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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

January 15, 1948

De-control Policy of Madras Government

THE Government of Madras have issued a statement containing a programme for de-control of foodgrains on December 23, elucidating further their statement of policy on the subject, dated 10th December, in pursuance of the decision arrived at by the Government of India in that regard. The statement announced that beginning with the withdrawal of rural rationing in the deficit districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, Cuddapah and Chittoor, the process of de-control of foodgrains and abolition of rationing would be completed throughout the Province before the end of 1948. The process has, in fact, commenced so far as the Ceded districts are concerned; it has subsequently been extended to the surplus districts in the North on January 4, and will be extended to the surplus districts in the South on February 1st. This is so far as food is concerned; but de-control had already been effected in respect of sugar, jaggery and the pulses and grams and also in respect of handloom cloth.

THE issue of retention of controls or de-control roused vigorous controversy prior to the announcement of the decision of the Central Government and the controversy continues unabated after it has been announced also. It is an issue which has drawn strong support as well as vigorous denunciation; and while it may be admitted that the results of de-control will have to be watched, the policy itself has its roots in the natural order of things, which had been interfered with when controls were imposed during the war period as an emergency measure. The circumstances in which they were imposed are admittedly different from the circumstances now and the emergency which justified and necessitated their imposition no longer exists in the same degree or to the same extent of imperative-ness and urgency at present. So far as control over an essential commodity like food is concerned, it has in a large measure become an artificial imposition now, whatever may have been its necessity during the war period. Nevertheless there has been vociferous complaint that black-marketing in foodgrains was flourishing on a large scale mainly because of the inadequate rations and the continuance of controls over prices and distribution. It has also been clear that while some districts in the province are chronically deficit some others are surplus districts, and that rationing and controlled distribution in the latter had the effect more or less of a super-imposition from above, not

liked by the generality of the people of those districts.

Removal of Restrictions Necessary

OUR province taken as a whole is a permanently deficit one in regard to food supplies; that is an indisputable proposition; and measures intended to augment food production and to make up for this deficit have not yielded results commensurate with the demands and needs. Thus our dependence on supplies from the Government of India continues and will continue until production is stepped up to such an extent as to make the province self-sufficient. All these point to only one conclusion, namely, that a chance should be given to the natural forces of demand and supply to operate without restraint and that whatever stocks are available should be enabled to come out uninhibited by extraneously imposed restrictions on distribution and consumption, while pressing for the despatch of sufficient supplies by the Government of India to overcome the overall shortage. The opponents of de-control differentiate food from other commodities and argue that the policy would, instead of facilitating return of normal conditions in the matter of supply and distribution, would create a further and worse state of scarcity than at present, that people who are out to profiteer and black-market in foodgrains

IN THIS ISSUE.

Bhavani Aneut—Frontispiece.
De-control Policy of Madras Government.
"Shape of Things."
Press Notes, Releases, etc.
From Far and Near.
Sidelight on Provinces and States.
Problems and Solutions.
Topics of the day.
Department's Forum.
General Knowledge Section.
Tit-Bits.
News from Prohibition Areas.
Books and Publications.

world find a propitious atmosphere for their nefarious operations, and that the prices of foodgrains which are at present controlled, would soar up to an inordinate extent and that those who will suffer most in the process would be the poorer sections of the population. The arguments proceed from premises which can no doubt draw strength from some happenings in the past. Those who advance them, however, betray a feeling of suspicion and distrust of ordinary human nature. They do not take into account the consideration that though there may be a rise in prices immediately after de-control as a sequel to the removal of long-standing restraints, the forces of demand and supply will adjust themselves in a short time and the equilibrium in regard to prices restored and that if this process of restoration of the equilibrium is artificially impeded or delayed, the losers will be the would-be black-marketeers and profiteers themselves, because they cannot look forward to striking a profitable bargain at some future date. The fact is also not taken cognizance of by them that the Government are keeping an ever watchful and ever vigilant eye on the situation, particularly that in the deficit areas, and would not hesitate to interfere with imposition of rigid controls if the situation was found to be deteriorating through its exploitation by interested parties or otherwise.

Cautious Gradualness

It is as a safeguard against such a contingency that de-control is proposed to be introduced with cautious gradualness taking into account the conditions in different districts and that the administrative machinery that had been working food controls so far as proposed to be kept to the extent necessary, while both the Central and the Provincial Governments have made it clear that they would not hesitate to resort to controls again if circumstances necessitate it. In other words the present de-control policy is an "experiment", as the Government's statement opines.

A HEAVY responsibility lies on the shoulders of the primary producers of foodgrains, big and small, in this connection. There had been all along a clamour by large sections of them for de-control and they have been assuring everybody that one of the reasons for the unsatisfactory procurement of foodgrains had been the fixation of an uneconomic price for paddy and other grains, and the hardships on account of inadequate rations which they were asked to subject themselves to in order that the rationed population in the towns might be fed. The Government have revised the maximum prices of different varieties of paddy recently, even though it was felt that it might involve a considerable burden on the consumer; and they have decided on gradual decontrol of the distribution of foodgrains by abolishing rationing of millets in the Ceded Districts, by withdrawing statutory as well as informal rationing in the surplus districts and combining it with intensive procurement, by substituting informal for statutory rationing in districts such as Malabar and the Nilgiris for some time, and by keeping intensive procurement

will continue in all the surplus areas, the Food Control Order will be in force in all the districts. The provisions of the Essential Articles (Requisitioning) Order will be extended throughout the Province. The situation in the deficit districts will be constantly under watch and sufficient stocks will be made available to them as and when required to relieve shortage. De-control will thus be extended gradually and cautiously and ample opportunity will be afforded to the producers and others to realize their responsibilities towards the community under the revised policy and to co-operate in its successful operation by giving up the propensity to hoarding. Wherever found necessary in the deficit districts, Collectors will have the option to open relief shops to ensure regular and regulated supply of foodgrains. At the same time the Government of India are being pressed to expedite the despatch of the foodgrain allotments to the province so as to avoid the calamitous consequences that may follow if the food situation gets worse.

Careful Husbanding of Resources

APPREHENSIONS expressed by some sections of the public that on account of de-control there would be a repetition of the Bengal famine of 1932, therefore, not very much warranted. The Hon. Dr. Rajan assured the Legislative Assembly on December 19, it was not as if the Government were rushing ahead unappreciative or unmindful of the possible consequences of de-control. The first place, the simultaneous programme of building up of stocks side by side with the extension of de-control and abolition of rationing. In the second place, there is the assurance of the Government of India that they would stand by the Provincial Government in working out the policy of de-control, which is initiated mainly at the former's instance. The Government of India on their part are taking measures to ensure that the policy will be a success by conserving indigenous stocks and making efforts to import foodgrains like wheat from Australia. They have however noted that the transport bottleneck does not stand in the way of immediate despatch of sufficient stocks to Madras to enable the Madras Government to discharge their pressing responsibility towards Malabar and the southern districts. In the face of these various factors the optimistic note struck by the Food Minister, Dr. Rajan, that Government would be able successfully to weather any potential food storm during the year even in the light of the new policy, will be echoed by all. With the active and full co-operation of the people, particularly the producers of foodgrains, the Government's efforts to meet the food situation are bound to prove successful but it calls for a careful husbanding of our internal resources and the maximum possible procurement of the food crop in the province and timely aid from the Centre.

THE de-control policy, so far as it concerns commodities other than food, has not caused so much flutter; and in spite of reports about rise in the prices in respect of sugar at some places, the absence of racketeering on

any large scale is noteworthy. So far as food is concerned, as an important counter-check to deterioration of supplies and consequent potential suffering of the people, which are to be avoided at any cost, the policy announced by the Madras Government errs more on the side of care than expedition. The programme is spread over a number of months, so that ample time is afforded for local stocks to adjust themselves to the demands and requirements of the new policy. Note may be taken of the intention of the Government of India, as contained in a New Delhi message, not to proceed with de-control of other commodities like iron, steel, cloth and cement until the results of de-control of food and sugar are known, and also of the statement of the Finance Minister of the Union Government that de-control of cloth was not warranted by the present conditions in the country.

BEFORE we close, reference may be made to the latest views of Gandhiji on this question and his exhortation

to businessmen as to their duty in making de-control a success. He said in his prayer speech in New Delhi on December 28, as follows:—

"THE reason for control was the fear of dishonesty and profiteering The truest control comes from the honesty of growers, manufacturers and middlemen. It was up to the trading class and the millowners to dispel suspicion They were bound to be cent per cent honest. The various associations of businessmen and millowners and the general public could strengthen each other's hands for the removal of control. They would then be the more real arm of the Government than the civil service."

THE anticipated evils of de-control would be largely dissipated and might not emerge at all if there is complete co-operation between the public, the producers, the businessmen and the Government officials to see that nothing is done which will be detrimental to the public interest.

"Shape of Things"

Poets-Laureate Scheme

The Madras Government's decision to institute poets-laureateships in the four regional languages of the province is a unique and welcome move. In taking this decision they have not only given a lead to other provinces but set an example to them. The institution of poet-laureate is neither novel nor original so far as our country is concerned. It was a sort of inseparable appendage to the court of every Hindu king and emperor and continued to be so even during the Muslim and Mughal period and was a signal literary honour to which all poets and literary men aspired. The appointment implied Royal or State recognition and encouragement of learning and scholarship and was also a tribute to the Rulers themselves who thereby displayed a conspicuous cognizance of literary eminence and its high place in the scheme of things. In later times the institution lost its importance, which is however a sign not of progress but decadence; but significantly it survives in England, the one country in the world in which the institution of kingship has abided and survived the various stresses and storms that had swept the world during the last three decades and resulted in the uprooting of dynasties and upsetting of thrones.

The Madras Government's scheme seeks to honour the best and the most

eminent among the national poets in the four regional languages of the province by conferring on them the distinction of State recognition as such in their respective languages. The selection will be made by a specially constituted committee for each language composed of men capable of judging and deciding on the merits of the competing candidates, and once a person is selected for the honour he will retain it for a period of five years. Selection, as has been explained by the Education Minister at a press conference will be confined to persons belonging to or domiciled in the province and their functions, while not being elaborately defined, will consist of composing poems on important national occasions and thereby expressing the national feelings in poetry and song. The poetical productions of the poets-laureate during the period of their office will remain their own property and Government would not impose any restrictions on their literary work during the period. Here, therefore, is an opportunity for our national poets to come into their own once again and pursue their literary activities to the enrichment of our national languages.

Besides the institution of poets-laureateships, the Madras Government also propose to award prizes to the best writers in the local languages on select subjects. This is another unique innovation, the result of which should be to

encourage and stimulate local talent and scholarship by according to them State approbation. It is to be hoped that the scheme will evoke the best they are capable of from our scholars and poets and philosophers and so on and provide them with a stimulus to contribute to the solution of some of our pressing problems in their own way.

Education Schemes of the Centre

A number of special studies including those on Scientific Terminologies for Indian Languages, a common braille for the blind in India, social and recreative activities, new techniques of training and the assessment of attainments and the curriculum of basic schools have already been undertaken by the Government of India. It has been decided to set up a Central Institute of Education and a Central Bureau of Psychology in Delhi for conducting research in selective methods and standardizing tests of various types in the educational field.

Some of the problems envisaged are the improvement of the present examination system, methods of selection for the various stages of education, vocational guidance and so on. It has been decided to start a school of modern studies Asiatic and European—where the Indian students will have the facilities to study the languages, literature and history of some of the most important Asiatic and European nations. Also, a small unit for the education and welfare of the blind has been established. The establishment

of a Central Institute for Social Service and Public Administration is under consideration.

Several measures have been taken to promote scientific research in India and arrangements for international scientific contacts for Indian scientists are being made from time to time. Cultural co-operation with other countries is endeavoured to be promoted through the exchange of students, e.g. Chinese, Iranians and East Africans.

Library Service

The Government of Madras are shortly placing on the statute book a piece of legislation for the establishment of public libraries in the province and the organization of a comprehensive rural and urban library service. The law is expected to provide for the constitution of a Provincial Library Committee to advise Government on all matters relating to libraries. A Director of Public Libraries will be appointed to superintend the working of libraries throughout the province. There will be a Central Library in the province which will be managed by the Director. The Corporation of Madras, the District Municipalities and Panchayats may be the local library authorities for their respective areas. Every District Board may be the local library authority for those portions of the district which do not fall within the jurisdiction of a municipality or a panchayat. A Library Committee will be constituted to assist the local library authorities other than a panchayat. Such a Committee may also be constituted by a panchayat if it so desires or if Government for special reasons consider the Committee to be necessary.

The necessity for this legislation cannot be over emphasized. Already some of the big States like Baroda have elaborate library services and many of the provinces in India are marching in the same direction. The promotion of culture is one of the important duties of a democratic State and to this end, it is necessary that the intelligentsia is provided with as much facilities as possible. Abraham Lincoln's well-known definition of democracy is—"a Government of the people for the people and by the people." The definition implies that for efficient democratic Government the people should be equipped with as much knowledge as possible of men and things. Days of isolation are over and one has to keep pace with advancing knowledge in order that he may rise equal to his responsibilities as a useful

citizen of his own State. An ignorant electorate is a source of weakness to democracy. The Government's new legislation is an important innovation. It is hoped that in the actual operation of this legislation, public enthusiasm and co-operation will be forthcoming in abundant measure.

Public Health

The improvement of the public health in this country is one of the major problems facing both Provincial and Central Governments. Sound public health is a basic condition for achievement in any sphere of the activity and hence, it is that great importance is attached to matters relating to the promotion of public health. The Central Government as well as Provincial Governments have a number of schemes to this end, and these are being implemented. The population of the country is distributed in villages and one of the contributory factors for public health is therefore sanitation and hygiene in villages. If villages are kept clean that will go a long way in warding off diseases especially epidemics. Recently this aspect of the matter was dealt with by the Hon'ble Rajkumari Amritkar, Minister of Health of the Dominion Government in a broadcast talk. She said:—

You must be aware how very backward our country is in the matter of health. All kinds of diseases and fevers are rampant in the country. The incidence of death in childhood is great as also for women during child birth. Our expectation of life is the lowest in the world. It is true that our poverty is very largely responsible for most of these ills. We do not get enough to eat; milk and ghee are rare commodities to-day, the pressure on land has increased tremendously; there is unemployment and very little money. But I do want to say this to you that in spite of all this a very great deal of our ill-health is due to our own fault and ignorance is its cause.

Up till recently we have been under foreign rule. This rule did not turn its attention to the villages. No education was imparted to villagers. Nothing was done for better housing, proper water-supply or light, no attempt was made to improve communications. The result has been that the wealth of the villages has all been drained to the cities. Practically all village produce goes there leaving the villager poor. This should not be. In the old days villages were self-sufficient in the matter of food, cloth

and, indeed, of all their wants. Villages flourished. Even to-day our land is a land of villages. City dwellers are a mere handful. If, therefore, our villages are not made prosperous the country cannot stand. We are now free from the foreign yoke. Your Government is a people's government who are at all times willing to do everything for your benefit. You, however, must lend them a helping hand so that their efforts on your behalf may succeed.

If you remain the victims of disease you will never be able to make any progress. I therefore ask you to pay due attention to the following:—

(1) Eat bread made from hand-ground flour. If hand-ground flour is not procurable, let it be flour ground by kharas (bullock mill). You should realize that machine ground flour has no vitamins in it.

(2) Cultivate the habit of eating vegetables and the more raw vegetables you can eat the better. Whenever you can find fruit, eat fruit also.

(3) Give the utmost attention to the care of your cattle. They are your greatest wealth. It is because they do not get proper care that our cows yield little milk and our cattle are of poor quality. Then how can we expect to get either milk or ghee and how can our agriculture thrive?

(4) Keep the village clean. It is because we do not conform to the laws of hygiene and sanitation that disease spreads in our midst. Dirt produces flies, mosquitoes, and other germs which are the root cause of the spread of disease. To keep your houses and lanes clean and free of all refuse is your duty.

(5) Due attention must be paid to personal cleanliness also. Clean clothes, clean cooking and eating utensils, clean children, clean houses, clean lanes, healthy cattle, all these are the signs of a prosperous village.

(6) Unclean water is another cause of disease. Always drink water from a good well, never from a stagnant tank or a pond. Keep the place near your drinking-water well clean.

(7) Inculcate early in your children the habits of cleanliness. If there is a school send all your children to that school.

(8) Every house must hum with the spinning wheel. Isn't it a shame that we cannot produce our own cloth? That our women have, to a large extent, given up spinning has been a crime on their part. I beseech

all my village sisters to take to the spinning wheel once again and make their village prosperous. I do not plead only for the spinning wheel. I plead with you for the revival of all village handicrafts. If you can cater for all your requirements in your own village then what need have you of anything else? You will then, indeed, be kings in your own homes. This is what Mahatmaji has been telling you for years. This is what he is saying to you to-day. You should listen to him.

To-day you are dependent on city folk. But if you will awake and carry out village reform, city people will have to look to you to meet their requirements.

(9) My message, therefore, to you today is to awaken you from your slumbers. Drive the wolf of poverty from your door. Do not spend foolishly, get rid of all the evil customs which have crept into our society, do not gamble, do not drink alcohol, do not get into debt, keep your characters above reproach, live with each other as brothers. Love conquers all things. Our health can only be good if we live cleanly and well.

JAI HIND!

Government's Housing Schemes

The first step taken by Government to promote the systematic development of co-operative housing in the Province was to instruct the Collectors to constitute housing committees in all municipalities and major panchayat areas where the shortage of housing was acute, for the selection of suitable house-sites. Blocks of lands measuring about 20 acres in extent in which a colony of 100 houses may be established were to be selected by these committees. Accordingly, housing committees were set up in 75 municipalities and in about 200 major panchayat areas and steps are being taken to organize housing societies in centres where there is adequate local response.

Now to the various types of societies.—So far as urban areas are concerned, three kinds of co-operative societies are under organization, viz., (1) Co-operative townships, (2) Co-operative house construction societies and (3) Co-operative building societies.

In places where very large blocks of land about 500 to 1,000 acres are available near cities and towns which are heavily congested and where the people are willing to settle outside the

municipal limits and build up a co-operative colony of their own, co-operative townships are formed. These townships will not only acquire the site, prepare the lay-out, parcel out lands among the members and advance money with the help of Government loans for the purpose of house construction, but they will also provide amenities like roads, parks, playgrounds, electric lights, drainage and sewage, health services, medical relief, educational and recreative facilities, etc. Such a co-operative township has already registered at Katpadi in the North Arcot district and another has been organized at Padavu near Mangalore in the South Kanara district.

The second kind of housing society for urban areas is the Co-operative house construction society which is based on the co-partnership system. It acquires house-sites with its share capital and constructs different classes of houses with the help of loans from Government and rents them out to its members. If a member pays the rent for his house regularly for a period of 20 years, he becomes the owner of the house. This kind of Housing Societies is most suitable at the present time. The first society of this kind was registered at Madras in May 1947. Subsequently similar societies have been registered at Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura and Palamcottah. Proposals for the registration of such societies at Guntur and Calicut are pending.

The third kind of Co-operative Housing societies is the ordinary co-operative building society which is based on the individual ownership system. It provides long-term loans to its members for the construction of houses. It is the simplest type and is in fact only a long-term credit organization providing members with loans from Government up to 20 years. The construction of houses is left to the members who pledge their sites and buildings as security for their loans.

Till recently, co-operative housing schemes were confined to urban areas. But now the scarcity of housing accommodation is as acute in some villages as it is in towns. A beginning has therefore been made with rural housing schemes in weavers' co-operative societies and schemes have also been drawn up for housing Harijans.

In the prohibition districts, well-established weavers' societies with adequate reserves have been selected and it is proposed that they should acquire suitable house-sites in the outskirts of the village, construct houses at about Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 each

and let them out to their weaver members on the hire-purchase system. One-half of the cost of the scheme is provided by the society out of its funds and the initial deposits made by the applicants and the other half is obtained as a 20-year loan from the Government.

As regards Harijans, it is proposed to provide them houses on a subsidized basis, meeting the subsidy out of the Harijan Welfare Fund. A five-year scheme of rural housing for the Harijans has been drawn up by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. Under the scheme 50 centres will be selected in the Province each year at the rate of two per district and a colony of at least 30 houses will be set up in each centre. The scheme will be worked through the existing co-operative credit societies into which the Harijans will be admitted or through the existing societies for the scheduled classes or by organizing separate societies exclusively for housing. Each house is estimated to cost about Rs. 2,500—one-half of which will be given as a free grant from the Harijan Welfare Fund and the other half as interest-free loan, repayable over a period of 20 years. Provision of public amenities such as roads, playgrounds, drinking water wells, etc., are to be made by the Government from the Harijan Welfare Fund.

So far four Co-operative House Construction Societies have been registered. Of these the House Construction Society at Madras alone has commenced actual work as it has been fortunate in getting an extensive site of 131 acres at Adyar by private negotiation. The House Construction Societies at Trichinopoly, Tanjore and Palamcottah have applied for the acquisition of sites under the Land Acquisition Act. The Madras Co-operative House Construction Society has on its rolls 661 members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 22.31 lakhs. As many as 245 applicants who have deposited an earnest money of Rs. 7.07 lakhs are on the waiting list for admission. The society proposes to construct three classes of buildings commencing with upper class buildings at a cost of Rs. 15,000 each. A layout plan for the Adyar site has been prepared providing for 332 houses. The Society has also initiated land acquisition proceedings for acquiring the other sites in Adyar, Mylapore and Kilpauk areas. It has taken the loan of the service of an Executive Engineer from the Public Works Department to supervise the construction of buildings.

The Katpadi Co-operative Township was registered in April 1947. On 30th June 1947, it had nearly 770 members with a paid-up capital of Rs. 5.23 lakhs. The scheme envisages the formation of a new town on entirely co-operative lines between Vellore and Katpadi towns in the North Arcot district. The original plan contemplated the acquisition of about 1,400 acres and the formation of a colony of 5,000 houses. There were to be five classes of sites ranging from Rs. 400 to Rs. 6,000 each according to extent. The cost of acquisition was estimated at Rs. 9 lakhs and this money had to be found entirely from the share capital subscribed by the members. The total cost of the scheme including the construction of houses and the provision of amenities was estimated at Rs. 3 crores. Recently Government have decided that the township should acquire only about 800 acres, relieving about 600 acres of wet lands.

As regards the housing of weavers, the first attempt has been made at Yemmiganur in the Bellary district which has the biggest Weavers' Society in the Province. Taking advantage of its exceptionally strong financial position, the scheme has been introduced there first. The society has already acquired 53.98 acres of land, on the outskirts of the village and proposed to construct 100 houses in the first instance. The layout has been approved by the Director of Town-Planning and the Foundation for the first house was laid on 8th October 1947. The scheme also provides for the construction of common buildings like a community centre, a handloom factory, a dye house, etc. Each dwelling house will be constructed on a plot measuring 80 x 60 feet and will be surrounded by a kitchen garden. The cost of each house is estimated at Rs. 2,500. The society has obtained a loan of Rs. 1 lakh from the Government and proposes to meet the balance of the cost of the scheme from its own resources. About 20 similar housing schemes to be launched by Weavers' Co-operative Societies are in various stages of progress.

Another rural housing scheme at Periakottai in the Tanjore district is under investigation. It is proposed to be run by the Land Reclamation Society there. A suitable block of land is available near the village and members are willing to pay share capital equal to the value of the site and also pay in advance one-fifth of the cost of construction. Three different types

of houses are proposed to be constructed. The cost of the whole scheme is about Rs. 2 lakhs of which a lakh and twenty thousands are to be provided by Government as long term loans.

The scheme of rural housing for Harijans through the formation of house site societies and housing societies for Harijans was considered by the Harijan Welfare Committee at its last meeting. They have decided to recommend a subsidy of Rs. 15 lakhs for the Harijan Housing Scheme from the Harijan Welfare Fund and a like amount may have to be advanced by Government as loans.

Government have undertaken to finance housing schemes, with loans to the tune of three crores per year for a period of five years. Recently they have reduced the rate of interest on loans to Co-operative Building Societies from 4½ per cent to 3½ per cent.

They have also appointed special staff for Land Acquisition work connected with the schemes and have also lent officers of the co-operative department to assist the societies.

Government have made special arrangements for the supply of iron and steel for Co-operative Housing Schemes. 7,000 tons of timber, 3,500 tons of teak and 3,500 tons of other varieties of hard wood have been reserved by Government for Co-operative Housing Schemes at concessional rates.

Government have also requested the Honorary Regional Cement Adviser to supply cement to Co-operative Housing Societies on the recommendation of the Registrar. The question of increasing the supply of coal as well as transport facilities to the Cement factory in the Province, with a view to enable them to increase their output and thus meet the additional demand for cement from Co-operative Housing Societies is also under consideration.

More Schemes of the Centre

Manufacture of Telephone Equipment in India, Development of Broadcasting, Revival of Information Films of India and the setting up of a Bureau of Standards for Medical Institutions formed the subjects of important schemes approved by the Standing Finance Committee which met in New Delhi on December 13 and 14, 1947.

As regards the scheme for the manufacture of automatic telephone

equipment and stores in India negotiations are in progress with some leading industrialists in the country for the setting up of a factory to produce such telephone equipment as is at present being imported. The necessary machinery, patent rights and technical assistance will have to be procured from abroad. If the scheme materializes, India should be in a position to make automatic telephone equipment within three years.

From humble beginnings 20 years ago, with two small transmitters, at Calcutta and Bombay, Broadcasting in India now aims at providing a programme for every person in the country in his own language and one which could be picked up with an inexpensive receiver. This is the essence of the Government of India's Basic Plan of Broadcasting.

To implement this plan, the Government have, in the first place, formulated an eight-year programme, the highlights of which are: provision of new medium wave transmitters at Nagpur, Bezwada, Ahmedabad, Cuttack, Dharwar, Gauhati (or Shillong) and Calicut; construction of studio buildings at Madras and Calcutta; installation of medium wave transmitters at various centres for urban and rural programmes; strengthening of the Research Department; and the establishment of a Staff Training School in New Delhi.

Filming life in each Province has many fields of endeavour is one of the main purposes of the proposal to revive Information Films of India and India News Parade. Each Governor's Province will be 'covered' by a cameraman of the Government's news reel organization, which is expected to begin distribution of films early next year. In addition a cameraman will be stationed at Delhi and one extra photographer will work at the headquarters Office at Bombay. For the 'shooting' of short films six units are to be set up—four to produce documentaries for cinemas, one for special films for external distribution and one for rural area 'specials'. The five distribution centres will be Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Lucknow and Nagpur.

The Government of India feel that the interests of the country will be best served by the setting up of a Government organization for the production and distribution of news reels, and that the exhibition of these news reels should be made compulsory.

To serve as a reservoir of knowledge and research which would help to present a true picture of the various

aspects of life in India is one of the main functions of the Research and Reference Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting which is shortly to be organized. Its other main purpose will be to collect materials and prepare studies on foreign subjects.

It is planned to divide the Research work into seven sections India, Pakistan, Russia, America and Europe, Britain and Commonwealth Countries, Far East, Middle East. The importance of a good library for such work is obvious.

The Standing Finance Committee have sanctioned expenditure for the appointment of staff.

Development of Electricity

Every village in India is to have electric light and every home a radio, said the Hon'ble Sri N. V. Gadgil, Minister of Works, Mines and Power, while referring his Electricity (Supply) Bill, 1948, to a Select Committee of the Dominion Legislature. This widespread use of electricity is sought to be effected by the adoption of the "grid system" and the establishment of Provincial Electricity Boards features which are perhaps novel in the history of electricity legislation in India.

The Provincial Boards will perform a two-fold function. In the first place, they will be charged with the duty of promoting the all-round development of electricity within the limits of their jurisdiction and, in the second, to effect the rationalisation of the supply of power. The Board may establish new generating stations or control existing ones for the purpose of generating electricity required by it, and then proceed to interconnect the stations by means of main transmission lines. The Board may also buy electricity in bulk from the owners of "controlled" stations or sell it to them and to other licensees. In short, by ensuring that the generation of electric power is concentrated in the most efficient units distributed over the entire region and that the bulk supply is centralised under its own direction, the Provincial Boards will have the power to develop the "grid system" not only in new areas, but also in the areas of old licensees by controlling their operations.

Sri N. V. Gadgil gave some striking figures which show only too clearly the vast possibilities that lie before this country in the direction of electrical development. For while the possibilities in India from hydro-electric sources alone may exceed 35 million

Kw; the total installed capacity at present is below 2 million Kw. Again, the annual per capita consumption in India is 9.2 Kw. hours as against 906 in England; 1,470 in the United States of America; 3,090 in Norway and 3,510 in Canada. Further, even out of this low output and consumption of electric power nearly 50 per cent is concentrated in the four cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Kanpur and Ahmedabad, which together contain less than 1½ per cent of the country's population.

Financial Implications

It is intended that the Boards will exercise a form of financial control over commercially-owned undertakings with a view to ensuring the investor a reasonable return and at the same time, securing to the consumer as much reduction in the cost of electricity as possible. A special Advisory Committee constituted by the Government of India has recommended certain "Principles" of electricity supply finance which define the form that this aspect of control must take. These "principles" or rules proposed for the calculation of the capital, the standard rates of profit, the rate of depreciation and the remuneration of managing agents, are intended to serve the interests of the consumer and the investor alike. The consumer's interests are to be safeguarded by reducing the interest and the dividend payable by the undertakings to a level, below which they cannot be further forced except at the cost of diverting the flow of development capital from the industry. And the interests of the investor will be safeguarded by insisting on a properly devised system of compulsory depreciation and regulating the commission and expenses of managing agents.

Step towards Nationalization

The Bill does not set out to nationalize the industry but only to control it at this stage. It enables the Provincial Boards to introduce many of the benefits of nationalization without it being necessary to make prodigal use of public borrowing power to acquire assets already being efficiently operated by private enterprise. New undertakings, will, however, be started mostly by the State and only when it is impossible for the State to come in, may private enterprise be allowed. As far as present undertakings are concerned the measure of control on them contemplated by the Bill constitutes, according to the Hon'ble Minister, a reasonable compromise between nationalization and private enterprise.

Out of the 412 electricity undertakings in India, 300 belong to private companies, 249 of them being in the Dominion and 51 in the States. Calculated in terms of installed capacity, 73.19 per cent of it belongs to privately-owned companies and the rest to municipalities and Government. It has been estimated that if Government were to transfer all private undertakings in this country to public ownership, it will cost the national exchequer nearly Rs. 150 crores. Meanwhile there is a proposal to amend the Electricity Act of 1910 suitably with a view to basing the appraisal of electricity undertakings on their book or written down value instead of the market rate, which is often inflated. It is the contention of the Hon'ble Minister that this proposal and the comprehensive powers vested in the Provincial Boards over private undertakings constitute a step towards nationalization rather than an obstacle to it.

Rural Reconstruction

Everybody now knows that the Government have selected one firkha in each district for the purposes of intensive rural reconstruction work. The intention is that when these areas are developed, they are expected to serve as models for other firkhas. Elaborate programmes have been chalked out and expert personnel have been made responsible to carry out the work. There is a general tendency in this connexion to talk of rural reconstruction as an easy unilateral affair. One recent author has observed that people talk of rural reconstruction in the same way as they talk of patent medicines that is just something which on the mere application produces the desired effect. This is a wholly incorrect conception. Rural reconstruction is a very complex affair and whatever may be the elaborate nature of the programmes chalked out or the amount of money spent by the Government, the basic condition for success is the willingness of the people to identify themselves with the measures of the Government and take full benefit out of them. Speaking on Indian rural conditions and the ways and means of improving them, more than one writer, both Indian and English, have stressed the fact that there should be a psychological transformation of the masses as a prelude to any real improvement. The masses are generally steeped in fatalism and devoid of any real desire to improve their lot. In such an atmosphere any

(Continued on page 10)

At a glance—Press Notes, Releases, etc.

Price of Paddy

The Government have had under their consideration the question of fixing fair prices for 100d grains for the new Kharif year 1947-48. After taking into account the several representations received by them in the matter and the several factors involved and in order to ensure that producers get a better price for their produce, the Government have decided to increase the F.O.R. prices for export of rice in the case of surplus districts and wholesale prices of rice for internal distribution in the case of both surplus and deficit districts by Rs. 2 per imperial maund, which will work out approximately to an increase of Re. 1-6-0 per imperial maund of paddy.

2. Paddy will hereafter be classified only into two sorts, First and Second. The existing special sort will be merged in the first and known as "First sort" and the existing third sort with the second sort and known as "Second sort." The increase of Rs. 2 referred to above will be given over the existing prices for the old I and II sorts respectively.

3. Village-site procurement prices calculated inferentially from the revised ceiling and wholesale prices will also be fixed and notified along with the revised ceiling and wholesale prices. The revised village-site, F.O.R. and wholesale prices of paddy and rice for the surplus districts will be as shown in the annexure.

4. The Government have also decided to increase the price of millets by Re. 1 per imperial maund for all varieties of millets. The revised millets prices will also be notified.

5. Producers will also be given option to deliver their surplus grain either in the shape of paddy or rice, subject to the condition that those who want to deliver rice should deliver at least a minimum of one ton of rice.

6. Producers who had delivered paddy or rice between 1st November 1947 and 6th December 1947 (both days inclusive) will be given bonus for such deliveries at the same rate that was in force in October 1947, i.e., at Re. 1 per imperial maund of paddy. Half of this bonus will be paid in cash and the other half as manure. Both the cash bonus and manure bonus for deliveries during this period will be given only after 31st March 1947.

[December 6]

National Savings Certificates

The total value of the subscriptions by way of purchase of National Savings Certificates in the Province of Madras and Indian States, during the week ending November 1, 1947, is Rupees 1,14,60,115.

[December 8]

Cases under the Agriculturists' Relief Act

The number of cases under the Agriculturists' Relief Act disposed of by Civil Courts in the Province for the quarter ending 30th September 1947 was 439. For the period between 22nd March 1938 (when the Act came into force) and 30th September 1947 (covering 115 months) the total number of cases disposed of was 207,746.

The amount involved in applications disposed of under sections 8, 9, 13, 13 (1), 19 and 19 A of the Act for the quarter ending 30th September 1947 was Rs. 3,15,658. The amount involved in such applications for the period between 22nd March 1938 and 30th September 1947 stood at Rs. 9,80,39,998.

The amount scaled down by the courts on the applications of indebted agriculturists for the quarter ending 30th September 1947 was Rs. 1,40,947. For the period between 22nd March 1938 and 30th September 1947, the amount scaled down was Rs. 4,71,15,642.

The amount of reduction by scaling down of debts for the quarter ending 30th September 1947 was Rs. 1,40,947.

For the quarter ending 30th September 1947, the amount of reduction by scaling down of debts was Rs. 1,40,947 and the percentage was 52.

The number of cases pending at the close of the quarter ending 30th September 1947 was 320.

The figures given above exclude the number of cases voluntarily settled by parties without recourse to courts.

[December 9]

More Production

The Government have decided to lease suitable lands in the reserved forests between Poombarai and Manavanur in the Kodaikanal taluk, Madura

district, for cultivation of wheat and wattle. A total area of about 2,614 acres is now available for lease. The area to be leased out to any one individual for the cultivation of wheat and wattle will be limited to 50 acres to begin with, of which 30 acres should be cultivated with wheat and 20 acres with wattle. If a grantee proves his ability to grow both wattle and wheat successfully in the area leased to him within a period of 3 years of the lease, the question of granting further areas to him will be considered.

[December 11]

Harijan Welfare Committee

The Government have reconstituted the District Harijan Welfare Committee; South Kanara, with six non-official members.

[December 10]

Handloom cloth control

Madras is the only Province which has internal control over handloom cloth. There has been a clamour for the de-control of handloom cloth. This Province is getting more and more mill cloth and larger supplies are expected in future. This Province will soon be getting considerable quantities of imported yarn of higher counts. The proposed standardization scheme of the Government of India will result in a greatly increased production of yarn and cloth, with a resultant increase in the Madras quota. The Government consider that the time has arrived for thinking of progressive de-control. They have decided to make a start with handloom cloth, in regard to which conditions are not satisfactory, and have accordingly repealed the Madras Handloom Cloth (Control) Order, 1947, and the Madras Handloom Cloth Production (Control) Order, 1947, with effect from the date of publication of the Government Order in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. All restrictions relating to production, wages, prices, markings, etc., and also the system of licensing of sale of handloom cloth will thus be given up. The question of repealing the Madras Handloom Cloth (Exports) Control Order, 1947, which regulates the varieties and prices of handloom cloth exported to Ceylon, is also under correspondence with the Government of India.

It is, however, essential to safeguard sufficient supplies of handloom cloth to the Province. The Madras Cotton Cloth Apparel (Exports) Control Order, 1946, regulating exports to places outside the Province will, therefore, be retained in its entirety. The Government are aware of the heavy stagnation of varieties of handloom cloth, not utilizable in this Province, with dealers and exporters at the moment. A scheme is being introduced immediately for the liquidation of all the accumulated stocks of such varieties by permitting their export as a temporary measure. The trade is warned that such exports will be restricted to the minimum in future and only to non-utility varieties. Trade interests are advised in their own interests to prefer the production of such varieties as are used in this Province.

[December 20]

Firka Development Scheme—Expenditure

The Government have selected, as the public know, 34 firkas and centres for carrying on intensive rural reconstruction under the Firka Development Scheme. To obviate the delay caused in obtaining the previous orders of the Government for the execution of minor but urgent schemes of improvement, which involve small expenditure, the Government have directed that an annual lump-sum grant of Rs. 10,000 be placed at the disposal of each Collector (except the Collector of Madras) in respect of each selected firka or centre and another annual lump-sum grant of Rs. 10,000 at the disposal of the Provincial Firka Development Officer, Madras, for the entire Province.

During the current year, which is half over, the grant will be restricted to Rs. 5,000 for each Collector and for the Provincial Firka Development Officer. The Government have directed that in sanctioning works, the Collectors and the Provincial Firka Development Officer should give preference to those for which voluntary contributions are forthcoming.

[December 13]

Term of Panchayats

The Government have directed that the term of office of the members of every panchayat, which, under the law in force, extends up to noon of the 3rd January 1948, shall extend, instead, up to noon on the 1st April 1948.

3

Taxation of Motor Vehicles

The Government have directed that with effect from 1st January 1948, motor vehicles, other than transport vehicles, registered and normally kept in the Cochin State for which quarterly tax has been paid up to that date, be exempted from taxation under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, on transfer to the Province of Madras.

As a similar concession will be granted by the Cochin State, the Government have also directed that motor vehicles, other than transport vehicles, for which quarterly tax has been paid in the Province of Madras, will not be entitled to the refund of any portion of the quarterly tax on leaving the Province of Madras, during the quarter, for the Cochin State. But any tax paid for a quarter or quarters, subsequent to the quarter in which the transfer is made, will be refunded.

Consequent on the orders exempting motor vehicles registered in the State from taxation in this Province, no short-term licences will hereafter be issued in respect of motor vehicles brought into the Province of Madras from the Cochin State or in respect of those acquired in the Province of Madras and taken to the Cochin State, after a temporary stay.

[December 13]

Fees of Military Personnel's Children

Under the existing orders children and dependants of military personnel eligible for educational concessions, and demobilized personnel granted, the benefits of the further educational scheme are exempted from the payment of special fees, in addition to tuition fees. Special fees are of two kinds, viz., (1) library, laboratory and medical examination fees and (2) Games, physical training, literary association and reading room fees.

The Government have directed that the pupils referred to above in all schools and colleges under local bodies shall themselves pay the special fees falling under item (2) above from the second term of the school or academic year, as the case may be, for 1947-48, while those studying in aided, Government and University institutions shall pay the special fees themselves from the next school or academic year. They will continue to be exempted from the special fees under item (1).

[December 15]

Officials Dismissed for Corruption

During the year 1946, the investigation of the special staff had resulted in the dismissal of the following Government servants: Sri. M. Narayana Ayyar, Agricultural Demonstrator, Tirumangalam; Sri P. S. Narayanaswami Ayyar, Manager, Office of the Director of Cinchona Department, Ootacamund; Mr. Charles, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Guntur Range; Sri N. Sarangapani Ayyangar, District Educational Officer, South Arcot; Sri P. Venkataraman Chettiyar, Taluk Supply Officer, Kulstalai, Trichinopoly district; Sri S. V. Ramiah, Sub-Registrar, Madura district; Mr. K. John, Sub-Registrar, Anantapur district; Muhammad Mowla Sahib, Sub-Registrar, Kurnool district; V. Kanniah Nayudu, peon, North Arcot district; Sri Doraiswamy Ayyar, Sub-Inspector of Police, South Arcot district; Shaik Jaffar, Police Constable, Nellore district; Jayaramulu, Police Constable, South Arcot district; Muhammad Khan, Police Constable, South Arcot district; Swaminathan, Head Constable, Ramnad district; Natarajan, Police Constable, Ramnad district; Kanakasabapathi, Police Constable, Ramnad district; Marudachalam, Police Constable, Gobichettipalayam, Coimbatore District; and Ramaswamy Nayudu, Head Constable, Ramnad district.

[December 15]

Revenue and Expenditure

According to the Budget for 1947-48, the revenue receipts amount to Rupees 4,973.38 lakhs. Revenue accounts to the end of August 1947 stand at Rs. 1,859.08 lakhs as against Rupees 1,674.36 lakhs for the corresponding period in 1946.

The expenditure on Revenue Account to the end of August 1947 totals Rs. 1,491.76 lakhs as against Rupees 1,479.96 lakhs for the corresponding period in 1946.

[December 16]

Harijan Welfare Officers

Government have ordered that the District Labour Officers who are attending to the amelioration of the conditions of the communities eligible for help by the Labour Department, shall, hereafter, be designated as District Harijan Welfare Officers.

[December 16]

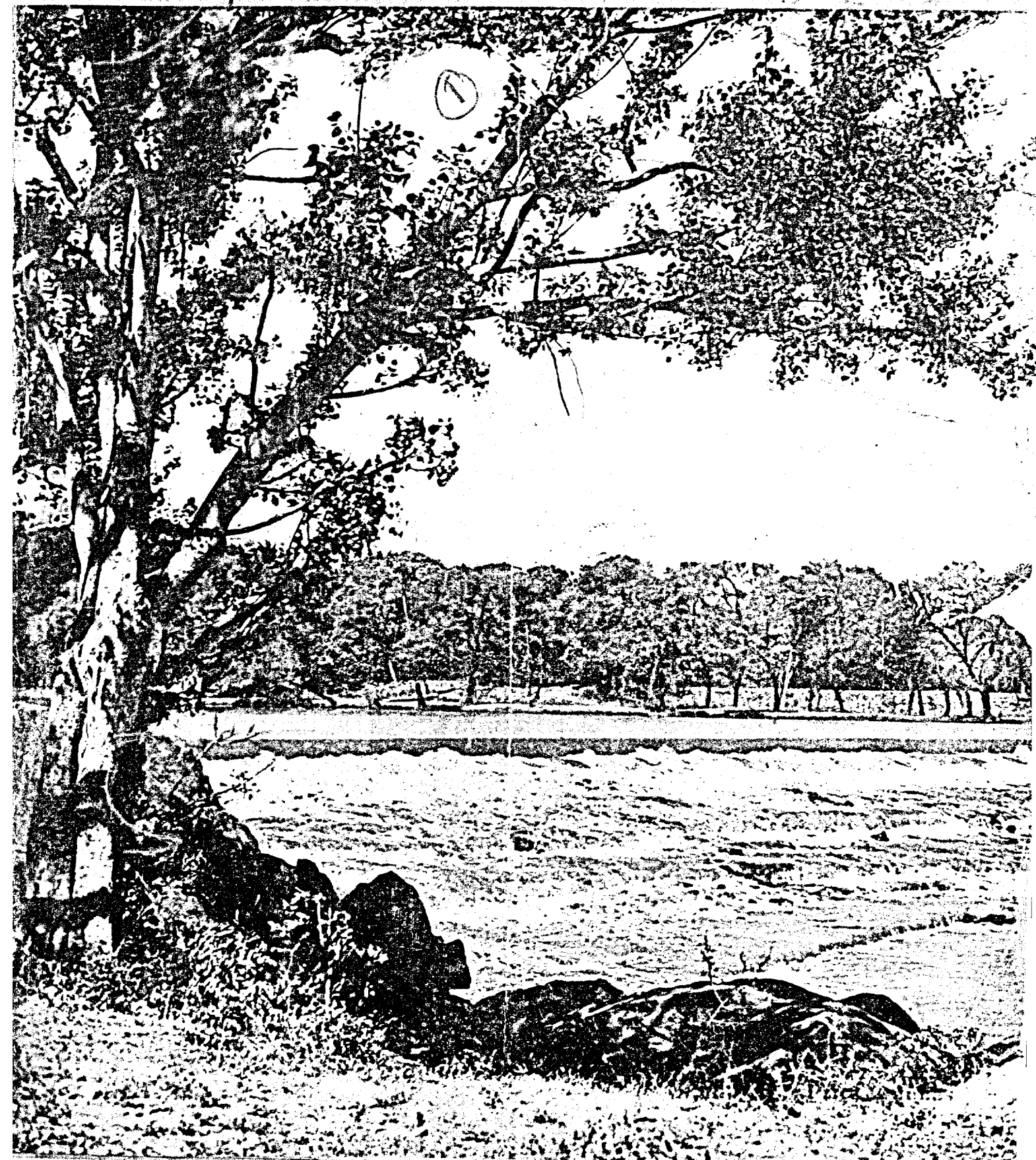
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10/48

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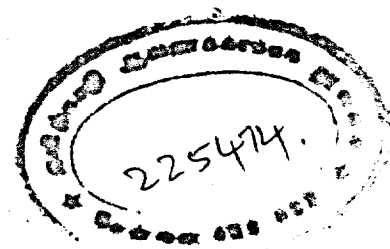


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Documents
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DIGITIZED

Estates Land Act—Report for Fasli 1356 (1946-47)

The following is the summary of the report on the working of the Madras Estates Land Act during fasli 1356:—

(1) *General remarks.*—The working of the main Act continued to be satisfactory. The relationship between the landholders and the ryots was generally not cordial during the fasli, the main complaints of ryots against landholders being (1) the high rents, (2) the assignment of communal porambokes by the proprietors for large sums of money, (3) neglect of repairs to irrigation sources, (4) the selling or cutting of the trees in communal and forest lands by the landlords.

(2) *Treatment of porambokes.*—Many cases of unlawful interference by the proprietors in the districts of East Godavari and Kistna with tank beds and other porambokes set apart for the common use of the villagers have been brought to notice.

(3) *Suits and applications.*—The total number of suits and applications under the Estates Land Act instituted during fasli 1356 was 87,197 as against 120,532 in fasli 1355. The marked decrease is due to the prevailing high prices of agricultural produce and the consequent improvement in the financial condition of the ryots who are able to pay their suits without difficulty. This decrease is also due to the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Act which was enacted during the fasli. There was however a large increase in the number of suits and applications filed during the fasli. The total number of proceedings pending at the beginning of fasli 1356 was 43,856. Together with 87,197 received during fasli, the total for disposal was 131,053. Out of these 81,171 were disposed of and the balance pending at the end of the fasli was 49,882.

(4) *Particulars of land sold.*—The value realized per acre in the fasli under review was less than the estimated value by Rs. 44-6-0 per acre as against Rs. 30-13-0 per acre on the previous fasli. The disparity between the estimated value and the amount realized continues to be wide. It is as usual due to (i) want of competition at the sales which resulted in the landholders themselves purchasing the lands for nominal amounts which were just equal to the arrears and (ii) the under-estimation of the property. The particulars prepared in two sections: (i) forced sales and (ii)

true sales; according to the instructions of the Government show that the estimated value of the lands shown under "True Sales" works out to Rs. 31 per acre and the value realized to Rs. 20 per acre. The corresponding figures under the "Forced Sales" are Rs. 68 per acre and Rs. 12 per acre. This shows that disparity exists to a marked degree only under "Forced Sales".

[December 17]

Government Grants to Secondary Schools

The Government of Madras have accepted the proposals of the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, that (1) the teaching grants for all aided secondary schools for 1946-47 may be assessed on the basis of one-half of the approved net cost, as was done in previous years, and that (2) teaching grants on the basis of two-thirds of the approved net cost may be paid to those managements which adopt the revised scales of pay to teachers with retrospective effect from 1st June 1947. The grant for the period between 1st April 1947 and 31st May 1947 should be calculated on the basis of half the net cost.

Concessions to Political Sufferers

In pursuance of the Press Note, dated 14th August 1947, the Government have issued orders separately for the grant of land to political sufferers. Each political sufferer will be assigned five acres of wet land or its equivalent in any single case. The land assigned to the political sufferers will be free of market value but should not be sold, mortgaged and alienated for a period of ten years. Families of those who have died in the political movements inaugurated by the Indian National Congress or under its sanction and also of those who took part in the movements but died subsequently are also eligible for these grants. Applications for the land should be sent to the Collectors of the districts concerned with particulars of the imprisonment suffered. Many applications have been received by the Hon'ble Minister. They will be forwarded to the Collector concerned. The Provincial Congress Committees and District Congress Committees are requested to send to the Collectors all applications that were received by them already or will be received in time. The Government will also consider applications if 10 or

more join together and apply for a plot of land for purposes of collective or co-operative cultivation.

[December 23]

Rural Reconstruction

The Government have directed that in connexion with the Intensive Rural Reconstruction work in selected firkas and centres, schemes under the improvement to 'Village Communications' and 'Rural Water-supply' heads should be taken up immediately. They have sanctioned an expenditure up to a maximum of Rs. 50,000 for 'Rural Water-supply' schemes and Rs. 50,000 for improvement to 'Village Communications' in each selected firka and centre. The total expenditure should not exceed the sum allotted to each firka together with the amount of the village contributions in cash.

The Collectors of Districts have been directed to take very urgent steps for executing the various schemes forwarded or being forwarded by them. They have also been directed to spend the amounts sanctioned for each firka and centre in consultation with the Firka Development Committees, which will select the 'Rural Water-supply' and 'Village Communications' schemes, arrange them in the order of their priority and apportion the amount among the various villages in the firkas. The money spent on these schemes in the respective villages should be in proportion to the voluntary contributions of money or labour or materials, which the villagers are willing to make towards these improvements.

[December 23]

(Continued from page 7)

amount of beneficiary measures may not produce appreciable results. The people concerned have to radically change their outlook on life and things in the first instance. This fact is often forgotten by people who think that rural reconstruction is an one sided affair and that Government can produce results irrespective of the attitude of the people.

No doubt the Government have an important part to play but the more fundamental part is that of the masses. They have to shake off all the old notions and superstitions about men and things and come to a determination to improve their lot. If such a determination is forthcoming then that along with Government's measures are sure to produce good results.

From Far and Near

Social Education Plan

The Central Government have decided to launch a scheme for Social Education.

It is now widely believed that in order to create the right type of citizens to face the tasks before them consequent upon the newly acquired independence there should be systematic efforts to inculcate in the people of the country a better sense of citizenship, social behaviour and social privileges.

Hence a comprehensive plan for imparting Social Education, which will embrace not only the school-going population but also the population which will remain outside the scope of school education, becomes essential.

The Ministry of Education has decided to organize the publication of pamphlets in this connexion in English as well as the more important Indian languages such as Urdu, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Gujarati and Bengali.

Besides training in citizenship, the subjects to be dealt with will be a glimpse into the cultural heritage, the awakening of India and the trend of the national movement and introducing the people of India to one another.

Prohibition Propaganda in Bombay

In order to demonstrate to the public the ways in which the resources of intoxicants, especially palm juice, can be exploited in a manner helpful to the building up of a strong and a free India, the Bombay Provincial Prohibition Board has set up a stall in the Free India Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition which was opened by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, India's Food Minister, yesterday at Azad Maidan.

The stall has been divided into two sections—one illustrating the benefits of Nira and manufacture of gur and sugar from it and the other containing charts and posters providing useful and interesting information about production and consumption of different intoxicants.

Relief for Bombay Agriculturists

Further progress has been recorded in the measures taken by the Bombay

Government during October last for the protection of Adiwas agricultural tenants from the exploitation of landlords in Thana district.

A landlord of Dahanu taluka was ordered to repay Rs. 101 excess rent he had collected from 21 Adiwas tenants. In the case of 68 others, the excess rents collected by the landlords were adjusted to the current year's rents. The rent in the case of nine more tenants was reduced by an amicable settlement.

A landlord of Bordi was compelled to pay Rs. 86 to his tenant as compensation for cutting trees.

A number of landlords were fined Rs. 50 each, for failure to pass receipts for rents received from their tenants in Mokhadapeta, and one was fined Rs. 30 in Umbergaon taluka. Reasonable rent was fixed in the case of 53 tenants in Umbergaon and Dahanu talukas.

Land Development in Bombay

The Forest Department has been carrying on successfully the experiment of transforming not only steep slopes of unproductive land into fertile land but also land with rocks and big boulders embedded in it.

The Department has laid out in Bijapur and Dharwar districts a total of 40 plots, which are known as 'demonstration plots' and has succeeded, with the help of contour trenches and bunds, in growing cashew, mango, sissum and also other less useful though remunerative trees.

With the conservation of soil, water and moisture and training of nallas and streams, it should be possible to reclaim waste land particularly in the regions classified as famine areas and scarcity tracts. The Government have for some time been concentrating on reclamation of land in these areas with the modern technique of land improvement and anti-erosion methods, and the 'demonstration plots' laid out by the Forest Department are an integral part of the general land improvement drive.

Honorary Magistracy in Central Provinces

It is understood that the Provincial Government have decided to abolish the institution of honorary magistrates in the Central Provinces and Berar.

Sugarcane Development Committee in Bihar

The Provincial Government have appointed a Sugarcane Development Committee to make recommendations for the improvement and development of the growing and marketing of sugarcane and the manufacture of its products in the province and of all matters incidental thereto.

Resettlement of Refugees in United Provinces

The United Provinces Government have decided to push through a colonization plan which will provide for the resettlement of 2,000 refugee families and a large number of ex-servicemen. The whole plan, when completed, will cost about Rs. 2 crores. It is designed to bring the uncultivated area of the Ganges Khader in Meerut Division under the plough and to retain the Tarai region in the sub-mountain regions of Naini Tal district. The latter area being dangerously malarial, a request has been made to the Defence Department for power-sprayers.

The colonization operations are to start almost immediately and two tractor-units have been acquired from the Central Government for this purpose. Ten thousand acres in each of the two regions are proposed to be reclaimed this year at the cost of Rs. 57 lakhs.

Combating Leprosy in Central Provinces

The Central Provinces Government have appointed an Advisory Committee to advise on co-ordination of Government and voluntary measures for the prevention and treatment of leprosy and allied problems connected with this disease, consisting of twelve members with Hon'ble Minister for Public Health as Chairman.

Bombay Grants to Boy Scouts

The Government of Bombay have sanctioned an *ad hoc* grant of Rs. 15,000 to the Boys Scout Section, Hindustan Scout Association, Bombay, during the current year. The grant will be paid in two equal instalments.

Conciliation Board in Bihar

According to a Patna message the Bihar Government have constituted a Board of Conciliation for promoting

settlement of industrial dispute that may arise from time to time between employers and employees in sugar factories in Bihar during the crushing season in 1947-48.

New Delhi Schemes

A woman's section was established recently at New Delhi under the auspices of the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation for the welfare of refugee women and children with Shrimati Ramashwari Nehru as the Honorary Director and Shrimati Hannah Sen as the Honorary Secretary.

Schemes for training women in different crafts and professions are under consideration. Some of the crafts for which arrangements are being made are spinning and weaving, calico-printing, dress-making, basketry and willow-work, fret-work and wooden toys, including rag-dolls, hand-knitting and embroidery, soap-making, preservation of fruits and vegetables, making of tin and linen buttons, bleaching and dyeing, weaving of nawar, tape and borders, typing, stenography and clerical and commercial work. Similar schemes for training children are also being considered. Arrangements are also being made for starting a Women's Home at Delhi.

Geological Survey Plans

A plan to expand the Geological Survey of India to more than five times its pre-war cadre is envisaged by the Central Government.

It is also proposed to create a Bureau of Mines, manned by experts, in an advisory capacity for the present, for production, conservation and utilization of minerals in the country.

Another step taken in the direction consists in efforts made for increasing the technical man-power in the country by reorganization of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, by implementing the recommendations of the Geological Education Committee, and by sending abroad on scholarship and on deputation, officials and non-officials, for higher education and training in mining, geology, geophysics and allied subjects.

At the same time, schemes are under way for giving necessary encouragement for the domestic utilization of ores and local processing, refining and treatment of minerals.

Khadi Training Centre in United Provinces

The Hon'ble Shri Sampurnanand Minister for Education and Labour,

inaugurated a Khadi Training Centre under Gram Udyog Trust recently at village Pokhrayan in Kanpur district. It was a pleasant function. More than 300 Congress volunteers in uniform presented him a guard of honour.

Addressing the public meeting held under the presidency of Shri Ram Ratan Gupta of Kanpur, the Hon'ble Minister declared that though he believed in the industrialization of the country, he was convinced that the smaller village industries might also play their part.

Grow More Food Officers in Bihar

The Bihar Government have appointed a number of Grow More Food Officers to step up food production.

Leprosy Relief

A meeting of the Akhil Bharat Kushta Samiti (a committee formed at the recent leprosy conference held at Wardha) was held in the Harijan Colony, Delhi, yesterday, Dr. M. D. Gilder, Chairman of the Committee presiding. Among the members who attended were Dr. Jivaraj Mehta, Dr. Das Gupta, Shri Jajuji, Dr. Sushila Nayyar and Shri T. N. Jagadisan, the Secretary.

The immediate objects of the Committee were declared to be the finding and training of workers—lay and medical—and starting leprosy relief and control centres, particularly in rural areas. At Dr. Jivaraj Mehta's suggestion, the Committee asked its Secretary to be in search of suitable ex-patients.

Stamp Designs

The Government of India have decided to hold a competition in designs for India's new Swaraj stamps which will be issued in 1948. Nearly Rs. 7,500 will be given as prizes to the winners.

Artists are being invited to submit designs that have a definite relation to India's new status. The effigy of the King will no longer be a feature of India's stamps.

It is learnt that new designs will be used for the following denominations:— 3 pice, half anna, 9 pice, 1 anna, 1½ anna, 2 annas, 2½ annas, 3½ annas, 4 annas, 6 annas, 10 annas, 12 annas, Re. 1, Rs. 2, 5, 10, 15 and 25.

The competition, which is open to all resident in the Indian Union, will be held in New Delhi under the auspices of the Indian Institute of Art in Industry. Entries must be submitted before February 15, 1948 through the Institute's offices at Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay or Madras. The selection of designs will be made by a panel of five judges. An exhibition of all selected designs will be held after the competition in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

There will be three prizes: I Prize of Rs. 3,000 for the full series accepted from any one competitor, II Prize of Rs. 1,000 to the best individual design and III Prize of Rs. 500 for the second best individual design. In addition, there will be not more than twelve awards of Rs. 250 each to approved designs.

Labour Welfare in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have constituted an Advisory Board for the school for training of Labour Welfare Workers in Bombay. The Board will advise on all matters pertaining to the training of Labour Welfare Workers. The Board will also co-opt one representative of the Social Service League, Bombay.

Rates of interest in Bombay

Under the Bombay Money-lenders Act, 1946, the Government have issued a notification fixing the maximum rates of interest at 6 per cent and 9 per cent for secured and unsecured loans respectively, throughout the Province of Bombay. The notification has been published in the Bombay Government Gazette Extraordinary, dated December 27, 1947.

Hand-spinning in Bombay Jail

The Government of Bombay have approved of a proposal to introduce hand-spinning in the Yerawada Central Prison and has sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 2,500 during the current financial year.

Loans to refugee students

Non-Muslim students from Western Pakistan who are unable to pursue their studies or training for lack of funds and whose parents or guardians have settled down in centrally administered areas may apply for loans to the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, Government of India, for continuing their technical and collegiate education.

Charkha Classes in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has approved the proposal to organise, as a post-war reconstruction measure, Charkha Classes at the various labour welfare centres in the Province for the benefit of women and children, dependent on the industrial workers for their maintenance and having leisure to take to spinning as a subsidiary occupation.

The Charkha Classes will also provide for imparting instruction in carding of cotton and preparing of slivers.

Twenty-seven Charkha Classes will be conducted for a period of one year in the first instance.

Royal Indian Navy Examination

An examination for selection of candidates for Commissioned Ranks (permanent cadre) of the Royal Indian Navy will be held by the Federal Public Service Commission at Allahabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras and Nagpur on February 19, 1948 and subsequent days. Candidates who qualify at the examination will appear before a Services Selection Board for final selection.

The candidates must have been born not earlier than September 2, 1928 and not later than September 1, 1930. They must have passed the Matriculation or an equivalent examination. The last date for the receipt of application by the Federal Public Service Commission is December 20, 1947. The approximate cost of training to be borne by the parent or guardian of the candidate is £116.

Application forms and full particulars are obtainable direct from the Secretary, Federal Public Service Commission, Kennedy House, Annexe, Simla.

Bombay scheme for composting of town refuse

Sanction has been accorded by the Government of Bombay to the continuance of the scheme for composting town refuse of municipalities into manure, for a period of about five years at an estimated cost of more than Rs. 5,00,000. During this period it is proposed to train deputies of 82 Municipalities and 140 Gram Panchayat villages in compost methods. The Municipalities and Gram Panchayats will also be helped to start compost work and organize their depots. Compost production will be stepped up from

the present 40,000 tons to 130,000 per year by helping the municipalities in securing land for compost depots, supply of iron posts for their carts and trucks, supply of petrol, etc. The total production of compost during the period of five years is expected to be 500,000 tons. This would be sufficient to manure 100,000 acres of irrigated land and would give 390,000 maunds of additional foodgrains.

Regional text-book committees in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have appointed three Regional Text-Book Committees for the preparation of text-books in Marathi, Gujarathi and Kannada for the first four years of the primary course in the Province.

Building scheme in Ahmedabad

The foundation stone of the first building in Ahmedabad under a scheme of erecting 125,000 tenements by the Government in the principal industrial towns in the Bombay Province was recently laid down by the Hon'ble Minister for Home and Revenue. It was pointed out that 15,000 tenements will be built by the Government and the remainder by such agencies as Local Bodies, Industrialists, Co-operative Societies and private enterprise with Government aid.

Profession of pharmacy

The Government of India has decided to regulate the profession of pharmacy and a Bill has been introduced in the Dominion Parliament. There is no authority whatsoever at present to regulate the profession of pharmacy. The practice has been lastly in the hands of persons known as "Compounders" and they are both trained and untrained. The profession is unorganized. There is no provision for registration. There is no check to prevent untrained persons from undertaking the work of compounding and dispensing medicines without any restrictions. The Bill is intended to remedy these defects. It seeks to provide for Central and Provincial Councils that will not only prescribe minimum standard for training and qualification but will also inspect training institutions and will maintain registers of qualified persons.

Co-operative Farming

Opening the Free India Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition at Bombay, Dr. Rajendra Prasad made a spirited plea for improved methods of cultivation and co-operative farming. India had been an agricultural country for thousands of years and the major question facing Indians to-day is the improvement of agriculture. He suggested that steps should be taken to make the lands more fertile, to adopt improved methods of cultivation and collective or co-operative farming where the holdings were small. As regards industries, Dr. Prasad said that while he was in favour of large scale industries it should not be done at the cost of cottage industries because the latter was vital in village life. He also referred to the necessity of promoting cattle welfare in the country.

Advice to Bombay Police

The Inspector-General of Police, Bombay, speaking at the passing-out parade and prize distribution at the Police Training School, Nasik, referred to what ought to be the ideals of the Police Force under the new dispensation. In the course of his speech, he said: "The times which the Police Force is being called upon to face are very difficult ones. We had been brought up in certain environments. If we are brought up in these circumstances, naturally we do not realize that our duty is to be polite to the public and we fail to understand properly that we are the servants of the public. If you remember that you are the friends of the public then you are serving your own countrymen."

Government and Publicity Work

Replying to a deputation of the representatives of the film industry in Bombay, Mr. G. S. Bhalja, Secretary to the Ministry of Information, Government of India, explained that in the past, Government's machinery of publicity was looked upon with some suspicion but under changed circumstances, its function was to bring people closer to their Government and to one another.

Innovations in Bihar

The Bihar Government have recently placed on the Statute book what is called the Bihar Home Guards Act and a Special Officer has been appointed

to organize the Home Guards Battalion for the Province. The Bihar Panchayat Raj Act has also come into law. According to the tentative plans of the Government under this Act, 25 villages will be taken up in each subdivision during the first year of the experiment and then a full division in a district during the second year and a district in the third year. It is visualized that in the last stage every village in the Province which containing roughly 70,000 villages will be brought under the Act in the course of 3 or 4 years.

Education Schemes in U.P.

The United Provinces' new schemes of organization of primary and secondary education provides for Hindi as a compulsory language in all classes. The main stages of education in the Province will be

- (1) pre-basic or nursery education,
 - (2) basic education, and
 - (3) higher secondary education.
- compulsory education when introduced in the Province will begin at the age of 6.

Unregulated Factories in U.P.

The United Press of India learns that the U.P. Government is shortly undertaking a rapid survey of all the small and unregulated factories, shops and establishments as regards the working conditions and nature of employment with a view to arriving at some conclusions which may be helpful in regulating all these unregulated factories.

It is believed that soon after the survey is made the Government will enact a legislation standardizing the working conditions in all these factories and set up a wage board to bring uniformity in the wages in all these factories in the Province.

"War Service" in U.P.

For the purpose of recruitment to vacancies earmarked for war service candidates the U.P. Government have recognized as war service, service rendered by medical personnel in Ordinance factories between May 1, 1942 to May 8, 1945. Sanitary Inspectors employed by the Army will also be eligible for recruitment under the category.

Production drive in Bombay

Considerable progress has been recorded in the working of the schemes of production and distribution of different kinds of manure and the destruction of grasshoppers. In one district more than 2,000 tons of groundnut cake and other manure have been distributed to the cultivators and nearly 4,500 pits have been dug for compost manure during the current year, while paddy and jowar crops worth well over Rs. 9 lakhs have been saved from destruction by the grasshoppers. At present the total area under sweet potatoes is 2,000 acres under kharif and 2,000 under rabi. The Agriculture Department has plans to increase this area by another 2,000 acres during the ensuing kharif season.

Help to Farmers in Bombay

Speaking recently the Minister for Forestry and Agriculture explained the difficulties in obtaining plant and machinery. To get over these difficulties, he said the Government had issued orders freezing agricultural machinery, particularly tractors, pumping equipment and oil engines and would allot these to agriculturists. He advised the agriculturists to form co-operative societies wherever possible, as these would have a better chance of having agricultural machinery allotted to them.

Prohibition Guards in Bombay

The Bombay Government have appointed a General Officer Commanding of the Voluntary Prohibition Guards for the Province. He will shortly be starting the work of appointing Prohibition Guards.

Bombay concession to Political Sufferers

The Government of Bombay have extended the concession regarding the reinstatement of those who resigned or were dismissed during the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1942 to primary school teachers.

The primary teachers who resigned or were dismissed on the ground of participation, direct or indirect, in the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1942, will, on their reinstatement in the

posts they held at the time of their resignation or dismissal, be given the pay and seniority in their grade which they would have enjoyed, had they not resigned or had not been dismissed from service and their service will be treated as continuous, the break in service being counted as leave without pay.

Refugee students in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have announced its policy in regard to the fees payable by the refugee students in Government Colleges. Students who are unable to pay fees should make an application in writing to the Head of the Institution in which they are studying, giving full particulars of their circumstances. Heads of Colleges will forward all such applications with their remarks to the Refugee Officer, who after investigation of each case, will then be communicated to the Heads of the Colleges.

Electrification Scheme in U.P.

The Central Technical Power Board has submitted to the Government of India a rural electricity plan costing 49 lakhs to be completed in ten years for providing electricity in rural areas of the Central Provinces and Berar.

Bombay subsidy to Industrial Association

The Bombay Government have sanctioned to the Provincial Industrial Co-operative Association a grant-in-aid of Rs. 48,425 towards the expenses to be incurred by the Association during 1947-48 on organization, propaganda, training, etc.

Power Development in C.P.

The C.P. Government propose to take up shortly Nursery Power Development schemes. These schemes are conceived to make the people electricity-conscious and to build up leads in advance of the construction of the major hydro-electric projects to enable a larger utilization of the power developed by these projects as soon as they are constructed.

Side light on Provinces and States

West Bengal measure to check speculation in Land

The Government of West Bengal have been considering the urgent necessity for pegging the price of land in the Province in view of the fact that there has been a precipitous increase of land values in recent months, specially since June 1947. A large number of people anxious to find a place of security at any cost have been pouring into the Province driven by circumstances beyond their control.

This has provided a unique opportunity to a class of greedy and unscrupulous landowners to exploit their misery. Apart from this, there is very serious shortage of housing accommodation in Calcutta and its neighbouring areas as well as in the other towns of the Province where there has been no building activity worth mentioning since December 1941. Many people are either compelled to buy building plots at fantastic prices or to go without even the prospect of having a roof over their heads in the reasonably near future. In order to meet this situation the Government propose to fix land value with retrospective effect from January 1, 1947, the maximum price allowed being pegged to the prevailing prices in December 1941, plus a suitable percentage on account of appreciation of values since then. Very early legislation in this connexion is contemplated. Government want to give this warning that if any landowner indulges in speculating in land values or charges unfair prices he may find himself compelled to refund amounts realized in excess of the prices to be fixed by legislation although such transactions may have taken place before January 1947.

Distribution of Expenditure in U.P.

The U.P. Government have decided to conduct an enquiry to obtain reliable information relating to the distribution of expenditure of those classes of people about which no information exists at present. The enquiry will, in the first instance, be confined to three professions, the medical profession, the legal profession and the teaching profession, and will be conducted for the present only in fifteen important towns of the Province.

Announcing this decision the Hon'ble Minister for Education said:

"The need of reliable statistics in all spheres of human activity for the purpose of a well organized public life and good Government is now fairly well recognized. Unfortunately, as is generally known, there is a great dearth of statistical information in our country.

The United Provinces Government have a full-fledged Department of Economics and Statistics which has been engaged for some time past in collecting various types of statistics on a reliable basis. That department has an ambitious plan of work for the future with a view to filling in the wide and important gaps which at present exist in our statistical knowledge. One of the many important subjects on which full information is not available is the way in which their income is spent by various classes of people residing in this Province. Some inquiries have been conducted in the past to ascertain distribution of expenditure in respect of some sections of the public, but information is completely lacking at present with regard to the rest of the population.

As a large number of persons engaged in these professions reside in these towns, it would not be feasible to approach each one of them for obtaining statistical information which it is proposed to collect nor is it necessary to do so as practically identical results can be obtained by conducting a sample inquiry based on sound statistical principles. It is, however, obvious that it would be impossible to obtain reliable information without the willing co-operation of the public and in particular of those who are included in the sample selected for the inquiry. As the information proposed to be collected is sought in public interest and will help to fill up a gap in our knowledge on a subject which has hitherto remained unexplored, Government earnestly hope and trust that all those who are approached for providing the required information in this connexion will render their full help and co-operation in the successful completion of the inquiry."

Orissa Government's Ordinances

The Government of Orissa have decided to immediately promulgate

two Ordinances with a view to avoiding friction between cultivators and landlords.

Under the first Ordinance, all cultivating tenants in ryotwari or zamindari areas holding lands on condition of delivering a share of produce of such land, who are being evicted by landlords should be given protection against such eviction for a period of two years. This protection will, however, not extend, to (a) a member of the owner's family or (b) a servant of wages in cash or kind but not in crop share, or a hired servant cultivating the land under the personal supervision of the owner or any member of his family and (c) a cultivating ryot holding his lands under a ryot or ryots possessing 33 acres of lands on 1st November 1947.

Revenue officers will be invested with powers to decide after summary enquiry in the locality the claims and objections with regard to possession as well as division of the produce between the landlord and the cultivator. No landlord will be eligible to realize more than two-fifths of the gross produce as his share. It will also be provided that any money payable by virtue of an order under this Ordinance shall be recoverable as an arrear of public demand. The proposed measure giving protection will have retrospective effect from April 1, 1946.

The object of the second Ordinance is to make the alienation of communal private and forest lands in contravention of the provisions of the Ordinance void and punishable with retrospective effect from April 1946.

The object of these two Ordinances, says a Press Note issued in this connection, is to avoid, as far as possible before receipt of the report of Land Revenue and Land Tenure Committee constituted by Government for considering the introduction of a comprehensive legislation, all causes of friction between the interests of the landlords and Bhag Chasis.

The Press Note reiterates that it is the Government policy to eliminate all intermediaries between the cultivators and the State.

Mechanized cultivation in U.P.

Described as the largest land reclamation plan through mechanization

in the East—outside Soviet Russia—a scheme will be put into operation in the Ganga Khadar terrain of the U.P. shortly. On December 16, heavy mechanical machinery costing about Rs. 10 lakhs has turned up the first sods of 50,000 acres of culturable waste land, now overgrown with jungle and tall grasses. Kept as a preserve for the sport of pigsticking for two centuries, this land will now under India's national Government be sown with food crops to bridge the gap between food demands and available supplies.

Explaining this new direction to the food production campaign, an official of the Ministry of Agriculture stated that the Government efforts during the last four years to grow more food had been greatly handicapped by their inability to bring culturable waste lands under cultivation. Till recently the exact location of the acreages of these areas were not known to the Provincial Governments with any degree of accuracy. With the aid of financial assistance from the Centre, West Bengal, Bihar, C.P., Orissa and U.P., have carried out surveys of such lands, and there is now a better appreciation of the location of these areas, and the steps necessary to reclaim them. The tracts have long been breeding grounds of the malaria parasite, and the first task, therefore, is to undertake malarial control measures before any reclamation work can be started. Such measures have already commenced in U.P. where 250,000 acres are available in the Ganga Khadar and Tarai regions.

The five-year land reclamation plan of U.P. envisages bringing 100,000 acres of land under the plough. For this purpose it is necessary to have heavy land reclamation machinery, heavy tractors and heavy ploughs. As this machinery is very expensive, the Government of India have decided to assist Provinces by providing the machinery, the operating staff and appliances. They will also reclaim these lands for U.P. on the principle of 'no profit no loss'. Without investing any large funds the Provincial Government will get the land reclaimed within five years, according to their own reclamation programme. As the time available between the reclamation of land and the actual cultivation in U.P. and Bihar is very short, and the time for settling new colonists will be at least a year, the Provincial Government have asked the Government of India to undertake mechanical

cultivation until the colonists can be settled. The Government of India have agreed to this and it is anticipated that the expenditure involved will be Rs. 50 lakhs for one year.

Operations on the next land reclamation scheme, which will be in the Tarai region, are expected to commence in January 1948.

Housing Shortage in Bombay

The Government of Bombay were determined to proceed with their housing scheme immediately, declared Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Minister for Labour, Bombay, speaking at a reception held in his honour by the Ahmedabad Municipality recently.

But that would touch only a fringe of the problem and would not relieve the veritable shortage of housing prevailing in the big towns of the Province like Bombay and Ahmedabad. The problem could be solved only by the joint efforts of Government, Municipality and co-operative societies, he added.

The Minister assured the people that Government would extend all possible help to co-operative societies and individuals in acquiring land and essential materials. However, it was futile, he said, to wait for the day when cement and steel would be available freely. He could not say when things would return to normal and therefore, advised the people to go ahead with their building programme even without cement and steel and by means of other available substitutes.

Home Guards in Bombay

Recently the first anniversary of the Home Guard in Bombay was celebrated. Speaking on the occasion the Hon'ble the Premier said "Our object in this organization is to give an opportunity to people moved by a public spirit who wish to devote some of their time and energy to the noble work of protecting their homes, their friends' and their neighbours' homes and their hometown. There is room enough in it for all. We want in it big business magnates, managers of big and small companies, doctors professors, pleaders, administrators, clerks, shop-keepers—in fact, everybody. It is the duty of every citizen rich or poor to protect and help his neighbours specially the weak and the helpless. It is in the interest of all to see that the economic life of this city is not disrupted. The rich

man has more to give as he stands to lose more and he, therefore, should not stint in giving his full support.

"I should like to make it very clear that Home Guards are not additional Police. It is also not a parallel military organization. It is a volunteer body of people who have come together and have organized themselves primarily for the purpose of protecting not only life and property but also culture and civilization and other things which are more dear to all of us than even life and property. I think it is misleading to talk in terms of having this organization as smart as the military. Smartness is not its objective.

"What is wanted is real public spirit—the spirit of service. Such a spirit is not a monopoly of ex-military officers or for the matter of that any class of people.

"There have also been suggestions that different classes or communities of people should organize themselves separately, that the big business firms should have their own organization, large offices should have their own organization, or different localities should have their separate organization. I am convinced that such distinct organizations will lead to disharmony rather than to the unity and harmony. They will find it very difficult, if not impossible, to work and to pull together. There will not only be rivalries but even jealousies on small points.

"The present organization is meant for all, and there is room enough in it for all. Its constitution is elastic and it is not tied down by any elaborate or strict set of rules. There is, of course, no room in it for any snobbishness or exclusiveness. For all public-spirited men working as equals I have no doubt that this organization will be found most suitable.

"An organization like the Home Guards will be invaluable for the country's development during the next few years; on its strength and efficiency our progress can be accelerated."

Co-operative Village Grain Banks in Hyderabad

The present scheme in vogue is mainly based on the principle of co-operation from the village population. The compulsory Levy Order introduced during the year 1353 fasli, was amended to suit the changed conditions and provision was made for forming a Village Grain Bank in each

village if 75 per cent of the cultivators of the particular village agree. Five seers out of every maund of grain collected from each cultivator under levy are allowed to be retained and deposited in the Grain Bank to his credit. Thus as much as one-eighth of the total levy received from the village will be available in the village itself to meet the needs of petty cultivators and landless labourers. The grain retained in the Bank to the credit of each cultivator cannot be withdrawn for a specific period of five or ten years whatever the case may be, but profits are allowed to accumulate on the deposits of the shareholders converting them subsequently into non-withdrawable bonus shares. At the end of the appointed period, the members can appropriate the profits accrued on their original and bonus shares and cease their connection with the Banks, if they like. In the meantime, they can utilize the services of the Banks, if they like. In the meantime, they can utilize the services of the Bank by borrowing grain at low rate of interest whenever required. These Grain Banks are designed to become self-supporting in due course.

The Village Grain Banks serve three-fold purposes. They not only enable the cultivators to save something in kind which otherwise they cannot do in cash but will also serve as seed stores for distributing improved varieties and as insurance against local food shortages.

Already 13,436 villages have got these Banks, of which 11,727 are registered institutions. It is the aim to bring into being one such Bank in all the 21,000 villages of the Dominions and perhaps very soon the process of forming these useful bodies in the remaining villages will be completed.

Taluk Development Unions in Hyderabad

The Taluk Development Unions have been established in each of the 104 taluks of the Dominions. Groups of village institutions are linked up with the branches of these Taluk Development Unions which in their turn are affiliated to the Hyderabad Co-operative Commercial Corporation, Limited. These Taluk Development Unions are substitutes of the previous Local Units and the membership comprises of not only businessmen but also producers of the taluks concerned. They have been entrusted with the work of procurement, storage and distribution of foodgrains in their respective sepheres on behalf of the Hyderabad Co-operative Commercial Corporation, Limited,

on a commission basis. They have been working well since their formation and have become popular both with the cultivators and consumers.

With the Village Grain Banks as the base affiliated to the Taluk Development Unions which in their turn are linked up with the Hyderabad Co-operative Commercial Corporation, Limited, as the apex body in the Dominions, the co-operative organization is complete and makes available to the producer in the field the facilities of storing, marketing and obtaining manures and implements for him at cheaper rates on co-operative basis eliminating the individual profit motive from all these transactions. Local food shortages will be met from the grains stocked in these Banks which will also, through their Taluk Unions, arrange to distribute improved varieties of seeds to be propagated by the Agricultural Department. The Taluk Development Unions are of valuable help to the parent body in procuring large quantities of foodgrains and in running sales depots in rural areas for distributing foodgrains on co-operative lines. Their turnover is now in crores and will multiply itself with an expansion in transactions as multipurpose societies undertaking, besides the above functions, the distribution of manure, co-operative warehousing, etc.

Orange growing in Bihar

The Agriculture department of the Government of Bihar has taken necessary steps to develop the orange growing industry in the province. Investigation and the field trials carried out by the Government horticulturists reveal that the district of Palamau possesses excellent soil and climatic conditions for the growth of oranges. Orange orchards grown at Japla and the Chianki Agricultural Farms have shown that the average income per acre per year from orange cultivation is Rs. 1,000 whereas net income from cultivation of cereals and other crops varies from Rs. 50 to Rs. 200. The Government has started a campaign for the cultivation of oranges and have promised necessary facilities to the cultivators. More than 7,000 orange grafts have been indented from Nagpur and have been distributed to the cultivators. Apart from meeting the province's requirements, a rich industrial area extending up to Calcutta will be available for marketing. A decision to step up fruit production in the province has been taken by the Government. The Government of

India, it is learnt, have advised the provinces to increase the fruit production by 100 per cent, and for that purpose have already promised to grant the provincial governments sufficient financial assistance. According to the preliminary estimate made by the Bihar Government, Bihar will yield an additional 23,000 tons of fruits from next year and the acreage under fruits has been increased by 7,544 acres. Arrangements have also been made to start classes for the training of gardeners in the Pusa Agricultural Farm and the Sabour Agricultural College.

Junior Cadet Corps for Bombay

The Government of Bombay have decided to introduce a Junior Cadet Corps of a limited strength, at present, of 3,000 boys every year with the co-operation of the Military authorities.

The Government of India has under consideration the report of the National Cadet Corps Committee. When the Central Government's decisions are made known, the Government of Bombay will work under the All-India scheme. In the meantime, it is considered urgently necessary to make a beginning.

The total strength of 3,000 boys every year will be distributed over the whole Province and boys over 14, who are studying in the VI and VII Standards of secondary schools, will be eligible for admission. The scheme will be voluntary and the course for individual cadets will last for a year which will include regular instruction for about three days a week and a camp of about 10 days.

It is proposed to have 100 instructors drawn from the ranks of secondary school teachers. The actual selection of teacher-instructors will soon be undertaken and they will be trained with the co-operation of the Military authorities.

It is expected that Instructors Training Classes will start early in March and the Cadet Corps will start in June 1948.

Political Sufferers in U.P.

The U.P. Government have decided to grant pensions or lump sums to political sufferers who have been permanently disabled or have devoted the best part of their life to national service and struggle for independence and have now become old and infirm.

In the alternative the Provincial Government may, in deserving cases, give lump sum grants as gratuities to enable such persons to take up some industry.

The widows whose bread-winners lost their life in the national service and struggle for independence will also be eligible to receive pensions. Small recurring grants for limited periods may also be given to minor children of such persons till they are married or have attained majority. Other facilities and concessions are under consideration.

Government fully recognize that the invaluable services and sacrifices of political sufferers cannot be easily evaluated, much less compensated in material terms. With the limited resources of the Provincial Government it is not possible to meet all legitimate expectations.

But in view of the fact that it is the sacred duty of every nation to do something as a token of its gratitude to the heroes and martyrs of the struggle for freedom after it has been achieved, it is indispensable that certain concrete steps should be taken for them. Government will consider each case on its merits and before making any grant will ascertain and verify the details of the applicant's services and sacrifices for the country.

Bihar Governor Exhorts Officials

Inaugurating the Bihar Institution of Engineers, His Excellency the Governor said in the course of his speech:

"The people at large can understand the significance of national freedom only when officials become in the true sense of the word 'sevak' of the people. Let then the flame of patriotism which burns so brightly within you inspire you to function as true sevakas and merge your identity with the poorest of the land."

Rural Development in C.P.

The Central Provinces Rural Development Board considered recently the overall plan of Rural Development prepared by a Sub-Committee.

The Plan is an outline for organizing Agriculture and Village Industries, Sanitation, Health, Housing and Communications, Village Education and Village Culture to build ultimately just and democratic self-sufficient regional republic with a strong co-ordinating centre.

U.P. drive against Black-marketing

The U.P. Legislative Council passed the first reading of the U.P. Prevention of Black-marketing (Temporary Powers) Bill, 1947.

Mr. Chandra Bhan Gupta, Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, replying to the debate said that action under the provisions of the Bill would not be taken on the basis of mere Police reports. He said: "No person would be detained unless Government were satisfied through public and official sources that he was indulging in black-market activities." He added: "We have no intention of crushing the civil liberties of the people or using the Bill as a weapon against our political opponents."

"Mr. Gupta referred to criticisms of the food policy of the Provincial Government and said that those who supported Mahatma Gandhi's views on decontrol should also act on the principles of self-sufficiency advocated by him."

Training in Agriculture in U.P.

The Government of the United Provinces have sanctioned a scheme for training young men in modern methods of agriculture. The intention is not to attract them to Government services. It aims at turning out complete farmers with working knowledge of modern methods in agriculture, better farming, use of manures, fertilizers, selection of seeds, etc. After the period of training is over they are expected to develop their own farms. The Government have under consideration the question of aiding them when they start working their own farms, after completing the training. No candidate will be admitted for training unless the family possesses at least 20 bighas of land. The candidate during the period of training will have to work like a farmer in order to gain practical experience. Each student will receive wages for his labour according to the quality and quantity of the work turned out in addition to a stipend of Rs. 5 per month.

Bombay's drive against illiteracy

The Government of Bombay have constituted regional Adult Education Committees for each of the regions of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Karnataka

to intensify the work of adult education. The main function of the committees will be to organize adult education classes and training classes for teachers and workers. The Committee will also prepare suitable literature and publish it, frame syllabuses and methods of eradication of illiteracy, carry on propaganda by means of exhibitions, lectures, etc. Each committee will advise the Government regarding the organization of adult education in the region with which it is concerned. The committees will also assist the Government in determining the expenditure of the amount provided for adult literacy and education work. The committees are empowered to appoint sub-committees as may be necessary. The village libraries and reading rooms also form a part of the Adult Education Scheme. Each will be entitled to get a grant of Rs. 18 per annum or two-thirds of the actual cost of the books and journals purchased during the year.

No exploitation of forest workers in Bombay

It is reported that the Government of Bombay have started co-operative coupes of labourers with a view to ending the exploitation of forest workers. This innovation is characterized as a far reaching socio-economic experiment. It is intended to eliminate the contractor to whom the coupe was used to be given hitherto for cutting wood, making charcoal, etc. The workers were paid only a wage and all the profits went to the contractors. The formation of these co-operative coupes has been warmly welcomed by the forest workers. The elimination of the middle-man and the prospect of all the profits going to themselves have produced a tonic effect on these hitherto unfortunate people.

The Minister for Forests, however, sounded a note of caution that the experiment was new and hence, it would call for all their energies and resourcefulness. The societies, he said, have a great future if in addition to their making arrangements for the cutting down of wood and its sale, they also catered to the needs of the labourers' social life.

Bombay gesture to Harijans

The local bodies in Bombay have been asked by the Government to take into consideration the peculiar circumstances of the Harijan sweepers in their

employ and make every effort to improve their conditions of service. The Government have also directed that the local bodies while recruiting peons, clerks, etc., should give preference to Harijans as far as possible.

Home guards in C.P.

According to a C.P. report the official inauguration of the Home Guards Training Centre was performed by the Hon'ble Premier. The Prime Minister said: "you are no mercenary soldiers of war. Time was when we had fought non-violent battle with the foreign rulers but times have changed and you have to guard our hearth and home and your role is different from that of the military and the Police. Home Guards is the second line of defence as the Defence Minister has said. After receiving training here you will return to your place and spread the knowledge and discipline you have acquired here in training the villagers and town people among whom you will have the opportunity to move." He also exhorted them to do their best in the service of the country.

The C.P. Government Anti-corruption drive

The C.P. Government have set up District and Subdivisional Anti-Corruption Committees throughout the Province. The District Magistrate is the Convenor and the District Superintendent of Police is the Secretary of the District Committee and there are 5 or 6 non-official members. The functions of the Committee will be—

- (1) to assist the Anti-Corruption Committee and its work;
- (2) to bring to the notice of the local authorities any matter relating to corruption; and
- (3) to forward complaints received by their members either to local heads or to the Secretary of the Anti-Corruption Committee.

Refugee Fund in C.P.

The C.P. Government have opened a fund for the rehabilitation of the refugees. Contributions to the fund are to be sent either to the Deputy Commissioner of the District or to the Honorary Secretary, Central Refugee Relief Committee. Announcing the opening of this fund, His Excellency the Governor appealed to every citizen of the Province for donations for the help of the refugees who were forced by circumstances to leave their hearth

and home. Various problems have arisen in regard to their rehabilitation. The monthly expenditure on account of the refugees was considerable. Besides the Central Refugee Committee there are also a number of unofficial committees running several camps and all these also needed money. In the nature of things the Government cannot alone shoulder the financial responsibility. Private charity has also to come into the picture. Hence the opening of the Fund which is named Shri Pakwasa Refugee Relief Fund.

Subsidies for tube-wells in U.P.

A scheme for tube-well installation on a subsidised basis is understood to have been drawn up by the Provincial Government. Under this scheme, the Government have sanctioned the grant to farmers of loans, free of interest, under Land Improvement Loans Act to the extent of one-third of the cost of constructing tube-wells in the farms. Loans are not to be given out in cash but in the form of materials, such as, pumping plant and tube-wells.

The loans are repayable within ten years and the period of repayment can be extended subject to the special permission of the district magistrates.

Social Service Scheme in U.P.

The first training camp under the social service scheme initiated by U.P. Government will be held from January 15, 1948 in the Fyzabad aerodrome which has been acquired from the Government of India.

1,500 graduates are expected to join this camp which will last for ten months. During this period the board lodging and other incidental charges of the camp will be borne by the Government.

The U.P. Government have also decided that with effect from January 2nd, 1949, no graduate who does not possess a diploma in social service will be eligible for employment under Government or local bodies or any institution aided by Government. He will not be eligible for admission in any technical or training institution directly under or recognized by Government. The scheme aims at giving these graduates an all round training under the supervision of an officer of the Education Department who served in the last war with distinction.

Anti-corruption committee for Greater Bombay

As in the districts, the Government of Bombay has directed the formation of an Anti-Corruption Committee for Greater Bombay also. The Committee will consist of two official and three non-official members and its jurisdiction will extend also to the 39 villages in the Bombay Suburban District (Revenue).

The Collector of Bombay and Bombay Suburban District (who will be the Chairman of the Committee) and the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Anti-Corruption Branch, Bombay, will be the official members of the Committee. The non-official members will be appointed by the Government in consultation with Deputy Commissioner of Police, Anti-Corruption Branch, who will submit his proposals through the Chairman.

The non-official members will be appointed for a period of two years but they will be eligible for reappointment.

Assurance to Labourers in Bombay

Speaking on the occasion of the celebration of the first Labour Day the Bombay Labour Minister said that they all had to bend their energies to the establishment of a social order based on the principles of respect for human personality, of liberty and equality and of the unfettered enjoyment of amenities of life. Whatever may be its name, they were to follow the ideals of constructive socialism, under Gandhiji's guidance, in order to secure the highest good of each and every individual.

Proceeding, the Labour Minister warned the workers against the disruptive elements scrambling for power. Mr. Nanda assured the workers that their interests were receiving the Government's close attention.

Technical Consultation for proposed steel units

With reference to the proposal for the installation of one or more steel plants capable of producing a million tons of steel per year, it is understood that the first step will be to obtain the services either from the United Kingdom or the United States of America of expert technical consultants to make a rapid survey and to report to the Government of India on the location, design and construction of the plant.

A small committee, which will include representatives of the main steel

producers, will, it is learnt, be appointed to draw up the terms of reference to the consultations.

U.P.'s Rs. 15 Crore Dairy Plan

A five-year dairy development plan to raise milk production by nearly ten per cent in U.P. will, be shortly considered by the U.P. Government. The plan, drawn up by Dr. Zal R. Kothawala, Dairy Development Adviser to the Government of India, is estimated to cost Rs. 14,83,00,000. U.P.'s share will be only Rs. 9,41,00,000, the rest to be borne by the Central Government.

At present U.P. produces annually 1,126 lakh maunds of milk, which works out at 7.35 ounces per head per day. The target set by the plan is an extra yield of 108.02 lakh maunds, and even if it is achieved, the province will still be left with a gap of 214.98 lakh maunds on the assumption that the minimum nutritional requirement is 1 lb. per head per day.

It is estimated that a team of 1,505 technicians will be needed to put his plan through. The plan envisages the establishment of 22 milk-cum-bull production farms; 500 small-holder milk production farms; 25 colonies for cattle dislodged from cities; 20 seed bull centres 100 insemination yards for the purpose of artificial insemination; 27 co-operative milk unions; and 186 co-operative rural creameries.

Other proposals include the setting up of centres for the cross-breeding of cows and the reservation of 800,000 acres of land for the production of green fodder and silage.

Education Facilities for Rural Masses

Mr. Sampurnanand, Minister for Education, U.P., inaugurating the Government Industrial Education Centre at a village, 40 miles from here, said that efforts were being made to develop education in such a manner that village students might not be compelled to go to the cities for receiving training.

The Education Minister emphasised the need of education in rural U.P. and said that it was high time for providing facilities for technical training in village centres to lay the foundation of a sound village economy. There was no reason, he added, why cultural life of the villages should in anyway be backward to the life in cities.

The speaker continuing said that Government were determined to develop educational facilities for rural

masses in a way that none of them might be handicapped in comparison to the students in the cities. He felt that students found it considerably difficult to migrate seasonally to the cities in order to acquire education. As such, he declared, all efforts were being made to provide students of the rural areas all educational facilities at home.

Referring to technical education, Mr. Sampurnanand said that despite the presence of expert village handicraftsmen, such education was essential for village-folk in the interests of efficiency. He declared that in spite of the fact that 'our Government had limited resources we would pool them together for developing the talents of our masses.'

Bombay scheme to make Workers Literate

The proposal to constitute four Workers' Literacy Boards, one each for the Districts of Ahmedabad, Sholapur, East and West Khandesh and Dharwar, for the purpose of implementing the Post-War Reconstruction Scheme of making industrial workers literate has been approved. Each Board will consist of 11 members.

The functions of the Workers' Literacy Boards will include:—

(i) formulation and execution of detailed programmes for bringing about universal literacy among workers in perennial factories in the district; (ii) encouraging private associations, social workers, students, etc., to conduct adult literacy classes for industrial workers in the district; (iii) enlisting the co-operation of the employers with a view to running classes on the premises of the factories during suitable hours; (iv) entertainment of teaching and other subordinate staff subject to the Government's approval, for conducting the literacy classes; (v) giving wide publicity to the literacy activity by propaganda for removal of illiteracy and other forms of ignorance among industrial workers, e.g., arranging variety entertainment programmes, exhibition of films, organizing literacy weeks, etc., and (vi) encouragement and supervision of publication of suitable literature for spreading literacy among workers.

To enable the Literacy Boards to perform their functions, an aggregate sum of Rs. 1,81,000 is placed at the disposal of the Director of Labour Welfare for allocation to the Boards during the current year.

Prohibition—a national gain

"Prohibition may well prove the means whereby light and happiness may be brought into the dark and miserable lives of thousands of our unfortunate brethren," said Mr. L. M. Patil, Excise Minister, Bombay, recently.

Continuing he said "I need not remind you that the Government is determined to make a thorough success of Prohibition, for it vitally affects the people's lives. This programme is not a party programme. It has the backing of every section of our society and it is bound to bring happiness and illumination to the dark, miserable homes of thousands of our brethren. It will be a national gain and therefore every citizen has to play his or her part to make it successful."

Referring to the economic aspect of the scheme, Mr. Patil stated: "The scheme will not only uplift our brethren fallen into an evil habit but ensure a constant income from very useful and remunerative supplementary occupation to thousands of tappers who otherwise would have been thrown out of employment on account of Prohibition."

Replying to the oft-repeated criticism levelled against the Government for having given precedence to the Prohibition plan over more urgent needs of the people, such as food, housing and clothing, the Excise Minister said "Now is the opportune time to embark upon an all-round reconstruction programme now that we have got our long-cherished opportunity of doing something really good and lasting to our people after attainment of our freedom. Prohibition occupies a most important place in our Reconstruction plan and hence even running the risk of losing a substantial part of our revenues, we have seriously taken up this work, the success of which will not only bring happiness to thousands of families but ensure for them the right use of their hard earned money. This is a tremendous national gain offsetting our revenue losses."

U.P. Municipalities Bill

Adult franchise, abolition of separate electorates and the present system of nominations, better representation of minority communities, direct election of president, regulating the imposition of taxes, are the main features of the U.P. Municipalities (Amendment) Bill to be introduced at the next session of the U.P. Legislature.

For the first time in the history of local bodies in India municipal boards will be authorized to raise loans in the open market. The sanction of the Government will have to be obtained prior to raising the loan.

The bill also proposes to do away with the control of commissioners of divisions over municipal boards at the discretion of the Provincial Government.

Other changes include empowering municipal boards to encourage physical culture, promote trade and industry, undertake housing and town-planning schemes, establish welfare centres for the benefit of municipal servants, regulate the construction of cinema houses and alignment of streets.

Concession to backward classes in U.P.

All Backward Class students admitted to the hostels attached to Government Colleges including the Medical and Agricultural Colleges will be exempted from the payment of room rent, subject to the usual conditions of satisfactory progress and good behaviour.

The Director of Public Instruction has also been requested to issue necessary instructions to all Principals of Government Colleges that while allotting rooms in the hostels preference should be given to the Backward Class students who apply for admission and satisfy the college authorities that they can meet the messing charges of the college hostel.

Grant of relief to Government Servants in Western Pakistan

It has now been decided that Heads of Departments may, in deserving cases, grant special advances up to three months' salary, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2,500, to enable Government servants to provide themselves with personal equipment essential for their duties as Government servants.

These advances will be interest-free and will be recoverable in not more than 36 monthly instalments.

This concession will also be admissible to Provincial Government servants who have come as refugees from areas in Western Pakistan and have subsequently been employed under the Central Government.

Bombay Minister on cattle wealth

Speaking at the prize distribution ceremony of the All-India Regional

Cattle-show in Bombay, Mr. Patil, Reconstruction Minister exhorted his audience to develop and augment their real wealth, viz., land, cattle, sheep, poultry, etc., with the fullest co-operation of the Agricultural Department. He also advised them to see that adequate and proper fodder was provided for them and sanitary conditions such as clean water, general cleanliness in and around stables and sheds, and freedom from disease ensured in as large a measure as possible. No plans, however perfect, could succeed if no Co-operation from the people came forth, he said, and appealed to them to offer their fullest help and assistance to the Government to promote all-round prosperity in the Province.

Co-operation in Agriculture

Speaking at the annual general meeting of the Adiwasi Seva Mandal, Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier, Bombay, said: "I need not emphasize the advantages of co-operative farming in a Province like ours where the yield from the soil is very low. The causes of such low yield as given by Captain Mehite in his recent report on co-operative farming are (1) deterioration of soil, (2) inadequate or irregular rainfall, (3) unsatisfactory systems of cropping, (4) lack of good seeds, (5) poor livestock and other equipment, (6) scanty use of manure, (7) subdivision or fragmentation of holdings, (8) want of adequate credit facilities, (9) primitive system of marketing and (10) lack of initiative and enterprise on the part of cultivators. All these causes will, to a great extent, be removed if we succeed in organizing our agriculture on the co-operative basis in future. Amongst people who are so ignorant, so backward and so individualistic as the Adiwasis, social service organizations and social workers will have to carry on patient, ceaseless and sustained work for years together before a strong co-operative movement is built up. The salvation of the Adiwasi agriculturist lies in co-operative farming. I, therefore, appeal to social workers to take up this work and bury themselves in remote villages and jungles where they will find fruitful scope for their talents and abilities."

Irrigation schemes in Bihar

The Irrigation Department of the Government of Bihar have under contemplation two alternative schemes for the optimum utilization of the

waters of the Panchane river for irrigation purposes. The area which is thus likely to be benefited would be in the neighbourhood of 40 thousand acres.

Educational Expansion in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has appointed a Committee consisting of officials and non-officials to conduct a survey of the Dahanu, Umbergaon and Palghar talukas of Thana district and to prepare a programme of educational expansion in these areas especially for the Adiwasis and other Backward Classes. Mr. D. N. Wandrekar, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Backward Classes, is the Chairman of the Committee.

Prohibition in Bombay

The confident hope that the Prohibition Programme of the Government of Bombay would be made a complete success with the active co-operation of officials and the public at large was voiced by Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Chairman of the Bombay City Prohibition Committee, presiding over a meeting of the Committee recently.

It was urged at the meeting that now that the police had a different role to play as servants of the people, greater co-operation would be forthcoming from them in the matter of enforcing Prohibition. The average citizen must also realize his civic responsibility in helping his fellowmen who had fallen a prey to the drink habit and the State by assisting in reducing the evil. He could do so by becoming a member of one of the various committees proposed to be established in the street, moholla, ward, village, taluka, etc.

It was proposed that Prohibition Guards on an honorary basis and consisting of non-officials should be organized to assist the administration.

The Excise Minister laid great stress on the positive side of Prohibition and said that counter-attractions in the form of welfare centres should be organized, so that an average man could be enabled to spend his evenings or holidays having clean and reasonably-priced light refreshments, music, recreation, simple plays, indoor games, short films of educative value and such other pastimes.

Problems and Solutions

The Magnitude of the Refugee Problem

Few people have realized the extent and ramifications of the refugee problem. It is indubitably one of the major problems facing the Provincial Governments in general and the Central Government in particular. Imagine millions of people were all on a sudden uprooted from their hearths and homes and sent adrift. Their evacuation to places of safety and their restoration to normal life constitute a problem of staggering magnitude. It is perhaps not widely known to what extent the Governments' energies were taxed in the evacuation of millions of refugees from the northern regions of this Country.

Over eight million refugees crossed the Indo-Pakistan border in both directions up to 21st November 1947.

Of this, a little over four million consisted of non-Muslims who were brought over to India from West Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, Sind and Baluchistan.

During the same period, over four million Muslims were evacuated to Pakistan from East Punjab and Delhi.

On an average, more than half a lakh of non-Muslims were brought to safety every day by using all available means of transport—Trains, motor lorries, aircraft, ships and on foot.

Foot columns provided the quickest means of evacuating the largest number of refugees. Fleeing from towns and villages close to the Indo-Pakistan border, non-Muslims began to enter India in large numbers in numerous small disorganized parties towards the end of August and the early part of September. Later, when the Indian army began to lend a helping hand, huge foot convoys, each 30,000 to 40,000 strong, embarked upon a 150-mile march from the fertile colonies of Lyallpur and Montgomery districts. Thus in 42 days (September 18 to October 29), 24 non-Muslim foot columns, 849,000 strong, with hundreds of bullock carts and heads of cattle crossed the border into India. Movement of these columns raised problems

of maddening complexity. When food failed, the Government of India had to drop cooked food as well as food-grains and sugar by R.I.A.F. planes which flew from Amritsar and Delhi to Jaranwala, Lyallpur, Churkhana, Dhabhansinghwal, Balloki headworks and Bhai Pheru. Drugs, vaccines and doctors were rushed by air as well as motor transport. A field ambulance unit was sent to Raiwind to inoculate refugees before they crossed the border. The columns suffered at the hand of not only man but also nature. Exposure and devastating floods thinned their ranks. Nevertheless, the determined caravan moved on.

Refugee Trains

Next to foot columns, refugee trains carried the largest number of refugees. About 673 refugee trains, moving over 23 lakhs of refugees inside India and across the border, were run alone between August 27 and November 6, 1947. Of these 1,362,000 were non-Muslims and 939,000 Muslims. It is reported that 1,193,000 non-Muslims crossed into India by train up to November 21. Of these, 14,000 came from Sind.

Nearly four lakhs of non-Muslims and over two lakhs of Muslim refugees have been evacuated by motor transport under military protective escort, the Military Evacuation Organization of India alone using 1,200 military and civilian vehicles for this purpose. Of the 12 motor transport companies, each of 150 vehicles, which are being raised for Military Evacuation organization (India), the first three companies left Delhi early this month. Nearly 1,000 additional trucks—600 provided by the United Province Government and a few hundred by private organizations—have been pressed into service. Drivers for the vehicles have come from the Provinces and States. Motor transport is used primarily for collecting non-Muslims stranded in villages and other small pockets and also for bringing them to railheads.

In one month alone, 1,000,000 gallons of petrol were used in the East Punjab

Area, mostly by the Military Evacuation Organization, India.

Evacuation by Air

Up to the end of November 21, over 32,000 refugees were flown in both directions by scheduled or chartered aircraft, over 21,000 of them being non-Muslims. It was towards the end of August that Government decided to arrange facilities for transport of refugees by air from different points in Pakistan. Accordingly ten aircraft belonging to various Indian Transport Companies were mobilized. On an average, six to seven aircraft operated daily from Delhi to transport refugees from Sargodha, Lyallpur, Multan and Rawalpindi. In addition scheduled air services between Delhi and Karachi, Quetta, Lahore, Rawalpindi and Peshawar were intensified.

Ships from Karachi

Evacuation of non-Muslims from Chitral, Bannu and other difficult areas, which are not accessible by rail or air, has now been referred to the Defence Ministry who will bring refugees to the nearest railhead or airport. Refugees from Dera Ghazi Khan will be brought to Muzaffargarh for evacuation to India. From Sind, evacuation of non-Muslims is proceeding by air as well as rail. In addition to the regular Persian Gulf Line steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company, which pick up evacuees from Karachi on their way to Bombay, nine steamers have been chartered by the Government of India, but clearance from Karachi is restricted to only 2,000 a day, as the port authorities have pleaded inability to handle more. By November 21, nearly 133,000 non-Muslim evacuees had been cleared from Sind by steamer and country craft, destinations being Bombay, Okha, Bedi, Navlakhi, Kundla and Cutch Mandvi. From Hyderabad (Sind), two trains now run daily carrying non-Muslim refugees to Jodhpur.

Mere evacuation of population does not end the problem. Their economic rehabilitation also needs attention to. The Government have not failed to tackle this aspect of the problem.

Employment Exchanges have been opened in Delhi and Simla, as well as in East Punjab and West United Provinces and a special office has been established in Bombay. A large number of refugees have already been registered by the Exchanges and many have secured employment. A Transfer Bureau has been opened by the Ministry of Home

Affairs and all Ministries have been instructed that vacancies should not be filled until it has been ascertained that suitable candidates cannot be supplied by the Transfer Bureau. Up to the middle of November, over 8,000 refugees had secured employment under the Government of India and in certain provinces. Provincial Governments have been asked to relax rules which restrict recruitment by Government to persons who are domiciled in the Province.

Training of semi-skilled and skilled persons is of the utmost importance in any programme of rehabilitation. Over 4,000 refugees will be immediately trained in the Labour Ministry's Centre for Ex-Servicemen in a number of technical and vocational trades. Possibilities of absorbing a large number of skilled workers in railway workshops after a short period of training are being examined. Centres are being opened in the various refugee camps where refugees will be engaged on remunerative occupations like spinning and weaving, hosiery and knitting, button making, etc. Schemes for voluntary training of juveniles are being prepared. Large stocks of goods available in the Disposals Directorate have been frozen with the idea of utilizing them for rehabilitation of refugees, the stocks covering equipment for 27 different trades.

The Government have sanctioned an advance of a sum up to Rs. 300 to an individual in order to facilitate resettlement. These loans are meant for traders, businessmen, artisans and persons who wish to set up their own workshops or cottage industries. The scheme will be introduced almost immediately in the Centrally administered areas. The Central Government will be prepared to render financial assistance to any province or administration which decides to adopt a similar scheme with such modification as it may consider necessary.

Spinning and Weaving

The East Punjab Government have decided to organize fifty cotton spinning and weaving centres and five wool spinning centres for a period of six months to enable refugees to supplement their income from land, incidentally helping in the production of cloth and blankets.

A scheme for granting loans to students and trainees abroad, whose guardians are no longer in a position to finance them, has been sanctioned, and an extension of this scheme to students in India is under consideration.

For assistance to big industry and business, proposals for a rehabilitation and financial corporation are under consideration in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India.

In order to provide facilities to refugees coming from Pakistan, who were unable to transfer their Savings Banks Accounts to Post offices in India, it has been decided to allow withdrawals from Postal Savings Banks in respect of investments made prior to August 14, under certain conditions. Cash and other certificates issued from Post offices in Pakistan and tendered for transfer at Indian Post offices will be treated as formally transferred, necessary intimations containing full particulars of these certificates being sent to the Pakistan Government. Holders will be allowed to encash these certificates up to a limit of Rs. 500 on proper identification, payments in excess of the amount being only made on execution of a bond of indemnity. Holders of insurance policies who were paying their premia in Pakistan have been allowed to credit their premia in Post offices in India.

The payment of advances to Central Government civil pensioners who have come as refugees from Pakistan has been authorized. Indian military pensioners have also been permitted to draw pensions subject to certain conditions.

Claims of refugees in respect of their movable and immovable property left behind or lost in Pakistan are being registered. Provincial governments and States have also been requested to make similar arrangements regarding measures for registration of claims. A Custodian of Evacuees' Property assisted by advisory committees consisting of non-officials has been appointed. An advisory committee consisting of representatives of various interests and communities and classes of refugees has been set up to advise the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation on all matters of policy.

Education

In order to enable refugee students to resume their studies at the stages at which they were interrupted, the Provincial Governments were addressed to afford facilities to them. The Ministry of Education undertook to provide all facilities to the East Punjab Government to enable them to open a camp college in Delhi.

The Delhi University have offered the utmost co-operation by admitting as many displaced students as possible

in their colleges and by making arrangements to start, on behalf of the East Punjab University, the Honours School and M.Sc. classes for East Punjab students in Physics and Chemistry.

Educational facilities to refugee school children have been provided by opening two High Schools in Delhi. It is understood that additional accommodation is being provided in educational institutions in Bombay and United Provinces for the admission of refugee children.

The Universities in the Provinces and certain technical institutions have been addressed by the Ministry of Education for providing facilities for admission to refugee students in technical subjects. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture have made arrangements for the rehabilitation of refugee medical and agricultural students respectively.

The question of providing employment to refugee teachers and professors who were employed in various educational institutions in Pakistan and who have suddenly lost their means of livelihood is receiving full attention. A register of displaced teachers who desire to be resettled is being maintained, and full particulars regarding their academic qualifications, experience, scale of pay, etc., are being kept. Thanks to the co-operation of local bodies and private managements of schools in Delhi, it has been possible to give employment to 270 refugee teachers.

Women and Children

As a result of appeals for public co-operation in the rehabilitation of unattached women and children, offers are pouring in from the Indian people. A special camp has been set up for destitute women at Kurukshetra. Arrangements are also being made to transfer a technical institute from East Punjab to Delhi, where these women will be trained in different vocations and professions. The question of giving advances to widows and others is under active consideration.

The Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation has opened a Fact Finding Branch to collect authentic information about atrocities committed on non-Muslims in Pakistan. The Ministry also provides in conjunction with the Indian Red Cross Society, Enquiries and Searching Service with the special object of tracing and recovering abducted women and non-Muslims kidnapped or forcibly converted. This office has already handled over 7,000 enquiries and lists containing about 3,000 names

have been forwarded to the Indian High Commissioner in Pakistan and his Deputies in Peshawar and Lahore and to the Punjab branch of the Indian Red Cross Society and the Government's Liaison Officers in West Punjab. For the recovery of abducted women Government depend at present on the active assistance of military authorities, district authorities, women social workers and prominent persons of the localities concerned. A machinery for this purpose is already in operation but further proposals have been made to the Pakistan Government for the expansion of such machinery.

Nearly two million refugees have been resettled in East Punjab and Indian States. Of these over 1,500,000 have been resettled on more than two million acres of land in East Punjab which has adopted a plan for the resettlement of another 550,000 refugees by internal dispersal from refugee camps, particularly in the Ambala Division. Nearly 223,000 refugees have been settled in various States, including 123,000 in Patiala and 50,000 in Jodhpur.

Another 15,000 have secured employment through Employment Exchanges and the Government of India's Transfer Bureau. The average size of a family being five persons, this means resettlement of 75,000 refugees.

Further plans for the resettlement of refugees are indicated in the latest reports received from the Provinces and States. Patiala State proposes to resettle another 75,000 refugees or so, including five to ten per cent of urban refugees. A scheme has been drawn up in Holkar State for resettlement of agriculturist refugees and artisans in the Rampura, Bhanpura and Nemawar districts, the State authorities sanctioning a special advance of Rs. 5,00,000 for the purpose. Alwar State, which has already settled 8,000 refugees, proposes to resettle further 50,000 in villages where agricultural lands and houses will be provided. In Partabgarh State rehabilitation plans include the allotment of ten bighas of land per family with no land revenue for five years and only half the assessment for the next five years, as well as taccavi loans for digging wells and buying bullocks. The State has also sanctioned a loan of Rs. 5,00,000 for building a colony of 1,100 plots for refugees.

Efforts are being made by the Ministry of Agriculture to import 220 tractors by March 1948 for a project which aims at mechanical cultivation of land in East Punjab for the next kharif season. At the instance

of the Government of India oil companies are arranging to supply sufficient quantities of high speed diesel oil to the East Punjab Government for the tractors already supplied. About 200,000 acres of fallow land could be secured and made available to agriculturist refugees for rehabilitation in East, if tubewell irrigation could be arranged, and this matter is at present under consideration by the Government of India and the Government of the East Punjab. Meanwhile a consignment of 1,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia is on its way from Bombay to various destinations in East Punjab for distribution amongst farmers as fertilizer.

The absorption of urban refugees in trade, commerce and industry is under way. The question of affording facilities to refugee firms dealing in fruit preservation is under consideration, though licences are being issued by the Ministry of Agriculture to selected fruit preservers some of whom have already established their activities here. These firms are being issued sugar permits after inspection on the basis of the normal quota of sugar which they used in Pakistan. Field Officers of the Ministry of Industry and Supply have been deputed to Calcutta to investigate the capacity and other details relating to factories which have recently been put up there by refugees from West Punjab. On receipt of their reports supply of raw materials required by them will be arranged.

The Ministry of Railways have arranged for the speedy despatch of cotton and wool from the purchasing centres like Hansi, Fazilka, Rewari, etc., to the manufacturing stations, e.g., Rampur, Kanpur, Delhi, Indore, etc., where the raw material is used for making blankets and quilts.

In the United Provinces Government have carried out an occupational census for planned rehabilitation. A large number of refugees seeking paid employment are getting absorbed in the life of the Province. Special industrial schemes are being considered for the large number of petty traders. It is also proposed that facilities previously provided to ex-soldiers for the purpose of training in technical and vocational trades for resettlement on land and for production work at the workshops of vocational training centres should be extended to refugees.

Mysore State is willing to absorb about 5,000 refugees and provide them work on daily wages at the site of the reservoir under construction in the north-western part of the State.

Plans for rehabilitation in Baroda State include employment in State services of professional manlike doctors, engineers, professors and skilled and semi-skilled workers, mechanics and artisans; allotment of residential plots, reclamation of jungle areas on a limited scale, and encouragement to industrialists and businessmen who wish to start their own industries.

Holkar State has sanctioned the construction of two roads at a cost of Rs. 7,50,000 to provide immediate work to refugees. In the city of Indore a list has been prepared of the various trades and professions to which refugees belong, and attempts are being made to absorb them in the trades concerned. A proposal for developing sites for new colonies farther away from the city is under consideration.

In Jodhpur State 25,000 refugees have been settled in the town of Jodhpur, a number of them being employed in State Public Works Department, private industrial concerns, as well as business.

Almost all the gaps created by Muslim evacuee businessmen in Faridkot State have been filled by non-Muslim refugees. About 18,000 Muslim evacuees from Faridkot and Kotkapura have already been replaced by 15,617 non-Muslim refugees. About 300 teachers and artisans have been absorbed in the State Services and Works. The State proposes to employ another 2,000 semi-skilled and unskilled refugee labourers by restarting existing industries. It is also proposed to build two new grain markets at Jolewala and Romana Albebsingh to accommodate one thousand businessmen and small traders.

In Partapgarh State suitable employment will be offered to technicians in State service and opportunities for a share in a cloth and grain syndicate, as well as in mineral, industrial and forest occupations.

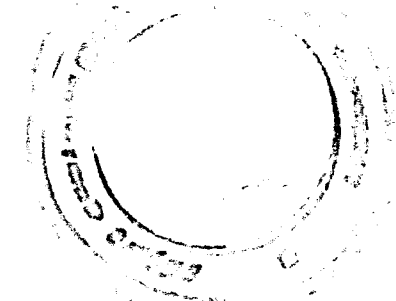
Supply of quilts, blankets, garments and cloth to refugees in camps is gathering momentum. Up to December 14 791,910 quilts and 266,703 blankets were despatched to East Punjab, Delhi and Kurukshetra. Other despatches to these centres include 954,507 shirts, shorts, great coats and the like and 108,595 yards of cloth.

There are more than 160 refugee camps all over the country providing accommodation to 1,250,000 refugees. In East Punjab alone 721,851 refugees are being looked after in 85 camps. Then there are 53,000 refugees in

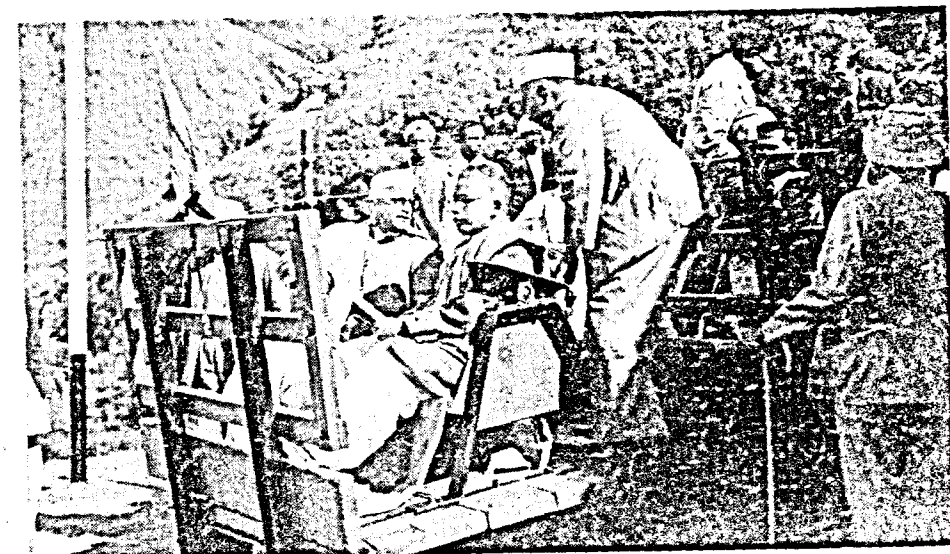
Dominion Minister in Madras



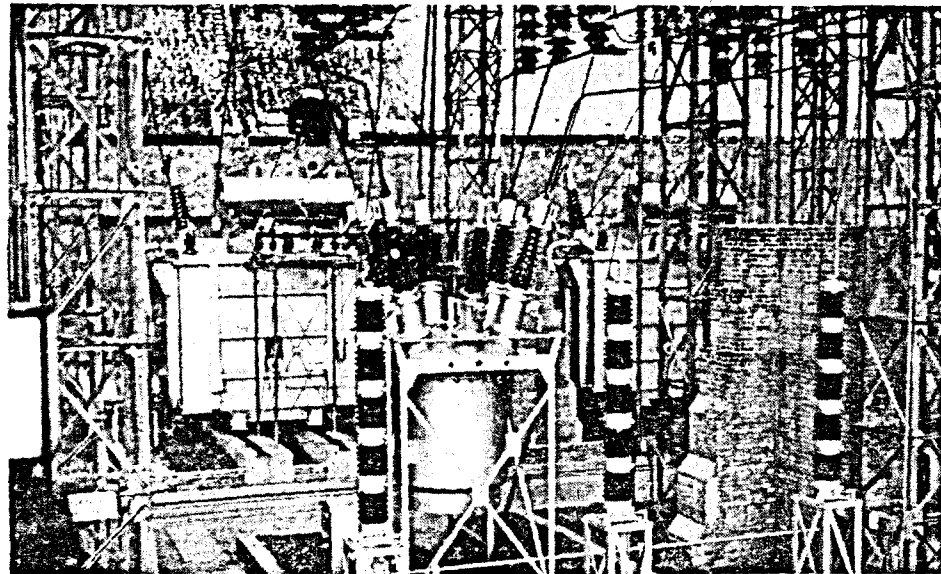
Hon'ble Sri N. V. Gadgil, Dominion Minister
in charge of Works, Mines and Power



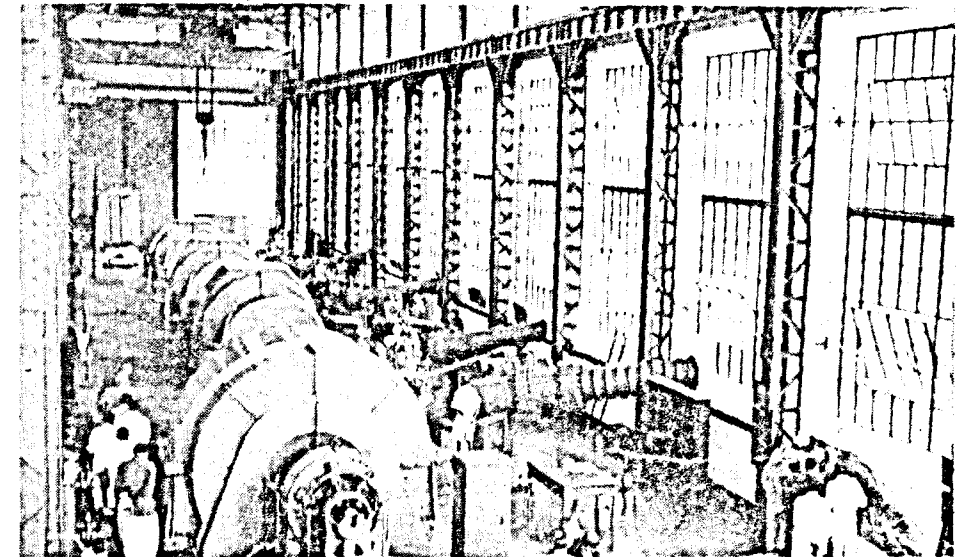
The Ministers in the inclined
haulage track descending
the Pykara slopes



The Ministerial party—Sri
N. Krishnamurti, Superintending
Engineer, explaining the plans

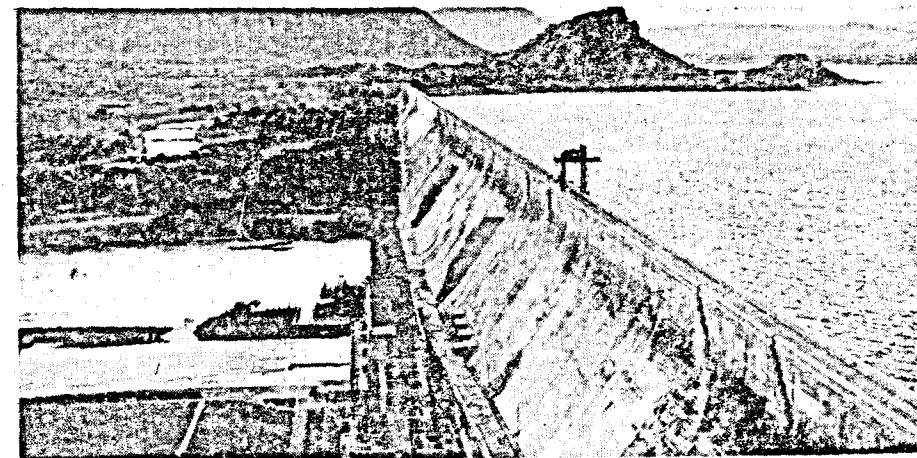
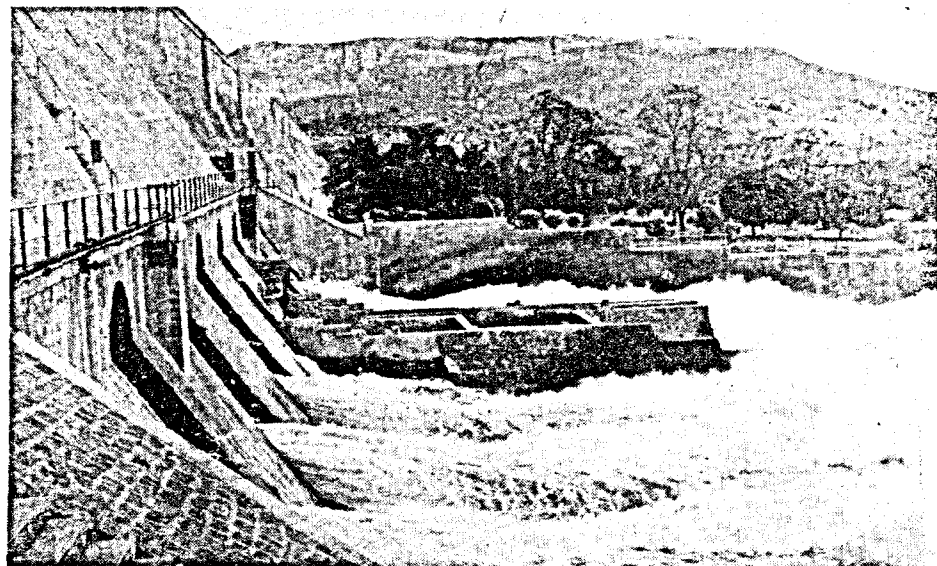


Mettur Power House—Transformer Yard

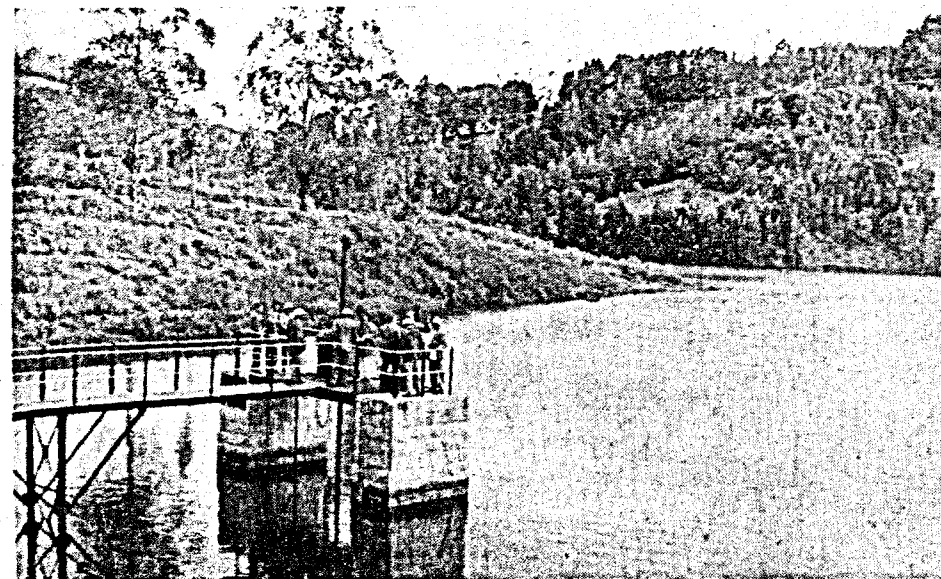


Pykara Power House—Interior view

Mettur Dam—High level irrigation sluices

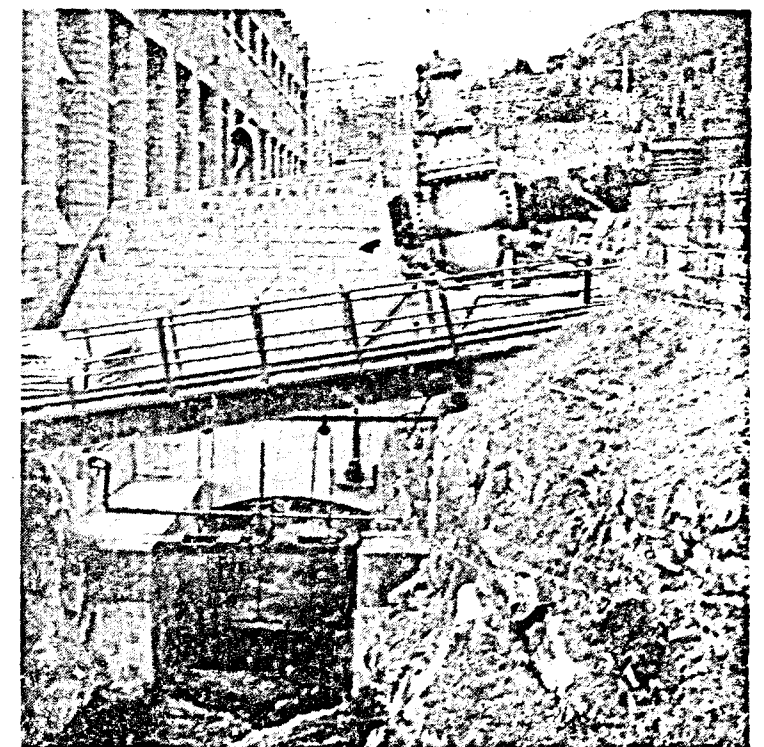


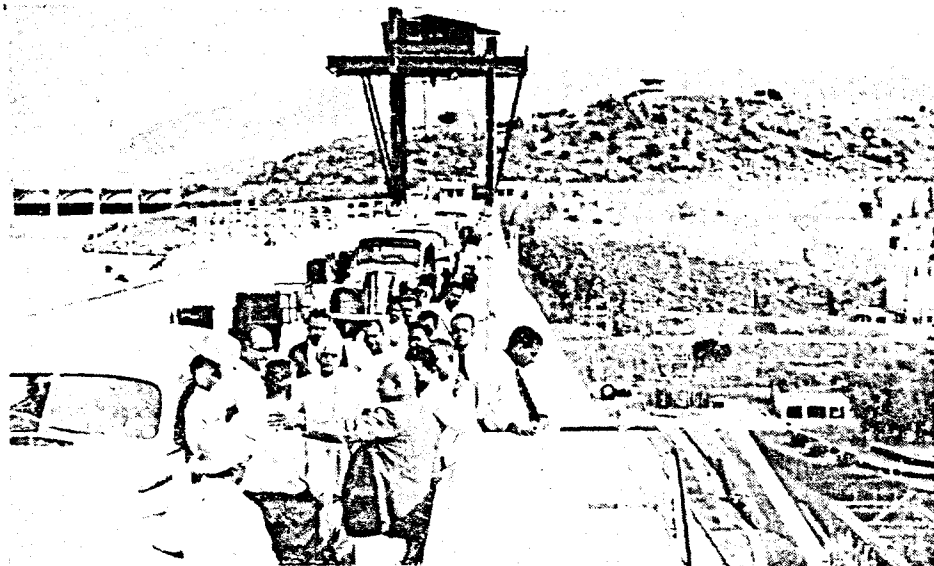
Mettur Dam, Reservoir and Power House—General view



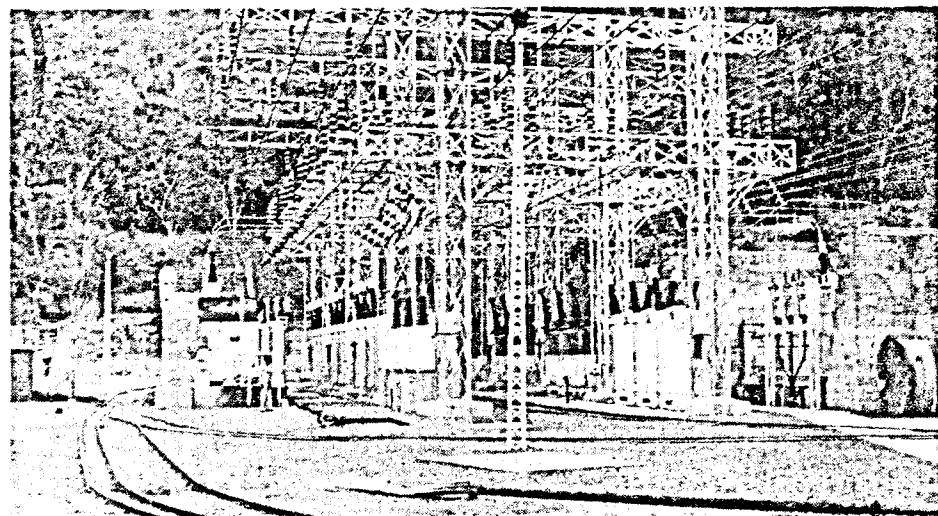
Pykara Forebay Intake

Pykara high pressure penslock entering Power House. Tailrace also in view

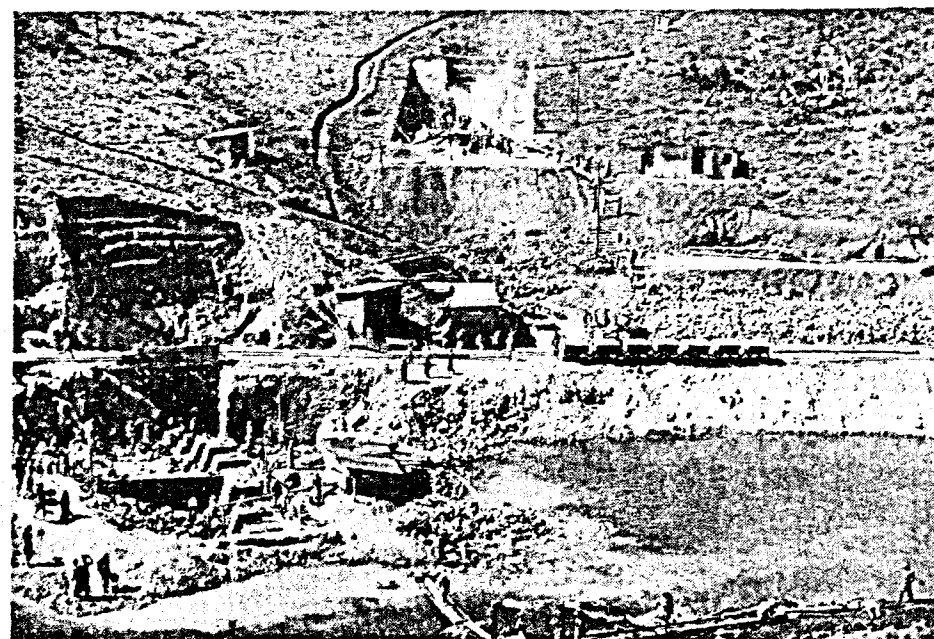




*The Ministerial party on
top of Mettur Dam. Mr. Venkatachari,
Chief Engineer (Irrigation)
explaining details*



Pykara Transformer Yard



*Pykara Dam—Excavation work
in progress*

camps in the States of Faridkot, Udaipur, Indore, Gwalior, Alwar, Rewa, Kotah and Rutlam. Over 13,000 refugees have found shelter in 32 camps in the Bombay Presidency, 30,000 refugees in about 31 camps in the United Provinces, 600 refugees in three camps in Madras and 1,500 refugees in the Central Provinces. About 15,000 refugees are in camps in Delhi.

