, we have inherited a great tradition in South India from the days of the Chola Kings. Yet the area irrigated to the total cultivated area comes to only 27 per cent. Of this half is watered by the great irrigation projects and the other half by other sources like wells, tanks, channels, etc. In spite of financial stringency, we have provided for nearly 37 lakhs in the coming year—which is double the expenditure of the previous year—for the improvement of these minor irrigation works. But this is a flea-bite. The tanks have an importance all their own as vital protective irrigation sources. They have been described as the "pockets of insurance" against crop failure. Unfortunately, many of them have fallen into sad disrepair. To-day, there are over 33,000 tanks all over the Province irrigating an area of about 3.2 million acres; but if these tanks are renovated they could irrigate a much larger area. The bunds of the tanks will have to be raised and the levels of the calingula to be regulated. All these will cost on a conservative estimate Rs. 15 to 20 crores over a period of five years. Being works essentially protective, in whose name water-rates are being collected from the ryots, a great responsibility lies on the State to see that a Planned Tank Renovation Programme is launched without delay. The urgency of the food problem makes it much more than a Provincial question. Knowing as they do our financial straits, it is hoped that the Government of India would come to the aid of this Province with a munificent grant in this matter of supplying life-giving water to the toiling peasantry.

(2) Anicuts

The anicuts of the Madras Province by which the ancient engineers of this land had dammed the rivers with an amazing skill, to-day stand in need of urgent attention by way of repair and improvement. Consequent on neglecting them, the river-beds have been scoured away in some places and silted

(3) Wells

Next in importance come the wells. There are large tracts in this Province which are not reached by the great protective and productive irrigation systems mentioned above. For them, wells are the only source of water-supply. Even in areas of the more fortunate ryots when monsoons fail and tanks dry up, wells are in an invaluable standby. Although, in the crisis of the food situation, an Accelerated Wells Scheme under the stimulus of subsidies has resulted in the sinking of thousands of new wells and renovation of old ones at a cost of several lakhs, much more remains to be done in this direction, as also in renovation of *kasams*, tapping of sub-soil water, and attention to *kudimaramat* for which a sum of at least Rs. 8 crores will be required in the next five years.

(4) Giant Projects

The giant river valley projects, however, have a different significance. They are productive rather than protective and in their multi-purpose character they would not only bring in more land under cultivation, but would also generate electricity by which numerous industries could be started in rural areas. A wide dispersal of industries would ensue and urban concentration would gradually be reduced. Such are the Tungabhadra and Ramapadasagar projects which we have recently initiated. The Kistna Pennar Project is yet another major scheme of irrigation work which comes under Madras Government's short-term plan of post-war irrigation and development. This alone will bring in an area of over 2½ million acres under the plough and would involve an outlay of Rs. 80 crores. The Ramapadasagar Project will bring in another 2.3 million acres under irrigation and 2.1 million more acres will get improved water-supply. The Tungabhadra Project might irrigate an area of 3 lakhs of acres in Madras Province. In all, over 5 million acres will come under irrigation and perhaps an equal extent will get improved water-supply, when

three major irrigation works are completed at a total outlay of Rs. 200 to 300 crores. About half a dozen more projects of the bigger category are also under consideration and when these take shape, the wealth of the Province will be substantially increased.

Human Factor—Education

No agrarian reform would succeed that does not pay proper attention to the human factor. The agriculturist must be educated in the best methods of cultivation and in the optimal utilization of his time as well as the factors of production. For an agricultural population of nearly 40 millions in our Province, something more comprehensive and realistic than what is now imparted in the two agricultural colleges and the four agricultural schools must be attempted. This would involve an entire re-organization of our education system. The future schools will have to teach not only the three R's, but also impart a clear knowledge of labour and farm management, train the pupils in the local agro-industries and make them skilled in all kinds of jobs the newly organized Co-operative Community would provide. The school must also have a farm, an agro-industries section and classes for liberal arts. The completion of the course in these schools must make every boy an efficient worker, and a "full man" capable of engaging in profitable pursuits. In addition to instruction for juveniles, arrangements should be made to instil new ideas regarding agriculture and agro-industries to adults. This will not only help to bridge the gap between youth and age in time and ideas, but also go a long way to solve what has proved to be one of the most baffling problems in agricultural development, namely, the translation of the achievements of the laboratory to the actual field. I am conscious that all these are tasks full of difficulties; and to shake the habit of thinking formed through decades since the days of Lord Macaulay is almost an uphill task. Yet an earnest effort should be made and once the inertia is overcome, progress is assured.

Research

Closely connected with education is research. To-day in India research is considered to be the province of the State or State-subsidized Universities whether it be in Industry or Agriculture, or Trade. While it is true that the funds that Private Industry could spare might not be adequate to undertake independent research in all cases, it should nevertheless, be admitted that

the share of the profits that goes to Managing Agents and other middlemen is often so disproportionately large that a part of it could without hardship be diverted to a common pool for the development of industrial research. I would go even farther and say that the Company Law should be so amended that no new company with a capital of over 5 lakhs be permitted to set-up, unless it contributes a certain percentage of the profits to a National Research Fund. All this, however, cannot apply to agriculture in the present day. The State will have to continue to attend to agricultural research and to an increasing extent for a long time to come; and when the onus of financing organized industrial research is shifted on to the shoulders of industry as is the practice in the West, agricultural research will undoubtedly receive a fillip.

The transformation that science has worked in the agricultural practice of the West is a marvel, as it were. Agricultural chemistry and physics, entomology and ecology, plant pathology and veterinary science, cattle and plant breeding, engineering and advanced research—have all been harnessed to agricultural development. Our ancestors by practising concentration of thought probed into the mysteries of the all-pervading forces in Nature—the Para Sakti—drew the secrets thereof and gave them to the world. Selflessness and singleminded devotion were their Open Sesame to the immeasurable Treasure House of the solar, the tidal, the cosmic and atomic energy. To-day scientists, the counterparts of our ancient seers, have learned to control atomic energy; but unfortunately for destructive purposes. All great inventions must be applied to constructive ends only and agriculture offers an ever widening vista of opportunities for such scientific research. Hybridization has produced in Russia and Canada remarkable breeds of plants, combining hardihood and abundant yield of the wilder parent and delicacy and sweetness of the other. Success similar to that achieved in the case of sugarcane must be attempted in the case of all cereals, vegetables and fruits. Scientific research must be extended to vernalization of seeds and artificial insemination of cattle.

Even more important than the achievements of science is the translation of those achievements to day-to-day agricultural practice. The utilization of artificial fertilizers, a wider use of pure and improved varieties of seeds, raising on large

areas of new types of fodder for cattle and green manure for land, a vigorous policy of afforestation both for improving climatic conditions and supply of timber and fuel to the ryots and a large scale and organized attempt to carry out bunding, river management and anti-erosion measures are the more prominent among the numerous ways by which a fruitful marriage of science to agriculture can be effected. The progress achieved in these several scientific lines of agricultural advancement must be periodically measured by collection of statistics. The organization of an efficient Economic and Statistical Service is therefore an important item in any sound scheme of agricultural reform.

Conclusion

From the foregoing, it will be seen that I have attempted at best to outline only the salient features of agrarian problems and have ventured to suggest certain radical solutions, even at the risk of being called Utopian. A factual account of the various measures of agrarian reforms so far undertaken by Madras Government and those for which we have definite plans in our scheme of post-war reconstruction is being prepared by the Economic Adviser to this Government and it would be published shortly in all the regional languages of the Province. But even from this general survey, it will be evident that the agrarian reforms contemplated at present must have a short term and a long term aspect, the short term covering the transitional period and the long term striving after the establishment of a Parity Economy in a co-operative Commonwealth in which Agriculture will stand on an equal footing with Industry, Trade and Services. In the achievement of these twin objectives, legislation though essential, has its limitations. Too much law making often defeats itself.

"How small of all that human hearts endure
That part which kings or laws can cause or cure."

Consolidation of holdings, codification of land revenue laws, liberal grant of revenue remissions, replacement of the existing regressive land tax by a graduated agricultural income-tax, abolition of zamindaris, fixation of fair rents by the constitution of Arbitration Tribunals and payment of fair wages to agricultural labour—these are some of the problems which law could tackle and steps have already been taken to bring in the necessary legislation.

Expansion of irrigation works—productive and protective, renovation of tanks, digging of wells and reconstruction of anicuts, reclamation of waste lands, construction of hydro-electric schemes, extension of rural education, encouragement of scientific research and application of the fruits of research to practical agriculture—these are some of the lines on which the State can play an active part and the Madras Government is devoting their earnest attention to every one of them. In the sphere of reducing the burden of rural debt and financing of the agriculturist, the Madras Government had passed important enactments and have achieved a fair measure of success too.

But more fundamental than all these is the creation of such conditions for agriculture as would enable the agriculturist to hold his own with the industrialist, the trader or the black-coated professional man; conditions, which would give the agricultural worker not merely wages and terms of

employment on a par with the factory worker; but more—the dignity of equal partnership with the landowner in a common venture. This is what I mean by Parity Economy and to bring about this Parity a great co-operative effort is required. More important than laws and regulations is the willing and active work of a large army of selfless and public spirited men and women. It is in this realm that the constructive workers of Mahatmaji's conception can find a wide scope for very useful work. The constructive workers should be the friends and guides of the villagers, animated by missionary zeal. They should inspire, initiate and push through the reforms to a successful conclusion with maximum possible degree of expedition. No law, no "ism" can be a substitute for the unflagging zeal and indefatigable energy of these constructive workers. On their effort lies the future of the lives of millions of the peasantry of this ancient land.

India's Forest Resources

India has about 155,000 square miles of forest or 25 per cent of the total land area. Of this area, nearly 50,000 square miles is private forest and of the remaining 100,000 square miles about 90,000 square miles is managed by the Provincial and State Forest Departments, the rest being controlled by other departments and panchayats. The private forests have mostly been worked by their owners for their private gains, while the forests under the panchayat and other departments have not been able to achieve a high degree of forest conservancy. About 80,000 square miles of both Government and private forests, i.e., about 12 per cent of the total land area may be classified as merchantable forest. Compared with the standards of other countries, the forest area of 25 per cent would be adequate, but as most of the private and other forests not under the management of the Forest Departments have been degraded, the forests are inadequate either for affording protection against floods and erosion or for supplying the needs of the agricultural community in respect of firewood and small timber.

The forests of India are a national asset held in trust for the people, and must, therefore, in a broad sense, be managed in accordance with a national

policy. Forest policy also deals with the social and economic aspects of forestry. It has to legislate on the one hand for rights of users, and on the other it has to enter the field of silviculture, the main function of which is to grow in the most economical way, those forest crops best suited to meet the requirements of the locality. In a narrower sense it must prescribe in considerable detail for the forests which are owned by the State, and in a wider sense it must also consider the responsibilities of the State with regard to those in private or communal ownership.

Forestry differs from agriculture in the long period which elapses in trees reaching their full growth. Hence continuity of action is required over a period of years, and whether the owner be the State or a private individual, there must be a policy which will secure in perpetuity the demand made on forests in the interests of the country as a whole. Such a policy should provide stability in forest finance and aim at securing the highest degree of uniformity possible. There are four main fields of economic use for which the policy must prescribe: (1) the supply of forest produce to the mass of local consumers particularly the rural population. (2) the protection of

land from erosion, floods and unfavourable climatic influences. (3) the protection of timber for building construction generally and (4) the production of raw materials, both timber and other forest products for industries using wood.

Forests Inadequate

The capacity of Indian forests measured in terms of productivity is inadequate for the fulfilment of the first three requirements. If we are to reach self-sufficiency in regard to the fourth, we are also probably deficient in terms of resources. The principal object of forest policy must, therefore, be to make good these deficiencies.

Old Forest Policy

The first announcement on forestry policy made by the Government of India was in 1894, based on the following principles: (1) that the retention of sufficient forests to preserve the climatic and physical conditions of the country is a matter of primary importance, (2) that the need for securing sufficient forests for the general well-being of the people comes next, (3) that cultivation is of greater importance than forestry, but permanent cultivation must not reduce forest lands below the prescribed minimum, and (4) that revenues should be realized to the fullest possible extent, but only after meeting the requirements of the rural and the local population free or at concession rates. Although a very valuable forest estate has been built up as a result of this policy, it failed to realize the fact that forestry transcends all political and administrative boundaries in many of its more important aspects, and should therefore be approached on an all-India basis.

In attempting to assess the extent to which the objects implied in the principles have been achieved over the country as a whole, certain points have to be borne in mind: Firstly, the policy was intended to apply to State forests only; private forests were then sacrosanct, and even their extent was probably unknown in those days. Secondly, a formidable task was presented to the administrators in those early days of development. Already subsistence farming, generally incompatible with forest conservancy in the hills, had been established throughout most mountainous regions of the country. There was the general opposition by the people to the reservation of forests which they traditionally looked upon as their own; and large areas were subject to extensive exploitation by the users.

Generally the policy followed in creating the reserves was to carve out the valuable timber forests, forests unencumbered with rights, and remote forests required mainly for protection purposes. After delimiting the reserves, other classes of forests were constituted—"protective forests," "unclassed forests" and "unreserved forests." The main function of all these was to supply local requirements. To many of these forests, the principle of the sustained annual yield, which requires rotational closing the forest for regeneration, was not applied on the ground that it would amount to an interference with the liberties of the villagers. The rules regulating the cutting of trees have not been observed to a large extent and, therefore, have failed to prevent the over-utilization of these forests. Perhaps it was thought that these forests together with the private ones would be more than adequate to supply local demands, or possibly no genuine attempt was made to assess local requirements. The result has been that outside the reserves there has in general been a steady depletion of the growing stocks in all classes of forests set aside for the satisfaction of local requirements, hence the pressure on reserves has increased.

Forest Co-operatives

Little work has been done in establishing fuel and fodder reserves, and in certain Provinces the entrusting of the management of suitable areas of State forests to village communities has resulted in the deterioration and even destruction of those forests.

In some provinces on the other hand, where the conditions had reached a critical stage, the Government associated themselves with the villagers in managing both the reserved and unclassed forests by assigning the forests and their income to registered co-operative societies. There was one condition attached to this scheme, that the societies were to accept working plans sanctioned by the Government and supervision by trained forest personnel. The results have been most encouraging.

The grazing problem has not yet been satisfactorily solved and to-day excessive grazing presents one of the greatest obstacles to the regeneration of forests. The problem of ensuring adequate forest resources for the future has long been urged by the advocates of conservation. The problem is very complex and although it is being approached in many ways by the various Provincial Governments, a generally satisfactory solution is not assured. The fact that the grazing incidence

ought to be limited to the carrying capacity of the forest has been accepted in principle, but rarely put into practice. In recent times, some Provinces have attempted to solve this problem by classifying cattle as 'essential to agriculture' and 'non-essential' and to allot forests for grazing on this basis.

The policy with regard to exploitation of forests has always been a subject of controversy. Is departmental extraction or the sale of standing timber to contractors more favourable to Government? There are advantages and disadvantages in both. But the general tendency has been to reduce the extent of departmental timber operations. In the past, attention was largely focussed on the valuable hard woods which alone commanded ready markets. The objects of management were broadly to increase production of these species and to do this at lower costs. The removal and replacement of inferior forests with suitable plantations, the improvement of mixed woods

by scientific felling and fire protection takes time, and a forest crop matures slowly. Thus the fine forests of h woods built up over the past 70 years and more have still to produce a yield. Perhaps more was possible the speed of converting the use forests could have been increased remote forests could have been opened out by roads, but restricted financial hindered development. Even so, there was a lack of enterprise in not developing the use and production of some the hardwoods required for special purposes, for which timber or steel is imported. There was one notable exception, however, namely, the rubber plantation created for supply timber for the sports goods industry.

Except for the earlier stages of forest development, the Government of India kept aloof, leaving execution of policy to the Provinces. It is clear now that in the light of the increasing requirements of our nation, the time has come for a reorientation of Indian forestry policy.

Future Agricultural Development in the Madras Presidency

In India, and in particular South India, the magnitude of the food problem, was not felt, till the commencement of hostilities in the South-East Asia, and fully, realized only after its termination. The total food production of cereals, pulses, fruits, vegetables, milk, fish and eggs is far below our present requirements, to maintain the population in health and vigour. The demand for food of all kinds, with

By C. R. SRINIVASA IYENGAR
Deputy Director of Agriculture

and ever multiplying population is bound to be, year after year, on the increase. It is, therefore, necessary to take stock of our wide and varied natural resources of our country, and examine how each one of them, could be developed to its fullest capacity, to enhance the food production in our country.

The problem of producing adequate food to a point of self-sufficiency or in excess over our requirements to meet contingencies, has to be tackled both by increasing the area under irrigation and by enhancing the acre output of

crops in areas already under cultivation. It is an accepted fact that acre-yield of food crops in our country in comparison to the yields in other countries the world, continue to be poor. This said state of affairs is mainly due several natural factors operating pull down the yield of crops in our Presidency.

Water-supply

It is well known to all agriculturists that adequate and well-distributed water-supply with good drainage sufficient manures and good seed sowing in the proper season, are the limiting factors in increasing the average acre yield of crops. Timely sowing and planting of crops are of utmost importance, as they help the crops to take advantage of natural conditions. But in a country like ours, that depends on the fickle and precarious monsoon rains, to start the sowing of crops and grow them to maturity, the yield of crops cannot be often be forecasted, till about the harvest. In no two year the yields of crop are alike and they vary widely from year to year. In the case of rainfed areas, rains are not received in proper season, to prepare the land for sowing and much less to sow the seed at the right time. Tankfed areas again, depend on the

rains in the basin, from which they obtain supply to fill them up. The river-fed channels cannot be operated till rains, as their sources, are adequate and timely. *At the present moment agriculture is being carried on to suit the meagre and precarious rainfall or irrigation facilities and not irrigation facilities created to suit the needs of agricultural season and its requirements.*

This aspect of providing irrigation facilities to suit the agricultural needs of the country by contriving to utilise our abundant natural resources and press them to the service of the agriculturist as and when he requires it, should be the main guiding principle in initiating new ones, and in reorientating existing irrigation projects. In recent years, this principle is being more and more kept in view by the States concerned in designing irrigation projects. We have now the Mettur and Papanasam reservoirs functioning to collect the flood water of the Cauvery and Tambraparni rivers in the south. The large quantities of flood water that were formerly emptying itself into the sea, have now been impounded and regulated to supply water as and when required for crops in the delta. But for these reservoirs, our Presidency to-day should have been in a worse plight. Similar storage facilities for the Tungabhadra and Godavari rivers are in sight, to bring vast areas to support smiling crops of corn and fruits in the northern districts. I wish that in the next decade or two, many more reservoirs across big and small rivers that meander across the peninsula will come into existence.

Tank System

Next in importance, to the river-fed channels, tank system of irrigation supply water to a fairly large extent of irrigated crops in our Presidency. However, many of the tanks are in bad state of disrepair, their catchment area having been reduced by years of silting. The quantity now stored is often very inadequate to support the crops grown over the full ayacut and very often insufficient to mature one full crop. Planting under many of them is delayed. They require deepening to increase their storage capacity. The silt so removed from the tanks in many cases is a very valuable and complete manure to fertilize the eroded soils of the basins from which water flowed into the tanks. Apart from improving the sources and capacity of the tanks themselves, which would form part of a long range programme, the tapping of underground water supply by digging wells in the ayacuts

themselves, to save crops at critical periods for giving one or two wettings from wells, is of immediate necessity and will go a long way to increase crop yields. It is a good augury of our future prosperity that the subsidized well sinking programme has been started. This scheme though commenced as a famine measure, should in my humble opinion, be pursued with the same vigour and speeded up for another five years. Wells are as great a national asset as river projects. They very often help to save crops at critical period when one or two wettings given or not, would mean a full crop, or no yield at all. With a future, when electric energy is expected to be widely made available, irrigation from wells to support crops at critical periods is bound to play a great part in increasing food production. With this end in view the subsidized programme of well sink is best continued till the target figure programmed is reached.

Manure

Side by side, with the programme of providing irrigation facilities to suit the agricultural practices, the next important need of crops is the provision of plenty of manures, both organic and inorganic. It is a well-known fact that among the organic manures, green leaf manure either grown in or by obtaining from outside is not only the cheapest form of manuring, but also it is most responsive. The value of green leaf manure cannot be over-estimated. However, green manuring as a general agricultural practice, during the past two or three decades, has not been as popular as was expected, because of the many limiting factors operating in the raising of green manure crop in between two food crops in summer months in the off-season. In the Tanjore district, the area under green manure crops has been progressively increasing only after the construction of the Mettur Dam. With the better irrigation facilities visualized in the future, I am very hopeful that green manuring practice would come to stay in many parts of our Presidency. Yet there is bound to be areas where green manure crop could not be grown successfully for one reason or other. These areas will have to depend for green leaf from outside sources. In many tracts, on bunds and fences and waste lands with the specific purpose of providing green leaf for their paddy land and fuel for their domestic use has come into disuse. Trees in one's holding is a very valuable

asset to a farmer. Think of it, it gives you annual cuttings of green leaf for manure purposes, while the branches lopped off provide fuel. Aged trees would give you necessary timber for agricultural implements and building purposes. Indirectly, a farmer possessing a suitable grove of trees commensurate with this holding, will not misuse cattle manure as fuel. All the dung collected in his farm yard will automatically go to fertilize his lands. Just ponder over our present fuel position in our country. This Presidency has not been in the past importing fuel from any other Provinces or country, as rice, oils, cloth and yet, the scarcity for fuel is becoming acute day by day and prices are soaring high. This sad state of affairs is experienced even in towns and villages situated in the vicinity of hills. The fuel famine will be a permanent feature, in this country, if adequate steps are not immediately taken to increase the proportion of forest areas. What is now happening is that all available trees, young and old, are ruthlessly cut, to take money without, in the least, visualizing the bankrupt condition that the country may soon be brought by this practice, if we do not, as a nation think and plan ahead for a regular and an increasing supply of fuel for domestic and other industrial purposes. Planned programme for tree planting both as individuals and as a state policy, should be put into operation from now to grow trees in one's own holding and to plant with suitable trees all waste lands that are not fit for economic arable cultivation. This programme of tree planting should be given the highest priority. In fact, the nation as a whole should be awakened to realize the advantage of tree planting as a planned operation. Apart from obtaining green leaf for manure, and fuel for domestic use, the groves of trees studded all over the country would have a very moderating influence on the climate of our country, and regularize the rainfall conditions which are becoming erratic day by day. Incidentally, these groves of trees when grown up, would provide ample moving space to cattle. In recent years, some work on tree planting has, no doubt, been attempted. These sporadic attempts depended on the enthusiasm of the officer who sponsored the programme. But it soon waned off, with the exit of the officer from the place. Hence there is a great need for sustained and well-planned programmes that would go on, irrespective of the presence and drive of person or persons that started it or given the necessary fillip to the programme.

Next to green manure and conservation of cattle manure, oil cakes and bone-meal produced in the country should be conserved and retained for our use, either returned directly to the soil as manure or through feeding cattle with edible oil cakes. Export of oil seeds and bone products is a great drain from our country and should be stopped, if the fertility of our land is to be built up and health of the cattle improved. As already mentioned, tank silt is a very valuable bulky manure to fertilize garden and dry lands. Its value is well known to cultivators. Where facilities are available, silt is made use of. However, the greatest limiting factors in using silt in a large measure is the digging and transport costs. If cheap motor power for digging and transport of silt is made available, the programme of excavation of tanks to increase their capacity on the one hand, and the use of silt for fertilizing lands on the other, could be accelerated. In addition to judicious conservation and use of natural manures such as green leaf, silt, cattle manure, oil cakes and bones, the application of concentrated manures like sulphate of ammonia in correct doses will help to build up the average acre yield of crops. Hence plants for the manufacture of concentrated manures has to be put to supply cheap concentrated manures on a large scale at the very door of the cultivators. This matter has already been taken up by the India Government.

The Agricultural Department has now a range of good selected strains have the capacity to show their full merit when timely and adequate water supply is given and lands in which they are sown or planted is well fertilized with combination of organic and inorganic manure. Schemes for the supply of pure and high yielding strains to the cultivators should become a permanent feature of the departmental work.

I have in this short note attempted to point out the need of reorientating irrigation projects to supply water to the needs of agriculture and tapping under ground water-supply. The importance of tree planting on a planned programme cannot be over emphasized to provide green leaf manure, fuel and timber of agriculture and building purpose. I am hopeful that with better water facilities, manures and seed, the acre yield of crops can be brought in a line comparable with those obtained in other countries within the next decade.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Fruit Varieties of Plantain for the Farmer

Fruit is an essential article of diet and plantain fruit is the most easily grown on a variety of soils and situations. It can be grown in garden or wet lands. In some places it is rainfed. With little effort it can be grown in the back yards near the wells making good use of the waste water from the bath room and the kitchen. It indirectly helps to keep backyards free from pools and mosquito breeding as the leaves

rapidly evaporate the water into the air. It is a perennial, propagating itself by means of suckers. Besides giving leaves for domestic use, it yields fruits of easily digestible and sufficiently nutritious value. Its food value as given below compares very favourably with the other common kinds of fruits and the apple which is held in high esteem by the Europeans.

Variety of Fruit.	Proteins.	Fats.	Carbo-hydrates.	Calorific value	Minerals.
	PER CENT.	PER CENT.		Calories.	PER CENT.
Plantain	0.40	0.17	6.29	19	0.95
Custard apple	0.46	0.16	6.81	26	0.67
Guava	0.2	0.28	4.06	20	0.67
Mango	0.18	0.02	4.11	18	0.36
Apple	0.09	0.06	3.54	15	Not known.

Besides the higher fruit value indicated as above, the production of essential food constituents namely Carbohydrates, which are in large

demand in the present food crisis is relatively larger than any cereal crop could produce as given below:—

	Acre-yield of fruits.	Dry weight of figs.
	LB.	LB.
Plantain (Karpura Chakrakeli).	30,000	Equivalent to grain.
Paddy (Saiwa and dalwa).	..	4,500

But methods of utilization of the plantain have not yet been so well developed by the people as with the case of cereals, the main food crops of the land. In American and other foreign countries, starch is prepared from plantain and is thus harnessed to the use of the common man.

Karpura Chakrakeli and Tella Chakrakeli are the common varieties of plantain fruits grown in the Godavari district. In order to find heavier yielding and better quality fruits, several varieties from various parts of the Presidency were studied and their results are presented below.

Karpura Chakrakeli or Guinea or "poovan" in Tamil is found to be the most profitable variety to plant in the Sethakattu (December-January) plantation. Its good sized bunch and the longer keeping quality together with its relatively cheaper cost much with in the reach of the average man have made it to be preferred to a more deli-

cious variety Tella Chakrakeli for commercial plantations. For Tholakari plantation it is not suitable as it is too late in bunching. Although it can be managed in the Tholakari season to a successful crop with good amount of care in several respects, past experience has ruled it out of consideration.

Tella Chakrakeli and Mauritius are considered to be the best for the Tholakari plantation.

Among the other varieties studied Sudha and Vadakkan kadali approach Karpura Chakrakeli in the size of bunch and number of fruits.

Giant Chinese resembles Mauritius in all respects and can be considered to be even superior to it for it lacks the sunburnt nature of the fruit stalk at the bottom of the bunch and the fruits when exposed towards the sun. Both the varieties possess to some extent or other the quality of shedding of ripe fruits from the fruit stalk, a quality undesirable from the fruit

sellers' point of view. Also their big sized fruits and consequently a price beyond the reach of the common man's pocket have been considered by the

fruit vendors unfavourable for the interests of the rapid reach of the varieties. Otherwise Giant Chinese and Mauritius plants possess desirable

characters, viz., warfunds of trees and easy digestibility of the fruits. The bunch characters of the promising varieties are given below:—

Variety.	Weight of bunch in lb.	Number of fruits.	Size of fruits.	Bunching period.	Remarks.
1. Karpura chakrakoli	38	179	Small	Feb.—Mar.	Flavoury.
2. Tell chadarakoli	12.7	67	Medium	Jan.—Feb.	Very flavoury.
3. Mauritius	26	118	Big	Feb.—Mar.	Flavoury, easily digestible.
4. Giant Chinese	24	74	Big	Jan.—Feb.	Do.
5. Patcha Nadan	27	85	Big	Jan.	Flavoury.
6. Nendrapadathi	16	54	Big	Jan.	Special flavour liked by Malayalees.
7. Vannan eraden	21	70	Big	Feb.	..
8. Eraden	20	74	Big	Feb.	..
9. Karpura bali	31	86	Big	Feb.	..
10. Sudha	29.5	138	Medium	Feb.—Mar.	..
11. Vadakkan kadali	36	188	Small	Mar.	..

1. *Mango varieties for profit.*—Mango is the fruit *par excellence* of India and is consequently most popular both in home compounds and commercial orchards. The number of mango varieties suitable for selection is so many that the prospective planter is often at a loss to know what to choose. His friends who have been to Bombay will speak of the famous Ratnagiri Alphonso, while those who have tasted the Langra of United Province, Bihar and Bengal will extol that variety. Within our own province, those hailing from the Circars would suggest a choice rasam variety of a Jehangir or Himampasand, while those from Tanjore may recommend the Padri variety. To a certain extent, and particularly among the home gardeners, the selection of the variety is bound to be governed by individual tastes, while for commercial orchards the consumers' taste together with economic characters will count a great deal. Observations made at the Fruit Research Station, Kodur, in a variety collections area consisting of nearly 100 varieties of repute from all parts of India and the outside should be of great value to the mango-growing public in this respect of varietal selection. A surprising but nevertheless highly important fact brought out from these variety collection at Kodur is that, an indiscriminate selection of varieties is virtually a gamble. During the first ten years of orchard life, 83 varieties of mangoes out of 98 varieties planted had borne fruits, and the former did not include a single variety introduced from

Bengal, Bihar, Bombay and United Provinces. Strange as it may seem, varieties introduced from Ceylon have on the other hand, not only fruited but have performed very satisfactorily. It seems safe to infer from these that importation of plants of mango varieties from the North, Western or Central India is a hazardous and risky venture. In other words, the safety lies in selecting varieties from these already found growing in our own province and from any of those which have proved to perform well under our conditions. The Kodur collections have also shown that even within the same variety, some trees perform better and more regularly than others. Such high yielding and regular cropping trees have been marked out and plants from these selected parents are available for supply to the public. Indents for such plants may be addressed to the Fruit Specialist, Kodur P.O., Cuddapah district.

2. *Budded lime trees yield heaviest crops.*—The small fruited acid lime is a popular fruit in South India and is an invariable requirement in most households on every day. It has been the universal practice all over India to raise lime plantations entirely with seedling trees. Budded or grafted, lime has never appealed to the growers nor has ever been attempted even by fruit research workers in this country as a trial till about 1935, when the Fruit Research Station, Kodur, undertook this propagation method on a large scale to explore its potentialities. A regular experimental plot was established to test the budded lime trees

with seedlings, and the former included limes raised on three different rootstocks, viz. (1) rough lemon, (2) Gajanimma and (3) acid lime itself. Careful and accurate data collected from this plantation has proved that budded lime trees on Gajanimma stock are the best for our commercial plantations, since they not only yield crops earlier by about a year, but also yield on the average nearly double the crop size of that from seedling trees. Analysing the income per tree during the first nine years of orchard life, a seedling tree has been found to give an income of Rs. 15-12-7 while a budded tree on Gajanimma gave during the same period of Rs. 26-10-8. This difference works out to Rs. 10-14-1 per tree or Rs. 743-6-0 per acre. These figures should induce all prospective lime orchardists in this province to go ahead with budded lime plantations on Gajanimma stock in place of the erst-while seedling groves.



Dry Lands Deserve Better Attention

Results of the Dry Farming Development Research Scheme, Madras

The Dry Farming Development Research Scheme was started in June 1943 with the object of trying out on a large scale on the cultivators' holdings near Hagari, the dry farming improvements that were evolved previously at the Agricultural Research Station, Hagari (Bellary). The results of five years work which are of economic importance are herewith summarized. These improvements are now being carried out in the districts.

Dry Farming improvements mean only good farming practices to be adopted in dry lands, especially those situated in low and uncertain rainfall areas, like the Ceded districts. The main object of these practices is to make the most of the low and uncertain rainfall for the benefit of the crop and to resist soil erosion. Several practices were under trial and those that have been proved to be beneficial are described hereunder:—

(1) *Bund-former bunding*.—This is done by using an implement known as the bund-former, designed by the Madras Department of Agriculture. (See fig. 1.) It is a simple implement drawn by a pair of bullocks. It consists of two collecting boards and as the implement proceeds it leaves a small bund behind, which is about 6" or 7" high and about 18" wide at base. When this implement is drawn along and across in the field, small bundled



Fig. 1—Bund-forming implement

compartments of about 10 cents each are made. (See fig. 2.) These bundled compartments trap rain water and make it soak into the land with the result that the land is made to take in more rain water and give better crops than when the bunds are not there. This is specially useful in black soil areas in which rain water does not percolate freely and has a tendency to run off the land carrying with it good soil. Bund-former bunding not only helps to make more rain water soak into the soil, but it also reduces erosion. It costs about 8 to 12 annas per acre to put up bunds in this manner and one implement is capable of bunding up about ten acres a day. It has been found that by doing this an average increased yield of about ten per cent is obtained. This kind of bunding should be done as the final preparatory cultivation operation for a crop and the best time to do this in the black soil areas is about the month of August.

It is useful in lands which have a gentle slope (of one per cent or less). In higher slopes these bunds are apt to give way frequently and permanent bunds will be necessary.

(2) *Wide spacing of crops*.—In areas of low rainfall the crops have to be spaced sufficiently widely. If the crops are sown closely the small

amount of soil moisture available will not be sufficient to support the vegetation and manure the crop. At Hagari, the common spacing between lines of crops is 13½" in the case of Cholan (Jowar) and 27" for Cotton. It has been proved, during the course of this work, that slightly wider spacing of 18" for Cholan and 36" for Cotton gives more assured crops. The cultivators round about Hagari have realised the value of this wider spacing and are adopting this practice. The old seed drills of narrow spacing are now giving place to new seed drills of the improved spacing. The spacing of a crop is a function of the rainfall of the tract, i.e., as the rainfall increases the spacing between the plants is to be decreased. The proper spacing of the crops for each sub-area has to be determined and trials in this direction are in progress in the other taluks of the district which have slightly higher rainfall.

(3) *Improved strains of millets*.—The common millets grown in this area are (i) Cholan (Jowar or Jonna), (ii) Tenai (Korra). High-yielding strains in these millets have been evolved which have been found to give 8 to 10 per cent increased yield over local varieties. These improved strains are H-1 and M-47-3 Cholan and H-1 and H-2 in Tenai. These strains are becoming popular in the districts of Bellary and Anantapur. Under a scheme of Grow More Food Campaign seed farms for the production of large quantities of seed of these improved strains are now being intensified with a view to cover the entire districts with these seeds.

(4) *Periodical manuring*.—In these areas of low rainfall it was found that heavy doses of manure are not really beneficial, because there is not sufficient moisture in the soil to make the manure available to the plants. It was found that what is required is a small dose of manure periodically applied. From the results of the manurial trials, it was found that 5 to 6 cart-loads of cattle manure applied to the field once in 4 or 5 years is beneficial. This practice is being advocated. To supplement the cattle manure which is not available in sufficient quantities in the villages, compost-making is being advised. Composts are made with village rubbish green leaves, residues of field crops, nightsoil and other organic matter which are now being wasted. In the villages fuel being scarce, the cultivators are forced to utilize cattle manure as fuel and thus depriving the land of what is its due. If all the

manure were returned to the land instead of being burnt as fuel, increased crop production becomes possible. The remedy for this is to raise fuel plantations to supply the necessary fuel and to release cowdung for manure purpose. Emphasis has been laid on the fact that fuel plantations near the villages are necessary for the prosperity of the villager and attempts are being made to give effect to this.

(5) *Contour cultivation*.—Agricultural land is not level and it always slopes to a greater or lesser extent. When rainfall falls it runs down the slope carrying soil with it. It is necessary to cultivate the lands across the slopes and not along the slopes, to offer the greatest resistance to the flow of rain water and save the soil being washed away. The ideal way of doing this is to cultivate on the lines of the contour. Under our conditions of fragmented holdings it will be difficult to adopt strict contour cultivation. The next best is to at least cultivate across the main slope of the land so that resistance is offered to the main flow of the rain water. This is a soil-saving device and is being advocated by the Propaganda section of the department for the benefit of the ryots.

(6) *Permanent field-bunds*.—Permanent field-bunds confer permanent benefit to the land. They arrest the free flow of rain water and soil from the land so that the rain water is made to soak into the land, and the soil is left in the field. Field embankments, to be effective and economical, should be put on the contour as far as possible. (See Fig. 3.) A landscape is always divided into several catchments and each catchment is a unit of work. The bunds have to be put up starting from the highest point and working down to the lower regions. They have to be at intervals of about 300 to 500 feet depending on the slope of the land. The contour lines have to be smoothed and fitted to the boundaries of existing fields as far as possible, to avoid the cutting up of holdings into very inconvenient bits. These lines should keep to the general trend of the contour in the catchment. By doing this the whole catchment is bound up and the maximum benefit is obtained by bunding. From the results of experimental bunding conducted at Hagari it was found that bundled fields gave increased crop yield varying from 15 to 20 per cent over neighbouring fields which were not bundled. It was so found necessary to provide



Fig. 2—Bundled compartments, formed by the bund-forming implement



Fig. 3—Contour bund

suitable weirs for field embankments. Loss of rain water and the loss of soil through erosion are national losses and require to be remedied as early as possible. Schemes of bunding

with a view to prevent the loss of soil and rain water in low rainfall regions, are under the consideration of the Government and will be given effect to in due course.

Agriculture in Other Countries

America

The Airplane Helps the Farmer

A new kind of farmer's organization in the United States has got away to a flying start in these early post-war years. Its members are leaving the solid ground and are taking to the air.

In 29 States air-minded farmers who own light airplanes and fly them on a

variety of jobs in the operation of their farms, and for business and pleasure trips, have formed State flying farmers' associations.

Those light planes are proving their worth in all sorts of ways, saving hours that can be put to good use in the fields or in the barns.

Great Britain

Compared with last year there has been an increase of tillage of 263,000 acres. High targets set for both the potato and sugar-beet crops have been exceeded. Crops of wheat, barley, oats and rye are all shown to be moving substantially in the right direction.

No less remarkable, especially in view of the difficulties about feeding-stuffs, are the livestock returns.

Cattle have increased from 7,175,000 to 7,339,000; pigs from 1,146,000 to 1,631,000; sheep and lambs from

10,162,000 to 10,848,000 and poultry from 41,000,000 to 52,000,000.

Most significant of all, however, are the figures about man-power. Largely owing to the repatriation of prisoners of war, the total employed on the land has fallen. That serious loss has not yet been made good, and the man-power shortage on the land will be seriously felt.

However, it is a big achievement that the number of male workers over 21 working on the land has increased by no fewer than 23,000.

DELHI DIARY

Experiment in Co-operative Farming near Delhi

Driven out by communal trouble from their ancestral homes in Sind and Bahawalpur, 35 families of cultivators have started life afresh at village Chatarpur, about 12 miles from Delhi.

Sponsored by the Indian Co-operative Union, Limited, these agriculturists have formed themselves into a multi-purpose agricultural co-operative society. They have started the cultivation of 400 acres of land vacated by Muslims last year. Two hundred and fifty acres have been sown with the *kharif* crop, which when harvested will be distributed among 150 members of the colony "each according to his needs."

Assisted by the Central Ministry of Agriculture with a 60 H.P. Tractor, technical personnel, seeds and agricultural implements, the Co-operative Society will now cultivate the remaining 150 acres and sow them with *rabi* crops.

Salvage of City Milch Cattle

The problem of salvaging prime cows and buffaloes, which are annually brought into Indian cities from rural areas for urban milk supply and are sold to butchers when they go dry, engaged the attention of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research several years ago.

In 1941 a committee was appointed to investigate the matter on the spot in the cities of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, where the problem is most acute. Apart from being sold to the butcher the milch cattle are subjected to such malpractices as to render them sterile or otherwise unfit for breeding purposes. This continuous process of premature slaughter and destruction of breeding value constitutes a steady depletion of the actual and potential cattle wealth of the country.

In the years before the war it was quite a normal process for 10,000 men or more to leave the countryside in a single year. Year after year, indeed, the fatal drift went on and successive Ministers of Agriculture seemed unable to stop it.

The need for more men on the land will remain acute if British agriculture is to reach the general production increase set for 1951-52.

But Tom Williams and the nation at large can have the satisfaction of knowing that a good start has been made.

The Committee has invited suggestions on the subject to reach the office of the Milk Commissioner, Wakefield House, Ballard Estate, Bombay, so as to reach him by September 22.

Indian Independence Medal

To mark the advent of the Indian Independence and in order that members of the Armed Forces in India should bear some recognition of this important event, His Majesty the King has instituted a new medal called "The Indian Independence Medal," according to a Royal Warrant, dated July 21, 1948, published in the *Gazette of India*, dated September 18, 1948.

Among those who will be eligible for the medal will be all Indian nationals, male and female, who were serving on the strength of a unit of the Indian Armed Forces on August 15, 1947, the Ruling Princess and members of the State Forces of States which had acceded to the Indian Dominion by January 1, 1948, and British Officers, Ratings, other Ranks and Airmen, male and female, serving on January 1, 1948, with the Armed Forces of the Dominion of India.

representatives of employers and workmen engaged in the establishments. In the interests of national economy and increased production, it is also desired that production committees should be set up for each unit and industry. With a view to avoiding multiplicity of committees it may be expedient to have a common personnel for the works and production committees, but it would be preferable if the two committees meet and function separately.

OTHER PROVINCES

Works Committees in East Punjab

The East Punjab Government have decided to constitute Works Committees in all industrial establishments in

which 100 or more workers are employed or have been employed on any day in the preceding 12 months in accordance with section 3 of the Industrial Disputes Act. These committees should consist of equal

for dealing with matters falling within their respective spheres.

Adult Education Certificate in Central Province

Government have prescribed a procedure for the award of Adult Education Certificates and for the drawal and disbursement of the reward of Rs. 2 per adult male and Rs. 5 per adult woman to teachers in primary and Indian middle schools who would teach and enable illiterate adults to pass the Adult Education Certificate Examination under the Social Education Scheme, launched by Government in this Province.

Labour Advisory Board in Assam

In pursuance of the Resolution on Industrial Truce adopted at the Industries Conference held in New Delhi last December and in view of the fact that the increase in industrial production which is so vital to the economy of the country cannot be achieved without the fullest co-operation between the labourers and the employers, the Government of Assam have formed the Assam Provincial Labour Advisory Board.

Public Health Advisory Board in Assam

The Government of Assam have constituted a Public Health Advisory Board. The function of the Board will be to advise Government on matters of public health in the Province. The Medical Minister will be the President of the Board and the Deputy Director of Public Health will act as Secretary.

Fine Arts and Crafts Exhibition in East Punjab

"It is the objective of the East Punjab Government to have in due course a museum and arts and crafts school" declared His Excellency the Governor Sir Chandu Lal Trivadi, while performing the opening ceremony of the Indian Academy of Fine Arts and Crafts Exhibition at Christ Church College, Simla.

Tractors in East Punjab

As a long-term measure to increase the food supply in the Province, the East Punjab Government has imported 1,999 tractors to cultivate lands evacuated by Muslims and now allotted to Hindu and Sikh refugees. Seventy-five more tractors are on their way.

Anti-Malaria Drive in East Punjab

To make villages in East Punjab malaria-proof, the panchayats have launched a campaign throughout the Province for the removal of manure heaps and other filthy stuff from places which germinate mosquitoes and flies and are responsible for outbreak of malaria and other epidemics. Wells are being properly looked after and where water is unfit for human consumption, they are being closed. Separate water ponds for cattle have been built.

With a view to giving opportunities to villagers to meet together to discuss problems concerning them and thus bring about better understanding about each other, attempts are being made to construct meeting places in every village.

Technical Education in East Punjab

The Government of East Punjab have appointed a Committee for enquiring into the present conditions of industrial and technical education and to recommend measures, if necessary, for overhauling, reorganizing and extending such education further.

Embankment and Drainage Advisory Committee in Assam

The establishment of a "Research Station" in Hydrology and soil mechanics which will provide to the Embankment and Drainage Department the necessary scientific services that will be required for the execution of the schemes proposed to be carried out in this Province for the control of flood and land erosions, has been recommended to the Government by the Embankment and Drainage Advisory Committee.

Potato Competition in United Province

A scheme for holding a Potato Growing Competition has been sanctioned by the United Province Government to encourage the cultivation of

potatoes. A sum of Rs. 15,000 for distribution as prizes has been sanctioned. The cultivator with the highest yield per acre in the Province will be awarded Rs. 5,000 in cash, or a gold medal with Mahatma Gandhi's bust embossed on it.

Scholarships to Backward Class Students in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned eight scholarships to selected Backward Class candidates undergoing training in the following trades: (1) Advanced Radio Communication, (2) Electrical Technology, (3) Mechanical Engineering and (4) Electrical Engineering.

These scholarships will cost the Government Rs. 2,040 a year.

Machinery for Rural Development in Bombay

The existing Taluka Development Associations are being reorganized and designated Taluka Development Boards. The object of the reorganization is to create a taluka machinery for carrying on rural development work.

Development Work in Bombay

In order to supervise the rural development work done by the various Government departments and District Rural Development Boards, the Government of Bombay have proposed to create agencies which will form a sort of liaison between the Boards and the villagers. They will also provide information about their respective villages, which is often required by the Boards.

Social Education Drive in Central Provinces

The Central Provinces Government's Social Education Drive has had a good effect on the whole education movement in the Province, as evidenced from figures available. There has been a rush for admissions into primary schools. Even grown-ups of as high ages as 12 and 13 years, whose education was so far neglected, have taken a fancy for the school now. The guardians and elders have become much more particular in sending their wards, even though belated, to join the school.

Bee-Keeping in Bombay

In Bombay Province there are about 3 to 4 thousand Bee Colonies established producing about 20 to 25 thousand pounds of honey every year. In North Kanara the work is being carried on since eight-nine years started by the All-India Village Industries Association and now run by the Bombay Co-operative Department. A number of co-operative societies have been started and are run satisfactorily.

There is much scope for developing the industry and several crores rupees worth of honey could be produced every year.

Honorary Co-operative Organizers in Bombay

The continuance of the system of taluka honorary organizers and district honorary organizers of Co-operative societies has been sanctioned by the Government of Bombay. Actual appointments in future will however be made by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and Director of Agricultural Marketing and Rural Finance in consultation with the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Institute, ordinarily from among the members of the district co-operative boards and committee members of the taluka supervising unions, respectively.

Assam Cottage Industries

Inaugurating the first meeting of the Administrative Council of the Assam

Cottage Industries Co-operative Association, Lady Hydari, Chairman of the Council, said "There is much work ahead of us, work which in all Provinces in India will have to be done, sooner or later, in support of their rural economy. In some Provinces Cottage Industries Societies on co-operative lines have been working for quite a long time.

Welcoming some of the members of the working committee of the Assam Industries Association to the present Administrative Council of the Assam Cottage Industries Co-operative Association to which it is now amalgamated, Lady Hydari said, "I know how hard you worked to keep your Association going in very hard times and I feel confident that you will extend to the daughter Association the same devoted care that you gave to her mother. Your advice and long experience will be of great value to us in this Council and I hope we shall never give you cause to regret your allegiance to our cause, for the sake of the Province in which you live."

Animal Diseases in Bombay

The Government of Bombay proposes to make legislative provision for the prevention and control of contagious diseases affecting animals.

The draft legislation, called the Bombay Animal Contagious Diseases (Control) Act, 1948, and published in the Bombay Government Gazette of September 20, gives powers to the

Government to adopt measures for regulating the movements of cattle and compelling the owners to have their animals tested or to carry out vaccination or inoculation.

Development of Khadi Industry in U.P.

Ten thousand rural spinners and 1,000 local workers will be trained this year in pursuance of the U.P. Government's drive for the development of khadi industry in the Province.

Training camps have so far been opened in 25 districts. Out of the successful candidates at the examinations of master spinners, 36 candidates have been selected for appointment as spinners' supervisors. They have been posted to districts to organize the local workers' training camp. Sixty-four more candidates are being appointed in order that each district may have two spinning supervisors for the organization of these camps. These camps will be run in consultation with the district development associations and the Gandhi ashrams in those areas.

Publicity Department Mobile Unit in Central Provinces

More than 35,000 people witnessed 15 shows of educational films given by the Publicity Department at Nagpur.

God on earth. It is interesting to note that Sri C. Rajagopalachari has given an intelligent and new commentary on this oft-quoted couplet: "The Vedanta as well as Hindu practice have forms of worship, which enable the devotee to see the supreme deity in every object of love or adoration. Husband worship is not neglect of God."

On page 198, the editor has reproduced one of the well-known couplets on friendship, namely, கேட்டிலும் உண்டு ஓர் உறுதி கிளைந்தா நீட்டி அளப்பது ஓர் கோல். The translation is "misfortune has its use in that it serves as a yardstick for you to spread out and measure the constancy of friends and relatives." One wonders whether Tiruvalluvar, if he had known the English language, could have translated this verse better. Besides giving an accurate, word to word meaning for the text, without exaggerating or minimizing the significance of the whole purport of the couplet, the translation brings out in a commendable manner the full implications of the text.

In the chapter on Oppression and Misrule, the following couplet is reproduced:

துறியின்மை ஞாலத்திற்கு ஏற்று அந்நே வேந்தன்

அறியின்மை வாழும் உயிர்க்கு. While translating this couplet, the editor differs from Parimelazhagar, the celebrated commentator of Kural. While ஞாலம் is interpreted as the world and its inhabitants by Parimelazhagar, Sri C. Rajagopalachari takes it to mean the non-sentient earth. Much may be argued on both sides, as both interpretations suit the context. But one doubts whether there is any authority to interpret ஞாலம் as the non-sentient earth. The time-honoured meaning known to all Tamil scholars seems to be that adopted by Parimelazhagar. Further, one is not inclined to agree with Sri C. Rajagopalachari, when he remarks as follows: "The Parallelism is nearly lost by taking ஞாலம் to mean here, as it usually does, the world and its inhabitants."

Credit, however, goes to Sri C. Rajagopalachari for setting us a thinking about alternate meanings to ஞாலம்.

Great credit is due to Sri C. Rajagopalachari for translating this famous work in Tamil in a commendable manner. The arrangement of chapters and the short introduction to each chapter in English, bringing out the

essential aspects of the couplets translated below add to the usefulness of the work. Like the famous two-line verses of Kural, the translations are brief, pithy and noteworthy for their terseness.

—A.R.

"WAGES PROBLEM OR LABOUR'S YARD-STICK AND REWARD"

By D. V. R. IYER. Published by the author, H. 1156, Bagh Muzaffar Khan, Agra. Price Rs. 5.

In this small publication the author analyses the various aspects of the wages problem. He has made an elaborate study of the latest systems adopted in recent times in advanced Western Countries for stimulating labour to greater productive activity. The demands of labour for higher wages could be met only when labour helps to increase production; for, the capitalist argument that wealth must first be produced before it can be distributed contains a germ of truth. Time and motion study, job evaluation, merit rating and incentive systems of remuneration are being adopted in the west. Differential rates of wages under incentive systems are management's modern tools to secure sustained if not rising level of labour effort. After describing at some length these systems of remunerating labour which would stimulate greater effort on its part, the author however feels that it would not be practicable to adopt them in India at the present stage of industrial development. Indian economy is too poor to afford these costly devices.

With reference to the Indian Textile Industry the author has enumerated the important causes of industrial strife and emphasizes the need for enlisting the willing co-operation of labour which must be assured a higher standard of living. A larger share of the industrial reward is essential to give the necessary fillip to labour to step up production. In view of Indian labour being "illiterate, ignorant and sometimes at the mercy of half baked leaders whose Marxist animosities work to widen the gulf between the living limbs of an industry—employers and the employees" the author pleads for a liberal valuation of labour's share for bringing about industrial harmony and increased industrial output.

This book describes how the wages problem is tackled in Western Countries although the author holds that the methods adopted elsewhere would not

be suitable in the Indian context. For an intelligent understanding of the wages problem, this book may be read with interest.

N.K.A.

"SEARCHLIGHT ON INDUSTRY"

By D. V. R. IYER. Published by the author, H. 1156, Bagh Muzaffar Khan, Agra. Price Rs. 6-4-0.

This is a book which can be read profitably by Industrialists and students of Accounting. It is intended to convince the reader of the importance of Cost Accounting in Industrial business. The author's standpoint is that an industry that has no idea of its true costs can have none of economy either. Cost Accounting will enable Industrialists to husband their resources and adjust the internal working and routine so as to provide the best profits margin. It will also eliminate financial secrecy in business which is often the cause of Labour's suspicion of Capital. Standard cost is defined by the author as the normal cost for output at normal operations level. The author defines it also as the lowest cost obtainable under given conditions. As a normal cost cannot be the lowest cost, both the definitions cannot be correct at the same time. The former definition is clearly the correct one.

It is argued that standard costing is superior to all costing methods. Such an argument need not have been attempted, for, while standard costing, as costing before the event, is essential for an industry to eliminate by comparison, inefficiency and excess costs, the actual costing is what the Industrialist is concerned with. A Job costing is a *de facto* costing and a standard costing, a *de jure* costing. There can be no question of the superiority of the one to the other. Both have their places. The author's statement elsewhere that while costing measures the results achieved, standard costing sets up the yard stick with which to assess the results achieved, hits upon the correct view. The Industrialist will do well to work out standard costing in a competitive market. It will be obvious, however, that inflation and scarcity of goods, as prevailing at present, will take the edge off the author's argument for standard costing. When there is enough money for the purchase of goods and goods are scarce, an Industrialist will have no need to be too careful about his costing accounts. A standard costing will hardly exist

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"KURAL"

SELECTIONS FROM BOOK I AND II WITH ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND NOTES BY SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI. ROCK-HOUSE AND SONS, LTD., MADRAS.

In the course of his preface to this greatly renowned work, Sri C. Rajagopalachari refers to a needless and unseemly controversy about the religion of Thiruvalluvar. It is a tradition among commentators of great works in Tamil to discuss, in all seriousness and at some length, the religion of the authors and shed no decisive light on the subject finally. Few scholars have realized that it is not germane to the

literary value of the work under discussion to dilate at length on the religion of the concerned author. Judged against this background, it is refreshing to note that Sri C. Rajagopalachari has nailed the myth of Jainism being Tiruvalluvar's religion to the coffin by saying that "Tiruvalluvar was one of those rare and great men, whose catholic spirit rose above all denominations and whose vision was not clouded by dogmas or prejudice of any kind. His teachings elude classification on any denominational basis."

The special features of this translation of Kural are its fidelity to the

spirit of the text and the easy, flowing English with which it is clothed. The couplet in Tamil on page 7 of the book, namely,

தெய்வம் தொழாள் கொழுநன்
தொழுது எழுவான்
பெய்யெனப் பெய்யு மழை

has been variously interpreted, to the extent of stating that the true wife should not worship God. Her only duty is to worship her husband. It is fantastic to imagine that Tiruvalluvar with his known piety, would have laid a ban on the worship of God by a wife. Rather, emphasis is laid by him on the importance and greatness of looking upon the husband as

in such circumstances and even if it did, it will be unheeded.

The importance of supplementing Standard Costing with Budgetary Control in cost control is stressed. Industrialists will doubtless agree with the author that the forecasting of activities from the point of view of sales is the corner stone in all Industrial Budgets.

The book is not broken up into chapters but is written in the form of an essay in flowing style. D.G.R.

"OBSCURE RELIGIOUS CULTS" (as background of Bengali literature)

By SHASHIBHUSHAN DAS GUPTA,
M.A., PH.D., Calcutta University. Price
Rs. 15.

The object of the book under review is to trace the influence on the development of Bengali literature, of various obscure religious cults—which lost their potency later—in different stages of its growth. The priority in this connection is claimed by Shajiya Buddhism which produced the Dohar Songs popularised by that fraternity. Later the dominant note is supplied by the Vaishnava Sahajiya movement. Next came the Natha Cult and the Dharma Cult in successive stages. The author explains the main features of these cults and then proceeds to trace their influence on the currents and cross-currents that shaped the literary growth which otherwise remain obscure. The dual conception of Siva and Sakti, Radha and Krishna, Prajna and Upaya of the Buddhists, and Sun and Moon of the Natha Cult plays an important part in the evolution of Bengali literature. Siva-Sakti conception led to the Sākta Cult in which Sakti as the supreme cosmic energy looms large and Siva is relegated to the background. This exercised considerable influence over Bengal society and Literature, till a comparatively late period, nay even to the modern times, when we find Bankim, the great novelist as one of its ardent exponents. His Kapālakundala pictures the intricacies of its esoteric atmosphere drawing pointed attention to some of its unworthy accretions.

In the latter phase of the development of Bengali literature and Society, the Siva element gives way to the Vaishnavic bias which finds its most emphatic expression in the Radha-Krishna cult. The change probably found its first champion in Jayadeva whose writings have curiously travelled all the way to Malabar where it has

acquired all the import of an indigenous creed, leaving little trace of it on the way. A few centuries later, Chaitanya perfected it on the highest emotional pitch combining in himself the lover and the loved, revealing a mystic experience of the most transcendental variety. This attitude along with the impact of post-Wordsworthian tendencies in English literature which engulfed Indian thought in modern times led to the fusion of religious and aesthetic moods of which Tagore is the most illustrious example. His vision of his childhood (Religion of Man) is the most characteristic expression of this mood. Says he "The rhythmic picture of the tremulous leaves beaten by the rain opened before my mind the world which does not merely carry information but a harmony with my being. The unmeaning fragments lost their individual isolation and my mind revelled in the unity of a vision. . . I felt sure that some being who comprehended me and my world was seeking his best expression in all my experiences uniting them to an ever-widening individuality which is a spiritual work of Art." The Ezhuthaccan School in Malayalam literature also expounds the same idea—"Oh Narayana, don't make me self-centred and proud; but if my inclination goes that way, enlarge myself and make me feel that I am in everything."

The author deserves credit for the vast material he has collected on the subject and the clear exposition thereof. At times, however, he is apt to lose himself in a mass of details.

—K.C.N.

"LORD OF THE JUNGLE"

By JAMES CHILTON. Published by
University of London Press Limited,
Warwick Square, London, E.C. 4.
Pages 238. Price 12/6 net.

This is the story of a tiger told in its own words describing its growth from a cub to the Lord of Bhurgi jungle. Numerous interesting and little known details of animal life have been revealed, in this book by the author, who is a famous big-game hunter. The jungle laws are an interesting commentary on our democratic thought and system. They also show how the problem of minorities is tackled in the jungle.