In almost all these camps food, clothing, medical and sanitary facilities are provided, quite a number of them being run by philanthropic organisa-

tions. In the United Provinces all the refugees in camps are lodged in buildings with proper shelter and are provided with a special quota of cloth at nine yards per refugee, where necessary at Government expense. Schools have been opened for children and the United Provinces Government are distributing 50,000 blankets and quilts and 20,000 lb. of wool in addition to considerable quantities already distributed by private organisations.

Daily expenditure on camps runs into several hundred thousands of

rupees. During 1947-48 Government of India have made a budget provision of Rs. 10,00,00,000 for relief.

The total number of non-Muslim refugees evacuated up to December 14 from West Punjab, N.W.F.P., Sind and Baluchistan came to 4,362,000. Organised evacuation on a large scale was completed by the Military Evacuation Organisation, India, in the first week of December, a week earlier than the date fixed. Pocket clearance and rescue of abducted women and forcibly converted persons are now in progress.

The Madras Co-operative House Construction Society

The shortage of housing accommodation in urban areas in general and in Madras City in particular has assumed serious proportions and Government are leaving no stone unturned to tide over the situation. In a matter like the provision of houses, Government alone cannot do everything. Private enterprise has to play a big part. However the Government are doing their best within their inevitable limitations. The Madras Co-operative House Building Society is a practical application of the co-operative principle to the solution of the housing problem. The following article gives more details.

The increase in population in recent years without a corresponding increase in the number of houses has given rise to the problem of Housing Shortage. The problem has been aggravated by the conditions created by the war, viz., acute dearth of building materials, unprecedented rise in the cost of labour and an abnormal increase in the cost of house-sites and building materials. The problem is very keenly felt in urban and industrial areas than in rural areas. In the City of Madras, where the population during the quinquennium ending 1946, increased by 4.58 lakhs with an increase of only 1,600 new houses, the situation called for immediate action on the part of the Government, and thanks to the initiative and efforts of the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas, Minister for Housing and Mr. J. C. Ryan, Registrar of Co-operative Societies. The Madras Co-operative House Construction Society was formed in May 1947.

The objects of the Society are to acquire and lay-out lands making suitable provision not only for house-sites but also for amenities like roads,

parks, playgrounds, schools, markets, etc., to construct houses and to give them to its members on hire-purchase system. Members are required to take shares in the society equal to the value of the sites chosen by them and to pay 1/5 of the cost of construction at the time of occupation. The remaining 4/5 are to be paid by the members in equated annual instalments over a period of twenty years. A member may pay off the entire value of the house at any time, but the ownership of the house will be transferred to him only on the expiry of 10 years. This provision has been made with a view to create a safeguard against speculation.

The Society began regular work only in July 1947, when applications were called for with an initial deposit of one-fourth of the estimated cost of the site. Three areas were chosen for house construction, viz., Adyar, Mylapore and Ayyanavaram and applications were received in respect of all the areas. Of the applications received, 662 have been admitted and 250 are on the waiting list. The share capital to the credit of the members now stands at Rs. 22,31,200.

Of the three areas chosen, the Society was able to purchase by private negotiation from the Archbishop of Madras a large piece of land in Adyar measuring 131 acres, at a cost of Rs. 16,00,000. This purchase by private negotiation has cut out the delay usually involved in acquisition under the Land Acquisition Act. A "Lay-out" Sub-committee formed from among the Board of Directors and consisting in addition, of the Town-Planning Expert, the Chief Engineer of the Corporation, the Chairman of the City Improvement Trust and the Deputy Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, carefully considered the

several lay-outs got prepared in respect of this area and ultimately adopted the one prepared by Sri Rao Sahib K. K. Nambiar, Chief Engineer of the Madras Corporation. This lay-out provides for parks, playground, school, child-welfare centre, swimming pool, canteen and other social amenities without in the least sacrificing the requirements of economy, health, sanitation and convenience of the prospective residents. It is modelled on the lines of a modern neighbourhood unit which is the most popular form of development adopted by the Town-planners in western countries to-day. It is a self-contained unit, with all the communal amenities, such as, paved roads, side walks, underground sewerage, surface drainage, water-supply with an overhead tank for decentralized storage to ensure uninterrupted supply at uniform pressure, electric lights, shopping centres, school, dispensary, post office, bus stand, etc. An area of 23 acres has been set apart for roads, which total up a length of 23,655 feet, 2 acres for shops and markets, 7 acres for public buildings, 4 acres for the green verge abutting the service road and 77 acres for house-sites. Three hundred and thirty-two house-sites have been provided in the lay-out, 165 A class of 30 cents each, 89 B class of 20 cents each and 78 C class of 10 cents each. Including the value of the areas set apart for common purposes like roads, parks, etc., and taking into account the estimated cost of the area marked for markets, schools, etc., expected to be realized later on by sale, the price of the house-sites have been fixed at Rs. 5,700, Rs. 3,800 and Rs. 2,000 for A, B and C class respectively and at Rs. 6,300 and Rs. 4,200 for sites of the A and B class respectively, classed as preferential as those face either the park or the main roads. An area of about 18 acres on

the northern side of the existing approach road to the St. Patrick's Orphanage, is mostly low-lying and slopes towards the margin of the Adyar river. This is proposed to be converted into a beautiful park with lawns and flower beds.

Of the other two areas chosen one comprises about 240 acres in Mylapore between Brodies Road and Pughs Road on the east and west and St. Mary's Road and Greenways Road on the north and south. The other comprises about 30 acres by the side of the Mental Hospital, Aynavaram. Apart from these two areas, another one comprising 90 acres has been chosen adjoining the side already purchased at Adyar, with a view to absorb the large number of applications in respect of that area, which are still pending. Applications for acquisition under the Land Acquisition Act have been sent to Government in the case of all these three areas and the Government have asked the Collector to take action under the emergency provisions of the Act. Meanwhile, a proposal is under the active consideration of the society, to apply to the Government for the appointment of a Special Land

Acquisition staff, with a view to expedite proceedings.

So far as the designs of houses are concerned, it is proposed to have three classes of houses, A class costing about Rs. 15,000, B about Rs. 10,000 and C about Rs. 5,000 (all exclusive of the site value). There is provision in the by-laws of the Society for constructing other classes of houses also, costing more than the estimates mentioned above and it is likely that some members may go in for these types. The designs under each class have been prepared by Mr. Jambulinga Naicker, Consulting Architect to the Government of Madras on the lines formulated by the Designs Committee formed from among the members of the Board and consisting in addition, of representatives of A, B and C class applicants, co-opted for the purpose. Several sittings of the Designs Committee were held before the designs were finally approved. Three designs under each of the classes, A, B and C, have been finalized apart from special designs under A class. The designs are under print and they will be sent to the members shortly. Option will be given

to the members to choose any of the three designs under each class.

The Government have been pleased to place at the disposal of the society, the services of the Deputy Registrar free of cost, to work as Secretary. The Society has taken an Executive Engineer of the Public Works department on foreign service to be in charge of construction work. He has taken charge by the middle of this month. Speedy arrangements are being made to procure building materials like, bricks, timber, iron, cement, etc. Government have reserved 7,000 tons of timber of the Forest department for Co-operative Housing Schemes and a special quota of iron and steel at the rate of 1,000 tons per quarter is expected from the Government of India. The requirements of this Society can be easily met out of these allotments.

The Society is fortunate to get the active co-operation of all the departments and officers concerned with the scheme, the Corporation, the Public Works department, the department of Co-operation, Forests, Industries and Commerce, etc. It is hoped that actual construction will start in January and may be finished by September 1948.

Where Madras Leads Government's Far-flung Irrigation Plans

Much light was thrown on the potentialities of the various irrigation schemes of the Madras Government during the recent visit of the Hon'ble Mr. N. V. Gadgil, Minister for Works, Mines and Power, Government of India. Opportunity was taken during the visit to explain the various irrigation and other projects of the Government to the Minister and to indicate the directions in which central help would be needed in the matter. There was a conference at the Banqueting Hall on the 21st December 1947 which was attended among others by the Chief Engineer to the Government and other officers as well as Ministers. Besides Mr. Gadgil, Mr. G. K. Gokhale, Secretary to the Government of India, Works, Mines and Power and Mr. A. N. Khosla, Chairman of the Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission, also attended the conference.

It is well known now that the Provincial Government have a number of projects in hand to expand the irrigation facilities in the province. This expansion is all the more urgent at this juncture when the food position is not what it ought to be. This province is deficit in foodgrains to the extent of two million tons of rice and this figure may rise up to 2½ millions in 1951 taking into account a normal rate in the growth of population. Self-sufficiency in food is a central fact in economic independence and the Provincial Government have therefore mapped out a heavy irrigation programme as part of their plan to make this province self-sufficient. The Tungabhadra project which is now under execution is expected to bring 3 million acres under the plough and the Ramapadasagar project 2.2 million acres. Besides these, there are three other major projects, namely, the Kistna-Pennar project, the Gandikota project and the Lower Bhavani project. All these projects combined are calculated to bring an extent of 3.6 million acres of land under cultivation. The Kistna-Pennar project alone will bring 2.5 million acres of land under cultivation. The total cost of all the schemes envisaged works out on a rough estimate to 130 crores. The figure does not include the cost of the Tungabhadra and the Ramapadasagar projects. If the cost of the latter two projects is also included the total outlay would amount roughly to 280 crores for expenditure in the next ten years.

The details of the Tungabhadra project are now generally known. It

is expected to be completed in 1952. The height of the dam will be 126 feet above the deepest foundation and the reservoir would hold 113,000 cubic feet of water and provide irrigation facilities for dry crops principally in portions of Kurnool and Bellary districts. Seven thousand K.W. of firm hydro-electric power and 14,000 K.W. of seasonal power would be generated in the project. As regards Ramapadasagar dam, it is to be constructed at Polavaram. The chief constructional difficulty in connexion with this project relates to the excavation and dewatering of the exceptionally deep foundation trench to an extent of 200 feet below the bed level at the deepest section. This difficulty is not one which has been experienced anywhere else in the world. However, expert opinion considers the project feasible. Its reservoir will be the second largest in the whole world. The project would bring into cultivation 9 million acres of new land and will provide for raising a second crop in about 1.4 million acres of land in the new and old irrigation areas. Thus the total area of irrigation under the project will be 2.2 million acres. About 200,000 K.W. of firm hydro-electric power will be generated. The canals will provide navigation facilities right from the Bay of Bengal to the interior of Hyderabad and Central Provinces.

A similar go-ahead policy has also been chalked out in respect of Government's power development. It was disclosed during the conference that the Government have a five-year plan in this matter. The plan contemplates—

(1) The completion of the Machkund project which is to yield 50,000 kilowatts of power in the initial stage;

(2) doubling the capacity of the existing thermal power stations at Vizagapatam and Bezwada;

(3) completion of a new thermal station at Nellore with an output of 5,000 kilowatts of power;

(4) completion of the Ceded Districts Grid and energising it with power bought in bulk from Mysore till such time when power is made available from the Tungabhadra project;

(5) expansion to the Pykara Hydro-electric plant to give an additional 25,000 kilowatts of power;

(6) completion of the Moyar project with an installed capacity of 36,000

kilowatts utilizing the tail waters from Pykara;

(7) expansion of the Papanasam Hydro-electric station to give an output of 28,000 kilowatts of power;

(8) modernising and expanding the Madras Power Station to give additional power of 15,000 kilowatts immediately and an ultimate yield of 60,000 kilowatts of energy; and

(9) linking Madras to the Mettur system.

At the present time electrical energy is made available in about 1,000 villages in the province. The demand for electric power from rural areas is great and is of such a magnitude as cannot be adequately met by the Electricity Department, until the supply position of materials improves. Nevertheless, rural electrification schemes are in hand for another 1,500 villages. Efforts have also to be made for the supply of cheap electrical power ultimately to all the villages in the province.

Mr. Khosla as well as Mr. Gadgil also spoke at the conference. The former pleaded for integrated development of irrigation and suggested that there was a very strong case for utilizing 90 per cent of water in both Godavari and Kistna rivers which at present is running to waste. Incidentally it may be mentioned that excess water for utilization is available only in Godavari and Kistna rivers and extension of irrigation facilities can be provided only in tracts watered by these rivers. Mr. Khosla also referred to the electrical power development arising out of the irrigation projects, and said that there could be no difficulty inasmuch as rural demand for electric power was likely to be great. That was the experience in other countries notably Canada and Sweden, especially in the former where already all the rural areas were supplied with electric power. Cottage industries can also be supplied with electric power. As regards the role of machinery, he was of the opinion that machinery should be employed only where manual labour was not available. In India there is plenty of manual labour and it is desirable that machinery is not used to the extent of the displacement of manual labour. Mr. Gadgil in his address expressed satisfaction of the progress, Madras has been making in the field of irrigation development.

FIGHT MALNUTRITION WITH SHARK LIVER OIL

Science has forged a weapon to fight malnutrition and disease from the much dreaded Shark that swims the seas. In the livers of Sharks has been located by Scientists a rich store-house of two valuable vitamins essential for human health; for **SHARK LIVER OIL** is a concentrated store of Vitamins A and D, without which healthy life is impossible.

THE GOVERNMENT OIL FACTORY has done pioneer work in the production of medicinal Shark Liver Oils in India and has successfully marketed **M.G.B. SHARK LIVER OIL**, standardised to contain 1,500 international units of Vitamin A and 100 international units of Vitamin D per gramme and conforming to British Pharmacopoeia requirements.

M.G.B. SHARK LIVER OIL is 2 to 3 times more potent, and a superior substitute for cod liver oil in building up resistance against cold and infection, to correct nutritional deficiencies and build up and maintain health and efficiency. It is invaluable to child and adult for robust life in these days of poor food and malnutrition.

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GOVERNMENT OIL FACTORY, CALICUT.

Production drive

The economic situation now is as grave, if not graver, as during the war and it is obvious that increased production can be achieved only through a sustained and planned effort as during the war.

Almost since the end of the war, but more noticeably from August 1946, there has been a steady decline in industrial production with the result that considerable installed capacity is now lying idle. For example, while the peak production of cotton textiles in the period before 1944 was 4,826 million yards per year, the production estimated for 1947 is only 3,500 million yards. Of steel, though there is an installed capacity of 1,264,000 tons per year and as much as 1,160,000 tons was actually produced in 1943, production has declined up to 875,000 tons, as estimated for 1947. Similarly the monthly capacity for cement in India is 173,000 tons, but the actual production estimated for the present year is 112,000 tons per month; and while the annual capacity for paper production is 110,000 tons, only 86,000 tons would be produced in 1947, according to estimates.

The list of industries in which such a fall in production is so pronounced is a long one. But in not less than thirty items the problem of under-production is capable of being tackled and overcome immediately if proper measures are taken forthwith. The following is the list of these industries, in which immediate action can be taken to step up production: steel, cotton textiles, cement, drugs (tinctures and galenicals), sulphuric acid, superphosphates, caustic soda, alcohol, soap, glass, pottery, refractories, enamelware, abrasives, paper and boards, leather, plywood, diesel engines, iron castings, bicycles, machine tools, metals, electric lamps, dry cells, motor-car batteries, electric motors, transformers, electric fans, cables and wires, insulators, electrolytic black copper and belting.

Causes of Decline

The fall in production below installed capacity in all these cases is broadly ascribable to three causes: (1) Transport difficulties, (2) shortage of raw materials both indigenous and imported and (3) labour unrest.

Though the railways in India are now moving more goods than before the last war, there is yet a considerable gap between demand and supply and the present level of movement is actually less than that attained during

the war. The short-fall in movement has reacted alike on the clearance of finished products and on the supply of raw materials to industry. Steel, cement and paper are three among the main industries suffering from this lack of adequate transport facilities, while chief among the materials affected is coal. For while the railways are themselves taking about 50 per cent of all the coal being moved, they are moving less coal now than they did in 1945 or early 1946, while the demand from industry has increased by 4 to 5 million tons per year. If the industries selected for immediate plan should be enabled to work up to capacity, the supply of coal would have to be increased by about 150,000 tons per month over the level that has been prevailing recently.

The problems of transport difficulties need mainly a long-term solution, but meanwhile, it is hoped, with the co-operation of labour, rationalization of available facilities and diversion of traffic through road, river and sea, a considerable improvement is still possible.

As for shortage of raw materials, though its incidence is very extensive, the main commodities in acute short supply impeding industrial expansion in the country are, besides coal, steel and cement. The demand for steel is well over 2 million tons per annum, but availability is less than 1 million tons and indigenous capacity only about 1½ million tons. Similarly while the requirements of cement are between 200,000 and 250,000 tons per month, installed capacity is only 173,000 tons. Shortages in these commodities will persist even after full production of existing capacity is reached.

In a different category are raw materials such as caustic soda, soda ash and non-ferrous metals, for whose supply India is dependent mostly on imports, but of which there is a world shortage. As measures to increase their imports can succeed only to a limited extent there is a clear need for utilizing their available supplies in a rational manner so as to yield maximum production. For example, in soap industry there are three classes of factories, the first having an annual capacity of 64,000 tons, the second 96,000 tons and the third 90,000 tons. The main bottleneck in the industry is caustic soda of which only 12,000 tons can be spared for soap manufacture against the total annual demand of 28,000 tons. The present allocation of caustic soda

which is made more or less on a *pro rata* basis, has resulted in the production of soap to an extent of 85,000 tons, which quantity can easily be increased if the factories of the higher classes receive preference in allocation. Similar revision of allocation may step up glass production, in which case the main shortage is in soda ash, 22,500 tons being available against a demand of 30,000 tons.

Another category of shortages consists of imported components, some of which are in world short supply. The main problem regarding the rest is, however, that existing monetary ceilings and delays in licensing have created difficulties, which must be immediately rectified. It is, however, pointed out in this connexion that certain machinery and raw materials may be immediately available in surplus stocks held by the Disposals Organization.

Labour can Avert Present Crisis

In some ways, labour unrest has been the biggest cause of the decline in production, and though a supreme industrial effort was made possible during the war by the willing co-operation of labour, its post-war activities have had an adverse effect on industry. The effect has been most marked on the railways and on steel and textile production, to name the most important; but practically no industry has escaped. But surely what labour gave to the war effort, it could and should give more freely now, when the crisis of the country's economic affairs is as grave, if not worse than the war emergency.

South Indian Railway Traffic Statistics

The details of public train miles as compared with November 1946 are as follows:—

Public Train Miles.	Novem-ber 1946.	Novem-ber 1947.
Coaching ..	675,034	855,895
Goods ..	251,410	256,810
Total ..	926,444	1,112,705

Details of traffic both coaching and goods carried during the month of November 1947, as compared with the corresponding month of last year and the previous month are given below.

The increase in coaching earnings compared to the previous year is due to the introduction of additional trains, increase in fares and the Krithigai

(Continued on page 36)

Topics of the day

The Industries Conference

The rapid industrialization of India is one of the major problems facing the Central Government and despite numerous pre-occupations, the Government are moving quickly in the matter. The recent Industries Conference was convened primarily to pool ideas in industrial matters. It was attended by experts from all over India and its deliberations have thrown a flood of light on the many aspects of the industrial problem of the country.

A comprehensive survey of the present industrial situation in the Indian Dominion was made by the Hon'ble Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerji, India's Minister of Industry and Supply, in the course of his opening speech at the Industries Conference. The speech also contained certain concrete proposals for the immediate expansion and long-term planning of Indian industries; and it concluded with an appeal to all the parties in the country to combine together in a vigorous co-operative effort which would make possible a rapid transition "from our preponderating colonial economy of raw materials produced by exploited masses to a national economy of industrial goods produced in abundance by skilled workers fully enjoying the fruits of their labour."

The Conference whose object, according to the Minister, was not merely to exchange views on the larger problems of industrial policy and planning, but to assist the Government of India in arriving at decisions for an immediate increase in production and industrial development on a short-term, was attended by about 190 delegates.

In the course of his speech Dr. S. P. Mookerji observed "This Government is pledged to the proposition that the freedom we have gained will be used for the benefit of all, and accordingly it has been embodied in our constitution that this nation shall live and prosper as a Socialist Republic. It will be in the common interest of all to ensure that the transition from the present economic freedom to that ideal should be as smooth and speedy as possible, and at every stage of our progress we shall utilize all available capital resources, manpower and talent in business, administration and technology to the fullest extent possible for increasing the wealth and efficiency of our country."

"We have collected plenty of materials and reports," he said, "and

the time is now fully ripe for action on lines best suited to our national advancement."

Then referring to the recent decline in production which had begun since the end of the war but became more noticeable from August 1946, Dr. Mookerji said, "A review of the recent fall in industrial production is indeed most disturbing. In cotton textiles, for example, our production has fallen from round about, 4,800 million yards in 1945—the production during the first two years of control—to 3,800 million yards. The causes of this decline are well known. In steel, the fall has been from 1,180,000 tons per year to 875,000 tons. It is the same with cement, the monthly production of which has dropped from 160,000 tons to 112,000 tons. These examples are typical of the general fall in production right through the whole field of industry. Indeed, the economic situation now is graver than during the last war. In every sense of the term we are now in an industrial crisis of a type we have never seen before."

Why production fell

"Side by side with this unfortunate state of affairs is a worsening of the inflationary situation in the country. The gap between spendable income which is growing and the volume of goods which is dwindling is widening everyday. It is well known that our inflation is very largely due to the increase of currency in the country caused by the issue of rupee money by the Reserve Bank of India against sterling deposits in London. Although inflation due to this cause has ended and in fact currency circulation has been falling slightly, prices have shown a progressive increase, bringing in its train an enhancement of wages and salaries. This vicious circle of fall in production and rise in prices can only be broken by increasing our productive capacity through a sustained and planned effort. We have

examined a number of our most important industries with this objective. Of the many causes responsible for a fall in production, the most important have been unsatisfactory relations between labour and industry, a shortage of raw materials and defects in their distribution, inadequacy of transport to meet present needs, difficulty in obtaining capital goods and constructional materials to instal them and supply and exchange limitation on the import of full requirements of industry. The remedy for these defects will be the first major problem of Government."

Dr. Mookerji then pointed out the importance of promoting stable relations between labour and management, in particular by calling for a truce in lockouts and strikes until the present crisis was over. He indicated that this subject would be further discussed on December 18 and that the Hon'ble the Labour Minister was bestowing special attention on this matter. "This is the vital part of the work of our Conference," he said, "on which the ultimate success of our efforts depends."

Speaking on the short-term plans, Dr. Mookerji said: "Government recognize that they have a special responsibility to discharge if these schemes are to materialize. For example, the capacity of rail transport should be increased to meet prospective demands of movement of constructional materials, fuel, raw materials and finished products; hydro-electric projects and ancillary thermal stations to supply power to industry should be speedily executed; the rapid growth of the coal industry on rational lines has to be ensured and for that purpose the recommendations of the Indian Coalfields' Committee have to be implemented soon. New steel plants have to be erected and brought into operation; and in the meantime, every effort should be made to import the country's essential requirements in steel and iron and other raw materials. The administrative machinery of Government at the Centre must also work in complete harmony with Provincial Governments and the States, with industry, labour and other interests, so as to minimize delay and deadlocks and maximize progress and efficiency."

Dr. Mookerji then referred to the decision taken by the Government of India to set up under the auspices of the State two new steel plants each of 500,000 tons capacity with possibility of expansion to a million tons. At the same time, measures

would also be considered to utilize the spare capacity of our Ordnance Factories, remodelled and expanded in wartime for meeting the needs of industry. It had been decided already to utilize the Mathematical Instruments Office in Calcutta for the production of scientific apparatus and the expansion of the resources of the Alipore Test House was under active consideration. Dr. Mookerji referred to the importance of quality control movement, and to the question of revising the existing patent law with a view to promoting exploitation of patents taken out by Indian nationals. He added that funds on a generous scale had been placed at the disposal of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for conducting research with a view to improving the efficiency of technological processes, and the quality of raw materials and finished products.

Industrial equipment and personnel

He continued, "Most of our industrial equipment will for some years have to come from abroad. Some of this will no doubt help towards the progressive liquidation of India's sterling resources built up at much human and material cost during the war. But plant has also to be imported from countries like the U.S.A. with whom our balance of trade is in consequence likely to be adverse for many years to come. Last May, the heavy liquidation of our foreign currency resources constrained us to reimpose the control over imports which we had relaxed a few months earlier in pursuance of Government's general policy of progressive decontrol of commodities at the appropriate moment. India is of course no exception in the matter of currency difficulties which affect most of the countries of the world. Like them we also have to look either to the export trade or to foreign loans or to regulated investment of foreign capital in industrial enterprise to remedy difficulties regarding balance of payments. My colleague in charge of the Commerce Ministry in opening the proceedings of the Export Advisory Council in New Delhi last month emphasized that the export policy of Government would be conditioned by two main factors: the need for conserving and increasing India's resources of foreign exchange and the consolidation of her position in the export markets of the world. The need for an export drive, therefore, needs no emphasis.

"One of the most important problems facing industry is the paucity

of competent technical personnel. During the past three years considerable sums of public money have been spent in Overseas training of Indian Scholars. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. B. C. Roy, has examined this scheme and recommended steps for making such training more effective. The wastage in this respect has been enormous. There is also a great demand for the services of competent foreign technical personnel to improve the efficiency of Indian industries. The establishment of scientific and technical liaison offices abroad for the recruitment of such technologists and for making better arrangements for training of Indian students in industry is under consideration. But these are mere palliatives. India should not hesitate to establish the most up-to-date technological institutions, and, if necessary, invite experts of high standing from every part of the world for affording equal opportunity to Indians of all classes to acquire the highest technical knowledge and skill in their own country. It pays better to engage a foreign expert on £2,000 a year to train a dozen talented young Indians in the country itself than to send the same dozen overseas for similar training at a cost of £8,000 a year. We are also taking steps for maintaining a register of technically qualified men whom industry may absorb. The success of this scheme will depend on the response we receive from industry."

Progress of State enterprise

Dr. Mookerji discussed the question of State management at some length in the course of which he observed: "It has often been argued that State management is far less efficient than private management, and hence it should be avoided. This is rather an argument really in favour of the State adopting the methods of private management and not for giving up industrial undertakings altogether. In the advanced countries of the West, owner-managers are rapidly yielding place to salaried Managing Directors who are experts in business administration and industrial production. Management of State-owned industries by statutory corporations may offer the correct solution."

"In a statement of Industrial Policy which was issued by Government in 1945, a list was given of some industries of national importance which might be owned and operated by the State if adequate private capital were not forthcoming. The list included iron

and steel, chemicals and dyes, automobiles and tractors, electro-chemical and non-ferrous metal industries. The Railways, the Ordnance Factories, the Hindustan Aircraft, Limited, and a number of public utilities are already State-owned and operated. The Fertilizer Factory in course of construction in Bihar and the large projects of power development are going to be executed as State enterprises. The National Planning Committee whose reports are now being gradually published, has recommended that all defence and key industries should be owned and operated by the State. The Advisory Planning Board which met at the end of last year, recommended that, apart from Defence Industries, and any industry or branch thereof which it might be found desirable to start as a State enterprise through the reluctance of private capital to undertake it, the nationalization of the following should be considered:—

Coal, Mineral Oils, Iron and Steel, Motor, Air and River transport.

"Leaving aside any theoretical discussion on the issues of State-ownership versus private enterprise, Central planning for the basically important industries is essential from the point of view of conservation of limited capital resources and foreign exchange, avoiding wasteful competition and securing regional development which would advance the standard of living in the country as a whole and ensure a proper dispersal of industries throughout India. Central planning necessarily involves certain controls, such as regulation of prices and profits and the wages and conditions of labour. A tentative list of the industries which appear suitable for Central Planning will no doubt be considered by you. It is for you to recommend to Government which of them should be State-owned, partially State-owned or owned entirely by private enterprise. We have also to consider the nature and extent of the participation of foreign capital and management which will be allowed in our country by the Central Government on conditions to be determined by them in the interests of our economic advancement and safety."

"India is a land of villages," he continued, and assured the Conference that Government would attach the greatest importance to the development of cottage and small-scale industries to ensure a balanced economy. He indicated that though the development of these industries must remain

the responsibility of the Provincial and State Governments, Central Government should also make continuous efforts in order to make them ancillary to large-scale industries.

Special mission to go abroad

Inviting suggestions from the Conference regarding the machinery that Government must set up for advising them on some of the vital matters dealing with the immediate short-term and long-term programmes, Dr. Mookerji concluded: "I am most anxious that our long-term plans for industrial development will be ready in a precise and concrete form by April 1948, so that we may be in a position to send out a special Mission

Sir Visveswarayya's Suggestions

Speaking at the Conference Sir M. Visveswarayya said: "I hope the proceedings of this Conference will develop into practical proposals which would be equally sound and satisfactory, and that whatever proposals are approved, they would be brought into effect with promptness, which is characteristics of western countries. I had an opportunity of meeting some principal manufacturers in America a few months ago, and in one of the meetings that we had with the National American Manufacturers, the President said, 'We in this country follow this policy—

'Small cost to consumers, high wages to workers, and fair return for owners of capital.'

These are the principles we are guided by and we recommend the same to you. We are sure that if you follow that, you will reproduce America."

"I am not so optimistic about our own country, but one impression which our wanderings through many of the industries made upon us was that there is very good prospect for the next fifteen or twenty years in this country for industries, and every effort should be made to develop them on western lines, not on the old lines which we have been accustomed to for generations. Industries were retarded before the war, industries were kept out of the country during the war, and since the war ended, we are involved in all sorts of political troubles, but I hope that these troubles would end soon and an era of constructive effort will begin. One thing that I want to say is that many of our

to visit foreign countries with a view quickly to obtaining assistance in regard to plant and machinery and technical personnel. Meanwhile every one of us, Government, Industry, Labour and the public should do every thing possible to speed up production to the maximum of our capacity and not allow any party or other extraneous consideration to sabotage this great and united effort. The efforts of those who are represented here will and must be harnessed with the programme of expansion, envisaged by the Ministries of Food, Agriculture and Works, Mines and Power, thus leading to a planned and progressive reconstruction of India's economic structure."

friends in the mufassal and in the provinces think that we must develop small industries. It is no use bothering about big ones. I must say that small industries have not brought any country prominence or power or prosperity. It is the heavy industries alone that have done good to many countries and heavy industries have given a country an industrial character. For instance, in America there are about ten industries—a list has been given in one of my publications which have brought America to the front—and brought her prosperity and a rise in her standard of living. Canada has eight industries, and in England also a dozen industries were utilized which brought her in the past power and prosperity. We should do the same thing."

Importance of heavy industries

"We should give special importance to heavy industries so far as money power and military power are concerned. They are indispensable. Industrial development should mean development of heavy industries. In America, for instance, the smaller industries were all treated as part of agriculture. Agriculture is very good to give people food and subsistence requirements. But smaller industries have not made any country rich or prosperous. That much I should say."

"The next point is that there are some industries like steel, machine tools and machinery, and electric power which are very urgently needed in the country, and as regards these things we should not proceed by calculating on the old lines as to

whether it would pay immediately 5 per cent or 4 per cent or whether it would not yield any revenue. Speed is more important in such industries than loss of money. That is one of the things we should remember."

"The third point is that in western countries it is by risk-taking that industries are developed. By taking risk, some good industries are started and a large number of people are profited. Many people benefit from the activities of a few enterprising persons. We must in this country also encourage enterprise."

"Last of all, capital is required for the development of industries. The capital we have put into our industries is very low. I calculated about twelve years ago that it was 700 crores, including about 400 crores from British sources, and 300 crores from Indian sources. In Canada to-day, they have got, I think, about 1,600 crores or so. In Australia also they have a very large amount. Here we still have not more than 700 or 800 crores. With this capital you may be sure you will not become a nation and without borrowing money, you will not be able to develop industries. Even the United States built up here industries by borrowing money from England. I do not see why we should not borrow money, and there are more people who are very timid about it. Money can be borrowed by making arrangements with America. We want machinery, we want experts, we want capital. All these should be secured not in the ordinary way through Ambassadors and all that, but by special discussions at governmental level with the authorities at Washington. I am sure they will respond cordially. I have had personal discussions with some friends who are leading financiers and also with leading officers of the Government at Washington, and I think they are very well disposed. A beginning has to be made, and that can be made if they have confidence in our political conditions and also if the Government approach them with definite terms which should be very attractive to merchants and trades people there."

Dangers to Overcome

"There are three dangers in this country, gentlemen, and I think it is necessary to mention it at this time. The first danger is the absence of means of subsistence in certain spheres in certain parts of the country, and that has become chronic now. We must guard against that danger."

"The second danger is political. It is very important that we should develop our defence power to the maximum extent as early as possible; and it is necessary also that a large number of leaders in the country should go into that question and assure the public that all is well.

"Thirdly, there are many developments necessary. Take for instance the Bangalore Aeroplane Factory. It has been going on slowly. It started to manufacture aeroplanes, but the then Government soon stopped that. In future we should develop our aircraft factories as soon as possible.

"There is one more point I want to bring to your notice, and that is that it is very important that statistics should be improved. The very first thing to do is that in every region you must have a budget and plans for the coming year, and then at the end of the year there should be a statistical table showing the results. That should be done in every province, and it ought to be distributed among regional units. I want to suggest that regional units should be created in this country of three descriptions—one is city, second is town, and the third is groups of 15 or 20 villages. So these three units should be created and then budgets and statistics at the end of the year are all definitely prescribed. The whole system of industrial development should then come into proper order.

A Resolution calling upon labour and management to maintain industrial peace and avert strikes, lock-outs and slowing down of production for a period of three years was adopted unanimously at the Industries Conference held in New Delhi on Thursday under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukerji.

The Resolution says:

"This Conference considers 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 labour and management and stable and friendly relations between them. The employer must recognise the proper role of labour in industry and the need to secure for labour fair wages and working conditions; labour for its part must give equal recognition to its duty in contributing to the increase of the national income without which a permanent rise in the general standard of living cannot be achieved. Mutual discussion of all problems common to both and a determination to settle all disputes without recourse

to interruption in or slowing down of production should be the common aim of employers and labour. The system of remuneration to capital as well as labour must be so devised that while in the interests of the consumers and the primary producers excessive profits should be prevented by suitable measures of taxation and otherwise, both will share the product of their common effort after making provision for payment of fair wages to labour, a fair return on capital employed in the industry and reasonable reserves for the maintenance and expansion of the undertaking.

For attaining these objectives, this Conference recommends:

(a) that the fullest use should be made of statutory and other machinery for the resolution of industrial disputes in a just and peaceful manner; where it does not exist, it should be created without delay. Such machinery should as far as possible be uniform throughout India.

(b) the establishment of machinery, Central, regional and functional, for the study and determination of fair wages and conditions of labour, and fair remuneration for capital; and methods for the association of labour in all matters concerning industrial production, such as the formation of Central, Regional and Unit Production Committees.

(c) the constitution in each industrial undertaking of Works Committees representing management and duly elected representatives of labour for the settlement of any dispute which may arise from day to day.

(d) that, as a first step towards improving the standard of living of workers, immediate attention should be devoted to the problem of housing of industrial labour; the cost of such

housing should be shared in suitable proportions between the Government, employers and labour, the share of labour being given in the shape of a reasonable rent.

The principles enunciated above having been accepted, this Conference calls upon labour and management to agree to maintain industrial peace and to avert lock-outs, strikes or slowing down of production during the next 3 years.

This Conference invites labour and management to assist Government to secure, promote and guarantee such agreements between the parties as will usher in a period of contented and orderly advancement towards a co-operative Commonwealth.

Industrial expansion

Eight resolutions bearing on subjects relating to immediate expansion of industry and industrial planning, both short-term and long-term, were adopted at the Industries Conference which resumed its open session today. The Hon'ble Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukerji, Minister of Industry and Supply, who presided, assured the Conference that these resolutions would have the prompt attention of the Government of India.

The resolutions adopted to-day deal respectively with (1) immediate, short-term and long-term objectives, (2) future industrial Policy, (3) foreign capital, (4) cottage and small-scale industries, (5) sales tax in Provinces and States, (6) excise on alcohol, (7) power alcohol and its admixture with petrol and (8) regular collection and maintenance of industrial statistics.

The Industries Conference is already setting up a special committee with the Hon'ble Prime Minister as Chairman.

(Continued from page 32)

festival and the increase when compared to the previous month is due to the Kirthigai festival.

The increase in goods earnings compared to the previous year is due to greater movement of fruits and vege-

tables, salt, firewood, sugar, coal and other goods while the decrease in comparison with October 1947 is due to less movement of grain and pulses, cotton, timber, coal, oilseeds and other goods.

	November 1946.	November 1947.	October 1947.
Coaching traffic—			
Number of passengers ..	8,691,301	12,856,210	12,468,420
Earnings	Rs. 57,78,514	69,51,763	67,55,512
Goods traffic—			
Weight in tons	495,109	483,697	539,083
Earnings	Rs. 44,16,487	46,91,200	49,81,388

Electricity Development in the Province

Mr. Bakthavatsalam's Broadcast

This is an age of electricity. India is a land of villages and the reconstruction of these villages is a major task of all Governments. For this, electricity is an essential accessory. The Hon'ble Minister, in his broadcast, surveys the present position of electricity in the Province and the plans for its future development.

Electricity has a big part to play in the reconstruction of the country. The pace of industrial, economic and social improvements much depends on cheap power being made available over the whole countryside.

The role of electricity in the shaping of our social and economic future is understood only imperfectly by the general public. Electricity is not merely a form of energy which gives light, heat and motive power to industries. It is mobile power capable of instant transmission over long distances and convertible easily into an extraordinary variety of forms for multifarious uses.

Decentralization of Industry

This feature of mobility has a special significance to us in this land of

villages. Our way of life is centred in the village and all our plans for reconstruction aim at aiding the village to improve its living conditions by increased production of crops, goods, services and amenities. From the experience of western countries we learn that large-scale industries centred in urban areas had brought several social and economic evils. These evils are directly traceable to the circumstance which necessitated the migration of the industrial worker from his village home to the urban areas. We therefore prefer that our future development should be more in the form of cottage and village industries which allow the worker to live in his own home and amidst familiar surroundings. In other words, while we desire industrialization and increased production of goods, we want them so decentralized that every village and home is a centre of production. Electricity enables this decentralization to be effected without any difficulty or loss of efficiency, as power in even minute quantities can readily and cheaply be made available in every village home.

Electricity will invigorate the countryside as no other single agency

can. It is indispensable for industries. It will bring about a better balance between agriculture and industry providing all-round employment. Families will earn more and live better. Electric pumping will stabilize agriculture and make it less of an adventure than it now is. It will bring urban comforts to remote areas and the cultural education and entertainment which the radio affords can endow village life with an attractiveness which is not there now.

Power Resources

This Province cannot be said to be well endowed with natural power resources. No coal or oil deposits exist but recently lignite or inferior coal has been located in the South Arcot district. If the investigations which are proceeding indicate that it can be mined economically, it would be of great importance to industries as well as power development in the Province.

There are a good number of water-power sites in the Western Ghats and a few in the Eastern Ghats. About 75 sites have been examined so far in more or less detail but of these only 17 are

Admission—Dehra Dun Military College

The Government of India have decided that the next term at the Prince of Wales' Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun, will commence on the 3rd of February 1948 and close on the 29th of May. This change of dates effects only the next term.

Approximately fifty-two vacancies will be available at the College for admissions for the term. Out of these twenty-six vacancies will be filled by applicants who have attained the age of 11 years and are under 12 years on the date of commencement of the term of the College, i.e., on January 20, 1948, for which applications have already been forwarded. The remaining vacancies will be filled from the higher age groups for which the educational standard will be as follows:—

Age group.	Approximate number of vacancies available.	Educational standard.
12-13 ..	10	7th Class.
13-14 ..	9	8th Class.
14-15 ..	7	9th Class.

In order to be eligible for admission to any of the above classes an applicant should have attained on the 20th January 1948, the lower age-limit prescribed, but must not have reached the higher age limit on that date. Applicants in the higher age groups will be required to pass an entrance examination which will be held at Delhi Cantonment under arrangements to be made by the Army Headquarters (India). This examination will assess the general educational standard attained by the applicants and will determine the extent to which they compare with cadets of their corresponding age groups at the college. They will be required to travel to and from Delhi at their own expense.

Candidates who are eligible for the entrance examination for higher age groups should submit their applications through the District Officer of the district in which they reside so as to reach the United Provinces Government in the General Administration Department, Lucknow, not later than December 15, 1947. No application received after that date will be considered.

Electricity for Agriculture

Questions and answers in the Legislative Council amply reveal that the Government are giving the utmost priority to the needs of agriculture especially in regard to electricity there is a shortage of materials and they are purchased from wherever they are available. Orders have been placed on foreign countries but it may take time to get goods. The Government are strengthening the service stations and constructing new supply stations to increase the load. The Machkund scheme is expected to go through. Government are taking steps to strengthen the Bezwada station and for the construction of another thermal station at Nellore. They are giving utmost priority to agricultural demands but could not do so to the detriment of industrial and other purposes. The Government are fully alive to the importance of assisting agriculturists and would do everything necessary and possible.

at present considered worth development in the near future. A tentative estimate for primary—all the year round—power would be 400,000 K.W. Seasonal power to the extent of 300,000 K.W. would be available for some months in the year. This is not a large amount of power and it has to be recognized that Madras is among the poorer provinces of India as regards water-power wealth. Punjab, Bengal and Bombay are several times more wealthy.

Power Developed

About a fifth of the available primary water-power has been brought to use. Three Government hydro-electric installations are now working, those at Pykara in the Nilgiris, at Mettur on the Cauvery river, and at Papanasam on the Tambraparni river. During last year, i.e., 1946-47, these stations developed 300 million units.

In addition, the Government own thermal plants at Madras, Bezwada, Vizagapatam, Cocanada and Kurnool. The plant in Madras City was taken over by the Government in August last. With the acquisition of this plant, Government become responsible for generating 98 per cent of all the power produced in the Province.

Last year, the total amount of electricity generated in the Province was 409 million units or roughly eight units per capita. This is small compared to:

Mysore which uses 44 units per capita;

Great Britain which uses 800 units per capita; and

United States of America which uses 1,600 units per capita.

Consumption of electricity is often used as the yardstick of material prosperity. It will be seen that we have much headway to make and Government are fully alive to the need for rapid development of all our power resources. It is their intention to spread the use of electricity over the whole countryside and since the inception of the Government Electricity department, the objective of forming a network or grid of power-houses and transmission lines covering the Province had been kept in mind, and action taken accordingly.

The Madras Grid

The grid at present consists broadly of—

(1) the hydro portion covering the southern parts of the Province and fed by the interconnected power-houses at Pykara, Mettur and Papanasam;

(2) the thermal area of Madras; and

(3) the thermal area in the Andhra districts fed by the power-houses at Vizagapatam, Cocanada, Bezwada and Kurnool.

The grid at present is therefore in patches with intervening gaps. Plans have been prepared to fill in these gaps as early as possible and evolve a Province-wide interconnected grid. It is also the intention to connect this grid with the power networks of the neighbouring provinces and States. Connection has already been established with Travancore and an agreement to take bulk power from Mysore for use in the Ceded Districts has been concluded.

The Madras grid has now over 3,400 miles of high tension transmission lines and 2,000 miles of low tension distribution lines.

The total capital outlay so far on the grid (excluding the Madras Thermal plant for which the sale price is not yet settled) is Rs. 9 crores.

Among the major industries which are fed from the grid are:—

Textiles.	Railway workshops.
Cement.	Ship-building.
Chemicals.	Tea-curing.
Steel-rolling.	

Seventy-eight municipal towns in the Province and over 1,100 villages have been electrified. In the villages, the principal use is for pumping water for irrigation and there are over 7,500 such pumps now. There are also over 900 rural industries worked by electricity most of them serving to process the agricultural raw produce such as ginning cotton, hulling rice, milling corn, decorticating nuts, crushing sugar-canes, etc. Madras leads all other Provinces and States in India in the measure of rural electrification effected.

Five-Year Plan of Development

The public have become electrical-minded and there is widespread demand for rural electrification. The Government are doing all they can to meet this demand and they have sanctioned a five-year plan of development costing Rs. 15 crores. A brief review of the plan is given below.

Machkund Hydro-Electric Scheme

This scheme on the Machkund river on the Madras-Orissa border is for an initial installation of 52,000 K.W. to serve the Vizagapatam, Godavari, Kistna and Guntur districts. The scheme is being constructed jointly with the Orissa Government and Madras

will get 70 per cent of the output. The plant will be ready for operation in 1951. To meet the demand of the concerned districts in the meanwhile, the steam plants at Bezwada and Vizagapatam power-houses are being increased by 9,000 K.W. Work is in progress.

Nellore Thermal Station

This would serve the Nellore area and have an initial installed capacity of 5,000 K.W. Two transportable power sets had been ordered and they have been received. Work will shortly commence.

Madras Thermal Station

The Madras Electric Supply Corporation undertaking was taken over last August by the Government. As the plant is barely adequate for existing loads and as large industrial and general demand for power is expected in the City and its environs, additional plant of capacity 15,000 K.W. has been ordered and will be in service by the end of 1949. In the meanwhile, to meet the immediate and pressing demand, two transportable power sets totalling 5,000 K.W. are under erection and will start working within a few weeks.

The Madras plant will also be interconnected with Mettur by a 110,000 volt line which is under erection.

Moyar Hydro Scheme

A power-house utilizing the tail waters of Pykara is under construction with an installed capacity of 37,500 K.W. The plant will be in operation in 1949 and will help to meet the growing demands of the Mettur System especially in the Salem, Trichinopoly and Tanjore districts.

Pykara Hydro Extensions

These consist of a second dam on the Pykara river and additional pipe and power units of capacity of 27,000 K.W. at the Pykara station. The work will be completed by 1951 and the increasing power demands of the Coimbatore, Malabar and South Kanara areas will be met.

Papanasam Extensions and Madura Thermal Station

These provide for increased storage in the existing lake at Papanasam and an additional 7,000 K.W. generating unit. Work is in progress and will be completed in 1948.

To make up the dry weather power shortage at Papanasam, a thermal

station at Madura of capacity 4,000 K.W. is under erection and will be ready next year.

The combined output of Papanasam and Madura will suffice to meet the demand in the Madura, Ramnad and Tinnevely districts for the immediate future.

Ceded Districts Grid

This area will eventually be supplied by the Tungabhadra Hydro Power station. Pending its construction by 1952, an advance scheme for the development of the area by a grid has been sanctioned. Bulk power to the extent of 4,000 K.W. is to be bought from the Mysore Jog Hydro Scheme for a period of five years and supply will be available at Kudligi, Hospet, Bellary, Adoni, Guntakal and the neighbourhood by early 1949. Work on the transmission lines is in progress.

A number of major and minor transmission and distribution schemes

has also been sanctioned and work is in hand.

The schemes outlined above will result in doubling the existing capacity of power plant in the Province and as already mentioned will cost Rs. 15 crores.

Rural Electrification

There is an immense public awakening to the benefits arising from the use of electric power in the villages and urgent demands are being made for extension of supply to large rural areas. Government are doing all they can to meet the demand. Power plant and line materials have been ordered in large quantities but serious delays are occurring in their delivery. This is attributable to world conditions brought about by the war. Difficulty is also being experienced in getting steel, in arranging transport and in getting sufficient number of civil engineers for field work. There is further

Future Plans

Plans for starting several new industries in the Province are under discussion. The South Indian and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railways have schemes for the electrification of some of their main lines, and they intend to take these up shortly. These demands together with the needs of urban and rural supply have to be met in good time as they arise and the Government are planning accordingly. Good hydro schemes are available on the Palni Hills, in the Nilgiris and on the Cauvery and Godavari rivers and they will be taken up for execution in due course.

—By Courtesy A.I.R., Madras.

Sea Fisheries

The harvest of the seas only awaits to be collected, said Dr. D. D. Dasen, speaking at the weekly meeting of the Bengal Rotary Club recently. The Indian coast line gives us some 4,000 miles of access to wide seas where at present there is practically no fishing. At present regular fishing is confined to inshore waters mostly 5 to 6 miles from the shore and carried on by primitive methods of fishing with primitive types of craft and tackle while the deep sea has not even been quantitatively explored except in places. Fishermen in India are along-shore-men, not venturing on the open sea.

Statistics of the landing of sea fish on the West Coast of the Madras Presidency by fishermen following primitive methods are available. The area fished was only 5 to 6 miles from the coast and the fishing craft used was a dug-out canoe. On a coast 284 miles long, 180,000 tons of fish were landed in 1925 to 1926. And this was a poor year. The number of fishermen in this region was 25,548. The average quantity of fish landed by a fisherman works out at 7 tons for the year. The corresponding average for Japan is only three tons according to official reports. The Fishery Board for Scotland recorded an average of over 12 tons per fisherman for the year 1926. If therefore the Malabar Fisherman fishing only within 5 or 6 miles from the coast with the most primitive type of boats and nets and tackle can catch

in a poor year more than 50 per cent of the quantities fished by the Scottish fishermen who fish many miles away from the home ports using modern vessels and mechanised methods we may safely conclude that the Malabar coast is as rich as the best Scottish waters.

The evidence from Trawl-fishing in deeper waters up to about 70 fathoms on the Indian coast is also convincing. Trawling Surveys in Indian waters were conducted by the "Golden Crown" in Bengal from 1908 to 1911, the "Lilla" in Ceylon from 1920 to 1923, "The William Carrick" in Bombay in 1921 and 1922; and by the "Lady Goschen" in Madras from 1927 to 1930. Although the hours of work and the classification of fish were not the same for the different Trawlers, the results can be reduced to a more or less uniform basis for purpose of comparison. The average catch per day's fishing of 21 hours of the Steam Trawler "Golden Crown" in Bengal was 26.6 cwt. exclusive of sharks and rays; that of "Lilla" was over 47 cwt. and that of "Lady Goschen" on the Pedro bank opposite Tanjore district over 68 cwt., while the average catch of the Steam Trawler "William Carrick" in Bombay was 19.04 cwt., exclusive of sharks and rays, prawns and turtles. It is thus seen that the catch per day's trawling in Indian waters varies from 19.04 cwt. to 68 cwt. The corresponding figures for English Trawlers for per day's absence from

Port ranged from 14.62 cwt. in Portuguese and Moroccan waters to 49.3 cwt. in Iceland waters in 1921.

English fishing vessels are much larger and better fitted and work on strictly commercial lines and on well-known grounds.

Had the Indian trawlers been worked on a purely commercial basis the catches would have been larger. The data available, therefore, from the coast as well as from deeper waters support the view that the yield of tropical waters is at least as great as that of colder seas.

From the above we may attempt to estimate the total available food in the Indian seas. The length of the Indian Union's coast line is about 4,000 miles; excluding bays and inundations it is probably 3,100 miles. The area within the 100 fathom line varies in width along the coast. It is about 41 miles from Calcutta to Cocanada, only about 20 miles from Cocanada to Negapatam, about 52 miles from Negapatam to Cape Comorin and about 83 miles from there to Kathiawar. Calculating on these averages the area within the 100 fathom line is about 200,000 square miles.

For estimating the possible production of Indian seas the only data available for all classes of fish are the fairly accurate statistics of landings of sea fish on the Malabar Coast which indicates an average catch per square mile of sea fished to be 98.8 tons.

(Continued on page 42)

Department's Forum

Department of Industries and Commerce

Sericulture

It is beyond dispute that in a primarily agricultural country like India, cottage industries are necessary to supplement the unsteady income of the agriculturist. Much of the economic backwardness under which the agriculturist is labouring in the present day is attributed to want of properly organized cottage industries just to provide a 'stand-by' for the agriculturist when his main occupation gives way. So far as this province is concerned, there are a number of cottage industries which can be exploited profitably. Of these, sericulture is one of the most important. This province occupies an important place among the few silk-producing centres in India. Investigations which were carried out with a view to determining the localities of this province in which suitable climatic and other conditions required for sericulture are obtainable and the period during which sericultural operations could be carried out successfully, indicate that a number of tracts in the Ceded and Northern Districts of this Province fulfil the necessary conditions. It has also been recorded that mulberry silk worms from which the silk of commercial importance is obtained, can be successfully reared and that the bush mulberry, which is the common type in this part of the country, may be grown over a wide range of soil. The extent under mulberry cultivation which was 11,076 acres in 1920-21 is now round about 20,000 acres. The resources of this industry may be judged from the fact that it supports as many 20,000 to 30,000 families in the province and the annual production of silk is estimated to be 1½ lakhs lb. valued at Rs. 75 lakhs.

Government action

The Government realized the importance of this industry long ago and created a separate sericultural section under the technical guidance of sericultural experts in 1919 in order to organize the industry on scientific and rational lines. The Sericultural Expert is assisted by five Assistant Sericultural Experts under whom there is a network of specially trained technical staff to keep the Sericulturists in continuous touch with the day-to-day

developments in the industry and to assist them in their practical application. The Budgetary grants have increased appreciably in recent years from Rs. 10,591 in 1920-21 and Rs. 3,41,988 in 1944-45. Since 1919, the Department has launched on several schemes of far-reaching importance intended to develop the industry on modern lines and during the last two decades, the usefulness of the sericultural section has considerably increased. Some of the steps taken by the Government to stimulate the sericultural industry may be briefly indicated.

Expansion Programme

In 1942, the Government launched on an expansion programme and commenced to grant concessions like remissions of assessment on areas newly brought under mulberry, loans and assignment of waste lands for cultivation free of cost, free supply of cuttings for planting, etc., and as a result of this, the area under mulberry cultivation increased from 8,479 acres in 1941-42 to 18,026 acres in 1944-45. A sum of Rs. 65,000 has been so far distributed as loans and 1,261 acres of waste land assigned to landless poor. The sericulturists are taught the advantages of raising seedling plantations in preference to cuttings with a view to increasing the yield of leaves. Free mulberry saplings are also supplied to cultivators to have them grown in the hedges and back-yards of the houses of rearers, so that the leaves from these trees, which are rich in nutritive contents, may supplement the leaves from the bushes.

One of the Assistant Sericultural Experts has been specially deputed to tackle problems connected with the improvement of the yield and quality of the mulberry leaves with the ultimate object of reducing the cost of production since the cost of mulberry leaves forms nearly 70 per cent of the cost of production of silk.

Other steps to promote industry

The most important thing connected with the industry is the supply of disease-free layings in adequate quantities at the proper season. For this purpose, the Government are maintaining Seed Producing Centres technically known as "Grainages" solely

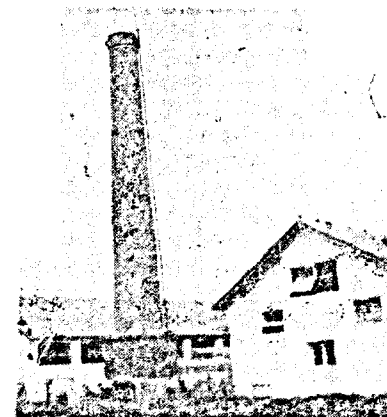
for the purpose of preparation and distribution of examined seeds for the benefit of the silkworm rearers in this Province. A system of aided grainages is also in force manned by practical Sericulturists specially trained for the purpose. The output of disease-free layings, both in the Government and aided grainages has advanced from 3,407 in 1921-22 to 5,570,277 in 1944-45. Farms have been organized in Madras in order to ensure a perennial supply of seeds. Though these are of recent origin the progress so far made has been considerable. Production has increased from 938,745 in 1943-44 to 11,127,750 in 1944-45. These farms also conduct selective rearings of pure local race for seed purposes. A Hill Rearing Station is being maintained at Coonoor in order to preserve the vigour and vitality of the exotic races of worms in a tropical country like Madras. There are also Government Silk Farms located at Kollegal, Thadaguni, Hosur and Palmaner, mainly for the multiplication of the foreign races of worms. A farm with nearly 100 acres under mulberry has also been recently established at Hosur for the production of foreign race seed cocoons required in cross-breeding. This farm with seven model rearing houses is the biggest of its kind in India. The production of foreign race seed cocoons has increased from 1,959,418 in 1943-44 to 7,231,740 in 1944-45.

The Government Farms and Grainages also disseminate the knowledge gained by the Department besides providing practical demonstrations to rearers in the vicinity. The Department is also maintaining a separate Research Section under a Pathology Assistant for conducting experiments. A cold storage plant with a capacity of 1,200 cubic feet has been installed in the Model Rearing House attached to the Central Silk Farm in Kollegal for the benefit of the seed producers. The Government are maintaining cocoon markets in this province to afford marketing facilities to the silkworm rearers to meet in a common place and to get a fair payment for their cocoons. The Department has also trained a number of young men in sericulture technique on stipends varying from Rs. 15 to Rs. 30. Students from other Provinces and States have also been trained.

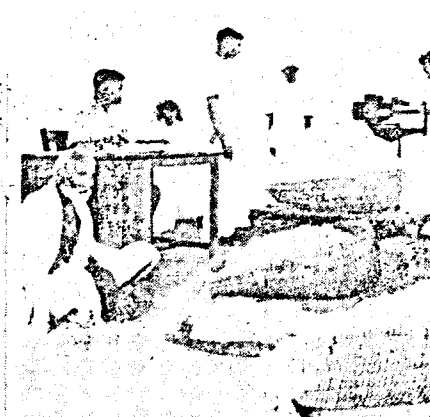
Filature Section

The history of filature section in this Province may be traced back to 1937 when a Joint Stock Company called the Kollegal Silk Filatures, Limited, was formed. The last Congress Ministry

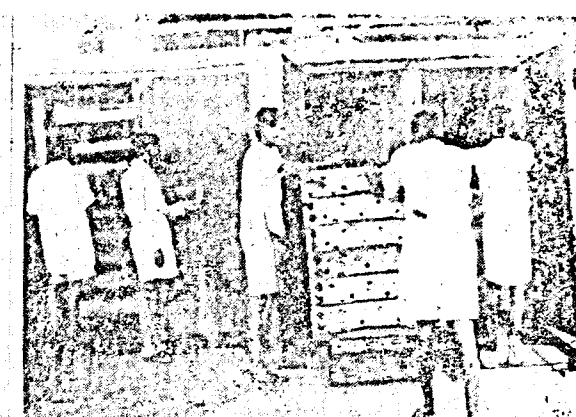
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Chimney of the Government Silk Filatures, Kollegal

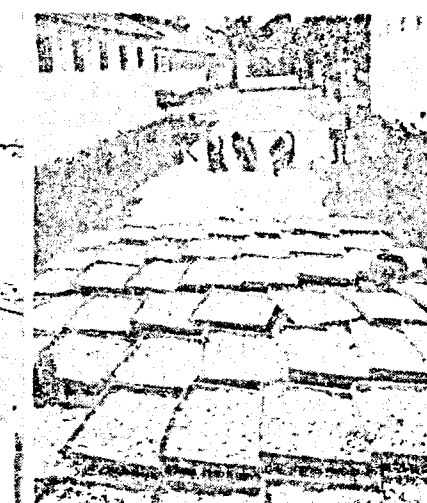


The Government have established cocoon markets where sellers are assured of correct weightment, proper assessment of rates, etc.



The steam chamber into which cocoons placed in perforated trays are pushed in a trolley—a method for killing pupae in cocoons

Another method of killing pupae in the cocoons. Hot air chamber process



An array of trays spread with steamed cocoons spread on more cocoons and some more gunny bags

Sorting cut of cocoons into various kinds

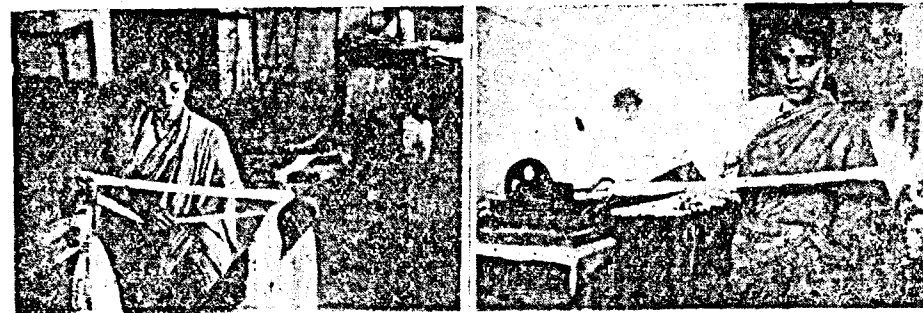


The Reeling Hall

Reelers—The woman in the picture is a coaker with her basket of cocoons beside her

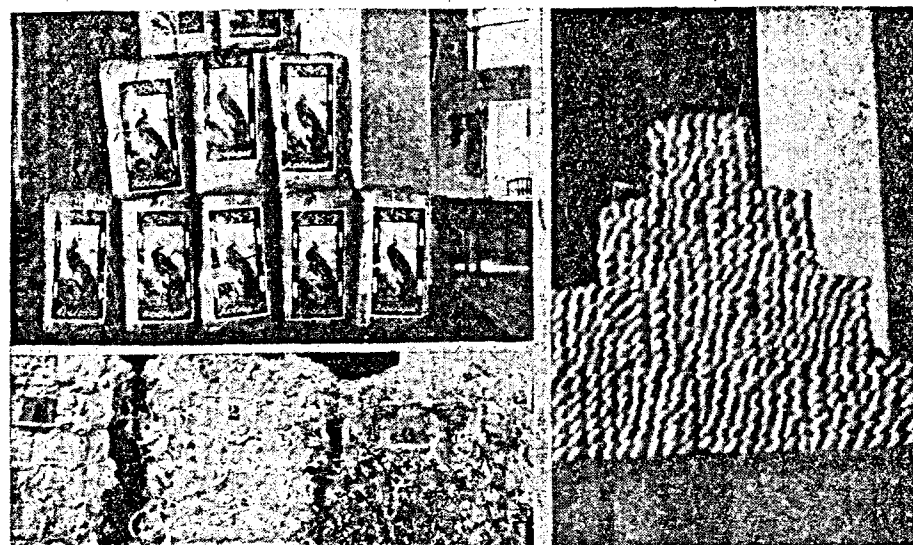


The output of silk are daily brought in the form of silken bands to the silk stores



A silk cleaner

The silk hank is being twisted into skein



Chop marks is affixed on brown paper packing

'Books' or bundles of skeins

Bales of silk waste sorted into different varieties

(Continued from page 39)

Working on this basis the possible production of the sea up to 100 fathom line which has about 200,000 square miles excluding Pakistan, should be about 20,000,000 tons when fully exploited. Therefore the sea-fisheries of the Indian Union should provide 145 lb. of fish annually per head of population or 107 grams of fish daily which is equal to about 40 grams of protein. This will more than make good the deficiency of 30 grams of protein in the diet of the poorest classes ascertained. Fat and vitamin A, the two other factors deficient in Indian food, will also be considerably augmented if the 145 lb. of fish be made annually available per head of the population. This would work out at about 14 grams of fat per head daily.

This untapped source of food in the Indian Seas is independent of climate

and the complex problems of production which we face on land.

Efforts in many directions are needed such as research, introduction of power-boats, development of refrigeration, up-to-date fishing methods and transport by rail and motor. Even in advanced countries this is a field for pioneer effort by Government. In the present condition of India for large planned practical work State-aid is indispensable.

Japan provides an object lesson as to what is possible. Until the end of the 19th Century, Japan's fishing fleet consisted only of small undecked sailing Sampan—15 to 30 feet long. Up to 1906 power-boats were unknown. By 1914 small motor boats had been introduced to the tune of about 900. Their number increased to 21,000 by 1927 and to 30,000 by 1931. We do not know what their position was just

before the war started. In 1906 with a population of 48 millions the total catch of sea-fish was 640,000 tons. This production was by set purpose developed by State-aid until in 1927 with a population of 60 millions the catches had risen to 2,250,000 tons and Japan had taken the foremost place among the fishing countries of the world.

For India with its ill-fed and rapidly increasing population the lesson is obvious. Indian fisheries offer an enormous source of food supply. If developed, it will go a long way to revolutionize the diet of the masses.

The health of a nation is its greatest asset and the foundation of good health is a sufficient and properly balanced diet. Here is a matter which must be looked into by all well-wishers of India's progress, by all leaders of thought and men of action.

(Continued from page 40)

gave a fillip to the promoters of the Company by subscribing for a certain percentage of shares. The Company did not however fare well for various reasons one of which was the cut-throat competition from Japanese and Chinese silk. Since the close of the war various improvements to the filature have been carried out.

The Present position

The Sericulture section is manned by 268 persons today in Kollegal, Gobichettipalayam, Coimbatore taluks in Coimbatore district, Hosur taluk in Salem district, Palmaner and Madanapalli taluks and Kuppam and Punganur zamins in the Chittoor district, Coonoor in the Nilgiri district and the districts of Bellary and Anantapur, Vizagapatam East and West Godavari and Tinnevely districts. There are one Central and eleven other silk farms, one Central

Government Grainage and three sub-grainage and 30 Government Aided Grainages in the Province.

Different stages of silk production

Elsewhere in this issue are published pictures showing the various stages in the process of silk production from cocoons. These stages may be briefly indicated. The silk worm rearers bring their harvest of cocoons to the Government cocoon markets for sale where they are always assured of correct weightment and proper assessment of rates according to quality and ready payment. Government have established cocoon markets for this purpose. The cocoons purchased by the Market Officers are transported by lorries to the Filature. Inside the cocoon there is the pupae or the Chrysalides. On the 10th day after the cocoons are spun by silk worms

these will emerge as moths and thus render cocoons unfit for reeling. To prevent the emergence of moths and the consequent loss to the Filature, the green or live cocoons are stifled in a steam chamber for a period of about 20 minutes. The pupae and cocoons are also killed by subjecting the cocoons to a drought of hot air in a hot air chamber. Then these cocoons are sorted into good, flimsy and double qualities. After sorting, they are despatched to the reeling hall where boys function as the reelers. The day's production of silk is then reduced to a form of silken bands and taken into the silk stores where they are cleaned and stored. Then they are made into skeins and later into bundles known technically as 'books'. These books are packed carefully and stored in the godown. The silk waste is also sorted into different qualities.

Revenue

Prohibition, in October 1947

Prohibition is proving a powerful lever in bringing about social and economic improvement among the poor classes. The following report speaks for itself.

The total number of cases detected in the 8 old districts during October 1947 was 2,738 as against 2,708 in September. The total number of cases detected in the new eight districts was only 658. The low number of cases detected in those new districts may be due either to the absence of any wide-spread efforts to violate the prohibition laws immediately after the introduction or to the lack of time on the part of the prohibition staff to start an organized drive against prohibition offences in view of their having taken up their stations recently.

The number of cases of smuggling of liquor into the dry area decreased from 76 to 64 in the old Prohibition districts. In the new Prohibition districts 9 cases of smuggling liquor into Malabar, 18 into Trichinopoly, 4 into South Kanara and 1 into Tanjore were reported. The smuggling was mainly from the neighbouring Indian states and French Establishments. The preventive staff have been instructed to keep a vigilant eye on the borders to prevent smuggling.

The number of cases relating to intoxicating drugs in the old Prohibition districts decreased from 187 to 170. The number in the new districts was 190, of which 166 related to unlicensed possession.

Substitute for drink.—The Government had sanctioned an allotment of

Rs. 100 for each shop for the provision of refreshment stalls in the place of 1,900 of the more important drink shops in the new Prohibition districts. Instructions were issued for the provision of refreshments to the ex-addicts at these stalls for a maximum period of three months from the date of inauguration of Prohibition. In the old districts the refreshment stalls which were being run by private persons continued to be popular and their stalls are reported to be increasing.

Rural recreation.—The 73 Rural Recreation Officers who were working in the 15 Prohibition districts except the Nilgiris during the month visited 1,735 villages and organized rural games in 927 villages. Forty-one firka tournaments and 12 taluk tournaments were also held during the month. The figures for the Nilgiri district are not available.

Bhajan, harikatha and kalakshepams, etc.—Bhajan, harikatha or Kalakshepams were held in 1,450 villages. Folk dances or cinema shows were held in 414 villages at the instance of the Development officers. Performances were given by local dramatic troupes in the districts of Chittoor, Anantapur, Kurnool, Bellary, Cuddapah, South Kanara, North Arcot and Trichinopoly.

Ballad singers.—The 57 ballad singers who were working during the

month visited 557 villages and organized community singing in 159 villages. 1,266 villagers were trained in community singing.

Propaganda vans.—Propaganda vans in the districts of Salem, Cuddapah, Anantapur, North Arcot, Coimbatore, Bellary, Tanjore, Madurai and South Kanara visited 7, 15, 24, 2, 33, 16, 8, 38 and 6 villages respectively. The vans in Trichinopoly, Nellore, Guntur, Kurnool and Anantapur were not in good condition.

Grama sangams.—Three hundred and twenty-four grama sangams, 15 firka associations and 10 taluk associations were formed during the month bringing the total number formed till the end of the month to 7,328 grama sangams, 212 firka associations and 56 taluk associations. The grama sangams attended to various beneficial activities.

Rural uplift schools.—The fourth rural uplift school was opened in each of the districts of Salem and Cuddapah during the month.

Thrift.—A total of Rs. 14,907 was saved during the month in hundi boxes and the total amount up to the end of the month was Rs. 1,13,845.

Uplift of women.—The Indian Women Civic Corps branches at Salem, Coimbatore and Arkonam carried on propaganda among women.

Employment of ex-tappers.—The number of ex-tappers who were thrown out of employment in the new eight Prohibition districts is as follows:—

South Kanara ..	15,000
Malabar ..	28,489
Trichinopoly ..	1,791
Nellore ..	2,465
Tanjore ..	4,555
Madura ..	1,700
The Nilgiris ..	..
Guntur ..	2,930

In South Kanara district 13 Co-operative Societies for palmyrah jaggery manufacture were organized of which 4 were registered. 900 licences were issued. The Government have also since sanctioned the organization of Co-operative Societies for the manufacture of coconut jaggery in selected centres. It is proposed to organize 40 more societies, and nearly 8,000 tappers will be absorbed in the preparation of jaggery. It is also

proposed to organize land colonization societies, and coir-making societies in Puthur, Mangalore, Udipi and Kasaragod taluks. In Malabar district the problem of finding employment to ex-tappers presented itself in a rather acute form. Nineteen Co-operative Societies for the manufacture of palmyrah jaggery were organized and registered. Of these, 10 have since started work. About 800 licences were issued to ex-tappers to draw sweet juice from palmyrah trees. The Government have also since sanctioned the formation of Coconut Jaggery Co-operative Societies in selected centres.

In Trichinopoly district some of the ex-tappers have taken to house building, and a majority of them are expected to take to agriculture. In Nellore and Tanjore districts some of the ex-tappers have found employment in agricultural operations. The problem of

unemployment was not acute in Madura district. In Guntur district most of the ex-tappers owned lands.

Beneficial effects of Prohibition

The reports received from the Collectors and Special Development Officers of the old districts indicate that there has been a general improvement in the social and economic condition of the ex-addicts. The poorer classes are reported to be drawing their rations in full. They are better fed, better clothed and appear cheerful. It is reported that most of them are utilizing their savings in purchasing lands, domestic articles, jewels for their wives and children, and in construction of houses and clearance of old debts. It is too soon to expect any perceptible improvement in the condition of the ex-addicts in the new 8 districts where Prohibition was introduced on 1st October 1947.

Labour Department

The Labour Situation in the Province for the Second Fortnight of November 1947

During the fortnight under reference five cases were referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication, in three cases amicable settlements were brought about through the efforts of the Commissioner of Labour and in two other cases possibilities of settlement are being explored by Local officers.

The Government have constituted a Provincial Town-Planning Committee to examine the working of the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920, with a view to making the Act more comprehensive and effective with Sri K. R. Karanth, M.L.A., as Chairman and twelve others including the Commissioner of Labour as members. They have also appointed the Inspector of Factories, Mangalore, and the Labour Officer, Calicut, as Inspectors under the Payment of Wages Act for South Kanara district and Malabar district respectively.

The General Secretary, Madras Tramway Employees' Union, has issued a notice of strike, dated 17th November 1947, to the management of the Madras Electric Tramways, Limited, Madras. The Labour Officer, Madras, is looking into the matter.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the management of Abraham Bus Transport, Limited, Poonamallee, Chingleput district.

They have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of Gordon Woodroffe Leather Manufacturing Company, Limited, Pallavaram, Chingleput district, to the

Industrial Tribunal, Madras, for adjudication.

The dispute between the workers and the management of the Coimbatore Cement Works, Madukkarai, in respect of the alleged victimization of a worker has also been referred to the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, for adjudication.

The Secretary of the Satyamangalam Motor Workers' Union, has issued a notice of strike, dated 15th November 1947, to the Proprietor of B.M.S. Motor Service, Coimbatore, demanding interim relief, bonus, dearness allowance, etc. The Labour Officer, Coimbatore, has been asked to bring about a settlement on the lines of the settlement brought about by the Commissioner of Labour at Erode.

The Commissioner of Labour, Madras, during his visit to Erode met the workers' representatives and the managements of the A.M.T., Limited, and C.S.T., Limited, Erode and brought about a settlement of the dispute.

The strike notice given by the Dharapuram Motor Workers' Union on the management of G.M.S., Limited, Mettupalaiyam, was withdrawn on the intervention of the Commissioner of Labour, Madras.

The managing agents of Soroja Mills, Limited, Singanallur, Coimbatore, have withdrawn the notice of closure of mills and agreed to implement the award of the Industrial Tribunal on the assurance given by the Ministers of the Central Government that sufficient relief will be given from 1st December 1947 to Mills spinning coarse counts.

In the light of the recent discussions at Coimbatore between the Provincial Textile Commissioner, the Commissioner of Labour and the Southern India Mill Owners' Association, Coimbatore, the management of the Kaleeswarar Mills, Coimbatore, have withdrawn the notice of closure of the mills.

The management of Sri Sarada Mills, Podanur, Coimbatore district, have informed that in the light of the conference between the Ministers and the Southern India Mill Owners' Association, Coimbatore, they have deferred action on their notice of closure of the mills.

The Labour Officer, Coimbatore, reported that on the night of 22nd November 1947 serious clashes took place between the workers belonging to the branch of the District Textile Workers' Union at Udamalpet and the loyal workers of Tirumuthi Mills in

which two persons died and five injured. As a result of this, the mills remained closed for two days and work was re-started on 24th November 1947.

The Labour Officer, Bezvada, reports that the management of Messrs. M. A. Noor Mohamad & Co., Tanners, Ellore, have closed their tannery on 19th November 1947 after giving 14 units of wages to their workers.

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of Messrs. Pierce Leslie and Company, Jeppo, Mangalore, to the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, for adjudication. The workers who struck work on 3rd November 1947 resumed work on 17th November 1947.

The workers of T.B.T., Ltd. (Bus Transport), Palghat, struck work on 21st November 1947. The Government have referred the dispute to the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, for adjudication and prohibited the continuance of the strike and lock-out. The workers resumed work on 26th November 1947.

The management of the Rajah Mills, Limited, Madura, have closed down the mills from 16th November 1947 alleging that they have incurred heavy loss. They have not also paid arrears of wages due under the award.

The Government have asked the District Magistrate to prosecute the management.

The hotel workers of Madura struck work on 27th November 1947 demanding four months wages as bonus. The Government have referred the dispute to the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, for adjudication and prohibited the continuance of strike and lock-out. The workers resumed work on 28th November 1947.

The Divisional Electrical Engineer, Papanasam Project, has reported that the labourers of Papanasam Project Operation and Maintenance Division, struck work on 19th November 1947. The Chief Engineer for Electricity, Madras, is taking necessary action.

The Commissioner of Labour has brought about a settlement of the dispute between the workers and the management of the V.M.S. Public Conveyance, Limited, Karur, and the former has withdrawn the strike notice.

Education

Reorganization of Secondary Education.—The Sub-Committees appointed for the drafting of provisional syllabi

buses in the subjects of the proposed reorganized secondary schools courses commenced their work in the first week of December.

Basic education.—A meeting of the Basic Education Advisory Board was held on the 18th November 1947 with the Hon'ble Minister for Education in the chair. The Sub-Committee of the Board also met, Mr. V. R. Ranganathan, Deputy Director, presiding.

The progress made in Basic Education was briefly stated by the Basic Education Officers at Headquarters and Andhra Desa and the plan for the year 1948-49 was discussed. The holding of an examination at the end of the Training Course for the award of certificates, the adoption of the Pre-Basic syllabus for pupils below the age of 6½ years, the opening of workshops attached to Basic Training Schools, preparation of syllabuses for crafts other than spinning, weaving and agriculture, housing of basic institutions and the preparation of Basic Education literature were considered.

A committee has been appointed to consider the question of research in Education with the Principal of the Teachers' College, Saidapet, as convenor.

Firka Development department

Rome was not built in a day. There is no possibility of miracles being wrought in the field of rural reconstruction. The process is bound to be a slow one and needs the close co-operation of the masses.

The following is a brief summary of the work done so far in the field of Firka development.

Agriculture.—Under this item, the Firka Development Staff have been inducing the villagers to dig manure pits. A large number of such pits have been dug up in these firkas. The firka Development Officers have also been arranging for an equitable distribution of manures, cart tyres, iron implements and seeds required by the ryots of the firkas concerned. In Tirumangalam, about 28 acres of waste land have been brought under cultivation. In Kumbala, Saliangalam and Trivellore, Proddatur firkas, 35 acres, 70 acres and 32 acres, 200 acres of patta waste lands respectively have been brought under cultivation due to the efforts of the Firka Development Staff. Cashewnuts seedling plots are being put up in many villages of the Kadambuliur firka. About 29.71 acres, 32 acres, 105 acres and 43 acres of land have been brought under cultivation in Kalasapakkam, Nagari,

Sermadevi and Guruvareddipalem respectively. The Firka Development Staff are persuading the ryots to apply for subsidies under the Well Subsidy Scheme. In Dendulur firka, the Firka Development Staff induced the ryots to make use of the subsidies for wells to an extent of Rs. 70,000. Two thousand bags of groundnut cake were brought from Cocanada and supplied to ryots.

Irrigation.—In Veerapandy firka, repairs to an irrigation source have been completed and the work of repairing two of the irrigation sources is in progress. Minor items of kudimaramat work have been carried out in five villages of Nagari firka and electric pump-sets for two wells have been installed. In Tellicherry firka, one canal has been broadened and deepened due to the efforts of the Firka Development staff. In Sermadevi, lift irrigation in respect of four wells has been made possible. In Kurnool firka two wells have been constructed and the water is used for growing vegetables.

In Dendulur, some minor irrigation tanks were repaired and steps are being taken to get Seethampeta Irrigation Scheme sanctioned on improved lines. About 5,000 feet of pipes of 4 inches to 6 inches have been supplied by the Director of Industries and Commerce and about 20 wells have been sunk in Dendulur firka.

Rural Water-Supply.—In Tirumangalam firka seven drinking water wells have been repaired. Two new wells have been sunk in Musiri firka. One new well has been sunk in Malli firka. Three drinking water wells were sunk and two-bore wells repaired in Veerapandy firka and in Trivellore firka 14 wells have been sunk. One well has been constructed in Polavaram and 16 wells in Gara firka. Four bore-wells are being repaired in Kadambuliur firka. Two wells each have been repaired in Kalasapakkam and Nagari firkas and one well has been dug in the latter firka. Two wells have been constructed at Dendulur

by the efforts of the Firka Development Staff. Two wells, three wells, eleven wells, two wells, five wells and three wells have been repaired in Gara, Sermadevi, Guruvareddipalem, Hindupur and Rajahmundry firkas respectively. In Rajahmundry firka, two tanks have also been repaired from public contribution.

Communications.—The Firka Development Staff have induced the villagers to form minor roads. Details of the length of roads repaired and newly constructed are given below firka-wise:

Name of the firka or centre.	Newly constructed roads.	Repaired roads.
Avanashi.	..	11 miles.
Alur ..	6 furlongs.	..
Puliankuri-chi.	3 miles (mud roads).	..
Veerapandy.	8 miles ..	..
Saliamangalam.	2 miles ..	..
Kalasapak-kam.	..	1,320 yards.
Nagari ..	5-5/8 miles.	..
Kundah ..	..	4 miles.
Palladam.	4 roads laid.	..
Guruvareddipalem.	..	3 miles.
Hindupur.	Small roads, lanes and by-lanes laid out in 8 villages 100 yards.	..
Kurnool ..	100 yards.	..
Vellakoil ..	3 furlongs.	..
Dendulur.	New road 2½ miles (from Jegannapalem to Dendulur Railway Station).	..

A sum of Rs. 24,000 has been collected by the Firka Development Staff of Kadambuliur towards meeting a third of the cost of laying out a new road in the firka. A temporary bridge each has been constructed in Payyanur centre and Rajahmundry firka.

Improvement of livestock.—Stud bulls and buffaloes are being maintained in Avanashi, Proddatur, Tirumangalam, Alur, Veerapandy, Errangondapalem and Sermadevi firkas. The Firka Development Staff at Kadambuliur

were able to obtain a consent agreement from a ryot offering rent-free buildings for locating a veterinary hospital in the firka and the same has been forwarded to District Veterinary Officer. Castration of cattle has been done in Payyanur and Veerapandy firkas and that of rams in Kundah firka. Steps have been taken to form a sheep-breeding society in Kundah firka. In Sermadevi firka steps have been taken to open a poultry yard in a central place. Propaganda for getting all animals inoculated against animal diseases has also been carried on in certain firkas.

Prohibition.—All Firka Development staff are carrying on an intensive temperance propaganda in their respective jurisdictions. Several offences committed under the prohibition scheme have been brought to the notice of the concerned authorities. Arrangements for the manufacture of gur out of sweet toddy by the ex-tappers were made by the Firka Development Officer, Dendulur, and about 100 candies of gur were manufactured during the previous season.

Tree-planting.—A number of avenue as well as fruit-bearing trees have been planted in the firkas and centres by the Firka Development staff.

Electricity.—The electrification of the main villages of the firkas and centres lying between the vicinity of power lines is being undertaken. Schemes costing about Rs. 10 lakhs have been sanctioned so far. Further proposals for extension of electricity scheme are under consideration. Only such of those schemes as are remunerative have been undertaken so far. As regards the unremunerative electrification schemes, the Government have since decided to subsidize the deficits arising out of such schemes from the fund for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift. Unremunerative schemes which have so far been investigated will also be undertaken in future.

Khadi work.—Introduction of khadi looms, spinning wheels, formation of khadi production and sales societies and conducting of training classes are the main features of work done under this item. The Firka Development Officer, Dendulur, purchased Rs. 10,000 worth of cotton in East Godavari district and stocked it with co-operative stores in five different centres to be supplied to the ryots. The number of active charkas in the firka was increased from 300 to 1,000 and steps are being taken to get the yarn woven into cloth through the Inspecting

Assistant Textile Commissioners. About 500 lb. of cotton seeds were sown in the fields to grow cotton.

In the month of May 1947, under the directions of the Hon'ble Minister for Education, summer classes for giving training in spinning to trained teachers for a month, were organized by the Assistant Development Commissioners in consultation with the Director of Public Instruction. The Firka Cottage Industries Officers, the Firka Development Officers, the Teachers' Associations and the Deputy Inspectors of Schools organized these classes throughout the Province. In Northern districts, 21 training centres in 13 firkas were organized by the Development staff and about 868 trained teachers were given training in spinning for a period of one month. The teachers' organizations and the Deputy Inspectors of Schools in all the 24 districts including the City of Madras have organized a number of training schools, in spinning under the instructions of the Director of Public Instruction and the Assistant Development Commissioners and gave training to 3,874 teachers.

Road Development

"More and better roads are essential to build up a prosperous India. Nearly ninety per cent of the country's teeming millions live in villages, most of which are badly served in respect of roads. There is much talk about raising the standard of life of the people and adequate road construction is one of the surest methods of doing so. The peasant is an important unit in the economic life of the country and a network of roads would facilitate the flow of his produce from the village to the town.

"These points were emphasized by Mr. Nurmahomed Chinoy in his speech to the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association in Bombay recently. He had good reason to express the view that investment in roads would be beneficial both to Government and the people. Roads have found a place in the numerous reconstruction schemes in this country.

"It is often said that civilization travels along the road. Mr. Chinoy pointed out, good roads will serve as a form of education for the villagers, convey to them new and useful ideas and give them that touch of modern civilization which they lack."

General Knowledge Section

A Code of Maxims for Public Servants

In his "Impressions of an Indian Civil Servant," Mr. R. D. Macleod, I.C.S. (retired), has suggested a code of maxims for public servants. In a Free India public servants are the servants of the people. This was stressed by Hon'ble Sardar Patel some time ago when he addressed a gathering of the Indian Administrative Service probationers. Similar sentiments were given expression to by His Excellency C. Rajagopalachari during his visit to Madras sometime back. He said that the burden of patriotism under the new dispensation of things had shifted to the shoulders of public servants. In this connexion the code of maxims suggested by Mr. Macleod seems not out of place. The code is reproduced below:—

1. *Be courteous and tactful.*—Remember that in India it does not matter so much what you do as how you do it, and that nowhere are the people more sensitive to a slight or more appreciative of a kind word or a friendly gesture. The contentedness of a district depends more on the behaviour of its officers than all the logical reasons in the world.

2. *Praise as well as blame.*—Censure your subordinate when he does badly by all means, but do not forget to praise him when he does well. Censure may check his faults but praise will stimulate his virtues.

3. *Do not think that yours is the only way.*—When you arrive in your new district do not assume that your predecessor was an idiot because his methods were different from yours. Leave his arrangements alone for at least three months. Do not thrust your views on your subordinates. They will do far better if allowed to develop their own. There are many ways of effecting the same thing, and yours is not the only way.

4. *Remember the human element.*—To be successful a scheme must be not only good in itself but within all comprehension and power of those who have to work it. An elaborate machine cannot be run by an unskilled mechanic. So when you make your plans, remember the kind of men who will have to carry them out. Do not

credit the Rs. 5 man with a Rs. 1,000 brain.

5. *Get things done.*—Do not imagine that your orders will carry themselves out. When you have given the order you have only just begun. Call for a compliance report if necessary. If that is not enough, give the slacker no peace till he realizes that compliance with the original order will mean less trouble. Avoid too many general orders. Your subordinates will not remember them, and you will not have the time to enforce them.

6. *Do not do other people's work.*—Do not pat yourself on the back for doing everybody else's work because you can do it so much better yourself. You will find you have no time left for your own. Your job is to make your subordinates work and not do their work for them. Why should you get a superior officer's pay for doing a subordinate's work?

7. *Keep the rules as a rule.*—Though great men are not the slaves of rules the mere breaking of rules does not constitute greatness. The greatness consists in knowing when to break them. To break a rule unnecessarily is to cause trouble for yourself and others.

8. *Have a sense of humour.*—This above all things. Nowhere do you need the saving grace so much. If superior authority directs you to do what you consider moonshine, if your plans have the contrast effect to what you intended, if the worst motives are attributed to your finest deeds, laugh. If you do not, you will go mad.

The following table shows the cost of living index numbers for low paid employees at the different mufassal centres in the Province of Madras for the month of November 1947:—

Vizagapatam ..	293.7
Ellore ..	333.8
Bellary ..	312.0
Cuddalore ..	311.8
Trichinopoly ..	305.3
Madura ..	302.6
Coimbatore ..	307.48
Calicut ..	359.7

Precepts of Life

1. Make a few promises.
2. Always speak the truth.
3. Never speak evil of anyone.
4. Keep good company or none.
5. Live up to your engagements.
6. Be just before you are generous.
7. Never play at any game of chance.
8. Drink no kind of intoxicating liquor.
9. Keep your secrets if you have any.
10. Good character is above all things else.
11. Never borrow if you possibly can help it.
12. Keep yourself innocent if you would be happy.
13. Make no haste to be rich, if you would prosper.
14. When you speak to a person look him in the face.
15. Do not marry until you are able to support a wife.
16. Ever live within your income.
17. Save when you are young to spend when you are old.
18. Never run into debt unless you can see a way out again.
19. Avoid temptation through fear you may not withstand it.
20. Good company and good conversation are the sinews of virtue.
21. Small and steady gains have a competency with a tranquil mind.
22. Your character cannot be essentially injured except by your own acts.
23. If any one speak evil of you, let your life be such that none will believe him.
24. When you retire to bed, think what you have been doing during the whole day.
25. Never be idle; if your hands cannot be employed usefully, attend to the cultivation of your mind.

Read over the above maxims carefully and thoughtfully at least once a week.

Other schemes approved included a grant to the Government of Orissa for its new Capital project, investment by Government in Air Transport Companies, Creation of the Indian Foreign Service and the Indian Administrative Service, Creation of the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation and Ministry or without portfolio and appointment of Indian High Commissioners in Canada and Pakistan.

State and Industry

Adverting to the relationship of State visa vis Industries Mr. R. Suryanarayana Rao, in a Broadcast recently observed "Whatever might have been the functions of the state in the past it cannot be denied that if the lessons learnt during the last World War are not to be ignored, no objection can be raised to State interference in regard to production. He also referred to the conditions of the Industrial Planning Committee set up by the Madras Government regarding the setting up of an Industrial Finance Corporation to finance industries.

Peasant to be the Proprietor of Agricultural Land

The East Bengal Government, it is learnt, is having under consideration a scheme aiming at peasant ownership of all agricultural land as opposed to State ownership. This scheme is expected to be incorporated in a fresh bill for the abolition of permanent settlement. It is felt that this will provide the necessary initiative to the tiller of the soil to put forth his best efforts. The former Bill aimed at mere abolition of the Zamindari system and substitution of the State as the superior of land which would have only meant a change of masters without creating any personal interest for the ryot in the development to the land.

Demobilized Medical Personnel

Medical Resettlement Organizations at the centre, in the Provinces and in the States have up to the end of November 1947 placed 1,253 ex-service medical, nursing and ancillary personnel in employment and 467 in training, out of 5,533 and 1,338 applications for employment and training respectively.

These resettlement organizations consist of a Central Medical Employment Bureau in the office of the Director-General of Health Services, New Delhi,

and Provincial or State Medical Employment Bureau in Provinces and States. The Bureaux are attached to the offices of Surgeons-General/Inspectors-General of Civil Hospitals in various Provinces and to the offices of the administrative medical officers of the various States.

Medical, nursing and ancillary personnel who have done war service are given assistance in securing suitable employment, or in arranging appropriate training in medical, nursing and allied subjects. They have been granted several concessions in such matters as increased grades, counting of war service towards increments, reservation of vacancies, etc. Candidates undergoing training are entitled to financial concessions in the shape of free education including tuition and examination fees, books and equipment and maintenance allowance based on conditions prevailing in the district, province or area concerned.

These Bureaux also meet the requirements of factories or institutions, who may require the services of medical or public health officers, nursing personnel and technicians. They should contact the nearest medical employment bureaux.

Bigger and better Airports for India

India, across which the world's sky routes pass, will soon have bigger and better airports.

A sum of approximately Rs. 2 crores for the improvement of twelve aerodromes up to international standards was agreed to by the Standing Finance Committee when it met recently in New Delhi. The aerodromes are in Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Allahabad, Gaya, Lucknow, Nagpur, Ahmedabad, Bhubaneshwar and Vizagapatam.

The runways and hangars of India's major airports when completed would meet the requirements of larger and heavier aircraft now in use by operating airlines. Aeronautical communication service will also be improved in accordance with the plans for the development of aviation.

The need for larger hangars and stronger runways arose with the increasing use of heavier aircraft by airlines. Some progress has already been made in the erection of steel hangars in Bombay and Delhi.

Government's plans now include the erection of such hangars in Calcutta and Madras also, strengthening of runways, construction of residential quarters, installation of obstruction lights and the purchase of radio communication equipment and vehicles from disposals.

The work will be speeded up by the Civil Aviation Wing of the C.P.W. who will buy and use mechanized plant and equipment, such as bull dozers, pump sets, tractors and diesel engines for construction purposes. A portion of the pre-fabricated parts of hangars and roofing material will be available from the surplus assets of the Defence Ministry.

Refugee special Officer

The Education Ministry has appointed a Special Officer, Mrs. E. Rudra, to assist refugee students who may have difficulty in continuing their previous courses of study in the Indian Dominion.

The Special Officer will organize the planning of education for refugee students and will help them in getting admission in the various institutions in the country.

Applications in the prescribed form from refugee students, giving details of their previous study and the Colleges to which admission is now sought, should be sent to Mrs. E. Rudra, whose office is in Room No. 44, 'M' Block, near North Block, Ministry of Education, New Delhi.

Mr. Nanavathi's Warning

Sir Manilal Nanavathi made a strong plea for building up a new system of Agriculture in the country and stepping up of food production to meet the needs of growing population, when he addressed the students of the Agricultural College on occasion of the College celebrations.

He said, "we are now a free country But we have yet to overcome many of our weaknesses. The continued neglect of Agriculture is one of them."

Referring to the "chronic" indebtedness of the peasantry in India, Sir Manilal said the only solution of this baffling problem lay in turning of our present deficit agricultural economy into a surplus one.

He appealed to the students to devote their attention to the study of rural problems.

News from Prohibition Areas

Reports received from prohibition areas show that ameliorative activities are receiving increasing attention. Every district has a vigorous counter-attraction programme, the chief features being indigenous games and entertainments. Games are specially helpful in that they are calculated to promote communal harmony and unity among the people and also to build up a strong, healthy and disciplined nation. The following is a brief summary of the reports:

Coimbatore.—In Erode division steps have been taken to open reading rooms in eight places. Five sangams have collected an aggregate amount of Rs. 9,030 for this purpose. The Odathurai Sangam in Gobi division is constructing a school at a cost of Rs. 1,500. The Mallur Sangam has formed a new road one mile in length. It has also carried out repairs to a Harijan well. The Pungapalli Sangam has formed a new road. The Vadavalli Sangam has purchased the necessary instruments for bhajana to the value of Rs. 200 and it is conducting bhajanas regularly twice a week. Group tournaments were held in three or four places and these were witnessed by considerable people. There were competitions in chadugudu, tug-of-war, folk dances, bhajanas, sack race, etc. Prizes were distributed to the winners. The Collector addressed meetings in not less than 15 places in which he spoke stressing the duties of gramasangams and the aims and methods of rural uplift. The Kethanur Sangam in Pollachi division has constructed a new building for dispensary. More than Rs. 10,000 have been spent. Two other Sangams repaired roads of 14 miles in length.



Before Prohibition.

Chittoor.—One divisional tournament and three firka tournaments were conducted during the week ending 25th November 1947. Rural games like chadugudu, tug-of-war, sack race, folk dances, variety entertainments like sword and stick play, sugali dance, gubbi dance, kolattam and fancy dress, etc., were held. During these tournaments the winners were awarded



Bhajan is an important item of counter attraction in dry areas.

prizes donated by the public. A rural exhibition of agricultural, educational, health, fisheries and handloom products was held in Chandragiri on an impressive scale. Film show and Harikatha Kalashapam were other interesting items of counter-attraction. The Weavers' Co-operative Society at Padipet had a public radio installed at the instance of the ameliorative staff. They also opened a drinking water well at a cost of Rs. 1,250, the expense in both the cases being met out of common funds of the society.

South Kanara.—During the third week of November, three more societies were registered for ex-tappers. Thrift day was celebrated at Sullia. The Sullia Co-operative Society, which is one of the oldest in the district, has introduced hundi boxes.

Kurnool.—Four new stalls in Kurnool division and one in Markapuram division were opened towards the end of November. Two inter-village tournaments were conducted during the period. Harikathas in three villages, Burakathas in two and bhajanas in four were organized in Kurnool division. Two drainas were also enacted. In Markapuram division, there were two bhajanas and two music performances. Thrift day was celebrated in two places. Two reading rooms were also opened.

The formation of a Weavers' Co-operative Society is being looked into. A credit as well as a co-operative store was organized in Kurnool taluk. Four ex-addicts have saved Rs. 300, 200, 250 and 280, respectively. One man was able to discharge his previous debt of Rs. 250.

Trichinopoly.—Two milk supply co-operative societies were organized, and also four jaggery co-operative societies. Thrift scheme was introduced in three villages and 43 boxes were distributed to ex-addicts. One more milk supply society and another jaggery makers' society were also organized. A conference of the Rural Uplift Association of the sub-taluk of Ariyalur took place on 29th November. About 4,000 people attended the conference. Kummi, kolattam, tug-of-war, musical chair, chadugudu, etc., were the more important games played by ex-addicts as well as others. Prizes were distributed to winners. The Collector spoke on the importance of tree planting, rural sanitation and public health.

Salem.—One gramasangam has finished the construction of a two-furlong road. A prohibition drama was enacted during the last week of November.

Tanjore.—A co-operative milk supply centre was opened at Michaelpatti. This is one of the several centres organized for giving work to ex-tappers in Tanjore division. Kummi, kolattam, songs and other variety entertainments were gone through. There were also speeches on the benefit of co-operative milk supply unions. A village betterment committee has been formed in one village in Mayavaram taluk and rural recreation clubs were organized in five villages in Shiyali taluk.

Madura.—The Kodaikanal Milk Supply Union has arranged to distribute free a cup of milk a day to municipal scavengers for a period of one month.



After Prohibition.

Prohibition Obiter Dicta

Though Prohibition is well underway in 16 out of the 25 districts in this Province, critics are still busy to establish that it is an unwanted and impractical proposition. It may therefore be useful in this connection to assemble within a short compass what eminent sages, authors and publicists have said about Prohibition. The following are a few of them.

"To give the poor drinking water and to wean them from drink are, if there were nothing else, achievements of which any ministry might be proud."

—THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SRINIVASA SASTRI.

"If the Congress in Madras succeeds in making Prohibition effective in the real sense that is to say in weaning drunkards from their habit and making people sober they will have done a service not only to Madras and to India but to Humanity."

—S. SATYAMURTHY (1938).

"The sight of a man who is drunk is an abomination even unto the mother that bore him."

"Behold the men who drink the poison called toddy day after day;

they are as men that are asleep, neither do they differ from dead men."

—TIRUVALLUVAR.

"Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness in eyes? they that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not though upon the wine when it is red; when it giveth his colour in the cup; when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."

—SOLOMON.

"Drink is the source of all evil and the ruin of half of the workmen in the country."

—GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"Let none drink; but if they desire let those men drunk who care not for the esteem of worthy men."

—The Kural.

"Liquor traffic is a cancer to Society; it must be eradicated; all attempts to regulate the cancer will not only prove abortive but will aggravate the evil."

—DR. JAMES SMITH.

Manu considered the drinking of spirituous liquor to be a heinous sin and prescribed heavy penalties for it. He has laid down that for drinking the spirituous liquor called 'Sura' the sign of the tavern should be imposed with a red hot iron on the offender's head.

"Excluded from all fellowship at meals, excluded from all sacrifices, excluded from instruction and from matrimonial alliances and from all religious duties let the offender wander on the earth."

Tit-Bits

Has Alcohol Medicinal Properties

One of the stock arguments of the critics of Prohibition is that alcohol has medicinal properties. It is surprising that this argument is continued to be advanced seriously even though the theory of alcohol possessing medicinal properties was exploded even as early as 1785. Dr. Benjamin Rush of Philadelphia was the first to call public attention to the dangers of alcohol in his medical pamphlet published in 1785. Later the American medical association made an authoritative statement to the effect that alcohol had neither medicinal properties nor nutritive value. During the twentieth century advanced medical researches have gone further in this direction

and have shown conclusively that alcohol and other narcotics have not only have no medicinal value but are dangerous to health. The latest authoritative pronouncement has been made by the Bhoze-Committee constituted by the Government of India in 1943 for making a health survey of this country and formulating remedial measures. The Committee has made five points which may be tabulated thus—

(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 as insurance records bear out this point.

Meaning of Freedom

Freedom is a much misused term. People interpret it from their own angles and sometimes in accordance with their own ends. It is often overlooked that there is a line of demarcation between freedom and

licence. Sometimes the common man confuses one with the other. Freedom implies rights, duties and limitations while licence does not.

Recently Mr. R. V. Ramakrishna Raju, President of the Madras Legislative Council, delivered a broadcast on: "What freedom is to me." He asked—

"What are the conditions and concomitants of freedom if freedom to any country must be lasting? This should be a subject for immediate study if India is to enjoy her hard won freedom. I strongly feel that the world has reached a stage when all its component parts should not look at themselves as isolated pockets but as one correlated whole. If I, as an individual act and do as I please without for a moment considering how my actions impinge upon my neighbour and if my neighbour does the same thing, it is but natural that perpetual friction is the result. What applies to the individuals applies equally to the nations only in a greater degree. What does Indian history tell us? Before Muhammadan invasion and after, it was one series of never-ending fights among different parts of this country and against foreign invaders. The inevitable inference from this is this. In short that the freedom that the world has always enjoyed and was proud of, was only freedom to kill and be killed. The question is, is there no remedy against this. After all is it only this kind of freedom that our country has earned after so much of struggle and sacrifice. If freedom is to be real, lasting and beneficial, there cannot be a shadow of doubt that the thoughts and outlook of the world as a whole must change and change radically. But now that the world has become such a very small place that you can go round it in a matter of days, no country can afford to live an isolated life. Unless, therefore, every country pays due regard to the needs, requirements and more than all to the sentiments of all the other countries, lasting peace is absolutely impossible. If freedom to India means that she should live in a perpetual state of armed resistance to aggression of various sorts that freedom is no real freedom. Therefore, freedom means nothing to me unless it be the freedom from fear."

Decontrol

The implications of the decontrol policy do not seem to have been properly appreciated in some quarters. Decontrol experiment has to be

handled carefully and its success depends on co-operation of all sections of society. Government are prepared to reimpose controls now proposed to be relaxed if maintenance of supplies in any area is jeopardized by hoarding and profiteering. The necessity has to be emphasized in this connexion for India to effectively control its own food resources by intensification of internal procurement. It is not correct to say that decontrol experiment argues failure of controls.

Prohibition Conference

"Public servants are no longer the agents of any foreign power but they are the servants of the people" observed the Hon'ble Minister for Prohibition opening recently the Conference of the Special Development Officers of the 16 Prohibition Districts. The main purpose of the Conference was to take stock of the position regarding ameliorative activities in the Prohibition Districts. He said that the introduction of Prohibition was the first step in furtherance of the programme of rural amelioration. It was a mistaken impression, the Minister said, that the problem of amelioration was confined to ex-addicts and ex-tappers only. Amelioration was not confined to a particular section. The work was to cover the entire community. As regards the provision of employment for ex-tappers, there were two problems to be faced. The first was the question of providing work for these people and secondly, the development of the cottage industries which should occupy an important place in the future industrial plans of the country.

Standards for Medical Institutions

It was pointed out to the Standing Finance Committee that the proposal for the establishment of a Bureau of Standards for Medical Institutions to act as a centre for hospital standards formed part of the five-year development plan drawn up by the Ministry of Health in accordance with the recommendations of the Health Survey and Development Committee.

The Bureau's functions would be to prepare standard schedules of hospital equipment and standard plans of rooms, departments and hospital units, to carry out research in building and running costs of hospitals and to maintain a reference library of hospital plans, photographs, books, periodicals, etc.

Mineralogical Research in Bangalore

Investigation of the mineral resources of India will be the aim of an organization that is being set up under the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore. This Research Institute, which will begin to function in March 1948 under Dr. Sir C. V. Raman, will direct scientific investigation of India's mineral resources from three points, physical, chemical and geological.

The Government of Mysore having given the Institute 11 acres of land for its site and the Institute having obtained from private contributions a sum of Rs. 4,08,000, the Standing Finance Committee sanctioned a non-recurring grant of Rs. 3 lakhs for the scheme.

Cotton Textile Research

Preparations are under way for the establishment of a Cotton Textile Research Institute at Ahmedabad, expenditure on which was approved by the Standing Finance Committee.

Improving materials used in the textile industry and its products will be a primary object of the Ahmedabad Institute. A special task will be to conduct research of a medical nature with particular attention to the welfare of workers employed in the industry.

Sericulture

The Standing Finance Committee also approved a grant for the establishment of a Regional Sericultural Research Station at Kollegal, in Madras Presidency.

Alipore Mint Project

Fresh plant and equipment is to be installed in the Government of India's new Mint at Alipore, construction of which, suspended during the war, has now been resumed. Sanction for this expenditure was obtained from the Standing Finance Committee.

The proposal to build a Rs. 140-54 lakh Mint at Alipore was approved by the Standing Committee last year. Intended to replace the Mint at Calcutta, it would also have absorbed the Mint at Lahore which had been set up on a temporary basis during the war due to the decision to suspend the Alipore project. Consequent on the partition of the country, however, the Lahore Mint has been allotted to Pakistan, resulting in the loss to India of much machinery which had been ear-marked for Alipore. Purchase of fresh plant and equipment has, therefore, become essential.

Books and Publications

[In this column will be published from time to time notices on important books and periodicals the primary object being to stimulate interest in nation-building subjects.]

"Silk Industry, Annual 1947."—Editor—Mr. E. V. S. Maniam, M.A., D. Sc., Published by the Bureau of Economic Research, Post Box No. 45, Cawnpore—Price Rs. 3.

Though India takes the eighth place among the industrial nations of the world, it is an admitted fact that her industry has not developed in proportion to her size and population. Lesser countries have gone above her. This industrial backwardness is one of the contributory factors of India's economic backwardness. It is common ground that for any country to be prosperous there should be an equitable distribution of population under the main occupations. Otherwise the economy becomes lopsided. Countries depending on one or other of the chief occupations like industry and agriculture are likely to face disaster when that particular occupation due to circumstances beyond control falls on evil days. In such a contingency, there should be a 'standby' to mitigate the shock of the disaster. In India, more than 80 per cent of the population is living on agriculture. And agriculture itself, depending as it does on a number of uncertain factors, does not promise uniform remuneration. Hence it is that subsidiary occupations or other independent lines of activity are necessary to supplement the income from agriculture or provide occupation for people who do not take to agriculture. In some countries in the west broadly speaking, only one-third of the people depend on agriculture and agricultural pursuits, another one-third on industries and a third one-third on miscellaneous professions. In such countries economy is balanced and it is an insurance against calamities.

There is a wide recognition of this fact in postwar India and there are signs of an awakening to the importance of industrial development. In such a context, the Silk Industry Annual issued by the Bureau of Economic

Research, Cawnpore, is particularly welcome as giving information and guidance in the matter of the development of an industry which holds vast potentialities.

The sericultural industry has been in existence in India from time immemorial. It has been one of the most important subsidiary occupations of the agriculturists contributing much to the stabilization of rural economy. India stands unique in the British Empire as the only country which produces raw silk. Till the early part of the 20th century, the Indian sericulture industry was in a flourishing condition and we were exporting raw silk to foreign countries in large quantities. According to the Tariff Board Report of 1939, prior to 1875 the silk industry in India was on the whole in a prosperous condition with an annual export of silk at times exceeding 20,00,000 lb. But of late, the tide has turned. We import now on an average 22,55,000 lb. of raw silk, silk yarn, noils, etc. This position has to be rectified by an accelerated development of the silk industry. The Annual deals in detail with all the aspects of this subject and discusses the various matters connected with the industry under illuminating heads.

Light is also thrown on the war-time developments of this industry in the various provinces and States as well as on the activities of the Industrial Panels set up by the Government of India. The author has dealt with the subject in all its aspects and the materials set forth in the book are sure to provide useful guidance.

"Tata Institute of Social Sciences—Report for the year 1946-47."

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay needs no introduction to readers. It is one of the few 'laboratories' in India where social workers are shaped. The need for organized social service in this country is now greater than ever before. India is now master of her own destiny and the colossal task of uplifting the masses from squalour, poverty and ignorance cannot be tackled single-handed by the Government. Social service organizations have therefore to come in,

in this context to assist the Government. Under foreign rule, these social organizations were handicapped by a number of factories. It is almost an axiomatic truth that no society or state can thrive successfully, unless at least a few of its members deny themselves the pleasures and comforts of life and sacrifice themselves for the weal of the others. Social service is no easy job and in these days of complicated social problems, needs special training. The Tata Institute of Social Sciences is providing such expert training and in the past it has sent out several bands of well-equipped young men to toil in the field of social welfare. It has several departments including a Bureau of Research and Publications, Guidance Clinic and Field Work Departments and is manned by experts who have won name and fame in their respective fields.

During the year under report, the Institute continued to do useful work in spite of political disturbances in Bombay such as communal riots. Twenty-four Research problems were tackled as field work projects during the year. These include surveys of factory labour, social and economic surveys of villages, agricultural and fishing communities, surveys of small handicrafts and Indian industries, industrial surveys of Government and public institutions and surveys of the development and growth of social services in important cities of India. Problems relating to women and children were also studied with reference to health, diet and physical welfare. The mental side of the social problem was not neglected. The strength of the institution during the year was 14 men and 12 women students. Of these, the largest number hailed from Bombay, next came the United Provinces with 4 candidates, Bengal, Hyderabad, Madras and Mysore coming with two candidates each and the rest with one candidate.

One thought that strikes a reader here as he goes through the report is whether there is not need for a similar institution for Madras Province. The field for social welfare is vast in this Province and there is room for hundreds of men with special equipment to clear the field of debris that has been lying there mostly unattended to till now.

DID YOU KNOW THAT— . . .

About 180,000,000 is the total number of Indian workers employed in agriculture, industries, mining, transport services, banking, commercial services, fishing, navigation, etc.

About 100,000,000 or nearly 25 per cent of the population are employed in agriculture and a large number of them are unemployed for about two or four months in a year.

The number of industrial workers in India is estimated at 8,000,000.

There were nearly 4,800,000 workers in organized industries in 1945. Of these, regulated factories employed nearly 2,650,000, Mines 350,000, Railways 800,000 and Plantations about 1,000,000.

The number of workers in unregulated factories is estimated at 1,000,000. Of these, about 500,000 are engaged in bidi making, etc., 140,000 in mica splitting, 30,000 in shellac industry and about 2,000 in carpet-weaving.

There are nearly 6,000,000 (2,400,000 whole time and 3,600,000 part-time and ancillary) workers on handlooms which provide 25 per cent of the cloth produced for home consumption and they represent 86 per cent of the total textile workers. Over 1,000,000 workers were employed in textile factories in 1945.

Port Labour employed is estimated at 75,000.

The number of seamen according to a recent estimate is 250,000.

Rickshaw pullers in India number about 50,000.

There were 818 registered Trade Unions in India in 1943-44 with a total membership of 780,967 members, as compared with 29 registered unions in 1927-28, with a membership of 100,619.

—Indian Information.

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Madras Information

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Vol. II, No. 2

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

February 1, 1948

Relaxation of Cloth Control

AFTER food, cloth. Following the Government of India's decision to relax control over the prices and distribution of mill cloth in the country, the Madras Government have also announced their policy in the matter. According to the orders issued on January 22, 1948, licensing of dealers and brokers in mill cloth and control over distribution of mill cloth have been abolished with immediate effect. Control over hand processing of cloth and fixation of prices and distribution of power-loom cloth have also been abandoned. Five control orders issued in the course of 1947 to enforce equitable distribution and sale of cloth through licensing of dealers and so on have in consequence been repealed.

WHILE control over sale and distribution of cloth is thus removed, control will continue over the export from the province of all kinds of cotton cloth and apparel made of such cloth and of cotton yarn. Export of certain varieties on handloom cloth outside the province can, however, take place now on the basis of permits issued by the Provincial Textile Commissioner and the number of such varieties will now be extended to include some utility varieties also. According to the orders currently issued, control and licensing of dealers in cotton and yarn is retained. But rationing of yarn will be abolished.

THE results of the relaxation of controls ordered will be :—

- (i) Dealers can deal in any kind of mill cloth without a licence ;
- (ii) There will be no restriction on the consumer purchasing any variety or quantity of mill cloth from any dealer ;
- (iii) Cotton and yarn will continue to be controlled so far as their distribution is concerned and no one

can deal in yarn without a licence. Price control and rationing of yarn will not, however, exist and consumers of yarn will be free to purchase their legitimate requirements of yarn from any dealer ;

(iv) Restrictions on the export of mill cloth outside the province will continue, so as to obviate conditions of scarcity within the province.

RELAXATION of controls ordered postulates a steadiness in the prices of cloth and free flow of supplies to the markets, which are conditions which manufacturers and dealers can bring about. If these results are not obtained, decontrol or relaxation of control will have to be regarded as having failed in its objective and the consumers will be put to inconvenience. The Press Note issued by the Government says that "should there be indication of any abuse such as abnormal rise in prices or unequal distribution or hoarding, Government will not hesitate to re-impose the control in consultation with the Government of India."

IN THIS ISSUE.

Editorial.
Matters of the Moment.
A Survey of Press Notes, etc.
Delhi Tidings.
Indian News Gallery.
Spot-light on Current Problems.
Provinces and States—Glimpses.
Departments' Forum.
Tit-Bits.
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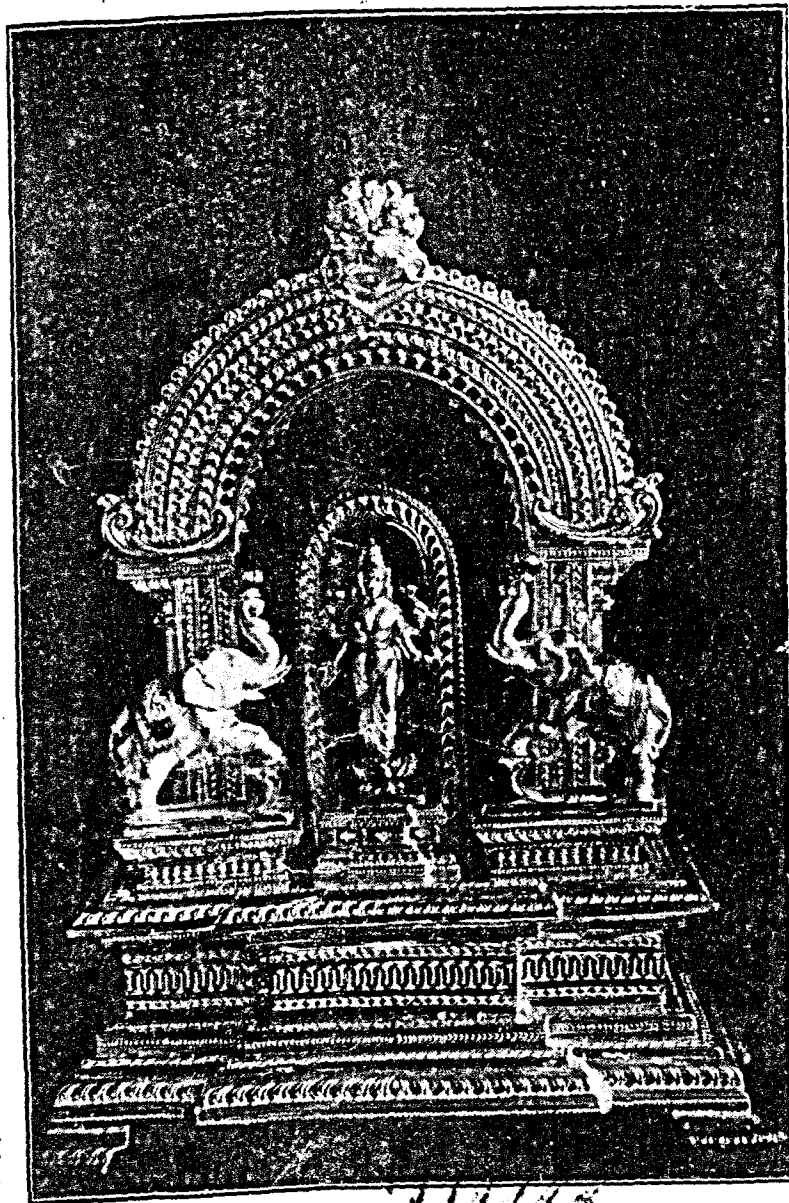
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MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 1st FEBRUARY 1948

NO. 2



Matters of the Moment

Prohibition Offences

The extension of the prohibition programme in Madras Province in October last has focussed attention on some defects in the execution of that programme that have come to light. Two of these are illicit distillation and clandestine drinking by ex-addicts. Reports from the prohibition districts emphasize the prevalence of illicit distillation on a rather extensive scale, and it persists in spite of vigorous police action against those detected in the act of illicit manufacture of toddy. It cannot be too often or too strongly emphasized that the practice cannot be eradicated without the fullest co-operation between the public and the officials in charge of enforcement. The common people must be made to realize that illicit distillation is not only an offence against the law but that it defeats the objective of the moral and ethical elevation of the masses that prohibition is intended to promote, by saving them from a deleterious habit. It is only when the moral conscience of the common people is sufficiently roused and they are made to realize that not only the commission of the actual offence of illicit distillation but also withholding information about its commission to the authorities is a crime both against law and morality, that things are likely to improve. In the course of his speeches at Salem and other places during his recent tour, the Hon'ble the Premier pleaded for official-public co-operation in tackling the evil of illicit distillation and drinking on the sly. The latter is interlinked with the former for it is only when liquor is available that the craving for drink can be satisfied, and if illicit manufacture of liquor is completely stopped, clandestine drinking will stop automatically. For achieving this laudable objective not merely strict enforcement of law but moral persuasion and unrelenting propaganda by the leaders of public opinion are essential. What other measures are necessary to check the evils, such as for example, imposition of collective fines on villages where illicit distillation prevails or public disgrace of those found drunk, will probably be decided upon by the Government as soon as the report of the Prohibition Enquiry Committee, which is now conducting an enquiry, is received.

Land Revenue Code for Madras

The Hon'ble the Revenue Minister has made two important observations in the course of some of his speeches during his recent tour of East Godavari District and Ceded Districts. One is that the Zamindari Abolition Bill would become law by April 1948 if not earlier, and the second is that the Government have taken up the question of formulating a comprehensive Land Revenue Code for the province and that the work has been entrusted to a competent retired officer. The Zamindari Abolition Bill is already before the Legislative Assembly and every effort is being made, subject to the demands on the time of the Legislature for other important measures, to expedite its passage into law. The Rent Reduction Bill has been passed by both Houses of the Legislature and soon steps will be taken to implement the purpose of that Legislation by the reduction of land rents in Zamindari areas to the rates of the land tax prevailing in the neighbouring ryotwari areas. This will afford an immediate and much needed relief to the tenants in the Zamindari areas pending the taking over of the Zamindaris under the Abolition legislation and the conversion of the entire Zamindari area into ryotwari. Mr. S. K. Chettur I.C.S., has been appointed as Special Officer to carry out the rent reduction work in accordance with the principles embodied in the provisions of the Rent Reduction legislation, so that by the time the Zamindari Abolition Bill is placed on the statute book, Zamindaris can be taken over on the basis of the reduced rents, which will mean relatively smaller compensation. The Revenue Minister's tour in the Telugu districts has also helped him to evaluate the damage to the crops in the area owing to the cyclonic rains in December and resulted in the Government's decision to postpone the collection of the January kist due on wet as well as dry lands in areas where the crop had been badly damaged.

Relief to Political Sufferers

The Government of Madras have sanctioned grant of land to political sufferers. According to the scheme each political sufferer will be assigned

five acres of wet land or its equivalent in any single case. Two acres of dry land being normally regarded as equivalent to one acre of wet land. The lands so assigned will be free of market value but should not be sold, mortgaged and alienated for a period of ten years. Applications for the land should be sent to the Collectors of the districts concerned before a date which will be announced shortly with particulars of the suffering undergone. The Government will consider applications for collective or co-operative cultivation if 10 or more join together and apply for a plot of land.

The Government however reserve to themselves the power to decide whether any one is a political sufferer or not. For the purpose of the assignments proposed, the year 1921 will be deemed to be the year in which these political movements started. Generally the term political sufferer should be taken to mean a person who had gone to jail in the cause of Indian Independence as a result of taking part in movements inaugurated by the Indian National Congress or under its sanction. Families of those who have died in such movements and also of those who partook in such movements but died subsequently are also eligible for the grant. If there are any persons who have taken part in the political movements earlier than 1921 their cases will be considered by the Government separately.

Prohibition—A Positive Programme

Prohibition was a positive programme of reconstruction and that was why the Congress placed it on its constructive programme of Swaraj, said Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier, inaugurating the Prohibition Officers' Training class in Bombay recently.

"I have sometimes felt" he said "that the word Prohibition is not a very happy word in the context of our programme. It somehow connotes an idea of a negative act on the part of Government, whereas the Prohibition Programme is, I maintain, a positive programme of reconstruction. We prohibit alcoholism and other intoxicants so that positive good may accrue to the people in general. It was not without reason that years ago, Prohibition was put on the Congress programme as a basic need and as a part of the constructive programme of Swaraj. With the advent of Independence and the establishment of a popular Government, the country

is busy with nation-building activities. Schemes of reconstruction are planned and are being executed; but I suggest that unless the demon of drink is removed from our midst, the good effects of all those reconstruction schemes will be nullified. Therefore, it is that Prohibition is only an attempt at clearing the decks so that programmes of reconstruction may be launched with the fullest possibilities of fruition.

"I have heard it said often that in the face of food and cloth difficulties in the country, Government is wasting its energies on Prohibition, instead of concentrating its efforts on providing food and clothing for the masses. It is only those who have not understood the problems and not cared to study the benefits of Prohibition who can speak in this strain. My information is that in the Salem district, when an authentic survey was conducted by an eminent economist of the Madras University—Professor P. J. Thomas—it was found that invariably among all classes of people that were drinking toddy heavily in that district, a vast majority of money spent on drink during the pre-Prohibition days was spent on food during the post-Prohibition days. Among the mill labourers in Salem Town, the expenditure on food rose from 42.9 per cent to 55.8 per cent. Among the quarry workers it rose from 32.2 per cent to 48.1 per cent. Among handloom weavers, from 40.3 per cent to 61.2 per cent and among municipal labourers from 49.4 per cent to 61.1 per cent of the total expenditure. Similarly, the expenditure on clothes also increased among mill labourers from 6.1 per cent to 8.7 per cent, quarry workers 3.7 per cent to 6.2 per cent, handloom weavers 4.7 per cent to 6.6 per cent and municipal labourers 3.9 per cent to 6.1 per cent. It was authentically found out that more people got rid of their debts at a quicker pace, a large number of them were able to have a little higher standard of living and a good many of them were able to lay by small sums. In a country where food is very inadequate and where people hardly get two square meals a day, Prohibition made it possible to spend the money that went to the Drink Shop till now on food for the wife and children of the drunkard.

"It is not for nothing that Government will be prepared to lose 9 crores of Excise revenue. It is generally estimated that the drink bill to the community is about 4 times the Excise

revenue. Thus, though Government may be losing 9 crores of rupees per year, the popular Government is thus making it possible for the community to save and utilize for its benefit about 36 crores of rupees. The gain to the community is incomparably greater than the loss to Government. There is another aspect to this question of revenue; the vocal protest of certain sections of the people in the Press is so powerful because till now the classes were used to reaping the advantage arising from the taxation on the masses. What the present Government proposes to do is merely to transfer the burden from the shoulders of the masses to those of the classes who can afford to pay. This burden was till now borne by poor workmen and other half-starved illiterate people. Therefore it is that the masses are in favour of Prohibition and as long as the masses want it and so long as Government is anxious to serve the interests of the masses, Government will have to proceed undaunted to the goal of Prohibition.

I must admit that Prohibition cannot be a success only by the best efforts of the Prohibition Officers, if they are not able to gain the support and active co-operation of the people of their districts. It is for this reason that we have appointed District Prohibition Committees, on which are leaders of the people of the districts. I hope these Committees will give the fullest co-operation, advice and help to the Prohibition Officers and make it possible to enlist the co-operation of the people.

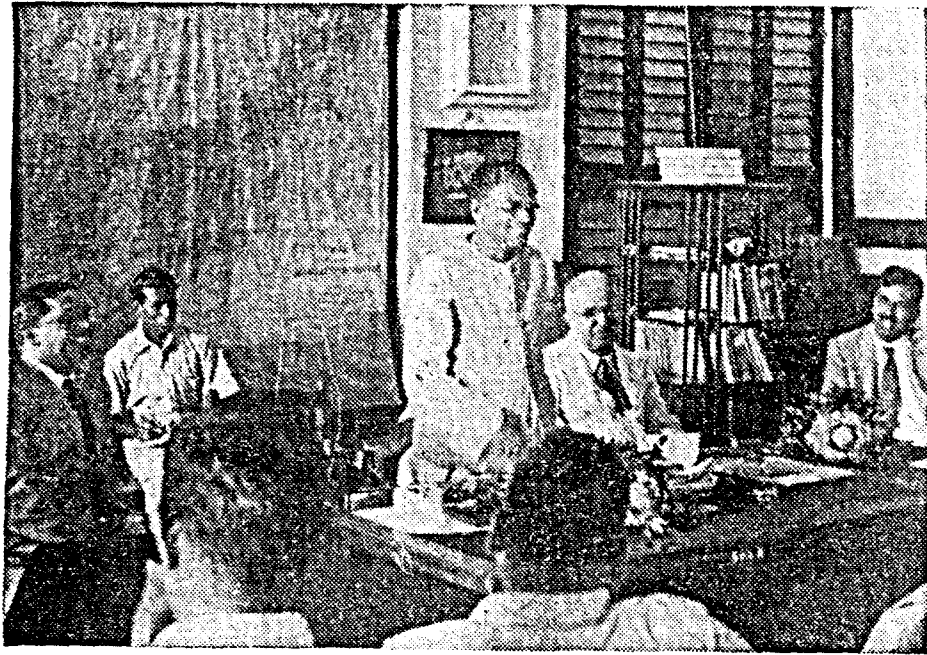
Social Workers meet

A major event in Madras City during last month was the Conference of Social Workers. It is an encouraging sign of the times that the importance of social work is being increasingly realised in the scheme of things. The need for social work is especially urgent now and in India it has to make a good deal of leeway in every field of social welfare. The State cannot possibly attend to all the aspects of human welfare. Even in the most democratic state, this is not done and the main brunt of social work there falls on voluntary organizations or associations. In India in the past it cannot be denied that a good deal of social work was turned out by voluntary or missionary organizations. All their efforts however amounted only to a scratching of the surface. The bulk of the work remains

to be done. "We are here to give social service a new outlook" observed Mrs. Clubwalla in the course of her address at the Conference. "Through these years", she said, "social service organizations were the special efforts of the leading citizens and of the richer classes but what we need also, need very greatly, are the men and women workers who live and work with the people and who know the hearts and minds of the people." The Hon'ble Premier who inaugurated the Conference made some important observations. He said, "Love is the life-giving power; those without love are just human skeletons;" said the great Tamil poet Tiruvalluvar. In the days of yore, every family, particularly the womenfolk, practised charity, born out of love, and not only fed and attended to the sick and the poor, the guests and the saints but even fed the cows, dogs, birds and insects like ants. Later when Buddhism spread in this country, Buddhist monks or Bhikkhus dedicated their lives to this service in the faith that service to one's fellowmen is the true worship of God. Their service was not confined to our country only but spread to other countries like China, Japan, East Indies, Burma and Indo-China. The Hindu Kings who came later, the religious teachers and philanthropists built temples and mutts and through these performed the 32 dharmas like building rest-houses, choultries, tanks, orphan homes, hospitals for the sick and veterinary hospitals. The manner in which these ancient temples, Dharmasalas and mutts are being administered to-day is a sad commentary on the degradation to which we have sunk and the indifference and weakness that have overpowered us. From the time Christianity spread in the Western countries, many men and women of the Holy Order have been taking out missions with a view to spreading the gospel of service all over the world. In our country also, they have been doing excellent service through their educational and medical institutions and their personal lives of dedication. The missionaries of all religions have been doing service to all irrespective of differences of caste, religion or creed in the firm belief that the divine spark is latent in every creation of God and that service done to them is the truest offering at His altar."

The Conference discussed several important problems of social welfare. It is hoped that the Conference will prove a harbinger to an active period of social work in this Province.

Special Development Officers' Conference



Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas, Minister for Prohibition, addressing the gathering

It is a familiar saying that a tender plant needs constant watching. Once it develops into a big tree, attention can be relaxed without risk but until then it has to be watched vigilantly and conditions antagonistic or unfavourable to its growth eliminated. Similarly prohibition, like a tender plant, has yet to strike deep roots into the soil in environments which contain a number of hostile factors. So its operation has to be carefully watched and necessary steps taken from time to time to ensure that adverse factors are excluded or rendered inoperative. This is being done through periodical stock taking and formulation of measures in the light of practical experience. Recently such a stock taking was done through a Conference of Special Development Officers who are responsible for the social side of prohibition work.

The Conference was presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas, Minister for Prohibition, and was attended by Special Development Officers of the Prohibition districts as well as officers of other departments. Mr. V. N. Kudva, Commissioner of Prohibition, opened the Conference and in doing so he described the objects of prohibition as aimed at raising the standard of living of the masses and improving their economic, social and moral condition. "The enforcement of prohibition," he said, "involves the changing of the

habits of a large section of the people." The work undertaken for this purpose falls roughly under three heads: (1) provision of counter attraction, (2) promotion of thrift and general welfare of the people and (3) provision of employment to ex-tappers who have been thrown out of employment. These items of work are being vigilantly attended to at present. Particular attention is being paid to the organization of Grama Sanghams to promote rural recreation and attempts are being made to interest them in a programme of rural uplift and various kinds of activities like sanitation, village communication, distribution of better seeds and manure, running of night schools, etc. So far 7,063 Grama Sanghams have been organized in the old prohibition districts and 265 in the new prohibition districts.

By far the most important work undertaken by the ameliorative staff concerns ex-addicts. Their lot is sought to be improved first by promoting thrift and secondly by encouraging people to undertake schemes to improve their resources. Thrift is encouraged under a system of savings through hundi boxes distributed through co-operative societies and the savings effected through the existing 1,850 societies is estimated to be Rs. 11.4 lakhs. "Co-operative societies", observed Mr. Kudva, "are being organized

wherever possible for the pursuit of cottage industries as subsidiary occupations. The main types of co-operative societies so far organized under this head are milk supply unions, and societies, land colonization societies and Khadi spinning and weaving societies for cottage industries. A few rural housing schemes have also been formulated in Weavers' Co-operative Societies." The problem of finding employment for ex-tappers has also been carefully tackled. This problem according to the Prohibition Commissioner has not been very serious except to some extent in Coimbatore and Tanjore districts and to a large extent in Malabar and South Kanara. The Government have permitted tappers to tap sweet juice for the manufacture of jaggery and societies for this purpose have been started with about 9,000 members in the old prohibition districts of North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore and Chittoor. The value of jaggery produced by them is estimated to be 13.12 lakhs. Thirty-one more palmyra jaggery societies with about 5,240 members have been recently formed in Malabar and South Kanara and it is proposed to organize more societies in the other new prohibition districts if necessary, and the Government have also as a special case permitted tapping of coconut trees for jaggery manufacture in Malabar and South Kanara. Twenty-one societies have been formed for the purpose. Besides jaggery making, steps are being taken to absorb ex-tappers in milk supply and land colonization schemes as well as cottage industries on a co-operative basis. Mr. Kudva also stressed the value of co-operation in making prohibition a success and exhorted the Special Development Officers to be vigilant in enlisting public co-operation in the matter.

A number of topics were discussed in the Conference and in many cases, decisions were taken. The general policy will be to entrust ameliorative work to be carried out through the rural credit societies but without interfering with the Grama Sanghams wherever they exist. The by-laws of the rural credit societies will be amplified so as to enable them to undertake recreational work. Where there are no co-operative societies in villages and where they are not functioning effectively Grama Sanghams may continue to exercise these functions. It has also been decided that steps should be taken in the case of jaggery societies to ensure that the entire juice drawn from the trees is utilized in the manufacture of jaggery.

(Continued on page 9)

A Survey of Press Notes, Releases, etc.

The Madras Entertainments Tax Act (1939) during 1946-47

The total number of entertainments, held during the year under notice, was 305,114. The tax on 290,399 entertainments, comprising over 94 per cent of the total number, was paid on the basis of returns. This method, being more convenient and less cumbersome, was very popular with the proprietors. Admission by mechanical contrivance was adopted only on the Guindy Race Course, as in previous years.

Exemptions.—Six hundred and nineteen entertainments were exempted under Section 8 (1) and 44 under section 8 (2) of the Madras Entertainments Tax Act, 1939. The tax was compounded in respect of 47 entertainments during the year. These generally were very small entertainments.

Revenue.—The total demand during 1946-47 was Rs. 55,23,586 as against Rs. 46,18,640 in the previous year. The revenue realized during the year was Rs. 52,50,173 in cash and cheques and Rs. 1,58,041 in the form of stamps. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 1,15,372 of which a sum of Rs. 73,139 was subsequently collected.

The collection of the tax was on the whole satisfactory. There was an improvement in the revenue position, compared with the last year's figures owing to the increase in the number of stray entertainments, exhibitions, popular films in cinema theatres and the increase in the rates of admission in the cinemas in certain districts.

Offences.—There were only four prosecutions in all, launched for non-payment of the tax in the districts of Ramnad, Madurai and Tirunelveli. Eight hundred and thirty-five cases involving offences under the Act, were compounded for a total sum of Rs. 15,102 of which a sum of Rs. 13,947 was collected. Ninety-five prosecutions were launched and 38 ended in conviction and 8 in acquittal. Out of the remaining 49 cases, 34 are *sub judice*. Fifteen cases were withdrawn.

Seventy-six appeals were received by the Commercial Tax Officers during the year and 7 were pending at the beginning of the year. Out of these 83 appeals, 81 were disposed of during the

year. The Entertainments Tax Commissioner disposed of 7 revision petitions. Ninety per cent of the gross proceeds of the entertainments tax were paid, according to Government's order, to the local bodies within whose jurisdiction the entertainments took place.

The working of the Act was smooth in the year under review, no legal or administrative difficulty being experienced. The assistance of the Police Department was not sought for the administration of the Act.

[January 3]

Fee Concession for Scheduled Castes

The Government of Madras have extended for a further period of three years, from the 1st January 1948, the exemption from payment of the fee prescribed for application for selection to any post or posts within or outside the purview of the Madras Public Service Commission, in respect of candidates belonging to scheduled castes (Harijans), who have passed the Intermediate Examination in Arts of any of the Universities in the Province or who have taken a degree of any of those universities or who have acquired from any other University any qualification corresponding to any of the said qualifications.

[January 7]

Textile Industry Standardization Committee's Report

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Industrial tribunal that the wage structure for the different occupations in the textile mills, should be built up on the basis of a minimum wage of Rs. 26, after an examination of the duties allotted to each worker and the proper evaluation of his work, and that a Wage Board and a Standardization Committee should be set up for this purpose, the Government appointed in their order, dated the 25th August 1947, Sri A. Uttandarama Pillai, Assistant Commissioner of Labour, Madras, as the sole member of the Wage Board with power to co-opt two assessors for labour and two for employers for each area. As, however, it was absolutely necessary to fix the number

of workers required for each department in each mill before the wages can be fixed for the different categories of workers and enforced on the managements, the Government appointed a Standardization Committee with Sri A. Uttandarama Pillai, Assistant Commissioner of Labour, Madras, as Chairman, Sri M. Krishnaswami Iyer, Retired Inspector of Factories (also expert in textiles), and Sri A. Rajagopalan, Assistant Electrical Engineer (Bedeaux expert) as members of the Committee for a period of three months.

The Committee visited 23 textile mills both weaving and spinning, in the province between October 19 and December 4, 1947.

Very small mills have been excluded from the scope of the committee's work.

The Industrial Tribunal has remarked that in this Province, a spinning mill of 12,000 spindles and a weaving mill of 150 looms may be said to be economic units. The Committee found that opinions on this matter differed. According to Mr. Barlow of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, Ltd., Madras, economic units for spinning and weaving mills should have 30,000 spindles and 1,000 looms, respectively. In view of the existence of a large number of small units in this province, the Committee had taken a spinning mill of 12,000 spindles and a weaving mill of 300 looms as standards for purposes of working out the strength of the workers required in each department.

Under some categories into which the workers have been divided, the Committee has indicated the absolute minimum as well as the standard workload which they consider reasonable for each worker. For example, in the combing department, a worker can look after two sliver lap and ribbon lap machines or one sliver lap and one ribbon lap machines or three combing machines; but as combing is required only in a few mills in this Province spinning finer counts of yarn, and as in some of them, each worker is looking after only one sliver lap or ribbon lap machine or two combers while in others a worker is looking after two machines or two workers are looking after three machines or three workers are looking after four machines and one worker is

looking after three combers the Committee has suggested that a worker can look after one or two sliver lap machines or ribbon lap machines and two or more combers.

With reference to the workloads which have been determined after close observation and study of the working in several mills by the textile expert and the Bedeaux expert, the Committee has expressed its opinion, stating the personnel required in the different departments of spinning mills of 12,000 spindles and weaving mills with 300 looms. [January 8]

Wells under the Subsidized Scheme

The time allowed for completion of repair works to old wells subsidized under the Accelerated Schemes or the Ceded Districts Modified Scheme which under the existing rules expired on 30th June 1947, has been ordered by Government, to be extended till 30th April 1948, the concession being restricted to cases where the parties, in the opinion of the Collectors concerned, have made substantial progress in carrying out the repairs. No further extension of time will be granted.

Electoral Rolls

In Press Communique No. 48, dated the 29th October 1947, the Government announced that a list of amendments would be prepared to the rolls for the General, Muhammadan, Indian Christian and Anglo-Indian Constituencies of the Madras Legislative Assembly relating to the Madras City and prescribed the 15th January 1948 as the last date for the publication of the preliminary list. In the meanwhile it has been ordered that the re-constitution of the Madras City into 50 territorial divisions instead of the old 40 territorial divisions should take effect for electoral purposes from the 1st December 1947. If the amendments are prepared having regard to the new jurisdiction of the City and the new divisions now reconstituted the preliminary list will not match with the existing basic rolls of the Assembly as these have been prepared on the basis of the old 40 divisions and may cause confusion in the minds of the public.

In order to avoid these difficulties, the Government have decided that a fresh preliminary roll for the new 50 divisions incorporating the amendments carried out by the Corporation in re-arrangement and the amendments

proposed during the present revision should be prepared. This revised preliminary roll will be a self-contained one consisting of the names of qualified electors for each of the new 50 divisions and will not contain either correction or deletion entries. [January 10]

Arms and Ammunitions

The Government have directed that all licensed dealers in arms and ammunitions and military stores in the Province, should be required to place orders for supply of arms, ammunitions and military stores in triplicate through the District Magistrate or the Commissioner of Police, Madras, as the case may be, who after satisfying himself that the quantity intended is in accordance with the reasonable requirements of the trade, countersign and affix his office seal on all the three copies and keep one copy for record in his office, forward the second to the District Superintendent of Police for verification of the monthly report of stock and sales and return the third copy to the dealer for transmission to the supplying firm. The dealers are also required to inform the licensing authority and the District Superintendent of Police on receiving advice from the supplying firm when they expect to receive supply, through what channel and in what quantity. These instructions should be followed forthwith and failure to comply with them will lead to cancellation of licences.

The Government also consider it necessary that licence for the possession of arms and ammunitions granted in other provinces and made valid in this province only when such a licence together with the firearms have been produced for counter-signature before the District Magistrate or the Commissioner of Police, as the case may be.

These orders have been issued as the Government feel that in the present tension of the country, it is necessary to impose restrictions on the purchase of arms, ammunitions and military stores by dealers in this Province. [January 10]

Food Bonus Coupons

Numerous representations have been received by the Government, enquiring whether the food bonus coupons issued to the producers can be utilized for the next manuring season, in cases, where they could not be exchanged for manures during the present crop season.

In the Press Note issued by the Government on 30th September 1947, it was announced that the supply of manures (i.e., groundnut cake, chemical, fertilizers and green manure seeds) against the food bonus coupons will be subject to availability of stocks. It is therefore the intention of the Government to supply manures to all the couponholders as quickly as possible and in cases where the coupon holders are not able to get manures for want of stocks, during the present manuring season, or where they cannot profitably use the manures during the current year, they may utilize their manure coupons during the next crop season. [January 10]

Concession to Political Sufferers

In a Press Note issued on 23rd December 1947 the Government stated that they had issued orders for the grant of land to political sufferers and that applications for land should be made to the Collector of the district concerned with particulars of the imprisonment suffered. The Government desire to make it known to all concerned that the last date for the receipt of such applications will be 29th February 1948. [January 10]

Rent Reduction in Estates

The Special Officer for the fixation of fair and equitable rates of rents in Estates, popularly known as the Special Officer for Rent Reduction, Mr. S. K. Chettur, I.C.S., took charge of his office on December 1st and has been busily at work in the office of the Board of Revenue organizing the preliminary arrangements. The area to be covered is extremely vast consisting of over 31,000 square miles and involving work in 10,000 villages in 17 districts.

The Special Officer will be assisted by no less than 12 Special Assistants of the grade of Deputy Collector who have just been appointed by Government and who will join duty on January 19th. After a preliminary three weeks training each of them will be assigned to one of the 12 zones into which the Presidency has been divided. The Special Assistants will start intensive work in their areas from about February 15th. Each Special Assistant will be assisted by a Special Deputy Tahsildar and the requisite subordinate staff.

In view of their special importance and their size, Ramnad, Vizianagram and Venkatagiri zamindaris will have a Special Assistant each. There will be five Special Assistants in Telugu

areas, five in the Tamil areas and two in bi-lingual areas. It is not possible to give even an approximate idea of how long the work will take but it is expected that concrete results will be forthcoming in a period of 6 to 9 months. [January 11]

Transport of Paddy and Rice for personal consumption

The Government of Madras have passed orders, in supersession of the notification issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, dated 18th August 1945, in connection with the transport of paddy and rice for personal consumption. The main provisions of the orders are as follows:—No person shall transport paddy or rice for personal consumption from any place in any district in the Province to any place within the Province outside that district or to any place within the Pudukkottai State, except under and in accordance with the terms and conditions of permit, issued by the Collector of the district from which the paddy or rice is transported.

The supersession of the Order dated 18th August 1945, shall not affect proceedings which have been already taken or which may hereafter be taken, in respect of anything done or omitted to be done under the said Order. All permits granted under the said order and in force for the time being shall be deemed to be permits granted under this Order.

An applicant for permission to transport paddy or rice for personal consumption from any district in the Province of Madras shall be a registered holder of land in the district from which the applicant proposes to transport paddy or rice, living in a district other than that in which his lands are situated or shall be an undivided member of a family of such a registered holder or the heir of such a registered holder, where the registered holder is dead and transfer of registry has not been effected, living in a district other than that in which the lands are situated.

Permit shall not be given for any period exceeding six months at a time, nor shall any permit so given authorize the transport of more than 24 bags of paddy, which shall not altogether exceed 36 maunds or 12 bags of rice, which shall not altogether exceed 24 maunds within a period of six months. A permit shall not authorize the transport of more than the quantity which the applicant and his family, including his servants, are eligible to receive as rations for six months or 36 maunds of

paddy in 24 bags or 24 maunds of rice in 12 bags, whichever is less.

A person who imports paddy or rice from his lands will be given the usual ration card but with an endorsement thereon that he will not be allowed to purchase rations, till so authorized. If a person is entitled to more than 36 maunds of paddy or 24 maunds of rice in six months as rations for himself and his family including his servants or if he fails to get his supply from his lands he may apply to the Rationing Officer or the village munsiff, as the case may be, who will cancel the endorsement on the card or order that the holder of the card will be allowed to purchase the excess rations or his usual rations temporarily as the case may be. In the latter case, when the person again applies for a permit, the quantity which he obtained on the ration card previously will be taken into account in calculating the quantity for which a permit should be recommended. [January 15]

The Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order Amended

The Government of Madras, with the concurrence of the Government of India, have rescinded, with effect on and from 7th January 1948, the Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order, 1947, in so far as it extends to the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, South Kanara, North Arcot, Chingleput, Chittoor, Coimbatore, Salem, Madura, Ramnad, Tinnevely and Vizagapatam, excepting the areas in these districts where the Madras Rationing Order, 1947, continues to be in force. [January 12]

Libraries for firkas

With the introduction of compulsory elementary education, the supply of suitable books for the use of school-going children has become very essential. With a view to meet the needs of the school-going children and literate adults, the Government have sanctioned the opening of Central Libraries in the 25 firkas selected for intensive rural reconstruction work with branch libraries in each of the villages of the firkas. In the firkas which are already served by a public library managed either by the Local Bodies, Panchayat Boards or private associations, the library will, if possible, be taken under the control of the Government and converted into a Central Library.

The Government have sanctioned the necessary expenditure and staff for the libraries. [January 20]

War Service Candidates

In the case of candidates with "War service" who had applied between the 1st April 1947 and the 15th November 1947 (both days inclusive), to the Special Assistant (Ex-servicemen's Resettlement) to the Collector concerned for appointments in the Subordinate Services reserved for candidates with war-service, the age-limit prescribed in the Special Rules, shall be applied with reference to the 1st July of 1947, instead of with reference to the 1st of July of the year in which the selection may actually be made. [January 20]

Soil Conservation Board for Nilgiris

The Government of Madras, in order to check the rapid process of erosion in the Nilgiris district as a result of denudation of hill slopes by extensive cultivation in recent years, have approved the proposal submitted by the Chief Conservator of Forests to constitute a soil conservation Board for the Nilgiris district to advise the District Forest Officer, Soil Conservation Division, Ootacamund, and to induce the co-operation of the public in soil conservation measures.

Madras Educational Rules Amended

The Madras Educational Rules and Grant-in-aid Code have been amended so as to provide that the expression of views which are calculated to bring into hatred, ridicule or contempt the beliefs or practices of any religion within the premises of school or outside will be taken as bad conduct for purpose of rule 154, and that the Director of Public Instruction shall have power to refuse grants to any institution which directly or indirectly encourages propaganda calculated to bring into hatred, ridicule or contempt the beliefs and practices of any religion.

Harijan Uplift

No expenditure has so far been incurred from the Special Fund of Rs. 1 crore set apart for Harijan Uplift work. The Government have constituted a Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee and that Committee has been entrusted with the preparation of an immediate plan for the utilization of the sum of one crore of rupees. The receipt of the report of the Committee is awaited.

Delhi Tidings

Science Research Scholarships Abroad

One Science Research Scholarship will be awarded this year by the Royal Commissioners for the London Exhibition of 1851 to students from Indian Universities or institutions having post-graduate departments of Science. The scholarship, which is of the value of \$350 per annum and tenable for a period of two years, is intended to enable the selected student, who has already completed a full University course and whose record gives evidence of capacity for original scientific investigation, to devote himself to post-graduate research in some branch of pure or applied Science at any institution abroad approved by the Commissioners.

Subjects of the Dominion of India and Indian States, below the age of 26 years on May 1, 1948, will be eligible for this scholarship. Applications from students, whether residing in India or abroad have to be recommended by the authorities of a University or an Institution and are to be made to Provincial Governments and Local Administrations through the Universities and Institutions concerned, who would forward them so as to reach Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India, not later than 10th March 1948.

Nautical College for India

India, like most other maritime countries, will have a Nautical College for the higher training of merchant shipping officers if the Government accepts this recommendation of the Merchant Navy Officers' Training Committee. The Committee has submitted an Interim Report, which is under the Government's consideration.

At present the Indian Mercantile Marine Training Ship "Dufferin" gives a three-year course of training to cadets before they go to sea. But after acquiring the sea experience necessary to make them eligible to take examinations, conducted by Government, for a Mate's or Master's Certificate, they have to prepare on their own for these examinations; and it has been found that as a result an unduly high percentage of candidates fail.

In order to avoid this, the Committee stresses the importance of the establishment of a Nautical College, preferably in Bombay, to offer training facilities to candidates who wish to qualify for various certificates of competency in Navigation and Nautical Engineering. It is felt that a three to six months' course in such an institution should suffice for most of the candidates after their practical training at sea. Apart from Navigation, subjects taught in the college would include Mathematics, Astronomy, Meteorology and Law as applied to Shipping.

Speculation on Stock Markets

The Government of India have decided to take steps to eliminate speculation on the stock markets in Bombay, and necessary legislation is expected to be enacted in the coming session of the India Parliament.

The Government's plan was disclosed at a conference at the Civil Secretariat, attended by Mr. K. G. Ambegaonkar, Joint Secretary to the Indian Finance Ministry, Mr. B. Venkatappiah, Finance Secretary to the Government of Bombay, two representatives of the Reserve Bank of India, and Mr. K. R. P. Shroff, President of the Bombay Stock Exchange.

Although trading on the Calcutta and Madras Stock Markets is not speculative, the proposed legislation will be of an all-India character, so that speculation cannot be shifted from Bombay to any other city.

Increased Production

The setting up of an All-India industrial advisory council is likely to mark the second stage of an all-out drive by the Central Government to increase industrial production, according to Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookherjee, Minister for Industry and Supply, who met members of the various chambers of commerce in Calcutta recently.

The first step in this direction was the holding of the tripartite conference of industrialists, labour and the state in Delhi last month which unanimously recommended a three years' truce between employers and employees.

The proposed council, Dr. Mookherjee said, would be composed of representatives of the main industries. It

would meet periodically to review the production position in the country and suggest ways and means to implement the recommendations of the industrial conference. Similar advisory bodies could be formed on provincial basis to deal with problems relating to industries in their areas.

In order to encourage increased production, Dr. Mookherjee said a "production week" might be observed next month all over India. While industrialists should accommodate all legitimate claims of labour, it was time, the Minister said, the latter also imbibed a new spirit in keeping with the changed conditions in the country. Now that alien rule was over and a people's government was in power, any action by labour which might hamper production would be a betrayal of national interest and would ultimately mean her ruin.

"Produce or Perish" should be the slogan of the day, Dr. Mookherjee emphasized.

Indian Government's 5-Year Programme

A strong plea for co-operation with the Government of India in carrying out the five-year programme for strengthening the country was made by Sardar Patel addressing nearly 200 industrialists at the Calcutta Club recently when Mr. D. C. Driver, President of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, met the Deputy Prime Minister at a tea party. Among those present were Mr. G. D. Birla and presidents of all chambers of commerce, European and Indian.

Referring to nationalization of key industries, Sardar Patel said that the Congress had adopted a resolution in this behalf long ago at Karachi but he admitted that it would be impossible to do it immediately and thought that the Government had to ask for wholehearted co-operation of industrialists, who had experience in the line such as Civil Air Service as also of labour.

Sardar Patel criticized the method adopted by the Communists for creating unrest among industrial workers. He said that the Communists dominated the All-India Trade Union Congress.

Sardar Patel, however, reminded capitalists that they must think well of labour through whom they earned money but at the same time he advised them not to yield to hooliganism.

He also reminded them that India required sacrifices from all in an all-out effort to build up a new State.

Food Production

Since I took over the Food portfolio sixteen months ago, "political problems" before the country have completely changed, but the work of the Food Ministry continues to be of the greatest national importance," said Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Food Minister, at a farewell function organised by the Ministry of Food, "The country's food position," continued the Food Minister "has remained difficult right through these sixteen months, and still continues to be so. If we have succeeded in resolving the crisis, in a limited measure, the credit goes entirely to those who have co-operated with us in this task, and if any mistakes have been made, the fault is mine.

Turning to the prime necessity of increasing food production, the Food Minister said that the responsibility in his direction lay on the Ministry of Agriculture. India had once been famed as the "land of milk and honey;" they should strive to reach that position once again. Although I am leaving the Ministries of Food and Agriculture, concluded Dr. Rajendra Prasad, "I shall continue to take the greatest interest in the problem of food."

Agricultural Research

A Sub-Committee of technical experts has been appointed to consider the matter from all aspects and to submit its recommendations to the Regionalisation Committee, which will meet again in Delhi soon to take a final decision.

Protection of Cattle

The Government of India have decided to appoint an expert Committee of officials and non-officials to consider the question of cattle-slaughter in all its aspects, and to recommend a comprehensive plan of action which can be put into immediate effect for preserving the cattle wealth of the country, and for promoting its development, says a Press Note, issued by Ministry of Agriculture.

The Committee will consist of Sir Datar Singh, Vice-chairman, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, as Chairman.

In considering the subject, the Committee will pay particular attention to the following:—

(a) The cause and the extent of periodical variation on the supply of milk and bullock power;

(b) detailed examination of the available statistics of slaughter, proportion of useful animals therein and an estimate of material loss caused thereby;

(c) population trends of old and unproductive cattle and the problem of their maintenance and economic utilisation in view both of shortage of cattle-feed and of prevailing sentiments against slaughter;

(d) how agencies like GAUSHALAS and Cattle Protection Societies and Salvage Centres can be utilised for preserving cattle wealth and for promoting its developments; and

(e) a review of existing regulations regarding restrictions on cattle slaughter and of the administrative arrangements for the enforcement of the regulation.

(Continued from page 4)

As regards the marketing of jaggery the existing stores and sale societies are to be utilized for the purpose. Steps will also be taken to settle ex tappers on land wherever suitable and valuable land is available and if the land so available is close to the village. The question of organising cottage industries on a co-operative basis as well as building up of a community centre in each village were also discussed by the conference. In the case of Women Organisation, it was decided that wherever they exist they will be utilized to carry on ameliorative work particularly among women.

Successful Exorcism



For ever fled
"It is our sacred duty to help him in his noble resolve to eradicate the evil of Communal hatred—Let us all shed Communal hatred"—HON'BLE PREMIER.

Indian News Gallery

Help to Local Boards in Bombay

With a view to enabling the District Local Boards to tide over their present financial difficulties, the Government of Bombay has directed that, with effect from the current financial year and pending further orders, every District Local Board should be paid a grant-in-aid equal to 15 per cent of the ordinary land revenue, including non-agricultural assessment, realized during the previous revenue year, in the Board's area, excluding the areas under the jurisdiction of the Village Panchayats and Municipalities.

The grant will be made subject to the following conditions :—

(i) The District Local Boards raise their Local Fund Cess to three annas in the rupee, unless they have already done so; and (ii) The Boards spend in each taluk at least 75 per cent of the amount realized from that Taluk on the basis of 15 per cent of land revenue.

Assistance to Agriculturists in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have decided to make available manure mixture consisting of groundnut cake, ammonium sulphate and bonemeal in the proportion of 8 : 2 : 1 to cultivators in the Kolaba and Thana districts, who ask for it. The mixture will be sold at the rate of Rs. 195 per ton. Cultivators of vegetable crops in the above districts have been advised to approach the Director of Agriculture their requirements of manure mixture.

Physical Education in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have accepted the recommendation of the Physical Education Committee for holding every year two short-term courses in Physical Education for the secondary school teachers (each for 250 teachers), one in summer and the other in winter. The syllabus which is already in use at present will be followed for the course.

The scheme is sanctioned for a period of 5 years as recommended by the Committee.

Lift Irrigation in Bombay

In order to increase the yield of crops per acre, the Government of Bombay have started a Lift Irrigation Scheme, with a view to bringing more area under irrigation. The work of location of suitable sites and installation of engines and pumps at those sites will be undertaken immediately. The project covers the entire Province, which has been divided into four Divisions for the purposes of the work.

There are a number of perennial rivers and nallas in the Province which can be utilized for the purpose of lift irrigation. If pumping plants are installed at suitable sites, it is estimated that some 100,000 acres of land can be brought under irrigation.

Subsidy to Agriculturists in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have sanctioned the continuance of the subsidy of Rs. 15 per acre for producing hot weather irrigated crops during the year 1948, the conditions being the same as laid down in last year.

Adult Education in Bombay

Sanction has been accorded by the Government of Bombay to the payment of a recurring grant of Rs. 1,000 to the Bombay Presidency Adult Education Association, Bombay, during the current financial year.

Gigantic Reservoir of U.P.

The U.P. Cabinet has finally approved the Rihand Dam Project, which will cost Rs. 30 crores to the Provincial exchequer.

The dam will be constructed in five years near Pipri in Mirzapur district. 181,000 kwttse of electricity will be generated from the project which will provide electricity to the whole of eastern U.P. at the rate of about one pie per unit.

Education to Deaf and Dumb Children in U.P.

A scheme for imparting education to the deaf and dumb children of the U.P. envisages opening of six new Government schools in three years, one

each at Benares, Bareilly, Meerut, Agra, Gorakhpur and Jhansi. According to available figures, there are about 8,000 deaf and dumb children of school-going age in the province.

Meerut will be the first place to have such a school this year. There is already one at Benares, a private institution, which in future will receive Government aid. There are also two schools, one at Lucknow and the other at Allahabad, both private, with about 100 students on the roll. These schools, too, will henceforth be subsidized by Government.

The province will thus have eight schools for deaf and dumb children.

Development Board for Pakistan

The Government of Pakistan have decided to constitute a Development Board and a Planning Advisory Board to co-ordinate Pakistan's development schemes.

The Development Board will work at Secretarial level, while Representatives of Provincial and States Governments, Commerce and Industry will be associated with the work of the planning Board.

Military Training for Students

The Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University, Shri P. N. Banerji, told a meeting of the Senate, that Government of India were willing to consider the question of compulsory military training of college students in West Bengal. He informed the House that in pursuance of repeated demands in this behalf he had been in communication with the Government of India on the subject for some time past.

Military Training in U.P. Colleges

The U.P. Government proposes to introduce compulsory military training this year in classes XI and XII of Intermediate colleges in the province's eight big cities, viz., Lucknow, Allahabad, Cawnpore, Benares, Agra, Alligarh, Meerut and Bareilly.

The trainers will be divided into battalions companies and platoons. Training will be given on two half days in a week. Every city will have a common parade ground complete with a short range.

The Education Department is contemplating to acquire the parade grounds of the auxiliary forces now

being disbanded. The Government had recently appointed a committee to prepare a detailed plan for introduction of military training in educational institutions. The committee has just submitted its interim report. Its recommendations have been accepted by the Government and a beginning in military training has been made with eight cities.

Uplift of Orissa Hill Tribes

The Government of Orissa, it is understood, have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 to be spent immediately on the uplift of the hill tribes of the Orissa States which have now merged with the Orissa Province.

It is further understood that the Government will in the course of a

few days appoint an Adibasi leader as Adviser to the Government in regard to the uplift of the Adibasis.

The Government are now examining the Thakkar Committee report which deals with the hill tribe area of Ganjam and Koraput district to see which of the general recommendations for the uplift of the hill tribes in the Orissa States can be adopted immediately.

Welfare of the Peasants

Addressing a large gathering of kisans at Sihora, Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla, Premier, C. P. and Berar, said that Government were doing their best for the welfare of the peasants. The malguzari system would be abolished and kisans would get better irrigation

facilities. A new aluminium factory with an expenditure of about two crores of rupees would soon be started at Katni, the Premier announced.

Anti-Corruption Squad's Work in Bombay

During the month of November 1947, the Anti-Corruption and the Textile Branches of the Bombay C.I.D. took action against 78 persons of whom eight were dealt with for offences relating to bribery and corruption, 19 for theft, three for black-market trading in kerosene, four for cheating, one for extortion, two for breach of the Bombay Rationing Regulations and the remaining 41 for contravention of the Textile Orders.

Spot-light on Current Problems

Rent Reduction in Estates and Agrarian Reform

Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkatarao's Broadcast

In the course of the broadcast, the Hon'ble Minister said :

In most of the estates in this Province, particularly in those in the Telugu districts, the rent levied by the landholder from his ryots is substantially in excess of the assessment charged by the Government on similar land in the neighbouring ryotwari area and is beyond the capacity of the ryots to pay. The Zamindari system has perpetuated an assessment which has no relation to the productive capacity of the land which varies from district to district. It has further led to absence of contact between the Government and the actual cultivator and has acted as a brake in regard to agricultural improvement. The irrigation works in estates are mostly in a state of disrepair. The complexities of the Zamindari system have led to an immense volume of litigation. Many of the records in the offices of Zamindars are indifferently maintained and the peasantry, most of whom are illiterate, are at the mercy of the unscrupulous agents. The Zamindari system has rarely, if ever, been as efficient as the revenue system in Government areas.

There is thus discontent among estate ryots and they have been agitating for an improvement in their condition. The agrarian and political situation in estates is worsening day by day, and there is a growing agitation for the reduction of the high rents prevailing in estates. The Government therefore decided that something should be done at once to allay the discontent prevailing in the minds of the estate ryots and that, pending the major legislation for the abolition of the Zamindari system which they had then under contemplation, rents prevailing in estates should be reduced with immediate effect to the level of assessments in the neighbouring ryotwar areas. The Bill which has secured the approval of both the Houses to-day and which awaits the Governor's assent, provides for the appointment of Special Officers for the purposes of recommending fair and equitable rates of rent for the ryoti lands in the estates. The Special Officer will first determine the average rate of cash rent per acre now prevailing for each class of ryoti land, in each village in an estate, as also the average rate of assessment per

acre in respect of each of the said classes of land in the nearest ryotwari area, in which conditions are generally similar to those obtaining in the estate village. In the main Bill for abolition, it is proposed to replace the existing system by a regular ryotwari settlement in all estates. We had also to proceed on the footing that speed was of the essence of the business, consistent of course with the complexity and the volume of the work involved. That being so, I am forced to admit that we have been compelled to adopt in one or two matters, the second best solutions. For example, the original proposal was to do away entirely with grain rents wherever they prevail as in some estates in Ramnad and Chittoor districts. But we found that the commutation of existing grain rents into cash rents would take far too long and so we were reluctantly forced to decide that pending a regular ryotwari settlement, the grain rents in these areas should continue but should be reduced practically in the same ratio as cash rents. The same reason was largely responsible for the retention of existing rents where they happen to be lower than ryotwari assessments. In the Select Committee and elsewhere, the main attack on this Bill as on the connected measures has been over the decision to include within its scope all estates as defined in section 3 (2) of the Estate Land Act, which, as all are aware, means also whole inam villages. The attack has proceeded on the basis that inams are entirely different in nature from Zamindaris and that there is no justification for treating the two alike in this or any other matter. The Government do not subscribe to that

view. At the moment, it is sufficient to say that this enactment seeks in the main to better the condition of the ryot who tills the land and from this point of view the inam ryot is in many areas far worse placed than the Zamindari ryot. The 1936 amendment to the Estates Land Act laid down that the rents existing on 1st November 1933 should be regarded as fixed rents and particularly in areas where rent is paid in kind the effect of this provision has been to legalize the unconscionably high rates which the ryot has to pay. If relief to the ryot is to be our object, I cannot see how Government could leave inams out of this legislation. Certain changes were made in the Bill as was originally published either by the Select Committee or by the Legislature. The first of these relates to the retention of grain rents which are now proposed to be reduced in the same ratio as cash rents. I have already referred to this matter briefly. The Bill as published envisaged commutation of all these rents. The only reason for this change was that we found we could not give quick relief if we wanted to proceed with commutation. Another provision makes the reduced rents recoverable as arrears of land revenue. Although Government have taken on a tremendous job under this provision, they regard it as the just thing to do. At the same time, they found it impossible to accept the proposal urged by some quarters that they should undertake collection here and now of the existing high rates. This would be inconsistent with our policy to reduce these rates with effect from fasli 1357. An important change accepted by the Government is the provision by which they undertake to reimburse the religious, charitable and educational institutions, the loss of income due to rent reduction. This requires no explanation. Government are aware that they are undertaking a big responsibility over this, but having regard to the demand from practically all sections of opinion, they consider it to be their duty to do so.

I do not claim that this is an ideal Bill or that it will at one stroke cure all the ills under which the estate tenant is suffering to-day. I can say with confidence that this measure will give immediate relief to more than 95 per cent of the tenants in the estates. I may also incidentally state that this attempt at rent reduction is not attempted in any other provinces of our country, where the schemes concern themselves with the abolition of the estates (zamindaris) only and not with the reduction of the rental immediately.

In the recent Revenue Ministers' Conference at Delhi much concern was expressed about the real tiller of the soil. After all he is the man who is toiling, day in, day out, to produce our food. All schemes should aim at giving him status, both economically and politically. This brings us to the problem of tenancy reform.

I believe that for a long time to come we have to rely upon the peasant-proprietorship system. But we must recognize that in many cases the peasant proprietors of to-day are becoming either absentee landlords or are becoming renters. The relations between the peasant proprietors and the tenants who cultivate the land must be clearly defined, statutorily so as to ensure a reasonable period of tenancy to the cultivator and a share of the produce which each of the parties should be enabled to take, after meeting the cultivation expenses. This aspect has been closely examined by Sri N. Raghavendra Rao, Special Officer, appointed for the purpose. His report is being reviewed by the Government and will be published. In this connexion we have also to consider the question of the creation of economic holdings. The general complaint is that there is too much fragmentation in our country. Such fragmentation is a bar to scientific improvement of agriculture, with the result that the outturn of food produce is falling behind the increase in population in our country. So apart from the question of better seeds and better manures, we will have to create for each cultivator, whom the State wants to keep on the soil an extent of an economic holding which will yield not only sufficient food to the family but would enable him to have a marketable surplus. This of course is not an easy problem. The quality of the land will have to determine the extent of an economic holding in each area. The present extent of cultivable land in our country is not sufficient for our purpose. Therefore the question has to be closely examined and the programme has got to be determined carefully. In this connexion we have to consider the question of a maximum limit for a holding by a single person as also the allied question of minimum unit for an economic holding. Such extents must have a bearing to the productivity of the soil and irrigation facilities. Therefore, there cannot be any uniform extent of land that can be prescribed for this purpose. The extent will have to vary according to the criteria mentioned just now. This will now bring us to the question of collective and co-operative farming.

I do not like to deal with this subject *in extenso* in the limited time available for me just now. Co-operative farming must be secured by the willing acquiescence of the people and not by coercion. I think that by bringing together owners of fragmented holdings and by making them to cultivate their land as a single unit without disturbing their ownership much can be achieved in this line. Perhaps in our country co-operative farming fits in better than collectivization. Nonetheless I am not averse to certain experiments at State farming. We have available large plots of uncultivated and cultivable land in our Presidency. These are sub-marginal lands whose return is not commensurate with good profit unless proper development of the region is undertaken. I do hope that at an early date we will be able to start some of these schemes which will serve as models for the rest of the country.

Scarcity of the means of satisfying our wants is the chief characteristic of our economic problem. Our agricultural land is very much overburdened and the social and moral position of the surplus agricultural population is very deplorable. Unless we improve the efficiency and thereby increase the productivity, our food problem will become very serious in the years to come. Bitterness of unemployment, misery of undernourishment, and the multitude of psychological ills that derive from social instability and the economic uncertainty should not be allowed to play their part in India of the future. Land reforms by themselves alone will not solve all these problems. They will have to be tackled on a more human plane by creating conditions that will make the tiller of the soil the master of the realm. I am perfectly certain that the great culture of our country will enable us to solve these great problems and we will be able to create a happy, contented and care-free tenant in our free India. Let us all unite our efforts to that end.

—By courtesy of A.I.R., Madras.

Advice to Local Board Employees in U.P.

'Poverty was never considered to be humiliating in our country. Specially where both the employers and employees are poor, there is nothing to be grumbled. It is a secondary thing whether you are paid or not but to get an opportunity to serve the humanity is a great privilege. Serve the down-trodden, poverty-stricken humanity in a missionary spirit,' said Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, the U.P. Premier inaugurating the U.P. District Boards Employees' Conference to-day.

Future of Arecanut Industry in India

Problems of Marketing and Research

The growing of arecanut is a matter of vital economic consequence to thousands of families whose chief means of livelihood is the proceeds of the yield of the arecanut palms they cultivate on their small plots of land, said Sir Datar Singh, Vice-Chairman, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, addressing a meeting of the Ad Hoc Arecanut Committee, which met in New Delhi on November 3 to consider various problems connected with the arecanut industry.

Sir Datar Singh revealed that on the basis of the figures of average production, exports and imports of arecanuts for the ten years ending 1945, the total annual consumption of arecanuts in India was 6,047,000 maunds valued at more than Rs. 30 crores.

It has been estimated that the total area under arecanut in India and Pakistan is 523,400 acres, of which about 3,000 acres are in West Bengal and 262,700 acres in East Bengal, 29,200 acres are in Assam and 227,800 acres in the Provinces of Madras, Bombay and Coorg and the States of Mysore, Cochin and Travancore. The total annual production of arecanuts in India and Pakistan is estimated at 4,810,800 maunds valued at about Rs. 25 crores.

In spite of the importance of the crop, adequate attention has not been paid to the various problems connected with the industry. The result is that those problems have now accumulated in number and extent and are clamouring for effective consideration. At the same time, peace has brought the problem of competition from foreign countries to the fore again and has brought a new awareness of the grower of the backwardness of the whole industry.

During the summer of 1945, representations were made to the Control Board of Revenue by individual producers as well as their associations from South India regarding the deplorable plight of the industry, of the heavy cost of cultivation that the growers have to bear and the lack of adequate returns to them, mainly due to the absence of scientific research to improve cultivation and augment production, the ravages wrought by the Mahali disease and the ill-developed methods of marketing in vogue at present.

The possibilities of cheap and heavy imports of arecanuts from the Strait Settlements, Ceylon, etc., and their effect on the local prices were also stressed by them. They demanded

some control with a view to regulating the marketing of local and imported nuts and to ameliorating their economic position. At the request of the Central Board of Revenue, the Agricultural Marketing Adviser arranged for a rapid marketing survey of the Arecanut Industry in India.

The Central Government also allotted a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs in 1946-47 and Rs. 5 lakhs in 1947-48 for improving and developing the production and marketing of arecanuts in the country. Based on the Agricultural Marketing Adviser's report and the information collected from the trade and other sources certain recommendations have been formulated for fostering the industry and the Ad Hoc Committee was called to decide how best the industry could be developed.

Co-operative Marketing

The arecanut industry is confronted with short-term and long-term problems. Among the former are question of co-operative marketing and certain immediate items of agricultural work.

Short-term work on the agricultural side comprises the adoption of measures for effectively combating the diseases by methods already known, the distribution of good quality seedlings and experimentation to ascertain how far manuring, irrigation and intercultivation could help to stop up production and to improve its quality.

Long-term problems can again be examined from the agricultural, technological and economic points of view. Hardly any scientific research work worth the name has been done on the arecanut till now. A lot of work has, therefore, to be done on the fundamental and genetical aspects of arecanut cultivation. The possibility of evolving disease-resisting strains of areca palms has also to be studied.

Central Research

The arecanut has its technological problems, too. The proper utilization of the several parts of the tree, such as the husk of the nut, the leaf, the leaf sheath, which are now practically wasted, the extended use of the nut itself and the formulation of methods for the better curing and processing of nuts, all require to be investigated. There appears, therefore, a great need for setting up a Central Research Station for attending to all these problems.

The scope of research may not, however, be limited to the Central

Research Station. Particular arecanut growing regions may have their special local problems and those will have to be tackled by regional research stations. These regional stations could very well be set up on the model of similar stations sponsored by the Indian Central Coconut Committee which meets, in respect of them, 50 per cent of the recurring expenditure, the other 50 per cent of the recurring expenditure and the non-recurring expenditure, being met by the provincial or State Government concerned.

In fact, the problems of agricultural research relating to the arecanut appear to be quite akin to those of the coconut. Both are perennial crops and the trees come to the bearing stage only seven to ten years after planting. Both are grown, at any rate in large areas of the south, in the same gardens as mixed crops.

From the long-range economic point of view, the organization of regulated markets for arecanuts assumes considerable importance, and it may have to be recommended to the Provincial or State Governments to introduce legislation for the purpose. There is also need for drawing up grade specifications for arecanut to supplement the benefits that the regulated markets and the co-operative marketing societies may yield.

Statistical Data

"I would emphasise", Sir Datar Singh said, "the importance of having correct statistics of acreage and production, so that we may have accurate crop forecasts and determine the extent to which imports are needed. Measures will have to be devised for the purpose and put through by the Governments with financial aid from the Arecanut Development Fund, if found possible. Statistics of inter-provincial movements of the commodity also have to be recorded and movement by rail encouraged by securing freight concessions."

The Committee decided to recommend (i) that immediate measures be taken to set up an Arecanut Committee which should be administered by the Secretariat of the Indian Central Coconut Committee; (ii) that a network of co-operative credit-cum-sale societies be organized to improve arecanut marketing; (iii) that the Bombay scheme of investigation into the Band disease of the arecanut palm be financed by the Arecanut Committee and the Bombay Government; and (iv) that the question of organizing other items of work be considered after the preliminaries connected with the setting up of the Committee are complete.

—Indian Information.

Dr. Rajan Answers Criticisms

In the course of a broadcast talk Hon'ble Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, Minister for Food observed: I would like to refer to the criticisms in certain quarters that the Madras Government had blindly followed the dictates of the Government of India without any rhyme or reason. Such a criticism is based on a wrong appreciation of the position. The whole policy of food administration is not entirely a provincial concern and it is essentially an All-India matter. It is the Government of India who take account of the food stocks available in the country arrange for imports from foreign countries to make up the deficiencies and distribute them equitably to the various deficit provinces. They have been supplying this Province large quantities of foodgrains at a subsidised price and are still arranging for the supply of foodgrains for the current year also. Though they may not be able to supply all that we require, their help is expected to be fairly substantial and they propose to give the foodgrains at a concessional price, as they would themselves bear two-thirds of the subsidy. Any departure from the policy laid down by the Government of India will naturally deprive us of all these advantages, which we now enjoy besides creating an embarrassing food situation in the Province, since the Provincial Government do not have the necessary status for negotiating with foreign countries in this matter. It is thus wrong to suppose that the Provincial Government is following the footsteps of the Central Government thoughtlessly and in a light-hearted manner. As a matter of fact, soon after we were informed of the Government of India's decision, the pros and cons of the question were discussed not only in a meeting of the Cabinet but also in a conference of the Collectors of selected districts, Commissioner of Civil Supplies and other important food officials and a definite plan of action was chalked out. It was decided that the policy of progressive de-control should be adopted, providing adequate safeguards at the same time to protect the interests of the consumers. The policy was also discussed subsequently in both the Houses of Legislature and it was a matter of great encouragement to me that there was a large volume of support in favour of de-control.

I may also mention that the statements by Mahatma Gandhi, whose foresight and wisdom are unrivalled

had created a feeling among the masses in favour of de-control and I was flooded with letters and telegrams every day from all over the Province recommending the adoption of immediate de-control, though there were a few dissenters here and there.

It is pointed out in some quarters that it would have been wiser if the controls were removed after the Province had attained a state of self-sufficiency. It should be remembered that this Province was not self-sufficient in the matter of food grains even before the war and could not attain self-sufficiency within a reasonable period of four or five years. It would therefore mean indefinite waiting under intolerable conditions if controls were to be relaxed only after attaining self-sufficiency.

It is also said that the Government want to remove controls to divest themselves of the responsibility for feeding the people. This is a very erroneous presumption. De-control and de-rationing will as already announced be adopted gradually with reference to the conditions in each district. The supply of requirements of the deficit areas still continues to be the responsibility of the Government till all controls are entirely removed. The Government would keep a vigilant watch over the prices and stock position in the deficit districts and will carry on their intensive procurement in the surplus districts as hitherto. All possible safeguards and precautions will be taken to meet any untoward situation that may crop up. We do not also propose to relax our efforts in securing the maximum possible imports from outside the Province. The latest telegraphic reports from Collectors on the results of de-control show that except in the districts of Malabar, Ramnad and Tinnevely and in some rural parts of a few other districts, no scarcity is felt. Relief shops have been opened wherever necessary and foodgrains are being moved to deficit pockets from the surplus areas. The de-control of pulses, sugar and

other minor articles which was ordered a few weeks in advance of the de-control of rice and millets, has, I understand, produced a feeling of satisfaction among the public in general and I sincerely hope that the same results will follow in the wake of the decontrol of the foodgrains.

Before concluding, I wish to place before you some facts about the present food situation in the Province. It is my painful duty to tell you that as a result of the complete failure of the North-East Monsoon in the Central and Southern districts the yield from paddy and millets has been considerably reduced. According to the latest estimates, the production of rice this year is estimated to be 3,687,000 tons which is less than the normal by about 1.2 million tons. The millet production is estimated at 1,939,000 tons which means a reduction of about 712,000 tons from the normal. It is therefore true that our present position is not happy but there is no cause for despair, if we make a grim determination to face the situation, whatever it might be, boldly. The very essence of our de-control policy is the imbibing of a spirit of self-help and self-reliance in every individual. It is therefore surely within our limits to tide over any possible crisis provided every one of us makes it a point to do his bit to solve the problem, the producer, the trader, and the consumer endeavouring each in his own way. The producer has now been offered a substantial increase in price and he should therefore help by increasing production in every possible way whether it is rice, millets or supplementary food crops which will go a long way to alleviate distress. The consumer could help by purchasing only his minimum requirements and not resorting to the black market. The trader should serve the community by fair dealings. If every one of us pull our weight I do not despair that we could make the present partial de-control a success and pave the way for complete de-control before long.

—By Courtesy of A.I.R., Madras.

The Government and the Development of Language

The development of languages is one of the primary duties of a popular Government and to this end the Madras Government have taken a number of measures. The latest is the institution of Poets laureateship. In this connection the broadcast talk

of the Hon'ble Minister for Education is of especial interest.

In the course of the broadcast the Hon'ble Minister said:

The lack of development of our language has resulted so far in stagnation in all walks of life. There have

lived in our country many persons of great culture, refinement and ability. Many of our countrymen have outshone others in Science and other branches of study. Men like Sir J. C. Bose have attained fame by discovering things hitherto undiscovered in the world. India has given birth to innumerable great men like Sir C. V. Raman, Sir K. S. Krishnan, Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Sir P. C. Roy, Sri Ramanuja and others who made themselves famous in their particular fields. But the truths which they expounded and the wisdom which they acquired have not benefited our country. This is due to their researches being recorded in a foreign language which they studied and mastered. They did not make their researches in the languages known to the people of our country. Owing to the lack of growth of the languages of our country this has not been made possible. High culture among a select few of her people cannot benefit a country. All men can generally acquire a high standard of culture, only through books published in the language known to them. That is the sign of the true growth of language.

All the books written and published in a language can be divided into two classes (1) Literature and (2) Scientific works. Poems and stories, religious works and other books dealing with the development of mankind and society, can be called literature. The intrinsic merit of these books is presentation of high ideals to mould the mode of life. We have such literary books in abundance in our language. Before the birth of Christ, nay, even as early as the beginning of the civilization of mankind many excellent books were written in our language which are still praised by the world at large. Of this we must feel proud. No one can definitely fix the exact date of "Thirukural". That excellent work is of such great antiquity. The books that appeared subsequent to Thirukural such as Salapadikaram, Theravams, Prabhandhams, Kamba Ramayana, etc., are treasures of which any language can be proud.

But, we cannot boast of many scientific or Science of the second type in our language. It is said that in days of yore we had many excellent books on medicine, mathematics, Arts and other subjects. They have, for reasons not known to us, disappeared. Though there are a few of them, they have not so far been revised to suit present conditions. The researches now being made in the fields of Science,

Physics and Chemistry are of tremendous importance. Our old books do not stand to gain by recent researches of the world. As these researches were made and recorded in languages other than our own, they were not incorporated in our language. So much so, we must consider that in certain matters our country and language are in the back ground.

The question that engages our attention at present is to devise ways and means to bring out in our language scientific works in the various fields. The imparting of education in our schools and colleges in English language is in a way responsible for the present situation. Instruction given through the medium of a foreign language in a school or college has created a cleavage between those who studied in schools and colleges and those who did not do so and prevented the spreading of language from those who studied in the colleges to those who did not study there. This is our experience of the past 150 years. If all this knowledge is to be made the property of all common people all lessons must be taught in our language in our schools and colleges. Our countrymen are aware of the arrangements made by this Government to this effect. Arrangements have also been made in the Intermediate classes of colleges to impart in Tamil certain branches of study. From next year in the B.A. classes in some colleges instruction of certain branches will be given in Tamil. It has thus been made possible to bring out many books on different subjects. It is our primary duty to bring out Scientific books and spread the study thereof.

We will have to consider one thing in this affair. To bring out books in Tamil on various subjects, the technical terms and words relating thereto must be collected. There are some who advocate that these technical terms and words must be in pure Tamil. They are desirous of coining words like "dwichakra" for "cycle" and such other words. Many of the technical words that we find in the English language are not of English origin. Mostly they were borrowed from Latin, French and other languages. They are the technical words in common usage throughout the world. Our children too must be conversant with these terms and words if they desire to pursue higher course of studies. It is, therefore, good to borrow these terms wholesale in our language. This is the opinion of some learned people. This opinion was supported in the

recent Tamil festival held at Madura. At the meeting held in Madras under the auspices of the Committee of Tamil Encyclopedia this view was supported by many. The Government also have formed a committee consisting of Sri Manavala Ramanujam, the Principal of the Presidency College, Sri T. P. Meenakshisundaram Pillai and Sri Viswanatha Sarma to coin technical terms in Tamil.

Our language will attain a dignified position if it is made a State language. The English language commended great respect on account of its being made a State language. That respect and dignity must henceforth be shared by our provincial languages. It is difficult to effect this for this reason. Our province consists of four linguistic regions. It is not therefore possible to make anyone of the four languages a State language. Friends know that there has been an agitation for the division of the Province on linguistic basis. The present situation does not warrant immediate separation. It may take some years. It will then be easy for each of these languages to be a State language in its respective region. This does not mean that we should keep quiet till the separation is effected. We may make attempts to carry on Government through the medium of regional languages.

The growth of a language cannot be made possible by a few in a country. This will be possible only when the public co-operate with the Government in this respect.

Education must be free from Communalism

Dr. Syed Hosain, Indian Ambassador-Designate to Egypt, speaking at the Aligarh Muslim University said that education must now be completely divorced from the past tradition and harnessed to the ideals and purposes of a free sovereign democratic nation. This meant, among other things, eradication of every type of sectarianism, communalism and fanaticism.

Mr. Hosain stated that the Aligarh University was a vital and valuable national institution. For a whole generation and more the Aligarh College had enjoyed the great reputation as a character building educational institution. He was glad that with the advent of India's independence a splendid and wholesome change had also come over the spirit of Aligarh University.

Provinces and States—Glimpses

Adult Education Conference

Addressing the All India Adult Education Conference recently in Rewa State, Mr. K. G. Saiyidain, discussed the problem of education in a democratic state. Adult education should not be limited to being a mere literacy drive but should provide facilities for the common man to develop the faculties of clear thinking and self expression, he said. The primary concern of the educationists of democracy should be to strengthen its intellectual and moral defences against two serious dangers—the uncritical and credulous acceptance of propaganda as truth and the break down of the sense of the social solidarity which results in selfish clash of interest and the generation of a suicidal conflict between the different communal, sectarian and geographical groups.

Continuing, he said, "In planning our adult education, we must pay special attention to two large and new groups—refugees who have gone through frightful sufferings and have become soured and embittered in consequence and ex-soldiers who have lost respect for life and its more tender values. Any programme, which ignores these large elements of the population and fails to provide specially for their re-education and the healing of their psychological wounds, will remain defective and incomplete.

"The most urgent task of adult education today therefore, is to concentrate on their social and moral re-education, to rekindle reverence for life which all great religions have taught and to reassert the primacy of those moral and spiritual values which ultimately give meaning to life.

"What is important for us to remember is that this raising of the material and cultural level, this admittance into the domain of the 'good life' is not possible through the drab, dreary and often literally dark 'adult centres'.

"No, if the adult education movement is to play its part in the renaissance of national life, these centres must become dynamic social centres, focussing the actual and potential cultural resources of the local community, making the members actively interested in their own improvement and providing an environment and

an atmosphere in which that interest can be joyfully translated into co-operative and growing activity.

"This would provide an excellent starting point for the formation of 'discussion groups' and arranging what may eventually become 'courses' of talks and lectures on subjects of general interest and usefulness to the members. By quickening their interest in folk art and music and other forms of creative self-expression, not only will their lives be enriched and their appreciation deepened but it may even be possible to save them from falling helpless victims to the purveyors of inferior, commercialized art and music.

"To broaden their mental horizon, the various visual and auditory aids which science has placed at our disposal—pictures, charts, diagrams, films, radio, etc.—may be utilized. Thus, if adult education is broadened to mean social education, the education of the whole personality in all its manifold ramifications—as is the accepted connotation in all progressive countries—it can make a vital contribution to the salvation of the country and its bewildered people."

Development of Indian Agriculture

"Let India in the years to come keep one foot on the land and one in industry—nationally and individually," observed Mr. Glen Overton, President of the American Machine Company, Dowagiac, Michigan, speaking at the Rotary International Weekly Luncheon meeting held in Madras recently.

In the course of his talk : Mr. Overton said : "Agriculture is the keystone of your national economic structure. The honour and dignity of increasing the productive value of the land, must be established and maintained in the minds of your people. Food is after all your first requirement—more food, better food.

"Second, avoid in every possible way large centres of industrial employment. Our failure to do this during the past forty years is now our greatest social and political problem. If most places of employment could be held to units of 1,000 men or less, the workmen would be a more stable and

happier people. Let India in the years to come keep one foot on the land and one in industry—nationally and individually."

Police in U.P.

Addressing the annual parade of the U.P. police at the police lines recently, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, the Governor, declared that the Government and the people would act as one man in the defence of the country against all those who might try to attack, assail and exploit the land.

Paying tributes to the services rendered by the police since the country attained freedom, Mrs. Naidu hoped that in the future they would all—officers and men—realize that they should always work as protectors and guardians of the people. She told the officers that they and their men should stand together, undivided in spirit and endeavour, in the service of the country.

The task before Free India

"By achieving freedom, our responsibilities have increased. So long as we were in bondage we could put the blame on others, but now if we do not realize our responsibilities, the fault will be ours," said Pandit Govind Bellabh Pant, Premier of U.P., while addressing the Mirzapur District Political Conference recently.

About 30,000 persons from the neighbouring villages listened to the speech with rapt attention.

The Premier reminded the audience that they had to liquidate the accumulated arrears not of decades but of centuries. They had to liquidate illiteracy, poverty and disease.

"We should raise those who are down-trodden, make rich those who are poor, educate those who are illiterate and give a feeling of security to all. We have to find ways to infuse energy, vigour and joy in the life of our people. We have to raise the stature of every citizen residing in this province and for that we all have to combine our efforts", he said.

Further explaining the meaning of Swaraj, Pandit Pant said that it meant a panchayat raj in which everyone had a voice in shaping his

destiny. With that end in view the Congress Ministry had enacted the Panchayat Raj Act under which over a lakh of panchayats would be formed in the province.

Bihar Governor's Advice

"We are all servants of the nation, its sewaks. Let the flame of patriotism which burns within you so brightly, inspire you to function as true sewaks and to merge your identity with the poorest of your land, feeling as acutely as he does how the thorn pricks the naked feet, how the wintry blast freezes the half-covered limbs, how the depleted purse creates the rangs of hunger and how the devitalized body falls prey to malaria and other diseases, in a word how the masses of this land of ours live at a level which is one of the lowest in the world", observed His Excellency the Governor of Bihar inaugurating the Bihar Centre of the Institute of Engineers. Incidentally it may be mentioned, there are a number of schemes primarily designed to achieve the economic re-birth of the Province. All told, these schemes are calculated to cost Rs. 200 crores.

Land Settlement in Assam

Sri Bishnuram Medhi, Revenue and Finance Minister, Assam, outlined at a Press Conference at the Jorhat Circuit House on Monday last, Assam Government's plan regarding land settlement and development of industries in the province.

He said that in enforcing a policy of abolition of zamindari which affected Goalpara district and Karimganj subdivision, the Government proposed, first, to give adequate relief to tenants by reducing the exorbitant rate of rents and granting them the right of occupancy, thus freeing them from exploitation by landowners and middlemen.

Sri Medhi said that zamindars would be given big plots of Khamar lands, provided they agreed to cultivate them for developing special industries and farming as ordinary tenants. He further said that a special officer had been engaged for this purpose; nevertheless it would take some time to complete the work.

He also said that the question of free simple grants and other temporarily settled lands was also being considered by the Government. When his attention was drawn to Press reports about immigrants still creating troubles in some of the grazing reserves, he said

that evictions of trespassers from the reserves were complete and directions had been issued to the Deputy Commissioners to evict trespassers even from the waste lands.

The Minister said that it was not a fact that the Assam Government had forfeited any amount for failure to supply industrial schemes to the Central Government. He said that the Industrial Adviser appointed by the Assam Government was not directly concerned with the actual preparation of schemes but with advising the Government.

Sri Medhi further disclosed that the services of a number of geologists from the Central Government had been requisitioned for extensive survey work in Assam in connection with post-war development schemes. The survey of uneconomic holdings had already begun in Sibsagar district and would be continued in other districts as well.

Grow More Food Drive

The Government of Assam has formed an Advisory Council for increased food production.

The functions of the Advisory Council are :—

(1) Improvement in the machinery of the Agricultural department. (2) Suggestion as how to co-ordinate the activities of the non-official committees that will be set up. (3) Suggestion for improvement on the present statistical machinery, regarding agricultural production. (4) Suggestion with regard to organization for mechanized agriculture. (5) Fixation of target for production. (6) Review of the work that is being done.

Task before Veterinarians

Veterinarians had a two-fold duty to perform, namely, to produce improved and healthy breeds of cattle for better cultivation and production and to produce milch cattle for increasing the production of milk, stated Mr. Badrinath Verma, Minister of Education and Information, inaugurating the tenth annual meeting of the Bihar Provincial Veterinary Conference this afternoon.

The veterinarians, Mr. Verma added, had a noble and humanitarian task before them. India being an agricultural country, where about 70 per cent of the population depended on agriculture, their task was all the more responsible because it was only on its cattle wealth that a country's agriculture could flourish.

Secondary Education in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have sanctioned as a post-war reconstruction measure, a five-year scheme for improvement of secondary education in the province. The scheme provides additional amounts for each of the five years from 1947-48 to supplement the existing allotment of a little over Rs. 21 lakhs in the ordinary budget on account of the grant of the non-Government secondary schools. The additional cost on account of the scheme during each of the years will be as follows: Rs. 10 lakhs during 1947-48, with annual increase of Rs. 2 lakhs, reaching Rs. 18 lakhs during the fifth year 1951-52.

More details about U.P. Dairy Plan

The Dairy Development Adviser to the Government of India has drawn a dairy plan for U.P. It will cost Rs. 14.83 crores, out of which the U.P. Government will meet only Rs. 9.41 crores and the Central Government will meet the rest, and would increase the output of milk by nearly 10 per cent. At present the U.P. produces only 1,126 lakhs maunds of milk per annum which gives a per capita consumption of 7.35 ounces per head per day as against 1 lb. which is considered the nutritional minimum. The production of milk under this scheme will increase by 108.02 lakh maunds per annum. If this scheme is accepted by the U.P. Government, it will be necessary to establish 22 milk-cum-bull production farms, 500 small-holder milk production farms, 25 colonies for the cattle dislodged from cities, 20 seed bull centres and 100 insemination yards for the purpose of artificial insemination. Under this scheme 27 co-operative milk unions and 186 co-operative rural co-operative rural creameries will be set up and 8 lakhs acres of land will have to be reserved for the production of green fodder and silage. This is a comprehensive scheme and will go a long way in overcoming the shortage of milk in the cities and towns of U.P.

It is understood that in order to execute the various schemes, the Bihar Government have decided to engage German experts. Necessary steps to secure their services have been taken. Very soon a fairly good number of them would be reaching Bihar to help the execution of development schemes. During his recent visit to Germany, Mr. A. N. Sinha, the Finance Minister

of Bihar, contacted the German chemists and had preliminary negotiations with them.

Need for long-term Agricultural Plan

More abolition of the Zamindari system would not solve the agricultural economic problems of the country, but there should be long-term planning for progressively increased production for each unit of land, observed Sir Manilal Nanavati, President of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics, inaugurating the C.P. and Berar branch of the Society.

The main objective of the Society, Sir Manilal explained, was to collect and study facts as they obtained at present, work out solutions for the various problems and place their findings and suggestions before Government with a view to improving the economic position of the agriculturist, increase production and thereby raise the whole country's economic status.

Sir Manilal dwelt on the importance of the Village Panchayat system. The speaker referred to an experiment conducted in a Baroda village where a survey was made on the living conditions, customs, economic and general health position of 860 out of a thousand inhabitants. The Society had compiled books on its findings and statistics on the various aspects of the problem. The C.P. branch, he said, could do much useful work by going into the Province's agricultural economic problem. He suggested the inclusion in its membership of cultivators who would be in a better position to realize and bring to the fore agricultural problems and seek practical ways of solving them.

Rural Sociology for India

"Do not confine yourself to a study of technical agriculture but help to build up rural sociology on a firm footing that will bring happiness to your country," said Sir Manilal Navavati, addressing the students of the Agricultural College recently. "Agriculture must be turned into our business and should not merely be a way of life," he added. It must be the primary concern of the Department of Agriculture to get the highest yield out of land and that in short was the crux of the whole problem."

Referring to the indebtedness of the peasantry in India, he said there could be no relief unless they turned their

agricultural deficit economy into a surplus one. He, therefore, stressed that Agricultural Colleges, Provincial Governments and the Central Government all must combine in investigating how agriculture could be turned into a paying proposition.

Building of Luxury Houses

A virtual ban on the construction of houses costing more than Rs. 50,000 is proposed by the U.P. Government.

According to a scheme for the equitable distribution of building material, quotas of cement, iron and steel for building purposes will not be allotted for the construction of 'luxury houses' costing Rs. 50,000.

In the present acute shortage of building materials, when the Government have even failed to procure necessary supplies for their building programme it is felt desirable to exercise a strict control over the distribution of building material to prevent its disappearance from the open market and to divert its flow for the construction of houses for residential purposes instead of luxury houses.

According to the scheme, a quantity will be set apart for the construction of residential houses after deducting the material required for industrial and other Governmental needs. Quotas will be allotted to each district after determining the number of house-units proposed to be built in the Province. Quotas of building material will later be allotted to house builders by drawing lots by District Magistrates.

Citizens' Army

A 1,200,000 strong citizens' army is in the making in the U.P. Its supreme task will be to defend the State from internal as well as external dangers.

The first phase in the creation of this huge volunteer force from among the people has begun. The U.P. Government has started selecting 2,000 men to whom it will first impart training in arms at its own expense. These trained and equipped men will then form the nucleus around which the Prantiya Raksha Dal will be built up throughout the Province, in town and country.

There is great enthusiasm among U.P.'s youth for enlistment in the P.R.D., which provides opportunities for meeting their urge for a soldier's

life. So wide is the interest growing in the Dal that the U.P. Government has been receiving numerous inquiries from various Provincial Governments and States as to the details of its organization.

Premier Pant's declaration at Benaras that the United Provinces alone will be able to meet the challenge from any invader only reflected his and his colleagues' confidence in the utility of this volunteer force as a powerful defence organization. "We ought to realize that we are a strong nation and anybody daring to come into conflict with us will be breaking his head against a wall," the Premier stated.

Women Police

The U.P. will before long have women police squads to grapple with criminals and culprits among the female sex. The Government's Police Reorganization Committee members hope that women police may succeed where men police have failed or felt embarrassed in dealing with crimes among women.

It is also intended to use women police at places of pilgrimage, at big railway junctions and in large towns. Quite often aborted infants are found lying where pilgrims collect at fairs, and women will, perhaps, prove more competent to hunt out the offenders. The women police will also assist in the job of restoring kidnapped women and girls and of stopping traffic in them on such occasions.

Regulations will be made, providing for work by police women in threes instead of singly, for it is still not considered safe for a woman, even a police woman, to go out alone. So two policewomen will escort one constable of their sex on duty.

Recruitment of the first batches of policewomen will be in the nature of an experiment which, if it succeeds, will be followed by increased recruitment of women in the police force.

Municipal Board Reforms in U.P.

The Government have decided to push through the next budget session of the Legislature an omnibus Bill seeking to revolutionize the entire machinery of the municipal boards in the Province. The Bill, among several other reforms in the functions of these local self-governing institutions, will achieve these objects:

All adults above the age of 21 will be municipal voters. All members of the boards will be elected and chairmen will also be elected instead of being nominated by the Government. Municipal boards can directly raise loans in the open market with prior sanction of the Government. At Government discretion boards will do away with the present control of them of divisional commissioners. Boards will have to take Government sanction in giving out permits for cinema house sites. The idea is to meet much public criticism on this score. Efforts will be made by the Government through the exercise of this power over the boards to see that cinema houses do not crop up just in the vicinity of public institutions like colleges, hospitals and temples and in thickly populated areas where cinema owners tend to build them.

Besides, boards under the new legislation will have powers to provide for the physical training of their citizens and for the expansion of trade and industry within their jurisdiction.

Fruit Industry in the East Punjab

Garden Colony Scheme.—Out of the area of land vacated by the Muslims, a total area of 600 to 1,500 acres of land in each district in the East Punjab will be selected for the Garden Colony Scheme. In case sufficient area of land may not be available in any district, the area proposed may be decreased. Total area is expected to be 10,000 acres.

Normally 20 acres will be allotted to each settler. The area of land to each or any settler can be increased by the committee appointed for the purpose, depending upon the number of applicants and the area of land available. In special cases, where a settler does not own more than 10 acres, his allotment in the garden colony can be reduced to even 10 acres. At least three-fourths of the area so allotted to every allottee, will be devoted to fruit garden, which will be laid out according to the plan of the Agricultural Department.

Every settler who is allotted land in the garden colony, whether a refugee or a local person, will have to surrender to Government an equivalent area of land of the same quality from his property. If he is a local man, he will give up an area equivalent to the area given in the garden colony out of his personal property. In the case of a refugee, the area of land given in the garden colony would be deducted out of the land to which he will be entitled.

In order to achieve for the province maximum results from this industry, Government will afford such financial or other assistance as they consider necessary in matters like water supply, production of nursery plants of most reliable varieties, control of insect pests and diseases, co-operative packing and marketing of fruit, cold storage plants, fruit preservation factories, etc.

Students and Social Service

A form has been devised for registration of students for social service

in East Punjab. Every educational institution of the status of a high school or an affiliated college can register students for social service. The selection of volunteers for service in the various camps will be made by the camp commandants, in consultation with the Heads of local educational institutions. Likewise volunteers for Registration work will be drafted by the Registration Officers.

A Liaison organisation has been set up between the East Punjab Education Department and the Refugees and Rehabilitation Secretariat.

Departments' Forum

Revenue

Resettlement Activities

Salem district

1. **Manivilandan Ex-servicemen's Co-operative Agricultural Colonisation Society.**—The 24-admitted members of the colony have cultivated wet crops, i.e., paddy on an extent of 6.82 acres and dry crops such as cumbu, varagu and cholam, etc., on an extent of 83.30 acres in the colony. More and more applicants are forthcoming to take up cultivation in the colony. The non-members have raised dry crops on an extent of 53.00 acres in the colony. Weaving mat, and coir making form the main subsidiary cottage industry of the colonists. Sanction of the Government is awaited for 5 more irrigation wells, 12 more huts, 12-pairs of bulks and a cart for the colony. It is hoped that this colony will thrive well in due course.

2. **Salem Co-operative Motor Transport Society for Ex-Servicemen, Limited.**—The construction of the M.B. Shed has been completed. The arrival of the lorries is expected within a fortnight.

General.—A canteen for the benefit of the Ex-servicemen, has been opened by the Collector on 14th January 1948 in the District Employment Office, Salem.

Guntur district

1. There are three land Colonisation Schemes for Ex-servicemen in this district. The Colonisation Scheme for the Ex-servicemen of Piduguralla village of Palnad taluk was sanctioned by the Government as a dry cultivation scheme. There are about 55

Education

The Government have sanctioned as a special case the grant of Rs. 25 for each of the years 1947-48 and 1948-49 in support of the lectureship endowed in the Lucknow University in Indian History and Civilisation.

Sixty-nine palra leaf manuscripts, 30 paper manuscripts and 28 printed books from the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, and 64 printed books, from the Office of the Registrar of Books, Madras, were selected and sent to the Tamil Cultural Exhibition, which was held at Madura during January 1948.

Government have sanctioned for the development of the four South Indian languages and sanskrit, the creation of laureateships in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada and Sanskrit.

In order to encourage the publication of literature in popular form in the regional language of the Province, the Government have decided to institute prizes for the best books on various subjects.

Ex-servicemen in the village and a Society is being formed for them after collection of share capital and entrance fees. Forty-eight Ex-servicemen have so far filed their applications and deposited the share capital of Rs. 50 and entrance fees of Re. 0-4-0. The total extent of the area reserved for the Ex-servicemen is acres 499-89 cents and each member will be granted an extent of about 10-00 acres.

2. The other two Colonisation Schemes (i.e.) Allur of Bapatla Taluk

and Nizampatam of Repalle taluk are awaiting sanction.

3. A Motor Transport Co-operative Society was sanctioned and the Society was registered on 14th August 1947. The construction of the motor bus shed was completed; selection of driver and cleaner members was made and the selection of a Manager and his staff was also made. Fifteen vehicles are expected before the end of this month and the Society is expected to start its work from 1st February 1948.

Madura district

During the quarter, the Madura District Motor Transport Co-operative Society for ex-servicemen was started. The opening day celebration took place on 20th November 1947. Sixteen lorries were put on the road. At present the Society is giving employment to one Manager, one Accountant, three clerks, eighteen drivers, two

fitters, nineteen cleaners and three watchmen. The Society has made a good beginning and is likely to be successful.

South Kanara district

During the quarter ended 31st December 1947, 261 demobilized personnel have registered their names for civil employment in this district. Eighty-one have re-registered their names after their registration had once lapsed or their previous appointments ceased. Out of these, 242 were placed in employment, 21 persons found work, 19 persons left the district seeking employment elsewhere, one each was selected for technical and teachers' training. Nine persons did not require any employment assistance and the registration of 806 persons lapsed, i.e., these persons are not available as their present whereabouts are not known and as they have not contacted this office for more than three months.

Police

Administration Report

The administration report of the Police Department during 1946 shows that despite acute economic strain and widespread labour unrest law and order were well maintained. There was an increase in the number of cases of rioting and unlawful assembly, though most of these cases were minor in nature. The Police had to open fire on 33 occasions, as against 5 occasions in the previous year. There was a wave of labour unrest in most of the districts, resulting in strikes, of which there were 278, as against 77 in 1945. The most important of the strikes was the South Indian Railway Employees' strike at Golden Rock, Trichinopoly.

The year 1946 was marked by an increase in the volume of crime as compared with 1944 and 1945. This was due to unfavourable seasonal conditions, prevalence of communal and labour troubles and large scale unemployment, due to demobilization. (The total number of cognizable cases, excluding offences under the Special and Local laws and the 'nuisance' sections of the Indian Penal Code, increased from 55,138 in 1945 to 63,781 in 1946. 'Gave Crimes' increased from 39,600 to 44,904, there being an increase under all heads. Dacoities increased from 77 to 103, robberies from 481 to 483, house-breakings from 7,327 to 8,999, cattle thefts from 4,491 to 4,954 and ordinary thefts

from 26,132 to 29,200. There were 1,165 cases of murder, as compared with 1,092 in 1945. There was also a marked increase in the total number of cases under the Special and Local laws, from 95,750 in 1945 to 153,090 in 1946, the increase being 59.5 per cent. The number under 'nuisance' offences showed a slight decrease from 238,205 in 1945 to 227,124 in 1946.

There was a further increase in the recorded number of cases of Kallar crimes in both the Madura North and Madura South districts, from 3,212 in 1945 to 3,777 in 1946. In spite of certain difficulties, the control of Kallar and other criminal tribes was on the whole well maintained.

The Crime Branch of the C.I.D. successfully investigated a number of important cases in co-operation with the District Intelligence Bureaux. The cases handled included smuggling, misappropriation of Government money, fraud, cheating and murder by poisoning. The precautions taken during periods of potential communal trouble and at festivals were generally successful in averting serious incidents. There were minor communal clashes in Guntur, Nellore, Kurnool, Anantapur, Chittoor, North Arcot, Madura South, Ramnad and Salem districts. Kisan strikes under Communist leadership were fairly common in Tanjore district

and orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, had to be promulgated at the close of the year to maintain peace and order in the areas affected.

Two thousand two hundred and ninety-nine traffic accidents were recorded in Madras City, as compared with 2,286 in 1945. Forty-five cases were fatal as against 65 in 1945. Military vehicles were involved in 634 cases, of which 19 were fatal as against 1,105 in 1945, of which 39 were fatal. Pedestrians were the victims in the majority of cases. There was considerable congestion in trams and buses during the peak hours, though the number of buses was gradually increased.

The Armed Reserves, the Presidency General Reserve and the Special Emergency Force were amalgamated and re-organized with effect from the 1st May 1946. In several districts, the re-organized Armed Reserves include a certain number of platoons for railway protection. The strain of duties imposed on them continued to be severe.

Some amount of indiscipline was noticed among the Malabar Special Police force during the year, which came to a head in April. The weeding out of undesirables resulted in the dismissal of a large number of personnel in the force, which has now fully recovered its old morale.

A separate branch called the "X" Branch was formed in the C.I.D. to combat black-marketing and corruption.

The abnormal economic and security conditions and other repercussions of the war continued to tax the strength of the force to the full. Judged against this background, law and order were well maintained and detection of crime continued to remain at almost the same high level as in 1945. The police force has, on the whole, given a satisfactory account of itself during 1946.

The Government have decided that out of the war-reserved vacancies in all services (Provincial and Subordinate), for which war service candidates have not been selected so far, a maximum of 10 per cent should be allotted to Indian National Army men, who have already applied for such vacancies. In the case of posts in the Special Police units, however, not more than 5 per cent should be allotted to them.

Labour

Labour Situation in the Province

The Government of Madras have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal (Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. P. Lakshmana Rao, Kt.) in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills Company, Limited, Madras.

The Madras Motor Drivers' Association has issued a notice of strike, dated 29th November 1947, to the management of the Associated Bus Transport, Limited, Madras, demanding increased dearness allowance, reinstatement of some of the discharged workers, supply of uniforms, payment of bonus, etc. The Commissioner of Labour is looking into the matter.

The General and Industrial Workers' Union, Madras, representing the Label and Tobacco sections of the Beedi Factories has issued a notice of strike, dated 4th December 1947, to the managements of the Taj Mahal Beedi Company, Kareem Beedi Company and the Bavatta Beedi Company intimating that the workers of the three companies will go on strike if their demands for increased dearness allowance, annual increment, etc., are not conceded. The Labour Officer, Madras, is looking into the matter.

The President of the Beehive Foundry Workers' Union has issued a notice of strike, dated 5th December 1947, to the management of the Foundry intimating that the workers will go on strike after 15 days from the date of issue of the strike notice if their demands for introduction of a provident fund scheme is not conceded. The Labour Officer, Madras, is trying to bring about an amicable settlement of the dispute.

The Coimbatore District Motor Workers' Union has issued notices of strike to the Proprietors of the following Motor Services intimating that the workers will go on strike from 25th December 1947 if their demands for interim relief, fixation of batta, dearness allowance, leave facilities, etc., are not conceded :-

- (1) C. C. Brothers, Coimbatore,
- (2) Stanes Transport, Coimbatore, (3) M.C.S. Ltd., Coimbatore, (4) B. Meenakshisundaram & Co., Lorry Transport, Coimbatore, (5) A. B. T. Ltd., Pollachi, (6) S.S.V. Motor Service, Salur and V.C.K. Motor Service, Coimbatore.

The Labour Officer, Coimbatore, has been asked to bring about an amicable settlement of the dispute, and to advise the Union to withdraw the strike notice. The Union has been advised to await the result of the adjudication and not to precipitate matters.

The Labour Officer, Coimbatore, reports that he has met the proprietors of the Motor Transport Services, Satyamangalam, (B.M.S.) and the representative of the Union and brought about a settlement of the dispute.

The Government have referred the dispute between the hotel workers and the management of hotels in Madura to the Industrial Tribunal, Madura at Tinnevely, for adjudication. They have also prohibited the continuance of the strike and lockout in existence at the time.

The Government have also referred the question of the non-implementation of the award of the Industrial Tribunal (Textile Mills) and the illegal lockout on 16th November 1947 during the period in which the award was in operation in defiance of the provisions of section 23 (c) of the Industrial Disputes Act, by the management of the Rajah Mills, Madura to the Industrial Tribunal, Madura at Tinnevely, for adjudication.

The Government have also prohibited the continuance of the existing lockout and strike.

It is reported that the Tannery workers in all the Tanneries in Dindigul have been staging a stay-in-strike from 11th December 1947. The Labour Officer, Madura, has been asked to advise the workers to call off the stay-in-strike immediately and to resume work, pending orders of Government on the recommendations of the Commissioner of Labour on the tripartite conference held recently at Madras.

The Government of Madras have referred the dispute between the workers and managements of the Themmalapuram Bus Transport, Limited, Palghat, to the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, for adjudication. They have also prohibited the continuance of the strike and lockout in existence at the time of adjudication.

The General Secretary of the Mettupalayam, Nilgiris Motor Workers' Union,

Coonoor, has given a notice of strike, dated 2nd December 1947, to all the Bus Owners and the Lorry and Pleasure Car Owners in Mettupalayam and the Nilgiris intimating that the Motor workers will go on strike if their demands for reinstatement of discharged workers, payment of bonus as per award and payment of interim relief to one conductor are not conceded. The report of the Labour Officer, Coimbatore, is awaited.

The General Secretary, Chettinad Motor Workers' Union, Karaikudi, has issued a notice of strike, dated 11th December 1947, to the Proprietor, Lakshmi Motor Works, Karaikudi, intimating that the workers will go on strike if their demands for reinstatement of discharged workers, payment of interim relief and bonus, starting of provident fund, supply of three sets of uniforms per year are not conceded before then. The Labour Officer, Madura, has been asked to bring about an amicable settlement of the dispute.

The President of the Attur Motor Workers' Union, Attur, has issued a notice of strike, dated 1st December 1947, to the Proprietor, Sridhar Motor Services, Attur, intimating that the workers would strike work if their demands for interim relief, bonus, recognition of the Union, etc., were not conceded. The Inspector of Factories, Salem, brought about a settlement of the dispute and the strike notice was withdrawn.

The workers of the Papanasam Project, Papanasam, Tinnevely district, who struck work on 19th November 1947 resumed work on 4th December 1947 on the intervention of the Chief Engineer for Electricity, Madras.

As a settlement could not be effected by conciliation in the dispute between the workers and the management of Sri Rama Sugar Mills, Limited, Bobbili and Seethanagaram, the Commissioner of Labour, Madras, has recommended to Government that the dispute may be referred to the Industrial Tribunal, Bezawada, for adjudication.

[1st fortnight of December 1947.]

During the fortnight not less than eight disputes were referred Industrial Tribunals.

The General Secretary of the Coimbatore Motor Workers' Union, Coimbatore, issued a notice of strike, dated

9th December 1947, to the general manager of the Anamalais Bus Transport, Limited, Pollachi, demanding interim relief, dearness allowance, batta, leave facilities, etc. On the intervention of the Labour Officer, Coimbatore, the Union withdrew the strike notice issued to M.C.S., Limited, the C.C. Brothers, the S.S.B. Stanes Motor Transport and the A.B.T., Limited.

The Kamala Mills, Coimbatore, which was closed on 16th October 1947 was reopened on 11th December 1947.

The workers of Sri Venkateswara Motor Service Company, Gudivada, who struck work on 15th November 1947 resumed work on 7th December 1947 consequent on a settlement between the Proprietor and the President of the Ellore Division Motor Employees' Union.

The Government have commended the recommendations of the Court of Inquiry for timber and saw mills in the Malabar and South Kanara districts to the managements of the Timber and saw mills in Malabar and South Kanara districts for adoption in their factories.

The Labour Officer, Calicut, reports that the Malabar Spinning and Weaving Mills, Limited, Kallai, which had been closed on 11th November 1947 was reopened on 16th December 1947.

The hotel workers of Karaikudi, Ramnad district, struck work on 29th December 1947. The Labour Officer, Madura, has been asked to advise the workers to call off the strike and to await the result of the adjudication in the dispute between the workers and the managements of the Madura hotels.

The Labour Officer, Trichinopoly, has brought about a settlement of the dispute between the press workers and the press owners, Trichinopoly, as a result of which the strike notice was withdrawn.

The Secretary of the Trichinopoly Tanners' Association reports that the Tannery workers of Trichinopoly district have gone on strike from 31st December 1947. The Labour Officer, Trichinopoly, has been asked to advise the Association to call off the strike and to await the result of the tripartite conference held at Madras.

The Hindusthan Construction Company, Vizagapatam, was reopened on 29th November 1947.

[2nd Fortnight of December 1947.]

Tit-Bits

Teachers' Role in India

Inaugurating the All-India Adult Educational Conference at Rewa, Mr. K. G. Saiyidain, Educational Adviser to the Government of Bombay, said that the primary concern of the educationists of democracy should be to strengthen its intellectual and moral defences against two serious dangers, namely, the uncritical and credulous acceptance of propaganda as truth and the breakdown of the sense of social solidarity which resulted in selfish clash of interests and the generation of a suicidal conflict between different communal, sectarian and geographical groups. There was no reason, he added, why education, broadly conceived and generously planned, should not be able to train people to think for themselves, to shift truth from falsehood, to withstand the pressure of propaganda and to realize that the integrity of human relationships was too sacred and too important to be broken at the behest of any mischief-monger.

The most urgent task of adult education to-day was not teaching people to read and write or to add to their knowledge, but to concentrate on their social and moral re-education, to rekindle reverence for life and to reassert the primary of those moral and spiritual values which ultimately gave meaning to life. If the adult education movement was to play its part in the renaissance of their national life, the adult education centres should become dynamic social centres, focussing the actual and potential cultural resources of the local community, making the members actively interested in their own improvement and providing an atmosphere where that interest could be translated into co-operative and growing activity.

Sugar and Nutrition

Speaking at a public meeting on the conclusion of the annual meeting of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Sir C. V. Raman, its President, strongly urged the elimination of chillies in the dietetics of Indians. He said that there were only four tastes, namely, sugar and its antithesis, bitterness and salt and sour. These four tastes could be tested on the four different parts of the tongue.

Sir Chandrasekhar said that sugar played an important part in nutrition and bitterness was an essential factor

in the plant world. Agriculture was essentially a symbiosis of plant and animal life. And in this there was no place for chillies. Sugar was sweet, not because it was sugar, but because they liked it. Similar was the case with the other things. It was the gustatory sense which made sugar taste sweet and not the sugar itself having any intrinsic property which would cause a sensation of sweetness.

"One of the objects of my lecture," he said, "is to induce that sense of dietetic reform. I think the sooner we make eating of chillies a moral crime, the better. Chillies have no place in the four tastes for which the tongue is provided. Chillies simply lash our tongues as if with a whip, to make man eat more, with the result of over-eating, thereby destroying the finer sensibilities of life. I regard it as lack of civilization to eat chillies. They are essentially a process of torturing. It is a sadistic pleasure, only the sadists tried on yourself and not on somebody else."

The gustatory sense had obvious practical nutritional importance, he said. It was easy to understand the gustatory sense; but, why was it that we had developed a powerful sense of odour? For the explanation they must go back to the days when they were carnivorous. The animals lived upon their sense of odour, which was powerfully developed in them. Odour had a greater impression on man than taste. It still remained to be seen why a thing smelt at all. To this day there had not been a single acceptable explanation of the fundamental fact that they could smell things. It was a vast field for scientific inquiry.

Building a New India

Only by remaining true to our ideals shall we be able to build the edifice of an India from which illiteracy, superstition, poverty and lack of knowledge are banished for ever. An illiterate or uneducated electorate is a source of great weakness to a democracy. The purpose of democracy will remain unfulfilled unless it is able by a wide diffusion of education and social planning to produce and distribute enough to make life a joyous adventure. Thus observed the Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. N. Saprú, presiding over the All-India Adult Education

Conference, which opened here to-day before a distinguished gathering of educationists and others.

Mr. Justice Saprú suggested that this work of adult education should not be left in the hands of the political or sectional organisations. It was the responsibility of educationists. He pointed out that in order that their plans of adult education might be furthered, it was desirable for them to work for the establishment of an All-India institute of adult education to which provincial institutes, simultaneously established, should be affiliated.

Failure of Season—Relief Measures

On receipt of information that widespread failure of crops has occurred in certain areas of the Province, particularly in the Southern and Central

Districts (and probably also in the West Coast), the Government of Madras have, in order to afford immediate relief to the agriculturists, directed that the January kist due on wet as well as on dry lands should be postponed in areas where the crop has been badly affected. They have authorised the Collectors of all districts to decide the villages or larger areas in respect of which they consider, that such postponement is necessary and to notify such villages and areas for the information of the public.

The failure of the monsoon will no doubt affect the agricultural operations and may cause unemployment among agricultural labourers. Apart from any measures which the Collectors may feel necessary with reference to the provisions of the Famine Code, such as the opening of test works, etc., the

Government have instructed all Collectors to undertake small works of benefit to agriculturists such as the construction and repairs of spring ponds, spring channels, minor irrigation tanks, etc., and also to accelerate the execution of works already undertaken, and to apply for early sanction of works beyond their powers of sanction.

The time allowed for completion of repair works to old wells subsidised under the Accelerated Schemes or the Ceded Districts Modified Scheme, which under the existing rules expired on 30th June 1947, has been ordered by Government to be extended till 30th April 1948, the concession being restricted to cases where the parties in the opinion of the Collectors concerned, have made substantial progress in carrying out the repairs.

It is true that this newly created department is intended to confine itself to Women's Welfare work but a beginning has to be made and there can be no two opinions on the urgent problems affecting women at present which need immediate solution.

Before proceeding further, we may now pause to consider the question as to what should be the programme in this Women's Welfare work? In other words, on what lines should the welfare work be planned? Obviously the work has to be defined and programme made clear and exact—otherwise the term "Welfare" is so wide that we may duplicate our efforts and these may land us now where. In its broad sense for instance—women's welfare would include Health and Maternity and Child Care. The general women's welfare scheme cannot actually undertake this aspect of welfare work but must co-ordinate the efforts of such departments as Health, Maternity, Child Care, Nutrition and Civic Administration and make available to the ordinary woman such data and information as have a bearing to women and children and their homes. In this sense then the Women's Welfare department or unit must be a co-ordinating and a Liaison unit with the rest.

Our programme for general welfare however must aim to educate women specially the vast majority of the lower, middle and poor classes—for home and community life, to raise the standard of living and thinking, to promote unity and understanding amongst them by developing civic consciousness and

Special Articles

Women's Welfare Work

By Mrs. Parijatham Naidu, M.A., L.T.

[Madras has scored a place over other provinces in being the first to organize a separate department for Women's Welfare.]

Of late we hear frequently these words—Social Welfare, Social Service. This is a happy sign for it indicates how thinking men and women are taking keen interest in matters relating to social welfare. Indeed there is a growing awakening to the varied social problems requiring careful but immediate tackling and it is realised that more than any other problems those relating to social well being must receive urgent and serious consideration.

India is no exception to this general awakening, perhaps it is an exception in the sense that her leaders realise more intensely than others that, barring international matters, social welfare must stand first in the priority list. They know none better that they cannot steer the political state without bringing about social reconstruction on a well-planned basis. Free India is born. She must live and live in all her glory and full stature. This cannot be satisfactorily achieved unless the leaders have the mass with them—mass who realise their responsibilities and cheerfully come forward to bear their share of the burdens. And how can

this be done unless illiteracy is liquidated, superstition expelled, age-long social customs and prejudices that have no place at the present moment are got rid of, and better standard of living introduced? As the well-being of the subject is the first care of the state and as the state in its full discharge of its varied duties must have the close and intelligent co-operation of the people, it is now being realised more and more that in this great task of social reconstruction or social welfare, the state must come forward, with a definite and well-planned programme, on a long range basis. Once this is done and the well-being of the subject is assured, he or she becomes stateminded and civic conscious and is in a position to assume his or her share of the burdens of the state.

In fact this was the main point that was emphasised at every sectional meeting at the First All-India Conference of social work held in Bombay. There was widespread appreciation therefore when the delegates were told that already the Madras Government had a Women's Welfare department.

to instil in them a spirit of the friendliness and service irrespective of any distinctions. In other words, it should aim towards the social, cultural, civic and economic welfare of the average woman. The programme must be so planned that she will be provided with organized knowledge that will assist her in these directions bearing in mind the home as the unit of all our endeavours. No welfare work can bring about the required results unless the family and the home is made the centre of our programme. And such a programme can be best carried out through a well-planned and comprehensive scheme of adult education which will provide an objective and create incentive in every adult woman to become better informed by organized adult instruction. This scheme which should aim at the civic, cultural, social and economic welfare of our women must include such useful subjects as, Home science and home remedies, Domestic economy and house-keeping, First-aid, Home Nursing, Community hygiene, Sanitation and civics, Maternity and child-care, Dietetics and nutrition, Physical activities and Social recreation, Nursery classes, Needle-work and handicraft, Adult literacy including Hindi, Leisure-time occupation and cottage industries including spinning and weaving, Training in citizenship besides discussions, debates, etc., by specialists and others.

I may perhaps make it clear if I explain the welfare programme as it is planned in the Department of Women's Welfare. We provide centres conveniently located in different areas so that distance may not be an excuse for absence. These centres again are held in girls' schools or health centres to which the women have no objection and the hours of working are between 2 to 5 in the noon when generally women have some leisure time. In the case of the slum centres, which is the most important aspect of our work, women are gathered in the school or reading room if available. The most important step is to inform the women in each locality of the free education and recreation which is being provided for them and the benefits arising from the same. This could not be done by mere distribution of notices and the other modes of advertisement for the women had to be contacted personally, that is, daily propaganda had to be done from house to house and personal contacts both in the home and in the centres have to be established. For this difficult work, full-time salaried workers with special aptitude for this type of work are appointed and they

are given training in social welfare work. The need for special training in social service is realized more and more and it is proposed to give one year's training for such workers.

The programme, it will be seen, is a varied one for each week when the centre meets and a monthly meeting is held by the members themselves once a month in each centre. This affords a good opportunity for displaying the latent talents in many of the members as well as training them to conduct these meetings themselves. It is surprising to see one of these women presiding such a meeting in a most natural manner. Of course, all this did not happen in a moment and there were many difficult and depressing times when the workers had all but lost heart but steady and ceaseless effort have had their reward in the happy faces of the women and the spirit of oneness which prevails among them. All these varied activities cannot be managed by the paid workers and this is where the voluntary helpers come in. Gradually the women who attend the centres imbibe the spirit of voluntary service and in their turns are anxious to do their bit. This is encouraged in them and small though their contribution may be, they derive much pleasure in feeling that they too have something to give. It will therefore be seen that one of the main functions of the Women's Welfare Work should be to organize women with corporate groups under trained leadership building up a general background of a well informed outlook and a desire for improvement through self-effort, both on the part of the individual and of the group.

The results of working such a programme as detailed above have been satisfactory on the whole and here is what an outsider unasked has to say about the work in a letter received just this week:—

"It is with pleasure I pen these few words about the activities of the

Women Welfare Centre in Vepery. My wife is one of those who attend this centre and the benefits derived from such classes induces me to write these words of appreciation of the interest evinced by the staff to bring it a success.

"The training is given in such an interesting way that it attracts all classes of people and it really gives a grounding for the womenfolk to think rightly and manage things economically and shoulder their responsibilities with ease and courage most essentially required at this time of nation building.

"The instructions given in the preparation of the essential things required in a household, preparation of food-stuffs and cottage industry make them spend their spare times more usefully.

"Much above all this is the tolerance learnt by them and the understanding of each other which creates a more happy atmosphere and makes them live with motto 'each for all and all for each.'

"I wish the movement all success."

This is the main aspect of the welfare work, the results of which will take some years to be seen and appreciated by everyone. This is also I may state for obvious reasons the most difficult part of the work.

The other aspect of the work to be undertaken by women's welfare workers is to bring relief and provide instruction to such women who require assistance, i.e., the destitute, deserted, the poor widow. These have to be cared for, and a vocation taught to help them to stand on their own legs and earn their livelihood. Their cases will have to be investigated and they must be provided for in the home and trained for a profession. On leaving the institutions, they will again be taken care of by the welfare workers by keeping in touch with them either in their homes or in the centres.

Teeth and Health

By Dr. H. M. Rao, D.D.S. (U.S.A.)

Good health is the greatest blessing to man. To maintain good health, all diseases and illness must necessarily be prevented. One of the simplest and the most effective methods of preventing diseases is by keeping the mouth

clean and healthy. All food we take pass through the mouth and if the mouth is unhealthy and is the seat for various kinds of bacteria, they will enter the system causing various kinds of diseases. Thus a large amount of

human ailments could be prevented by keeping the teeth and gum quite clean and healthy. The condition of the teeth of a vast majority of our people is very bad and they invariably suffer from some kind of dental trouble or other. It is very unfortunate that a very few people realize the necessity of keeping their teeth in good condition. Bad teeth not only give rise to diseases of the teeth and jaws but also lead to chronic systemic diseases. Thus, it should be clearly borne in mind, that many human diseases could be prevented by simply taking care of the teeth.

Our teeth can remain in sound condition only when they are strong and well formed, arranged regularly in the jaws, and when they are kept clean at all times and properly used. If the teeth are not strong and well developed, they are susceptible to decay. The dental decay can start as soon as the teeth are erupted in the baby's mouth, causing various teeth, acute pain and sensitiveness. If the teeth are not well arranged, it is almost impossible to keep them clean and free from food debris even though they are regularly brushed. Irregular teeth present an awkward facial expression. Straight even teeth go to build up a person's health, beauty and personality. If the teeth are not kept clean, food stuffs begin to adhere to and between the teeth and the bacteria start their destructive work, causing swelling of the gums, pyorrhoea and other diseases. If the teeth are not well used, that is, if the food simply swallowed without proper grinding, teeth and gums become weak. Further, improperly chewed food will cause other bodily ailments.

To possess strong teeth, the parents have to take a very great care of their children. The calcification, or hardening of the teeth begins at a very early stage when the child is in the mother's womb. The foetus must get all its nutriment from the mother. Hence, if the child should develop strong teeth, the mother should take a well balanced diet. The proper food for the expectant mother would be plenty of milk, vegetables and fruits. Polished rice must not be taken. Brown rice or bread made out of whole wheat is strongly recommended. Eggs, meat, fish, etc., must be sparingly taken. If the habit of coffee or tea cannot be given up, it is advisable that she should take about a cup per day. In addition, plenty of water should be taken. When the baby is born, it is necessary that the baby should be breast-fed. Breast-feeding supplies all the necessary food ingredients to build up the general

health as well as the teeth. If breast feeding is not possible, modified cow's milk can be given. The cow's milk does not supply all the required materials for the growth of the child and hence it will be helpful to supplement its food with about half a teaspoonful of cod liver oil. Bottle feeding has this disadvantage, that it does not provide adequate exercise to them as the baby sucks the milk. Even when the child has grown up, milk should form one of its daily foods to ensure proper development of the teeth.

To possess regular teeth in the jaws, the eruption of the teeth in the mouth must be carefully watched. From the sixth month, the child may be given a bone to chew. This will harden the gums and help the baby to cut its first teeth quite easily. Thumb sucking and lip biting by the children must be prevented, otherwise irregular teeth will be the result. Thumb sucking could be prevented by wrapping the thumb by means of an adhesive tape. As far as possible, temporary teeth must not be prematurely extracted. Early extraction of temporary teeth causes malformation of jaws. If the permanent teeth begin to erupt in an unusual place due to the presence of milk dentition, the latter may be extracted by a qualified dentist; otherwise it is quite possible that the baby teeth remain persistent in the mouth for a number of years side by side with the permanent teeth presenting a very unwholesome appearance. In cases where permanent teeth have erupted irregularly, the dentist can still bring them to natural order and beauty by simple orthodontia appliances without causing any pain or trouble to the individual.

Teeth may be quite strong and they may be regularly arranged in the jaws; but if they are not kept clean and are covered with tartar and putrefying food material, the danger of diseases still exists. The simplest and the easiest way to keep the teeth clean, is to brush

the teeth morning and at night just before retiring with a good toothpaste. As soon as a baby has erupted two or three teeth, its teeth may be brushed by a small tooth brush and the habit may be continued. The brushing of the teeth must be done from the gums to the edges of the teeth. Special attention must be given to the teeth on the inner side of the jaws and the inter spaces of the teeth. After cleaning the teeth with the brush the mouth should be washed by a mouth wash available in the market under well known trade marks. Table salt also serves the purpose of mouth wash quite effectively. After cleaning, the brush must be suspended in an antiseptic solution such as, "Detto". Before using the brush, it should be dried up. No brush should be used for a period longer than two months. Brushing of the teeth just before retiring at night is of great importance and nothing should be taken by mouth after this. When an individual is having a thick deposit of tartar, it is necessary that it should be scaled by a dentist, before he begins the habit of using a tooth brush. Course and rough tooth powders are always injurious to the teeth and they should not be used.

Finally, teeth must be well used by chewing food properly. Food of fibrous and coarse nature, give good exercise to the teeth and gums, allowing a free flow of saliva, which not only helps digestion but also cleanses the teeth and keeps them in healthy state. If chewing is difficult, the dentist must immediately be consulted. Chewing of betel leaves and nuts, a common habit among our people, is highly injurious to the teeth and must invariably be avoided.

Good health greatly depends on good teeth. It is in our hands to prevent bodily ailments and keep up health and happiness. By following the simple facts mentioned here, the teeth can surely take care of the person's health.

Parboiled vs. Milled Rice

It is necessary during the present food shortage to conserve as much food as possible. This becomes more important in rice which is the staple cereal of a large percentage of the population of Madras Presidency. The maximum outturn of rice from the same amount of paddy can be got by adopting two measures, viz., (1) parboiling and (2) under-milling.

The average paddy grain consists of 23 to 25 per cent husk, 1 to 2 per

cent cuticle and germ and 74 to 76 per cent kernel. Hence, normally a paddy grain ought to yield about 74 per cent of saleable products. In the official estimates of yield which is always expressed as rice, paddy is reckoned to yield 66½ per cent. The proportions of the various products, i.e., rice, broken rice and bran resulting from the hulling of paddy vary according to the methods used and the type or variety of the grain itself.

throughout the Province. The following is their statement :—

"It is proposed to assist in a larger measure the Bombay City Adult Education Committee in the field of adult education and the Government propose to follow the adult literacy campaign by post literacy classes and by maintenance of a large number of libraries."

The Province of Madras, as in many other affairs, has now come forward to give a bold lead to the whole of Free India in the matter of library service to its people. Very soon a Public Library Bill will be on the anvil of the Madras Legislature and before long passed into a Library Act which will enable the whole province to open libraries in urban and rural areas. The "Hindu" of Madras under the caption "Education Policy," dated 26th June 1947, has brought out a brilliant editorial which the whole of Free India should read and read again. I quote the relevant portion about the Library Service in Free India :

"The proposals made by the Education Minister to provide for adult

education in all ways and, particularly by providing a national library service through out the Province are commendable; for, if the libraries are worked efficiently, the problem of wastage will be reduced to smaller proportions than it is. It will also, by making facilities for self-learning available, prove a valuable post-school education agency. It is unfortunate that our accustomed centres of learning, culture and enlightenment the temples and their appurtenances, the chatrams have been allowed to fall into desuetude. If the village library can be made to take their place, that will be an achievement . . ."

The harvest is "verily" plentiful but the labourers are few. If enough labourers are forthcoming we can reap in Free India a very rich harvest of enlightenment and continue to do so until eternity. The reformation must come from within. More enactment cannot establish the "Paradise" we have been seeking for. Self help is the best help. All of us must contribute freely to make Free India fragrant by the aid of myriads of libraries.

Little drops of water make the mighty oceans. Apart from individual payment by way of rates, great philanthropists must come forward with generous gifts, to express in action how happy they are to live in Free India and to keep it free for ever and ever. The charming libraries of Great Britain owe a great deal to private benefactors like Andrew Carnegie. It is only when the Government of that country saw how much the country has improved by such libraries supported by private donation, that they came forward to establish them on secure basis so that when private help was no longer available they may not recede into the background and make the country bankrupt. To-day the private and the public help make the libraries in Great Britain perform yeoman service to the entire population of the country. Will Free India be behind her companion (Great Britain) in its service to her free people? The answer should be an emphatic "No" not by word, but by deed, that is by establishing a net work of libraries throughout the country by all possible means.

Railway Statistics

South Indian Railway

The details of public train miles for December 1947 as compared with December 1946 are as follows :—

Public train miles.	December 1946.	December 1947.
Coaching ..	712,932	889,507
Goods ..	237,571	266,461
	950,503	1,155,968

Christmas specials were run between 23rd and 31st December 1947 to the extent of 5,472 train miles.

The details of traffic both coaching and goods carried during the month of December 1947, as compared with the corresponding month of last year

and the previous month are given below. *

The increase in coaching earnings compared to the previous year is due to the introduction of additional trains, increase in fares and the Vaikunta Ekadasi festival and Christmas, and the increase when compared to the previous month is due to the Vaikunta Ekadasi festival and Christmas.

The increase in goods earnings compared to the previous year is due to greater movement of coal, oilseeds, timber and other goods, while the decrease in comparison with November 1947 is due to less movement of grain and pulses, oilseeds, cotton, timber, coal and other goods.

	December 1946.	December 1947.	November 1947.
* Coaching traffic—			
Number of passengers ..	9,240,582	13,174,129	12,856,210
Earnings ..	Rs. 61,20,345	70,93,100	69,51,763
Goods traffic—			
Weight in tons ..	510,639	508,666	483,693
Earnings ..	Rs. 43,67,654	46,08,105	46,91,200

M. & S. M. Railway— December 1947

There was increase of train miles under coaching and goods during December 1947, compared with December 1946 as shown below :—

	December,	
	1946.	1947.
Coaching ..	699,000	724,000
Goods ..	511,000	536,000

The following are the comparative figures of approximate earnings and volumes of passenger and goods traffic.

Earnings.	December.	
	1946.	1947.
Coaching.	68,42,000	71,48,000
Goods ..	58,00,000	66,01,000
Miscellaneous.	2,09,000	2,00,000
Total ..	1,28,51,000	1,39,49,000

Volume of traffic.	December.	
	1946.	1947.
Number of passengers.	6,418,000	6,260,000
Goods traffic (Tons).	408,000	416,000

Reports from Districts

Rural Exhibition in Tanjore

[The educative and publicity value of exhibitions is an undisputed fact. In modern times they are effective vehicles for disseminating knowledge among the masses. In the sphere of rural reconstruction it is especially valuable. Practical experience in this country itself has demonstrated its serviceability. The Punjab was one of the first Provinces in India to take to active rural reconstruction work after the first World War. Mr. Brayne who was in charge of this work has testified to the efficacy of exhibition in putting across ideas and things in the sphere of village reconstruction.

A Rural Exhibition was held at Saliyamangalam in Tanjore district during December 1947. The various departments of the Government co-operated in making the exhibition a success. About 5,000 people attended the exhibition. The several departments had their stalls in which they exhibited their products.

Agricultural Department.—It exhibited the various farm seeds and agricultural implements. Charts and posters explaining the advantages of using improved seeds and modern agricultural implements were also exhibited. Seedbeds in which various classes of green manure were grown were also exhibited. The method of preparing composite manures was demonstrated.

Veterinary Department.—Breeding bulls of Sindhi, Umbalachery and Murra buffalo types were kept in the exhibition room for service. A poultry section containing profitable types of fowls was also exhibited. The various veterinary instruments were exhibited and their uses were also explained. An incubator for hatching of eggs was also kept. About 12 cows were served. One hundred bulls were castrated and 300 animals were treated in the exhibition rooms. The dairy expert projected films and slides about the scientific and economical ways of running milk dairies.

Health Department.—Various charts on essential points of health and food value of several diets were exhibited. A model flush-out latrine was laid out in the exhibition. A hand pounding chukkie was also demonstrated by the Department.

Industries Department.—Hand power and machine power pumps and boring sets and tools were exhibited by this department.

Prohibition (Amelioration) Department.—Several attractive pictures, cartoons and posters and slogans on the evils of drink and the benefits of prohibition and thrift were exhibited.

District Board Industrial School.—Various finished products of pottery, furniture, cloth, toys, paper, cardboards etc., produced in this institution were exhibited, and they commanded good sales. Demonstration on paper-making, pottery, lacquing were also held. There was also a stall on honey culture put up by the district board.

Kumbakonam Electric Supply Corporation.—A well laid out model village with electricity and protected water-supply, etc., was exhibited. A saw mill working on electrical power and an electrically driven machine for making types from thread were also exhibited.

Kumbakonam Shoe-making Co-operative Society.—Various designs and types and patterns of shoes, sandals, belts, purses, etc., manufactured by this society were exhibited.

All-India Spinning Association (Tanjore).—Sri A. Sambasivam Pillai of A.I.S.A. with his band of workers exhibited with demonstrations the process of "cotton to cloth".

Propaganda.—Officers of the various departments and leading non-officials delivered popular lectures every evening on agriculture, health, prohibition, thrift, co-operation, cottage industries, etc.

Firka Tournament.—Tournaments were held, during the week of the exhibition. A number of villagers participated in the tournament. Twelve teams in Chadugudu, four teams in KHO KHO and four teams in Nondi played. Exhibitions of Kummil, Kollattam, Bajana, Kadhaprasangham, Kalachepam, folk dance, Kuravan Kurathidance, Idayan Idaichi parley, Adum Karaham, etc., were conducted. Two village dramas Valli and Nandanar were staged in the week. Exhibitions of weight lifting feats and asanas by the members of Arthur Institute, Mariammankoil, were held on two days of the week. At a meeting presided over by the Sessions Judge, Tanjore, Mrs. McLaughlin distributed prizes and

certificates of merit to the several winners.

Uplift work in Prohibition Districts

The following is a brief summary of the reports received about the ameliorative activities in the prohibition districts in the Province. These reports continue to show that increasing attention is being paid to the social side of prohibition and tangible results are being achieved. Critics who still doubt about the social and economic benefits of prohibition may find ample disillusionment in these reports.

Salem District.—During the first week of December, there was a badminton tournament in which 27 teams took part. A volley ball court was opened at Elampalli. The annual Grigg's Memorial sports were held in the Board High School grounds and were largely attended by all including ex-addicts. The Village Uplift Sangham, Gollahalli, decided to form a village road and formed a milk supply society. Five hundred and twenty feet of drainage at a cost of Rs. 1,400 was constructed at two other places. Two private latrines were also constructed. Manure pits were dug and tree cuttings were planted in Veerapandi firka. During the second week of December, the Revenue Divisional Officer, Salem, opened a volley ball court and the Special Development Officer, a Village Uplift Sangham. During the week, 11 Grama Sanghams of Yercaud taluk were inspected and the Village Officers were instructed to collect more subscriptions and repair foot-paths. Toddy tappers were advised to form co-operative societies. A firka tournament as well as a tournament in rural games and sports were conducted during the latter part of December. There was an interesting programme of Chadugudu, sack race, long jump, running race, breaking

The results of certain studies on quality in rice show that—

(a) Parboiled rice in an unpolished or moderately polished state is very similar in composition to the corresponding variety of raw or untreated rice.

(b) A number of commercial samples of raw and parboiled milled rices collected in South India have shown, on analysis that the parboiled varieties are somewhat richer in protein and minerals than raw milled rice. This is stated to be due possibly to the lesser degree of polishing given to the parboiled type.

(c) Storage experiments to determine the keeping quality of raw and parboiled rices have also demonstrated the superiority of parboiled rice.

(d) During the course of preparation for cooking, it is normally the custom to wash the rice in one or more changes of fresh water. Parboiled rice even on being repeatedly washed, loses less nitrogen or phosphorus than raw rice polished to the same extent. Less water soluble constituents passed out of parboiled rice on being cooked than raw rice.

(e) With regard to the relative distribution of nitrogen and phosphorus in raw and parboiled rices, investigations have shown that at least 50 per cent of the phosphorus, about 20 per cent of the nitrogen are localised in the germ and the bran and are, in consequence, lost to a very large extent during the course of milling. On parboiling a proportion of the nitrogen and phosphorus originally present in the germ and in the bran diffuse into the interior of the grain [taken from Report on the Marketing of Rice in India and Burma (1941), Marketing Series No. 27, page 116].

Milling quality.—The research into this aspect has yielded the following results:—

“Parboiling invariably improves the milling quality of raw rice. But the milling quality varies largely between different treatments of parboiling. The different varieties of rice also respond very differently on parboiling in regard to milling quality. Longer periods of soaking (48 to 72 hours) together with steaming at 15 lb. for 15 minutes gave uniformly better results for milling quality with all the varieties studied steaming for longer periods results in greater breakages.”

Research work carried out in the Nutrition Research Laboratories has shown that parboiled rice retains

more vitamin B, and nicotonic acid content even when milled to as high as 15 or 20 per cent.

One other advantage of parboiling is “rice just harvested can be immediately consumed if the paddy is parboiled, whereas unboiled paddy must be kept for a few months before consumption; this fact gives parboiled rice some advantage when stocks are short.”

Also it is common experience that cooked parboiled rice keeps fresh for longer time than cooked raw rice. The question of the use of raw and parboiled rices has been discussed in the Rice Marketing Report and extracts are given below:—

“**Raw and parboiled.**—It was found for example, in the course of this survey that the likes and dislikes of rice eaters were not only strongly defined but that no cogent reasons could be given by consumers to account for their tastes. The universal reply given to enquiries on this point was that the variety of rice to which they had become accustomed agreed with them and that any other kind of rice was indigestible.

It is sometimes thought that parboiled rice is not acceptable to orthodox Hindus on account of their religious susceptibilities being offended by the process to which the paddy is subjected prior to milling. The fact is that the number of orthodox Hindus who really object to eating parboiled rice is relatively small. Broadly speaking therefore where any objection to parboiled rice prevails, it occurs only in those parts where rice is not the

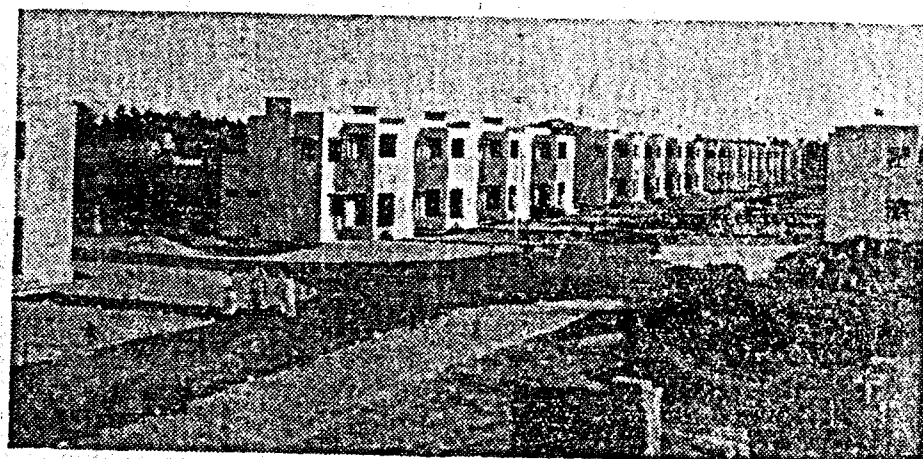
staple food grain and that only to a relatively limited extent.

As a general rule, parboiled rice is cheaper than untreated rice of the same variety for the reason that the parboiling hardens the kernel and enables a greater extraction of what may be termed, “head rice,” i.e., whole grains. Apart from other price lowering factors, the presence of broken grains seriously detracts from the value of the rice, and in this respect, parboiled rice has a decided superiority as it generally contains a relatively small proportion of broken. It is for this reason that parboiled rice can usually be sold rather cheaper than untreated rice of the same variety and quality.

Parboiled cooked rice does not turn sour and is in fact quite palatable after 36 hours' keeping and particularly, if heated up. It is significant that where conditions of labour are such as to preclude cooking more than once a day as for example, in the tea gardens and rubber plantations, parboiled rice is favoured on account of its characteristic feature of keeping well.

A factor formerly associated with parboiled rice was an unpleasant sour or acid odour. Although this defect still occurs in certain types, it has largely been eliminated by improved technique. It should be noted however, that after boiling the cooked rice generally shows no signs of any unpleasant odour which may have been present in the uncooked state.

The consumption of parboiled rice has increased considerably in the past 15 or 20 years in India.



A block of buildings at Shenoy Nagar, Madras.

The Role of Public Libraries in Educating the Masses

By R. JANARDHANAM NAIDU, B.A., L.T., D.E. (OXON.), D.L.S. (LOND.), Librarian, the Connemara Public Library

[The Government have planned a net-work of libraries in the Province. Some details of this scheme have been published on the last issue. In this context Mr. Janardhanam Naidu's article on the subject will be of special interest.]

The first step that every progressive country in the world has adopted to spread enlightenment among its people is to introduce free and compulsory primary education on a nation-wide basis. This is indeed a golden remedy to dispel ignorance among the people, but this measure is fraught with a great deal of limitation. If the period for imparting such free education is for five years or perhaps utmost for seven years, in the early stages of the country's low financial stability it cannot be beyond five years and the opportunity for learning after that is not afforded to youngsters who emerge from the schools, the education imparted for the five or the seven years will go to literal waste, as, due to lack of chances to read books, they will all lapse into illiteracy, becoming more and more intense as time marches on. Therefore the country should deeply engage its attention to adopt measures to prevent the boys and girls who stop with the education received in elementary schools to lapse themselves into a life-long illiteracy. This view was very well impressed on us by the present Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University when speaking on the Importance of Adult Education he said, “Adult education is not merely adult literacy work but it is a continuation of education a student has received in his earlier years.”

Throughout the length and breadth of this country libraries should be established in urban and rural areas for the people to go to them during their spare hours to occupy themselves, to keep alive the knowledge already acquired and to enrich it from day to day. The following are some of the chief aims of the libraries:—

1. They relieve the tedium of the idle hours quite irrespective of intellectual profits or educational gain. It is sufficient, to satisfy this purpose, that the rural inhabitant should be rendered a happier (but not necessarily a more learned) man by the provision which is made for him.

2. It secures the taste for good language initially acquired in the elementary school, to keep it alive and to develop it by a provision of good literature after school years have ended.

3. It enables the rural inhabitant to acquire without difficulty that general knowledge which alone can enable him to appreciate to the full what he sees and hears.

4. It imparts that knowledge of public affairs and of the history of his own neighbourhood which a citizen must possess if he is to perform with intelligence his duties as a member of the community ultimately responsible for the Government of the village, taluk, district, province and the country.

5. It provides facilities for the study of the arts, trades and professions which constitute the occupation of the inhabitants.

6. It removes as far as possible all obstacles from the path of the serious student of any subject.

The most phenomenal advance of Great Britain in spite of the much devastating wars that overtook the country again and again, is due to the establishment of a net work of libraries throughout the length and breadth of the country. The following two extracts will amply prove how rich this country is in its library service to its people:—

“It was nearly a hundred years ago that the first steps were taken to provide a public library service. In 1850 the Public Libraries Act empowered boroughs with a population of over ten thousand to build a library if two-thirds of the rate-payers consented, but they were not allowed to spend a greater sum of money than would be raised by a rate of a half penny in the pound. This money was to be spent on buildings only, not on books, but despite this difficulty a number of towns (Norwich was the first) provided libraries for their inhabitants. Five years later the sum that local authorities were able to spend was doubled, but it was not until 1919 that they were allowed to spend as much as they liked.

All towns of any size now have their libraries, many of them housed in magnificent buildings, where readers can browse at leisure and choose from the shelves the books they wish to read. Sometimes there is a special selection set apart for boys and girls; there are

reading rooms containing newspapers and periodicals; and often there is a reference library where students may consult the books they need for their work.

A good library is expensive, indeed too expensive for small towns and villages, which had no provision made for them until 1919. In that year county councils were given power to set up libraries, and to-day even hamlets in the depths of the country can receive, at regular intervals, parcels of books from the central county library.

As standards of education improve, so do greater numbers of people realise the joy and profit that good books can provide, and there can be no doubt that as our educational services develop so the need for bigger and better libraries will become evident.”

Public Libraries.—Library authorities in Great Britain and Northern Ireland have more than doubled since the date of the first Public Libraries Act in 1850. To-day there are over 600 urban and county library authorities and, out of the total population of Great Britain, only some 350,000 people live in areas with no public libraries. Public libraries are maintained from local rates and are under the management of the Public Libraries Committee of the Town or County Council. In the counties, this Committee is a sub-committee of the Education Committee. In counties, books are sent to more remote areas by means of travelling libraries in vans, and boxes of books are sent to local schools, village clubs and institutes from the county library. There are now 19,000 such centres.

Now that India is free, its ambition should not be behind Great Britain in opening libraries throughout the country. Presiding over the All India Seventh Library Conference in January 1946, Sir Azizul Haque (former Government of India Commerce Member) emphasized the importance of extending library service to one and all the villages in this country. The responsible Government of Bombay Province have stated very emphatically that it is a part of their educational reform to maintain a large number of libraries

the pot, etc., etc., and competitions were held in community songs, kummi and kolattam, etc. Grama sanghams continued to do useful work. They are being periodically inspected. One grama sangham is collecting Rs. 144 annually to meet the charges for supply of electricity for 8 street lights. Ten ex-addicts were admitted free to cinemas at two places. Prohibition meetings were also addressed during the month and speeches stressing the value of rural uplift work were also made.

Coimbatore.—Foundation stones were laid for two reading rooms by the Revenue Divisional Officer, Erode. The villagers have promised to contribute liberally towards the construction of these reading rooms. A firka tournament was held during the first week of December, in which a large number of villagers took part and the main events were Chadugudu, tug-of-war, sack-fight, folk dance, etc. The Collector spoke among other things on the aims and methods of rural uplift. A divisional tournament was held on 5th December 1947 at Gobichettipalayam and about 600 villagers participated in the various events. Seventeen teams competed for Chadugudu alone. About 8,000 villagers including non-officials attended the tournament. An exhibition was also held during the first week of December on a fairly large scale. There were 50 stalls in all. Exhibits relating to paintings, embroidery, work, khadi thread, charkas, varieties of vegetables, hand-woven clothes were displayed. Pamphlets on the advantage of National Savings and Adult Education were distributed. Cattle like stud bulls, cows, calves, buffaloes, horses, sheep, goats and hens were also exhibited. The Agricultural, Veterinary, Forest and Health departments took a prominent part in the exhibition. There was also during second the week of December the taluk tournament and exhibition at Kollegal. This was in connection with the valedictory function of the 5th Rural Uplift School at the place. The Collector spoke on the aim and work of grama seva sanghams. There was also another firka tournament at Puliam-patti. The Collector inspected a number of grama sanghams during the period. They continue to do useful work, and the public are enthusiastic in co-operating with these sanghams. One sangham has formed a road. It also purchased musical instruments for Rs. 150 for conducting bhajanas. Another sangham has formed a road 1½ miles in length at a cost of Rs. 2,000.

The same sangham has repaired a public draw-well as well as a Harijan well. The Collector switched on the radio privately purchased by the sangham. The Nallur Sangham has also formed a road 1½ miles in length at a cost of Rs. 2,000. It also has a library. Other public utility activities of the sanghams include the undertaking to construct a compound wall for a park at a cost of Rs. 3,000. The 5th Rural Uplift School at Kollegal which was opened on 8th November 1947 closed on 8th December 1947. Fifty-three students attended the school course. Fifty-one students passed in the first examination. There was also a group village tournament in which 2,000 people took part. The Harijans and caste Hindus mixed freely. There were other group tournaments also during the month. The Thalamalai Grama Sangham has repaired a public well and has formed a road to a distance of half a mile.

South Kanara.—During the first week of December, the thrift campaign was inaugurated in two places. The Puttur Town Co-operative Banks distributed 82 hundi boxes. Two more societies for coconut, jaggery manufacture were registered during the week.

The societies are expected to provide employment for 200 tappers.

Bellary.—Rural games pertaining to self-defence were played by the students of the Rural Uplift School at Hospet. Two dramas one by the Rural Uplift School at Hospet and the other by the Village Betterment Committee were enacted during the month. A milk society was also organized.

Chittoor.—Rural games were conducted as usual in all the three divisions of the district. Further, 3 firka tournaments were also held. These tournaments were largely attended, and there were a number of interesting events. Thrift days were celebrated in three villages. The total collections amounted to Rs. 440-10-0. One of the members who saved bought an iron plough. Another grama sangham celebrated its anniversary during which a drama was enacted. The usual entertainments and amusements were given prominence during the tournaments and one special feature was that the Harijans played an important and active part. In Madanapalle division, a sum of Rs. 115-5-11 was collected in hundi boxes by 8 grama sanghams. The 4th Rural Uplift School closed on 15th December 1947 and in this connexion, there was an exhibition and a district tournament. During the third week of December, 4 grama sanghams

were newly organized. Some grama sanghams purchased first-aid medicines and distributed them free to the villagers. These grama sanghams have also put up sign boards indicating the names of the villages and their distances from the main roads. During the week 84 hundi boxes were distributed and a sum of Rs. 36-14-9 was collected in the boxes. A thrift day was also celebrated by one grama sangham.

Anantapur.—Thrift day celebrations took place in three places and the occasions were availed of to exhort the people to cultivate thrift habit. A cattle breeding co-operative society was organized during the second week of December.

Cuddapah.—During the first week of December, the Deputy Commissioner of Amelioration toured the district with a view to examining the possibilities of organizing co-operative milk societies. He also visited the Women's Thrift Society at Proddatur and presided over the sports and games arranged there. Faction in a village was composed through the good offices of the Assistant Development Officer.

Trichinopoly.—Arrangements were made to admit 14 ex-tappers in a milk supply co-operative society at Wora-yur. A milk supply-cum-jaggery supply society which will absorb 12 ex-tappers was organized in Musiri taluk. Four societies were also organized in Karur taluk. These have absorbed 130 ex-tappers. Hundi boxes were opened on the thrift day in the co-operative society at Marudur. During the week ended 22nd December 1947, 16 jaggery-makers' co-operative societies were organized. They are expected to give employment to 694 tappers. A sum of Rs. 6,940 has been collected as share capital.

Kurnool.—The Rural Recreation Officer, Markapur, conducted rural games during the first week of December. There were bhajanas also in some villages. Street cleanliness days were conducted in two places. The Assistant Development Officer conducted thrift day celebrations in two places. Two reading rooms were opened during the week. Reading of Ramayana in some villages was also arranged.

Tanjore.—A co-operative milk supply society was opened in Tanjore taluk. This is the third of the series of co-operative milk societies organized in Tanjore division by the Ameliorative staff for the benefit of ex-tappers and the ex-addicts. There was a firka tournament in the first week of December under the Village Uplift Scheme

(Continued on page 31)

Books and Publications

Information for the Mere Asking

TOPICAL PAMPHLETS published by the Department of Information and Publicity, Government of Madras, available free.]

The Department of Information and Publicity, Government of Madras has published a number of pamphlets on topical subjects. These pamphlets are informative and are useful for all classes of people—public servants, professionals and the general mass of the intelligencia. These are distributed free and are available with the Director of Information and Publicity.

More important of the pamphlets are:—

(1) Food Administration in the Province, (2) Two-Pronged drive against Corruption, (3) Settlement of Labour Disputes, (4) Towards Better Live-Stock, (5) On Irrigation, (6) Rationing

Explained, (7) On Prohibition, (8) Prohibition and how it will work, (9) Government and Publicity work, (10) On Co-operation, (11) Government and Textile Policy, (12) Zamindari Abolition in Madras, (13) Housing Problem in Madras, (14) On Public Health, (15) Towards better Public Health, (16) How Madras fights Malaria, (17) Food and Public Health.

[THE HYDERABAD GOVERNMENT BULLETIN ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS.—December 1947—Price Re. 1 per issue—Annual subscription Rs. 12.]

The Hyderabad Government's Bulletin on Economic Affairs relating to December 1947 is a neatly got up publication running to more than

250 pages. It contains a wealth of statistics and information especially about the economic affairs of the Hyderabad State as well as a bird's eye view of things elsewhere. Editorial notes, special articles, news in brief, extracts from speeches of members of the Hyderabad Government are among the prominent features of this journal. The journal will be particularly valuable to research students, social workers and publicists and similar classes of people and its publication is quite in accord with the policy of modern Governments—a lavish dissemination of information as a primary means of educating public opinion.