The Bagh, or tiger, according to the author, would appear to show the least instinct of self-preservation and the maximum amount of policy and cunning in the systems of warfare of the jungle. This might perhaps surprise a few who are still inclined to give the

place to the Lion as the time-honoured King of Wild Beasts. The author has so many illustrations to give of the might of the tiger compared to that of any other contemporary. Panther, python, crocodile, bison and the uncivilised elephant are still his perennial rivals. Among the backward classes, monkeys and hyenas are perhaps neutral or even critically sarcastic, while a few like the fox claim to be allies or even satellites. Communist wolves in packs can still be the dread of the congregation, ferocious or tame, while they all of them taken together can make common cause to drown all their enmities for escape from a flood or forest fire threatening existence in their domain.

The book is a fascinating picture of jungle life. —M.A.K.

"LEGAL DECISIONS AFFECTING BANKERS"

By Mr. P. S. SITARAM. Published
by Thackers & Co., Bombay. Pages
265. Price Rs. 12-8-0.

Mr. Sitaram's work is undoubtedly a valuable addition to the meagre literature on Banking in India. It is bound to find its legitimate place among the books of reference in a banker's shelf. But to what extent banking will allow itself to be moulded or guided by past decisions, is a very vexatious problem for it is not unusual that contrary judgments are delivered, while the cases themselves have many fundamental points in common. This is rendered possible by the wide scope for interpretations admissible to the various terms used in the Negotiable Instruments Act. An instance in point is the multitude of opinions on 'payment in due course and without negligence'. In such a vast field, merely citing the various circumstances of the cases and referring to the decisions, as has been done in this book, is not likely to be of much help to the reader, who will be unable to grasp the implications of the problem, as expounded by both the sides. In refreshing contrast to this is the treatment of some cases, where the arguments on both sides have been given at some length. The author has no doubt given references and cross references to the law reports in which the cases have been reported for further information; but the book itself could have been made more self supporting, if a summary of this information had been given.

The author is however to be congratulated on the patience and interest with which he has collected considerable material. —A.C.D.

AMENITIES FOR TROOPS FIGHTING IN KASHMIR



Pickles are being prepared for Kashmiri troops.



These tarts are awaiting despatch to Kashmir.



BAPALAL & CO.,

Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewellers,
Rattan Bazaar, Madras-3

Telegram: "NECKLACE"

Telephone: 2696

MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 15th NOVEMBER 1948

NO. 70

342



Price, 2 annas



Above.—A selection of the permanent showroom attached to the Directorate-General of Research and Employment

Left.—H. E. the Governor-General is inspecting some of the exhibits in the showroom

Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

Vol. II, No. 20

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

November 15, 1948

NOTES AND COMMENTS

National Employment Service

Presiding over the third anniversary celebrations of the National Employment Service, His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari said there was no doubt that the work of this Service was of the greatest importance.

The Employment Service in India consists of 54 Employment Exchanges and 208 Training Centres. While the Employment Exchange finds jobs for those who need them, the Training Centres provide training in about 150 trades and occupations to those who desire such training as a means of equipping themselves for gainful employment. The Exchanges are becoming increasingly popular. In July 1946, the number of persons on their registers was 142,520 and of those placed in employment 5,254. Two years later, that is, in July 1948, the corresponding figures were 226,449 and 27,200. Two years ago, only 2,154 employers were utilizing the "Employment Exchange machinery for their labour recruitment, but to-day the number is 3,829. Then, again, while in June 1946 only 918 persons were receiving training at the Training Centres of the Labour Ministry, to-day the number is over 15,000.

The scope and objects of the Employment Service are widely known. The Employment Organization collects data regarding the man-power requirements of employers for various types of work and also registers all who seek employment assistance. Its methods of work are scientific so that each worker is categorized according to his experience and skill, in order that, when a vacancy is notified the candidates of the exact category may be selected immediately and submitted to the employers for

consideration. The Employment Service thus possesses far more detailed information about available workers than any individual employer whose knowledge is, of necessity, restricted to a particular locality and whose field of selection is limited to those workers who come to his gate for employment. In the language of Mr. K. D. Jones, a former Director of Employment Exchanges in the Government of India, the Exchanges should be regarded as "Man-Power Banks". If regarded in this way no employer would hesitate to go to the Exchanges for his workers.

The Employment Exchanges match men with vacancies and also help in preparing a man-power estimate. But a mere estimate of man-power demands

is not enough. The demands will have to be met and the available supply will have to be trained and equipped so as to be of the greatest value in the undertaking for which they are required. Training is imparted at the 200 and odd Training Centres which the Labour Ministry have set up in various parts of the country. The object of these Centres is to train men for the trades and occupations in which there is a shortage of qualified personnel and to ensure a steady supply of skilled labour which is required for the various schemes of industrial expansion and economic development. The list of trades and occupations taught include many useful ones such as moulding, welding, electro-plating, tinsmithy, carpentry and trainees are paid an allowance covering a stipend and boarding and lodging charges. The syllabuses of training have been drawn up in consultation with the representatives of industry and in the light of the demands of the country.

A striking feature of the training Schemes is that every possible assistance is given to the trainees so that they can perfect themselves in their trades and produce articles of marketable quality. To encourage trainees in this work a bonus based on the period of training undergone by each trainee is paid to him. This payment is not made as it falls due from time to time but is accumulated till the trainee completes his course when he is paid the whole amount at his credit—an arrangement which gives him the nucleus of a fund for setting up his own business if he chooses to do so.

Production activity has been quite successful and has enabled the training centres to produce a large variety of articles which will stand comparison, both the quality and price, with similar ones available in the market. This has been demonstrated by a permanent Exhibition at New Delhi of more than 3,000 articles received from training centres scattered throughout the Dominion. "We were happy to see the

IN THIS ISSUE

Hill Tribes—Frontispiece
Notes and Comments
Press Notes, Releases, etc.
Prohibition
Departmental Activities
Topics of the Day
In the Sphere of Education
Gleanings
Special Article
Agricultural Notes
Agriculture in Other Countries
Delhi Diary
Books and Publications

variety and quality of the articles produced," remarked Mr. W. R. Puranik, a member of the Federal Public Service Commission, in a broadcast talk in which he made a reference

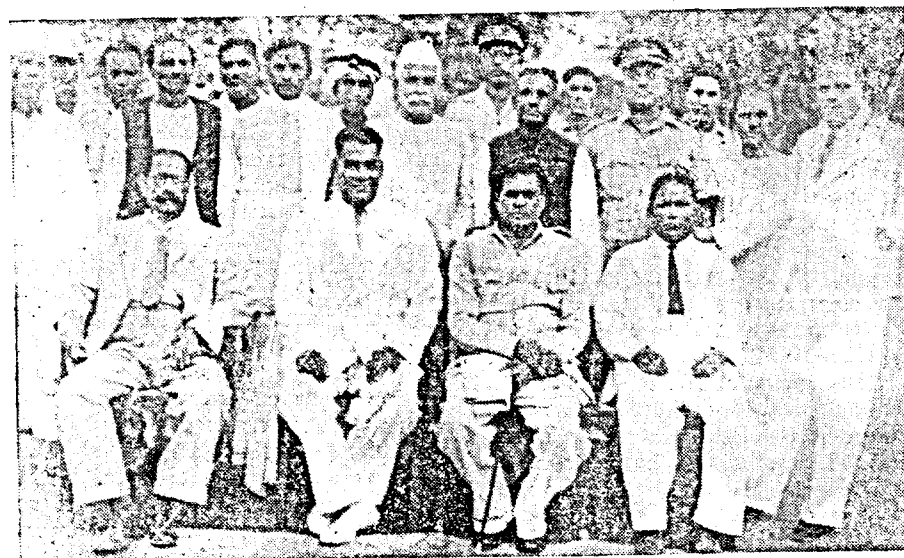
to this permanent Exhibition. This is a tribute as much to the Training Centres as an acknowledgment of the broader objective of the Employment Exchange.

Highlights of a Tour

Hon'ble Sri B. Gopala Reddi, Minister for Finance and Agency Areas recently toured in Vizagapatnam Agency with a view, among other things, to studying the nation-building activities that are being carried on in that part of the province. Sri B. Gopala Reddi

had a busy time throughout his tour. At Jeypore he had important consultations with the Hon'ble Minister of Orissa on the subject of creating a prohibition belt around the border areas between Orissa and Madras. He also visited Doduma falls and

inspected the progress of work connected with the Machkund Hydro Electric Scheme sponsored jointly by the Governments of Orissa and Madras. The Minister expressed satisfaction at the pakka residential quarters constructed for the staff and the workers. The next stage of the tour was Araku Valley. He inspected the agricultural and horticultural farms, the pilot plots and the irrigation facilities and acquainted himself with the actual progress of the development schemes introduced by the Government in Araku. After inspection the Minister presided over the meeting of the Araku Valley Development Committee. The potentialities of the Araku Valley, it may be mentioned were first discovered as early as 1926-27 and these potentialities are being progressively tapped by the present Government. Communications and full fledged medical institutions are the immediate needs and the Minister invited the views of the Superintending Engineer, the District Agricultural Officer and the Deputy Director of Agriculture, who were present at the meeting. He opened the Special Agency Conference and in the course of his speech at the Conference referred to the various measures of amelioration under taken by the Government for the agency people including the introduction of prohibition, adult education, crafts and cottage industries. It is worthy of mention that during this tour the Minister covered over 11,000 sq. miles in 4½ days.



Reception given by the Commissioner of Bastar State to Hon'ble Sri B. Gopala Reddi, Minister for Finance



Left—Chitrakutam Falls, Jagathalpur, visited by the Hon'ble Finance Minister. Right—Hon'ble the Finance Minister Presiding over Agency People's Conference at Araku Valley



Resettlement Activities



"Watch repairing is a useful trade" observed Sri Gopala Reddi, Finance Minister, when he visited the Training Centre at T'nagar recently

The Hon'ble Minister for Finance recently visited the Resettlement and Employment Exchange at Madras and observed: "India is a country of unemployment both of educated and uneducated men. Our success will depend on how we tackle this problem, both of skilled and unskilled men. I would very much wish to see the departments take full advantage of

their free services. I am taking steps to see that the Madras Transport department takes all technical and non-technical men through this department. It is not meant only for the ex-servicemen but also for all civilians including ex-tappers and all people who have been ousted from their jobs or who cannot get employment."



Sri Gopala Reddi examines the articles produced by the trainees, in the show case at the Training Centre, T'nagar

"The Instruments Mechanic Training Centre at Theagarayanagar is a very useful institution and I am glad to find nearly 247 young ex-servicemen getting training in various sections including watch repairing, radio repairing, precision work and electro-plating."

Housing

Shortage of housing accommodation is one of the major problems of the post-war period everywhere in India, not to speak of other countries. The construction of houses in this country could not keep pace with the population owing to a variety of causes, which need not be gone into here. The Government of Madras have not spared any pains to tide over the difficulties in as quick a manner as possible but in the nature of things, quick solution is not easy. However, through a wide application of the co-operative principle, the Government have been striving to stimulate local initiative in tiding over the house problem. Well has the Royal Indian Commission on Indian Agriculture observed: "It is now accepted that co-operative principle can be used in overcoming most of the obstacles to progress in rural communities." Co-operative societies or townships have been formed in the districts and also Housing Committees. The number of House Building Societies and Townships in the several districts will give an idea of the remarkable progress made in this direction—

Anantapur 8, North Arcot 2, South Arcot 4, Bellary 5, Chingleput 2, Chittoor 3, Cuddapah 3, East Godavari 2, West Godavari 3, Guntur 10, South Kanara 3, Krishna 2, Mathurai 5, Madras 1, Nellore 4, Ramnad 6, Salem 11, Tanjore 3, Tiruchirapalli 8, Tirunelveli 4, and Vizagapatnam 6.

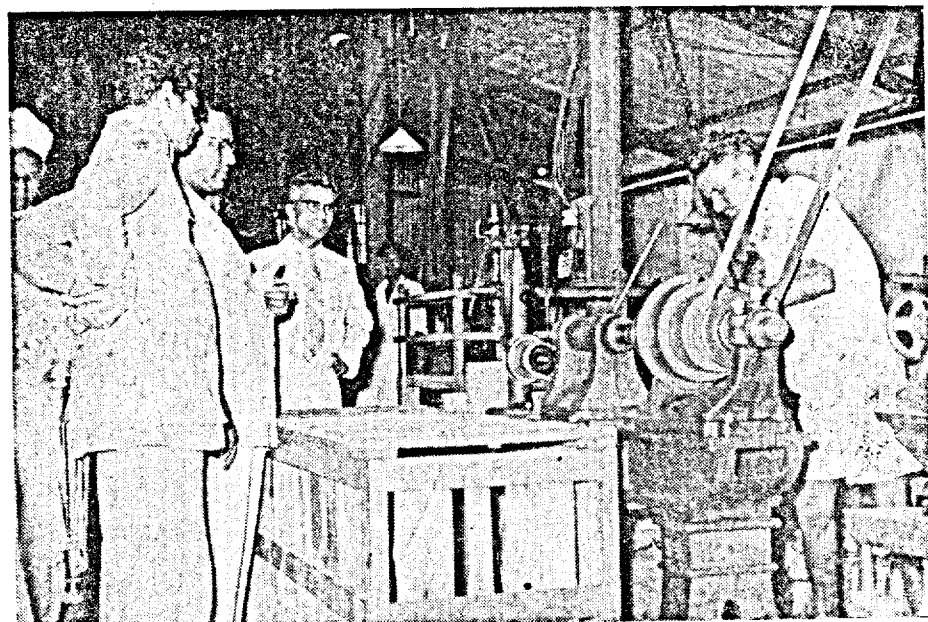
These organizations are functioning actively and it is hoped they will serve to reduce the shortage to the minimum.

Renunciation is life. Indulgence spells death.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

People Should Support the Government

"Future of India depends on the devotion of the people to our Government and I say this not belonging to one party or another but as a representative of the whole of India without difference of party, community or religion. Our glory depends on mutual affection. If we want glory for the whole of India, we must restore mutual affection and guard it as a miser guards his gold", observed His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachariar, speaking recently at Udaipur. These words deserve to be read and re-read by everybody. The country is passing through a transition period and at this time, the path of wisdom lies in supporting the Government and implicitly following their directions. It has been said by more than one leader of our country that these are times when points of agreement have to be emphasised and not points of difference. Formidable tasks confront the country and their successful tackling depends upon the co-operation that people ungrudgingly extend to the Government.



"Metal spinning is indeed a difficult art requiring skill and technique. I admire the adaptability of these ex-servicemen trainees to pick up the work", observed Sri B. Gopala Reddi, Finance Minister, when he visited the Training Centre attached to Strathie Co-operative Workshops.

Next to honest work is the habit of respecting other people's feelings. It takes all sorts to make this world and the highest virtue of every citizen is to try to conduct himself so that a mode of life may be evolved by which people of differing religious faiths, occupations and attainments who constitute our society may live together in peace and amity.

—H.E. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

More Vegetables to be Grown in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned a scheme for extension of vegetable cultivation in the coastal areas of Kanara district, for a period of four years from 1948-49 to 1951-52. The scheme is estimated to cost the Government Rs. 35,000. The expenditure includes Rs. 5,000 on subsidy for seed of vegetables and Rs. 30,000 on subsidy for manure.

Under the scheme, it is proposed to bring an additional area of 1,000 acres of paddy land under vegetable cultivation in the *rabi* season.

There are great possibilities of extension of vegetable cultivation in the coastal areas of Kanara district, since onions, which have recently been introduced on a large-scale basis in this area, are now being exported to Mangalore and other places on the coast, to the value of over Rs. 5,00,000 a year.



"I am glad the trainees are taught to manufacture articles of domestic utility", observed the Finance Minister while inspecting the articles at the Strathie Co-operative Workshops.

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

Accounts under Sales Tax Act

The Government have directed that the concession granted in their Order, dated January 16, 1948, that the compliance with the provision in Section 13 of the Madras General Sales Tax Act, requiring the maintenance of accounts in one of the languages of the Province or Hindustani or in English, need not be insisted upon, be continued until further orders. The question of amending the Madras General Sales Tax Act, so as to permit the maintenance of accounts in any language, is under the consideration of the Government.

[October 7]

Dispensaries of Indian Medicine

The Government have directed that municipal councils, district boards and the panchayat boards should invariably obtain their medicinal requirements for their dispensaries of Indian Medicine from pharmacies or medical stores, which are recognized by the Central Board of Indian Medicine.

These orders will apply to pharmacies or medical stores maintained by municipal councils and district boards for the supply of medicinal requirements to their own institutions and also to co-operative pharmacies and stores.

[October 7]

Agricultural Income-tax

It has been reported in certain sections of the Madras Press that legislation for the levy of Agricultural Income-tax in this Province would be taken up only after Zamindaris are taken over and all lands are brought under ryotwari settlement. The position as stated is not correct. The Madras Government have not yet considered the advice tendered by the Government of India recently that Agricultural Income-tax might be introduced as one of the measures to combat the present inflation. That advice is now being taken up for consideration. Whatever might have been the position before the present high level discussions to put down

2

inflation were initiated, the question has to be considered afresh in the light of new developments and the advice tendered by the Government of India. An early decision will be taken irrespective of the question of settlement of zamindari areas.

[October 8]

Growing of Fodder Trees

The Government have approved the proposal to grant, free of assessment for a period of five years in the first instance, poramboke and waste lands for the purpose of growing fodder trees, as recommended by the Fodder and Grazing Committee. The grant is subject to certain conditions.

[October 15]

Madras Record Office in 1947-48

The following are the salient features of the administration of the Madras Record Office, Chittoor, for 1947-48:—

The year under review was the sixth, in which the records were administered from places in the interior. The arrangements made during the previous year for transferring the records of the East India Company period from Palmaner back to Madras were completed during the year.

Records received.—During the year under review, the records of the departments of the Secretariat for the year 1943 and those of the Board of Revenue for 1937 were received in the Record Office. 27,030 files and 2,348 confidential files were received in the Record Office. 4,405 files were received from the Board of Revenue, besides 10 bundles of spare copies of the Secretariat records of 1943. 2,028 bonds and deeds and other strong almirah documents were also received. All the records received during the year have been catalogued.

Requisitions and searches.—Eighteen thousand three hundred and ninety-three requisitions for records were received. 35,178 records were furnished. There were 578 searches made during the year. 143,290 sheets were mended in the amending section during the year, as against 131,007 during the previous year.

[October 15]

Medical Facilities for Workers

The Madras Government have recently appointed two Civil Surgeons in the office of the Surgeon-General, Madras, as Special Officers in connexion with the enforcement of the Employees' State Insurance Act of 1948, recently passed by the Central Legislature.

These officers are entrusted with the survey of existing medical facilities in all perennial factories of more than 20 workers, which use power. The object is to provide a comprehensive medical relief and benefit programme for all insured workers of a uniform and higher standard than at present obtaining and place it on a secure footing. For this purpose, the siting of the worker (his family and dependents) in groups and distances from the factory and dispensary is essential. An actual census is necessary. It is proposed to mark workers' concentrations of 2,000, 4,000, 8,000 and above round about industrialized areas to provide for a doctor for every 2,000 insured workers.

It will be very valuable, if the information required is supplied as per *pro forma* by volunteer agencies, e.g., employees' association, Labour Welfare Officers and other social workers interested in the survey. A nominal roll of this description, which is almost a census of the industrial population of South India, has other valuable uses from the point of view of statistics, family budgets and economic survey. Persons interested in this work may consult one or other of the Special Officers, for further particulars, and information supplied will be gratefully received.

[October 18]

Grants for Wells

One of the conditions for the grant of subsidy under the New Well Subsidy Scheme as extended for 1948-49 (details published in the Press Note, dated 7th May 1948) is that the well dug should have not less than 9 feet of water during the height of summer. It is however found that this condition cannot be applied to all areas as the water level in some of the districts is low. The Government have therefore decided that the minimum depth of water during the height of summer should be fixed at 6 feet instead of at

9 feet in all districts except Coimbatore where the minimum depth has been ordered to be fixed at an even lower level, viz., 4 feet.

[October 21]

Agricultural Machinery— Supply of Petrol

The Agricultural Department has informed importers and the public that petrol-driven tractors are extremely expensive to operate and has discouraged those machines on account of the high cost. The supplies of petrol for agricultural purposes have been considerably cut down and so supplies of petrol cannot be granted for tractors using petrol. In view of the acute shortage of petrol and with a view to conserve the available quantities it is considered necessary to stop the issue of petrol for tractors run on petrol. The Government have carefully considered the matter and decided not to issue any petrol to these tractors purchased and registered on or after 1st October 1948 and have instructed the Petrol Rationing Officer accordingly. Petrol for starting and operational purposes for tractors in use before this date will be allowed as usual subject to availability. Tractors running on powerine or kerosene are available and the public are advised to buy these machinery instead of machines operating on petrol entirely.

[October 22]

Prohibition Dramas

The Government have permitted secondary schools to incur expenditure in connexion with the organization of dramas to do propaganda for prohibition, anti-corruption, etc., up to a maximum of Rs. 25 per drama. One drama may be enacted in a village in one year. The expenditure involved

SERVICE TO THE COMMON MAN

"Our new found independence would be fruitless if it did not embody the ideal of service to the poor and the needy."

—H.E. the Governor of Madras.

in the organization of these dramas will be treated as an approved item of expenditure for purposes of assessment of teaching grants.

[October 22]

Coconut Nurseries

In order to supply the public with selected coconut seedlings of guaranteed quality, the Government have sanctioned a comprehensive scheme for the establishment of Government coconut nurseries in the following eight important districts of the Province:—

(1) Nileshwar (South Kanara district), (2) Pattambi (South Malabar district), (3) Pattukkottai (Tanjore district), (4) Palur (South Arcot district), (5) Samalkot (East Godavari district), (6) Maruteru (West Godavari district), (7) Anakapalle (Vizagapatam district) and (8) the Central Farm, Coimbatore, Coimbatore district).

The Government have sanctioned an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 7,25,062 on the scheme for a period of five years.

[October 22]

Stage Carriages and Government Servants

It has been represented that many Government officers in the mufassal are in the habit of requiring buses to be taken either to their residences or to their offices to pick them up when they wish to travel. The Government desire to inform the public that this practice is irregular and orders have been issued to all Government officers to discontinue the practice forthwith wherever it is in vogue.

The Government desire to inform the bus operators that it is their duty to instruct their employees not to take buses outside the prescribed routes to the offices or residences of Government officers.

Any case of a Government official requiring a bus to be taken to his residence or office to pick him up, should be reported to his immediate superior officer for action against that official, and to the Road Transport Officer concerned for action against the permit holder if the bus is so taken in contravention of Government's order.

[October 26]

WANTED TAMIL TYPE-WRITERS

Intending sellers are requested to contact "the Director of Information and Publicity, Fort St. George, Madras," with necessary particulars.



Rural Exhibition, Alur, Bellary—Stall opened by the Bellary District Industrial Museum Association.

PROHIBITION

Ameliorative Activities

The following is a brief summary of the reports received on ameliorative activities in the prohibition districts:—

North Arcot.—Prohibition meetings were addressed by the Special Development Officer. Firka tournaments and village sports took place. With a view to improving poultry in villages, further measures were taken by distributing hens and eggs in some villages. Two co-operative societies for the manufacture of jaggery have been organised. Ex-tappers are proposed to be helped through these societies. Hundi boxes were distributed. Thrift days were celebrated. There was a conference under the auspices of the Firka Association in one place in which opportunity was taken by the Officers of the Agricultural Department and others to speak on subjects of interest to the people.

Sports, Dramas, Bhajanas, Kalakshepams, Thrift day celebrations, Exhibitions are some of the important features of Ameliorative Activities during the period.

Guntur.—Village sports took place as usual. A drama was staged. Thrift day celebrations took place. A rural uplift camp and sports centre were formed in one place.

Nellore.—Hundi boxes were distributed. Bhajanas and kalakshepams took place. Firka tournaments were held. A hundi collection day was observed. A rural housing scheme was introduced in one place. A co-operative society for khadi spinners and weavers was organised in another place.

Anantapur.—Sports were conducted as usual. Betterment Committees were formed and six night schools were opened. Firka tournaments took place.

Nilgiris.—A social drama was staged in one place, in which ex-addicts took prominent part.

Malabar.—Night schools were started in some places. One grama sangam conducted a spinning demonstration. A tea club was declared open

in one place. There were also meetings of ex-tappers. Prohibition day was celebrated. A library and a reading-room were declared open in one place. Thrift day was celebrated.

South Kanara.—Two Jaggery Manufacturing Societies were organised. A grama sangam was formed. A drama was staged in one place. One

grama sangam has resolved to construct a community hall. A reading-room and a library were opened in one place.

Bellary.—A rural exhibition was conducted in one place. A gymnasium was opened in another. In another village sports also took place. Dramas were staged and a night school was opened.

Madura.—Sports took place as usual. Thrift day was celebrated. Substantial savings by ex-addicts are reported. Bhajanas were held. One grama sangam has opened a night school. Another has repaired a path. Hundi boxes were distributed to ex-addicts.



Photo was taken when the Inauguration of Prohibition was celebrated at Devakottai. Hon'ble Sri Madhava Menon presided.



Wives of ex-addicts giving a Kummi performance in Tirunelveli.

All men are equal before God. To look down upon a human being because he is not of their faith is a sin before God and man. It is a species of untouchability

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

Tiruchirappalli.—A milk supply co-operative society was organised in one place. Harijans observed cleanliness day. New grama sangams were formed. Hundi boxes were distributed. Sports were conducted. An ex-tapper has opened a tea stall in one place. There was a rural exhibition in which the Agricultural Department exhibited their tools and implements. Handloom co-operative weavers' societies also exhibited their goods. One milk supply union opened a milk bar.

Salem.—Sports were conducted. Thrift day was celebrated. Firka tournaments were held. Public meetings were organised.

Chittoor.—Grama sangams were formed. Rural games were conducted. Dramas were staged and bhajanas were performed. Thrift days were observed. Rural uplift work was carried on briskly. Reading circles were formed. Repairs to roads were done. First-aid medicine chests were introduced. Street cleaning drives were organised. Libraries were formed. Tree planting was done. Construction of community centres was started.

Kurnool.—An Industrial exhibition was held in one place. Substantial savings are reported from ex-addicts. Some of them have utilised their savings for improving their houses. Others have purchased cows and bulls or buffaloes. A co-operative society for fishermen has been formed. Harikatha performances also took place.

Tanjore.—A firka association was started in one place.

Coimbatore.—The Collector visited a number of villages in connection with the promotion of rural uplift activities. Rural sports were held in many places.

Cuddapah.—Inter-village sports took place. Public meetings were also conducted.

All countries which have become civilised have done so by reducing the number of citizens employed in agriculture and putting them on other more profitable occupations.

Sri M. Visweswarayya.

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Irrigation Department

During September 1948, the Government sanctioned the following Irrigation and Flood Protection Schemes :—

Krishna district.—The Government sanctioned the scheme for providing irrigation facilities to a block of about 1,310 acres of dry lands in the Bandar West Block in Krishna district. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 57,000 for works or Rs. 74,610 inclusive of direct and indirect charges. The additional area benefited by the scheme is expected to yield about 340 to 520 tons of rice annually.

2. The Government also sanctioned the scheme for providing irrigation facilities to about 1200 acres of the Majeru Lankapalli dry land under the Bhimanadhi channel in the Krishna Eastern Delta. This scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 46,500 for works or Rs. 58,970 including direct and indirect charges. The additional area benefited by the scheme is expected to yield an additional quantity of 382 tons of rice valued at Rs. 95,000.

Chingleput district.—The Government sanctioned the first stage of the work of restoration of the abandoned flood banks of the Araniar river, consisting of the restoration of the left flood bank of the river from below the railway bridge in the village-limit of Chinnavakkanam down to below Kammavaripalayam (Perumbedu) to a length of about 3½ miles in Ponneri taluk, Chingleput district. The first stage of the work is estimated to cost Rs. 1,85,000 for works or Rs. 2,40,890 including direct and indirect charges. The question of sanctioning the remaining three stages of the work will be considered after the effects of the first stage of the work are definitely known. When the flood banks are restored it is expected that the enormous losses sustained by the villages of Kammavaripalayam, Lingasamudram, Aladu, Pralayambakkam, etc., during heavy floods in the Araniar river, can be prevented and breaches of several irrigation tanks avoided.

Ramnad district.—The Government sanctioned the scheme for the construction of a scouring sluice at the left flank of Ayan Kollengondan Periakulam tank in Srivilliputtur taluk,

Ramnad district and for forming cross bund with inlet sluices connecting the road culvert and the scouring sluice. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 18,800 for works or Rs. 24,58 including direct and indirect charges. This will check the heavy silting up of tank-bed which now occurs and will also bring 30 acres under second-crop cultivation.

Tirunelveli district.—The Government sanctioned the scheme for the restoration of Sivalapperi tank in Tirunelveli district. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 3,55,000 for works or Rs. 4,81,750 including direct and indirect charges. An extent of about 550 acres will be brought under cultivation. The additional area benefited by the scheme is expected to yield 275 tons of rice valued at Rs. 68,750.

South Arcot district.—The Government approved the proposal for the formation of new flood banks on the right margin of the Ponnai river from Grand South Trunk Road to Aviyaru head sluice and from Kavanur spring channel head sluice to Wallajah channel head sluice. This work, which is estimated to cost Rs. 22,000, is very necessary, as otherwise the ravages of floods would continue to affect wide and wider areas of arable lands year by year.

Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act

Second quarter of 1948

The number of cases under the Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act disposed of by civil courts in the Province for the quarter ending 30th June 1948 was 158. For the period between 22nd March 1938 (when the Act came into force) and 30th June 1948 (covering 124 months) the total number of cases disposed of was 208,593.

The amount involved in applications disposed of under sections 8, 9, 19 and 19-A of the Act for the quarter ending 30th June 1948 was Rs. 95,42. The amount involved in such applications for the period between 22nd March 1938 and 30th June 1938 stood at Rs. 9,86,71,315.

The amount scaled down by the courts on the applications of indebted agriculturists for the quarter ending 30th June 1948 was Rs. 41,428. For the period between 22nd March 1938 and 30th June 1948, the amount scaled down was Rs. 4,73,54,382.

The amount of reduction by scaling down of debts for the quarter ending 30th June 1948 was Rs. 53,995. For the period between 22nd March 1938 and 30th June 1948, the amount of reduction by scaling down debts was Rs. 5,13,16,933 and the percentage of reduction is 52.

The number of cases pending at the close of the quarter ending 30th June 1948 was 279.

The figures given above exclude the number of cases voluntarily settled by parties without recourse to courts.

Chemical Examiner's Department

The following are the salient features of the administration of the Chemical Examiner's Department for the year 1947 :—

One thousand eight hundred and thirty-one cases were examined in the Chemical Examiner's Department during the year under review, as against 1,781 in 1946. Five hundred and fifty-eight cases of human poisoning were examined. Poison was detected in 235 cases. The vast majority of the poisons detected were organic poisons. The commonest poisons detected were datura in 42 cases, opium in 29 cases and cleander in 26 cases. Twenty-eight cases of animal poisoning were received for test, of which poison was detected in ten cases.

Nine hundred and ninety-one cases were examined in 1947, against 1,021 in 1946. There were 107 medico-legal cases, as against 107 in 1946.

General analyses.—Eighty-four articles were examined under this heading during the year under report, as against 92 articles in 1946. These comprised 74 articles for Madras Government and ten articles for private parties.

Public Health Administration during 1947

The public health of the province was on the whole satisfactory.

During the year under review, the birth rate increased from 31.62 in 1946 to 32.72 per thousand of the estimated mid-year population in 1947. The death rate also increased from 18.88 in 1946 to 20.06 in 1947. The rate of infantile mortality showed a slight decline from 146.88 in 1946 to 146.76 in 1947. The rate of maternal mortality increased from 7.94 in 1946 to 8.34 in 1947.

There were 12,743 deaths from cholera, 2,656 from small-pox, 2,718 from plague, 2,53,207 from fevers, 75,515 from dysentery and diarrhoea in 1947, as against 753,792, 2,254, 248,663 and 62,621 respectively in 1946.

Twenty-two maternity and child welfare centres were opened during the year. The establishment of centres for the use of children of the working class mother during day time received special impetus during the year. A total grant of Rs. 1,69,214 was paid by the Government to local bodies for maternity and child welfare work during 1946-47.

The Prevention of Adulteration Act was in force in 236 local areas. The percentage of adulterated samples in 1947 was 4.7 as against 4.6 in the previous year.

Four million eight hundred and eighty-one thousand three hundred and seventy-five vaccinations were done during the year as against 8,84,105 in 1946.

Instructions have also been issued by the Government to see that cases of default or delay in the registration of births and deaths in villages do not occur.

Home Department Motor Transport

Nine petrol buses were registered during September bringing the total number of vehicles to 298 of which 25 are Diesel buses.

Revised time-tables are being prepared for all the routes. The important feature of the new time-tables is the reduction of dead or unremunerative mileage to the minimum. On some of the routes, e.g., Express service routes and Routes 18 and 56, the revised time-tables have already been introduced. New types of tickets with stage numbers instead of the names of the various halts have been introduced on Express service routes and help diversion of buses from one

route to another to cope with conditions on various routes.

To relieve traffic congestion, peak hours the number of passengers have been increased from 8 to 10 and 10 to 12 in short wheel base buses and 12 to 15 in long wheel base buses. This was given effect to from the afternoon of 17th September 1948.

Regarding special trips, one bus was placed at the disposal of the Linguistic Provinces Commission from 4th September 1948. On 2nd and 3rd September 1948 special buses were arranged for the members of the Provincial Municipal Chairmen's conference held in Madras. Two buses were also placed at the disposal of the Deputy High Commissioner for the United Kingdom on 10th and 11th September 1948 for transporting European and American evacuees from Hyderabad to various places in the city. Buses were also hired to many public and educational institutions for excursions and other purposes.

On 23rd September 1948 (Krithigai Festival) special arrangements were made to run 4 buses—2 from Gemini Studios to Vadapalani temple and two from Kodambakkam Railway Station to Vadapalani temple.

Experimental queue rails have been erected at Parrys Corner for route No. 1. It has since been decided to erect queue rails at three more important termini, viz., 3, 7, 15 for the present.

Firka Development Department

A synopsis of the important activities in the firkas and centres selected for intensive Rural Reconstruction work during September 1948 is given below :—

Training centre for Grama Sevaks of the Tamilnad area known as the 'Tamilnad Grama Sevak Vidyalayam' has been opened with effect from 6th September 1948 at Kallupatty in Tirumakulam Firka (Madurai district). About 40 Grama Sevaks, including a few candidates from outside, are being trained in various subjects of constructive work pertaining to the villages for a period of three months. The training centre will work for an aggregate of nine months in this year (1948) and for a similar period in 1949, but the training in the second year

will be for the same groups as in the first year. It is estimated that about 120 Grama Sevaks and voluntary candidates will be trained in the first year each for a period of three months and for a further period of three months in the second year.

The scheme for training of construction workers forms an integral part of the general plan of firka development.

Verragondapalem.—Village sanitation work was attended to regularly. The Centre Khadi Officer and his staff completed their intensive propaganda in various villages by holding demonstrations in spinning and carding. The Firka Development Staff rendered their assistance in this behalf.

Proddatur Firka.—A drinking water well at Chowdur was completed. Three more well works were also completed during the month. In addition three culverts were constructed near Thallamapuram village on the way to Kallur. About 500 new books were added to the Central Library in the Firka.

Kurnool Firka.—In Gargeyapuram village metal roads to a length of 7 furlongs and 20 yards were laid. The entire work was got done by the villagers themselves without any financial aid from the Government. Two night schools for adults, one at Joharapuram and the other at Peddapad were opened. The Hon'ble Sri B. Gopala Reddi opened the adult school at Joharapuram and distributed slates and books to adults. An industrial exhibition was held in Joharapuram village wherein the articles prepared in the industrial centres were exhibited. The exhibition was opened by the Collector of Kurnool. Rural sports were also conducted in Joharapuram and Peddapad villages. (Photos taken on the occasions are enclosed for publication in the *Madras Information* if necessary.)

Santhanuthalapad.—Twelve well works were completed.

Payyanur.—One matmakers' co-operative society for Harijans was got registered.

Puliurkichi.—Eighteen credit co-operative societies were organized during the month.

Veerapandy.—During the month three branch libraries were opened. A new minor panchayat board for Naikarapatti village was constituted.

Kalasapakkam.—One well work was completed. Two stud bulls were stationed, one at Elathu and another at Settambatu. Ten branch libraries

were opened. The erection of a storage shed for the firka has been completed. Arrangements for the opening of an agricultural sub-depot are under way.

Alur Firka.—Night schools for adults at Alur, Virupapuram and Nitravatti were opened during the month. Avenue trees were planted.

Palladam.—The Hon'ble the Minister for Firka Development visited Semmipalayam and Rengasamudram on 1st September 1948.

Polwaran.—Breaches in the Kothur tank were closed.

Hidupu.—Branch libraries were opened in eight villages of the Firka.—A night school was started

Shiamingalam.—The Hon'ble the Minister for Firka Development visited the firka during the month.

Mus'r. Firka.—The Hon'ble the Minister for Firka Development visited the firka during the month.

Penlurthi.—A co-operative society was organized. Tree-planting work was vigorously undertaken.

Public Service Commission in 1947-48

The Madras Public Service Commission conducted the usual departmental examinations and competitive examinations for recruitment to various Provincial and Subordinate Services.

For the common competitive examination for appointment to the Madras Ministerial Service and the Judicial Ministerial Service there was a larger number of applicants than in the previous year.

The number of candidates available for selection from among the Harijans, the Muslims, the Christians, the Backward Hindus and the Non-Brahman (Hindus) were less than the numbers required from those communities. Candidates from the Brahman community were therefore selected in advance of their turns.

For the posts of typists and stenotypists there were a less number of applicants than the number required and the number of candidates who obtained qualifying marks (45/50) for selection was far less than the number required for such appointment. In view of the paucity of candidates for these classes of appointments the Government at the instance of the Commission reduced the minimum qualifying marks prescribed for this

recruitment to 25 and this enabled the selection of an additional 113 candidates who possessed the required technical qualification in typewriting. Even then the number selected fell short of the total number required by 61. Of the candidates selected for the Madras Ministerial Service two were women.

For the posts for which security should be deposited there was practically no competition as only three candidates applied for admission to the competitive examination for 32 required. Only one secured qualifying marks and he was selected.

Nine candidates for 32 required applied for appointment to posts of clerks, etc., in offices and institutions solely managed by or intended for women. Only eight appeared for the examination and three secured qualifying marks and were selected.

During the year under report, appointments and promotions made by certain appointing authorities in two cases were in contravention of the statutory rules. The irregularity in respect of one was rectified at the instance of the Commission and the irregularity in respect of the other appointment was brought to the notice of the appointing authority for rectification.

The Commission selected candidates for direct recruitment by interview for 25 classes of posts in the Provincial and Subordinate Services (as against 23 in the previous year). The Commission dealt with 41 references relating to recruitment to Provincial Services by transfer from the corresponding subordinate services (as against 33 in the previous year).

Appeals, proposals for disciplinary action, etc.—The Commission advised on 2 appeals, 22 memorials, 15 proposals for disciplinary action, 6 cases relating to reimbursement of the cost of defence incurred by public servants and 17 references relating to servants of pension (as against 26 appeals, 7 proposals for disciplinary action, 2 cases relating to the reimbursement of the cost of defence incurred by public servants and 13 references relating to the grant of pension in the previous year).

Recruitment of candidates with war service.—The recruitment of candidates with war service for the "reserved" vacancies was continued during the year and with one or two exceptions has since been completed. As many as 5,393 candidates were summoned for interview for the last two batches of selections for the subordinate services

done during the year, the number selected being 2,337.

As regards the Provincial Services, the number of candidates summoned for interview was 2,223 and the number selected was 256.

New scheme of selections by means of a combined written and oral test.—The Government issued orders in March 1948 in consultation with the Commission that the new scheme of selections by means of a combined written and oral test for direct recruitment to the non-technical Provincial and Subordinate Services should be brought into force with effect from 1948-49. According to this scheme the written test precedes the oral test. The examination for the Provincial Services is of the B.A. (Hons.) standard; and that for the Subordinate Services [except in the case of the Madras Fisheries Subordinate Service (Sub-Inspectors) and in the case of Harijans for appointment as Junior Co-operative Inspectors and Reserve Sub-Registrars] is of the B.A. standard. The standard of examination for recruitment in the excepted cases is the Intermediate standard. The Commission has since taken steps to hold the examinations in 1948-49.

Electricity Department

During September 1948, six extensions costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 each were sanctioned by the Chief Engineer at an estimated total cost of Rs. 1,23,420.

2. Supply to 1,239 domestic services, 152 agricultural services and 30 industrial services was given during the month.

3. Work on the major schemes and extensions continued to progress.

Resettlement

Co-operative Motor Transport Society

A Co-operative Motor Transport Society for the benefit of ex-servicemen has been started at Vijayavada recently. This is intended to employ such of those ex-servicemen as had served in the Defence Services as motor drivers, cleaners, fitters, etc. Twenty lorries have been allotted to this society and they will be on the road soon.

Opportunity was taken by the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies

(Re-settlement) to explain the various Co-operative schemes of the Government such as Co-operative land colonization societies, co-operative workshops, etc. and pointed out that co-operative motor transport societies were one form of co-operative enterprise intended for the employment of suitable ex-servicemen; 289 chassis were purchased from the Directorate of Military Disposals and the Postwar Services Reconstruction Fund Committee of which H.E. the Governor is the Chairman and the Hon'ble Dr. T. S. S. Rajan is one of the members, has given an interest-free loan of Rs. 20 lakhs for the purchase of these vehicles. There were already 12 such societies in the Province one each in the Districts of Vizagapatnam, Guntur, Madras, South Arcot, North Arcot, Tanjore, Tiruchirappalli, Salem, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tinnevely and Malabar and this is the thirteenth to be formed. The Joint Registrar explained to the members that the Society is different from a capitalistic enterprise, that being co-operative in character, the members themselves are owners of the vehicles and are responsible for the administration of its affairs. The members can fix and regulate their pay and allowances and other matters connected with their service conditions. There are no employer-employee relations in a Society of this character and there is, therefore, no need for friction or conflict of any kind. He said that the conduct of the members in co-operative institutions should be guided by the principles of truth, honesty and trust-worthiness and finally exhorted the members to so conduct themselves as to bring credit to themselves and their society and make it a permanent and successful enterprise.

Labour Department

The Honorary Secretary, Southern India Tanners and Dealers Association, Ranipet, has reported that the workers in Fazal Bahai Dala Sait, Tanners, Ranipet, struck work from 1st October 1948 without notice. The Commissioner of Labour has advised the President of the District Tannery Labour Union, Ranipet, to call off the strike as it is illegal to strike work during the pendency of proceedings before the Industrial Tribunal, Madurai.

The President of the Tiruchirappalli District Motor Transport Workers' Union, Tiruchirappalli, issued a notice

of strike, dated 13th September 1948, to the Management of the Tiruchirappalli-Srirangam Transport Company Ltd., Tiruchirappalli, intimating that the workers would go on strike from 29th September 1948, if their demands for implementation of the award of the Industrial Tribunal on Motor Transport Industry, etc., were not conceded by that date. The Labour Officer, Tiruchirappalli settled the dispute on 24th September 1948 and the notice of strike was withdrawn.

The workers of Sri Rajagopal Transport Company, Perambalur, Tiruchirappalli district, struck work at 6 a.m. on 5th October 1948, as a protest against the dismissal of some workers and non-implementation of the award. Sri A. Viswanatha Iyer, a local Vakil, intervened and brought about a settlement of the dispute. The workers resumed work at 3 p.m. the same day (5th October 1948).

[First Fortnight of October 1948]

Miscellaneous

Food and Fisheries Schemes

"We must afford the ryots as much facilities for irrigation as possible, so that they may be convinced that they are getting the maximum advantage for the revenues they are paying the Government. Every limb of the Government, from the highest to the lowest official, should exert itself to help the people in growing more food in these days of food scarcity."

Thus observed the Hon'ble Premier, presiding over the adjourned session of the Second Conference for the review of Grow More Food Schemes at Ministerial level, held in the Cabinet room of the Secretariat in the afternoon of October 21. The Conference was attended, among others, by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, Director of Industries and Commerce, First Member of the Board of Revenue, Secretaries to the Government in the Public Works and Development Departments, the Deputy Secretary, Revenue Department and the Regional Food Commissioner in charge. The Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development were present and took part in the discussion.

Marine Survey Needed.—The Director of Industries and Commerce gave a

comprehensive review of the fisheries schemes undertaken by the department during 1946-47 and 1947-48. A total quantity of 709,246 lb. of fish was caught during 1947-48, as against 661,211 lb. during the previous year. Though there was a slight increase in the production in 1947-48, the target fixed could not be reached, owing to the failure of the monsoon and the fact that all the eight motor fishing vessels and the fisheries vessel could not be made full use of. The Director of Industries and Commerce said that for the successful catching and marketing of fish, systematic and detailed marine survey had to be undertaken. The Hon'ble Premier stressed the importance of vigilant supervision of work connected with fisheries schemes. It would be better, he added, if certain targets of catches were fixed for fisheries officers. He appealed to the Fisheries Department to see that in these days of food scarcity, more and more fish are caught and marketed.

Discussion then centred round irrigation facilities in the province, and methods to improve them. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation said that the total number of irrigation schemes sanctioned was 64. One hundred and twenty channels had been repaired under Kudimaramath scheme in Bellary, Cuddapah, Anantapur, South Arcot and Tanjore districts. The Hon'ble Premier pointed out that spring channels should be given preference in repairing, as they would help in producing three crops.

Continuing his survey of work done, the Chief Engineer said that about 450,000 acres of additional land was brought under irrigation during the Grow More Food drive. Though his department wanted to extend irrigation facilities to the ryots, sometimes water was not available, and if available, was not adequate. The Chief Engineer pointed that the rules framed by the

Government stipulated that unless additional food production was shown, expenditure on the schemes should not be undertaken. This acted as a handicap in undertaking certain irrigation works, as the additional production was not always foreseeable with any amount of certainty. The Hon'ble Minister for Public Works concurred with this view.

The Hon'ble Premier appreciated the difficulty pointed out by the Chief Engineer, and said "Government would consider, on their merits, cases, where rules could be relaxed or waived." He exhorted the officials to do everything in their power to ease the present difficult food situation in the province, and that an irrigation project need no longer be expected to show a direct economic return on the capital outlay, so that the common man might be convinced that the popular Government was doing all that was humanly possible.

THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING IS IN THE EATING

Madras Information will amply repay perusal

The Cheapest Journal in South India

Special Features: Delightful photographs—Topical articles—Notes on Governmental activities—News round-up of other Provinces and the Centre, etc.—A wealth of information on a variety of subjects

Price: Single copy—2 annas . . . Annual subscription—Rs. 3 only

Apply to:

THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

FORT ST. GEORGE, MADRAS

TOPICS OF THE DAY

Prohibition

"Drink is an accepted evil and we shall root it out once for all"

"The United States of America are perhaps responsible for the word 'Prohibition' and they have been the pioneers, though unsuccessful, in effecting by law Prohibition. But it was Mahatma Gandhi who made us realize that the revenue derived to the State from Excise was gained money and that we should close all liquor and toddy shops. If picketing of these shops was enjoined by our leader and resorted to by Congress workers and if that right had been secured by Gandhiji as one of the terms of the Gandhi-Irwin truce, it is but proper that Congress Governments should take up the implementation of this important item of the Congress constructive programme, even at considerable loss of the Provincial revenues which it involved. The retreat from Prohibition in the United States of America, however, should warn sponsors of Prohibition in this country. But the atmosphere in India and the lead given by Mahatma Gandhi leave no doubt as to the propriety of this great reform. Madras, under the leadership of the present Governor-General gave the lead in 1937 and enacted the law of Prohibition. The two difficulties that present themselves in giving effect to Prohibition have had to be met. We have before us the lesson of the U.S.A. in the matter of enforcement of Prohibition. And we have had to solve the financial difficulty. Excise revenue is a big slice of the Provincial Revenue. The total excise revenue of this Province before the reintroduction of Prohibition was 16½ crores of rupees. And this has been an easy and elastic source of revenue. While land revenue which entails large expenditure on establishment for collection is criticised as a burden on the producing ryot and the Income Tax and the Sales Tax present the problem of checking evasion, the Excise Revenue has been rapidly growing and has been automatically getting into the Treasury of the State. As soon as Prohibition was withdrawn from the four districts where it had been in force during the Rajaji Ministry, Excise Revenue showed phenomenal rise. It was really a warning and a lesson. Prohibition was claimed a success in those districts



Note.—This Province is completely dry now. Thus the Government have speedily translated into action one of the cherished ideals of Gandhiji. It is an achievement of which the Province may well be proud. Recently in the course of a broadcast Hon'ble Sri M. Bakthavatsalam dealt with the question of prohibition in some of its important aspects.

till it was withdrawn, and when toddy and liquor shops were reopened, the people of those areas resorted back to drink with greater zeal. Even after the reintroduction of Prohibition in those districts, people who had reverted to drink after a lapse are reported to be persistent and resorting in large numbers to illicit manufacture and drinking. The people everywhere demand Prohibition because they realize it can only be enforced by law. When the constituted State keeps open the shops and seeks to sell intoxicants to people, how can the temptation be resisted? And when there is relapse to this habit, it is more difficult to get out of it. The

Government of Madras therefore decided to quicken the pace of Prohibition in this Province and will be enforcing Prohibition throughout the area from 2nd October next. This will indeed be a unique achievement sought and welcomed by the masses. From 2nd October ours will be a land of no drink unheard of in our long glorious history. Ramarajya is hailed as a land of no wants. In order to achieve that great ideal, we shall leave this want of drink and it is for us to make this want absolutely disappear from the minds of the people. Drink is an accepted evil and we shall root it out once for all from 2nd October. In spite of the preaching of great men, it has not been possible to resist the temptation of drink, and let it be to the credit of this generation that we have achieved and secured the metamorphosis of this land to the benefit of us and posterity. Nay, let our Province show the way to the rest of India and the world! We indeed owe it to the world's greatest leader to free us from the two demons of Political slavery and drink. And it is but fitting that we should celebrate the first birthday of Mahatma Gandhi after his physical departing from us, by rooting out from our land the evil of drink. Gandhiji must indeed be very pleased with this achievement. May his blessing be showered on us.

Critics are not wanting

In spite of the universal approbation of Prohibition, we are not wanting in critics, who perhaps with all their best intentions, dub us as mad people indulging in socio-political experiments. Although the masses who have been helpless victims should be welcoming Prohibition as their redemption, individuals who have been indulging in drink as an innocent harmless, but pleasant habit, may resent this interference by the State with individual liberty. But even they will realize that individual liberty is to be respected in the general interests of the society. Just as the great preachers saw and enjoined on us, drinking leads to excesses which ruin society. As against the 16½ crores of rupees that could be recovered by Government as Excise Revenue, the people of this poor Province should be wasting hundred crores of their wealth annually on this habit ruining themselves day by day. What use are ameliorative measures with toddy and arrack shops kept open? You may rise the wages of the labourer, but if his budget could only be revised by a corresponding increase of expenditure for drink how can the standard of living be raised? The eminent economist whose guidance was sought by the

Government of India in the matter of checking inflation is reported to have advised the postponement of Prohibition as one of the measures that may be adopted. This reported advice would be sufficient to the critics of Prohibition. If the introduction of Prohibition should leave some extra money in the hands of the people, Government do consider us undoubtedly worthwhile sacrificing their own easy sources of revenue. And we can also avoid inflation by adopting suitable anti-inflationary measures which would be in the interests of the people. The enforcement of Prohibition is accompanied in the ameliorative side, by the Small Savings Scheme. The idea of thrift is to be inculcated in the people who will be enabled to save the money they have been throwing on drink and facilities are organized for distribution of hundi boxes to the former addicts, and inducing them to save the money that is redeemed from drink and utilize it for raising the standard of living. This inducement for saving would itself serve as a counter-attraction to the ex-addicts. The National Savings Scheme organized by the Government of India presents itself at a very opportune time. If the

people who are redeemed from the demon of drink would only be made interested in the National Savings Scheme, we would be having economic benefits of Prohibition while we would be checking inflation at the same time. It is hoped that the beneficiaries of Prohibition would be persuaded also to benefit by the National Savings Scheme.

Complete Prohibition

The early completion of the Prohibition programme in this Province has been criticized by certain members of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly on the ground that with the revenue we should be losing we should be able to hasten our development programme so as to accelerate the augmentation of food production in the Province. But it must be realized that with toddy and arrack shops inviting poor people, any amount spent on ameliorative efforts would not produce the desired result. It is not correct to say that the availability of drink to the poor man would make up to some extent the deficiency in food. Rather the indulgence in drink will add to the misery of the starving family. If the family should be able to save their

drink money on account of the introduction of Prohibition, that should really help securing some food in spite of the sabotage. Further it must be remembered that the Sales Tax was introduced in this Province by the Rajaji Ministry with the specific object of augmenting the loss of the Excise Revenue, and this Taxation which will be yielding 12 crores of rupees in the year will go a long way towards the revenue coming from Excise. And if the introduction of Prohibition should raise the standard of living of the people as it will undoubtedly do, that should raise the taxing capacity of the people. The Government of Madras have had therefore no hesitation in enforcing Prohibition throughout the Province from 2nd October. But Government are no doubt anxious that the enforcement should be a complete success and seek the unstinted co-operation of the people in this respect. It will really be a great achievement for the people and their Government that they should have undertaken and ventured to make the whole Province dry and thus give a lead to the rest of the world. But it is also responsibility that they have undertaken. And apart from the people reaping the full benefits of Prohi-



Jaggery manufacture is a gainful occupation for Ex-tappers

bition, we are interested in the success of this unique reform. That is why the law of Prohibition is made more and more stringent and offenders against Prohibition are sought to be punished severely. Those who indulge in illicit manufacture of intoxicating liquors seek to exploit the situation and the innocent people who have been redeemed from the drink evil, but who are still unable to resist temptation. These are the most criminal sinners against the State and society and they do deserve serious notice by the people and the Government. They can be made to desist from their nefarious activities only by a vigilant public who should not hesitate to trace and expose these criminals. Officers have also a solemn duty and responsibility to take steps to root out all illicit practices. But I would like to point out that any amount of official vigilance would not suffice in enforcing Prohibition unless the full co-operation of the people is forthcoming. Illicit manufactures and sales of drink are even greater temptations to the poor addicts than toddy and arrack shops kept open under the excise regulations. And particularly in the new districts which will become dry from the 2nd October next, extra precautions have to be taken in avoiding illicit activities. And I appeal to the public to co-operate with the Government in making this venture a great success.

Special Permits

There have been some criticisms regarding the issue of special permits to individuals in dry areas. Some persons who have been addicts have been applying for medical and other reasons permits to drink liquor. The system of permits has been accepted to provide for exceptional cases. It is but right that Europeans must be treated on a different footing. They are not domiciles in this country. The provision for permits, it has been found to have been taken advantage of very widely by all kinds of people in this country on the ground that they have been addicts and they could not carry on without drink. If addicts among higher classes must be provided for, there will be all the more justification to provide for the addicts among the helpless and poorer classes. By that rate there can be no Prohibition. It has therefore been decided that permits should not generally be issued to Indians or Anglo-Indians and that only exceptional cases and those aged over 55 should be considered. But regarding Government servants, Government having adopted universal policy of Prohibition, no Government

servant who cannot help being an addict can remain any longer in service. It has therefore been decided that no permits need be issued on any account to Indians or Anglo-Indians in the service of Government.

The position of addicts among the poorer classes under Prohibition does need careful attention. They must be provided with counter-attractions which would make them forget the old habit. It is true that the working man needs amusement and that is necessary and that it should be provided for. But as His Excellency the Governor-General has said in the place of debasing drinks like toddy, arrack, ganja or opium, the amusement should be provided in the form of light entertainments that should be tuned with the culture of the people and their daily lives and capable of being maintained to local affairs.

Ameliorative Work

The importance of ameliorative work in the Prohibition programme cannot be better stated than in the words of Mahatma Gandhi who in an article in the *Harijan* observed as follows:—

“We cannot eradicate the evil merely by passing laws. The addict will manage to satisfy his craving anyhow. Those carrying on a black-trade will not readily give it up. Therefore the following steps will have to be taken simultaneously in order to make a success of the reform:—

(1) passing of the requisite law; (2) educating public opinion; (3) opening at the same place refreshment rooms selling harmless drinks and providing newspapers, games, etc.

The objects of the ameliorative work undertaken are mainly (1) to provide substitutes for drink, and counter-attractions to drink with a view to enable the ex-addicts to forget their former habits and thereby to check any tendencies to break the law; (2) to

make use of his opportunity for promoting the moral, social and economic improvement of the people by organizing simultaneously with the introduction of Prohibition a rural uplift drive on a district basis, thereby aiming at the ultimate object of the Introduction of Prohibition; (3) provision of employment to ex-toddy tappers in co-operative schemes like jaggery societies, milk supply societies, cottage industries, land colonization, etc., (4) co-ordination of the beneficent activities of all other departments of Government by (a) organization of rural uplift schools in which the officers of the various departments of Government participate and training of village workers; and (b) by joint visits by the officers of the various departments the villages which respond to rural uplift work.

The finding of other avocations for the employment of toddy tappers and dealers in trade is another problem that has to be solved. Co-operative societies are being organized to take in their ex-tappers and those engaged in this trade could easily take to other channels which are opening up. Prohibition which is in the general interests of the people should not be reviewed as a reform inimical to any particular interest. Even the beneficiaries of excise trade, I have no doubt, do welcome the introduction of Prohibition as a great boon to the people. Let me hope that we, people of this Province, will turn a new leaf from 2nd October. We shall rise in prosperity and we shall evoke the admiration of those outside this Province. I have no doubt that even foreign visitors to this beautiful land of ours will be attracted more and more and look with interest to the new life we are embarking upon eliminating this evil from us. We shall be teaching a lesson to the world that we can lead a happier and prosperous life without drink. May God bless us.”

—By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.



Rural Exhibition, Alur. The Collector is seen in the picture

Guardians of Public Health

Premier's Exhortation at the Public Health Workers' Conference

The Art of healing is the noblest of all callings and many men in history who have been 'Ministering Angels' to the sick and the suffering are revered as saints all over the world. But all that is so precisely because service was the dominating factor and money a secondary thought, observed the Premier in the course of his address at the Provincial Public Health Workers' Conference recently. He said:

and a hundred and other activities connected with preservation of young life and old come under his scope.

A Distressing Picture

If the range of duties of the public health workers is wide and his responsibilities onerous in any country, they are much more so in India. I should say they are formidable and colossal. We have the highest death rate, and the lowest average expectation of life among civilized countries. Consequent on the disintegration that came in the wake of a transition from the rural to urban economy, from handicraft production to machinery, the continuous drift from villages to cities due to agriculture becoming unremunerative, and the pernicious habit of drink spreading as a result of a thoughtless excise policy—consequent of all these, malnutrition, disease, vice and crime are stalking the countryside. Infant mortality is the highest in the world. Nearly half the total deaths are among children under 10 and of these, one-half takes place within the first twelve months of a child's life. Hundred millions suffer from malaria and about 2 million die every year of it, 2.5 millions have tuberculosis and half a million die of it. Infectious diseases play havoc with the lives of the people and endemic diseases such as leprosy, filariasis, guinea-worm and hook-worm result in unparalleled morbidity, if not mortality; and Madras has a proper share in the all-India incidence in all these matters.

Hurdles of the Public Health Worker

Besides these maladjustments, personal and environmental public health workers in the Province have to fight against two other evils, namely, ignorance and superstition on the one hand and selfishness and vested interests on the other. The success of a public health service, as you are aware, depends more than in anything else on an enlightened and widespread public health education; and this

education must be related to the basic life and practices of the people. It must begin at home; in the cradle, and extend to the school and college and touch every aspect of our being and living. Such an education we did have in the past. It was interwoven and co-extensive with life itself. Many a precept and practice in the daily routine of life, which through religion attained compelling sanction, would on analysis be found simple and effortless expedients to fight the innumerable air-borne and water-borne diseases with which Nature returns to Man's charge. The cowdung and the cow-urine were the most easily accessible and universally powerful germicidal products known to the Indian housewife and the cow became the object of veneration. The prevention of water courses from pollution was the surest way of warding off diseases; and water came to be worshipped as Goddess Ganga. In our latter day decadence no doubt a thick mist of ignorance and superstition came to envelop the inner meaning and significance of many of these ancient practices. A great work therefore lies ahead of the workers in the field of public health not only to educate, but to re-educate the large masses of people in the correct principles of hygiene and sanitation. As modern life becomes more and more complicated, diseases spread through myriad sources of infection, of whom the dhobi, the barber and the hotel are perhaps the most potent agencies. To cope up with this, modern public health service has to be thorough and pervasive.

All these make their work appear almost an uphill task; but there is nothing to despair of. Fortunately in our Province, we have an enlightened public opinion, the medical profession is greatly respected; and above all, the standard of public service in our local bodies, allowing for a few aberrations, here and there, is fairly high. Added to that is the fact that ours is the only Province where it has been

statutorily laid down that every municipality shall earmark not less than 30 per cent of its income from all sources other than Government grants for expenditure on the advancement of public health in its local area, including expenditure on medical relief, and every district board or panchayat shall similarly earmark not less than 1½ per cent of its income from such sources.

Hindu System of Medicine

I would, on this occasion, like to make a few frank, but friendly, observations direct to the men of the medical profession, without which I feel my address to-day will have been in vain. I referred to the almost universal respect with which the profession is held in this country to-day. It is largely due to your own work and you richly deserve it. At the same time, an impartial observer of social affairs cannot fail to take note of certain tendencies which mark the ideals of your noble calling. I refer to the attitude certain men of western medicine in this country adopt towards the indigenous system. The New Learning, unfortunately, has brought with it a certain amount of dogmatism, and with it an intolerance of the theories and practices other than their own. Genuine science should teach us humility and make us remember that what we have learnt is but a handful, and a whole sea of knowledge lies unexplored; that wisdom often cries out in the streets and the true scientist should be prepared to read sermon in stones and books in running brooks.

It is sad to find, therefore, that the Bore Committee report is divided on the subject of recognition to be given to the indigenous systems and cite for their purpose the examples of China, Japan and Russia who have banned the practice of indigenous systems. I do not claim to know anything about the indigenous systems of Chinese, Japanese and Russian schools of medicine; but I can say this much of our Indian system that what is to-day practised as the western science of medicine has its origins in India from where it travelled to Arabia, Persia, Greece, Spain and Western Europe and has now come back to us in a new garb and with a new jargon. I have no less an authority than Lord Ampthill to support me.

The records of Hindu medicine begin with the Atharva Veda; appended to Atharva Veda is the Ayur Veda or the Science of Longevity. The Rig Veda mentions over a thousand

medicinal herbs, and more significant than all these is the fact that physicians and surgeons were differentiated from magic doctors, and were living in surroundings surrounded by gardens in which they cultivated medicinal plants. Atreya anticipated Weismann by 2,400 years and held that parental seed is independent of parents' body and contains in itself in miniature the whole parental organism. Dhanwantri, Sushruta, Charaka, Vagbhata, Bhava Misra are names to conjure with in any scientific system of medicine. The latter in his voluminous work on anatomy, physiology and medicine anticipated by a hundred years Harvey's theory of circulation of blood and prescribed mercury for the then rovel disease, syphilis. Nor was it all merely empirical and confined to the field of medicine. Surgery was also highly developed. Sushruta describes many surgical operations, cataract, hernia, lithotomy, Caesarian section, etc., and 121 surgical instruments including lancets, sounds, forceps, catheters and rectal and vaginal speculums. He advocated the dissection of the dead against all religious scruples. He was the first to graft upon a torn ear portions of skin taken from another part of the body and thus laid the foundations for the modern Rhinoplasty. Almost every major operation except the ligation of the arteries was performed. Limbs were amputated, abdominal sections were performed, fractures were set, hemorrhoids and fistulas were removed. Elaborate rules were laid down for preparing an operation, and Sushruta's suggestion that the wound be sterilized by fumigation is one of the earliest known efforts at antiseptic surgery. Both Sushruta and Charaka mention the use of medicinal liquors to produce insensibility to pain. In the 10th Century A.D., two surgeons trepanned the skull of a Hindu king, and made him insensitive to the operation by administering a drug called Samohini. Diagnosis by inspection, palpitation and auscultation was widely practised; so was also taking of the pulse and urine analysis. Vaccination was known to Dhanwantari in the 6th Century A.D. Many of the laws of sanitation by Sushruta and the Dharma Sastras are based on the theory of disease. Hypno-therapy, hydro-therapy and nature-pathy are also known. Yuan Chwang, who visited India records that Hindu medical treatment began with a seven-day fast; in this interval the patient often recovered; if the illness continued drugs were at last employed. Even then drugs were sparingly used; reliance

was placed upon diet, baths, enemas, inhalations, urethral and vaginal injections and blood-lettings by leeches or cups. In the art of concocting antidotes for poison, the Hindu system stands unrivalled even to-day. To the many of the so called incurable diseases, the indigenous systems have powerful and almost certain cures. An almost parallel development has taken place at many points in the Siddha system of medicine in the south.

I have recounted to you at length the achievements of what I might call the Hindu system of medicine, not with a view to putting ourselves on our backs, which no doubt is legitimate on certain occasions, but to show how surprisingly modern are some of the theories and practices of our ancient systems. No doubt latterly the indigenous medical science and practice have become moribund and quacks have abounded like weeds covering the green corn; but it is for men of science like you to separate the grain from the chaff and bring to light all that is best in our systems, instead of poo-pooing the entire body of knowledge that has come to us from the days of our ancient Rishis. If you, men of science, do not do this, no State, whatever recognition it gives, may be able to do it. There is no conflict, there need be no rivalry between the ancient and modern systems of medicine. If only you wish, you can attempt at a synthesis of the two, where the one would be a complement to the other; and, in doing so, you may even arrive at medical marvels that may well prove India's distinct contribution to modern medicine. The Problem of medical relief in our country is so colossal, and our financial and technical resources so meagre that without such a synthesis, I fail to see how we can effectively organize any satisfactory system of Public Health Service within a reasonable point of time.

Spirit of Service

If you bear with me for a few more minutes, I will have one more point made—a point which I am never tired of repeating at Conferences after conferences; and that is, the spirit of service that should animate your profession. The art of healing is the noblest of all callings, and many men in history who have been the "ministering angels" to the sick and the suffering are revered as saints all over the world; but all that is so, precisely because service was the dominating passion; money a secondary thought. You have all taken the oath of Hippocrates, who has been hailed as the



"I have great pleasure in inaugurating this Conference of Public Health Workers' for I consider them as guardians of people's health, and therefore of their wealth and welfare."

Public health workers everywhere have a heavy responsibility to discharge. The human body is an exquisite and wonderful handi-work of God. It may be perishable as dust, and chemically as carbon; but pulsating life concerns itself with it and the Divine Spirit chooses to dwell within. It is a glorious harp and to the extent we keep it properly tuned will it be able to strike hapsodies of piety and selfless service to humanity. The public health worker has the responsibility to see not merely that the single individual body, but the entire community is kept in good health. The range of his interests and responsibilities therefore naturally extend over a vast field. They are personal as well as environmental; preventive as well as curative; and he has to be a specialist as well as a 'basic' doctor. Improvement of drainage and sewage, provision of adequate and satisfactory water-supplies, scavenging, isolation of cases of infectious diseases, disinfection of premises, supervisions of contacts, careful investigation of possible sources of infection, port sanitary controls, supervision of housing condition, clearance of slum areas, provision of open spaces and cleaner atmosphere, analysis of foodstuffs, research on nutrition and dieties, supervision of production and distribution of milk, elimination of tuberculosis from dairy cattle, control of slaughtering and inspection of meat and vegetables, inspection of premises used for storage of food, maternity and child welfare,

Father of Medicine; but I should say there is an even more pregnant passage in Charaka's Samhita; "Not for self, not for the fulfilment of any earthly desire of gain, but solely for the good of suffering humanity should you treat your patients and so excel all." The way our present health service is organized is no doubt partly responsible for subordinating the service aspect to the money aspect. In Sweden, I am told on reliable authority, doctors are paid not on the basis of number of patients they cure, but on the number of people whom they prevent from falling a victim to disease. The doctor is paid a reasonable salary, irrespective of the number of patients he treats. In England, according to the latest scheme of National Health Service

introduced by Mr. Bevan, medical benefit is given to all, irrespective of their ability to pay; and I understand the same is the case in Russia. I do not know how many years it would take us to organize a Public Health Service based on prevention rather than cure, and provision of medical benefit to one and all regardless of payment. Ours is a poor country; the rural masses are steeped in crushing poverty and it behoves our medical men to practice their profession with patience, generosity and a patriotic urge.

Conclusion

I hope my appeal to you, men of science, will not go in vain. The times are cut of joint. The food crisis has brought with it many problems that may well tax all your qualities of head

and heart. Great work confronts you in the preventive sphere regarding dieties and nutrition. Nutritional diseases are as much a result of inadequate rations as of incorrect diet habits. Food adulteration practised on an unconscionable scale aggravates the problem. Much can be done by you by way of nutritional education, and correct diet habits. Much more can be done by you to prevent food adulteration and suggest simple inexpensive supplementary foods. Let me sincerely hope that this Conference will be of use in finding correct and practical solutions to all these weighty problems, and lay the foundations of an improved Public Health Service to the Province. May God guide you in all your deliberations!

IN THE SPHERE OF EDUCATION

Education Reorganization Scheme:

Basic Education

Ours is the great task of laying the foundations for a glorious future for this great country. It is in our homes, schools and colleges that these foundations should be laid. It is necessary that the reorganization of education in this country should be taken up from this point of view and the Congress Government, immediately after they assumed power, addressed themselves to this very important question.

Education in the past has been considered to be merely bookish and negative. It has been said that it has stifled initiative, confidence and courageous action and has not suited the genius of our country. This matter has exercised the minds of the best of our leaders and it was given to Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation and the Architect of our Freedom, to give a lead in this direction also as he had done in many other directions. He found that education to be real, must be based on activity and experience. He also found that we cannot afford to spend large sums of money on these activities as has been done in many foreign countries. He wanted to devise a system of education which, while providing various activities for the growth of the child, will be within the means of this country. The principle of education through activities was by no means new.

Learning through activity and experience is an accepted educational principle throughout the world and Mahatmaji only voiced the opinion of the leading educational reformers of the world when he pleaded for such an education. Activity in the form of a continuous craft, which, while giving the child scope for activities, will also train the child in a useful craft, is his

Our education has got to be revolutionized. The brain must be educated through the hand. Why should you think that the mind is everything and the hands and feet nothing? Those who do not train their hands, who go through the ordinary rut of education, lack music in their life.

True education is that which draws out and stimulates the spiritual, intellectual and physical faculties of the children.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

important contribution to educational idealogy.

In 1917, Mahatmaji summoned a conference of educationists to consider his ideas on education. The conference generally endorsed his suggestion and a committee, with Dr. Zakir Hussain as Chairman and Mr. Aryanayakam as Secretary, was appointed to draw out detailed syllabuses on that basis. The first conference took place at Wardha and the first experiment under the scheme was conducted in Sewagram near Wardha where Mahatmaji stayed. It was for this reason that this type of education came to be called the Wardha Method of Education. The Zakir Hussain Committee submitted its report on Basic Education. This was gone into by the Central Advisory Board of Education which appointed a sub-committee to go through the scheme in detail. On the recommendation of that sub-committee, the Central Advisory Board of Education, in its report on Post-war Educational Reconstruction, popularly known as the Sargent Report, accepted the main principles of Basic Education and advocated its acceptance throughout India thus putting its seal of approval on the main principles that emanated from Mahatma Gandhi. The Government of Madras have accepted Basic Education as their policy in elementary education. They have accepted it because they believe that the

principles of Basic Education, if properly put into effect, will succeed in drawing out the best qualities in our children and developing their personality to the fullest extent.

A beginning to introduce Basic Education was made by the Government in this Province in 1938, but, before anything could be done, the Congress Ministry resigned. It was nearly seven years after that it had to be begun afresh when the Congress Government came into power in 1946. The Zakir Hussain Committee advocated a period of seven years' compulsion and the Sargent Committee Report a period of eight years. This Government, while agreeing to the benefit that will accrue by a longer period of compulsion, accepted as a practical measure, compulsion for five years. They have also accepted the syllabus as drawn out by the Hindustani Talimi Sangh for Basic Schools for these five years and have started training teachers on that basis.

In 1946, two training schools for teachers were started one at Vinayaram in Guntur district for the Andhra-Desa and the other at Periyanaickenpalayam in Coimbatore district for Tamil Nad, where there was an atmosphere suitable for the purpose. In that year, trained teachers were re-trained for Basic Education. During 1947-48, 27 Basic Schools were started with the help of these re-trained teachers. In the same year, five more Basic Training Schools were started in the Province. In addition to sending eight candidates for re-training in Sewagram, arrangements were also made to train the staff of our training schools in this Province itself. Out of the staff so re-trained, ten more Basic Training Schools were started in the current year. There are now 17 recognized Basic Training Schools and 70 Basic Schools working in the Province.

The Government have put for themselves a time-limit of about five years within which all training schools in the Province will be converted into Basic Training Schools. In order to do so, they have started the re-training of L.Ts. and the other staff of the training schools at Periyanaickenpalayam and at Pentapadu. The staff of training schools in the West Coast are being deputed to Sewagram this year for re-training and it is hoped that within a few years, facilities will be provided for aided training school staff also to be re-trained on Basic Education lines at these centres. It is expected that within the time limit fixed by the

Government, all the training schools in the Province will be converted into Basic Training Schools.

With the acceptance of Basic Education as the policy of Government with regard to elementary education, it is also necessary that all elementary school teachers should be re-trained in the ideology of Basic Education. We have nearly 32,000 elementary schools with 125,000 teachers. The re-training of such a large number of teachers is a tremendous task but it has to be done. Though, in the beginning a course of about six months is necessary for re-training, it is possible that with the expansion of Basic Education and by conversion of all training schools into Basic Education institutions, teachers will be more and more acquainted with the principles of Basic Education and the period of training may become shorter. Plans for giving such training as may be necessary are under the active consideration of Government.

The expansion of elementary education in this context means elementary education of the Basic type. It is the earnest wish of the Government that the system of compulsory Basic Education should be effectively put into practice within the next ten years. A Cabinet Sub-Committee has been appointed to go into the matter in detail and evolve a definite scheme for the purpose.

Improving the Status of Teachers and the Inspectorate

Any scheme of reorganization of education for its efficient working must depend upon the persons that work the scheme, i.e., the teachers and others who will be responsible for the success of the scheme. And so, the Government have taken up also the question of raising the status of teachers and the Inspectorate. The salaries of teachers of all categories have been raised. The grants for aided elementary schools have been considerably enhanced and in order to assure the aided school teachers a fixed income, separate grants have been paid to managements for the purpose. Besides, arrangements are being made to disburse their salaries on a monthly basis.

In order to provide better scope for elementary school teachers, opportunities have been given for them to qualify themselves to become teachers of secondary grade and later on of collegiate grade by appearing for examinations privately. The responsibility for the payment of dearness allowance

to elementary school teachers will be taken up by Government and even the recent increase to Government employees in the dearness allowance has been made applicable to the teachers in elementary schools. To provide greater scope for those teachers in non-Government service, it has been decided that 40 per cent of posts of Junior Deputy Inspectors in Government service will be filled up by recruitment from secondary grade trained teachers under aided and local board managements.

With regard to teachers in secondary schools, the Government have compelled the aided managements to pay them at local board rates and to help them to do so, the Government have come forward with a two-thirds net grant instead of the original half. Teachers in aided schools have been agitating for a long time for the revision of the form of their agreements with the managements so that they may be given stability of tenure and right of appeal against orders of aided managements. The Government have considered the matter in consultation with the Provincial Advisory Board of Education and have revised the forms of agreement which provide for both permanence and stability. Teachers in high schools have also been given scope for recruitment as District Educational Officers in Government service. The rates of dearness allowance applicable to teachers in Government schools have also been made available to secondary school teachers in all managements and the Government are paying their share of dearness allowance to aided secondary school teachers. The Government are also contemplating the selection of Lecturers from aided institutions for Principals of Government Colleges. Thus, it will be seen that it is the policy of Government to raise the status of teachers as far as possible within the present circumstances.

In the interest of securing better people for the Inspectorate, the Government have taken other steps also. Till now, the age of recruitment for Government service in the Education department was 30 years and only L.T. or B.T. trained persons were recruited. In order to attract a better type of men and women to the Education department, the Government have issued orders providing for the recruitment of well qualified graduates without L.T. training under 25 years of age and sending them for training on stipends of Rs. 50 per mensem each. To provide for greater prospects for

School Assistants and Deputy Inspectors of Schools in Government service, the proportion of promotion to the first grade has been increased to 33½ per cent instead of the original 20 per cent. Other steps have also been taken to make the Inspectorate more efficient and better equipped.

Advisory Boards

As soon as the Congress came into power in 1946, they took up the task of reorganizing elementary education and accepted basic education as their policy. They turned their mind towards the reorganization of secondary education also. The Government were anxious to know and get into touch with the public opinion on these matters. With this object in view, they issued a detailed questionnaire to over a thousand persons and associations interested in education. Over 700 answers were received from individuals, associations and teachers' organizations. These were all gone through, collated and tabulated. The Government established two Advisory Boards, one for Basic Education separately and the other the Provincial Advisory Board of Education, to advise Government on all other aspects of education. Later on, the Technical Education Board was also constituted on the advice of the expert committee appointed for the organization of the new Engineering Colleges. Sub-Committees of the Provincial Advisory Board for Secondary, Collegiate and Adult Education have also been formed. Thus, it will be seen that the Government are anxious to establish bodies consisting of experts experienced in education to advise them on all educational matters. All the important reforms initiated by Government and the reorganization of the educational system as well as such matters as the Library Legislation, have been placed before these bodies and their opinion elicited.

On receiving the various suggestions through replies to the questionnaire, the Government took up the reorganization of secondary education in right earnest. The matter was referred to the Secondary Education Board. That Board appointed a sub-committee to go into the matter fully. That sub-committee consisted of distinguished educationists, principals of prominent colleges, representatives of universities and others. After considering the matter for many months, they submitted a report, which was considered by the Secondary Education Board. After having been approved by the

Secondary Education Board, the report was again considered by the Provincial Advisory Board of Education.

After approval by the Provincial Advisory Board of Education, the general principles of reorganization were generally approved by Government and as many as 27 committees were established to go into the details of the scheme and to work out the detailed syllabuses. The members of these committees were drawn from the most experienced people in the teaching profession throughout the Province. These distinguished men and women who have laboured for education, many of them for more than a quarter of a century and who were leaders in various spheres in the educational world, gave the best of their experience in drawing up these syllabuses. After the revised syllabuses were drawn up, they were published in the Gazette for eliciting public opinion and in the light of public opinion received, the Government approved the reorganized scheme of education and the draft syllabuses drawn for them. The thanks of the Government are due to these devoted savants in the field of education who worked so hard and well to bring out this new scheme of secondary education.

Reorganization of Secondary Education

The main defects that have been pointed out in the old system of education are that it trained people to be merely clerks; that it did not develop leadership and self-confidence in our boys and girls; that it did not provide them with any professional training and above all, that it did not contribute to the formation of character and high ideals and did not impart civic sense or the sense of citizenship to our children. It has been said that it was devised by an alien Government to find employees to help them to run the Government at their behest and has not resulted in producing a large number of men and women of initiative imbued with great idealism and devotion to the country.

The present reorganization of education seeks to remove these defects. But it is not enough to view the reorganization merely from this negative point of view. It must also have positive ideals and objectives for which it must work. There must be a revolution in our view of education, particularly about the objectives of education. In olden times, it was said that the object of education was to give knowledge and

to sharpen the intellect. But to-day, we have found by experience that mere giving of knowledge is not sufficient and mere development of the intellect at the expense of character and social sense may lead to undesirable consequences. And so, education to be true and of lasting value, should, in addition to giving knowledge and sharpening the intellect, also develop character and social sense. Our boys and girls must be made to feel that higher life consists not in their own personal satisfaction or aggrandisement, but in serving the community and the State. Education in free India should possess the characteristics of education of a free people in which men and women are trained to think freely, live and act with discipline and have ideals of service and devotion towards their country. The present reorganization of education has been effected with these great ideals in view.

Coming to the means of education, the old type of education was centred round books. People thought that if one crammed certain books and reproduced it in examinations, one was learned. This degenerated to such an extent that real knowledge was lost sight of and only undigested passages remained in the minds of students. Reformers in the educational field throughout the world, have pointed out that real knowledge can be achieved only through activity and experience. While the value and importance of books in the interpretation of the experience cannot be belittled, it is necessary to remember that real knowledge can be built only by experience. The present reorganization of education takes note of these factors and seeks to give knowledge to the individual child by providing it with varieties of experience on which it can build its education.

The main aspects of the reorganization are—

(1) The introduction of crafts as basic activities in schools in the middle school stage as a continuation of the principle of Basic Education accepted in the elementary school stage. In addition to exploiting the possibilities of craft for the purpose of education, this will also give a vocational bias to such of those children as may intend going for trade schools or professions at the end of the middle school stage.

(2) The introduction of citizenship training, is a new aspect in the reorganization of education. This, while it consists of the main elements of scouting, uses these activities for educational purposes. To put forward the good of the society and group before one's

own is an ideal which every child must cherish if we are to evolve a good and stable society. Confidence and strength of character must be the basis on which the life of every boy and girl must be built and these are intended to be inculcated through the citizenship training courses.

(3) A new meaning has been given to social studies. Previously, the various subjects such as Civics, History and Geography, were studied as separate subjects without proper correlation with each other. While Civics was studied for examination, the civic sense was absent. Various activities, such as excursions to places of interest, sharing the responsibilities of the school with the child and inculcating the practice of democratic principles in the schools through various methods have been made part of the syllabus under this head. This, apart from providing many interesting activities to the pupil, will succeed in giving real rather than merely theoretical knowledge in these matters.

(4) Another very important aspect of the present reorganization scheme is the difference provided in the curricula for boys' and girls' schools. The same curricula for both these types of schools has not resulted in giving proper training to our girls. With a view to make the training more purposeful home craft has been made the basic craft for all girls' schools, so that it will train them for life. While it is not the intention to prevent any girl from taking the subjects that she chooses to study when she goes for higher studies, this aspect of reorganization seeks to train the large majority of girls for the avocation which they may choose in life, later on.

(5) That our schools lead our pupils to blind alleys and do not teach them any useful craft or train them for professions of any kind has been one of the complaints against the present day education. For the last 15 years, many Committees of education have considered this matter and have suggested what are called bifurcated courses in the high school classes, so that a large majority of pupils, who have a taste for such avocations, may take to those courses. What has been talked of for the past so many years is sought to be given effect to under the present reorganization scheme. Engineering, Secretarial work, Agriculture, Teaching practice, Domestic Science, Drawing and Painting, Music and Dancing are provided in the bifurcated courses. The number of these bifurcated courses may increase according to the needs of the society. At present, a few

schools, limited in number, have been chosen for these courses so that they can work efficiently to be examples to those that follow later.

(6) In the matter of languages, the regional language gets its rightful place as the first language. Then comes the second language group. Hindustani, Sanskrit, Arabic and other Indian languages form the second language group. A boy can choose any one of the languages in that group as his second language. English comes as the third language to be begun in the II Form. This is so far as the Middle School is concerned. In the High School, the regional language is given eight periods, four of which are optional and four compulsory. Such of those (pupils) as want to study the regional language in the optional periods also, are free to do so, and such of those as want to exercise their option in favour of Hindustani, Sanskrit or any other Indian language are free to exercise their option and study any one of those languages. English continues right up to VI Form.

The Government should clear a misunderstanding that exists in the minds of some people that Hindustani has been made compulsory. It is not so. Hindustani is not compulsory in any part of our curricula. It is absolutely optional in both the Middle School and High School stages and it is open for anybody to take Sanskrit, Arabic or any other Indian language in the Middle School stage or the regional language itself in the High School stage.

The Government would like to point out the high place that has been given to the regional language. Previously, one can avoid the regional language even in the II Form stage and take Sanskrit or any other language. Until recently, it was not also the medium of instruction in schools but now not only has provision been made for the study of the regional language by all pupils but it has also been made the medium of instruction in the schools. The Government have been taking various steps to develop the regional languages and there is absolutely no ground for fear that the regional language will in any way suffer by the pupil's taking one of the languages in the second language group.

(7) *Training for citizenship course.*—With regard to citizenship training, the Government have made arrangements for training nearly 1,000 teachers this year. It may be seen that in the Adult Education Scheme published by the Government, citizenship training

figures prominently. Sanction has been accorded for organizing a series of camps for this purpose. The first two camps have already trained nearly 180 persons both men and women. It is also intended to organize eight training courses each to train about 100 teachers in the various mufassal centres such as Tiruchirappalli, Coimbatore, Salem, Cuddapah, Bellary, Vijayavada and Calicut. A Special Officer has been appointed for this purpose.

(8) *Reform of Examinations.*—Along with the Committee which made recommendations on the details of the Reorganization of Secondary Education, a sub-committee was appointed to review the present system of examinations and to recommend a more reliable system of testing the achievement of the candidates, taking into account their practical capabilities and factors of personality. The Committee recommended two schemes, one for ultimate adoption and the other for immediate introduction, if found acceptable. The chief recommendations consist of two parts: firstly the making of a provision for taking into account the work of the pupil throughout the school course and secondly provision for rating practical abilities, social behaviour and general factors of personality. The matter is under consideration.

(9) *Visual instruction.*—Recognizing the large and important part played by visual appeal in the education of children, Government took steps during 1947-48 for the introduction of visual education in schools. For this purpose they appointed a Visual Education Board consisting of progressive educationists with one of the officials of the Education department as the Secretary and approved a scheme for the regular exhibition of education films in schools and the levy of special fees to meet the expenses of exhibiting pictures. The Board reviewed applications from exhibitors and notified for the information of schools the names and addresses of registered exhibitors. Members of the Board have previewed the educational films which were available from the exhibitors and graded them. A graded list of such films has been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

(To be continued)



GLEANINGS

In Denmark

Note.—Denmark is noted for many things. It is the home of industrious agriculturists. Dairy farming has reached a high pitch of efficiency there. The triumph of the Co-operative principle in improving the lot of the common man is another important fact. The excerpt published herewith is an eyewitness account and is taken from the writings by Srimathi Kamaladevi.

The Danish dairies like their breweries are world-famous. It is a real delight to see a Danish dairy at work. Everything is mechanised, except the actual swallowing of the milk. On an average each dairy owns 50 to 60 lorries for carrying the milk from the farms to the dairy as well as for milk distribution. Each has its laboratory where the milk is tested each day, before it is sent out. But the cleansing process starts earlier for the children's and patients' milk for which special farms are set apart, where cows are fed on special diet very carefully prescribed by experts and where the milking machine, or if done by people, their hands, are sterilized before the milk is drawn. Pasteurising is now out of date; it has been replaced by statinsising so that the vitamins may not be lost in the process of boiling. The bottles are cleaned and filled by machinery, 2 to 3 thousand in an hour. The testing of eggs, their numbering and

even packing is done by machines. The eggs are put under very powerful lights and you see the yolk clearly through the shell. The human eye now penetrates through everything, what of a mere egg-shell! Then they are rattled through huge machinery and sorted out each according to its size and slipped into the packing cases. The extra eggs are preserved in lime water for winter when egg production is low.

Denmark's contribution to art has been no less. Its industries are better known in its silver work and its porcelain. But the artist who has left his firm impress and has given his country an enviable place in the comity of international art is Bertel Thorvaldsen, the sculptor. He was the son of a wood carver who worked in a shipbuilding yard. His versatility and genius have won recognition and his works today find an honourable place in the museums of all the capitals.

Railway Facts

Our first railway line was opened from Bombay to Thana (21 miles) in 1853. Next was opened the line from Calcutta

(Howrah) to Hoogli (23 miles) in 1854. Third came the line from Madras to Walajah Road (65 miles) in 1856. Our railway mileage was nearly 25,000, costing Rs. 330 crores, by 1900. Our pre-partition figures stood at 40,524 miles, and about Rs. 900 crores.

After partition our figures stand at about 33,500 miles. About 90 per cent of our railways today is single track with train crossing delays. We have 46.4 per cent of Broad Gauge and 43.5 per cent of Metre Gauge and balance Narrow Gauge Lines. Already, war-time slogging and maintenance and replacement arrears had occurred. The end of war did not lessen traffic.

Man's highest endeavour lies in trying to find God. He cannot be found in temples or idols or places of worship built by man's hands, nor can He be found by abstinences. God can be found only through love, not earthly but divine.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

American Innovation

Approximately seven million children are benefiting from the 1948-49 National School Lunch Program conducted in some 46,000 elementary and high (secondary) schools throughout the United States. Public and non-profit private schools in all 48 States, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Alaska are participating in the program, instituted in 1946 to safeguard the health and well-being of the nation's children.

The United States Department of Agriculture is responsible for administering, through State educational agencies, the 58 million dollars appropriated by the United States Congress for this year's over-all program. This money is apportioned to each State according to the number of school-age children and the per capita income of the State. The Federal grant-in-aid must be matched by funds from within the State, which may include locally-raised private funds in addition to a State appropriation. A small amount may be charged to children whose parents are able to pay, but the lunches are available to all children who cannot pay for them.

Although aided by Federal-state funds, local school lunch programs are essentially community undertakings. Initiative for establishing such a program may come from a parent-teacher association, a women's club or other civic organization, or from the local school board. Regardless of the originator, the school board acts as official sponsor in making application to the State for such a program and is responsible for its operation. Lunches, which vary according to local school conditions, include either a complete, nutritionally balanced hot meal, a smaller lunch to supplement food brought from home, or simply half a pint of milk each school-day.

To look down upon fellow human beings, to condemn any community or class of men, is a sign of a diseased mind, which I consider far worse than physical leprosy. Such men are real lepers of society.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

Khadi in Tamil Nad in 1947-48

The financial year ended with 30th June 1948 has recorded a phenomenal progress in Khadi work in Tamil Nad. The total production of yarn by the All-India Spinners' Association with its only certified institution and by the three Government Intensive Khadi Centres during the year is 13,751,301 hanks worth Rs. 13,18,588 in the previous year. The quantity of yarn production was almost doubled on account of the Khadi (Control) Order and the consequent withdrawal of uncertified merchants in the latter half of the year.

The enthusiasm and interest manifested in hand-spinning during the year is remarkable. There was an ever-increasing demand for charkas, taklis and slivers. The All-India Spinners' Association had to strain itself to meet the entire demand with its limited resources. Production of charkas and taklis during the year was 12,000 and 20,000, respectively, as against 9,000 charkas and 13,000 taklis in 1946-47. The total value of implements manufactured during the year is Rs. 1,16,286 as against Rs. 93,385 in 1946-47. About 10,000 charkas and 15,000 taklis were distributed among the urban population alone. The sale of slivers is Rs. 1,37,037 and value of lint distri-

buted to spinners is Rs. 2,56,802. The yarn spun in the urban centres of the All-India Spinners' Association is about 16 lakhs of hanks or nearly 15 per cent of the total yarn production by All-India Spinners' Association in the year.

Self-spinning for one's own use received encouragement in the year by arrangements made by All-India Spinners' Association for weaving every individual spinner's yarn and by the subsidy allowed for spinners exchanging Khadi for yarn. Seventeen thousand square yards of Khadi were woven for self-spinners. About 14,000 square yards of Khadi were issued in exchange for the self-spun yarn in May and June 1948 under the subsidy system. The spinners in the villages bought Khadi worth Rs. 54,000 against their yarn. Khadi worth about Rs. 15 lakhs was consumed in the areas covered by our spinning and weaving centres. This represents about 30 per cent of the total retail Khadi sales.

Training of workers in the science and technique of Khadi was an important programme for the year. Twenty-five students were trained in one-year Khadi Praveshika Course. A second session with 27 students was started in November 1947.

Fruit Development in Ceded Districts

The importance of the fruit industry and its great value to the health and economy of the country have begun to receive adequate attention only in recent years. The per capita consumption of fruits is very low in this province. In view of the wholesome nature and health-giving qualities of fruits greater consumption of fruits is desirable. The increased demand for fruits can only be met by an extension of the area under fruits. The soil and other conditions over several areas of this province are so favourable that considerable development is possible. The higher income per acre from land devoted to fruits must be an additional inducement for bringing more and more area under fruits. Incomes of as much as Rs. 5,000 per acre have been obtained from some of the chini gardens in the Ceded Districts.

The Fruit Specialist who toured the Ceded Districts recommended the examination of 22 sites which *prima facie* appeared suitable for fruit cultiva-

tion. The soil survey of the following five sites was carried out during 1946-47.

Area; taluk; district.

Kottur-Ujjini;	Kudligi; Bellary.
Rudravaram-Sirvel;	Sirvel;
Kurnool.	
Giddalore-Diguvametta;	Cum-
	bam; Kurnool.
Vontimitta valley;	Siddhavattam;
Cuddapah.	
Kodur Firk;	Rajampet;
Cuddapah.	

The object of the soil survey was to ascertain from an examination of the soil and sub-soil conditions, drainage facilities for irrigation, etc., the suitability of these sites for fruit cultivation. Information obtained in the course of the survey as well as reference to the literature on fruit soils reveals that the essential characteristics of fruit soils are good depth, loamy texture, good drainage, freedom from harmful

amounts of salts and sweet water for irrigation. The favourable physical conditions such as depth, texture and drainage are much more important for fruit trees than high fertility status which could easily be made up by adequate manuring. From field observations and laboratory examination of soil and water samples the following conclusions have been drawn regarding the suitability or otherwise of the above sites for fruit cultivation.

Kottur-Ujjini.—In view of the fact that the soils over the greater portion of the area are of poor depth, the water table very low and the water brackish, this area is not suitable.

Rudravaram-Sirvel.—The soil and water conditions are favourable for fruit cultivation. The greatest drawback to the development of the area is the lack of adequate transport facilities.

Diguvametta-Giddalore.—The soil conditions over the greater portion of the area are favourable but there is utter lack of irrigation facilities. The development of the area is bound up with the tapping of sub-soil water and trial borings will be necessary to determine its availability and supply.

Vontimitta.—The soil and water conditions are quite favourable. Erosion has so damaged the land that, although small additions to the area under fruits are possible, there is little scope for large-scale development.

Kodur.—Conditions here are almost ideal for fruit cultivation. The good depth, loamy texture and well drained nature of the soil and adequate irrigation facilities render this area—pre-eminently suitable for fruit cultivation.

Proposals are under consideration for the extension of the soil survey to other suitable sites in the Ceded Districts.

Where the favourable conditions mentioned above as regards soil, water, etc., exist, owners of land will do well to bring more and more area under fruits. By doing so not only will they be able to get better returns from their lands but they will also help in meeting the increased demand for fruits and in bringing fruits within the reach of the poor and thus contribute to the health of the people and prosperity of the country.



*Special Article***Forest Policy to Meet New Conditions**

Since the last pronouncement of forest policy over half a century ago, there have been far-reaching constitutional, social, and economic changes in the country. India has achieved its freedom, but at the cost of partition, which apart from its political results, is bound to have far-reaching effects on the economy of the country. It is in the light of these considerations that the Government have to formulate their new forest policy. Some of the basic facts which must determine this are: (1) India is a land of many rivers whose economic importance cannot be over-estimated; the catchment areas of many of these rivers overlap the boundaries of several political divisions; floods are of common occurrence and the heavy silt of the rivers endangers the future of high dams. It is a commonplace that the catchment areas of no river in the country is adequately protected by vegetation. (2) Agriculture as practised in India cannot prosper without the protection of and association with forests. But agriculture has encroached on forest lands or has occupied marginal lands which are better suited to forest growth. This has resulted in an ill-balanced economy with its attendant evils of erosion, shortage of fuel and manure, timber and fodder, and grazing has advanced into many regions. Generally speaking, it is true to state that while human and animal populations have increased, the necessities of life have decreased. About three-fourths of the wood production of forests is in the form of firewood and charcoal. The supply of fuel and small timber to the rural population is the most important part played by Indian forests in the economics of the country. (3) Forests which are not under the control of a Forest Department are deteriorating for want of proper conservancy, including closure for regeneration. (4) In the interests of protection against soil erosion or timber production for the needs of the rural community, large areas of waste lands should be brought under forests. (5) Uncontrolled grazing has reduced the pasturage value of millions of acres. It will be necessary to effect a compromise between the conflicting interests of forest conservancy and grazing. (6) In many respects private forests are as important as those owned by the Government; owing to a lack of proper management, private forests are

fast disappearing. The position is similar in many of the Indian States and a continuance of the neglect of forest management will have an adverse effect on India as a whole. (7) Erosion is known to be serious in many parts of the country, which leads to a loss of moisture in the soil and, therefore, of soil fertility. The cure for erosion is linked up with such methods as proper forest conservancy, the regulation of grazing and land utilization. (8) There is a wide gap between the supply and demand for timber and fuel in the case of both local and general consumers. (9) The post-war development of industries generally, and particularly of those using wood has increased the demands on forests. This necessitates to an increasing degree, the exploitation of many kinds of secondary timbers which were previously not exploited. The available yield of these timbers is not known, but it is certainly not unlimited. Forest management will have to ensure a sustained production of these resources. (10) One of the lessons learnt during the last war, is that timber is still one of the vital needs of a country. India cannot afford to rely too much on imports in case of an emergency, and therefore it must build up its own reserves of timber. (11) The location of India's coal fields makes it necessary in the interests of the country's economy, the highest possible production of wood fuel. (12) Centralized research has proved beneficial, but there has been insufficient liaison between forestry and the trade. A close understanding between the producer and the consumer will lead to less wastage of timber.

The policy which the Government of India laid down in 1894 was sound in principle, but it was applied on a limited scale. In the present circumstances, a forest policy of a more positive nature is needed and it must be given a far wider field of application.

It has been stated in the earlier article that the area of forests and their productivity are inadequate for the needs of the country. The essence of the future policy must be the development of a national forest estate, which will make good these deficiencies. This can be done by (a) bringing additional land under forests, whether under Government or private ownership;

(b) improving the condition of the unclassified and unreserved Government forests; (c) placing private forests under scientific management; (d) connecting unworked forests with roads and other lines of export; (e) improving through silvicultural practice, the yield capacity of the forests, and by replacing worthless growing stock with valuable plantations, if possible; (f) co-ordinating planned production or silviculture with industry; and lastly by (g) developing more economic methods of timber conversion and utilization.

Afforestation of Lands

At a rough estimate, about 140,000 square miles of properly managed accessible forests would probably supply the timber and firewood needs of the country. There still remains the problem of forests for protection of land and their satisfactory distribution. That leads us to the question of land utilization. It is clear that a forest policy by itself is inadequate, what is required is a land policy, the main object of which will be to derive from the soil the maximum benefits for the agricultural community in particular and for the country as a whole in general. Such a policy is essentially a long-term one, but the need for its application is urgent. If the soil is correctly used and if the right species are grown in the right place, then the country will get all the forests it needs and the evils of erosion and short production will be eliminated. There are large tracts of country where there are few or no forests. There are eroding areas which must be afforested either in local or national interests; there are marginal and sub-marginal lands which have wrongly been brought under cultivation, and which would be more profitably under forests. All these problems have to be tackled in the light of a national policy.

Grazing and Fodder

It is not possible within the compass of this article to do justice to the difficult problem of grazing; neither is it capable of solution in terms of forest policy alone. But obviously matters cannot be led to drift, since excessive or uncontrolled grazing is threatening the permanency of forests. While Forest Departments know that it is in their interests to have a contented and prosperous agricultural community along the border of their forests, there is a limit to the amount of grazing

the forests can stand. The grazing policy should therefore provide (1) grazing incidence equivalent to the carrying capacity of the forests, (2) priority for plough cattle and milch cattle, (3) grazing of essential cattle either free or at concession rates, and of non-essential cattle at commercial rates.

Fodder famines are frequent in certain regions which necessitate the import of fodder from localities with surplus fodder. These latter areas should have permanent arrangements for the export of grass.

Shifting Cultivation

Shifting cultivation is a serious problem in certain Provinces. This age-old custom peculiar mainly to aboriginal tribes, leads to the gradual destruction of the vegetation of the mountainous regions and ultimately to sterility of soil and erosion. Forestry is closely concerned with this problem and can help in a variety of ways, for the land subjected to this practice is essentially forest land and the people are forest dwellers. The problem is already being tackled in certain Provinces, but what is required is a long-term policy, more reformatory than revolutionary in character.

Forest Management

It was recognized in India long ago that the establishment of forest management on the standards of advanced countries, was essential to progress. The result of this has been a high standard of efficiency in research and in the application of silviculture practice. Over 80 per cent of Government forests are at present under working plans, an achievement which is paralleled by only a few of the countries in Europe. The working plan sets out the objects for which the forest is to be managed or worked and prescribes for a period of years, the detailed scientific operations required to achieve these objects.

In addition to the working plans the proper foundations of a stable forest policy require expert supervision and adequate funds. The stability of forest industry and continuity of action, which is essential for the protection and maturing of timber trees, depends on the assurance of funds sufficient to carry out an accepted policy over a period of years. Forestry has suffered in the past from financial stringency. Economic crises and slumps are inevitable; but they should be regarded as episodes in economic history. In forestry unlike in agriculture where

crops mature and are harvested in a year, any harm or set-back resulting from severe restriction of funds is incalculable. Its results would be manifested after many years in the form of less favourable financial returns.

Central Co-ordination

It is clear that forests are in numerous ways closely linked with the well-being of the nation as a whole. The aims and objects of forest management in all provinces, despite the diversity of local conditions, are fundamentally the same. There must, therefore, be a national forest policy.

India is a rapidly developing country anxious to take her rightful place among the advanced industrial countries of the world. It is axiomatic, therefore, that production and mobilization of resources must be subject to some degree of co-ordination. Were there an equal distribution of forest wealth throughout the country, a uniformity of demand for forest produce and of opportunity for industrial development, such co-ordination might perhaps not be necessary. But these conditions do not exist and this fact cannot be ignored.

To take only one example: all provinces are alive to the need for counter-measures against erosion and flood control, and each may take such steps as it considers appropriate or as are within its capacity. Soil conservation however, is a nation-wide problem and can never be dealt with on purely provincial basis. This is an age of great river-control schemes and the Central Government is in the best position to co-ordinate action and concentrate effort in the form of organization and funds.

The responsibilities of the Central Government may be briefly defined under three heads: (1) to set up machinery to assist and co-ordinate in the planning of land utilization and soil conservation; (2) to finance partly or wholly, urgent schemes for the improvement of the catchment area as of great rivers; and (3) in consultation with the Provinces, to plan the production of timber and other forest produce.

Despite the growing appreciation of the need and the value of forests, there is still a lack of understanding of the importance of forestry and soil conservation in the economic life of the nation. It is essential, therefore, to educate the public to a realization of the importance of the subject and inform them of the reasons for Government

action. For, in a vigorous democratic state, unless the 'demos', our ultimate masters, are alive to their duties and responsibilities, co-operation will not be forthcoming and the execution of a policy however carefully planned, will be hampered at every stage.

National Volunteer Corps in East Punjab

The National Volunteer Corps started a few months back by the East Punjab Government to meet the insistent popular demand has received, as was expected, a tremendous response by the public and now in almost all the districts the public are receiving their regular training. The target fixed by the government, i.e., 13,000 has already been achieved. To meet further public demand a "Mass Training Scheme" under the aegis of the National Volunteer Corps has also been undertaken. Both men and women are being given 21-day course training. The course includes physical training, foot drill, rifle drill, bayonet fighting and lectures on citizenship and hygiene.

* * *

Panchayats in East Punjab

The Government of East Punjab are publishing fortnightly reports on the working of panchayats in that Province. These reports contain information about the provision of amenities, the collection of voluntary contributions and throw light on the different directions in which the panchayats are endeavouring to improve rural conditions.

* * *

Children's Centres in Bombay

"I look forward to the day when it may be possible through co-operation between the Government and private philanthropy and organizations like yours and the Balken-ji-Bari to set up, not only in Bombay but in many other places in the Province, permanent children's centres where facilities will be provided for their free activities, their games, their reading for pleasure, their study of arts and crafts and the collections of specimens of their artistic and productive activities," observed Mr. B. G. Kher, the Premier of Bombay, performing the opening ceremony of the Bal Shikshan Nagar in Bombay, recently. The Premier hoped that in the very near future it would be possible for them to bring into being more such centres which will be open to the poorest child in the land.

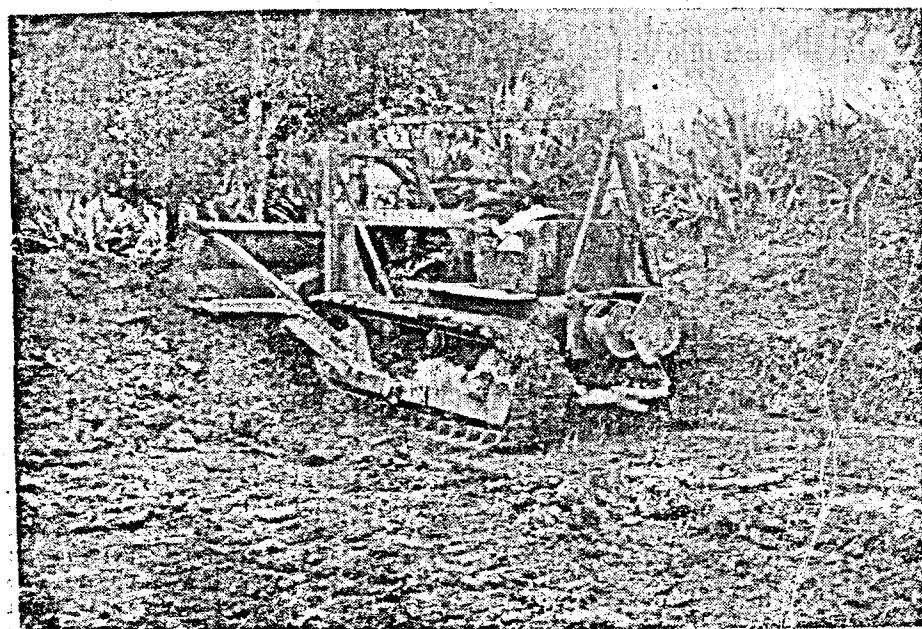
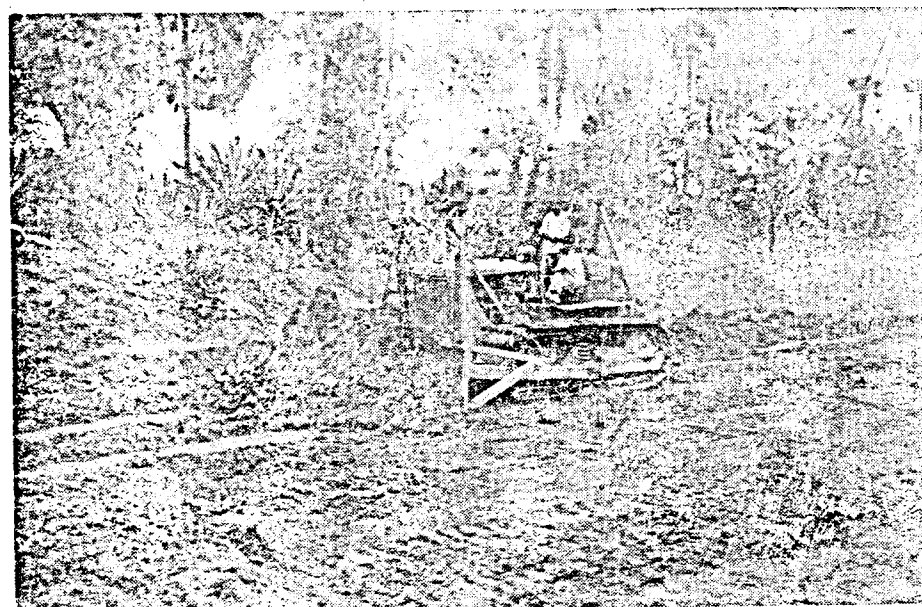
AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Science to the Aid of Agriculture

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has organized co-ordinated research and subsidized village project schemes embracing important aspects connected with agriculture and animal husbandry.

Improved strains of rice, wheat and other crops evolved by the Council

during the last 20 years, have, at a very moderate estimate offered a return of Rs. 29 crores to the Indian Agriculturist. As against this the amount spent by the Council on its more than 200 research schemes is Rs. 56 lakhs and will probably be Rs. 1.25 crores when the schemes terminate.



Closing the breached portion of an embankment with bull dozer in Coimbatore district.

The increased yields due to improved varieties vary broadly up to 25 per cent. If only a small increase, viz., one quarter of a maund per acre is assumed due to improved varieties, it works out to an extra yield of about 29 million maunds.

Rice

An impetus was given to improvement of rice production by subsidizing a chain of schemes at Berhampur, Cuttack, Chinsura, Nagina, Raipur, Habibganj, Bombay, Madras, Mysore, Kashmir, Travancore and Baroda. As a result of investigation on the breeding side, a large number of varieties has been produced which are suitable for varying conditions such as high and low-lying areas, and resistant to attacks of insect pests and diseases. In parts of Central Provinces and Berar the evolution of purple pigmented varieties has solved the manace of wild rice weed and led to a saving of about 20 lakh maunds of paddy in the Chattisgarh Division alone, whereas the cost of research was about Rs. 1,00,000. The percentage of increase amongst the important varieties has been 20 to 25 per cent in Bihar, 30 to 52 per cent in Orissa, 17 to 23 per cent in Travancore and 55 to 70 per cent in Kashmir. The results in Bengal and Madras have also been of a similar order.

Wheat

In wheat rust has been responsible for devastation of large areas in Central India, Central Provinces and Berar, Bombay and Hyderabad. Ordinarily the loss on account of rust is about 5 per cent involving an annual loss of about rupees six crores. Research on this work carried on for a number of years, suggests that the persistence of rust from year to year is probably not due to alternate hosts, but to the oversummering of the disease on the self-sown crop and early sown wheat in the hill areas of Nepal in the north, and Nilgiris in the south. The disease from there is carried by wind to the plains, where the standing crop is infected resulting in bad years, in the complete destruction of the entire crop. Ameliorative measures lie in breeding rust resistant types and adoption of control measures. The Council is concentrating attention on both these measures and work has been in progress in Bombay, Central Provinces and Berar, Central India, Simla, Bhowali, Karnal and Agra. Though the breeding of rust-resistant types have been necessarily slow, certain reasonably resistant types have been evolved and

several of the new Pusa wheats under trial have been showing promise.

Millet

Investigation on millets shows in the case of jowar : (1) an increase of 20 per cent yield in areas of scanty rainfall by dry farming methods, (2) control of fungus attack by treating seed with copper sulphate and powdered sulphur and (3) control of jowar borer by mechanical methods of cleaning the stubbles after harvest and burning them. In respect of maize, work has been initiated under the grants of the Council at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and in important maize growing Provinces in India. Co-ordinated schemes have also started on bajra and ragi, yielding useful results. Trials in Baroda with bajra have resulted in as high a yield as 731 lb. as against 531 lb. In Mysore they have recorded 30 per cent more yield over the local variety.

Pulses

In the case of pulses, India is very rich in species and varieties. The Council initiated a co-ordinated research scheme in almost all Provinces and States of grams, horsegrams, arhar, mung, urd and other pulses. In Poona 8 selected varieties of gram gave 10 to 30 per cent increase over the local type. In Central Provinces and Berar one variety gave 726 lb. per acre against 226 lb. and another 1,100 lb. against 818 lb. Work has been in progress to evolve wilt resistant varieties and successful results have been obtained in some centres.

Fruits

The Council has been subsidizing schemes for production of fruits in Madras, United Provinces, East Punjab, Bihar, West Bengal, Central Provinces and Berar, Assam, Hyderabad, Mysore and Coorg. Canning of fruit and preservation of fruits is being conducted in Madras and at the Indian Institute of Fruit Technology, now at Delhi.

A collection of potato varieties in Simla has been the material for evolving improved types of hybridization.

Manurial Experiments

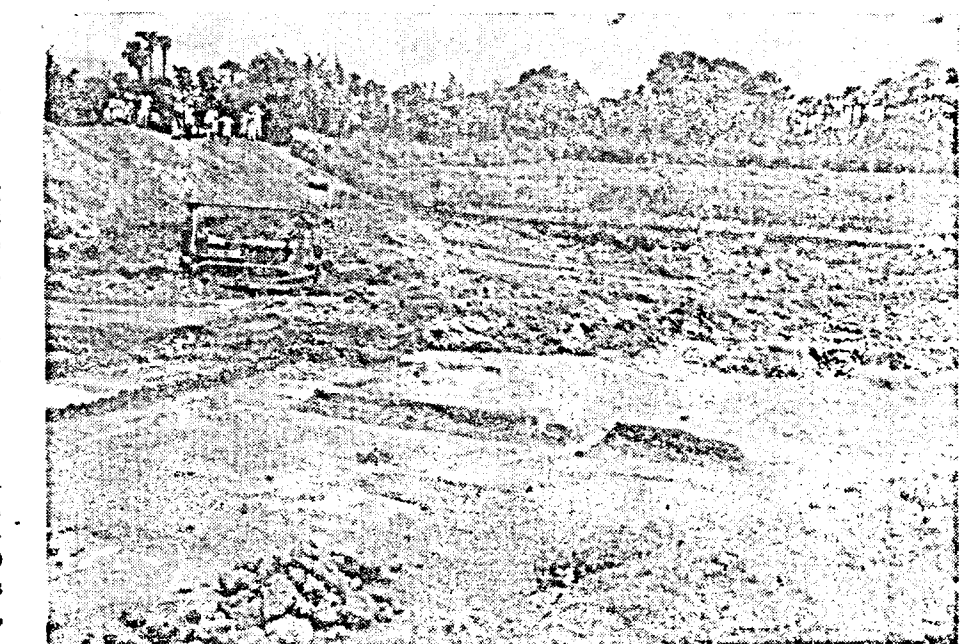
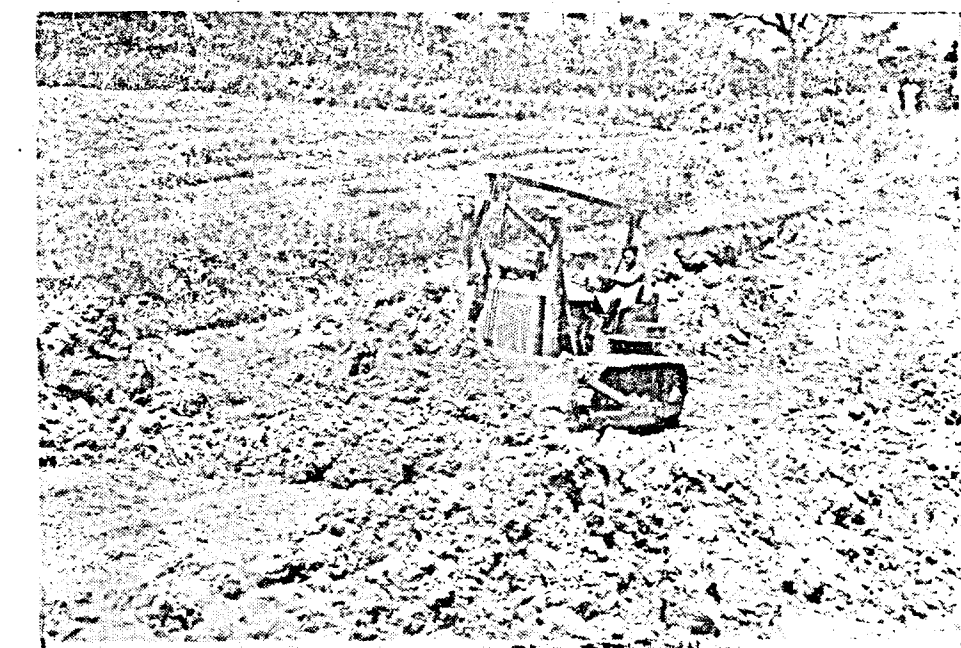
Investigations have been conducted with organic and inorganic manures, farm-yard manure, cattle dung, compost and oil-seeds. In all about 5,000 trials have been conducted on various crops including paddy, wheat, jowar, groundnut, millets, oil-seeds and pulses. The increased yield through ammonium sulphate has varied from 21—24 per cent

in Bengal to 70 per cent in United Provinces and Kashmir. With oil-cakes, the maximum increase has been as high as 110 to 190 per cent. Application of 30—40 lb. nitrogen through green leaves is likely to increase the yield by 22—30 per cent, whereas a heavier application of green manure (60—80 lb. nitrogen) has given in certain cases over 100 per cent increase.

Animal Husbandry

More than 100 research schemes covering all aspects of animal husbandry

are in progress. The stress from early days has been on diseases control because of enormous loss resulting from fatal livestock diseases in the country. Research in animal diseases and health is directed towards prevention or control of contagious and infectious diseases. Rinderpest being the chief disease, has received the most attention and methods of immunization against other diseases, are being used extensively. The importance of survey of diseases was early recognized and as a first step it was considered



Excavating a tank in Malabar district with a D-6 Bulldozer (in 7 days)

necessary to find out diseases which caused most loss and the conditions under which they were encountered. Disease Investigation Officers were employed in practically all Provinces and major States. A complete veterinary survey has been made and also some of the diseases of unknown origin have been defined, their causes ascertained and methods of overcoming them made available.

Parasitic diseases received early attention. The first Indian Council of Agricultural Research Scheme was started in 1934 in the Punjab followed by others in United Provinces, Central Provinces and Madras. These have been mainly directed towards elucidation of the life history of common parasites so that methods of control can be framed. A devastating sheep disease called 'pitto' or 'Gillar' which is caused by a parasite has been investigated in detail in Bihar and a simple method of treatment tried with success.