(Continued from page 30)

organized by the Rural Recreation Officer. A number of indigenous games were played. A night school for adult education in one of the villages in Mayavaram taluk was opened.

North Arcot.—A Firka Development Association was formed at Kanna-mangalam.

"DAKHINI HIND"

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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.



A mile stone in the solution of the housing problem. His Excellency the Governor of Madras declared open on 21st January, the "Shendy Nagar"

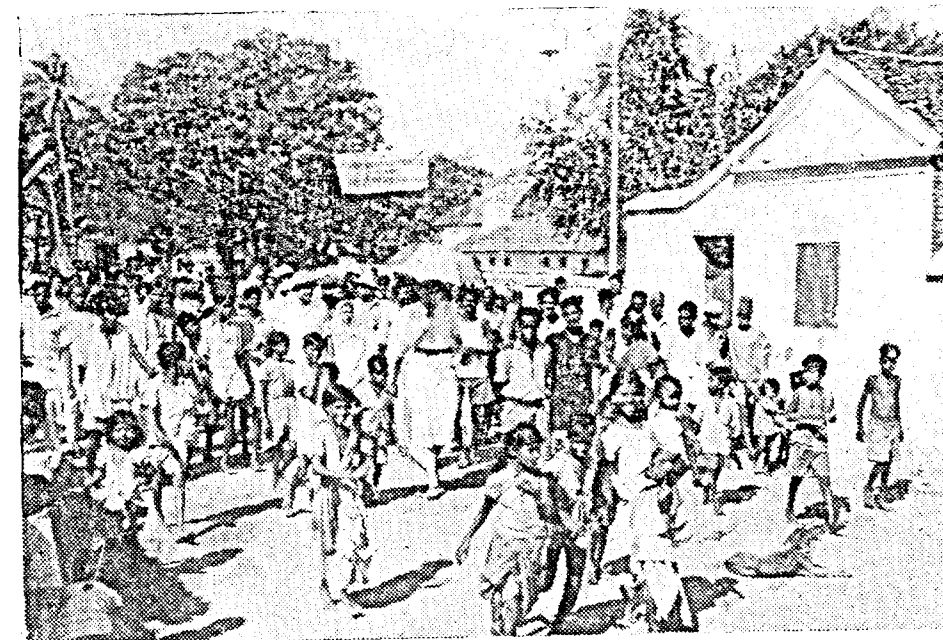


Photo taken in connection with the Social Workers' Conference held at Madras recently

Slum Clearance Campaign in Madras



Her Excellency Lady Nye with the organizers of the Health Drive at the Pudupet Slums



Her Excellency Lady Nye is taking great interest in the Campaign against slums. The above picture shows Her Excellency inspecting the slum area

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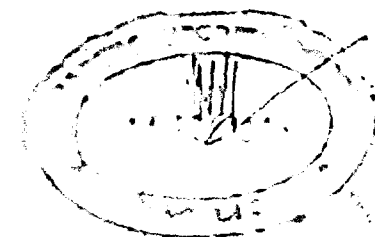
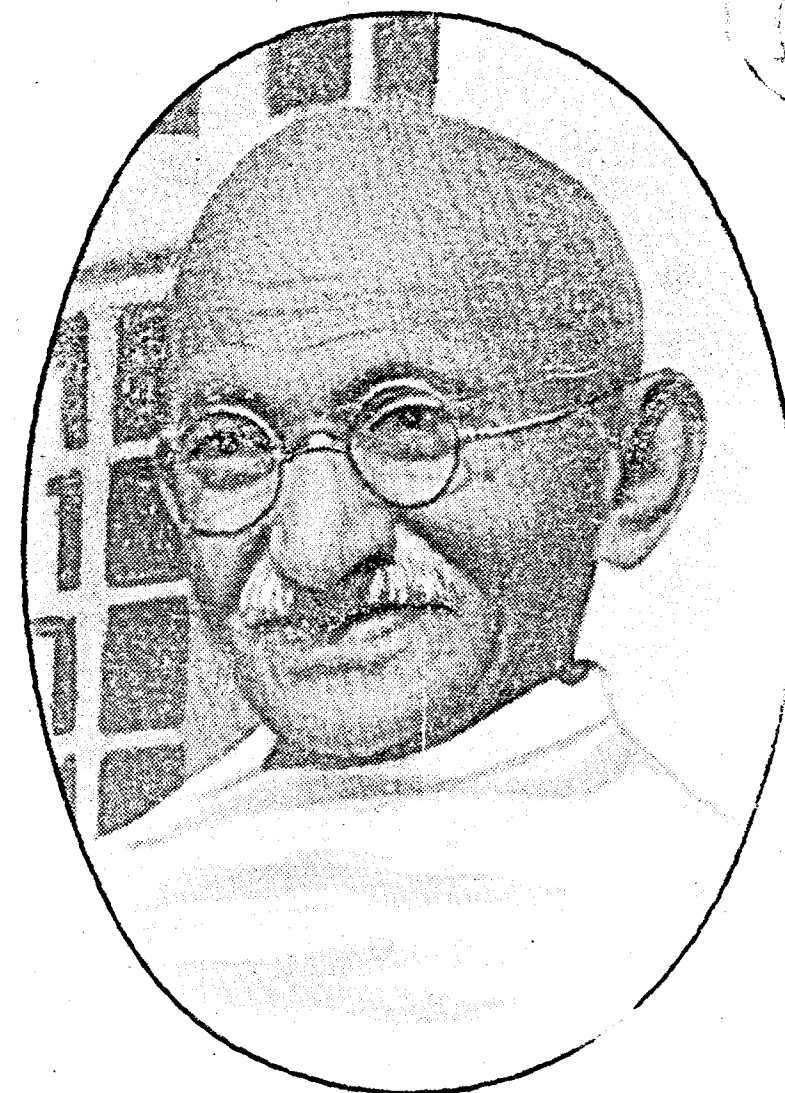
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12th February 1948

MADRAS INFORMATION

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

The Father of the Nation



A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Servant of God, well done, well thou hast fought
The bitter fight, whose single host maintained
Against revolted multitudes the cause
Of Truth, in word mightier than they in arms;

And for the testimonies of Truth has borne
Universal reproach, far worse to bear
Than violence; for this was all they care
To stand approved in sight of God, though world's
Judged thee perverse. . ."

—MILTON

MADRAS MOURNS MAHATMAJI'S DEATH

MINISTERS' TRIBUTES

[On no occasion in recorded history did the whole of India mourn the death of a single individual as she does now in the case of Mahatma Gandhi. High and low, rich and poor, the classes and the masses—all alike—irrespective of distinctions of caste, colour or creed have given expression to their unutterable grief at a national tragedy of incalculable magnitude. The Madras Province is not a whit behind other provinces in the manifestation of her profound grief]

A REAL KARMAYOGI

(By SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR,
Premier of Madras)

In the death of Mahatma Gandhi, India has lost a leader who represented her soul in a manner and to an extent which none else in the country could claim to do. He lived for India and Indians; he sacrificed his all during his lifetime for the sake of the Indian people. In his death, he made the supremest sacrifice that anyone can for the sake of both his people and his country, and has very appropriately been described as the *Father of the Nation*. The Mahatma was a real Karmayogi—one who practised the precepts of the Bhagavad Gita in the truest and most undeviating manner possible.

His assassination, by a man who probably thought that he was serving and probably saving—Hinduism and India by perpetrating the foul deed, was really the assassination of the truest and the greatest Hindu of the age.

The country from one end to the other—indeed the whole world—was dazed by the dastardly deed that put an end to a noble life like the Mahatma. It is necessary, however, that the whole land should now be turned into a land of Karmayogis, so that we can all conjointly prove by our deeds and actions that we are worthy of the trust and the teachings of the Great Soul, who lived and worked amongst us and who was one of the most constant exponents of the ideals of human brotherhood and non-violence.

A TEACHER AMONG MEN

(Dr. P. SUBBAROYAN'S Statement)

"Words fail me at this time as I feel an immense void has been caused in our lives to-day. Bapu as he has been and as we call him has gone at the hand of a dastardly assassin who knew not what he was doing. Even as Bapu collapsed he could only bow to God. There is no instance in history of a leader who achieved the freedom of his country through no fight but through the suffering of his own self. The whole struggle that he made for over a quarter of a century was on the basis of love and trying to achieve a change of heart in the rulers. That success came to him, though not in the way he expected, was due to the great moral force that he exercised right through his life. He was sick at heart over the partition and had to undertake two fasts to set things right and get the communities to see that the future of this country

in the right perspective. He will go down to history with Socrates and Jesus Christ as personalities who sacrificed their lives for their noble principles. In the political field my mind goes back to the days of Abraham Lincoln who was assassinated in as dastardly a manner as Bapu has been. Not only we in this country mourn the loss of our Leader but we have the sympathy of the whole world in the moment of our affliction. Messages have poured in from all over the world expressing their sense of sorrow at the loss of one who was not merely our own leader but a teacher of mankind."

As Pandit Jawaharlal has said: 'The light has gone out, but the light that shone in this country was no ordinary light. The light that has illumined this country for this many many years will illumine this country for many more years and a thousand years later that light will still be seen all over the country and the world will see it and it will give solace to innumerable hearts. For that light represents something more than the immediate present. It represents the living, the eternal truth, reminding us of a right path. How we ran to Bapu when we had any affliction? Though he is no more, let us always think of what he could have wished us to do and act in a way which will bring about concord and amity in this afflicted land of ours. He has also given us strength to show the world that his teachings have influenced us as to make us an example to the rest of the world, as how to keep peace and create goodwill among nations.'

As the President of the Security Council has said: 'Gandhiji gave to the world a great lesson. Few people have shown such absolute devotion to the generous ideas to which he had bowed himself. On many occasions, he offered the sacrifice of his life so that these ideas might triumph. From the distance he appeared to us to be already above this world as a great symbol. He represented in the highest degree and in its most influenced aspect the spirit of the independence of his people. He lived long enough to see India becoming fully sovereign. But he represented something more, the idea of non-violence which is the very principle which inspires our organization. Somehow we felt that in our efforts for peace and mutual understanding we had in him a great ally.'

He was not merely the leader of the struggle for our country's freedom but he was more than this. He was a teacher among men and is the heir of our heritage which began with Buddha. In his life he

practised what he preaches and if there was any deviation from the path he set for himself it was the weakness of the flesh of his own people and not of himself as he never faltered.

Like Jesus Christ before him he has paid with his life for the principles which he held so dear to him. Like Abraham Lincoln he has been assassinated by the hand of one who mistakenly thought that with the end of his life the principles for which he stood may disappear. But how wrong the assassin is can be seen at the world-wide sympathy which has come to our nation at the grievous loss we have suffered. Let us prove worthy of ourselves of this great leader and teacher of men and follow his precepts so that we can establish through our and other nations' efforts the principle for which he stood—Peace on earth and goodwill among men." May his noble spirit continue to guide us in striving for the great ideals he has taught us to hold and cherish. He has not died, but he lives a spirit as he is immortal.

'TO ME GANDHIJI IS A SAVIOUR'

(By DR. T. S. S. RAJAN, Minister for Food.)

Mahatma Gandhi has joined the immortals. The whole world has burst out in horror and indignation over this ghastly murder. Mahatma was of the spirit eternal. He was brave and fearless as only such like him can be. To him life was an offer at the altar of truth and non-violence. He was the richest of men for he owned nothing in this world. Millionaires clung to him and placed their wealth at his disposal. He lived the life, he preached and served mankind. To him there was no one high or low and he loved them all. He has made a historic and unique contribution to the history of the world. He has demonstrated the irresistible power of *ahimsa* in dealing with men and nations. That political freedom could be won through unadulterated virtues is perhaps a record which the world needed. Strangely enough he has become the victim of violence against which he has preached all his life.

In this land of creeds and races of warring faiths it was left to him to prove the unity of life which pervades all human existence. He has joined the long list of immortals that staggered the world in their days. Gandhiji's life and teachings are a glorious record. Jesus Christ, Abraham Lincoln, Socrates—these are names we revere. Gandhiji came to us to live amidst us, made us see with our eyes the greatness of human personality as was depicted by him. Let us at least hold aloft the glowing banner of purity, selflessness and love and try and understand the eternal truths for which he stood. The Gandhian epoch is unforgettable in history.

Born humble and low of an enslaved race, he could establish the strength of human spirit developed into an irresistible force by a right conduct. Be he of any faith or caste or creed, in him we found the response of an aching heart, a paining soul and an overflowing sympathy of love. We shall not forget it. He knew

no distinction of high and low and he is more for the lowliest of the low for he loved them above all. With courage undaunted he declared his faith in a stentorian voice which spread and reached the corners of the world as no other man has done. His death has made him more alive to us than ever before. Innocent children were his comrades and he had the highest regard for the women-folk. To me he is a saviour. He took me by the hand in the streets of London when violence and hatred surged in my heart. He weaned me away from madness. He won my heart, changed my faith and revealed to me the great lesson which books of knowledge could not reveal.



Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru

Mahatmaji's Life

Diary of Events

- 1869: Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, born at Porbandar (Kathiawad), youngest son of Karamchand Gandhi. For two generations Gandhis were Prime Ministers in Kathiawad States.
- 1883: Married Kasturbai at the age of 13, while still in school. "I can see no moral argument in favour of such a preposterously early marriage."
- 1885: Father died at the age of 63.
- 1887-88: Samaldas College, Bhavanagar, Kathiawad.
- 1888: Left for England for law studies, despite family opposition. Headman of community declared him outcaste.
- 1889-91: Law student in England. Lived frugally. Made first public speech at gathering of vegetarians, broke down in middle. Influenced by theosophist friends.
- 1891: Called to Bar, left for India. Mother dead, started practice in Rajkot.
- 1893: Found life in Kathiawad choked with intrigue, accepted a Muslim firm's offer to go to South Africa as legal adviser.
- 1893-1901: Lived in South Africa, led several campaigns to secure equal legal status for Indian and Asiatic settlers. Imprisoned several times. Europeans attempted to lynch him. Developed his ideas about non-violence and passive resistance.
- 1901: Returned to India, attended Congress for first time, at Calcutta. Met Phirozeshah Mehta, Tilak, etc. Travelled round country to gain first-hand knowledge.
- 1903-05: Called back to Transvaal by Indian settlers facing new difficulties. Resumed campaign for their rights.
- 1906: Took vow of *Brahmacharya* for life.
- 1910: Established Tolstoy Farm, a cosmopolitan, vegetarian colony. Forerunner of the ashrams.
- 1910-15: Continued campaign for rights of Indians and Asiatics. Imprisoned and released, along with other satyagrahis, several times.
- 1915: Returned to India, owing to serious attack of pleurisy.
- In a letter Tagore referred to Gandhi as "Mahatma." Settled down in Ahmedabad and founded an ashram. Attended Congress session in Bombay, not elected to Subjects Committee, nominated by President, Sir S. P. Sinha.
- 1917: Led Champaran peasants satyagraha.
- 1918: Helped workers and peasants in Gujarat in their struggles for more wages and less revenue. Attended Muslim League session at Calcutta, urged release of Ali Brothers.
- 1919: Anti-Rowlatt Act agitation under Gandhiji's leadership. Identified with Khilafat movement,

- addressed meetings in mosques, presided over Khilafat Conference, worked in close co-operation with Ali Brothers.
- 1920: Non-co-operation movement and Khilafat agitation. Arrested on March 10 on charge of sedition. Sentenced to 6 years' imprisonment. Wrote *My Experiments With Truth* (in Gujarati) in jail.
- 1923: Communal clashes in country while Gandhiji in jail.
- 1924: Released owing to serious illness (appendicitis). Went on 21-day fast in Delhi to stop the wave of communal riots.
- 1927: Boycott of Simon Commission.
- 1929: Complete Independence declared goal of Congress at Lahore session.
- 1930: Pledge of Independence taken all over India on January 26. In March Gandhiji sent "ultimatum" to Lord Irwin. On March 12 set out on Dandi March. Salt satyagraha on mass scale followed by Gandhiji's arrest, 95,000 others jailed.
- 1931: Gandhi-Irwin Pact. Black Flag demonstration at Karachi following execution of Bhagat Singh whose release Gandhiji had failed to secure. Went to Round Table Conference as solitary Congress representative. Stayed in East End. Returned disappointed via Rome where he met Mussolini.
- 1932: Arrested a few days after return from England. Civil Disobedience started again. While in jail, decided to fast as a protest against the Communal Award which classified "untouchables" separate from Hindus. After a month and eight days, broke fast after Yerawada Pact was signed and Government had ratified it.
- 1933: Released. Suspended Civil Disobedience movement. Re-arrested when he defied orders to leave Yerawada. Released following a fast.
- 1934: In Poona on June 25 an unknown person attempted to throw bomb at Gandhiji during public function when Poona Municipality presented him address.
- At Bombay session of Congress, he decided to leave Congress because A.I.C.C. refused to substitute "truthful and non-violent" for "peaceful and legitimate" means in creed of Congress. Decided to concentrate on constructive work.
- 1937: Initiated Basic Education Scheme at a Conference of educationists held at Wardha.
- 1938: Advised Czechs to use non-violent methods against Nazis.
- 1939: Rajkot fast. War. Viceregal declaration disappoints Mahatma: "The Congress asked for bread and it has got a stone."

- 1940: Individual Satyagraha. Arrested and sentenced to 3 months.
- 1942: Cripps Mission. Gandhiji described proposals as "post-dated" cheque. Gandhiji gives "Quit India" call. Arrested on August 9. Detained in Aga Khan's Palace in Poona. Mahadev Desai, Secretary and closest friend, died on August 15.
- 1943: Started 3-week fast to protest against Government's campaign of lies and slanders, on February 10. Completed fast though condition grave towards end.
- 1944: Kasturba died in detention on February 22. Released on May 6, owing to ill-health. Gandhi-Jinnah talks in September.

- 1945: Simla Conference. Cabinet Mission.
- 1946: Peace Mission to Noakhali and East Bengal, following serious rioting.
- 1947: Devoted all time and energy to restoration of peace and unity, first in Calcutta and then in Delhi. On August 15, was away in Calcutta, staying in a Muslim widow's house where Hindu rowdies made a violent attack upon him and other inmates of the house. Moral influence eased situation in Calcutta and Delhi.
- 1948: Fasted to ensure safety of Muslims in Delhi. An unsuccessful attempt was made to throw a bomb at him, followed a few days later by dastardly revolver-shooting which cost India the most precious life in the country.



Mahatmaji reading Gita

ROOT OUT VIOLENCE

By SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM,
Minister for Public Works

It has been our pride all along that we are the contemporaries of the world's great leader and that the Mahatma belongs to our country. But it is now our standing shame that Gandhiji should have suffered death at the hands of one of us. It is really a great tragedy that the noblest apostle of ahimsa should have become the sad victim of himsa. As Gandhiji had been toiling all these years for our redemption, he has also served us in his death. By his demise in the cruel circumstances, he has again emphasised to us what we should do to root out violence from this land and to restore peace which free Indians should enjoy. Let us give up all rancour, jealousy, ill-will and selfishness in this hour of our trial and go forward in the footsteps of the Mahatma who lived for us and died for us. We do realize what we owe to Gandhiji. But how shall we repay him? Our own service to ourselves would be the best homage to the departed Mahatma. If we would only vow ourselves to serve those who are less situated than we, we shall be satisfying Gandhiji. We should now do everything to deserve Gandhiji. Let us awake, let us arise, and let us remove the blot from our land.

GANDHIJI DIED LIKE A HERO

By SRI B. GOPALA REDDI, Minister for Finance

It is difficult to describe the personality and the qualities of Mahatmaji. Just as we cannot adequately describe the various qualities of Sri Rama or Christ we cannot describe the many qualities of Gandhiji. Within the last few days we have heard and read great leaders from all parts of the world paying glowing tributes to Gandhiji and yet we feel that they have not fully expressed his character and influence on the people. I do not think any man has won such esteem of his own countrymen and of the whole world as Gandhiji. He is a Siddha purusha; a Maharishi. He was steeped in Hindu Culture and he worked for purifying Hinduism. He is a Rishi essentially, but wanted to serve and redeem the people who are steeped in slavery, poverty and ignorance and, therefore, took to politics.

He fought against child marriages; he advocated widow marriages; strove for the redemption of women from their seclusion and brought them out to take their place alongside men. He removed the great curse of Hinduism—Untouchability. It is due to this curse of untouchability many Hindu brethren embraced other religions and for this we, Hindus, are responsible. Due to Mahatmaji's great efforts we have removed untouchability. If today a Harijan can walk freely into any temple in India, it is because Gandhiji wanted it and got it for them. To day Harijans are Members of the Cabinet, Collectors and hold high offices in the police and other departments.

Another great principle for which Mahatmaji fought was the removal of the drink evil. Since 1920 he was against this tainted money, with which the Provincial Governments built hospitals and schools. He succeeded in inducing the Provincial Governments to do away with this excise revenue and I am glad to say that Madras Government is the first in India to make 16 of its districts 'dry'; the rest of the districts will go 'dry' shortly.

Mahatmaji has placed spinning on a high pedestal even in this machine age. Even confirmed economists of the world have agreed that spinning as a cottage industry has its place in the domestic economy of the country. It is now included in the curricula of schools under the basic education scheme.

It is these principles of Mahatmaji that appealed to the masses and it is by these principles in his constructive programme that he roused consciousness of the people and brought them up not only from political slavery but also from mental slavery.

The biggest of his achievements is Swaraj for India. Out of dust he created a State; out of salt he released an energy which forced the British Government to shed its vestige of Imperialism. According to him Swaraj was not an end, but a means of serving the people. After achieving Swaraj he wanted that it should be used to eradicate illiteracy, poverty and disease in the country. India's Swaraj is paving the way for the freedom of Burma, Ceylon, Indonesia and other countries. His principle was non-violence. I am sure we could not have roused the people into this great awakening nor could we have made Swaraj possible within such a short time by any other means. He carried the message of ahimsa to every nook and corner of the country and people felt that he was the Father and Philosopher of the Nation. As such his loss is literally an irreparable loss.

I must say, and to our utter shame, that he has not succeeded in one thing, that is, in establishing Hindu-Muslim cordiality in the country. I do not want to put the blame at his door. There is nothing that he has not done to achieve this. He spared no pains. I am sure nobody else could have done what he did with his fast which he commenced on the 13th of January under very unfavourable circumstances. There was much bitterness in the minds of the Hindus and Sikhs against the Muslims and yet he wanted that Hindus and Sikhs and Muslims should live as brothers both in Pakistan and in the Indian Union. He wanted that Muslims should stay in India as equal partners enjoying the fruits of Swaraj alongside Hindus and other communities. He never wanted that India should be divided into Muslim State and Hindu State and thus pave the way for disintegration. Left to himself he would have wished the Quaid-e-Azam to be the Governor-General of India and Nehru to be the Prime Minister; but forces moved in such a direction that it made it impossible for India to remain intact.

Whatever might have happened in the past and whatever might perhaps happen in the future yet

Muslims and Hindus are one and they cannot be divided. They have been with us for nearly ten centuries and they cannot be driven out of this country. They have influenced our culture, our music, our mode of life to a great extent and likewise we have influenced them in so many directions. Because there was somebody who was trying to divide us there were differences between the Hindus and Muslims and let us hope that with the quitting of the third party and with the noble example set by Gandhiji we shall cement our differences and live together like brothers as in the days of Akbar. What he could not achieve in his lifetime, I am hoping, he will achieve through his death and thus show to the world that his death is more glorious than his life. Let us hope that out of the ashes of the funeral pyre a new sekthi will come out and pervade the whole country and bring about Hindu-Muslim unity.

He was a saint and a politician in life but in his death he died like a hero, like a warrior, I would say that he died a glorious death, a Martyr's death. He preached non-violence to the entire world but died of violence—an embodiment of Ahimsa falling at the hands of Himsa. I could not visualize any other death; I could not visualize him dying of fasting, of malaria or some other sickness. From Gandhiji's angle it is a glorious death.

I want young men not to feel bitter about the death. Mahatmaji's spirit must live with us to guide us in everything. Gandhiji loved his enemy. It is un-Gandhian to talk of vengeance. We are all fortunate in that we have lived in the lifetime of Gandhiji, heard him and seen him and have served him as his humble followers. Gandhiji lived the life of Buddha and died the death of Christ. He is a Karunamurthi and a Santhamurthi and even as Jesus he is a Thyagamurthi.

May the spirit of Gandhiji ever guide us in all our activities.

GANDHI WAS A "STITA PRAGNA"

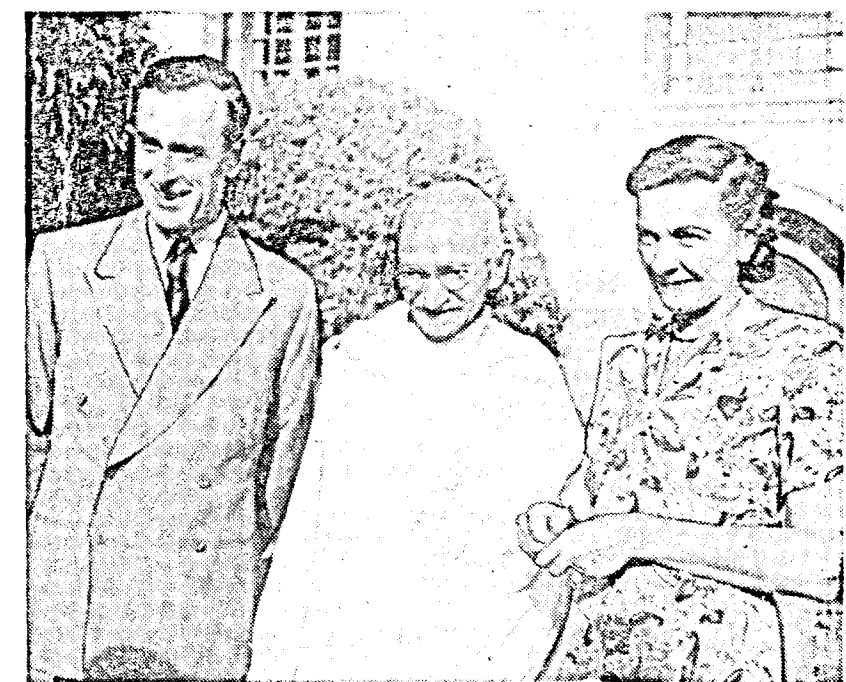
(By SRI KALA VENKATA RAO, Minister for Land Revenue.)

Gandhiji has been everything to us during the last two and a half decades. His removal from our midst by the hand of an assassin has created a void which no one in India or the world can fill for generations. He won for us the freedom of our country, and that in a most novel way and with a technique which was not followed in any one of the freedom movements in the history of the world. We mourn the death of this great leader, but in spite of our passionate attachment to him we have got to live, and more than ourselves our dear Mother Country has to live and prosper. The greatest service we can render to our Country and the people can be by keeping alive Gandhism, even though to our regret Mahatma Gandhi is no more. This duty of the application of

Gandhism for the benefit of India and her people lies primarily on all those who have associated themselves with the Congress and Gandhiji during the last twenty-five years. We must summon our courage and in spite of attempts to sidetrack, we must see that the fundamentals of Gandhism are not lost sight of in the run of time. Many philosophies are there but many are propagandist philosophies. Gandhism till now had only one propagandist, "Mahatma Gandhi." He did not leave us any Bible in rigid terms, to follow meticulously. His greatness lies in his wonderful capacity to have lived according to his ideals and making a noble example of his ideals through himself.

The conduct of life through non-violence is his idealistic contribution to modern life. The word 'non-violence' has a negative aspect in terminology, but he made it a positive philosophy of action. Gandhiji has perfected the science and art of "ahimsa" by extending its scope to all activities of life. Everyone who had attended Gandhiji's prayers in the evenings know about the recitations from Bagavat Gita—"Stita Pragnasaka Basha". It was not a rigmoro that was sung every-day. Gandhiji did attain the status of a "Stita Pragna".

Gandhiji had the faith that if our sacrifices are sincere, wholehearted and untainted even the British were bound to soften and concede our demands. That the British did soften is borne out by facts. Therefore it is positive proof that non-violent action will result in a dynamic force and will be able to achieve the ends for which it is directed. Gandhiji has taught the world that ends are not ends in themselves but that the means must be pure in spite of any provocation. Another contribution of Gandhiji to



Mahatma Gandhi with Their Excellencies Lord and Countess Mountbatten.

positive action is that by the admission of one's own fault or folly he will be able to create the way to one's own recovery. Therefore he taught that every "satyagrahi" should begin with himself and his family and from the domestic sphere he should spread his service to the domain of society. As Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya said, "what other men have taught as a personal discipline, Gandhiji has transformed into a full programme for the redemption of the world". To him the one commanding law is that men should cling to truth and right even if the very heavens will fall.

It is our duty to see that this line of life will continue to guide our line of action in the service of our country. Till Gandhiji propagated the contrary view, politics was always deemed to be a game of chess. Intelligence, cleverness and manoeuvring played their part in preference to a moral code of conduct. Of course while Michiaville, Chanakya and the rest taught that means should never be the consideration, Gandhiji has levelled up world thought and taught us that immediate social convenience should not take the first place in preference to respect for truth. In the history of the world there were many satyagrahis, Daniel when he disregarded the laws of the Medes and Persians; Socrates when he drank the cup of poison to maintain his right to preach as he liked to the Athenian youth; Prahlada and Mira Bai when they suffered at the hands of their father and husband respectively and these are noble examples. In those



A Saint and a Saviour

cases it was personality that triumphed over environment, but it was left to Gandhiji to spread the impact of the personality into the whole mass of people and create a situation which had the effects of an atom bomb in transforming ideas, ideals and code of conduct.

While on the one hand he could pull down the mighty British Empire in India, on the other he let loose in the country many phases of constructive effect which we see in our khadi, village industries, national education and the rest.

The human side of Gandhiji can best be known to those who were near him and who had the supreme opportunity of being with him even for a few hours. There were jokes, joyous, harmless and witty. Young children were played with and laughed with. There were domestic problems to be solved. In the midst of all these activities he had to advise and counsel the activities of several All-India organizations and attend to an ever increasing bundle of correspondence. He had also to organize various movements for the attainment of independence.

"You may crucify the body of such a man but the light in him which is from the divine flame of truth and love cannot be put out."

GANDHIJI'S CODE OF HEALTHY LIVING

(By SRI A. B. SHETTY, Minister for Public Health)

Among the many lessons that can be gleaned from Mahatma Gandhi's great life, not the least valuable are those relating to the code of healthy living. By precept and example he taught us to lead a simple life, eat plain food, take regular exercise, practise control in matters of sex and follow nature cure. He laid great stress on the importance of sanitation. While recognizing that hospitals and dispensaries do fulfil a need, he said that people should put first things first, look after their own health and keep their environment clean. The Kasturba Memorial Fund has as its main objective "teaching women how to live cleanly, how to keep their environment clean, what to eat and how to bring up their children." It is well known that Gandhiji did scavenging work and his ashramites were also trained to do it for more reasons than one. By leading a well-regulated life Gandhiji lived up to a ripe old age and kept up his mental vigour till the last in spite of the many stresses and strains he had to undergo in his unusually busy life.

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA EXTRAORDINARY

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

New Delhi, the 2nd February 1948.

RESOLUTIONS.

I

Sudden and overwhelming tragedy has befallen India and the world. On the 30th January, shortly after 5 p.m. the fell hand of an assassin ended a life of supreme value to humanity, a life round which had revolved India's destiny for half a century. Mahatma Gandhi, Father of the Nation, and beloved of his people, apostle of non-violence, saint and prophet of peace, great soldier for freedom, and lover above all of the lowly, the humble and the oppressed, perished while on his way to prayer to which his fellow-countrymen flocked every evening to listen to his message. The evening sun set in mourning over a nation's tragedy.

The last great act of Gandhiji was his decision to sacrifice his life to bring about peace and harmony among the people of India. On Sunday, January 18, he terminated his fast, on a solemn pledge being taken on behalf of the people, and India heaved a sigh of relief.

This life of intense and continuous service to India and humanity has ended now in death which has also been a fulfilment of that life of service, but it now remains for the Government and the people of India to fulfil that pledge in letter and spirit.

The greatest and noblest of India's sons has passed away and the world mourns him and pays homage to his mighty achievements and the splendour of his spirit. Overwhelmed by sorrow, the Government of India still think with pride and thankfulness of their great leader, who has been an inspiration to hundreds of millions of people and has taught them the path of high endeavour and right action. In death as in life he was smiling, serene, and full of love for all, the very embodiment of his message of truth and *ahimsa*. His life was one long struggle for justice and tolerance between man and man.

The Government of India, in paying reverent homage to the glorious memory of Mahatma Gandhi, declare their determination to strive to the utmost to fulfil his great message. To him the call of duty

was paramount and duty demands of the Indian people today courage, vision and faith, and the pursuit of truth and the practice of tolerance. They urge upon their countrymen to remember, even in this hour of national bereavement, this duty and to face the future with stout hearts and steady gaze. They must assist the Government to fight the dark forces of evil and violence that are at work in our midst and that have succeeded in putting an end to the most precious treasure that India possessed. But even this act has only heightened the splendour of his spirit which shines today and will always shine upon the Indian people and on humanity. As in life, so now, that great spirit will guard and guide India which he loved so passionately and served so unceasingly and with such devotion. India and India's message were embodied in his own magnificent self. Let us therefore be true to Gandhiji and to India and strive our utmost to realize the India of his dreams.

II

The manner of Mahatma Gandhi's death is a grim and urgent reminder of the forces of hate and violence that are at work in our country and which imperil the freedom of the nation and darken her fair name. These forces must be swiftly controlled and rooted out. Only thus can India proceed along her appointed path and fulfil her destiny. Success in this endeavour demands the willing help of her people. Government have no doubt that the great majority of the Indian people demand that this action be taken and this duty performed. Government will, therefore, act with determination and justice, and they trust that the people, while offering their co-operation, will not take the law in their own lands.

There is no place today in India for any organization preaching violence or communal hatred. No such organization will, therefore, be tolerated. No private armies will be permitted. Government call upon all citizens, and particularly those serving Government in any capacity, to abide by these standards of behaviour and to act strictly in accordance with the declared policy of Government in this respect.

SECURITY COUNCIL HONOURS MAHATMA

Members of the United Nations Security Council stand in silence on receipt of the news of Mahatma Gandhi's death



In tribute to Mahatma Gandhi the United Nations' Flag at the U.N. headquarters at Lake Success is lowered to half mast.

"GANDHIJI WAS OUR SOLACE"

(By SRI K. MADHAVA MENON, Minister for Agriculture.)

The death of Mahatma Gandhi at the hands of an assassin is the greatest tragedy that can befall to this country and to the world. As human beings, it is only natural that we feel very sore about it. We feel unnerved and helpless. A sense of despair comes over us. What are we to do? How will the country get on without him. What is going to be the future of this country without the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi? These will be the feelings that are uppermost in the minds of many. Gandhiji was our solace at all times. He was our sole resource whenever we were confronted with any problem. We have been all along feeling such a dependence on him. Whenever we had any difficulties we felt that he would take the responsibility. He was always instilling into us confidence and courage to meet any situation.

It ill-befits us to go into despair. What is our duty at the present situation? We must have a little bit of serious introspection and see how far we have been really true followers of Gandhiji. He always

stood for truth, love, non-violence and service and a symbol of these he has been asking us to take to the Charka. The Charka to him was the symbol of love of the poor, service for all, truth and AHIMSA. If we sincerely turn back to the pages of our own book of life I doubt very much whether many of us will be able to say that we have tried, honestly tried to follow him. Most of us would have given lip sympathy and superficial observances to his teachings.

It is not an easy thing to follow his preachings. To say that one will adhere to the principle of truth and non-violence may be easy, but is very difficult to practise. My question is 'Have we really even attempted to practise these things?' If not, let us at least resolve at this hour of trial that we shall make an honest attempt to practise truth, non-violence and love and to do service in some form or other to those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Let us resolve that we shall make honest attempts at least from now.

How many of us have taken to spinning? We must have a sincere belief in it. Many of us have taken to Khadder more as pretensions and qualifications for



Mahatmaji with Poet Tagore

being candidates to various offices and organizations. In the Congress circles how many of us have contemptuously spoken about the Charka? Have not many of us said or felt that it was a waste of time or that we have no time to be spent on spinning? Can we imagine a more busy man in the whole world than Mahatmaji? Still did he omit to spin even on the day of his death? Let us now at least remember the great sacrifice he has made and try and make an honest attempt to follow him.

Gandhiji has spent his whole life for us and died for us and one among us has killed him. Perhaps it may be said that that is the fate of all prophets in this world. Was not Lord Krishna killed by the arrow by one of his own followers? What was the fate of Lord Jesus Christ and Socrates? This is only a consolation for us. Posterity will be justified in condemning us of having murdered our own beloved Father. How to redeem this charge? It will be only by realizing that though he has died, his spirit still prevails and guides us all and we should at least from now onwards take a solemn resolve that we will try to make an honest attempt (ABHYASA) to follow his ideals. This will be the greatest homage and respect that we can pay him and redeem ourselves.

The Bhagavath Gita teaches us that even impossible things could be achieved by constant practice. Can we not make constant attempts (ABHYASA) to realize things which Gandhi has shown us to be possible? Let Gandhiji's spirit guide us to do it.

THE CROWNING GLORY OF INDIA

By Mr. DANIEL THOMAS, Minister for Prohibition

The crown and glory of a country are its great men. In this respect, India has been a fortunate country. During the last three thousand years of recorded

history, India has possessed a shining gallery of great sages, great scholars and great kings and rulers. In the dim dawn of history, there emerges from the shadows, the figure of Buddha with his divine gentleness and compassion, conquering the greater part of Asia and exercising his magnetic spell over the entire human race. In his wake have followed a long line of great men, great in every field of human thought and activity. But the crowning glory of India has been destined for the men of this age. We have seen Mahatma Gandhi with our eyes, we have heard him with our ears, we have breathed the same air and we are treading the soil hallowed by his feet. That is the unique and inestimable privilege of the people of India and of the world in this era of Gandhiji. In the personality of Mahatma Gandhi, the summit of human greatness has been attained. In him has been combined traits and qualities which singly and separately would have made any man great. Great in his soul, great in the robustness and subtlety of his intellect, great in his indomitable courage, great in his utter self-sacrifice for the causes which he cherished, great in his friendships for men and women, great in his universal love for the people of India and for the people of all the countries of the world and great in his love and devotion to God. These qualities were so integrated in his personality that his life and character was utterly simple, radiating a glow of transcendent sincerity and humility—the sincerity and humility of a little child. There have been great men in this world who have played a vital part in the affairs of men and of nation. There have also been great men who retired from the world and achieved greatness in detachment and solitude as sages and saints. But Mahatma Gandhi was equally at home in both the worlds—the world of Time and the world of Eternity. By virtue of these qualities, he became the greatest creative spiritual force of the twentieth century.



The last journey of Mahatmaji

From the principle of Ahimsa, of conquering hatred by love, of overcoming oppression by suffering, enunciated by Christ in His sermon on the Mount two thousand years ago, Gandhiji forged his doctrine of Satyagraha with which he confronted and overcame the embattled forces of Imperialism in South Africa and in India. Gandhiji may be said to be the greatest Christian after Christ. We cannot say how many milleniums may pass before the like of him will appear on this earth.

But we have lost him before his time. We can no longer see him and hear his voice. But his living spirit is still with us and will guide and inspire us to attain that unity and brotherhood of the diverse communities of our country—the cause for which he has paid the last full measure of devotion—the sacrifice of his life at the altar of the motherland. In his life, he was a bond of brotherhood amongst us all, Hindu and Muslim and Christian. In his death, of us are united in a common bond of fellowship in suffering. May we so cherish our love and devotion to this great Servant of God and Lover of Mankind, that we may carry out his purposes and ideals and establish peace and amity throughout the length and breadth of our country and amidst the nations and peoples of the world!

APOSTLE OF AHIMSA

(SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM'S MESSAGE)

The death of Mahatma Gandhiji has shocked us all. It was least expected. He himself expected to live for 125 years. All thought that he would reach this target. But it has happened otherwise. If the circumstances of his death were normal, the news will not be so painful. The real pain is that his life had been lost at the hands of an assassin.

As far as the Mahatma is concerned, this does not make any difference. He was saying that he had kept his life ready to sacrifice at any time.

We have been put to shame by the rest of the world on account of this. His life was protected even in the foreign rule. Everybody knows that he was responsible for emancipating this country. Anyhow what has happened has happened. Now, what is our duty in future? We have to avert such calamities hereafter.

Hatred is the main cause for all these troubles. The most important thing that we have to do is to root it out.

Let us follow his path of Ahimsa.

WORLD POORER NOW

(SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI'S TRIBUTE.)

"There cannot be anything more shocking. Gandhiji was one who never thought of doing any harm to anybody and one who had love for everybody. The world is poorer for the loss of this great man", stated Mr. H. Sitarama Reddy, Industries Minister, to whom the news was conveyed while he was presiding over a public meeting.

A GREAT YOGI

(By SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI,
Minister for Local Administration.)

That Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest modern apostle of Truth and Ahimsa should be assassinated by the cruel hand of a fanatic is a sad news indeed. It is but proper and fitting that the whole Indian Nation, nay, the whole world, is paying its highest tribute and sincere homage to this pious saint, the very embodiment of Satyam and Ahimsa. His gentle mind conceived noblest ideas and ideals and unified them with his kindest heart. These ideas and ideals were first tested and practised in the laboratory of his life and then only were preached to India and broadcasted throughout the world so that peace may dawn upon the war-weary earth and men may lead gentle and contented lives.

No doubt, he paid heavily and penanced severely for the wrongs of the world. He staked his life at several critical and deadly moments and emerged with wonderful success, bringing relief and solace to the aggrieved and showering blessings upon the aggressor. Even his worst opponents were compelled to confess that his very sight or touch has made them accept and respect his sentiments and decisions.

His services to the oppressed and the poor are too numerable to be mentioned here. Suffice it to say that he has laboured day and night and bled profusely for the elevation of these people. He lived so that they may live the happy and contented lives.

His life is an eternal service to the poor and needy. He lived it without fear or favour. He faltered not even a single step from the path which he has carved out and chosen to follow. The world has become poorer by his irreparable loss.

India, the nation, that produced him and followed in his footsteps closely has become an orphan-plunged in deep sorrow and darkness. It is now left to her children not to be depressed or weakened. It is their inherent duty to follow the principles and responsibilities which this noble soul has entrusted and bequeathed to them. The highest tribute and homage which our Motherland should pay to this architect and reconquerer of our Independence, the carver of the future destiny and glory of her, is to follow his life closely and keenly to its logical conclusion and fructify the various programmes and politics laid so ably and clearly before us.

Nations rise or fall by the ideals set before them. Leaders representing these ideals preach and live and carry the people with them. In fine, they become responsible for the rise or fall of their respective nations.

From the time immemorial, India has been famous for its religion, philosophy and saints. The outside nations paid their highest tribute to India by calling her "The nation of philosophers". Mahatma Gandhi, with his purest Brahmacharya and serve "Tapas" has brought the highest philosophy to the material plane and blended religion and science successfully. He worked this process with such success that he

made it the common property of every person. Philosophy and politics have been inter-changed freely and interlinked effectively by this saint and presented before the war-ridden nations the clear path of freedom and peace so that they may dedicate their valuable lives to the service of poor humanity.

Mahatma is one of the greatest Karma Yogis that ever lived on the soil of India. He worked ceaselessly without caring for the fruits thereof. His 'Nishkamya Karma' (selfless work) should be the torch-bearer of the Indian Nation.

He lived so that India may live nobly and gloriously. He died so that India may follow him loyally and faithfully. It is for us to make his worthy cause a glorious success within a short time.

I am confident that Mother India with its rich traditions and glorious past will follow this pious saint and become prosperous and glorious. I am equally confident that this nation will broadcast peace and goodwill upon earth and take her legitimate and rightful place in the comity of nations.

May this Motherland of ours, the sacred land of Avatars and Rishis, live the life of Mahatma, the very incarnation of our Motherland:

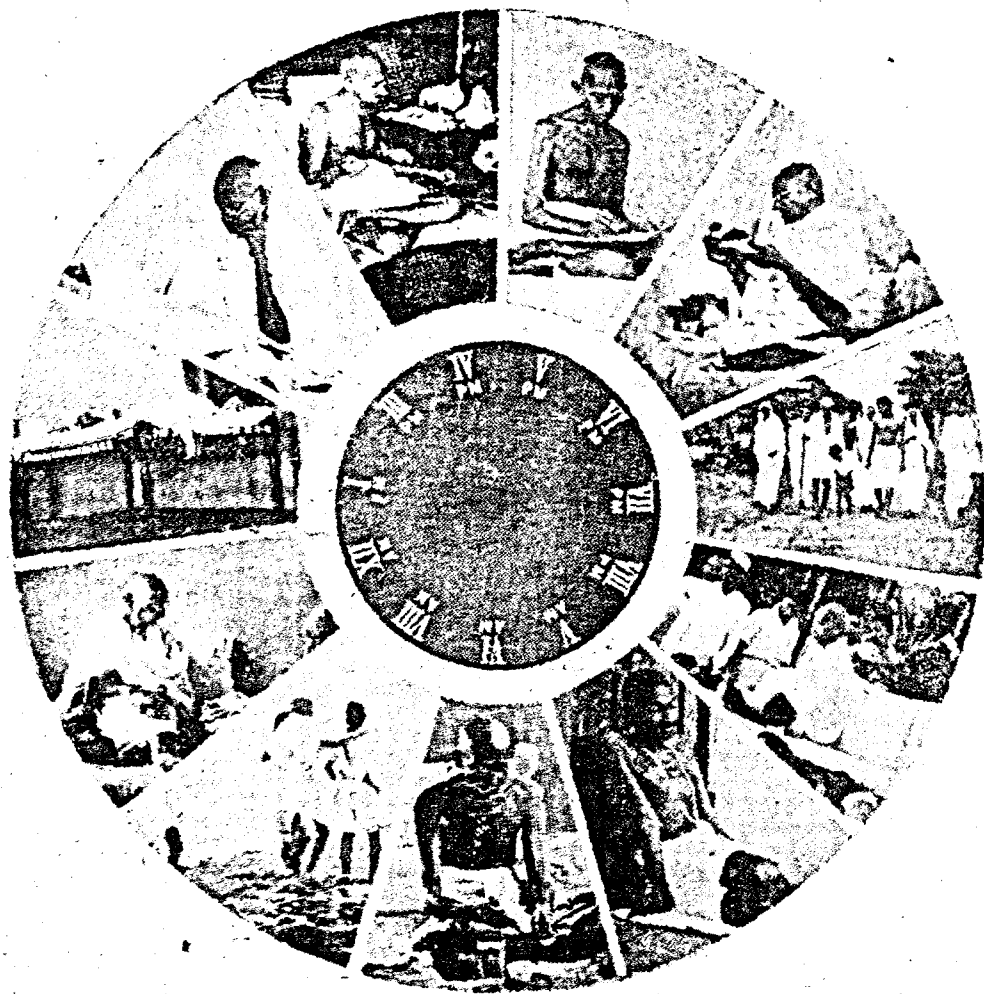
May the self of this apostle of truth and ahimsa, the harbinger of peace and goodwill on earth, rest in peace and calmness.

Om, Shanti, Shanti, Shanti.

HARIJANS' DEBT OF GRATITUDE

(By SRI V. KURMAYYA, Minister for Rural Development.)

Mahatma Gandhi had been the victim of a dastardly crime by a Hindu youth which constitutes a challenge to Hinduism as a whole. During the whole of his life-time Mahatma Gandhi preached non-violence, but it was God's will that he should meet with a violent death at the hands of an assassin. He dedicated his life for the Indian Nation as a whole, but I cannot forget the deep debt of gratitude that the Harijan Community owes to him. Various measures of legislation for Harijan up-lift that have been adopted in various provinces are the direct result of his interest in the cause of Harijans. I pay my homage to the noble soul.



Mahatma's time table

A PROPHET OF HUMANITY

(By C. V. H. RAO)

INDIA and the world mourn the death on 30th January 1948 of one of the greatest men of the present century, who fell a victim to the bullet of a mad man in one of the dastardly assassinations of all times. It is a tragedy too deep for words and too poignant to be considered with calmness. Thus, to quote the Mahatma's own words in one of the all too few of his recorded talks, we find that "in the midst of life we are in death; in the midst of light we are in darkness."

On the 30th evening at 6 p.m. when the radio was put on for news, instead of the familiar drone of the announcer, "This is the A.I.R. You will now hear the news," came the sombre voice on the air, "A.I.R. has to make an important announcement. We have to announce with the deepest regret the death of Mahatma Gandhi." I could not believe my ears and waited a minute for confirmation. The voice was again on the air repeating the tragic news, which made me realize that what I heard first was not something wrong or unbelievable but that it was the stark, the tragic, the irretrievable truth.

That the news came as a terrific shock to millions of persons throughout the country cannot be doubted and when the impact of its significance was realized the reaction was one of dazedness.

The poignancy of the tragedy was only accentuated by the fact that the death of Gandhiji came about in the extremely unexpected way it did—at the hands of an assassin, who deliberately fired at him at point blank range.

The light of the Mahatma's life has become extinguished; but his spirit shines even brighter than the light itself and should prove an unerring guide and lead humanity groping in the all pervasive darkness of hatred, spite, suspicion and violence to the land of hope, love, and non-violence.

May God Almighty, the inscrutableness of Whose actions becomes the greater the more one contemplates their implications and significance, give peace and Shanti to the Mahatma's Soul.

Eternal Truths

The Mahatma's voice now stilled once struck out unswerving and strong in support of some solid, eternal truths, which the world had always recognized as such. He stood for the ideals of truth, non-violence and love towards fellowmen,—ideals which in an age of mechanised civilization, competitive economy and atomic warfare had almost completely lost their values. We have so much misery, so much unhappiness, so much hatred, suspicion and jealousy, stalking the world to-day, and particularly in our own country, that we needed a strong and powerful voice to impress that these miseries and hatreds and suspicions are the result of man's moral degradation and his increasing incapacity to appreciate the significance and practise

the virtues of truth, ahimsa and goodwill towards fellowmen.

In the midst of the devastation, rapine and murder that followed in the two Dominions of India and Pakistan, after partition, the Mahatma's lone but powerful voice was raised in all solemnity in this manner. It cannot be denied that it was that voice that had contributed in a more potent manner and to a more potent degree than anything else to the gradual restoration of normal conditions of life that we are witnessing in recent weeks. The process is not yet complete. There is still an enormous amount of suspicion, hatred and ill-feeling on both sides and God alone knows whether or not the great sacrifice that the Mahatma had made with his own life would help in the completion of the process of reconciliation and re-emergence of good feeling.

Decentralised Economy

In the sudden and tragic death of the Mahatma the future of the other ideals for which he stood and preached during a lifetime of dedication and service also hangs in the balance. In times in which a competitive, centralised, capitalistic economy had been working havoc with men's lives and bringing about bitter economic conflicts and immeasurable misery to millions of human beings, the Mahatma stood for a decentralised village and rural economy, with its concentration on the worth of the human personality and the restoration of the dignity of human labour. Friend he may have been of capitalists or landlords; but his friendship for these never prevented him from a persistent and undeviating advocacy of the rights and of the cause of the common man, the peasant and the worker and from proclaiming that the future lay with these and that, in the words of the scriptures, the poor are the inheritors of the earth. Without subscribing to any of the conflicting 'isms' that now confuse men's minds and provoke ideological rivalries, the Mahatma preached the resurgence of the common man, through the promotion of Khadi, the development of village industries and the inculcation of the idea of "Gram Uddhar." No one in modern Indian history has made so notable a contribution as Gandhiji did to the ideal of village uplift and village reconstruction, and if the Congress Governments of the present day are devoting the special attention they are doing to village development, it is only in pursuance of the constructive programme he placed before Congressmen during the past three decades.

International Peace

To the cause of international peace, the Mahatma's contribution may not be direct but it is incalculable all the same. To a world torn with hatred and suspicion and national ambitions he commended the ideal of non-violence and ahimsa, which at its lowest meant the utilization of the method of peaceful

negotiations as a means of settling international disputes and at its highest involved a standing condemnation of the war psychosis, with its inevitable consequence of competitive destruction through weapons like the atom bomb of everything that humanity holds sacred—life, property, peace and goodwill. As has been rightly said, he symbolised in his life and teachings the ideals of the League of Nations and of the United Nations Organisation; he was a living embodiment of spiritual values in an atmosphere filled with strife and power politics. Probably he was a little ahead of the times in the matter; but the indubitable fact that the ideals for which he stood are receiving greater attention at the hands of enlightened world public opinion, particularly after India's attainment of freedom, inspires the hope that the gap that divides the world's aspirations for peace and their practical fulfilment will be narrowed down much quicker than it would have been otherwise possible. The cause of international goodwill and understanding has apparently suffered an enormous loss in his death; but the same sad event may prove to be the seed bed for the emergence of a mighty tree of lasting goodwill and peace.

Full and Glorious Life

The Mahatma had lived a full and glorious life and in his death had attained a much higher spiritual plane than when he was living. He had made a great contribution to our national greatnesses—the greatest that any single individual could make, and had seen the country attain independence, for which he strove with singlehearted devotion for more than a quarter of a century. He placed certain noble ideals and everlasting truths before us which it is our duty to cherish and live up to as a memento of his existence among us. The physical flame of the Mahatma's life may have evaporated; but the spiritual flame lit by him will live, as Pandit Nehru said, for a thousand years and more—nay, for ever. The generations yet unborn are bound to regard him as a prophet of humanity—one who will take rank with other prophets like Buddha, Christ, Mohammed and Guru Nanak. To us Indians, it is a matter of supreme gratification and pride that he was born an Indian and that his life work was laid amidst us and in the cause of our country and people.

GANDHIJI'S ASHES IN MADRAS

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY AT BANQUETING HALL

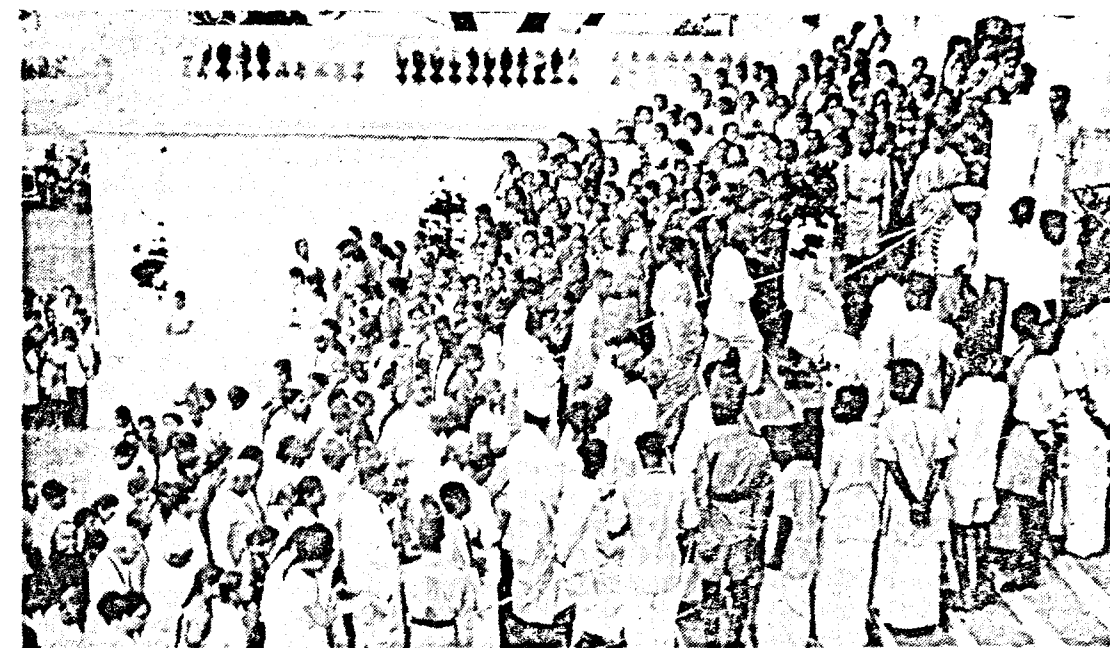
(By our own correspondent.)

Madras witnessed an impressive ceremony on the evening of February 5th when a portion of the ashes of Mahatma Gandhi brought to Madras by His Excellency Sir Archibald Nye from Delhi were installed

for public view in the Banqueting Hall on Mount Road. The ashes will be immersed on 12th February at four sacred places in the province in the sea or in the waters of the sacred rivers.



Mahatmaji's Ashes—
Photo taken at the
aerodrome



Procession to the
Banqueting Hall with
the Ashes

The Premier, Mr. O. P. Ramaswamy Reddiar, reached the main gate of Government House a little after 5 p.m. with the bowl of Ashes, which was handed over to him by the Governor at the aerodrome wrapped in a white khaddar cloth. By that time a large number of girl volunteers and prominent women and office-bearers of the Women's Indian Association and others had gathered at the place and arranged themselves in two rows on either side of the road at the entrance. The Chief Secretary and some other officials of the Government of Madras were present. When the car reached the gate, the Premier got down holding the vessel containing the Ashes reverentially in both his hands and was followed quickly by other Ministers and other prominent persons. It was a moving sight to see so many people paying silent homage to the last remains of the dead Martyr.

A procession was then formed with the lady volunteers, the ladies, the Ministers and officers of the Government of Madras, Members of the Legislature present on the occasion and members of the public and wended its way to the Banqueting Hall. The girl volunteers throughout the route of the procession imparted an air of solemnity to the occasion by singing Gandhiji's favourite song RAGHUPATI RAGHAVA RAJARAM and chanting RAM DHUN. The route was lined by mounted police, so that the procession automatically regulated itself while at the foot of the steps was a formation of the special police force with their rifles held down as a mark of respect.

On the steps of the Banqueting Hall a large crowd, consisting mostly of women, which had been waiting for a long time also joined the procession, which made its way inside the Hall. On the raised platform inside the Hall was the glass case specially intended for the purpose in which the bowl of Ashes was deposited by the Premier. Then followed a shower of garlands and flowers from those present, burning of incense and



Urn containing Mahatmaji's Ashes on view

reverential bowing by those present accompanied by the chanting of RAM DHUN. The gathering quietly dispersed after quarter of an hour into the quadrangle behind the Banqueting Hall, where a meeting was held.

For six days Banqueting Hall became a place of pilgrimage. A continuous stream of people visited the place between 6th and 11th to have a look

at the Ash bowl and to pay their respects to what constituted literally the last physical remains of what was once Mahatma Gandhi, before they were immersed in the holy waters of the sea and the different rivers in the Province. An air of extreme solemnity hung over the hall and the unending crowd of people visiting the hall provided an illustration of the great reverence in which the Father of the Nation was held by his countrymen.

WORLD'S TRIBUTE TO MAHATMAJI

"The Queen and I are deeply shocked by the news of the death of Mr. Gandhi. Will you please convey to the people of India our sincere sympathy in the irreparable loss which they, and indeed mankind, have suffered."

—KING'S MESSAGE TO INDIA.

"Living a life of extreme asceticism, he was revered as a divinely inspired Saint by millions of his fellow countrymen. His influence extended beyond the range of his co-religionists and, in a country deeply driven by communal dissension, he had an appeal for all Indians.

"For a quarter of a century this one man has been the major factor in every consideration of the Indian problem.

"He had become the expression of the aspirations of the Indian people for independence, but he was not just a nationalist.

"He believed in a method of passive resistance to those forces which he considered wrong.

"The sincerity and devotion with which he pursued his objectives are beyond all doubt.

"He had, besides, a hatred for injustice and strove earnestly on behalf of the poor, especially of the Depressed Classes in India.

"The hand of the murderer has struck him down and a voice which pleaded for peace and brotherhood has been silenced, but I am certain that his spirit will continue to animate his fellow countrymen and will plead for peace and concord."

—PRIME MINISTER ATTLEE.

A newspaper reporter telephoned Bernard Shaw and asked him "What do you think of Gandhi as a man?" I understand this question considerably annoyed Shaw who retorted, "What do you mean a man? Gandhi was not a man. He was a phenomenon."

Shaw told Reuter, "It shows how dangerous it is to be too good."

Mr. Shaw telephoned the message to Reuters from his home at a village St. Lawrence, about 50 miles from London.

NOT A MAN BUT A PHENOMENON.

—BERNARD SHAW.

"I am deeply grieved by the news of the assassination of Mohandas Gandhi, and I send you and the Government and people of India my sincere condolences.

"As a teacher and leader, his influence made itself felt not only in India but everywhere in the world and his death brings great sorrow to all peace-loving people.

"Another giant among men has fallen in the cause of brotherhood and peace.

"I know that the peoples of Asia will be inspired by his tragic death to strive with increased determination to achieve the goals of co-operation and mutual trust for which the Mahatma has now given his life."

—PRESIDENT TRUMAN.

F. M. Smuts, on behalf of the people of South Africa, cabled to Pandit Nehru his deep grief on learning of the "irreparable loss all India has suffered on the passing of Mr. Gandhi."

"May this tragedy at last purge the soul of India of all communal passion, and bring to her suffering peoples the peace for which Gandhi was prepared to give his life as he has finally given it."

The South African Premier added: "Gandhi was one of the great men of my time, and my acquaintance with him over a period of more than 30 years has only deepened my high respect for him however much we differed in our views and methods.

"A Prince among men has passed away, and we grieve with India in her irreparable loss."

—F. M. SMUTS.

"Spokesman for the conscience of all mankind."

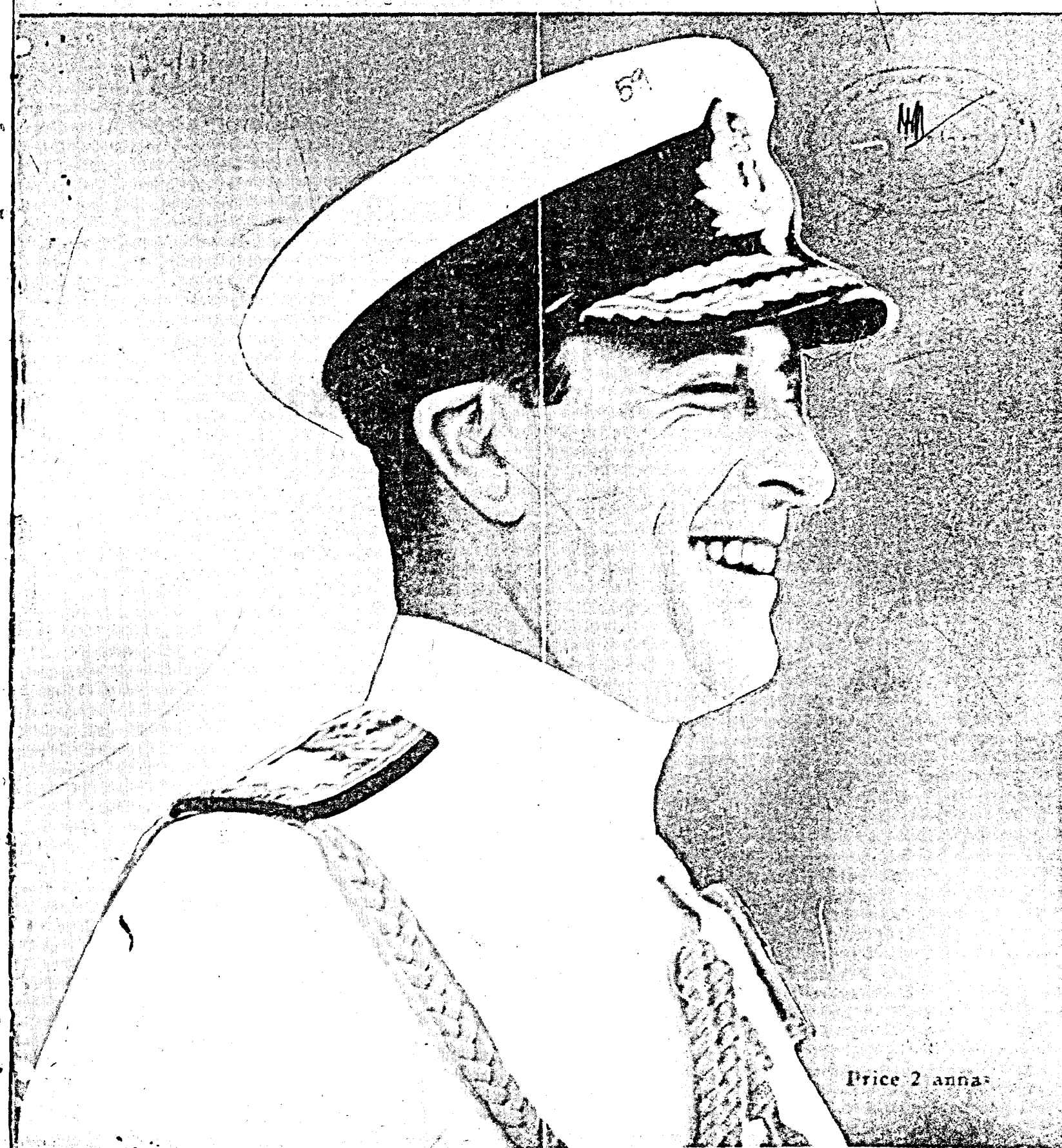
—MARSHALL.

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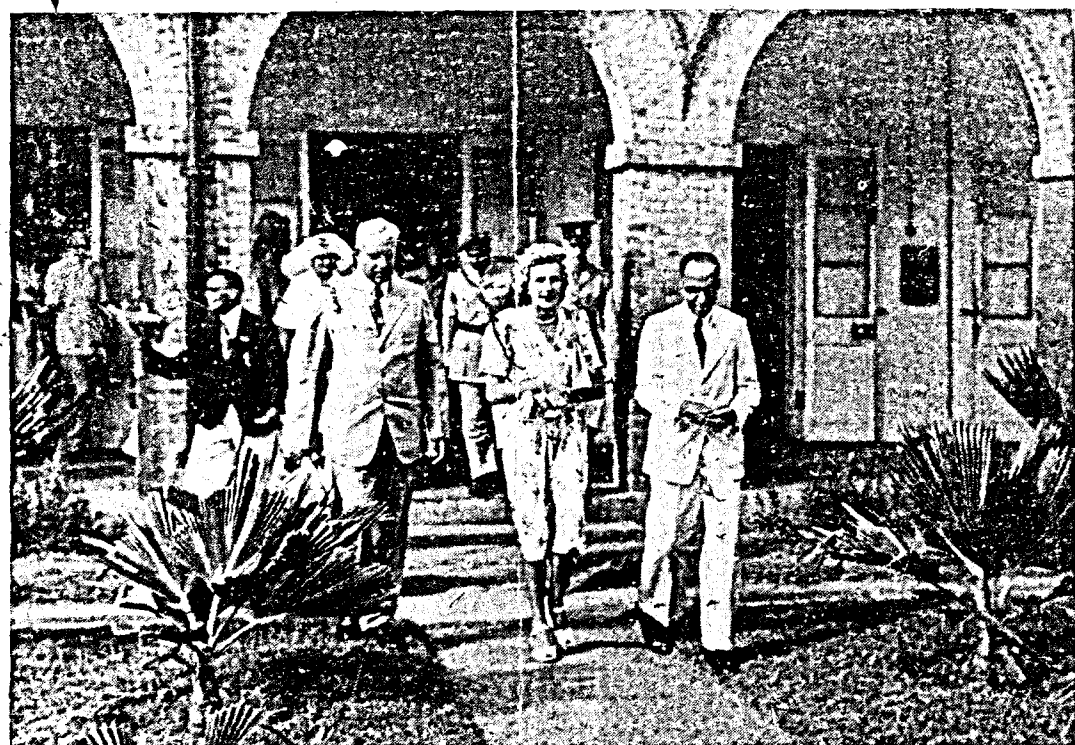
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The object of *Madras Information* is to give a brief record of the Madras Government's activities and to educate the public opinion on the Government's policies.

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.



Countess Mountbatten visited the Maternity Hospital at Egmore. The above picture shows Her Excellency with the Surgeon-General (left) and the Superintendent (right)

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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

February 15, 1948

Notes and Comments

Governor-General's Visit

During the last month, this Province was honoured with the visit of Their Excellencies Lord and Countess Mountbatten. The visit was particularly significant in that it was the first visit of their Excellencies to this Province after India attained independence. It was also significant in that His Excellency visited this Province not as the representative of a foreign power symbolic of India's political subjection but as the head of the National Government of Free India. This fact perhaps tended to heighten the enthusiasm and joy with which Their Excellencies were greeted all round in this Province. Their Excellencies had a crowded programme in the city. They visited among other things a number of social welfare institutions and looked beneath the surface in regard to their working. It is perhaps another proof of Their Excellencies' close interest in the welfare of the people of this country in all spheres of their activities. Replying to the Civic address presented by the Madras Corporation, His Excellency paid a tribute to the people of this Province for keeping clear of communal troubles. His Excellency observed :

"Here in the South you may well be proud that you have avoided communal troubles. You have set a magnificent example of the happy state of affairs which should and, I am confident, eventually will, result all over India. For, until we have this communal harmony we are hampered in our progress towards the truly great India of the future which we all wish to see and which, I know, generations to come will see."

It need hardly be pointed out how well deserved this encomium is. No little credit is due to the people of this

IN THIS ISSUE

Notes and Comments
At a glance—Press notes, Releases, etc.
New Delhi Diary
From all corners
Other Provinces—Glimpses
Policies and Programmes
Departments' Forum
Special articles
General Knowledge column
Gleanings from here and there
Prohibition News Letter

Province for the exceptionally good record of communal harmony which they have to their credit especially in the recent past. It is to be hoped that they will continue to maintain this good record in the difficult days ahead.

Speaking at the Scout Rally, His Excellency stressed the value of service to the community. The need for selfless service to the community is particularly great now. Till now the country was under foreign domination. In a Free India, it is important that every citizen should realize that he has got his duties and responsibilities towards his fellow countrymen which are more important than his individual rights. Service above self was Mahatma Gandhi's motto and his whole life was a monument to this ideal. Throughout his busy life he also preached against violence, hatred and bitterness and endlessly stressed the value of truth and justice. It is the duty of every Indian to take to heart these lessons and also make himself as useful to his fellow countrymen as possible. In this connection His Excellency's exhortation on the value of service needs careful noting.

It is encouraging that His Excellency has carried pleasant memories of his visit to this Province.

Adult Education

Everywhere now in India, we find there is an increasing realization of the necessity to make the masses literate in as short a time as possible. This is as it should be for an ignorant electorate is a spoke in the democratic wheel. In this connexion the appeal of the Bombay Premier is worth recalling. In the course of a recent broadcast he said that "if they did not train the masses for democratic citizenship, if they did not enable

them, through knowledge and understanding, to distinguish between truth and propaganda, between good and evil, between appeals to decency and incitement to fanaticism, they would in all probability become more tools in the hands of unscrupulous demagogues bent upon exploiting them for serving their own private ends.

"Freedom brings great and glorious opportunities in its wake, but it brings even greater responsibilities and, if

these are not discharged with wisdom and courage and humanity, they give rise to serious dangers and complications which may threaten the entire future of the country.

A population that is 85 per cent illiterate is not only a dead weight for the country, but is a menace to world progress. But Adult Education has now assumed a new and greater significance, because without it we cannot possibly retain our freedom in any serious sense of the word or reap its fruits for the people as a whole.

I am anxious to emphasize the social and civic aspects of Adult Education work. This is, by no means, to belittle the importance of literacy about which I have had many occasions to speak and in connection with which the Bombay City Adult Education Committee has done a great deal of work already and proposes to do much more during the next ten years. But we must realize that, while we are laying these foundations, we cannot afford to ignore the wider and by no means less urgent aspects of our work. Both for the illiterates and the now literates we must provide facilities to enable them to raise their standard of civic life and

to participate intelligently and effectively in the concern of common citizenship—improving local sanitation, health, amenities for children and women, recreational facilities for labour and other adult workers, etc. And not only at this level but at a higher level too, it is equally important to provide other appropriate forms of Adult Education activities.

It would be dangerous to assume that, because a man has passed

through the primary or secondary school or has even attended College, he may be regarded as an intelligent citizen, who will willingly co-operate in all worthwhile social causes. Actual experience belies this complacent assumption. Workers in this field will have to plan their campaigns on a broad basis, so as to emphasize the moral aspect of their activity which will cover all the different categories of persons.

Agricultural Propaganda

The Madras Government have sanctioned the appointment of two additional Deputy Directors of Agriculture one for research and the other for propaganda. Of these two, one is to be in charge of agricultural research and the other is to publicise the results obtained from researches. Indian agriculturist, as everybody knows, is very conservative and it is no easy job to make him take to new ways and methods. His psychological make-up tends to make him impervious to all ideas of change or experiment, and it is common ground among economists

that this fact more than anything else has been responsible in the past for the backwardness of agriculture in this country. It is here exactly that the need for active agricultural propaganda comes in. Unless by systematic propaganda the agriculturist is convinced of the superiority of new methods or processes, no tangible improvement can be expected on the economic side of his occupation. It is thus clear, how a Propaganda Officer is a desideratum. But much depends on the way in which agriculturists respond.

At a glance—Press Notes, Releases, etc.

Ban removed

With a view to conserve all available foodstuffs for consumption within the Province orders were issued in April 1946 banning the movement from Madras Province to places in India outside the Province of dried or cured fish and prawns except under permits, and these orders are still in force. In consonance with the present policy of decontrol of foodstuffs and other articles as far as practicable, the Government have decided to remove this ban with effect from 27th January 1948. [January 26]

Possession of foreign liquors

The attention of the Government has been drawn to an item of news published in the "Andhra Patrika," dated 9th January 1948, under the heading "Liquor permits to Government servants." The Government feel that the information given there is likely to be misunderstood. The Government are definitely of the view that no officer who is in any way

connected with prohibition and who might previously have been in the habit of taking liquor should apply for a permit for possessing liquor or continue the practice of imbibing liquor. So far as other Government officials in the prohibition districts are concerned, they are in the same position as any other non-officials who might have acquired the habit of taking liquor. With reference to such classes of persons, Government have laid down rules and regulations restricting the grant of permits to persons who are above a prescribed age and who are suffering from some disease for which it is considered that the continuance of liquor is necessary. This should be certified by a Government Medical Officer not below the rank of an Assistant Surgeon. Normally, such licences are granted by the Revenue Board; but the Government thought that in the case of Government servants, it was desirable that such permits should not be given by the Revenue Board as a matter of routine without the knowledge of the Government, and, therefore, directions have

been given that applications of all Government servants in the dry areas for liquor permits should be forwarded by the Board to the Secretary of the Department so that he might take specific orders on each application from the Minister. The object and purpose of issuing these directions is to restrict and to discourage applications for permits from Government servants in dry areas and not to favour them with special facilities. [January 26]

Flags over schools and colleges

The Government have directed that no flags of any political party should be flown in any of the educational institutions—Government, local board or aided, and that the Indian Dominion flag alone must be flown prominently on all ceremonial occasions. Educational institutions are, however, open to have their own individual flags, which may be used along with the Indian Dominion flag on ceremonial occasions. [January 28]

Preservation of Pre-historic Megalithic sites

The Government have approved the measures suggested by the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey of India, Southern Circle, for the protection and preservation of the megalithic sites, stone-rings and pre-historic monuments in the Province from the ravages of stone quarries.

The Government have also agreed with the Board of Revenue that the village headmen and karnams should inspect the sites and submit a report at least once a quarter to the Tahsildars through the Firka Revenue Inspectors. The Revenue Inspectors should inspect such sites and submit a report once a half year to the Deputy Tahsildars or Tahsildars who, in turn, should inspect the sites at least once a year sufficiently in advance of the jamabandi. The inspection of these sites and monuments should be added as one of the questions to be answered at the time of jamabandi. [January 28]

Rewards

The Collectors have been directed that offences relating to the sites and monuments should be investigated promptly by them. The Government have also accepted the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that in order to make the village officers take more interest in the preservation of the archaeological sites, one quarter of the compounding fees may be paid as reward to village officers, who detect illicit quarrying on the sites or damage to them. [January 28]

Refugees' Camp

Up to the week ending January 21, 1948, 1,173 refugees have been accommodated in the three camps provided by the Government.

The Corporation of Madras is distributing milk to the children in the Kilpauk and Saidapet Camps from January 22, 1948.

Recreation.—There was an educational cinema show on the 22nd January, organized by the Madras Educational Cinematograph Institute. The Red Cross Society is organizing games for the children of the Lutteral Gardens Camp on some days in the afternoon. [January 29]

Water-supply and Drainage Committee Report

On 12th January 1948, the Government released through the Press an invitation to the members of the general public to offer, before 31st January 1948, any suggestions they may wish to make on the report of the Water-Supply and Drainage Committee recently constituted to look into this question. The Government now consider that the time given for the offer of suggestions is too short and they have, therefore, decided to extend it till 29th February 1948. Copies of the report are available for sale at the Government Press, Madras, at 12 annas per copy. [February 2]

Administration of Factories Act and Allied Acts during 1946

A few salient features.—The working of the Factories Act in this Province for the year 1946 shows that there were 3,554 factories at the end of the year 1946, as against 3,217 at the end of 1945. The average number of workers employed daily in 2,868 factories, which submitted returns in time, was 262,292, as against 279,176 in 1945. The apparent decrease in the number of workers in 1946, is due to the non-receipt of returns from 581 factories, against which the Chief Inspector of Factories had been directed to take action.

Workers' Welfare.—The health of the workers was generally good. Factory premises and surroundings were kept fairly clean. Housing accommodation and other facilities were provided by the factories for the workers. Bonus ranging from 15 days to four months' wages was paid to the workers by 25 factories. Canteens either at "no profit" or "at loss" basis were run by the managements for the benefit of the workers.

Wages.—There has been a general increase in the average earnings of workers of all classes. This increase, however, was not uniform either for the class of industry or for the locality.

Strikes.—There has been a large increase in the number of strikes during the year. There were 152 strikes during 1946, as against 45 and 31 in 1945 and 1944, respectively. Of these, 37 were either successful or partially successful from the point of view of

the workers. Most of the strikes were of short duration. The officers of the Labour department brought about settlement in 45 cases. The total number of man-days lost by the workers due to the strikes was about 430,000.

The Madras Maternity Benefit Act.—The average number of women employed daily in 1,893 factories from which returns were received was 50,059, as against 49,110 in the previous year. The total amount of benefits paid to the women was Rs. 84,211, as against Rs. 47,836 in 1945.

Employment of Children Act.—The number of establishments covered by the Children's Act that submitted the notice under section 3-B was 120. In certain establishments, where children below 12 years were found employed, the employers were warned by the Inspecting Officers. [February 3]

Political Sufferers

In a press note, dated 23rd December 1947, the Government stated that they had issued orders for the grant of land to political sufferers and that applications for land should be made to the Collector of the district concerned. The Government desire to make it known to all concerned that political sufferers can apply only for those isolated plots of agricultural land at the disposal of Government in any district which are outside the actual limits of towns and municipalities including the Corporation of Madras. [February 3]

Advisory Councils in Prohibition districts

The Government have approved the proposal of the Board of Revenue that District Advisory Councils should be constituted in the old prohibition districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, Cuddapah and Chittoor also, and that such councils should be constituted in the new prohibition districts of South Kanara, Malabar, the Nilgiris, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madurai, Guntur and Nellore, as soon as Village and Taluk Prohibition Committees have been constituted in those districts. [February 4]

New Delhi Diary

Assistance to Refugee Students

A scheme for the grant of financial assistance to refugee non-Muslim students and trainees from Western Pakistan who have arrived in any Province or State within the Indian Union has been prepared by the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation.

The Government of India consider the problem of education and training of the younger generation urgent and are anxious that refugee students and trainees wishing to pursue their studies or training should not be prevented from doing so for lack of funds.

Accordingly, the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation in a circular letter have asked all Provincial Governments and Chief Commissioners to take steps to introduce immediately this scheme within their jurisdictions. The States are also being similarly addressed. Provincial and State Governments have been advised to give wide publicity to the scheme amongst refugee population and invite applications, and to communicate it to the heads of all recognized colleges and institutions.

Three-year programme of literacy drive

The Central Advisory Board of Education has adopted the interim report of the Adult Education Committee, recommending the launching of a three-year programme of literacy and general education. The report recommends that both literacy and general education should proceed simultaneously. Efforts should be made to raise the percentage of the literacy to 50 at least. Among the various items of recommendations are the setting up of special agencies under the Department of Education which would be responsible for the organization of adult education, selection of part-time workers from among village school teachers, postmasters and other civil servants, recruitment from among the students, school and college staff, Government employees and other district officials. It also recommends that all owners of mills and factories should make provision for the education of their workers and their families and the Government should make it compulsory for all their employees

to attain literacy within three years. Adult education should also be made compulsory for all prisoners in jails.

As regards provision of funds for this purpose, the report recommends that Provincial Governments and the Central Government should both provide funds at the minimum rate of one anna per person to be educated. As the means of imparting adult education the report suggests that use should be made of modern media of mass communication as, for example, radio, films, open air theatres, etc. Material for these media, says the report, should be prepared by the Central Government in consultation and co-operation with the Provincial Governments. The report suggests the setting up of a special department for the preparation of the necessary material expeditiously.

The report further recommends the setting up of special agencies under Departments of Education which will be responsible for the organization of adult education and says that the general policy and programme should be decided in consultation with the Advisory Bodies consisting mainly of non-officials. It adds that in the programme of adult education due emphasis should be given to further education of literates through clubs, discussion groups, People's Colleges, summer schools and other similar agencies.

Another resolution adopted by the Central Advisory Board of Education recommends the appointment of a commission to investigate the state of secondary education in India and to report its aims and scope in the light of present conditions and future requirements. The commission will also consider the question of modification in the course of training of teachers for secondary schools.

The Board also adopted a resolution reiterating its resolution passed last year which urges the establishment of an All-India Council of Social Services. The resolution further says that in making appointments to public services, some consideration should be shown to those who have social service to their credit.

There was a lengthy debate as to what should be the medium of instruction and examination in Indian Universities.

The Board finally recommended that the *status quo* may be maintained for five years and a committee be nominated by the Chairman. The Committee will be asked to report on what should be the medium of instruction and examination in higher education; the place of the official Indian and regional languages in higher education; the place of English in the curriculum and machinery required and means to implement the change-over to the official Indian language or the regional language. The Board also passed a resolution urging the adoption of a uniform scientific terminology in India and the retention of international terms in use at present.

"Economic Parliament of Asia"

The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East ('ECAFE' for short) was established by the Economic and Social Council in March 1947 for the purpose of promoting reconstruction and development, for raising the level of economic activity, and for strengthening the economic relations of the countries included in its scope both between themselves and between them and the rest of the world.

It held its first meeting at Shanghai in June 1947 and the second session was convened at the summer capital of the Philippine Republic, on the 24th November and lasted two full weeks. At this session, which was opened by President Manuel Roxas of the Philippine Republic who in a stirring speech pleaded for more active assistance on the part of United States of America and the United Nations to Asian countries in their task of reconstruction, many important decisions were taken and resolutions passed of vital interest to Asian economy.

The commission recognized that an increase in the standard of living of the people of this region cannot be brought about except through rapid industrialization and more balanced economy and hence had adopted a bold and far-reaching resolution on Industrial Development. It has directed the Secretariat to prepare before the next session a report on industrial development with the assistance of a Working Party of four experts to be selected from among a panel of names to be nominated by the Government of the region. This Working Party has been advised to study the plans of countries in their relation to economic progress as a whole, to examine their

technical and financial needs, to confer through the Executive Secretary with Governments and specialised agencies like the International Bank which are in a position to render assistance, to co-ordinate these plans wherever necessary and feasible and present their concrete proposals for implementation.

The countries of Asia owing to their past political relations had not made full use of the opportunities for closer trade relations among themselves. It is the Commission's desire to facilitate the operation of normal economic and geographical factors, and towards that end has recommended the setting up of a working section under the Secretariat actively to promote trade relations in this region.

Of more than ordinary interest and significance to economic development is a resolution adopted at the session for the setting up of a working section for the promotion of exchanges of trainees among the countries of the region and for assistance in the matter of securing expert personnel both from abroad and from within the region. Already several countries, including India, have agreed to the principle of regional co-operation in this field by placing available training facilities open to the nationals of other countries in the region. It is hoped also that some countries will pool their requirements for experts and arrange to get them on a sharing basis. Considerable results are expected out of action in this field and it is probable that trainees under this scheme will start their education in July.

The function of the Commission, besides its own direct work, is to stimulate action on the part of the Governments in the region, Governments of other countries and the specialized agencies. By focussing attention on the economic problems of Asia, and on continuous action, the Commission will undoubtedly become a major factor in the reconstruction and development of Asian countries.

The territories within its scope are Pakistan, India, Burma, Ceylon, Siam, Indo-China, Singapore, the Malaya Union, Hong Kong, Indonesia, China and the Philippine Republic. Members of the Commission are the five countries in Asia which are members of the United Nations—India, China, Philippines, Siam and Pakistan—(since September 1947), and also the following Non-Asian countries—Australia, U.K., France, Netherlands, U.S.S.R. and U.S.A.

From all corners

Cottage Industries in West Bengal

All-out efforts to reorganize cottage industries side by side with mechanized industry will shortly be launched by the Government of West Bengal, it is learnt. The Government has decided to introduce co-operative cottage industries under Government control.

Education of the people in the technical and business sides of the industries and the establishment of an organization to advise people on the needs of consumers are also contemplated. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 7,00,000.

Machine tools Industry in Bihar

The Provincial Development Board at its meeting here under the chairmanship of Dr. Syud Mahmud, Development Minister, decided that the following State-owned industries should be established in the Province under its five-year plan; Lac, mica, super-phosphate, urea, formalin, iron and steel, aluminium and machine tools.

The Board decided that the State-owned industries will be managed by an autonomous board for each class of industry and a co-ordinating board with the chairmen of the boards of each industry as members and a chairman to be appointed by the Government. One labour representative will be associated with each board.

The spun silk and leather industries will be run as joint enterprise of the State and the public. The rest of the industries will be private-owned and managed.

Prohibition in East Punjab

Mr. Prithvi Singh Azad, Excise Minister, East Punjab, said that the Government would shortly prohibit students from drinking liquor. Any student found drinking would be rusticated. Prohibition, he added, would eventually be introduced in all districts of the East Punjab, but to begin with, it would be introduced either at Rohtak or Gurgaon.

Government to instal 500 Radio sets in 19 districts

The publicity campaign of the U.P. Government is shortly to be intensified and preparations are being made to instal over 500 radio sets in 19 districts to publicise the activities of the Government.

The Government also propose to spend a few lakhs of rupees on publicity posters and hoardings—magnified posters done in colours on large boards. It is proposed to produce one poster every month with a view to educating the people on subjects like health, education, law and order, co-operation and industrialization.

About 1,000 wooden boards are being fixed in the rural areas for the display of posters.

U.P. Government's Industrial Expansion Scheme

The U.P. Government, it is learnt, is re-organizing its Industries Department in order to cope with the task of industrializing the Province. The department, said an official, would be divided into five different branches to deal separately with heavy industries, cottage industries, geological and mineral resources survey, technical survey and technical training which will all be controlled at secretariat level.

Heavy industries will be directly under the Industries Secretary and cottage industries will be managed by sectional development officers. Regarding geological and mineral survey the U.P. Government will create its own machinery to supplement the work of the Indian Government's staff who will visit the Province only on special occasions.

The Government will set up grading centres to standardize marketing of industrial produce. The technical training branch of the department will undertake the expansion and reorganization of the Harcourt Butler Technological Institute under a foreign expert and will also set up new technical training centres.

Backward Area Welfare in C.P.

The humanity point of view was the only view which they had before

them in undertaking the backward areas welfare scheme in the Province, remarked Dr. W. S. Barlinge, Minister-in-charge of the backward tribes portfolio, C.P. and Berar, while addressing a Press conference.

With the coming in of Chhatisgarh States, the problem had attained greater importance.

Mr. A. V. Thakkar, whose help was requisitioned, toured the backward areas along with Mr. M. K. Kher, Secretary, Development Department, and Mr. P. G. Vanikar, Secretary of the Gound Sevak Sangh, and submitted a five-year scheme which was decided to be implemented by the Government.

The backward areas were divided into 10 zones with 10 organizers to facilitate organization and uplift. Through the agency of multi-purpose co-operative societies each society was loaned Rs. 500 to the Government free of interest.

Co-operation in Bihar

At a meeting of the Co-operative Sub-Committee of the Bihar Provincial Congress Committee it was decided to engage 25 workers to receive training under the guidance of the Co-operative Federation to enable them to be employed by the Government later on to work in co-operative societies. The Provincial Government was requested to lend the service of an expert to coach up the Congress workers who will be trained in the Sadakat Ashram for six months from February next.

The Committee decided to work for the growth and development of multi-purpose co-operative societies and to lend a jeep to the Hajipur society which is meant for the development of agriculture and Khadi.

The Committee recommended to the Government to grant licences to co-operative societies for the sale of salt, iron, cement, coal, etc., among the public. S. J. Dipnaren Singh, S. J. Sarju Prasad and S. J. Ramdeo Thakur were authorized to contact the Government in this connexion.

Five year Plan for N.W.F.P.

The Frontier Premier, Khan Abdul Qaiyum Khan, addressing a Press conference briefly outlined an industrial expansion programme aimed at making the N.W.F.P. a self-supporting unit independent of any financial subsidy from the Centre.

He said that a five-year plan providing for setting up sugar, leather, woollen, textile, fruit canning, drugs, matches and tobacco factories was under contemplation. Their establishment would, however, largely depend upon the speed with which the requisite machinery could be imported from abroad.

20,000 Primary Schools in U.P.

United Press of India understands that in pursuance of its policy to open 20,000 primary schools in the Province within ten years the U.P. Government propose to start 4,440 primary schools from July 1, 1948. Two thousand three hundred and forty schools were opened in 1947-48 and the decision to open 4,440 schools has been motivated by the desire to shorten the target period for ten years.

It is understood a provision of Rs. 11,00,000 for school buildings is being provided in the coming budget proposals.

Bihar Development Board

The three-day session of the Bihar Development Board opened in the Bihar Secretariat under the chairmanship of Dr. Syed Mahmud, Minister of Development. This Board replaces the Post-War Development Board which the previous regime had set up and was recently constituted. The function of the Board will be advisory.

More Agricultural Production in U.P.

The U.P. Government's three-pronged development drive for stepping up the agricultural production by compost manufacture, tree-plantation and deepening of existing tanks was explained by Pandit Keshav Deo Malaviya, Minister for Development and Industries, at a Press conference recently.

Gram-Panchayat Raj

The Government of Orissa have published a Bill called Orissa Gram-Panchayat Bill which aims at the reorganization and establishment of local self-governing institutions in rural areas, with a view to elicit public opinion. The Bill aims at complete reorganization and gives scope to

every adult of the village to take his or her legitimate place in the administration of the village. Every village will have a 'Gramaseva' or legislature constituted of the entire adult population of the village. From the 'Gramaseva' an executive body called 'The Grama Panchayat' will be elected and out of the panchayat will be elected 'Grama Adalat' the village judicial body consisting of three members which will deal with criminal and civil cases and exercise exclusive jurisdiction in regard thereto.

Bihar's Road Development Programme

The Government of Bihar have evolved a 15-year scheme for road development in the Province divided into three periods of five years each. The whole scheme is estimated to cost about Rs. 90 crores. The new plan for roads proposes to put all important industrial centres and markets on at least a major district road and to connect them with nearest railway station, and to connect all subdivisional headquarters with the district headquarters by a major district road. It is also planned to extend road traffic into the heart of the rural areas, so as to make them accessible from outside in all the seasons and so that every village may be brought within a distance of two miles from such roads. Detailed schemes for all roads included in the five-year programme have already been prepared.

Credit Facilities in Sind

The Sind Government have undertaken a scheme providing credit facilities for agriculturists throughout the province as part of their programme to relieve the agriculturists from indebtedness. It is explained in a Press note that in the past zamindars and cultivators relied mostly on Hindu money-lenders and merchants for cash advances and as this practice was now upset because of the changes which had taken place after partition, it was essential for the Government to provide cheap credit and accelerate their drive to relieve agriculturists of indebtedness.

Promotion of Khadi in West Bengal

The Government of West Bengal have constituted a Khadi Board for the promotion of the Khadi industry in the

Province. The Board will be autonomous one deriving its funds from the Government and other sources and will organize its own centres and also assist other Khadi organizations in the Province.

Mobile Training Squad in U.P.

The Mobile Training Squad Scheme has made considerable headway by now. It has for its object, as has been previously explained, the imparting of the elements of training to the teachers of the newly opened primary schools and the raising of the cultural level of the village society besides adding to the fund of general knowledge of the average man in the village. The necessary equipments could not be adequately supplied and one squad

has, at present, to look after two districts. Still, the squads have done good work.

Fruit Cultivation in Bombay

A scheme for the extension and organization of fruit cultivation in suitable tracts of the Province, at an estimated cost of Rs. 6,43,625, spread over a period of five years has been sanctioned by the Government of Bombay, with immediate effect. As a result, central fruit nurseries will be established in several districts.

Control of Building Construction in Bombay

An Ordinance for the control of erection and re-erection of buildings

in the Bombay Province has been issued by the Government of Bombay with a view to conserving materials for small tenement housing. The obligation to obtain a permit is confined to structures involving the use of essential building materials. All permits for the continuation of works in progress must be obtained before 31st January 1948. Contravention of the Ordinance is punishable with imprisonment extending to three months or with fine which may extend to Rs. 1,000 or with both.

The Ordinance applies to Bombay, Bombay Suburban District and Ahmedabad and certain other adjoining areas for the present.

Other Provinces—Glimpses

Literacy week in Bombay

Inaugurating the Literacy week, His Excellency the Governor said, "the literate, man or woman, has incentives not open in the same measure or to the same extent to the illiterate. One is the desire for knowledge, while another is the wish to raise his or her standard of living.

"It is comparatively easy to make a child literate. It is not by any means easy to get an adult to read and write. Often, he or she has not the time. The number of instructors is insufficient, and sometimes, to confess the truth, there is but little inclination on the part of the person concerned to learn.

"The eighth annual report of the Committee shows that during the last eight years over a lakh and twenty thousand adults have been made literate at a relatively small cost, and of this number, it is pleasing to note that not less than 23,000 were women."

U.P. Village Self-Government

The U.P. Government in pursuance of their plan to set up 50,000 village republics (*gaon panchayats*) in the Province, have issued instructions to all district magistrates to demarcate territorial jurisdictions of these *panchayats*.

These *panchayats* will have powers to levy taxes and pass sentences on petty offences committed in villages and will be responsible for maintaining law and order in the country side.

Each village with a population of 1,000 or over will have one *panchayat*. District officials have been directed to hold a census of villages in this connexion. Mr. A. G. Kher, Minister for Local Self-Government, U.P., declared that the Government would, in the near future, entrust the district boards with more powers and would bring them on par with the British county councils which have sufficient administration districts to justify the creation of *panchayats* in the villages.

The Minister said: "It has been our sad experience that district boards maintain very little contact with the villages and their people who are the real backbone of India. No democratic Government can tolerate such a state of affairs. With a view to creating a direct link between democracy and the villages, it has been decided to establish village *panchayats*."

Replying to the critics, who contend that with the formation of village *panchayats* and taking over certain functions including hospitals and roads by the Government and leaving the smaller functions to village *panchayats* the district board would

become an absolutely lifeless institution, Mr. Kher said that after the transfer of these functions, the district board will have authority to supervise the working of the *panchayat* notified and town areas. This function was more important than the management of roads and hospitals.

The Minister said that the Government, however, would invest the district boards with more powers and in the near future would enact an amendment to the District Board Act investing district boards with these powers which the county councils in Britain enjoyed. Another function of the district board would be to establish co-ordination between the primary units of Local Self-Government since in the new set-up the chairman of the district board, who must, be a man of great integrity and honesty, would play an important role. The Government was also bringing another amendment which would entrust the members of the district boards with the work of formation of village *panchayats* in their respective areas.

Mr. Kher also revealed that the Government had prepared short and long term plans to develop Bundelkhand which will electrify every village within five years and greatly improve the agriculture and communications in that area.

Military Training in Bihar College

The Government of Bihar is considering a scheme for the compulsory military training of students of the University of Patna. The scheme was drawn up by the Vice-Chancellor of the University. Every student at the University, according to the scheme, is liable to be called for training unless he is declared medically unfit.

A whole-time military officer, it is understood, will be the officer commanding of the corps.

Thirteen colleges in the Province—at Patna, Arrah, Gaya, Ranchi, Bahagpur, Monghyr, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Motihari—will each have from two to three companies according to the number on their rolls.

For the first and third year students, training will be compulsory. The second and fourth year students will be given intensive training, including one month's camping. Military science, both theoretical and practical, will be a subject for the Intermediate and Degree examinations.

The cost of the training will, it is understood, be met by the Ministry of Defence at the Centre and the Provincial Government.

The estimated cost per company of 150-170 cadets is about Rs. 2,500, while the instructional courses are estimated to cost Rs. 22,500 per 75 trainees. The annual budget for camping is estimated at about Rs. 7,50,000 for 15,000 cadets over a period of 15 days annually.

The scheme, it is understood, will be brought into effect immediately the Ministry of Defence has approved of the necessary strength and locations of the various companies in the different colleges.

Agricultural Economic Conference

Addressing the Agricultural Economic Conference recently Mr. V. L. Mehta emphasized the need for raising the standard of living of the people enabling them to obtain the wherewithal to feed, clothe and house themselves adequately, decently and comfortably. "The foremost task before the country today," he said, "was to increase the production—agricultural and industrial—to counteract the evil effects of inflation and to rid the country of shortages of all types

which appeared to have become a chronic feature of their economic life. The primary concern with them at the present moment should be not to secure the maximum return for the minimum effort but to distribute the limited and unexpanding resources among the largest possible number of human beings. Only that which was best in the interest of the land, and those serving it, was in the best interests of the nation."

Co-operative Farming for West Bengal

Compensation to zamindars and landholders of West Bengal when the century-old zamindari system came to an end would cost the Provincial Government Rs. 36 crores, according to an official source.

The West Bengal Government had decided to pay compensation in cash to petty landholders whose incomes ranged between Rs. 500 and Rs. 3,000 per annum. Big zamindars and landholders would be paid in instalments either in cash or in kind. The compensation given would be four to eight times the present annual income.

The official added that it was expected that the Zamindari Abolition Bill would be presented to the Provincial Assembly in March. The work of ending the zamindari system would begin about the end of next year or early in 1950 and would take the Government about five years to complete.

After the abolition of the zamindari system in the Province, the land would be taken over by the Government and, for the first time in its history, co-operative farming under Government control would be introduced. The Government would supply the farmers with tractors, seeds and manure, and agricultural experts would instruct them in modern farming methods.

Dairy farming in U.P.

Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, Premier, presiding over the opening ceremony of the Bhadrak Dairy Farm recently announced the decision of the Government to open dairy centres in all important towns of the Province.

The Premier said that milk had an important place in the Indian diet. It was a perfect food and could be utilized by all people irrespective of age and sex. Dairying had been neglected

in this country with serious repercussions on milk supplies and the health of the people. The breed of cattle had deteriorated and it was difficult to get pure milk in urban areas. The Government with the object of improving the health standard of the people and the cattle wealth of the Province had decided to encourage dairy farms in the Province.

If people with small capital and less resources could be successful there was no reason why the Government with the services of experts at its command and its vast resources should not make the industry a grand success, he said.

The Premier said that India was an agricultural country and the main industry of the Province was agriculture. The main source of purchasing power of the people in the Province was through agriculture. Industrial labour was not even one per cent of the total population of the Province. If the sources were properly utilized the agricultural production could easily be increased by one and a half times. By compost making alone the production could be increased by 15 per cent. Mixed farming, rotation of crops, irrigation in Bundelkhand and large-scale farming in Ganga kahadar could step up the production to a great extent.

The scientific knowledge and energy available to the Government for this purpose would be harnessed for the great task. The Government was determined to make these improvement schemes a success and in case it did not then it had no business to remain in the office.

Pandit Pant announced that seven members of the dairy farm who had worked satisfactorily would be given one increment in their salaries.

Basic Education in West Bengal

The Premier of West Bengal, Dr. P. C. Ghosh, stated recently that the Government had decided to reorientate the primary education system of the Province on the lines of the basic education scheme.

Addressing the West Bengal Primary School Teachers' Conference at Serampore, Dr. Ghosh said that Government would train 22,000 school teachers, who would be charged with the task of imparting basic education to boys and girls. A sum of Rs. 2,00,00,000 would be spent annually on primary education, out of which Rs. 1,00,00,000

would be available from the education cess and nearly Rs. 20,00,000 from public donations. The training of the teachers would be completed within the next six years. Midnapore and 24 Parganas would have two training centres each, while the remaining districts of West Bengal would have one centre each.

Aboriginal Welfare Work in Bihar

The Government of Bihar have prepared a 2-year scheme for the uplift of aboriginals in the five districts of Chotanagpur and in the district of Santal Parganas. It is proposed to entrust the Adimjati Seva Mandal, Ranchi, with the execution of the scheme in the Chotanagpur districts and the Santal Panaria Seva Mandal in the district of Santal Parganas.

The scheme envisages the construction and maintenance of hostels for aboriginal boys and girls and provision of free boarding to 20 per cent of students, free lodging, free lighting and furniture. The hostels will accommodate 500 students. Hostels are proposed to be constructed. Ten primary schools are proposed to be built in the non-Christian areas which are particularly backward. Provision is made for awarding stipends to 250 girl students at the primary stage.

Bombay Housing Schemes

The Housing Programme of the Government of Bombay envisages acquisition of land on a large scale throughout the Province, especially in industrial areas. Land values have already risen up phenomenally. If no steps are taken to curb this tendency, not only Government but Co-operative Housing Societies (consisting of middle classes) also will have to pay unduly high sums for the land required for housing. In order to see that Government and Co-operative Housing Societies have not to foot an unduly large Bill in acquiring land, Government have decided to amend the Land Acquisition Act in so far as the Housing programme of Government is concerned. At present whenever any land is compulsorily acquired, the compensation payable is the market value of the land on the date of the publication of the notification; besides, 15 per cent solatium is payable to the owner of the land. The proposed amending Bill lays down that the compensation

PRODUCE OR PERISH

We talk of freedom but to-day that political freedom does not take us far unless there is economic freedom. But there is no such thing as freedom for a man who is starving or for a country which is poor. The poor whether they are nations or individuals, have little place in this world. Therefore, we have to produce in order to have wealth, sufficient and distributed by a proper economic planning so that that wealth may go to the millions, more especially to the common man and then not only the millions prosper but the whole country becomes rich and prosperous and strong.

—PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

payable for all land that is compulsorily acquired will be governed by the market value of the land on the date of the notification or on 1st of January 1948, whichever is less. The Bill further provides that, in view of the unduly high increase in the values of land, which is wholly unearned, there is no case for paying 15 per cent solatium for all land acquired in connexion with the Housing programme of the Government.

Prohibition in Bombay

The Bombay Excise Minister recently said:

"The Government is determined to have complete Prohibition within four years. The Government will have to lose nine crores of revenue on this programme, in addition to eleven crores which we will have to spend on propaganda work. Since all this is public money, I would like to ask the public whether they really want Prohibition.

"I think this programme will be welcomed by all, irrespective of any caste or party. Everybody, whether a Communist, Socialist or Congressman, is bound to support this movement. It is no use closing one Bhatti, if every house is going to have illicit liquor. Mere passing of laws will not serve the purpose. Everybody must co-operate with the Government and, given such co-operation from all, I am sure we will make Prohibition a success."

Health Revitalization in U.P.

The Government Public Health and Medical Reorganization Committee in its report has strongly urged the early

implementation of a comprehensive 5-year National Health Revitalization plan with special emphasis on the provision of medical facilities for the 50 million villages in the Province. The plan will cost Rs. 26 crores on the basis of a per capita expenditure of 14 annas. The Committee has suggested, among various other measures, an all out war against quacks and venereal diseases which includes enactment of proper legislation for control of brothels, abolition of separate women's hospitals, setting up of mobile dispensaries, provision of ambulance services in all district hospitals for the conveyance of serious cases within the districts. The plan is based mainly on the principles enunciated by the Bhore Committee.

Books and Publication

[The SSS Bulletin No. 12—

September 1947.]

We are in receipt of a copy of the Small Savings Bulletin No. 12 relating to September 1947. The journal is a quarterly publication and contains a detailed record of the activities of the National Savings Organization in the various provinces. The importance of savings in a country like India can never be over-emphasized, and with a tradition for improvidence, such as the Indian agriculturists who constitute more than 70 per cent of the population are said to possess, active propaganda and publicity is necessary to develop thrift habits among the people. The bulletin, under reference as well as similar other type of literature are extremely useful in achieving this end.

Policies and Programmes

Technical Education

The importance of technical education in the present set up of things needs no stressing. The development of this kind of education is a desideratum and the Provincial Government have gone full speed ahead in the matter. They have already constituted an Advisory Board for Technical Education. Its first meeting was held recently and the Hon'ble Minister of Education who presided inter alia observed in the course of his address:

"Modern life and modern civilization depend upon the extent of technical education that we may give to our young men and women. The progress of a nation and a country is dependent upon the extent of technical knowledge it possesses. In peace as well as in war this is of great importance and as such no nation can neglect this side of knowledge except at its own peril. And so, for the development of our industries as well as of the various services that this country demands, it is necessary that not only should we have a highly specialized personnel in the various departments of life but also that the level of scientific knowledge in the ordinary man and woman should be raised considerably.

Bhatnagar Committee

You may be aware that the Government of India had recently appointed a Committee under the chairmanship of Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, F.R.S. The terms of that Committee were to assess the requirements for different grades of scientific and technical manpower, taking a comprehensive view over a period of the next ten years, of the needs of Government (Civil and Defence), of teaching and research, and of industry, agriculture, transport, medicine and other fields dependant on the use of scientific and technical man-power and to make recommendations regarding action to be taken with reference to the immediate improvement and expansion of facilities for scientific and technical training in Indian Universities and special institutions, etc. This Committee has made an interim report so that the Government of India may take certain immediate action in this regard.

Provincial Advisory Board—Functions

The purpose of this Board will be somewhat similar. It will be to advise the Government on all matters of technical and technological education of all types on a properly co-ordinated basis to meet the requirements and developments of this Province and India as a whole and to examine the technical and technological education of this Province in all its aspects and make recommendations with a view to reorganize it on a basis that will make it more useful, efficient and up to date. This Board, as you may already be aware, consists of the experts of Government in the various aspects of Engineering as well as Industries and the representatives of prominent scientific associations of this Province. The Chief Engineers of the two Railway systems in this Province have also been included in this Committee with a view to get the fullest co-operation of these big transport agencies. The members who have been nominated by Government represent each one of the main industries of this Province such as textile, leather, automobile, electricity, mining, etc., so that we may be in touch with the needs of industries. I have no doubt that this Committee will be greatly useful in the development of not only the technical personnel but also the various industries which are developing and which are yet to be developed in our Province.

The subjects before us are mainly two. It is for us to consider the number and types of technical personnel required in the Province and also the number of personnel now under training in our technical institutions in the Province. As you may be aware, an Advisory Board for Technical Education was appointed during the Adviser's Government to consider and report on the expansion of technical education and to suggest measures for post-war development specially in the next five years. The Committee then reported that the capacity of the then existing Colleges and Universities for the next five years was estimated approximately at 900 graduates of the University grade and that the existing facilities were inadequate to meet the demands of future industries. They

said that the Chief Engineer (Communications) requires 338 Engineers and subordinates per year. The Chief Engineer (General) estimates that 375 Engineers and licentiates per year would be required for irrigation and drainage. The Chief Engineer for Electricity requires 45 Engineers and Licentiates per year. The Railways and the Director of Industries and Commerce estimate a total of 500 Engineers for the development of industries and expansion of Railways. It will thus be seen that the total estimated requirements of post-war developments of industries, roads, irrigation, hydro-electric power are over 2,500 graduate engineers within the next five years. The development of agriculture and forestry will similarly require an increased number of graduates.

They also considered the institutions necessary for imparting technical education of the degree and diploma standard, as well as of the artisan type. The following, among others, were their recommendations. That three more Engineering Colleges be started, one being in the Ceded districts, and that the highest priority be given to this recommendation; that one more College of Agriculture be started at a suitable centre; that six more Polytechnics and 15 industrial schools should be started on a regional basis and that there should be an Apprenticeship Act enabling Government to make it obligatory on the part of employers to admit apprentices under a regulated scheme.

In pursuance of these recommendations, the Government have started four new Engineering Colleges, one new Agricultural College and six new Polytechnics. The industrial schools proposed by the Post-war Technical Education Committee were suggested to be obtained by converting some of the war technician training centre into industrial schools. As the number of technician training centres are still working, it has not been necessary to start new industrial schools.

Demand and Supply

In addition to the needs of the Public Works Department, and the Industries, there are certain other needs also which have to be met. The Agriculture Department, I understand, requires 76 licentiates in Mechanical Engineering and 100 Mechanics and engine drivers in the next five years. I also understand that the Sanitary Engineer would require about 300 Public Health Engineers and 1,500 Junior Engineers,

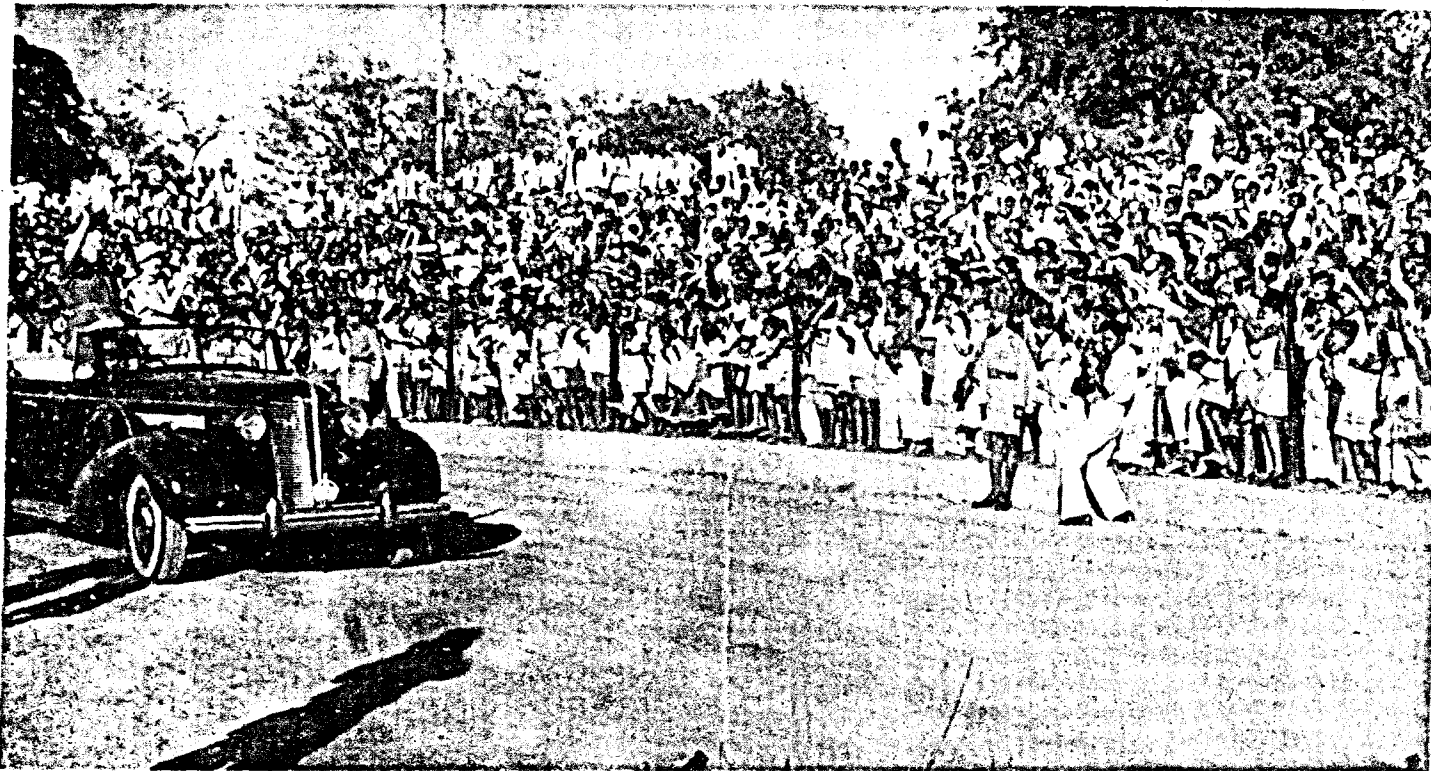
GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN MADRAS



Above.—His Excellency the Governor of Madras introducing the Hon'ble Ministers to His Excellency the Governor-General at the Meenambakam Aerodrome immediately after the Governor-General's arrival



Left.—Hon'ble Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar, Premier was at home to Their Excellencies Lord and Countess Mountbatten during their recent visit. Here is seen the Premier receiving Their Excellencies on 27th January 1948.



His Excellency driving round in semi-state in the Corporation Stadium



His Excellency the Governor-General addressed a scout rally. It may be noted that he spoke in Tamil also in this connexion.

if the recommendations of the Public Health Committee of the Government of Madras, whose report has just been published, is accepted.

These figures must be made up to date to meet our present requirements. The requirements of municipalities and other local bodies are not known, but I am informed that they have been finding it very difficult to fill up their technical posts and so, it should be expected that they would require more technical men in future than they do now. Besides these, we should not forget that there is a lot of demand for technical men for both the Railways and the Defence Services, which may be considered as All-India Service. We must also remember that the Madras Province has been a recruiting ground for technical services, not only to the army, navy and the air force, but to many other provinces which are not as happily equipped as we are in technical institutions. Considering from an All-India point of view, it is necessary that we should plan to meet these needs also. To this we must also provide for a certain amount of wastages in all human institutions.

Technical Personnel

Coming to the various grades of technical personnel that may be necessary they must roughly be of three categories (1) the University degree holders; (2) the Licentiate and (3) the Artisans. It is absolutely essential that we must train in necessary proportions the various technicians required under each of these grades. Training more in one section than is necessary and not providing for a sufficient number of others will result in wastage of human material because for any work these various grades of personnel are complimentary and essential in proper proportion. Recently we have found that while Engineers are available, Overseers have been lacking, with the result, that putting into execution some of our schemes has been hindered. Because of this, the Government had to open an emergency training centre in the middle of the current year for training Overseers. This is only one example to show that in training these technical personnel we should provide in our calculations for the necessary proportions in which they must be trained.

Secondary Education—Reorganization

There is one other factor which we have to take note of in setting up training institutions for training these people. Till now, the general educational system was mainly academic and did not contribute

towards the solution of this great problem of training of technical personnel. As you may be aware from the press reports published recently, the Government have taken up the reorganization of secondary education. It is expected that a good proportion of our high schools will become technical high schools switched over from the merely academic studies to technical education. While a certain percentage of these people may go in for higher studies, it will be possible and necessary for a good number amongst them to be trained as technical personnel of another category. While calculating the number of institutions that may have to be started to train the necessary technical personnel, this new factor also will have to be considered.

Apprenticeship Bill

Next, I would like to refer to the Apprenticeship Bill, copies of which have already been circulated to you. The Government have been considering this matter for a long time and I would like to have your views on this subject. The Apprenticeship Bill which seeks to give practical training to the candidates in schools and colleges is essentially a matter of co-operation between the Government and the various industries concerned. The success of this measure will largely depend upon the co-operation of the masters of industries, and I have no doubt that those in charge of industries will come forward to lend their helping hand to this measure.

Departments' Forum

Resettlement Activities

East Godavari.

Number registered till the beginning of the quarter	.. 4,420
Number registered in the quarter	.. 448
Total	.. 4,868
Number employed till the beginning of the quarter	.. 644
Number employed in the quarter—	
	120
	4
	250
	374
Balance	.. 3,850

Trichinopoly.

Registration and placings.—In the month under report, the total number of registration in the Trichinopoly Sub-Regional Exchange was 425. The total number of placings in Government and other departments was 70.

Trichinopoly Motor Transport Co-operative Society.—The society is functioning satisfactorily. There are 15 lorries at present.

Neidalore Land Colonization Scheme.—All the lands except a few have already been transplanted and will be ready for harvest soon. Harvest would take place early in February. Owing to the failure of monsoon, crops in some of the lands

are not promising. Most of the colonists are anxious to raise kuruvai crop, after the harvest of first crop. The P.W.D. authorities have said that water-supply in the channel would be available till 1st June 1948.

Both the instructors have joined the Vocational Training Centre at Neidalore and the training is in full swing from 14th October 1947. House-sites were already allocated to the colonists. They have been paid stipend and messing allowances with instructions to construct and complete the dwelling houses on or before 15th February 1948. Second-hand furniture has been provided for the training centre.

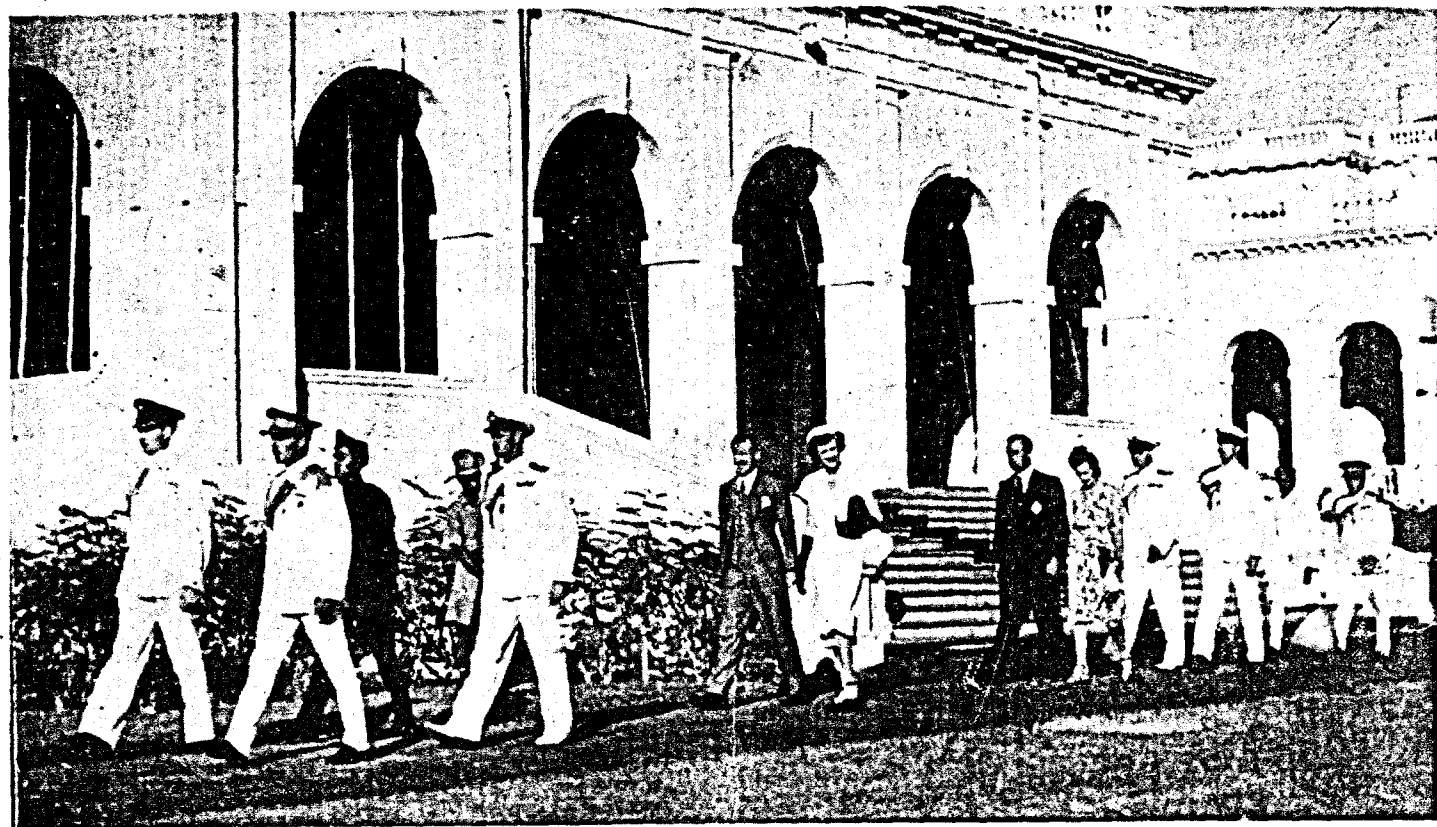
Labour Department

Labour Situation

The notice of strike issued by the Beehive Foundry Workers Union on the management of the Foundry has been withdrawn as a result of conciliation by the Labour Officer, Madras.

The notice of strike issued by the Motor Drivers Association to the Associated Bus Transport, Ltd., Madras, has been withdrawn as a result of conciliation effected by the Labour Officer, Madras.

The workers of the Abraham Bus Transport, Ltd., Poonamalle, have struck work from 5th January, 1948 in spite of the advice of the Deputy



Their Excellencies Lord Mountbatten and Countess Mountbatten arriving at the garden party held by His Excellency the Governor of Madras in their honour



The garden party in progress



Their Excellencies with the Mayor and Commissioner of the Corporation



His Excellency replying to the Civic address in the Corporation



His Excellency the Governor-General witnessing a Girl-guides rally

Chief Inspector of Madras. On the recommendation of the Commissioner of Labour, the Government have referred the dispute for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal, Madras (G.O. Ms. No. 182, Development, dated 12th January 1948).

The workers in 21 textile mills in Coimbatore struck work on 5th January 1948 as a protest against the notice of the management announcing change in working hours. They resumed work on 9th January 1948 as a result of conciliation brought about by the Commissioner of Labour and the Joint-Secretary to Government, Development Department.

The motor workers of Erode struck work on 11th January 1948. The Labour Officer, Coimbatore, brought about a settlement of the dispute and the strike was called off on 13th January 1948.

The Dharmapuram Motor Workers' Union has issued a notice of strike to the proprietors of motor transports, Dharmapuram, that they will go on strike if their grievances for recognition of Union, dearness allowance, uniform, etc., are not conceded. The Labour Officer, Coimbatore, is looking into the matter.

The Government have sanctioned prosecution of the management of Sri Suryanarayana Spinning Mills, Pandalapakka, for having closed the mills while the award of the Industrial Tribunal is in operation.

The management of Shree Bajrang Jute Mills, Ltd., Guntur, have reported that their mills have been closed down from 5th January 1948. The Commissioner of Labour has recommended to Government that the dispute may be referred for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal, Bezwada.

The Secretary, Action Committee, Madura Motor Labourers' Union, Madura, has issued a notice of strike, dated 3rd January 1948, to the Managing Director, T.V.S. Company, Ltd., Madura, and Southern Roadways, Ltd., Madura, intimating that the workers will go on-strike after 14 days from the date of issue of strike notice, if their demands of interim relief, bonus, dearness allowance, reinstatement of dismissed workers, etc., are not conceded. The Labour Officer, Madura, has brought about a settlement of the dispute.

The General Secretary of the Tannery Workers' Union, Dindigul, issued a notice of strike, dated 13th December 1947, to the Skin Merchants' Association, Dindigul, intimating that the

workers will go on strike if their demands for wages, dearness allowance, bonus and gratuity are not conceded.

The cigar workers in Virudunagar has called off the strike on 11th January 1948 on the intervention of the Labour Officer, Tinnevely.

The dispute between the tannery workers and the Trichinopoly tannery owners has been settled by the Inspector of Factories, Tanjore, on 2nd January 1948 and the workers have resumed work.

The President of the Negapatam Steel Rolling Mills Workers' Union, Negapatam, has issued a notice of strike, dated 20th December 1947, to the Superintendent, Indian Steel Rolling Mills, Negapatam. The Labour Officer, Trichinopoly, has not been able to bring about a settlement of the dispute by conciliation. The Commissioner of Labour has recommended to Government that the dispute regarding the demand for increased wages may be referred for adjudication.

[First fortnight of January 1948]

Revenue Department

Prohibition work—Review

Ameliorative Measures

Substitutes for drink.—Refreshment stalls opened after the introduction of Prohibition continued to be popular in general. But those started at Government instance in the Nilgiri district were closed as they were not popular. Some stalls in Malabar district also were closed for want of financial assistance to run them. However, many new tea stalls sponsored by private persons sprung up in most of the districts during the month. The Indian Tea Marketing Expansion Board, North Arcot Branch, supplied tea freely in Ranipet, Sholingur, Arkonam and Ambur centres, while the branch at Madura continued to distribute tea at cost price in villages within 25 miles of Madura on shandy days.

Rural Recreation.—The 75 Rural Recreation Officers who were on duty during the month visited 1,088 villages and organized rural games in 871 villages. Fifty-three tournaments were also held during the month.

Bhajanais, Harikathas and Kalakshepams.—Bhajanais, Harikathas and Kalakshepams were held during the month in 1,419 villages. Folk dances, dramas or cinema shows were held at

the instance of the Special Development Officers in 309 villages.

In Malabar and South Kanara districts not much progress was made in the organization of rural games, Bhajanais and entertainment to ex-addicts, as the entire ameliorative staff was concentrating attention on the formation of jaggery manufacturing societies to provide employment to ex-tappers.

Ballad singers.—Sixty-four ballad singers were on duty during the month. Excluding Tanjore district for which figures were not available, they visited 631 villages, organized community singing in 194 villages and trained 866 villagers in community singing.

Propaganda vans.—The propaganda vans toured in all the Prohibition districts except the Nilgiris, Guntur, Nellore and Trichinopoly during the month.

Gramasangams.—Seven hundred and one Gramasangams and 17 firka associations were formed during the month, bringing the total number formed up to the month to 8,029 Gramasangams, 229 firka associations and 56 taluk associations. They attended to various beneficial activities.

Rural uplift schools.—Rural uplift schools were opened during the month in the districts of Bellary, Chittoor and Nellore.

Thrift.—A total of Rs. 20,742 was saved in hundi boxes during the month, the amount saved up to the end of the month being 1,37,478.

Uplift of women.—The Salem branch of the Indian Women Civic Corps continued to do useful work in 6 centres in Salem Town. The womenfolk were taught needle-work, charka-spinning, music, games, first-aid, etc. The local branch of the Indian Women Civic Corps at Kurnool co-operated with the ameliorative staff in showing the magic lantern slides 'Haridasi.' In South Kanara district the Women's Welfare Association gave lectures at various centres on the advantages of Prohibition. Sri Rangammal of Reddipalayam in Coimbatore did propaganda work among women for education of girls in the locality.

Employment of ex-toddy tappers.—In Salem district some of the tappers joined the milk supply societies and some took to weaving. In North Arcot district 137 ex-tappers were admitted as members of milk supply societies. As the palmyrah season has commenced, nearly 9,000 to 10,000 ex-tappers in Coimbatore district will be employed in the manufacture of

(Continued on page 22)

Special Articles

The Problem of Juvenile Delinquency

By LIEUT.-COL. J. FORD THOMPSON, Adviser to Government in Child Psychology

The problem of juvenile delinquency has, of recent years, been coming more and more to the fore; partly because of a true increase in the number of children who are serious delinquents, due to war conditions, and partly, because our increasing knowledge of the child mind has brought into question the efficacy of the methods in vogue for dealing with these children. There is also, among thinking people, a growing realization that there is much truth in the old saying, 'The child is father of the man,' and that true social progress ultimately depends on how we train our children.

The education of a child may be divided into three broad divisions: character training, the acquisition of knowledge, and practice in the use of reason and skills. Of these, character training is the most important, it being better to have a good man with little knowledge and ability than a bad man with a great deal of knowledge and ability, for the latter will use his knowledge to advance his evil designs.

It is a sobering thought to consider how little systematic character training is being undertaken in schools and homes. How much time is allotted to character training in schools? How much systematic character training was going on in the certified schools, where the worst juvenile delinquents are sent for training? The answer to these questions is, none. This lack of character training is the root cause of juvenile delinquency; and not only of juvenile delinquency, but of the blackmarket, corruption, crime of all sorts and not only of crime, but of double dealing and dishonesty, within the law.

The importance of juvenile delinquency in relation to the wider aspect of character training mentioned above lies in the fact that any system of character training which produces good results with juvenile delinquents will also produce good results when applied to children whose behaviour is within normal limits, but the converse is not necessarily true.

It is not the purpose of this article to discuss in detail the nature of the systematic character training, but to describe the problem which juvenile delinquency presents, bearing in mind the larger issues involved.

What is a Juvenile Delinquent?

A juvenile delinquent is a child whose behaviour is anti-social and contrary to the legal and moral codes of the society in which he lives. Taking this as a definition, how many of us have not been guilty of juvenile delinquency? How many of us can honestly say that we have never stolen as a children? It is true that most of us did our juvenile stealing from our own houses, and if we were caught, our parents dealt with us, but we could legally have been taken before a Juvenile Court and sent to a Certified School for years. No one thinks of a boy from a wealthy family who steals ten rupees from his father's box as being a juvenile delinquent, but the poor boy who does the same thing and is sent to a Certified School is universally looked on as a juvenile delinquent. The truth is that the vast majority of us have been juvenile delinquents, but because we were never taken to court we have escaped the stigma.

The term 'Juvenile Delinquency,' however, is normally applied only in connection with these children who are more delinquent than normal, and who are either confirmed in delinquent habits, or behave so badly that ordinary methods of dealing with naughtiness in children do not produce any result in curbing the misbehaviour. There is also a smaller group of children who commit very serious crimes such as murder.

It is convenient to divide juvenile delinquents into two broad types, the naughty child and the problem child. The naughty child is usually a normal child who has grown up without any sort of training, or faulty training in a bad environment. The great majority of delinquents fall into

this group. The problem child may be of several varieties, mentally deficient, insane, neurotic, or there may be a physical reason for the misbehaviour.