Animal Nutrition

Basic information concerning animal feeds has been collected. As a result

of research it has been found that the feeding value of rice straw is enhanced by washing, Munj and Kans grasses can be used by ensilage, the use of fish and bone-meal form a valuable addition of protein and concentrates and can be used with impunity under Indian conditions. Attention has also been paid to the study of aquatic grasses as well as monsoon grasses and their preservation. An experiment just completed, proves that climate by itself plays a minor part in the defective growth of animals, when compared to unbalanced or insufficient diets, and the effects of parasites.

Animal Breeding

Research in cattle breeding has been associated with the immediate production of improved sires for immediate use. Breeding research in regard to sheep has been directed to an improvement for the production of more and finer wool. This is evidenced by the interest taken by shepherds of Bombay, Mysore, Kashmir and to lesser extent in the Punjab.

Poultry breeding research has aimed at improvement through the introduction

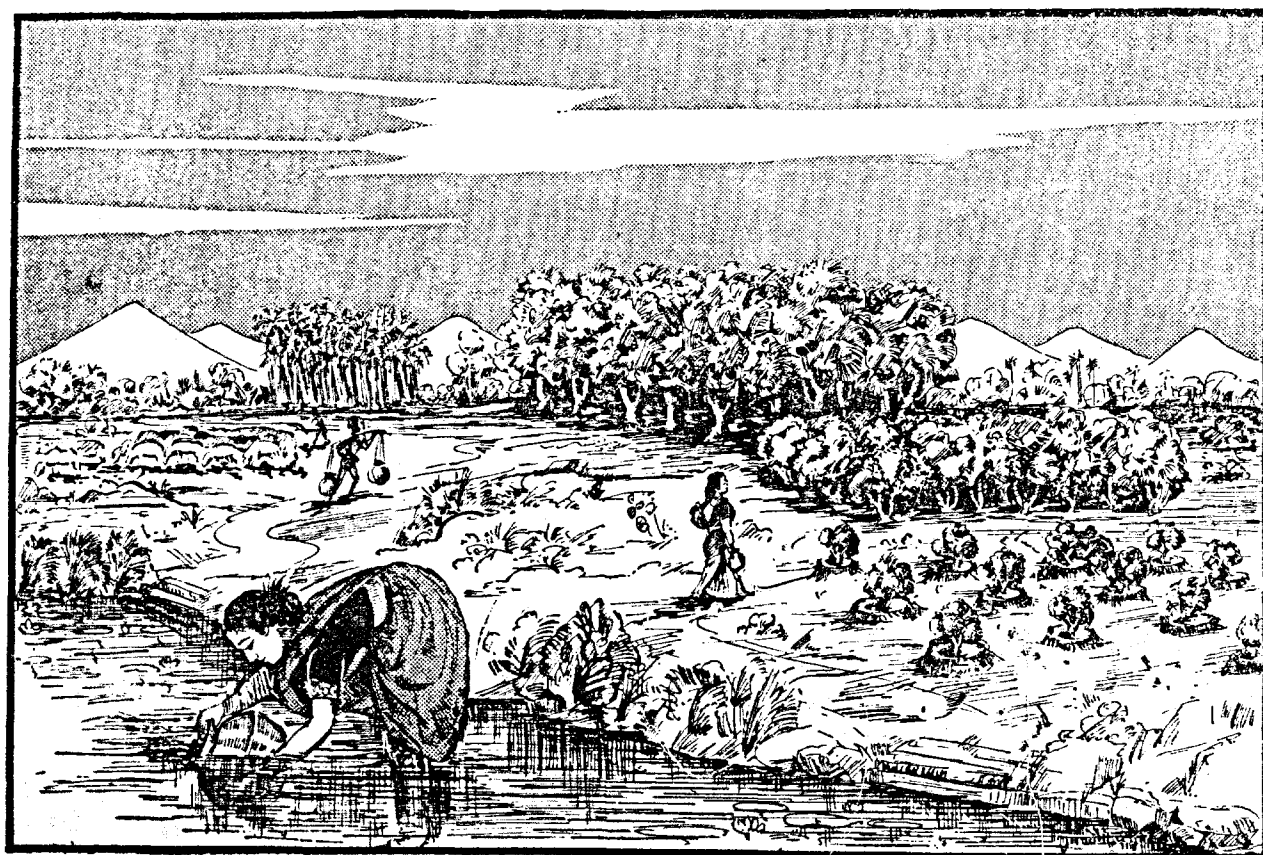
of western breeds, and has shown that these breeds can be acclimatized in India and the production and yields of local birds can be increased by cross breeding with the Desi stock.

Other Research Schemes

General results of practical value so far obtained in respect of dairying are the production of vegetable rennet, manufacture of casein and lactose as a cottage industry method of neutralizing high acidity of ghee by use of lime, manufacture of a simplified and improved ghee boiler and village utensils and the sesame oil test for detecting adulteration of ghee with vanaspati.

In agriculture, research has been directed towards obtaining knowledge concerning indigenous varieties of breeds, their domestication and exploitation in the wild state. It is possible to teach villagers improved methods of bee keeping which even the poorest may follow. Cheap appliances have been devised.

A cheap dressing for hides and skins, which villagers can apply to cattle, has been proved to be successful.



Planting for prosperity

AGRICULTURE IN OTHER COUNTRIES

New Chemical Compounds Aid American Farmers

American farmers are spending billions of dollars annually in their fight against insects, weeds and plant and animal diseases. Each year they spend \$500,000,000 on insect control alone. To-day many new chemical compounds—some born of wartime research—are available to aid the farmers. Among the new trends in agricultural chemicals is the growing importance of synthetic organic chemicals, whereas

in the past most farm chemicals came from plant sources or from inorganic materials, such as copper compounds. Another trend is to more specific and selective compounds designed for special purposes. In fertilizers, too, the trend is to specific formulas for each type of soil and each crop that is being grown.

But the chemist has gone farther than merely providing defensive

weapons. He also has equipped the agriculturist with new substances—hormones—that allow plants—and even animals—to be shaped to the farmer's desire. An era of "tailor-made" crops is on the horizon, say some authorities. The growth and qualities of both plants and animals will be almost to specifications, and farming will change from an art to a science.

Modern Soil Conservation Methods in American Farms

Good crop rotation and livestock management programs combined with a complete soil conservation program have greatly improved the fertility and productivity of many American farms, particularly in the corn and small grains region around Des Moines in the midwestern state of Iowa.

A typical farm, where these modern agricultural methods have proved their worth, is the farm of Chris Jensen near Audubon, a small city of 2,500 population located about 80 miles (128 kilometers) west of Des Moines. The soil map of the farm shows moderate slopes ranging from 3 to 5 per cent and rolling slopes ranging from 5 to 18 per cent. There are three principal soil types, but the bulk of it is Marshall silt loam.

The oddly-shaped fields, which follow the contour of the land, interspersed with terraces, buffer strips and grassed waterways have led strangers from the city and even old-fashioned farmers to call the Jensen farm a "crazy quilt" farm. And so, in truth, does the pattern of his farming appear on a chart. However, to Jensen and hundreds of Iowans who are farming the modern way, everything in that crazy quilt pattern helps save precious top-soil, conserves water and prevents erosion and the formation of gullies. The unusual layout means increased yields of corn (maize) for animal feed, oats, and a heavier, thicker growth of nutritious grasses and legumes which, in turn, mean more and higher quality pork, beef, milk and eggs.

The often-heard criticism that too much land is taken out of production

and that farming such oddly-shaped fields is a nuisance can best be answered by Jensen, who in a recent interview declared, "I would farm no other way."

Jensen's farm is two and a quarter miles (three and one-half kilometers) north-east of Audubon. He moved there in 1935 and started the "face lifting" in connexion with a long-time soil conservation plan in 1939. As a comparison of yields, the land formerly produced 75 bushels of corn (65,308 hectoliters per hectare) and 45 bushels of oats (39,185 hectoliters per hectare) to the acre. These averages have now been increased to 100 bushels (87.1 hectoliters per hectare) of corn and close to that quantity of oats in the best of crop years.

Jensen had one 10 acre (four-hectare) field of contoured corn (that is, corn planted on land that had been plowed horizontally along slopes to hinder water run-off and erosion) which, yielded 137 bushels per acre (119,318 hectoliters per hectare) in 1944 in the official state contest conducted by the Iowa Corn and Small Grain Association. This yield, the third highest in the state that year for corn grown on the contour, was made on ground where sod and a covering of barnyard manure had been turned under. No commercial fertilizer was used.

As for oats, Jensen says 1945 was his best year in a long time. He had an average yield per acre of 95 bushels (82,723 hectoliters per hectare).

Jensen currently has turned much of his land over to production of certified brome grass seed, a grass having

large spikelets, and grown for forage. He is producing a Fischer strain developed by Iowa State College, and last year produced 250 pounds to the acre (283.75 kilograms per hectare) on 25 acres (10 hectares). He received for the grass seed approximately 40 cents a pound (.454 kilogram). Moreover, this grass can be grown on many of the soil-conserving strips of land between the row crops.

Like most progressive United States farmers, Jensen rotates crops on each part of his growing fields, but without disturbing the permanent layout of terraces, buffer strips, and waterways. The crop rotation followed is two years of corn, one year of oats with brome and alfalfa seeded on the same ground later in the year, then alfalfa and brome for two years before returning to corn. This five-year rotation is carried on normally in all six fields on the farm. By this system, one field is in retirement each year. This rotation is out of balance, temporarily, on the Jensen farm because of the present emphasis on brome seed production.

Jensen, for the past four years a member of the State of Iowa Soil Conservation Committee, says Iowa's good soil needs the best of management with a good rotation.

That these modern methods of farming being applied in Iowa are successful is proved by the current estimates of a record crop of nearly 700,000,000 bushels (246,000,000 hectoliters) of corn for the state of Iowa this year, an average yield throughout the state of 61 bushels to the acre (53,117 hectoliters per hectare)!

United States Program to Conserve Foodgrains

To help preserve bumper grain crops harvested this year, the United States Department of Agriculture is co-operating with State and County agricultural experts in a program to help farmers build additional storage facilities on their farms. The program was started when it became apparent that terminal storage facilities and country elevators could not provide the needed storage space.

Engineers of the Agricultural Department and State agricultural colleges worked out plans for bins and cribs that could be built cheaply and quickly. These plans were distributed free to farmers. In addition, a series of regional, State, county and community meetings were held to demonstrate to farmers in every area the best methods of constructing additional storage facilities. In the midwestern State of Iowa, for example, a series of demonstrations is now being held, with a 1,000-bushel crib completed at each demonstration.

Agricultural experts point out that the storage program is important not only to conserve foodgrains but to promote more orderly marketing of grains by farmers. Furthermore, proper farm storage facilities are necessary if farmers wish to qualify for Government financial aid on their stored crops.

This aid to farmers on stored crops takes two forms—loans or purchase agreements and is designed to assure a farmer a stable income. A Government loan is granted to a farmer on his stored crops at 90 per cent of the so-called parity price. (The parity price is the dollar value of a farmer's product so adjusted as to enable him to buy the same amount of consumer goods as he could in the period 1909-1914. This period is considered the time when the ratio between the prices of farm and non-farm goods was most nearly in balance.) At the end of a reasonable

length of time, the farmer may sell the grain in the open market and repay the loan to the Government, or, if the prevailing market price is under the 90 per cent of parity price level he may turn the grain over to the Government as full payment of the loan.

Under the purchase agreement, a farmer has the option during an agreed period to sell all or part of his crop on the open market or to the Government at 90 per cent of the parity price. The difference between a loan and a purchase agreement is that, in the first case, the farmer cannot market his crop during a reasonable period while, in the second case, he can market his crop at any time during the agreed period, but with the assurance that he can turn over any unsold portion at the end of the period to the Government at the 90 per cent of parity price. Under the purchase agreement, the farmer pays only 1/2 cent a bushel for this price-support protection.

the important canal headworks, canals and major distributaries, dams, hydro-power stations, types of irrigation, viz., perennial, non-perennial, inundation, from storage or tubewells, rainfall, contours and State and Provincial boundaries as existing in 1946. A statement showing areas irrigated during 1944-45 in various Provinces and States of India is also given at the bottom.

Copies of the map are available on payment from the Secretary, Central Board of Irrigation, Kennedy House, Simla S.W.

Marketing Officers' Conference

Over 50 Central and Provincial Marketing officers attended a two-day session of the Tenth Marketing Officer's Conference at New Delhi.

To build up the reputation of Indian products in foreign countries, the Conference recommended that steps should be taken by legislation to regulate the quality of exports in accordance with Agmark standards. Pending the passing of such legislation, the present grading scheme of tobacco and sun hemp, should be extended to as many agricultural and animal husbandry products as possible, with first preference to oilseeds and vegetable oils.

Another resolution recommended the publication by the Central Directo-

rate of Marketing by the end of next year, survey reports on 15 commodities including millets, maize, pulses, mangoes, poultry, rice, milk, groundnuts and fish. Provincial Marketing Officers were advised to publish by the end of 1949 survey reports on the marketing of rice, milk, groundnuts and fish. Summaries of both the Central and Provincial reports should be published simultaneously in regional languages.

To protect the interest of the farmers in their markets, the Conference recommended that Provincial and State Governments be moved to enact the necessary legislation; arrange for the regulation of all the important assembling markets as soon as possible and entrust the administration of the Regulated Markets Act to the Provincial and State Marketing Officers or to other Officers with requisite marketing experience.

Other resolutions include the following:—

(1) To protect the interests of farmers and facilitate trading and pending recommendations of the Indian Standards Institution concerning the general reorientation of the Government of India's policy on weights and measures, Provincial and State Governments should undertake necessary legislation, if it does not already exist, for enforcing standard weights and measures.

The Government of India should expedite the work of the Indian Standards Institution concerned with the prescription of standards of weights and measures and to arrange for their effective adoption on an all-India basis.

(2) With a view to securing improvement in quality of agricultural produce, eliminating trade disputes and smoothening the operation of trade between distant markets steps be taken to prescribe standard contracts on an all-India basis for important staple commodities;

(3) On the subject of rail and road transport the Conference recommended that the Provincial and State Governments should (i) give the highest possible priority for the construction of all weather feeder roads in agricultural areas for facilitating the movement of agricultural produce to assembling markets or despatching stations, and (ii) popularise and assist in the use of pneumatic tyres for bullock carts and to assist in the manufacture and utilization of country carts for transporting agricultural produce.

It also recommended that the Rail Transport and Steamship authorities should (i) introduce a unified rates policy for different classes of goods for the whole country, and (ii) provide adequate number of ventilated and

fru.
butte.

(4) cultivator undue profits Governments should encourage producers' co-operative pooling, grading, processing, and marketing of produce and the organization of producers' co-operative stores and to link them up with producers' marketing societies.

Resolutions were also adopted on establishment of licensed warehouses, containers and storage and training of candidates for marketing work.

There is so much in common between man and man that it is a marvel that there can be any quarrel on the ground of religion. Any creed or dogma which coerces others into following one uniform practice is a religion only in name, for a religion worth the name does not admit of any coercion.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

DELHI DIARY

Study of Soil Mechanics

Engineers working in different fields in India have joined together to form a new organization called the Indian National Society on Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering with the aim of encouraging the study of, and research in soil mechanics and foundation engineering.

The science of soil mechanics has made rapid advances during the last two decades and has revolutionized many aspects of structural, earth dams and road engineering. It will be the object of this Society to study the developments that have taken place in this sphere of science and to devise ways and means of applying the results of their study to the designing, construction and maintenance of various engineering projects in India.

The Society will provide liaison with the International Society on Soil Mechanics and Engineering Foundation and everyone of its members will automatically be a member of the International body without any additional liability. The Society will publish an annual report on all activities in relation to soil mechanics in India and also

republish for the benefit of its members similar reports from other countries received through the International Society.

At the first meeting of the Society held recently it was decided that membership should be open to all qualified engineers and research workers as well as institutions connected with or interested in soil mechanics and its application to practical engineering problems. The annual subscription is Rs. 15 for individual members and Rs. 100 for institutions. Further details can be had from the Secretary of the Indian National Society on Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering, Kennedy House, Simla S.W.

Irrigation Map of India

The Central Board of Irrigation has recently issued an Irrigation Map of India, Burma and Ceylon (1946) prepared in the Board's Office and printed by the Survey of India. It is the first map of its kind.

The map is 60 inches by 42 inches in size and is divided in four sections. It shows in multicolour all rivers of India,

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"THE SOUTH INDIAN STUDENTS' HANDBOOK, 1948"

Publishers: The Enquiries, Limited, Royapetta, Madras. Price Rs. 2.

This useful guide-book satisfies a long-felt need of the students, especially those of the mufassal, who are unaware of the existence of many an education institution which provides them the course for which they have a real aptitude. Instances are not wanting of parents and students wasting their time, energy and money in futile enquiries and fruitless correspondence ultimately selecting the wrong course and the wrong place due to sheer ignorance of the existing facilities. This book gives all information about the higher educational institutions in the Province—both general and technical including information regarding hostel

accommodation etc., and is thus an invaluable guide to every parent and student seeking a college course. It also contains useful information regarding the important educational institutions and specialized courses outside the Madras Province and to the youth who faces the acute problem of unemployment after a college course, it gives valuable hints about the competitive examinations for recruitment to Government service. For the time and labour spent on its production, the price should not be considered high and this useful and maiden venture of the Enquiries, Limited, Madras, deserves the encouragement and appreciation of the public in general and the student world in particular. It would rightly find a place in every College and High School Library in the Province.

—K.C.N.

"YOUR PREDICTION"

By an Experienced Astrologer. Publishers: N. M. Thakkar & Co., 140, Princess Street, Bombay-2. Price Rs. 5-12-0.

The belief in the influence of planets over human beings is as old as the history of mankind and the science of Astrology has gained ground even to this day. To read the page of one's destiny, in however crude a form, is interesting to any individual. It is the field of the scholarly astrologer to discuss all facts in detail. The book under review attempts to give in simple narrative and in a brief and concise form and idea of the influence of the planets on persons born during particular periods in the year and an elementary knowledge about their character and future with useful hints

ours, days, months and years, that would bring them luck. A list of famous personalities who were born during the period is also furnished, the reader is enabled to gain some knowledge not only about himself, but also about his friends and be cautioned about incidents of an unhappy nature and the time and place to toil and persevere in the proper direction. The book is attractively got up. —K.C.N.

I. "THE NATION'S VOICE"

Edited by C. RAJAGOPALACHARI AND J. C. KUMARAPPA.

Narjivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad. Pages 254. Price Rs. 3.

Louis Fischer in his book "A week with Gandhi" has observed that while Mr. Jinnah talked at him, Gandhiji talked to him. Gandhiji's spoken word revealed his innermost thoughts; it was a word-picture of a master mind working its way to truth. His speeches even more than his writings, are a message from his to the speaker's heart. The twelve speeches included in his volume are characterized by this same honesty of purpose, purity of thought and accuracy in expression.

These speeches were delivered by Gandhiji during his visit to England, in connection with the Second Round Table Conference. When the "half-naked Fakir" spoke, it was the Indian nations' voice that spoke through him.

The second part of this book gives an interesting pen-picture of his stay and activities in England, by Bapu's Boswell, Mahadev Desai.

—K.D.

II. "ADVENTURES IN EDUCATION"

K. L. Shrimali Vidhya Bhavan Society, Udaipur, Rajputana. Pages 92. Price Rs. 3.

That the present system of education in India is foreign to our culture, unsuited to our genius and inimical to our progress, is a fact which has been

Those who respect themselves cannot make good the claim if they will not respect their neighbours, however few or insignificant they are.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

recognized by educationists no less than by politicians. This realization has paved the way for many attempts to reform the educational system and re-orient it to suit our needs. One such attempt to impart national education was the founding of Vidhya Bhavan in 1931 in Udaipur. This book gives an account of the progress of this institution and the various educational experiments in "Nai Talim" (New Education) that were worked out therein. All these experiments realize the importance of recognizing and developing the creative faculty of the pupil, so that he may progress and grow rather than cram himself with book-learning that would be a deadweight on his mind.

The book will be of great interest now, particularly because Basic Education as envisaged by Bapu is slowly coming into its own.

—K.D.

"INDIAN AFTER-DINNER STORIES, VOL. I"

A. S. P. AYYAR, Teachers' Publishing House, Madras. Pages 141. Price Rs. 1-8-0.

This is an entertaining collection of 51 popular stories that have gone from mouth to mouth in our parts. The author has done well in collecting together in book form what have till now been country tales and legends. Humorous as these are, there is invariably a moral dangling at the end. The stories have been narrated in an easy, idiomatic style. The get up of the book could have been more inviting and less like a text-book.

—K.D.

"A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE"

A. S. P. AYYAR. Rochouse, Madras. Pages 69. Price Re. 1.

This is the story of Punna, the nurse of the infant prince of Chitor who sacrificed her own child in order to save the prince and perpetuate the dynasty. This play in three acts has, by its artistic excellence, done ample justice to the noble and inspiring theme.

—K.D.

"STUDENT'S COMPANION—JULY 1948"

Edited by V. BALASUBRAMANIAM, B.A., Price As. 5 per copy.

This is a monthly journal. Its aim has been set out as "to enable the students to become useful and patriotic

citizens of the land and help them absorb the best education and culture during the impressionable period of their lives." The journal contains articles on a variety of subjects. The editor deserves to be congratulated on this new venture.

—T.K.G.

"WOMEN OF MODERN INDIA SERIES—KASTURBA GANDHI"

Published by the Oxford University Press. Price As. 5.

This is a simple and unvarnished account of the life of Kasturba Gandhi devoid of all intricate details. Apparently, it is intended for young readers. It is printed in bold types and admits of easy reading. Sufficient light is thrown on the notable qualities of Kasturba Gandhi. Her devotion to her husband was unflinching and she stood by him through thick and thin. She was also interested in humanitarian work and proved herself extremely useful to Mahatmaji.

The publication of such lives constitute a useful form of literature. It is calculated to inspire and ennoble the readers. Such publications also serve to keep alive one's patriotism. Poet Long Fellow said:

"Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime
And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time."

This passage embodies an axiomatic truth and publications such as the one in hand are calculated to realize this truth.

—T.K.G.

"PLAN FOR EDUCATION"

By F. G. PEARCE, Published by the Oxford University Press. Price Rs. 3.

This is a descriptive and critical commentary on post-war educational development in India otherwise known as the Sargent Plan. The book has been neatly got up and is richly illustrated with telling diagrams intended to elucidate the subject-matter. Professional people may find this book especially useful.

—T.K.G.



The Hon'ble Dr. S. G. Gopalakrishnan Inaugurated Prohibition in Tiruvellu at a crowded public Meeting



The Hon'ble Minister for Prohibition distributing Hundi Boxes to wives of Ex-addicts



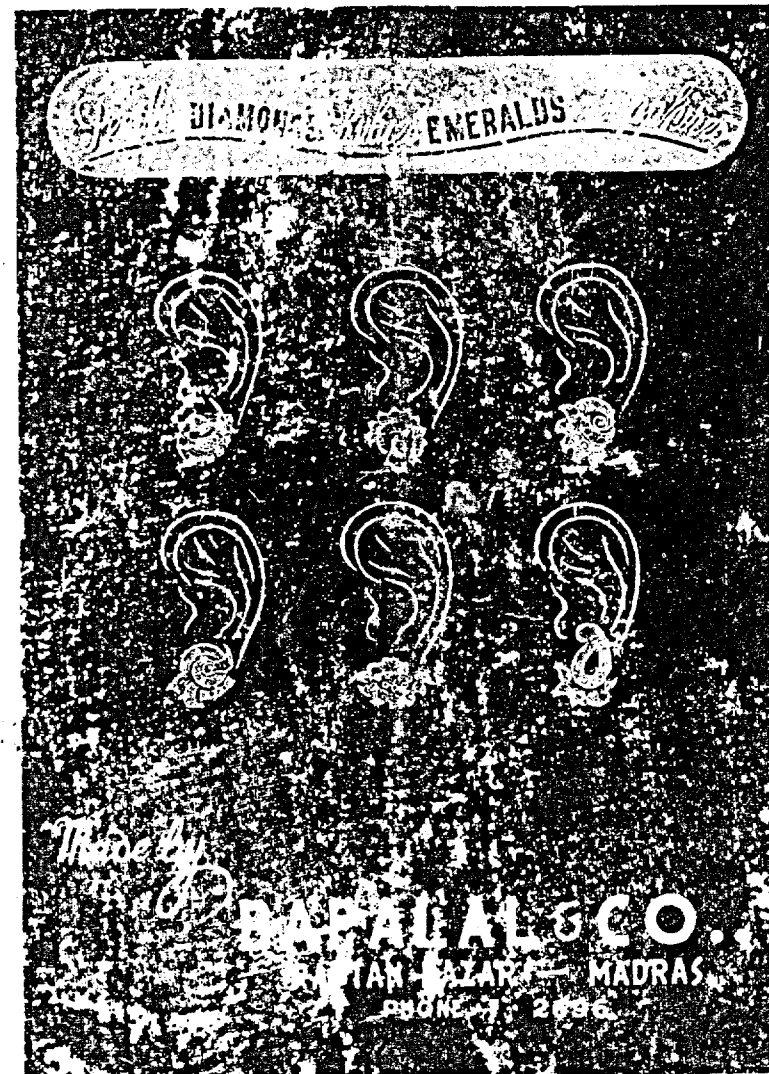
Speech and Prohibition are Discontinued in the addition.

MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 1st DECEMBER 1948

NO. 21



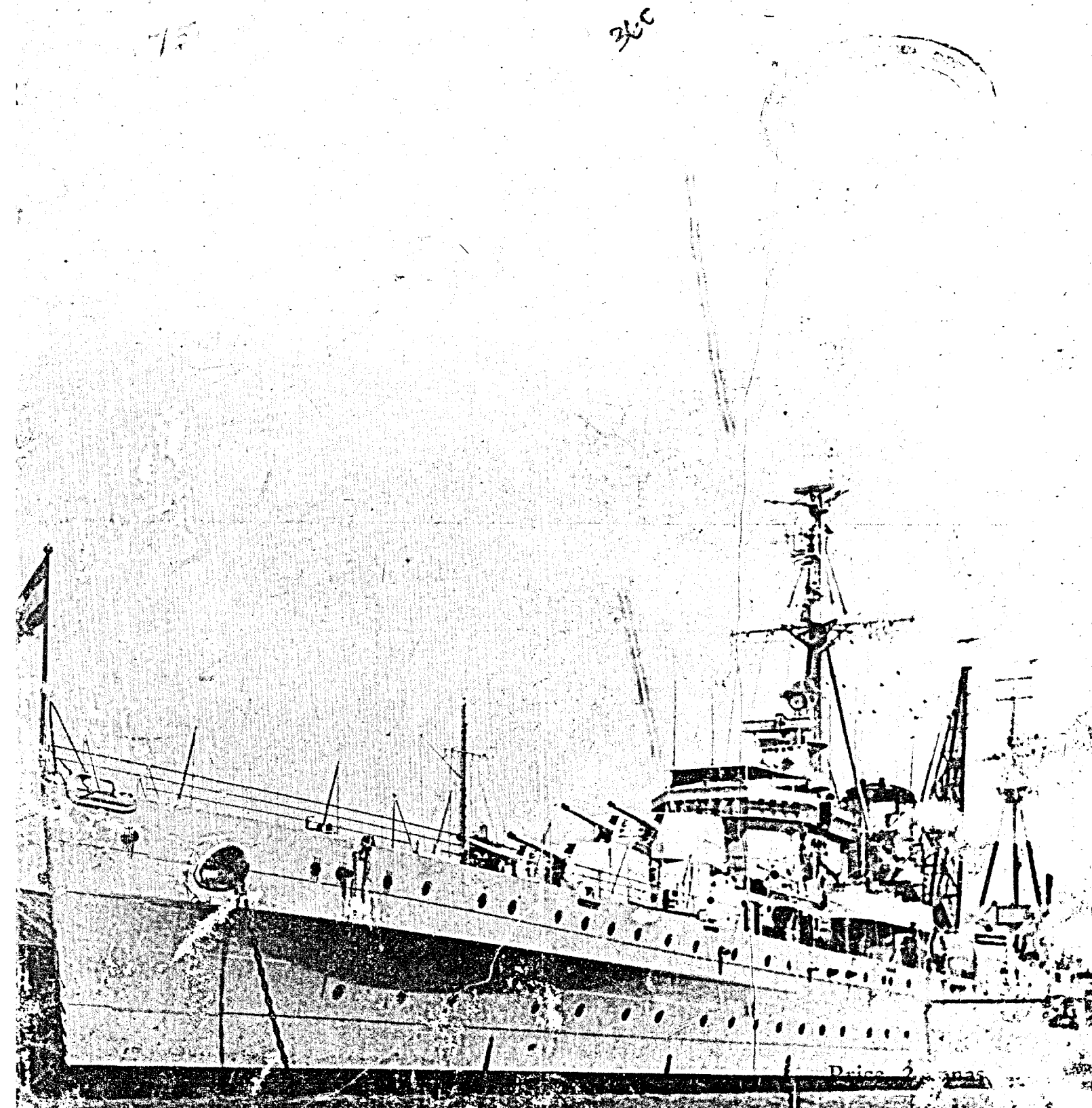
BAFALAL & CO.,

Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewellers,
Rattan Bazaar, Madras-3

Telegram: "NECKLACE"

Telephone: 2696

PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS, EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
INFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA.



Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

361

Vol. II, No. 21

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

December 1, 1948

SHORT NOTES

Women Conductors

This Province has given lead to the rest of India in ways more than one. In the introduction of Province-wide Prohibition, Madras has scored a march over the other parts of the country. Again in the organization of a special department for women's welfare, the Government have taken a unique step. The Government have since appointed women conductors for Government buses in the City. This might sound a strange innovation but the question

has been asked that if women can be lawyers, judges, teachers, doctors, etc., why not they be conductors also?

The candidates selected for women conductors' posts are given theoretical and practical training for a period of one week. Elsewhere in this issue appear photos bearing on this training. During the seven days of training, they are given a thorough grounding in all the aspects connected with a conductor's work.

Ex-servicemen's Day

Friday, the 1st October 1948 was observed by all the Ex-servicemen's Co-operatives as a day for collections for the benefits of Ex-servicemen and their families. The Ex-servicemen co-operatives convened informal meetings of their members and objects of the Flag day and the purpose for which funds were collected were explained to them. Collections were made from members, employees and the public. A sum of Rs. 1,381-8-3 was collected on the flag day.

IN THIS ISSUE

H.M.I.S. "Delhi"—Frontispiece.

Short Notes

Ideas and Ideals

Press Notes, Releases, etc.

Departments' Activities

Prohibition Topics

In the Sphere of Education

Topics of the Day

Medical and Public Health
Corner

Flashlights

Agricultural Notes

Students' Column

Other Provinces — News
Round-up

Clippings from Gandhiji's
Writings

Odds and Ends

Books and Publications

Irrigation Conference in Nilgiris

The half-yearly Irrigation Conference of the Nilgiris district was held recently. It was also attended by representatives of other departments. A useful programme was gone through. The questions discussed

included the creation of a model farm of paddy in the district, the formation of a Co-operative Farming Society, Grow More Food Campaign and the progress made in the investigation of Irrigation Schemes in the district.

"Just like the Ganges, patriotism is a blessing that comes from heaven. Waters of patriotism, like those of Ganges are strong and turbulent. They should be properly dammed for fruitful irrigation and all round prosperity."

—H.E. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.



The Government have introduced the system of employing women as conductors on Government transport buses. The picture shows some of the selected candidates attending a training class.



Some of the selected candidates start on a course of practical training.

IDEAS AND IDEALS

Regeneration of Villages

Speaking recently at Nagpur Hon'ble Sardar Patel reminded his audience of the importance of rural regeneration, he said :—

"Gandhiji built his struggle on four walls. The first was untouchability. That sin had to be washed out. That is not part of Hindu religion; it is a foreign matter. We have attained some success in it, but its poison had spread so much that when we were in Yeravada Jail, he had to wield his biggest weapon against the British Government. They had resorted to such a manoeuvre in granting self-government that it would have disintegrated the Hindu community. In this world, fighting is carried on with arms, but Bapu saved the Hindu community by his weapon of fast. But we have not yet cast out untouchability from our hearts; that wall is therefore only half-built.

"The second wall was self-sufficiency in cloth. Whatever cloth we need, we should make ourselves. That used to be the case before the British came. There was a charka in every home. Bapu plied his charka daily and regularly up to his end. It



is in the same manner that we should ply the charka. You know that we used to sing that we would weave Swaraj out of the cotton yarn. They remain, however, mere words, otherwise the country would not have been in the present sore straits. Thus the second wall also remains incomplete.

"The third wall was Hindu-Muslim unity. What shall I say about it?

Tolerance based on understanding

"This Province had already set an example of communal harmony while the rest of India had been a seething mass of communal hatred. Tolerance is only the first stage of communal harmony. True tolerance should be based on understanding the other person's point of view, his religious tenets and his faith". Thus remarked H.E. the Governor of Madras, presiding at a public meeting on the occasion of the Deepavali celebration by the Madras Harmony Council.

His Excellency added : "We are met here today not just to celebrate Deepavali, but to explain its significance to the public at large, especially to those belonging to communities other than Hindus. To a Madras audience I need hardly explain the virtues of tolerance, you might think it impertinence, especially when it is stressed



Bapu lost his life working for it. We are all responsible for his death.

"The fourth wall was national education. We did not follow Gandhiji, even there and did not help him attain the Swaraj of his conception—which he called Ram Rajya. Bapu knew our weaknesses. But he had hopes that some day the seed would bear fruit. He knew that Swarajya could not be attained in his lifetime. In India two forces were at work. India was influenced by Western culture and civilization. In big cities and factories, the labourers were being ground down. That is a poisonous system. By mills turning out big stocks of goods only a few men get rich. In India some 60 to 70 lakhs of labourers work in the mills. But crores of workers are lying idle. The smaller crafts in villages have been swallowed by the bigger ones of the town. We copy the big business of the foreign countries. When Bapu came to India, he revived the ancient indigenous Indian system. The conflict between both the systems goes on.

"Whatever type of Swaraj we have got, we have secured through Bapu's austerities. He wanted Ram Rajya; that dream he has left with you. Crores of our men live in villages. How can they experience the benefits of Swaraj? Even in cities none has tasted the fruits of Swaraj. They are still in the same pitiable state. After we attained Swaraj, the conditions in cities should have changed but they are actually worse."

by a non-Madrasi. This Province had already set an example while the rest of India had been a seething mass of communal hatred.

"But I may go a step further and say that tolerance in itself is not enough. Tolerance is only the first stage of perfect communal harmony. Mahatma Gandhi wrote in one of his letters that sometimes tolerance implies an assumption of inferiority of other faiths to one's own, whereas Ahimsa teaches us to entertain the same respect for the religious faiths of others as we accord to our own. This should be the goal that we should aim at. This was the goal for which Gandhiji strove daily at his prayer meetings where the Quoran and the Bible, the Gita and the Granth, all found a place of honour.

"I would not go so far as to say that tolerance always implies an assumption of the inferiority of somebody

(Continued on page 6)

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

Teachers Employed as Branch Postmasters

The Government have decided that teachers in the service of Government and of District Boards employed as Branch Postmasters shall be granted with effect from September 1, 1948 dearness allowance at the maximum rate admissible to them in Government or District Board Service, without taking into account the dearness allowance granted to them by the Postal Department.

This decision has been taken in response to representations received from the teachers, who had been allowed as per order dated February 22, 1946, a rate of dearness allowance from Provincial funds or District Board Funds corresponding to the difference between the rate of dearness allowance to which they are eligible in Government or Board Service and that granted by the Postal Department.

[November 5]

Public Services and Pensions in 1947-48

The statistics of the strength and cost of the several services in this province, as well as the number of pensioners and the amount of pensionary liabilities of the Government during 1947-48 show that the total number of posts in the Indian Civil Service was 108, involving an expenditure of Rs. 11.13 lakhs. The strength of other All India Services and High Court Judges, excluding the I.C.S. Judges, was 161, involving an expenditure of Rs. 15.89 lakhs. The total number of pensioners under the I.C.S. and other all India Services was 102 and 243, respectively.

The total strength of the Provincial Services was 2,983 and the cost involved was Rs. 164.06 lakhs. The strength of the Subordinate, Ministerial and Inferior Services, including village establishment, was 1,48,462 involving a cost of Rs. 843.47 lakhs. Pensioners under the former category totalled 927 and under the latter 32,392. The strength of the village establishment was 106,678 and the cost thereof Rs. 173.05 lakhs. The total cost to the Government on account of salaries and pensions during 1947-48 amounted to Rs. 1,371.77 lakhs.

[November 5]

Drive against corruption among Government Servants

The following is a list of non-permanent Government servants discharged from service during the period between 1st April 1948 and 30th June 1948 for suspected or proved corruption :—

Name of individual. (1)	Post last held. (2)
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.	
(1) R. M. Sundaram	Demonstration Maistri, Madura taluk.
(2) R. Narayanasamy	Do.
(3) M. Kanagarajan	Do.
(4) S. Karuppaiah	Do.
(5) R. Rengaraju	Do.
(6) A. Subramanyam	Store-keeper, Saidapet.
(7) Francis	Do.
CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT.	
(1) Rajasekara Reddi	Firka Supply Officer, Proddatur.
(2) P. Venkataramanaiah	Temporary Firka Supply Officer, Muddanur.
(3) N. D. Karakada	Enquiry Officer, Circle Rationing Office, Mangalore (North).
(4) T. K. Mahboob Khan	Chowkidar, Tinnevely district.
(5) Peter Fernando	Do.
(6) Muthusamy Pillai	Do.
(7) Shamsuddin	Do.
(8) Gulam Dastagir	Do.
(9) M. Ayyasamy	Petrol Supervisor, Assistant Rationing Officer's Office, Coimbatore.
(10) Paramanantham	Enquiry Officer, Rationing Officer's Office, Ootacamund.
(11) S. Ayyakannu Raj	Firka Supply Officer, Kamapuram.
(12) A. Bland	Reserve Assistant Transport Officer, Madras.
(13) Hanumanthu	Chowkidar, Guntakal.
(14) Venkatramudu	Do.
(15) Sowrapu Pedda Narayana	Chowkidar, Tadpatri.
(16) D. C. Bheemappa	Chowkidar, Anantapur.
(17) Madduleti	Do.
(18) D. Krishnamurthy	Firka Supply Officer, Adavivaram, Vizagapatam taluk.
(19) K. Babu Rao Patnaik	Firka Supply Officer, Gonnavallasa, Vizianagaram taluk.
(20) Vajaravelu	Peon, VII-B Circle, Rationing Office, Madras City.
(21) Gopalakrishnan	Enquiry Officer, II-A Circle, Rationing Office, Madras City.
(22) Allum	Clerk, II-A Circle, Rationing Office, Madras City.
(23) B. Doraisingam	Upper Division Clerk, III-B Circle, Rationing Office, Madras City.

NOTE.—Items (13) to (23) under Civil Supplies department relate to the period from 1st January 1947 to 31st March 1948.

INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

S. Venkatesan Temporary Lower Division Clerk, Office of the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras.

Name of individual.
(1)

Post last held.
(2)

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

T. Abubacker Junior Attender of Copyists (Inferior service) acted temporarily as Record Attender, District Court, Tellicherry.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

(1) Daniel Vedom Subedar, Special Armed Police, Tiruchirappalli Unit at Red Hills.
(2) A. V. Ponnambalam Peon, City Police Office, Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

(1) Md. Shukur Masalehi, I.A.T.C.'s Office, Anantapur.
(2) V. Jagannath Temporary Clerk cum Checking Inspector for Bread Rationing, Tellicherry.
[November 5]

Provincial Compost Development Committee

As recommended by the Central Compost Development Committee, the Madras Government have constituted a Provincial Compost Development Committee to take up active measures for the development of compost manure in this Province. The constitution of the Committee will be as follows :—

(1) The Hon'ble the Minister for Agriculture—*Chairman*, (2) the Director of Public Health, (3) the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards, (4) the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, (5) the Director of Agriculture, (6) the Secretary to Government, Development Department, (7) the Provincial Motor Transport Controller, (8) the Provincial Firka Development Officer, (9) one Municipal Commissioner (representing municipalities), (10) one agriculturist (non-official) and (11) the Provincial Biochemist for compost (if appointed)—*Secretary*.

[November 6]

Honorary Medical Officers

The Government have directed that the following procedure shall be followed in making appointments to the posts of Honorary Medical Officers and Honorary Assistant Medical Officers, which were last advertised by the Surgeon-General in 1947 :—

The vacancies in each hospital (except the City hospitals, which will be grouped together to form a single unit) will be allocated, as far as possible, between war service and civilian candidates in the ratio of 2 : 1. On a consideration of the recommendations made by the Surgeon-General and the special Committees prescribed under the rules, the Government will select

candidates for appointment. In the vacancies reserved for civilians, appointments will be made for a period of five years. In vacancies allotted to war service candidates, appointments of such suitable applicants as are available will be made temporarily for a period not exceeding one year. If suitable war service applicants are not available, suitable civilian applicants will be appointed temporarily for a period not exceeding one year.

War service vacancies will be re-advertised, as well as all the war service vacancies for which there are no applicants in the war service or civilian, and which therefore remain unfilled, so that a final chance may be given to all demobilized war service candidates for submitting their applications. In the case of these posts filled temporarily as above by war service candidates, if more suitable war service candidates apply on re-advertisement, they will be appointed for a period of five years ousting the existing incumbents. If more suitable war service candidates do not apply, the existing incumbents will be continued for a period of five years from the date of the first appointment.

In the case of the posts filled temporarily as above by civilian candidates, if suitable war service candidates apply on re-advertisement, they will be appointed for a period of five years, ousting the existing incumbents. If suitable war service candidates do not apply, the posts will be de-reserved and the existing incumbents will be continued for a period of five years from the date of the first appointment. In the case of vacancies for which there were no applicants and which remained unfilled, suitable war service applicants will be appointed, if they are available. If not, they will be de-reserved and filled up by civilians. Civilian vacancies which remain unfilled may also be re-advertised by the Surgeon-General at the same time.

Junior and Senior Assistant Medical Officers

An Assistant Medical Officer will be classed as "Junior", if he has not put in satisfactory service as an Assistant Medical Officer for three years or over three years, except in the special cases mentioned in the rules relating to the terms and conditions of service of Honorary Medical Officers. An officer who has rendered three years or over three years satisfactory service may be classed as "Senior". An Assistant Medical Officer (Junior) may be designated as an Assistant Medical Officer (Senior) on his completing three years satisfactory service as an Assistant Medical Officer (Junior).

[November 10]

Industrial Finance Corporation of India

The Government of India have set up the Industrial Finance Corporation of India with headquarters at New Delhi under the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948 (Act XV of 1948), for making medium and long-term credits more readily available to industrial concerns where recourse to normal banking channels or to the capital issue market is either impracticable or inappropriate. Under the Act, the Corporation is authorized to extend financial aid only to public limited companies or co-operative societies where such companies or societies are engaged in the manufacture or processing of goods or in mining or in the generation or distribution of electricity or any other form of power. The importance of an institution such as the Industrial Finance Corporation will readily manifest itself at the present time in view of the plans for the industrialization of the country. The Industrial Finance Corporation of India is now in a position to consider applications from all eligible industrial concerns for financial assistance.

[November 12]

Assistance to Agriculture

The following is a review of the quantities of materials received and distributed by the Agricultural department, during August 1948 :—

Standard Steel

The opening balance of standard steel for August 1948 was 4,241 tons. Against an allotment of 2,000 tons by the Government of India for the

quarter ending 30th September 1948, a quantity of 734 tons only was received during the month leaving a balance of 797 tons yet to be supplied from the quarterly quota. The quantity distributed by the Agricultural Department during the month of August was 562 tons. The closing balance for the month was 4,413 tons. A considerable portion of this balance consists of unsaleable categories.

Fertilizer

Ammonium sulphate.—For the fertilizer year ending 31st July 1948, the Government of India have allotted to this Province 48,500 tons of ammonium sulphate. Against that allotment, a quantity of 31,955 tons has been distributed up to the end of August and the closing balance at the end of the month was 16,545 tons. During the month the quantity distributed was 5,585 tons.

Ammonium phosphate.—For the fertilizer year 1947-48 (ending with 31st July 1948) the Government of India have allotted 1,500 tons of ammonium phosphate. The quantity distributed up to the end of August 1948 was 1,275 tons, of which 64 tons were issued during the month. The closing balance for the month was 225 tons.

Groundnut Cake

This manure is not supplied by the Government of India but is procured by the Agricultural Department from the mills on the basis of 60 per cent of their production. The opening balance of groundnut cake with the Department for August 1948 was 15,187 tons. A quantity of 7,503 tons was received and a quantity of 15,201 tons was distributed during the month (excluding Kurnool district for which figures have not yet been received). The closing balance for the month (excluding Kurnool) was 7,489 tons. These figures are outside the 40 per cent production of the mills

which is distributed direct to the ryots by mills, dealers, etc.

[November 15]

The Madras Preservation of Private Forests Act, 1946

The Madras Preservation of Private Forests Act, 1946, which was enacted in 1946 and which came into force on 3rd December 1946 was intended to prevent the indiscriminate denudation of private forests and interference with customary and prescriptive rights therein. It also provides for the stay of suits and other proceedings in which a claim to customary or prescriptive rights in a private forest is involved. The Act applies to (1) private forests in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara having a continuous area exceeding 100 acres and owned by a single person or by more than one person jointly, and (2) forests situated in estates as defined in the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908 and (3) private forests in other areas in the Province which may be declared by the Provincial Government to be forests for the purposes of the Act. The Act will cease to be in force on 2nd December 1948. Under section 1 (4) of the Act, however, the Government are empowered to extend the life of the Act for a further period or periods not exceeding two years in the aggregate. The Government have considered the question of extending the life of the Act beyond that date.

2. Under the Zamindari Abolition Legislation, all estate forests will stand transferred to the Crown and will vest in them free of all encumbrances as soon as the estates are notified under the Abolition Act. The more important of these forests will then be constituted as Government reserved forests and the provisions of the Madras Forest Act, 1882, will then apply

to them. The Abolition Bill has been passed by the Legislative Assembly and it will be introduced in the Legislative Council shortly. The Bill is expected to become Law before the end of December 1948. But in view of the object of the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Act it is necessary that the Act should continue to apply to estate forests till such time as they are taken over by the Government under the Abolition Legislation. It is also necessary that the Act should continue to apply to the forests in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara and to private forests in ryotwari areas declared as forests for the purposes of the Act. The Government have accordingly decided that the Act should be continued for a further period of one year from 3rd December 1948. A notification to this effect is being published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

[November 15]

Aided elementary schools

The Government have directed that with effect from February 1949 (in respect of the grants payable for November and December 1948) the grants payable to elementary schools, including the 15 per cent grant due to managements, be paid monthly according to a specified procedure and programme, instead of quarterly, grant which has hitherto been in force.

[November 17]

Control of pests and diseases of crops

The Government have sanctioned the continuance of the comprehensive scheme for the control of pests and diseases of crops during 1948-49 and have sanctioned an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 1,00,866 on the working of the scheme during 1948-49.

[November 17]



DEPARTMENTS' ACTIVITIES

Firka Development Department Intensive Khadi Scheme

The intensive part of the Khadi Scheme has been enforced in seven selected firkas of the Province with effect from the beginning of the year 1947. The main objective of the scheme has been to secure self-sufficiency in regard to cloth in terms of Khadi. The *modus operandi* adopted for achieving this object may briefly be described thus:

Arrangements for production

Each selected firka is in charge of a Centre Khadi Officer who is assisted by personnel trained in Khadi work by the All-India Spinners' Association and posted at convenient sub-centres in the firka. A register of regular spinners in each village is maintained by the officer in charge. These officers are provided with adequate stocks of cotton purchased by the Government for sale to the regular spinners and also with a special cash advance with which to buy yarn from the spinners. The officer sells the cotton to the regular spinners at its cost price which is fixed by the Government and buys the yarn produced by the spinners also at a rate fixed by the Government. The officer receiving the yarn issues it to selected weavers capable of handling handspun yarn and on the production of the cloth woven by the weaver, the officer pays the weaving wages to the weavers at the prescribed rates. This procedure ensures that the spinner and the weaver get the prescribed wages for spinning and for weaving respectively.

Self-sufficiency

The principle of self-sufficiency which governs the scheme obviously requires that the spinner and his or her family should have their cloth requirements met out of the Khadi produced from their own yarn and be allowed to sell to others only that amount of Khadi produced by them in excess of their requirements. But it is very often found that the poorer spinners depend upon the wages earned in spinning for satisfying more immediate wants than clothing, such as food and provisions. To enable them to do so to a small extent,

arrangements have to be made to deduct only a fraction of the wages earned by the spinners each month and keep them in deposit with the Centre Khadi Officers till the deposit grows sufficiently large to fetch an article of clothing like a dhoty or a saree. These deposits deducted from the wages of the spinners are entered in ledgers maintained by the Centre Khadi Officers and pass-books held by the spinners. This arrangement has been in force for a few months now and it is found that spinners, particularly of the poorer classes, are realizing its advantages.

Subsidy

Provision has been made in the Intensive Khadi Scheme to grant a subsidy to spinners who take the cloth made out of their own yarn to meet the clothing requirements of themselves or their families. The spinner is required to deliver his yarn to a weaver in the presence of the Khadi Officer in charge of the village and to take delivery of the woven cloth and pay the prescribed weaving wages to the weaver also in the presence of the Khadi Officer. On the cloth so produced, the Khadi Officer concerned has been authorized to pay to the spinner a subsidy now fixed at the rate of 9 pies per hank of 840 yards of yarn contained in the cloth in five centres and 6 pies per hank in two centres (viz., Kota Uratla and Erragondapalam) where the weaving wages are comparatively low. The spinners who deposit part of their wages in instalments with the Khadi Officers and purchase cloth against those deposits are placed on a par with those who get Khadi produced directly out of their own yarn and are admitted to the concession regarding the payment of subsidy. It may thus be seen that the subsidy paid is an index of the progress of self-sufficiency work.

Surplus khadi

In spite of the facilities provided for the spinners to take Khadi for their own requirements by the scheme of deposits and subsidies as detailed above, the Khadi produced in the Intensive Khadi Centres is far in excess of consumption by the spinners. In order to extend the benefits of the Intensive Khadi Scheme to the residents of the respective centres, Government have ordered that the Khadi

in the hands of the Centre Khadi Officers should be sold to the residents of the villages comprising the Centre. Further, Government have also decided to use Khadi for all State purposes in view of its unifying influence and as the best expression of the Government's homage to the memory of Gandhiji and have ordered that all officers of the Government who have been enjoined to use uniforms should use Khadi for the purpose and that the requirements of all the departments of Government in cloth should be met from Khadi. The surplus Khadi held by the Intensive Khadi Centres will be diverted to meet these requirements of officers and departments of the Government and arrangements are being made to obtain indents from them and make supplies from the centres.

Labour Department

As a result of the recommendations of the Industries Conference held at New Delhi in December 1947, the Government of Madras have constituted a Representative Provincial Labour Advisory Board with the Hon'ble Minister for Industries as Ex-Officio Chairman, the Secretary to Government in charge of Labour as Ex-Officio Secretary, the Commissioner of Labour and the Provincial Textile Commissioner, Madras, as representatives of Government and twelve other members representing employers, labour, Railways, Trade Union, Textile Workers' Union, Madras Dock and Factory Labour, Plantation, etc., to advise on matters relating to increasing industrial production, to fostering friendly and fullest co-operation between labour and management, etc.

The Government Transport Employees' and General Workers' Union have given up the strike fixed for 24th October 1948 as most of their demands have been met by Government.

[Second fortnight of October 1948.]

(Continued from page 2)

else's faith, but I do think that, in quite a number of cases, tolerance can be based on mere indifference. Tolerance based on indifference can never be secure, for it is at the mercy of every gust of passion. True tolerance should really be based on understanding the other person's point of view, his religious tenets and his faith. It is for this ideal of understanding that we are gathered here together and in India, at present, I can think of no better cause."

Education Department

Special—Hindustani Schools.—Arrangements are nearing completion for giving aid to Hindustani Schools which are preparing candidates for the "Rashtra Basha Visharad" and "Pracharak" examinations in Hindustani conducted by the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha. These schools will be treated as "Special Schools." It is also proposed to start a Government Examination in Hindustani for the award of a certificate.

Aided Schools for the Blind and the Deaf and Dumb.—Stipends to candidates under training as teachers for the blind and deaf mute, have been awarded by Government. Teachers trained during this year will be utilized for new Government schools for defective children to be opened during 1949-50. Proposals for training teachers for the blind and deaf mute on a fairly large scale have been made and are expected to start in the school year 1949-50.

Camp Conference of Inspecting Officers.—A Conference of Inspecting Officers was held at Saidapet from 4th to 8th September 1948 in which a useful programme was gone through.

Irrigation Department

Krishna district.—The Government have sanctioned the scheme for providing irrigation facilities to the Pedapatnam and Narayanapatnam villages in the Bandar taluk of Krishna district by extending an existing channel. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 2,80,000 for works or Rs. 3,66,300 inclusive of direct and indirect charges and is expected to afford irrigation facilities to about 2,200 acres of dry land. The area benefited by the scheme is expected to yield 1,100 tons of cleaned rice, valued at Rs. 2,75,000.

Tiruchirappalli district.—The Government have sanctioned the scheme for the construction of two bed dams in the Kattalai South Bank Canal in the Tiruchirappalli district and the clubbing of several channels of the canal at certain sluice sites, at an estimated cost of Rs. 55,180. Although no additional revenue is expected, the scheme will save annually the trouble and expense of the formation of the Korambus at a cost of Rs. 1,500 per annum and would improve the supply to the ayacut.



A Conference of the Inspecting Officers of the Education Department was held recently at Saidapet. The above photos were taken on the occasion

Malabar district.—The Government have sanctioned the scheme for carrying out repairs to the Vandithode anicut in Polipilli village of Palghat taluk of Malabar district and improving and extending the existing channel taking off from it at an estimated cost of Rs. 70,000 for works or Rs. 92,075 including direct and indirect charges.

In addition to improving the defective irrigation in 270 acres of land the scheme is expected to enable the irrigation of an additional extent of about 147 acres of land, resulting in annual additional production of 74 tons of rice, valued at Rs. 18,500.

[October 1948]

Department of Industries and Commerce

Borewells

In a 6" diameter borewell put down for the Hindu Hostel, Cuddalore N.T., South Arcot district, to a depth of 81' 0" below ground level, good springs have been tapped below 74' 0", as a result of which the water level has risen to 10' 0" below ground level. The quality of the water is good and the borewell gives a continuous supply of 45 gallons per minute. The borewell has cost about Rs. 550 only including the cost of lining pipes. It is proposed to install a suitable size electric pump set directly on the borewell with an overhead tank and distribution pipe connexions.

Home Department

Bus Transport

Eight petrol buses were registered during October bringing the total number of vehicles to 306 of which 25 are Diesel buses.

A complete course of instruction for the training of drivers and conductors has been compiled and its printing is under consideration. The procedure for accounting of conductors' cash, tickets, etc., has been drafted. Revised time tables and bus charts were prepared and introduced on routes 17A, 22A and 24A. A "Manual of Instructions" for drivers and conductors has been compiled and it is proposed to print and supply copies of the same to all drivers and conductors at a nominal cost.

On the technical side, it is gratifying to note that the number of sick vehicles has been considerably reduced.

It is proposed to open in the Body Guard Lines a canteen on a co-operative basis. Action has already been taken to register the canteen.

Miscellaneous

The Wynaad Colonization Scheme

The Wynaad Colonization Scheme aims at the reclamation of an area of about 31,000 acres of cultivable land in the villages of Kidanganad, Nulpuzha, Muppainad and Nenmeni in Wynaad taluk, Malabar district. Anti-malarial operations are being carried on

in the area, which is now fairly free of malaria. A dispensary has been opened in the area to render medical aid to the colonists. Other items of work done are acquisition of land required for the scheme, opening of an Agricultural farm, opening up of communications and construction of buildings. The colonists are selected from ex-servicemen, the existing pattadars and sivaijamadars in the area including the aboriginals living there. The colonization of the area commenced early in February 1948 and about 545 colonists have been settled in the area up to the end of August 1948. Each of them has been given 2 acres of wet and 5 acres of dry or 10 acres of dry land. The Government have also sanctioned the grant of the following advances to the colonists:—

- (i) Reclamation of lands—Rs. 100 per acre.
- (ii) Construction of temporary huts—Rs. 250 per colonist.
- (iii) Agricultural advance—Rs. 500 per colonist.
- (iv) Interim advance for domestic expenditure—Rs. 500 per colonist per year for 5 years.
- (v) Construction of wells—Rs. 50 per colonist.
- (vi) Construction of latrines—Rs. 25 per colonist.

These advances are granted in the shape of materials and in instalments after the amount once advanced has been spent for the purpose for which it was advanced. The colonists have cleared the lands and cultivated them. The existing crops are reported to be very good and many of the colonists are expected to realize substantial sums from paddy, banana, ragi, tapioca and other crops. It is proposed to form a cooperative society of the colonists to

provide advances to the colonists and arrange for their recovery later.

The Government have recently examined the future policy in regard to the Wynaad Colonization Scheme and decided that the existing colonists may be given advances on the scale already approved by the Government and that no further colonists need be admitted for the present.

Sugarcane prices

With a view to safeguard the interests of the sugarcane growers in this Province by fixing a minimum price for sugarcane, the Government have declared the whole of the Province of Madras as controlled area under section 3 (1) of the Indian Sugarcane Act, 1934, with effect from 1st October 1948. A draft of a notification has also been published for receipt of objections and suggestions through the Director of Agriculture before 15th November 1948 for fixing the minimum price of sugarcane at Rs. 60 per ton (inclusive of cess and transport charges) to be paid in one instalment at the time of delivery.

Weights and measures

The Government have passed "Weights and Measures Act". The object of this Act is to secure the uniformity, which is now lacking. Weights and measures specified in the schedule to the Act with reference to particular trades are not to be used in other trades. The use of possession of unstamped or incorrect weights has been made a criminal offence. But no prosecution will be instituted in respect of the possession or use of an unrecognized weight or a measure for a period of six months after the Act comes into force.

Fire Accidents

From 1st June 1947 to 30th June 1948.

Number and nature of fire accidents.		Amount of property that has been lost (destroyed by fire).		Amount of property involved in fire and saved by the Madras Fire Services.	
		RS.		RS.	
Madras City Fires	..	236	1,74,091	60,95,843	
Town Fires	..	1,770	68,39,207	12,21,88,669	
Village Fires	..	523	39,70,080	1,61,11,165	
		2,529	1,09,83,378	14,43,95,677	

PROHIBITION TOPICS

Prohibition and Social Welfare

Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Reconstruction, Bombay, replied to all the arguments developed by the critics of the prohibition programme when, recently, he paid a visit to the Baramati Labour Welfare Centre conducted by the District Prohibition Committee, Poona.

The Minister said it had been suggested that the Government was going to loose an excise revenue of rupees nine crores and that, after all, only 10 per cent to 15 per cent of the population had been addicted to alcoholism. It had also been suggested that the Government should increase the excise duty and utilize the money derived from it towards financing nation-building activities. These arguments by the critics of the prohibition policy were fallacious, the Minister said. Even if the percentage of drink addicts were small, the effects of the evil were disastrous and inflicted suffering on the families of the addicts. The Government would certainly prefer sacrificing the tainted revenue and it was both unjustifiable and cruel

to make the addicts—the bulk of whom were persons of small income—'bled' with increased excise duties.

The Government was determined, the Minister said, to go ahead with the prohibition programme despite the anti-inflationary measures that had been adopted. The price of rupees nine crores was not a high one if, with complete prohibition, the people got rid of the drink habit with its disastrous effects on health, and were enabled to grow in health and physical vigour. The Minister appealed to the audience and particularly to women to co-operate with, and help, the Government in making a success of the prohibition programme.

Emphasizing the importance and value of the welfare centres, the Minister reminded the audience that he himself was an agriculturist and understood the value of recreation and relaxation after a day's hard work. The centres were therefore established to cater to the needs of healthy entertainment and pleasure of the masses.

Intoxicants

The following extract taken from Mahatma Gandhiji's "Key to Health" will be of topical interest in the context of Province-wide Prohibition in this part of the country.

The intoxicants used in India might be taken as the following: alcohol, bhang, ganja, tobacco and opium. Alcohol or liquor includes the country-made liquor and arrack, besides the large quantities of liquor imported from foreign countries. All these should be strictly prohibited. Alcohol makes a man forget himself and while its effects last, he becomes utterly incapable of doing anything useful. Those who take to drinking, ruin themselves and ruin their people. They lose all sense of decency and propriety.

There is a school who favour limited and regulated consumption of alcohol and believe it to be useful. I have not found any weight in their argument. Even if we accept their view for a moment, we have still to face the fact that innumerable human beings cannot

be kept under discipline. Therefore it becomes our duty to prohibit alcoholic drinks even if it were only for the sake of this vast majority.

Parsis have strongly supported the use of tadi. They say that although tadi is an intoxicant it is also a food and even helps to digest other foodstuffs. I have carefully examined this argument and have read a fair amount of literature pertaining to this subject. But I have been a witness of the terrible straits to which tadi reduces the poor and therefore I have come to the conclusion that it can have no place in man's food.

The advantages, attributed to tadi, are all available from other foodstuffs. Tadi is made out of *Khajiri* juice. Fresh *Khajiri* juice is not an intoxicant. It is known as *nira* in Hindustani

and many people have been cured of their constipation as a result of drinking *nira*. I have taken it myself though it did not act as a laxative with me. I found that it had the same food value as sugar-cane juice. If one drinks a glass of *nira* in the morning instead of drinking tea, etc., he should not need anything else for breakfast. As in the case of sugar-cane juice, palm juice can be boiled to make palm jaggery. *Khajuri* is a variety of palm tree. Several varieties of palm grow spontaneously in our country. All of them yield drinkable juice. As *nira* gets fermented very quickly, it has to be used up immediately and therefore on the spot. Since this condition is difficult to fulfil except to a limited extent, in practice, the best use of *nira* is to convert it into palm jaggery. Palm jaggery can well replace sugar-cane jaggery. In fact some people prefer it to the latter. One advantage of palm jaggery over sugar-cane jaggery is that it is less sweet and therefore one can eat more of it. The All India Village Industries Association has done a great deal to popularize palm jaggery, but much remains to be done. If the palms that are used for making tadi are used for making jaggery, India will never lack sugar and the poor will be able to get good jaggery for very little money. Palm jaggery can be converted into molasses and refined sugar. But the jaggery is much more useful than refined sugar. The salts present in the jaggery are lost in the process of refining. Just as refined wheat flour and polished rice lose some of their nutritive value because of the loss of the pericarp, refined sugar also loses some of the nutritive value of the jaggery. One may generalize that all foodstuffs are richer if taken in their natural state as far as possible.

Talking of tadi I naturally began to talk of *nira* and from that I went on to the topic of jaggery. But let us return to liquor for the moment.

None of the public workers perhaps have the same bitter experience of the evils of drink as I have had. In South Africa, most of the Indians going there as indentured labourers were addicted to drinking. The law there did not in any time permit Indians to take liquor to their houses except under a medical certificate. They could go to the drinking booths and drink as much as they liked. Even the women had fallen victims to this evil habit. I have seen them in a most pathetic condition. One who

has seen those scenes near the public bars will never support drinking.

African Negroes were not given to drinking originally. Liquor may be said to have simply ruined them. Large numbers of Negro labourers are seen to waste all their earnings in drinking so that their lives become devoid of any grace.

And what about Englishmen? I have seen respectable Englishmen rolling in the gutter under the effect of alcohol. There is no exaggeration in this statement. During the war many Englishmen had to leave the Transvaal. Some of them were taken in my home. One of them was an engineer and a good man in every way, when not under the effects of alcohol. He was a theosophist. Unfortunately, he was addicted to drink and lost all control over himself when he was drunk. He tried hard to give up the habit, but as far as I know he never succeeded.

On my return from South Africa to India, I had a similar painful experience of the evils of drink. Several Princes have been and are being ruined by liquor. What applies to them applies more or less to many a rich youth. The condition of labour as a result of taking alcohol is also pitiable. That as a result of such bitter experiences, I have become a staunch opponent of alcohol, will not surprise the readers.

In a nutshell, alcohol ruins one physically, morally, intellectually and economically.

Library Grants to Gramasanghams

Recently Government have recognized Gramasanghams in Prohibition districts as being eligible for grants to libraries maintained by them. They have also relaxed the condition in favour of Gramasanghams in the prohibition districts that before a library applies for aid, it should have worked at least for a year and should have been inspected and satisfactorily

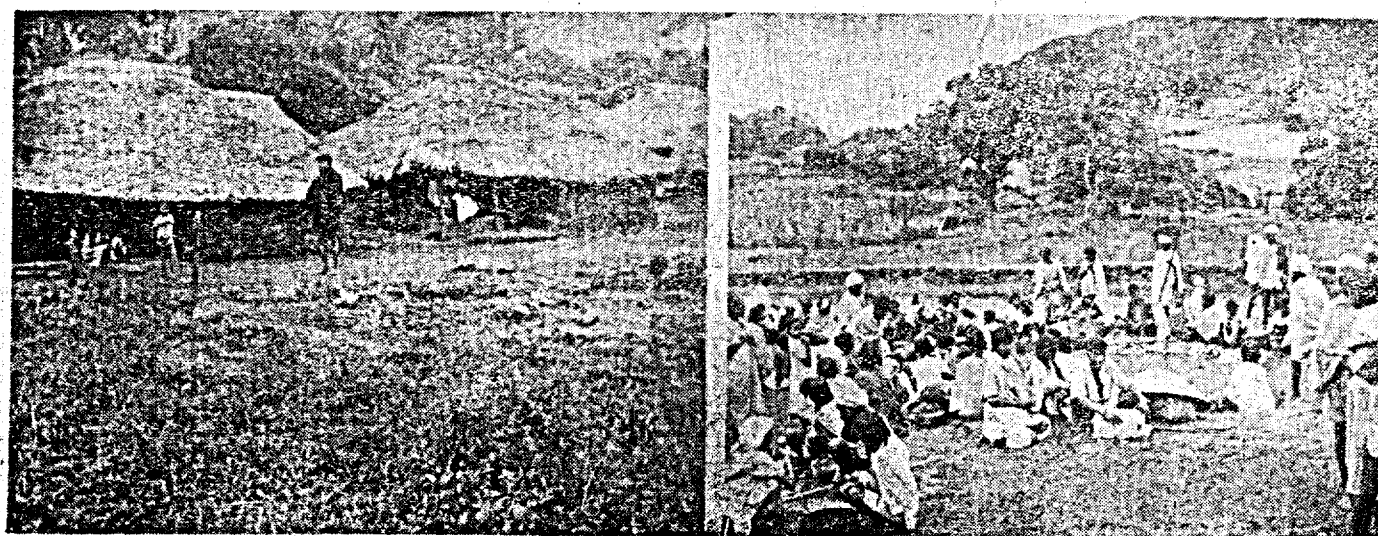
reported upon at least once by Inspecting Officer of the Education department. The grant to Gramasanghams will be subject a maximum of Rs. 100 for each library maintained by them in the Prohibition districts. The Gramasangha will provide the buildings, furniture and staff required for the library.

Villages and Towns whose names have been changed

Previous name	Present name
Kilvalur	Kilavelur
Shiyali	Sirkali
Tiruvidadamarudur	Tiruvidadamarudur
* Tiruturaipundi	Tiruturaipundi
* Arantangi	Arantangi
* Topputhurai	Topputhurai
Negapatam	Nagapattinam
Kariapatnam	Kariyapattinam
Adirampattinam	Adirampattinam
Anandatavapuram	Anandatandavapuram
Sermadevi	Cheranmahadevi
Conjeevaram	Kancheepuram
Bikshandarkovil	Bicchandarkovil
Trichinopoly	Tiruchirappalli
Minakshipuram	Meenatchipuram
* Mahadanapuram	Mahadanapuram
Bezwada	Vijayavada
Keelamangalam	Jayamangalam
Cochin	Fort Cochin
Mayavaram	Mayuram
Cocanada	Kakinada
Ellore	Eluru
Kistna (district and river)	Krishna
Oddakayapakkam	Kottakayapakkam
Patam (suffix in some villages)	{ Pattinam (Tamil) Patnam (Telugu)
Madura	Mathurai
Tinnevely	Tirunelveli

* The change is only in the Tamil spelling.

Glimpses into Araku Valley



Residence of indigenous people of Araku Valley

A market day in Araku Valley

IN THE SPHERE OF EDUCATION

Education Reorganization Schemes

(Continued from last issue)

Collegiate Education

Coming to the matter of Collegiate education, it is a matter for the Universities. The Government had intended to take up the matter of reorganization of Collegiate education also and for that purpose, appointed an Expert Committee consisting of distinguished educationists of All-India reputation. In the meantime, a resolution was passed by the Central Advisory Board of Education requesting the Government of India to appoint a similar body. This Government understand that, in pursuance of that resolution, the Government of India are contemplating the appointment of a Commission to go into the matter of reorganization of Collegiate education. It is also expected that the Commission will go to work immediately and give their report within a year of their appointment. On the receipt of their report, such measures as may be necessary for the reorganization of Collegiate education will be taken up by this Government.

Research is an important aspect of education. While colleges have grown in number, along with them the number of students admitted into colleges and graduates going out of the colleges has also increased tremendously. But, there must be at least a few institutions in which work of a much higher calibre is done and research is organized. It is the intention of Government to make the Presidency College such an institution. With that end in view, on the advice of the University, the Intermediate classes in the Presidency College have been shifted to the Government Muslim College. The Government have also ordered the institution of a new chain of professors of a higher grade in the Presidency College. A committee consisting of representatives of institutions where high grade research is done and others is being appointed by Government to advise them as to the steps to be taken to convert the Presidency College into a high grade institution doing research.

The Government have also given grants (to Universities) to develop courses in new subjects such as

Atmospherics, Meteorology and other subjects in the Andhra University.

It is the intention of Government to have at least one college in every district so that people in the mufassal may have opportunities of sending their children to colleges. With this end in view, a Government College was opened in Cuddapah this year. All the other districts except the Nilgiris have now one or more colleges whether Government, local board or aided.

With a view to bringing the work of the Universities up to date, the Government have also taken up the amendments to the University Act. A committee was appointed by the Madras University for that purpose. On the report of the committee, the Syndicate and the Senate of that University considered the matter and their recommendations have been received by Government. The Government have, in their turn, appointed another committee to go into these amendments and the matter of introducing a Bill to amend the Madras University Act is under active consideration. Representations have also been received about the need for amending the Andhra and the Annamalai University Acts and these also will be taken into consideration in due course.

Technical Education

It is the policy of Government to encourage technical education as much as possible. Technical education may be of three kinds:

(1) That part of technical education which may be called pre-technological which is given in our reorganized technical high schools. These will provide subjects like Civil Engineering which have been provided for as bifurcated courses in high schools.

(2) The second type of institutions are the polytechnics. These are managed by the Industries Department and are catering for a higher standard than is contemplated in our technical high schools but lower than what are recognized by the Universities.

(3) The third category provides for technical education at the University

level in our Engineering Colleges. Before 1945 there was only one Engineering College in the Province. In 1945, the Arthur Hope College at Coimbatore was opened. In 1946, the Vizagapatnam College was established in Kakinada and the Anantapur Engineering College was opened at Madras. Early in this year the Anantapur Engineering College has been shifted to its own place in Anantapur.

Originally there was provision only for the Basic Engineering courses of Civil, Mechanical and Electrical. In 1945-46, Highway Engineering and Electrical Communications were also introduced. It is proposed to provide for Textile Technology and Automotive Engineering in the Coimbatore College. The Government have also under consideration proposals to provide, Aeronautic, Naval and Public Health Engineering as courses of instruction in the Engineering Colleges.

With the increase in the number of colleges, the number of students in the Engineering Colleges has also been increased considerably. Before 1945, there was only one Government Engineering College and the number of students admitted each year was 125. In 1948-49, i.e., in the current year, the number of students admitted in the four Government Engineering Colleges are—

Name of the college.	Number of students.
1 College of Engineering, Guindy	125
2 Arthur Hope College of Technology, Coimbatore	75
3 College of Engineering, Vizagapatnam, Kakinada	105
4 College of Engineering, Anantapur	75

Thus, it will be seen that after this Government came to power both the number of colleges and the subjects provided in them have increased.

A suggestion has been made that the degree courses in the Engineering Colleges may be reduced from 4 years to

3 years. This matter was referred to the Technical Education Board. The Technical Education Board agreed that it is possible to reduce the period from 4 to 3 years without impairing efficiency and appointed a sub-committee to go into the matter in detail. The sub-committee reported on similar lines and the matter has now been referred to the various Universities. If this reduction in the period of the course is accepted, it is possible that we shall be able to admit nearly one-third more than we are admitting this year.

The matter of making our Engineering Colleges more efficient and up to date is also under consideration of the Government. A sub-committee of the Technical Education Board has been appointed to go into the matter and suggest ways and means for improving the efficiency of the colleges in various respects. On receipt of the report, the Government will take suitable steps in that direction.

Adult Education

Now, coming to Adult Education, it is absolutely necessary that we should give attention to this aspect of education also. With adult suffrage as the basis of our Constitution, it is necessary to take up seriously the education of our masses. Till now, there has been no considered scheme of adult education in the Province. Originally, there were a few night schools in existence here and there but many of them were closed after some time. During the war, the Government actually discouraged these night schools.

Adult Education may be conceived in three parts—

- (1) *Adult literacy schools,*
- (2) *Institutions for adult education,*
- and
- (3) *The organization of a library system*

throughout the Province so that those who had already been educated may, through books, educate themselves further.

The Government have taken up all these three branches of adult education. The scheme of adult education adumbrated by Government provides for the opening of adult literacy schools throughout the Province. This is only the beginning. Numerous adult literacy schools are expected to be opened throughout the country through Government aid. Adult literacy work requires a different training from that given to teachers for teaching children in schools. And so, provision has been

made for the training of teachers for teaching in Adult Schools. Such training schools have been opened under the Adult Literacy programme chalked out by Government.

The Adult Education programme consists of two parts, one for youths and the other for adults. The direction of youths in proper channels is a very important aspect of work which also the Government must attend to. The citizenship training envisaged in the Adult Education programme seeks to give training not only to teachers on the new citizenship courses introduced in schools but also gives scope for young men and women through these courses, to learn to channelize the enthusiasm of young folk in social service and other beneficial activities. Provision has also been made for training workers in social service on Gandhian ideology. The syllabuses of these courses provide for a rural approach to the problems and give a basic grounding for such of those people as would like to take up service in the villages as a labour of love.

Provision has been made also for the starting of rural colleges throughout the Province. Syllabuses have been framed for these colleges in all the four regional languages. Two types of rural colleges have been evolved so that they may suit the needs of both men and women engaged in various activities. An examination will be held at the end of the two years' course when certificates of proficiency will be given. They have been put under grant-in-aid system so that as many institutions as may be needed may be started throughout the Province. It is expected that as time goes on, these rural colleges will supply the educational needs of various communities and professions throughout the Province.

Reference may be made here to the library legislation now pending before the Legislature. The library legislation provides for the establishment of well-organized libraries throughout the Province. Till now, the growth of the libraries has been haphazard. They have not been given proper direction. It is the intention of Government to develop a well-knit library organization throughout the Province as one of the main instruments of Adult Education. It is also the purpose of Government to develop a system of aided libraries so that scope for opening such libraries could be given wherever local people are forthcoming to start them. Local library authorities will be constituted under the Bill with statutory powers

enabling them to establish such libraries within their area and a central library will also be established at Madras under a Director of Public Libraries. This will also contemplate the bringing into existence of travelling libraries as well as using the libraries as far as may be possible for Adult Education purposes.

Provision has also been made for Visual Instruction under the Adult Education Scheme.

There are other schemes which are under the consideration of Government which have not been mentioned in the account given above. The most important of them are military training to be given to boys in schools and colleges; medical inspection in schools; provision for a film library so that the modern methods of instruction through films may be systematically developed in our schools, training of teachers for schools for defective children and starting of such schools, etc. These and other schemes are under the active consideration of Government and the Government expect to give their considered opinion in the matter in the near future. God willing, Government hope that by these measures they will be able to reorganize education on a sound basis so that the way may be paved for a great and glorious future for this great country.

Locust Conference at Teheran

India's contribution to the control of desert locusts and its research in that line were emphasized at the seven-day Conference of locust experts from India, the Middle East, Pakistan and Iran, that has just ended at Teheran.

Dr. K. D. Baweja, India's representative at the Conference, outlined the activities of the desert locust in India between 1944 and 1948. He said that despite the serious infestation that occurred within Indian borders in 1944, 1945 and 1946, swarms of locusts were prevented from escaping beyond India and towards the West and Iran. Every year India had sent a locust mission to Oman territory.

Referring to the programme of work for the year 1948-49, Dr. Baweja indicated that it was intended to intensify vigilance in the desert area of Rajputana and to prevent an incipient swarm in that area.

TOPICS OF THE DAY

Waterways in the Province

"The Government are aware that schemes relating to Inland waterways though not directly productive are very important from the point of view of general development of the country and consider them as part of the schemes of economic development", observed Hon'ble Sri M. Bakthavatsalam in the course of a broadcast. He said:

"In South India, which has a long sea board of nearly 1,500 miles, water transport must certainly have preceded land transport for long distance trade and travel. Ancient Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam literature shows evidence of the existence of flourishing ports on the east and the west coasts and the existence of sea-faring craft. Vincent Smith says that Tamil States maintained powerful navies and were visited freely by ships from both east and west, which brought merchants of various places eager to buy the pearls, pepper, and other choice commodities of South India and to pay for them with gold, silver and hardware of Europe. The height of South Indian maritime power was reached during the time of Raja Raja the Great and his successor, Rajendra Chola, who was reputed to have reached the banks of the Ganges and hence known as Gangai-konda Chola. The famous Tamil works, Silappathikaram and Pattinappalai speak of the existence of boats built in the shape of a horse or an elephant. They were called Parimukambi or Kari-mukambi.

In one sense, the entire development of international navigation was based on the trade that South India was carrying on with Europe. It was the Venetians who carried on regular trade with the east and the west for some centuries. They bought spices, which were necessities and luxuries from the east and exchanged them against wool, cloth and metals of western Europe. How necessary were the spices may be seen from the fact that in Europe of those days, it was difficult, if not impossible, to maintain flocks and herds through winter and large numbers of them were killed and their flesh preserved by means of salt and spices for use in winter. Trouble came when in 1453, the Turks captured Constantinople and stood astride the land routes by which the spices of the east came to the Mediterranean and so the western nations started in search of a sea route to India and this led incidentally to the



discovery of America. The earliest ships built in Europe were known as "India Men." This illustrates how important waterways were in the ancient as well as the modern world.

Waterways are of two kinds, natural and artificial. The natural waterways are the oceans, the lakes and the navigable rivers. The artificial waterways are the canals built for purposes of trade as well as for irrigation.

Natural Waterways

South India enjoying a long sea board developed the sea routes to the east and the west to a great degree and carried on a flourishing maritime trade, till almost the advent of the British. Even now considerable coastal trade goes on the shores of the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. Apart from big steam ships, country coasters carry on transport of indigenous produce around our enormous coastline. Ours is a coastal province and this must be exploited to the best advantage. At present, we have three major ports and 35 minor ports in the province. The control of the major ports is with the Government of India while that of minor ports is in the hands of the

Government of Madras. The major ports are Vizagapatnam and Madras on the east coast and Cochin on the west coast. Of the 35 minor ports, Kalingapatnam, Bimilipatam, Kakinada, Masulipatam, Cuddalore, Porto Novo, Tranquebar, Nagapattinam, Dhanushkodi, Tuticorin, Kulaskharapatnam on the east coast and Ponnani, Calicut, Tell cheri, Cannanore, Kasaigode, Mangalore, Malpe and Kundapur on the west coast are of considerable importance. The conservancy of all the minor ports is vested in the Port department under the Presidency Port Officer. The bigger ports are in charge of Port Officers. The Port department which administers other minor ports is in charge of providing facilities for the safe entry and berth of vessels, for the levying and discharging of cargo, and for the embarkation and disembarkation of passengers and troops. For this purpose, they construct and maintain harbours and other accessories including the maintenance of lights and light houses.

Government Plans

There is a fund called Minor Port Fund and the Government have got a programme of post-war port works. The main items of this programme are the reconstruction of the wharf walls at the ports of Kakinada, Cuddalore and Nagapattinam; the construction or extension of the wharf walls at Adhirampatnam, Mangalore and Kundapur and the reconstruction of the dry dock and workshops at Kakinada, the strengthening of the existing piers at Calicut, the provision of modern lighting equipment at some ports and certain minor works at other ports. A sum of Rs. 4 lakhs has been sanctioned for the improvement of the port of Tuticorin. The Government have under consideration a scheme for the conversion of Tuticorin into a deep-sea port. The question of opening more minor ports in this province is under the active consideration of the Government. The object is to encourage coastal shipping which is by far the cheapest transport for indigenous coastal trade. Orders have already been issued for the improvement of the ancient ports of Nizampatnam in Guntur district and Narsapur in West Godavari district. The Government of India have been addressed for the opening of the port of Tranquebar in Tanjore district to foreign trade. The question of opening the port at Point Calimere for passenger traffic and trade with Ceylon is under the consideration of the Government. The proposal to cut a canal across

Rameswaram, so that steamers may not be put to the necessity of going round Ceylon has already been taken up with the Government of India. If this is accomplished, the coastal shipping of this country will be greatly benefited. The necessity for having another deep sea port between Cochin and Marmagoa on the west coast is under the joint consideration of the Governments of Madras and India. It is likely that the Government of India will appoint another Technical Committee to examine the question of minor ports.

Among other natural waterways, South India has many rivers but few lakes of a navigable character. There is evidence in Tamil literature to show that the river Cauvery was navigable up to a point 100 miles above its mouth. Ancient Tamil ships were sailing up to Woraiyur, once capital of the Tamil kings, from the sea and carrying on national as well as international trade and transport. The Krishna and the Godavari rivers were also navigable and are even so to-day during flood seasons. The Krishna was navigable in ancient times up to Nagarjunakonda, which was once a great Buddhist centre of culture. When the Ramapadasagar project on the Godavari river is completed it will be possible to connect Vizagapatam harbour with Madras by canal.

Artificial waterways

Artificial inland water transport can be said to be almost unknown in South India until about 150 years. These were developed during British rule. The important waterways of this type in this presidency are the Vedaranniam canal in Tamil Nad, the west coast canals, the Cuddapah-Kurnool canal, the Buckingham canal and the canals in the Godavari and Krishna deltas. The Negapatam-Vedaranniam canal is the only inland waterway in the Tanjore district. Its total length is 35½ miles. The canal was largely used in the past both for goods and passenger traffic. But after the construction of the Tiruturaipundi-Agasthyampalli railway, the canal lost much of its importance as a means of communication. There is no passenger traffic now and only miscellaneous articles such as straw, cow dung, manure and firewood are transported by cargo boats plying in the canal. The lower reaches of the Harischandranadi, Adappar, the Chak-kilamoikkal and the Nallar fall into the Vedaranniam canal and are open for navigation. There were small stretches of artificial canals on the west coast and these carried on inland trade and

transport of indigenous coconut and other produce.

By far the longest canal in the presidency with a romantic history is the Buckingham canal with a total length of 258 miles. This affords an easy and cheap mode of communication from the northernmost point of the Godavari canals to Madras and also to a point 62 miles further south. It is a coastal canal running through backwaters, depressions, low lying land and estuaries of all the rivers for this length. The construction of this canal took nearly 100 years and cost the then Government about Rs. 90 lakhs. It was completed in the later years of the 19th century. The canals in the Godavari delta extend to about 493 miles and those in the Krishna delta over 300 miles. All these, as I have already stated, are connected and thus place Madras City in direct communication by water with the deltas. The delta canals were primarily designed as irrigation works and are closed for from 1 to 3 months every year for repairs. The annual traffic carried by them amounts to some millions of tons. On some of these canals, the Government run small steamers for passenger traffic. The Cuddapah-Kurnool canal takes off from the right bank of the Tungabhadra river and passes through the towns of Kurnool, and Nandyal and ends at Cuddapah. Although the canal is nearly 190 miles long and was originally designed for navigation throughout its entire length, navigation had to be abandoned below the 73rd mile for want of traffic and only the first 73 miles are maintained for navigation. There is no passenger traffic in the canal. Even the goods traffic is very

limited and confined to fuel, cotton groundnut and small quantities of foodstuffs.

The administration of these canal is carried on under an Act called the Canals and Public Ferries Act and the main provisions of it were adopted in 1890.

Conclusion

As a general rule, all the canal in the Presidency are in a somewhat primitive condition and cannot be maintained and worked efficiently as they are. Various improvements to these systems have been considered in the past to make the canals remunerative and to make the revenue realized from them at least equal to the working expenses. The canal received some attention during the war period when there was congestion on the railways. Some improvements were carried out and others were postponed for the post-war period and included in the 5-year plan. Some of these schemes are in the nature of improvements to the existing canals and these are quite necessary for their efficient working. With the growth of industries in the post-war period, there is bound to be a great demand for cheap transport particularly for certain commodities and Inland Waterways have an important rôle to play. The Government are aware that schemes relating to Inland Waterways, though not directly productive are very important from the point of view of general development of the country and consider them as part of the schemes of economic development.

—By courtesy, A.I.R., Madras

Our Life line—Railways

Recently Hon'ble Sri N. Gopalaswamy Ayyangar, Transport Member in the Dominion Government in the course of a broadcast, appealed to the public to appreciate the difficulties of the railway and pleaded for public co-operation. The following extract is taken from his talk:—

"The first railway in India was constructed about 100 years ago. To-day, the railways constitute the biggest nationalized industry in the country. Few, however, are conscious of how big it is. On the 1st of April this year there were 33,984 miles of railway in post-partition India including Indian States. An insignificant

length of 1,152 miles is still owned and managed by private companies which will also sooner or later be taken over by the State. But the rest is all owned by the nation and is administered by the Government of India, or by the Government of Indian States under the control, in essentials, of the Government of India. During the last year they carried across the country 969 million passengers and 66 million tons of goods. The total amount of capital invested in railways administered directly by the Government of India is of the order of Rs. 702 crores as on 31st March last. The total gross earning

for the current year are estimated at Rs. 190 crores; and this estimate will not only be realized but, according to present indications, will probably be bettered by the end of the year. Railways pay to general revenues not only the full interest charges on the capital invested at the market rate, but for several years have paid a handsome share out of surplus profits.

There are available for service on the lines 7,565 locomotives, 15,500 passenger coaches of different kinds and 193,020 goods wagons of various descriptions. The number of persons employed, officers and men, is round about a million, which means that including their families, about five million persons depend directly on this vast, widely ramified industry.

Take passenger traffic. Compared to the year immediately preceding the war, the number of passengers which the railways now carry is 143.5 per cent more. Until more rolling stock, i.e., coaches as well as locomotives, is available to ensure that every passenger can get a seat at any time at any station on any train, some measure of overcrowding, I fear, will persist. Railways are proceeding as fast as resources permit in building coaches, and the recent decision of the Government to reduce the number of classes on trains from 4 to 3 is a step taken to ensure the maximum possible use made of the stock that is available. As an indication of the increase in passenger miles, I should like only to mention that, compared to 1938-39 which reported 13,456 million passenger miles, the figure for 1947-48 was 30,192 million miles, an increase of 124.4 per cent. The increase in the current year should be even greater.

Now let us turn to goods traffic. The tonnage of goods lifted in September 1948 was 5,052,000 representing an 18 per cent increase over the last twelve months."

In conclusion, the Hon'ble Member said: "I wish only to add in conclusion that the men who are labouring night and day to carry millions of men, women and children across the country and to transport millions of tons of goods from farm and factory to port, market and consuming area, deserve well of the country. What they have done during the last one year is an earnest of what they can accomplish in the future. If, therefore, on the railways, there is a slip here or a defect there, it is ordinary charity, if not justice, to remind yourself that similar

slips and defects abound elsewhere also. It is only right that we should give each man, even a railway man, his due."

Health Education

By health education we mean a system of training and instruction of pupils with a view to develop in them, the right attitudes and habits as well as a sound knowledge in the field of health. The educators of the present day have come to realize increasingly the importance of considering the welfare of the

By SRI K. P. KUNCHU MENON,
Headmaster, Government Secondary
and Basic Training School for
Women, Palghat.

whole child, his physical and mental health, as well as his intellectual progress. Hence health has become all important in the present scheme of education.

Any plan of education should have a very important place for health education. Whatever objectives of education be accepted by society, we should remember that health maintenance aids individuals in the progress towards the realization of those aims. More than that, without health, the happiness of the individual, his economic value to society and the vitality and charm of his life may themselves be lost sight of.

Objectives

The objective of the 'Nai Talim' (the new education) is the balanced and harmonious development of all the faculties of the child—the physical, the intellectual and the spiritual. It aims at a new way of life. The child has to be educated, self-dependent, self-supporting and at the same time a social being having strong faith in the efficiency of co-operative work. The very objectives of basic education are fundamentally based on the healthy upbringing of the child. Unless one is physically healthy there is no hope of improving his physical strength and capacity to do any productive work. Without a sound body there can be no sound mind. Unless one is mentally strong he will not be of any use to society even if he develops his intellect by literary education. Such an individual in his dilapidated temple of a body finds no scope for any spiritual advancement.

'Nai Talim' aims at building a society based on mutual help and co-operation. How can one be self-supporting if he is himself unhealthy in body and mind? He will not only be incapable of helping himself, but be a drag on society also. He will always need the help of his brothers and sisters to do his own work and to look after him. He will be doing a harm to society by himself becoming an agent in spreading disease. As the number of unhealthy persons in the world increases the number of diseases also increases day by day. As Bapuji himself has said "It is a great sin to be ill." The children of the new society we are going to build should help to eliminate disease from the face of the world.

The economic development of any society is affected by the health of its members. The progress of a society is proportional to the sum total of the amount of work its individual members turn out. Both the quality and quantity of work done by unhealthy members of a society will be very poor. Not only that, a good lot of finance spent on hospitals and their paraphernalia can be saved if the members of society become quite healthy. Economic, social and educational progress is impeded by ill-health. Illness worries the mind. Therefore the 'Nai Talim' should start with health education. Production of good literature, culture, and art all depend on a healthy mind working in a healthy body. A love of humanity, a life based on truth and non-violence, are impossible of attainment for one who is afflicted by poverty and ill-health.

Health education starts with cleanliness. A man is a man, only if he himself and his surroundings are kept clean. Cleanliness is next to Godliness. Dirt has no place in a human society. Dirt means anything out of place. Hence in an educated society everything should have its own place and orderliness and arrangement are essential in a healthy society. Cleanliness, orderliness and arrangement go side by side with any programme of health education. Bapuji himself was a great example for orderliness and arrangement in his physical, mental and spiritual environment.

As Sri Mashruwala says: "In the Segoan method, literacy (that is

information on various matters through reading and writing, and capacity to follow logical and Pseudological controversy) is not considered knowledge or even the medium of knowledge, but is regarded only as a symbolical representation of knowledge of accomplished ignorance".

It is not the study of health rules or the scientific or logical arguments as to why those rules are there, that is important in education, but it is the practice of such rules that is all important. Such learning from books without a lively attachment to the fact of healthy living is only symbolical representation of health knowledge and of accomplished ignorance of healthy life. Sri Mashruwala adds "The knowledge of these symbols is necessary and useful, if the source of knowledge are alive. It will be the aim of Segaon Method to keep these sources alive. The means of doing so are observation experience, experiment, service and love. Without these, learning through book acts as a hindrance to the development of the spiritual and rational faculties of the students and also impairs their physique".

Conclusion

Let us therefore first help our children to see and observe the personal and environmental dirt all round and to study its dangers to society. Let them come into contact with the removal of the evil, in their daily life. Let them do work on cleanliness and nursing. Let them gain practical experience in handling the several articles of cleaning and nursing. Let them gain experience in such work day by day. Let their sources of health knowledge be kept alive by personal

contact with such experiences. Let them experiment on the ways and means of improving their present condition of the health of the members of their society. Let them find out by experiment how a balanced diet for an Indian villager ought to be prepared. Let them have practice in preparing that diet. Let them find out how clean meals can be prepared and served in villages. Let them practice it themselves. Let them do service to their village by village 'Safai' and village sanitation, village first aid and nursing. Let them by their service as such, learn to love humanity not in words, but in deeds. Let them not do lipservice, but do service by actual practice. This is sure to give them spiritual progress. This is what Basic Education should aim at. Children should first be taught by daily practice how to keep their body clean, how to keep their class room, school

and premises, the home and the village clean. They should be made to do village and school cleaning. They should be made to give first aid to actual sufferers and to nurse their brother students when they are in their sick-bed. They should investigate and find out the common ailments in their village and suggest prevention and cure. This is Health Education. Health Education without its co-existing 'safai', orderliness and arrangement and self-discipline these practices give, is useless and wasteful. Children should be taught in the classroom and outside the beauty and orderliness and arrangement in their work. They should be helped to appreciate nature and its infinite capacity in keeping its work orderly. This is true education and every institution for Basic Education should keep this aspect of Health Education quite alive.

NON-VIOLENCE in its dynamic condition means conscious suffering. It does not mean meek submission to the will of the evil-doer, but it means the putting of one's whole soul against the will of the tyrant. Working under this law of our being, it is possible for single individual to defy the whole might of an unjust empire to save his honour, his religion, his soul and lay the foundation for that empire's fall or its regeneration.

I AM but a seeker after Truth. I claim to have found the way to it. I claim to be making a ceaseless effort to find it. But I admit that I have not yet found it. To find Truth completely is to realize oneself and one's destiny to become perfect. I am painfully conscious of my imperfections, and therein lies all the strength I possess because it is a rare thing for a man to know his own limitations.

FREEDOM received through the effort of others, however benevolent, cannot be retained when such effort is withdrawn. In other words, such freedom is not real freedom.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

Village life snaps



Vepagunta school built by villagers

Fine Khadi spinners at Chitacole

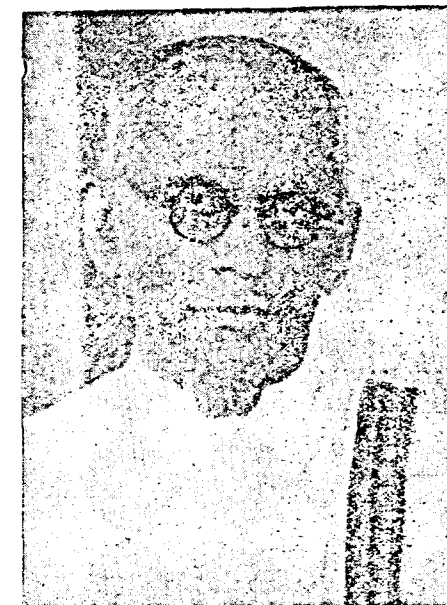
Medical and Public Health Corner

Problems of the Future

NOTE.—The position regarding medical and Public Health matters was surveyed by Hon'ble A. B. Shetty while speaking recently at the Conference of Health Officers and that under the Provincial Medical Association. As regards Public Health Problems he said among other things:

"Much of the sickness in our country is preventable. Here, as elsewhere an overwhelming majority of the diseases are due directly or indirectly to the lack of the elementary requirements of health, namely, proper food, safe water supplies, suitable housing and efficient sanitation. These essential conditions of healthy living are wanting in our villages and towns. There is nothing surprising if epidemics frequently occur among ill-nourished people living in unhygienic conditions. The first-world war was followed, as you know, by a great epidemic of influenza with all its respiratory complications. The second world-war has brought many major social disasters and among these the rise in the incidence of tuberculosis in Europe stands out prominently. The evil effects of this source of infection in the midst of the under-nourished, ill-clad and badly housed population of Central Europe and the steps needed to meet this disaster have become matters for anxious consideration to the United Nations Health Organization. With food deficit and the present overcrowding of dwellings due to the increased population in our towns we too are faced at present with new dangers to the health of our people. We are a century behind the times in our public health outlook and sanitary arrangements. Problems of housing, of food, of water-supply and drainage and of conservancy are awaiting to be tackled on modern lines. These public health services have to be built almost from their foundations in our country. Though the Public Health organisation is better developed in this province compared with the other provinces the health staff we have been able to provide is too inadequate to meet the needs of the situation. We have yet to start a public health engineering service for dealing with water supply and drainage schemes which have to be put in the forefront of our health programme."

The Honourable Minister then referred among other things to the importance of providing pure drinking water in rural parts and maternity and Child Welfare work. Continuing he said: "The health staff must take every opportunity to impress upon the



people that their physical welfare depends above all upon the houses and surroundings in which they live, the food they eat and the water they drink. Your attention must be directed primarily to these pre-requisites of healthy living. You must see that at least a few people in a village build model cottages with sufficient light and air, keep their surroundings in a sanitary condition, put up good latrines and keep their drinking water wells free from contamination. Examples of this sort will have much better effect than mere exhortation and advice. It is necessary that your health staff should acquire the newer knowledge of nutrition so that they may educate the people in the choice of food and in the safeguarding of articles of food and drink from adulteration and contamination.

A Few Details

It is a common sight to see people answering the calls of nature on the side of roads and lanes and the banks of streams and rivers. The sales of eatables on the roadside exposed to dust and flies are also frequently seen. You will have to put down such unhealthy habits and practices by enforcing the legal provisions in the Public Health Act. Provision of sanitary conveniences in sufficient number is very essential. Septic tank or water

borne types of latrines are not found at present even in many of the Government and public buildings, theatres, schools, hospitals and travellers' bungalows. I am interested to know that the District Health Officer of Salem will put before you a simple and cheap design of latrine which does not require daily attention. The Food Minister of the Central Government has drawn attention at the Agmark Ghee Conference at New Delhi last month to the wide practice of the adulteration of ghee and the inadequacy of the steps taken at present to put down this evil. It is proposed to amend our Food Adulteration Act with a view to raise the penalty for offences against its provisions. The proposal to set up regional laboratories with a view to extend facilities for water and food analysis and for diagnostic investigation and control of communicable diseases is awaiting implementation. If our bigger municipalities could follow the examples of Madras and Madura and establish their own public health laboratories it would be a great help. By exercising proper control over contamination of water supplies and the adulteration of foodstuffs, valuable preventive work can be done. Stricter supervision over hotels, sweetmeat shops, bakeries and aerated water factories, more frequent inspection of rice mills and closer watch over the quality of milk, ghee and oil supplied to the people has been enjoined on you by the Director of Public Health in a recent circular. These instructions should be faithfully carried out by the Health staff to the extent possible.

A considerable amount of ill-health is due to sheer ignorance. Vastly extended and improved education in matters of health is one of the most important tasks facing those concerned with preventive medicine. This education in health should be given not only to the children in schools but to all age groups and by every vehicle available to us at present such as the press, the radio, the movies, etc. The celebration of "Health Weeks" will help to develop the health consciousness and promote formation of health habits. Exhibitions should be arranged as frequently as possible at fairs and festivals. Let people see

information on various matters through reading and writing, and capacity to follow logical and Pseudological controversy) is not considered knowledge or even the medium of knowledge, but is regarded only as a symbolical representation of knowledge of accomplished ignorance".

It is not the study of health rules or the scientific or logical arguments as to why those rules are there, that is important in education, but it is the practice of such rules that is all important. Such learning from books without a lively attachment to the fact of healthy living is only symbolical representation of health knowledge and of accomplished ignorance of healthy life. Sri Mashruwala adds "The knowledge of these symbols is necessary and useful, if the source of knowledge are alive. It will be the aim of Segaon Method to keep these sources alive. The means of doing so are observation experience, experiment, service and love. Without these, learning through book acts as a hindrance to the development of the spiritual and rational faculties of the students and also impairs their physique".

Conclusion

Let us therefore first help our children to see and observe the personal and environmental dirt all round and to study its dangers to society. Let them come into contact with the removal of the evil, in their daily life. Let them do work on cleanliness and nursing. Let them gain practical experience in handling the several articles of cleaning and nursing. Let them gain experience in such work day by day. Let their sources of health knowledge be kept alive by personal

contact with such experiences. Let them experiment on the ways and means of improving their present condition of the health of the members of their society. Let them find out by experiment how a balanced diet for an Indian villager ought to be prepared. Let them have practice in preparing that diet. Let them find out how clean meals can be prepared and served in villages. Let them practice it themselves. Let them do service to their village by village 'Safai' and village sanitation, village first aid and nursing. Let them by their service as such, learn to love humanity not in words, but in deeds. Let them not do lipservice, but do service by actual practice. This is sure to give them spiritual progress. This is what Basic Education should aim at. Children should first be taught by daily practice how to keep their body clean, how to keep their class room, school

and premises, the home and the village clean. They should be made to do village and school cleaning. They should be made to give first aid to actual sufferers and to nurse their brother students when they are in their sick-bed. They should investigate and find out the common ailments in their village and suggest prevention and cure. This is Health Education. Health Education without its co-existing 'safai', orderliness and arrangement and self-discipline the practices give, is useless and wasteful. Children should be taught in the classroom and outside the beauty and orderliness and arrangement in the work. They should be helped to appreciate nature and its infinite capacity in keeping its work order. This is true education and every institution for Basic Education should keep this aspect of Health Education quite alive.

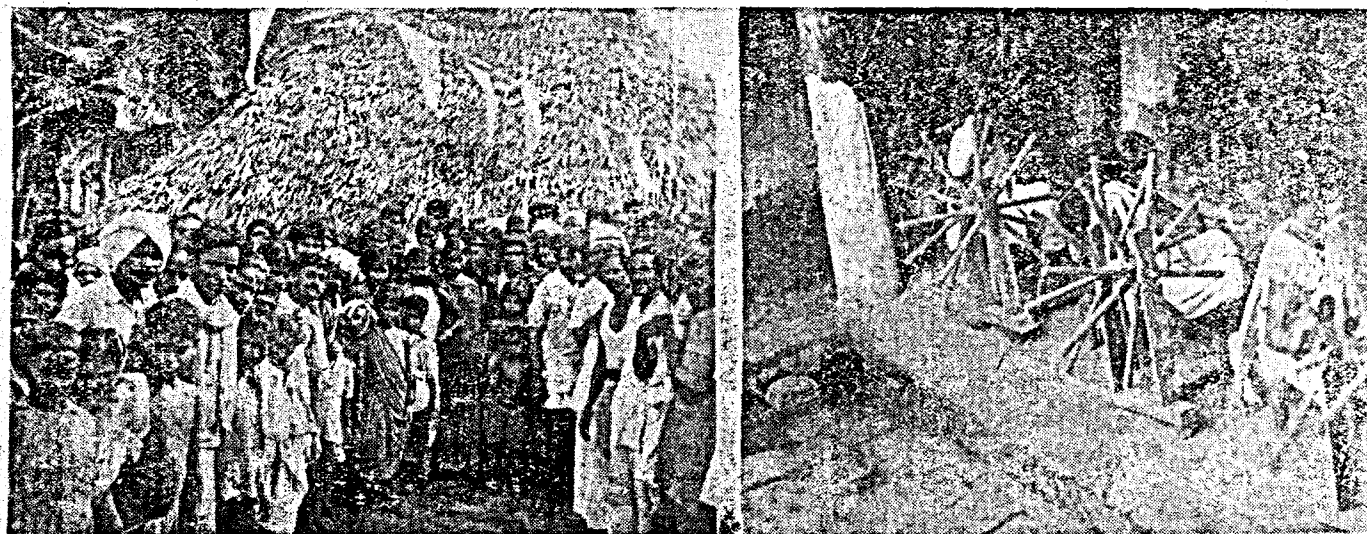
NON-VIOLENCE in its dynamic condition means conscious suffering. It does not mean meek submission to the will of the evil-doer, but it means the putting of one's whole soul against the will of the tyrant. Working under the law of our being, it is possible for single individual to defy the whole might of an unjust empire to save his honour, his religion, his soul and lay the foundation for that empire's fall or its regeneration.

I AM but a seeker after Truth. I claim to have found the way to it. I claim to be making a ceaseless effort to find it. But I admit that I have not yet found it. To find Truth completely is to realize oneself and one's destiny to become perfect. I am painfully conscious of my imperfections, and there lies all the strength I possess because it is a rare thing for a man to know his own limitations.

FREEDOM received through the effort of others, however benevolent, cannot be retained when such effort is withdrawn. In other words, such freedom is not real freedom.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

Village life snaps



Vepagunta school built by villagers

Fine Khadi spinners at Chitracole

Medical and Public Health Corner

Problems of the Future

NOTE.—The position regarding medical and Public Health matters was surveyed by Hon'ble A. B. Shetty while speaking recently at the Conference of Health Officers and that under the Provincial Medical Association. As regards Public Health Problems he said among other things:

"Much of the sickness in our country is preventable. Here, as elsewhere an overwhelming majority of the diseases are due directly or indirectly to the lack of the elementary requirements of health, namely, proper food, safe water supplies, suitable housing and efficient sanitation. These essential conditions of healthy living are wanting in our villages and towns. There is nothing surprising if epidemics frequently occur among ill-nourished people living in unhygienic conditions. The first-world war was followed, as you know, by a great epidemic of influenza with all its respiratory complications. The second world-war has brought many major social disasters and among these the rise in the incidence of tuberculosis in Europe stands out prominently. The evil effects of this source of infection in the midst of the under-nourished, ill-clad and badly housed population of Central Europe and the steps needed to meet this disaster have become matters for anxious consideration to the United Nations Health Organization. With food deficit and the present overcrowding of dwellings due to the increased population in our towns we too are faced at present with new dangers to the health of our people. We are a century behind the times in our public health outlook and sanitary arrangements. Problems of housing, of food, of water-supply and drainage and of conservancy are awaiting to be tackled on modern lines. These public health services have to be built almost from their foundations in our country. Though the Public Health organisation is better developed in this province compared with the other provinces the health staff we have been able to provide is too inadequate to meet the needs of the situation. We have yet to start a public health engineering service for dealing with water supply and drainage schemes which have to be put in the forefront of our health programme."

The Honourable Minister then referred among other things to the importance of providing pure drinking water in rural parts and maternity and Child Welfare work. Continuing he said: "The health staff must take every opportunity to impress upon the



people that their physical welfare depends above all upon the houses and surroundings in which they live, the food they eat and the water they drink. Your attention must be directed primarily to these pre-requisites of healthy living. You must see that at least a few people in a village build model cottages with sufficient light and air, keep their surroundings in a sanitary condition, put up good latrines and keep their drinking water wells free from contamination. Examples of this sort will have much better effect than mere exhortation and advice. It is necessary that your health staff should acquire the newer knowledge of nutrition so that they may educate the people in the choice of food and in the safeguarding of articles of food and drink from adulteration and contamination.

A Few Details

It is a common sight to see people answering the calls of nature on the side of roads and lanes and the banks of streams and rivers. The sales of eatables on the roadside exposed to dust and flies are also frequently seen. You will have to put down such unhealthy habits and practices by enforcing the legal provisions in the Public Health Act. Provision of sanitary conveniences in sufficient number is very essential. Septic tank or water

borne types of latrines are not found at present even in many of the Government and public buildings, theatres, schools, hospitals and travellers' bungalows. I am interested to know that the District Health Officer of Salem will put before you a simple and cheap design of latrine which does not require daily attention. The Food Minister of the Central Government has drawn attention at the Agmark Ghee Conference at New Delhi last month to the wide practice of the adulteration of ghee and the inadequacy of the steps taken at present to put down this evil. It is proposed to amend our Food Adulteration Act with a view to raise the penalty for offences against its provisions. The proposal to set up regional laboratories with a view to extend facilities for water and food analysis and for diagnostic investigation and control of communicable diseases is awaiting implementation. If our bigger municipalities could follow the examples of Madras and Madurai and establish their own public health laboratories it would be a great help. By exercising proper control over contamination of water supplies and the adulteration of foodstuffs, valuable preventive work can be done. Stricter supervision over hotels, sweetmeat shops, bakeries and aerated water factories, more frequent inspection of rice mills and closer watch over the quality of milk, ghee and oil supplied to the people has been enjoined on you by the Director of Public Health in a recent circular. These instructions should be faithfully carried out by the Health staff to the extent possible.

A considerable amount of ill-health is due to sheer ignorance. Vastly extended and improved education in matters of health is one of the most important tasks facing those concerned with preventive medicine. This education in health should be given not only to the children in schools but to all age groups and by every vehicle available to us at present such as the press, the radio, the movies, etc. The celebration of "Health Weeks" will help to develop the health consciousness and promote formation of health habits. Exhibitions should be arranged as frequently as possible at fairs and festivals. Let people see

models of sanitary wells, improved types of latrines and demonstrations in spraying for destruction of mosquitoes.

The Health Officers have been told that they should not confine themselves to routine work, that each officer should study the health problems peculiar to his area and interest himself in some particular kind of work which would be of most benefit to the people of the locality. It may be anti-malarial work in one place, the eradication of guinea worm disease in another, the prevention of the spread of leprosy in a third place and so on. The Health Officers are required to send periodical reports of the progress made in

carrying out such work and to leave notes on the matter to their successors when they go on transfer. Government propose to help local bodies who carry on anti-mosquito work, for combating filariasis, by giving one-third grant in endemic area and one-fourth grant in other places. In combating epidemics and in your campaign for the improvement of public health, you must attempt to get the co-operation of the medical men in your area and you must also secure wider public support.

Conclusion

The battle against disease is not to be fought solely by medicines and

II

"The problem we have to tackle . . . is how to improve the quality as well as the distribution of medical care in the Province" observed the Hon'ble Minister speaking at the Provincial Medical Conference. He said *inter alia*:

"The doctor of the future will be called upon not only to diagnose and cure disease but to deal with all the health needs of human beings. The public still think of doctor as some one to consult in times of sickness only. The present system of calling in a doctor when a person is ill and paying him for attending on the patient has been condemned on the ground that it is likely to create in doctors a vested interest in disease. The more rational thing to do is to employ doctors as whole-time servants of the State and make them responsible for the health of the people living in their area.

Medicine and surgery have made greater advance during the last 40 years than in all the preceding centuries. To-day medical science has placed in your possession well-attested remedies for the radical treatment of several diseases. You have a host of scientific aids to help you in correct diagnosis. It is said that the British and American Armed Forces have never been so well looked after and medicine has never made such a contribution to victory as during the last war. Typhoid, typhus and tetanus were practically eliminated from the fighting areas. Vast numbers of the badly wounded were made fit for civilian life and often sent to fight again by employing new treatments and improved surgical techniques with the aid of chemotherapy, blood transfusion, etc. Plastic surgery has achieved wonderful results in correcting deformities, getting crippled persons on to their feet, removing disfigurements and

restoring beauty. The use of mepacrine, paludrine and D.D.T. has been of great help in combating malaria. The mental disorders caused in soldiers by fear, fatigue and injuries have been treated with considerable success by medical psychologists. The health record in the British as well as the American Armed Forces was so good in World War No. 2 that it must be considered as an outstanding achievement. Even apart from the results seen during war time, the labours of health and medical workers in Britain and America have great achievements to their credit. A review of the last 100 years shows that they have brought about a gradual decline in the major epidemic diseases. Motherhood has become safer, childhood healthier, mortality rates have been reduced and people live longer and healthier lives. The health and medical services in our country cannot boast of any such accomplishment. We have to grapple with the problems created by poverty and ignorance. There is so much of sickness in the country that we cannot hope to provide for the medical care of more than a small fraction of the people who require hospital treatment. A reduction in the demand for curative treatment can only be secured by neutralizing the adverse effects of the social, economic and environmental factors which are the main causes of the low level of health in our country. The medical outlook is changing and broadening. The increasing emphasis on the preventive aspects of medicine, the development conception of social medicine, the greater attention paid

preventive inoculations. The improvement of environmental conditions and the raising of nutritional standards are the principal factors in preventing disease and maintaining the national health. There must be a simultaneous advance in several nation-building activities if you are to improve the living standards of the people and raise the level of national health in this country. Improvement of agriculture, development of industries, spread of education, extension of communications, building up of the economic life of the people—this is the wider problem which has a bearing on the health of the individual and the community.

to psychological factors in medicine and the emergence of the idea of 'positive health' are but symbols of this changing outlook.

The major causes of preventable disease in our country are bad housing, insanitary surroundings, lack of safe water-supply, malnutrition and ignorance. Most of our troubles may in the last analysis be traced to the economically backward condition of the majority of the people in this country. The masses are chronically undernourished. They live huddled together in overcrowded dwellings. Their habits are unhealthy. What these poor debilitated people primarily need is a reasonable house and good feeding rather than a bottle of medicine. Till we are able to provide for them these essential and minimum needs of life, our towns and villages will continue to be factories for supplying cases to our hospitals and dispensaries. We must attack the problem of ill-health at the root instead of trying to cure and patch up after the damage has been done.

Preventive medicine

In the development of preventive medicine in the west the first phase was the improvement of the environment with a view to provide the basic conditions of healthy living. The second phase was immunisation by the use of sera and vaccines to give protection against certain infectious diseases. What may be regarded as the third stage has come now. It seeks to prevent deviations from health from

whatever cause and keep human beings at their best. The term 'constructive medicine' as against remedial or preventive medicine has come into vogue. This type of medicine has for its objective the active construction of greater health. The Peckham Health Centre in England has done pioneering work in this new field. No individual is wholly 'normal', much less can anyone be said to be in the fullest possible health. Ninety per cent of the people who came in first to this centre were found at the first overhaul to have some physiological defect or aberration. They were people who were going about their daily work either unaware of anything being wrong or they didn't mind it. Many conditions easily curable in their initial stages are, by delay in obtaining treatment, converted into chronic and incurable diseases. The Peckham Centre experiment has demonstrated the importance of the earliest possible detection of slight departures from normal health and of the prompt initiation of measures for their arrest. Periodic health examination is necessary for this purpose. Such examination makes it possible to detect illness at an incipient stage and prevent it from establishing itself and becoming intractable at a later stage. It also gives an opportunity to teach the patient how he should live and how he should regulate his diet, work and rest. Medical men as well as the lay public have been slow to recognize in practice the need for a periodic health overhaul like the one they have at the Peckham Health Centre. The attention of doctors has hitherto been directed much more to the diagnosis and treatment of established diseases rather than to the detection and correction of early and slight departures from health. Periodic health examination done in a thorough way will come to be regarded as the number one task in the future strategy of personal preventive medicine.

Chronic diseases are often due to neglect or ineffective treatment in early stages. They are the cause of a tremendous amount of illness and invalidity. The chronically sick occupy a large proportion of the beds in our hospitals. They are a drain on the resources of the family and of the State. We have yet to provide homes for the convalescent and hospitals for incurables. Many poor patients are discharged from our hospitals even though they may still require medical care. When they return home and resume work a relapse takes place and the illness assumes a worse form. Patients who recover

from serious illness or from infectious fevers are often in a run down condition. They are hardly in a fit state to resume their normal occupation. It is a sad mistake to ignore the need for after-care work for such discharged patients. In the case of T.B. patients, for instance, it often happens that patients restored to health by proper treatment are compelled by force of circumstances to return to the same work and the same conditions which led to their breakdown in health.

Rehabilitation has long been neglected. In war time it became a military necessity and it was demonstrated that the physical and emotional rehabilitation of persons disabled by disease, accident or maladjustment is possible. The provision of a useful satisfying occupation suitable to disabled conditions is a psychological factor of great value in regaining and maintaining health. The development of rehabilitation will, therefore, become an essential part of preventive medicine in future.

Outstanding problems

Medical science has still many worlds to conquer. The outstanding problems which contemporary medicine has to tackle are the insidious, degenerative diseases which are common in the later years of life. These have been called Fifth Column diseases because they arise from within and remain hidden until they have done irreparable damage. Cancer and group of cardiovascular diseases have become the major killing affections. They take a heavy toll of the age-groups beyond 45 or 50. Medicine will have to find ways and means of stemming the ravages of these progressive disorders, which make old age a tragedy. Treatment of cancer by the best available methods of modern medicine has made little progress in our country. The study of the diseases of old age will have to receive greater attention and become a speciality of medicine in future as pediatrics is to-day.

By eliminating preventable illness and arresting the progress of other diseases in their early stages we can reduce the burden of national sickness. The problem we have to tackle in regard to medical relief is how to improve the quality as well as the distribution of medical care in the Province. It is the people in cities that benefit most by medical progress. The people in rural areas are medically underprivileged. Medical practice of a high standard requires facilities for

diagnosis and therapy which are available only in urban areas. Good doctors are, therefore, unwilling to settle down in rural areas which are unattractive also on account of low income and the lack of amenities of civilized life. The paucity of scientific medical aid in rural areas is not a feature peculiar to this country. Even in Britain and America they are said to be experiencing a similar difficulty.

Conclusion

Medical science has revealed many of the causes of disease and it has opened the way for a more rational therapy. Medicine is now in a phase of rapid advance. Unless medical practitioners remain students throughout life, eager to learn and improve their art, their practice will fall behind the times and they will become back numbers. Many of the medical men in mufussal places stagnate and get into a groove. They must read books and journals, visit hospitals where they can observe the latest technique and seek opportunities to come into contact with the best men of the profession. Those who have an aptitude for higher studies should undergo post-graduate training and specialize in some branch of medicine or other. Occasionally they must go abroad to get into touch with the new development in medicine and surgery. In a free India, medical men will have to play a large part in the work of preserving and improving national health. Administrative measures of vast magnitude will be required to raise the level of public health in this country. A National Health Service like the one just established in Britain providing comprehensive medical care for all members of the community will no doubt be the goal towards which we should strive to go. The cost of such an undertaking will be prohibitive for us at the present time; but when we can afford it, it will be an investment which is sure to yield high dividends in health, happiness and efficiency in work.

Eighth All-India Cattle Show

The Executive Committee of the All-India Cattle Show Committee has decided to hold at Delhi the Eighth All-India Cattle Show from February 28th to March 5, and the Fifth All-India Poultry Show on March 3-5, 1949.