Normal development of a Child's Character

The normal, or average child, in our society develops his character empirically. His character is not systematically developed by training. He reacts to a certain circumstance instinctively for the benefit of himself. If his instinctive action brings unpleasant consequences in its train, and repetition of the same behaviour on other occasions consistently results in unpleasant consequences, he is able to learn by his experience, and cease to react in that way. For example, a small boy sees a succulent fruit in a shop. His instinctive desire is to take it and eat it. If he does so, and is caught by the shop-keeper who curses him and beats him, he will think twice about doing the same thing again. If, on the other hand, his theft is successful, the pleasure he gained from eating the fruit tends to lead him to repeat the offence. If he 'gets away with it' in a large percentage of cases he comes to regard his being caught as just being bad luck occasionally, and the only effect of the beating he receives is to make him resolve to be more careful next time.

The character of the average child is thus developed from his experience, and his experiences depend on his environment. Opinions and values are derived from the people with whom he comes in contact, and he learns in a haphazard way how to deal with the problems of social intercourse as they arise. The childhood experiences of some people are such that they develop good characters, while the experiences of others lead them to develop bad characters. The average individual develops a character which is neither very good nor very bad, but one which lacks strength.

The average parent who wishes to bring his children up to be good men and women has no expert knowledge of character training. He teaches his children the normal standards which he believes to be good ones, by means of precept and admonition. If, to his knowledge, the child fails badly to live up to the ethical standard he has taught, he may punish the child. But, only a fraction of the child's misbehaviour may come to his notice. His child may have had conventions whose standards are very different,

and his experiences in school may militate against the parent's teaching.

In school, wrong-doing on the part of the child only brings disapproval and punishment if it happens to come to the notice of the schoolmaster. The fact that only a small proportion of offences come to light leads the child to regard it merely as a misfortune should he be caught and punished, and the child tends to form an attitude of mind which can be summed up in the statement 'Thou Shalt Not be Found Out.' The present structure, both of home and of school discipline is such that the child tends to direct his efforts more in the direction of avoiding detection in his wrong-doing than in endeavouring to improve his behaviour. This in turn leads to a failure to form good habits of behaviour which are deep-rooted and fixed.

The end result of the average child's experiences is an individual who pays lip-service to a good code of ethics, and behaves according to this code when it pays him. If, however, the individual be subjected to stress in the form of an instinctive urge to benefit himself at the expense of others, he will not behave according to the code of ethics he gives lip-service to, but will do things which are morally wrong and try to avoid being found out. If he is found out, he will attempt to twist things so that it appears that he was really acting ethically.

That is what the average individual is like to-day. So long as it pays him, he will act ethically, but if it does not pay him, he will not. Hence the black-market flourishes. The average individual is highly moral in his expressed opinions, but his actions do not always correspond with these opinions. Public opinions will always be on the side of a moral solution to a problem, but public opinion is not what the public really thinks; it is what the public thinks it ought to think.

These general defects of character are not the fault of the individuals who make up our society; they are due to a lack of systematic character training in childhood.

Were a system of character training in general operation the whole nature of society would change for the better, and immoral behaviour would eventually become very rare. Individuals who had undergone systematic character training in childhood would have formed habits of social behaviour so strong that it would require a very great temptation to make them depart from them. These individuals would

not suffer from the mental battles most of us experience when there is a conflict in our minds between doing a wrong thing which will benefit us and the right thing which will not apparently benefit us; they would automatically tend to do the right thing.

The Development of Delinquents

The Development of the problem of child is not within the scope of this article since that would involve much technical discussion. But how does a juvenile delinquent of the 'naughty' type develop?

Everyone knows that some children are more difficult to 'handle' than others. These children are more determined to get their own way than the average child and possess through their heredity a strong inner drive of an instinctive nature towards self-assertion. Now, if a child of this nature grows up in a bad environment where discipline is too lax, or too severe without concomitant affection, he will most assuredly develop into what we call a juvenile delinquent. The tragedy about it is that these very children are the ones who, with proper guidance and training, could become leaders of society. This is so because they possess that inner instinctive drive which, canalized in a social direction, would push them forward to great achievements. It is thus of vital importance to society that every endeavour be made to prevent as many as possible of these children from becoming seriously delinquent, and to reclaim those who do, for they are potentially of great value to the community.

There are also those children who are brought up in an environment where they are actively taught to be what we call delinquent. An excellent example of this is to be found in the 'criminal tribes' where a child is brought up to steal and, I am told, a young man cannot get a wife until he has proved his capabilities as a thief. A child brought up in this way is, of course, a menace to society as a whole, as distinct from the smaller community of the tribe.

The same thing applies to a child who is brought up in criminal surroundings anywhere, particularly in large cities.

Then there is the destitute child, wandering on city streets. Begging leads on to stealing. A lack of education leads to unemployment except for coolie work; this too, often leads to crime. I have spoken to large

numbers of those destitutes, and the majority of them have admitted to me that they have stolen many times, although they had not been charged with it in court. The magnitude of this problem may be gauged from the fact that there are, it is estimated, between two and three lakhs of these destitute children in the Province of Madras.

The Importance of Character Training

The importance of adequate systematic character training both for society and the individual cannot be over-emphasized. For society, it holds out a practical method of attaining that happy state, so sought after by religious leaders, where honesty and goodwill between men are universally practised. The attainment of this end is now-a-days of more than academic interest, for atomic bombs at present exist, one of which could wipe out the city of Madras and all its inhabitants in a fraction of a second. The question to-day is not so much whether universal character training in children is desirable or not, but rather whether mankind will be in time, by so doing, to avert the complete collapse of what we call civilization. It is a race with time. Up till the present, man has been spending nearly all his energies in harnessing and taming the material universe; he has concentrated on educating his children to acquire knowledge and to use it; research has largely been directed to finding out better methods of pumping knowledge into the child, but methods of scientifically training an individual to develop a good stable character have received scant attention, and character training does not enter into school curricula. By his neglect, man may have committed suicide, for he has acquired far more power over the world than he is characterologically fitted to use. Mankind in its journey along the road of destiny has come to a large red sign which reads 'DANGER'. Let us hope the warning is heeded.

For the individual, adequate character training in youth is his one hope of ever approaching that happiness, the right to the pursuit of which is so zealously guarded in the constitution of the United States of America. A perfectly trained individual would have a mind freed from the mental conflicts which so oppress us, and be able to the full to realize his potentialities as regard achievement.

Who is to do the Character Training

There are three agencies through which mass character training can be achieved, the home, the school, and children's clubs.

The training of the pre-school child must, as a general rule, lie completely in the hands of the parents, but with the school child things are different. One must consider whether the direction of the character training of the child should lie chiefly in the hands of the parents, or in those of his teacher. In my view the teacher should be the directing influence, for it is possible to train the teacher more easily in correct methods than the parent, who has many other things to think about. The training of children is the teacher's profession. It should not be implied from the above that the parent should have no hand in the training; far from it. Parent and teacher should work in close co-operation, and parent-Teacher Associations should be formed in connection with every school.

We have still to consider the children who do not attend school. They should be trained through the medium of children's clubs, of a special type, with the co-operation if possible, of the parents. These clubs I should like to see in every street, in every town, and in every village. These clubs can be formed and run without financial aid from Government, but the club leaders would require to undergo a course of training.

Essentials for Happy and Correct Development of the Child

There are certain essentials to be observed if a child is to be brought up happily and well, so that he develops a sound and stable character. These are as follows:—

- (a) Security of affection; at the least goodwill towards him, at the best, love.
- (b) Security of minimum physical needs.
- (c) Security of Law—the child's law, with which he is in agreement.
- (d) Opportunity for self-expression and education.

Stable affection we regard as being just as necessary for the proper development of the child's mind as vitamins are for the proper development of his body.

Security of minimum physical needs in the shape of food, clothing, and shelter, need no emphasis.

The child loves the security of law—to know definitely what he may do and what he may not do. He likes to know precisely what penalty a given infringement of the law will entail; he likes to know that the closer he adheres to his law, the better he will become as regards his personal value. But what he likes

best of all is to enjoy the protection of the law—to know definitely that he will not be punished unless he breaks his law; therein lies real security.

This law must NOT be imposed. Ideals must be so explained to a child by a person he likes, that he comes to understand fully why such and such behaviour is wrong and other conduct right. In this way the child comes freely to accept a code of ideals, and a true conscience is born. Thereafter, the child should have a hand in framing laws for his guidance, and in assigning penalties for non-observance of these laws to help him to form firm habits of social conduct.

We feel very strongly that the child should walk the road to a good character side-by-side with the educator, and not be dragged unwillingly along it, for if this be done, the child is very liable to run back the way he came as soon as he can release himself from the bonds of unsympathetic discipline.

The necessity for self-expression and education in the usual sense is self-evident.

The Necessity for a System of Character Training

The tendency now-a-days, which we deprecate, is towards individualism in child psychology. Each child is regarded as a separate problem. Now, this is all very well for the expert dealing with the real problem child, but it is manifestly absurd if we are to contemplate mass character training. Where are we to find the vast number of experts who would be required for such a task? Each teacher would have to undergo several years specialised training to enable him even to attempt such a task. The real problem child must be treated individually, and his treatment lies within the province of the expert, but these children are relatively few in number. The character training of the vast majority of normal children, and even of those labelled 'delinquent' must lie in the hands of teachers and parents, who cannot be expected to learn the intricacies of individual psychology.

It is therefore essential that there be a well-tested method of systematic character training, where rules can be laid down for general application, rules which can readily be grasped by parent and teacher. The teacher will naturally be expected to have more advanced knowledge than the parent, but he should be able to learn his practical child psychology during a three months' course.

The system of character training referred to must be such that it produces good results in a very high percentage of children. The small percentage who do not react well to it would then be regarded as problem children and referred to the expert for his advice and individual treatment.

Summing up the Problem

The very badly delinquent child is the product of a society where routine character training in a systematic fashion is not in force.

What is required is a system of character training which can readily be learned and applied by parents and teachers.

Radically new methods must be used for the reclamation of the serious delinquent, for present methods are not resulting in his reformation.

The huge problem of the destitute children must be tackled.

The public must be educated to the importance of this question of character training.

In my next article I propose to survey the methods at present in vogue for dealing with serious delinquents, and to outline the plans which I intend to submit to Government for consideration and, I hope, approval.

C.P. Premier's Message on Harijan day

On the 15th August we achieved swarajya and now have to transform this swarajya into surajya. After the political revolution, we have now to proceed towards the social revolution. By passing the Temple Entry Authorization Act, the Provincial Government have taken the first step in this direction. On the occasion of the sacred Makar Sankranti, I appeal to the people to extend their co-operation to us in this great cause.

Hindu society was divided on the basis of labour, but to-day this division has assumed a different form. In order to maintain their prestige, the high castes kept the Sudras in bondage, and we have received full punishment for this evil. It, therefore, now becomes our duty to forget all differences, unite and live together with love and sympathy, remove this caste-obstruction and by making our country prosperous gain a high place for it in the world.

So much about the Provincial Schemes for resettling ex-servicemen in civil life. As I have said, all these schemes have taken the shape of and have been translated into co-operative societies. It is not really the duty or one of the functions of the Government of India's resettlement and employment organization to organize such co-operative societies or work them. It is its duty only to supply the required man-power to these or other such co-operative societies or any employing agency. But as I said before, as this organization had to concern itself first about the ex-servicemen before dealing with the wider range of all unemployed, it was made in the Madras Presidency to take up this work of organizing these schemes also. Very soon, however, it is likely that all these ex-servicemen's co-operative societies in the Presidency will be made over to the Co-operative Department itself to be looked after. This organization will then have to widen its sphere of work and shall have to attend to not only the ex-service personnel, but also to all unemployed.

—By courtesy A.I.R. Madras.

(Continued from page 16)

palmyrah jaggery. In Trichinopoly district 200 ex-tappers were admitted as members in the jaggery co-operative societies, and 5 milk supply societies to absorb 105 ex-tappers were also organized. Co-operative milk supply societies were also formed in Tanjore district to provide employment for ex-tappers. A cotton coir manufacturing society has been organized for the ex-tappers in Keerathurai in Madurai City. About 9,500 tappers in Malabar district and 2,500 tappers in South Kanara district are expected to be employed in the manufacture of jaggery. [November 47.]

General Knowledge Column

Aphorisms of Thiruvalluvar

Saint Thiruvalluvar needs no introduction to readers. His "Thirukural" has been described as the glory of Tamil culture. He is as to Tamilians what Shakespeare is to Englishmen and the studying of his book is considered by many as a liberal education in itself. One author has said that the single incomparable work, namely, Thirukural is worth more than Lord Macaulay's library or for the matter of that, than any collection of Western or Eastern Literature (except the Bible and one or two other Sacred Books) ancient, modern or ultra modern. Thirukural is said to provide the foundation for a universal religion. It contains a number of sacred aphorisms. A few of these are extracted below:—

Virtue makes men good, happy, great—
Life's prop, man's best life-mate.

Than Vice Life knows no blacker
Than Virtue no greater might. [blight;

Be good; as well, as oft you can
Do good; thou art a man!

Envy, greed, wrath, harsh speech
Thou shalt be good and true. [eschew;

Delay not good till death; all things
Then leave one—but good clings.

Virtue is happiness and fame;
Vice wretchedness and shame.

The one thing to do is good; and ill
To shun like hell-flame still.

Where love to duty wedded lies,
There home is Paradise.

Has earth a grander sight to shew
Than a woman chaste and true?

Of earthly boons children are the best;
Most, if of good sense possest.

In houses which always friends wel-
Glad Lakshmi makes her home. [come,

Never forget friends in thy need;
Any pure-souled friend, indeed.

In all our births to us are dear
Those that once wiped our tear.

To forget what is evil is good;
But not one's gratitude.

Against thy conscience, if thou dost
Injustice, thou art lost.

Long not for any ill-gotten wealth;
Flow worry, fear, woe from stealth.

With noble minds riches hard-won pass
To help the common cause.

Treat well thy foe and make him
Best way thy foes to crush. [Lush—

Self-denial yields full many a pleasure;
Practise it and win rich treasure.

Two kinds of empire here we find;
Wealth one, one a fine mind.

When good befalls with joy we hail;
Why, then, at ill weep, wail?

Gleanings from here and there

Administration of District Municipalities

The following are some of the salient features of the administration of district municipalities during 1945-46:—

The number of municipalities in the Presidency continued to be 82.

The councils were paid Rs. 12.92 lakhs as statutory toll compensation and Rs. 2.34 lakhs as compensation for loss of income from motor licence fees. The Government also sanctioned an additional toll compensation of Rs. 7.32 lakhs, of which only a sum of Rs. 6.25 lakhs was drawn by the councils and the balance credited to the Provincial Road Fund. Grants amounting to Rs. 4.03 lakhs from the Provincial Road Fund were paid to the councils for road schemes. In addition, Government sanctioned Rs. 22.34 lakhs to municipal councils as grant in 1945-46 towards part of the total deficiency in the maximum toll compensation, payable to them from 1931-32 to 1940-41. The net income from taxes on carts, carriages and animals amounted to Rs. 8.38 lakhs as against Rs. 7.42 lakhs in 1944-45.

The expenditure incurred on the maintenance of roads increased from Rs. 26.84 lakhs to Rs. 34.12 lakhs, including Rs. 3.25 lakhs paid as interest on and repayment of loans taken in previous years for roads and bridges. The capital expenditure on roads and bridges amounted to Rs. 7.32 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 0.76 lakh was met from Government grants.

The education tax was levied in 77 municipalities during the year. Compulsory education was in force in 26 municipalities. According to the statistics furnished, 18.2 per cent of the boys and 44.8 per cent of the girls of school-age did not attend any school, compared with 20.1 per cent and 46.3 per cent, respectively, in the previous year. There was an increase in the number, strength and cost of maintenance of the municipal elementary schools. About 32 per cent of the boys and 27 per cent of the girls in all municipal elementary schools taken together were reading in Standard IV and higher standards.

All the municipal elementary schools were accessible to Scheduled class pupils. The municipal councils, however, maintained 263 schools exclusively for the benefit of the children of backward and Scheduled classes.

The number of medical institutions maintained by the municipal councils during the year was 126, as against 127 in 1944-45.

The number of municipalities provided with protected water-supply systems at the end of the year under review was 47. Six drainage schemes were in progress, while plans and estimates were under preparation for four more. Fifty-two municipal councils levied the lighting tax. The number of municipal councils that held licences under the Indian Electricity Act was 28. The progress in the execution of sanctioned town-planning schemes was generally satisfactory.

The total income derived by the municipal councils from general taxation and miscellaneous revenues amounted to Rs. 97.9 lakhs and the cost of collecting them was Rs. 1.41 lakhs. There was a slight improvement in collection work, the municipal councils having collected 97.5 per cent of the current demand under taxes and

Mahatma Gandhi on Village Panchayats

Mahatma Gandhi in the course of a prayer meeting referred to the functions of village panchayats.

Distinguished travellers came to India in the past from China and other countries in quest of knowledge and put up with great hardships. They reported that in India there was no theft and that the people were honest and industrious. They needed no locks to their doors. In those days there was no multiplicity of castes.

It was the function of panchayats to revive honesty and industry and to teach villagers to avoid disputes and if there were disputes to settle them. Villagers would thus be ensured speedy justice without expenditure. They would need neither the police nor the military.

Then the panchayat should see to cattle improvement. They should show a steady increase in milk yield. Cattle had become a burden on the land for want of race. It was gross ignorance to blame Muslims for cow slaughter. Mahatma Gandhi held that it was Hindus who killed cattle by inches through ill-treatment. Slow death by torture was far worse than outright killing.

The panchayat should also see to the growing of increased foodstuffs in

97.6 per cent of the current demand under non-taxes, as against 97.4 per cent and 97.1 per cent respectively in the previous year. The incidence of taxation, including all taxes for all municipalities, was on an average Rs. 4-5-4 per head of population compared with Rs. 3-9-4 in the previous year. The expenditure on services increased from Rs. 212.31 lakhs in 1944-45 to Rs. 259.12 lakhs in 1945-46. A sum of Rs. 160.64 lakhs or 62 per cent of the expenditure was met from service receipts, Government grants, endowments and contributions.

Sixteen cases of embezzlement of collections by municipal subordinates and temporary misappropriation of money were noticed in eleven municipalities, the amount involved being Rs. 2,217-0-2.

The administration was good in Tirupati, Erode, Tiruppur, Mangalore, Udipi, Kodaikanal, Madurai, Ootacamund, Virudhunagar, Palamcottah, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Karur and Vizagapatam. It was fair in 59 municipalities and unsatisfactory in the municipalities of Gudiyattam, Villupuram, Adoni, Cuddalore, Proddatur, Tenali, Srivilliputtur and Srirangam.

the village. That was to be accomplished by properly manuring the soil.

Then they must see to the cleanliness of their village and its inhabitants. They must be clean and healthy in body and mind.

He hoped that they would have no cinema house. People said the cinema could be a potent means of education. That might come true some day, but at the moment he saw the great harm the cinema was doing. They had their indigenous games. They should banish intoxicating drinks and drugs from their midst.

He hoped they would eradicate untouchability if there was any trace of it still left in their villages. Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Parsees and Christians should all live as brothers and sisters.

If they achieved all this, they would demonstrate real independence. Driving away the minority community or ill-treating them did not fit in with the profession of ahimsa. Independence did not mean that people could act in any way they liked. Could anyone pray and work for freedom and yet commit murders and tell lies? That would be surrendering to Satan instead of to God.

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Progress of Resettlement in the Province

By H. S. PAUL, Esq., Deputy Director of Re-settlement and Employment, Madras.

[This broadcast gives facts and figures about the progress of resettlement in the Province and would disillusion many who are labouring under the impression that the tempo of resettlement operations is not what it ought to be.]

Though the Re-settlement and Employment organization in India has done and is doing some good work since its inception in July 1945, and though it is an organization that exists not merely to secure jobs for ex-servicemen, but to deal with the problem of unemployment as a whole, to help employers to secure the right kind of men, and to assist the unemployed to secure suitable jobs yet its existence and the work it is doing are not sufficiently known to the public, whose help and co-operation are very necessary for the successful working of this new organization. Having started under an emergency, when a large-scale military demobilization began the organization had first to deal with the resettlement of demobilized services personnel and discharged war-workers. This is no doubt the main work that is being done at present though even now the Employment organization is assisting some other classes of person also to get employment, such as persons belonging to the scheduled castes and refugees who are in need of jobs. But the organization has always in view its long term objective of providing full employment effecting proper distribution of skilled labour and also increasing the availability of skilled workmen. With this end in view, the organization compiles accurate statistics of the availability of man-power in various categories of labour, arranges to train men in different technical and vocational walks of life and is trying to meet the demands of employers and those seeking employment.

In the Madras Presidency, the organization has got a Regional Employment Exchange at Madras, 9 Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges in the more important district headquarters and a district Employment Office in all other districts headquarters. As I said before, these Exchanges and Employment Offices are at present mainly dealing with the ex-service personnel and discharged war-workers. Out of a total of nearly 4½ lakhs of men recruited for the armed forces from this Presidency, more than 2 lakhs have been demobilized and there are a large number of discharged war-workers also, viz., those who worked in ordnance factories and in

organizations like the A.R.P. National War Front and so on. Of these, so far, 183,348 registered themselves in the Exchanges and District Employment Office and 52,830 secured jobs. That is to say 29 per cent of those who registered at the Exchanges obtained jobs through the efforts of the Exchanges. This may not perhaps be much, but this is due mainly to the fact that private employers have not yet begun to make use of the Exchanges to obtain their man-power. Of the placings referred to, nearly 90 per cent has been in the vacancies in the Government and in the Railway. But an analysis of the figures into different periods since the commencement of the organization shows that more and more private employers are beginning to have recourse to the Exchanges, to get their workers. In Madras Presidency there are now 1,156 private employers who seek the assistance of the Exchanges. We appeal to all other private employers also to make use of the Exchanges, so that the unemployment problem in this country may be solved in a systematic way.

Another important work that the organization is doing is to arrange for technical and vocational training for a large number of men and women. It is common knowledge that during the period of the war, a large number of persons were given training in various technical subjects and were made use of in the war as carpenters, blacksmiths, fitters, turners, motor mechanics, electricians, wireless operators and so on. But most of these have not attained sufficient proficiency to make them fit enough to earn their livelihood as skilled workers in civil life. Hence it was felt that these men should be given further training and accordingly the Government of India through the agency of this organization have organized a technical and vocational training scheme. In this Presidency, there are at present 33 technical training centres with a seating capacity of 3,378 in 31 trades. The number undergoing training now is more than 2,500. There are 12 vocational training centres with a capacity of 960 in 37 trades. About 600 persons are at present undergoing vocational training. Apart from

the few training centres run by the Government themselves, most of the centres are in existing private institutions and concerns such as the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore, Messrs. Seshasayee's at Trichy, St. Xavier's Industrial School at Tanjore, A. G. Technological Institute at Vuyyuru and so on. To give an idea, without going into details, of the extent of financial aid given by the Government, it may be said that the Government pays to these institutions Rs. 7 per trainee per month if the staff and equipment are supplied by Government or Rs. 15 per month otherwise for a period of about 12 to 18 months. And the trainee themselves are given a stipend of Rs. 35 per mensem. Men, mostly with some previous grounding in the particular trade, are trained to become skilled workers as carpenters, blacksmiths, electric linemen, armature winders, internal combustion engine drivers, mechanics and so on. Vocational training is given in agriculture, co-operation and in cottage industries. Similar facilities are given to women, who belonged to the W.A.C. (O) Corps to have training in typewriting, stenography, dressmaking, etc. Three hundred and twenty-three women are now undergoing training in 63 centres. They get Rs. 45 for boarding and lodging besides Rs. 10 as pocket-money. When talking about these training facilities, mention should also be made of the 378 disabled ex-servicemen who are undergoing training in different trades in the Jalahalli centre near Bangalore, which is a centre run wholly by the Government. Here, the men are trained in weaving, tailoring, mat-making, poultry-keeping, fruit preservation and many other trades; and it is hoped that these disabled men would be able to earn their livelihood after their training.

As it is realised that this sort of training for one or one and a half years may not turn out very efficient skilled workers, the Government of India have formulated yet another scheme, viz., the scheme of apprenticeship in industry. I want to lay special emphasis on this scheme. We have not yet been able to do much in this direction. We require the help and co-operation of all industrial concerns in this matter, and we appeal

for their help and co-operation. According to this scheme, the industrial concerns, which admit apprentices do not have to spend any money on them. Government are prepared to pay a per capita fee to the institution up to Rs. 15 per mensem. The apprentices themselves will get an allowance of Rs. 35 per mensem for technical and Rs. 33 for the vocational apprenticeship for a period of six months to one year, according to requirements in each case. Government do not impose any obligation on the firm or industrial concerns which give the training to employ the men trained as apprentices after the apprenticeship period. But it is hoped that the apprentices, with the technical knowledge that they have acquired in their war-services, would become so efficient as a result of their apprenticeship training, that the industrial concerns which train them would naturally be inclined to employ them and utilize their services. It will be seen that the apprentices under this scheme will not be a burden to the concerns which accept them, but on the other hand will be a source of profit to them by earning for them the training fees granted by the Government and increasing their man power usefully. These are the schemes by which the Government of India, through the agency of the Re-settlement and Employment Organization, are trying to provide within as short a time as possible the requisite skilled man-power for the execution of post-war development schemes in particular and for the expansion of the industries in the country in general. Industrial concerns will be doing a great national service if they come forward to take in apprentices under this scheme in large numbers. They will also be helping themselves at the cost of Government.

Since the Re-settlement and Employment Organization of the Government of India had to deal with the ex-servicemen first, opportunity was taken by the Provincial Government of Madras to work their Provincial Schemes intended for the benefit of the ex-servicemen through this organization. This organization in this Presidency therefore has been spending much time and energy and paying great attention in planning and working out various schemes for the benefit of the ex-servicemen. I shall give very briefly some idea of these schemes, which have been sponsored and also financed by the Madras Government, and which are also to some extent, or are

likely to be, financially supported by the Government of India and also by the Post-war Services Reconstruction Fund of this Province. All these schemes are being worked on a co-operative basis. I shall first deal with the Land Colonies. These are co-operative agricultural colonies intended to settle ex-military agriculturists on the land. 41 sites, i.e., big blocks of waste lands were originally selected in all the districts, and concentrated efforts were made to prepare 15 of them to start colonies. Money was spent by the Government of Madras to make these sites really cultivable. Shrub jungle was removed, the sites were leveled, irrigation and drinking water facilities were provided, roads were constructed and in some places anti-malaria measures had also to be taken. Colonies were then started during the course of the last one or two years; and at present 9 of these are functioning very satisfactorily. The following are the 9 colonies:—

Kumaragiri in East Godavari.
Kalavapudi in West Godavari.
Kalidindi in Kistna.
Rudravaram in Kurnool.
Meyyur Gudapakkam in Chingleput.

Tirumangalakottai in Tanjore.
Neidalur in Trichinopoly.
Chinnakalapalayam in Coimbatore.
Manivilandan in Salem.

We have settled nearly 900 ex-servicemen in these land colonies. Each of the colonist is provided with a decent hut to live in, and is allowed to cultivate 4 or 5 acres of land. The lands in most of these colonies are fit for wet cultivation and paddy is raised in these lands. Most of the others are suitable for irrigated dry crops, and only some areas are dry lands with no irrigation wells. Each colony has formed a co-operative society of its own, and each colonist has paid an initial share-capital of Rs. 50. The Government have at present borne the entire initial expenditure. The co-operative society is providing all facilities for cultivation, giving the colonists bulls, ploughs, manure, seed, etc., or giving advances where necessary. The question whether, and if so how much, further share-capital should be collected from the colonists or how they should be further helped are still under consideration, and it is expected that decision would be taken very shortly. The Government of India have also offered to pay a maximum grant of Rs. 500 per colonist, under certain

conditions. This offer will also be availed of if possible. It is likely that in this year one more colony near Villipuram in South Arcot district will be started. It will be a wet-land colony.

I shall next refer to the various workshops that are functioning in different districts, also on a co-operative basis. There is one Engineering Workshop at Madras, called the Stathie's Workshop. It is situated next to the P.W.D. Workshop in Royapuram. Residents of Madras can easily pay a visit to this workshop and see its working. 102 ex-servicemen, who have formed themselves into a co-operative society, are now working in this workshop. Different kinds of machinery have been and are being made here; so also some machine-parts. The workshop is also at present engaged in manufacturing aluminium and copper vessels, which are finding a very good market, and also in building bodies for motor-lorries purchased for the ex-servicemen. In addition to this, there are five metal workshops at Kumbakonam, Katpadi, Olavakkot, Duvvada and Tinnevely. There are also five timber works at Tiruvottiyur, Katpadi, Duvvada, Tinnevely and Olavakkot. Nearly a thousand ex-servicemen have been admitted in all these workshops.

The Madras Provincial Schemes include also the 12 Motor Transport Co-operative Societies that have been formed in the latter half of 1947. These have been formed in the 12 more heavily recruited districts of Vizagapatam, Guntur, Malabar, Coimbatore, Salem, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madras, Madura and Tinnevely. Of these, except the three societies in Salem, Tanjore and Guntur, the others have started functioning and are working for the last few months. Each society has purchased a few lorries, ranging from a dozen to 23 in some cases, and are plying them for hire. All the employees are ex-servicemen and are shareholders in the co-operative society. So far, about 350 ex-servicemen have found employment in these motor-transport societies. Some of the societies have made very good profits during this short period of a few months, after keeping aside sufficient amounts towards depreciation and the sinking fund.

I should not forget to mention two other small ex-servicemen's co-operative societies at Madras, one a tailoring society and the other a radio sales and service society.

Public Service in Free India

In the course of a message to the Association of Subordinate Agricultural Service in Central Provinces and Berar, the Bombay Minister of Agriculture, Mr. R. K. Patel observed: "A free India would never progress unless our services put more life and energy into their work and take to service not only as a source of employment and occupation, but also from the elevating idea of genuine public and social service. Fired with the crusading enthusiasm of fighting poverty and ignorance, increasing production and raising the general standard of the people, our services can today play a great part in taking India rapidly to her new goal of peace and plenty."

"Before independence, the staff had only to carry out orders. Today it will have to achieve certain targets and the work of the staff will be judged by the manner and extent in which they have been successful in achieving those targets. For this purpose the whole staff must be imbued with a genuine sympathy and desire to educate and uplift the cultivator. Every Agricultural Assistant must be a source of intensive propaganda and actuated by a keen desire to help and assist the cultivator. He must love villagers, love village life and take to touring with love and enthusiasm and not as a troublesome duty."

Prohibition News Letter

Ameliorative activities in Prohibition districts are reported to be going on apace with increasing tempo. The following is a brief summary of the reports received:—

Chittoor.—Rural games and friendly matches were conducted as usual. Village tournaments were also conducted. Bhajanas and folk dances were performed in six villages in Chittoor Division and a harikatha performance was also given in another place. Thrift day celebration was also conducted. One Gramasangham has completed the construction of a school building and the school is expected to be opened in the course of February. Another is constructing a road nearly a mile long connecting the village with the main road. Yet another Sangham has opened a school and is conducting classes both day and night. There was also a district tournament and a rural exhibition during December. The exhibition was quite a success and all the important departments co-operated to achieve this result. Other ameliorative activities are the observance of street cleaning days and opening of adult schools by a few Grama Sanghams.

Bellary.—Steps were taken for reviving the Kudithini Sheep Breeding Co-operative Society. Thrift day was celebrated in some places. The possibilities of opening a school in

one place and a Kambli Wavers' Co-operative Society in another were examined. The Village Betterment Committee has taken on hand proposals for providing drinking water for a village. An interesting programme of providing entertainment to the labourers employed in Tunghabadra Project was arranged at the dam site area. Steps have also been taken to organize a milk supply Co-operative Society. One Co-operative Credit Society has resolved to construct a godown-cum-reading room to serve as a community centre and steps are being taken to this end.

South Kanara.—The Puttur Rural Uplift School closed on the last day of December. Advantage was taken of this occasion to put up a rural exhibition. The exhibition was largely attended and aroused considerable public interest.

Tanjore.—A Rural Uplift School for training 50 candidates in rural work was opened in the first week of January.

Salem.—Early in January, two firka tournaments were conducted. There was a large gathering in this connection which included many ex-addicts. Village entertainments such as Kummi and Kolattam were also provided in addition to rural sports. The Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development opened an exhibition at Hosur and declared open a free reading room

for Harijans. The Hon'ble Prime Minister visited Kondalampatti at the end of December and switched on a radio sponsored by the Village Panchayat. He also laid the foundation stone for the wards to be constructed in the local hospital from out of the Provincial Welfare Fund. Lectures on public health were delivered by the Health Inspector during the end of December. Street dramas were conducted in Namakkal and they were enjoyed by ex-addicts as well as villagers.

Coimbatore.—A rural tournament was held during January on a fairly big scale. There were a number of events as well as entertainments. The Collector addressed a gathering on the duties of Grama Sanghams and aims and methods of rural uplift. One Grama Sangham has repaired a drinking water well which was in a state of disrepair for a very long time in the past.

Trichinopoly.—During January the Collector addressed a public meeting in one of the villages under the joint auspices of the Village Congress Committee and the Grama Sangham. There were also games in which many villagers took active part. Entertainment was also provided by school girls. There was also an interesting dialogue on the functions of a Village Uplift Sangham. The Collector in his speech stressed the constructive side of rural uplift work. There was also a cinema show which was witnessed by not less than 3,000 people. The District Amelioration Committee also met in the month of January. Three jaggery makers co-operative societies were organized providing jobs for 146 ex-tappers. Two jaggery workers co-operative societies were formed and these are expected to provide employment to 50 ex-tappers' families.

Kurnool.—There was a firka tournament during January under the auspices of the amelioration scheme. Fifteen villages took part. Competition was held in 10 games.

Anantapur.—One village has installed a radio set at a cost of Rs. 950 collected from private donations.

North Arcot.—A village hall to serve as a community centre is proposed to be put up at a cost of Rs. 2,000 under the auspices of the Kannamangalam Firka Development Association.

Nellore.—Kalakshepams and dramas were conducted during January.



Another milestone in the solution of the Housing problem in Madras—a triumph of Co-operation. Here is seen the Hon'ble Premier of Madras laying the foundations of Gandhi Nagar a township sponsored by the Madras Co-operative House Construction Society

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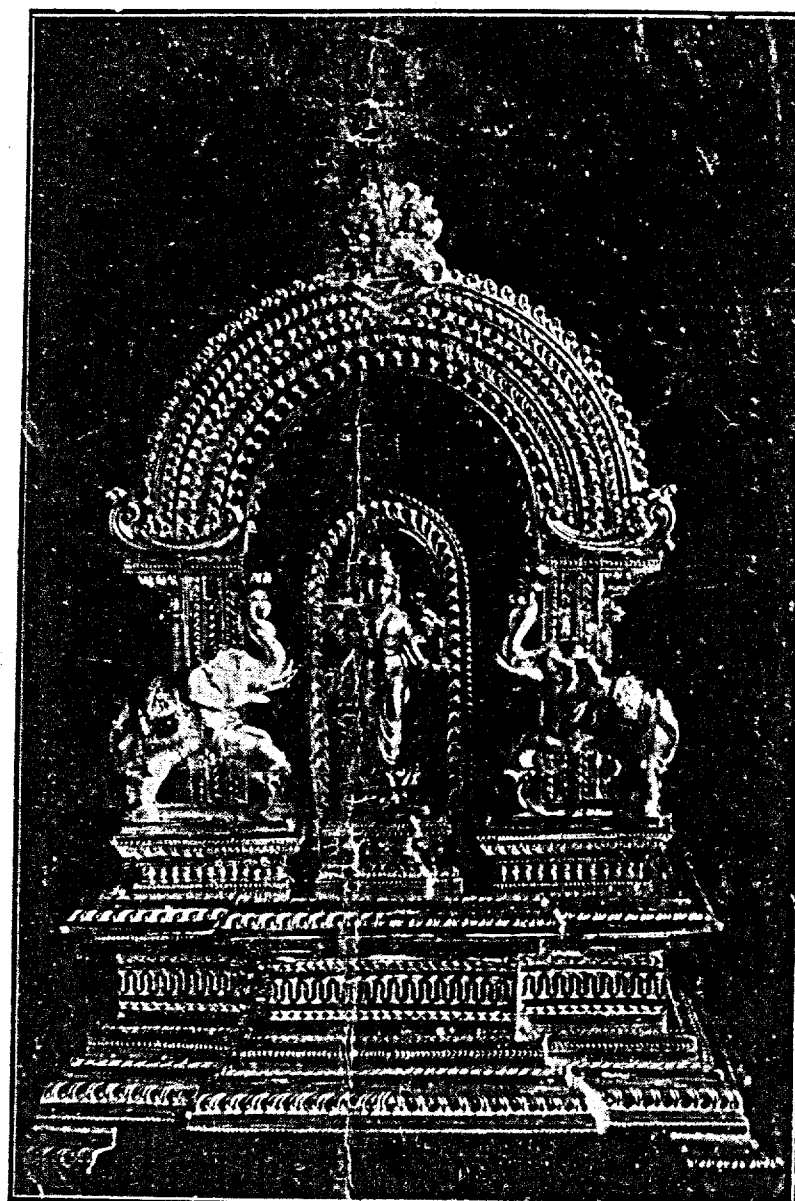
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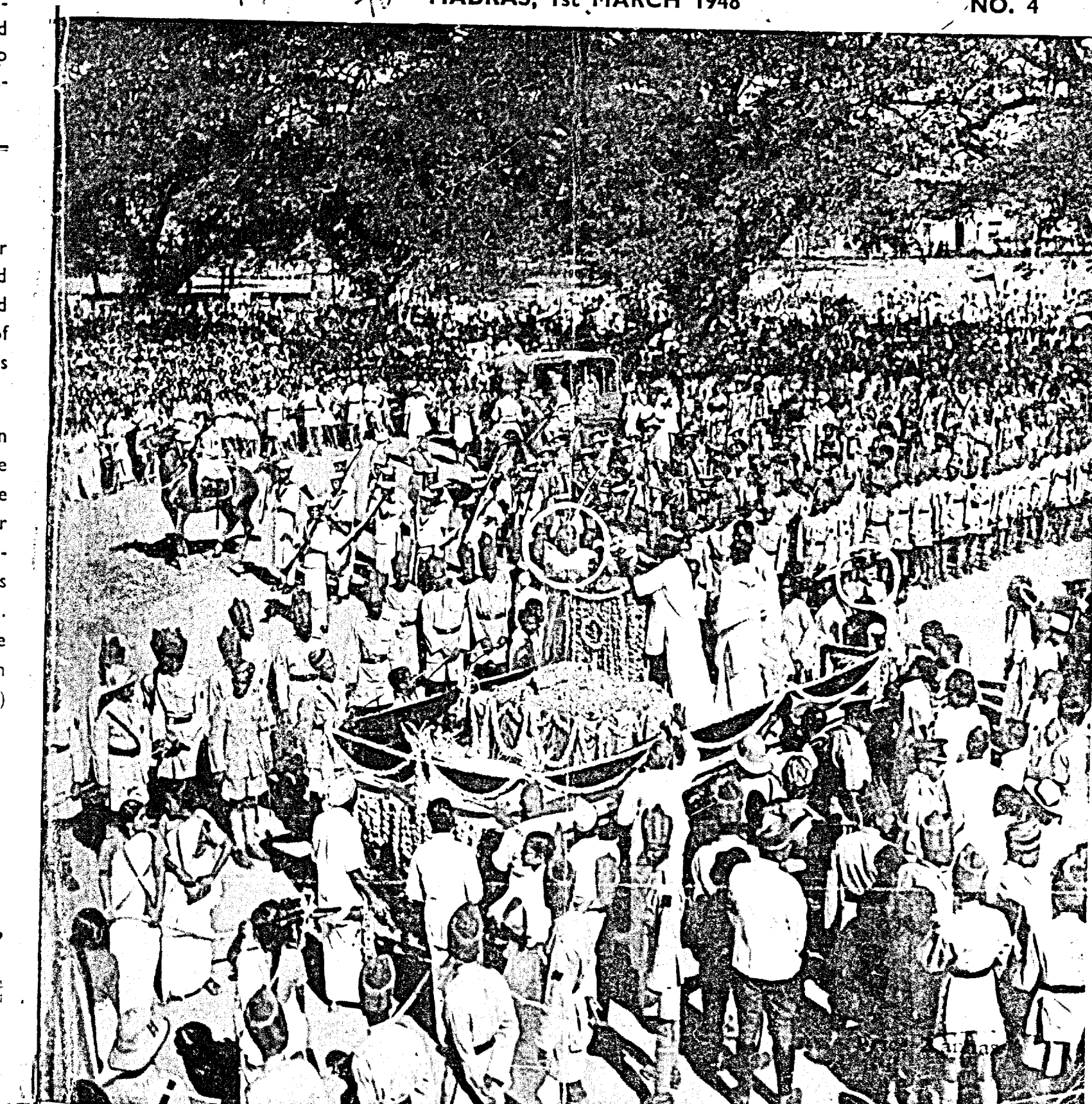
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NO. 4





Trichinopoly citizens turned up in large numbers to witness the ashes of the Greatest Man of the Age.

Madras Information

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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

March 1, 1948

Notes and Comments

The Madras Suppression of Disturbances Bill

It is commonplace that public peace and order are basic conditions for progress. Whether in a family, community or country unless there is peace and order, progress is bound to suffer. The history of almost every country in the world bears ample testimony to this fact. The greatest strides in constructive fields of activity were possible only during periods of stable and solid peace.

The responsibility of maintaining this peace rests mainly with the State. Whatever be the nature or the composition of the Government, its responsibilities to maintain public peace and to afford protection to life and property has never been a moot point. The ancient and mediaeval 'Police States' as well as the modern democratic state have alike shouldered this responsibility. Such responsibility is especially great at a time when conditions are not normal. Then the Government would find it difficult to combat subversive forces with the ordinary weapons in their legal armoury. They have necessarily to take extra powers in order effectively to maintain peace, and prevent disorder. The period following a big war is not generally a period, when conditions are normal. Mahatma Gandhi in his Autobiography has observed to the effect that it is a general practice for the State to be invested with extraordinary powers after a big war. His observation was made with reference to steps the South African Government took after the Boer War.

We are also witnessing the aftermath of a big war and there is no denying the fact that conditions are abnormal.

It is in the light of this background, that we have to judge the Madras Suppression of Disturbances Bill, 1947. The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill have made clear the circumstances under which the Government have been forced to take extra powers to ensure the maintenance of peace. The speech of the Hon'ble the Home Minister while introducing the Bill in the Assembly gives a lucid survey of the background as well as answers reasonable criticisms against the Bill. He has assured the public

that the provisions of the Bill are not meant to be used against any particular party or individual. Considering the atmosphere in the country, in which forces of political and communal extremism are making insidious endeavours to assert themselves, the Government thought it necessary to arm themselves with necessary powers and had taken care to see that the Act would come into force only in such areas which are notified as disturbed areas. No Government, the Hon'ble Minister said, would be worth its name unless they have powers to put down in an emergent manner anything that might overtake them. He also took care to point out that it might not be quite necessary to use this Act even after it finds a place in the statute book. *The Bill was necessary in the common interest of the province and not for the benefit of any single community or party.*

There were some members, continued the Hon'ble Minister, who felt that too much power was being vested in the hands of the police officers under the Bill. Whatever may have been their justification or otherwise of police out look under the previous regime, the police under the new dispensation can be trusted to discharge their duties to the people with restraint and responsibility, realizing that the times had changed and that they must adapt themselves to the changed times. The Hon'ble Minister hoped that with public co-operation, the mental transformation of the policeman would come about sooner than otherwise. There was also criticism about Government's attempt to put down violence. The Hon'ble Minister's answer to this was that if they allowed violence to grow without putting it down then there would be no chance for non-violence to come up. It was because they, as a Government, believed in non-violence that they wanted to use only the minimum force possible. But they would not be worth the name of a Government if under conditions in which danger threatened the life and property of the

IN THIS ISSUE

Mahatma's 'Ashes' Procession in Madras—*Frontispiece.*

Notes and Comments

Press Notes and Releases—
A Digest

Departments' Forum

Madras Provinces' Last
Homage to Mahatma
Gandhi

Talks and Articles

Policies and Pronouncements

Prohibition News Letter

Delhi Notes

Indian News Digest

Other Provinces—Their
Plans and Programmes

Books and Publications

Railway Traffic Statistics

people, they did not use the powers which had been vested in them by the law of the land. If to-day the Government took more powers in their hands by means of the measure under discussion the Hon'ble Minister said that it was only to preserve a peaceful atmosphere in the country in any emergency that might arise. Drastic

Dominion Food Minister's Visit

The Hon'ble Mr. Jairamdas Doulatram, Minister for Food in the Dominion Government, had been on a three-day visit to this province, in order to study at first hand the food situation here. This is ample evidence of the solicitude of the "Centre" and its willingness to help this province through the impending food crisis. The Hon'ble Minister had a busy programme in the course of which he took pains to study all aspects of the province's food problem. The statements that he made in different places in the course of his visit not only indicate the Dominion Government's anxious concern in the matter but also his complete grasp of the essentials of the food problem. There are three problems which have to be taken into consideration, he said, the first is the likely need of assistance from the Central Government in regard to food supplies; the second is how far the unaffected parts of the province, especially the irrigated areas, can by a very special effort try in the two coming seasons to increase the food supplies of the province; and the third is the study of substitute foodstuffs which people could fall back upon in an emergency. "I feel," he continued, "that if the official and non-official world co-operate in all the effort that is necessary and further maintain their self-confidence the crisis will be satisfactorily passed over. These latter words of the Hon'ble Minister need careful noting. Stepping up of food production cannot be effected through the unilateral efforts of the Government alone but requires the concentrated and co-operative efforts of the entire people. The food crisis has to be tided over somehow and both the Provincial and Central Governments are doing all that is possible for them. But the people also have a vital responsibility and they have to discharge it, without passively looking to the Government for help. Outside help may often prove inadequate. This province has to be self-sufficient to-day or to-morrow and to this end every citizen has to strive. To increase production at this juncture is a national duty. But to

diseases need drastic remedies, and the general support that the measure received at the hands of the legislators, except for some apprehensions expressed in regard to the powers conferred on subordinate police officers to order shooting, indicates the appreciation of its need in these difficult times.

increase production cannot be a policy which will yield result in a short period or in the immediate future, and the province's needs for food supplies to tide over the threatened crisis are immediate. That is where the imperative need for immediate assistance from the centre comes in.

Women's Welfare

In our issue, dated 1st February, we published an article on women's welfare work in this province. This province has undoubtedly scored a march over other provinces in organizing a separate department for women's welfare. The importance of women's welfare and its vital part in the general welfare of the country are indisputable matters now and apparently, this fact is at the bottom of the present tidal wave of public interest in women's welfare. Women constitute roughly half of the population. Abraham Lincoln said "No nation can be half slave and half free." Similarly no country can achieve progress if its one-half constitutes a weak link. The Government of Madras have followed up the formation of a separate department for

women's welfare with a number of other ameliorative measures. They have sanctioned the construction of a school building for training of workers at Gandhigram in Madura district. They have also made provision for the training of three batches of workers in the same place. But in this case, as in many other things, Government alone cannot achieve much success. The public, both men and women, have to fully co-operate with the Government in their efforts to promote women's welfare. Already this province has achieved some progress in this direction and Countess Mountbatten during her recent visit has borne testimony to it. In the course of a communication she observes "It is essential that women should take a wider interest in their responsibilities as citizens and the Government have shown great vision in the establishment of this department which will help many women to lead happier and more useful lives." As regards the actual outturn of work in this province, the Countess observes "it is considered a tremendous achievement that branches have been established in every headquarters, town and Presidency and that such a large number of centres are operating in the City in addition to the domiciliary visiting which is undertaken. There is in India such a great need for the attention of women and the awakening in them of their responsibilities as citizens that it is most heartening to find here in Madras the very progressive steps that have been taken to achieve this."

It is hoped that public will fully co-operate with the Government in their efforts to improve the lot of women folk in this Province.

Prohibition in Malabar and South Kanara

Certain criticisms have appeared in the Press with reference to the introduction of prohibition in Malabar and South Kanara. The main points in these criticisms are (1) that the scheme had entailed unemployment and distress to 270,000 ex-tappers and their dependants, (2) that illicit manufacture of toddy and arrack was resorted to in isolated spots on the coast and hilly tracts, (3) that bicycles were not available to the usual customers as the limited stock locally available was bought for the Prohibition staff, (4) that berths in public conveyances like railways and buses were appropriated by Prohibition staff and workers and large amounts were spent mainly as travelling allowance and (5) that

jaggery had become scarce as a result of Prohibition.

These statements are exaggerated and wide off the mark. The actual number of tappers unemployed owing to the introduction of Prohibition in Malabar and South Kanara are about 28,500 and 15,000, respectively, so that the total number of persons affected would be about 217,500 assuming that an average family consists of five members. Usually only the able-bodied head of the family takes to tapping, the other members being engaged in agricultural operations.

Adequate and effective steps have been taken to prevent illicit manufacture of arrack and toddy. When

Government became aware of the continuance of tapping in certain places they immediately published by tom-tom in the villages that tapping of trees for sweet toddy without a licence or for fermented toddy was punishable. Government have reason to believe that in places other than those in which there is authorized tapping for manufacture of jaggery, there is no illicit tapping in the two districts. Considering that Prohibition was introduced only on 1st October 1947 in these districts, any criticism made immediately after can only be described as premature.

The purchase of bicycles for the Prohibition staff did not result in inconvenience to the public for the simple reason that all the bicycles for that purpose were bought from outside dealers. No doubt, the successful working of the scheme necessitated the brisk movement of the staff to the needed places, but the accusation of the appropriation of berths in public conveyances is as baseless a charge as that of the alleged appropriation of bicycles exclusively for Prohibition work. Such allegations do not deserve any consideration.

Production of jaggery was also not adversely affected by Prohibition. With the commencement of the palmyrah jaggery season in December, permission was given for the tapping of sweet

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Hence it is that I have not hesitated to ask all non-Hindus to help me with their prayer in this mission, and it is because I have a living faith in my mission and because that faith is based on an extensive experience that I have not hesitated to say with the greatest deliberation that, if we, Hindus, do not destroy this monster of untouchability, it will devour both Hindus and Hinduism. And when I ask you to purify your hearts of untouchability, I ask of you nothing less than this—that you should believe in the fundamental unity and equality of man. I invite you all to forget that there are any distinctions of high and low among the children of one and the same God.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

juice from palmyrah trees for the manufacture of jaggery. The Government also permitted the tapping of coconut trees for the manufacture of

jaggery in selected centres in the two districts soon after Prohibition was introduced. The Government have organized 26 co-operative societies for the manufacture of coconut jaggery and 40 for palmyrah jaggery and these have absorbed about 10,200 tappers. Thus there is production of jaggery of both varieties on a co-operative basis on an increased scale.

Besides the formation of jaggery societies, Collectors of Prohibition districts have been instructed to explore the possibilities of providing other means of avocation to the ex-tappers. Formation of Land Colonization Societies, Milk Supply Societies, Khadi Spinning and Weaving Societies, Coir Industries Societies and other Cottage Industries Societies suitable for the tappers have been or are being formed. At the recent Conference of the Special Development Officers held at Madras, definite programmes of ameliorative work have been chalked out to provide suitable alternative employment to the ex-tappers. Government have therefore been taking all possible steps to provide work to the ex-tappers and the reports received show that by the formation of jaggery societies, the position in respect of unemployment among the ex-tappers has eased considerably in the two districts. Government are paying every attention to improve the lot of the ex-tappers.

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Petrol Ration

The Government of India have fixed the petrol quota for this Province for the quarter ending 30th April 1948 provisionally at 39.6 lakhs gallons and they have at the same time stressed the need for economy in petrol consumption. The quota is the same as was allotted for the quarter ending 30th April 1947. Since April 1947, the number of motor vehicles has increased considerably and the quantity allotted will not, therefore, be sufficient to meet in full the demands for petrol. Instructions have accordingly been issued to all Area Rationing Authorities to make a 15 per cent and 33½ per cent cut in supplementary rations, respectively, for essential and non-essential users of motor cars and motor cycles. The Government have, however, decided to restore with effect from 1st February 1948 the unit value

of basic or ordinary coupons issued to motor cars and motor cycles. A basic or ordinary unit will, on and from that date, represent 2 gallons and it will not be necessary for owners to get such coupons endorsed.

[January 29]

Popularization of Parboiled Rice

The Rice Technology Committee at its meeting, held in New Delhi on 28th April 1947, has made the following recommendations on the question of popularizing the use of parboiled rice, in place of raw rice:—

(1) The use of parboiled rice, in place of raw rice, may be extended, in view of the fact that parboiled rice if properly produced, gives less breakage in milling, has more nutritive value and better keeping quality than raw

rice. (2) The Food Department and the Provincial and State Governments should continue to popularize parboiled rice through the Food Department journal "Nutrition," through the newspapers published in English and Indian languages and over the radio, etc. (3) The production of parboiled rice should be encouraged by giving extra mill price for parboiled rice all over India following the example of the Punjab Government. (4) The process of parboiling now carried out in India should be improved and standardized, as far as possible, with reference to different varieties of rice by appointing two technical officers to go into the question in all details, including the parboiling methods adopted on an industrial as well as on a domestic scale. (5) When rice is imported, it should preferably be parboiled in the country of its origin; when paddy is

imported, it should be parboiled before milling. (6) As the production of parboiled rice by the use of a mechanical dryer will be more economic and hygienic than the usual process of sun drying, an efficient dryer, suitable for the purpose, should be obtained from a reputed firm by some rice miller of India, so that it may lead to the production and use of more dryers of this type in other rice mills.

The Government have passed the following orders on the recommendations referred to above :—

With regard to recommendations (1) and (2), the Director of Public Health has already taken measures through his departmental agencies to popularize the use of parboiled rice. He has been directed to continue the propaganda and to intensify it in due course. The Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) has also been directed to consider the steps that are necessary to meet the increased demand that may result from such propaganda and to put them into effect, as soon as the general food situation returns to normal. For the present, the Government have decided not to pursue any proposal to supply hotels, etc., in rationed areas with parboiled rice alone, in view of the practical difficulties involved in making available adequate quantities of parboiled rice to ration card-holders. With regard to recommendation (3), the Government consider it undesirable to give extra mill price for the production of parboiled rice by way of encouragement, unless a ready market is assured for it. As regards recommendation number 6, the Government consider that the Department of Industries should, in consultation with the Agricultural Research Engineer, devise a mechanical dryer which the millers may be asked to introduce, if found suitable and economic. The Director of Industries and Commerce has been ordered to take early steps in the matter and to submit a report on it to the Government not later than the 1st June 1948.

[February 4]

Temporary increase in Pensions Reduced

The Government have directed that the rates of temporary increase in pensions sanctioned to all civil pensioners in G.O. No. 45, Finance (Pensions), dated 22nd January 1947, shall be revised as follows: Pensions not

exceeding Rs. 20—Rs. 4 per mensem; pensions exceeding Rs. 20 but not exceeding Rs. 60—Rs. 5 per mensem; pensions exceeding Rs. 60 but not exceeding Rs. 100—Rs. 6 per mensem.

Persons in receipt of pensions exceeding Rs. 100 but not exceeding Rs. 106 per mensem shall receive such increase as will bring the total pension to Rs. 106 per mensem. The reduced rates of temporary increase will take effect from 1st January 1948, i.e., on pensions due for payment in February 1948 and will remain in operation until further orders.

[February 5]

Handloom Industry

In May 1947, the Government appointed Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Naidu, as a Court of Enquiry under the Industrial Disputes Act, to enquire into the conditions of labour in the handloom industry of the Province. After enquiry, the Court has submitted its report and has made the following recommendations :—

The chain of middlemen in yarn and cloth business must be eliminated and a drastic revision of dyeing charges should be made so that the price of handloom goods may be reduced and a good market may be secured for the industry. Every effort must be made to increase the supply of yarn which will provide employment to the weavers for 24 days in a month so that the wages of weavers may fall automatically. Every Weavers' Co-operative Production and Sale Society should open a credit department which must be able to finance the indebted weavers to liquidate their debts to the outsiders. The society must be made to function as a multi-purpose society catering to all the material needs of the weaving community. As there is an unqualified desire on the part of the weavers to become members of co-operative societies, the weavers' co-operative movement should be extended to embrace the entire community of weavers and coercion must be adopted to bring all the weavers into the co-operative fold. Weavers should not be compelled to take coloured yarn. The provisions of the Non-Power Factories Act, the Employment of Children Act, the Payment of Wages Act, the Madras Maternity Benefit Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act must be applied to the handloom industry. A bonus of three months' wages may be paid to all the workers in all the handloom factories in the Province for the year 1948-47. All

dependent weavers working under master weavers may be paid by their master weavers bonus equal to one-sixth of their annual earnings for the year 1946-47. A system of compulsory provident fund may be instituted and the workers and the employers may contribute equally at the rate of one anna in the rupee of the wages paid.

[February 5]

Foodgrains De-control

In an article which appeared at page 8 of the issue of the *Indian Express*, dated 3rd January 1948, 'A Consumer' has asked a series of questions with regard to the effects of de-control in the surplus districts. As it is in the public interest to know the answers to these questions, the Government issue the following Press Note :—

Question (1) : Whether the present licensed retail shops will continue or whether any person may deal in rice as was obtaining prior to the introduction of control and rationing and whether all persons holding licences under the Foodgrains Control Order not doing business for sometime past can deal in foodgrains now?

Answer : The Madras Foodgrains Control Order, 1947, continues to be in force. Under this order persons dealing in more than 20 maunds at a time should possess a licence under the order except those dealing in less than 20 maunds. Since the intensive all out procurement scheme continues to be in force in the surplus districts, merchants who are not appointed by the Collector as procuring agents can function as retailers but they cannot purchase paddy, rice or millets direct from producers but only from procuring agents appointed by the Collector.

Question (2) : Whether any quantity can be obtained by these retail dealers from the mills for retail transactions?

Answer : The retail dealers should purchase their requirements of paddy, rice and millets only from the procuring agents appointed by the Collector. Whether millers or merchants such purchases should be limited to 20 maunds if they are not licensees under the Foodgrains Control Order.

Questions (3) and (4) : Whether the consumer can purchase any quantity he requires during the month, either from the miller or a retail dealer as was the case prior to the introduction of rationing? Whether rice mills have to sell rice to the present wholesaler

stockists like co-operative societies or to sell direct to the retail dealers and whether the mills can sell rice direct to the consumers?

Answer : The consumer cannot purchase any quantity from the millers or wholesalers who will as at present supply only to the retailers who can sell to the public. The Government have recently extended the scope of the Essential Articles Restricted Acquisition. Order to all parts of the Province under which no one can purchase and stock foodgrains in quantities which will exceed his requirements for three months, calculated at the rate of 1 lb. per adult per day. Therefore a consumer cannot purchase more than three months' requirements without infringing the law.

Question (5) : Whether there would be any fixation of prices for wholesale and retail transactions in rice after decontrol comes into effect?

Answer : The Government have already announced the new F.O.R. prices for rice and paddy as well as wholesale ceiling prices in the surplus districts. A statutory notification has been issued giving statutory effect to these prices. Retail prices are expected to follow these statutory ceiling prices.

Question (6) : By the continuance of restrictions enforced even after decontrol, are mills expected to merely dehusk paddy as is the case now or can they give at least single polish or more polishes?

Answer : The dehusking Order has since been cancelled. Mills are required to give the normal single polish. They cannot give more than a single polish. Necessary amendments to the Rice Mills Licensing Order will issue shortly.

Question (7) : Whether any consumer owning lands either in the same taluk in which he resides or in a different taluk of the district can transport paddy required for his family for one year without a permit and if a permit is necessary, to whom is the consumer to apply?

Answer : Such movement is permissible except where inter-taluk or inter-village bans exist. Where such ban exists, a permit should be taken from the Tahsildar or Taluk Supply Officer having jurisdiction over the area for transport of foodgrains for personal consumption.

Question (8) : Whether the existing restrictions imposed on marriage occasions are to be continued even after decontrol comes into effect?

Answer : The existing restrictions relating to feeding at marriage parties and parties other than marriage parties still continue to be in force.

The above answers apply to the rice surplus taluks of the East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, Tanjore and South Arcot districts besides Malabar and Nilgiris.

[February 6]

National Savings Certificates

The amount realised by way of sale of National Savings Certificates in the Province of Madras and Indian States for the week ending January 10, 1948 is Rs. 5,59,435. The total amount realised from April 1, 1947 to January 10, 1948, is Rs. 1,68,29,155.

[February 6]

Fodder Crops

In pursuance of the suggestion made by the Dairy Development Adviser to the Government of India in 1945 for taking adequate steps to grow more fodder crops in this Province, the Government have sanctioned a scheme, at a cost not exceeding Rs. 2,100 for conducting trials of different kinds of grasses, which are likely to prove useful to the milch cattle round about Madras. The details of the scheme are as follows :—

A plot of land measuring about 6 acres in extent belonging to the Theosophical Society, Adyar, will be taken on lease by the Agricultural Department for a period of one year in the first instance. Fodder crops like maize, fodder cholam, pillipesara, thin Napier Guinea grass, lucerena grass, etc., will be grown there. A demonstration Maistri to be stationed at the place will supervise the labour and carry out the instructions of the Departmental officers for the successful growing of the grasses. The scheme will be in charge of the District Agricultural Officer, Saidapet. Accurate records of the yield of fodder crops and grasses will be maintained for evaluating their merit as fodders.

[February 11]

Muslim Education

The Government have passed the following orders on the memorandum of representations submitted by the Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly on the question of Muslim Education in the Province

and the establishment of separate schools for Muslims.

While the Government are against the starting and maintenance of separate schools for Muslims as a policy, the present separate schools may be continued for the next five years but without any commitment to continue them after the period. In secondary schools and in Standards VI, VII and VIII of higher elementary schools, the regional language will be the medium of instruction. In elementary schools where the regional language is not being taught now, the study of the regional language will be introduced in Standard III or earlier. The present arrangement for the provision of religious instruction for Muslims in existing Muslim schools may be continued under a syllabus to be approved by the Government. The Government, if they think fit, may close such of those schools which are working uneconomically or for any other reason.

The suggestions that Urdu shall be a compulsory language after the completion of the compulsory elementary stage of education up to the completion of Form VI, that Devanagiri script should also be taught, that provision for Arabic and Persian should be made from Form IV to Form VI to be learnt as optional and that English should be compulsory from Form II or III to Form VI will be gone into along with the reorganization of secondary education.

[February 11]

A Correction

With reference to the Press Release, dated 15th December 1947, giving a list of Government servants dismissed for corruption, Mr. P. S. Narayanasamy Ayyar, ex-Manager, Office of the Director of Cinchona Department, Ootacamund, was dismissed (for corruption) by the Director of Cinchona department, Ootacamund, and not as a result of the investigation by the Special Staff for corruption cases, as stated in the said Press Release.

[February 11]

Mahatmaji's Portrait

The Government have decided that portraits of Mahatma Gandhi should be displayed permanently above the seats of the presiding judges of all civil, criminal and revenue courts in the Province as Mahatmaji stood for truth and justice.

[February 11]

Labour Department

Labour Situation in the Province

The Government have declared that the sugar industry in the Province is a public utility service for a period of six months from the date of the publication of the notification. In four cases, disputes between employers and employees have been referred to Industrial Tribunals and in three cases Labour Officers are exploring possibilities of settlement of disputes. On the intervention of the Commissioner of Labour the Dharapuram Motor Workers' Union, Dharapuram, has withdrawn the notice of strike. The dispute between the workers and the management of the Dindigul Taneries has been settled

and the notice of strike withdrawn. The Labour Officer, Madura, reports that a labour dispute in Madura has been settled and the strike notice withdrawn. The Government have accepted the award on the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Mahalakshmi Textile Mills in Pasumalai. They have also accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, on the dispute between Sri K. Venkatarama Iyer, Typist, and the management of Sri Meenakshi Sundareswarar Electric Power Corporation, Karaikudi.

[2nd fortnight of January 1948]

Revenue Department

Resettlement

Salem

Manivilandan Ex-servicemen's Co-operative Colonization Society.—A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society was held on 29th January 1948 in the Colony. Colonists for temporary cultivation of the land were selected and 50 men were tentatively selected to grow food crops in the colony lands.

The Government have sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 23,650 towards reclamation of land, construction of 12 huts, purchase of 12 pairs of bulls, sinking of five more irrigation wells, etc., for the colony. There is a bright future for this colony.

(2) **Motor Transport Co-operative Society for Ex-servicemen, Limited.**—The lorries of the society are expected to arrive at Salem by 5th February 1948.

(3) The Ex-servicemen's Canteen opened on 14th January 1948 is working well in the District Employment Office, Salem.

Madras.

The number of ex-servicemen registered for the quarter ending with 31st December 1947 is 2,465. Besides this, 44 refugees have also been registered. During this period demand for these men numbering 257 were received from various offices in the City for appointment and in almost all the cases they have been complied with.

The Madras Tailor's Co-operative Society for ex-servicemen is functioning well. During the quarter ending with 31st December 1947 the

society has been able to stitch garments for both private and Government institutions valued Rs. 900. At present the society has got a surplus of about Rs. 475-4-0. Due to the difficulty in obtaining cloth the work of the society was suspended for about a month during this quarter.

There were 61 members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 16,050 on 31st December 1947 in the Madras Co-operative Motor Transport Society, Limited, for ex-servicemen. There were ten lorries for the society at the beginning of the quarter. Fourteen lorries were added during the quarter. Thus there were 24 lorries for the society at the end of the quarter which

were mainly engaged in plying for hire. The lorries earned a sum of Rs. 82,788-6-0. Excluding expenses and providing a reserve of Rs. 21,000 and odd, the society has earned a net income of Rs. 18,584. The society has employed 48 ex-servicemen in various capacities and all of them have earned by way of wages a sum of Rs. 10,448 during the half year.

The Madras Co-operative Radio Sales and Service Society for Ex-servicemen, during the quarter ending, sold about 40 sets and has made a net profit of Rs. 1,500 so far. The society is functioning well. The society has been able to provide occupation for some of the trainees who came out of Instrument Mech. Training Centre in addition to those employed in the society by giving them training in Radio business and fixing them up as dealers with sole monopoly for Ultra Radios in the mufasal districts. The question of starting a laboratory and service to provide employment for larger number of ex-servicemen is under consideration of the Board of Directors.

Trichinopoly

Registration and placing.—In the month under report the total number of registration in the Trichinopoly Sub-Regional Exchange was 429. The total number of placings in Government and other department was 128.

Motor Transport Co-operative Society.—The society is functioning satisfactorily. There are 15 lorries at present. One of them is under repairs and it is

(Continued on page 24)

Directorate of Resettlement and Employment

The following changes in the designations of the Managerial staff of the Employment Exchanges are notified :—

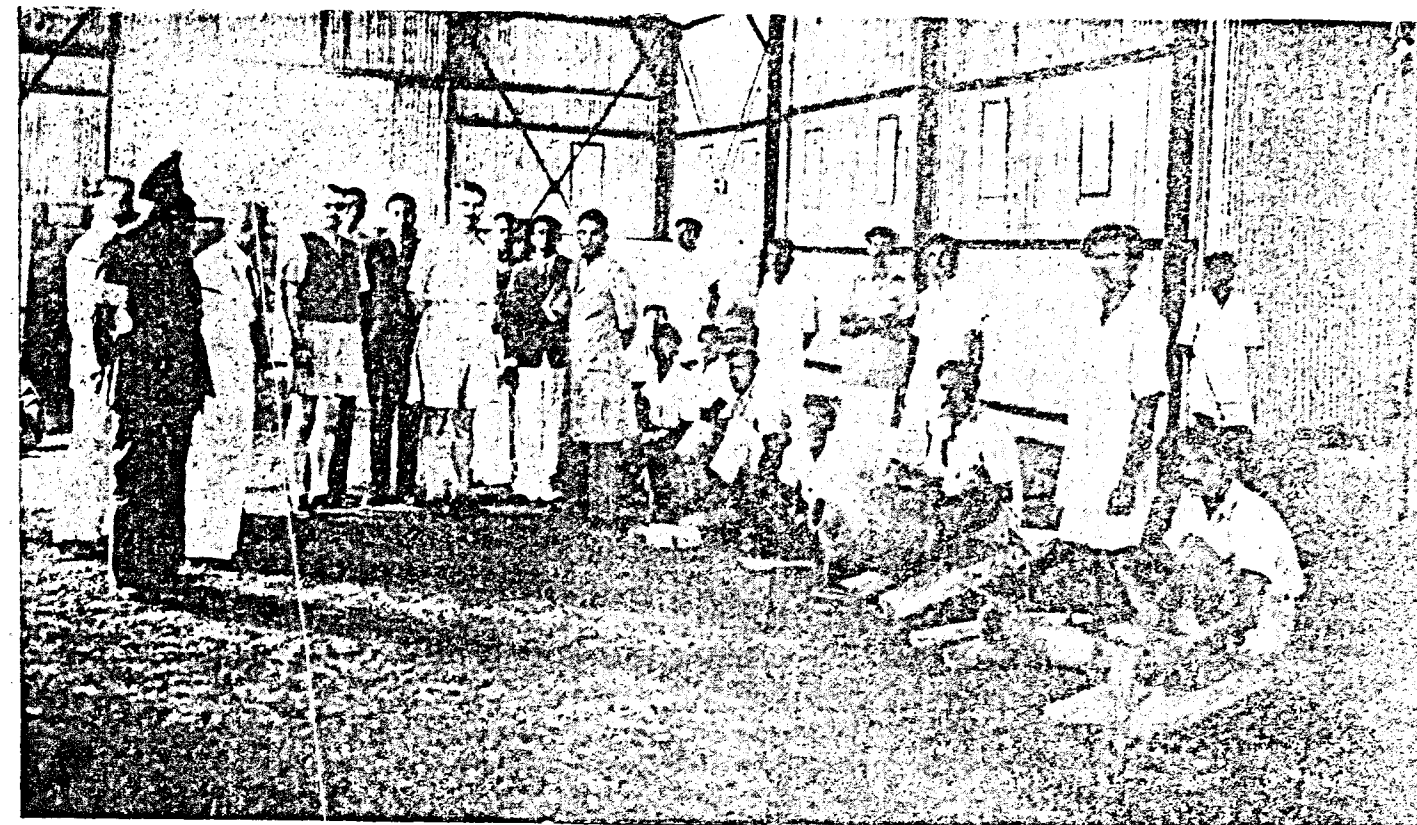
Present designation

1. Manager, Central Clearing House.
2. Deputy Manager, Central Clearing House.
3. Assistant Manager, Central Clearing House.
4. Manager, Regional Employment Exchange.
5. Deputy Manager, Regional Employment Exchange.
6. Assistant Manager, Regional Employment Exchange.
7. Manager, Sub-Regional Employment Exchange.
8. Assistant Manager, Sub-Regional Employment Exchange.
9. Assistant Manager (Tech.)
10. Assistant Manager incharge, District Employment Office.

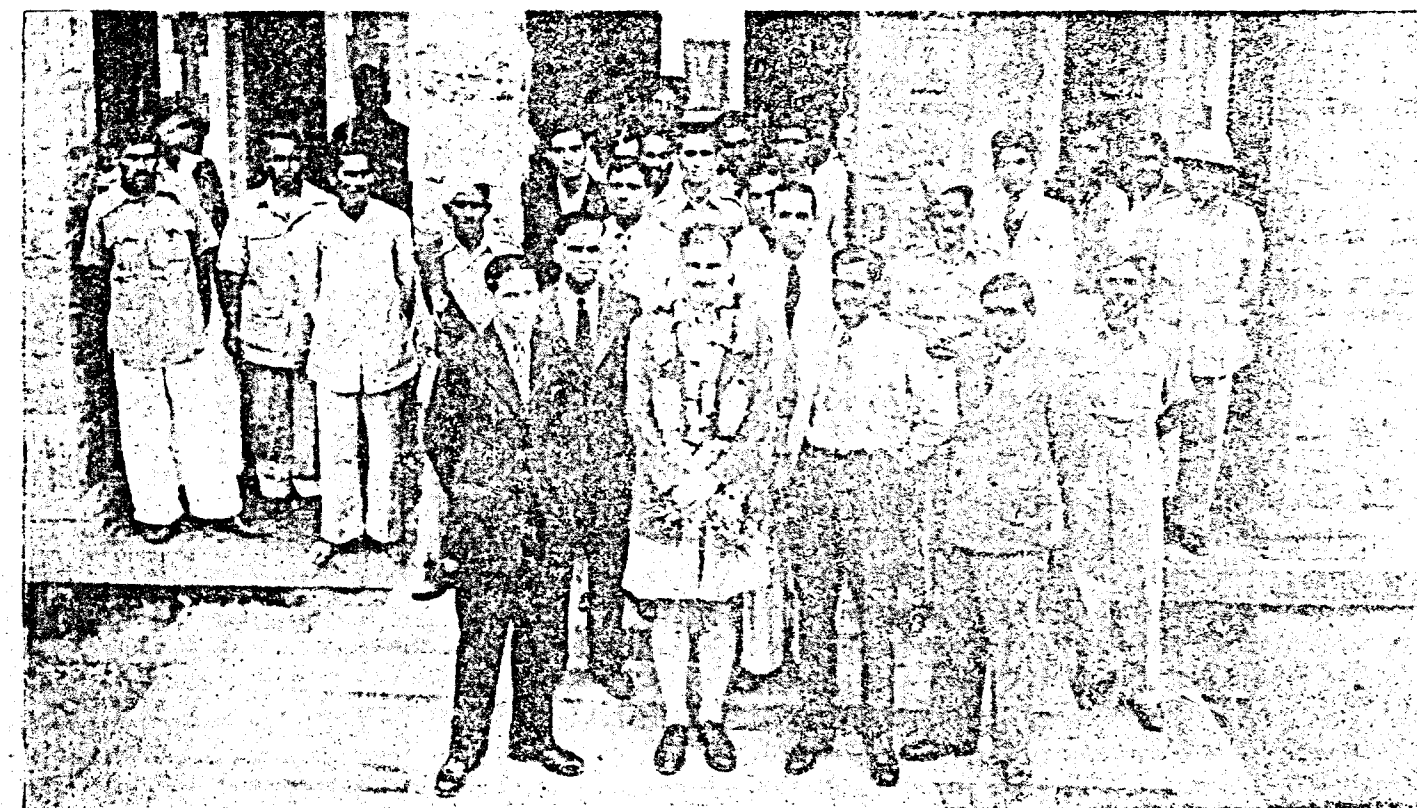
Changed designation.

- Central Clearing House Officer.
- Deputy Central Clearing House Officer.
- Assistant Central Clearing House Officer.
- Regional Employment Officer.
- Deputy Regional Employment Officer.
- Assistant Regional Employment Officer.
- Sub-Regional Employment Officer.
- Assistant Sub-Regional Employment Officer.
- Assistant Employment Officer (Tech.)
- District Employment Officer.

Governor looks into Ex-servicemen's Activities



His Excellency the Governor was given a reception by the Officers and Ex-servicemen at the Employment Exchange, Vizagapatam



His Excellency the Governor sees bright future for Ex-servicemen in metal trade, and stresses the need for more co-operative metal works in South India

Commercial Crops Marketing Act

In connection with the working of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act in the Tiruppur notified area for the year 1945, it was observed that the transactions in the yard of the committee amounted only to 5 per cent of the total arrivals.

In order to attract a large quantity of the produce of the growers of cotton to the market yard so that the full benefits of the Act might be realised by the grower and the trade, the Government issued orders in October 1947 prohibiting the purchase and sale of cotton within a distance of three miles from the limits of the market of the Tiruppur Cotton Market Committee. With a view to consider the whole question, the Government convened a conference of the representatives of the traders, growers and the market committee early in January 1948 when it was represented that, as it was impossible to conform to the orders of the Government restricting the purchase and sale of cotton, the orders might be kept in abeyance. Orders were accordingly issued that, pending further examination of the question, the orders regarding the restrictions might be held in abeyance.

The Government have since reconsidered the question and have directed that the Tiruppur Cotton Market Committee should construct twenty-one or more sheds measuring 40' x 60' at its own cost and also provide a Trading hall for the sale of lint by samples by 1st September 1948. The Committee has also been instructed to give facilities to such of the merchants as desire to construct rat proof godowns of a standard design within the limits of the market at their cost. These godowns will become the property of the Market Committee and these merchants will be allowed to occupy the godowns and pay rent to be fixed by the Market Committee, the rent being set off towards the cost of the godowns. When the sheds and godowns are completed by 1st September 1948 the restrictions originally imposed by the Government will be restored, and all trade in cotton (both lint and kapas) shall from that date be done within the market. All licences for sale and purchase of cotton in respect of any place situated within a distance of three miles from the limits of the market the Tiruppur Cotton Market Committee, shall thereafter be liable to be cancelled.

[February 13]

Cattle Feeds

With a view to restore free trade in cattle-feeds the Government have decided to decontrol the price and movement of all cattle-feeds except groundnut cake. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, has been requested to take immediate steps to implement the decision by cancelling all statutory and executive orders issued by him and Collectors of districts in regard to the control over price, movement, etc., of cattle-feeds. Consequential amendments to the existing statutory control on cattle-feed will be notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette* after obtaining the prior concurrence of the Government of India, wherever necessary.

The Government wish to make it clear that there is no ban on the transport of cotton seed to places within or outside the Province in the Indian Dominion. The prohibition on the import of cotton seed into the Tinnevely area introduced under the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (Central Act III of 1923), will, however, continue as heretofore.

[February 13]

Recruitment of War Service Candidates

In their order, dated 9th September 1947, the Government ordered that war service candidates competing for vacancies (non-reserved) arising on or after 1st April 1947 are permitted to deduct the period of their war service in computing their age for appointment. The Government have now directed that this concession should be extended to war service candidates competing for de-reserved vacancies (33½ per cent of those originally reserved) which are thrown open to the public.

The Government have further decided that war service candidates, who have rendered temporary civil service, seeking retention against de-reserved vacancies in the posts of Civil Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons (Men's Sections), Nurses, First Class Health Officers and Second Class Health Officers, should be permitted to deduct from their age both the periods of their war service and continuous temporary service.

The Government have ordered that for the second sentence of paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 821, Public (Services), dated 15th March 1947, the following should be substituted:—

"War service candidates competing for these vacancies will be allowed to

deduct the period of their war service in computing their age for appointment. They will not be allowed any other special privileges, or concessions as regards qualifications, etc., except in the case of those, who applied in response to an advertisement, inviting applications published by the Commission on or before 4th February 1947."

[February 16]

Addresses to His Excellency the Governor-General

In order to enable His Excellency the Governor-General of the Dominion of India to show to the Government of India, as a Constitutional Governor-General, copies of any speeches or replies to addresses presented to him in the provinces on the occasion of his visits, it is essential that he should be informed well beforehand in regard to any address he is desired to make and that he should be in possession of a copy of the address to which he is to reply, as also the material for his own address. It is, therefore, requested that in all such cases, the information and material referred to above and the draft of the address proposed to be presented to him should reach the Provincial Government, as long as possible, before the actual event, with a minimum of 14 days, so that they may be forwarded to the Governor-General, to reach him at least a week before the event.

[February 17]

Bonus for Paddy

According to the orders issued on the subject, 15th August 1947 was the last date for the receipt of applications claiming bonus for deliveries made during the period from 1st December 1946 to 30th June 1947. Similarly the last date for the receipt of applications for bonus in respect of deliveries made during the second spell of the bonus period (viz., 1st July 1947 to 30th September 1947) was 30th November 1947. It has come to the notice of the Government that several producers who have delivered paddy and rice during the two spells mentioned above failed to apply before the dates mentioned above and that they have applied subsequent to those dates. Some persons may not have applied under the mistaken impression that it was too late to claim bonus.

The Government therefore desire to announce to the public that though bonus will be paid now only in respect of applications received within the

prescribed dates, bonus relating to applications which are received after the due dates mentioned above, will be paid on or after March 1948.

The Government have also sanctioned the payment of bonus for paddy and rice delivered during the period from 1st November 1947 to 6th December 1947. Applications for bonus in respect of the deliveries made during this period may be sent to the respective Taluk

Supply Officers or District Supply Officers as the case may be. Payment of bonus will, however, be made only after March 1948.

Taluk and District Food Committees

In supersession of their order dated November 3, 1947, the Government have directed that in view of the

present policy of de-control and de-rationing, Taluk and District Food Committees in the surplus districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Guntur, Kistna, Nellore and Tanjore should be abolished forthwith. The Taluk and District Food Committees in the remaining districts will, however, continue to function till 31st March 1948, without any change in regard to their existing personnel. [February 16]

Departments' Forum

Fisheries Department

During his recent visit the Hon'ble Sri N. V. Gadgil, Minister for Works, Mines and Power in the Government of India, paid a visit to the Government Fish-Farm at Poondi. The fish-farm was started almost along with the



The Hon'ble Sri N. V. Gadgil inspecting the fishes

construction of the Poondi Reservoir as a necessary adjunct for the proper development of its fisheries. The construction of reservoirs, either for irrigation or for power, would open up vast possibilities for fish production as is shown by the fact that even from a small reservoir like Poondi it was possible to harvest about 50 tons of fish last year fetching a revenue of Rs. 20,000 to the Government. Thus, it is useful to have a fish-farm attached to

2A



Watching the netting operations



Mirror Carp



Dr. Sen examining a fish

each reservoir, for rearing good varieties of fishes for consumption and for augmenting the natural stock in the reservoir.

The Hon'ble Minister went round the farm and saw various fishes.

The Government have sanctioned the grant of advances to the fishermen employed in the deep-sea fishing operations of the Department, up to a maximum of Rs. 50 to each fisherman. The advance is recoverable within a year and is interest-free.

A specimen of Catla, our quickest growing Carp, was caught recently from the Velacheri Pond in Government House, Guindy, which was stocked by the Department in previous years. It was 3½ feet long, and weighed about 40 pounds and when auctioned fetched a price of Rs. 15.

A Gourami caught recently in the moat of the Vellore Fort weighed 10½ pounds, which is the maximum recorded in the Madras Province.

Education Department

Reorganization of Secondary Education.—In connexion with the Reorganization of Secondary Education, Government have sanctioned Rs. 10,000 towards the purchase of equipment in the selected Government schools for the implementation of the bifurcated courses during 1948-49.

Madras Province's last Homage to Mahatma Gandhi

Immersion Cermonies at different places

(By our Special Representatives)

Introductory

On 12th February 1948, Gandhi had literally joined the immortals. On that day between 12 noon and 5 p.m. his last physical remains were consigned to the bosom of the sacred rivers and seas in different parts of India to the accompaniment of ceremonies which were witnessed by millions of people. This provides incontestable proof—if proof were at all needed—that Gandhi was the greatest Indian of all Indians, that he belonged and will always belong to India as a whole and not to any particular place or area of it, and that he was the loved and respected of all communities.

Greatest Indian

The greatest Indian of recent times had been the recipient of the greatest honour that any one could get in this country. While living he was the beloved of millions of his countrymen. He was an embodiment of their hopes and ideals, their aspirations and feelings. He was venerated and respected by them and won their affection as much as their respect. He was the trusted adviser and acknowledged mentor of those who constitute the present Government of India, after leading them in the fight for freedom for more than a quarter of a century. Some of his ideas and views and suggestions may not be adhered to in all their completeness. A Government has to govern and the Government of India has to govern a country composed of a number of heterogeneous elements. Some of his ideals like non-violence are also apparently unattainable immediately because probably they are somewhat in advance of the times. But there is little doubt that they represent the quintessence of a philosophy of conduct, which alone can rescue Governments and peoples of the world from a catastrophe, which seems to pursue mankind with the inexorable inevitableness of destiny.

Message of Non-violence

Mankind wants peace, order and good Government. But these cannot be ensured so long as hatred, jealousy

and violence stalk the world. Gandhiji's message has not been fully implemented during his lifetime even by his own people and non-violence remains an ideal to be worked for and striven for and not a realized objective. Nevertheless the saying that no prophet is honoured either in his own country or during his own lifetime, is not true of the Mahatma, who was not only honoured by his countrymen but also honoured during his own lifetime. A few decades hence, probably, Gandhiji's life and his message will have a tremendous revival and prove an irresistible means of solace to the world in which misery and desolation are so rampant now.

The immersion ceremonies at different places had attracted wide notice and provided an occasion to

millions of people to pay their last homage to the Mahatma they loved and lost. What greater glory can any son of man want in this world than that his martyrdom for a good cause should evoke spontaneous response and veneration from millions of human beings! Gandhiji, as Mr. Devadas Gandhi said, in his broadcast, was not merely the head of his own family nor regarded as such but belonged to the nation as a whole. To one such as he, who dedicated his whole life to the service of his people, there can be no narrow limit within which his memory or his accomplishment could be confined. This is the lesson conveyed to us by the scenes witnessed throughout the country on 12th February 1948, when the immersion ceremonies took place.

Ceremony at Madras

Over half a million of people witnessed the immersion of Mahatma's ashes in the sea at Mylapore Beach on 12th February 1948. The immersion ceremony was performed by the Premier, Sri O. P. Ramaswamy Reddiar, shortly before 6 p.m. with the singing of Rama Dhun by hundreds of women volunteers. There was a huge procession in this connection headed by detachment of mounted police from the Banqueting Hall. Women volunteers carried the urn in a small decorative chariot. Nearly three lakhs of people paid their homage to Mahatma's ashes at the Banqueting Hall prior to the starting of the procession.

The sea front presented a scene never before witnessed in the annals of Madras. The entire foreshore from

the Napier Bridge to the San Thome Church was a mass of humanity. The actual ceremony was scheduled to take place at 5.30 p.m. At 5.30 p.m. the cortege arrived at the place of immersion and cries of "Mahatma Gandhi Ki Jai" rent the air on all sides. In five minutes, the Premier came and behind him came His Excellency the Governor and Lady Nye, the Chief Justice and high dignitaries and officers of Government. Desika Sevaks sang Raghupathy Raghava Rajaram and thousands in the crowd took up the strain. Men and women in the crowd showered flowers on the urn as the Premier emerged with it into the open square. Then the ashes were dissolved in the water and after immersion Premier and others took a bath in the sea.

At Danushkodi

More than a lakh of people belonging to Tamil Nad paid the homage to the remains of Mahatma Gandhi, when the urn containing a portion of his ashes were taken, among other places, to Dhanushkodi by the Hon'ble Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam for immersion in the holy Sangamam. The Indo-Ceylon Express of February 11th, by which the ashes were carried in the saloon, which

was specially placed by His Excellency the Governor at the disposal of the Minister, left Madras at about 9 p.m. The fact that it was night did not deter the people from thronging in their thousands at the stations en route throughout the night of the 11th-12th February and throughout the day on the 12th February. The imperceptible, but nevertheless strong

thread of love which bound the people of the Mahatma led them in their thousands to tender their reverential homage to him. Chingleput, Villupuram, Kumbakonam, Mayavaram and Tanjore were some of the places where, in spite of its being night, big crowds were present.

Huge Crowds

From early morning on the 12th up to the time when the train reached Dhanushkodi at about 4 p.m. every station platform where the train stopped presented a surging mass of humanity, composed of men, women and children, Hindus, Muslims and others. There were many among them who openly wept and there were many more who silently expressed their grief. At Pudukottai, Chettinad, Karaikudi, Minamadura, Ramanad and Mundipam, were witnessed some of the biggest congregations. On the whole and but with few exceptions, the people behaved in an orderly manner and the police and the officials did their best to maintain peace. The mechanical contrivance by which the urn containing the ashes could be pushed to either side of the carriage, enabled the people to have a distinct and clear view of the same. A particularly gratifying feature of the whole proceeding is that, among those who crowded at the wayside stations to pay homage, the Harijans for whom the Mahatma had special affection and who in a way constituted his special charge, formed a preponderating element. Countless offerings of garlands and flowers were made all along the route to the ashes and there was a tremendous demand for flowers and petals which covered the urn.

Arrival at Dhanushkodi

The ceremony of the immersion of Mahatma Gandhi's ashes at Dhanushkodi on the evening of February 12th, 1948, was a solemn one befitting the occasion. When the saloon carrying the ashes, which were in charge of the Hon. Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, reached Dhanushkodi at 4 p.m., a big crowd of 8,000 to 10,000 people was already waiting there eager to have darshan. These thousands of persons had arrived at the place from various districts and more than one special train run by the S.I.R. administration carried the crowds there throughout the day. On the Dhanushkodi station platform were present the District Collector, the District Judge and other officials and Congressmen, and the police, who

were drawn up on the platform, presented a guard of honour as the urn was brought down from the train after being reverentially garlanded.

The Hon'ble Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, accompanied by Mrs. Lakshmi Bharathi, Mr. R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A., the Hon. Mr. B. Ramakrishna Raju, Mr. Adityan, the Zamindar of Devakottai and other Congressmen and officials took out the urn containing the ashes and proceeded outside the station platform through a narrow cordon made by the police.

Outside was waiting a jeep fully decorated with flowers, into which the Minister and the principal members of his party got in with the ashes' urn. Amidst cries of "Mahatma Gandhi Ki Jai", the jeep slowly proceeded to the ghat. Huge crowds trying to get a view of the urn lined the route and the two-and-a-half mile stretch of sand between the Dhanushkodi railway station and the immersion ghat presented a mass of moving human beings. The hot sun overhead did not deter these thousands of people, men, women and children who wanted to reach the immersion place as early as possible to have as full view of the ceremonies there as possible, from walking the whole distance. The jeep reached the sacred spot where the two seas meet, the Sagara Sangamam, the most sacred spot in India for Hindus next to Benares, where the ashes were to be immersed, at about 5 p.m. On the sands of the beach adjoining the sea, was erected a temporary pandal, into which the Minister took the urn, holding it in a reverential manner, and placed it on a specially erected platform.

Vedic Rites performed

After the Minister, Sri Ramakrishna Raju and others had a bath, the pre-immersion rites were performed to the accompaniment of the chanting of the relevant Vedic mantras. The Head Priest attached to the Rameswaram Temple, who is also the official priest of the Nepal Maharajah at Rameswaram, officiated at the function along with others. The rites took about half an hour and were witnessed by the huge crowd, most of whom were shedding tears or otherwise displaying their emotion.

Immediately thereafter, the urn was taken by Mr. Bhaktavatsalam out to the sea and immersed in the waters of the Sangamam amidst the cries and sobs of the multitude and amidst

cries of "Mahatma Gandhi Ki Jai." The original programme of conveying them to the deep waters of the sea for immersion on a steam launch had to be given up at the last moment owing to the pressure from the crowd which now closed in on the urn.

A fact worth mentioning is that notwithstanding that huge crowds gathered at the stations to demonstrate their love for the Mahatma, the train arrived at its destination punctually. The South Indian Railway authorities co-operated to their utmost throughout the journey and took all necessary precautions firstly, to facilitate the crowds viewing the ashes and secondly to run the train to the scheduled time.

After having another bath, the Minister returned to Dhanushkodi station where he recorded a message for A.I.R. on Mahatma Gandhi, in the course of which he said that the immersion of Mahatma Gandhi's ashes at Rameswaram, where Sri Ramachandra crossed the sea to Lanka to destroy Ravana and rescue Sita and thereby destroy the forces of evil represented by Ravana, was a fitting manner of reminding ourselves of Gandhiji's lifelong desire for the establishment of Rama Rajya in this country. He exhorted the people to follow in the martyr's footsteps.

The Minister and his party returned to Rameswaram at 7 p.m. where after having another bath, he visited the Rameswaram Temple. Temple honours were accorded to him and he offered prayers at different shrines. A public meeting was arranged by this time, at which 5,000 people were present. Messrs. Bhaktavatsalam, Swaminathan, Somayajulu, Ramakrishna Raju and Mrs. Lakshmi Bharathi addressed the gathering, the Minister speaking in feeling terms about Gandhiji's ideals and the noble life he led and exhorting the audience to remind themselves of his work and follow him.

Follow His Ideals

Thus closed a memorable event—the immersion ceremony at Dhanushkodi—which was, however, only the culminating point of a number of most impressive and moving demonstrations of popular love and reverence for the dead teacher, all along the route from Madras to Dhanushkodi. It is for the people now to follow up the respect and affection they exhibited for the Mahatma's remains to keep alive and brightly burning the memory of

the great man not merely by recounting his ideals and teachings as noble and worthy but by proving by their deeds and actions that they really cherish them as guides to their own lives.

Mahatma's Ashes mingle with the Kaveri

Amidst the chanting of 'Hari Ram, Hari Ram,' the Shencottah Passenger, carrying the ashes of Mahatma Gandhi to Trichinopoly, left Madras at 7-30 a.m. on the 11th. The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, and T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar travelled in the saloon, in which the ashes were kept. Two young girls, relatives of Dr. Rajan, accompanied the party, and sarg 'Raghupathi Raghava Raja Ram,' as the train steamed into every station. The urn was kept on a raised platform behind the saloon, and could be clearly seen by the milling crowds who gathered in their thousands to pay their last homage to their beloved leader. A remarkable feature was that side by side with the pressing eagerness of the people there was a sober restraint among them; and no or untoward incident marred the solemnity. People bursting into tears, as soon as the urn was seen, was a common occurrence. In particular, the sight, at a station near Cuddalore, of a young man who writhed in agony, and cried aloud in grief, should be haunting the memory of many who witnessed it. Amidst sobs and tears he related his story. His mother was carrying, when she was arrested in the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1921; and he had been born in prison. Thus baptised in a prison cell, he had followed his leader, all through these years. It was a difficult task to wrench this young man from the rails where he had laid himself prostrate.

The biggest crowds were at Tanjore, Mayavaram, Kumbakonam and Chidambaram. At the last mentioned place, the students of Annamalai University had mustered in all their strength. At Ayyampet and Pandaravadi, in Tanjore district, huge crowds of Muslims devoutly paid their respects to one who had been their greatest friend. Everywhere people clamoured and pressed forward, to touch the urn with their hands. Those who were unable to do so, touched the saloon, the footboards, and some, even the rails and pressed their hands to their eyes. Perhaps the most touching of all, was the scene of the lepers at the Lepers' Colony, Chingleput, standing near the way-side level crossing

The entire proceedings of the immersion ceremony were filmed and A.I.R., Trichinopoly gave a commentary in Tamil to the assembled people at Dhanushkodi.

and raising their hands in prayer, as the train thundered past. It was this colony, which Gandhiji had visited, during his last South Indian tour. A Railway official who was travelling in the saloon, recalled how during that visit, Gandhiji had been adamant in refusing to travel in a saloon. All the luxurious fittings had to be removed, and a hard wooden plank provided.

At Golden Rock, where a huge crowd of workers had gathered, the saloon was detached train and taken by a special engine to Trichinopoly junction. It was an agreeable surprise to everyone that the train reached Trichinopoly punctually at the scheduled time—an eloquent testimony to the excellent transport arrangements that had been made. Inside the Trichinopoly station only a selected few had been admitted and they stood ready, in marching order to follow the urn. With great solemnity the urn was removed from the carriage by Sri Avinashilingam Chettiar and handed over to Dr. Rajan, who received it from the platform, with a tricolour flag spread over his hands. Headed by the two Ministers and escorted by the armed police who presented funeral honours, the small party made its way out of the station. Outside, huge crowds had gathered, and it was with a superhuman effort that order was maintained. The urn was placed in an open car, and the two Ministers drove to Puthur Maidan where the ashes were kept till the next day. At the maidan, an all night

The Immersion of Gandhiji's Ashes at Cape Comorin

The ashes to be immersed at Cape Comorin were taken by Hon'ble Sri K. Madhava Menon, Minister for Agriculture, Madras, in a special saloon attached to the Cochin Express. The saloon was beautifully decorated with National flags and flower garlands. A moving platform had been improvised inside the compartment to facilitate large crowds seeing the urn.

The Minister was accompanied by his wife Mrs. A. V. Kuttimalu Amma, M.L.A. The train left the Madras

vigil was kept by students, Desa Sevikas and volunteers.

At 6-30 a.m. on the 12th, the procession carrying the ashes started from the Puthur Maidan, towards the Amma Maidam, where the immersion was to take place. The urn was kept in a chariot bedecked with flowers. The two Ministers were seated in the chariot on each side of the urn. Sri Avinashilingam Chettiar, himself helped to pull the chariot for the first few minutes. The procession took more than 6 hours to cover the 6½ mile route. It was 12-30 when it reached Amma Maidam.

Meanwhile at the Maidam, a crowd of more than 3 lakhs had gathered. A police cordon, that had been thrown on the river banks proved no match to the surging crowds. The people entered the river, and stood in waist-deep water. At one time it looked as if there would be no water, for the ashes to be immersed in; the river was so fully packed with people. With great difficulty, the way was cleared for the Ministerial party. Temple honours from the Srirangam Temple were presented. Hymns that were dear to the Mahatma, and texts from religious scriptures were recited. It is said that as Dr. Rajan poured milk over the urn, the 'Garudan' the sacred messenger of Lord Krishna, circled in the sky over the spot. Many in the crowd were heard to say that this was the homage paid by the Gods to the noble 'Son of Man.' At about 1-30, the ashes were immersed and the remains of the Mahatma mingled with the waters of the Kaveri.

The people took their bath in the river, after the immersion. The Ministers then addressed the crowds, appealing to the people to uphold the principles for which Gandhiji had lived, worked and died.

Central at 4-30 p.m. amidst cries of "Mahatma Gandhi Ki Jai." At several stations where the train halted en route, the urn containing the remains of the beloved Mahatma was exhibited on the platform annexe of the saloon so that the crowds who had flocked to the stations could have a full view of it. Garlands and flowers were showered on the urn. The eyes of many were filled with tears. In spite of the huge crowds and delay at the wayside stations the train reached

Ernakulam South Railway Station at the scheduled time (10 a.m.) and the Prime Minister of Cochin, Sri T. K. Nayar, received the urn after paying homage to it, the many hundreds of people who had gathered in the premises of the station maintaining a solemn silence at the moment. Later a procession was formed, with the urn, carried by the Prime Minister on his head. On both sides of the processional route, large crowds of people had gathered, availing themselves of every vantage point to have a glimpse of the last remains of the Mahatma. When the final procession reached the Durbar Hall grounds, the urn was solemnly installed by the Prime Minister on a platform specially erected for the occasion.

Cochin Maharaja's Homage

His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin, the aged Ruler of the State, who had specially come over from the Hill Palace at Tripoonithura to do homage to the sacred ashes of the "Prince among Men" was the first to do so. His Highness, after prostrating before the urn with tear-dimmed eyes, went round the platform on which the urn had been installed three times and offered prayers, ending his homage with another prostration. Well over 40,000 people, men, women of all classes and communities, castes and creeds, availed themselves of the opportunity of paying their respects to the Mahatma's remains. Not within the memory of any living person has there been a procession so solemn and magnificent as the one that was witnessed this morning.

At Trivandrum

Exactly at 1 p.m. when the darshan of the people was over, the Prime Minister of Cochin took the urn in a car, accompanied by Sri K. Madhava Menon to the Cochin frontier ferry at Aroor. The urn was taken across in a beautifully decorated Government boat to the Travancore side where it was received by the representatives of the Travancore Government and prominent citizens of Travancore with military honours. The cortege carrying the ashes was a military vehicle highly decorated with National flags, flowers and garlands. The cortege was driven by Mr. Ramamurthi, Director of Transport, Travancore State, and on it was seated Sri K. Madhava Menon. The procession started at about 1-40 p.m. to reach Trivandrum the same

day. All along the route people were waiting in the hot sun with folded arms to pay their respects. Many were weeping, perhaps they were recollecting the familiar smile of Mahatma Gandhi when he visited the same places 14 years ago to collect money for the Harijan Fund. The Trivandrum Corporation had arranged a reception at Kattachakonam junction. The city Mayor, Sree Varada Rajan Nair, received the ashes and paid homage. When the vehicle carrying ashes arrived at the Victoria Jubilee Town at 8 p.m. Sri P. G. N. Unnithan, the Dewan of Travancore, and others received the ashes. The sacred ashes were placed on a decorated platform put up in front of the main platform in the hall, for the darshan of the public.

At 7-30 a.m. on the 12th, His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore and his brother His Highness the Elaya Raja drove into the Town Hall. Prominent officials and non-officials were present. There was pin-drop silence. Their Highnesses walked barefooted to the platform where the ashes were kept and reverentially offered white rose petals. Their Highnesses stood for a while before the ashes in prayers and then left the place.

At 7-45 a.m. the urn containing the ashes, was taken out on its 54 miles journey to Cape Comorin. Leaving the Town Hall the cortege passed through immense crowds which lined themselves on either side of the route, showering flowers on the cortege and singing hymns favourite to Gandhiji.

At Cape Comorin

The cortege reached Cape Comorin at 11 o'clock in the day and was received by a gathering of several thousands. At the spot about half a mile north of Cape Comorin beach, the Dewan of Travancore and other officials and non-officials and people had gathered from far and near. The urn was taken out from the cortege and carried to the beach by Pattom Tharu Pillai on his head. With him were the Dewan, Sri Madhava Menon, M. S. Kuttimalu Amma and others. Ram Dhun was surg. A detachment of the first Travancore Infantry and a contingent of the State Police flanked the processional route. Some lakhs of people gathered at the beach and the entire sea-front was one mass of humanity.

The urn was placed on a stone pedestal at the beach, on either side

of which were burning two huge brass lamps fed by ghee. A tastefully decorated pandal had been erected over the stone pedestal. Several hundreds of wreathes were placed by persons who had come from far and near. Ram Dhun and vedic hymns were sung; many people prostrated before the urn. There were quite a number of people who had moved to tears.

Immersion at Sangamam

At the appointed hour, the police and the military made a gangway for the ashes to be taken to the sea through the thick crowd. Sri Madhava Menon, Mrs. Madhava Menon, Sri P. G. Narayanan Unnithan, Dewan of Travancore, and Sri Pattom Tharu Pillai after a bath in the sea performed Pradakshinams round the urn and burnt incense before it. Hindu religious ceremonies were performed. Sri Madhava Menon carried the urn on his head to the sea, followed by the Dewan and others. The party proceeded about 20 yards into the waters on a catamaran and immersed the ashes in the holy Sangamam of the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. They brought water from the spot and sprinkled it on those around. When Gandhiji's ashes were immersed in the sea, the people were in tears. The Dewan, Sri Madhava Menon, and others were visibly moved. They were in tears when they returned after the immersion ceremony. The crowd dispersed peacefully after worshipping at the pedestal on which the urn was placed.

Mandapam to be erected

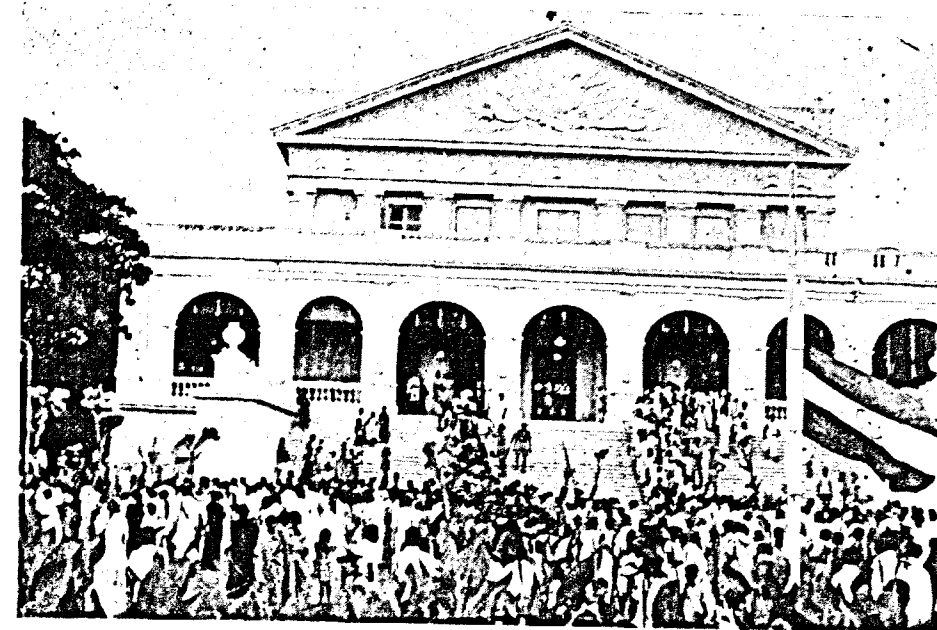
A mandapam will be erected in memory of Mahatma Gandhi at the place where the ashes were kept before immersion and plans are already under way. The stone pedestal on which the ashes were kept has become a sacred place now and thousands of people offer puja to it. As desired by His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore the copper vessel in which the ashes were taken was handed over to the Travancore State where it will be preserved in the State Museum as a sacred relic. Thus ended a memorable event in the History of India. The journey of the sacred ashes of our nation's father through a distance of 640 miles taking two days, and the final immersion in the sea at Cape Comorin have been filmed in technicolour. "Gandhiji is dead; Long live Mahatma Gandhi."

Desa Sevikas drawing the chariot from the Government House

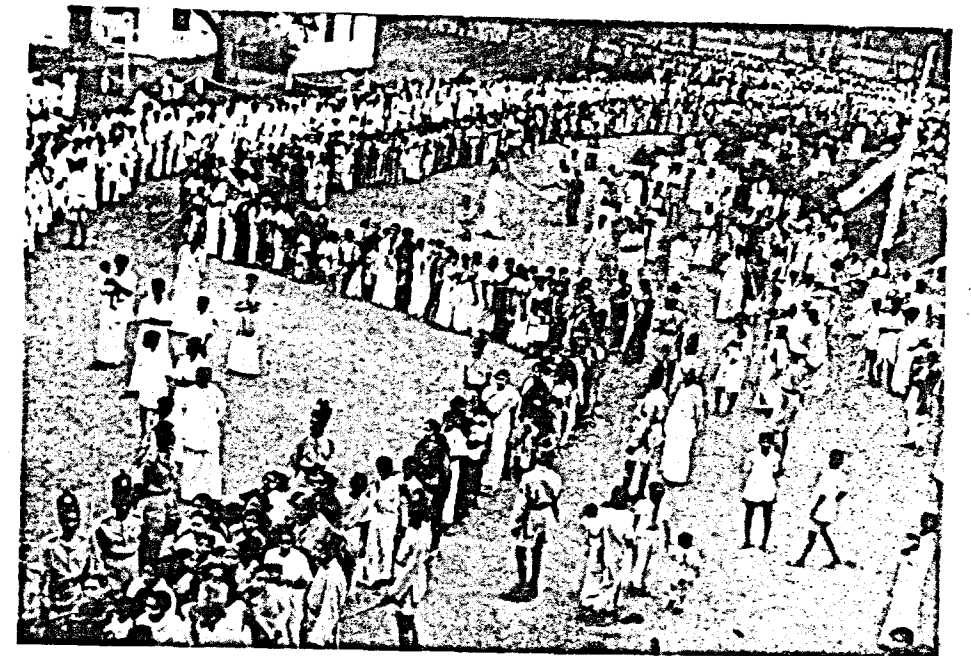


His Excellency the Governor and the Hon'ble Premier were among those who followed the chariot carrying the 'urn'

TOUCHING SCENES OF THE IMMERSION CEREMONY AT MADRAS



People standing in queue to have a darsan of Mahatmaji's ashes at the Banqueting Hall in the Government House.

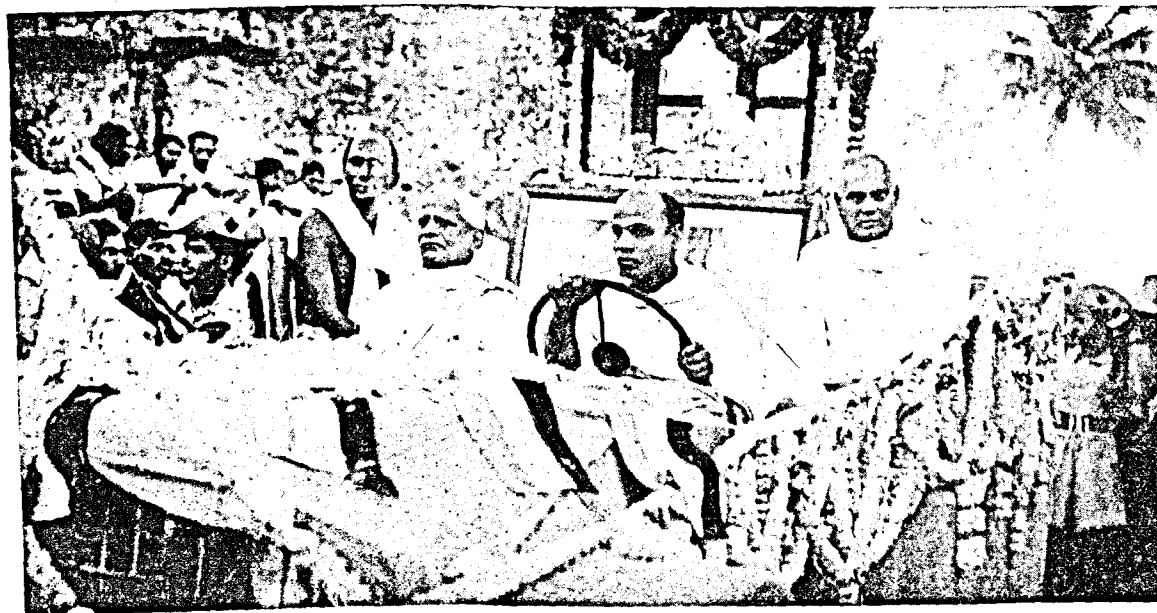


Another view of the queue waiting to see Mahatmaji's ashes.

The Immersion Ceremony at the Madras Beach



The ashes of Mahatma was taken out in a grand procession for immersion in the sea at Mylapore.



BEZWADA

Gandhiji's ashes were taken in procession for immersion followed by a huge crowd.

SCENES

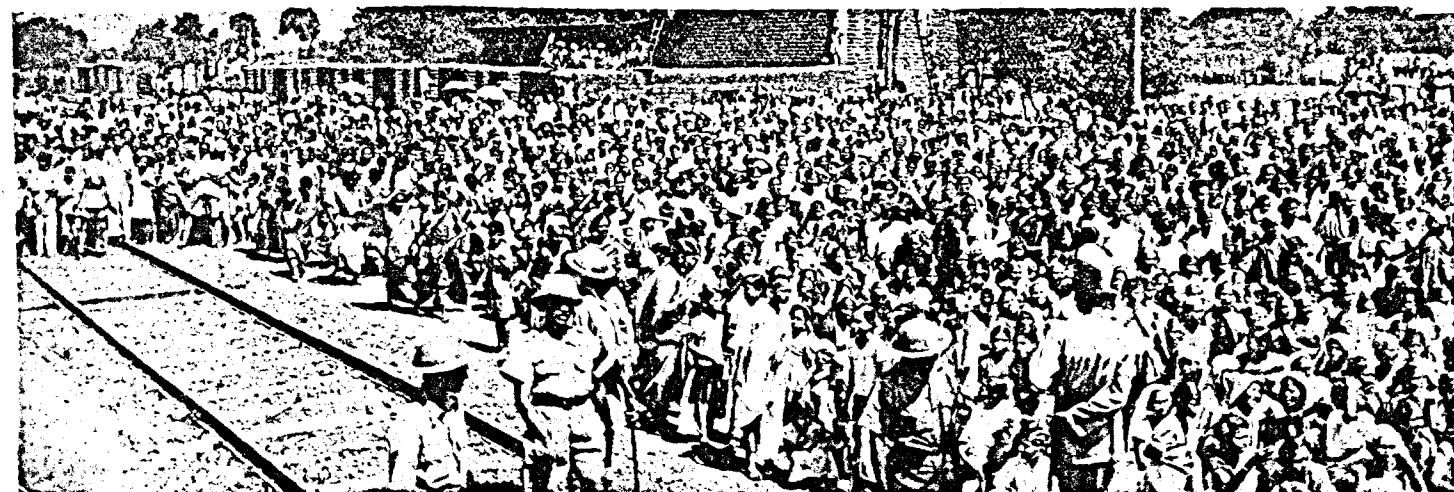
Crowds anxiously awaiting to see Mahatma Gandhi's last remains as they were taken for immersion.



Another view of the procession.



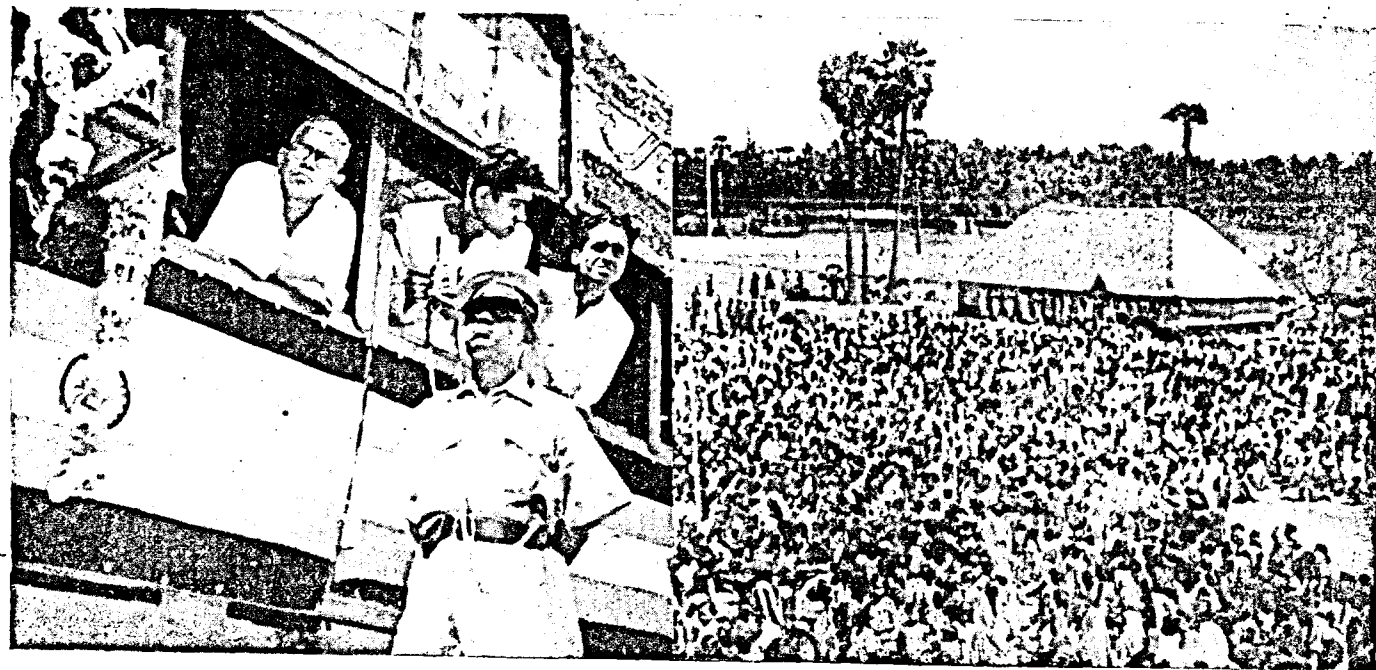
Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkata Rao and Hon'ble Sri V. Kurmaaya, performing the immersion ceremony of Gandhiji's ashes at Kistna Ghat.



A sea of human faces—the crowd that witnessed the immersion ceremony at Kistna river.

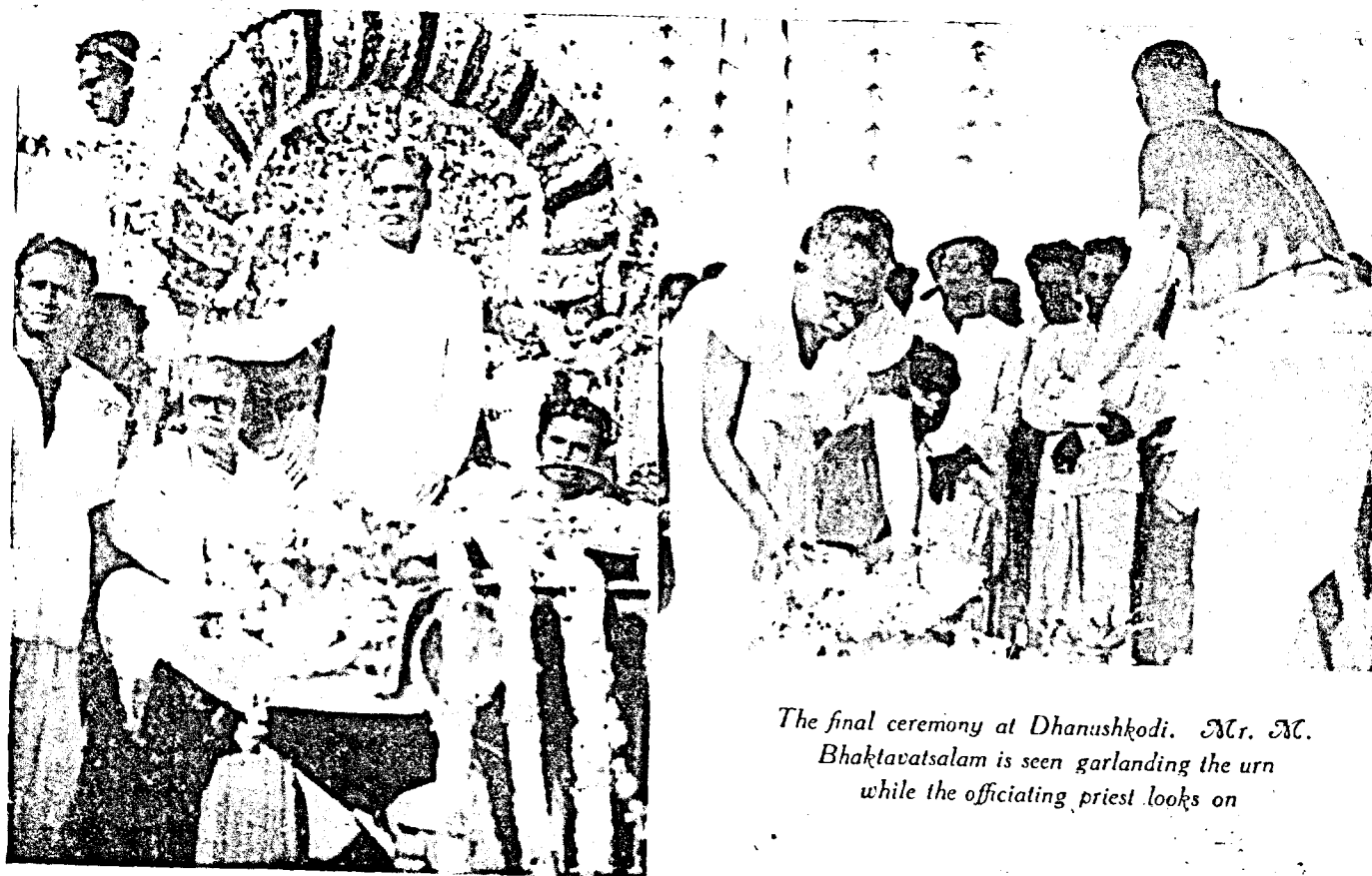


Witnessed the immersion ceremony at Kistna river.



The urn is being shown to the vast crowd that had gathered at Manamadura Junction

The crowd waiting on the burning sands outside Manamadura Junction



The final ceremony at Dhanushkodi. Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam is seen garlanding the urn while the officiating priest looks on

Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam and Mr. Ramakrishna Raju in the specially decorated jeep which carried the urn to the bathing ghat at Dhanushkodi

The Journey to the Kistna

Over twenty lakhs of people paid their last homage to Mahatma Gandhi's ashes that were carried to Bezwada from Madras, and over three lakhs of people witnessed the immersion ceremony in the Kistna at Bezwada. The journey and the ceremony were conducted with State honours. Two Ministers of the Government of Madras, the Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkata Rao and the Hon'ble Sri Vemula Kurmayya carried the ashes and performed the immersion ceremony with vedic rites. The journey from Madras to Bezwada and the ceremony were filmed. A running commentary on the ceremony at Bezwada by Sri M. Somasekhara Sarma was recorded on the spot by All-India Radio and relayed in the evening on 12th February 1948. Official and Non-official arrangements en route and at Bezwada were excellent and the entire programme was gone through according to plan without any untoward incident.

The last journey of the mortal remains of the Mahatma to Andhra began at 8 a.m. on 11th February 1948 in a Special Saloon attached to the Grand Trunk Express. The Saloon was decorated with tri-colour flags and flowers. Inside the saloon was arranged a wooden contrivance with a plank rolling on a ball-bearing. On the plank was fixed a wooden tray for placing the urn containing the ashes of the Mahatma. This tray could be moved out of the compartment on either side for the view of the people.

The decoration of the saloon and the special arrangements inside and outside the saloon on the platform were personally supervised by Mr. W. G. W. Reid, General Manager, M. & S.M. Railway.

The Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkata Rao, Revenue Minister, arrived at Madras Central from the Banqueting Hall, with the 'ashes' at 7.30 a.m. He was accompanied by his wife. The Hon'ble Sri V. Kurmayya and his wife were waiting at the Central Station to receive the Party.

On arrival, Mr. Reid, received the Minister. Wreaths were presented on behalf of the M. & S.M. Railway, the Railway Police and the Hyderabad State Congress. Lady volunteers of the Congress Seva Dal presented a Guard of Honour and conducted the party to the Saloon to the singing of "Ram Dhun." On the platform, the Reserve Police presented a Guard of Honour.

Just before the departure of the train, the Hon'ble Sri O. P. Ramaswamy Reddiar, Premier of Madras

and Hon'ble Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Public Works, arrived on the platform and gave a send off.

The Journey

The Grand Trunk Express steamed off the platform exactly at 8 a.m. on what turned out to be an historic procession of 269 miles, the entire route of which was queued up with thousands of men, women and children, paying their pathetic homage to the Father of the Nation; with cries of 'Bapuji' emerging out of their painful, choked throats, renting the air, with bursting tears, showering flowers and burning incense. Many offered coconuts and fruit as to a deity and demanded "Prasadam". Where the train did not stop, the people raised their folded hands and pointed towards the urn containing the ashes of the Beloved One dashing past them at 40 miles an hour. Wherever there were larger crowds the train went by slowly. Mothers with children in their arms pointed the passing urn to the little ones, whom the Great One loved so much, covered their faces with cloth and burst into tears. A lame man with one leg, was limping his way towards the Saloon to have darshan of the "ashes."

Inside the saloon, Sri Guduri Ramachandrudu, a disciple of Gandhiji, was reciting the Geeta. He recited it thrice over in the course of the journey. Sri M. Bapineedu and Sri B. S. Murti, Members of the Legislative Assembly, chanted "Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram." Sri G. Brahmayya escorted the "ashes" on behalf of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee. Mr. R. S. Sarma, Deputy Traffic Manager, M. & S.M. Railway escorted the Party on behalf of the Railway. Special police and military were also travelling in the compartment adjoining the Special Saloon.

The train passed through three districts, Chingleput, Nellore and Guntur. At all the stops the District and Local Officials, Representatives of the Local Congress, Communist, Kisan, Harijan and Labour Organisations and Educational Institutions were present. Members of the Legislature boarded the train when it passed through their constituencies. District Officials waited at advance stations to catch up the train and escort it through their areas. Arrangements for regulating the vast crowds who behaved in the most orderly manner were particularly good at Sulpurpet, Gudur, Nellore, Bitragunta, Ongole, Chirala and Tenali.

The biggest crowds were at Chirala and Tenali.

The train was scheduled to stop at eight or nine places en route including Ponneri the only station in Chingleput district, but the great devotion of a determined people made it stop at fifteen other stations. They were, Nayudupet, Pandugupadu, Musunur, Kavali, Vetapalam, Bapatla, Appikata, Machavaram, Nidubrolu, Modukuru Chunduru, Kolakaluturu, Duggirala, Chilavuru and Pedavadlapudi. It was almost dark as the train reached the later stations and the crowds kept the vigil with torches and petromax lights. The urn carrying the ashes was lit up and was well in view of the crowds. Despite this the train reached Bezwada only 150 minutes late. The Engine of the train which was decorated with tri-colour flags was driven from Madras to Bitragunta by Mr. Martin and from Bitragunta to Bezwada by Mr. Johnson. The guard was Mr. Fletcher. Mr. C. Krishna Ayyar, was the Traffic Inspector on duty.

On the platform was waiting along with overflowing crowds, a decorated chariot to carry the "ashes" to their last resting place before immersion. Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, who, as Secretary of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, conducted Mahatma Gandhi's last tour in Andhra in 1946, this time stepped out of the train with the Mahatma's ashes and held them high over his shoulder so that the vast crowds may see them. The Malabar Special Police presented a guard of honour after which the chariot carrying the ashes was taken in a three mile long procession to the Special Pandal on the B'ndar Road, where it was kept the whole night, for the view of the endless streams of people, men, women and children.

The Ceremony

The arrangements in Bezwada were under the personal supervision of Mr. R. S. Malayappan, District Collector, Kistna, and Mr. T. V. S. Chalapathi Rao, Municipal Chairman, Mr. J. Devasahayam, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, North Range, was in charge of Police arrangements. The Andhra Provincial Congress Committee and other organisations co-operated with the local and District authorities. Prof. N. G. Ranga, President, Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, and a Member of the Congress Working Committee rushed up to Bezwada to take part in the ceremony. Sri Ernani Subrahmanyam took part in the ceremony on behalf of the District Congress Committee. Sri A. Kalaswara Rao, M.L.A., was with the Ministerial

Party throughout the procession and the ceremony.

Early in the morning the "ashes" were taken in procession along a ten-mile route through the old and the new towns and taken to the bank of the Holy Kistna. The Vedic rites were conducted on a raised platform in the presence of more than three lakhs of people, most of whom had a bath in the

river as they do at the death of a kinsman. The emotions of the crowds reached a high pitch and the cries of 'Bapuji' reached a crescendo, when the "ashes" were taken for immersion in the mid-stream. A decorated boat was ready for this and as the Ministers boarded it and were sailing deeper into the river the entire crowd on the sands burst into sobs. The

"ashes" were immersed to the chanting of Vedic Mantras.

The All-India Radio Commentor was heard to say:

"Two thousands years ago on the shores of this holy river at Nagarjuna Konda, were interred the Bones of Gautama the Budha. Today in these Holy waters are immersed the 'ashes of Gandhiji' the Mahatma."

carefully the normal trade channels will be disturbed violently and the entire contour of trade may be upset. But it is also gratifying to find that trade is generally conservative and does not lend itself to changes easily. Migration of trade does not occur normally and the usual threat that our trade would be driven away to neighbouring Provinces and States had not come true. But a good deal of vigilance on the part of the Government is necessary and therefore the Government have assured the public that they would set up a Standing Advisory Committee to go into particular cases in particular localities and an Appellate Tribunal to see that no unnecessary hardship is caused to the assessee.

Other Commercial Taxes

There are four other commercial taxes that were enacted in 1939—the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Tax, under which we are paying four annas for every gallon of petrol consumed in the Province, the Entertainments Tax, under which all gate collections for entertainments are subject to varying rates of taxation and 90 per cent of the proceeds of which is being made over to the Local Bodies since 1945, and a tax on the distributors of electrical energy above a certain level. The Madras Tobacco Tax is not being levied since April 1944 as the Central Government is levying an excise duty on tobacco and paying a compensation of Rs. 22 lakhs per year to this Government. The Provincial Government felt that this Rs. 22 lakhs is very inadequate in view of the growing trade and abnormal rise in prices in tobacco in the Province and urged the Government of India to pay us a larger amount or to give us half of their excise duty on tobacco which will come to about Rs. 150 lakhs. That is now engaging the attention of the Sub-Committee of the Constituent Assembly which is to go into the allocation of finance between the Centre and the Provinces.

Sales Tax—Salient Features

Now I propose to deal at greater length about the salient provisions of

the Madras General Sales Tax Act as it was enacted in 1939 and as amended in 1947. In the original Act a flat five rupees rate per mensem was levied when the turnover was Rs. 10,000 and above, but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 a year, and when the turnover exceeded Rs. 20,000 per year, half per cent of the turnover was the tax collected. But in the recent amendment all turnovers above Rs. 10,000 are made to pay a percentage tax at 1/9th per 100 on the turnover. Further, dealers whether assessed, licensed or not, having a turnover of Rs. 7,500 and more are required to register themselves as such on application and payment of Rs. 6 and continue to pay Rs. 6 per year until the registration is cancelled. There is provision for such cancellation if the turnover in each of the two consecutive years was less than Rs. 7,500. It has further been provided that only registered dealers may collect sales tax and the tax so collected shall be paid to Government. This will enable Government to tighten up their check and see that no evasion is possible normally.

Up to now there was an uniform rate of tax of one per cent on turnovers over Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 96 and Rs. 144 per annum on turnovers between Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 15,000. For the first time in the course of these nine years the Government have proposed to levy differential rate of tax on different commodities. In respect of certain specified class of goods, which may be referred to as luxury goods, a tax at the rate of three pies or six pies, as the case may be, on every rupee of the turn over, in addition to the general tax of three pies in the rupee, is payable at the stage of sale by the first dealer liable to tax. Cinematograph, photograph and other cameras, all electrical goods, pen and pencil sets sold for Rs. 20 or more, clocks, time-pieces and watches and parts thereof, will bear the additional tax of three pies in the rupee at the first sale and motor cars and accessories, refrigerators and air-

conditioning plants will bear the additional tax of six pies in the rupee. These additional taxes will be levied only at the first sale of the goods in the Province successive stages bearing only the general rate of three pies in the rupee.

Hitherto the transactions in bullion were exempted from payment of tax. In future a small percentage of 1/4 per cent at the first stage of sale in the Province shall be levied on the person liable for assessment. Cotton yarn has been exempt similarly uptill now. But in future it will be subject to taxation at two stages, (1) on the sale by the quota-holders and (2) by wholesalers. Each of them will pay a tax of 1/4 per cent only. Exclusive dealings in handloom cloth have been exempt till now. But from 1st January 1948 such exemptions will apply to only wholesale dealings in the said cloth. All sales by one dealer to another shall be exempt and also sale for delivery outside the Province. But sales to the consumer will be subject to tax of three pies in the rupee. Cloth woven on handlooms with hand-spun yarn, namely, Khadi, shall be exempt if the dealings are exclusively in such cloth. Otherwise it will be subject to taxation at the usual rate of three pies in the rupee. The exemptions in respect of cotton continues to be in force and hand-spun yarn also will enjoy similar concession. Hides and skins will continue to enjoy the benefit of singlepoint taxation and this concession has been extended to newspapers also. In future newspapers will be taxed only at the first stage of sale. Till now tea grown by the seller or grown in any land in which he has interest was exempt from taxation. Hereafter the sale of such tea by the grower will also be subject to taxation; but sale for delivery outside the Province will not be taxed.