FLASHLIGHTS

Co-operation in Daily Life

Sri Chandramouli's Exhortation

Speaking on the occasion of the International Co-operators' Day Hon'ble Sri Chandramouli dealt with the manifold advantages of Co-operation and said:

"I am glad to be able to give you today an example of how this principle of self-help and mutual help has been put into force during the last one year between our Province and Ceylon, in spite of the Gulf of Mannar which separates us. People in Ceylon needed our onions and our turmeric for their consumption and we on this side of the Gulf were in need of a good market for these products. Consumers there and producers here agreed to help one another and the Government of India gave their blessings to such a co-operative enterprise by issuing the necessary permits. Five hundred tons of onions have been supplied already by the Dindigul Co-operative Sale Society to the Co-operative Wholesale Establishment in Ceylon and 1,100 tons more are being shipped to the Co-operatives in Ceylon by that society and the sale societies at Proddatur and Tadpatri. The Gobichettipalayam Sale Society shipped 35 tons of turmeric to the Co-operative Wholesale Establishment in Ceylon valued at over half a lakh of rupees. The Provincial Handloom Weavers' Society has exported 13 lakhs of yards of handloom goods to Burma, Malaya, Singapore and Ceylon, and nearly 12 lakhs of yards to Pakistan and East Bengal, although only a small number of the importers of handloom cloth in these other countries were co-operative institutions.

It is gratifying to observe that consumers of our handloom goods are organizing themselves into co-operatives in most of these countries and that our own Provincial society seeks to aid such organizations.

It is my fond hope that co-operative institutions of this Province will develop more and more business with other countries and establish the fact that co-operation is international not only in concept but also in practice.



Caste and Co-operation

Coming to our own country, the cosmopolitan character of co-operation has to be emphasized a great deal more than is generally being done now. There is no reason why the Scheduled Castes and the Backward Classes should be segregated into co-operative societies of their own. Although efforts are being made here and there to merge them in co-operative societies open to all communities, the progress in this direction is still meagre. It seems to me that there are few people of the higher castes who are opposed to accommodating the lower castes in one and the same co-operative institution. The difficulty seems rather to lie with the people of the lower castes themselves who in several cases appear to be anxious to preserve their separate identity. To both the upper and the lower castes, I would make an appeal in the name of Co-operation to seek their common welfare in common co-operative societies.

Rural Credit Societies

A step in this direction would probably be the multi-purpose co-operative society in each village.

Although every one of our rural co-operative credit societies is a multi-purpose society according to its constitution, very few of them have adopted other functions than credit. The distribution of foodstuffs, cloth and groundnut cakes through these rural credit societies has been a great help in making these societies take to other activities besides credit. But if more and more rural credit societies are to assist the rural population in more directions than credit, the control orders which have helped in this transformation alone will not suffice. Co-operators in rural credit societies themselves should make up their minds to assist their fellowmen in more directions than one and toil for this object.

It is gratifying to observe that wherever the controlled credit scheme has been adopted, marketing panchayatdars in rural credit societies have helped their members in collecting their produce, in transporting them to the nearest sale society and in disposing them off there at favourable prices. During the year 1947-48, 578 rural credit societies collected and disposed off agricultural produce in this manner. Although control orders which regulated prices of foodgrains were an obstacle to the promotion of this activity, the volume of business done, which largely relates to commercial crops, is a pointer to the possibilities of this line of activity. With a view to aid non-credit activities of this variety in rural credit societies, it was decided at a conference of co-operators held in September 1947 that the strength of the supervising staff should be increased from one supervisor for every 25 or 30 societies to one supervisor for every 15 societies. I am glad to inform you that this recommendation is actively under the consideration of Government and a decision will be reached very soon.

A more elaborate form of multi-purpose co-operative societies in villages has been recommended by the Registrar and the by-laws relating to them are now under the consideration of Government. It has been decided that these societies should be established in three of the firkas under the Firka Development Scheme, viz., Tirumangalam Firka (Madura district), Dondalur Firka (West Godavari district) and Kumbala Firka (South Kanara district). The experience gained by the working of these societies, it is hoped, will lead the way for people in other areas adopting similar types of societies.

Land Colonization

The rural credit societies situated in the Pattukottai taluk of the Tanjore District served by the Cauvery-Mettur Project and the land colonization societies scattered all over the Province are two remarkable examples of how more activities than credit could be discharged by co-operatives situated in villages. Twenty rural credit societies have reclaimed 2,768 acres of land and brought them under cultivation. They have erected 8 godowns into which are gathered the produce on these lands and in which articles in domestic need are also distributed to the members. One of them has introduced even Khadi spinning. Thirty-six land colonization societies have settled 3,725

people on land. They have brought 10,082 acres of land under cultivation. Some of them have introduced mat-weaving, sheep-breeding and poultry farming. The success obtained with these societies has given rise to the evolution of a new form of land colonization society which is intended not exclusively for poor landless labourers but jointly for Pattadars and field labourers. The registration of one such society at Marudur in Trichinopoly district is under the active consideration of Government and I hope that when it is approved many more such societies will be registered in the Province. They are expected not only to improve agricultural production but also to promote happy relations between landholders and field-labourers.

Libraries

"I visualize the library of the future not as a collection of books but as a live and vigorous cultural centre which would not be content with the issuing of books but will also try to organize various kinds of literary and cultural activities suited to the needs and psychology of the people. It should be a centre where lectures are organized, informal talks are given, discussion groups are held and, whenever possible, the media of mass education like films, various types of graphic illustrations and the radio are utilized for the education of the people," observed the Premier of Bombay, while laying the foundation stone of the Bandra National Library Building, recently.

Weaving and Occupational Therapy

It would interest the readers to know what an eminent American author, Mr. Ralph Borsodi, who is a critical student of modern movements, has to say about weaving:—

"Weaving is one of the favoured methods of 'Occupational Therapy' in the ever-increasing number of institutions for nervous and mental disorders which we are erecting all over the country. The strain of repetitive

work in factories and offices, and the absence of creative and productive work in our homes, particularly for women, children and the aged, is turning us into a race of neurotics. Weaving is being revived after a fashion, as a therapeutic measure to restore these unfortunates to health. What a ghastly commentary upon what we have called 'progress'. Having taken the looms out of homes during the

past century and transferred them to factories, we now find that the absence of the creative work they used to furnish is producing an ever-increasing number of neurotic men and women, and an endless number of 'problem' children. So our physicians are putting the loom into their institutions in order to make the victims of this deprivation well again.

Shall we learn wisdom from such experiences or choose to learn it only when we face the wall?

THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING IS IN THE EATING

Madras Information will amply repay perusal

The Cheapest Journal in South India

Special Features: Delightful photographs—Topical articles—Notes on Governmental activities—News round-up of other Provinces and the Centre, etc.—A wealth of information on a variety of subjects

Price: Single copy—2 annas . . . Annual subscription—Rs. 3 only

Apply to:

THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

FORT ST. GEORGE, MADRAS

Agricultural Notes**Soil Mechanics in India**

From times immemorial soil has been used as a material of construction. Its complex behaviour has not been properly understood in the past. It was Russia that first established that to anticipate soil behaviour properly, it is necessary to study soils in the laboratory as well as in the field. In India, soil laboratories are rapidly being set up in different places. This is a good augury at a time when the country is embarking on large scale projects in roads, airfields, dams, canals and buildings.

The Central Board of Irrigation under the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power, Government of India, have recently brought out a new publication entitled "Standards For Testing Soils (Tentative)" which aims at bringing about uniformity of practice in the study of soil mechanics throughout the country.

The publication is the result of the labours of a Committee appointed by the Board with representatives of the Railway Board, the Roads Organization and the Army on it. The publication will prove useful to all research workers and engineers who are engaged on large projects of roads, dams, canals and buildings where local soils have to be used extensively.

Research in America and Russia

The complex behaviour of soil in structures and under foundations has not been properly understood in the past. Important failures due to the presence of unsuitable soil in structures and subgrades have, for want of a scientific approach to the subject, been time and again erroneously attributed to bad workmanship.

America was the first country to attempt a scientific study of soils in the laboratory. It was in Russia, however, where it was first established that to understand and anticipate properly soil behaviour, it was absolutely necessary to study the soils in the laboratory as well as in the field. America recognized this very important side of soil research and from 1926 onwards, launched a drive for the development of the subject of soil mechanics on a scientific basis.

Since then, other countries have also concentrated on the scientific study of soil and the subject has now reached such a state of progress that the use

of soil as a cheap substitute for more expensive materials of construction is practicable. It is also possible to allocate correct bearing values to different soils, instead of having to depend on orthodox empirical values, which in most cases allow a wasteful factor of safety.

India is embarking on large-scale projects in roads, airfields, dams, canals, buildings, etc., and in most of these projects it should be possible to economize greatly by an intelligent use of local soils. This calls for a scientific study of soils. With this object in view, soil laboratories are rapidly being set up in all parts of India. The literature on soil analysis is scarce and different systems being followed in different laboratories. The few existing laboratories in India are being asked constantly by authorities wanting to start new soil laboratories, for advice regarding tests to be carried out and apparatus to be employed.

It has been recognized that if full advantage is to be obtained of research carried out in different laboratories,

Manures and Manuring

To maintain the productive capacity of a soil, addition to it of manure in one form or another has been recognised as essential in all countries.

By DR. J. A. DAJI

One of the best known methods to do it is the age-old use of farmyard manure. Practical experiment has

there should be uniformity of practice, so that results can be compared and collaborated. With this object in view, the Central Board of Irrigation got together all the organizations in India engaged on soil research and set up a permanent committee for the standardization of soil testing methods and apparatus. The Committee appointed by the Board includes representatives of the Central Board of Irrigation, the Indian Roads Congress, the Railway Board, the Indian Army and the Ministry of Transport, Government of India.

The Committee decided that the need for uniform standards for the whole country was so urgent that a directive should be issued as quickly as possible after studying whatever information, on the various standard tests and apparatus in vogue, was readily available. It was recognized, however, that amendments to the directive would have to be issued from time to time, in the light of experience to be gained in India and abroad.

In the publication are included methods for the testing of soils, as required for different engineering works as recommended by the Committee. It has been recommended that these methods should be followed, as far as possible, in soil laboratories throughout the country so that full benefit can be derived from comparison of results. The publication is divided into six chapters and includes 24 different tests, some of which are based on American practice and some evolved in India. It is illustrated with drawings, photographs of the apparatus recommended and gives worked-out examples and tables. The standards and methods recommended are only tentative and are proposed to be amended from time to time on the basis of further research and experience gained in future.

demonstrated that this is, generally speaking, the most valuable manure for maintaining the fertility of the soil. Composed as it is of vegetable substances mixed with animal excreta, it contains all the elements required by the growing plant.

Another method for maintaining solid productivity is the practice of green manuring. It consists in the incorporation into the soil of vegetation of various kinds. It was in use in

China thousands of years ago. From there it seems to have spread to other countries, and is, at present, very widely employed. The Chinese, however, compost the material with nightsoil before applying it to the land.

Artificial Fertilizers

These two manures, in addition to bones, were almost exclusively employed in Europe until about the beginning of the nineteenth century. The application of the science of chemistry, which was making great strides there at that time, to the study of the problems of plant nutrition led to the use of artificial fertilizers. It was shown by means of chemical analysis that plants absorbed certain mineral substances like soda, potash, phosphorus and lime from the soil for their nourishment and growth. Liebig, the great German Chemist, argued that in order to maintain the fertility of the soil, these mineral substances should be returned to it in the form of manure. He showed that almost all the soils contained these mineral substances in sufficient quantities for the requirement of the crop; only the elements of nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid were lacking. Accordingly, he advocated the use of chemicals containing these three elements and showed by field experimentation that large increases in crop yields could be obtained by application to the soil of suitable doses of certain chemicals.

Prosperity for West

The chemical fertilizers were at first looked upon with suspicion. Some of the progressive farmers in Europe, however, took to them and were convinced, before long, of their potentialities. As years rolled by, the use of artificial fertilizers became firmly established. Several factories were started in Europe and in America for their manufacture. This brought in a period of prosperity to agriculture and to the farmers.

It took some time, however, to realize that these artificials were not an unmixed blessing. In some cases they were found to spoil the land. In others it was noticed that the quality of the crop had deteriorated to some extent by their continuous use. More recent researches have, however, shown that there is no cause for apprehension if these fertilizers are used judiciously.

In India, too, the importance of manures and manuring was recognized

from time immemorial. Mention has been made in old scripts of the use of animal excreta and animal and vegetable products of various types like bones, fish, etc., for obtaining higher yields. Owing to various reasons, the animal products fell into disuse, and the only manure that is in general use in this country to-day is the farmyard manure. The wasteful methods of preserving animal excreta and the increasing use of cattle dung as fuel soon limited the scope and utilization of this manure. The result was that the fertility of the soil fell to a low level. The Indian cultivator was by no means ignorant of the value of manures; yet he was slow in adopting improved methods of preparing and conserving this most valuable manure and to use it to the best advantage. This was the state of affairs in which Dr. J. A. Voelcher found Indian agriculture as a result of his survey during 1890-93, when he was deputed by the Government of India to make an inquiry into and give advice on the possible means of improving agriculture in the country.

Experiments

Encouraged by the progress made by the farmers in Europe and America through the use of artificial fertilizers and application of scientific knowledge to the practice of preserving and utilizing manures, experiments were conducted by the Agricultural Departments in India to demonstrate the practicability of obtaining increased yields by similar means. Some of the first experiments were made in Bombay Province as far as 1896. These were laid out on various types of soil and tried on different crops. The results were published in the annual reports of the Agricultural Department. They succeeded to a certain extent in showing how increased yields of some of the important crops of the Province could be obtained by the application of certain manures, or of combinations of manures. But the full import of these experiments was not brought out till some years later, when the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, on the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India, deputed a special scientist to collect, study and correlate the results of these experiments.

As a result of this inquiry, which covered a period of 35 years (1896-1931) some very important and interesting information was brought to light. All possible information, such as the yield of the crop and the price obtained for it,

the amount and cost of manure or manures applied, the type of soil on which the experiment was carried out, the duration of the experiment, climatic factors, net profit or loss, etc., was collected. Finally, the results were subjected to statistical analysis to find out how much of the increased yield was due to chance variation or variation due to soil heterogeneity.

When these experiments were first laid out, the science of field experimentation was not well developed. In fact, the modern technique of field experimentation was unknown in the Province until about the year 1928, when randomized replicated plots, according to Fisher's technique, were laid out for the first time. In spite of this great drawback, the data of some of the experiments conducted for several years gave consistently the same trend of results. The data presented in the report are too numerous and exhaustive to be included in this short article. For details one must refer to the original publication. A brief summary giving some of the salient features of the conclusions arrived at is given below.

Effective Manures

Farmyard manure was found to be the most important manure. It proved to be beneficial to almost every crop on which it was tried. Jowar, rice, maize, groundnut, cotton, chillies and sugarcane were all benefited immensely by the addition of two to ten tons of this manure an acre.

Poudrette and nightsoil proved better than farmyard manure at certain places. Sugarcane at Arbhavi, cotton-jowar rotation at Surat, bananas at Poona and jowar-cotton rotation at Dharwar responded well to this manure. It, however, failed with rice at Ratnagiri. About five to ten tons of this manure an acre is a suitable dose.

Green manuring with sunn-hemp was found useful for increasing the yield of rice at Dohad, of sugarcane at Baramati, Manjri and Kopergaon and of tobacco at Nadiad. In the case of tobacco, not only did it increase the yield, but gave a much higher net profit for the two years it was tried. Green manuring with the leaves of trees like *karanj*, *rui*, etc., also gave encouraging results with rice at Karjat, Ratnagiri, Alibag and Kumbha.

Oil-cake was used as manure at a number of places. They are quick-acting concentrated manures, and so are generally used as top-dressing.

Sugarcane at Arbhavi, Varamati, Manjri, Kumta and Kopergaon, rice at Ratnagiri, cotton at Dhulia, jowar at Kopergaon, maize at Arbhavi, tobacco at Nadiad and bananas at Poona have all been benefited by oil-cake.

Animal products like bone-meal and fish gave good results whenever these were tried. Bone-meal seems to be beneficial to rice in the Konkan and to bananas and figs at Poona. Fish manure also gave increased yields of rice at Alibag and Ratnagiri, and of sugarcane at Arbhavi, Kumta and Manjri.

Sewage effluent from septic tanks was tried at Poona on a number of crops like sugarcane, lucerne, guinea grass, jowar, turmeric, groundnut, etc. In almost all cases, it increased the yield even more than what farmyard manure or poudrette did. It also gave very high net profits for almost every crop.

The Best Artificial Fertilisers

Amongst the artificial fertilizers, none has given as good results as sulphate of ammonia. Rice and sugarcane have been benefited by this manure at almost every place. Like all other concentrated fertilizers, this manure can only be used as a top-dressing. The beneficial effect of this fertilizer was, however, fully shown when it was used in conjunction with organic manures. A proper dose for sugarcane was worked out at many places, and it was found that, under the Deccan conditions, a mixture of oil-cake and sulphate of ammonia, supplying 150 lb. nitrogen in equal amounts, was the most suitable and economical top-dressing. For rice, it was found that it was better to give sulphate of ammonia in two or three doses at suitable stages of crop growth than to give the whole quantity at a time. Recent experiments have shown that crops like cotton, jowar, wheat, etc., also respond well to this fertilizer. Next to sulphate of ammonia amongst other nitrogenous fertilizers, nitrate of soda has been found useful for sugarcane and rice.

Phosphatic manures, like superphosphate and rock phosphate, sometimes showed advantage for rice. Other crops, like jowar, chillies and sugarcane, did not respond at all. Sulphate of potash has benefited crops like chillies, and tobacco in particular.

How they should be used

From a study of these experiments, it seems that organic manures like farmyard manure, poudrette, green

manure, etc., are very useful. They not only increase crop yields but also maintain the fertility of the soil at a high level and keep it in good "heart" when applied regularly. Among the artificial fertilizers, sulphate of ammonia has been found to be very useful for a variety of crops. One great lesson that these experiments have taught is that artificial fertilizers should always be given to a soil that has been well supplied with organic matter. They also require sufficient quantities of water to show their best effects.

As bone-meal is very costly, experiments were made in order to evolve a method whereby this material or bone-powder could be prepared locally and at a low cost. After many trials, a simple method was evolved which facilitated the breaking and powdering of bones with perfect ease. It consisted in half-charring the bones so as to make them brittle. Bones are put in alternate layers with material like cotton stalks, tree-lopings, *kadbi* refuse, or any other farm waste that can burn easily. A small heap is thus prepared which is then lighted. When the bones have charred sufficiently not completely, they are allowed to cool, and then put in a country *chunam ghani* in which they are crushed and powdered easily. The price of the finished product thus obtained is much less than that of bone-meal available in the market. This method has been well received throughout the

Province. When it is moistened with cattle urine, bone-powder forms an excellent manure for fruit trees and for crops like sugarcane, rice, etc.

Another development that has taken place in the Province during the last few years is the preparation of synthetic farmyard manure and compost. It has been shown that both these manures can be prepared very successfully from ordinary materials available in a cultivator's field. Waste farm refuse like straw, stalks, leaves, etc., could be converted into a useful manure, very much like the ordinary farmyard manure, if they are mixed with cattle urine or sulphate of ammonia or any other material containing soluble nitrogen and then allowed to rot. The manure so prepared is equally effective as any farmyard manure. This opens up the possibility of preparing organic manures by the cultivator right on his very field without the aid of cattle dung. Not only farm waste but also town sweepings and refuse, when mixed with nightsoil, could be turned into useful manures.

The use of manures is slowly increasing, especially in the tracts where intensively cultivated crop like sugarcane and vegetables are grown. Nevertheless much remains to be done to bring home to the cultivator the more modern methods of preparation, conservation and use of manures.

—Farmer.

HAVING flung aside the sword, there is nothing except the cup of love which I can offer to those who oppose me. It is by offering that cup that I accept to draw them close to me. I cannot think of permanent enmity between man and man, and believing as I do in the theory of rebirth, I live in the hope that, if not in this birth, in some other birth, I shall be able to hug all humanity in friendly embrace.

IN any event, India free cannot deny freedom to any son of the soil. It gives one both pain and surprise when I find people feeling anxious about their future under a free India. For me, an India which does not guarantee freedom to the lowliest of those born not merely within an artificial boundary but within its natural boundary is not free India.

IF I want freedom for my country, believe me, if I can possibly help it, I do not want that freedom in order that I, belonging to a nation which counts one-fifth of the human race, may exploit any other race upon earth, or any single individual . . .

—MAHATMA GANDHIJI.



STUDENTS' COLUMN

Library Science

[This feature is for the giving of information and guidance to the students regarding courses, careers and other matters of interest to them. For further guidance, the students may write to the Secretary, The Madras University Information Bureau, University of Madras.]

The career as a librarian offers good scope with the proposed enlargement of the country's library system. Regarding the facilities for obtaining the qualifications necessary for such posts, there exists a degree course at Delhi University which is of two years' duration and for which a degree in arts or science is necessary. The cost of tuition comes to approx. Rs. 200 a year. There are also diploma courses at Delhi and Madras Universities.

To make a success of a career in librarianship it is wiser to study some other foreign language besides English. Further the student may profitably learn as many languages of his own country as he can. It is enough if he has a working knowledge of these languages.

Regarding practical training, we have the offer from the principal librarian of the Public Library of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia who has kindly consented to offer library training to Indian students. There is the age limit up to thirty and usually only graduates are taken for this training. The fees for the year are approximately Rs. 300. Application forms may be had directly from the principal librarian at Macquarie street, Sydney.

UNESCO

In this connection it is of interest for the librarians in India to know that the UNESCO has now arranged a clearing house for the free supply of books for public libraries in need of development. The bulletin of the UNESCO has tabulated a list of libraries from different countries which are prepared to present the books. Such of those librarians in India who are interested in the offer may write to the UNESCO at Hotel Majestic, Paris.

Specialization

As the library science has developed in its scope, there are a number of

branches for specialization. For example the Carnegie Institute of Technology, U.S.A., offers one year course in the following branches:—Library work with children, High School library work and advanced library work. As some knowledge of a foreign language besides English is required for admission to this course, the intending student may take the certificate course in French and German of the University of Madras.

Professional

Regarding professional qualifications like the associateship or fellowship of the library association, these are obtained only after approved practical experience of three years and five years respectively and passing of the examinations of the association. The address of the library association is Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C. 1. Students who pass the final examination and complete their five years' experience are entitled for the title F.L.A.

The Career

A word about the career as a librarian will not be out of place here. The position of the librarian is one of real responsibility and variety. In U.S.A. the librarian is one of the principal officers of the college, university, state departments and established firms for the supplying of lists of books and references. In India the provincial acts of legislature on libraries have their aim to enhance and co-ordinate the various existing library services. In U.K. one has the idea of the variety of the library science in such institutions as St. Daniel's library at Hawarden which is a residential library for writers and students. Such special institutions as National Archives, Museums, National standard laboratories and other institutions are in requirement of qualified library officers from time to time. Besides, there is scope in the armed forces as library officers in the navy, army and the air force, the hospitals and the mobile library services.

Private Libraries

Apart from library work as a career, young undergraduates may profitably take to the building of a small private library of their own as a hobby. For such students the various book-clubs in London, New York, and Bombay will be found very useful. The building up of a small library of tools and engineering pamphlets will be useful for the student of technology.

American Associations

Those who are already in the profession and who like to keep informed of the new developments in the field may be interested in the activities of the American Library Association of the American Council of Education at Washington, D.C. to whom they can write. Educational films, stereoscope cards, film slides and film strips are increasingly coming into the field of the librarian. Information on modern techniques like the microphotography for economizing space and for better preservation may also be had from the association. We give below the list of such associations:—

The American Association of Law Libraries, Baltimore Law Library, Court House, Baltimore.

The Catholic Library Association, Cardinal Hays Library, Manhattan College, New York City.

Music Library Association, Library Association, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Association of Research Libraries, New York Public Library, New York-18.

Special Libraries Association, 31-E, 10th street, New York City.

Theatre Library Association, New York Public Library.

University Training

Library training at University level could be obtained at the institutions mentioned below:—

University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, U.S.A.

University of Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.

University of Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.

University of Kentucky, Kentucky, U.S.A.

Simmonds College, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Columbia University, New York, U.S.A.

Carnegie Institute, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

(Continued on page 31)

OTHER PROVINCES—NEWS ROUND-UP

Training in tractor driving in Bombay

A two months' training course in tractor driving has been started at Poona.

In all 40 candidates will be trained in five months.

Development of Coir Industry in Bombay

With a view to developing the coir industry, three coir extraction and spinning institutions and one coir factory-cum-training institution are being organized in Bombay Province. The Government have sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 1,50,880 for two years, in the first instance, to execute the scheme. It has also been decided to train 30 persons in extraction and spinning of coir fabric at each of the coir extracting and spinning institutions.

Tractor Organization in U.P.

The Tractor Organization of the Agriculture Department of the U.P. Government is now in a position to undertake reclamation work in areas other than those covered by the Colonization and Kans-eradication schemes of Government. Four units consisting of 12 tractors each will be utilized for this purpose and, to begin with, will work in those districts where there are extensive areas of culturable waste to be reclaimed.

Model Villages in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have decided to place at the disposal of each District Rural Development Board in the Province a sum of Rs. 500 to be given as contribution to the improvement of a single village into a model one. Originally, a sum of Rs. 250 was intended for the purpose. The limit of the grant was raised when it was discovered that Rs. 250 was too low a sum for any substantial work to be done.

Every year one village will be selected in each taluka or peta for being made into a model village. The amount

necessary for improving the village will depend on local conditions. The villagers should be prepared to do all the manual labour, particularly the unskilled labour, free of cost and also to contribute at least one half of the estimated cash expenditure. It may not be possible to select only such villages as could be made into "model" villages by spending only Rs. 1,000 excluding the cost of manual labour. Where the cash expenditure is estimated to exceed Rs. 1,000 either the programme will be suitably curtailed or the villagers asked to collect the additional amount locally. But in no case will the District Rural Development Board's contribution exceed the limit of Rs. 500 a village.

Water-supply in villages

The Government of Bombay intends to construct at least one well in every village with a population of 200 and above, according to the census of 1941. A scheme, called the Village Water-Supply Scheme, has already been undertaken covering all normal cases, i.e., cases where well water may become available at a reasonable distance from the village and at a reasonable depth. In other cases, resort will have to be taken to piped water-supply schemes.

Co-operative Cottage Industries Association in Assam

With a view to develop the spirit of co-operation among people, a series of short talks will be given in Shillong on the "Co-operative Movement", its principles and practice. The talks are being arranged by the Assam Co-operative Cottage Industries Association, Ltd., and will be given at four different centres of Shillong.

Basic Education in Assam

Assam's first Academic High School under the Government's Basic Education Plan was formally opened recently. Speaking on the occasion the Premier pointed out that the first essential of the Basic Education scheme envisaged by Mahatma Gandhi

was the 'application of man's mind to learning through the medium of crafts'. Gandhiji's method, he said, provides us with a system wherewith we can impart an education which, besides being basic in value, has the virtue of being easily assimilable even in the earliest stage, through practical and corporate life amongst students.

Handicrafts in United Province

A meeting of the expert committee appointed by the U.P. Government to suggest measures for reorganization and expansion of the Government handicrafts and production centres was held recently. The committee examined various aspects of organization, working, supervision and control of these institutions and considered measures for effecting improvements and making them more effective agencies for assisting the cottage workers as well as the consumers.

The measures suggested include opening of first class show-rooms in Bombay Calcutta and Delhi, deputation of experienced officers of the department abroad to study foreign markets for the cottage products, establishment of show-rooms in important countries in co-ordination with other Provinces, posting of staff to maintain the show-rooms and to secure orders and setting up of production centres for other handicrafts like those existing for handloom.

Tree-planting prizes in Bombay

The Government of Bombay had announced that a prize of Rs. 2,000 would be awarded to a village or an institution in each of the three Divisions of the Province and also to an institution in Bombay City, which plants the largest number of trees and rears them for one year. The Government have now prescribed the procedure for awarding the prizes, which would be done at the end of the year, after inspection of the number of trees planted this year and which have survived.

Nutrition Advisory Committee in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has appointed a Committee to deal with all questions pertaining to nutrition, including those referred to it by the Civil Supplies Department, known as the Permanent Nutrition Advisory Committee. It replaces the existing Nutrition Advisory Committee under the Civil Supplies Department.

Tagai loans to potato cultivators in Bombay

Tagai loans to the extent of just over two million rupees will be given to poor cultivators of the five districts of Poona, Nasik, Ahmednagar, Satara and Belgaum to enable them to purchase seed potatoes and manure mixture from the Agricultural Department for the rabi season of 1948-49.

Social Education training course in C.P.

"The main aim of Social Education is to build up national character which will stand the country in good stead in its hour of need and raise the standard of national efficiency through a properly organized system of social education," observed Dr. V. S. Jha, Director of Public Instruction, inaugurating one-week training course in Social Education recently.

Co-operative Societies in West Bengal

In West Bengal, the Ministry has decided to organize multi-purpose societies to tackle rural problems such as irrigation, drainage and distribution of goods in short supply. According to the Minister in charge of the Co-operative portfolio, 323 such societies have been formed in the past six weeks. In order to guard against the domination of a few individuals each society will comprise at least 80 per cent of the residents of the locality concerned. Government have appointed 100 officers to organize and supervise the working of the societies. Giving an instance of the useful work these bodies can do the Minister said that 3,000 bighas of land had been lying fallow for eight years in Midnapore district and these have now been brought under cultivation by the local people through a society aided by a bank and Government.

Village Cleaning on 'Gandhi Jayanti' Day Basic School Trainees in Malabar set an example



Right—Teachers and trainees before commencing work Left—Removing the grass from the road-side



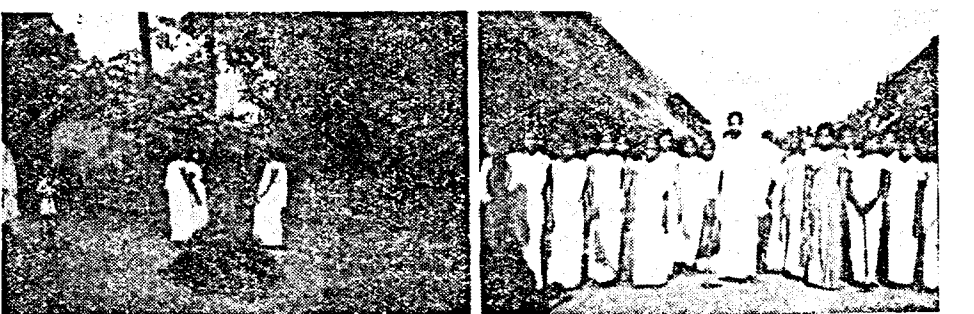
Trainees sweeping the streets—Calves help in wobbling up the grass

A girl intent on work—Village boys watching and finally joining work



A brief respite while posing

There is no dance



Surprised at the heap they have made in so short a time

Satisfaction of good work done—Happy group at the end of the hour

CLIPPINGS FROM GANDHIJI'S WRITINGS

Village Industries

The importance of Village Industries in the rural economy of the country cannot be over-emphasised. The absence of properly organized Cottage Industries is one of the major causes for the economic backwardness of the villager. And Mahatmaji had repeated times without number the need to devote sustained attention to Cottage Industries. The following extract from his writings is of special interest as throwing considerable light on the subject.

As the author of the Congress resolution on village industries and as the sole guide of the Association that is being formed for their promotion, it is but meet that I should, as far as possible, share with the public ideas that are uppermost in my mind regarding these industries and the moral and hygienic uplift that is intimately associated with them.

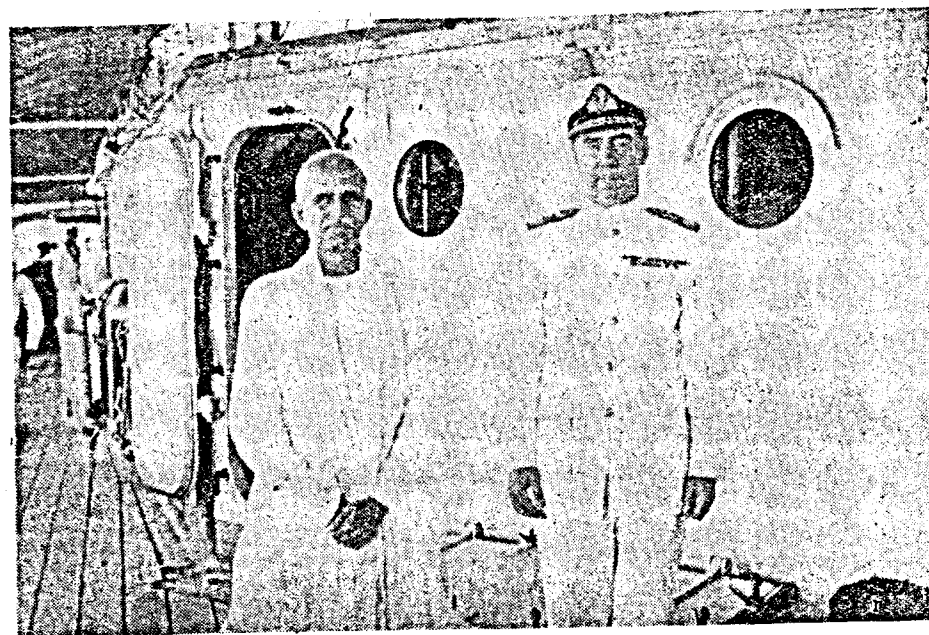
The idea of forming the Association took definite shape during the Harijan tour as early as when I entered Malabar. A casual talk with a Khadi worker showed to me how necessary it was to have a body that would make an honest attempt to return to the villagers what has been cruelly and thoughtlessly snatched away from them by the city-dwellers. The hardest hit among the villagers are the Harijans. They have but a limited choice of the industries that are open to the villagers in general. Therefore, when their industries slip away from their hands, they become like the beasts of burden with whom their lot is cast.

But the villagers in general are not much better off to-day. Bit by bit they are being confined only to the hand-to-mouth business of scratching the earth. Few know to-day that agriculture in the small and irregular holdings of India is not a paying proposition. The villagers live a lifeless life. Their life is a process of slow starvation. They are burdened with debts. The money-lender lends, because he can do no otherwise. He will lose all if he does not. This system of village lending baffles investigation. Our knowledge of it is superficial in spite of elaborate inquiries.

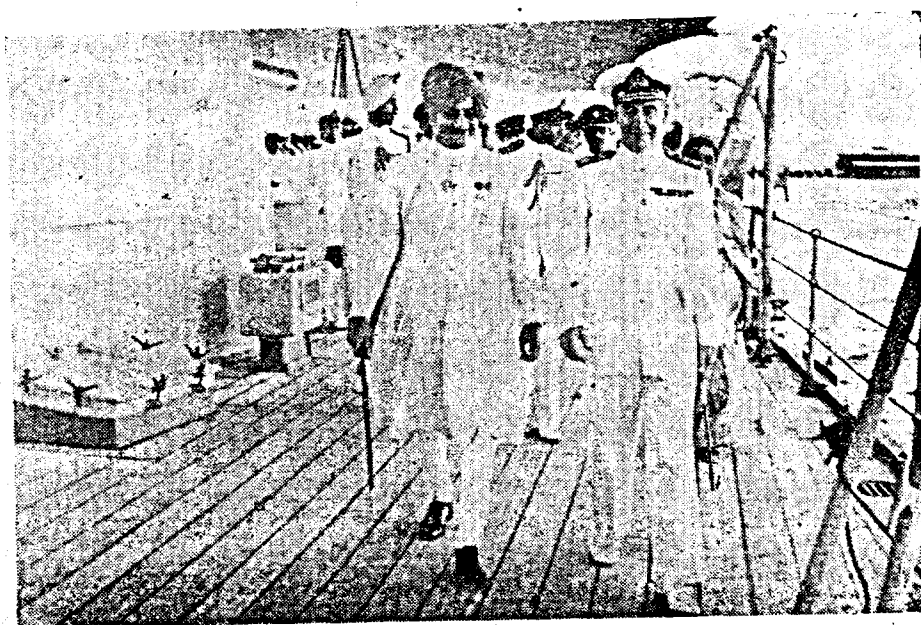
Extinction of village industries would complete the ruin of the 700,000 villages in India.

I have seen in the daily Press criticism of the proposals I have adumbrated. Advice has been given to me that I must look for salvation in the direction of using the powers of nature

that the inventive brain of man has brought under subjection. The critics say that water, air, oil and electricity should be fully utilized as they are being utilized in the go-ahead West. They say that control over these hidden powers of nature enables every American to have thirty-three slaves.



The Premier of Madras with the Rear Admiral in H.M.I.S. "Delhi"



H.E. the Governor of Madras visited the H.M.I.S. "Delhi"

Repeat the process in India and I dare say that it will thirty-three times enslave every inhabitant of this land, instead of giving everyone thirty-three slaves.

Mechanization is good when the hands are too few for the work intended to be accomplished. It is an evil when there are more hands than required for the work, as in the case in India. I may not use a plough for digging a few square yards of a plot of land. The problem with us is not how to find leisure for the teeming millions inhabiting our villages. The problem

is how to utilize their idle hours, which are equal to the working days of six months in the year. Strange as it may appear, every mill generally is a menace to the villagers. I have not worked out the figures, but I am quite safe in saying that every mill-hand does the work of at least ten labourers doing the same work in their villages. In other words, he earns more than he did in his village at the expense of ten fellow villagers. Thus spinning and weaving mills have deprived the villagers of a substantial means of livelihood. It is no answer in reply to say that

they turn out cheaper, better cloth, if they do so at all. For, if they have displaced thousands of workers the cheapest mill cloth is dearer than the dearest *khadi* woven in the villages. Coal is not dear for the coal miner who, can use it there and then nor is the *khadi* dear for the villager who manufactures his own *khadi*. But if cloth manufactured in mills displaces village hands, rice mills and flour mills not only displace thousands of poor women workers, but damage the health of the whole population in the bargain. Where people have no objection to taking flesh diet and can afford it, white flour and polished rice may do no harm, but in India, where millions can get no flesh diet even where they have no objection to eating it if they can get it, it is sinful to deprive them of nutritious and vital elements contained in whole wheat meal and unpolished rice. It is time medical men and others combined to instruct the people on the danger attendant upon the use of white flour and polished rice.

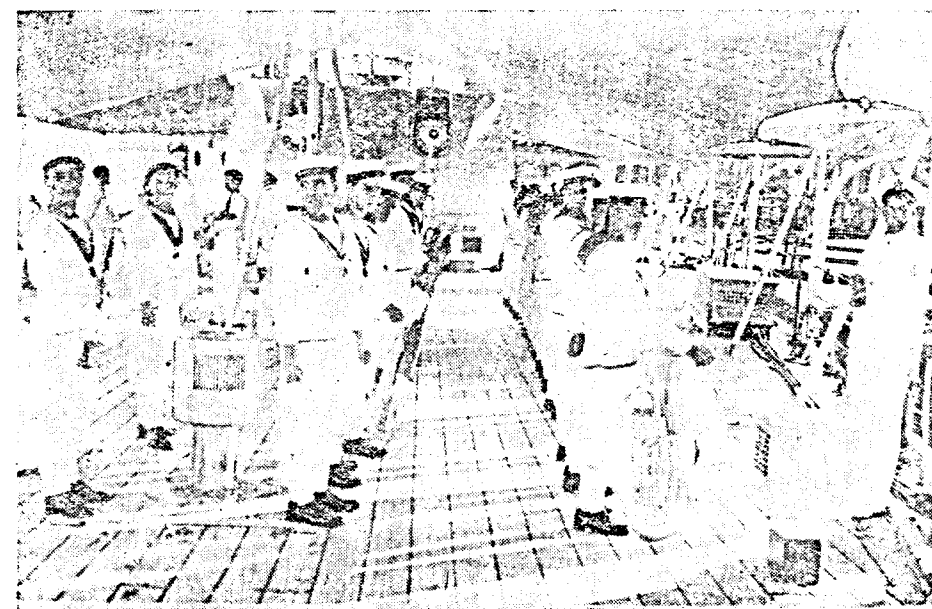
I have drawn attention to some broad glaring facts to show that the way to take work to the villagers is not through mechanization but that it lies through revival of the industries they have hitherto followed.

Hence the function of the All-India Village Industries Association must, in my opinion, be to encourage the existing industries and to revive, where it is possible and desirable, the dying or dead industries of villages according to the village methods, i.e., the villagers working in their own cottages as they have done from times immemorial. These simple methods can be considerably improved as they have been in hand-ginning, hand-spinning and hand-weaving.

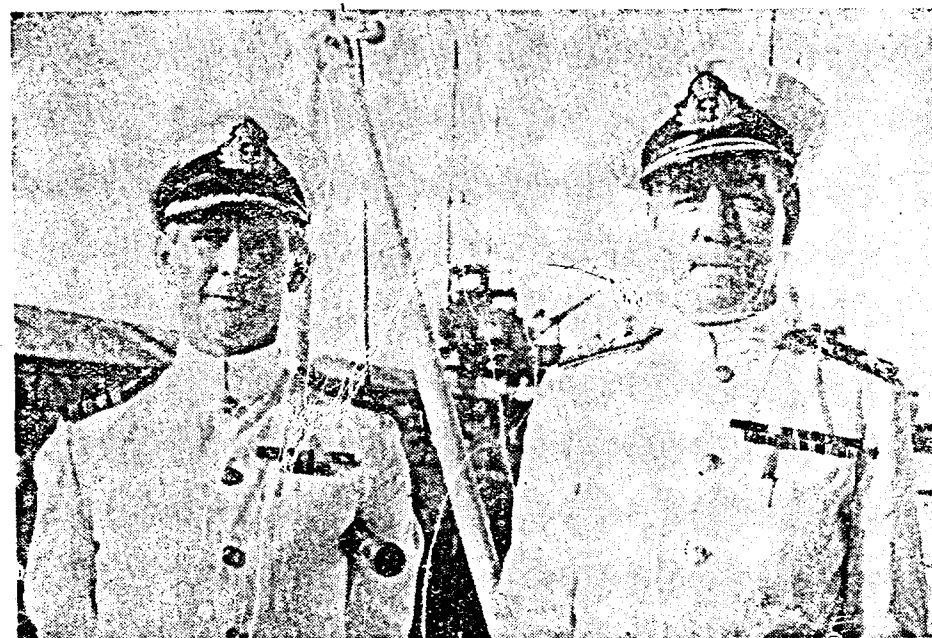
A critic objects that the ancient plan is purely individualistic and can never bring about corporate effort. This view appears to me to be very superficial. Though articles may be manufactured by villagers in their cottages, they can be pooled together and profits divided. The villagers may work under supervision and according to plan. The raw material may be supplied from common stock. If the will to co-operative effort is created, there is surely ample opportunity for co-operation, division of labour, saving of time, and efficiency of work. All these things are to-day being done by the All-India Spinners' Association in over 5,000 villages.

But *khadi* is the sun of the village solar system. The planets are the various industries which can support

(Continued on page 31)



Reviews of H.M.I.S. "Delhi" awaiting to receive H.E. the Governor



The Rear Admiral and the captain of H.M.I.S. "Delhi"

ODDS AND ENDS

Mobile Homes—Trailers in America



This American family vacationing in the wilderness of one of the many National Parks in the United States enjoy all the comforts of home in their trailer

Although the trailer is comparatively new to the road, it has, within its short span of life, established itself as a flourishing industry in the United States. Early in its development (toward the 1930's), construction men, oil men and carnival folk were quick to recognize its advantages as a home on wheels and a solution to the many problems of packing, transportation and housing. By 1935, there were 34 builders in Elkhart, Indiana, (birthplace of the trailer), and plants had also sprung up in Alma and Kalamazoo, Michigan, and in Chicago and Los Angeles. As America pulled out of the depression and times improved strong competition developed and bigger and more luxurious trailer models were put on the road. Engineers were called in to create new designs for greater comfort, and assembly-line methods were employed to speed production.

It was during the war that trailer manufacturers discovered new ways of providing extra space without increasing weight and new methods for stepped-up production. They also learned from America's trailer population what accommodations a family expected in its trailer. Consequently, engineers learned to squeeze into 200 or so square feet all the necessities and many of the luxuries of the modern American home.

By the end of the war, the trailer industry was producing 75,000 units a year. In 1946, almost 90 percent of those sold went to permanent trailer dwellers.

There are many types and designs for trailers, but to-day's 150 manufacturers all produce at least two general types: the big Caravan model, which, in spite of its name, is best suited for permanent housing; and the



A new arrival is checked in at a trailer camp. This is one of the many modern parks now being established throughout the United States

so-called conventional model, which is streamlined for travel.

The typical trailer is about 25 feet long, eight feet wide and weighs between 3,000 and 3,500 pounds. Most of this weight is carried on tandem wheels with about 11 per cent distributed over the chassis of the tow car through a ball-and-socket hitch, which allows easy control of the trailer on the road.

Within the 200 square feet of the average trailer, there is a surprising amount of space. The combined living room and dinette, 8 feet by 11 feet, usually contains a convertible davenport, sleeping two people, a full-length wardrobe, mirrored cabinets, built-in table ends, a radio nook, and book and knickknack shelves. Carpentry, curtains, fluorescent lights and overhead cabinets add extra comfort.

The bedroom, usually at the rear, is large enough for a double bed, stowage cabinets and a small vanity. Extra storage space is provided under the beds, and sliding doors, using a minimum of space, offer privacy. The lower-priced models are less roomy, with fewer novelties, and less expensive trimmings.

Backward Class Board in Bombay

The Backward Class Board has been reconstituted for a period of two years, with the Minister in charge of the Backward Class Department as its President.

The Backward Class Officer will act as Secretary of the Board.

The interior of one of America's modern trailers showing the living and dining areas



(Continued from page 29)

khadi in turn for the heat and the sustenance they derive from it. Without it, the other industries cannot grow. But during my last tour I discovered that, without the revival of the other industries, khadi could not make further progress. For villagers to be able to occupy their spare time profitably, the village life must be touched at all points. That is what the two Associations are expected to do.

Naturally they can have nothing to do with politics or political parties. The Congress, in my opinion, did well in making both the Associations autonomous and wholly non-political. All parties and all communities can combine to uplift the villages economically, morally and hygienically.

I know that there is a school of thought that does not regard khadi as an economic proposition at all. I hope that they will not be scared by my having mentioned khadi as the centre of village activities. I could not complete the picture of my mind without showing the inter-relation between khadi and the other village industries. Those who do not see it are welcome only to concentrate their effort on the other industries. But this too, they will be able to do through the new Association, if they appreciate the background I have endeavoured to give in this article.

Reclamation of Waste Lands in Bihar

The first operation of waste lands reclamation scheme, was launched in Saharsa sub-district in 1947, but in that year only 1,200 acres could be reclaimed. This year (1948), however, up to June last, lands reclaimed totalled 14,700 acres or nearly 15,000 acres. The entire land was not only cultivated, but crops were also raised on them. Government further propose to reclaim 10,000 acres in that district and 5,000 acres in Darbhanga district by manual labour from this month (November 1948). There is also a programme of reclaiming 15,000 acres of waste lands in Saharsa sub-district and in Darbhanga by means of tractors. Negotiations are also going on for reclaiming 12,000 acres.

(Continued from page 25)

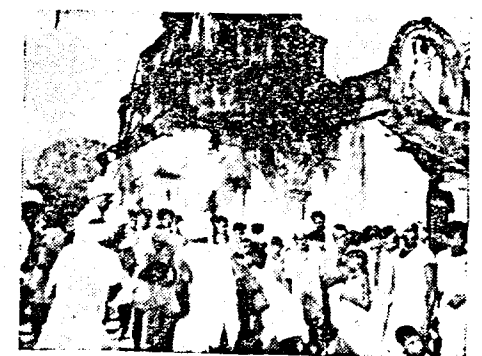
McGill University, Canada.
Toronto University, Canada.
University College, Dublin, U.K.
University College, London, U.K.
University of Delhi, India.
University of Madras, India (Diploma).

Correspondence Training

Those who wish to take up correspondence courses in library science



Hon'ble Dr. S. Gurupatham, Minister for Firka Development, opened a school at Tepagunta in Pendurti Firka.



On the occasion of Hon'ble Minister's visit to Pendurti Firka, the school at Garapath located in a building constructed by the villagers was opened by Sri D. V. Ramaswami, B.A., B.L., M.L.A. The picture shows the section of villagers engaged in rural recreation



Hon'ble Minister writing his blessings in the visitors' book after opening the school

may write to the Association of Assistant Librarians, Carnegie library, Herne Hill Road, London, S.E. 24.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"BAGHI HINDUSTAN"

By MOULANA MUHAMMAD ABDUL SHAHID KHAN SHERWANI, Published by Madina Book Agency, Bijnur, U.P.. Price Rs. 5-8-0—(Urdu).

The author of this nicely got-up book has to be congratulated for having translated the famous 'Risalah-e-Gaderiya,' written 'on bits of paper and cloth with charcoal' by Allama Fazl Haq Kherabadi during his imprisonment at Andaman Islands. The articles thus written were sent by the Allama to his son Moulana Abdul Haq Kherabadi who compiled them in the form of a 'Risalah.' Moulana Abdul Shahid Sherwani toiled hard to translate this Risalah in a lucid style and named it 'Baghi Hindustan' at the suggestion of Moulana Abul Kalam Azad. The first part of the book is a biography of the Allama Fazl Haq. The other part deals in detail with the causes and effects of the historic insurrection which British called 'the Great Mutiny of 1857'—that shook the foundation of the newly established British Empire. It further relates the horrors, atrocities and heart-rending tragedies of the fateful year of 1857. The upheaval was short lived because of its inorganized character. The British came down upon the soldiers of freedom with unprecedented savagery. Allama Fazl Haq Kherabadi was one of the undaunted and enthusiastic sponsors of the Movement. His courage and bravery was a source of inspiration for the later patriots of

India. He was arrested and transported to Andaman Islands where he died. The book under review gives an outline of the activities of the All-India National Congress and the Jamiatul Ulema-e-Hind and their sacrifices towards the cause of Independence.

The book under review is a mine of information on the progress of the Independence Movement from 1857 to 1947. The preface of the book is written by Moulana Abul Kalam Azad. —S.A.H.

"SWATANTRA ANNUAL, 1948"

Published in Madras, Price Rs. 1-8-0.

This annual provides a varied fare to the reader, who has by now become accustomed to the rich quality of the journal. Journalists will sympathetically echo the sentiments expressed by the distinguished editor of 'Swatantra' in the following lines:—

"If compromises are made for the sake of survival, to that extent they represent a dimmution of faithfulness to the public interest. If they are not made, the very basis of service through work is cut off, and what is the public interest that can be served at all thereafter? This is, here and everywhere, the eternal dilemma of the conscientious journalist." One feels, however, that the editor need not despair of the future, for, if Indian journalism had withstood, during a foreign rule, the many onslaughts on it by vested interests that felt embarrassed

by the terrific but well-meant criticism of the press, there is a brighter future for it during a national Government, which cannot but be responsive to press criticism, so long as it is healthy.

Next to the editorial is published what may be termed a humorous skit entitled "My Plan" by 'Vighneswara', which for its sheer flights of fancy and novelty of suggestions seems to be unsurpassed. "If every man, woman and child, living and breathing at this moment, could be brought together in one reasonably compact locality, put under one authority, made to observe one code of laws and taught to practice self-sufficiency in the liberal sense, there would be no room for grumbling against God or man." In the new 'City State' that the writer seeks to create "the adult citizen will grow his food on his own terrace by soilless cultivation stimulated by radio activity."

The annual number also contains other interesting contributions such as beautiful pen-pictures of Sarojini Devi's career by her brother Harindranath Chattopadhyaya, Lenin by Philip Spratt, Rajen Babu by Dr. Pattabhi, M. S. Subbulakshmi by T.V.R. and Veena Dhanam by Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari. Besides two short stories, there is an informative article entitled "Reigning in Hell" by Mr. Pothan Joseph.

The annual is enriched by some art plates and a fine get-up.

—A.R.



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, LUG TRANSPORT-A SIGHT



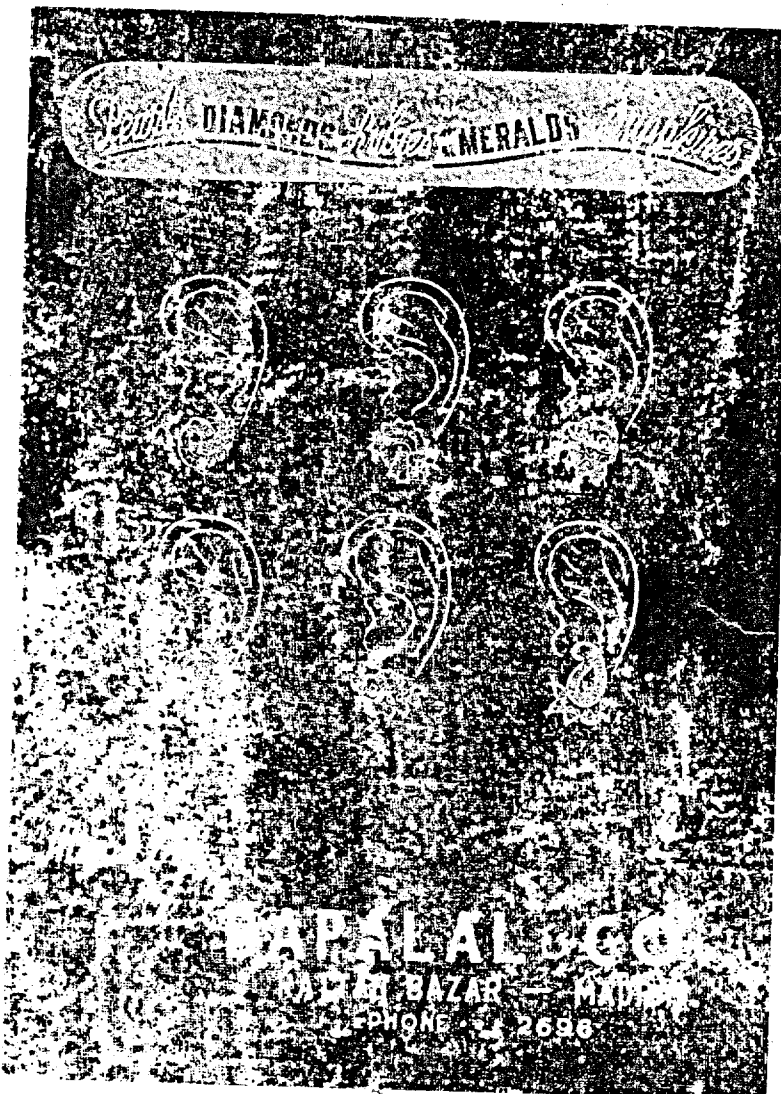
The Government are taking the trouble and cost of sending the pictures to the public. The pictures show a group of people standing in a line.

MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 15th DECEMBER 1948

NO. 22



BAPALAL & CO.,

Diamond Merchants and Manufacturing Jewellers,
Rattan Bazaar, Madras-3

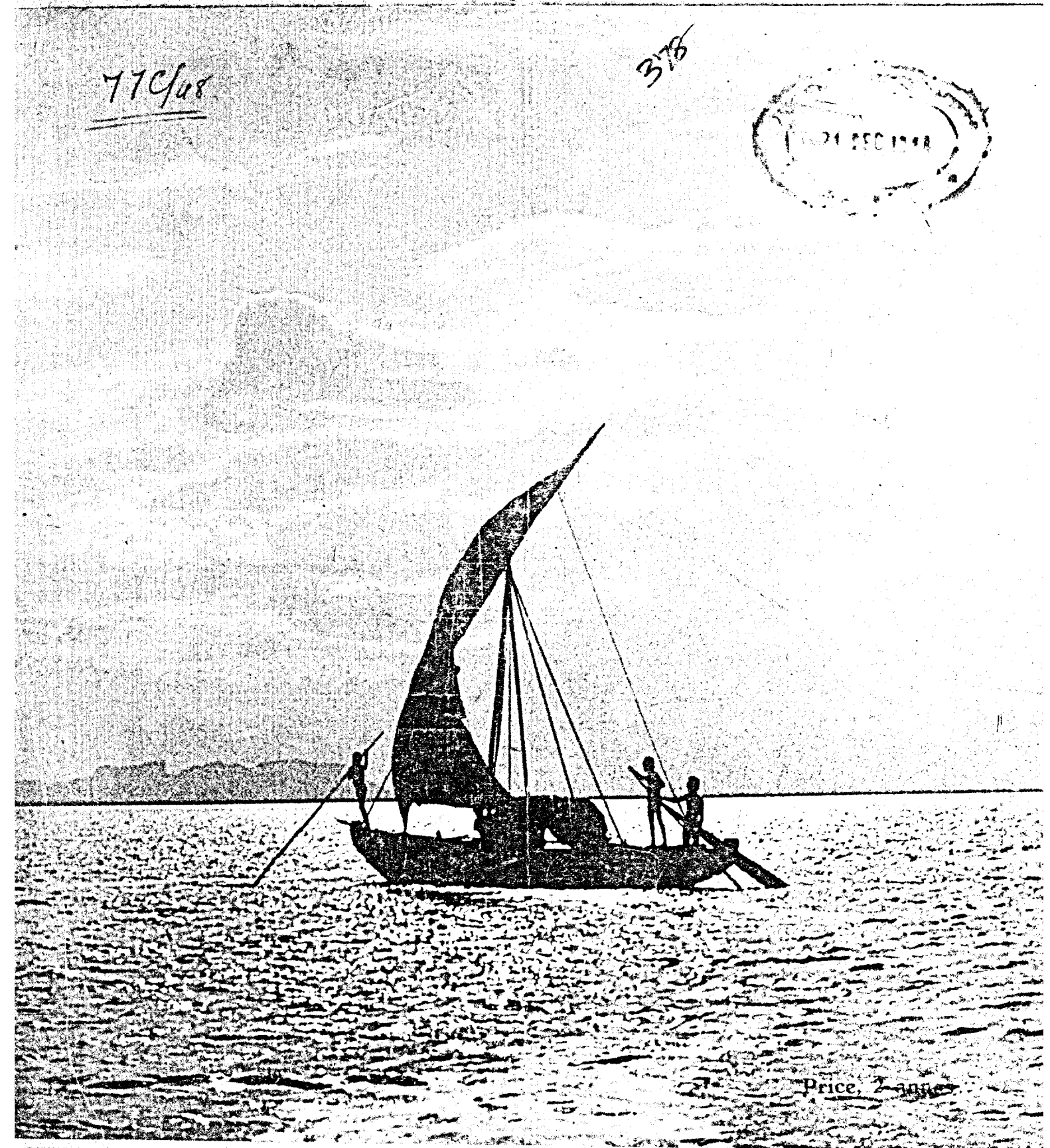
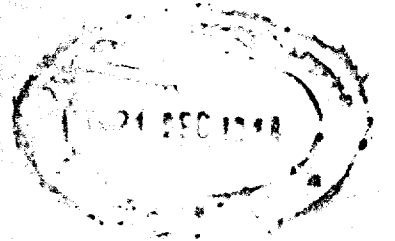
Telephone: "NECKLACE"

Telegrams

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRESS, MADRAS, AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, MADRAS.