Deductions of turn overs have been allowed till now in respect of the amount paid as excise duty to Central Government in the case of sales of sugar, matches, rubber-tyres and tubes.

This concession has been extended to other goods also which pay similar excise duty to the Central Government. Freight, charges for packing and delivery and other similar services have been included in the turnover till now. In future, if they are specified and charged separately without being included in the price of goods sold they will be excluded from taxation. Vegetables and fruits will continue to enjoy the benefit of slab rate assessment if the turn over is between Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 20,000.

Hitherto no export can be taxed if the sales connected with the export are effected outside the Province even though the goods relating to such sales happen to be within; but under the amended Act wherever the contract for sale takes place, if the goods happen to be within the Province, the sale would be deemed to have taken place in the Province and it shall be liable to taxation. But tea, handloom cloth and raw jute have been specially excluded from the operation of this section of the Act.

So far no tax was levied on goods applied to a contract. In future goods applied to a contract in the construction, improvement and repair to immovable property, etc., will also be subject to taxation. This is the first time that transactions of this kind are brought under the purview of the Madras General Sales Tax Act and this is in consonance with the practice obtained in other provinces where Sales Tax Act is in force.

The exemptions enjoyed by the commission agents of the local principals will continue to be in force but the conditions have been made tight and accounts made elaborate to prevent dealers passing off as commission agents. The burden of proving that the transactions of the agent are eligible for the exemption shall in future lie on the claimant.

The endeavour of the Government is to derive maximum benefit with minimum hardship and inconvenience to dealers and consumers.

—By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.

Talks and Articles

The General Sales Tax Act

Incidence and Implications

[There is good deal of criticism of the sales tax. Of course, few taxes are popular and this is only natural. But taxes are inevitable. The motives behind the taxation policy have to be correctly understood. When the sales tax was first introduced there was a lot of uproar but time has shown things in the proper perspective. The present broadcast by Hon'ble Sri B. Gopala Reddi is sure to disillusion many who have not correctly understood the incidence and implications of sales tax.]

The General Sales Tax of Madras is being administered by the Department for nearly nine years now and Government are deriving a steadily increasing revenue out of this source. Though the Commercial Taxes Department is still not made permanent I am sure the Sales Tax has come to stay in the Province and is bound to be a major head of revenue. During the war years the excise revenue far exceeded land revenue and reached the peak figure of 16 crores 80 lakhs of rupees in 1945-46, perhaps a high water-mark under excise revenue for any Provincial Government.

Background

Having accepted Prohibition as an essential part of our election manifesto, Congress is bound to implement it and do away with the entire revenue under provincial excise. Madras Government was the first to introduce the General Sales Tax in early 1939 and Madras is to-day getting the highest benefit out of it. The revenue for the current year will be round about Rs. 8 crores and with the recent amendment, for

a full financial year, the revenue is expected to be approximately Rs. 12 crores.

Though Sales Tax is very recent to Indian Provinces it was in vogue for a very long time in the continental countries like France and Germany and also in the American States though under different names. Government of India Act of 1935 gave power to Provinces to tax the sale of goods within the Provinces and it was left to His Excellency C. Rajagopalachariar, the then Premier of Madras, to take advantage of the provision in the Act to offset the loss due to Prohibition in the Province. Now several Provinces in Union of India have introduced Sales Tax in their Provinces and many Indian States too are following suit. The main feature that distinguishes our Act with the rest of the Indian Acts is that our Act contemplates taxation whenever goods change hands while other Acts defer collection of tax on all points and collect it from one source at a higher rate. Both have their advantages and disadvantages too. But Madras Act has the additional advantage of tracing up the flow of goods from hand to hand and enables officers to check and cross-check accounts. An expert Committee appointed by the Bombay Government also held the view that taxation at multiple point is better than the method of collecting the tax at single point.

We, who are averse to direct taxation, must perforce take recourse to indirect taxation and certainly Sales Tax is paid by all consumers without they being aware of the payment. Unless it is enacted and administered

A Plan for Dealing with Juvenile Delinquency

By LIEUT.-COL. J. FORD THOMPSON, Adviser to the Government in Child Psychology

In my last article I endeavoured to state the problem presented by juvenile delinquency, and now I propose briefly to survey the measures at present in force in this Province and then to outline the plans which I propose to present in detail to Government for consideration.

At present the methods for dealing with the juvenile delinquents stem from the methods used in dealing with adult criminals. Certain changes have been made in recent years which are purely superficial and do not really affect the system, which is in essence the same as that used with adults.

Little has been done to educate the public as to their responsibilities with regard to the behaviour and upbringing of their children. Nothing has been done to educate the teacher in methods of character training. Thus the preventive side of juvenile delinquency has been entirely lacking with

the exception of work done by such organizations as the Scouts, Girl Guides, Y.M.C.A. Youth Activities and similar private bodies.

As regards the judicial side, juvenile courts are conducted by magistrates who, with all due respect, have had little in the way of special training in dealing with children. The tendency is to place the child on probation or to commit him to a certified school for a number of years. The probation system, in its present form, is grossly inadequate to deal with its tasks. The Probation Officers have a dual function in that they are expected to deal with adults on probation as well as with children on probation. There are too many cases to deal with per Probation Officer and these cases are frequently widely scattered. In addition, these officers have, again with due respect to them, little special training in dealing with problems of child behaviour.

When we come to consider the certified schools where children are sent for a period of training, one finds that the organization and structure, and even buildings in some cases, are based on the jail pattern. There are warders (called Petty Officers); there are bars on the doors and windows; the children are dressed in jail clothes and are known by members rather than by names.

The teaching of school subjects and crafts is generally grossly inadequate, and boys leave the schools generally unfitted to take up any employment other than that of labourer. Here I may interpolate that I have with me at the moment a boy who spent six years in certified schools. He cannot write or read, and he has no sound knowledge of the craft he was supposed to learn. It is not that this boy is unintelligent—he is a bright boy; the reason why he is so poorly educated must lie at the door of the certified schools.

Even more important than the lack of educational facilities which would so train a boy, that on discharge he would be able to earn a reasonable living, is the fact that there is no real system of character training in force. This is obviously, in a school designed ostensibly to reform delinquent children, a matter of the first importance, because if these children are not reformed and rehabilitated these schools are failing in their primary purpose. I have asked many children their opinions as to whether or not a certified school would make a bad boy good and the universal reply is, "No;

it would make a good boy bad, and a bad boy worse."

One at least of the certified schools is grossly over-crowded with the result that such facilities as there are for education are inadequate to cope with the numbers involved. This means that the whole efficiency of education must drop even lower. In some cases the facilities for games and recreation are grossly inadequate. For example one school with over 600 boys has only one football pitch. There are no recreation and reading rooms in any of the schools and the children spend such free time as they have mooning about.

Let us consider some of the rules at present in force in certified schools. In accordance with jail tradition boys are not allowed to possess personal property other than their clothes and a small piece of soap. How is it possible to train boys to take their places in a world where everyone possesses some personal property and usually desires to possess more, without allowing him to keep any during the years which he spends in one of these schools? All that this rule does is to produce in a boy an intense craving to possess things of his own which may well stimulate him to theft on his release.

Take another example. Boys are not allowed to possess money in the school and any money a boy may be given by visiting relatives is impounded and placed in what is known as his Mark Money Account. How is it possible to train a boy for life in a world where money is so important, when he has never been given an opportunity to handle it properly during the years he is confined in one of these schools? Again there is a strong incentive to steal on release.

The above rules have obviously been designed to keep temptation away from the boys while they are in school. It is easy to see that where large numbers of delinquents are collected together, a good deal of theft is likely to occur, were personal possessions permitted.

This policy is carried out to such an extent that boys are not even permitted to have pockets in their clothes. How much this is resented by the children is shown by the fact that boys are constantly being detected trying to alter their clothes in such a way as to make pockets.

Keeping temptation away is no way to train anyone, for training must be directed towards the individual's becoming able to resist temptation. If a boy is to be trained not to steal

he must be given the opportunity to steal. Let me give an example. If a boy, very addicted to theft, were locked up in a single cell for six months, it would be useless to say "Look how much this boy has improved. He has not stolen for six months". That is what the certified schools are in fact doing. The opportunity to commit wrong must always be there, if training is to mean anything at all.

There is a most cumbersome system in vogue in these schools called the Mark Money Account. The boys are able to earn a few annas per week by good conduct, work done, etc. As a punishment they may be fined by having a sum deducted from the Mark Money Account, or they may be rewarded by having some additional money placed to their account. On the boy's discharge from school this money is handed over to a responsible person to use for the benefit of the child. Even after six years the boy I referred to above had only Rs.15-15-0 in his account. This is a small sum which can hardly provide him with food for a month. How is a boy on his discharge from a certified school, unable to read and write, master of no craft, and with total possessions amounting to some sixteen rupees, expected to find his way in the world? What are his prospects? Have the certified schools done a good job on him? The keeping of the Mark Money Account involves much labour, since it is a complicated system. As a means of reward and punishment, it is completely and utterly useless. When a boy after spending three or four or more years in a certified school will not even be able to receive this money into his own hands, what does he care whether money is taken out, or put into this abstract account? From whatever angle one views if this system of Mark Money is useless, and it is not only useless; it is actually bad!

At present the certified schools do little more than segregate the delinquent children. This is not all; for in the absence of systematic character training a boy may quite well come out of them worse than when he went in. It is, therefore, obvious that the money spent by Government on these schools, as at present constituted, is waste, since boys are not turned out educationally qualified to stand on their own feet, nor have they been characterologically trained to withstand the manifold temptations of the outside world. It is not altogether the fault of the people who are charged with the training of these children in

the schools, that they are so ineffective; most of the blame must be laid on the system which is founded upon jail practice. I shall not dilate more on the inadequacies of the Certified Schools. I have only spoken of them in this derogatory fashion, because it is necessary to show cause why reforms are so urgently needed. Now I propose to go on to discuss in broad outline the nature of the plans which I am proposing to submit to Government.

In considering the many problems which present themselves and the many obstacles which rear themselves in the path of idealism, one must always keep in mind the practical aspect. It would be of little value for me to make an ideal plan which was from the practical point of view impossible, as also from the financial standpoint. It will be understood, therefore, that the plans which I am going to discuss will be a mixture of realism and idealism.

We must first consider the preventive aspect of juvenile delinquency and this question is bound up with the much larger question of character training for all children. The first step must, of necessity be an attempt to educate the public with regard to the duties and responsibilities of parents towards their children and society. It is little realized that the way children are brought up has a profound effect on the type of adults produced. We shall, therefore, endeavour by every means of education in our power to pursue this end—I hesitate to use the word 'propaganda' because now-a-days that word seems to connote distortion or over-emphasis of facts if not downright untruth; I prefer the word 'education'. This can be done in a variety of ways including the use of the Press, Radio and documentary films.

The teacher, rather than the parent should be the directing influence as regards the systematic character training of the school child. This is because a parent cannot spare the time to make himself, or herself, conversant with methods of character training. It is, however, the teacher's profession to train children and with the teacher directing operations as it were, and parents co-operating fully, substantial results can be expected. I should like to see parent-teacher associations in connection with every school.

Next, we have to consider the child who does not go to school. For him we consider that children's clubs should be provided. There is no

reason why these clubs cannot be instituted in every village and in every street in every town, using the resources of the locality served by the club. The leaders of these clubs would have to undergo a short course of training in how to run them. These leaders would be expected to work in close co-operation with the parents and would have to be invested with the parental powers, which the parents normally delegate to the schoolmaster. It is, of course, not envisaged that these clubs will spring up overnight everywhere; but once a start is made, they can be extended as rapidly as possible.

Now comes the problem of the destitute children, of whom there are several lakhs in this province. The first thing to realize is that it is economically impossible for the Government to build schools to accommodate them all as boarders, however desirable that may be in theory. No doubt Government will endeavour to increase the number of boarding schools under its control as rapidly as possible, but for many years to come one must accept the fact that complete institutionalisation of these children is impossible. What, then, is the answer? Something obviously must be attempted. To my mind there is only one answer, and that is that the five crores of people in this province must have their consciences so aroused that these children will be taken into private families and cared for. I don't ask anybody to do something which I am not willing to do myself, and at the moment I am looking after three such children. Surely, it is not too much to ask that a great province like Madras should find sufficient families to look after these poor and destitute children.

Next we come to the judicial side of the question. The present Juvenile Courts are most unsatisfactory. The child does not readily respond to a cold and judicial atmosphere. The child wants warmth and friendliness, and kindness from someone he loves. I shall propose that special magistrates be appointed, to deal with all cases where children have transgressed the law of the land. These magistrates should have undergone a special course of training, and should be men and women who have deep sympathy and liking for the children. I envisage a Children's Court which will be more like a Children's Club with the magistrate in the position of an uncle or big brother. I envisage the sweeping away of all talk of sentences and detention.

I envisage these magistrates as being invested with parental powers so that a magistrate will, if it be necessary, punish the child as a father, or, should a child's environment be so bad that he has little chance of improving, he should be able to suggest that the child should become a ward of the Government until he or she reaches the age of twenty-one. I envisage the appointment of an officer of Government to be guardian of all Government wards. It will be he, with his advisers, who will decide whether Government should accept the guardianship of any child when application is made by Magistrates. This provision is necessary because I shall propose that the number of children in any one Certified School should under no circumstances exceed 400. This means that until more schools can be opened, the accommodation will be limited. The only exception to the above procedure which I shall propose is where a child has committed a serious felony such as murder. In such a case the magistrate will be able to accept the child as a ward of Government without reference to the Guardian of Government Wards. It is proposed that these children's Magistrates would be peripatetic and should hold their courts should be held in a children's centre where the local club leaders and parents can meet and the Magistrate shall act as a guide and adviser to them on any problems presented by children in the area.

Once a child is accepted as a ward of Government he will remain so until he or she attains the 21st birthday. Government may send one of its wards to a Government Boarding School not a "Certified" school, or any delegate its guardianship to anyone whom it regards as a fit and proper person to take charge of the child.

Normally when a child goes to a Government Boarding School he or she will not leave the school until he or she has either passed the S.S.L.C. Examination, or passed a Government trade test. The structure, constitution and administration of Government Boarding Schools must, in my opinion, be radically different from that which at present obtain in the Certified Schools. First, the children must in every respect be regarded as students and not as prisoners. This means that the school buildings should be those of a school and not a jail. There must be nobody in the nature of a Warder or Petty Officer. These should be replaced by Chowkidars and peons. Clothing should be in the nature of a

school uniform of which the boys and girls can be proud. The children should have a little pocket money weekly. The Mark Money Account should be abolished. There should be a school shop within the school where they can buy sweetmeats, pencils, note-books, and so on, for their own use. Each child should have his own box in which he may keep his personal possessions. The distinction between Senior and Junior Certified Schools should go, together with age-limits and differences in diets. Teachers must take a much bigger part in the life of the school than they have done hitherto, taking part in games and other extra curricular activities.

As regards the educational side, I shall propose that each child on his attaining the age of twelve, or achieving literacy, shall be 'screened' by the board of teachers, and a decision made as to the child's future educational training. A clever boy who wishes to proceed with his studies should be put on whole-time school work and should pass his Middle school examination while in a Government Boarding School. His education to S.S.L.C. standard should thereafter take place in a local high school, the child returning to his Boarding School each evening. I estimate that ten per cent of students in Government Boarding Schools will be worth this academic training. After the S.S.L.C. has been passed, a small percentage should be chosen for study in Colleges dependent on ability. Others may possibly be trained in Shorthand and Typing or for employment as teachers.

Those children who have not been chosen for a scholastic career should be selected for training in a trade. Thereafter the child should work whole-time (apart from educational lectures, etc.) at his chosen vocation. This training should continue until the child has passed a Government trade test and is fit to take his place in society as a skilled craftsman.

The character training side of things will be entirely in the hands of a teacher of the status of Assistant Headmaster who will be responsible for the character training of the children in the school. I shall not enter here into details of this training, but hope to do so in a subsequent article.

Every child should have ample opportunity to indulge in games and healthy recreation, and a reading room and library should be provided in every school.

Now comes the question of after-care. The reason why I have suggested the age of 21 as the child's majority for the purpose of this plan is that after the child has undergone his training, Government will be able to supervise his activities until he is securely settled in life. If the proposals described are carried out, every child leaving a Government School will be employable, and it would not be difficult for an after-care organization to place every child in suitable employment—the most suitable employer being the Government which has reclaimed and trained them. If they have been happy in their childhood, they will feel a debt of gratitude to the Government which looked after them and will make loyal Government servants.

This plan which I have sketched in rough outline has one great virtue, namely, that nearly every child accepted by Government for training will be turned out fitted both educationally and characterologically to take his or her place in society as a self-respecting individual. It will be possible to accept fewer children into the Government Boarding Schools than at present pass through the Certified Schools; but positive results will be achieved, whereas at present practically no results are obtained. It is better to train 1,600 children adequately and properly than to have a population in the Certified Schools of up to 3,000 undergoing little, if any, training. Once this plan was in operation, Government could open new

schools on the same lines as and when it became financially possible.

In order to train Children's Magistrates, teachers, club leaders and the like, it will be proposed that a teaching establishment be instituted and attached to one of the Government Boarding Schools so that practical and theoretical training may be given in the character training of children. It would always be possible for a Government to multiply these training institutions for teachers as finance became available.

I should be glad to hear comments and criticisms on the above skeleton plan from any of the public who have a special interest in these matters. A letter to the Adviser in Child Psychology to the Government of Madras, care of the Director of Publicity, Fort St. George, will always reach me.

(Continued from page 8)

expected to be put on the road from the first week of March 1948.

Neidature Land Colonisation Scheme.—All the lands except a few have cultivated and paddy is being harvested. The outturn is fair.

Vocational Training.—There are two instructors in the grade of fieldmen and the training in agricultural operations is being taught. As there is a separate Secretary for the colony from 22nd January 1948. I am asking him to report direct to the Government any other particulars which are required for publication.



Photo taken at the Yedapalle Sports held on 12th January 1948. Mr. J. P. L. Gwynn, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Coonoor, is seen distributing prizes to the winners in the sports.

Policies and Pronouncements

U.P. Governor on Agriculture

Knowledge not applied to life was a waste of money, and energy, observed Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, Governor, addressing recently the Agricultural College students on the occasion of the annual prize distribution function of the college.

She wanted every student to believe that he was a part of a great economic regeneration. She advised the young students of the college to act wisely and courageously for the service of their country so that their culture and tradition might be remembered for centuries to come.

Mrs. Naidu said that the plough had been one of the more enduring symbols of civilization. And wherever the plough went, the cottage industry went with it. The plough and the spinning wheel had been the symbols of human industry in our country. "India was a land whose tradition had been a large-scale agricultural production."

Though India had plenty of agricultural land, Indians were starved. Those who worked on fields, our "annadatas," were starved. Why was it so? Why were we without health, without power of resistance? There must be some reason for all that. Was it that we had outlived our traditioned methods of agricultural production?

Mrs. Naidu said that old methods of production must give place to new scientifically specialized methods and that our young men should turn to agriculture. There were lawyers without clients and doctors without patients, but the agriculturists had vast fields of service open before them. If a nation had to progress, improved and specialized methods of production had to be introduced. When there was plenty of food our standard of living would rise and with it the general tone of morality and the morale of the country. We must know how to adjust our production to demand.

On Compost-Making

Messages wishing success to the compost-making drive of the U.P. Government, were received from Indian leaders.

Mahatma Gandhi wrote: "Compost means production of food from dust and saving crores of rupees. Will the Indian kisans learn this magic?"

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said: "We fought the battle of freedom and achieved it. But *swaraj* cannot be completed unless the difficulties of the people are removed and there is proper arrangement for food, cloth, houses and education. We have to fight another battle to remove the poverty of the masses. In this battle we have not to fight against anybody else but to work in a way which would increase production. The number of kisans is the largest in this country and agriculture is our main industry. Similar to other countries it is necessary to increase the fertility of the land to bring prosperity to the peasants and the country. U.P.'s Development Minister has indicated the way by which production can be increased through the manufacture of compost. I support the drive wholeheartedly and hope that the kisans and zamindars will help the drive to improve their condition."

Dr. Rajendra Prasad said: "Cowdung is not utilized in our country as it should be. Most of it is burnt and much more is wasted. Some of it which is utilized as fertilizer is not used in a way which could give highest benefits. There should be a campaign for the utilization of all such things which spread dirt and disease but can be best utilized as fertilizers to increase our food production. U.P. Government's efforts in this direction are highly commendable, and I wish them success. If the work is properly done we can increase the production in one year."

On Home Guards

"All of us believe that India has a great and glorious future in front of her and each of you who has joined the home Guards is contributing to make that future great and glorious," said the Governor-General of India, Lord Louis Mountbatten, presenting colours to the C.P. and Berar Homeguards at a ceremonial parade recently.

Merits of Co-operative Methods

That the Co-operative method should be the harbinger of communal peace in the country was expressed by Mr. V. L. Mehta, the Minister for

Finance, Co-operation and Agriculture, while performing the opening ceremony of a branch of the Bombay Muslim Co-operative Bank. He observed that throughout the world there were nearly 20,000 co-operative banks and India possesses 8,000 such banks. Co-operative Banks should receive further impetus from Hindus and Muslims as they would be helpful in removing the communal virus which had begun to find its way into this field as well. Mr. Morarji R. Desai, who also addressed the gathering, said that the successful running of co-operative banks such as the Muslim Co-operative Bank would only materialize if Hindus as well as Muslims jointly entered the co-operative movement. No communal co-operative banks should be countenanced. Only on this line could communalism be eradicated from all spheres of life.

Administration of the Communications Branch of P.W.D.

The following are the salient features of the administration of the Communications Branch of the Public Works Department, Government of Madras, for 1945-46:—

The Government decided to take over from district boards and municipalities the maintenance of all trunk roads and important feeder roads, as the local bodies with their inelastic finances and pre-occupation with other important civic duties were not in a position to devote sufficient money and attention to the maintenance and improvement of these roads. Accordingly the Communications Department was reconstituted as the Highways Department which was, however, to function separately as before, with a Chief Engineer, six Superintending Engineers and 37 Divisional Engineers.

A scheme for road development in the province on the general outlines given in the Chief Engineers' Conference held at Nagpur in December 1943 was drawn up for 15 years, as decided and approved by the Post-War Sub-Committee for Communications. This programme was to consist of four phases, phase I of 2 years, phase II of 3 years and phases III and IV each of five years duration in succession. A detailed five-year plan for the first two phases was also drawn up. A scheme was also drawn up for the employment of demobilized soldiers on roadworks and Government approved the formation of labour contract societies for the exservicemen.

81 estimates of the aggregate value of about Rs. 1,85,00,000 were dealt with in the technical section of the Chief Engineer's Office, during the period under review. Of these 50 estimates related to roads, 6 to bridges and causeways and 25 to miscellaneous items such as purchase of furniture, etc. The approximate number of other miscellaneous references including tenders and agreements, etc., dealt with in technical section for the year 1945-46, apart from the estimates specified above is 2,400. Hundred estimates costing in the aggregate Rs. 60-14 lakhs were scrutinized in the offices of the Superintending Engineers (Communications). One thousand seven hundred and forty estimates for capital works, aggregating to Rs. 118-27 lakhs and 12,846 estimates for maintenance and repairs,

aggregating to Rs. 266-41 lakhs (Rs. 266-41 lakhs) were sanctioned during the year under report in all the District Board Engineers' Offices in the province. The total expenditure on capital works in all the District Boards amounted to Rs. 29-28 lakhs. The total expenditure on maintenance in all the District Boards amounted to Rs. 148-08 lakhs. The total mileage of roads in charge of the Public Works Department during the year under report was 5,540 miles, as against 4,373 in the previous year, the excess of 1,167 miles representing the new roads taken over during the year. The total expenditure during the year on communications, works, repairs under all heads "Provincial,"

was Rs. 1,45,41,574 against an appropriation of Rs. 1,47,59,700.

A scheme of training local Road Engineers in foreign countries, sponsored by the Government of India, was pushed through and a batch of eight engineers left Madras on the 11th of April 1946 for an inspection of roads systems in England, France and United States of America. They are expected to study the general layout of the road systems, the history of road development, the road organization, and the financial policy, in addition to visiting important laboratories, workshops, scientific research stations and making valuable contacts with experts of these countries. It is expected that these officers on their return will be of great assistance in adapting modern developments to suit local conditions.

Prohibition News Letter

The following is a brief summary of the reports received on the ameliorative activities in the various prohibition districts:—

Nilgiris.—Under the auspices of the Gudalur Grama Sangham sports for school children were held on 21st January 1948. It was largely attended. There were 22 events including Chedugudu, Kummi and Kolattam. There was also a small poultry show. Earlier in the month, similar sports were held at Yedapalle. Running race for juniors, sack race, high jump, indigenous games, tug-of-war, kolattam, kummi, and needle race were among the principal events. The attendance at the sports was considerable. Thrift day was celebrated by distributing hundi boxes to the members of the Yedapalli Co-operative Society. An exhibition was held at Nundala village by the Agricultural Department and the occasion was availed of to celebrate a thrift day by the distribution of hundi boxes. A Rural Uplift School for giving training to youngmen drawn from the villages of Coonoor Revenue Division was inaugurated on 30th January.

Chittoor.—Rural games were conducted in three villages in Chittoor division. Two firka tournaments were also conducted. There were also folk dance, peacock dance and Pandari bhajana parties. The wives of eight Harijan addicts who performed kummi

dance were given prizes. Bhajanas were also conducted in several places in Chittoor division, and Harikathas performed by ballad singers. Thrift day was celebrated in Madanapalle division and six hundi boxes were distributed afresh.

South Kanara.—During January the special development officer convened a meeting of the jaggery manufacturing societies of Mangalore division

at Mangalore. Representatives of 16 societies attended the meeting. Subjects relating to finance, accounts, keeping and marketing of jaggery were discussed. Another conference also of jaggery manufacturers took place during the month. It was decided that all the jaggery manufacturing societies should follow a uniform policy and that they should not compete with one another to bring down prices. Thrift day was also celebrated in one place and 40 hundi boxes were distributed.

Coimbatore.—Rural sports were held on a big scale at Myleripalayam on 26th January. About 3,000 people attended. There were competitions



Solving ex-tappers' unemployment—The photo is of a spinning class in South Kanara district. Most of the trainees belong to ex-tappers' families.

in chadugudu, tug-of-war, folk dance, physical feats, etc., and a large number of people participated in the several events. Rural sports were also held at Kalapatti. Gobi, firka tournament was also conducted during the month. Gramasangams continued to do useful work. One sangam has taken steps to construct a new building for housing a local District Board School at a cost of Rs. 10,000. The foundation stone for the same was laid by the Collector. Two gentlemen have donated lands to the extent of 1½ acres for the purpose. Another sangam has formed a new road of about half a mile. This sangam has also repaired the streets. Yet another sangam has formed a street to a distance of half a mile. It has dug pits to drain out rain water. It has also repaired a well. One of the sangams has formed a new road. It has also repaired a Harijan well and purchased a radio set at a cost of Rs. 1,100. The formation of a road measuring three furlongs is an achievement of another sangam which has also purchased a radio set at a cost of Rs. 800.

Trichinopoly.—One cane jaggery making co-operative society was organized and licences for tapping toddy were sanctioned for 11 members. In Musiri taluk three Gramasangams

were formed. The first Rural Uplift School for Trichinopoly started on 26th January at Musiri. There was a chadugudu tournament in one of the villages, in which Gramasangams took an enthusiastic part. Some of the players were ex-addicts. Twenty-one teams competed on the whole. During the latter part of January, a milk supply co-operative society was started and licences were issued to 13 members of the society for tapping sweet juice from palmyrah.

Cuddapah.—Firka tournaments were conducted during the month and an interesting harikatha entitled 'Bhakta Kuchela' was performed by the ballad singer.

Anantapur.—It was resolved by the villagers in one place to organize a hand-spinning industry and to install a public radio.

Salem.—A volley-ball court was opened at Puduchatram. Talks on prohibition, thrift, adult education, reading rooms and libraries were made on the occasion. A public meeting of the members of the Land Colonization Co-operative Society was held during January. The Assistant Development Officer talked on improved methods of agriculture, village sanitation, cottage industry, etc.

Tanjore.—Thrift day was celebrated in one village in Mayavaram taluk and 24 hundi boxes were distributed to those including ex-addicts. A free reading room was opened during January in Mayavaram taluk. Two palmyrah jaggery manufacturing societies, a coir rope manufacturing society and a milk supply co-operative society have been organized.

Madura.—Three Gramasangams in Palni taluk and four co-operative jaggery societies in Dindigul taluk and two co-operative milk supply societies in Periakulam taluk were formed during January. In all there are now six jaggery manufacturing societies for ex-tappers and they are expected to provide employment for about 500 ex-tappers. Two Gramasangams in Palni have engaged sweepers to clean the streets and one Gramasangam has planted 50 trees on road margins to provide shade. Longstanding disputes in two villages in Madura taluk were settled by two Gramasangams.

Guntur.—One of the Village Uplift sangams in Guntur taluk has got a reading room constructed and opened. In connection with the opening ceremony inter-village tournaments were conducted as well as Burrakathus and katha kalakshepams.

Delhi Notes

Overseas Scholarships

It is the policy of the Government of India to give every possible assistance to the expansion and improvement of facilities for University education in the country, but Government have been advised by the Overseas Scholarships Committee that it is necessary for some time yet to send selected students abroad for advance studies and training.

The whole question of sending scholars to the United Kingdom, the United States of America and other foreign countries for technical training in the present year is still under consideration in the light of the interim report submitted by the Overseas Scholarships Committee which was appointed to examine the Overseas Scholarships Scheme in all its aspects.

Regarding the selection for these scholarships, the Education Minister stated that some scholars were selected

by the Provinces and others by the Central Government directly according to whether they are intended to serve a Provincial Government or the Central Government on their return.

Scholarships to Scheduled Caste students

The Government of India will award during 1948-49 scholarships to students of the Scheduled Castes of the Dominion of India who wish to pursue their studies in scientific, technological and some of the professional subjects, beyond the Matriculation stage. The scholarships are tenable in India only. The amounts awarded will include tuition fees and maintenance charges admissible under the rules, excepting the courses of shorthand and telegraphy for which short period stipends of small value will be awarded. The courses for which awards will be available are: (1) Intermediate in

Science, (2) B.Sc., (3) M.Sc., (4) Engineering, (5) Technology, (6) Medicine (7) Agriculture, (8) Teacher's Training (9) M.Ed. after obtaining B.T. degree (10) Commerce, (11) Geography (Hons. and Post graduate courses), (12) Telegraphy, and (13) Shorthand and Typewriting.

Women students offering Arts subjects in the Intermediate, Graduate and Post-graduate courses will be eligible for the award of scholarships, provided they give an undertaking that they will pursue a Teachers' Training Course at the end of their approved course of study.

Application for scholarships should be submitted in the prescribed form through the Head of the Institution of which the applicant is or was a student and should reach the Secretary, Scheduled Castes Scholarships Board, Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi-3, not later than April 30, 1948.

Refugee Journal

A fortnightly journal, entitled "Relief and Rehabilitation", intended

to represent the cause of refugees as well as to give information as to the steps taken by Government to help them, has been issued by the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, Government of India.

The Journal which is being published in English, Hindi and Punjabi is for free distribution among refugees all over India, particularly those in camps in East Punjab and Kurukshetra.

The publication will serve as a link between the Government and the displaced community, and as a vehicle for the exchange of information between the two. In this the refugees will have a scope for making known their special requirements and the Government for indicating what is being done for meeting them. The publication is thus expected to render a much needed service.

Mass Education to be speeded up

The All-India Educational Conference which concluded its three-day session on Sunday, January 18, 1948 made far-reaching decisions on different aspects of education. The most important item considered by the conference was the modifications necessary in the plan of educational development set out in the Central Advisory Board of Education's report, popularly known as the Sargent Report, in the light of experience gained since the report was published in 1944. Provincial Ministers of Education, Vice-Chancellors of Universities, Directors of Public Instruction and other eminent educationists present in the conference were all agreed that the period required to complete the work of mass education must be substantially reduced from the period of 40 years envisaged in the Sargent Report. As suggested in the report, the conference agreed that eight years should be the period of compulsory basic education but in view of the practical difficulties in the way of introducing it immediately, this period might be reduced during the first stage though in no case should it be reduced to less than five years. The conference resolved that simultaneously, to supplement further education, a comprehensive scheme of Adult Education (through libraries, open air theatres, radio, films, etc.) should be put into operation immediately; that for the first five years conditions of training for teachers in basic

schools would be relaxed; the work of full-time workers might be supplemented by part-time workers and skilled artisans; and the double shift system should be introduced to economise on buildings.

The conference also endorsed the recommendation of the Central Advisory Board of Education for appointing a small committee of educationists and others concerned with education administration to consider the question of finance required to implement the basic educational plan including the question of Central grants, educational cess and educational loans.

The conference recommended the establishment of a Central Institute of Adult Education for training personnel for administration, supervision and field work and suggested that such a body should give a lead to provincial and State Governments, local authorities and voluntary agencies. It also recommended the establishment of a Central Co-operative Library. The recommendations of the Central Advisory Board urging the appointment of a committee to consider the means of financing education at all stages and the appointment of a Commission for Secondary Education were endorsed by the conference.

There was a prolonged debate in the conference about the medium of instruction.

The conference urged the paramount need for research in all branches of learning and recommended that the Government of India should do all in its power to encourage the universities and research institutions to undertake research.

Three-year Drive for Literacy

The Central Advisory Board of Education has adopted the interim report of the Adult Education Committee appointed on the opening day of its Session which recommends the launching of a three-year programme for literacy and general education. The report says that both literacy and general education should proceed simultaneously but during the next three years greater emphasis should be laid on the latter aspect of adult education with a view to enable every Indian to take part in the New Order. Efforts should also be made, the report says,

to raise the percentage of literacy to 50 at least. The report further recommends that all the resources and personnel of the country should be mobilized for the attainment of these objectives and suggests employment of whole-time workers, part-time workers and volunteers. The report says that part-time workers should be village school teachers, Postmasters and other civil servants who may be given a small honorarium for their services and voluntary workers should be recruited from amongst students and staff of schools and colleges; Government employees, district officials, etc. It also recommends that all owners of mills and factories should provide for the education of their workers and their families and the Government should make it compulsory for all its employees to attain literacy within a period of three years and it should give them facilities for this purpose. Adult education should also be compulsorily provided for all prisoners in jails.

River Projects to be speeded up

The Central Board of Irrigation in a resolution reiterates the necessity of undertaking early surveys of the potential water resources of all catchments and has commended the action recently taken in this respect by the Government of Bombay. The Board has put forward suggestions for co-ordinating such activities of all provincial and state administrations in India.

The Board has decided to establish a close liaison with the activities of the newly formed Indian Standards Institution and has decided to co-operate with this body in preparing and publishing standards of interest to the engineering profession.

The Board has also recommended the undertaking of electrical research in main hydraulic research laboratories in India and has decided to establish close liaison with various institutions already engaged in this work.

The Board has called for the appointment of a Committee to review existing legislation and propose measures necessary to overcome the present difficulties created by demands for realignment of power transmission lines after erection.

Indian News Digest

Training Labour Welfare Workers in Bombay

In pursuance of the proposal of the Director of Labour Welfare, the Government of Bombay has constituted an Advisory Board for the School for Training of Labour Welfare Workers in Bombay.

The Board will advise on all matters pertaining to the training of Labour Welfare Workers.

The Board will also co-opt one representative of the Social Service League, Bombay.

Fruit Cultivation Scheme in Bombay

A scheme for the extension and organization of fruit cultivation in suitable tracts of the Province, at an estimated cost of Rs. 6,43,625, spread over a period of five years has been sanctioned by the Government of Bombay, with immediate effect. As a result, central fruit nurseries will be established.

Model Village in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have awarded the Sir Frederick Sykes Village Improvement Shield for the Southern Division to Kelaginore in the Honavar taluka of Kanara district for its achievement during the year 1946.

With its population of 1,690 drawn mainly from the agriculturist class, 338 dwelling houses and 285 tenants, the village had been selected under model village scheme in 1941. The village established the first better farming society in the district in 1943. Since then, the improvement programme has been intensified and Kelaginore today boasts all the features of a model village.

The reclamation of marshy lands, improvement in housing conditions, construction of roads and wells and other reforms have been introduced by the villagers in a spirit of co-operation and mutual aid. The village

has also improved soil fertility, introduced vegetable cultivation, bee-keeping, irrigation, and use of improved implements. A school building was constructed and the co-operative society started a library also. It has been supplying loans and advances to the villagers besides running a fair-price shop.

Harijan Uplift in East Punjab

The East Punjab Government is considering a Rs. 5-lakh plan to rehabilitate Harijans.

Ban lifted in U.P.

In pursuance of their policy of encouraging cottage industry in United Provinces, the Provincial Government have decided to remove the ban on the export of hand-made paper outside this Province. Hand-made paper is accordingly being excluded from the provisions of the United Provinces Paper (Movement) Control Order, 1945, and in future no permit will be required for its export outside the Province.

Expenditure on Adult Literacy in C.P.

The Provincial Government are reported to have prepared a scheme of Adult Education which will involve an expenditure of over one crore of rupees in five years. In the first year the capital expenditure is estimated at Rs. 11,54,000 and recurring Rs. 20,45,000. In the subsequent years the capital expenditure has been estimated at Rs. 76,000 and recurring at Rs. 20,45,000. Besides regular teaching schools, the scheme also includes cinemas, wireless, music, pamphlets, etc.

Department for Crop Physiology

The U.P. Government, it is learnt, have decided to create a new department, for a period of two years, to work on crop physiology of wheat, sugarcane and potato, etc.

The department, which will function under the guidance of Dr. V. N. Singh, formerly Director of Agriculture, Research Institute, Benares University, will deal with the problem connected with crop diseases, increase of yield and improvement of manure. The department will also undertake research on mangoes.

Reward for Village Improvement Work

The Government of Bombay has awarded prizes of Rs. 100 each to the villages of Karambal, Sulbhavi, Konnur, Belamber and Phurus in the Belgaum, Bijapur, Dharwar, Kanara and Ratnagiri districts, respectively, in recognition of the best village improvement work done by them during 1946.

Cottage Industries in U.P.

The U.P. Government has decided to create a separate directorate with a full-time Director to supervise and control the development of cottage and small-scale industries. The existing Director of Industries will limit his attention to large-scale industries. It is also proposed to spend a sum of Rs. 2½ crores, double that of the previous year, in 1948-49 for an all-out drive to develop the cottage industries. These industries occupy an important place in U.P. and by their systematic development the per capita income and employment in the province are expected to increase.

Industrial Development in U.P.

The Industrial Adviser to U.P. Government has prepared a scheme for the industrial development of the Province. Cement factories will be started in a few places. A newsprint factory would be located in Dehra Dun area. The setting-up of these factories primarily depends on the availability of machinery from abroad. The other two conditions are the supply of technicians and cheap electric energy. With the development of the Rhind scheme, it is expected that about 4 lakh K.W.T. will be available per annum.

Other Provinces—Their Plans and Programmes

Industrial Development in Bihar

The Provincial Development Board recently decided to set up an Industrial Development and Financial Corporation to guide and finance industrial development schemes in Bihar. The Corporation will start with a capital of at least five crores, in which the Government will have a controlling interest of at least 51 per cent of the shares. The Corporation will examine any industrial scheme which may be put forward either by the Government or by private capitalists or jointly by both and will decide upon the feasibility of the same in the light of expert opinion, after which it may undertake either to finance such schemes wholly or to advise the Government to float loans, if its own resources are insufficient for the purpose.

A committee has been set up to draft a constitution in consultation with the Bihar Government and leading businessmen and to submit the same to the Development Board within three months.

The Provincial Development Board has also decided that lac, mica, super-phosphate, urea, formalin, aluminium and machine tool industry are to be owned and managed by the Bihar Government, while iron and steel is to be Government of India enterprise. Labour also is to be associated with the management of industry and the Board contemplates having one labour representative on each Industrial Board.

Provincial Transport Board in Bihar

In order to ensure maximum co-ordination of all forms of transport and elimination of wasteful competition, to co-ordinate the planning and execution of transport development and to consider the major important problems that may arise from time to time, the Provincial Government, in supersession of their previous resolution, have constituted a Provincial Transport Board.

It shall remain in touch with the existing Provincial Road Development Committee. It will have power to create Sub-Committees of its own members and will be authorized to

correspond direct with the Central Board of Transport or Transport Boards of other Provinces.

Aboriginal Welfare Work in Bihar

The Government of Bihar have prepared a two-year scheme for the uplift of aboriginals in the five districts of Chotanagpur and in the district of Santal Parganas. It is proposed to entrust the Adimjati Seva Mandal, Ranchi, with the execution of the scheme in the Chotanagpur districts and the Santal Pahariya Seva Mandal in the district of Santal Parganas.

The scheme envisages the construction and maintenance of hostels for aboriginal boys and girls and provision of free boarding to 20 per cent of students, free lodging, free lighting and furniture. The eight hostels will accommodate 500 students. Hostels are proposed to be constructed at Gumla, Chaibasa, Peterbar (Hazaribagh), Dumka, Simdega and Lakhampur, one hundred and nine primary schools are proposed to be built in the non-Christian areas, which are particularly backward, in Chotanagpur and Santal Parganas. Provision is made for awarding stipends to 250 girl students at the primary stage.

Communalism in Educational Institutions in Bombay

In consonance with the general policy of the Government to eradicate communalism in every sphere of life, the Government has decided not to support from public funds or permit communalism in any educational institutions. In future, therefore, no grant-in-aid will be given by the Government to new communal institutions and local bodies will be asked to fall in line with this policy.

As regards the existing institutions, it has been decided that those institutions which are not, or cannot be, thrown open to all communities shall not be eligible for grants from the public funds.

In making the Government grants, the Government would also desire to ensure that the facilities and resources of educational institutions are not

made available for the purposes of communal organizations and the youth at such educational institutions should not be brought up in communalism. In the opinion of the Government, the Scout Movement, the projected National Cadet Corps, the U.O.T.C. the Home Guards and other similar non-communal institutions afford fullest opportunities to the youth to engage for physical training, discipline and social service.

Uplift of Backward Classes in U.P.

The Government of the United Provinces are devoting their special attention to the question of the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.

Government consider that in the face of the existing prejudices and poverty mere enactment of the Legislative measures and issue of orders will fail their object unless implemented by an official organization under strong central direction. Government have, therefore, decided to set up the following organization for the improvement and uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes of this Province :—

- (1) Provincial Board at the headquarters.
- (2) A Harijan Sahayak Department.
- (3) District Organizations.

Government will place a fund of Rs. 1,000 at the disposal of each district association exclusively for propaganda purposes.

The Harijan Sahayak Department will have a district organization under a District Harijan Officer and sanction has been given by Government to the creation of the post of a District Harijan Officer in the scale of Rs. 120—6—18—200 in each district in the Province (besides a clerk and a term) to be filled from persons employed in the Rural Development or Co-operative Department. It shall be the duty of the District Harijan Officer to see that provisions of the U.P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act are implemented and the day-to-day grievances of the Scheduled Castes are brought to the notice of the district authorities and redressed.

Welfare of Backward Tribes in C.P.

Explaining the Provincial Government's policy regarding the welfare of backward tribes, the Minister in charge of the Backward Tribes portfolio, said at a Press conference recently: "The move taken by the Provincial Government for the amelioration of the conditions of these tribes was only with a humanitarian point of view. It was a policy of gradual and slow assimilation with the people of this Province and not segregation". According to Government plan, the Province was divided into ten zones,

each zone placed in charge of an organiser who co-ordinated the uplift work on all sides—educational, economic and medical relief. Multi-purpose co-operative societies, numbering about 25, have been established in the zones to each of which the Government have sanctioned an interest-free loan of Rs. 500 repayable in two years. The Government have a plan of constructing four wells, and four approach roads in each zone every year. A van has now been placed at the disposal of the department concerned to carry on the work of propaganda and publicity in the areas.

Visual Education in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have appointed, for a period of two years, an Advisory Board for visual education to advise it on the planning and development of Visual Education in all its aspects, and in particular, on the production of educational films and other aids to Visual Education. The Board also will tender advice on the special requirements for Adult Education including education of labour and on the co-ordination in the field of Visual Education and propaganda, of branches relating to health, agriculture and reconstruction generally.

Books and Publications

["GANDHIAN INSTITUTION OF WARDHA" By R. V. RAO; Published by Thackers and Co., Bombay; Price Rs. 2-8-0; Pages 48.]

In the light of the tragic death of Mahatma Gandhi, the book under review acquires particular significance at this time. It deals with those institutions established by the Mahatma on lines conceived by himself and intended to execute some of the important items of the constructive programme evolved by him. Among these institutions are the Hindustan Talmi Sangh, The All-India Village Industries Association, The Gandhi Seva Sangh, the All-India Spinners' Association, The Goswa Sangh and others with their headquarters at Wardha and working through the agency of local branches. These different institutions carry on their activity on the principle of decentralized economy and control and have the resuscitation of the village and its restoration to its proper place in the scheme of things as their objective. The nerve centre of these different organizations is or rather was—the Savagram Ashram, which was Gandhi's place of residence and from which he directed their activities. The author describes in detail their structure and working and how Gandhi used them as agencies for attaining the objectives he had in mind.

It has been said above that the book acquires special significance in the light of Gandhi's death, for the work of seeing to it that life-work and teachings live and remain imperishable falls now to a special degree on these Gandhian institutions. Mr. Rao has

written a useful and interesting book and one may cordially agree with the statement of Mr. J. C. Kumbhappa in his introductory note that "those who wish to get a glimpse of Gandhiji will get what they want by perusing this handy volume".

C.V.H.

TOPICAL PAMPHLETS

Numerous letters are being received from the public for the supply of copies of the topical pamphlets published by the Department of Information and Publicity. These pamphlets are distributed through Collectors and those who would like to have them are requested to apply to the Collector of the district or to the nearest Revenue Officer specifying the title and language of the pamphlets required.

[HANDBOOK OF ASIAN STATISTICS By Mr. T. O. CHERIAN; Published by the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi; Price Rs. 4; Sole Distributors: Padma Publications, Bombay.]

This is a handbook of statistics as the title indicates relating to countries in Asia. The book seems to be new in its conception and looks to be the first of its kind. The importance of statistics in planning advances in almost every field of activity is now widely recognized. Statistics constitute so to say the barometer which

enables an observer to diagnose the state of affairs in a particular sphere during a given period. They also enable observers to discover remedies for particular maladies. Hence it is that in all advanced countries collection and consolidation of statistics constitute an important duty of the State in the present day.

Asian countries are generally backward and as the author observes complete statistics are not forthcoming in not a few cases. It is therefore especially important that countries in Asia should devote special attention to this aspect of nation-building work. This is an essential preliminary to planning in any sphere of activity. The statistics in the book are classified under various heads. There are not less than 18 heads under which statistics are furnished and the number of countries included vary under each table. An explanatory introduction is also provided in the book. These statistics will certainly serve as 'eye openers' and will be particularly useful to administrators, publicists, social workers and similar other classes of people engaged in promoting commonweal.

One point however may be mentioned. If comparative statistics of the more advanced countries in the West were also given, it would have helped the reader to get an idea as to the degree of backwardness of the Asian countries in relation to others in the West. Such comparisons with more advanced countries are necessary to decide upon the plan, the tempo of progress and the target aimed at in each sphere of activity. The book however fulfils a long felt need. In the nature of its contents, such publications should be periodical in order that they do not become obsolete.

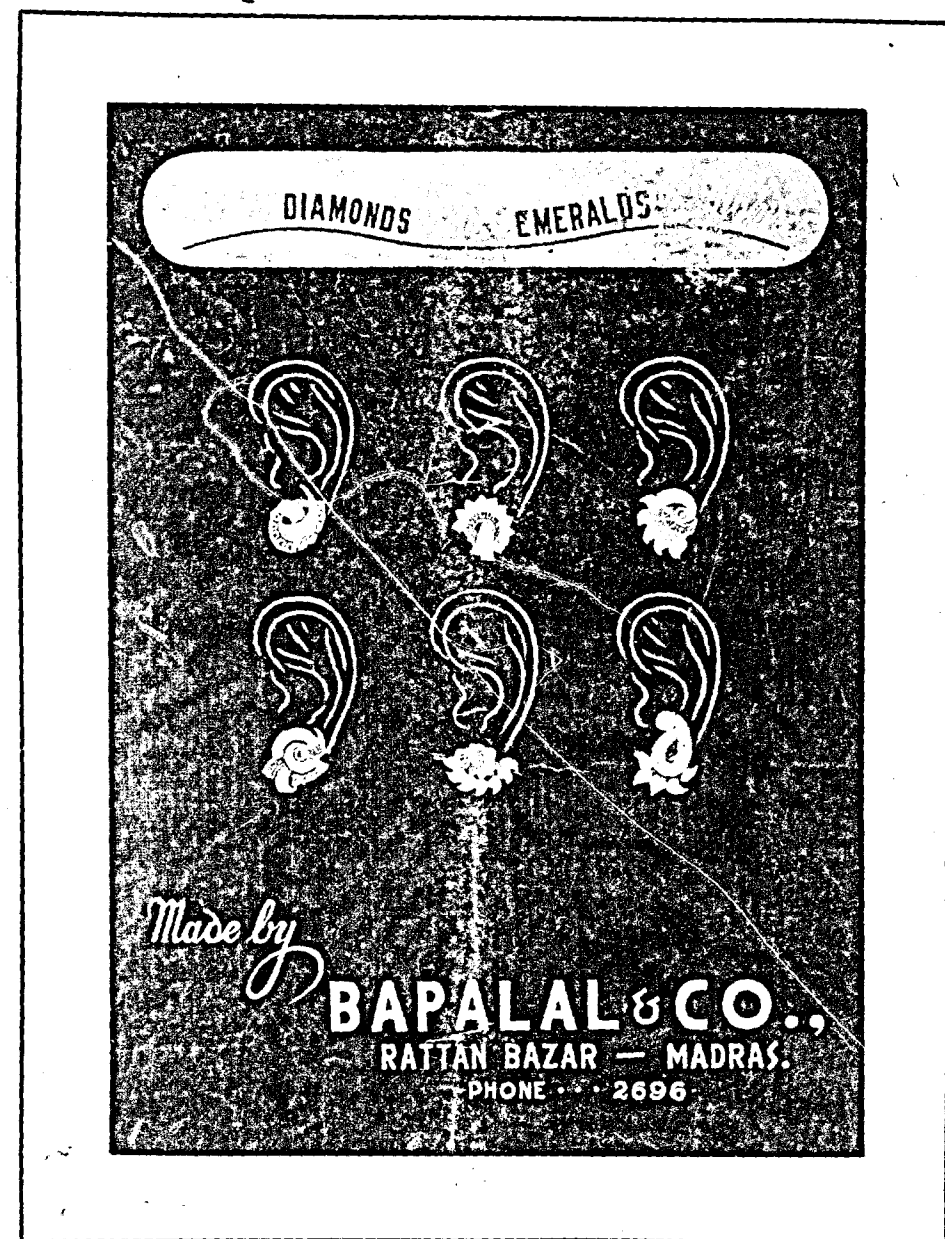
T.K.G.

MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

MADRAS, 15th MARCH 1948

NO. 5



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BOMBAY MONEY LENDERS ACT
By **TRUMBALAL KUSHALJI**
B.A., LL.B., Pleader. Published by
Chandrakant Chimanlal Vora, Law
Publishers and Law Book-sellers,
Ganddhi Road, Ahmedabad—Price
Rs. 2-4-0.]

Money-lenders, as a class, are very unpopular in this country, and they are indicted all round and are made to shoulder the burden to a large extent of the poverty of the rural masses. In the recent past, there was

a greater realization of the sinister role of the money-lender in Indian economy and there are evidences all over the country on the part of various Governments to check the evil from money-lenders. The number of money-lenders in the various Provinces varies perhaps according to the economic condition of the area. In Punjab, for example, it is stated that one in every 100 is a money-lender while in the rest of India the corresponding figure is one in every 300 or 400. Of late, there have been well-meant attempts to keep

down the money-lenders and the Money Lenders Act of the Bombay Government is one such attempt. The Act is expected to go a long way in rescuing the needy classes from the clutches of the money-lenders. Of course, no Government can legislate a class of people into honesty or fairness. Much depends upon developing the right outlook and the earlier money-lenders do this the better for them as well as for the country.

T.K.G.

Railway Traffic Statistics

South Indian Railway

The details of public main miles for January 1948, as compared with January 1947, are as follows:—

Public train miles.		January 1947.	January 1948.
Coaching		725,218	880,653
Goods		247,613	268,141
Total		972,861	1,148,794

The details of traffic both coaching and goods carried during the month of January 1948 as compared with the corresponding month of last year and the previous month are given below:

	January 1947.	January 1948.	December 1947.
Coaching traffic—			
Number of passengers	10,927,220	12,249,569	13,174,129
Earnings	Rs. 68,81,413	75,11,396	70,93,100
Goods traffic—			
Weight in tons	493,740	567,800	508,666
Earnings	Rs. 49,34,651	51,75,692	46,08,105

The increase in coaching earnings compared to the previous year is due to the introduction of additional trains and increase in fares. The increase in passenger earnings in January 1948, as compared with December 1947, in spite of the fall in the number of passengers is due to increase in fares, from 1st January 1948.

M. & S.M. Railway

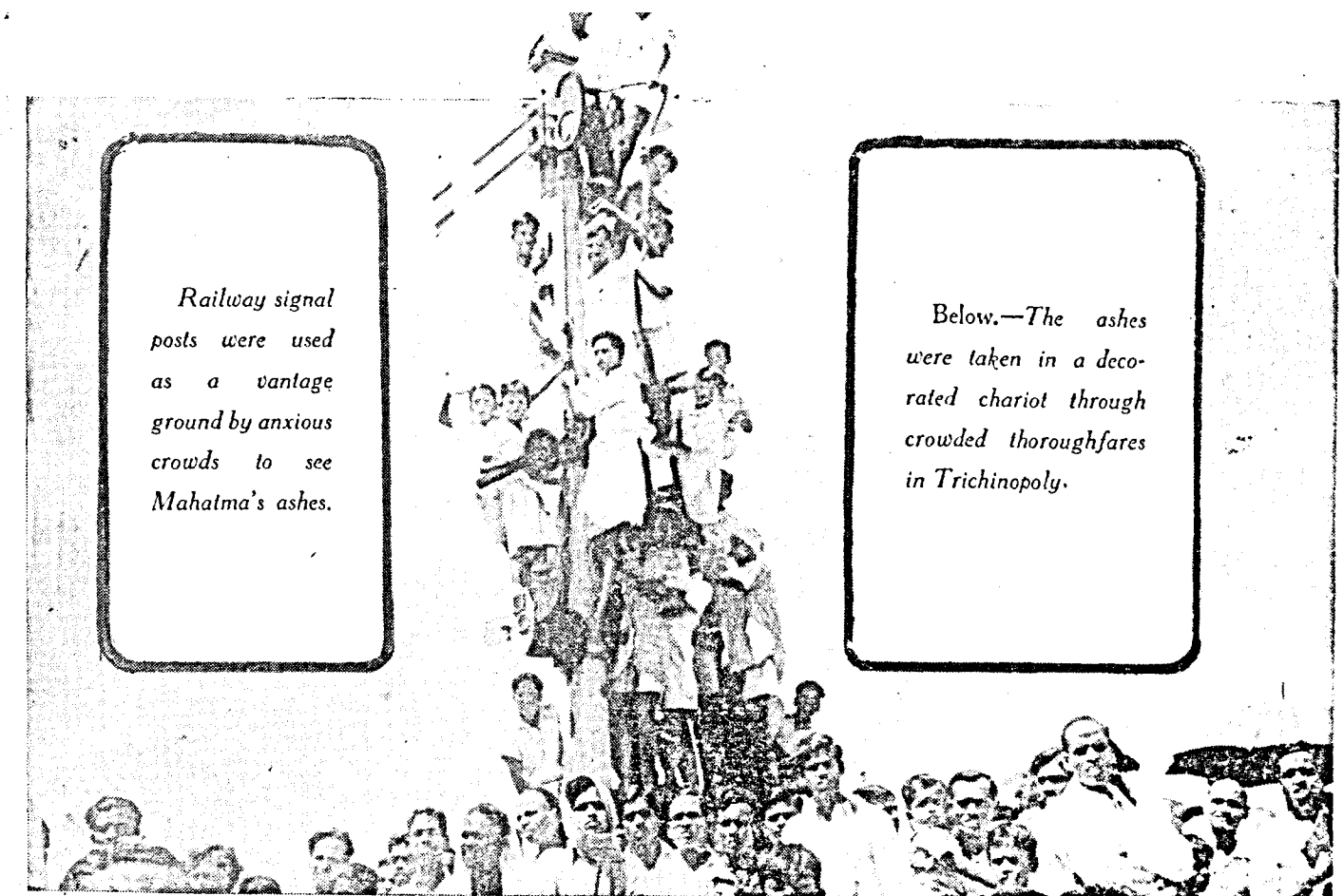
The following are the figures of approximate earnings and volumes of passenger and goods traffic during January 1948 compared with January 1947.

	January.	
	1947.	1948.
Earnings.	RS.	RS.
Coaching	69,58,000	73,08,000
Goods	71,37,000	73,01,000
Miscellaneous.	2,52,000	2,33,000
Volume of traffic.		
Number of passengers.	6,845,000	6,885,000
Goods traffic (tons).	487,000	418,000

There has been an increase in the earnings both under Coaching and Goods due principally to enhanced rates.

ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

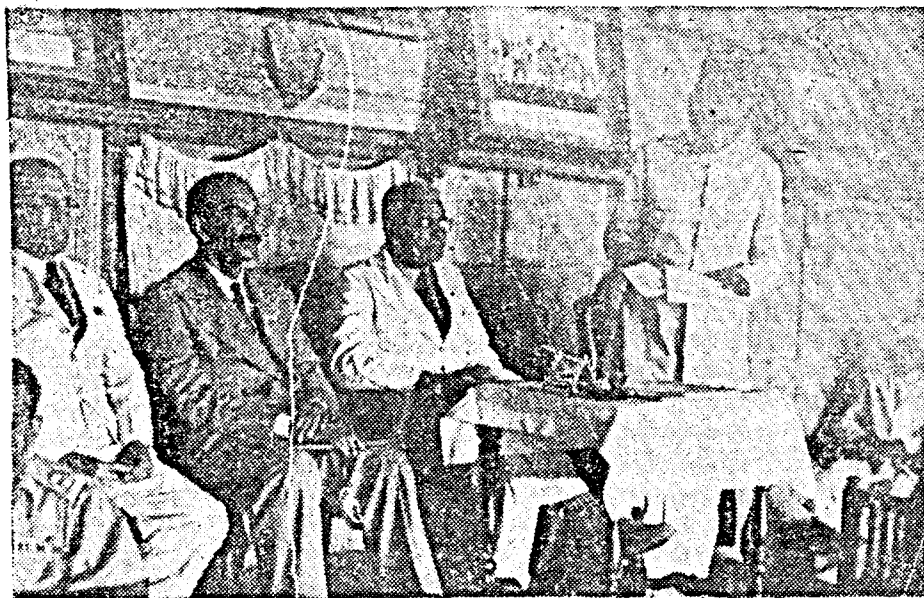
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Railway signal posts were used as a vantage ground by anxious crowds to see Mahatma's ashes.

Below.—The ashes were taken in a decorated chariot through crowded thoroughfares in Trichinopoly.





Mr. Khwaja Nazeer Hussain, the Revenue Member of the State executing the Merger Agreement.

Banganapalle

With the execution of the Merger Agreement on 21st February, Banganapalle, a small State economically untenable and administratively weak comprising of 65 villages with an annual income of about 3 lakhs, has become merged into and became administratively a part of the neighbouring Kurnool district, when its administration was taken over by Mr. M. R. Bangara, Collector of Kurnool, in the presence of Mr. V. N. Kudva, I.C.S., First Member of the Board of Revenue, representing the Government of Madras. Thus a population of nearly 45,000 get equal opportunities to line up with the people of the Indian

Union in all aspects of the modern administration. The Merger Agreement was executed by Khwaja Nazeer Hussain, the Revenue Member of the State, in the absence of the Nawab and the Diwan. Great relief and enthusiasm was expressed by the multitude of the people who assembled at the Darbar Hall to witness the ceremony.

Mr. V. N. Kudva, I.C.S., deputed by the Government of Madras to be present at the taking over of the administration of Banganapalle State, accompanied by N. Venkatasubbiah, M.L.A., who carried a message to the people of the State in accordance with the direction from

the Government of India, was received at the Panyam Station by Mr. M. R. Bangara, Collector of Kurnool and other Government officials. The party drove to the 'Travellers' Bungalow nearby where they were received and garlanded by the State Congress President and other members and then proceeded to Banganapalle, 18 miles distant from Panyam. Huge crowds of villagers were seen along the way awaiting the arrival of the party. The people stopped the car and while expressing great relief at the change that had come over, requested the officials to relieve them from the abnormal burden of land tax. Mr. Kudva and the Collector replied to these representation assuring them of favourable consideration.

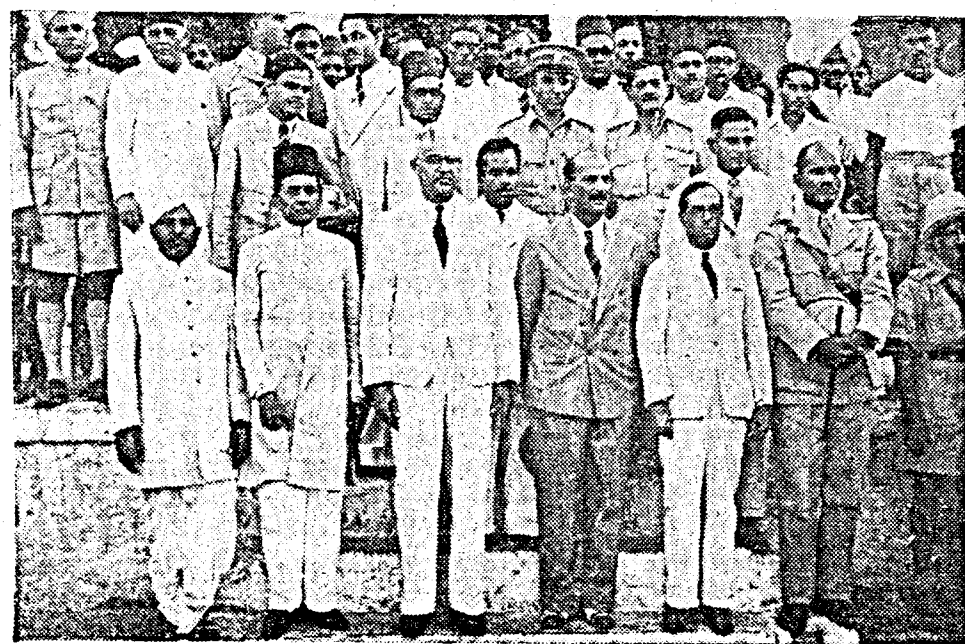
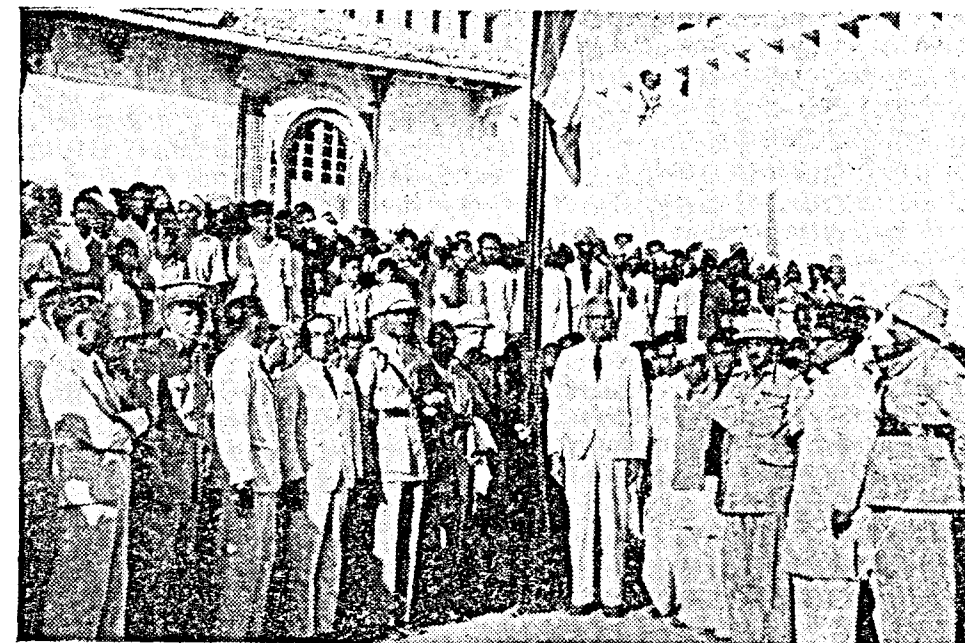


Photo taken on the occasion of the taking over the administration of Banganapalle State by the Madras Government.

The Representatives of the Madras Government and the officials of the State Government, Mr. Khwaja Nazeer Hussain, who represented the ruler is seen right to Mr. V. N. Kudva, Representative of the Madras Government. Mr. M. R. Bangara, Collector of Kurnool is also in the picture.



Flag hoisting in the Darbar Hall premises by Mr. V. N. Kudva.

Hundreds of villagers attended the ceremony which took place at 5-30 p.m. at the Darbar Hall. The administration was handed over by the Revenue Member of the State in the absence of the Nawab and the Diwan, who are still at Delhi. Mr. V. N. Kudva, while congratulating the Nawab for his benevolent action, assured the people about an extension of the ameliorative facilities enjoyed by the people of the Union to the people of the State. Sri N. Venkatasubbiah read a message from the Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkata Rao, Revenue Minister, welcoming the merger of the State, wherein he assured equal opportunities to the people of the area with the people of the rest of the province in all aspects of modern administration. The Minister in his message also congratulated the members of the State Congress, especially Sri N. Venkatasubbiah, M.L.A., for having conducted their activities of the State in such a way as to achieve complete success within a short period. The ceremony was completed with the hoisting of the Union Flag by Mr. Kudva in the Darbar Hall premises.

A public meeting was held at 7 p.m. under the auspices of the State Congress Mr. Kudva and Mr. Bangara were present. Sri N. Venkatasubbiah, who presided over the meeting, while congratulating the Nawab for his wise decision explained to the public how they would be benefited in future as subjects of the Indian Union. He also assured the people, that as their elected representative, he would do everying

in his capacity to bring to the notice of the Government the needs and grievances of the people. Sri G. Venkata Reddi, M.L.A. and the members of the State Congress and representatives of the Muslims also spoke.

Banganapalle, the first South Indian State to merge with the Indian Union is 54 miles away from Kurnool adjoining the taluks of Nandyal and Koilkuntla State. The establishment of Muslim rule in the State dates back to 16th century when the State was taken over from one Raja Nandachakravarty by Nawab Adil Shah of Bijapore. The present Nawab, Fazl Ali Khan, who traces

his descent to the Bijapur ruling family, became the ruler of the State in 1922. He had, however, to leave the State for Hyderabad in 1939 due to differences with the Diwan Mr. Humayun Mirza, in regard to the administrative changes brought about by the latter. He returned to the States only in July last after the lapse of Paramountcy. Since then the people carried on agitation under the lead of the State Congress. They have in fact achieved more than what they aspired for because the State has now merged with the Union and has come directly under the control of the provincial Government.

Tractor Demonstration

Under the auspices of the Sriperumbudur Producers cum Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited, there was a Tractor Demonstration at Nazarethpet on 15th February 1948.

Several Ministers were present. The Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkat Rao addressing the gathering in Telugu explained the reason for the short supply of food in the country as due to increasing population without the proportionate increase in the extent of cultivable land, time-honoured primitive system of cultivation and fragmentation of land. He appealed to the agriculturists to take to joint farming by the use of tractors. The Premier following explained about the village administration under ancient Hindu Rajas pointing out how the village autonomy was ensured by the

villagers themselves working for their welfare without depending much on the State, the State only attending to protection from the enemy and external policy but it was a sad disappointment today that people particularly agriculturists seemed to have no initiative even to the extent of claiming remission from land tax though the Government would come to the rescue of the agriculturists in this direction to the extent admissible. He advocates the necessity of the people joining together voluntarily to safeguard their interests instead of making representation to the Government to attend to their needs. The Government will not be in a position to satisfy their representation for 3 or 4 years more to come and it would be unwise to wait till

Madras Information

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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

March 15, 1948

Topical Notes

Co-operative Housing Schemes

In pursuance of Government Orders, Collectors constituted Housing Committees for the selection of suitable sites for the introduction of Co-operative Housing Schemes in 75 municipalities and 198 panchayats. Reports in respect of 55 municipalities and 151 panchayats have been received. Of these 30 cases have been dropped either on the recommendation of the Housing Committees themselves or after local investigation by the officers of the Co-operative Department. So far 17 housing societies under the scheme have been registered and 15 housing societies have been permitted to be registered. These societies will commence working in the course of a month or so. In the remaining cases the organization of housing schemes is pending with the district officers of the Co-operative Department.

The societies formed under the housing schemes can be classified into four heads: (i) Co-operative Townships which acquire land, construct houses and also provide civic amenities to the inhabitants of the township; (ii) Co-operative House Construction Societies which construct houses and rent them out to members under the hire purchase system; (iii) Co-operative House Building Societies which undertake the construction of houses on behalf of their members as agents; and (iv) Ordinary Building Societies which advance long-term loans for the construction of houses by the members on the sites owned by them.

The first Co-operative Township to be registered in the Province is the Katpadi Co-operative Township in North Arcot district. It proposes to acquire about 800 acres of land, divide it into house-sites of different classes after setting apart the land required for common purposes. The township

has collected a share capital of Rs. 6.86 lakhs and a Special Land Acquisition Officer has recently been sanctioned for acquiring the lands of the township.

So far five co-operative house construction societies have been registered at the following places: Madras, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura and Palamcottah. The Madras Society has already acquired 131 acres at Adyar and proposes to construct 332 houses of three classes. The foundation stone was laid by the Hon'ble Premier of Madras last month for the colony to be named Gandhinagar. The construction of houses will begin very shortly. Land acquisition proposals are pending in respect of Madura, Tanjore and Palamcottah Co-operative House Construction

Societies. A special Land Acquisition Officer with the necessary subordinate staff has been placed under the control of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to expedite land acquisition proposals for the co-operative housing schemes. The Trichinopoly House Construction Society sought to acquire some lands under the control of the Government of India, but the Central Government have expressed their inability to relinquish the lands now and alternative sites have been selected for this society. They will be acquired shortly.

Co-operative House Building Societies have been registered at Ellore and Kovvur in West Godavari district, Madanapalle in Chittoor district and at Bellary exclusively for the Government servants.

Ordinary building societies have been registered at Amadalavalasa in Vizagapatam, Vuyyur in Kistn., Chandra-moulunagar in Guntur, Sholingur in North Arcot, Cuddalore in South Arcot and two societies—"Salem Fairlands" and "Salem City Extension" in the Salem district.

The registration of a House Construction Society has been ordered to be registered at Calicut. Four Co-operative House Building Societies have been permitted to be registered at Tirumangalam in Madura, Rajapalayam, Ramnad, Dharmapuri in Salem and Rajampet in Cuddapah districts. Eleven ordinary building societies have been permitted to be registered at Srirangam, Manaparai, Jayankondam and Musiri in Trichinopoly, Proddattur in Cuddapah, Madakasira, Penukonda and Kadiri in Anantapur and Dharmapuri in Salem and Ongole and Bapatla in Guntur districts.

Existing building societies at Villupuram in South Arcot, at Prani in Madura and at Hindupur and Dharmavaram in Anantapur districts have been permitted to undertake housing schemes and they have suitably amended their by-laws, providing for the construction of houses on behalf of their members. These societies have taken steps to acquire the sites selected by the Housing Committees.

IN THIS ISSUE

Sculpture of Kalayana Sundarar of 13th Century A.D.—Frontispiece

Topical Notes

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Talks on Current Subjects

Departments' Corner

Special Article

Prohibition News letter

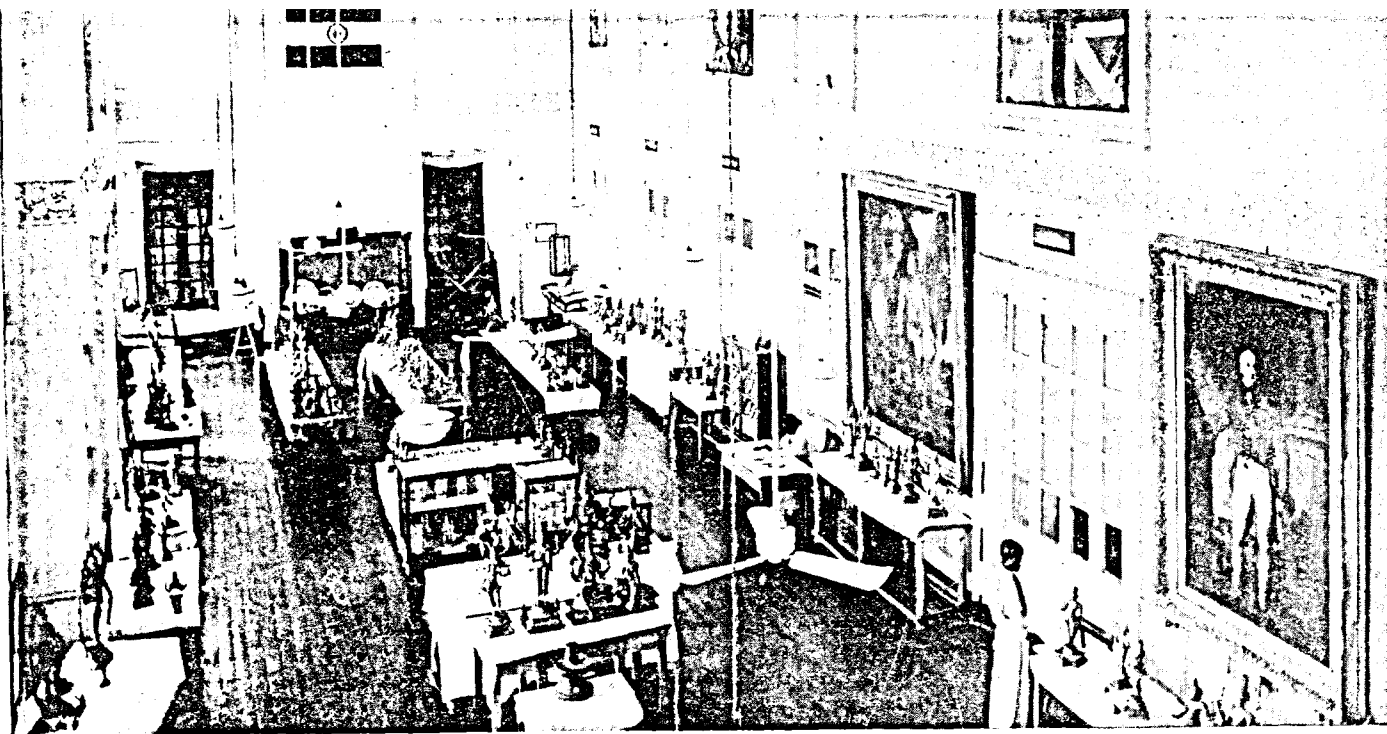
Agriculturist's column

Delhi Notes

Jottings from here and there

Wise words and Wiser Counsel

Books and Publications



(Top)—A view of the main hall of the Archaeological Exhibition recently held in Madras.



(Centre)—His Excellency Sir Archibald Nye, Governor of Madras, had a visit to the Fort Museum and the Art and Archaeological Exhibition, Madras, on 25th February 1948. The Governor is seen with the Superintendent of the Archaeological Department and other members of the Committee and Begum Amiruddin, M.L.A.



(Left)—Panchamukha Vinayaka from Negapatam—15th Century A.D.



(Right)—Vrikshika—Sculpture in stone from Tribhuvanam—16th Century A.D.

then, allowing things to drift. It is high time the people used the good offices of the Co-operative Department in forming societies of the type of Sriperumbudur Producers'-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Society, Limited, and purchase such costly implements like tractors for the common benefit of the members on payment of nominal rent to the society. It is economic for people to bring all their lands under joint cultivation as a ryot holding 5 acres of land is required to maintain the necessary bulls and implements and would be incurring proportionately more expenditure in the cultivation of land than a ryot holding 50 acres and keeping his bulls and machinery employed throughout the year profitably. People would

have to take the warning that time would come when one should be compelled to work for his bread.

Hon. Sri K. Chandramouli, Minister for Co-operation, appealed about the need to improve agriculture through co-operation stressing upon the Co-operative tractor, co-operative farming, etc., to come as established facts. Hon. Sri Bakthavatsalam explained the difficulties of extending electricity immediately for the rural parts and promised consideration at the earliest opportunity to supply electric energy for baling water. He also stated that a scheme has been put into operation for making electricity available in Tiruvallur, Ponneri, Sriperumbudur Saidapet taluks.

The Policeman in the New Order

The speech of H.E. the Governor of Madras at the recent Police parade held in Madras contains some very sound advice to the Police Force in general and to the Madras Police in particular. The Governor stressed the role of the policeman under the new dispensation and pointed out how he should strive to be a real servant of the people. A code of maxims for the policeman which every member of the Force would do well to bear in mind constantly has been propounded by H.E. Reference may also be made to his observation that a policeman's responsibility does not begin and end with the maintenance of law and order. That would be too narrow a conception of what the general public can expect from the police who are expected to be guides and helpers of the public in their difficulties.

There is no denying the fact that the job of a policeman is at any time a thankless and difficult one. It is more so in these transitional times. Of course, it is not humanly possible to

satisfy everybody. But as His Excellency has pointed out, every policeman has to conform to certain standards of conduct in order that he may prove himself a real servant of the people. Police work like many other things needs the willing and active co-operation of the public. In fact, active public co-operation can considerably lighten his burden, but this condition will be fulfilled only provided the policeman so guides himself as to win the confidence of the public. This is inter-connected with his behaviour and attitude towards the public. It is a familiar fact that under the old regime, the policeman had never been a popular figure but things have changed and the policeman should also change with the change of things. His Excellency's advice is, therefore, of especial significance. The public's attitude towards the policeman is gradually changing and the realization is growing that under a popular Government he plays a different role from what he was playing before.

The Fort Museum

The Fort Museum which will be a permanent feature of the activities of the Department of Archaeology, Southern Circle, was brought into being by the Department at the Fifth Session of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology held at Madras on the 2nd February 1948. It was made attractive by an Art and Archaeology Exhibition, which paved the way to a real appreciation of the archaeological and art treasures of South India.

Madras, once a favourite home of the pre-historic man, was incidentally also

the prize most coveted by the rival European powers in the latter half of the 17th century. The Coromandel Coast has, from time immemorial, been a famous trading centre. The maritime powers of the 17th century, the Dutch, the Portuguese, the Danes, the French and the English, each in turn wanted to establish their supremacy over the area. The result was a bitter struggle in which local rulers were also drawn in. Ultimately, the English came out successful after nearly a century.

There has been a great need for a museum which would exhibit the antiquities illustrating the historic evolution of the Province since the days of the East India Company. The Department of Archaeology attempted to meet this need by organizing the present Museum within the Fort St. George. The complexity and magnitude of the project of starting such a Museum are great in themselves, and we have only laid its bare foundation; the superstructure is yet to be built.

The best section of the Fort Museum at present is the well-organized Armoury section. The weapons of war collected from various sources are at present housed in the ground floor which forms the Armoury Section. The pikes, musketoons, cannons, guns, chain-shot, etc., now in the Armoury, either belonged to the English 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 the local rulers. The period of which they are reminiscent is the latter half of the 17th Century. Most of these have been presented permanently by the Government Museum, Madras, on selection by Col. Reid. A few of these have been contributed by the Officer Commanding, Madras Sub-Area, stationed in the Fort, His Excellency Lieut.-General Sir Archibald Edward Nye, the Governor of Madras, presented to the Fort Museum, the East India Company's Chinaware, the colours of the Kings and other British Regiments disbanded from time to time. The records of the St. Mary's Church which include among other things a marriage register recording Robert Clive's marriage with Margaret Maskelyne, and Strynsham Master's Bible of 1660 and the precious silverware, of which the Yale dish (1687), Goldsborough dish and flagon (1698) and the alms dish (D.O.C.) are noteworthy acquisitions, were made over by the Rt. Rev. A. M. Hollis, the Bishop of Madras.

The five interesting stuccos presented by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bell (3 heads and 2 figures) were obtained from the site of a Buddhist Stupa about seven miles south of Landikotal, Khyber Pass. They date from circa 480—600 A.D. and represent the best period of the Buddhist culture in that area.

The model of Fort St. George (1820—1862) which is a picturesque piece of craftsmanship, can be seen at the

(Continued on page 8)

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Food Crops Statistics

Complete figures are now available of the area and yield of food crops in the fasli year 1946-47 (i.e., ending 30th June 1947). The statement given below compares the acreage and yield of the principal food crops grown in this Province for the years 1945-46 and 1946-47. It will be observed that both the acreage and yield under cereals and pulses have increased considerably in 1946-47 as compared with the previous year. The total area under food crops in 1946-47 was 1,202,632 acres more than what it was during 1945-46. The yield also correspondingly increased by about 707,150 tons.

case of the remaining 8 municipal councils. As the Government consider that teachers in secondary schools under all local bodies should also be allowed weightage, they have directed that the local bodies concerned should take into account the service of the teachers in their secondary schools prior to 1st January 1947 in all cases, allow them advance increment in accordance with the principles laid down in Government Order, dated 27th December 1947, and refix their pay in the revised scales.

The Government have also directed that local bodies, which have not given weightage as yet and which fall in the first group (of 51 municipi-

Statement.

1945-46.

1946-47.

	Area. ACRES.	Yield. TONS.	Area. ACRES.	Yield. TONS.
Cereals ..	21,834,033	8,948,630	22,807,268	9,952,900
Pulses ..	2,791,886	223,780	2,935,523	253,550
Condiments and spices ..	677,174	271,210	768,951	301,510
Sugars ..	240,600	503,140	291,096	654,070
Fruits and vegetables including root crops.	821,662	3,313,440	791,662	2,812,180
Miscellaneous food crops.	60,369	16,550	33,856	9,690
Total ..	26,425,724	13,276,750	27,628,356	13,983,900

Under cereals, the acreage under paddy increased from 10.20 to 10.99 million acres and the yield from 6.33 to 7.34 million tons. The increase is attributable to the Grow More Food measures and favourable season. The areas under cholam and cumbu increased from 4.15 to 4.53 and 2.32 to 2.37 million acres and that under ragi declined from 1.59 to 1.53 million acres. The total area under all food crops increased from 26.43 to 27.63 million acres, an increase of 1.20 million acres.

[February 18]

Secondary School Teachers under Local Bodies

The Government had ordered that the general establishment under local bodies should be given the revised scales of pay with weightage for past service with effect from 1st January 1947, in the case of 51 municipal councils and 17 district boards, from 1st October 1947 in the case of 22 municipal councils and 7 district boards and from 1st April 1948 in the

palities and 17 district boards) referred to above, should refix the pay of teachers in secondary schools, allowing weightage from 1st January 1947; those that fall in the second group (of 7 district boards and 22 municipal councils) should refix the pay of their teachers (with weightage on the basis of service up to 31st December 1946 from 1st October 1947, without claim for arrears, and those municipalities, which fall in the third group, should refix the pay of their teachers, allowing weightage on the basis of service up to 31st December 1946 from 1st April 1948, without any claim for arrears.

[February 20]

Harijan Students in Government Hostels

The Government have directed that with effect from the school or academic year 1948-49, 10 per cent of the seats in all Government hostels, attached to secondary and training schools and

Government Arts and Training and Professional Colleges, be reserved for Harijans. If Harijan candidates are not forthcoming in sufficient numbers to fill the seats within 15 days from the re-opening of the hostels, candidates of other communities may be admitted, instead of Harijans. If the number of Harijan applicants exceeds the number of seats reserved, as many of those applicants as possible should be admitted.

[February 20]

Export of Unshelled Groundnuts and Groundnut Kernels

The Government of Madras, with the concurrence of the Government of India, have directed that no person shall, with effect from the date of publication of this order, transport unshelled groundnuts or groundnut kernels from any place in the Province of Madras to any place in India outside the said Province, except under a permit issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or any other officer specially authorized by him.

This order does not apply to the transport of unshelled groundnuts or groundnut kernels from the Province of Madras to the States of Pudukottai, Banganapalle and Sandur and to the movement of unshelled groundnuts or groundnut kernels under valid export licences, issued by the Central Government for export out of India. If any person contravenes the order, without prejudice to any other punishment to which he may be liable, his stocks of unshelled groundnuts or groundnut kernels will be ordered to be forfeited.

[February 20]

Rationing

The Government have ordered that with effect from 29th February 1948, the scale and composition of rationed articles allowed to cardholders in the statutorily rationed areas of the Province and in the whole of the Nilgiri district will be as follows:—

Rice eaters—8 oz. of rice.
Mixed diet eaters—3 oz. of rice and 5 oz. of millets, maize, etc.
Millet eaters—1 oz. of rice and 7 oz. of millets, maize, etc.

This does not apply to the rural areas of the Malabar district regarding which separate orders will issue.

[February 20]

Recruitment of Harijans

The Government have directed that in the matter of making appointments to the posts of Foresters and Forest Guards in the Madras Forest Subordinate Service preference should be given, as far as practicable, to Harijans, provided they are found suitable and duly qualified.

[February 23]

Medical Education Committee

The following are some of the main recommendations of the Committee :-

The Committee has sorted the subjects referred to it under the following main heads: (1) *Medical Personnel*—Teaching and non-teaching—Paid and Honorary; (2) *Medical Education*—(a) Under-graduate training, (b) Post-graduate training and refresher courses, (c) Specialist training and the development of specialities, (d) Dental Education, (e) Pharmaceutical education, (f) Nursing, (g) Midwifery and Health Visitors and (h) Dietetics; (3) *Medical Libraries*; (4) *Hospital Technicians*; (5) *House-officers*; (6) *Medical Research*; and (7) *Other miscellaneous subjects*.

Medical Personnel.—The Committee has recommended that all entrants to the Medical Service should be completely debarred from private practice and that the scales of pay should be revised making allowances for this bar. The Committee has suggested that one of the means by which a certain basic knowledge of the subjects in which a doctor practices can be acquired at the earliest possible stage is through a period of apprenticeship as a Junior House Officer attached to a hospital, soon after the successful completion of studies in the medical college. This period, they say, would be 15 months, of which six months should be on the medical side, six months on the surgical side and three months at a centre, in which adequate training in public health will be possible, namely, at a primary unit as contemplated in the provincial post-war plan or under selected District or Municipal Health Officers. They feel that such a period of apprenticeship should be made compulsory for all future entrants to the medical services, whether paid or honorary.

In the case of the general line, the Committee feels that every officer should, on selection to Government services, be posted for a period ranging from 3 to 5 years to a primary Medical and Public Health centre, after which his tenure in other posts may normally be three years, frequent transfers being avoided.

Scales of pay.—On the grades and scales of pay for both the general and teaching lines in the Medical Service, the Committee's recommendations are as follows :-

Professors in teaching line and general line Rs. 1,000—50—1,200—100—1,500. Readers in the teaching line and Civil Surgeons in the general line—Rs. 500—50—1,000—100—1,200. Lecturers, Tutors and Chemical Assistants in the teaching line and Assistant Surgeons (Senior) and (Junior) in the teaching line—Rs. 200—20—500—25—600. Demonstrators Medical (non-clinical)—Junior and Senior—Rs. 200—20—300.

As regards the general line, the Committee considers that the existing class of Sub-Assistant Surgeons and the poor scale of pay allowed to them, namely, Rs. 100—5—160—10—230 should be abolished, because no medical man, who, in future, will be a graduate, will be attracted by the present scales of pay.

Honorary staff.—The Committee considers that the system of appointing honorary men to the Government Medical Services should be continued and expanded, and honorary appointments created, wherever possible, in all hospitals at District and Taluk Headquarters, so that more and more paid men may be released for full-time work in the village primary centres. In order to make honorary teaching work attractive, the following allowances have been recommended: Readers, Rs. 150 per mensem; Lecturer or a Tutor, Rs. 100 per mensem; and Clinical Assistants, Rs. 50 to 70 per mensem. Posts of Professors have been kept outside the scope of the honorary system because the Committee considers that a Professor should devote all his time to his professorial work and should not engage himself in any other kind of work. The post of Professor should, therefore, be a full-time paid one, for which Honorary Officers will be eligible to apply along with the paid officer in the Medical Service.

Medical Education.—The Committee opines that the existing teaching institutions should not be over crowded and, therefore, recommends that the annual number of admissions to the

Madras Medical College should be restricted to 125, while immediate arrangement should be made to increase the annual number of admissions to the Andhra and Stanley Medical Colleges to 100 each. The schemes sanctioned by the Government for the extension of the Andhra and Stanley Medical Colleges and attached hospitals, with a view to increase the strength of the Colleges, should be given high priority and executed at a very early date. The Government are urged to take up the building schemes connected with Madura and Guntur Medical Colleges.

In the interests of efficiency, there should be a separate whole-time officer in charge of administrative duties now being performed by the Principal of the College or Superintendent of the Hospital. He may be designated the Dean, and he should be a senior Professor or Reader, specially selected from among serving Government officers. This post should be created immediately in the Madras and Stanley Medical Colleges.

Under-graduate training.—The Committee has suggested a two-way arrangement, which would enable the pre-clinical students to have access to the hospitals for seeing actual cases in batches of about 20 to 25 once a week towards the end of their pre-clinical courses and the assistants in the hospital units staff to work as part-time demonstrators in the College in the non-clinical subjects, for periods of two to three hours, three days in a week. This arrangement would be of advantage not only to students, but also to the unit assistants, who will have an opportunity of improving their knowledge of pre-clinical subjects.

Sufficient facilities should be afforded to the students attached to wards to engage themselves in clinical laboratory work and for this purpose, it is very important that the siderooms attached to medical and surgical wards should be adequately equipped and maintained. Under-graduates should be provided with teaching facilities in all specialities in their curriculum, except fevers, mental diseases and public health, in the same campus and that they should not be required to attend separate specialist hospitals, which should be set apart for post-graduate courses only.

Medical and surgical units in hospitals.—On a careful consideration of all the relevant factors, the Committee has recommended that 40 beds should be allotted to each hospital unit the strength of each unit being as follows:—*Medical*—One physician,

one paid Assistant Physician (Senior), two honorary Assistant Physicians, two Clinical Assistants, four House Physicians. *Surgical*—One Surgeon, one paid Assistant Surgeon (Senior), two Honorary Assistant Surgeons, two or three Clinical Assistants and six or five House Surgeons.

To ensure adequate attention to the four main branches of a teacher's duties, namely, teaching, preparation, research and museum work, the teacher-student ratio as regards whole-time teachers should not be less than 1:30 in the non-clinical subjects like Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, etc., the basis should be admissions alone and not admissions plus failed students and the ratio between Professors and Readers, Lecturers and Demonstrators should, as far as possible, be 1:2:4.

Dental education.—The committee considers that a Department of Dentistry should be established in the Madras Medical College, especially after the enactment of the proposed Dental Bill. As regards Pharmaceutical education, the committee suggests that the syllabus for the existing pharmacy Diploma course in Madras Medical College and the Chemist's and Druggist's Diploma course in the Andhra Medical College should suitably be revised to bring them into accord with the recommendations of the Bhoré Committee. The Department of Pharmacology in the Medical Colleges should, at the same time, be enlarged to provide for the type of instruction, which the revised syllabus will demand, and as well as for the investigation of Indian drugs and plants and for more research.

Nursing.—With regard to the Bhoré Committee's recommendations on nursing, the committee observes that there is no need to introduce a junior grade of nurses or to change the existing rules regarding age, qualifications for admission to the nursing course or the conduct of the examination. The hours of duty suggested by the Bhoré Committee may be accepted as an ideal to be aimed at. The scales of staff prescribed under the Government Order, dated 27th April 1945, need no revision. An expert committee should be appointed to go into the question of the revision of the curriculum of studies for the nursing course and to make the necessary recommendations to the Government. Early steps should be taken to set up a degree course in Nursing in the Madras Medical College and General Hospital.

Male nurses.—Though the committee considers that there should be

a place for male nurses in the General Hospital, they are of opinion that they should not be appointed to such posts as Ward-Sister, Sister-Tutor, or Matron which should essentially be reserved for women. Male nurses may with advantage be employed to attend on male patients, particularly in the Tuberculosis, Mental and Ophthalmic Hospitals or in the Venereal, Radiological and Physio-therapy departments of general hospitals. The committee considers that only specially trained nurses should hold supervisory posts in maternity hospitals or to be in charge of operating theatres.

Midwifery and Health Visitors.—The committee is of opinion that it is not desirable to undertake the training of dhaïs and that the large need in this respect should be met only by the training of more midwives under the existing scheme of 18 months' training. The training centre should either be a maternity hospital or a maternity wing of a general hospital with an annual confinement rate of 300 deliveries per year, with domiciliary service and with provision for ante-natal care. On the public health side, the committee considers that the question raised by the Bhoré Committee of replacing Health Visitors and Public Health Nurses and instituting special training courses for the latter should be deferred.

Dietetics.—The committee recommends that a suitable person should be sent for advance training abroad in Dietetics, preferably to the U.S.A. and that, if in the meantime, a trained dietetician is available abroad, his services should be obtained on a short-term basis to train dietiticians locally and to set up a Department of Dietetics in Madras.

House Officers.—The committee recommends that all House Surgeons and Physicians should be paid and that quarters within the hospital premises should be provided for them at a very early date. The committee has recommended that posts of House Officers should be created in all teaching and District Headquarters Hospitals on the following scales:—(a) *Teaching hospitals.*—Five or six House Surgeons per unit, i.e., for 40 beds in Surgical Sections, four House Physicians per unit, i.e., for 40 beds in Medical Sections and according to the needs of each case in Specialist Sections. (b) *District Headquarters hospitals.*—One House-Officer for 20 beds in Medical or Surgical Sections and one House-Officer for each section in Specialist sections.

The committee suggests, as an experimental measure, that for the benefit of working class population in the city out-patient sections should work in Madras General and Stanley Hospitals between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. each day, except on Sundays. In order to meet the lack of doctors and the need to increase the supply of trained medical personnel, the committee recommends that provision should be made for increased admissions to the existing medical colleges and for the creation of more medical colleges. The committee is against the proposal to have a less elaborately trained type of doctor than the graduate type. The committee considers that immediate steps must be taken for the construction and equipment of a proper School of Hygiene, to be situated in the premises of the Madras Medical College and not in Guindy, for easy accessibility to students as well as the general public. For midwifery pupils, accommodation at least of a semi-permanent nature, with adequate provision for sanitation, common rooms and recreation should be provided.

On the question of amalgamation of Medical and Public Health Departments advocated by the Bhoré Committee, the Committee observes "The extent of amalgamation of the two sets of duties in one office will naturally depend on the weight given to preventive medicine in the curriculum of medical studies finally adopted in our medical colleges. We would like to carry the amalgamation beyond the contemplated primary centre level up to the taluk or group centre level, but would leave this point for decision after the curriculum of medical studies is finally fixed." [February 23]

Victimization of workers

Instances have come to the notice of the Government of cases of dismissals and other disciplinary action against workers in certain Engineering Firms and Foundries where disputes exist between the managements and labour which have been referred to Industrial Tribunals. Such victimization offends against the provisions of section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act. Managements are therefore warned against taking any action against workers when disputes are pending before Industrial Tribunals. [February 24]

Emergency Powers of Collectors

The Government have made an amendment to clause 5 of Order

The Role of Land Mortgage Banks

Mr. Chandramouli's exhortation

In the course of his speech opening the 18th Conference of Land Mortgage Banks, Hon. Mr. Chandramouli said: "Now that the rate of interest to the ultimate borrower has been reduced to 5½ per cent, it is hoped that the agriculturists will take full advantage of this and more and more of them will seek to come under the aegis of Land Mortgage Banks to redeem their indebtedness and take up land improvement so as to increase the production of foodstuffs.

Formerly when the Central Land Mortgage Bank floated debentures at 3 per cent it used to charge 5 per cent interest to Primary Land Mortgage Banks and the latter used to charge 6 per cent to the ultimate borrower. This question was considered by Government with a view to securing a reduction in the rate of interest charged to the ultimate borrower. Government accepted the proposal that the margin between debenture rate and the ultimate lending rate may be reduced from 3 per cent to 2½ per cent. The position therefore, now is that, of this margin of 2½ per cent, the Central Land Mortgage Bank retains 1½ per cent and Primary Land Mortgage Banks take 1 per cent. I gather that the Central Land Mortgage Bank has a proposal to create from out of this 1½ per cent a separate fund of ¼ per cent for subsidizing the weaker Primary Land Mortgage Banks. I am aware that the Central Land Mortgage Bank has been granting subsidies from its general funds to Primary Land Mortgage Banks working on loss. The proposed move to create a separate fund for this purpose is one in the right direction because it shows the readiness of the Central Land Mortgage Bank to make greater concessions to Primary Land Mortgage Banks to stimulate their work and to assist such of them as are not yet able to develop their transactions to any appreciable extent. I hope that the Primary Land Mortgage Banks would appreciate this gesture on the part of the Central Land Mortgage Bank and put forth their best efforts in the future to develop their transactions for their own benefit, the benefit as the Central Land Mortgage Bank and the agricultural masses. The Primary Land Mortgage Banks should realize that this leaves practically only one per cent margin for the Central Land Mortgage Bank to meet its expenses.

I am glad to find that during the last two years the tide has been turned and the amount of loans disbursed has again increased. In 1946-47, the loans disbursed amount to Rs. 47.66 lakhs. Trust that this progress will be maintained and that an increased number of agriculturists will avail themselves of the facilities offered by Land Mortgage Banks.

I take note of your President's remark regarding the recommendations of the Gadgil Committee for making institutional credit available to the agriculturists at rates of interest which for development finance should not exceed 4 per cent. I am also aware that Committee suggested the establishment of Agricultural Credit Corporations heavily subsidized by Government. I am sure that in the final decisions to be taken on these recommendations, due recognition will be given to the results already gained by the existing Co-operative machinery and that the already developed Land Mortgage Banks system in this Province will be adopted as the means for the implementation of the recommendations. In this connexion, I may mention that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, has already submitted proposals to make credit available to the agriculturists through Land Mortgage Banks at 3 per cent for land improvement so as to assist in the Grow More Food Campaign. The idea is that the difference between this rate and the present rate of 5½ per cent should be subsidized by this Government and the Government of India on a 50 per cent basis.

The guarantee given by the Government for the debentures of the Central Land Mortgage Bank at present extends to a maximum of Rs. 400 lakhs. The Government recently examined the question of the future policy to be adopted by them in regard to the guarantee and they have decided that it should be continued for some more time. Government have also continued to provide temporary accommodation to the Central Land Mortgage Bank as and when required. Such accommodation during the current year 1947-48, amounted to Rs. 33 lakhs.

With regard to the cost of Government staff employed for work in the Land Mortgage Banks, the Government have extended the existing concessions for another three years from 1st April

1947, i.e., the Government will continue to meet one-half of the cost of the Co-operative Sub-Registrars and peons employed on this work till 31st March 1950. I very much regret that it has not been found possible for the Government to go beyond this for the present. I, however, make note of the remarks of your President on this question and I may assure you that the points urged by him will be taken into account when the question is reconsidered.

I should like to draw the attention of this Conference to the general complaint that it takes much too long a time for a person to get a loan from the Land Mortgage Banks. I am aware that the Central Land Mortgage Bank is doing its best to curtail this delay and that exhaustive investigation and careful scrutinies have to be done to ensure that loans given are well secured and that they can be recovered. The laws of inheritance and the failure of most agriculturists to produce their title-deeds and documents evidencing discharge of mortgages are a great obstacle. Yet I consider that if the staff, both official and non-official entrusted with the scrutiny of loan applications and the Directors of the Primary Land Mortgage Banks evince greater enthusiasm in the matter and take a little more trouble, a good part of the delay can be avoided, and the agricultural masses will be ever grateful to them for it. Again there is the complaint that in dry areas loans are not issued on the security of dry lands alone, and that it is insisted that a certain percentage of the security should consist of irrigated land. Due to this restriction it is said that many of the agriculturists in the dry taluks are not able to take full advantage of the land mortgage banks. The policy followed by the bank so far seems to require revision; so that the farmers in the dry areas also may derive the benefit of long-term credit. Without impairing the security to the bank, I think credit can and should be made available to the agriculturists in the dry areas as well.

I again express my gratification at the opportunity I am having in being able to participate in this Conference and I hope your deliberations will result in expending and strengthening the Land Mortgage Banks movement and making it more useful to the bulk of the agricultural population. Land Mortgage Banks have a great role to play in the programme of national reconstruction for reconstructing the Agricultural Industry on a more remunerative basis than heretofore. Both the Government of India and the Madras Govern-

ment have adopted a policy of giving high priority to all schemes, calculated to develop the agricultural resources of the country and I am confident

that in implementing all their programmes the co-operative machinery will be utilized to the full in order to secure maximum results."

Finding Jobs

Dr. Rajan explains Resettlement operations

You will naturally be anxious to know the machinery that was set up for the purpose of Resettling Ex-servicemen. The Labour Department of the Government of India organized a Directorate of Resettlement and Employment and a net work of Employment Exchanges in each Province. We have at present a Regional Exchange and nine Sub-Regional Exchanges in this Province. The Regional Exchange is at Madras, while the Sub-Regional Exchanges are at Vizagapatam, Bezwada, Anantapur, Madras, Vellore, Coimbatore, Calicut, Trichinopoly and Madurai. Besides these, we have a District Employment Office at the headquarters of every other district except Nilgiris which has been clubbed with Coimbatore for our purposes. The Employment seekers have to register themselves at the nearest Exchange or the District Employment Office and should await a call for interview. Besides the Sub-Regional and District Employment Officers, there are Assistant Directors of Employment, and Regional and Assistant Public Relations Officers who contact the employers frequently, acquaint them with the different categories of employment seekers available in our registers and canvas for vacancies. The ex-servicemen have also been trying their best to place themselves in civil employment by their own effort.

As you know, this is a new venture in this country. Consequently, one should not ordinarily expect spectacular results. But, I am happy to tell you that the experiment made by the Government of India has been very successful indeed. Hon'ble Mr. Jagjivan Ram, Minister in charge of this Portfolio, has observed that striking results have been achieved. Encouraged by the results achieved so far, Hon'ble Mr. Jagjivan Ram has observed as follows:—

"It is my earnest hope that, in the not too distant future, we shall be able to extend the scope of this organization to cover all categories of employment seekers. It is also my hope that, in consultation with the Provincial Governments, we shall be

able to place this organization on a permanent footing. A National Employment Service is of such inestimable value—both in the matter of putting employment seekers in touch with employers and for the efficient working of insurance and assistance schemes—that we can ill afford to bring to an abrupt end an organization which contains within itself the seeds of such a service."

I have quoted this authoritative statement in full, so that you may be assured that if you co-operate wholeheartedly this organization will have a very bright future. It is full of potentialities. It is for you, the employers and the employment seekers, to reap the fullest advantage of the Service established for your own benefit.

While speaking to you about the progress made so far, I must also say that it would have been possible to achieve greater results had there been greater understanding on the part of the ex-servicemen. When they were discharged, they had sufficient money in their pocket to maintain them for some time without the necessity to make sincere attempts to earn their livelihood. Secondly, they were accustomed to a higher standard of living while in the Army. Thirdly, they had superiority complex, having volunteered to risk their lives in the battlefield. There was also a certain percentage who were generally unemployed before the war and who joined the Armed Forces to prevent further unemployment. When they were discharged, they could not immediately reconcile themselves to the existing conditions in civil life. They detested manual labour and thought that it was beneath their dignity to work along with other civilian manual workers. The result was that in several cases, the ex-servicemen did not respond to the call notices sent to them by the Employment Officers, on the pretext that either the pay offered was not attractive or the nature of work was not considered suitable. Again, in some cases, ex-servicemen placed by the Employment Officers did not stick to

their job and left the service without giving any notice. A false impression existed among the ex-servicemen for some time that it was the duty of the Employment Officers to provide employment for every ex-serviceman at any cost. Some of them were even not amenable to discipline. In a few cases they were also misguided by irresponsible persons. Consequently they were not very popular with the employers, some of whom were very cautious in placing their demands with the Exchanges. This explains the failure on the part of the employers to render as much co-operation as they should have.

The employment officers had also a very bad time. But, gradually things are changing for the better. I understand that the ex-service men have now understood their real position and the exact nature of the work discharged by the Exchanges. It is very wrong to say that it is the duty of the Exchange to place every one registered there in civil life. The main function of the Exchange is to bring the employers and the employment seekers together. The Employment Officers can render assistance in finding employment for the employment seekers and not make the appointments themselves. In Madras the total number registered during the year 1946-47 was 224,985 while the number placed was 36,472. 16.2 per cent have, therefore, been placed in civil life. The percentage of placing to registration is as follows in some of the major Provinces, viz., Bengal, United Provinces, Punjab and Bombay.

	PER CENT.
Bengal	15
United Provinces	32
Punjab	20
Bombay	26

I am giving these figures to enable you to have a comparative estimate of the work done in the different Provinces also. The results show that in spite of the handicaps narrated to you just now, the Exchanges have assisted a very large number of employment seekers in finding employment. There is every reason to believe that if we have all categories of employment seekers in our registers and also the fullest co-operation of the employers, this Organization would be in a position to render much greater social service to the country.

Although the Employment Service was established originally to deal with the specific problem of facilitating resettlement and re-employment in

No. 1360, Food, dated 23rd December 1947, issued in respect of emergency powers to Collectors to procure stocks in the Province. The amended clause reads as follows:—

“Any revenue officer not below the rank of Revenue Inspector or Firka Supply Officer or any Rationing Officer not below the rank of Assistant Rationing Officer or any Police Officer of the anti-corruption and anti-black-marketing staff not below the rank of Sub-Inspector may, within his jurisdiction, inspect at all reasonable times stocks of foodgrains and for that purpose enter any premises or stop any vehicle or vehicles and search the same and seize stocks of foodgrains in respect of which he has reason to believe that any order issued under clause 3 has been contravened.”

Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee

The Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee has so far examined the general working of the Civil Supplies, Education, Public Health, Medical, Agriculture, Police and Forest Departments and has made certain recommendations for retrenchment and reorganization of these departments for the consideration of Government. In addition to the above, the Committee has also dealt with and made

recommendations in respect of several subjects, the most important of which are—

- (1) reduction in the number of Government holidays;
- (2) special pays;
- (3) conveyance allowances;
- (4) expenditure on development activities;
- (5) budget—Preparation for each district;
- (6) replacement of land revenue by Sales Tax on agricultural produce;
- (7) amalgamation of the Civil Supplies and Food Departments;
- (8) reorganization of the present system of village Administration;
- (9) simplification of rules regulating the procedure in disciplinary action cases;
- (10) permanent retention of temporary posts after a prescribed period;
- (11) age of compulsory retirement of Government servants;
- (12) conditions of service of local board servants;
- (13) water-supply schemes—rural and urban;
- (14) war-time Departments such as Directorate of Resettlement and Employment, Motor Spirit Rationing and Motor Transport, Special Officer for Training Clerks, Women Welfare Departments;
- (15) reduction in the number of menial establishments;

(16) reorganization of the Madras Fire Services Department;

(17) Abolition of Regional Offices (i.e., intermediary officers between the Head of Department and District Officer) in Excise, Commercial Taxes, Education, Public Health, Forest, Agriculture and Police Departments.

The Committee has also constituted from among its members sub-committees to examine the organization and detailed working of the departments of Industries, Public Works, Agriculture, Forest, Veterinary and Labour and the necessity for the continuance of the several posts created in these departments after 1939-40. The reports of the Sub-Committees when received will be considered by the full Committee and recommendations made to Government.

The recommendations of the Committee made so far have been remitted to the Departments of the Secretariat for necessary action. They are now under the consideration of the Government and final orders have not yet been passed in most cases. The approximate amount of savings anticipated as a result of the recommendations made by the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee so far is about Rs. 2 crores.

[February 24]

(Continued from page 4)

northern end of the Long Hall, otherwise called the Exchange Hall.

Two of the most interesting paintings existing east of the Suez, adorn the Long Hall. One, that of Sir Samuel Auchmuty (1756-82) is by the famous

painter Sir Thomas Lawrence and the other is of Arthur Wellesley by an equally well-known painter, John Hoppner. In this very hall were once hung, very appropriately the four paintings of Sir Eyre Coote, General Meadows, Lord Cornwallis and the Marquis of Wellesley.

The School of Arts

Casual visitors to Madras are unlikely to notice the pile of hoary buildings situated near the Egmore Railway Station, wherein is housed the School of Arts and Crafts, Madras. The unpretentious exterior of the building is certainly not a correct index of its valuable contents. It enshrines within its four walls among other things valuable articles of excellent workmanship which speak of India's triumphs in the field of arts and crafts.

This school has a very ancient history. It dates back to 1850 when it was started privately by one

Dr. Alexander Hunter, a surgeon of the Madras Army. It passed on to Government control in 1852 and has been a Government institution since then. The school is under the administrative control of the Director of Industries and the immediate charge of a Principal, Mr. D. P. Roy Chowdhury, assisted by a staff of teachers. There are 27 teachers and 6 courses of studies in arts and seven in crafts. The arts courses are General Drawing (2 years), Painting (3 years), Commercial Art (3 years), advance Courses in Painting (1 year), Advance Commercial Art

(1 year) and Modelling (3 years). The courses in Crafts and Wood Work (3 years), Wood Work (Advance 3 years), Sheet Metal (3 years), Engraving (3 years), Goldsmithy (3 years), Enamelling (2 years) and Design (3 years).

Elsewhere in the issue appear pictures showing the various sections of the School of Arts. There are a number of students undergoing the various courses and the silent unostentatious work done inside the quiet environment of the school cannot but fail to impress even a casual visitor. This country has always been noted for her arts and crafts and more than one European traveller has borne testimony to this fact. But since 18th century, these fell on evil days and became a neglected affair. The revival of this is an essential pre-requisite for the economic rehabilitation of the country. It is a happy augury that the Dominion as well as the Provincial Government have recognized this fact and that steps have been taken to restore India's crafts and arts to their pristine lustre.

Talks on Current Subjects

Suppression of Disturbances Bill

Dr. Subbarayan clarifies position

Recently, the Suppression of Disturbances Bill was passed by the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council and is now awaiting the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General. This Bill has been passed only as a precautionary measure and, as I said in the Assembly, I am hoping that it will not be necessary to notify any area under the Bill and the ordinary law would be enough to keep the peace. But conditions being what they are, the Government felt it necessary to arm themselves with such powers as are now invested by this Act. People must realize that whatever may be the conditions, the Government mean to keep the peace and to guard against organized violence of any kind by the people no matter to what community they belong. The Public Safety Act, which was passed last March, is also being extended for another year because conditions are such that this power has got to be vested in the Government to see that persons who, in their opinion, are dangerous to peace can be restrained from causing serious trouble. As pointed out in the preamble to the Act, the main object of this enactment is the maintenance of public safety and the prevention and putting down of disorders involving menace to the peace and tranquillity of the Province and to achieve this object, Government have been empowered to resort to preventive detention of individuals and to impose collective fines and control meetings and processions and the services essential to the life of the community. Criticisms have been levelled against the Government that they are using it against political parties which are opposed to the Government. I can assure all political organizations that the Government, though it is a Party Government, are the Government of the people, and will be answerable to the people in the next elections and therefore have got to see what the re-action on the public will be if indiscriminate use of the powers under this Act is made. Besides, the Members of the Government know their responsibilities and know as well as the

public that the power in their hands is to be exercised in the interests of public safety and not in the interests of any political party, however powerful it may be. I have repeatedly stated that anyone is free to preach his own programme, whether political or economic, but that he should do it in consonance with public safety. Violence should be eschewed in every such effort as violence is really dangerous to all society and is a social evil, dangerous to life and it must be suppressed. I have reports from various sources that people who do not want a particular political creed are warned that their houses would be looted if they do not yield. I am also told that there are such things as people's courts which openly try those who are not of their persuasion and inflict fines and punishment. I am having all these reports carefully examined and investigated, for such activities constitute certainly negation of all Government and no Government worth its name can tolerate them. In fact there is reason to believe that in villages bordering on the Nizam's Dominions such activities are increasing and it is the duty of the Government to take adequate steps to put an end to them. I should like to state with all the emphasis at my command that menace to the peace and tranquillity of the Province, be it from whatever source and of whatever nature, will be very severely dealt with without regard to distinctions of class, creed, community and political persuasions.

The Special Police which has been recently formed in this Province is to strengthen the Forces to tackle this kind of problem and also to instil courage into our own people as raids from the Nizam's side are becoming frequent. The Government do not want to complicate the issue of a settlement between the Nizam's Government and the Union of India. But at the same time they feel that it is their duty to protect the people of this province from the depredations of the Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen who appear to be mainly responsible for these raids. It is also said that the Nizam's Police actively aid and help

these people to come into our borders. Whatever truth there may be in this allegation, the Government cannot tolerate the Police or raiders from another territory coming into their territory, and must prevent this with the power that they possess. I can assure our people on the borders that everything is being done to safeguard their interests and I appeal to them not to be carried away by any panic, for no Government with a panicstricken people, can effectively function. I know that this is easily said, but at the same time I must request our own people not to be frightened of rumours which are afloat because of these constant raids. The Government, as a Government, do exist and they will do their duty to the people and will strain every nerve to see that their property and person are safeguarded. In fact, the Government have already taken steps to strengthen their Forces to prevent such raids.

The Home Guards Bill which has recently been passed by both Houses of the Legislature will help to train some of our people to defend themselves if opportunity arises. They are to be an Auxiliary Police Force for being called up when such necessity arises and they will have all the powers of the Police when called in. To begin with, they will be trained for six months in the use of armaments by the Police, so that when they are called on they will know what their duties are. I am hoping that people interested in the maintenance of peace will enrol themselves in this Force and will prove helpful when called up. Fortunately for us peace seems to be the ideal of most of our organizations though there have been rumblings here and there, but those are nothing compared to the area of our Province and I hope very much that it would not be necessary for the Government to use any of the extraordinary powers which they have taken both under the Suppression of Disorders Bill and the Public Safety Act and the other Bill which will come before the Legislature giving power to the Government to levy punitive fines on any aggressor community which takes the law into its own hands.

I want people to live in peace and to see that orderly progress takes place in our Province. For this every step that would be necessary would be taken. No law-abiding citizen need be frightened that the Government will misuse their powers. My principal aim is that our people should live in peace and be happy.

By courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.

50 million people, at least on minimum rations. This means less revenue and more expenditure. Other heads of income too are affected, like registration, stamps, sales tax, etc. Failure of rains has an upsetting effect on Governmental finances.

Unless we import large quantities of food from other provinces and abroad, we won't be able to tide over the impending food crisis. We will have to pay higher prices and sell them not higher than the prices of our commodities locally. The difference on food-grains imported from overseas was being borne by the Government of India previously but hereafter the provinces are asked to pay a third of the difference. Distributing agencies have to be maintained in the deficit districts. Intensive procurement has to be effected in surplus districts. All this means a large expenditure on food, in spite of the fact that we are following a policy of decontrol. We are anxious to restore normal trade channels to meet the demand, but due to abnormal conditions with huge food deficits and failure of rains, we are forced to go slow and a huge administrative machinery has to be kept going.

The unsettled economic conditions, the frequent agrarian troubles and the occasional industrial strikes have to be tackled effectively. The scheme of Armed police-units and the Home Guards recently introduced by the Government, and the general strengthening of the Police department are bound to cost us very much. We have shouldered the responsibility of defending our newly-founded free State. To maintain the progress of our development work, law and order have to be kept; otherwise, there would be no security of life and property. So expenditure on Police, though high, can't be grudged. Just before the war, expenditure on Police was about 160 lakhs of rupees. Expenditure in 1946-47 was over 4 crores of rupees and our Budget Estimate for next year is 6 crores and 40 lakhs of rupees. That shows how rapidly our Police expenditure has mounted up during the war years and the post-war period.

* Another big rise in expenditure is on education. In 1937-38, the first year of Provincial Autonomy, the expenditure on education was 258 lakhs of rupees and our Budget Estimate for next year stands at 820 lakhs of rupees which means over 325 per cent in a decade. From elementary education to University education, rapid expansion is taking place and the

Government are unable to cope up with the increasing demand for greater educational facilities. Eight hundred and twenty lakhs of rupees represents the expenditure on Government account alone. Local boards and municipalities are spending large sums on elementary and secondary education. Private managements too are spending large sums for spreading education. Stipends and boarding grants given by the Labour Department, monies spent on Medical, Agricultural and Veterinary education, on industrial schools are not covered by the above sum and that expenditure comes to several lakhs of rupees.

A high school for every taluk and a college for every district is a programme which we have set before us and we hope to achieve it shortly. We are providing for the opening of a number of secondary schools. A Government College is being opened in July this year at Cuddapah, which means, every district in the Presidency, barring the Nilgiris which is hardly a district, will have a College. Steps are also being taken to convert the Government College at Mangalore into a first-grade college. All necessary impetus is being given for basic education by opening new centres and by opening new basic education training centres so that we can have a sufficient number of trained teachers to take charge of our basic schools.

Government have decided to give on a half-grant basis a lakh a year for five years for the encyclopaedia work in Tamil and a similar amount for Telugu encyclopaedia too. It is expected that this half-grant from Government would stimulate the work undertaken by non-officials.

The Committee appointed to report on the Water-Supply Schemes had submitted its report lately and the Government are examining the proposals. In the meanwhile, a separate Fund of one crore of rupees was constituted in the course of the year for rural water-supply which will form a nucleus for Government's future work in this line.

Much larger provision is made for taking up new village roads. It is felt that unless villages are linked up with the main roads with proper communications, no real improvement could be effected to restore the village to its legitimate place in our body-politic. The question of the contribution of local boards in undertaking new rural communications and the agency to do it are still under consi-

deration and a Cabinet Sub-Committee is looking into the question.

Under Irrigation, the Government anticipate that 2.9 crores of rupees will be spent on the Tungabhadra Project under execution in 1948-49. The Budget also provides for further work in some other important post-war irrigation schemes already sanctioned. The provision includes 30 lakhs of rupees under Lower Bhavani project, 20 lakhs of rupees for improvements to the Romperu drain, four lakhs of rupees for improvements on Peddalanka drain and seven lakhs of rupees for drainage improvements in the Cauvery delta. The Budget further includes a lump-sum provision of 70 lakhs of rupees for new Grow More Food Irrigation Schemes.

The Budget provides two lakhs of rupees for completing the detailed investigation regarding Ramapadasagar. Detailed reports on the investigation are expected shortly. The financial aspect of the project and the method of financing it are under discussion with the Central Government. Before the project can be sanctioned, agreements have to be made with the Governments of Hyderabad, Bastar State and Orissa as to the acquisition of the submersible areas in their respective territories. A token sum of 100 rupees is provided in the capital section of the Budget for the execution of this huge project. Government have sanctioned the preliminary investigation of Kistna-Pennar project and the necessary provision has been made for this in the Budget. Government attach very great importance to this project also which should bring great benefits to Nellore and Rayalaseema and considerably reduce its liability to serious famine.

Token sums are also provided for schemes relating to the restoration of minor irrigation tanks, acquisition of sites for village housing schemes and bifurcation of Vizagapatam district.

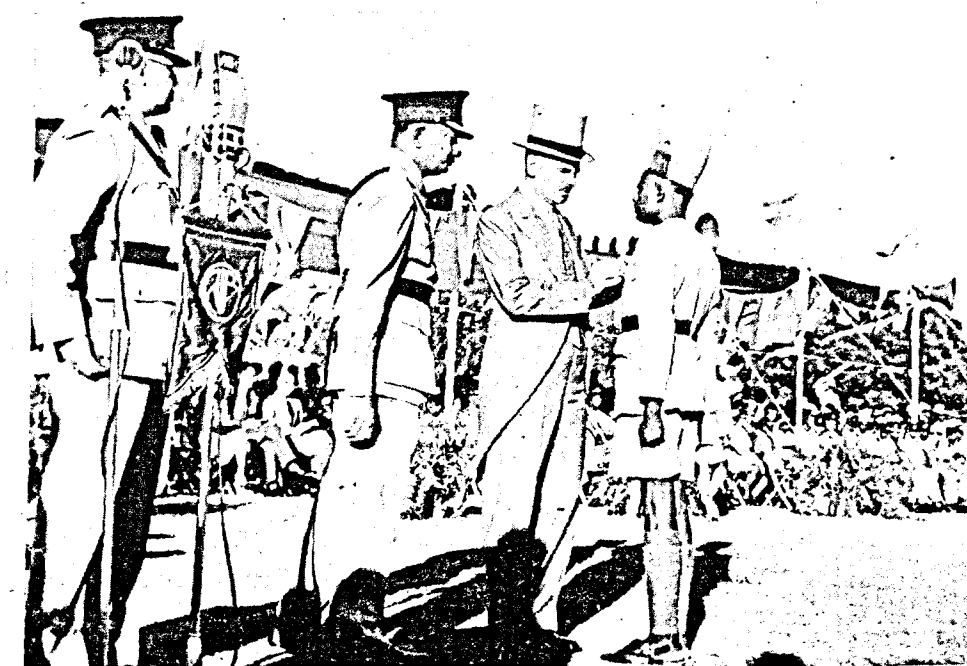
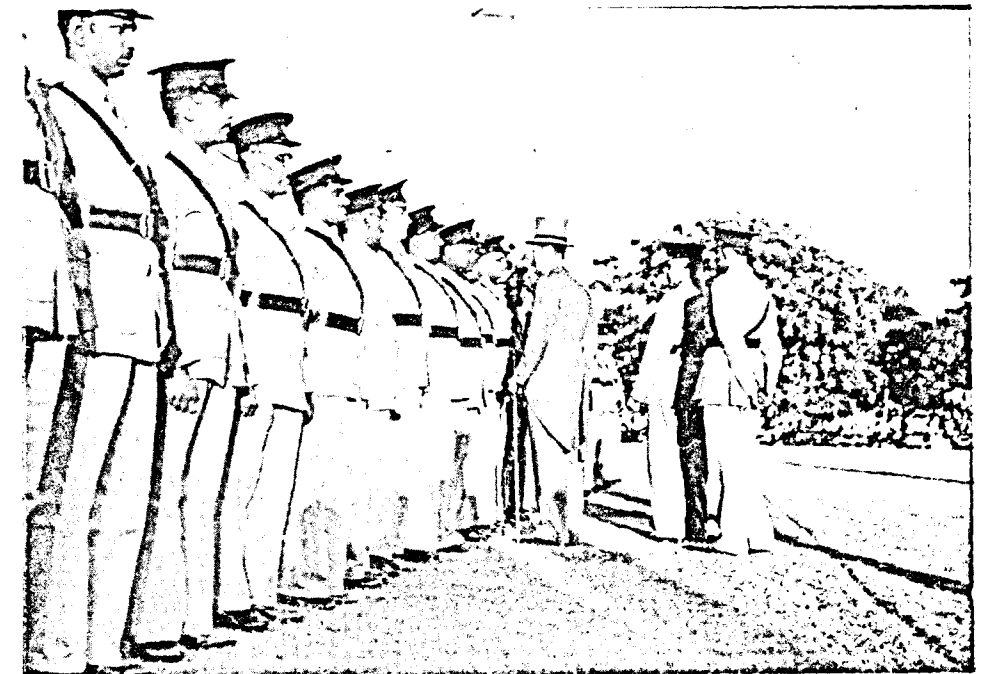
The Government wish to make every effort to bring about a rapid development of Industries and Agriculture on sound lines in the Province. I am particularly happy to announce that the remaining eight districts and the City of Madras will go dry from 2nd October 1948 which will synchronize with the 80th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. Madras Province will have complete Prohibition from that day and it will be the first Province to go dry. Needless to say, it was one of the beloved schemes of Gandhiji.

(Continued on page 21)



(Above) : The Police march past—
His Excellency is seen
taking the salute

(Right) : Here are some of the recipients
of honour. His Excellency is
seen conversing with them



His Excellency the Governor of
Madras is seen here
decorating a
Policeman

civil life of demobilized Service Personnel and discharged war workers, it was accepted from the beginning that it would ultimately develop into a permanent service closely integrated with economic policies and catering all categories of employment seekers. As a matter of fact even when the National Service Labour Tribunals were established under the National Service (Technical Personnel) Ordinance, it was the intention that they should gradually assume the role of employment exchange for Technical Personnel. This they were doing; but the statutory powers given to the Tribunal to fix wages and terms of service and to compel an employer to give up an employee and an employee to take up employment in the National Service had distinguished them from the Voluntary Employment Exchanges commonly met with in other countries. The exacting needs of war made it necessary for the Tribunals to have these statutory powers and they had served their purpose. Hence the need to work ahead soon after the war and begin to build up an Employment Organization on a purely voluntary basis. The Employment Exchanges have been organized to such an extent that they provide now the necessary machinery for facilitating the initiation of important socio-economic measures such as standardization of occupational terms and wages, employment and unemployment statistics, vocational guidance for juveniles, etc., etc. The scope of the organization has also expanded considerably. In several Provinces like Assam, Bengal, Bombay, Delhi and East Punjab it has been extended to all categories of employment seekers successfully. In addition, the facilities of the Employment Service have been made available to displaced persons in all Provinces.

The problem that is engaging the attention of the Madras Government now is the necessity to similarly extend the scope of the organization to all the categories of employment seekers. If and when this is done, such of the employers as are not particularly interested in ex-servicemen will have an opportunity to choose the best from out of all the categories of the personnel registered at the Exchange, who will then have in their register a wide range of experienced and qualified applicants for submission but the success or otherwise of the proposed scheme depends upon the extent to which the private employers extend their patronage to the exchanges. So far, the Provincial and Central Governments have been the largest

employers. In the Madras Province as much as 56 per cent of placings were in Provincial Government service and 16 per cent in Central Government service. The next largest employers are the Railways who have to their credit 18 per cent of the placings made so far. But, it is not possible to expect the Government alone to find employment to all the employment seekers. I, therefore, appeal to all the employers to give up their present methods of recruitment and give a fair trial to the Exchange Organization set up by the Government of India. I do not pretend for a moment that the organization is free from defects but I believe that it is not incapable of improvement. But any healthy criticism by the employers will be useful only when the utility of the existing organization is tested fully by them. It is only then that they will be in a position to assess rightly the good and bad points in this organization. I would request the employers to visit the exchanges as frequently as possible and help the organization with their advice. The Director and the other officers will be only too willing to receive them, explain to them the working of the organization in detail and clear their doubts, if any.

To sum up, I must say that for the future planning of our industry on a

scientific basis and for preventing unemployment in the country as much as possible, it is essential for any independent country to have an organisation which facilitates the scientific study of the man power of the country and which brings the employers and the employment seekers in general together. This should be a purely voluntary organisation at least in the beginning; for, otherwise we will have to face the evils that are brought about by any compulsory measure. But, nothing useful can be done in a voluntary organisation unless and until both the employers and employment seekers have firm conviction in the usefulness of the organization. Both must co-operate wholeheartedly with the Government if and when they decide to extend the scope of the present set-up to all categories of employment seekers. Our country is lagging behind several other countries in this respect. Employment Exchanges were set up in America and England as many as about 50 and 40 years ago respectively. We have also attained independence and it is therefore high time that the Government employers and employment seekers should join together to establish an Employment Service for all categories of employment seekers on a firm basis.

JAI HIND.

By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.

Budget Highlights

Mr. Gopal Reddy stresses salient features

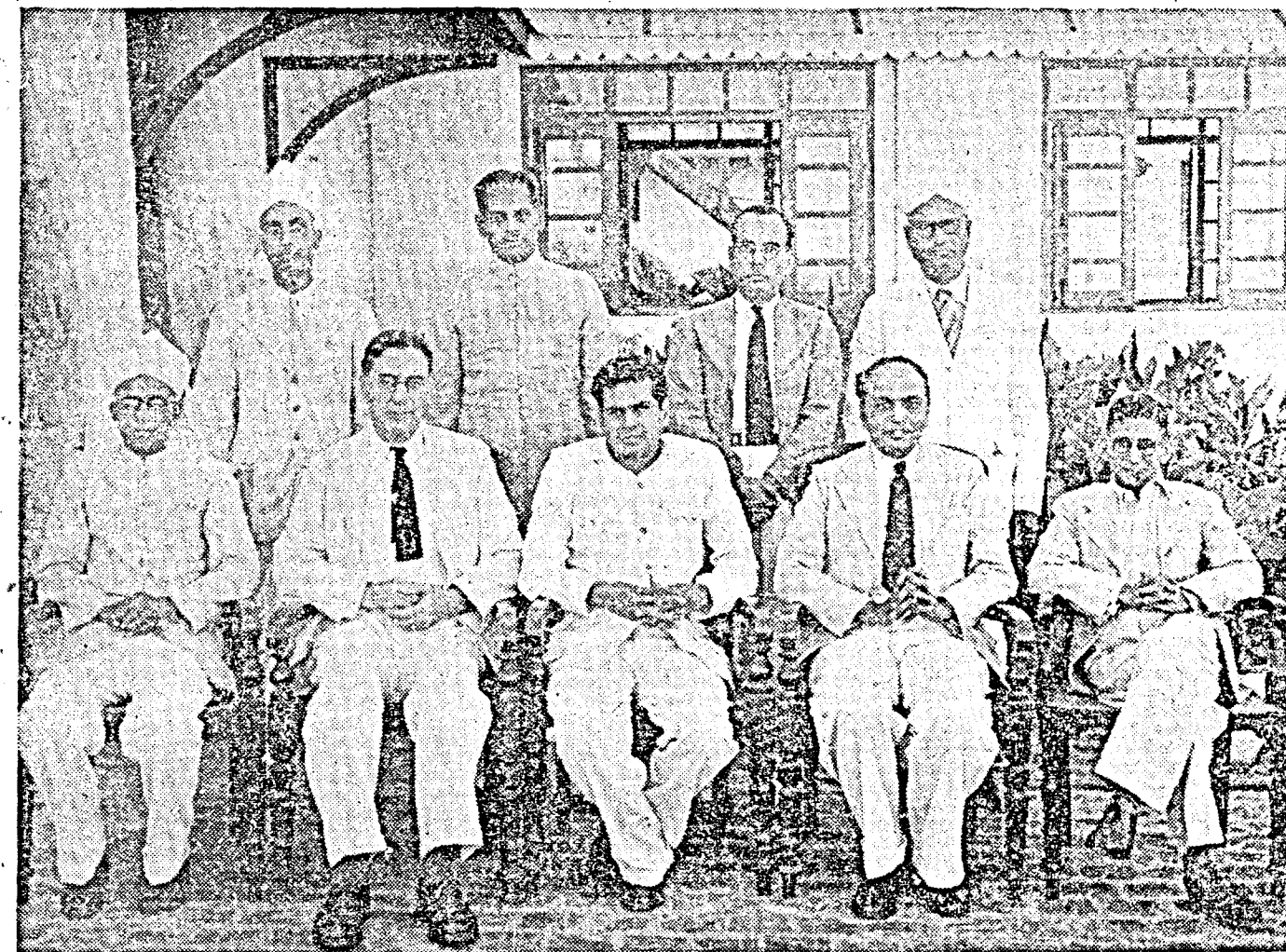
In the course of a broadcast on the Budget Hon'ble Mr. Gopal Reddy said "Anyway let me assure the public straightaway that no new taxation measure is contemplated in the present budget. The public is aware that I got through the Legislature three financial measures and they have come into force already. Amendments to General Sales Tax Act, including the enhanced rate of Rs. 1-9-0 per cent of turnover, enhanced Entertainment Tax and doubled Betting Tax are already yielding a higher income to the Government. So the present Budget does not offer any surprises, does not add to the tax-burdens, nor does it give any tax-relief.

The accounts for last year show that the total expenditure was 56 crores 99 lakhs of rupees which includes 12 crores 20 lakhs of rupees of net expenditure on State trading schemes, i.e., bonus to paddy producers, subsidies in respect of food and other civil supplies, the net expenditure on the

purchase and distribution of manures, agricultural implements and machinery, etc., and 4 crores of rupees which were set apart as a fund for Harijan work, Khadi and Firka Development work and the total revenue was 51 crores 99 lakhs of rupees. There was thus a deficit of 5 crores of rupees. This year, though Prohibition of alcoholic drinks and drugs was extended to 8 more districts, our revenue went up under most heads and is expected to be about 55 crores and 19 lakhs of rupees. This of course includes the Government of India's grant to us for approved Grow More Food Schemes and post-war development schemes, while expenditure is estimated to be 52 crores 64 lakhs of rupees which includes a contribution of one crore of rupees for the Rural Water Supply Fund. There is thus a surplus of 2 crores and 55 lakhs of rupees.

During the Advisers' regime, a Revenue Reserve Fund of over 31 crores of rupees was built up to finance

PERSONALITIES BEHIND THE BUDGET



Sitting left to right :—(1) Mr. T. E. Venkataraghavan, Additional Deputy Secretary; (2) Dr. D. W. Dodwell, C.I.E., I.C.S., Secretary, Finance Department; (3) Hon'ble Mr. B. Gopala Reddy, Minister for Finance; (4) Mr. T. N. S. Raghavan, I.C.S., Additional Secretary; (5) Mr. V. K. Rao, I.C.S., Deputy Secretary.

Standing left to right :—(1) Mr. R. Rangachari, Assistant Secretary; (2) Mr. A. M. Balasundara Mudaliyar, Assistant Secretary; (3) Mr. C. S. Krishnaswami Ayyangar, Assistant Secretary; (4) Mr. N. L. Ranganatham Pillai, Assistant Secretary.

all the Post-War Development Schemes which they had prepared and to meet possible deficits due to loss of revenue, either on account of a fall in prices or Prohibition. The deficit of last year was made good by withdrawing 5 crores 1 lakh of rupees from the Revenue Reserve Fund, while this year 255 lakhs of rupees would be added to that Fund. This substantial addition to the Revenue Reserve is the most prominent point in the Budget.

While as I mentioned above, over 12 crores of rupees were spent on the net outlay on State Trading Schemes last year, this year it is expected to be less than 120 lakhs of rupees. This big difference distinguishes this year's

Budget from the last year's very favourably, in spite of a big loss of revenue under Excise this year. The general revision of salaries for all subordinate services and some Provincial services which was given effect to from January 1947 had its full year's effect this year. Further, the salaries of police constables, jail warders, Government Press workers, teachers working in elementary schools under-aided management were enhanced during the course of the present year which will add to our expenditure by nearly a crore of rupees.

Under salaries and allowances of officers and establishments, our Government is spending nearly 20 crores of rupees which includes nearly 7 crores of

rupees under allowances. Under grants-in-aid, other grants, contributions and compensations to local bodies, etc., we are spending about nine and a half crores of rupees. The expenditure under Works which include Irrigation Schemes, buildings and communications is about 8 crores of rupees.

Now I move on to 1948-49 and shall tell you the high lights of our proposals for next year. Our biggest anxiety is about the failure of Monsoon this year in most of the districts. Our provincial Budgets depend to a large extent on the vagaries of Monsoons. Large remissions have to be given, famine works started and foodstuffs got from other Provinces and countries to sustain over

INSIDE THE SCHOOL

OF ARTS, MADRAS

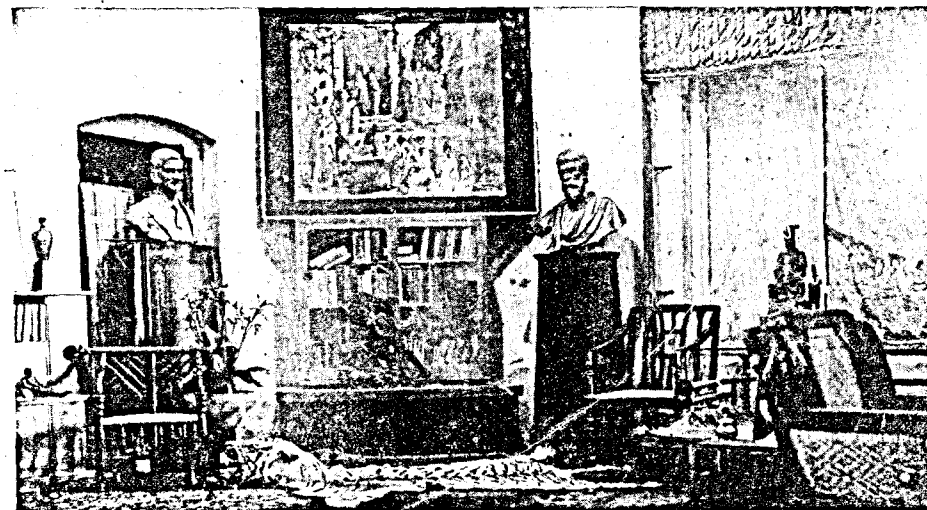


*Here is seen the Principal of the
School of Arts in the main
hall of the school*

*A class at work. The students
are deeply absorbed in
their work.*



*An inside view of the study of the
Principal of the School of Arts.
Several models are seen
in the study*

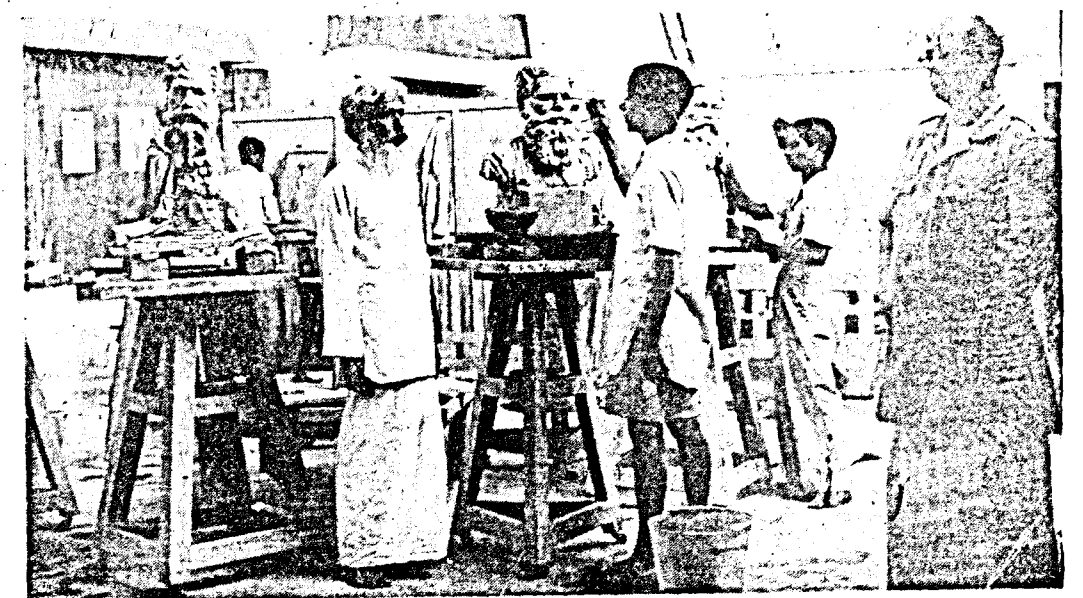


*Another class. The students are
drawing the portrait of the
lady sitting on
the stool*



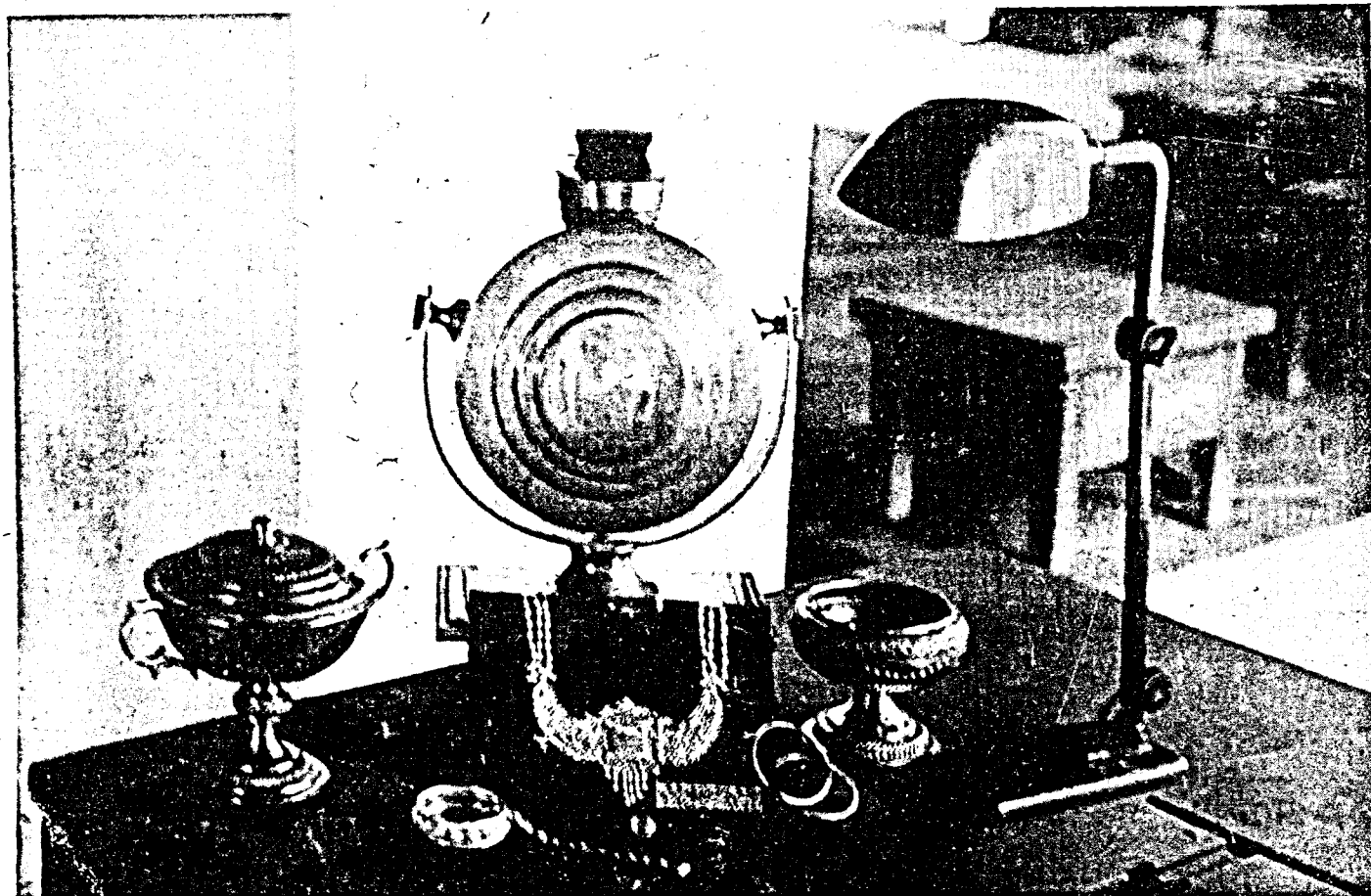
*The picture shows a sadhu
who has posed before
a class*

*The Principal of the
School of Arts inspecting
a class*





A scene inside the School of Arts and Crafts, Madras



These things were made in the School of Arts. They are remarkable for their excellent workmanship

Departments' Corner

Revenue Records and Registration during 1946-47

The following are the salient features of the Board of Revenue's report on the operations connected with survey, settlement and maintenance of revenue records and registration in the province of Madras during 1946-47.

The Northern Range, Cocanada, surveyed 2.60 square miles of cadastral survey, 1.71 linear miles of street survey, 12.46 linear miles of road survey and 0.75 linear mile of boundary survey. The expenditure incurred on account of this range was Rs. 63,201. The North-Western Range, Chittoor, surveyed 0.41 square mile of cadastral survey, 5.68 linear miles of street survey and 84.30 linear miles of road survey. The expenditure incurred on account of this range was Rs. 73,617. The West Central Range, Coimbatore, surveyed 7.88 square miles of cadastral survey, 3.08 square miles of special cadastral survey, 1.12 linear miles of street survey and 9.00 linear miles of road survey. The expenditure incurred on account of this range was Rs. 82,884. The Southern Range, Madura, surveyed 4.67 square miles of cadastral survey, 0.11 square mile in special cadastral survey, 1.33 linear miles of street survey and 7.05 linear miles of road survey. The expenditure on account of this range was Rs. 64,273.

Revenue Records and Registration.—The average percentage of disposal of applications for the transfer of revenue registry for the province during the year was 87 per cent. In the year under report, 32,584 enjoyment and 60,455 succession cases were reported

by village officers and 11,464 cases of wrong registry were detected by the Revenue Inspectors. The number of subdivisions sanctioned during the year was 42,933 and showed only a small increase over the figure for the previous year. The number of subdivisions pending check-measurement was 8,843 which showed a slight fall compared with the progress in the previous year. There has been only a small increase in the volume of work in respect of check-measurement.

Stone Maintenance.—Eighty-three per cent of the prescribed number of survey marks were inspected during the year. Taluk surveyors over-checked 1,083,221 stones in ryotwari villages. The total number of stones requiring renewal and repair was 697,811 at the end of 1945-46 and 662,879 at the end of the year under report. One lakh sixty-eight thousand five hundred and forty-two stones were renewed by the taluk surveyors during the year. The ryots renewed 15,462 stones during the year.

Transfer of Revenue Registry.—The total number of applications of all kinds for transfer of registry including the number pending disposal at the beginning of the year, was 613,758 of which 532,376 (or 87 per cent) were disposed of during the year, leaving a balance of 81,382. Of the total number of applications disposed of during the year 498,220 were accepted, 26,069 were rejected, and the rest were transferred for final disposal to Deputy Tahsildars and others. [February 18]

Labour Department

Labour Situation in the Province

During the period not less than ten cases were referred to the Industrial Tribunals and in three cases the award of the Industrial Tribunals were accepted. The Government of Madras, have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Western India Match Factory, Tiruvottiyur.

The Government of Madras have stated that as they are satisfied that the closure of the Bhajrang Jute Mills, Guntur, is due to reasons beyond the control of the management, no useful

purpose will be served by referring the matter for adjudication.

About 60 men working in the loading and unloading department of the Coimbatore Cement Works, Madukarai, struck work from 4th to 6th February 1948 as a protest against the change in hours of work in the department. On the intervention of the Labour Officer, Coimbatore, the dispute was settled and the workers resumed work on 6th February 1948.

The Commonwealth Tile Factory Workers' Union, Mangalore, has withdrawn the notice of strike issued to the

management of the Commonwealth Trust Tile Factory at Jeppo and Kudroli, as the dispute has been referred to the Industrial Tribunal at Coimbatore for adjudication.

The Management of the Madura Mills Company, Limited, Madura, have announced that three months' wages will be paid as bonus to their workers who qualify under their Bonus' Rules, of which two months wages will be paid in March 1948 and one month's wages at Deepavali. For short service workers and any others who may not have complied with their Leave Rules, 25 per cent of the basic wages earned during 1947 shall be payable, two-thirds in March 1948 and one-third at Deepavali.

The management of the Calicut Hosiery, Chalapuram, have declared a lockout from 2nd January 1948; stating that they are not able to find a market for the huge stocks accumulated by them owing to unfavourable market conditions. The Commissioner of Labour has advised the Labour Officer, Calicut, to persuade the management to lift the lockout and to reopen the factory. The Government of Madras have informed the District Magistrate, Malabar, that the lockout is illegal as the disputes in hosiery factories have been referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication and to prosecute the management if the factory is not opened within a week.

The Government have also prohibited the lockout of the Press in existence at the time of reference of the dispute for adjudication in G.O. Ms. No. 608, Development, dated 7th February 1948.

The management of the Chandrasekara Bharathi Weaving Mills, Rajapalayam, report that they have declared a lockout from 2nd February 1948 as they had no supply of yarn from the middle of December 1947 in spite of their efforts to obtain them from yarn merchants. The report of the Labour Officer, Tinnevely, is awaited.

The dispute between the Namakkal Motor Workers' Union, Namakkal, and the T. S. Royal Mail Service, Namakkal, was settled and the notice of strike was withdrawn.

The managing Agents of the Trichinopoly United Printers, Limited, Trichinopoly, report that their workers struck work on 30th January 1948 without notice as a protest against the discharge of a worker. The Labour Officer, Trichinopoly, has been asked to bring about a settlement of the dispute.

The workers of the D.S. and A. Company, Limited, Pugalur, struck work

LIFE WITHOUT LOVE IS DEATH

"TRUE love is boundless like the ocean and, rising and swelling within one, spreads itself out and, crossing all boundaries and frontiers, envelops the whole world."

"LOVE never claims, it ever gives. Love ever suffers, never resents, never revenges itself."

"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."

"A LOVE that is based on the goodness of those whom you love is a mercenary affair, whereas, true love is self-suffering and demands no consideration."

"IT is my firm belief that it is love that sustains the earth."

THERE only is life where there is love. Life without love is death. Love is the reverse of the coin of which the obverse is Truth."

"IT is my firm faith and it is my experience of forty years that we can conquer the world by truth and love."

"THE more efficient a force is, the more silent and the more subtle it is. Love is the subtlest force in the world."

—MAHATMAJI.

on 1st February 1948. The Commissioner of Labour recommended that the dispute may be referred to the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, for adjudication.

The workers of the Chittivalsa Jute Mills Company, Limited, Chittivalsa,

struck work on 30th January 1948. On the intervention of the Commissioner of Labour, Madras, the workers resumed work on 11th February 1948.

[First fortnight of February 1948]

Education Department

The Government have sanctioned as a special case a sum of Rs. 250 for each of the years 1947-48 and 1948-49 in support of the lectureship endowed in the Lucknow University in Indian

History and Civilization. The amount of grant given as Rs. 25 in the note under "Education" published in "Madras Information," dated 1st February 1948, is a misprint for Rs. 250.

Revenue Department

Prohibition—Ameliorative Activities

Special Development Officers.—A conference of the Special Development Officers was held on the 12th and 13th of December 1947 at Madras to assess the progress made in the ameliorative work in the Prohibition districts and to evolve a plan of work for the future. The Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas, Minister for Prohibition, opened the conference. He appealed to the officers to utilize the opportunity provided by the Prohibition programme to bring

about a general improvement in the economic and social life of the rural population.

Substitutes for drink.—In most of the districts, new refreshment stalls have sprung up and they are reported to be gaining popularity. The Indian Tea Market Expansion Board continued to distribute free tea in Ranipet, Sholingur, Arkonam, Gudiyattam, Ambur and Vaniambadi in the North Arcot district while in Madura they distri-

buted tea and light refreshments in 29 villages at concessional rates during the month.

Rural Recreation.—The 77 Rural Recreation Officers who were on duty during the month visited 993 villages and organized rural games in 892 villages. Fifty-four tournaments were also held during the month.

Bhajanas, Harikathas, kalakshepams and dramas.—Bhajanas, Harikathas and kalakshepams were held during the month in 1,953 villages. Folk dances, dramas or cinema-shows were held at the instance of the Special Development Officers in 495 villages. Drama as a form of counter-attraction to drink is becoming more and more popular. Reports from Collectors indicate that in many villages dramatic troupes have been organized.

Ballad singers.—Fifty-seven ballad singers were on duty during the month. They visited 680 villages, organized community singing in 177 villages and trained 945 villagers in community singing during the month.

Propaganda vans.—The propaganda vans were made good use of in most of the Prohibition districts. The vans

at Coimbatore and Kurnool were utilized by the branch leaders of I.W.C.C. for two days and three days, respectively for purposes of propaganda.

Grama sangams.—Five hundred and twenty grama sangams and 57 taluk associations were formed during the month. Out of the grama sangams formed till the end of the month, 4,179 sangams were active during the month. They attended to various beneficial activities.

Rural uplift schools.—A rural uplift school was conducted at Puttur in South Kanara district during the month. Arrangements are being made to start similar rural uplift schools in the other new Prohibition districts.

Thrift.—A total of Rs. 26,020 was saved in hundi boxes during the month. The total sum saved up to the end of December 1947 was Rs. 1,44,337.

Uplift of women.—The Indian Women Civic Corps branches at Nellore, Salem and Bellary carried on propaganda among women. The Special Development staff in the North Arcot and Nellore districts also addressed meetings of women.

Employment of ex-tappers.—Information regarding employment of ex-toddy tappers in the prohibition districts furnished by the Collectors is given below :—

Salem.—The tappers were advised to join the co-operative societies for the manufacture of jaggery and get licences for tapping. The Assistant Development Officer, Hosur, investigated into the possibilities of organizing a co-operative society to manufacture lac to provide employment for ex-tappers.

North Arcot.—A co-operative society for manufacture of jaggery was organized for the ex-tappers in Thenmavandahal in the Cheyyar taluk.

Coimbatore.—About 8,000 people and their families were engaged in the manufacture of palmyrah jaggery. Till the palmyrah jaggery season is over, there is no question of unemployment for tappers in this district.

South Kanara.—Eight societies for manufacture of jaggery were registered during the month and there were 31 societies at the end of 31st December 1947. Two thousand and ten licences were issued for palmyrah jaggery manufacture and 910 for coconut jaggery manufacture. There were 3,427 members at the end of the month.

Trichinopoly.—During the month 35 jaggery manufacturing Co-operative Societies absorbing about 1,500 ex-tappers were organized. Licences for tapping sweet juice for jaggery manufacture were issued to 850 persons.

Madura.—Four societies for the manufacture of palmyrah jaggery were organized during the month.

Economic condition of ex-addicts.—Some instances of improvement in the economic conditions of ex-addicts are given below :—

North Arcot district.—Karuppan and Annamalai of Eraiyur village have purchased 50 cents of wet land for Rs. 200 each. Seppani Chetty of the same village has purchased dry land for Rs. 60 and wet land for Rs. 150.

Coimbatore.—Nadimuthu Gounden, son of Karuppa Gounden of Bhavani, an ex-addict is running a petty shop with a capital of Rs. 200 out of his savings. Pongatha Mooppan, son of Porikatha Mooppan of Kulamooppanur, an ex-addict has cleared his debt of Rs. 200 and purchased four goats for Rs. 50. Fifty-six members

of chucklers' community of Agraharam Samakulam have saved Rs. 300 in all through small savings scheme.

Chittoor.—Thoti Errappa, a harijan purchased a piece of land and a pair of bullocks worth Rs. 300. Another, Kanamayya cleared his debt of Rs. 100 and purchased gold ornaments worth Rs. 60.

Kurnool.—An ex-addict at Sungavaram by name Appavu saved Rs. 200 and purchased a buffalo. Another ex-addict Pulliah by name saved Rs. 300 and purchased one waist belt and some necessities of life.

Bellary.—One Veeranna of Adoni ex-addict has purchased a cart for Rs. 150 and also some silver jewellery for his wife. Madiga Giddigadu of Kallubhavi bought three acres of land.

[December 1947]

Public Works Department

In pursuance of the Grow More Food Campaign, the Government of Madras have recently sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 6,19,700 on the construction of an anicut across the Shiriyar river and excavation of channels therefrom in Kasargod taluk, South Kanara district.

2. The scheme will enable a second crop to be grown successfully on 549

acres of wet lands in Badur and Angadimoguru villages of Kasargod taluk. Out of this extent, 65 acres of land are stated to be already being cultivated with two crops and even three in favourable years. The proposed anicut will increase irrigation facilities to the above 65 acres, besides helping to raise two crops in the remaining 484 acres of lands.

Nationalization of Transport

The total number of State Buses on roads in the Madras City increased to 144 in January 1948. Two Bus Depots have been established in the buildings which originally belonged to His Excellency the Governor's Bodyguard. Additional buses are being put on roads as and when new vehicles for which orders have been placed become available. It is anticipated that the scheme of nationalising the bus service in the Madras City will be completed by March 1948.

Gandhiji's Model

Representations have been received by the Government that all kinds of models of Mahatma Gandhiji are made and exhibited in the villages, and it has been suggested that the Government might arrange for a good and authoritative model of his which could be put on sale for the public. The Government have accordingly directed the Principal, School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, to prepare such a model, and he has already taken the work in hand. The public are requested to wait till this authorized model is ready and go in for it to satisfy their requirements.

(Continued from page 14)

The financial forecast for next year is as follows :—

	RS.
Normal Revenue ..	50,32,00,000
Normal expenditure.	55,93,00,000

Thus a deficit of 5,61,00,000 is anticipated for the next year, 1948-49. The deficit amount can be met by a transfer from the Revenue Reserve Fund which will stand at about 30 crores of rupees at the end of the current year.

By Courtesy A.I.R., Madras.

Special Article

The Salem Iron Ores

Although a systematic examination of the iron ore deposits occurring in the Salem district may be said to have commenced when the Government accepted the offer in 1937 of Dr. V. S. Dubey of the Benares Hindu University to examine the iron ore deposits of the Kanjamalai Hills, earlier references to the existence and the actual working of these deposits date back to 18th and 19th Centuries. Iron smelting in the Salem district is an art of extreme antiquity. The following extract illustrates the methods adopted in old days:—

"The ore is smelted in a mud furnace about 4' high, the shape of which, when viewed from the front, is like a bottle, about 2' in diameter at the base and about 9" at the top. The floor of the furnace is sunk about 6" below the level of the ground. At the base is an opening some 10" square. The furnace is partly filled with charcoal, on which the ore is placed. A blast is obtained with a pair of goat-skin bellows, worked by hand alternately, so that the draught may be continuous. The nozzles of the bellows are inserted into the orifice at the base of the furnace, and the rest of the opening is sealed with wet clay. The blast is kept up for about 3½ hours, at the end of which a mass of red-hot metal, weighing about 12 lb., is withdrawn, and worked on an anvil, and, when sufficiently hammered, a cut is made nearly the whole way through, and the mass is then ready for sale."

An attempt to exploit the Salem Ores on a large scale was made when Mr. J. M. Heath, in 1825 resigned the East India Company's Service and proceeded to England to study ways and means for the successful exploitation of Salem ores. He set up a number of works at Pulampatti, on the banks of Cauvery and in other places whither the ore was taken by road from Kanjamalai to be smelted. An examination of the work done by Dr. Heath reveals that the reserves of the deposits of ore in the Salem area are almost inexhaustible and that they are of very high grade quality. The following extracts will illustrate the position:—

"In 1833 a Committee was appointed by the Madras Government to

examine the condition of Mr. Heath's works: the following extracts from their report bear directly on the present section as indicating the value of the Salem iron ore deposits:—"The result of this experiment was satisfactory as regards the yield or

* This ore was obtained from Thailaimalai (No. 4 on map), within 7 miles of the Cauvery which provides water carriage to Porto or Novo for 6 months in the year.

Heath says:—"I have had the Danmore ore most accurately analysed by Mr. Richard Philips and the result of his analysis has proved that the ore when freed from its earthly matter consists of pure iron and oxygen in the proportion of 70 and 30 in 100 parts . . . having submitted the Indian ore to the same eminent chemist . . . it was found that it also consisted of pure iron and oxygen in the proportion of 72.3 and 27.7 in 100 parts . . . the stony matter associated with the Indian ore is pure siliceous." Mr. Thomas Holland in 1892 when making his "Preliminary report on the iron ores and iron industries of the Salem District" says:—"The ore which occurs in such abundance in the Salem district is the ore which has been used with such success in the Scandinavian Iron Works. . . . The Danmore ore employed yielded an average below 50 per cent of iron . . . whilst in the Salem district it is possible to obtain an almost inexhaustible supply of ore with an average of nearly 60 per cent of iron. This result is calculated from the average mineral composition stated by Messrs. King and Foote, and agrees with rough calculations of my own on crushed samples as well as the estimate given by Balfour."

Mr. Heath's statement, the elements of which are principally drawn "from actual experience," showed that "when freed from earthly matter" the ore contained 72 per cent of iron "and the whole of this has been obtained by me, is smelting ore in the blast furnace."

The iron produced from the Salem ores early in the 19th Century was reported to be of excellent quality and it was used in the construction of the tubular and suspension bridges over the Menai Straits. So even in the 18th and 19th Centuries, it had been established that Salem iron ores contained practically no phosphorus or sulphur and were well suited for manufacturing the better quality of wrought iron or steel. In the first half of the 19th Century steel was reported to have been brought to England sometimes in the form of flat round cakes and sometimes in the form of conical ingots were evidently wootz (steel) made by carburising wrought iron in crucibles, a principle which was not applied in England in 1800. But with the winding up of the Porto Novo, Iron company started by Mr. Heath about the third quarter of the 19th Century, the production of wrought iron and steel from the Salem ores got a set back and no attempt was made thereafter to any appreciable extent to utilize the Salem iron ore. Owing to the cheapness of the imported iron, the industry has of later years rapidly decayed.

But the rich deposits of the ore continued to lie there on the hills of the Salem district, when the Geological Survey of India undertook between 1940-44 a complete mapping and survey of the iron ore deposits of the Salem and Trichinopoly districts and carried some tests regarding the concentration of the ore found in the area. The reserves of the ore in the areas examined were estimated to be as follows:—

	TONS.
Kanjamalai	54,648,000
Gedumalai	12,450,000
Pasumalai	10,428,000
Attur area	11,724,000
Chitteri Hills	55,416,000
Tirthamalai	47,520,000
Between Rasipur and Namakkal	33,114,000
Kollaimalai	67,452,000
Pachaimalai	11,088,000
Total	304,650,000

These are figures for a depth of 100' only except in one case and the hills must, it is stated, contain ore to a much greater depth. The deposits may be assumed to be regular and more or less of uniform thickness. Hence in actual working they can be expected to yield very much more than the figures above, probably anything up to 3 or 4 times the quantity.

The tests conducted so far by the Geological Survey have made it clear that in general, the ores are amenable to concentration easily by magnetic method to give over 55 per cent iron and it has been stated that a higher grade concentrate can be obtained either by passing the concentrate, through the magnet a second time or in the case of the fine grained ores by finer crushing. The report also contains a reference to the fact that Messrs. Gaudart & Co. sent a sample of the ore to Fried Krupps in Germany, who pronounced it to be amenable to magnetic concentration. Their tests revealed that the iron content improved from 45 to 68.5 per cent. In view of the above pronouncements, there seems to be no necessity for any further tests in the suitability of the ore to manufacture iron and steel.

On account of the lack of coal in South India, alternative methods have to be considered for smelting the ores, so as to cut down the dependence on coal to the minimum. These are—

(1) Blast furnace, using charcoal fuel,

(2) electric furnace (a small quantity of charcoal to be used for reduction only and not for generation of heat), and

(3) others, e.g., Stuerzelberg process.

(1) above: *Charcoal blast furnace*.—Charcoal consumption per ton of pig iron produced is about 16 or 17 cwt. One ton of charcoal is equal to 4 to 5 tons of wood. For 100 tons of pig iron per day the requirements is $365 \times 100 \times 5 = 182,500$ tons of wood per year. At $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ ton of timber per year per acre, an area between 365,000 and 547,500 acres of forest land is needed. For steel, more charcoal and a larger area of forest are needed.

(2) above: *Electric smelting*.—A small quantity of carbon as charcoal or coke is used to reduce the iron oxide to metal. The charcoal needed for this reduction is 6 to 7 cwt. per ton of iron produced.

One ton pig iron requires $\frac{1}{2}$ H.P. year (say 2,220 K.W.H.), the electrode and charcoal consumption being 12 lb. and 8 cwt., respectively.

The cost of manufacture of steel at Salem in electric furnaces is as follows according to Dr. Dubey and Mr. Karunakaran:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Iron ore 1.6 tons at Rs. 3	5	2	0
per ton.			
Limestone 150 lb., at Rs. 2	0	2	0
per ton.			

	RS.	A.	P.
Charcoal, 800 lb., at Rs. 14	5	0	0
per ton.			
Electrode, 30 lb., at Rs. 400	4	0	0
per ton.			
Electrical energy, 3,500 units, at 1 pie each.	18	0	0
Refractions, repairs, etc. . .	5	0	0
Depreciation	2	0	0
Total ..	39	4	0
Overhead, supervision, labour, etc.	25	0	0
Grand total per ton of steel.	64	4	0

(3) above: *Stuerzelberg process*.—This process which makes it possible to produce sponge iron even from low-grade ores can be adopted, if necessary, after necessary investigation.

As regards the supply of accessory ores that might be required for the setting of a steel manufacturing industry, it may be said that South India is not lacking in them. The auxiliary materials required for the Iron and Steel Industry are fluxes and refractories. Both limestone and dolomite are available in Salem district itself as also in Trichinopoly and Coimbatore districts. Amongst the refractories, fire clay, magnesite, chromite and siliceous materials like quartzites and quartz schists are available within short distances of the iron ore deposits. The analysis of chromite ore found in the Salem district has revealed that it can withstand a temperature of about 1,700 degrees C. and as such it would be very useful as a refractory and for the production of chromium steel. With a view to utilize the chromite found in the Salem district in the South Indian Steel Industry, the Government have prohibited the leasing of areas containing chromite. The Shevaroy Hills in the Salem district are rich in bauxite and the reserves are estimated to be about 4,275,700 tons.

As regards the power that might be required for the development of Iron and Steel Industry in South India, no doubt this Province is deficient in power. The forecast of demand for power up to 1951 taking into account the requirements of the proposed new industries is estimated at 124,000 K.W. against an estimated output of 106,500 K.W. of power proposed to be developed within that period. The Chief Engineer for Electricity has stated that though the existing hydro-electric stations have no spare capacity to meet the needs of the steel production in South India, new schemes could

be started. The Electricity department already contemplate investigating various sites which are reported to be promising for the development of hydro-electric power—chief among them are Mekkadattu, Periyar, Srisaialam, Sileru Schemes, etc. If these investigations are made quickly and these projects put into effect, it would not be difficult to find the power required for the South Indian Steel Industry.

Further recent geological investigations have proved the existence of lignite in the South Arcot district which is not very far away from the Salem iron deposits. The reserves of lignite are estimated to be about 498 million tons. Specimens of the lignite have been analysed and they are reported to be of good quality having calorific value averaging over 9,000 B.Th.U. The question of the economic exploitation of the lignite found in the area is engaging the attention of the Government. The Government propose to send samples to America to test whether it is possible to convert the South Arcot lignite into coking coal for utilization in the steel industry. If this experiment proves successful, coking coal can easily be found for the steel industry. Even if it is not possible to convert the South Arcot lignite into coking coal, it can be directly used as fuel in other industries and for domestic purposes. This may to a great extent relieve the fuel shortage that might be experienced in the area on account of the diversion of charcoal for the proposed steel industry.

Owing to the lack of coal in South India and the high cost of transport from the North, the South Indian Steel Industry has to depend upon charcoal. If electric smelting is resorted to, the quantity of charcoal required will not be much. It would not be difficult to raise in the Salem and the adjoining forests necessary casuarina or other plantations that might be required to get the necessary charcoal.

It will therefore be seen that South India is favourably situated for the development of an Iron and Steel Industry. It has got an almost inexhaustible reserve of high grade iron ore and other accessory ores required for the industry near at hand. Fuel either in the form of electricity or charcoal can be easily got for the industry as stated above. What is needed is only a decision by experts as to the lines on which an Iron and Steel Industry can be started in South India.

Prohibition News Letter

The following is the brief summary of the reports on ameliorative activities in the various prohibition districts.—

Bellary.—The Village Betterment Committee at Muddanagiri is taking steps to provide a play ground and to convert the village step-well into a draw-well. Another betterment committee is proposing to open a school and to reconstruct the village chavadi. A third committee has resolved to take steps to reconstruct a well for the use of the villagers. An interesting recreation programme was arranged for the benefit of the labourers employed in the Tungabhadra Dam side area, Hospet from 7th February 1948 to 9th February 1948; Proprietors of local cinema companies spared films. Large crowds of labourers witnessed the shows and enjoyed the same. The Kamalapuram Co-operative Society has resolved to construct a godown-cum reading room to serve as a community centre.

Chittoor.—Firka tournaments and village tournaments took place as usual. Bajanas and kalakshopams continued to provide amusement. Nine gramasanghams and 8 rural recreation clubs were organised in Chandragiri and Madanapalli divisions during the early part of February. One gramasangham has started a Bajhana Sabha. The villagers in two places were staged dramas. Instances of economic improvement as a result of prohibition are that in one case a person who lost his property worth Rs. 2,500 consequent upon drink, has been able to give his two daughters in marriage and is now leading a peaceful life. Another purchased a pair of bulls worth Rs. 250. Street cleaning drives and thrift day celebrations are among the other features of the ameliorative activities. One gramasangham has resolved to open a community centre with a community hall, a free reading room, a radio house and a free library. New reading rooms were opened in two villages in Madanapalle division. A Weavers' Co-operative Production and Sale Society has opened a reading room in one place. A village betterment committee is constructing a free dispensary and maternity home for the village out of public donations with Government aid.

Anantapur.—A rural library was opened at the end of January in one

village. One co-operative society has purchased a radio set at a cost of Rs. 750. There was a number of firka tournaments. Harijan Traupe staged a drama. One village uplift committee has decided to open a reading room and a library.

Madura.—Thrift day celebrations took place in one village on 2nd Febru-

ary 1948. Twenty-four hundi boxes distributed in the previous month were opened and a sum of Rs. 42-12-6 were credited to the accounts of the society. Two more societies for ex-tappers for jaggery manufacture have been organized bringing the total number of societies to eight. Four hundi boxes were distributed to the members by one co-operative society. The first rural uplift school which was started on 1st January 1948 came to a close on 16th February 1948. Thirty-nine students completed the training. There was a rural exhibition for four days.

EXTENSION OF PROHIBITION

RAJAJI'S MESSAGE

The following is a copy of the Message from His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari, Governor of West Bengal, Calcutta, to Hon'ble Sri B. Gopala Reddi, Minister for Finance, Madras:—

28th February 1948.

"The triumphs of youth gladden my heart. My sincere Asirvads to you.

It makes me feel a sense of achievement when you have extended prohibition to the whole of the province. I hope the people, and especially the de facto leaders of men in the rural areas, will co-operate with officials and make this great reform the Kamadhenu it can be. We should immediately devise effective measures for a widespread savings bank movement and for a programme of joy in rural and industrial areas to replace the undoubted physical consolation that drink had hitherto been giving to the miserable. Without this, total prohibition could become a dead-sea fruit, however great the enterprise might have been. Even a mild form of drawing of prizes for attractive returns on small investments, providing against loss to anybody except by way of interests may be a good short-term plan for encouraging small savings among industrial workers and rural classes hitherto addicted to drink and providing substitute excitement. Wages are now high and civilization and its amenities have not kept pace with the rise in wages. Here is a problem which younger statesmen like you should tackle.

Whatever may or may not be done on these lines, I convey to you and your Premier my grateful appreciation of courage and enterprise shown in completing the edifice of prohibition in Madras, which was my dream. You have by this raised a great memorial for Gandhiji."

Salem.—The Mallur gramasangam in the Salem taluk has resolved to open a park with a radio.

South Kanara.—Thrift day was inaugurated at Karkal on 27th January. The occasion was availed of to bring home to the people the importance of thrift. Another thrift was also observed on 7th February 1948. In all, fifteen hundi boxes were distributed on the occasion.

Cuddapah.—Firka tournaments were conducted in several places. The players were mostly ex-addicts. There was also a music competition and the staging of a drama.

North Arcot.—The Rajakoil gramasangam in Gudiyattam has purchased a plot of land for constructing a village

hall at a cost of Rs. 4,000. Two other gramasangams have also resolved to construct similar halls.

Tanjore.—Rural uplift school closed on the 4th February 1948. A rural exhibition was conducted in this connection in which the departments of Agriculture, Veterinary, Industries, Prohibition, etc., took part. Prizes and certificates were also distributed. A Milk Supply Society, a Mat Weavers' Society and a Palmyra jaggery Manufacturing Society were organized during February.

Malabar.—A Coconut-jaggery Producers' Co-operative Society started work during February. In all there are now 51 jaggery producers co-operative societies and of these, 50 have started work. More than 8,000 tappers have

been provided with work in these societies.

Trichinopoly.—There was a Chedugudu tournament on 10th February 1948 in which four teams competed. Special prizes were distributed to those who exhibited special skill in stick play. More than 1,000 people witnessed the tournament. There was also indigenous dances.

Kurnool.—Two dramas were staged during the early part of February. In one firka a cattle show and a firka tournament were held.

Coimbatore.—As usual rural sports were held, and these were attended by a considerable number of people. The Collector addressed meetings in several places.

Importance of tobacco seed cake in paddy crop production : Kistna district.

The cultivators of the Province are aware of the importance of oil seed cakes in increasing the production of food crops like paddy. Groundnut cake is produced to the extent of 2 lakhs of tons in Madras whereas the provincial requirements are 10 lakhs of tons. Thanks to the investigations of late Mr. R. Swami Rao and Mr. M. Narasimham of the Madras Agricultural Service, and Sodhan Cottage Industries, Tenali, tobacco seed cake has come into the field from about the year 1941. Kistna district alone produces about 6,000 tons of Virginia tobacco seed valued at Rs. 9,00,000 (the price of each ton of seed is valued at Rs. 150 per ton). 100 lb. of tobacco seed when dealt with in oil expellers gives about 25 lb. of oil and about 75 of tobacco seed cake. Thus the production of this cake in Kistna district alone comes to 4,500 tons valued at Rs. 3,15,000 (cake is valued at Rs. 70 per ton, loose).

The composition of an average sample of tobacco seed cake as given by the Government Agricultural Chemist, Coimbatore, is noted below :

	PER CENT.	
Moisture	6-92	
Ash	15-60	
Protiens	27-80	
Ether extractors	13-64	
Crude fibre	18-88	
Carbohydrates (by difference)	17-16	
Total	100-00	
Insolubles	8-27	
Nitrogen	4-45	

Agriculturists' Column

How to keep our Tanks and Streams free from Water Hyacinth

[NOTE.—It is proposed to publish from time to time notes on agriculture prepared by the Department of Agriculture for the general edification of agriculturists. Here is the first instalment.]

Water hyacinth is an obnoxious weed which is common in many parts of the Province, viz., Circars, Chingleput, Tanjore, Coimbatore and Malabar. It forms a rapidly spreading thick growth on the surface of the water in the tanks and streams. It spoils the water and obstructs the navigation in canals.

Ordinarily it is tackled by lifting out the plants from the water and allowing them to dry up in the sun. This method does not however completely keep the weed under control. Every year we find it coming up as the removal is either incomplete or the seeds that are dropped prior to the removal give rise to fresh growth. If it is possible to completely kill the plants in their habitat, the chances of survival are eliminated.

The results of a number of experiments carried out in tanks and streams in the Province show that the plants can be completely killed by spraying the foliage of the plants with a suspension of 'Methoxone'. This substance is a hormone weed killer put on the market by the Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., and is offered

in the form of a powder containing one per cent of the active ingredient or in a liquid form with ten per cent of the active ingredient. The powder or the liquid is mixed with sufficient quantity of water to dilute the concentration of the active ingredient to 0.05 per cent, i.e., one pound of the powder is mixed with two gallons of water or one gallon of the liquid in 200 gallons of water. The diluted liquid is sprayed on the foliage of the water hyacinth at the rate of 100 gallons per acre. It must however be noted that spraying is carried out at a time when there is no likelihood of rain for at least 24 hours. If there is rain the substance is likely to be washed off.

In the course of three weeks the weed will be completely killed and will commence to disintegrate. The dead plants may be removed and disposed of. The substance is non-poisonous and there is no harm in its use to either livestock or human beings.

There is no information yet about the cost of the substance 'Methoxone', to give the economics of the use of this herbicide.

Phosphoric acid	PER CENT
(P.O.)	1.79
Lime (CaO)	0.60

This cake is rich in protein and will make a useful feeding stuff for cattle. Its nutritive value is however lower than that of groundnut cake or gingelly cake. The cake is also useful as a manure; its nitrogen content

is slightly below that of average castor cake.

In the year 1945-6, the Government sanctioned a scheme for conducting trials with tobacco seed oil cake on a field scale in the Kistna district. The scheme was intended to find out whether tobacco seed oil cake when applied to the paddy crop could give better yields, as the tobacco seed oil cake

contains nitrogen equivalent in value to that of castor cake.

The trial was conducted on 36 one-acre plots at the rate of 4 plots in each of the 9 taluks of Kistna district. Tobacco seed oil cake was applied at 560 lb. for each acre as against the application of groundnut cake at 328 lb. (or 2 bags) per acre on control plots to supply 25 lb. of nitrogen. The results of the trial are noted below:—

Tobacco seed oil cake—Trials on paddy—Kistna district—1946-47.

Area of the plot: 1 acre: each trial and control plot.

Serial number and taluk.	Trial plot.		Control plot.		Increase in yield of trial plot over control lb. of grain.	Decrease in yield of trial plot.
	Dose of tobacco seed cake.	Grain yield lb. per acre.	Dose of groundnut cake.	Grain yield lb. per acre.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Gudivada	560 lb.	2,490	2 bags or 328 lb.	2,158	332	..
2 Do.	Do.	3,320		2,988	332	..
3 Do.	Do.	2,324		1,992	332	..
4 Do.	Do.	2,324		1,992	332	..
5 Bezvada	Do.	2,324		2,490	..	166
6 Do.	Do.	2,905		2,905	..	..
7 Do.	Do.	1,494		1,660	..	166
8 Do.	Do.	2,656		2,822	..	166
9 Nandigama	Do.	2,158		2,324	166	..
10 Do.	Do.	2,656		2,822	..	166
11 Do.	Do.	1,494		1,660	..	166
12 Do.	Do.	2,656		2,822	..	166
13 Masulipatam	Do.	1,722		1,704	18	..
14 Do.	Do.	1,328		1,308	20	..
15 Do.	Do.	1,324		1,245	79	..
16 Do.	Do.	1,992		1,909	83	..
17 Avanigadda	Do.	2,158		1,992	166	..
18 Do.	Do.	1,743		1,660	83	..
19 Do.	Do.	2,324		2,324	..	..
20 Do.	Do.	2,656		2,490	166	..
21 Kaikalur	Do.	3,200		2,500	100	..
22 Do.	Do.	1,700		1,700	..	..
23 Do.	Do.	1,992		1,900	92	..
24 Do.	Do.	2,185		1,992	193	..
25 Vuyyur	Do.	1,992		1,993	..	1
26 Do.	Do.	2,073		1,983	90	..
27 Do.	Do.	2,052		1,979	73	..
28 Do.	Do.	2,075		2,100	..	25
29 Nuzvid	Do.	1,100		1,162	..	62
30 Do.	Do.	830		996	..	166
31 Do.	Do.	1,080		1,160	..	80
32 Do.	Do.	900		1,100	..	200
33 Tiruvur	Do.	1,070		1,140	..	70
34 Do.	Do.	1,000		1,160	..	160
35 Do.	Do.	960		1,100	..	140
36 Do.	Do.	830		996	..	166

Inference.—The results indicate that tobacco cake in some cases has given higher yield than groundnut cake while the latter cake has given higher yield in other cases. On the whole, tobacco cake when applied on an equal nitrogen basis is as good as the popular groundnut cake.

The cake is also said to possess germicidal properties and to correct alkalinity to a certain extent—the

two important factors lacking in groundnut cake.

Owing to the dearth of groundnut cake tobacco seed cake is used for manuring vegetables and other garden crops.

Thevetia Nerifolia Juss (a potent insecticide).

In these days of food scarcity and the high prices of other agricultural products like fruits and vegetables,

it behoves well on the part of the farmer, big or small, to aim at the maximum production of food material both from an economic as well as a national point of view. The crop yields can be easily increased by good village and manuring, but the control of the numerous insect pests that take a heavy toll of the produce always remains a problem. A number of insecticides mostly commercial

preparations of foreign manufacture are available in the market; but they are not always within the easy reach of the average cultivator. It was, therefore, thought that the discovery of a cheap, easily available vegetable product, which would be efficient as the commercial preparations would meet the needs. Investigations on this line, revealed the remarkable potentialities of the kernel of *Thevetia nerifolia juss* as an insecticide. The outstanding features are that the seeds are available almost any where in the rural parts for the mere trouble of collecting them and that its insecticidal properties both against biting as well as sucking insects, compare favourably with the best of any of the chemical preparations. The shrub is a native of South America and appears to have been introduced into India in

the very remote times. It has since established itself and spread almost all over the country and seems to thrive with little care and attention. It is known as *Paccha Ganneru* in Telugu and *Ponnarali* in Tamil. The fruits have a thin pericarp and a hard nut inside. The latter has four partitions with a seed in each. The kernels are white and contain about 66 per cent of oil. They are highly poisonous to man and other higher animals when taken internally. These kernels are removed from the seed, mashed and soaked in water for 24 hours. The infusion is then filtered and a small quantity of soap is added. The fluid is then sprayed on plants infested by insects. Soft-bodied, small sized insects, like Aphids (plant lice), Aleurodids, Tingids (lace-wing bug), small caterpillars as well as

mites, are easily killed with a concentration of $\frac{1}{4}$ ounce of the kernels in a gallon of water. Bigger sized caterpillars, beetle grubs, etc., require a higher strength of $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. in a gallon while scale insects and mealy bugs require a still higher concentration of 1 oz. as the spray fluid has to permeate through hard coating or mealy covering as the case may be. Whatever may be the insect concerned, the additional soap equal to the quantity of the kernels used, enhances the insecticidal value of the spray. Apart from the killing properties, the infusion has been found to possess a certain amount of deterrent value also.

With the added advantage of its cheapness, easy availability and high efficiency, the use of this indigenous material should appeal to the average Indian cultivator.

Delhi Notes

Self-Sufficiency in Food

Dominion Minister's Call

Speaking at a session of the governing body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Hon'ble Mr. Jai Ramdas Daulatram said "I would first of all like to refer to the most important need of the country at the present moment, I mean the necessity of doing all we can to improve its food situation. We hardly realize the truth that probably no problem is more important for our country than that of food. It ought to be given the priority which is its due. Napoleon's dictum that "the army marches on its belly" is as true to-day as it was a century and a half ago. We must make India self-sufficient in regard to food and that also soon. I wish the Centre and the Provinces combined materially to increase the sowings of May and September 1948. The task before us is of a very emergent character and we require the active co-operation of every individual in the country in tackling this great problem. As you are all aware for several years now India has failed to produce the food it requires and the partition of the country has made the position worse. It is incumbent on the Council in common with other national organizations to do its utmost to bridge the gap by undertaking useful research for both short and long-term plans and by

transferring the practical results of such research to the farmer's field.

One particular point I would like to mention in this connexion is that with the exclusion of certain tracts from the Indian Union the situation regarding protective foods such as fruits and vegetables and fish has considerably deteriorated. I understand that the I.C.A.R. is calling a Conference of Horticulturists some time in March next. I have no doubt that the Conference will review the present position and suggest practical methods for meeting the shortage of fruits and vegetables in the Union. An urgent review of the position in respect of other articles of foodstuffs, e.g., fish, milk, potatoes, etc., will also be required. Several other nations do not consume per capita as much cereals as we do and yet have better physique and health. India's present shortage in regard to cereals could also be easily remedied if the nation altered its dietetic habits and consumed other foodstuffs. I hope that the Council will conduct a proper research into all these matters so as to make India self-sufficient in food.

While research must be concentrated on the task of evolving better and higher yielding varieties of crops, in

discovering better cultural practices and in placing more efficient tools in the hands of the cultivators, while due attention must be paid to the improvement of the animal husbandry resources of the country and while, as I have already said, the highest priority should be given to the increase of the food supply of the country, attention must also be given to the eradication of pests and diseases of crops and cattle in order that the country may be saved from enormous losses of foodstuffs for which these are responsible. I am glad therefore to find that a serious attempt is going to be made to control the wheat rust and other pests which affect crops and animals. As regards wheat rust, the Central Government have set up a Committee to co-ordinate the work of control and Government will finance the carrying out of this important work.

Survey and improvement of soils, production and use of manures and fertilizers and manurial and varietal trials as recommended in the extremely valuable report submitted by Dr. Stewart have also to be undertaken. I am sure that if the experiments recommended in the report are conducted not only on individual cultivators' fields but also on an all-India basis they will yield valuable data regarding the optimum yields of crops.

As you are aware, there is a serious dearth of technical personnel in the country at the moment and Government has taken upon itself the responsibility for sending men abroad for purposes of training. I hope that in the near future we shall have ample technical staff needed for our plans of

progress. But even then the main problem will remain, viz., to link our existing man-power with the vast material resources of the country and to develop them according to a plan, for in planned scientific development only lies the salvation of the country. I am glad, therefore, to know that the Council has taken up the question of undertaking research on the basis of a planned programme from the Centre and on a regional basis. In framing our plans for agricultural progress we should work for a reasonable degree of regional self-sufficiency in regard to food. I have every hope that the provinces will give in this matter their fullest co-operation.

The economic aspect of the Council's researches should also be kept in view. As one of my predecessors had once said, a poor country like India can ill-afford "Ivory Tower" research divorced from the realities of life and the needs of its cultivators. I welcome, therefore, the experiment that you propose to carry out regarding putting the "cow on the plough." Science must be utilized to serve the needs of the country but at the same time the economic aspect must not be overlooked. Agriculture being the most important industry in the country the cost of production must play an important part in all the activities of the Council. I was interested to know that the Council had been carrying out crop-cutting experiments for some years now and that these experiments had been found to be very useful in estimating the crop yields in the provinces. Crop estimation is by far the most important aspect in the country's economy and I hope that the Union as a whole will adopt the technique in due course.

There are two other matters a reference to which is, I feel, called for in view of the circumstances existing in the country.

Heavy loss to food crops in India is being caused by insect pests and plant diseases, amounting roughly to about 500 crores of rupees. This damage is caused not only to crops when growing in the fields but also to grains after harvest and during storage, in fact till they are processed and consumed.

Several important authorities such as the Indian Famine Commission (1943), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, have suggested very high priority to plant protection work in food production programmes and in fact the Council of the F.A.O. have expressed the opinion that this single factor if

properly attended to, can considerably reduce the food deficit of the world.

A good deal of the loss caused by pests and diseases can be avoided if control operations are taken in time and in a properly organized manner. It is therefore imperative that provinces should establish adequate Plant Protection Organizations for carrying out field scale control operations against more serious pests and diseases. The most essential pre-requisite for establishing such organizations is the appointment of well qualified Entomologists and Mycologists at the provincial headquarters. At present only the three provinces of United Provinces, Bombay and Madras have such experts and these provinces are taking steps to establish Plant Protection Services for field work. The rest of the provinces, many of them are deficit, should emulate the examples of these provinces.

Control operations against some serious pests can be undertaken by simple methods, while others require power-operated sprayers and dusting machines which are unfortunately not so far available in India. Arrangements are being made for the import of a small number of such machines which after trial for a season or two will be selected as model for the manufacture, if possible, of such machinery on a large scale in India. As regards pests and diseases which can be controlled by other methods, the number of such enemies of food is also large, the Plant Protection Adviser to the Government of India is going round the provinces and suggesting in consultation with local experts what pests and

diseases can be tackled immediately with the facilities available. It is hoped that during 1948 all provinces will endeavour to control these saboteurs of our food resources which, are today inadequate for the needs of the country. The Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage Organization of the Ministry of Agriculture will always be available for any assistance at the spot which the provinces may require. It need hardly be emphasized that the urgency of establishing provincial organizations is great.

The question of marketing of agricultural produce also needs attention. Though all provinces recognize the importance of improvements in Agricultural Marketing, of late there has been a tendency to side-track the subject and in some provinces the organization which had been set up to deal with the problem has been disbanded. In the East Punjab there has been a complete breakdown while in the United Provinces orders were recently issued to disband the office of the Chief Marketing Officer. Assam disbanded the Marketing Staff in April 1947.

In the majority of provinces the Marketing Staff was utilized for Civil Supplies work since after the outbreak of war and consequently there was a dislocation in marketing work. I would request all provincial Governments to take stock of the existing agricultural marketing problems and immediately formulate and execute new schemes of marketing with special reference to co-operative marketing, regulation of weights and measures, organization of regulated markets and introduction of quality standards.

Higher Technical Institutions to be set up

The Government of India have decided to establish within the first quinquennium commencing from 1947 two of the four higher technical institutions recommended by the Higher Technological Education Committee (Sarker Committee). These will be located in or near Calcutta and Bombay respectively. This information was given by the Hon'ble Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Minister of Education Government of India, in answer to a written question by Sri V. C. Kesava Rao in Parliament.

Maulana Azad added that these institutions will cater to the needs of the country as a whole. He said that while the Government of India had not formulated any definite policy governing the location of the higher technical institutions, they had accepted in principle the need for the

establishment of four such institutions, one each in the East, West, North and South, the location to be determined from the point of view of establishing and maintaining the right relationship between the public, industry and education. The Government will of course be guided by the advice of the All India Council for Technical Education which has been set up with a view to co-ordinating, plans for the improvement of Technical Education in this country.

Asked as to whether the Government proposed to give priority to areas deficient in technically trained personnel when locating these institutions, Maulana Azad replied that all relevant factors including the deficiency in technically trained personnel will be given due consideration at the appropriate time.

Jottings from here and there

Reclamation of Waste Lands

In order to enable the Government to reclaim and make cultivable and productive a large tract of waste lands rendered unproductive by the movement of the Kosi river and other such lands, the Bihar Waste Lands (Reclamation, Cultivation and Improvement) Act has been passed. This Act empowers the Government to take such waste lands into their occupation for a period not exceeding ten years in order to restore the lands to cultivation. After this has been done, the lands will be restored to the owners on realizing the cost of improvement. If the owners, however, fail to take them back within one year of the Government notification, such lands will be taken over by the Government and will be settled with new tenants. Of the various plans prepared on the lines of this Act, the Government has finally sanctioned a scheme, it is learnt, for immediate execution, to reclaim 30,000 acres of jungle lands in the district of Motihari. It is proposed to bring this huge area under cultivation with the help of mechanical equipment.

Mechanized Ploughing in C.P.

The Provincial Government have through an ordinance called the C.P. Reclamation of Lands (Eradication of Kans) Ordinance, 1948, taken temporary possession of blocks of fallow land for mechanized ploughing.

It is officially stated that large areas of wheat growing land have gone fallow in northern districts of the province on account of "Kans" (a kind of weed) infestation. It is estimated, that the area of such fallow land in the three districts of Hoshangabad, Saugar and Jabulpore is about two to three lakhs of acres.

This is stated to have resulted in heavy reduction in wheat cropping during the last five years.

The Provincial Government propose requisitioning the services of two tractor units from the Government of India with a view to clearing "Kans". The ploughing operations are due to commence in the middle of March.

The Ordinance provides for compensation to cultivators for damage to land due to mechanized operations or passage of the tractors.

The Ordinance also authorizes the Reclamation Officer and his subordinates and workmen authorized by him to enter any land in Kans area for the purpose of survey and any other auxiliary purpose and take possession of the whole or any part of the Kans area and carry on eradicating operations therein.

Mysore's Prohibition Policy

According to Mr. K. C. Reddy, Chief Minister, Mysore, Mysore has now adopted the policy of prohibition and closed down 20 per cent of the toddy shops in the State. He said the Mysore Government intend to close down all the toddy shops within a five mile belt area all along the Madras-Mysore border by the end of March in order to help the Government of Madras to carry out their prohibition policy and that the number of shops that would be affected by this step would be 400. He also revealed that it was the aim of the Government to effect total prohibition in Mysore in five years.

National Volunteer Corps for the East Punjab

The Government of East Punjab have announced a scheme for the formation of a National Volunteer Corps by an order which comes into force at once. All persons between the ages of 18 to 50 are eligible for recruitment as volunteers. They may be called out to perform functions, such as the protection of persons, security of property or public safety as may be assigned to them and in particular to assist the police in the suppression of disturbances or of serious crime, control of important fairs and festivals and organizing village defence schemes. The members of the corps shall be armed with such weapons as the Provincial Government may think fit. Provision has been made for a provincial National Volunteer Corps Advisory Board which will advise the Government in all matters concerning the corps.

U.P.'s "Save Livestock" Plan

The Government of the United Provinces have decided to embark on a "Save Live Stock" Plan with a

view to reduce the rate of mortality among cattle in the province by controlling epidemic diseases among cattle. The plan aims at providing every district with a mobile veterinary unit. About 500 stockmen will be trained every year. A College of Animal Husbandry has been started at Mathura and the number of students to be admitted to the Veterinary doctor's course will be increased from 60 to 100 per year. It is estimated that the province is losing about Rs. 5 crores per year owing to the high rate of cattle deaths from epidemic diseases.

Bee-keeping in U.P.

U.P. Government have started a school for imparting training in bee-keeping to 15 students at Lucknow. The period of training will be from March 1 to June 30, 1948. Each student will be given a stipend of Rs. 10 a month during the period of his training. Free hostel accommodation will also be provided for the trainees.

Social Education in C.P.

With a view to combat illiteracy Government have decided to introduce social education for all the illiterates in the province between the ages of 14 to 40 who have not passed the Primary Certificate Examination. In order to advise Government on all matters concerning planning and campaigning of this education Government have constituted three Committees, namely:—

- (1) Provincial Advisory Board for Social Education,
- (2) Committee for Social Education for Enlightenment,
- (3) Committee for Social Education for Citizenship.

The above Committees shall be permanent and will give expert advice to the Provincial Board in their respective sphere in matters relating to the general policy and to the department in matters relating to the implementation of the social education scheme. These committees may meet more frequently than the Board of Social Education.

Cotton Spinning and Weaving in East Punjab

A start has been made with the scheme for cotton spinning and weaving at different centres and 250 charkas are reported to be already in operation. It is proposed to have 10,000 charkas working in these ten centres.

SIDELIGHT ON RURAL RECREATION OFFICERS' TRAINING

better-farming, joint-farming, tenant-farming and collective-farming societies. In the better-farming society, ten or more cultivators can form a unit for the purpose of introduction of better methods of cultivation, joint purchase of seeds, manure, implements, etc. But the actual cultivation of the land is carried on by each member of the society separately. In the case of the joint-farming society, the members of the unit turn their individual holdings into a big, if possible, compact block that could be suitably used for operations of mechanical cultivation. The tenant-farming society differs from these two in so far as the tenant-farmers might not either own or hold the tenancy rights of the land. The land held by such a society might be freehold or leasehold. The land is divided into plots and they are distributed amongst the members each member being responsible for paying the rent for the plot he cultivates. In direct contrast to this mode of organization, all the cattle, implements and other means of production are owned jointly by members of the collective-farming society. The members work jointly on the land and receive their wages. The profits are divided amongst the wage-earners in proportion to their rate of wages.

The report says that the collective farming as operated in Soviet Russia is not a logical development of co-operative-farming although both can well be described as joint-farming. The difference is that, in the Soviet Russian collective-farming, the State owns the land and exercises the urgent measure of control and planning. Co-operative farming, on the other hand, is more independent and permits no State or outside interference. The type of co-operative organization devised in the network of private villages with farms, smallholders' co-operative settlements and collective settlements of the Jews of Palestine differs, on the one hand, from the Russian State-owned collective farms and, on the other, from the ordinary co-operative farming. In the view of the Mohite report, the Palestinian organization is a more advanced type of socialistic life while the Russian type is based on full State control.

In the view of Capt. Mohite, neither of these two types is suitable under the existing Indian conditions. The type of organization that is suitable here is the one that combines the features of large-scale farming with private ownership. In this province, local conditions

differ from district to district and, therefore, various types can be advantageously adapted. Thus, better-farming is suggested for all kinds of *jirayat* and *bagayat* lands under *ryotwari* or *non-ryotwari* tenure. Joint-farming is prescribed for all occupied lands and lands held by permanent tenants as well as protected tenants. Tenant-farming is suitable naturally for lands leased or granted to a society formed for purposes of cultivating such land. Collective-farming is also suitable for such land.

The Government of Bombay has considered very carefully the various recommendations made by Captain Mohite in the light of the recommendations offered by the Saraiya Committee appointed by the Government of India and has decided to encourage, very actively, co-operative-farming experiments. Under the plan approved by the Government, each district will be surveyed by the Agricultural, Co-operative and, wherever necessary, Public Works departments. The survey will be based on considerations of the natural resources of land, irrigation, water, etc., as well as general economic conditions. The plans will then be considered by the District Rural Development Boards and, in the last stage by the Government on the basis of any recommendations the Boards might have to make.

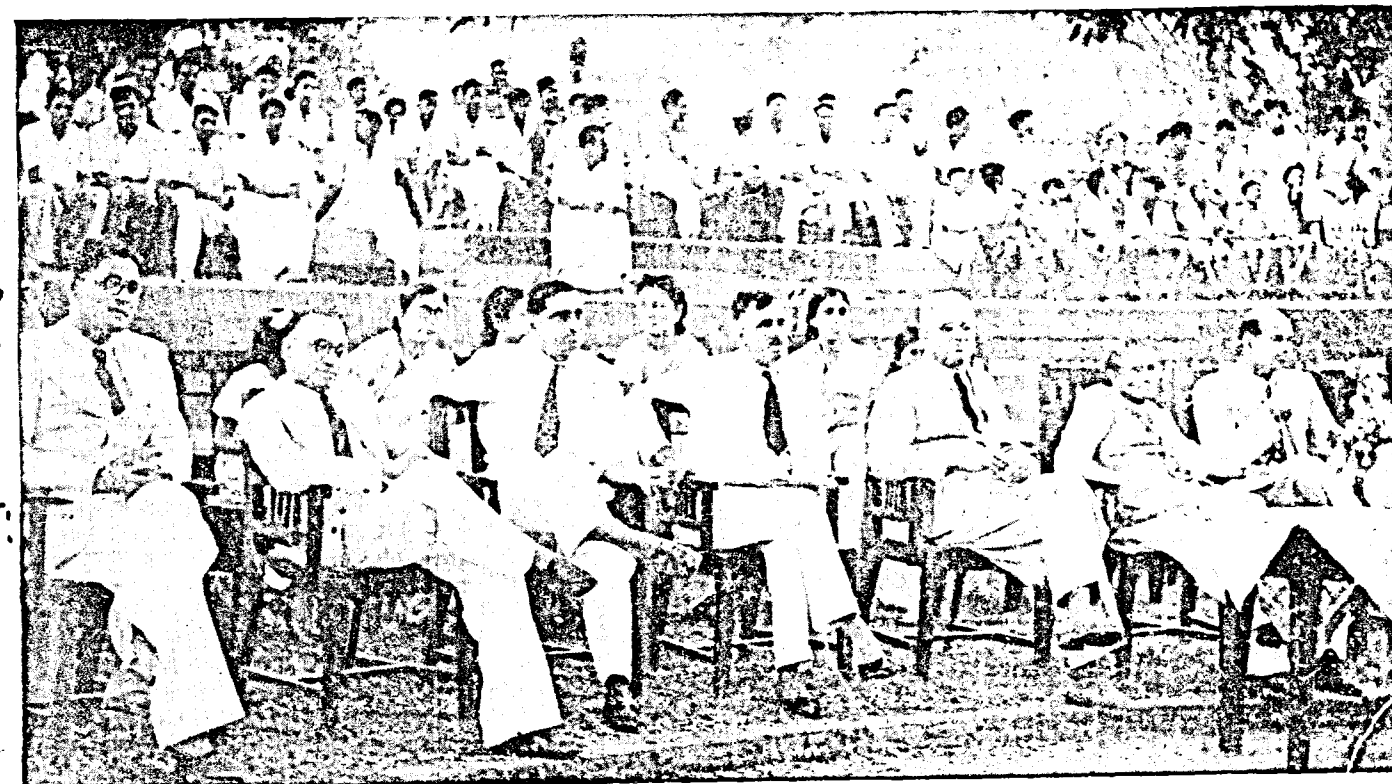
As the plan for each district gets finally settled, the Agricultural department will give the necessary technical advice to the co-operative-farming societies formed for cropping plans, land development programme, extension of joint irrigation, etc. The Government will also place, for a period of five years, the services of Agricultural Assistants at the disposal of these societies or groups of societies. The societies will have to bear half the cost of such establishment for the third year and the full cost from the sixth year.

The Provincial Land Mortgage Bank and the District Co-operative Central Banks may be expected to furnish the necessary long-term, intermediate and short-term finance. Where these agencies are not in a position to finance the operations of the societies, the Government will be prepared to replace them and advance loans on easy terms of interest. Free audit and advice by the Co-operative and Public Works departments respectively will also be available. The Government expects that

the formation of co-operative joint-farming societies either on the co-operative, collective or tenant-farming basis would lead to more profitable and rationalized agriculture instead of the wasteful cultivation of fragments as at present. When the Consolidation of Holdings Act is enforced, the schemes of co-operative-farming will be helpful in accelerating the pace of consolidation of fragments.

The recommendations of Captain Mohite regarding modifications of the Bombay Tenancy Act calculated to suit co-operative-farming are being considered by the Government. Similarly, his recommendations regarding the provisions of facilities by co-operative farming societies are also being considered. But it is not considered necessary to establish a Provincial Co-operative Farming Board as the District Rural Development would perform the functions designed for such a Board. The recommendations regarding establishment of subsidiary village industries for each co-operative society, absorption of ex-servicemen in schemes of co-operative-farming, utilization of the Services Post-War Reconstruction Fund and the Cusrow Wadia and Sir Sassoon David Trust Funds for developing co-operative farming have been accepted by the Government.

As regards price stabilization the need for which has long been recognized, the problem is one of an all-India character and the Provincial Government is not in a position to solve it independently of that Government particularly as the question is being considered by the Government of India. The Government is contemplating amendment of the Bombay Co-operative Societies Act, which at present applies to crop production societies, to comprehend better farming as well. Better farming will include development of land and better methods of cultivation by means of improved seed, irrigation, bunding, tractor ploughing, soil conservation, prevention of erosion, etc. A better-farming society will include a joint-farming society. In the proposed legislation, it is intended to provide that where 66 per cent of the landholders in a compact area owning not less than 75 per cent of land agree to join in a better-farming scheme in the sense defined above, the remaining landlords owning the remainder of the land in that area will also be covered by the scheme.



Hon'ble Mr. Daniel Thomas, Minister for Prohibition, presided over the final day celebrations in connexion with the Rural Recreation Officers' training at Saidapet



A demonstration in connexion with the recent Rural Recreation Officers' training held at the Y.M.C.A. College at Saidapet

Technical Advisory Board for Visual Education in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has appointed, for a period of two years, a Technical Advisory Board for Visual Education.

The Educational Adviser to the Government of Bombay will be the Chairman of the Board and other members include the Inspector for Visual Education, who will also be the Secretary of the Board.

Development of Industries in West Punjab

The West Punjab Government have envisaged a rapid development of Livestock Breeding Industry.

A net-work of 193 hospitals, 63 dispensaries, and 750 outlying dispensaries has already been set up. In addition to veterinary relief, given at these centres, the Veterinary Assistants undertake regular extensive tours of villages giving house-to-house treatment.

The Department aims at building up a good pedigree stock, and improving indigenous breeds. The Department is giving annual grants-in-aid to a number of District Boards for the maintenance and improvement of cattle, buffalo, horse and sheep breeds and to give a fillip to the breeding industry of the Province. The Department is also conducting a wide survey of the milk-producing and milk-consuming areas, collecting the necessary data for the scheme which aims at developing the milk industry on modern lines, ensuring the maximum possible supply of pure milk, and milk products at reasonable prices.

The West Punjab Government is also taking steps to encourage hand-loom industry through Co-operative Societies. An intensive and extensive drive for hand-spinning has been launched and colonies of cotton hand-loom weavers have been set up in several places.

U.P. Agricultural Board

The Government of the United Provinces has constituted a Provincial Board of Agriculture to regulate on suitable lines, research and development work on agriculture and secure continuity of research, giving priority to problems, in accordance with their relative importance and usefulness to the Province. This Board will replace the existing Provincial Agricultural Research Committee, the Departmental Research Committee and the

Board of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.

Co-operative Farming in West Punjab

The West Punjab Government are considering a scheme of Co-operative farming in the Canal Colonies of the Province and certain *chaks* in the Nili Bar and Haveli Project colonies have been reserved for this purpose.

PRODUCTION COMES FIRST

Now it is well known and we have often stressed this, that production is perhaps one of the most important things before us today: that is adding to the wealth of the country. We cannot overlook other factors. Nevertheless production comes first and I am prepared to say that everything that we do should be judged from the point of view of production first of all as well as other points of view. If nationalization adds to production, we shall have nationalization at every step. If it does not, let us see how to bring it about in order not to impede production. That is the essential thing.

—Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Scholarships for Backward Class Students in Bombay

Seventeen new sets of scholarships tenable for four years have been instituted for the Backward Class pupils in vocational high schools, in addition to the existing 25 sets of scholarships sanctioned in 1943. The value of these new scholarships will be kept at the same level as for the existing general secondary schools scholarships.

Leprosy Relief in Bombay

The Government of Bombay intends to establish leper colonies in the Province providing accommodation for

3,000 lepers, as a post-war reconstruction measure.

This information was provided by Mr. M. D. D. Gilder, Minister for Health, Bombay, in answer to a question in the Provincial Legislative Assembly recently.

The Government have appointed a special Leprosy Officer in the Province for carrying on the work of survey and to advise the Government and local bodies on anti-leprosy work and to train doctors for anti-leprosy work.

New Legislation in East Bengal

Based on the principles of self-help, people in certain backward areas in East Bengal would be provided with an opportunity to pool their resources to undertake development schemes.

In cases where people lack immediate resources, the levy would be spread over a number of years, in some cases the Government would also be willing to give loan. It is felt that the public will and desire to help themselves are not wanting, especially for the provision of some essential necessities like irrigation, drainage, etc., so very necessary in a land whose economy is still essentially pastoral.

Considering the above, machinery to canalize this urge is indicated. A factor which has stood in the way of the implementation of such schemes whose need, however, has been recognized in the past has been that of finance. It is stated that enthusiastic response for this proposal has been forthcoming from the public.

Judicial and Executive in Bihar

The process of the separation of judicial functions from executive has begun from some time past under the orders of the Bihar Government. Gradually the criminal cases are being transferred to the Court of Sub-Judges and the Munsifs in the civil courts who have been given first class powers of Magistrates to try criminal cases. At Patna half a dozen Munsifs and three or four Subordinate Judges are holding criminal courts. Similar is the case in other districts. It is reported that the process of separation of judicial functions from executive officers would be complete within a period of six months. There has been agitation going on for a long time for the separation of judicial functions from the executive.

Wise Words and Wiser Counsel

Rajaji on True Democracy

Mr. Rajagopalachari, Governor of West Bengal, recently made an impassioned appeal for democracy which he said, would not be understood to mean licence for intrigue, personal favour and nepotism and emphasized that all the wrong that they found in democracy was due to selfishness and nepotism.

The Governor, who was replying to a number of addresses of welcome presented to him said that freedom had come to them as a result of the past struggle and as a result of the world situation. But it was of no use to them if they neglected the opportunity and did not work to make India more happy than she was before. "Unless the people unite and have a stable, intelligent, earnest, honest and democratic Government they cannot be happy," he added.

The Governor said that all Government was only an engineering feat of human affairs. "If, when we are free to govern our own affairs in accordance with the wishes of our people, we do not utilize the opportunity before us and spend our time in quarrelling with one another, unhappy India will not be happy for having got freedom."

Prohibition Officers are Social Workers

"Your efficiency as Prohibition Officers will be judged by the concrete result that you will produce. You have, therefore, to prove yourselves good organizers, competent administrative officers and enthusiastic social workers", said Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise, delivering the closing address to the District Prohibition Officers' Class in Bombay recently.

Mr. Patil said: "I want you to interpret the Prohibition policy of the Government not merely in words but in action. Among your duties will be the starting of social welfare centres. You will have to carry on propaganda along scientific lines and try to get people of talent to make suitable pictures and posters for you."

He added that they would have to engage the services of Powada singers for their districts who would go from one village to another, carrying with

them the message of Prohibition to the farthest corners of the village. The dramatist parties which were proposed to be organized would canalize the histrionic talents of the people. The Minister laid great stress on keeping up the officers' reading habits and educating themselves on the subject of Prohibition. One of their major problems would be, he said, to prevent the smuggling of illicit liquor.

Bombay Premier's Appeal

Broadcasting recently from Bombay the Premier of the Province made a stirring appeal to young men and women. He said:—

"Form yourselves into Gandhi Squad, into bands of selfless workers who will assist these leaders voluntarily to oppose the forces of disorder which want to usurp power for the benefit of a party, of a class, or of a section of the people—however attractive their label. Unite in order to oppose the mentality which was responsible for the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and all that he stood for. May Providence and the sacred memory of Mahatma Gandhi be your guide. Jai Hind."

"You are a new type of Government servants who are primarily social workers. Your status in your district will depend on the extent of services that you will be able to render to your people. I want you to think more in terms of your duties and responsibilities than in terms of your rights. You as Prohibition Officers are the chief co-ordinating and executive officers for all matters pertaining to Prohibition in your district. Success or failure of our scheme will to a great extent depend upon your knowledge and your enthusiasm for your work. Above all, what you need is sincerity and perfect honesty in your work."

Finally, Mr. Patil hoped that they would prove equal to the great task that had been entrusted to them.

Co-operative Farming

Accepting many of the important recommendations of Capt. S. P. Mohite's report on co-operative farming in Bombay Province, the Bombay Government has announced the policy of encouraging co-operative farming experiments in all districts. Provision

of finance, technical advice and assistance to joint and tenant farming societies, encouragement to subsidiary village industries, improvement of land, modern methods of cultivation, absorption of ex-servicemen in schemes of co-operative farming and similar facilities have also been announced by the Government.

The Mohite report makes the point that excessive concentration of cash crops like cotton, sugarcane and groundnut has lowered the former standards of crop rotation which in themselves require improvement. As a result of such concentration of cash crops, the system of rotation and alternate croppings, certain plant diseases and pests are making their appearance. The process of soil depletion has also started as one of the inevitable repercussions.

The report explores the possibilities of developing various types of co-operative farming against the background of these and other conditions and characteristics. It points out that the per acre yield in India is one-third of that of Egypt in respect of wheat, one-fourth of that of Italy in respect of rice and one-third of that of Germany in respect of maize. The causative factors of this situation are deterioration of soil, inadequate or irregular rainfall, unsatisfactory cropping, lack of good seed, poor livestock and equipment, fragmentation of land, lack of finance and lack of facilities of marketing as well as of initiative and enterprise of the Indian agriculturists. The report expresses the view that if all these causes were removed and conditions of production improved, it should be possible to improve per acre productivity up to the foreign standard; and it might even be possible to achieve a self-sufficiency in food production for the entire Province.

The report points out the advantages of large-scale farming which solve the many problems that individual owners and tenants are encountering in their effort to make agriculture yield an adequate living. It says that co-operative farming is one of the methods of reorganizing agriculture through large-scale farming and that various socio-economic benefits must accrue to such an organizational mode of cultivation.

Co-operative farming comprises a number of types of organization, e.g.,

Madras Information

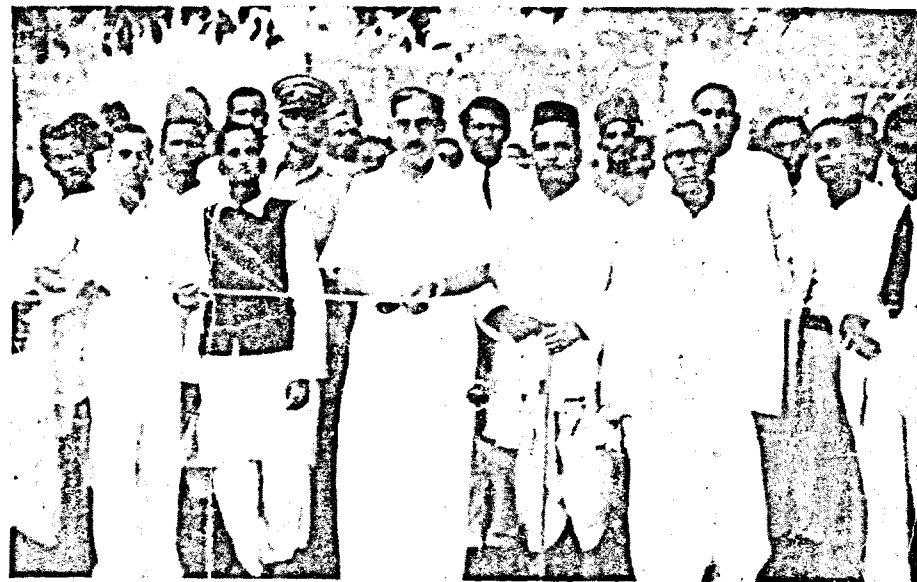
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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

April 1, 1948

Hon'ble Sri K. Madhava Menon,
Minister for Agriculture opened the
Agricultural Exhibition and
Cattle Show at Mahanandi,
Kurnool district, on
9th March 1948



Madras Government's Irrigation Policy

THE voting of demands for grants to various departments is a very important annual constitutional procedure which is also intended to be a safeguard against expenditure being incurred from public funds without the approval of the Legislature. It is the constitutional right of the Legislature to scrutinize and examine every demand for a grant in all its aspects before voting the amount required by the Executive and it is an occasion on which the Executive Government has to carry with it the vote of the people's representatives for the work and policy of individual departments. It is the sphere of the Government to execute policies and programmes approved by the Legislature and to carry on the administration in accordance with those policies; but it is the Legislature which votes the funds necessary for the implementation of the policies and for carrying on the administration.

Annual Stock-taking

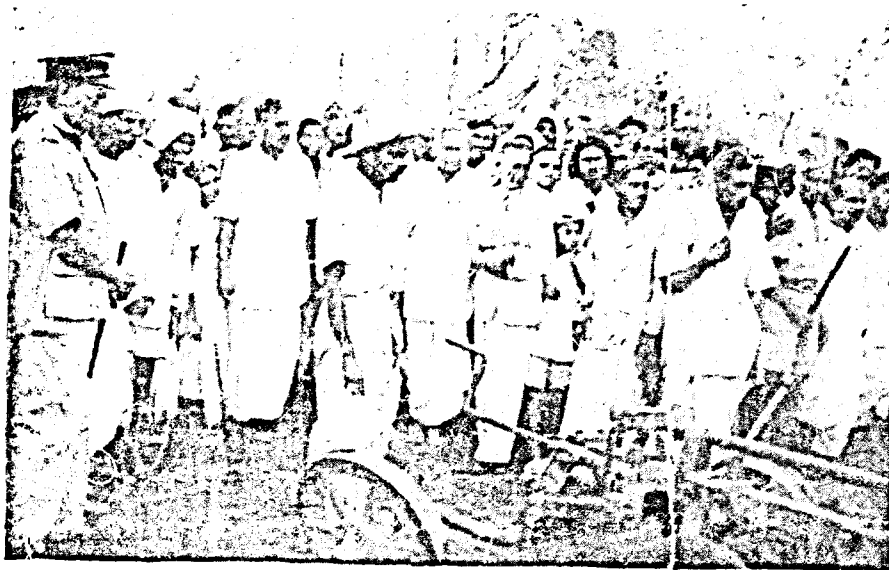
IT is, therefore, appropriate that the presentation of the annual Budget demands should have been taken the fullest advantage of by our Legislators to bring to the notice of the Government the diverse needs and grievances of the people with regard to the working of the different departments and to secure assurances from the Government about the execution of different schemes and programmes or at least to get indications as to what the Government propose to do. In other words, it is an occasion for an annual stock-taking, for exchange of views and for putting forward suggestions and ideas, and generally to ensure that the people's requirements are brought prominently before the Government. It is the time-honoured principle of "Redressal of Grievances before voting of Supplies" that is involved. Hon'ble Ministers are on the alert during this period to make a note of public grievances and demands and anxious to assure members of their readiness to redress them, subject, of course, to the essential considerations that the requirements can be met, that the schemes are feasible and that certain schemes are of relatively greater urgency than others and therefore have to be accorded a higher priority.

Some Vital Principles

DURING the debate on the demand for "Irrigation," for example, a number of suggestions were made by members representing different districts for the improvement of irrigation facilities in their areas and the Government were impressed with the need for

taking up for execution particular irrigation projects in which they or the areas they represent are interested in. In his reply the Hon'ble Sri M. Bakhavatsalam, Minister for Public Works, emphasized two or three fundamental considerations which constitute the basic principles of the Government's irrigation development policy. Considering that at the present moment, the imperative necessity is for augmenting our food resources, every irrigation scheme proposed will be examined from the standpoint of the extent to which it would contribute to the achievement of this all-important objective. At the same time the schemes taken up should also be such as would advance the general economic development of the country. The claims of the smaller and the bigger irrigation projects on the attention of the Government may be apparently irreconcilable and unadjustable; but actually, there is no inherent conflict and there is ample scope for both major and minor projects and Government are interested in the promotion of both according to the needs of the times. Major and bigger projects like Tungabhadra will necessarily take a long time for investigation and completion and while their benefits are likely to be vast, when they are completed, the practical utility of a big project in process of construction in the context of the immediate and present needs cannot be much. On the other hand to serve the immediate demands of the "Grow More Food" campaign and the insistent demands for water for

Hon'ble Sri K. Madhava Menon
is inspecting a tractor exhibited
in the Exhibition



The Hon'ble Sri K. Madhava Menon
is inspecting the cattle in the
Cattle Show



IN THIS ISSUE

Editorial.

Shape of Things.

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Departments' Corner

Light on Current Subjects

Special Articles

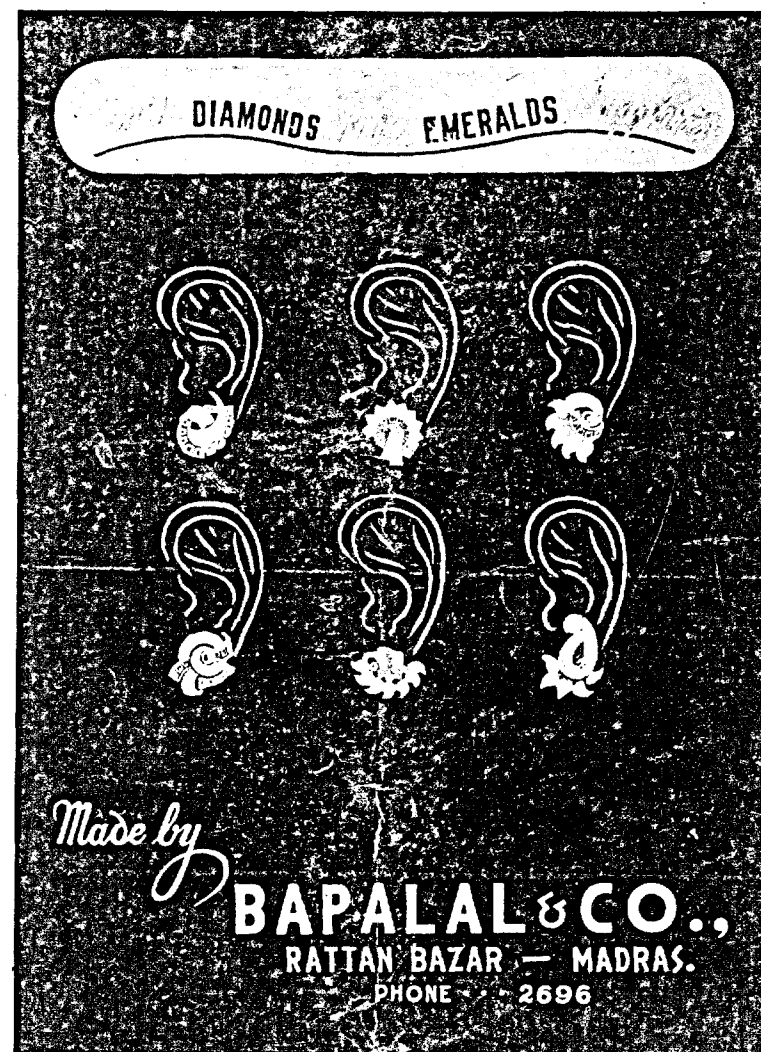
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NO. 6



irrigation purposes for the lands already under cultivation, the construction or repair of village tanks, irrigation channels and other minor irrigation works is calculated to be of greater significance and demands urgent attention.

Betterment Fee

THE Minister pointed out that the Government were fully alive to the need for improving important supply channels in the districts and that they were undertaking the clearance of those channels by the levy of a small fee. There is also the proposal to levy invariably, a betterment fee on lands that will be brought under cultivation on account of a new irrigation source, and this will be incorporated in the proposed comprehensive legislation relating to irrigation. The idea behind the levy of a betterment fee requires to be clearly understood. It is that the cultivators who directly benefit by the proposed improvement of an irrigation source should bear at least a part of the expenditure incurred from public funds on their repair work. The principle is—and it is a perfectly understandable principle—that when an individual or a section of the population are in a position to derive particular advantage from an item of expenditure of funds from the general revenues, they should be prepared to contribute a share of that expenditure themselves instead of its being charged wholly on the general tax-payer.

Question of Big Projects

THE question of the progress of work in connection with some major projects like Tungabhadra and Ramapadasagar has constantly recurred in recent months and criticisms are made that progress in connection with them is rather slow. The exact position in connection with these projects had been explained more than once on behalf of the Government in press communiques and statements on the floor of the House, but it bears reiteration. The Tungabhadra Project is proceeding according to programme, particularly after the recent agreement arrived at between the Chief Engineers of the Madras and Hyderabad Governments in regard to some technical points concerning the dam site and the materials to be used in the construction. The difficulty of getting labour in sufficient strength to carry on the construction work had proved an impediment at times but is being got over. It is expected that, as originally contemplated, the project would be completed by 1952, and when it is completed it will benefit important parts of Rayalaseema, particularly Bellary and Kurnool districts. It may incidentally be pointed out here that the Government are anxious to ensure the development

of Rayalaseema economically, educationally and industrially, and for that purpose they have been giving priority to various schemes intended to benefit that area, which had been neglected or which have been pending for long.

AS regards Ramapadasagar, Mr. Bakthavatsalam pointed out—it will be more appropriate to say that here-emphasized the point—that the scheme, which has been declared as “unquestionably feasible” by the Board of Consulting Engineers, is not being delayed because of the prolongation of investigation, which is actually nearing completion, but because understandings arrived at regarding submersion of lands with the neighbouring provinces and states have to be confirmed on the one hand and on the other there is the difficulty in procuring the necessary machinery and equipment from foreign countries. The latter handicap is a particularly hard one to overcome with all the anxiety that the Government may exhibit with regard to them and the allegation that the investigating engineering staff are lethargic about pushing through the investigation is unsustainable in the face of these considerations. The hugeness of the project and its wide ramifications make it necessary that there should be consultations with the Government of India, who may be willing to give a grant for the project in view of its national importance. When these preliminary hurdles are successfully negotiated it would be possible to proceed with its execution without any interruption. In the meantime the Government have asked for a token grant from the Legislature for the project, which should be taken as a tangible indication of their anxiety to push it through.

Thorough Investigation Essential

THE Minister also explained the position with regard to the Kistna-Pennar and Gandikota projects and the advantages which are likely to flow from them to some of the Rayalaseema and Nellore districts, when they are completed. Preliminary investigations in connection with these projects are proceeding.

On the whole, the Government's irrigation programme is a comprehensive one and brings within its embrace the whole province. It is but natural that there should be some delays in carrying through a whole list of items when the obstacles in the way of their being carried through, like dearth of adequate technical personnel and machinery are somewhat insuperable and have to be tided over, but as the Hon'ble Minister said, no project can be taken up without adequate and thorough investigation though when once a project is taken up there can be no question of stopping work thereon.

It is the fundamental law of Nature, without exception, that Nature produces enough for our wants from day to day; and if only everyone took enough for himself and nothing more, there would be no pauperism in this world, there would be no man dying of starvation.

—Mahatma Gandhi.

Shape of Things

“Jala Usha”

On the 14th March, India's Prime Minister performed at Vizagapatam the ceremony of launching the first Indian built ocean-going steamer. The event constitutes a landmark in the history of this country. Every student of history knows that this country has a glorious maritime past. At a time when the front-ranking maritime nations of the present day were far in the background, India's ships ploughed the waves of the distant seas. Her extensive commercial intercourse with countries both in the east and the west in ancient times is a commonplace of history. But in modern times, her ship-building industry has languished. The revival of this industry and the restoration of India to her pristine maritime glory is one of the major responsibilities of the Government of Free India. It is gratifying that this fact has been recognized and the first move in this direction is the launching of *Jala Usha* by India's Prime Minister. The Prime Minister in the course of his address stressed the preparedness of the Government of India to do everything that lay in their power to foster the ship-building industry in this country, because on the advancement of that industry depends to a large extent the capacity of India to defend her long coastline. He also mentioned the possibility of Vizagapatam being developed into a major port of national importance.

The visit of India's Prime Minister is also significant in that it is his first visit to this province after the country has attained freedom. The Prime Minister had a crowded programme. He spoke on many subjects in his own unambiguous and inimitable way.

Questions and Answers

Following our invitation to readers for questions to be answered through the columns of the *Madras Information* we are glad to have received certain questions from among our readers. The very fact that questions are being received is a healthy sign, in that it shows the intelligent interest the public are taking in Governmental

activities. It is an important fact which bears repetition that the success of a democratic state depends upon the intelligent interest and co-operation of the people in the work of the Government. In a democracy, the State is not something apart or different from the people and the healthy existence of the State depends upon the healthy co-operation of the people.

One of the questions received relates to what our correspondent calls “Irrigation Advisory Committees.” It may be recalled that originally Government directed that Executive Engineers of all divisions should hold conferences with the leading ryots annually or more frequently if necessary in each taluk in the deltaic tracts, and in each Revenue division of the non-deltaic areas in order to ensure close touch between the P.W.D. authorities and the ryots. A year ago, the position created by this arrangement was reviewed and Government replaced these conferences by half-yearly district irrigation conferences. These are attended by Revenue officers as well as officers of other nation-building departments. The conferences are intended to be a forum for ryots to ventilate their difficulties and get redress. Representative ryots selected in consultation with M.L.A.'s and M.L.C.'s as well as departmental officers also attend the conference. The Government are watching the work of these conferences with interest.

Another question relates to the new well subsidy scheme. A sum of Rs. 1.50 crores has been provided in 1947-48 for the grant of subsidies under the new well subsidy scheme. The estimated requirements of the Collectors of different districts work out to 35,700 wells besides the repair of 170 old tanks and the construction of 220 new tanks in the districts of South Kanara and Malabar. The Government have not sanctioned any scheme for subsidizing tube well irrigation by agriculturists. While examining the Government of India's offer, it was considered that irrigation by bore wells on a large scale like those of the Punjab or the Gangetic plains was not possible in this province but irrigation of small areas by a large number of bore wells each not yielding

more than 50 gallons per minute was feasible along the coastal alluvial areas or along river banks.

Pudukotta

The Pudukkottai State, with an area of 1,179 square miles is bounded on the north and the west by the Trichinopoly district, on the south by the Ramnad and on the east by Tanjore district. The population is 438,348. The State resembles in its physical features the up-land parts of the east coast of the Madras Presidency and consist for the most part of a plain of somewhat sparsely cultivated dry land interspersed with a large number of rain-fed tanks and traversed by a few jungle streams. The state, before the lapse of paramountcy was under direct relations with the Government of India through the Resident for the Madras States with his headquarters at Trivandrum. His Highness Sri Brihadamba Das Raja. Rajagopala Tondaiman Bahadur, ninth in succession to Raghunatha Tondaiman, founder of the Ruling House, is the ruler of the State and is entitled to a salute of eleven guns.

The various departments of the State are constituted on the British Indian model. The main occupation of the people is agriculture; the principal foodcrops are ragi and rice and pulses are largely grown. The State is well provided with roads. The main line of the South Indian Railway from Madras to Dhanushkodi, which forms the shortest route to Ceylon passes through the State.

In early times, a part of the State belonged to the Chola Kings while the southern part was under the Pandya Kings of Madura. There are evidences of pre-historic settlements all over the State and some villages are mentioned in Tamil works of the early centuries of the Christian era. The State is rich in inscriptions, temples and art treasures belonging to all the dynasties that ruled over the territory, from 7th Century A.D.

It was during the Carnatic Wars that the relations of the State with the British began, when during the siege of Trichinopoly by the French in 1752, the Tondaiman of the time rendered valuable service to the Company's cause. He was also of much service in the wars with Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan as a reward for which a grant of territory subject to the condition that it should not be alienated was made in 1806.

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Diet Surveys

The Government have directed that diet surveys be carried out in Dendulur Firka in the West Godavari district and in Avanashi Centre in the Coimbatore district by the Nutrition Officer, Food Department, Government of Madras, and a report submitted to the Government. [March 2]

Reconstituted Milk Powder

The Government of Madras have directed that the scheme for the distribution of reconstituted milk to school children in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Salem, Ramnad, Vizagapatam, Malabar, Tinnevely and Coimbatore be unofficially continued beyond the period of four months from the date of its revival, sanctioned in their order, dated 15th July 1947, until the stock of milk powder left over at the distribution centres in these districts is exhausted and that the services of Mr. P. T. Thomas, Member of the Friend's Service Unit, be continued up to 31st March 1948 for supervising the working of the scheme.

The Government have also authorized the sanction of free supply of milk powder, out of the surplus stocks available in certain districts, to deserving institutions in those districts or the adjoining districts and also the sale of milk powder to the public simultaneously with the operation of the reconstituted milk distribution scheme and without detriment to it, wherever it is being continued. With a view to quicken the disposal of stocks of milk powder in certain centres like Harpanahalli in the Bellary district, the Government have directed the Board of Revenue to divert the excess stocks to some other areas in the same district or adjoining districts. The Government have also directed that adequate measures should be taken to ensure that the spoilt milk powder stocks should be withdrawn from issue to school children and sold only for purposes other than human consumption. [March 2]

Teaching Grants to Aided Secondary Schools

In their order, dated 10th May 1947, the Government have asked the management of aided secondary schools to

adopt for teachers in their service at least the revised scales of pay, fixed for teachers in secondary schools under local bodies. In order to enable them to meet the additional cost involved in the adoption of revised scales, the basis of the assessment of teaching grant was raised from one half to two-thirds of the approved net cost of maintenance of these schools with effect from 1st June 1947.

The Government desire to make it clear, in this connexion, that it is open to managements of aided secondary schools to adopt for their teachers the revised scales of pay fixed for teachers in Government service, if they could afford to do so, and in such cases the expenditure incurred by the management on payment of salaries in these cases will be treated as an approved item of expenditure, and will make them eligible, with effect from 1st June 1947, for teaching grant on the basis of two-thirds of the approved net cost.

The Government have decided not to insist on managements of aided secondary schools granting advance increments to the teachers, to give weightage for their service up to 31st December 1946 and refix their pay in the revised scales, but it is open to managements to give such weightage, if they can afford to do so; and in cases, where the managements have allowed advance increments in the revised scales of pay adopted by them, according to the principles laid down by Government for the grant of weightage in the scales of pay fixed for teachers in Government secondary schools or in the secondary schools under local bodies, as the case may be, the expenditure incurred by them on payment of salaries, as refixed, will be taken into account for purposes of assessment of teaching grant from the date from which the revised scales have actually been adopted and pay has been fixed in those scales, giving weightage for service. [March 2]

Coir Advisory Board

The Government have constituted a Coir Advisory Board, to advise them on the development of coir industry in the province of Madras. The Board consists of ten non-official members,

besides the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras, and the Superintendent, Government Coir School, Bepore, who will, respectively, be the Chairman and Secretary of the Board. [March 2]

Deposit of Firearms

Under the existing rules, arms, ammunition and military stores, which are deposited under section 16 (1) of the Indian Arms Act and are not returned or disposed of under section 16 (2) of the Act, should be forfeited to Government, after a period of three years from the date of their deposit. In view of the reported shortage of arms and ammunition in the market, Government have ordered that the period of deposit should be reduced from three years to one year.

Fire-arms and ammunition, which have been in deposit for one year and which have not been otherwise disposed of, would be confiscated, after due intimation to the owners, and made available to reliable licensees and disposed of in accordance with Government Order, dated 23rd December 1947. [March 5]

Advisory Committees for Aided Colleges

The Government have advised the managements of aided colleges to constitute for each college an Advisory Committee with the Principal of the college as its convenor, one representative from the staff, two representatives from parents, two representatives to be nominated by the management out of its donors and helpers and three persons to be nominated by the Government.

The duties of the Committee will be to advise the management on the following subjects:—Framing of rules for admission of students, consistent with the rules laid down by Government in this regard, opening of new groups of subjects or abolition of old ones, provision of hostel facilities, provision of extra-curricular activities in the college and other matters connected with the management and running of the institution. [March 5]

Reconstitution of Transport Authorities

In view of the fact that there are two District Superintendents of Police in the districts of Madura and Vizagapatam, the Central Road Traffic Board has proposed that the constitution of the Regional Transport Authorities in such districts should be revised, so as to provide for both the District Superintendents of Police to be members of the Regional Transport Authority concerned. In compliance with this request, the Government have ordered that in districts, where there are two District Superintendents of Police, both of them should be made full voting members of the Regional Transport Authority. [March 5]

National Flag Code

As the Government consider that it is necessary to develop uniform traditions regarding the display and use of the Indian National Flag, they have drawn up the following code for adoption in all educational institutions. The Government have directed the Director of Public Instruction to issue circular to all heads of educational institutions instructing them to adopt the code and also to have flag salutations conducted in their institutions periodically.

Traditions and Code for the use of the National Flag in Schools

1. The flag should be displayed only from sunrise to sunset. It should be displayed on national holidays specified by Government and on historic and special occasions. The flag should always be hoisted briskly and lowered slowly and ceremoniously.

2. When carried in a procession with another flag or flags, the Flag of the Indian Dominion (hereafter called the National Flag) should be either on the marching right, that is, the flag must be on the right side of the person or persons who are marching in the procession, or, when there is a line of other flags, the National Flag should be in front of the centre of that line.

3. When displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs, the National Flag should be on the right, i.e., the flag must be on the right side with reference to the direction which the flag is facing and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.

4. When a number of flags are grouped and displayed from staffs, the National Flag should be at the centre or at the highest point of the group.

5. When flags of other States or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard, the National Flag should always be at the peak. When flown from adjacent staffs, the National Flag should be hoisted first and lowered last. No flag or pennant should be placed above or to the right of the National Flag.

6. When the flag is displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from the window sill, balcony or front of building, the orange side should be at the top.

7. When the flag is displayed in a manner other than by being flown from a staff, it should be displayed flat, whether indoors or out. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the orange colour should be uppermost. When festoons, rosette or drapings of green, white and orange are desired, coloured cloth should be used, but never the flag.

8. When displayed over the middle of the street, as between buildings, the flag should be suspended vertically with the saffron to the North, in an East and West Street, or to the East in a North and South street.

9. On a speaker's platform, the flag if used flat, should be placed above and behind the speaker. It should never be used to cover the speaker's desk, nor to drape over the front of the platform. If flown from a staff, it should be on the speaker's right.

10. When used in connexion with the unveiling of a statue or monument, the flag should form a distinctive feature during the ceremony, but the flag itself should never be used as a covering for the statue. Bunting may be used for this purpose.

11. When flown at half-staff, the flag is hoisted to the peak for an instant, then lowered to the half-staff position, but before lowering the flag for the day, it is raised again to the peak. By half-staff is meant hauling down the flag to one-half the distance between the top and the gay line and in absence of the gay line half of the staff.

On Memorial Days, the flag is displayed at half-staff from sunrise until noon and at full staff from noon until sunset; for the nation lives and the flag is the symbol of the living Nation; This may be adopted only if a Memorial Day is instituted.

12. Flags flown from fixed staffs are placed at half-staff to indicate mourning. When the flag is displayed on a small staff, as when carried in parade, mourning is indicated by attaching two streamers of black crepe to the spear head, allowing the streamers to fall naturally. Crepe is used on the flag staff only by order of Government.

13. When the flag is displayed inside of a place of worship, it should be from a staff placed on the congregation's right as they face the priest or leader of the congregation. The service flag, or other flag should be at the left of the congregation. If the flag is displayed in the chancel or on the platform, the National Flag should be placed on the priest's right as he faces the congregation and the other flags on his left.

14. When the flag is in such a condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should not be cast aside or used in any way that might be viewed as disrespectful to the National Colours, but should be destroyed as a whole, privately, preferably by burning or by some other method in harmony with the reverence and respect we owe to the emblem representing our Country.

15. *Salute to the flag.*—When the flag is passing in parade or in a review, all persons present should face the flag, stand at attention and salute. Those present in uniform should render the right-hand salute. The salute to the flag in the moving column is rendered at the moment the flag passes.

16. *When giving the pledge to the flag.*—In pledging allegiance to the National Flag, the practice to be adopted in schools is as follows:—

Standing with folded hands all repeat together the following pledge:—

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the Indian Dominion and to the Indian State for which it stands—One Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

17. *Directions for hoisting the flag.*—(1) The school will assemble in open square formation with the pupils forming the three sides and the flag staff at the centre of the fourth side. The Headmaster, the pupil leader and the person unfurling the flag (if other than the Headmaster) will stand three paces behind the flag staff.

(2) The pupils will fall in according to classes and in squads of ten (or other number according to strength). These squads will be arranged one behind the other. The pupil leader

of the class will stand to the right of the first row of his class and the form master will stand three paces behind the last row of his class, towards the middle. The classes will be arranged along the square in the order of seniority with the seniormost class at the right end.

(3) The distance between each row should be at least one space (30 inches); and the space between Form and Form should be the same.

(4) When each Form or Class is ready, the Class Leader will step forward and salute the selected school pupil leader. As soon as all the Forms are ready, the school pupil leader will step up to the Headmaster and salute him. The Headmaster will return the salute. Then, the flag will be unfurled. The school pupil leader may assist.

The school pupil leader in charge of the parade (or Assembly) will call the parade to attention, just before the unfurling, and he will call them to the salute when the Flag flies out. The parade will keep at the salute for a brief interval, and then on the command "order," the parade will come to the attention position.

(5) The Flag Salutation will be followed by the National Song (Jana Gana Mana). The parade will be kept at the attention during this part of the function.

(6) On all occasions when the pledge is taken, the pledge will follow the national song. When taking the pledge, the Assembly will stand to attention and the Headmaster will administer the pledge slowly and ceremoniously and the Assembly will repeat it after him.

Cautions

1. Do not permit disrespect to be shown to the National Flag.

2. Do not dip the National Flag to any person or anything. The regimental colour, State flag, organization flag, or institutional flag will render this honour.

3. Do not display the National Flag with the orange down.

4. Do not place any other flag or pennant above or to the right of the National Flag.

5. Do not let the flag touch the ground or the floor or trail in the water.

6. Do not place any object or emblem of any kind on or above the National Flag.

7. Do not use the flag as drapery in any form whatever.

8. Do not fasten the flag in such a manner as will permit it to be easily torn.

9. Do not drape the flag over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle, or of a rail-road train or boat. When the flag is displayed on a motor car, the staff should be affixed firmly to the chassis, or clamped to the radiator cap.

10. Do not use the flag as a covering for a ceiling.

11. Do not carry the flag flat or horizontally, but always as in a parade, aloft and free.

12. Do not use the flag as a portion of a costume or of an athletic uniform. Do not embroider it upon cushions or handkerchiefs nor print it on paper napkins or boxes.

13. Do not put lettering of any kind upon the flag.

14. Do not use the flag in any form of advertising nor fasten an advertising sign to the pole from which the flag is flying.

15. Do not display, use, or store the flag in such a manner as will permit it to be easily soiled or damaged.

Note.—The instructions should be followed by Colleges also *mutatis mutandis*.

[March 5]

Amendments to the Madras General Sales Tax Rules, 1939

Government have notified the following draft amendments to the Madras General Sales Tax Rules, 1939. In rule 6 in the proviso to sub-rule (3), in clause (a), the words "wholly with Handspun Yarn" shall be added at the end. In sub-rule (4), for clause (a), the following clause shall be substituted: "(a) The fees for the grant or renewal of a licence shall, subject to a maximum of Rs. 1,000 be as follows:—

Rupees seventy-five for dealing in cotton and/or cotton yarn other than handspun yarn and/or handspun yarn, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above, but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum, and Rs. 150 if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum; Rs. 25 for dealing in cloth woven on handlooms wholly or partly with mill yarn, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum, and Rs. 50 if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum; Rs. 75 for

dealing in bullion and/or specie, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum and Rs. 150, if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum and Rs. 100 for every additional turnover of Rs. 1,00,000 or a fraction thereof; Rs. 25 for dealing in hides and/or skins whether as a tanner or otherwise, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum, and Rs. 50 if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum; Rs. 100 for dealing as specified in section 8, if the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 per annum, and Rs. 200 if the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000 per annum.

In clause (b), the words "or for dealing in cloth woven on handlooms wholly or partly with mill yarn" shall be omitted.

[March 6]

Zamindari Abolition

The Madras Estates (Repeal of the Permanent Settlement and Conversion into Ryotwari) Bill, 1947, now under examination by the Joint Select Committee of the Legislature, purports to abolish the zamindari system obtaining in estates in this Province. The proviso to clause 21 (2) of this Bill lays down that on payment by a ryot, whether before or after the notified date, of all arrears of rent due for the two complete faslis immediately preceding the notified date, the arrears of rent due from him in respect of any prior fasli shall be deemed to have been discharged. The Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, purports to reduce the rents prevailing in estates to the level of the assessments levied on lands in ryotwari areas in the neighbourhood.

It has been brought to the notice of the Government that with reference to the provisions of the Bill and the Act referred to above, the ryots in estates have been withholding payment of rent to their landholders and that they are being encouraged to believe that it will be to their advantage to stop paying rents. The landholders have in turn represented to the Government that as the ryots have abstained from paying their rents they (the landholders) are unable to pay their peshkash and cesses to the Government.

The Government have reconsidered the provisions of the proviso to clause

21 (2) of the Madras Estates (Repeal of the Permanent Settlement and Conversion into Ryotwari) Bill, 1947. They propose to modify the proviso to the effect that all arrears of rent legally due will be reduced to the ryotwari level and that they will be collected by the Government on application by the landholders and paid to the landholders after making a percentage deduction towards the cost of collection. There will thus be no question of all arrears of rent being wiped off as provided in the Bill.

The Government have also examined the question as to what steps they and the landholders may take in order to facilitate the payment of rents by ryots and the collection thereof by the landholders. They have discussed the question with certain big landholders and the representatives of the landholders' associations. A conference was held at 10 a.m. at the residence of the Hon'ble Premier with the Hon'ble Minister for Land Revenue on 28th February 1948 at which the Raja of Bobbili, the Raja of Venkatagiri, the Zamindar of Mirzapuram, the Zamindar of Seithur, representing the Southern Districts Landholders' Association and the Secretary of the Madras Landholders' Association were present. The landholders agreed to the following:—

(i) As regards cash rents, the landholders who are unable to collect rent will make an announcement that the ryots need pay only 75 per cent of the rents due for fasli 1357 and that, if the amounts so paid by the ryots for fasli 1357 are found to be in excess of the rents arrived at under the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, the amounts which are found to be in excess will be adjusted towards the rents due for subsequent faslis.

(ii) As regards grain rents, (a) in respect of lands which are tank-fed, the ryots should pay one-third varam in cases where the existing rent is half varam and one-fourth varam in cases where the existing rent is one-third varam;

(b) in cases where water is baled out or any extra effort is involved in obtaining water for irrigation of the lands, the ryots will pay one-fourth or one-sixth of the produce according as the existing varam is one-half or one-third.

These rates will apply to the crops harvested in fasli 1357 and to both first and second crops.

(c) The concessions relating to Government have been informed the payment of grain rents referred to that at a public meeting held at

above are subject to the following conditions:—

(1) The ryot should be given a receipt specifying the amount and the fraction of the varam given.

(2) The varam paid should not be credited to the arrears of rent due for fasli prior to 1357.

(3) If the amount of varam paid by the ryots for fasli 1357 is found to be in excess of the rents arrived at under the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, the amount which is found to be in excess will be adjusted towards the rents due for subsequent faslis and if the amount is found to be less than the rent arrived at under that Act, the amount of deficit will be recoverable from the ryots.

(4) If there is a total failure of crop, no varam rent need be paid.

(d) In no case should any cess other than cesses due to the Government should be levied by the landholder from the ryots.

The Government desire to draw the attention of the ryots to the fact that till the reduced rents under the Rent Reduction Act are actually fixed and notified, they are legally bound to pay the existing rates of rent. But in the circumstances now prevailing in many estates, they are satisfied that the terms set forth (in paragraph 5 above) are satisfactory and equitable to both parties. They would accordingly impress upon ryots that they should pay rents for fasli 1357 immediately in accordance with those terms. They also trust that these arrangements will ease the tension between landholder and tenant which now prevails in some estates.

[March 8]

Explosive Substances and Dangerous Chemicals

In view of the increased use of bombs and explosives in the recent communal disturbances in the country, the Government have imposed stringent control over the possession, sale, transport, etc., of sulphur, potassium chlorate, gunpowder and blasting explosives, and have laid down detailed instructions in this connection.

[March 10]

Tungabhadra and Ramapadasagar Projects

Government have been informed that at a public meeting held at

Polavaram on February 16, 1948, a resolution requesting the Government to proceed with the construction of the Ramapadasagar Project "without any slackness or delay" was adopted. It has been reported that at the same meeting a committee was formed to "carry on the necessary agitation for the immediate construction of the Ramapadasagar Project." Some criticisms have also appeared in the press regarding the progress of work on the Tungabhadra Project. With reference to these reports and criticisms, the Government desire to place before the public the following information, which gives the actual state of affairs in respect of the execution of the two projects referred to.

Tungabhadra Project

Surveys in regard to marking out the dam site, demarcation of the water-spread area and clearing sites at the headworks have been carried out so far. The road to the dam site and other roads in the camp area have been completed. More than 75 per cent of the tramway line for transport facilities has been laid at the site. Construction of some of the buildings, embankment work and the formation of railway sidings have been taken over by the Public Works Department, as the Railway could not complete the work in time. Nearly 80 to 90 per cent of the buildings for the staff and coolies have been completed. Water-supply and drainage works are expected to be completed within a period of four months. The delay in executing these items of work has been due to the dock strike and riots in Calcutta, where the contractor firms have their headquarters. Further, there were transport difficulties also.

The work of selecting quarries and collecting materials for the project could not proceed briskly, due to the considerable delay in obtaining possession of island quarries from Hyderabad. In spite of this handicap, the Public Works Department has collected a month's requirements of stone. A good deal of difficulty is being experienced in getting the required machinery from abroad. The machinery for which the Chief Engineer placed orders personally in England and America in January 1946 has not yet been received.

Half the work connected with the excavation of the dam foundations at the flanks and all along the Madras reach of the dam has been completed. Full excavation work is expected to be completed in all respects by October

1948. The masonry work, which was programmed to begin in the third year, will now start earlier, i.e., in March 1948.

Alignment of the main canal has been done up to 176 miles, except for short reaches. The construction of quarters for the canal staff has been completed. One of the heavy cuttings is nearly complete by engaging manual labour, which has been most difficult to procure, in spite of the offer of bonus and other concessions. For intensive recruitment of labour, a Special Deputy Collector has been appointed by the Government. Notwithstanding these difficulties, excavation is in progress in a total length of 35 miles of canals with manual labour. Indents for excavating machinery have been placed with firms in America and the machinery is expected to reach Madras by about the end of 1948 and it is only in 1949 that satisfactory progress can be expected.

Nearly 35 cross masonry works and 45 bridges are nearing completion. About 25 per cent of the wells, required for the foundation of the Hagari Aqueduct, an important work on the canal, have been sunk. All masonry works on the main canal are expected to be completed before 1952.

As per the original programme of work on the project, the expenditure in the first two years was estimated at Rs. 98 lakhs. But machinery debits apart, the expenditure up to the end of March 1948 is expected to be Rs. 160 lakhs.

Ramapadasagar Project

As regards Ramapadasagar, the proposed dam has unique features and problems not hitherto solved. The investigation is, however, nearing completion and the consulting Engineers have come to the conclusion that the dam is "unquestionably feasible". A few confirmatory tests and parallel experiments remain to be done and these are expected to be completed mostly this summer. Pumping tests, which were to be carried out by Messrs. Braithwaite & Co., Calcutta, last season, had to be postponed to this year, due to difficulties in the transport of machinery on account of the dock strike in Calcutta. These tests are being taken up now.

The investigation of the left canal is complete and that of the right canal is to be taken up. With the data available the estimates for the project have been prepared. The sanctioned estimate for investigation

is Rs. 38 lakhs, while the expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 25 lakhs and further debits for imported machinery are awaited. The financial aspect of the scheme has been taken up with the Government of India. The sanction of the scheme awaits confirmation of agreements with Hyderabad and conclusion of agreements with Baster and Orissa in the matter of acquisition of submerged areas in their territories.

[March 10]

Corruption among public servants

During the month of October 1947, corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 229 persons including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the previous month. Of these 229, 11 were let off as the charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 203 were pending at the end of the month. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of the remaining 15 persons and they were suitably punished. Particulars relating to the persons who were punished and the nature of the punishment awarded are given below:—

Education Department—One person.

Sri B. Butchanna Sarma, Physical Training Instructor, Government Training School, Rajahmundry—Censured.

Food Department—Two persons.

(1) B. Gopala Singh, Chowkidar, Rationing Office, Narasaraopet—Removed from service.

(2) One Chowkidar in Tanjore district—Removed from service.

Police Department—Eleven persons:

(1) Ramaswamy, Police Constable, Chingleput district—Dismissed.

(2) Vedapuri, officiating Head Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(3) Radakrishnan, Officiating Head Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(4) Devadoss, officiating Head Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(5) Venkatesan, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(6) Arulappan, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(7) Lakshmanaperumal, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(8) Govindaswami, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(9) Arumugam, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(10) Govinda Pillai, Police Constable, North Arcot district—Dismissed.

(11) Mr. M. Joseph, Sub-Inspector, Salem district—Dismissed.

Public Works Department—One person.

N. V. K. Someswara Rao, Towpath Gumastha belonging to work-charged establishment—Bezawada Circle—Dismissed.

[March 11]

Cattle Feeds

With a view to establish free trade in cattle feeds, the Government have decontrolled the price and movement of all cattle feeds, except groundnut cake, and have issued the following orders in this connection:—

The Government have rescinded the Madras Foodgrains (Movement Control) Order, 1947, and the Madras Foodgrains Control Order, 1947, in so far as they relate to the products of foodgrains, which are used as cattle feeds, viz., rice bran, wheat bran, bran and husk of millets and maize. The order, prohibiting the transport of foodgrains or their products within the province of Madras, issued by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, on the 28th August 1945, as subsequently amended, has also been rescinded, in so far as it relates to the products of foodgrains, which are used as cattle feeds, namely, rice bran, wheat bran, bran and husk of millets and maize.

The Government of Madras have also cancelled the Food Department notification, dated 10th December 1946, authorizing the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, in respect of the whole of the Province of Madras, and all District Collectors within their respective districts, to exercise the powers conferred on the Provincial Government by sections 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the Madras Essential Articles Control and Regulation (Temporary) Powers Act, 1946 (Madras Act XIV of 1946).

[March 11]

Refugees

Out of 1,748 refugees, who have arrived in the City from the Pakistan area up to March 7, 1948, 388 have left the camps in search of employment and appointments. Out of 1,360 refugees, 1,086 are accommodated in the Avadi camp, 100 in the Holiday Home, Saidapet, and 174 in the Lutteral Gardens, Kilpauk.

[March 12]

Departments' Corner

Labour Department

Labour Situation

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of the American Arcot Mission Industrial Institute, Katpadi, North Arcot District to the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, for adjudication.

All the textile mills in the Coimbatore district except the Gnanambika Mills, Limited, still remain closed. The Government have issued a Press Communique informing the workers that the Award of the Industrial Tribunal for the Textile Industry may have to be allowed to lapse after the period of one year ending March 1948 if the textile workers fail to give effect to the interim recommendations of the Standardization Committee appointed with reference to that award.

On 10th February 1948 the workers of the Argus Engineering Industries, Limited, Peelamedu, Coimbatore, struck work and on this the management declared a lockout. The Labour Officer, Coimbatore, intervened and brought about a settlement of the dispute and the factory was reopened on 23rd February 1948 and the workers have resumed work.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Coimbatore Cement Works, Madukarai, Coimbatore district.

The management of Sree Suryanarayana Spinning and Weaving Mills, Pandalapaka, have reported that their mills have resumed work from 17th February 1948.

The management of Messrs. K. M. S. Sadak Thamby & Co., Ltd., Hides and Skin Merchants, Rajahmundry, have reported that their workers struck work on 18th February 1948. The report of the Labour Officer, Vizagapatam, is awaited.

The Government have referred the dispute between the workers and the management of the Deccan Sugar and Abkari Company, Limited, Samalkot, to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication.

The management of Sri Krishna Jute Mills, Limited, Ellore, have reported that they have closed their

mills from 23rd February 1948 for want of raw materials. The Commissioner of Labour has requested the Regional Controller of Railway Priorities, Adams Park, Madras, to expedite the supply of wagons to the management of the Mills, to avoid labour unrest.

The management of Messrs. Tiffins Barytes Asbestos & Paints, Ltd., Cuddapah, have intimated that the workers in their factory struck work on 23rd February 1948, afternoon. The Labour Officer, Anantapur, has been asked to settle the dispute. His report is awaited.

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal in the dispute between the workers and the management of Handloom Factories in Calicut.

About 30 workers out of 54 in Kannambra Rubber Estate, Kannambra, struck work on 13th February 1948 demanding the abolition of the contract system, bonus and 3 months leave, etc. The Labour Officer, Calicut, has been asked to bring about a settlement of the dispute.

[Second fortnight of February 1948]

Food Department

Popularisation of maize.—A conference was held recently in the Office of the Commissioner of Civil Supplies in order to discuss further measures to popularise maize. Maize is still an unfamiliar food. Grain and its consumption has to be encouraged.

It was decided to concentrate efforts on districts of Ramnad, Tinnevely and Malabar in the first instance.

Propaganda consists of (a) Publicity and (b) Lectures and demonstrations.

Regarding publicity it has been decided to make full use of the Press and the Radio. There will be daily advertisements in the leading Tamil and Malayalam Newspapers, stressing the nutritional value of maize and publishing one or more of the 21 Recipes prepared by the Publicity Organization attached to the Food Department in 1946. Similar advertisements will be inserted bi-weekly in the leading English newspapers also during the first month and thereafter on every Sunday for two months. Rural cinemas will also be made use of.

It has been decided to take over 4 propaganda vans from the Health Department and allot them to the three districts.

The propaganda vans will be utilized for intensive propaganda in the rural areas of the three districts. Lectures and demonstrations will be given as far as possible in the vicinity of Relief Shops and maize preparations will be made available to the ration card holders who make use of the Relief shops.

It was further decided to distribute the available stocks of separated milk powder for the benefit of children and expectant mothers in the three districts and to arrange for further imports after obtaining the necessary financial sanction.

The present scheme of propaganda and popularisation of maize is expected to be in operation for three months.

Public Works Department

Road Development.

1. The mileage of roads in the Province under each class according to classification which existing before 1st April 1946 is as below:—

	MILES.
(i) Trunk roads ..	3,006
(ii) Important marketing roads ..	6,561
(iii) Second-class roads ..	6,191
(iv) Other roads ..	20,911
Total ..	36,669

This mileage includes 21,400 miles of surface macadam roads which is nearly one-third of the total of such roads in British India and is more than that in any other Province.

2. Till before the war, only 1,400 miles of roads were maintained by the Provincial Public Works Department. These consisted of ghat roads, roads in Agency areas, canal bank road, etc. All other roads in this Presidency were maintained by local boards and municipalities.

3. With effect from 1st April 1946, the Government took over all important roads for maintenance and development and constituted the Highways Department with the Engineers then in charge of road works. The Government are now in charge of about 14,000 miles of important roads and the district boards are left with 22,000 miles of roads of local importance.

4. In collaboration with the Central Government, a programme of improvement of road communications in this Province in order to meet the needs of trade and commerce and to bring villages within easy reach of important highways, was drawn up on the basis of Mr. Vipan's scheme of road development for the province drawn up in 1935 and subsequent developments like the approved programme of village communications for individual districts. The comprehensive programme was estimated to cost about Rs. 75 crores, to be spread over 15 years divided into 4 phases, the first of two years, the second of three years, and the last two of five years each. The more urgent works were included in the first five-year programme which was estimated to cost Rs. 27.77 crores.

5. In the past the road system of this Province developed without a co-ordinated plan and the post-war road plan aims at rectifying this defect. In the scheme of Post-war Road Development, roads have been divided into four classes, namely (1) National Highways, (2) Provincial Highways, (3) District Roads, major and other and (4) village roads. National Highways consist of strategic roads and the main highways running through the length and breadth of India connecting ports, foreign Highways, capitals of Provinces and States. Provincial Highways are all other main, trunk or arterial roads of the Province. District roads are roads traversing each district serving areas of production and market and connecting these with each other or with Highways and railways. Village roads are roads giving access for villages to the nearest district road, highway, railway, or canal depot and connecting neighbouring villages. National Highways form the frame work on which the entire road communication system of the country is to be based. Provincial Highways and the district roads form the subsidiary frames in respect of the road systems of the Province and the District respectively. In planning the village roads, the target aimed at was to keep every village within two miles of a district road or a Highway in thickly populated areas and within five miles in thinly populated areas. Also every village with a population of over 500 was to be provided with an access road.

6. The project estimates already drawn up anticipate the needs of the Province for the next 20 years and contemplate the upgrading and improvement of existing roads, the construction of about 20,000 miles of

new roads and also the construction of about 22 major bridges each costing over 4 lakhs, 250 bridges costing 1 to 4 lakhs each and 750 bridges costing over 10,000 each besides a number of small culverts and minor bridges at a total cost of about Rs. 8 crores in addition to cement concreting of about 2,150 miles of roads.

7. *National Highways.*—The Government of India have proposed to assume responsibility for the maintenance and development of National Highways (the total mileage of which in this Province is 2,039) subject to the ratification of the scheme. The total cost of the works on National Highways in the Province was expected to come to about 77.1 crores of which 6.7 crores was to be incurred during the first five years. The Government of India have, however, stated that the allotment for expenditure on original works on National Highways in this Province for the first five years from 1st April 1947 will be about Rs. 2.5 crores. The Chief Engineer (Highways) has accordingly submitted a revised five-year programme of works for National Highways costing Rs. 2.5 crores of which 1.5 crores will be for bridges and Rs. 1 crore for road works including Land Acquisition and it has been submitted to the Government of India for their approval.

8. *Roads other than National Highways.*—The original 15-year programme for works on these roads was estimated to cost Rs. 67.52 crores of which 21.06 crores was to be incurred in the first five years. With special reference to considerations of financial economy, the practicability of executing such a huge road programme with the existing resources in men, money and materials was re-examined. In November 1946 the Government decided that the 15-year programme should be reduced to one of 30 crores and the five-year programme to one of Rs. 9.55 crores (including Rs. 1.75 crores for special tools and plant and Rs. 0.80 crore for increased expenditure on maintenance of roads newly formed or improved during the five years).

9. In the revised programme 60 per cent of the total amount will be allotted to Provincial Highways and Major District Roads which are mostly under the control of Government and 40 per cent roads of local importance consisting of other District roads and Village roads. The question of increasing the allotment for the programme is also being reconsidered.

Pending finalisation of the revised five-year programme which is awaited from the Chief Engineer the more important works are being executed.

Home Department

Motor Vehicles—Administration Report for 1946-47

Goods vehicles numbered 3,311 in 1945-46 and 6,341 in 1946-47. The corresponding figures for buses were 3,662 and 5,057, for motor cars 9,796 and 15,972, for taxis 371 and 522, for motor cycles 1,513 and 2,823, for driving licences 41,374 and 57,911, for public service vehicle drivers' licences 10,514 and 15,559 for conductor's certificates 13,828 and 17,087, for convictions under the Motor Vehicles Act 8,454 and 22,371 and for convictions for traffic offences 103,571 and 70,125.