77C/48

376



Price, 2 annas

His Excellency the Governor addressing a vast gathering in connection with the opening of the exhibition.



A wide variety of articles were exhibited.

His Excellency the Governor examining the leather goods exhibits made by the War Disabled Centre.



Madras Information

Published every fortnight by the Director of Information and Publicity
Fort St. George

Vol. II, No. 22

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

December 15, 1948

A Glorious Event in Andhra Annals

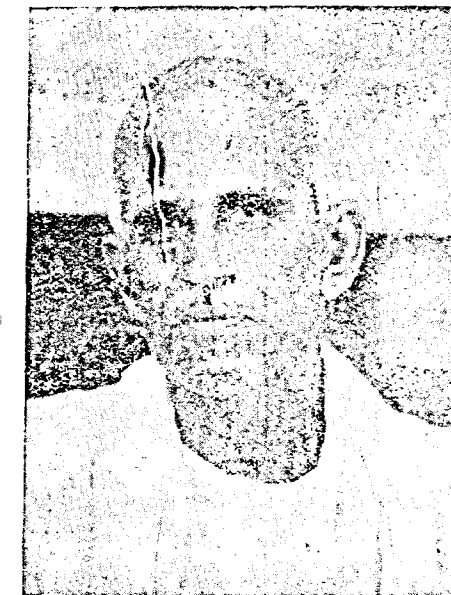
Premier Inaugurates Vijayawada Radio Station

"Today the Radio is the greatest leveller in society. By successful community broadcasts and rural programmes, it has become one of the greatest democratic influences of modern times. It brings within reach of the large masses the things in the realm of fine art which until thirty years ago was the privilege of the classes and as an instrument of mass education, it ranks as an invention greater than even printing," observed the Hon'ble Premier of Madras in inaugurating the Vijayawada Radio Station. He said:—

"This day, the new station of Vijayawada goes on air; and with my friends in the Andhra Desa, I rejoice on the occasion, as on an eventful day. The day is eventful not only for the 30 million people in the Andhra Desa, to whom the new station fulfils a long-felt want, but for all those to whom Carnatic music is a perennial joy and Thyagayya's songs a balm to the soul. The new station starts with two distinct advantages. The language of Telugu is acknowledgedly one of the most mellifluous languages in the world and especially suited to successful musical rendering. The other advantage of the new station is that it has before it the inexhaustible treasure-house of Thyagayya's fervent outpourings to draw upon. Many homes therefore, outside the Andhra Desa, whether they understand Telugu or not will cheerfully tune to the Vijayawada station to listen in to its musical programme. And as good music never cloy, I foresee a great future for the Vijayawada station of the All-India Radio.

Role of the Radio

But the Radio is not a medium merely for musical broadcasting. It has its other uses than transmitting sweet melodies. Today the Radio is the greatest leveller in society. By successful community broadcasts and rural programmes, it has become one of the greatest democratic influences of modern times. It brings within reach of the large masses the things in the realm of fine art which until thirty years ago was the privilege of the



blamed; but the spiritual poverty of those who handle it.

Radio and Adult Education

Without belittling the cultural, artistic and recreational importance of the radio service, the radio stations in India, in my humble opinion, have to devote increasing attention in the direction of adult education. By adult education I do not mean the impersonal teaching of the three R's. What I have in mind is this; this is a land of peasants; and these peasants carry on their ancient avocations untouched by the advancement of modern knowledge. A great many

classes; and as an instrument of mass education it ranks as an invention greater than even printing. It is by far cheaper and more instantaneous in effect. The spoken word excites far more than the printed word. Annihilating time and space, this modern marvel makes knowledge universal and easily accessible. At one time the radio was even hailed as the harbinger of better international understanding and potent means of bringing about world peace; and if that has not materialized, if instead, it was seized by power groups and dictators for selfish propaganda, and mutual killing; if bad music and cheap advertisements are put on the air, it is not the radio as an instrument that should be

IN THIS ISSUE

- Topical Notes
- Departments' Activities
- Prohibition Corner
- Towards Nation-Building
- Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest
- Men and Ideas
- Agricultural Notes
- Miscellaneous topics
- Other Provinces
- Books and Publications

things are being done in the laboratory of the scientist regarding agricultural progress; a great many things are done in the Government farms; but these remain mere academic discoveries. The ryot never hears of them; the ryot never understands them. They are not taken to his door and are not explained to him in the language which he understands. It is here that the Radio has a valuable part to play. Popular songs clothing scientific truths must be composed and broadcast; gripping stories of scientific progress must be written and put on the air. Dramas, dialogues and musical concerts of an interesting and instructive type should be broadcast. The radio artists should shed the notion that art and culture are high-brow matters fit only for the listeners in the carpeted drawingrooms. The artists should do their write-ups and scripts, and the Station Directors so arrange programmes that service to villagers is maximized. What I said of agricultural progress applies with equal force to a hundred other things on which the villager is denied information, knowledge and guidance. Public health, sanitation, crop and weather forecasts, Government notifications, market information, improved animal husbandry, poultry keeping, cottage industries—all these subjects should be made known to a wider public through popular programmes, through plays, dialogues and songs. Probably the radio stations have a feeling that as the majority of sets are owned by the comparatively well-to-do people, the piper must play to the tune of the pay-master; but let us not forget that ultimately it is the villager who pays. All the prosperity of the upper classes, all the amenities of our urban life ultimately depend on the toil of the peasantry. Creative art must play its homage to creative labour—the labour that creates our food, clothing and other essentials of life. I must say that the Rural Programmes of the Tiruchirappalli and Madras stations of the All-India Radio are popular and useful; but more has to be done on these lines and with a richer variety too. I trust the new Vijayawada Station would develop an extensive rural programme, and if it does, I do not see why, with its other advantages it should not become one of the leading broadcasting stations in our country.

Unity in Diversity

This land of ours is a vast expanse. From Kashmir to Kanya Kumari we have a mosaic as it were with a variety of regional languages and regional

cultures. The fostering of these regional languages and regional cultures is of prime importance to the true progress of the people; and yet amidst all this diversity runs the strand of a basic unity. Any regional development to the exclusion of this fundamental unity will ultimately spell disaster. Thirty years ago the poet Bharati in his immortal songs dreamt the vision of an ardent cultural exchange between the various regional groups in India. The organization of the All-India Radio with its ever-growing chain of regional stations is eminently fitted to translate that dream into an actuality; and in this noble task of fostering unity in diversity, I hope and pray that the Vijayawada Station will play its rightful part.

I have heard it said that new stations start with abundant enthusiasm, display great eagerness to be responsive to public wishes and tastes; and then after some time, because they form a part of the Governmental machinery become indifferent and stereo-typed; that the value of personal contacts are forgotten. I hope the Vijayawada Broadcasting Station will function in a genuine spirit of service to the people, ever creative, ever courteous and ever responsive to public opinion. Life ages, but art does never. Life is short, but art is long. It is eternal, ever-progressive and infinite in its scope.

This Blessing.....has its Dangers

Modern science is a blind God. It makes no distinction between war and peace. Like Mahadeva, it gifts away its treasures to whomsoever that worships at its shrine fervently and for long,—whether it be a war-like Ravana or a peace-loving Bhakta Sreshta; and perhaps what it has given to war, are more numerous and potent than what it has given to peace. But among the few of science's benefactions to peace, the radio should be counted as one of the foremost. As a science and an art broadcasting was born in the cradle of peace. It developed 28 years ago after the rumblings of the first world war had died down and nations

were looking forward to a League of Nations to bring peace and good will on earth. Yet even this blessing that peace has given us has its dangers in the manner in which the radio industry is run and organized. Although we are a big radio-minded and radio-using nation, almost all the essential equipments have to come from outside. This has its dangers, economic and political. Economically, it rules out the possibility of the possession of radio by the large majority of people. An indigenous industry would after some time be able to produce sets and equipments suited to the purchasing power of our people. Politically, it helps concentration of power in the hands of a few foreign manufacturers. The answer to these two dangers is self-reliance and decentralism. Self-reliance can be accomplished by indigenous effort at organization and research—research not only on the industrial technique, and on transmission and reception factors, but also on the art, culture and tastes of people. Decentralism and diffusion of power can be achieved by the establishment of more and more regional stations like the one that goes on the air today.

Andhras' Glorious Past

Vijayawada from many points of view is advantageously located for a broadcasting station. Geographically, it holds the key to important cultural regions, the Andhra Desa to the north, the Rayalaseema and Hyderabad to the west and the Tamil country to the south. It is at the sluice, as it were, of an immense reservoir of Andhra emotion and imagination. Today, in India, next to Bengal perhaps the Andhras are the leaders in the world of art and drama. The city and the people have a glorious past; and the country is surfeit with latent talent. These are encouraging beginnings for the Vijayawada Station. The radio became a possibility by drawing on the cosmic forces of the all-pervading Paraskiti. May that Paraskiti shower her blessings on the new station of Vijayawada and all those who tune in to listen to it.



A Milestone in Broadcasting

H. E. the Governor's appreciation

Broadcasting in connection with the inauguration of the Vijayawada A.I.R. station His Excellency the Governor of Madras said: "It was very kind of the All-India Radio to have asked me to speak on this occasion—the opening of the Station at Vijayawada and—I would like in the first place to thank them very sincerely for their invitation.

Background

Broadcasting in India has made tremendous strides in these past few years. In 1927, for instance, I understand the number of receiver licences issued was only about 3,500. In 1947, this number had risen to over two lakhs. In a country of this size where ordinary communications are difficult, there is a very great scope for the future of broadcasting and it has been the aim of the All-India Radio to develop their services so as to reach every corner of this land.

It is a part of this scheme of development that this station at Vijayawada has been inaugurated. At present, in this Province, we have two stations—one at Madras and one at Tiruchirappalli, but it has been felt for a long time that another was needed for the predominantly Andhra Region. Vijayawada was chosen—and I think rightly as the focal point for this region. Owing however to the War and the difficulty of getting adequate equipment, this scheme could not be completed till now. I am sure that the establishment of the station now will fulfil a longfelt want for Andhra Desa which has been always both culturally and intellectually one of the most advanced in India.

A Retrospect

Madras Presidency can perhaps boast of greater progress in broadcasting than many other regions in India. We have a total of nearly 45,000 receiver licences of which there are about 8,000 in the Andhra districts. But apart from domestic listening we have also a very large number of community sets which cater for rural areas and which are run by the Provincial Government for the benefit of the villagers. I think the number is about 1,000 and we lead the rest of India. The importance of village listening need hardly be overstressed. It is a common truism that the life of India is the life of the villages



is from an instructional point of view which includes not only an up-to-date news service, but also informed talks on current topics by prominent public individuals. Here too this station would serve a widely-felt need for the Andhra districts which are politically and intellectually very much in the forefront of India.

Conclusion

I understand that we are making only a beginning now in Vijayawada and All-India Radio hopes to develop this service so as to reach as wide an area as possible. The radio has become an indispensable part of modern civilisation. It brings up-to-date news, entertainment, and education to our very door and within the reach of all. Though we are not yet so radio-conscious as some of the more highly developed countries of the West, we have made very rapid progress in the last two decades and the establishment of this station marks a milestone on this road of progress. I wish this station every success in future and to my hearers I would say 'good listening to you all.'

My patriotism is subservient to my religion.

Indeed religion should pervade every one of our actions.

Politics bereft of religion is absolute dirt ever to be shunned.

Religion divorced from morality is like 'sounding brass good only for making a noise and breaking heads.'

—MAHATMA GANDHI.



and one of the prime objects of broadcasting is to reach these villagers and supply them with entertainment; with instructional items which would be of particular interest to them especially to farmers; and up-to-date news. This, of course, can be successful only if it is put over in the language of the region and I am sure that Vijayawada station would serve a very great purpose in this field.

In addition to these rural sets, this Province also leads in the number of schools which are equipped with radios, the total being about 200. These school broadcasts are extremely useful as supplementing and adding to the ordinary school curriculum; and to develop the listening habit in the young should be one of the major objects for which all school authorities should strive. I hope that with the increased facilities now supplied by this station the number of school radio sets in this region will also increase rapidly until listening-in becomes a habit with the younger generation.

Objectives of Broadcasting

I do not think I need speak at length on the objectives of a national broadcasting system. Broadly speaking they are two; the first is from the cultural point of view entertainment with music, drama, etc., and there is a very great field for this in the Andhra region with the revival of interest now in folk music and folk dances as well as the more classical styles; the second

TOPICAL NOTES

Electricity Projects

The Hon'ble Minister for Public Works inspected recently the works on the Pykara dam which forms part of the third stage extensions of Pykara scheme and the Moyar works. The Pykara scheme is the first of its kind in South India. The head works and generating station are located in the picturesque Ootacamund hills. The waters of the Pykara river are utilized for generating power and the scheme is in its final stage of completion. Already the generating station has an installed capacity of 43,000 K.W., which will be increased to 70,000 K.W. by 1953. The first and the second stages were completed in 1933 and 1939 at a total cost of Rs. 362 lakhs and the third stage is expected to cost initially Rs. 326 lakhs, rising to Rs. 490 lakhs in ten years.

In regard to the Moyar hydro-electric scheme, the object is to develop power from the tail waters of the

Pykara power-house utilizing a drop of 1,250 feet over the Moyar slopes about 9 miles further north. The Moyar generating station will have an installed capacity of 36,000 K.W. The scheme was sanctioned in December 1945 and the construction is well under way. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 358 lakhs and is expected to be completed by 1952. This is also intended to meet the increasing demand for power in the Mettur and the Pykara systems.

There are also several projected schemes in Ootacamund area. A Special Officer is carrying out hydro-metric surveys in the area and the possibilities are considerable for a number of other schemes of power generation. The most important is the one for generating power from the Kundah river, south of Pykara basin. About 100,000 K.W. of primary and secondary power could be generated.

Co-operative Milk Supply Society

The Tiruvannamoor Co-operative Milk Supply Society organized for the benefit of the ex-tappers at Tiruvannamoor near Adayar was inaugurated recently by the Hon'ble Sri K. Chandramouli, Minister for Local Administration and Co-operation. The Hon'ble Minister referred to Government's sympathy for the ex-tappers. He exhorted them to learn a trade and to work hard and earn a living. The Government have undertaken various ameliorative measures. If they could

organize themselves into co-operative societies for carrying on any industry like weaving, spinning or coir making, Government would be prepared to render such assistance as may be necessary. Through Co-operation alone the poor man can improve economically.

In conclusion, he appealed to the members of the milk supply society to work it successfully and steadily to build up its business.

Discipline is the Essence of Life

Delivering the convocation address recently at the Allahabad University, Hon'ble Sardar Patel stressed among other things the value of discipline. His words bear repetition. He said:

"Discipline is the very essence of life. Without it anarchy and chaos are only a matter of time. It is as essential in your class-room and on

your playing fields as in your future career. The country needs a trained and disciplined youth and not a rabble or irresponsible hot-heads. Similarly, you must have a vision and idealism. Unless you have a proud vision of the future of your motherland and an idealistic conception of her greatness and destiny, you can hardly realize the true measure of your present duties and responsibilities. But you must appre-

ciate that in order to be able to do something in your life, you must always have your feet firmly planted on the ground. Mere vision and idealism can lead you nowhere. You must translate these into hard facts and achieve your objectives in the grim field of realities. You must remember that it is the height of tragedy to have one's high ambitions self-defeated. Instead, you must be made of the stuff which challenges pre-destined fate and mocks at adversities. Above all, you must have the freedom of your motherland as the constant object of your care, devotion and attention. In whatever country or clime you may be, whatever may be your occupation or calling, you must constantly advance the interest of your country, uphold its honour and prestige, and promote the moral and material progress of your poverty-stricken countrymen. Do nothing which places the freedom of the country in jeopardy but be constantly alert and active to safeguard it even at the cost of your life."

Ex-Tappers and Others

Co-operative Milk Supply received an impetus in the Prohibition districts as a means of relieving unemployment, among the ex-tappers and as a measure of amelioration of the economic condition of the ex-addicts and others. The main objects with which the co-operative milk supply unions and societies were formed as part of the ameliorative measures are to find employment to ex-tappers thrown out of work, to improve the economic condition of the ex-addicts by providing them with subsidiary occupations and incidentally to relieve the milk scarcity in the urban areas. Government have given generous assistance to encourage the formation of these societies by giving subsidy to meet the working expenses of the milk supply societies at a rate ordinarily of Rs. 100 per mensem for each feeder society. They have also provided free of cost the services of Senior Inspectors for organizing feeder societies and supervising the working of the scheme generally. In a few cases they have also sanctioned subsidy for purchase of utensils and other equipments. Dairying has been encouraged not only through the formation of separate milk supply societies but as a subsidiary

occupation by the members of Jaggery Manufacturing Co-operative Societies who are all ex-tappers. In this case the members take up dairying as an additional occupation to tapping of sweet juice for jaggery manufacture.

Though the scheme of milk supply organizations in prohibition districts is primarily intended to employ ex-tappers, ex-addicts and others who are willing to join the societies are also admitted as members. It will be the aim of the milk supply unions under the scheme to handle about 200 Madras measures of milk to start with and gradually to increase the quantity to 500 Madras measures a day in the course of six months. Interest-free Government loans are sanctioned by the Registrar to the members of the milk supply societies under the scheme for the purchase of milch cattle for the supply of milk to the societies. Every ex-tapper who becomes a member of a milk supply society will be eligible for a loan up to Rs. 250 ordinarily and he is expected to pay the loan within a period of one year by supplying milk to the society. To enable the poor ex-tappers to become members of these societies and get loans for the purchase of milch animals, they have been permitted to pay their share capital in easy instalments.

The scheme for the formation of co-operative milk supply organizations in order to provide employment to the ex-tappers was first introduced at Ambur in North Arcot district, where a milk-supply union was formed exclusively for the benefit of ex-tappers. On the 30th September 1948, there were 402 members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 6,402 in 5 feeder societies. The sixth feeder society has just been formed. The feeder societies produced up to September 1948, 45,839 Madras measures of milk valued at Rs. 39,111-13-0. In the Union, there were 7 society members and 40 individual members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 2,750. The union produced 46,271 Madras measures of milk worth Rs. 39,462 and sold 45,975 Madras measures of milk worth Rs. 42,127 and 212 Madras measures of by-products worth Rs. 203. The average daily quantity of milk handled by the Union is about 175 Madras measures. A similar scheme is under way in Tiruchirappalli district.

About 80 ex-tappers and 100 ex-addicts and others have been benefited by this scheme. Five feeder societies have so far been formed of which three have started production of milk. In the Tanjore district Government have

approved a scheme for the formation of 4 feeder societies to be affiliated to the Tanjore Milk-Supply Union. About 200 ex-tappers have been benefited by this scheme. A milk-supply society has been formed in Bellary town for the benefit of 40 persons, mostly ex-tappers. Government have also approved the proposal in respect of the Anantapur with 8 feeder societies. Similar milk-supply schemes have been sanctioned to be worked at Tiruturaipundi in Tanjore district, at Usilampatti and Periakulam in Madura district, at Eugalur and Karattadipalayam in the Coimbatore district, and at Madanapalle in the Chittoor district. Five feeder societies affiliated to the Madanapalle union will receive subsidy under the scheme. In Madura district, 3 feeder societies in the Usilampatti area and 6 feeder societies in Periakulam area have been sanctioned subsidy. Proposals for the formation of milk supply unions in other parts of the Province are under consideration.

Co-operative societies for manufacture of palmyra jaggery have been formed in most of the prohibition districts. Manufacture of palmyra jaggery however is a seasonal industry and as a measure of encouraging dairying as a subsidiary occupation, Government have extended the concession of grant of interest-free Government loans for purchase of milch animals to members of these societies. Under this scheme members of the jaggery manufacturing societies will be eligible

for a loan of Rs. 250 subject to necessary share qualifications according to the by-laws. Societies situated near the urban areas can more easily take advantage of this concession as they can easily find a sale for the milk in the towns. If they are situated in remote villages not connected by proper communications, the milk can be converted into ghee and sold in the urban areas. Under this scheme 5 jaggery societies in the Malabar district have undertaken to function as milk-supply societies with a union at Palghat to be formed for the purpose. The five jaggery societies which are to function as feeder societies for milk supply have been sanctioned subsidy by Government.

It is proposed to form similar milk-supply societies particularly for the benefit of ex-tappers and ex-addicts, in select suitable centres in other districts also. It is expected that as a result of the introduction of Prohibition and of the help that will be extended to these organizations by Government, a notable advance will be made in improving the economic condition of the ex-tappers and ex-addicts and also in solving the problem of urban milk supply.

The problem of augmenting urban milk supply is intimately connected with the improvement of animal husbandry. Steps have therefore been taken to organize cattle breeding societies at suitable centres in the districts.

RELIGION

"Religion is for the purpose of restraining our baser tendencies and helping the good in us to become better. All religions in all countries have been thus conceived and promoted by the founders and early disciples of the various faiths. In recent times when men have come into conflict with one another over material affairs, they have used religion as a war-cry. This is wholly contrary to the original intentions of those who preached religion.

"In whatever form it may be, all religions preach the same thing. Let us not make of religion another instrument for pride and hatred, but realize in it an instrument for human progress in the truest sense.

—H.E. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

Prohibition

Speaking recently at the conference of constructive workers in Vizagapatam district Hon'ble Dr. S. Gurubatham referred *inter alia* to Prohibition. He said:

Madras Government has done two great things. Prohibition is the one and the Zamindari reform is the other. These have liberated forces in the country which if properly marshalled will bring great good to the country.

It is not the Government that can do this; but only people should do it. We are losing 20 crores on account of Prohibition, 17½ crores as loss of revenue and 2½ crores for enforcing it. If you could help us to prevent illicit distillation you are helping the country a lot. Merchants exploited the drinkers. They were getting a profit of about 50 crores out of this drink. This 50 crores and 20 crores which Government were collecting is now left with the people.

Standardization of Bus Fares

The recent standardization of bus fares in the Madras City by the Transport Department has given rise to certain amount of public criticism. It would appear, however, from the trend of much of the criticism that the reasons that prompted this step have not been sufficiently widely known or appreciated in spite of statements given by the departmental officers.

The maximum fares leviable for City and mufassal services were laid down by the Government in November 1947 after due publication. There has been no change in that basis and Government have no intention at present of changing that basis.

The programme of nationalization of the City Bus Service commenced in March 1947 and was completed in June 1948. On an examination of the fares charged on the several routes, it was noticed that there was no common basis and that while the full fare leviable under the Government Order, namely, one anna for the first mile and half anna for every subsequent mile were being charged on some routes (route Nos. 2, 7-B, 7-C, 12, 12-A, 13, 14, 16, 17-A, 21, 21-A, 21-B, 22, 24-A and 56), the rates charged on the other routes were less. The difference amounted to 1½ annas in the case of route No. 10, one anna for route Nos. 9, 11, 11-A and 12 and half anna in the remaining cases, on the terminal fares. The position therefore was that while the rate charged on some routes worked out to one anna for the first stage and half

anna for every subsequent stage, the fares charged on other routes were less, in one or two instances as little as 3-5 pies per stage after the first, a stage being approximately equal to a mile. The effect of the recent standardization is that the fares are altogether intact in 15 out of 37 routes.

Whatever might have been the justification for these differential fares charged by private operators—competition among the bus concerns themselves or with other forms of transport, special concessions for particular localities or other reasons—Government do not think they will be justified in discriminating between passengers on the different routes and giving special concessions to some at the cost of others. It is of course possible to arrive at a common rate without any increase in fares, by levelling down the rates instead of levelling them up, but it would not then be possible to run the service without incurring loss. The Department has estimated that for reasons unconnected with nationalization, such as increase in the price of petrol, lubricants, tyres, spare parts and other materials and increase in the rates of wages, their monthly running costs have increased by one lakh of rupees and that any reduction in the old fares is entirely out of question. In these circumstances an increase in the fares charged on some routes is justified in pursuance of the policy of introducing a single non-discriminatory standard rate applicable to the whole City.

Employment Service Exhibition

The Regional Employment Organization in Madras recently got up an exhibition, which was opened by His Excellency the Governor. "One of

the prime needs of Indian industry now is trained technicians", observed His Excellency the Governor, in the course of a message in connexion with

the exhibition. Continuing His Excellency said, "the training centres which are a corollary to these Employment Exchanges play a very important part in supplying this need. Both vocational and technical training are given at these centres and the instruments and articles turned out are of a very high standard. There are still, however, vast numbers of people wanting to be employed and if these Exchanges are to fulfil their purpose, it is necessary that the fullest use should be made of them by those who are seeking labour both skilled and unskilled."

His Excellency appreciated the very rapid progress which Employment Exchanges had made in this country. "Incidentally in Madras," His Excellency said, "the Exchange is also dealing with the question of providing jobs for ex-tappers." Hon'ble Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, in the course of a speech on the occasion of the opening of the exhibition, gave revealing statistics showing the position of Employment Organization in the Province. The total number of persons who have registered their names at the Employment Exchanges is 339,502 up to 1st November 1948. The total number for whom employment has been secured is 92,460. The total number on the live register now is 40,845. There are 32 technical training centres, with a sanctioned strength of 3,138 hands. The number undergoing training is 2,654 while 2,916 have left after training. In addition to technical training, there is a scheme for vocational training which covers a wide range of trades and occupations. There are 17 vocational training centres. There are besides a number of co-operative motor transport societies for ex-servicemen where many people are employed. There are also a number of land colonization schemes run on co-operative basis. Dr. N. Das, Ph.D., I.C.S., the Director-General of Resettlement, in the course of his speech referred to the place of Employment Organizations in the present set-up. He said "in the countries of the west, the employment service is a reality. It is an essential feature of the economy of the country." This organization was started in our country about three years ago and it has had to surmount a good deal of prejudices.

The articles covered in the exhibition included among them household utensils, toys, furniture, precision instruments, woollen and cotton garments, rattan work, mats, musical instruments, travel accessories, etc. The exhibition was an unqualified success.

DEPARTMENTS' ACTIVITIES

Labour Department

Some of the workers of Messrs. Rallis (India), Limited, (Oil Mills) Rayapuram, who were discharged on 15th November 1948 for want of work began to picket with a view to stop the other workers from entering the factory. The other workers also struck work. The Labour Officer, Madras, is looking into the matter.

The workers of the East Asiatic Company, Madras (Oil Mills at Rayapuram), struck work on 3rd November 1948 without notice and the management of the company dismissed from service on 4th November 1948 all those workers who struck work on 3rd November 1948. The management, however, allowed the workers to resume work on 11th November 1948.

The workers of Messrs. George Oakes Workshops, Addison Motor Works, Addison Press and Associated Printers staged a stay-in-strike on 10th November 1948 on the ground that three months' wages as bonus were not paid to them and protesting against the cut in wages for the days of leave granted for enumeration of the workers in connexion with Census. The management declared a lock-out from 11th November 1948. On the advice of the Labour Commissioner, they allowed the workers to resume work on 15th November 1948.

The Tanner, Janab S. R. Abdur Rahman, Eluru, reported that the workers of his tannery at Eluru struck work without notice on 10th November 1948. The Labour Officer, Vijayawada, intervened and brought about a settlement of the dispute. The workers resumed work on 12th November 1948.

The management of the Commonwealth Weaving Factory at Cannanore, declared a lock-out from 18th October 1948, consequent on the refusal of the workers to accept the increased work-loads recommended by the Standardization Committee. The Government advised the management to have a second shift in order to absorb the retrenched workers. Accordingly, the management re-opened their factory on 1st November 1948 and started a second shift.

[First fortnight of November 1948.]

Textile Control Department

The salient features of the Administration Report of the Textile Control Department for 1946-47 are given below:—

The year under review may briefly be called the period of decontrol. During the course of the year, the Central Government announced their decision to decontrol cloth and yarn and consequently the All-India Distribution Schemes of cloth and yarn were given up. The Provincial Government fell in line with the Central Government's policy and repealed the control orders promulgated by them, regulating the production and distribution of yarn and mill cloth, as well as handloom cloth. The orders regulating the exports of handloom cloth to Ceylon, the processing of cloth, and the sale of artificial silk yarn, etc., were also repealed.

Cloth distribution.—The per capita allotment of cloth for the south deficit zone during the year 1947-48 continued to be the same, viz., 10-8 yards including handloom cloth per annum. Unpopular varieties of cloth in the Province continued to be received in the year as well. The Textile Commissioner, Bombay, was asked to send only popular varieties to this Province. With the decontrol of textiles and the abolition of the All-India Cloth Distribution Scheme, a target of 7,655 bales of mill cloth was fixed for this Province.

The rationing of mill cloth introduced in 1946 was abolished with effect from 19th January 1948. During the period under review, certain varieties of mill cloth, viz., khaki drill, khaki twill and all medium varieties with the exception of Mettur mulls were excluded from the rationing scheme and this helped the trade to clear their stocks to a large extent.

Committees.—The Committees constituted for associating the public in the administration of textile control measures in the villages, taluks, towns and districts were abolished in view of the decontrol of cloth and yarn.

Cotton yarn.—The scheme of control over distribution of yarn continued to work satisfactorily during the year. The Government pushed through the scheme of bringing more looms into the

co-operative fold with the result that there were 121,561 looms at the end of March 1948 as against 70,561 looms at the end of the last year. The ration supply of yarn to the looms had to be curtailed for the reason that there was an increase in the number of looms for which yarn had to be supplied. Under the Madras Handloom Cloth (Control) Order, 1947, it was proposed to take a correct census of looms but it was dropped in view of the decontrol policy of the Government.

Handloom cloth.—In order to fix the maximum weaving wages for handloom cloth, the Government constituted a Provincial Wage Board to advise them on the question of fixing of the wages. Before action could be taken to enforce the notified maximum wages, decontrol was decided on and the question of enforcing wages was dropped. The scheme of control of handloom cloth exported to Ceylon continued to work satisfactorily during the year. The scheme was given up in February 1948 as a result of the progressive decontrol policy of the Government. Representations were received from the trade complaining about huge accumulations of handloom cloth in the Province and the Government allowed exports freely to other provinces. All restrictions on the movement of handloom cloth within the south zone was also removed.

Dyes and chemicals.—The Textile Commissioner, Bombay, authorized the Provincial Textile Commissioner and other Textile Control Officers to exercise in relation to dyes derived from Coal-tar such of his powers under the provisions of the Cotton Textiles (Control) Order, 1948. Dyes derived from Coal-tar were completely excluded from the operation of the Cotton Textiles (Control) Order, 1948, with effect from 27th April 1948.

Enforcement.—Five hundred and eighty-one dealers had contravened the provisions of the various textile control orders and disciplinary action was taken as shown below:—

Licences cancelled ..	391
Licences suspended ..	141
Convicted ..	37
Discharged ..	4
Acquittal ..	6
Withdrawal ..	2

Mills.—Prosecution was launched during the year against one mill and it is still proceeding. In the case of another mill the accused was acquitted. Another mill has moved the Privy Council for stay of proceedings against it in the lower Court. Two small powerloom factories have been warned

for disposing of their productions without tex-mark. Investigation into the activities of one mill during the year has just been completed and steps are being taken to prosecute it.

The Cannanore Spinning and Weaving Mills started production of yarn in March 1948. This is the only mill started in the South after the war. It has 12,000 spindles and the output on full production will be 6,000 bales per year.

Khadi.—In December 1946, the Government approved a scheme submitted by the Provincial Textile Commissioner for the development of khadi as an integral part of the comprehensive plan of the Government to make the villages in the Province, as far as possible, self-sufficient economic units. The Intensive part of the Scheme aimed at securing self-sufficiency in regard to cloth in terms of Khadi and was enforced in seven compact areas where Khadi had been developed to a considerable extent, by the All-India Spinners' Association. The Scheme provided for the issue of cotton to spinners, the buying up of yarn produced by them, at a fixed price and the conversion of the yarn into Khadi, through the agency of trained staff appointed in the centres. The scheme was implemented in the early months of 1947 in all the seven centres. The Madras Khadi Control Order, 1947, designed to facilitate the implementation of the scheme, was promulgated in March 1947. The Provincial Textile Commissioner was in charge of the scheme throughout the year 1947-48.

In order to avoid unhealthy competition from private agencies producing or dealing in Khadi the genuineness of which could not be guaranteed, the Government issued orders in September 1947 that no private agency other than the All-India Spinners' Association and its branches and certified institutions should handle Khadi in the seven Intensive Khadi centres. After allowing time to private dealers to dispose of the stocks held by them at the time, this decision was finally given effect to from 13th February 1948.

In order to implement the ideal of self-sufficiency, arrangements were made to enable the spinners to take back at least a portion of the Khadi produced against the yarn sold by them to the Intensive Khadi centres. A subsidy intended to cover a part of the weaving wages was also paid to the spinners taking cloth produced

out of their own yarn, at a rate not exceeding 4 annas per yarn which has been subsequently changed to 9 pies per hank of yarn contained in the cloth. The total quantity of Khadi thus taken up by the self spinners during the year was 368,193 yards and the subsidy paid to them was Rs. 44,580.

The total quantity of Khadi produced during the year in the seven centres was 640,149 yards and the total quantity sold to self-spinners or to the residents of the villages comprising the centres was 304,407 leaving over 335,000 yards with the centres on 31st March 1948. In March 1948, the Government ordered that all officers who have been enjoined to use uniforms should use Khadi for the purpose and that the cloth requirements of the various departments of the Government should be met from Khadi only. It is expected that the surplus Khadi left with the Intensive Khadi centres will be absorbed by the Government departments.

Department of Industries and Commerce

The Department of Industries and Commerce is conducting a Coir Training School and a Coir Factory at Beypore, near Calicut in the Malabar district. Various kinds of coir such as coir yarn, ropes of various thickness, brush and chain mats, of various sizes and patterns, coir carpets, plain and coloured mattings of various sizes and patterns, coir bags, balls, coir brooms and other articles of everyday use are manufactured both in the school and factory at reasonable prices. Orders will be executed promptly and satisfactorily and designs to suit individual tastes will be furnished by the Superintendent in charge without obligation.

Enquiries may be addressed to the Superintendent, Government Coir School, Beypore, Via Kallai, Malabar district.

Firka Development Department

Aims and activities

The Government wish to bring to the notice of the public the true aims and objects of the Firka Development Scheme, which they initiated over a year ago and give a brief account of

the work turned out so far. The scheme was the outcome of the recognition that an all-round improvement of rural life demanded high priority among the activities of the Government. The villager had lost the initiative to organize and develop himself and the society around him during a long period of tutelage under foreign rule and had to be awakened to his duties and responsibilities as a citizen of a free nation. His habit of looking to Government for every small work which could be done quickly and satisfactorily by a little co-operation in the village had to be changed. The main objective of the scheme was therefore to stimulate initiative among the villagers to organize their economic and social life on co-operative lines with a view to make them self-reliant and self-sufficient. The scheme will therefore have to be judged with reference to the extent to which it has succeeded in restoring this initiative and self-reliance to the villagers.

Although the Firka Development work was taken up in 1946, the collection of the necessary statistics and the organization of the preliminaries took some time. A definite scheme was drawn up by a Committee of experienced constructive workers including Sri J. C. Kumarappa, Sri G. Ramachandran and Sri R. R. Keithan only in October 1947 and was introduced in the 34 selected firkas containing 2,859 villages, as an experimental measure. A new technique had to be adopted for the implementation of the scheme in view of the psychological revolution which it aimed to bring about. The work of the various departments of the Government had to be properly co-ordinated to secure the maximum advantage. The progress of the scheme was therefore inevitably slow at the beginning and is conditioned by the availability of a large number of workers with the new outlook. The results so far achieved have however been encouraging and the Government feel that an impartial observer visiting the areas where the scheme has been worked will not fail to be impressed by the change in the mental outlook of the villagers. The Government have started two camps for training workers and have planned to give this training to all workers employed under the scheme. It is hoped that these workers when they return to their firkas will be able to turn out more useful work.

Apart from this silent revolution which the scheme is slowly bringing about in the mental outlook of the

villagers, the work actually done to improve the amenities in the selected firkas has been substantial. Works are generally carried out only where the villagers bring in their contribution either in cash or in the form of labour. Emphasis is also laid on the execution of the works by the villagers benefited to the exclusion of profit-earning outside agencies. The amenities provided make a long list. The following are the more important of them :—

Communications.—Estimates for work valued at Rs. 29,68,255 have so far been prepared in respect of 780 items. One hundred and fifty-three miles of new roads have been laid, 19 roads or rasthas have been repaired or improved, 33 culverts, 12 dams and 7 foot-bridges have been constructed, 2 footpaths have been formed and work on 21 roads is in progress.

Water-supply.—Estimates for work valued at Rs. 13,77,217 have so far been prepared in respect of 682 works. Ninety-two new wells have been sunk and 143 old wells repaired. Work on 221 new wells is in progress. Twenty drinking-water sheds have also been constructed.

Sanitation.—A regular campaign to clean villages has been initiated and workers and villagers are jointly taking part in it in several firkas. Eighty new latrines, about 16 of which are of the Wardha type, were constructed and 120 dust-bins were provided.

Public health.—Nine hospitals and one leprosy clinic have been brought into existence.

Education.—One hundred and sixty-six day schools and 172 night schools have been opened. Seventy-nine reading rooms and 19 central and 181 branch libraries have been started.

Electricity.—The villages in the firkas have been given priority in the extension of electricity. Eight villages of Palladam firka, two villages of Kunda firka, two villages of Shermadevi firka and three villages of Tirumangalam firka have had the benefit of electrical supply so far. Several schemes for the extension of electricity to villages in the firkas have been sanctioned and are under execution. As and when materials are available, they will be pushed through.

Other items.—Two animal husbandry units have been brought into existence, 46 stud bulls have been supplied, 16 poultry units started and 11 radio sets installed.

It will be seen from the above that some appreciable progress has been

made. The greater part of this was done during the current year.

The nature of the experiment is such that it cannot yield spectacular results in a short time. The Government welcome constructive and well-informed criticism of their schemes and invite the active co-operation of the public in their endeavour to make villages stronger, healthier and more prosperous and the real inheritors of the newly-won Freedom!

Agricultural Department in 1947-48

The following are among the salient features of the activities of the Department of Agriculture during the year 1947-48 :—

Agricultural education.—Six-hundred and fifty-five applications for admission to the two Agricultural Colleges at Coimbatore and Bapatla were received during the year under report, as against 952 in the previous year. Ninety-six students were selected for each college. Ninety-nine students from the Coimbatore College appeared for the first-year University examination, of whom 80 passed; 94 students appeared for the second year University examination, of whom 79 passed, and 92 students appeared for the third-year University examination, of whom 79 passed. Ninety-four students from Bapatla college appeared for the first-year University examination, of whom 77 passed, 100 appeared for the second-year University examination, of whom 78 passed, and 89 appeared for the third-year University examination, of whom 72 passed. The Juvenile and Adult Labourers' Schools at Anakapalle, Samalkot, Palur and Coimbatore continued to function satisfactorily.

Agricultural engineering.—With a view to overcome the difficulties involved in unloading an ordinary double bullock-cart, an improved box cart was designed and manufactured, which could be gradually tilted for unloading without detaching the animals. The manufacture of an improved type of this tilting cart, based on the design of a railway tilting wagon, is being undertaken. An improved paddy thrasher, capable of being worked both with manual labour and mechanical power, was manufactured in the Research Engineer's Workshop and has given encouraging results. A new thrasher is under manufacture. Work is in progress on an improved iron

plough of the type used in Tanjore, namely, the Shanti multi-purpose plough.

Propaganda and demonstration.—The district staff concentrated their attention, among others, on the following items of work, with a view to furthering the Grow More Food campaign: (a) bringing waste lands under cultivation with the aid of tractors and bull-dozers, wherever possible; (b) supply of seed of high yielding strains of food-crops and arranging for seed farms for multiplying pure seeds, for distribution to cultivators; (c) popularizing improved cultural, manurial and irrigational practices in growing food-crops; (d) increasing the area under short-term food-crops and off-season cultivation of food-crops, and (e) distribution of Grow More Food journals, published by the department, to cultivators. The Grow More Food journals "Mezhichelvam" in Tamil and "Padipantalu" in Telugu continued to be published by the department.

Trading schemes.—The scheme for the procurement of entire production of groundnut oil cake from all power-driven mills and rotaries sanctioned by the Government in their Order, dated 8th July 1946, remained in operation till 16th January 1948. On representations made to them by millers and some of their associations, Government ordered on 12th December 1947 that 40 per cent of the production of groundnut oil cake in the mills should be left in the mills for sale through the trade channels, without price control and that the remaining 60 per cent of the production should be compulsorily procured by the department within the ceiling rates. This partial decontrol was given effect to from 17th January 1948. Although the millers promised to deliver increased quantities of cake, the partial decontrol has not produced the anticipated results. Against a production of 200,117 tons in 1946-47, the production in 1947-48 was only 112,344 tons.

Groundnut cake for ryots.—One lakh sixty-one thousand and fifty-one tons of groundnut oil cake were distributed to the ryots during the year. Forty-two thousand two hundred and forty tons of groundnut oil cake were issued in exchange of paddy bonus coupons during the year.

Distribution of iron and steel.—The scheme for the distribution of iron and steel to ryots through the Agricultural department, which was introduced in the Province in the third quarter of 1944, was continued during the year

under report. In addition to supplying agriculturists with the approved and popular types of machines and implements, investigation of the suitability of special machines, designed in other countries for agricultural operations, was also carried out.

Agricultural marketing.—The Marketing Section was reorganized, according to the Government Order, dated 5th April 1948, by setting up regional units in four centres. The object of reorganization is primarily to effect marketing improvements in the mufassal areas by more frequent and direct contact with growers. This scheme was given effect to from 1st June 1948.

Work under legislation.—Sixty-eight ginning factories were inspected by the officers of the Factories Department and the Agricultural Department under the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act (Act XII of 1925). The Madras Cotton Control Act, 1932 (Act VII of 1932), continued to be in force in Coimbatore, Madura, Ramnad and Tirunelveli districts and worked satisfactorily.

Receipts and expenditure.—The expenditure during 1947-48 was Rupees 116.75 lakhs, as against Rs. 104.60 lakhs in the previous official year. The receipts during 1947-48 were Rs. 20.37 lakhs, as against Rs. 23.57 lakhs in the previous official year.

Green manure campaign.—A campaign was launched to grow green manure crops in all paddy lands, where water supplies were available and to raise green-leaf yielding and quick-growing shrubs and trees in all available vacant lands and on field bunds and channel edges. Rigorous efforts were also made to procure all the available green manure seeds in the Province for distribution to the ryots of the delta lands.

Research work.—Efforts were made during the year to enlarge the contact between the Research Wing of the Agricultural Department and the cultivators through the district staff, with a view to make the tangible results of research available to the cultivators for increasing production. Work has also been started during the year in compiling the tangible results of research carried out in the Agricultural Research Stations of the Province, for publication in popular languages for the benefit of cultivators.

Miscellaneous

Wynaad Colonization Scheme

The Wynaad Colonization Scheme aims at the reclamation and the

colonization of an area of 31,000 acres of cultivable land in the villages of Kidanganad, Nulpuzha, Muppainad and Nenmini in Wynaad taluk, Malabar district, each colonist getting either 2 acres of wet and 5 acres of dry land or 10 acres of dry land. Preliminary items of work such as anti-malarial operations, provision of medical aid, land acquisition, starting of an agricultural farm and construction of roads, etc., have been attended to. The colonization of the area commenced in February 1948 and 545 colonists drawn from ex-servicemen and the existing pattadars and sivaijamadars, including members of aboriginal tribes, have been settled in the area so far. The Government have spent a sum of about Rs. 24 lakhs on the scheme up to the end of June 1948. Advances have been granted to the colonists to the extent of Rs. 2.65 lakhs for land reclamation, construction of temporary huts, agricultural operations, domestic expenditure and construction of wells and latrines. The Government have recently re-examined the whole question of the future policy to be adopted in regard to the Wynaad Colonization Scheme and have decided that the existing colonists may be given advances on the scale already approved by the Government but that no further colonists need be admitted for the present. The Government have also decided to proceed with the formation of a co-operative society for the colonists.

There is a feeling in certain quarters that the Wynaad Colonization Scheme has been dropped. The Government desire to make it clear that there is no truth whatever in this suggestion. The Wynaad Scheme is being continued; it has only been decided not to admit further colonists for the present.

Criminal Courts in 1947

The following are the salient features of the statistics of criminal courts in the Madras Presidency for 1947:—

Cases.—There was a rise in the number of cases from 636,134 to 709,462 during the year under report. In the mufassal, there was a rise in all districts, except Cuddapah, East Godavari, West Godavari, Guntur, Nellore, the Nilgiris, Tirunelveli and Vizagapatam. There was an increase of more than 5,000 cases in each of the districts of South Arcot, Coimbatore, Malabar and Salem and more than 2,000 in each of the districts of Chittoor,

North Arcot and Tiruchirappalli. The increase was most marked in Madura, where it was more than 7,000 and in the Madras City, where there was a rise of more than 35,000 cases. The decrease was marked in Tirunelveli, where there was a fall by more than 5,000 cases.

Mufassal Magistrates' Courts.—The total number of cases instituted in all the Magistrates' courts in the mufassal, other than village and panchayat courts, was 587,620, as against 547,730 in the previous year. The number of cases for disposal during 1947 in the Village Magistrates' Courts was 1,451, as against 2,474 in 1946. Of these, 1,292 were disposed of and 159 were pending at the end of the year. The number of cases for disposal in the panchayat courts was 13,150, as against 14,481 in 1946. Of these, 10,160 cases were disposed of.

Honorary Magistrates.—The Honorary Magistrates continued to afford substantial relief to the Stipendiary Magistrates and their outturn was generally satisfactory.

Presidency Magistrates' Courts.—There was a rise in the number of cases instituted from 75,736 to 111,212.

Mufassal Sessions Courts.—The total number of cases for trial was 1,182 during the year under report, as against 1,950 in 1946. One thousand one hundred and sixty cases were disposed of.

High Court Criminal Sessions.—Including the one case pending from last year, there were 50 cases pending disposal during 1947, as against 42 in 1946. Fifty cases were disposed of. The average duration of cases disposed of was 58 days, as against 59 in the previous year. Out of 20 persons tried for murder, 1 was sentenced to death, 4 for transportation for life, 13 to varying terms of imprisonment and 2 were acquitted.

Appeals.—Five thousand four hundred and thirty-five appeals, concerning 9,586 persons, were decided in appeals, filed in Magistrates' Courts. In the mufassal Sessions Courts, the number of appeals disposed of was 3,136. In the High Court, 202 appeals, were pending at the beginning of the year, and 707 appeals were preferred during the year. Of these 709 appeals were disposed of, leaving 200 pending at the end of the year.

Revision and Reference.—The number of petitions for revision preferred before District Magistrates and Subdivisional Magistrates was 831,

(Continued on page 14)

PROHIBITION CORNER

Ameliorative Activities

Ex-addicts Make Substantial Savings

The following is a brief summary of the reports received on the ameliorative activities in the prohibition districts during parts of October and November 1948:—

Madura.—Thrift day was celebrated. One grama sangam has opened a library. It has also proposed to open a night school. Another grama sangam has opened both a library and a school for adults. Preliminary arrangements have been made regarding the formation of a milk supply society for ex-tappers. Substantial economic improvement of some of the ex-addicts is reported. One grama sangam has constructed a small culvert at a cost of Rs. 75. Another grama sangam has appointed two sweepers to clean the streets. Yet another celebrated a cleanliness day. A milk supply society for ex-tappers has been organized in one place.

Tiruchirappalli.—A village cleanliness day was observed by the Harijans in one place. One grama sangam has put up a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in bronze at a cost of Rs. 1,700.

Salem.—Tournaments took place as usual. There was a rural exhibition also.

Tanjore.—Night schools were opened in some places. Inter-village tournaments also took place. The villagers in one place constructed an approach road measuring two furlongs. They also repaired a well. There was a rural exhibition in which most departments of the Government took part. A milk supply union was organized.

Bellary.—The Hon'ble Minister for Local Self-Government laid the foundation stone for a village hall-cum-reading room in one place. Firka tournaments also took place. A co-operative milk supply society for the Tungabhadra dam area was started on work. Thrift scheme was introduced in one society and Hundi boxes were distributed.

Malabar.—A prohibition day was celebrated at one place. A library and reading room was also opened. Two grama sangams were organized in one taluk. One grama sangam formed a road committee in connexion with the construction of a road.

North Arcot.—Thrift campaigns were conducted. A co-operative society for mat weavers was also organized. Proposals for the formation of a cattle breeding society are under way.

Nilgiris.—A fish farm was inaugurated at the instance of the ameliorative staff near Ootacamund. A cattle show was also organized.

Kurnool.—A library and reading room was opened. The Collector also switched on a radio. Sports and Rural games took place as usual. Two libraries and reading rooms were opened in places donated by members of the public.

South Kanara.—Societies for ex-tappers were organized in some places.

Night schools and reading rooms were opened in some places. One grama sangam collected Rs. 300 for the installation of a radio set. Sports took place as usual.

Nellore.—Thrift days were celebrated. A firka labour contract society was started on work. Harikathas, Bajanas and Kalakshepams were arranged in several villages. A night school was opened in one place.

Coimbatore.—A reading room was constructed by a grama sangam at a cost of Rs. 4,000. They have also deepened a well as well as purchased a radio set. Another grama sangam has constructed a reading room at a cost of Rs. 3,000. In another place the villagers have constructed a school building at a cost of Rs. 3,000.

East Godavari.—Since the introduction of prohibition several ex-addicts have made substantial savings.

Ramnad.—Three grama sangams have been organized. And also three co-operative milk supply societies and a co-operative egg production society.

Prohibition made State Policy

“The programme of Prohibition has now been incorporated in the constitution of India as a principle of State policy and it is everybody's duty to see to it that this policy succeeds, for the masses cannot be made happy unless drink habit is completely eradicated”, observed Mr. Morarji Desai, Minister for Home and Revenue, inaugurating recently a Recreation and Amenities Centre, run by the Bombay City Prohibition Committee, at Northbrook Gardens, Kumbharwada.

The Minister said that it was true that as a result of this policy, the Government would lose a revenue of eight crores of rupees; but at the same time the poor would be able to save to the tune of about 30 crores of rupees, which amount they might be able to spend on the necessities of life, such as food, clothes, etc.

Women and children, the Minister said, are the worst sufferers as a result of this vice. He appealed for active support in making Prohibition successful.

DISTRUST

The greatest disease from which the country is suffering now is distrust. We must give an effective medicine to cure that disease. There is no hatred. It is just distrust and misunderstanding. Women are best fitted to remove that distrust among the people. We all know that there is not so much distrust among the women of the various communities as among the men of these communities.

—H.E. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

TOWARDS NATION-BUILDING

India's Vast Water Resources

The mean annual supply of water in India's rivers is about 2,300,000 cubic feet per second. Of this, less than six per cent is at present being put to any beneficial use, while the balance runs to waste into the sea.

This was disclosed by Shri N. V. Gadgil, Minister for Works, Mines and Power, Government of India, in a broadcast recently.

Shri Gadgil referred to numerous projects which were contemplated to utilize India's water wealth and said the Cabinet would soon decide priorities as between the different projects. The great supply of water which had uptil now been wasted, said Shri Gadgil, "will soon be turned into wealth". Very soon, he declared, "there will be water for irrigation, power for industries and employment all-round".

"On a rough calculation, the mean annual supply of water in India's rivers is of the order of 2,300,000 cubic feet per second. The mean annual utilization of water for agricultural and other purposes through canals is roughly 133,000 cubic feet per second. This means that less than six per cent of the available water wealth of the rivers is being put to beneficial use and the balance of over 94 per cent is running waste to the sea.

"In addition there is a vast underground reservoir of water of which only about 30,000 cubic feet per second are being utilized at present for irrigation. A very large reserve is still available for further extension. Most of the supply of water is concentrated in the monsoon months and except for the snow-fed rivers emerging from the Himalayas, the other rivers run almost dry during the dry months. It is not impossible to utilize a considerable portion of this water potential to see that there is plenty of water available for irrigation, for domestic use and for power generation.

Irrigation in India

"India to-day is irrigating 70,000,000 acres of land, a figure which is nearly equal to the combined irrigated area in all the other countries of the world put together. In spite of the immense water resources and their strategic location, India is developing no more

than half a million kilowatts of hydro-electric power. It is estimated that if water power potential is properly utilized, it will give 30 to 40 million K.W. India has untold mineral wealth and considerable manpower.

"With cheap power generated from water we can look forward to immense industrial and agricultural development resulting in a general rise in the living standard of the common man and in progressively increasing national wealth and prosperity. Power generated from water has a distinct advantage over power generated from coal or other fuels.

Multi-purpose schemes

"The Government of India has an organization known as the Central Waterpower, Irrigation and Navigation Commission. This organization is in charge of planning multi-purpose schemes. Multi-purpose schemes, briefly, consist of the best utilization of river water for the purpose of controlling floods, supply of water for irrigation, for power generation, for navigation, for drinking purposes and for fish culture. Rivers like the Damodar, the Mahanadi and other rivers are responsible periodically for considerable damage to life and property of people living in the respective valleys. As much harm is caused by famine as by floods. In many multi-purpose schemes the flood aspect is important. The line of approach in all such schemes is to control the floods by having a number of reservoirs in the river basin, regulating the flow, making water avail-

able for irrigation, for generating electric power and for big canals so that navigation may be possible, for drinking water to areas roundabout and for fish culture.

"The Damodar Valley Corporation is now established and is working the Damodar Valley Scheme. The Bhakra Scheme, which is to harness the Sutlej water, is being worked by the East Punjab Government. The Mahanadi Project is being worked by the Central Government.

Nature has dispersed our rivers

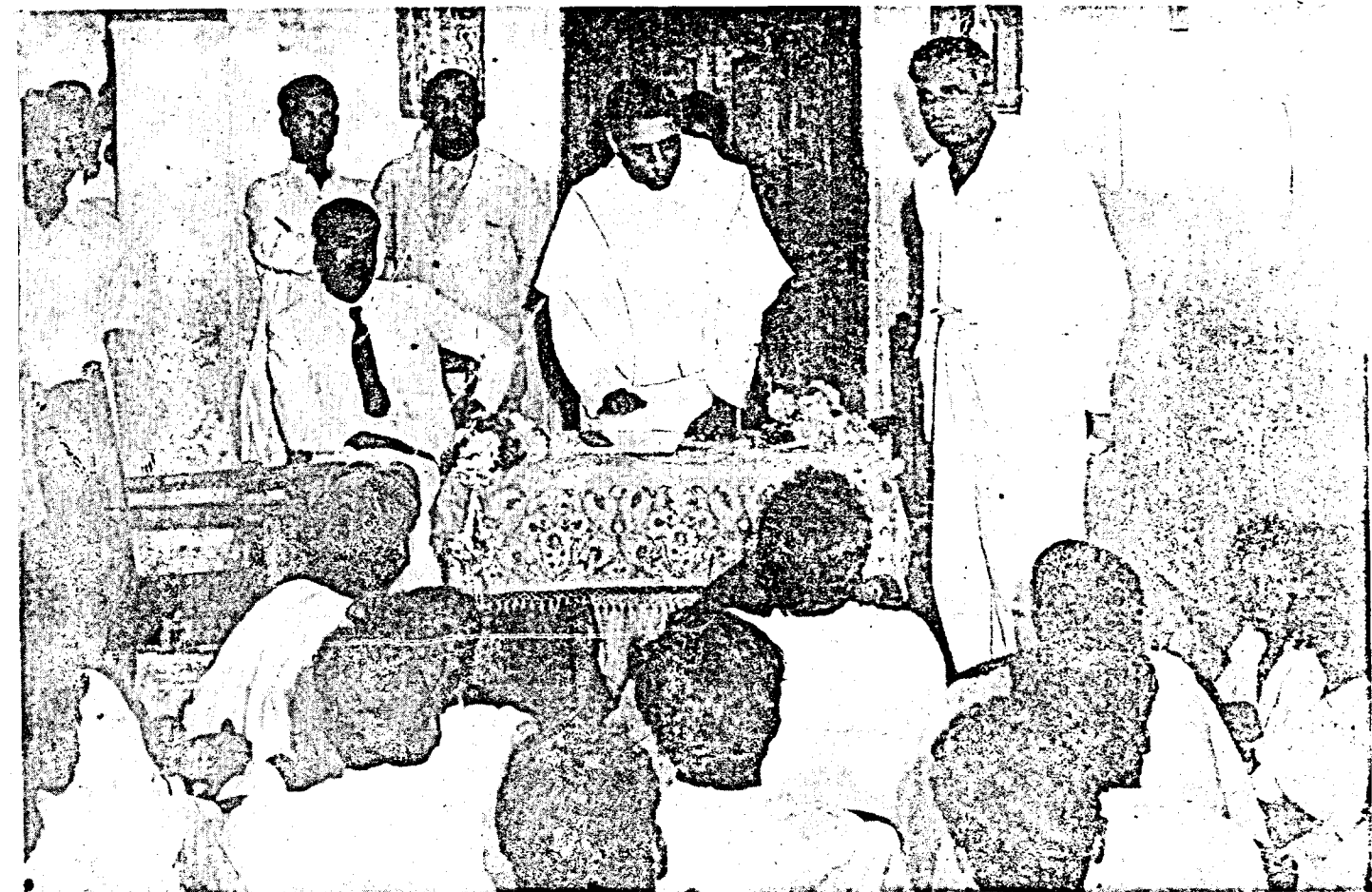
"Fortunately for this country, the rivers are so dispersed that if all the schemes visualized are completed, prosperity and plenty will be reigning throughout the length and breadth of this country. In East Punjab, the Bhakra Scheme; in Bihar and Bengal, the Damodar Valley Scheme and the Mor Scheme; Kosi in Bihar; Brahmaputra in Assam; the Rihand in U.P.; Narbada and Wainganga in C.P.; Narbada, Tapi, Koyna in Bombay; Ramapadasagar, Tungabhadra, Krishna Pennar and Lower Bhawani in Madras; and Chambal in Central India are some of the big schemes visualized. Some are under construction, others are under investigation. In spite of the fact that there is shortage of material and of technical manpower, every effort is being made to utilize whatever is available to the best advantage.

"The Government of India will soon decide priorities among these various schemes and all efforts will be made to see them through."

REMEMBER FREE INDIA

If you go with some money to the booking-office, and offer money and want a ticket, the booking clerk must feel, "I am now serving free India and must attend to this man promptly and quickly". If you go to buy a ticket and buy it and get into the train, you are getting into Free India's train and ought not occupy more space than you ought to occupy. If you are inclined—for your own self-satisfaction—to make any spot of Free India dirty—remember it is Free India that you are making dirty. If you spit on the road, you are spitting on Free India.

—H.E. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.



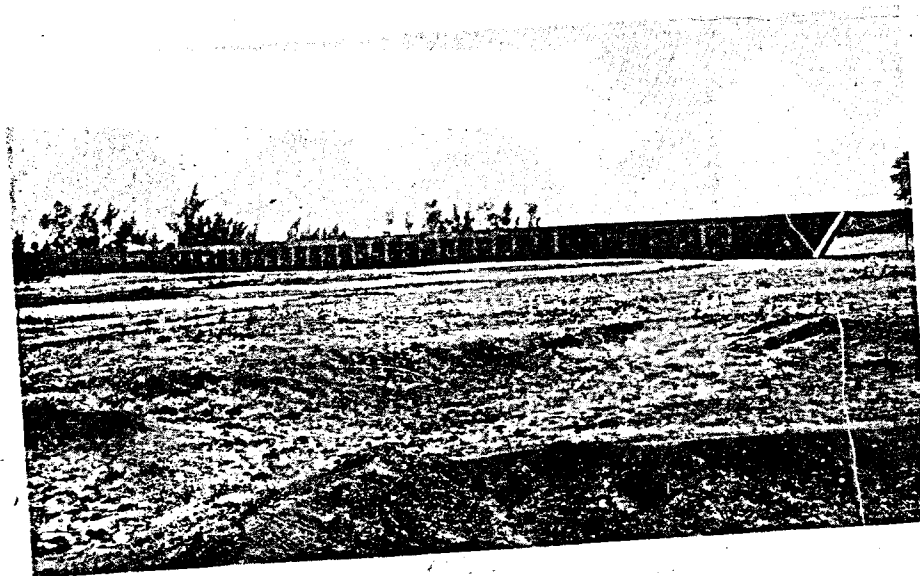
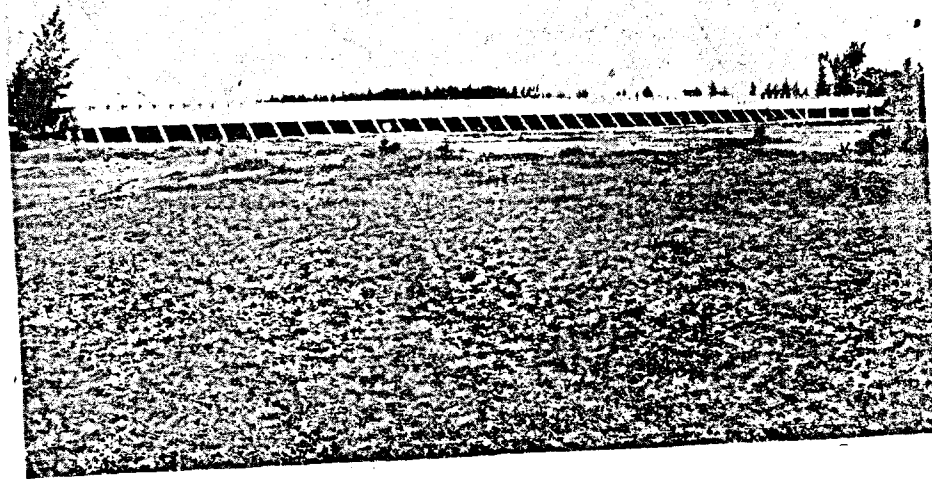
Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration inaugurated a Co-operative Milk Supply Union for Ex-tappers near Adayar



Hon'ble Dr. Gurubatham and the Provincial Firka Development Officer giving the lead in spinning!

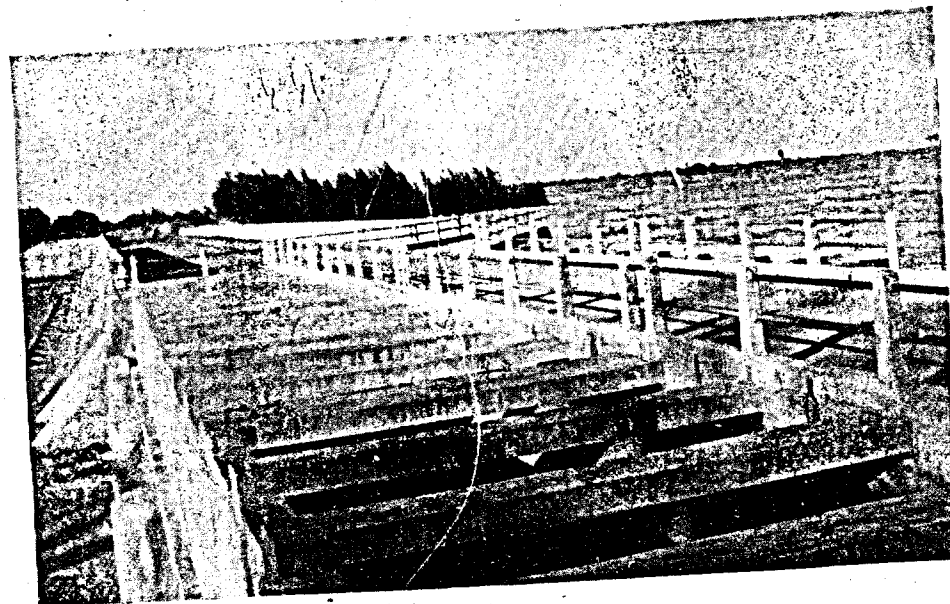
IRRIGATION ACHIEVEMENTS

The Grand Anicut Canal in Tanjore crosses several drainage courses by syphon aqueducts. The largest of these is the one over Agniar—The picture shows the front view of the aqueduct



Agniari Aqueduct—Rear View

Agniari Aqueduct—End View



Spotlight on Land Revenue System

As against these advantages of the present system there have been the following main criticisms against it—

(1) The system is not progressive with reference to one's ability to pay. The big landholder and the small pattadar pay assessment at the same rate. For example a person owning one acre and a person owning one thousand acres pay at the same rate.

(2) The rates are fixed and inelastic. If prices of staple foodgrains fall below the average prices adopted for determining the assessment, there is no relief to the ryots. For example the rates are not varied and remain the same when say the price of a bag of paddy was Rs. 3 or 4 in 1932-34 or when the price of the same is Rs. 13 now.

(3) The assessment does not vary with the nature of the crops grown and people who grow commercial crops are better off than those who raise food crops.

(4) The incidence of land revenue is not uniform in different districts, as a result of the rates having been fixed at different periods with reference to the prices prevailing in those districts during the twenty non-famine years immediately preceding the year of settlement.

(5) In the ryotwari areas also the pattadar is gradually becoming an absentee landlord and the tenant-at-will or the cultivating tenant is becoming the main agriculturist. The absentee landlord (pattadar) who does not undertake the cultivation himself is taking the lion's share of the produce of the land, and the cultivating tenant who in many cases is a glorified agricultural labourer and who has very little capital, except for some credit and status enough to invite the confidence of the pattadars to lease him the land, is unable on account of his economic position to invest the required capital to improve the yield from his leased holding.

(6) The landless agricultural labourers constitute fifteen per cent of the rural population in our Presidency. Their present lot is alarming and their wages and living conditions are far from satisfactory. They are under-employed and in many cases underpaid. Their relationship to the land or the pattadar and his lease-holding tenant is absolutely fluid. No wage, minimum or maximum is guaranteed to them.

(7) The question of revision of land revenue policy of the Government



It is common knowledge that the process of re-moulding the Land Revenue system in this Province is well under way. In this connection Hon'ble Sri KALA VENKATA RAO recently gave a broadcast talk from the A.I.R., Madras. After discussing the main features of the ryotwari system which is in vogue at present in two-thirds of this Province the Hon'ble Minister said:

was considered by the Congress Ministry in 1937. A few months earlier, the interim Ministry appointed a committee to go into the question. It was presided over by Mr. Marjoribanks. That report was not officially published except for certain press summaries. Its main recommendations were—

(i) That the percentage increases imposed during resettlements after 1914 on account of the rise in prices should be cancelled in order to equalise the incidence of assessments in all the districts;

(ii) That the basic water-rate in the districts of East and West Godavari and Krishna and in the deltaic portion of the Guntur district should be reduced from Rs. 6-4-0 to Rs. 5 the rate in existence before the enhancement was made.

(iii) Resultant rates mentioned in items (i) and (ii) above may be treated as the basis for future revisions;

(iv) Such revision should, however, be made only by a vote of the legislature at the time of the Budget Estimate with reference to the financial needs of the Province;

(v) Changes should not exceed 1 anna in the rupee at a time and that the rates should not be higher than the basic rates by more than one anna in the rupee at any time during the first ten-year period after the introduction of the scheme, by more than 2 annas in the rupee at any time during the second ten-year period and so on;

(vi) Legislation should be undertaken for making the official registration, after careful verification, and notification, presumptive proof of title;

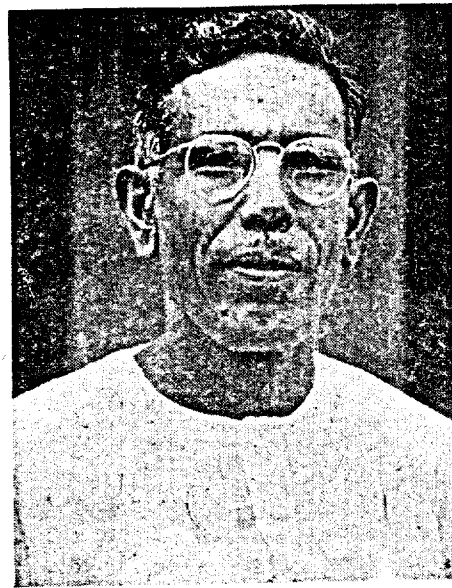
(vii) Provision should be made for the systematic revision of the 'A' register of the village and for the up-to-date registry of holdings. But before final decision was taken on several questions the first Congress Ministry went out of office; Government have again taken up the question of land revenue reform, and the first step that has been taken in that direction is the abolition of estates so that there might be a uniform ryotwari system in our Province. It is time that the next step is taken to meet the above and other criticisms regarding the prevailing ryotwari system. The first attempt in this direction will be the codification of the land revenue law. The next question to be tackled will be the rationalization of the system of land revenue taxation itself, which is at present, as I already said, is on a regressive basis. The main difficulty will be as to whether the progressive tax should be related to the holding or to the agricultural income or to the sale of the agricultural produce. The relative merits have to be examined with great caution and the conclusions reached should be legislated upon at any early date. In the face of the present need for edible cereals it may be necessary to control the growth and spread of commercial crops.

The question of giving greater share in the margin of profit to the cultivating tenant has to be considered and the relationship of the cultivating tenant and the non-cultivating landlord must be statutorily defined. Certain proposals that will naturally emerge out of the proposed immediate reform of amending the Malabar Tenancy System will have to be spread to the remaining areas in the Presidency.

(Continued on page 23)

Self-help in Village Uplift Work

If a few men come together, they can do many things. I recently saw a well being dug at a cost of Rs. 3,000. The labourers who dig the well are villagers. It was given to a contractor. If the villagers for whom the well has to be dug so wished they could have done it themselves. In some villages if we could give Rs. 500, the villagers would complete the well. This sum is for the construction of the well. The labour will be done by the villagers. There is another factor. If the villagers themselves dig the well, they will take much care of the work. When their females or children go to the well and draw water, they feel happy that it was their own well. This satisfaction will not be present if a contractor had dug the well. The same is the case with roads. If villagers form the roads, acquisition will not be necessary. If acquisition is to be made, a notification has to be published and objections invited and answered if received. The land value has to be fixed and there lies an appeal against this. This will take nearly two years. If villagers join together to make their own road, there is so much of co-operation, of fellowship and of joy also. We want to solve these problems along this way of co-operation. We want to solve the agriculture and housing problems along these lines. To-day, the ryot has not got implements or seeds or a pair of cattle to carry on agriculture. A middleman comes forward to offer a loan to the agriculturist at an usurious rate of interest. At the harvest time, he purchases the produce at a low rate. If the agriculturist is indebted to the middleman, the latter can dictate the price of the produce. The lazy man thus gets a prize at the cost of the hard-working man. We want to save the worker from this bondage through this Firka Development Department. I can tell you many more things. The trainees here will be given a training for three months. We have taken two from each firka. We want to run this training centre permanently. As we train people here, they will go forth into the villages. This is a hard task. Sri Aryanayakam told me "We have waited for 150 years and let us wait for some time more. It will take time but we are bound to succeed. If criticism comes, we shall answer it." I want workers to be firm in their work. Be sure of your purpose. If we are in the right direction, we are bound to succeed. Very often in Gandhiji's life, we have



Speaking recently on the occasion of the opening of the Andhra Grama Seva Vidyalayam in West Godavari District, Hon'ble Dr. S. GURUBATHAM stressed the importance of self-help in village uplift work. Referring to this aspect of the subject, he said:

seen how this little man was fighting for his country without any arms. Great countries like America and England were trying to achieve their ends in their own way. But our ways looked so small. Others were laughing at this little man's efforts. But he was the only man who went forward.

Whenever I went to him, I came back with the impression that he would lead the whole world. After he has passed away, we now realize how great his work was. Our work now seems to me very small beside mighty schemes. But like the mighty atom, we have great potentialities. Let us go forward with truth in our mind. We may achieve results during our lifetime. Sometimes, the next generation will have them. Whether results come or not we shall go forward. I believe that this Firka Development scheme will succeed. This training centre is a great step forward. . . . We have to change the outlook of the country, the people and the officers. We have taken nearly three years to lay this foundation. We have a training centre at Kallupatti in the South. This centre is

starting now. I was asked in Malabar that there should be a combined centre for Kerala. I am just beginning to think that we shall have a centre like this for Kerala. But this should be run with the co-operation of the Governments of Cochin and Travancore also. That centre may start by the time this closes. I would request all those interested in moral development to come to these centres. These should be laboratories where this work shall be tried. With the blessings of God, let us start this to-day. This will go forward with your co-operation. I should specially thank Sri Anjaneyulu for the gift of his lands here. When he came to Madras last, he was anxious that this place should be selected for the Training centre. As far as I see, he has no axes to grind. I find he is anxious to serve. He is not a politician. It is by such voluntary gifts that this moral work will succeed. I think all those who have co-operated had worked hard to organize this centre. In God's name I declare it open."

(Continued from page 10)

as against 706 in the previous year. Four hundred and eighty revision petitions were filed in mufassal Session Courts and 3 cases were taken up *suo motu* by the Sessions Judges. In the High Court, 1,351 revision petitions were disposed of during the year and 522 petitions were pending at the end of the year.

Crimes and Fines.—The number of offences under the Indian Penal Code reported in the year was 134,914, as against 128,334 in 1946. The total amount of fines imposed was Rupees 54,76,489, as against Rs. 51,62,311 in 1946, out of which a sum of Rupees 47,99,286 was realized, as against Rs. 41,45,972 in the previous year. Compensation to the tune of Rupees 58,754 was paid to complainants under section 545, Code of Criminal Procedure.

Juvenile Convictions.—The number of juveniles convicted was 4,576, of whom 4,139 were boys and 437 were girls. Five hundred and thirty-one juveniles were ordered to be detained in certified schools, 2,045 were discharged, after admonition, and 1,448 were handed over to their parents or guardians.

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

Revenue and Expenditure on Revenue Account

According to the budget estimate for 1948-49, the revenue to the Government of Madras is Rs. 5,594.31 lakhs. Revenue accounts to the end of July 1948 stands at Rs. 1,379.15 lakhs, as against Rs. 1,327.91 lakhs for the corresponding period in 1947. The budget estimate for 1948-49 in respect of expenditure on revenue account is Rs. 5,593.60 lakhs. Expenditure on revenue account to the end of July 1948 totals Rs. 1,201.80 lakhs, as against Rs. 1,206.76 lakhs for the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

Revenue.—The total revenue realized to the end of July 1948 shows an increase of Rs. 51.24 lakhs as compared with the revenue for the corresponding period of 1947-48. The increase is the net effect of increases totalling Rs. 271.37 lakhs and decreases totalling Rs. 220.13 lakhs. The main increases occurred in respect of items such as Stamps, Registration, Interest, Police, Education, Public Health, Receipts from electricity schemes, etc., etc. The decreases are with reference to items such as Land Revenue, Provincial Excise, Forest, Irrigation, Industries and Supplies, etc.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure on revenue account to the end of July 1948 shows a decrease of Rs. 4.96 lakhs as compared with the expenditure for the corresponding period of the previous financial year. The decrease is the net effect of decreases totalling Rs. 153.50 lakhs and increases amounting to Rs. 148.54 lakhs. The decreases are with reference to items such as Forest, General Administration, Superannuation Allowances and Pensions, Extraordinary Charges, Civil Defence, etc. The increases occurred under heads such as Land Revenue, Registration, Construction of Irrigation Works, Administration of Justice, Police, Education, Public Health, etc.

[November 19]

Food Bonus Coupons

In their Press Note No. 220, dated 28th September 1948, the Government announced that 31st December 1948 has been fixed as the last date for

redeeming the food bonus coupons by the producers who have delivered paddy or rice under the Bonus scheme of 1947. The coupon holders are once again informed that it is open to them to exchange their coupons either for manures subject to availability of stocks or for cash at their option. As the Government is anxious to wind up the scheme as early as possible, they wish to emphasize that the time-limit of 31st December 1948 already fixed will be strictly adhered to and not extended on any account. The coupon holders are therefore again advised to apply for the redemption of their coupons as early as possible and in any case before 31st December 1948. They are informed that applications received after 31st December 1948 are liable to be rejected summarily.

[November 22]

Department of Industries and Commerce

In line with the great awakening that has come about all over the country now for the economic upliftment of our people, various exhibitions to show the possibilities of the country and the scope for expansion of large, medium and cottage industries, are being held everywhere. Consequently, there have been of late too many calls on the Department of Industries and Commerce to participate in the exhibitions. While it cannot be denied that all exhibitions big and small are of real value, and the department will be glad to participate in them, the authorities sponsoring exhibitions will no doubt realize that it will not be possible for this department to participate in each and every exhibition. For the information and guidance of the organizers of exhibitions the following principles, which will generally govern this department's participation, are indicated:

- (i) Participation will be restricted
 - (a) to exhibitions which are likely to run for not less than four days in the mufassal towns and ten days in Madras City and where more than 5,000 visitors are expected to attend;
 - (b) to exhibitions in villages and smaller towns expected to run for not less than four days.

(ii) At least a month's notice should be given to enable the department to collect exhibits and make other arrangements to participate in the exhibition.

(iii) The department should be allowed freedom of display and sale of its products at the exhibitions without any restriction.

The department is considering the feasibility of having a well-designed break-up stall of its own and a complete set of exhibits which can be moved from exhibition to exhibition.

Rice Mills Licensing Order

The Government of Madras have directed that with effect from 20th November 1948, the Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order, 1947, be applied to the following districts:—

South Kanara, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirappalli, South Arcot, Madurai, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary, North Arcot, Chingleput, Coimbatore, Vizagapatam, Ramnad, Chittoor and Salem.

[November 26]

New Well Subsidy Scheme

Under the existing orders, wells sanctioned under the New Well Subsidy Scheme, 1947-48, should have been completed by the 30th of September 1948 in order that they may be eligible for subsidy under the scheme. It has, however, been brought to the notice of the Government that most of the wells could not be completed within the prescribed time due to a variety of reasons and numerous requests for extension of time have been received. The Government have accordingly issued orders extending the time for completion of works under the New Well Subsidy Scheme, 1947-48, till the 30th June 1949. The extension of time granted is subject to the condition that the ryots who have been given subsidy loans under the scheme will make earnest attempts from now on to commence the work and that appreciable progress will be shown by the end of January 1949. The Government have issued instructions that in any case in which no progress

in the sinking of the well is shown by the end of January 1949, the loan should, without waiting for any further instructions, be summarily recovered.

[December 1]

Building Materials

In view of the acute shortage of building materials, such as iron and steel and cement, and to conserve these materials for essential structures, the above materials will not be released in future for elaborate and luxurious types of constructions and non-essential structures, such as cinemas, dance-halls, studios, amusement concerns, etc.

[December 1]

District Food Committees to be Revived

In view of the decision to re-introduce controls over foodgrains and other essential foodstuffs, the Government have decided to reconstitute the District Food Committees in all the districts of the Province and to revive the Rationing Advisory Committees, wherever statutory rationing is being re-introduced.

[November 27]

Refrigeration Industry

The Government of Madras have constituted an Advisory Committee for the planned development of Refrigeration Industry. This Committee, which has been constituted in accordance with the recommendation of the Refrigeration Development Conference convened by the Government of India in July 1948, will receive complaints about unfair rent charged by owners of cold storage, enquire into them and make recommendations to Government as to what should be the fair rent.

The personnel of the Committee will be as follows:—

- (1) The Joint Director of Agriculture—*Chairman*;
- (2) a representative of the cold storage owners in the Province;
- (3) a representative of the users of the cold storage;
- (4) a representative of the Department of Industries;
- (5) a representative of the Department of Co-operation; and

(6) the Fruit Specialist, Madras—*(ex-officio Secretary)*.

[November 27]

Government Servants and the Public

Government have been receiving complaints from the public that the attitude of some of the Government servants towards them is not in keeping with the changed conditions in the administration of the country under a Popular Government and they have reason to believe that, with a few good exceptions, Government servants have not yet realized that their conduct and personal relations with the public should be so regulated as to reflect their duty to "serve" in the best interest of the people and the country. While indifference or discourtesy towards the members of the public coming to them for relief or guidance is positively bad, Government servants should do much to bring home to the public that the old bureaucratic order of things has gone, never to return, and that there is nothing now separating the rulers from the ruled. Instructions have since been issued to Government servants to the effect that this new spirit of the times should be apparent on all occasions when officials come into personal contact with the people as well as in all official communications.

[December 2]

Recruitment through Employment Exchanges

The Government have issued the following instructions in respect of the question as to how far the services of the Employment offices can be utilized for filling vacancies in provincial and subordinate services.

As regards posts in provincial services (gazetted posts) and posts in subordinate services, which should be filled in consultation with the Madras Public Service Commission or on the results of a competitive examination, the Madras Public Service Commission and other selecting authorities will send copies of all advertisements inviting applications issued by them to the Employment exchanges and offices. Copies of all such advertisements should be sent sufficiently in advance to the Employment Officers concerned. The Employment Officers can bring these advertisements to the notice of prospective applicants on their registers

whether ex-servicemen, discharged temporary employees or others. The Government consider that this procedure may continue without any change.

Regarding other posts in subordinate services, whenever vacancies, which are no longer reserved for war service candidates and which can be filled otherwise than in consultation with the Commission or on the results of a competitive examination, arise, the appointing authorities should call upon the District Employment office or the Sub-Regional Employment Exchange concerned to supply lists of ex-employees of the Provincial Government and of war service candidates, if available, who possess the prescribed qualifications. When a sufficient number of suitable and qualified ex-employees or ex-servicemen is not available, the Employment office or exchange concerned should submit, for the consideration of appointing authorities, names of suitable and qualified civilians on its rolls. The Government direct that selection should be ordinarily restricted to persons included in these lists and that the following order of preference should be observed:—(a) War service candidates and ex-employees of the Provincial Government put together and (b) others. Outsiders should be appointed only if the Employment office or exchange concerned is not able to furnish lists of suitable and qualified persons registered with it.

The appointing authorities should not call for lists of candidates from the Employment offices much in advance of the occurrence of vacancies. If, for any reason, they are unable to take action on the lists within a month, they should send back the lists to the Employment offices concerned for making them up to date.

[December 2]

NON-VIOLENCE

Non-violence is complete innocence. It is the law of our species as violence is the law of the brute. The spirit lies dormant in the brute and he knows no law but that of physical might. The dignity of man requires obedience to a higher law—to the strength of the spirit.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

MEN AND IDEAS

Publicity in Free India

Bihar Minister on its Role

"Fairs and religious gatherings were very significant and had immense utility in the ancient times when transport facilities were not so easily available in the country. We should try to revive and perpetuate our age-honoured social cultural and religious institutions and traditions in order to ensure a healthy growth of the nation, of course with such modifications as are warranted by the spirit of the age. Such occasions should now be adequately utilized by our publicity workers for imparting truthful knowledge and general education to the masses and thereby enabling them to exercise their rights and enjoy their privileges properly, as citizens of an independent and democratic state."

The above observations were made by Acharya Badrinath Varma, Education and Information Minister, Bihar, in course of his speech while inaugurating a Publicity Stall recently.

Utilities of Fairs

Acharya Verma said: "For centuries past lakhs of men and women hailing from different distant parts of the country have been assembling year after year, on this auspicious date of Kartik Purnima, at this sacred place of pilgrimage—Haridwar—to wash away their sins by taking bath in the holy water at the confluence of the Narayani and the Ganga and embarking upon a novel plan of life during the ensuing year, deriving inspiration from the highly instructive teachings and preaching of the saints, sages and seers that visited the place in thousands for the purpose. But now, with the change of age our entire mechanism of life has undergone a distinct change. Saints and sages have now become conspicuous by their very absence in these fairs and religious assemblages. People gather now for various kinds of entertainments and recreative purposes alone. The educative aspect of the affair should not be lost sight of. Our publicity men should now play the role of our ancient saints and sages in these fairs and educate the masses properly in various branches of general knowledge which is necessary for providing them with

adequate facilities of a better and fuller life."

Publicity in Free India

Proceeding, the speaker said that since the attainment of freedom by the country the entire background of our life had been completely changed. In a free democratic State the responsibilities of the publicity workers had considerably increased. They formed a link between the State and the people. The messages of the Government addressed to the people and reports of the activities of the former were duly conveyed to the latter, while the grievances and wishes of the latter regarding the administration were brought to the notice of the former through the agency of the Publicity Department. Now that the affairs of the State were administered by the elected representatives of the people themselves, it was essential that there should be perfect goodwill and unstinted co-operation between the rulers and the ruled. This could be easily secured by publicity workers.

Publicity and Democracy

"True democracy could not function in any country unless the people had

full knowledge about the activities of the State for the dissemination of which the Publicity Department of Government was the most appropriate vehicle." With these remarks the Hon'ble Minister appealed to the public of the province not to treat this useful Department as a mere machinery of the Government but to deem it as their own organization intended to furnish full information about everything that was necessary for them and to further their real interests in every possible way.

Publicity booth in the Mela

Tens of thousands of people are seen milling round the vast Publicity booth in the Sonapore Mela this year, which is the main source of attraction for the literate and illiterate persons alike. The posters, leaflets, pamphlets and brochures, handed out to the crowd, are eagerly scanned by villagers proud of their 3 R's and listened to with interest by their less fortunate brothers, who cannot read for themselves. The Publicity booth which is in charge of Shri Ramdhari Sinha 'Dinkar', Deputy Director of Publicity and is neatly laid out and tastefully decorated includes exhibits of interest pertaining to different departments of the Provincial and Central Governments.

There is an Information Bureau which supplies information on all points from the latest Governmental projects to the timings of the next Up or Down train. A Reading Room fully equipped with the dailies, weeklies, fortnightlies and monthlies of the province and country, is seen working in full swing.

MONEY IS CHEAP

Do not be fond of money for that will lead you to dangers... You know now how cheap money has become. In the old days we had to give six seers of rice to buy one rupee. Now if you throw 1½ seers you can get a rupee. Money has become cheap. What we should now collect is goods, not money. If you had given me 500 sacks of grass I would have considered it more valuable—Whatever we do, we should add to the wealth of the country; if I get money I make another poor to that extent, and there is no fresh wealth. Therefore, people who make money do not add to the wealth of the country. People who cut grass or sow paddy do work for the country.

—H.E. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

How to form a Co-operative Society

You are a consumer, that is a person who requires food to eat and clothes to wear, not to speak of all the other goods which each individual desires to buy. Perhaps you are also a producer, that is a person who weaves cloth, makes baskets, grows paddy or work at any of the numerous cottage industries or agricultural pursuits. Whether you are a consumer or a producer, you can do it more profitably through a co-operative society.

In his pamphlet entitled "Constructive Co-operation" S. J. Bimala Prasad Chaliha, M.L.A., Parliamentary Secretary to the Government of Assam for Co-operative Societies, says:—

"A co-operative society is an organization of individuals who bind themselves to conform to certain by-laws and rules of procedure for the purpose of producing things more cheaply, marketing things more profitably or buying things at the lowest possible price.

Imagine ten spinners of cotton each of whom goes to the town once a month to buy cotton. Each of them has to pay separately for the transport of cotton to their village. If they join together, they can lessen the cost of transport, since the quantity for all ten of them can conveniently fill one cart. Moreover, by buying this larger quantity at one time they will get it more cheaply. It is, therefore, more profitable for them to form a co-operative society for this purpose.

Imagine a village of cultivators who have contributed share money to their co-operative society. When they want to sell their paddy crop, instead of selling at a cheap price to a merchant, they can sell at a reasonable price to their co-operative. The Co-operative will sell their paddy at the best price at the most profitable time and will then pay back to those cultivators their share of this extra profit in the shape of patronage dividend.

Imagine individuals walking all the way to the town to buy cloth. What a waste of time and energy when one man could bring all the cloth from the town to a co-operative store. The co-operative store will be able to buy the cloth in bulk at a cheaper rate and the benefit of this cheaper rate will be handed on to the members of the co-operative when they buy their individual requirements.

Think of the large sums of money paid by cultivators to money-lenders as interest on loans. If these cultivators can get credit from a co-operative on the understanding that they will sell their surplus paddy when harvested to the co-operative they will have to pay only a very small amount of interest on such loans.

These are only a few of the ways in which co-operative societies are able to help individuals to improve their economic positions.

Different Classes and Types of Co-operative Society

There are four main classes of co-operative society and under each class there are a number of different types—

(1) *Primary co-operative societies* are small groups of individuals who unite to gain corporate strength in their particular vocation, such as cultivating the fields, weaving cloth, rearing silk worms, making patterns, catching fish, etc.

(2) *Trading co-operatives* are larger groups of individuals who unite in order to buy the necessities of life more cheaply or to market their cottage industries and agricultural products at the best possible price or to obtain cheap loans or cheap insurance.

Primary co-operative societies may be affiliated to a trading co-operative to enjoy the same advantages as an individual member.

(3) *Central Trading Co-operatives* are formed by the affiliation of trading co-operatives. Their object is to buy wholesale the goods required by the trading co-operatives and to market the surplus products of the latter.

(4) *Provincial Co-operative Associations* are large federating co-operative societies. At present there are two such associations: (a) "The Assam Co-operative Cottage Industries Association, Limited," which markets the cottage industries handicraft products of its member and provides them with materials, new ideas, training facilities and (b) "The Assam Co-operative Apex Bank, Limited," which has an authorized capital of three and a half crores of rupees and which finances the whole of the co-operative movement. Soon it is hoped to start a Provincial Wholesale Co-operative

Association for the supply and marketing of all commodities other than handicrafts and a Provincial Co-operative Insurance Association to undertake all forms of insurance. The bulk of the membership of all these associations will be composed of affiliated co-operative societies.

Advantages of Joining a Co-operative Society

Most of the advantages of a co-operative society are specific for the type of society in question. For example, if a group of silk rears decide to form a co-operative mulberry plantation, they pool their money, buy a piece of land and plant it with mulberry cuttings. It will be much cheaper and more convenient to tend, manure and protect a single large plantation of this sort than for each man to have his separate small plantation.

But we can state several general advantages of co-operative method which are common to most co-operative societies—

(1) *Patronage dividend* is the great co-operative device which ensures that members obtain commodities at the cheapest price and sell at the best price. Take as an example the Assam Co-operative Cottage Industries Association, which sells handicrafts to its members. If the association makes a profit it is equivalent to its having sold its handicrafts at too high a price. So the profits are redistributed in the shape of patronage dividend to the members in proportion to the value of the handicrafts bought in the course of the year by each member. If one member spent Rs. 200 he will receive double the patronage dividend of a member who only spent Rs. 100. This ensures that the products are bought at the lowest price, since the profit, which usually goes to the shop-keeper, is redistributed to the consumer. As another example, take a Trading Co-operative, which has been buying paddy from its members. If it has a profit from resale of the paddy, it means, in effect, that it gave its members too little for their paddy and so it will redistribute that profit to the paddy growers in the form of patronage dividends.

"National Character our Best Defence"

"No democratic state can endure unless people are aware of their responsibilities and know how to discharge them in the best interest of society.

(Continued on page 21)

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Piricularia Resistant Paddy Strains

As the shortage in rice production in this country is chronic, it should be the aim of every individual interested in the agriculture of the country to try to augment production. One way of augmenting the total output is by increasing the acre yields on the one hand, and bringing fresh areas under paddy cultivation on the other. Yet another way of looking at the problem is to reduce wastage at the several stages of the crop. It is proposed to talk about the prevention of waste of rice crop by the blast disease caused by the fungus—*Piricularia oryzae*. This deadly disease attacks the paddy crop in all stages of its growth. It produces characteristic brown spots on the leaves which to the layman may appear as some minor effects of less dangerous diseases like *Helminthosporium*. In the heading stage it attacks the top node of the stem and the neck—the basal joint of the earhead, where it appears as blackish rings and then the earhead itself, leaving the whole head of grains to wither into chaff.

This disease is known to occur in Bengal, Bihar, Central Provinces and other rice-growing countries—Italy, Russia, China, Japan, U.S.A. In South India, the disease was first recorded in 1916 from Tanjore, and it caused serious damage to the rice crop in that season. In some years and in some varieties the losses go up to 50 per cent depending upon the weather conditions at the heading stage. In certain tracts where the varieties grown are very much 'susceptible', the disease assumes an epidemic form periodically and huge losses occur.

Investigations on this disease by several workers in Madras have disclosed that the nature of the outbreak, its close alliance with the prevailing weather conditions and the rapidity of the spread of the disease do not admit of the usual preventive and curative measures feasible with ordinary crop diseases.

A number of studies instituted at the Agricultural Research Institute, Coimbatore, revealed a wide range of susceptibility of rice varieties to the disease; certain morphological

characters like the size and inclination of flag leaf, degree of emergence of the ear and density of earhead were found to have some relationship to the incidence of the disease. It was also plain that the disease varied in intensity according to the environment.

The fact that certain varieties are resistant to the disease does not solve the problem, as the same varieties cannot be grown all over the country because of the obvious differences in the requirements and conditions of growing of rice obtainable in different regions. Again the prejudices of the cultivator die hard. His choice of variety is often guided by some factor which may be known to be even uneconomic such as shape of grain, colour of husk, etc.

Hence the approach to the problem resolves itself into one of building up rice strains resembling the popular varieties, with the chief character of disease-resistance added on to these by hybridisation which is now recognized as the most successful method.

From the studies made, it was found that two of the rice strains G.E.B. 24 (Kichili Samba) and Co. 4 (Gobi Anaikomban) evolved by the Paddy Specialist were found to be resistant to blast. Crosses were effected as early as 1926 between these strains and Korangu Samba (Adt. 10) which was very susceptible to the disease but which was very popular by virtue of its very high yield in disease-free years. The cross G.E.B. 24 × Korangu Samba (Adt. 10) was the first to be intensively studied both at Coimbatore and Aduturai for over eight years. Two strains Co. 15 and Co. 16 were released for distribution from 1939 onwards. These are popular in the Madura district. However they did not make headway in the Tanjore and Nellore districts where the disease is rather severe, because of their poor quality and chaffiness compared to Nellore Samba or Molagolukulu. It was also found later that G.E.B. 24 was not as resistant as Co. 4.

The other cross (Co. 4 × Korangu Samba) which was till then kept going on was intensively studied from 1934 onwards to isolate strains with all the good features of the popular strains and

the additional character of blast resistance. Two cultures 3312 and 3840 were finally fixed and these are released as Co. 25 *piricularia resistant sirumani* and Co. 26 *piricularia resistant molagolukulu* after making thorough tests as to their resistance to blast and higher yield as compared to Nellore Samba and Korangu Samba in the districts of Tanjore, Tiruchirappalli, Madura and South Arcot.

In Nellore district where some of the best quality rices like 'Nellore Samba' or Molagolukulu and Pishnam are grown, the losses from blast are very heavy. It is reported that the high quality of Pishnam type has become almost extinct because of the very severe infection of the variety by blast. The Molagolukulu variety introduced later is also susceptible to this fell disease. Work was started in 1932 at Buchireddipalem in Nellore district on this variety which is grown on more than 4 lakhs of acres, including Ongole in Guntur, Nellore, Chittoor and Cuddapah districts. By adopting pure line selection method in the commercial samples of the variety and field tests in different parts of the district, it was possible to isolate 2 strains BCP. 1 *Sanna Molagolukulu* and BCP. 2 *Potti Molagolukulu* which are now in very great demand from the districts of Nellore, Cuddapah and Chittoor. These blast resistant strains have already been multiplied by the cultivators themselves from the seed they got from the trial plots.

Now, something more about the performance of the blast resistant strains is worth mentioning. These strains are suitable to places where the harvest is done towards the end of January and beginning of February. In addition to possessing the very useful disease resistant character, the strains yield 10 to 15 per cent more than the local variety in disease-free years, while in disease-affected seasons, their yields are considerably higher than the local varieties. It has also been found that the quality of the rice of the strains is good and the percentage of rice to paddy is also as good as the local. The chemical analysis of the strains have also shown that they are in no way inferior to the local variety from the nutrition point of view. Those who wish to grow these strains are therefore requested to communicate their requirements to the Agricultural Demonstrators nearest to them. The spread of the strains is being speeded up by growing in this season more than two thousand acres under these strains in seed farms in the districts.

It has come to light in recent years that some of the very popular strains evolved by the paddy section and varieties grown in the important rice tracts of the Presidency especially under the intensive manuring that is now being taken up, are showing symptoms of susceptibility to blast, the degree of infection varying with the local and climatic factors. For example, Co. 13—a very popular short duration strain—is very badly affected by blast and other *kar* (short duration) strains do also suffer to some extent. B.A.M. 3 Bayyahunda, a popular medium duration strain of the Vizagapatam district, is being infected in some years. This susceptibility of some of the popular rice strain causes much anxiety to the breeder and is a potential source of loss to the cultivator. Unlike in some other diseases, as already mentioned, remedial measures are not available to combat the disease except to some extent the treatment of the nursery when the nursery is known to be affected. The only final solution to the problem would be to evolve types of varying durations suitable to the several tracts of the Presidency, and which more or less also resemble the popular strains with added disease resistance in them. This will be achieved through artificial crossing of the various strains with a resistant strain and an elaborate testing of the cross materials in the field and the laboratory for their resistance to blast.

The paddy section has already made some crosses between the blast resistant Co. 4 strain and other strains of different durations and a large stock of useful material has been secured. It will be thoroughly tested and it is hoped that in the years to come blast resistant strains will be largely available to suit different tracts and climatic conditions.

It is sometimes found that certain strains which were found to be resistant at one place are found susceptible when grown in another locality. This may in part be due to different environmental conditions, soil and atmosphere and there is also the possibility of existence of different localities where the disease is more or less common.

Obviously, disease is the result of the interaction of the two separate organisms, the host and the parasite, the climatic and environmental factors, nevertheless playing an important role. Thus any study on this aspect of disease resistance should aim at an intimate knowledge of the life history of both these organisms. A thorough investigation of this problem therefore necessitates attack of the problem

from many angles where the crop-breeder, the Pathologist and probably the Chemist have to work together. These investigations are being under-

taken by the staff at the Central Agricultural Research Institute, Coimbatore. It is fervently hoped that they will be successful in due time.

Soil Erosion

How is Soil Made?

Soil is made of two things, rocks and plant remains. It takes thousands of years of rain and sun to break down the rocks into small fragments and these are softened to powder by the chemical action of plant roots and of tiny animals living in the soil. The top few inches are generally the richest because they are full of rotted plant remains. Lower down there is less vegetable matter and the raw stones are not broken down. So it is very important to save and protect the top layer of richer soil and prevent it from being washed away.

Now will you please think what happens to a rain drop when it falls on leaf or grass. You get a clear spray; if it falls on bare earth, the spray is muddy. This muddy spray forms a skin on the surface, which plugs up the spaces between the grains of soil. Water can no longer drain downwards through the soil because all the entrances are clogged up. So all the rain runs straight off the surface into the nearest stream. On the other hand if there are any plants growing, their roots made the soil more porous, so that water soaks in more readily. The more plants there are growing, the better does the soil act as a huge sponge which soaks up and holds back part of the rainfall, thus delaying the run off and preventing sudden and violent floods.

How is the Soil Lost?

When the rain drops fall on bare ground each splash loosens some soil and the spray at once becomes muddy. Each tiny stream of muddy water is able to cut away the surface it flows over so that the whole surface is rubbed off as if by sand paper, and sheet washing occurs. On ploughed fields this is not noticed because at each ploughing these tiny channels are all flattened out. On grazing land on the other hand they are not ploughed out and they get deeper with every storm until very deep gullies are formed, which grow and grow until they swallow up fields, houses, roads and everything else. The loss of valuable soil which is washed off in

this way is very serious indeed. Actual measurements show that from even very gentle slopes it may be as much as 20 tons of soil per acre each year, and from steep slopes badly terraced it may be as much as 150 tons of soil, which is equal to one inch depth of soil removed from the whole surface.

If none of the rain soaks into the ground, the springs and well levels will fall lower because no fresh water is going down to the deep storage levels, which supply the permanent springs. Floods become more sudden and severe and the drought periods when there is no rain become harder for men and cattle to bear because the water supplies become poorer each year. In our Province there is a great need for a steady and sustained flow of water through winter and summer and this can best be ensured by keeping the best possible plant cover on all the foot-hill slopes which catch the heaviest rainstorms.

How can you Prevent this Loss

By looking after your fields and grazing grounds better. All Punjabi zamindars know how to build a watt along the bottom of each field by using a "Karah" or scoop to heap up a ridge of earth. If this were done for every field and the *wattbandi* kept in proper repair, each field would keep more moisture and produce better crops. Many districts have good *watt-bandis* for their cultivation, but it has not occurred to anybody to do *watt-bandis* on their grazing grounds. If the grazing were better controlled and a portion set aside for grass cutting instead of grazing, the animals would be better fed. The best way to stop flood damage is by looking after the grazing grounds. It is not necessary to stop grazing altogether, but each piece of ground must be given a chance for grass and bushes to put on fresh growth and so protect the soil from erosion. Fewer animals should be kept and when grazing is poor they should be supplied with grass previously harvested. They would give far better milk yield and plough work and the ground would be saved from erosion.

—East Punjab Information

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

Varagu Poisoning

The millet known as "Varagu" (Tamil), Kodra (Hindi), Pasupalum Scrobiculatum (Linn) is extensively used as a staple food by poorer classes in all parts of India. In 1946, when rice was rationed, the Government of Madras compulsorily required part of the rice to be replaced by varagu by those who were accustomed to use millets as food. Various complaints were received that some varieties of Varagu consumed were producing poisonous symptoms. On the recommendation of one of us (K.V.S.) a Committee consisting of the Surgeon-General, Director of Public Health, Director, King Institute, the Government Analyst and the Millet Specialist was constituted and they recommended that Government should undertake, through the Government Analyst, an investigation of Varagu Poisoning.

Some samples were found to be toxic to dogs. Stas Otto method was negative showing that the poison was not an alkaloid. But as a number of samples were found to be undoubtedly poisonous to dogs a systematic investigation was attempted. It was found that the fat residue obtained from extracts with Petroleum ether (B.P. 60-95°C) and chloroform was definitely toxic. 1.5 grams of the fat contained in 50 grams of the millet when fed to dogs, developed tremors within two hours. The dogs soon lost their power

of movement and died within 24 hours. Attempts to feed monkeys with the fat failed as they refused to take the food. Subsequently we found that when the fat was injected subcutaneously into dogs the symptoms described above were observed. We were able to reproduce the symptoms in monkeys by injection. Crows were found to be extremely susceptible to both oral injection and intramuscular injection. After ten minutes of taking the food the crows vomit the food, the pupils become fixed, they droop their heads, soon lose power of moving and are dead in 24 hours. The fat is stable to heat but the toxic in the fat seems to be easily destroyed on heating with dilute alkali and acid. It could not be an alkaloid as it is not taken up in acid solution or a glucoside as it is not taken up by water or 90 per cent alcohol. The poison seems to be absorbed chromatographically on silica column and further experiments are in progress.

These facts seem not to have been recorded in literature so far as we are aware, viz., of a fat derived from a millet having been found to contain a substance which is poisonous to man and animals. Our findings of the effects by intramuscular injection on dogs, monkeys and especially on crows should provide a new method of approach for studying the presence of

poisonous elements in fats and of estimating the lethal doses.

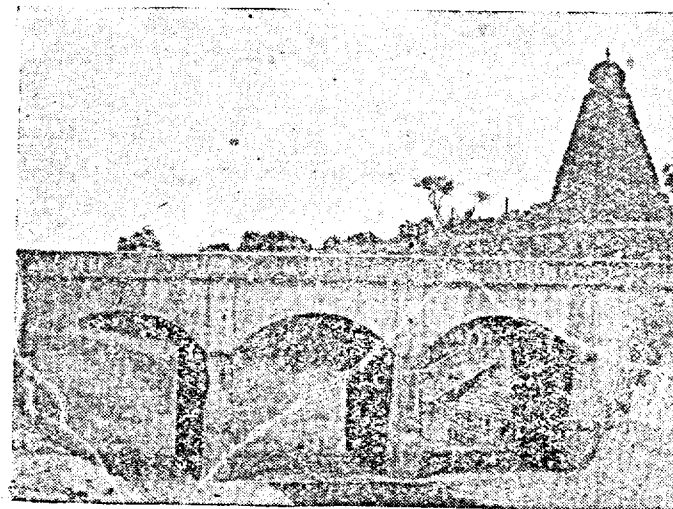
A simple colour test based on the reaction of concentrated sulphuric acid on the fat is being worked out to distinguish the poisonous variety of varagu from the non-poisonous variety of varagu. The defatted residue of varagu is entirely free from the poison and its consumption perfectly safe. When our investigation is completed, it is hoped to reclaim Varagu as a safe food. It is estimated that Varagu to the extent of 3 lakhs of tons are produced every year.

—K. V. SUNDARAM AYYAR.
—Capt. K. NARAYANASWAMI.

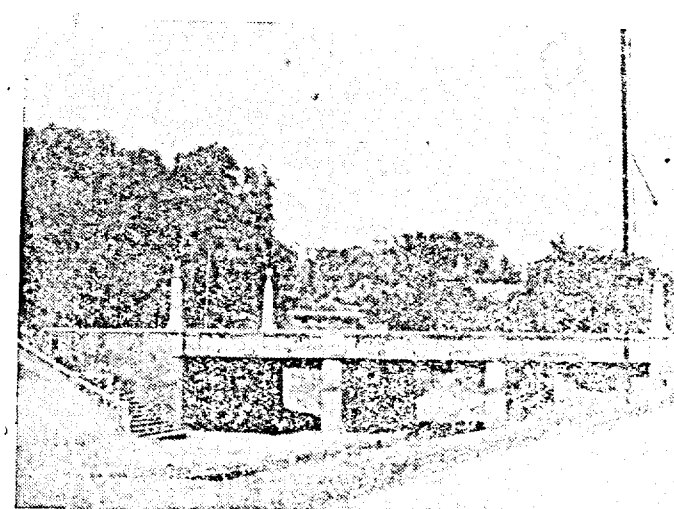
(Continued from page 18)

Society becomes free to the extent to which a democratic citizen willingly and cheerfully sacrifices his individual freedom so that the society may become really free. In every social situation, we have got to apply this test," observed Dr. V. S. Jha, Director of Public Instruction, addressing the students of the Women's College, Nagpur, recently.

Explaining what Social education implies, he impressed upon the audience how Social education is essentially connected with the problem of holding independence and how it is inherently linked up with the life and freedom of the people. "The best defence of a country does lie in building up of a sound and reliable national character," he averred and added, "we must learn to take difficulty with a smiling face and hold our heads high in the worst of storms. Social education aims at creating this consciousness and understanding."



Special class bridge across G.A. Canal at R.D. 13/49 near Big Temple, Tanjore



Special class bridge across G.A. Canal at R.D. 13/68

OTHER PROVINCES

Cottage Industries in Bombay

Mr. Vaidkunthal Mehta, Finance Minister, in an interview announced the Provincial Government's plans to form a finance corporation to assist medium and small-scale cottage industries.

The corporation, he said would be set up in the beginning of the next financial year, 1949-50. The corporation, which would be a statutory body, would, by convention, primarily grant loans to medium and small-scale industries. It would have a special department for handicrafts and cottage industries, but would not be precluded from giving assistance to large-scale industries, such as cement and sugar.

Fruit Development in West Punjab

The Fruit and Vegetable Specialists Department of Agriculture, West Punjab, has prepared a tentative plan for the development on commercial lines of the Fruit Industry in the Murree Hills. Under this scheme, new areas of fertile land will be brought under fruit cultivation and fruits like apples, pears, peaches, plums, apricots, cherries, walnuts, almonds, olives and loquats will be grown in the Hills at different elevations. Experiments have already been carried out to ascertain the suitability of different varieties on different soils.

It is proposed to establish a Research Station and Model Farm Orchard in some suitable place where research on the scientific methods of fruit culture will be carried out under expert supervision.

Development of Palm Gur Industry in U.P.

For encouraging the development of palm gur industry in the Central Provinces and Berar, the Provincial Government have decided to organize two training centres in palm gur making. One centre will be for date palm and the other for palmyra gur. At each centre 40 candidates will be trained in two batches of 20 each. The course will be for a period of three months, and a monthly stipend

of Rs. 30 to each candidate will be awarded besides free use of tools and pans, etc.

Village Industries Centres in Bombay

At an estimated annual expenditure of Rs. 59,460 the Government of Bombay have approved a scheme for the organization of two village industries centres for the manufacture of agricultural and other household implements on the lines recommended by the Manu Subedar Committee.

Development of Cottage Industries in Bombay

Twenty-three additional peripatetic schools are to be organized in Bombay Province. Of these two will be for cotton weaving, two for wool weaving, three for leather working, four for tanning, two for cane and bamboo work, one for wood turning and lacquer work, three for carpentry and smithy, three for fibre work, two for dyeing and printing and one for coir work.

The total expenditure on these schools during the year is estimated at Rs. 62,700 non-recurring and Rs. 1,87,582 recurring.

These schools will train over a period of one year any person desirous of taking up any of the cottage industries mentioned above as a vocation, preference being given to hereditary artisans. Twenty-five per cent of the seats at each party would be reserved for Backward Class candidates, preferably hereditary artisans from among them; only vacancies in the latter category will be allotted to other candidates.

Land Reclamation in U.P.

India's biggest land reclamation scheme is that relating to the Ganga Khadir colony. The colony is in U.P. It lies in the north-east corner of Meerut district comprising 47,000 acres of land. The colonisation scheme was sanctioned in 1947. It is India's first multi-purpose experiment in land development.

Assistance to Cottage Industries in Bombay

The Government of Bombay proposes to take a review of the assistance so far rendered, by way of subsidies, loans, etc., from time to time, in some typical major cottage industries of the Province. The intention is to see whether the assistance given has been adequate or whether any further assistance is required in the nature of protection against competition from large-scale industrial enterprise in deserving cases.

New Social Education Classes in C.P.

Reports received from the district educational authorities so far indicate that on the Vijaya-Dashmi Day as many as 3,721 new Social Education classes were opened throughout the province including the integrated states. It may be recalled that according to the scheme of expansion of Social Education, each class should consist of not less than 20 adults with an average attendance of not less than 15. In accordance with these instructions, it is estimated that over 60 thousand adults should have enrolled in these classes on the Vijaya-Dashmi Day itself.

Concessions to Educated Men Joining Police Force in Bombay

Matriculates seeking employment in the Bombay City Police Force will be given three years' seniority in the cadre of Police Constables and candidates who have passed the First Year course or the Intermediate Examination will straightway be recruited as Head Constables.

If you lived in New Zealand the average quantity of milk that you would drink a day would be 56 ounces, if in Great Britain 39 would be your usual amount, and in the United States 35, but here in India the average is only about 5.8 ounces a day per person. Yet India has about one-third of world's cattle.

Medical fees in U.P.

The U.P. Government has warned all Government Medical officers not to accept fees higher than the prescribed rates even if offered willingly by patients.

The Government has fixed the rates of fees to be charged by different classes of Government medical officers for visits to patients at their residences within the municipal headquarters limits. The fees per visit are exclusive of conveyance charges which have to be borne by patients.

Adult Education Drive in Bombay

With a view to properly conducting the literacy campaign in the cities having a large labour population, the Government of Bombay have appointed two separate Adult Education Committees in Ahmedabad and Sholapur for a period of three years, in the first instance.

The Committees will be independent of the Regional Adult Education Committees concerned and will have the powers necessary for organizing Adult Education classes and training classes for teachers and workers.

Co-operation in Bombay

As many as 531 Co-operative Societies embracing various activities were registered in the Province of Bombay during the first half of the year. Of these, 310 are in rural areas and 221 in Urban areas.

The following is the classification list of these societies according to the activities undertaken by them.

Rural.—Agricultural Credit and Thrift Societies (172); Multipurpose Societies (77); Crop Protection Societies (7); Better Farming Societies (20); Joint Farming (8); Purchase and Sale Union (1); Cattle Breeding Societies (2); Irrigation Societies (1); Housing Societies (22).

Urban.—Urban Banks and Societies (9); Salary Earner's Societies (7); Producers' Societies (70); Weavers' Societies (8); Consumers' Societies (28); Dairy Societies (4); Housing Societies (75); Motor Transport Societies (4); Education and Library Society (1); Electric Supply Society (1); Fruit and Vegetable Societies (5); General Societies (3); Supervising Union (1); Labourers' Society (1); District Co-operative Boards (3); Co-operative Work-shop (1).

Rural Medical Relief Committee

The Government of India have set up a Rural Medical Relief Committee to examine the proposals of the Bhoire Committee for the establishment of a District Health Organization in order

to provide an integrated curative and preventive health service, particularly in rural areas, and to suggest, in view of the financial and other difficulties, the stages by which Government may promote the development of such a service during the next five years.

Reclamation Planning in U.S.

United States reclamation and conservation officials have expressed interest in the recent Soviet announcement of a fifteen-year soil reclamation programme, a type of planning now almost routine in the United States.

United States conservationists have pointed out that irrigation projects for the development of land in California and other western states dated back to the last century. In modern times other vast projects for the reclamation of soil have been developed through the construction of huge dams

in Colorado and the Pacific Northwest. These projects have opened millions of acres of new land and improved the soil in vast areas.

A soil erosion service, extending throughout the United States, has already been in operation for 15 years since it was established in 1933. Previously, in 1929 Congress had recognized the necessity for soil conservation by an appropriation for the establishment of erosion control experiment stations in various states.

Productive and Unproductive Expenditure

Subscription for

MADRAS INFORMATION

is certainly a productive expenditure

For As: 2 a copy

You get

a variety of stuff to delight both the brain and the brawn.

Excellent Photographs—A Speciality

News Round-Up—An unique feature

Topical Notes and Articles — — —

A Prominent characteristic — — —

Annual Subscription Rs. 3 only

Apply to

The Director of Information and Publicity, Fort St. George, Madras

(Continued from page 13)

The Government of India have already placed the Minimum Wages Act on the Statute Book. The Provincial Government will have to adopt those provisions within their areas and that within three years. A minimum wage to the agricultural labourer who has no title to the land and who toils day in and day out to work out the produce of the land will have to be guaranteed.

Another important feature of reform must be the future land assign-

ment policy of the Government. Of course it must be that the landless should get the most of the available cultivable banjar land with special preference given to Harijans and backward classes in the matter of assignment. In this connection the question of cultivation through co-operative farming will have to be considered when large composite blocks of land are available for assignment and improvement.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"AN OUTLINE OF INDIAN ART"

By P. RAJESWARA RAO. Price. Rs. 1-8-0. Copies can be had from the author at Ellore.

This is a small book running to 53 pages, and divided into 11 chapters giving in a small compass, an outline of Indian Art. The chapters on music, dancing, drama, painting, architecture and sculpture are especially interesting. The attitude of the average Indian towards matters relating to art must be said to be a luke warm one. There are many causes for this, the most important of which was foreign domination. Now that the country is free, it is necessary to stimulate interest in arts, and to this end, publications of this kind are useful.

ed. The publication of the monthly letter by the Tamil Nad Congress Committee which seems a new innovation is designed to create a well informed public opinion. The venture of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee deserves all encouragement.

Leaders and Employers. Interesting glimpses into the working of the Employment exchange and its role in the present set up are also given. The publication is a good publicity effort.

SYMBOLS OF PATRIOTISM

Patriotism is a mere word unless you realize the full meaning of it. Patriotism hereafter consists in work—honest and co-ordinated work. It does not consist in shouting or singing songs.

—H.E. Sri C. Rajagopalachari.

"MADRAS BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION SILVER JUBILEE SOUVENIR"

Price Rs. 2.

This book has been brought out to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the Boy Scouts Association, Madras. It includes messages and interesting photographs. A chronological account of the Scout movement in the province also appears in the publication. Light has also been thrown on district scout councils.

The publication is an exquisite production.

"NATIONAL FOOD PLANNING"

By L. RAMACHANDRA RAO, M.Sc. Published by the Nature Cure Publishing House, Pudukottai. Price As. 12.

This small booklet with 42 pages deals with some aspects of the food problem. It is common knowledge at present that India does not produce food enough for her teeming millions. The country has to depend on foreign imports. This state of affairs is obviously unsatisfactory and the Dominion and Provincial Governments have therefore planned on a comprehensive basis the stepping up of food production. In this context, the present publication is a timely one. The author deals with the quantitative and the qualitative aspects of food, the milk question and has also outlined a food plan for this country. The book gives useful information.

"THE STRATEGY AND TACTICS OF WORLD COMMUNISM"

A report by Special Committee No. 5 National and Inter-National Movements.

This is a very voluminous production containing a wealth of materials regarding communism. It is an accepted fact that communism is a grave world menace in the post-war period. It is striving to extend its conquests throughout the world step by step. In Asia communism is trying to spread its tentacles everywhere. The positions in China, Malaya and Burma are familiar facts. Enlightened world opinion considers it imperative to combat this menace. The book under review is a lucid survey of the strategies and tactics of communism. A knowledge of these is useful especially for those who still could not appreciate the dangerous implications involved in a communist domination. The book is a timely publication.

"FOOD CONTROL v. PEASANTS"

by PROF. N. G. RANGA.

Published by Andhra Provincial Paddy Grower's Association, Nidubrolu. Price annas eight.

Professor Ranga is a reputed champion of Kisans and in this book which is his opening address at the Second Provincial Grain Producers' Conference, he pleads most passionately for the peasants. A comprehensive picture is given. Various interesting suggestions are also made. All may not perhaps agree with all what he has said, nevertheless the book is a lucid exposition of the peasants' case and deserves close perusal.

—T.K.G.

"TAMIL NAD CONGRESS COMMITTEE MONTHLY LETTER October 1948"

Circulated by the Department of Social and Economic Studies, Madras.

In democracy it is essential that every citizen should know what is being done by the State and organizations in the State in regard to the improvement of his lot. Democracy rests on the people's opinion and it has necessarily to be well-informed.

"MADRAS EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE SOUVENIR"

This neatly got up production was brought out in connection with the exhibition organized by the Employment Service. It contains messages from His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Cabinet Members,



A homestead in the Wynaad Colony