2. The increase in the number of goods vehicles, which was nearly-cent per cent, was due to the release of a large number of surplus army vehicles through the Disposals Organization of the Government of India and also to the arrival of new vehicles. Notwithstanding this increase, there was still a large demand for additional vehicles, owing to the abnormal expansion of goods traffic. The freight charges for goods transport by road, however, showed an appreciable decline. The question of prescribing maximum rates for transport of goods by road was deferred till conditions became more normal.

3. The increase in the number of buses was mainly due to the release of a large number of controlled and commercially imported chassis and surplus army vehicles. Even with this increase, the full demand could not be met and transport facilities available to the public were found to be inadequate. During the year, town bus services were introduced in some important towns like Vellore, Cocanada, Conjeeveram, Salem, etc. The Government also took up actively the question of nationalization of passenger transport services and to begin with a few State buses were put on the road towards the close of the year.

4. The Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1945, was superseded by the Madras Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1947, on 4th March 1947. Under the new order, ten per cent of the total number of cars imported by dealers were reserved and allotted to essential users by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller and the remainder were

allowed to be sold in the open market by dealers themselves. Control over the prices of new cars was continued.

Education Department

In connection with the recent revision of salaries of teachers, the Government have fixed the pay of higher elementary and secondary grade teachers in aided elementary schools at Rs. 25— $\frac{1}{2}$ —30 and Rs. 35—1—45 respectively. They have also ordered that in view of the increased scales of grant the managements should allow a pay of Rs. 30 to a higher elementary grade trained teacher and Rs. 40 to a secondary grade trained teacher, the managements supplementing the Government grants to the extent necessary from their own resources.

The pay fixed for a lower elementary grade trained teacher was Rs. 18 per month. It was also ordered that this category of teachers should be paid by managements a pay of Rs. 20 a month, the management supplementing the grant from their resources. On a representation since received regarding the inability of managements to supplement the Government grants from their resources the Government ordered last month that this provision need be enforced only in cases where the managements were able to supplement the Government grants from their own resources and that in other cases necessary exemption might be given.

2. In June 1947, the Government issued orders reserving a certain percentage of seats in schools and colleges for Harijan candidates. Recently, the Government issued orders making a similar provision for reservation for Harijans in Government hostels. They directed that ten per cent of seats in all Government hostels attached to secondary and training schools and Government Arts and Training and Professional Colleges should be reserved for Harijans. If Harijan candidates were not forthcoming in sufficient numbers to fill the seats within 15 days from the re-opening of the hostels, candidates of other communities might be admitted against them. If the number of Harijan applicants exceeded the number of seats reserved, as many of those applicants as possible should be admitted.

3. The Government have under consideration a scheme for the medical inspection of pupils in secondary schools and Government colleges. With a view to work out the details relating

to the scheme, they sanctioned the employment of an Additional Deputy Director of Public Instruction in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction on a scale of Rs. 600—1,000. The Director was asked to send to Government, in consultation with the Surgeon-General and the Director of Public Health, a draft of the *ad hoc* rules to be framed for the post and also proposals for the appointment of a suitable person of the status of Assistant Director of Public Health to the post.

4. At present, no proportion is fixed for direct recruitment and for promotion to posts of School Assistants in the Madras Educational Subordinate Service. Last month, the Service Rules were amended so as to provide 50 per cent of the substantive vacancies of School Assistants, II Grade, arising on or after 1st April 1947 to be filled or reserved to be filled also by direct recruitment.

5. The Government have examined the question of revising the scales of pay and ameliorating the conditions of service of contingent workers in the Government Medical institutions including those in the Hospital of Indian Medicine and have directed that

(a) such of those as would be required permanently for the normal work of the department be made permanent and converted into regular establishment, to be absorbed into subordinate or inferior service, as the case may be, and

(b) that all other posts be retained in the contingent establishment on suitable scales if they are already on scales of pay and at market rates if not.

On a memorandum submitted by the Muslim Community on the subject of Muslim Education in the Province, the Madras Government have decided in the following manner:—

(1) While Government are against the starting and maintenance of separate schools as a policy the present separate schools may be continued for the next five years but without any commitment to continue them after the period.

(2) In secondary schools and in standards VI, VII and VIII of Higher Elementary schools, the regional language will be the medium of instruction.

(3) In Elementary Schools where the regional language is not being taught now, the study of the regional language will be introduced in standard III or earlier.

(4) That the present arrangement for the provision of religious instruction for Muslims in existing Muslim schools may be continued under a syllabus to be approved by Government.

(5) That the Government, if they think fit, may close such of those schools which are working uneconomically or for any other reasons.

In June 1947, the Government issued orders reserving 10 per cent of seats in schools and colleges for Harijan candidates with effect from the school or academic year 1947-48. In February 1948, a further concession was granted to the Harijan candidates by reserving a similar percentage (10 per cent) of seats in Government hostels with effect from the school or academic year 1948-49.

The Government have appointed Mr. K. M. Sevannah, B.E., as Technical Education Officer for the work connected with the introduction of bifurcated courses of studies in secondary schools.

Government have ordered that 40 per cent of the substantive vacancies that have arisen in the category of Junior Deputy Inspectors since 1st April 1947 should be filled or reserved to be filled by direct recruitment of teachers employed in schools under the control of local bodies or aided agencies who possess a completed T.T.C. of the Secondary Grade with 10 years' service as a teacher and are below the age of 35 years.

The Government in order to cater to the needs of school children and literate adults have sanctioned the opening of central libraries (with branch libraries in the 25 firkas selected for intensive rural reconstruction work.

Under this scheme, the librarians, central library will stock the books required for circulation to branch libraries for the use of school-going children and literate adults. He will distribute them to the headmaster of the elementary school or the village headman in charge of the branch library periodically every week and get them back after circulation to the school-going children and literate adults.

The central libraries will be under the control of the Firka Development department.

The Government have decided to prepare, print and publish text-books

for schools and colleges in the Province so that the best material can be given at cheap cost and profit. The preparation of text-books for Basic Education in Tamil and Telugu will first be taken up. The Government have sanctioned for this purpose the creation of a temporary post of Special Officer in the Madras Educational Service in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Revenue Department

Resettlement Activities

During the month of January 1948, the Employment Service in the Indian Dominion has again, for the fourth time in succession set up a new record of pleadings. Sixteen thousand five hundred and seventy-one applicants, of whom 7,570 were ex-servicemen, were placed in employment by the 54 Exchanges in the Indian Dominion. Up to the end of January, 14,850 displaced persons from West Pakistan were placed in employment. These figures show that the Employment Exchanges under the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, are steadily gaining in popularity among employers.

The total number of persons placed in employment, since the inception of the Resettlement and Employment Organization up to the end of January 1948, was 293,933, of whom 184,787 were ex-servicemen.

During the same month, 3,027 ex-service personnel were selected and posted to 265 training centres bringing the total number selected and posted up to the end of that month to 45,735 in the Dominion of India. Postings during the above month include 2,931 ex-servicemen posted to vocational and technical training centres and 96 displaced persons posted to training centres for war-disabled. The total number of persons under training, at the end of the month, was 10,767, including 803 displaced persons.

Miscellaneous

Concessions to War Service Candidates

Though I.N.A. personnel were treated for purposes of appointment to the public services, in exactly the same way as ex-service men, they were not eligible for appointment to vacancies in the Police Services. This ban has been removed except in the case of

those who are guilty of acts of brutality. The Government have also decided that of the war reserved vacancies in all services (Provincial and Subordinate) for which war service candidates have not been selected so far, a maximum of 10 per cent should be allotted to I.N.A. men who have already applied for such vacancies. In the case of posts in the Special Police Units, however, not more than 5 per cent will be so allotted.

2. War service candidates competing for vacancies (non-reserved) arising on or after 1st April 1947 are permitted to deduct the period of their war service in computing the age for appointment. It has now been decided that this concession should also be extended to de-reserved vacancies (i.e., 33½ per cent of those originally reserved) which are thrown open to the public.

Ex-Servicemen's Co-operative Societies

The administration, supervision and control of the Provincial Co-operative Resettlement Schemes and other items of work relating to the resettlement and employment of ex-services personnel have been transferred to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies with effect from 1st March 1948.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, GUINDY,
3rd March 1948.

AN APPEAL

The people of this Presidency are no doubt aware of the appeal made by the Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, for contribution to the "Prime Minister's National Relief Fund" for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees. A committee of officials and non-officials consisting of the Hon'ble the Premier, the Mayor and Sheriff of Madras, and the heads of the Naval, Military and Air Force establishments in this Province has been formed in Madras for the purpose of collecting for this object. To concert measures for the collection of funds, it is proposed to organize dance and musical performances, charity shows, etc. We all know the hardships and miseries which these refugees are undergoing. It is unnecessary for me to say that it is the duty of everyone of us to contribute as liberally as possible to this most worthy cause. Madras has always responded generously to such deserving causes and I have no doubt that she will continue to do so on this occasion also, in connection with the present appeal.

ARCHIBALD NYE,
Governor of Madras.

Light on Current Subjects

Public Health Measures in the Madras Presidency

SRI A. B. SHETTY'S (Broadcast)

NOTE.—Next to the appalling poverty of this country, public health is the most urgent problem. Birth rate and death rate are high. Infant mortality is the highest in the world. But less than six million people die every year from preventable diseases. Improvement in the field of public health cannot be achieved by Government efforts alone. The public also have a responsibility to discharge and unless this responsibility is discharged any amount of efforts on the part of the Government cannot bear adequate fruit. However the Government are devoting special attention to the promotion of Public Health measures in this Province. Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty, has referred to a few of these measures in the course of a recent broadcast on the subject. He said :

"The improvement of public health is of paramount importance in any plan for the future development of the country. The ill-health and premature death so common among our people offers a striking contrast to the high standards of health and length of life enjoyed by the people in many of the western countries. The rate of mortality here is double that of most other civilized countries; The average expectation of life is more than 60 years in several of the western countries while here it is only about 27. This shortened span of life is spent mostly in sickness, suffering and sorrow. The largest number of deaths take place among infants and children. Half the number of children die before the age of 10. Yet the birth-rate is so high that our population continues to grow at a disquieting rate and this is in marked contrast with the decline in the growth of population in the West. This high birth-rate and the high death-rate which goes along with it means an appalling waste of human life and effort. The rapid increase in our population is widening the gap between the available quantity of food and the number of people to be fed. The low standard of health in our country may be traced mainly to unhealthy conditions of living, improper nutrition, inadequacy of health services and lack of education. The root cause is poverty and the low standard of life prevailing among the vast masses of our people.

The Position in Rural Areas

In this Province we have 35,430 villages where 84 per cent of our people live. The great majority of the rural houses are unfit for human habitation. There is practically no conservancy or sanitary service in the villages. The soil is polluted by indiscriminate defecation and often water also is contaminated on account of people using the bank of a stream or the margin of a tank as a public latrine. In most

places the drinking water available is either inadequate or unsafe for use. The great mass of the village population lead half-starved lives. Many unhealthy habits and practices prevail among the people due to want of health education. The environmental conditions are hardly better in urban areas. Our towns have grown in a haphazard way without any planning. The housing conditions are most unsatisfactory. Slums and over-crowding make the situation worse, particularly in industrial areas. Thousands live on pavements of roads. The collection and disposal of refuse and excreta is not done properly. The number of private and public latrines is far below the requirements. Protected water-supply is available only in 46 of our municipalities. In 40 out of these 46 towns the supply is either inadequate or it does not cover the whole area. Drainage facilities have been provided so far only in 7 cities in this province but they are all partial schemes. Dusty roads are a source of great nuisance and danger to health in our towns. Flies and mosquitoes are found everywhere carrying infection. The major cause for the poor physical development and chronic ill-health of our people is undoubtedly faulty nourishment. Resistance power is weakened by lack of proper nutrition and they easily fall a prey to infectious diseases. If they don't die a premature death, they lead an enfeebled existence and their productive capacity suffers a great deal.

Past Policy

In the health programme so far followed in this country we have given precedence to the establishment of hospitals and the production of doctors. More emphasis has been laid on the cure and the alleviation of disease rather than on the prevention of illness and the improvement of health. As observed by a Committee of the British Medical Association, modern

medical practice tends to stress more and more the importance of the environment and the methods of preventing disease and maintaining health. Good health is not entirely, or even mainly, a question of medical services. It does not depend so much upon hospitals or doctors or bottles of medicine as upon a suitable environment, adequate nutrition and the adoption of the rules of healthy living. Great results have been achieved in Great Britain by the improvements made there in the field of sanitation, hygiene, water-supplies and housing. The great epidemic diseases have been practically conquered. Death-rates have been considerably reduced and the average length of life has gone up by many years. Factory legislation has led to better conditions of work. The newer knowledge of nutrition has enabled them to raise the standard of health in the nation.

Preventive side Stressed

While we need not relax our efforts to provide proper medical aid, particularly to the rural population, the time has come to give increased attention to preventive measures. The lay-out of our towns, the construction of hygienic dwellings, the production and supply of more and better food, the provision of protected water-supply and drainage and such other health creating services are of paramount importance for raising the standard of health and fitness in our people. The extent of sickness prevalent in the country is so large that we cannot hope to provide beds for more than a fraction of the people requiring hospital treatment even if we are able to multiply several times the number of our hospitals and dispensaries. The reduction in the demand for curative treatment can be secured only through successful preventive work. With the limited staff and funds that are now available to us we can achieve more effective and lasting

results by creating conditions of healthful living instead of concentrating too largely on the expansion of medical relief work.

Government Measures Recounted

There is no doubt that increase of food production is the most important single measure required for the maintenance of life and health. The "Grow More Food" campaign started during war time is, therefore, being steadily pursued and large funds are being allotted for providing major and minor irrigation works and for supplying more manure and better seeds to the ryots. The area under all food crops has increased from 26.43 to 27.63 million acres. This means an increase of 1.20 million acres. Diet surveys and nutrition research work are being carried on. A housing scheme has been launched and Co-operative House Building Societies are being organised for this purpose. The amendment of the Town Planning Act is under the active consideration of a Committee with a view to make it more effective in determining the physical conditions under which people have to live and in controlling the future development of our towns. The eradication of slums, the abatement of overcrowding and the provision of new decent houses at low rents must form a part of our national health policy. The most outstanding problem connected with the improvement of public health is the provision of adequate and safe water-supply and proper drainage system for our towns and villages. The Committee constituted in last June to consider the question of expediting the investigation, design and execution of urban and rural water-supply and drainage schemes have submitted their report to the Government. They want that the state must assume the entire responsibility for the provision of water-supply and drainage all over the Province and that a ten-year plan for water-supply and fifteen-year plan for drainage should be programmed and followed and that a public health engineering department should be organized for the purpose. The report has been made available to the public and suggestions have been invited from persons interested in the matter by the end of this month. Government will soon have to consider the far reaching recommendations made by the Committee and take necessary steps in the matter. Government have already constituted a rural water-supply fund of rupees one crore and they propose to make a contribution of 15 lakhs of rupees every year for this purpose. Improvement of nutri-

tion and provision of suitable housing and good drinking water will do more than anything else to prevent ill-health and to reduce the need for costly, and often unsatisfactory, curative services. These will have, therefore, to be given high priority in our health programme. A conference of eminent medical and public health experts both official and non-official was convened in June 1947. They discussed a wide range of subjects relating to medical education, medical relief and public health work. Two sub-committees which were formed at the conference for a detailed study of these problems have made important recommendations which will soon be considered by the Government. Government have in the interest of medical education given their approval to all the expansion schemes relating to the Stanley and the Andhra Medical Colleges and the attached hospitals. When these building schemes are completed each of these colleges will be able to take in 100 medical students every year. A College of Indian Medicine has been started this year with 50 students. It has been proposed that the School of Indian Medicine also should continue to be run alongside the College. Steps are being taken to provide the additional buildings, staff and equipment required for the expansion of this teaching institution and to start a research department also.

Problems of Sugar Industry

Speaking on the problems facing the sugar industry, Sir Datar Singh in his opening speech at the Annual Meeting of the Indian Sugarcane Committee stated that as a result of the partition it was necessary to lay down fresh targets of sugarcane and sugar production in the Dominion of India. Based on the figures of 1945-46, 825,921 tons or 87.42 per cent of sugar were produced in the territory, now under the Dominion of India, 55,600 tons of sugar were produced in the Indian States acceding to the former, as against 23,279 tons in Pakistan. This reduction is not significant, but if the Pakistan Government ceases to consume Indian sugar and begins to import foreign sugar, some other venues of disposal of our own surplus will ultimately have to be found.

The problems facing the sugar industry are immense and are to be reconsidered in the light of the present day circumstances, as the existing plans for production and development were prepared much before partition.

The needs of rural India have long been neglected. The establishment of combined medical and health centres in villages linked with taluk and district hospitals has been proposed with a view to bring remedial and preventive services within the reach of the people in rural areas. Government have sanctioned the opening of these primary centres at the rate of 30 every year.

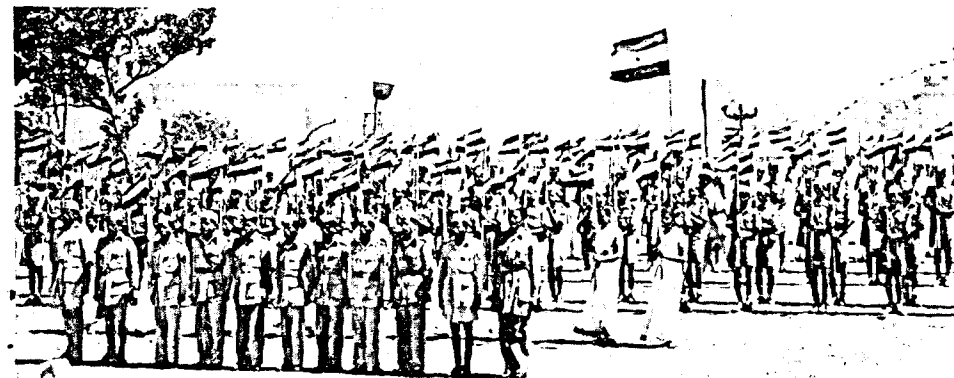
The post-war schemes of health development are awaiting to be implemented. There is a twenty-year plan for the reconstruction and improvement of District and Taluk Headquarters Hospitals and for adopting further measures for combating tuberculosis, leprosy, malaria, etc. The main difficulty in carrying out our post-war plans which have been suitably modified in the light of proposals of the Bhoré Committee is lack of finance. Government will have to augment their income and spend a larger percentage of their revenues on health measures. As pointed out by the Bhoré Committee, "A nation's health is the most potent single factor in determining the character and extent of its development and progress and any expenditure of money and effort on improving the national health is a gilt-edged investment yielding immediate and steady returns in increased productive capacity."

By courtesy A.I.R., Madras.

We are faced with a continuous spell of bad seasons, lack of adequate supplies of cane and lack of wagons and other transport facilities. To place the sugar industry on a sound footing, early steps have to be taken to improve our lot. The five-year schemes of sugarcane development for initiation in the main sugarcane tracts and financed from the special grant of Rs. 75 lakhs have been approved. These will be brought into effect as soon as the Government's formal sanction is received.

Towards more Production

At the recommendation of the Tariff Board, the Government of India have agreed to increase its annual contribution to the Committee. We expect a grant of about Rs. 50 lakhs in place of the expected Rs. 11.75 or 12.50 lakhs and will thus be in a position to take up fresh schemes of research and new projects of translating the results of research into actual practice in agricultural, technological, economical and other aspects of sugarcane development. Every effort



Congress volunteers awaiting the arrival of the Prime Minister.



A guard of honour was presented to India's Prime Minister by Congress lady volunteers.



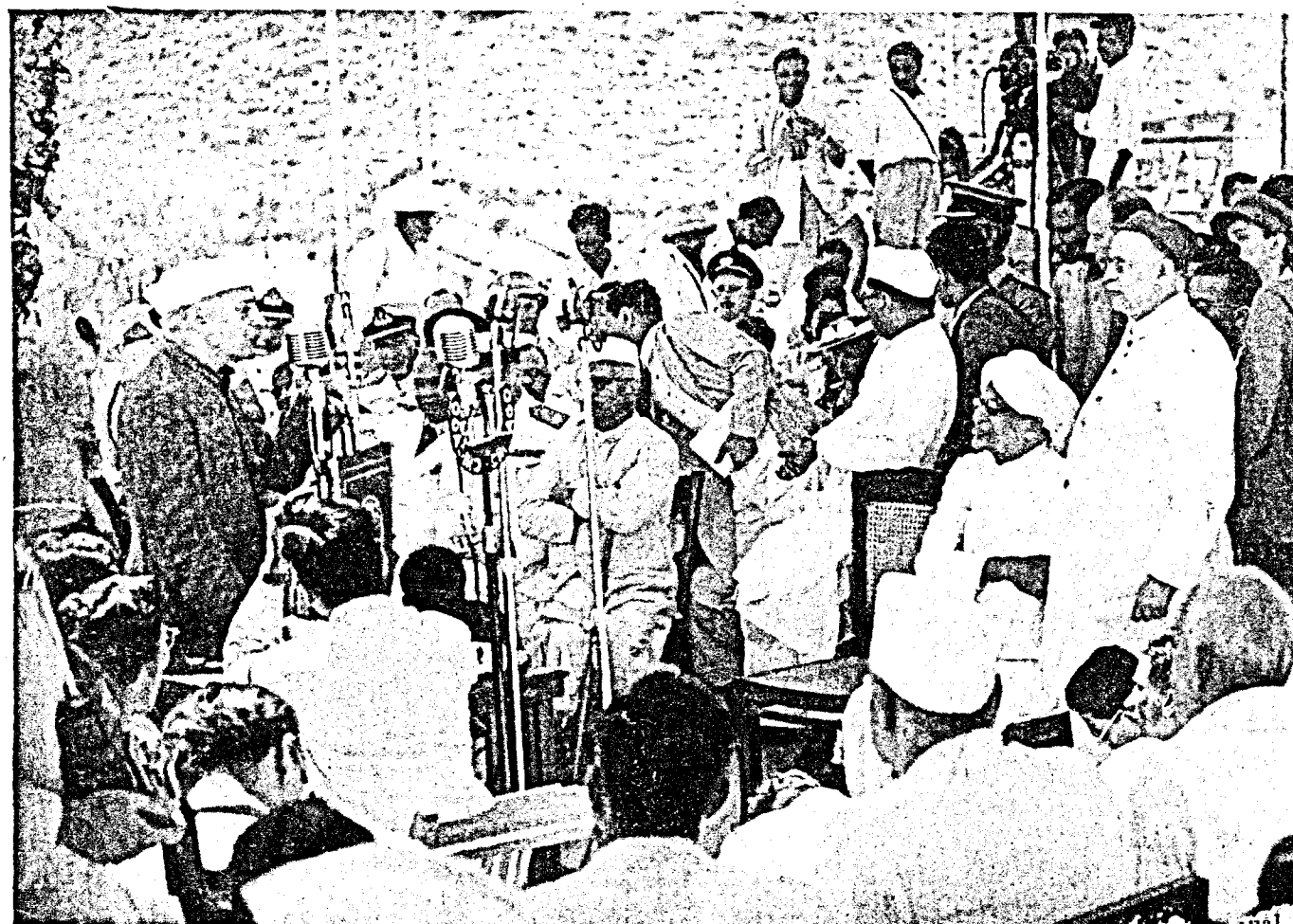
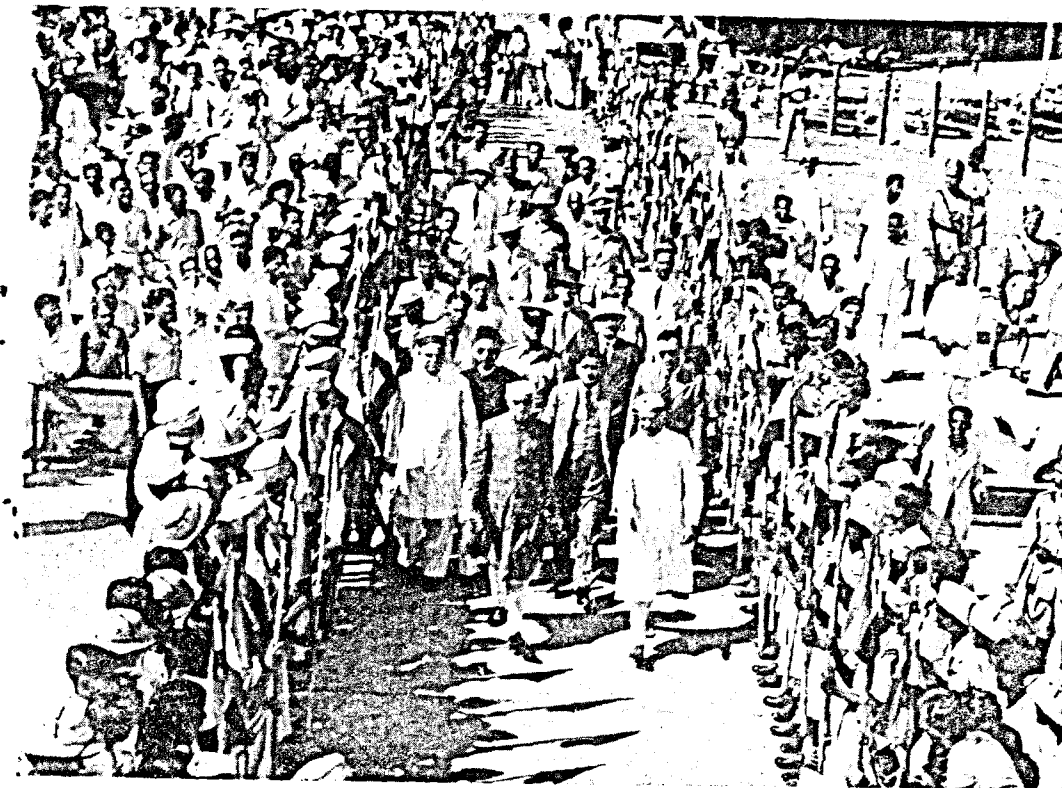
The Prime Minister is being escorted

rousing welcome to India's Prime Minister

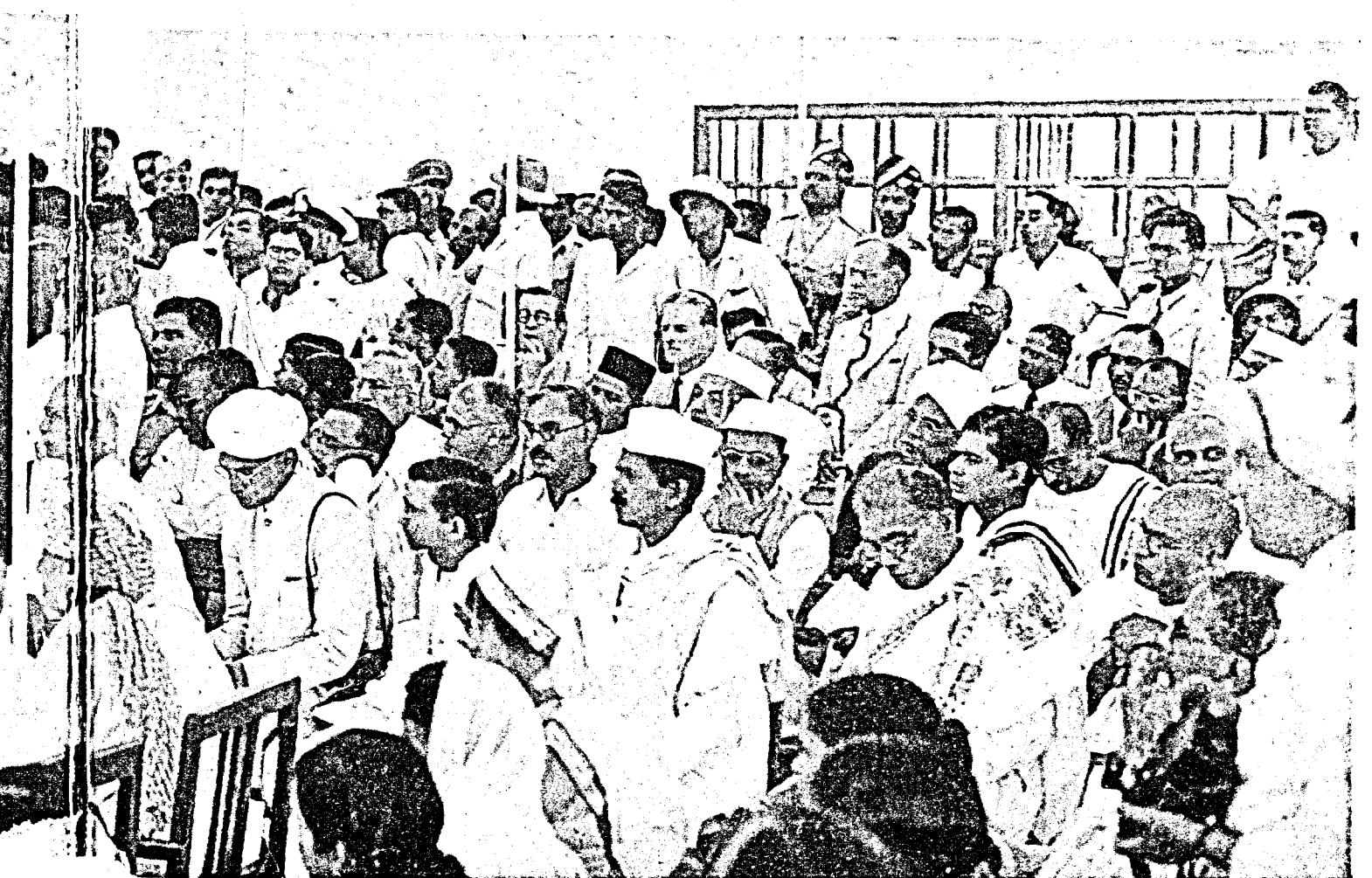
The Prime Minister is seen returning the greetings of the people.



The Prime Minister arrives at the Scindia shipyard.



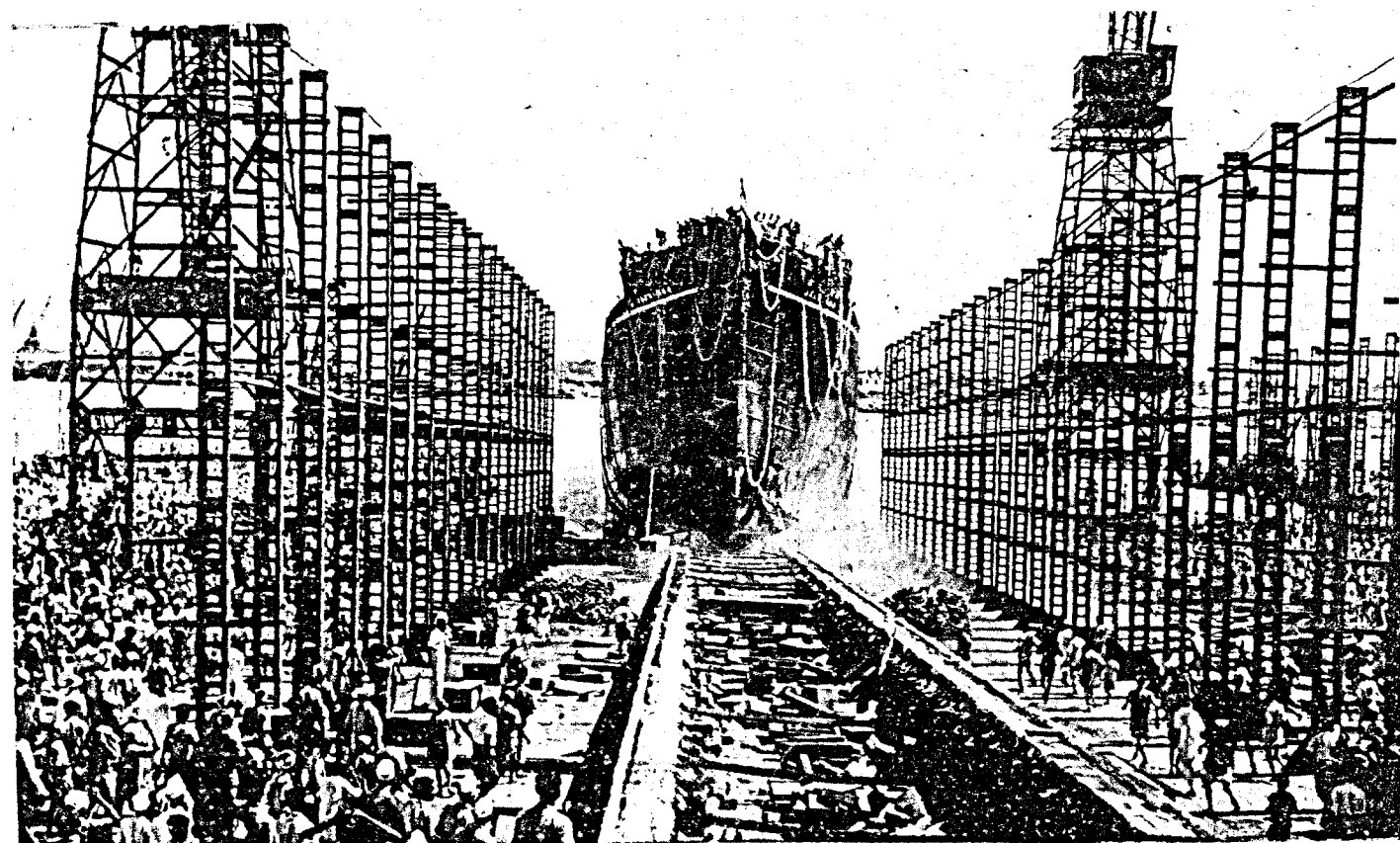
The Prime Minister addressing the people, the physical, moral, and spiritual effort



g the Launching Ceremony of "Jala Usha"



The Religious part of the Ceremony before the launching



"Jala Usha"—The steamer whose Launching Ceremony was performed by the Prime Minister

will be needed to increase sugar production by the increase of cane acreage, by improving the quality and quantity of cane produced, by evolving disease-resistant and high yielding varieties of cane with different periods of maturity and harvesting, and to increase the normal length of the crushing season to 110—130 days, by providing better supplies of cane to the factories, by providing remunerative cane prices to the growers, by providing adequate quantities of manures and fertilizers, as well as, of irrigation water.

The production of the maximum quantum of quality cane, with a high sucrose content, appears to be the main factor for maximising the production of sugar and lowering its cost of production. The cost of the raw material itself forms more than 60 per cent of the total cost of manufacture of sugar and hence the future advancement of the industry and economy in the cost of production of sugar must necessarily depend upon the proper development of the cane itself. Planning and research, both from the agronomic as well as the breeding points of view, appear to be essential factors for securing larger yields of cane per acre. The importance of resistance to and control of serious diseases and pests cannot be over-emphasized. The manufacturing efficiency of modern sugar factories in India is improving steadily and with the renovation of old and installation of new machinery as well as the utilization of more economic units, it is hoped that efficiency will increase still further.

The utilization of the bi-products such as molasses, bagasse, press-mud and the installation of auxiliary industries for the production of power alcohol, rectified spirits, sugarcandy, confectionery, food-yeasts are matters which also deserve greater attention than hitherto.

During the past two or three years, the production of factory sugar is on the decline, due to the reduction in sugar acreage, brought about by the diversion of some land from cane cultivation for the Grow More Food Campaign, better prices of other commodities and certain other difficulties, whereby the full crush of the season has not been possible. Steps to increase sugar production are, therefore, urgently needed.

During the year, the Bhadrak Military Grass Farm, consisting of about 553 acres of land and some buildings, has been taken over from the Ministry

of Defence for establishing the Institute of Sugar Technology and Sugarcane Research at Lucknow. The Farm has been handed over temporarily to the Government of United Provinces who were anxious to utilise this place for their Grow More Food Campaign and Dairy Development Scheme until such time as the Committee required this Farm for building and/or farming purposes. If the Government of India accept the recommendations made in the last meeting, we may take over the complete charge of the Sugarcane Breeding Station at Coimbatore and its Sub-Stations. If this is accomplished, all aspects of sugarcane breeding, sugarcane agronomy and sugar technology could be thoroughly investigated under one Central organization, the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee.

A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs for the establishment of the new Institute has been

earmarked by the Government of India from the Temporary Sugar Excise Fund, but this will have to be supplemented further from the annual savings in our budget. A sum of about Rs. 11 lakhs will be required for payment to the Defence Ministry for the land, fencing and buildings alone.

The Future Plan

Concluding, the Chairman stated that in order to utilize the expected balance in the best interests of the industry, it had to be considered whether other schemes should be invited for initiating economic research, inquiries and recommendations relating to banking and transport facilities and transport routes, for marketing facilities, improvement of crop forecasting and statistics, publication of a journal and the initiation of other research or development schemes.

The Social Side of Prohibition

NOTE:—The social side of prohibition cannot be overstressed. The Provincial Government have organized on an elaborate scale social amenities in prohibition district. There are among other things rural Recreation Officers in these areas charged with the responsibility of promoting recreation and rural amenities. The Recreation Officers are given special training. Recently in a gathering of the trainees at the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education Mr. V. N. Kudva dealt with among other things the social side of prohibition. In the course of his speech he said :

Pandit Jawharlal Nehru has repeatedly told us that the true wealth of a nation depends on 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 our masses is miserably low. Many things have contributed to reducing our splendid manhood to its present low state. It is universally recognized that the drink habit is widespread among them, 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.

Background of Prohibition

If we are to take our place which is rightly ours in the family of nations we have to do everything that we can to raise the economic, social and moral level of the masses. This can be done not 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 economic and social level to the same extent as total prohibition can. Of all Provinces, the Madras Government have taken the lead in the matter of giving effect to this social reform of far-reaching importance.

Twofold Programme

The programme is two-fold; on the preventive side, a large staff has been entrusted with the task of enforcing and stopping illicit liquor traffic with a view to remove temptation from the weak. On the positive or ameliorative side, schemes are organized on a co-operative basis not only for the purpose of providing employment for those who find it difficult to adjust themselves to new environments but also to show the people at large the ways and means by which they can improve their resources, and some measures have also been undertaken to encourage thrift and savings out of the money which was till only too recently spent on drink.

I now come to the part of the ameliorative programme.

As we all know, the life of an ordinary villager is often dull and dreary. With the change in outlook with the impact of modern civilization, there has been of late a marked tendency for the best sons of the villages to feel their environments in the village uncongenial; and with the gradual impoverishment of the countryside, they find little scope for their activities in the villages and migrate to towns in search of employment. The traditional games, folk-dances and entertainments which occupied the attention of the villagers and enlivened their spare hours have considerably suffered for want of encouragement, and many of them have resorted to drink to escape the tedium of their life and the monotony of their existence. You are expected to provide ample amusements by organizing effectively in your taluks rural and popular games, folk-dances, B'ajanais, Katha Prasangams, Kalakshepams, Harikathas and similar amusements according to definite plan. Modern games and tournaments, when funds are forthcoming, will no doubt attract large gatherings on occasions, but it must be remembered that the equipment for them may very often be beyond their resources, and you will do well to encourage indigenous and

non-equipment games like Chedugudu, Pillaiyar Panthu and Kilithattu and try to build up rural recreation clubs wherever possible. If you successfully organize this programme, you will not only make them forget their craving for drink and promote their health but also help to develop such traits as team spirit, communal harmony, common endeavour, etc., which are so essential for the advancement of the country. Thanks to the teachings of the various religions which have taken root in this country, the prevailing sentiment has always been against the use of alcohol and drugs. Moral persuasion has been known to play an important part in the success of temperance movements all over the world, and you are expected to make the fullest use of your opportunities for the advancement of the cause of Prohibition.

Rural Uplift Work

You will also see that the programme is so designed that it is possible to combine amusement not only with propaganda but also instruction. You have already visited co-operative societies and seen for yourselves what is being done through the Co-operative agency for economic uplift. It is realized that you may not be able to organize co-operative institutions

yourself or render technical assistance in regard to the Agricultural, Veterinary or other matters. In a country like ours, where illiteracy is widespread, some dissemination of your knowledge of rural subjects and problems is essential if the villagers are to take full advantage of the beneficent activities of these departments. It is, therefore, intended that you should make the best use of the knowledge gained by you by transmitting it to the villagers during the entertainments and further the movement for rural uplift for the purpose of making villages and towns healthier, happier and more prosperous. It is possible that in some areas your efforts may be crowned with success and the villagers may be enthusiastic to come forward with adequate funds to be utilized for their own benefit. It is up to you to direct their energy by forming organizations which may develop, in course of time, into organizations which not only promote games, playgrounds, dramas and other recreations but also activities like the cleaning of villages, the laying of village roads, cleaning and repairs to wells, introduction of better methods of agriculture and establishment of cottage industries on co-operative basis, which are an integral part of our national reconstruction programme.

attained in the lifetime of Gandhiji. God granted us this prayer and there was universal rejoicing in the land, such rejoicing as had never before been witnessed in all her long history. But the light of freedom was overcast with the dark clouds of fratricidal conflicts of Hindu and Musalman in Bengal and in the Punjab. Gandhiji was 78, a long life of sufferings and fastings and imprisonments. The call came to Mahatmaji. Who else can still these troubled waters of communal madness and restore peace and harmony? Gandhiji's pilgrimage in Noakhali and his advent to Calcutta constitute the greatest and most moving epic of modern times. But his mission was not yet fulfilled. There was need for his presence in Delhi and to Delhi he went—Delhi, the seat of the pomp and glory of the Moghuls and the capital of Free India—a fitting scene for the termination of his earthly labours.

The Spirit of Gandhiji—Our Guide

Christ preached his evangel of love to God and love of man, performed His miracles of healing of body and soul and finally sacrificed His life on the

Cross for the redemption of the world, giving the last 1900 years, of the countless millions of human beings that lived and loved and died on this earth of ours, incomparably, Gandhiji was nearest to Christ in the depth and catholicity of his love and compassion and in the extent and intensity of his redemptive suffering. Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, all these things were

gathered up and illustrated in the life and teaching of Mahatma Gandhi. And now, what remains? The assassin's bullet has set the crown of martyrdom as the fulfilment and final glory of Mahatmaji's life. Though much is taken away, much remains. His ashes are to be scattered in the waters of our Motherland, but his spirit is immortal and is enshrined in the hearts of countless millions of people. And his spirit will lead us and guide us to achieve his uncompleted task of establishing peace and goodwill between the diverse

classes and communities in our country and among the peoples and nations of the world.

To have seen Gandhiji's radiant face, to have breathed the sunshine of his ennobling presence, to tread the soil hallowed by his feet, to cherish the memory and example of his life, to purify and discipline ourselves both as individuals and as communities in order to follow in his footsteps and to serve and forward the causes dear to his heart, these things abide with us, part of our life's unalterable good.

Special Articles

Mahatma Gandhi

His outstanding contribution

By HON'BLE MR. DANIEL THOMAS

Mother India mourns the loss of her greatest and her best beloved son. The world bemoans the loss of an incomparable leader who had captured the imagination of the nations by the simplicity of his life and by the profundity of his teaching. In the short span of 25 years, out of 400 millions of weak and desperate individuals, he created a nation, conscious of its manhood and with a determination to achieve, by discipline and sacrifice, its inherent and inalienable right of freedom. By his doctrine of Ahimsa, of overcoming hate by love, of conquering oppression by suffering, he forged his weapon of Satyagraha, the greatest spiritual force of the

twentieth century. And he set the seal and superscription of his own sacrificial love and discipline on countless numbers of his fellow-countrymen. He created; thereby, an army of men and women, prepared joyfully to give their utmost and their highest for this battle of the nation's freedom, an army of unconquerables against whose spiritual armoury the carnal forces of imperialism were impotent and futile. And so, to the wonder and amazement of a witnessing world, he achieved India's Freedom, the most momentous event in the political annals of the human race. It was the devout prayer of the people of India that this consummation of Freedom should be

EVERYTHING LIFELESS WITHOUT TRUTH

"TRUTH is like a vast tree which yields more and more fruit, the more you nurture it. The deeper the search in the mine of truth the richer the discovery of the gems buried there, in the shape of openings for an ever greater variety of service."

"IN the march towards Truth, anger, selfishness, hatred, etc., naturally give way, for otherwise Truth would be impossible to attain."

"EVERYTHING appears to me to be lifeless without Truth. I am convinced that untruth will never benefit the country, and even if untruth seems to bring immediate benefit, I firmly believe that Truth ought never to be abandoned."

"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 realise 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."

"WE must speak the Truth under a shower of bullets."

"TRUTH is superior to man's wisdom."

"THE way of peace is the way of truth. Truthfulness is even more important than peacefulness."

"THE attainment of freedom whether for a man, a nation or the world, must be in exact proportion to the attainment of non-violence by each."

"I WILL not sacrifice truth and ahimsa even for the deliverance of my country or religion. This is as much as to say that neither can be so delivered."

"ALL the religions of the world, while they may differ in other respects, unitedly proclaim that nothing lives in this world but truth."

"IF observance of truth was a bed of roses, if truth costs one nothing and was all happiness and ease, there would be no beauty about it. We must adhere to truth even if the heavens should fall."

"TRUTH is not truth merely because it is ancient. Nor is it necessarily to be regarded with suspicion because it is ancient. There are some fundamentals of life, which may not be lightly given up because they are difficult of enforcement in one's life."

"ONLY truth quenches untruth, love quenches anger, self-suffering quenches violence. This eternal rule is a rule not for saints only but for all. Those who observe it may be few but they are the salt of the earth; it is they who keep the society live together, not those who sin against light and truth."

other call him Gandhi.

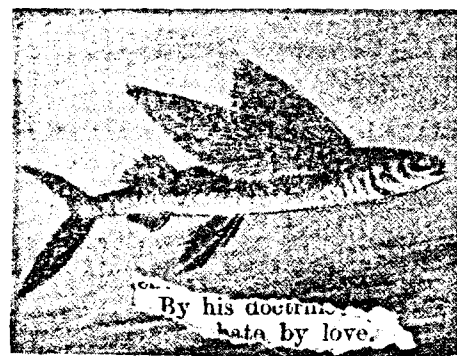
A Peep into the Museum

(The Zoological Galleries)

By S. T. SATYAMURTI, M.A., F.Z.S.

A visit to the Madras Museum provides the visitor with hours of enjoyable sight-seeing which is at once educative and entertaining. The large, airy halls of the Museum exhibiting a wide representative series of specimens of the various principal groups of the animal kingdom contribute not a little towards the keen and absorbing interest that invariably accompanies a peep into this Museum. It can be hardly doubted that an earnest and studied visit to these galleries will not only serve to give the visitor a glimpse into the multifarious curiosities of Nature's creations but also excite in him a keener and more lively interest in the Natural History of his animal friends and foes. In the present article I shall endeavour to take the reader on a brief tour round the zoological galleries, dwelling in somewhat greater detail on a few of the more outstanding exhibits.

At the commencement of the zoological galleries there is a small section devoted to exhibits illustrating the phenomenon of flight in various groups of back-boned animals. Though the power of flight attains the climax of its development in birds, yet it is manifest in varying degrees also in the other well-known groups of higher animals such as fishes, frogs, reptiles and mammals. On one side in this hall, the attention of the visitor is attracted by a group of flying fish displayed as though they are leaping across the air over the surface of the sea. These are the familiar flying fish of the Madras Coast. In this remarkable species both the pectoral and pelvic fins are enlarged and flight is initiated by surface skimming movements, the



The Flying Fish.

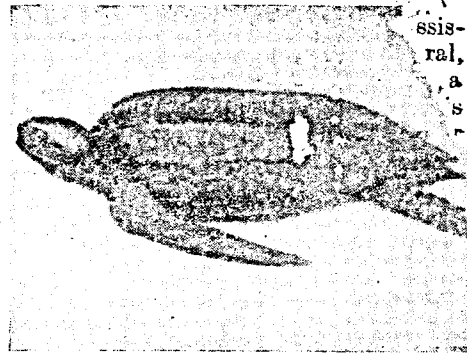
propulsive power being provided by the side to side sweeping of the caudal fin, the lower lobe of which is longer than the upper. These fish may rise sufficiently high out of the water to be stranded on the decks of ocean-going steamers.

Other examples

Other selected examples of flying vertebrates such as the flying frog, flying lizard and the large Indian fruit bat are also exhibited on the wall in this hall and are accompanied by enlarged X-ray photographs and a large, well-drawn picture of a curious extinct ancestral reptile known as the *Pterodactyl* which possessed a very well developed wing membrane and could fly almost as efficiently as any bird. As the visitor turns away from these mural exhibits a large specimen of a vulture dramatically displaying its full expanse of wings catches his eye and impresses on him the remarkable proficiency which the members of the feathered race have attained in the domain of flight by virtue of the unique adaptive modification of their forelimbs into the powerful flying organs familiarly known as wings. Besides these, there are also a number of small interesting wall show cases in this gallery containing exhibits illustrating different types of mimicry and colouration, notably among insects. They include the remarkable dead leaf butterfly, the stick insect and the leaf insect which attain an almost incredibly close protective resemblance to their surroundings.

Interesting exhibits

Overhanging the passage between this and the next hall there are two huge tusk-like objects, which at first sight appear to be large, curved logs. These are the massive lower jaw bones of that huge leviathan—the Indian whale or Roquail—the immensity of whose actual size may be readily imagined not only by viewing these jaw bones but also by a glance at the complete articulated skeleton of the same species which hangs suspended from the roof and figures as the dominating feature in the adjoining hall. On entering this gallery, the attention of the visitor is arrested by this colossal skeleton which measures sixty feet in



The Leathery Turtle.

length. The original specimen from which this skeleton was prepared is said to have been cast ashore near Mangalore in 1874. The curious 'baleen' plates of the whale stand out, conspicuously in the skull region as large, comb-like structures, which serve, during life, to strain out the minute shrimps and other marine organisms on which the whale generally feeds.

Besides the whale's skeleton, this gallery accommodates a number of other interesting skeletal exhibits such as entire mounted skeletons of the Indian elephant, horse and man, and a massive skull of the African Hippopotamus. Among these the skeletons of the horse and man are of special interest as they are mounted in such a way as to suggest man's capacity for control over the animal in spite of his comparative frailty. The interest of the visitor in this hall will also hover around the two large mammalian exhibits which adorn the gallery, namely, the Orang utan and the Tapir. The Orang utan is an Anthropoid ape found only in the forests of Borneo and Sumatra. The great length of its arms enable the animal to swing rapidly from branch to branch. This ape rarely descends to the ground, and constructs a nest on a tree in which it sleeps at night. The maximum height of the Orang, when standing erect, is about four feet. The specimen exhibited is an adult male and is accompanied by the mounted skeleton of another specimen.

On the opposite side is exhibited the curious mammal known as the Tapir—a herbivorous animal allied to the horse tribe. It is found at the present day in South and Central America and in the Malay Peninsula, Java and Sumatra. It is nocturnal in habit and frequents the most retired places in the forests. Its chief food consists of vegetables. It is

generally fond of water and is said to plunge and walk along the bottom instead of swimming. It is easily tamed when captured. The specimen exhibited is a Malayan Tapir which once lived in the Madras Zoo.

A few birds with particularly bright plumage also catch the eye of the visitor as he brouses around this hall. These include the Macaw, from the tropical South America—a magnificent multi-coloured parrot-like bird, the exquisite little Mandarin duck from China, and the Silver Kalleege pleasant with its graceful ornamental plumage, all of which serve to demonstrate impressively how colourful Mother Nature can be in clothing her children! The visitor will also get a fair idea of the amazing variety of dental and integumentary structures in various animals by glancing at the exhibits displayed in the table show cases along the walls in this gallery.

Passing still further on, the visitor enters a separate section of this gallery which is devoted to a few interesting exhibits relating to the Indian elephant. Here one might see the immense sole of the elephant's foot, with its enormous plate-like nails, the voluminous skull of the elephant sectioned in various planes to display the large vacuities which reduce the brain cavity to a comparatively small size, and a show case containing a miniature model illustrating the method of capturing wild elephants by entrapping them in trenches.

Indian reptiles and amphibians

The visitor will next turn into the adjoining hall on his left, in which are exhibited various specimens of South Indian reptiles and amphibians. Of special interest in this gallery are the huge marine turtles displayed in a large, centrally-placed show case. The four species of turtles exhibited here occur in the Indian ocean and elsewhere in the tropical and sub-tropical seas. Among these, the gigantic leathery turtle deserves special mention. It is the largest of living turtles, attaining eight feet in length, and is scarce everywhere. It is also peculiar in that it differs from all other tortoises and turtles in having its vertebrae and ribs free from the carapace. The Hawk's Bill turtle and the green turtle which are exhibited alongside in this case are also of considerable interest as the former yields the esteemed tortoise shell of commerce and the latter the delicious turtle soup.

Among the other striking exhibits in this gallery, mention should be made of the large crocodiles mounted on the wall, characterised by their heavy armour of plate-like scutes, and accompanied by exhibits of their eggs, developmental stages and young ones, and the giant Monitor lizard (*Varanus*) exhibited together with its mounted skeleton in a central table case. It is the largest species of lizard met with in South India and occasionally attains a length of even six feet in length. It inhabits an underground burrow from which it emerges chiefly at night. It is carnivorous feeding on birds and their eggs and small mammals. The Chameleon with its large eyes, long extensible tongue and prehensile tail, and the small habitat group of the blood-sucker or garden lizard are also special features among the exhibition of lizards in this gallery.

A large number of South Indian examples of snakes are also exhibited along the wall in this gallery. The exhibition of snakes comprise both poisonous and non-poisonous forms, and also includes plaster models of a few snakes which are specially noted for the virulence of their venom such as the Cobra, Krait and Russell's viper; an enlarged model of the head of a poisonous snake and a few sketches and charts explaining interesting points relating to poisonous snakes also add considerably to the instructive value of these exhibits.

The small section devoted to frogs and toads at the further end of this gallery contains a display of specimens representing the various species South Indian amphibians, including an interesting habitat group of the common chunam frog which lays its eggs in a frothy mass on leaves of plants overhanging water so as to enable the young tadpoles, when they hatch out, to gain easy access to water in which element alone they can proceed with their metamorphosis into the adult state. A few peculiar snake-like creatures known as the blind worms or coccilians are also exhibited in this section of the gallery as they are more nearly allied to frogs and toads than to snakes, despite their superficial resemblance to the latter.

Gallery of birds

The large and spacious hall adjoining the reptile gallery is the gallery of birds, into which the visitor will now enter. The exhibition in this gallery includes a large systematic series of

specimens of birds representing almost every species met with in South India, but in the present article brief mention can be made only of the most outstanding exhibits. The visitor's attention will be attracted notably by a large, blackish grey, ostrich-like bird exhibited in a case along the wall on the left side of the gallery. This is the curious running bird called the Cassowary. It is confined to the Australian region where it inhabits densely wooded country especially in the neighbourhood of creeks and water courses. It is a very fast runner and can leap over obstacles six feet high. In the wet season it often swims across wide rivers and may even venture into the seas.

There are also other interesting group exhibits of birds in this gallery, which need a brief reference. The weaver birds with their unique, pendant, flask-shaped nests, the white-breasted king fisher with its nest hollowed out in a river bank, the Flamingoes wading on marshy ground with their long, stilt-like legs, the roseate tern flying low over the beach sands and the crows and the kites with their clumsy nests of twigs and sticks will all be observed with great interest by the visitor in the course of his tour round the bird gallery. A remarkable specimen of the Great Hornbill with its enormous beak and a formidable array of heavily-built birds of prey such as falcons, vultures and eagles will also contribute largely towards sustaining the interest of the visitor in this gallery. But perhaps the most colourful sight in this hall is that of a splendid specimen of a male peacock spreading out its superb tail feathers in a gorgeous display of colour and design!

In the next article in this series, we shall resume our tour, commencing with the adjoining hall—the gallery of mammals.

(To be continued)

Groundnut Cake for Cattle in Bombay

The cattle-owners in Bombay City and suburbs who possess 75 or more cattle will now obtain their monthly requirements of groundnut cake directly from the oil mills at the rate of Rs. 1.30 per ton inclusive of bags, on permits issued by the office of Milk Commissioner.

All other cattle owners who are not covered by direct permits will obtain their requirements through Co-operative Societies.

Inflationary Pressure and Economic Recovery*

B. NATARAJAN, M.A., D. Litt., *Economic Adviser to the Government of Madras*

The problem of inflationary pressure assumes greater significance in the context of reconstruction needs in the post-war period than during war. This is partly due to psychological factors brought about by the cessation of hostilities and partly due to changes in technique of production and volume of employment during the transition from War to peace production.

The nature and extent of this pressure varies in different countries depending on their institutional frame work, monetary and fiscal measures pursued during war and the administrative measures such as rationing and price control adopted to see that propensity to spend does not out-run the propensity to save. However there is one factor that is common to all countries affected by war-time inflation, namely, the existence of an unsaturated demand for certain types of consumption goods and investment goods and consequently an accumulation of large personal savings.

This demand asserts itself in the post-war period with varying effects. In the U.S.A., owing largely to the high mobility of American labour and adaptability of American equipment to changes in demand, it resulted in a period of full employment during the later half of 1946 and the whole of 1947. This may not last long. The rise in inventories would be checked by the world shortage of dollars sooner or later and when that happens a recession will ensue which if not properly handled might develop into a depression instead of a corrective.

Inflationary pressure in U.S.A.

The U.S.A. is unique. Its industrial potential is immense and the whole world was lying at its feet to be rehabilitated. The effect of inflationary pressure in U.S.A. therefore was somewhat as that of inflation in its "mild phase". In most other countries of the world, however, we have a different picture. The surplus spending power generated during war could not be absorbed during the transition by expansion of production. Two factors operate against this: (1) scarcity of industrial equipment which had either been destroyed, dismantled or completely worn out during the war

and (2) shortage of food and essential raw materials. Recovery therefore was slow. The U.S.A. being almost the sole source for supply of both equipment and food, a scramble for them ensued resulting in acute dollar scarcity. At the same time while reconstruction needs demanded increased rate of investment, various factors largely born of post-war psychology tended to reduce the rate of savings.

The way out of further increase in the inflationary pressure for these countries therefore was to reduce consumption of essential goods and stimulate the rate of savings by adoption of a comprehensive system of controls and rationing and by introduction of monetary and fiscal measures designed to discourage spending. Of the European countries, the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia tried the method of control and rationing while in France, Italy and Poland where controls were half-hearted, fiscal and monetary measures were applied. On the whole, however, inflationary pressure in the United Kingdom was relatively less severe than in other countries of Europe, and the transition has been smooth without any significant unemployment. But the problem of import of food and raw materials in the United Kingdom continues to be acute and a great dis-equilibrium has resulted in her trade with countries of hard and soft currencies which it would take considerable time to find an adjustment.

Reduced production—Crux of the problem

In this matter of incidence of inflationary pressure in the post-war period, the position in India is in many respects the same as in War-devastated countries of Europe. Plant and equipment have been so much and so long over-worked without replacement or repair, that to day the net effects of this "deindustrialisation" are not dissimilar to those brought about by destruction or removal of machinery in the countries directly affected by war. Similarly with regard to food and essential raw materials the effects of the inflationary pressure have been even more disastrous in India than in any country in Europe.

The Bengal famine has no parallel in Europe and the shortage of steel and key chemicals in India is not any less acute than the shortage of coal in Europe. Everywhere both in Europe and India the crux of the problem is diminished production.

Inflationary Pressure in Latin America and India not anaxgous

This being the case, it is curious to find that the United Nations "Survey of Current Inflationary and Deflationary Tendencies" has grouped India with the countries of the Latin America, on the ground that these are "undeveloped" areas in the world. Undoubtedly India is and inflationary pressure is in general more acutely felt in countries with a relatively low level of industrialisation. There the parallelism stops; to argue from it, however, that in India as in Latin America the reduction in productive capacity during the transition has not been significant is misleading; for neither in its genesis, nor in its course or incidence has inflation in these countries many things common. Inflationary pressure in the Latin American countries has a common pattern. It came mostly from the enhanced value of exports and reduced volume of imports caused by increase in the United States' demand for agricultural and mineral products and by the military and industrial investments of foreign countries among which the U.S.A. has taken a leading role. Inflation here was not "deficit-induced", as expansion of production required to offset the initial rise in incomes was relatively large.

Inflationary pressure in India, on the other hand, is a function of reduced output, of shortage of food and essential raw materials and lack of replacement of industrial plant and machinery; and that is the central problem of the War-affected countries of Europe too. A series of deficit budgets had been the main-stay of Allied war finance. Latin America, therefore, in spite of its apparently differing economic structure has more things in common with the U.S.A. rather than with India, and its future too is intimately bound up with economic events in the U.S.A. on whose market it has increasingly become dependant for the sale of its products.

Remedial Measures adopted

It is interesting to note in this connection that the measures adopted

by India to relieve the inflationary pressure in the post-war period are almost the same as those adopted by certain countries of Europe affected by War. Not succeeding in a thorough-going system of controls and rationing, India has adopted far reaching measures of financial and fiscal reform. In fact, the first post-war annual budget of Independent India is a vigorous essay on combating inflation by the accepted methods of proper budgetting and increased direct taxation. Presenting his budget, the Hon'ble Mr. R. K. Shan mukham Chettiar, the Finance Minister of India, said:

An inflationary pressure resulting from too much money chasing too few goods has been the key note of our present economy. At such a juncture we should exert every nerve to budget for a surplus, if possible by increasing revenue and curtailing expenditure. The methods by which these aims are achieved are important, because as the present phase of inflation is due to an abundance of spending power without the goods to spend on, we must see that a surplus is achieved in such a way as to curtail spending and create suitable incentives for increasing production. In other words, the tax burdens laid must be met by cutting down expenditure on consumption and not by saving

less. Similarly the borrowing made must be from genuine savings and not from inflated bank credit.

The taxes proposed and the relief to industry provided are all designed towards fighting inflation and stimulating production.

Increased Agricultural Production

It is, however, well to realise that surplus budgetting and fiscal reforms have their limitation. They are no solution to a food shortage involving imports worth Rs. 100 crores annually and an acute shortage of essential industrial equipment and raw materials without which increased industrial output is impossible to achieve. The solution to food shortage lies only in a concerted drive for increased agricultural production. This would require far-reaching changes not only in the technique of production but also in the social and economic environment. Too often are we led to believe that a mere change in the ownership of land would bring about increased output. The magic of property cannot turn sand into gold as long the production technique remains primitive. Bold measures are needed to tackle a problem of such magnitude. The fact that Britain by mechanizing her agriculture was able to raise agricultural output by 70 per cent in terms of calories should be both a warning and example to India.

American Aid Essential

As regards import of capital plant and equipment and key raw materials needed for increased output, nothing short of a comprehensive plan of American Aid will solve India's immediate problem, and indeed the thesis set out in the preceding paragraphs has been to establish that India richly merits it. What exactly is the form it should take, whether as a loan, or deferred payment or gratuitous aid is a matter for detail. But it is in the interest of the U.S.A. itself to take early steps to extend the aid, if only the recession that has already set in is not to develop into a major depression, world-wide in its sweep and cataclysmal in its effects, as it is bound to be. More than ever, the words of Abraham Lincoln that the world cannot be half bond and half free appear opposite in the economic sphere. Again and again the lesson has to be brought home to the West that on the rehabilitation of the teeming millions of Asia does depend the rehabilitation of the entire world.

[Since this article reached us, we are glad to learn that the Government of India have taken steps to negotiate a loan with the International Monetary Fund. The recent speech of the U.S. Ambassador in India, Dr. Henry Grady, lends support to the views expressed by the author—Editor.]

Prohibition News Letter

The following is a brief summary of the reports received from the various prohibition districts regarding ameliorative activities:—

Malabar.—The first rural uplift school in the district was declared open by the Collector on 14th February 1948. The strength of the school is 49. The jaggery production societies in the Tellicherry division are taking part in the All-India Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition at Tellicherry. A stall has been allotted to the Jaggery Production Societies free of rent. A Land Colonization Co-operative Society has been organized in Wynad taluk; in order to provide the ex-tappers with work, it is proposed to admit them as members.

Salem.—One new Ex-tappers' society was started in the latter

part of February. Firka I tournaments took place as usual and these were largely attended. There were also various items of recreation. The Attur taluk tournament, rural exhibition and cattle show were conducted on 20th February 1948. Indigenous games, sports, folk dances, kummi and kolattam were some of the more important events. There were speeches on rural uplift. The propaganda van was in attendance and a film on milk production was shown. There were other cattle shows also during the month which were also largely attended. The Collector presided over the first Firka Development Committee meeting. The Committee sanctioned road-works, drinking water wells, park and radio. Villagers at one place are building a school out of public donations. The rural uplift school for the Hosur divi-

sion was inaugurated on 26th February 1948.

Cuddapah.—There were divisional tournaments in which several teams took part. These were largely attended by many including ex-addicts.

Trichinopoly.—A rural exhibition and cattle show was held at Musiri on 24th February 1948, in connection with the closing of the rural uplift school. Several Government departments, Co-operative societies and individuals took part in the exhibition. Not less than 6,000 people witnessed the exhibition including many ex-addicts. Tournaments were also held in which villagers took part. Prizes were distributed to winners and certificates were awarded for the best exhibits.

Chittoor.—Three gramasangams and three rural recreation clubs were organized in Chandragiri division. Indigenous games were played as usual and there were firka tournaments also. Bhajanas and harikathas were performed in many places. A village library and a reading room were started.

* Survey of Current Inflationary and Deflationary Tendencies—United Nations Department of Economic Affairs Series A. No. 1, September 1947.

inaugurated during the month. Contributions were also raised for constructing a community hall and a reading room in one place. Street cleaning drive was another activity during the month. A cattle show was held during tournament in one place and prizes were awarded for best bulls. Two dramas were staged and they were largely attended.

Kurnool.—It has been decided to encourage rope making, shoe making, carpentry, spinning, etc., as cottage industries. One ex-addict has purchased a buffalo from his savings and another has bought ornaments worth Rs. 150, while yet another has saved Rs. 500 and purchased two bulls and a cart from his savings. Street cleaning drives were also organized during February. Some of the gramasangams are maintaining libraries and reading rooms. In one place, steps are being taken for the formation of a co-operative house building society. The villagers in another have decided to hold an Industrial, Agricultural and Health Exhibition and a cattle show as well. An amount of Rs. 120 has been collected for purchasing and maintaining a stud bull in one place.

Guntur.—The second rural uplift school in the district started on 26th February 1948.

South Kanara.—A rural uplift school was declared open on 23rd February. Earlier in the day the students of the school took out a procession to the accompaniment of band and music shouting prohibition slogans along the principal streets of the town.

Tanjore.—Five co-operative societies for manufacture of palmyrah jaggery were organized during February. Hundi boxes were also distributed during February. There was also a cattle show and rural exhibition at Nagapattinam.

Coimbatore.—The Collector addressed meetings on rural uplift in several villages during February. A rural uplift school was inaugurated on 23rd February 1948. The gramasangams continued to do useful work. One gramasangham has constructed an elementary school at a cost of Rs. 750. Indigenous sports took place as usual.

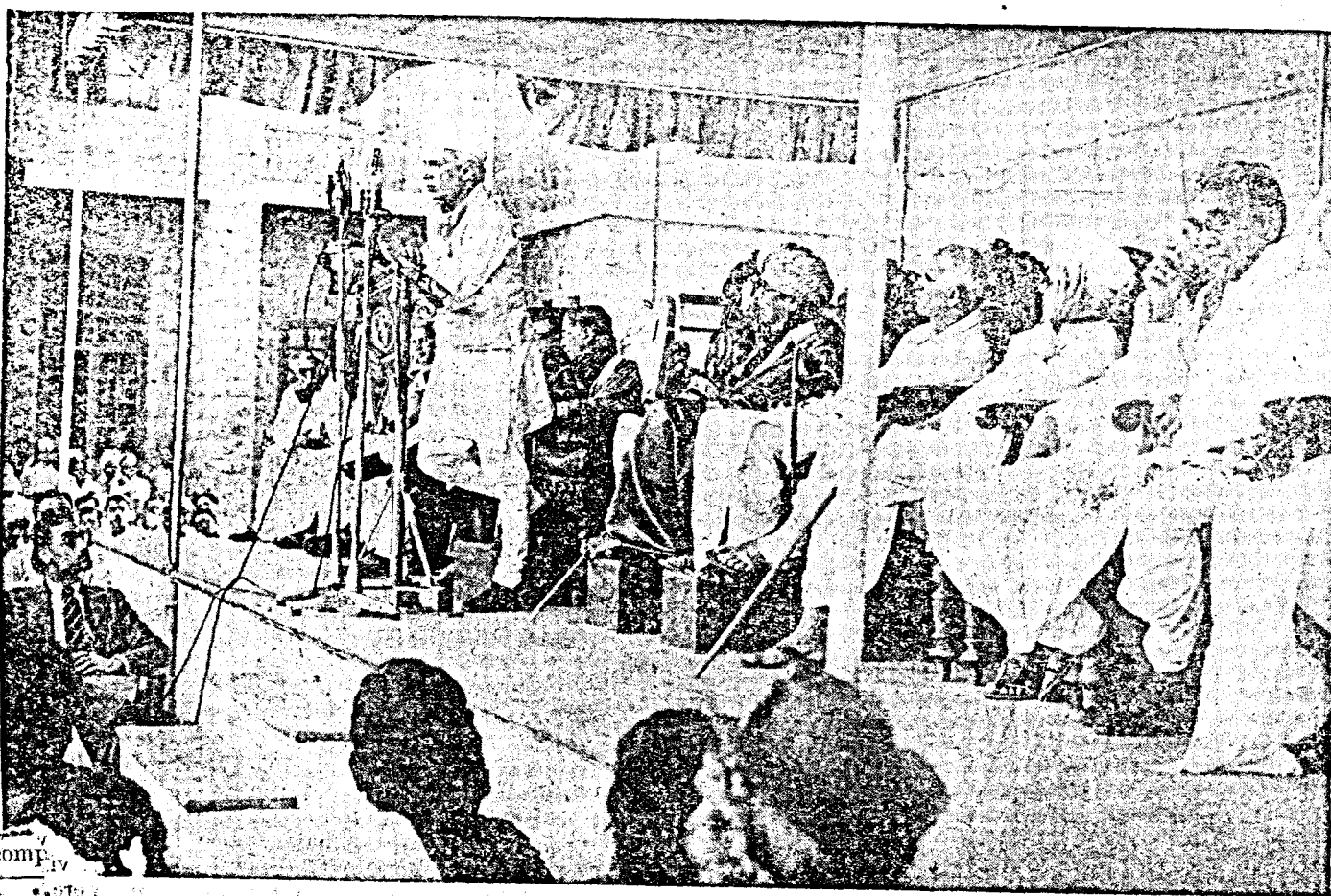
Madura.—The second rural uplift school was started on 24th February 1948. Eight palmyrah jaggery manufacture societies were also organized

during February. Licences have been issued to members of five societies which have commenced production. The jaggery produced has been successfully marketed.

South Arcot.—There was a variety of entertainment under the auspices of the gramasangham during February, for the purpose of raising funds for a village hall to serve as a community centre.

Bellary.—Reading rooms were opened in two places during February. One gramasangam has opened a boarding house for the poor boys in elementary schools. Public subscriptions in the shape of foodgrains to the value of Rs. 600 have so far been collected. A Village Betterment Committee has taken up proposals for constructing a godown-cum-reading room. A cattle show was held in one place and prizes were awarded for the best animals. An interesting programme of recreation was provided to the labourers in the Tungabhadra dam area.

Nilgiris.—Tournaments were held during February which were largely attended. A cinema company gave a benefit performance in aid of the rural uplift school fund.



The Prime Minister addressing the syndicate and students of the Andhra University during his recent visit to Vizagapatam

Indian News Parade

Grants for Backward Classes' Uplift

The Government of Bombay have sanctioned the payment of additional recurring grants of Rs. 20,800 to the voluntary agencies and associations like the Harijan Sewak Sanghs, etc., working for the amelioration of the conditions of the Backward Classes subject to certain conditions.

More Trees in West Punjab

The West Punjab Government is preparing a scheme under which more land is proposed to be brought under forests and facilities will be provided to agriculturists to grow more trees round their fields and in the open waste lands in villages.

Not more than 2.6 per cent of the land is under forest in West Punjab. According to western standards, 20 to 25 per cent of the total area of any country should be afforested. After the partition the West Punjab received 956,160 acres of the forest area which is only 28 per cent of the total area of the undivided Punjab forests.

This, combined with the dwindling state of existing forests in the province resulting in acute shortage in the supply of firewood for the urban population, has been engaging the anxious attention of the Government and the outcome is the scheme referred to above.

Development Board in Bihar

The Government have constituted with immediate effect a Board to advise them in respect of the policy and administration of the Agriculture, Co-operative and Veterinary including Animal Husbandry departments. The Minister for Development will be the Chairman of the Board which consists of 48 members.

The main functions of the Board will be—

- (1) to advise on important schemes and projects of the departments.
- (2) to advise on the general policy of the departments.
- (3) to suggest methods of popularising the schemes of departments already in operation, and

(4) to study the working of the departments and to take practical steps to improve them.

Prohibition Poster Competition in Bombay

It has been decided to hold a 'Prohibition Poster Competition' under the auspices of the Provincial Prohibition Board of the Government of Bombay. The subjects for the competition are "DRINK IS AN EVIL" or "BETTER LIFE THROUGH PROHIBITION." Three prizes of Rs. 250, Rs. 150 and Rs. 100 respectively, shall be awarded to the three best entries selected by a panel of judges.

Three terms for Primary and Secondary in Bombay

The academic year for the primary and secondary schools will now be broken up into three shorter terms, instead of the existing two terms, as a result of the acceptance by the Government of Bombay of the recommendations made by the Provincial Boards of Primary and Secondary Education and accepted by the Provincial Education Council.

Panchayats in U.P.

A conference of District Officers, Subdivisional Officers and Officers of all nation-building departments of Lucknow Division was held recently and it was announced that 50,000 Panchayats and 10,000 Panchayati Adalats would be established in the province. Arrangements for practical training would be made after the election was over.

A Bombay Land Measure

The Government of Bombay have directed that the District Rural Development Boards should be treated as the District Advisory Committees for the purposes of section 4 (1) of the Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1947.

Military Training in U.P.

The U.P. Government have decided to introduce compulsory military training in educational institutions from class IX to class XII.

The form of training will be completed at selected places and of a preparatory character at other places.

The details of the scheme are being worked out, and it is proposed to appoint immediately a director of military training to assist the Government in the matter.

Housing Programme in Bombay

The actual work of construction commenced on 27th June 1947. The programme envisages the construction of 125,000 tenements in a period of five years of which 15,000 would be put up by the Government and the rest will be in the shape of independent or assisted construction through employers, local bodies, co-operative societies and private enterprise.

Prohibition Propaganda in Bombay

There are two aims with which the propaganda machinery of Government for Prohibition will operate. The first of these aims is to educate the masses about the evils of drink and the benefits of Prohibition. The second one is to entertain them and thus provide them with healthy substitutes for the drink habit. There are many means of propaganda such as the cinema, the drama, poems, the radio, bhajans, kirtans, powadas, kalapathaks, graphs, charts, maps, pictures, etc., and the Bombay Government have decided to make full use of all these media in carrying out province-wide propaganda.

Compost making in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have sanctioned the proposals for amalgamating the existing, two separate schemes for compost making, viz., (i) Scheme for Co-operative or Collective Compost making and (ii) Scheme for Compost making in Rural Areas, into one scheme.

The new amalgamated scheme is sanctioned for four years from April 1, 1948 at an estimated cost of Rs. 23,63,928. The District Agricultural officers who have been made responsible for all agricultural activities

in the districts will supervise the proper working of this scheme.

Drive against Illiteracy in C.P.

The C.P. Ministry have an elaborate scheme for Adult Education. This ambitious plan proposes to harness the services of the educated to the service of the illiterate and it is hoped that in the course of five years illiteracy would be liquidated and fifteen million adults made literate. The cost estimated is two crores of rupees.

To achieve the objects of the scheme the Board of adult education have decided to request the Government to compel every teacher in all types and grades of educational institutions in the province to undertake education of illiterate adults every year and enable them to secure the Adult Education Certificate. Government have also been requested to compel the staff of institutions under their control to undertake this work in the manner suggested and to seek the good offices of the High School Education Board and the Universities of Nagpur and Saugor, the local bodies in the province and the managers of private institutions to introduce similar measures.

Communal Ratio in Bihar

The Government of Bihar have decided to abolish communal reservation in Government services in the province. Appointments will henceforth be made strictly on the results of competition where recruitment is made by open competition and as regards posts which are not filled by competition, recruitment will be made approximately in proportion to the strength of various communities in the population of the province. Exceptions will only be made in the case of aboriginal tribes and scheduled castes and 14 per cent and 12 per cent of the vacancies filled by direct recruitment will be reserved for them respectively.

Wage Boards in Bombay

Mr. Gulzarilal Nand, Minister for Labour, disclosed at a meeting of the Provincial Labour Advisory Board that the Government of Bombay have under consideration proposals for the constitution of Wage Boards for different industries and a Provincial Labour Board to deal with questions of common interest to various industries. He added that the proposals would be incorporated in a Bill to amend the Bombay Industrial Relations Act which would soon be brought before the provincial Legislature.

Educational Programme in West Bengal

While addressing a Press Conference Mr. Harindranath Roy Choudhury, Minister for Education, West Bengal, said that the Government were setting up a Committee to formulate a scheme of adult education and had also decided that basic education should replace the existing system of primary education in rural areas. A representative Committee of educationalists would investigate the entire system of school education and there will be a separate Committee to go into the question of higher education. He also disclosed that a Bill to form a Board of Secondary Education would be introduced shortly.

Sind's Prohibition Drive

The Government of Sind, in pursuance of their prohibition Policy, are reported to have passed orders directing that all country liquor shops should be closed throughout the province on all Fridays, Gazetted holidays of both Hindus and Muslims, as well as on all such days when the labourers receive their monthly pay.

Irrigation in U.P.

The irrigation schemes in the five-year plan aimed at increasing the irrigated

area in the province by 1.66 million acres. The total area irrigated from irrigation works at the end of 1945-46 was 5,953,790 acres; it increased to 5,971,640 acres in 1946-47 as a result of construction of new channels and tubewells. At the end of the year (1947-48), it was expected to be 6,108,603 acres.

The total length of canals to be constructed in the five-year plan is 7,600 miles. The total length of irrigation canals in the province at the end of 1945-46, was 17,821 miles. During 1946-47, 250 miles of new canals were added. During 1948-49 it is intended to add another 300 miles. Seven hundred and eighty miles of new channels are expected to be completed during the year which will irrigate about 128,000 acres resulting in an extra yield of about 23,000 tons of foodgrains.

Preservation of Forests in West Bengal

The West Bengal Private Forests Bill, 1948, has been passed in the West Bengal Assembly.

The Bill, in its statement of objects and reasons stated that indiscriminate denudation of forests by tenants and private owners in this province had resulted in soil erosion on a considerable scale making large tracts of land bare and unproductive. The gradual disappearance of forests had also rendered certain parts of the province more liable to floods and drought and had seriously affected the supply of timber and firewood for local consumption. To cope with this alarming situation, safeguard the larger interests of the community and to confer at the same time permanent benefit on private owners by providing for the conservation and improvement of their forests and the afforestation of waste lands this Bill had been brought before the House.

It is easy to break up things—Not to construct

In judging of the circumstances in our own country, we have to consider all manner of factors and we have to plan accordingly and go ahead step by step so as not to break up something we have got without replacing it immediately with something better. It is not so easy to break up things. It is quite possible that in an attempt to change the economic system you may have a period of semi-disaster. You may even stop production which we aim at. Ultimately, perhaps very gradually, you may build up a new kind of apparatus. But for the moment you may break up the existing apparatus. That is undesirable when all our energies have to be concentrated on production.

—Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Ideas and Ideals

Charity and Good Conduct

His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari said recently in the course of a speech at Calcutta:

"In this mysterious world, prosperity is just an accident. If you possess money, remember that it is an accident, and that God will not permit the accident to continue for too long. You must therefore spend your money on good and worthy objects while you still have it. Money given in charity is money well spent. Nothing permanent in this world except charity and good conduct."

Sound Advice

Addressing the police officers and the recruits under training, His

Excellency Sir Chandulal Trivedi, Governor of East Punjab, said: "When you leave this training centre to take up your posts, you will be called upon to perform vital functions and bear great responsibilities. On you will fall the task of maintaining security of life and property and preserving the public peace. I sincerely trust that the training which you are receiving here will enable you into discharge this task to the satisfaction of the Government as also of the public."

The Governor then dwelt on the qualities of a good police officer, who should be firm, energetic, impartial, disciplined and honest, and, at the same time, courteous and considerate to the public.

His Excellency laid special emphasis on honesty and impartiality.

In the Dominion Parliament

Hyderabad-Madras Border

Questions and Answers

Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, Finance Minister, replying for Sardar Patel, States Minister, said in the Dominion Parliament on March 19, that it was a fact that there had been repeated infiltration of Muslim troops or Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen Razakars inside Indian Union territory.

It would take time for the steps taken to become completely effective but certainly the Hyderabad authorities knew that there was a limit to the patience of the Government of India in this matter.

The Government of India were impressing upon the Hyderabad Government that even in the interest of the Hyderabad State itself, there should be responsible Government to deal with the irresponsible and violent forces and they were still hoping that Hyderabad would accept their advice.

Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava asked whether it was a fact that there had been repeated infiltration of Muslim troops or Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen Razakars during the last two months into the Union territory and inside

the Provinces of Madras, Bombay and Central Provinces.

Mr. Chetty replied in the affirmative and said that the number of incidents in the Central Provinces and Berar during January and February 1948 was 16, involving loss of life of one person and estimated loss of property worth about Rs. 16,000. Information from the Madras and Bombay Government had not yet been received.

Q.—What steps have the Government taken so far to check the repetition of such incidents?

A.—The matter is under discussion with the Hyderabad Government and I would invite the member's attention to Mr. Gadgil's speech on March 15, 1948.

Q.—Have the Government made any protest to the Nizam's Government on the point and, if so, with what result.

A.—Yes. The Hyderabad Government have promised to do their best to prevent the border incidents.

Compensation for Sufferers

Seth Govind Das asked who was going to pay compensation to the

He added: "We must always remember that all of us, from the highest to the lowest, are public servants. In other words, you and I exist to serve the public. Friends, I have full faith in you and I know that you will enter upon your new duties with full determination. You will perform them zealously and impartially and with single-minded devotion to public good."

His Excellency asked Government servants—not behave as if they were masters of the public and lords of the earth. He reminded them that they were now in a free country, having a national Government, and appealed to them to behave as true public servants, both in word and deed.

In conclusion, he said: "We are passing through difficult times, Peace and security are two of our greatest needs. We have lawless and subversive elements in our midst. We have the poisonous communal force working round us. You will shortly be guardians of law and order and well and truly may you guard law and order."

sufferers, the Hyderabad Government or anybody else.

Mr. Chetty said that the matter was still under discussion with the Government of Hyderabad and it would be for the Government of India later on in the light of these discussions to decide whether they should press Hyderabad to pay compensation for these losses.

Prof. Ranga: In the case of these raids that are being made from Hyderabad territory into our territory by the Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen and the Communists, have the Government experienced any co-operative spirit on the part of Hyderabad State in bringing to book the perpetrators of these raids and also in recovering looted property?

Mr. Chetty: As a result of talks between our Agent-General at Hyderabad and the Prime Minister of Hyderabad, it has now been arranged that there will be joint inspection of these border areas by the police of Hyderabad and the Government of India. We are hoping that the joint inspection conditions

Arms for Border People

Replying to the same member, Mr. Chetty said that the Central and Provincial Governments were fully alive to the need for preventing these border raids. In fact, to enable the Provincial Governments concerned to arm the police in these areas, the Central Government was approached for the supply of arms and they have taken steps for the supply of arms. The tactics of these raiders had been just to rush in and then immediately disappear and unless there was whole-hearted co-operation on the part of the authorities of Hyderabad State, there could not be an effective stoppage of these raids. The Government of India had taken up this matter very strongly with the Hyderabad Government.

Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh asked whether, in view of the fact that news of killings and looting was coming in every day, the Government would not admit that the steps taken were most ineffective.

Mr. Chetty replied that after all it would take time for the steps taken to become completely effective but certainly the Hyderabad authorities knew that there was a limit to the patience of the Government of India in this matter.

Mr. Kamath: Has it come to the notice of the Government that the so-called Communists who are creating trouble are really Razakars masquerading as Communist forces?

Mr. Chetty: Quite possible.

Replying to another supplementary, Mr. Chetty said that the Government would certainly consider the question of arming Union nationals on the Hyderabad border if things became very serious.

Future of Razakars

Replying to Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava, Mr. Chetty said that the whole position of the Razakars' organization was under discussion with the Nizam's Government and he regretted that it would not be in the public interests to disclose the Government's views on these matters at this stage.

In reply to Mr. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Mr. Chetty said that the Government of India were impressing upon the Hyderabad Government that even in the interests of the Hyderabad State itself there should be responsible Government forces and they were hopeful that Hyderabad would accept the Government's view in this matter.

Answering another member, Mr. Chetty said that the Government had no reason to suspect that the Hyderabad Government was in league with the Razakars.

Again in answer to Mr. Ayyangar, Mr. Chetty said that fixing of a time limit did not help in the solution of these difficult problems.

Need for Responsible Government

Mr. Krishnamurthy Rao asked whether the Indian Government had asked the Hyderabad Government to ban the Razakars.

Mr. Chetty said that the Government of India had not asked them to ban any association but had impressed upon the Government of Hyderabad the urgent need for that Government to keep stricter control over the irresponsible elements in their own State.

Replying to more questions, Mr. Chetty said that certainly the

Government of India would see that so far as it lay in their power, before the termination of the Standstill Agreement a more satisfactory relationship was established between the Government of India and the Government of Hyderabad.

Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava: Have the negotiations between the Government of India and the Nizam's Government regarding the breach of the Standstill Agreement by the Nizam's Government caused by the investment of Rs. 20 crores in Pakistan securities and the promulgation of the Currency Ordinance led to any material results? If not, what steps do the Government propose to take against the Nizam's Government and if not, why not?

Mr. Chetty said that the negotiations were being continued. The latter question did not arise.

Books and Publications

'LABOUR IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA.'

Edited by Dr. P. P. PILLAI

Published by Padma Publications for Indian Council of World Affairs.

The book 'Labour in South-East Asia', edited by Dr. P. P. Pillai and published by the Indian Council of World Affairs is a symposium giving in outline a picture of labour conditions prevailing in the countries of South-East Asia bounded on either side by India and China and including the islands in the vicinity of this region. The book consists of nine chapters, each devoted to one of the countries in the area, viz., India, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya, Indonesia, Siam, Philippines, Indo-China and China. As is only natural in any symposium of articles by different writers, the method of approach to the problems dealt with in the various chapters is not uniform; but an attempt has been made to give adequate basic data about the industrial development and labour conditions in the countries forming South-East Asia. The arrested economic development of this depressed area is partly due to the fact that the economic policy of a large part of this area till recently was dictated by the Colonial Powers. One marked feature of this region is the continued preponderance of agricultural labour among

the working population who form a major part of the population of the area. It is true that there has been a perceptible development of industry and commerce in this region as in the rest of the world as a result of the two world wars. With the rise in the cost of living consequent on these wars and the failure of the wage level to keep pace with it, industrial disputes and labour problems have figured prominently in the industrial life of these countries especially in India. The various protective enactments and the programmes of labour reforms undertaken in each country with special reference to the impetus given by the International Labour Organization have been indicated in each chapter. So far as the chapter in India is concerned a few omissions are noticed. There is no reference to the Weekly Holidays Act, 1942, and the work done under the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942. No special mention has also been made of the work done in respect of industrial housing, nutrition, resettlement and employment, nor is there any reference to the work of Tripartite Conference on Plantations and the Health Survey and Development Committee (Bhore Committee) so far as it concerns industrial labour. After the report was published, the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the

Trade Unions (Amendment) Act regarding recognition of trade unions and the Factories (Amendment) Act regarding canteens have become law. Attention is made about the need for strengthening the Factory Inspectorate and legislation for smaller factories and commercial establishments. The Government of Madras have since April 1947 increased the strength of the Factory Inspectorate in the Province from 11 to 22 besides the Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories and three Inspectresses of Factories; and there are now 13 Labour Conciliation Officers in this Province to look after the interests of the labourers in industrial undertakings and plantations.

Within the brief space of about 49 pages devoted to India a fair amount of statistical data and particulars of work done for labour in India have been given. To be of real advantage, a symposium of this kind should be published at least once a year if the statistical and other data are to be kept up-to-date and a comparative study of conditions in different countries will be useful for drawing up and executing schemes for the improvement of labour conditions in each country.

Publications of this type should invariably contain a bibliography and an index. —R.M.S.

The FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION in the MADRAS MUNICIPALITIES.

By V. VENKATA RAO, M.A., M.LITT., Politics and Public Administration Department, Madras University. Published by Chunilal D. Barivala, Director, The Local Self-Government Institute, Bombay. Price, Rs. 2.

The title of the book indicates more or less its subject matter. In 8 chapters it seeks to cover the entire range of the financial side of District Municipal Administration. Budget, Revenue Administration, Grants-in-aid, Loan Administration, Expenditures, Purchasing, Accounting and Audit are the title heads of the chapters and under each head the author has attempted to deal exhaustively with the subject. There is an introduction in which the term financial administration is defined. The book is a documented one and may prove useful to those engaged in municipal administrations as well as those interested in it.

There is, however, one point to be noted in regard to the contents. A chapter on the general structure of a municipality, its composition and historical origin would have provided a

suitable background. When the financial side of any organization is dealt with, it will only be appropriate if some light is thrown on the structure and shape of the entire organization. That would certainly add to making matters clear and enable the reader to see things in the proper perspective.

—T.K.G.

LECTURES ON ROMAN LAW. By

I. M. NANAVATI, B. COM., LL.B., Published by Chandrakant C. Vora, Gandhi Road, Ahmedabad. Price Rs. 3.

The study of Roman Law is really as bug-bear to the students of Law, in that all the recognized text-books on the subject are interspersed with Latin terms and expressions which are not easily made out and remembered.

Professor Nanavati, the author of the book under review in a series of lectures, has made the subject easy and interesting; and ably supplied the long felt want of Law students.

This handbook serves as a guide to the study of Standard works on Roman Law. It is also intended to refresh the memory of the students at the time of examination.

The price of the book is moderate and every student of Law will do well to have a copy of the book for ready reference. —E.N.M.

BAPU SACRIFICED FOR MOSLEMS.

By KESHAV ABHYANKAR. The New World Publishing Society, 6, Venkatachala Naick Street, Triplicane, Madras. Pages 60. Price Rs. 12.

In this booklet the author has set down his reflections on the tragedy that has shaken the world—the Mahatma's assassination. The poignant grief of the orphaned nation is vividly pictured in the first few pages. Fifteen pages have been devoted to the reproduction of extracts from the messages that powered in from all over the world.

In the latter part of the book the author tries to analyse the forces that led to, what he calls, the eruption of the man-made volcano. His contention is that a superficial approach to the communal problem, had boosted the Muslim League, and that the price is now being paid for the fatal blunder of the vivisection of India. According to him, the futility and failure of non-violence have been too clearly proved. He is of the opinion

that if only our national leaders had not bungled, in the name of diplomacy, and surrendered in the name of compromise, but had mobilised earlier, the pent-up energies of the people and 'turned them dynamically into an all-out rebellion against imperialism,' imperialism and its by-product, disruptionism would have been consumed in the righteous conflagration, making vivisection and Pakistan out of question.

Whatever view is taken of his analysis it cannot be gainsaid that this is hardly the time for such post-mortem examination. The need of the hour is a sober appeal for constructive co-operation and united effort towards healing the wound that has bled the land. It is limiting and insulting Bapu's greatness to say that he has been sacrificed for Muslims; in truth he has been sacrificed for the sake of the entire humanity which has yet to learn the lesson of love and truth. The memory of the noble martyr should act as a spur to greater sacrifice and closer unity. It will be a sacrilege, to indulge in utterances that will help to raise the head of the hideous differences, that are today bowed down ashamed at their own crime. —K.D.

THE GANDHI GAZETTE. By SANQ. Published by N. S. Rao, 4/776, Tilak Road, Bombay 14. Pages 59. Price Rs. 3-4-0.

This is a book of sonnets in four sequences, portraying the story of a nation in bondage, being led by Gandhiji, the light of love, to freedom and deliverance. The first fourteen sonnets relate how the land of 'golden sons and daughters' had been plunged in griefs and groans, by the bonds of slavery. Then out of misery was born the lonely hope, and freedom was won. 'A people's soul can never die.'

The next 28 sonnets deal with the Calcutta and Delhi fasts of Gandhiji. 'Sheath the sword and save the saint' was the cry that rose from every corner as Gandhiji lay 'resigned in deathly vow for other's sin.'

The last seven sonnets are wrung out of the agony into which the nation was plunged at Gandhiji's death. But in truth the author knows, there is no reason for grief; for the 'light can never die; set it may; but rise it must once more in the sky.' Death's silence, then will have million tongues singing songs of love and truth.

The author ends his lament on the note that if only the dreams that Gandhiji dreamed become 'worlds begot', his death will not be in vain. Deeply moving in their pathos, as the sonnets are, there is yet a sublime serenity about them. Philosophy and patriotism have been blended in the message of cosmic oneness. —K.D.

OUR INDUSTRIAL PROBLEM. By K. V. KARANTHA. Published by Harsh Printery and Publications, Puttur, S. Kanara, Rs. 1-8-0.

This booklet is an attempt by a technologist to explain the implications of decentralization to bring about a new orientation in the matter of industrial expansion so as to prevent uneven distribution of wealth and the ravaging effects of unemployment. The author approaches and analyses the problem from the economic, humanitarian and the practical points of view and arrives at a "working compromise" between complete mechanization and the non-power Cottage Industry.

Conditions obtaining in India are far different from those of other new-world countries like U.S.A. or Canada where population is quite small compared to the vastness of natural resources. Hence the parroting of western methods of mass production "will be adding some more millions to the host of 300 millions half-starved farmers and famished landless labourers." The solution is sought in gradual decentralization of industries. Centralization results in concentration of power—political and economic—in the hands of a few; the rest have to be slaves. Besides the dehumanising effect, which machines in general have, centralisation tends to curb the initiative and stunt the growth of workers. The transition from centralized industries to decentralization can and should be effected without plunging the country into

chaos and confusion by carefully breaking up into small units those older industries which were flourishing on a fairly large scale as cottage units in India until the mechanical age set in, and setting them up in villages so as to make them the centres of production and distribution of consumer goods and self-sufficient in all walks of life. There are certain industries with which we have no option but to adopt the modern large scale process developed and practised by the rest of the world. The author explains with facts and figures, how the various industries especially the textile industry can effectively be decentralized with the help of new and beneficial modern inventions. While himself a wearer of Khadi and believer in village industries movement, he does not accord complete recognition to all the implications of Khadi Scheme and as has been said in the beginning, advocates a working compromise between a manually operated Charka and a huge spinning Mill, without the least unemployment while greatly increasing production. "The power driven Cottage loom can successfully face the competition of centralized textile mills." Regarding the state ownership and control of industries the author is of opinion that State should own and control the centralized heavy industries and protect and help decentralized "cottage factory units" from world competition till they gain ground. He concludes with an emphatic appeal to the politician as well as to the technologist for better understanding and co-operation in solving our industrial problems. —M.A.K.

THE RHYMED ENGLISH GEETA OR DIVINE SONG. By KAMESHWAR PRASAD, Bhagalpur. Price Rs. 3; Foreign, Rs. 5.

The Geeta can justly be proclaimed a world classic. It has been

rendered in all the main languages of the world and its teachings have permeated the cultural evolution of many a race. Its non-sectarian outlook constitutes its unique appeal to the world. What the Geeta has done is to achieve a synthesis of analysis of Hindu religions and secular thought, bringing within its compass all established systems of Hindu religions concept and practice. It has succeeded in the well nigh impossible task of combining the highest spiritual thought with the highest mundane, i.e., the Philosophy of action or Gitan. That is why all schools of thought in India have written their own commentaries or interpreted the Geeta according to their way of thinking. The very fact that a book lends itself to such varied application is in itself a remarkable achievement and that is why Geeta stands unique among the great books of the world.

To render such a work in English verse, that too when it is done by an Indian, is by no means an easy task. Every word in the Geeta is an electric switch that turns on a world of thought with unending ramifications. It is not easy to find parallel expressions in other languages—terseness and profundity are its special features. Considering these handicaps and limitations, the author's attempt is praiseworthy. Dr. Barnett, the Great Orientalist, has already attempted the translation of the Geeta in English verse, and Mr. Prasad's work may well serve as an Indian counterpart of the English work. On the whole, one may agree with Sri Dwaraka Prasad, who has written the foreword to the book, that the author has succeeded in rendering this work into English verse, "sweet to read and sweat to hear, very much appealing to the heart of the younger folk to enable the reader to grasp the subject easily."

—K.C.

TOPICAL PAMPHLETS

In view of the increasing demand for the Topical Pamphlets published by the Department of Information and Publicity, it has been decided to print the more important of them in a book form. The printing is expected to be over shortly. Such of those as would like to have them are requested to book their orders in advance.

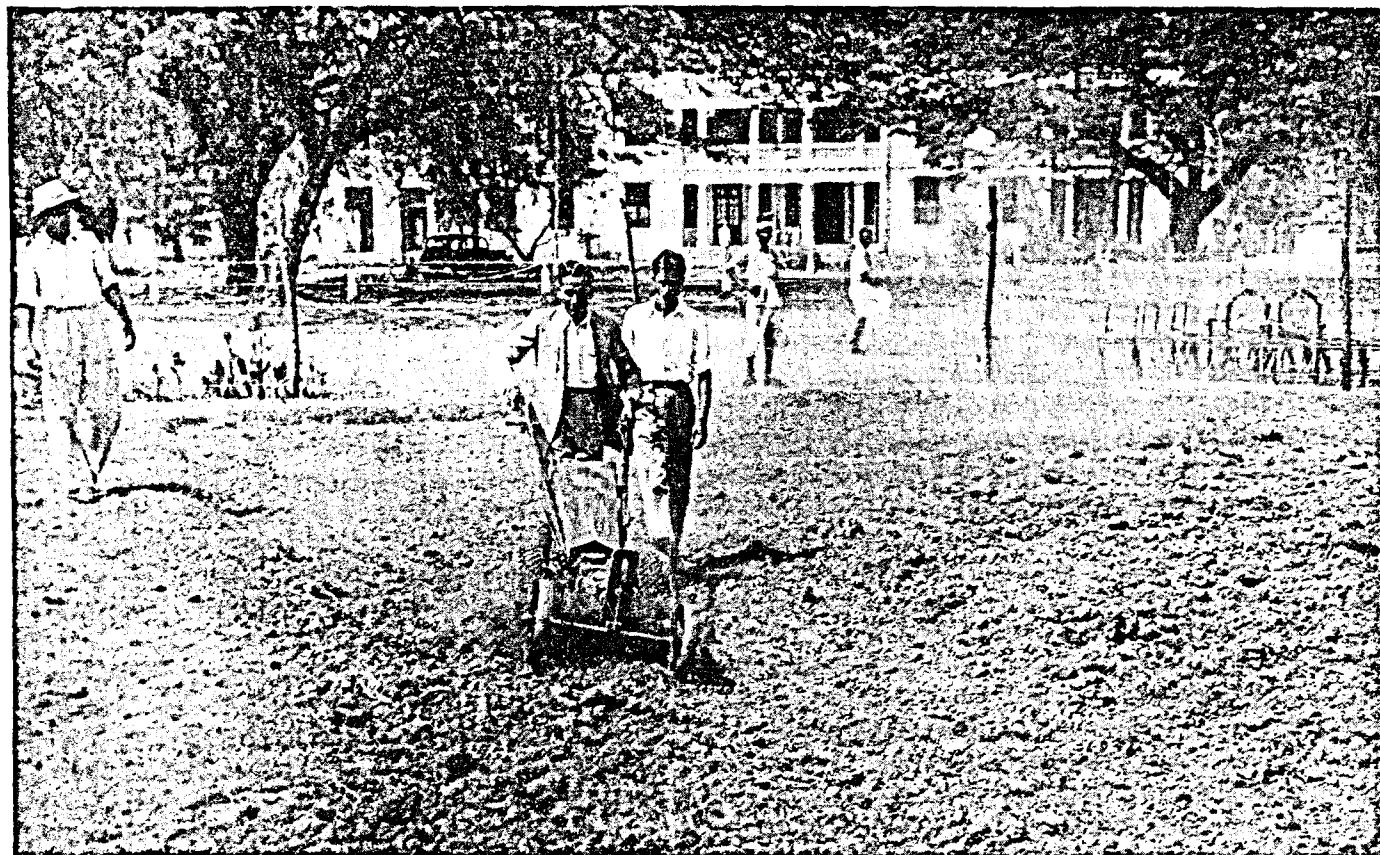


Hon'ble Minister for Industries is seen with the Director and Deputy Director of Resettlement and Employment who explained to him the working of the various employment offices in the Presidency. The Presidency map with the areas indicated is seen in the background

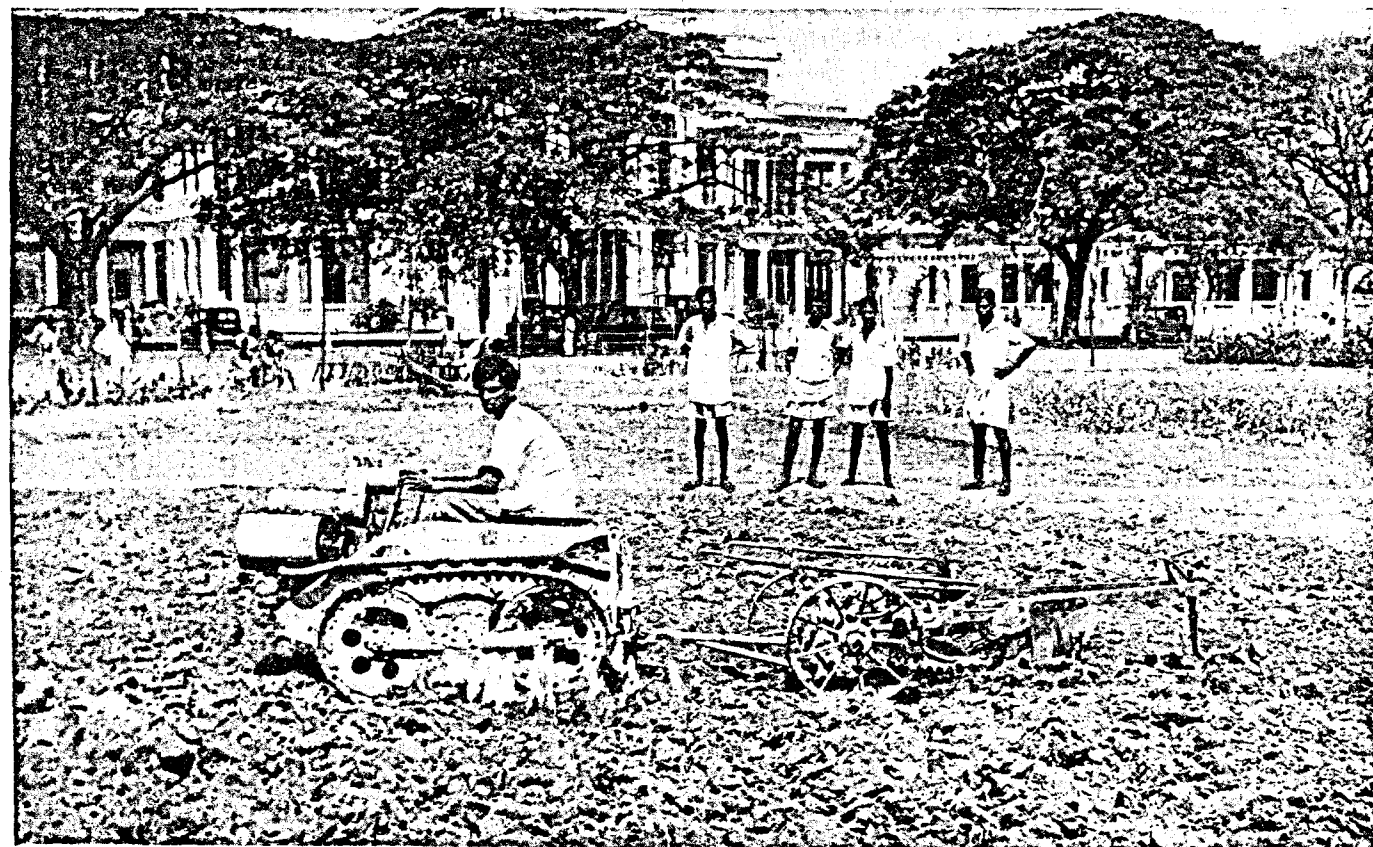
Sri Sitarama Reddi, Industries Minister with the staff of the Strathie Engineering Workshops for Ex-servicemen



Production of articles of domestic utility forms part of the work undertaken by the Ex-servicemen's Workshop



A Tractor in operation in the Government House compound at Mount Road



Another Tractor in action

Madras Information

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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

April 15, 1948

Current Topics

Food Front

Speaking on the food situation, recently the Hon'ble Premier in the course of a broadcast talk said: "The Central Government are taking steps to get over the food crisis that faces our province. On this account our responsibility increases still further. The production of foodgrains in the Andhra districts is more than the average. Owing to the failure of the monsoons in the Tamil and Malabar districts, all dry and wet crops in all districts except Tanjore failed. It is, therefore, the duty of the Andhra brethren to save their Tamil and Malayalee brethren. Foodgrains must especially be procured in abundance in the Northern Circars and distributed among other districts. The agriculturists living there have remitted only 40 per cent of the quantity due from them. Of the procurable produce, 60 per cent is still lying unprocured."

Production Statistics

The total quantity of rice procured up to 20th March 1948 is 284,527 tons as against 708,700 tons, the quantity expected.

	Target.	Procured.
East Godavari.	121,800	64,280
Guntur ..	84,000	28,072
Kistna ..	179,200	88,462
Nellore ..	50,000	12,698
West Godavari.	273,700	91,015

Communist Trouble

It is understood that, in a few villages people refuse to part with foodgrains owing to the instigation of the followers of a particular political party. The Communists induced the ryots not to harvest even the little crops that survived the failure of the monsoons. It is needless to say that it is atrocious in order to suit party purposes to induce the innocent people to resort to riots, by increasing the difficulties of obtaining foodgrains, in these days when the monsoons have failed and when there is deficit of foodgrains.

So also, in the matter of cloth the members of this particular political party induce the mill labourers to refuse to accept the decision of the arbitrators and to strike work. As the result of this we are forced with a cloth-famine. The capitalists not realizing the awakening among the labourers and the world situation are bent upon making profits.

Strikes and their effects

On account of the strike at Coimbatore for the last ten weeks, one day's work that can be turned out by 30 lakhs of workers has gone in vain.

This has meant a loss of about 34,000 bales of yarn and about 34 lakhs of yards of cloth to the consumer and a loss of wages of about Rs. 50 lakhs to the workers. The handloom weaver and the consumer have consequently been suffering. About 40,000 workers have also been suffering. All this loss cannot be made good, and it shows that the labourers, capitalists and politicians compete with each other and ignore the welfare of the nation. In consideration of their individual class interest they forget that the poor people are deprived of their legitimate food and clothing.

What the Hon'ble Premier has said above needs careful noting. It has been pointed out in these columns that a democratic State is not something apart from the people success, depending on the extent and manner of public co-operation. At no time in the past has such co-operation been more necessary than at this juncture.

Home Guards

The organization of Home Guards is a matter of common knowledge now. In a transitional period such as this country is passing through now, it is imperative that as many bulwarks as possible are provided against

possible upheavals or disturbance of normal conditions. In this connection Dr. Subbarayan observes in the course of an article:

The main object which impelled us to introduce legislation (regarding Home Guards) was to create a body which would help the Police to deal with situations that might arise during any commotion or public disorder or grave menace that would undermine the stability of public life or imperil the moral well being of the citizens. It is a well-known principle in all countries that, as far as possible, civil commotion should not be interfered with by the armed forces, because the function of the Army is of a different category altogether, though when the necessity arises and when the situation gets out of control the aid of the army may have to be sought. The Police Force will ordinarily tackle such a situation. But in order to assist the Police force the Government wish to have a voluntary force who will aid and assist the Police and be subject to the disciplined control and surveillance of the Police Department for the time being.

IN THIS ISSUE

A natural Scenery from the West-coast—*Frontispiece*.

Current Topics.

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—
A Digest.

Departments' Corner.

Topics of the Day.

Special articles.

Prohibition News Letter.

Delhi Diary.

Other Provinces—Highlights.

Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings.

Books and Publications.

Home Guards' Part in Wartime

The part played by Home Guards in England and in other countries during the last war is quite well known to everyone. These Home Guards were able to relieve the regular Military Units of their ordinary normal internal defence duties enabling them thereby to pursue the enemy and engage them in action on foreign soil. The patrol of the coast line, the arrangement for the internal security, the maintenance of public order, the upkeep of public utility and national services, were some of the duties carried out by these Guards and their services really contributed much to enhance the power, prestige and efficiency of the Nation during very critical times.

Every event must have its lesson to impart. What the Home Guards were able to do during wartime, we could and should, with greater benefit and lasting advantage, devise to achieve by turning their activities in the direction of peaceful pursuits and towards securing abiding tranquillity, especially at a time when we are besieged with communal disturbances all over, with clash of interests, with economic upheavals, social disorders, agrarian riots and labour disputes.

Servants of the People

In our efforts to combat the present forces of disorder and to attain the goal of internal peace and fellowship, it is hoped that the Home Guards will have a very useful and glorious part to play by rendering every possible assistance to the Police in carrying out their instructions in a disciplined and exemplary manner. Far from being a menace to the people the Home Guards have the greatest opportunity of being the servants of the people and of redeeming them from the thralldom of communal strife and internecine bickerings which are constantly flaring up and are a menace to society. The Home Guards are a sort of a reserve power that will be brought into use only when there is disorder, riot and communal clash. They are a second line of defence to the Police in case of emergencies. I sincerely hope and wish that these Home Guards will have no occasion to be called out to duty and it will be a happy event if this happens to be the case; nonetheless we have to be prepared for all exigencies and that is the reason why we have taken such urgent steps to have this auxiliary aid to the Police force established.

Training in Self-defence

We, in this Province, are fortunate in having communal amity. But still skirmishes do take place in border districts and in other districts on account of agrarian and labour disputes. The Homeguards are created to meet situations arising out of these conditions. Besides, as a result of this measure, an opportunity is given to our men to train themselves in self-defence and self-reliance. These men

should inspire confidence in the minds of all sections and of all communities that the Government they serve is a secular Government which has to safeguard the interests of all communities and sections of people and which knows no distinction between Muslim and Hindu whom, both, under the great inspiration and leadership of the glorious Saint of modern age, with his mighty weapon of Ahimsa, they have to take care of, under our common heritage.

Government-manufactured Articles

The Government's decision that Khadi should take the premier place in regard to the fulfilment of the requirements of the various departments, is a tribute to the memory of Gandhiji and is also in consonance with the policy of the Government of promoting the Khadi industry in the Province, as part and parcel of the scheme for rural development. It has been directed that all the officers of the Government in the Police, Jail, Medical and other departments, who have been enjoined to use uniforms should use Khadi for the purpose and that similarly the requirements of all the departments of the Government for cloth, curtains, towels, table-cloths, etc., should be met from Khadi. The only exception to this general rule that is proposed to be made is such cases where a special variety of cloth is required for a specific purpose and in such cases the reason why Khadi cannot be used should be explained to the Government and their sanction obtained for the use of cloth other than Khadi.

A similar policy of encouraging the use of articles manufactured in Government industrial or other concerns like the Soap Factory and the Malt Manufacturing Factory and by the Paper section of the Industries Department, has also been decided upon by the Government. Rightly has it been pointed out that it is not compatible with the spirit with which the Government have embarked on the production of these articles of general consumption, if Government institutions and local bodies and other institutions which enjoy Government grants do not encourage them by using them for their needs. Some of these articles produced or manufactured by the Government concerns, such as soap, malt, shark liver oil and so on are very popular among the public and command a good sale. There is no reason, therefore,

why Government offices, educational institutions, hospitals or other public institutions should not secure their requirements of these articles whenever required for use from them. It is not primarily the intention that these concerns should make a profit at the cost of the general public; but, other things being equal, if the demand for articles manufactured in Government concerns goes up and the working of these concerns becomes a profit-earning proposition, then it will be profit justifiably earned.

Attention may, therefore, be drawn to the orders issued by the Government that hereafter products manufactured in factories and other institutions run by the Government should alone be purchased and only such articles as are not manufactured or produced by the Government should be purchased from other concerns. The order of preference in regard to the purchase of articles required by various departments has been laid down as follows:—

- (1) Products manufactured in factories and other institutions run by the Madras Government;
- (2) Products manufactured in other Government institutions in Madras Province;
- (3) Products manufactured in India; and
- (4) Products manufactured in other countries.

It is hoped that Heads of Departments of the Madras Government will take note of these instructions and will make a requisition to the Government of their total requirements of various articles, manufactured by the Government, during 1948-49. The policy behind these orders should receive general appreciation and whole-hearted support.

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Fee Remission

The Government of Madras have decided that one-fifth of the additional income derived from the increase in the levy of instalments of school fees in the Government secondary schools from eight to ten should be utilized for the grant of half fee remissions to poor and deserving pupils of all communities studying in those schools. They have, therefore, directed that half fee remissions at the rate of two in each of the forms one to six in all the Government secondary schools be granted every year in future and that the remissions for 1947-48 be allowed from 1st January 1948.

The remission should be awarded only to pupils who are not in receipt of any other scholarships or concessions and only on production of a poverty certificate from a responsible person as prescribed in the Madras Educational Rules and on the basis of competitive examinations as usual.

The remissions are to be granted under the same conditions prescribed for the award of Government scholarships.

[March 15]

Headmasters under Local Bodies

The question has been raised whether the allowance to headmasters of secondary schools, sanctioned by Government in their order, dated the 10th May 1947, with retrospective effect from 1st January 1947, can be paid to those who were on duty on 1st January 1947, irrespective of their seniority or tenure of appointment.

The Government consider that the allowance referred to above is for performing the duties, attached to the post of headmaster, and have ordered that it should be paid to those, who were on duty, on 1st January 1947, and that the amount of the allowance should be fixed with reference to the strength of the school, in which they were serving during that period. The transfers, effected with reference to paragraph 6 of the Government Order, referred to above, should not affect the claim for the allowance. The strength in classes IV and V should also be taken into account for the purpose of

fixing the amount of allowance, payable to headmasters of secondary schools, as the allowance relates to the number of pupils, whom the headmaster has to manage.

[March 15]

Dearness Allowance to Staff in Aided Institutions

In their order, dated 11th September 1946, the Government had directed that in addition to the teaching grant, a special grant, equal to half the difference between the maximum amount of dearness allowance, admissible at Government rates, and the amount of allowance, paid by the managements to the staff in aided educational institutions (other than elementary) in 1945-46, be paid to those managements, which did not pay at Government rates, subject to the condition that the managements should disburse to the staff the amount of allowance due, out of the special grant. The arrangement was continued for 1946-47 also. As all the managements of aided educational institutions are not paying dearness allowance at Government rates even in the current year, the Government have directed that the system be continued for 1947-48 also. The grant for that year will be paid in 1948-49 on the post-payment system.

[March 15]

Salt

The Government understand that in certain areas of the Province an artificial scarcity of salt has been created by the manufacturers of salt in collusion with the merchants with the result that the public are being compelled to pay an unreasonable price in those areas. The public are informed that the Government have fixed the maximum ex-factory prices of salt in all the producing districts of the Province and Collectors of all the districts have been empowered to fix the wholesale and retail prices of salt for the various consuming areas in their respective districts, on the basis of the ex-factory prices at the sources of supply. Salt should, therefore, be sold to the public only at the controlled rates fixed by the Collectors in their respective districts. The public are informed that wherever they have a reasonable doubt that they are being

compelled to pay a price higher than the controlled rate, they may ascertain the controlled price from the nearest Tahsildar. They are also requested to bring to the notice of the local Revenue authorities all instances of profiteering, that may come to their notice. The public are requested to co-operate with the Government in enforcing the controlled rates and in checking blackmarketing and profiteering in this most essential commodity.

[March 19]

Handloom Cloth

In pursuance of their liberal policy in regard to handloom cloth, the Government have ordered that no permits under the Madras Cotton Cloth and Apparel (Exports) Control Order, 1946, need be taken out for the transport of handloom cloth and apparel from this Province to Coorg and the States of Sandur, Cochin, Travancore and Mysore. Clause 4 of the Madras Cotton, Cloth and Apparel (Exports) Control Order, 1946, has been amended accordingly.

[March 19]

Encouragement of Khadi

In memory of Mahatma Gandhi, the Government have directed that all the officers of the Government in the Police, Jail, Medical and other Departments, who have been enjoined to use uniforms, should use Khadi for the purpose and that the requirements of all the Departments of Government for cloth for curtains, towels, table-cloths, etc., should be met from Khadi. Exception can, however, be made where a special variety of cloth is required for specific purposes, and in such cases, the reason why Khadi cannot be used, should be explained to Government and their sanction obtained for the use of cloth other than Khadi.

The Government have also directed that hereafter products like soap, paper, cloth, malt, shark liver oil, etc., manufactured in factories and other institutions run by the Government should alone be purchased by all the Departments of Government, and only such articles as are not manufactured or produced by the Government, should be purchased from other

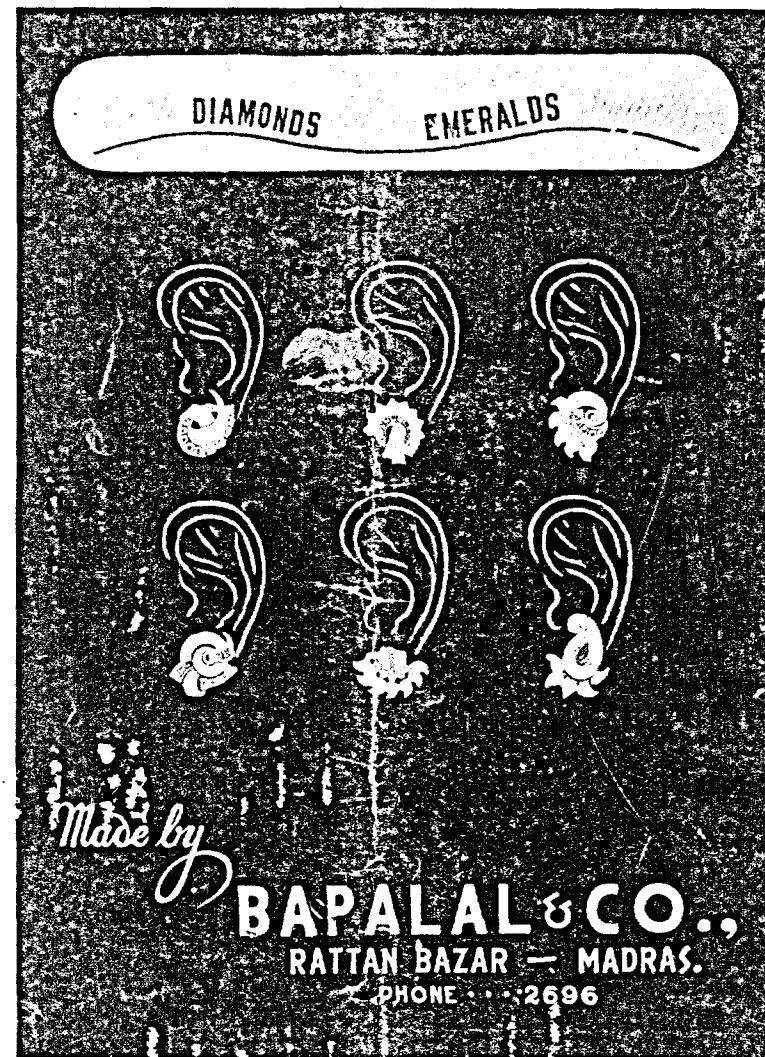
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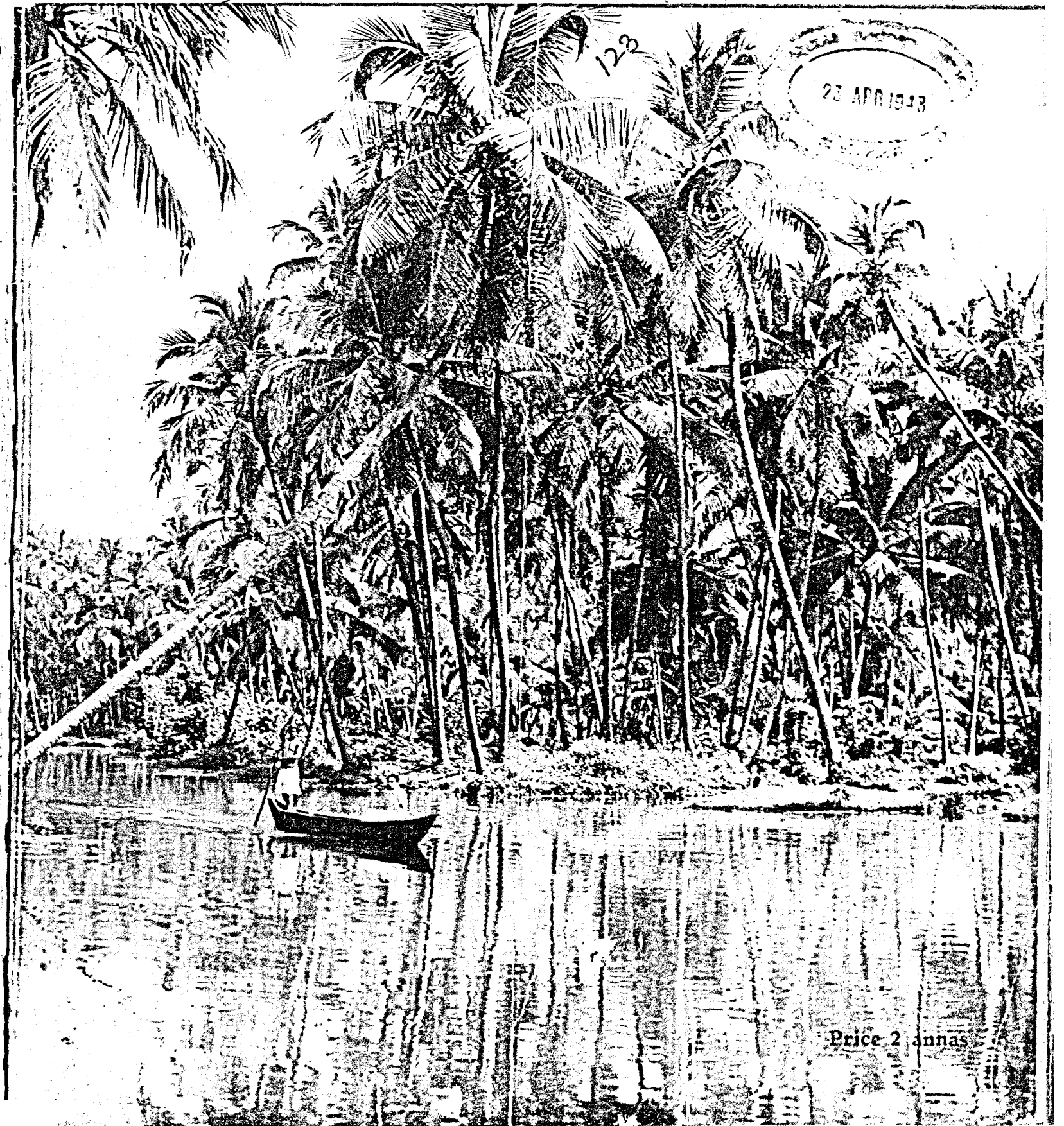
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Telephone: 2696

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sources. The order of preference for the purchase of articles required by various departments should be as follows:—(a) products manufactured in factories and other institutions run by the Madras Government; (b) products manufactured in other than Government institutions in Madras Province; (c) products manufactured in India and (d) products manufactured in other countries.

The directions above will apply in the case of local bodies and educational institutions enjoying grants from the Government.

[March 20]

Relief to Oil Industry

It has been represented to the Government that the country chekku oil industry is in need of some relief in the matter of assessment to sales-tax. A Committee has accordingly been appointed to examine the feasibility of exempting from sales-tax the owners of a single country chekku or in the alternative of a certain quantity of oil produced from country chekkus. The Committee will meet from 1st to 4th April 1948 in the office of the Revenue Divisional Officer at Erode. Individuals or associations interested in the subject may send memoranda on the subject by post to the Commercial Tax Officer, Coimbatore, who is the Secretary of the Committee so as to reach him not later than 4th April 1948, or may appear in person before the Committee on the dates mentioned above in the Office of the Revenue Divisional Officer, Erode.

[March 21]

District Board Members

The Government have directed that the members, who are to be elected to the district boards, mentioned below, at the next elections, shall come into office at noon on the 1st day of July 1948, instead of on the first day of April 1948, as previously ordered:—

*Names of district boards:—*Vizagapatam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna, Guntur, Tinnevely, Madurai, Salem, Nellore, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Chingleput, North Arcot, Tanjore, Ramnad, Malabar and South Kanara.

[March 22]

Ambulances for Medical Purposes

The Government have sanctioned an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 37,500 on the purchase of three 135" W.D. Dodge chassis and their conversion into ambulances, two for Government General Hospital, Madras, and the other for the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram.

[March 22]

Transport Permits for Cloth

The Provincial Textile Commissioner issues the following statement to the Press:—

Consequent to the relaxation of control over the distribution of cotton cloth, the Government of India have decided that the powers delegated to the Provincial Textile Commissioner to issue transport permits for cloth (other than handloom cloth) under the Cotton Textiles (Control of Movement) Order, 1946, should be withdrawn. This decision has been taken with a view to ensuring that all movements of cloth are permitted only by a Central authority who can co-ordinate such movements and maintain accounts of the quantities moved from one zone to another, so as to ensure that the targets for mill-made cloth fixed by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, for various zones are correctly adhered to. All applicants for transport permits for cloth (other than handloom cloth) from the South Deficit Zone are, therefore, advised to contact the Textile Commissioner, Wittet Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay, hereafter. All such applications received in this office in future will be forwarded to the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, from this office.

Compulsory Exhibition of Approved Films

With the revival of the Information Films of India, the Government of India desire that, as during the period of war, every cinema exhibitor should, in the post-war period also, be compulsorily required to exhibit films approved by them, and also such other documentary and instructional films as may be produced by Provincial Governments or particular films of educational or informatory value, which may be considered by Provincial Governments to require public exhibition.

[March 24]

Export of Handloom Cloth

The Provincial Textile Commissioner issues the following statement to the Press:—

The Government have decided to relax the existing restrictions on the export of handloom cloth from this Province to the extent detailed below:—

(i) Movement of handloom cloth and apparel between the Madras Province and Coorg and the States of Sandur, Cochin, Travancore and Mysore in the South Deficit Zone will be freely allowed and such cloth and apparel has been exempted from the provisions of the Madras Cotton Cloth and Apparel (Exports) Control Order, 1946.

(ii) In the applications for the export of handloom cloth to areas outside the South Deficit Zone, but within the Indian Union, the name and address of the consignee need not be given and the 'means of transport' whether by passenger or goods train may simply be shown as "by rail."

Resettlement of Ex-service men

As the area covered by the nine Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges set up by the Government of India in the province of Madras at certain selected places, to deal with the resettlement and employment of ex-service men and discharged war workers in civil life, is large, extending to two or three districts, the Government of Madras have established a District Employment Officer in each district, except the Nilgiris district and the districts, where Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges are located. In view of the growing unemployment in the province, in the wake of prohibition, decontrol, etc., the Government of Madras have accepted, in principle, the proposal of the Directorate of Resettlement and Employment, Madras, to extend the scope of the Exchanges to all categories of employment seekers. The Government have, therefore, directed that the Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges and District Employment Officers should start at once the registration and placement of all categories of employment seekers, as an experimental measure in the first instance, without any additional staff.

[March 25]

Fuel Oils

Numerous complaints are being received by the Government of Madras regarding supply of high speed diesel oil and other fuel oils required for pumping sets, mica mines, glass factories, etc. The Government desire to clarify the position of oil supply for the information of the public.

High speed diesel and other fuel oils have been in short supply for some time.

As a result of the failure of the north-east monsoon this year, agriculturists in the affected areas of North Arcot, South Arcot, Chingleput and Chittoor districts were forced to use an increased number of pump sets for agricultural operations, most of which are run on high speed diesel oil. In order to see that the food production is not affected, Government have asked the oil companies to conserve all available supplies of the oils to the affected areas and the companies have agreed to do so. The Government of India have also agreed to supply through the oil companies one lakh gallons of high speed and light diesel oil during February-March-April, for agricultural operations in this Province. This Government are sure that this supply will greatly help the agriculturists to work their pump sets.

As regards supply of fuel oils to other essential consumers, the Government are drawing up a priority list in consultation with the oil companies to ensure equitable distribution of the oils.

The Government are also confident that the position in regard to the supply of the oils will improve in the very near future.

[March 25]

Well Subsidy Scheme

Under the existing orders, a well is eligible for the concession under the New Well Subsidy Scheme only if it is completed by the 30th of June 1948. The last date for the disbursement of subsidy-loans is 31st March 1948. As the time available between 1st April 1948 and 30th June 1948 is not adequate, the Government have ordered that the time for completion of work under the New Well Subsidy Scheme should be extended till 30th September 1948. This concession will apply to all ryots to whom loans were disbursed prior to 1st April 1948.

[March 30]

Residential Scholarships

The Government of Madras have empowered the Commissioner of Labour to vary the rates of residential scholarships, sanctioned by the Labour department, to the students of Arts and Science Colleges and high schools, so as to enable them to meet their full lodging and boarding charges in the respective hostels, with effect from the current financial year.

The Government have also directed that the existing rule, regarding residence in a recognized hostel in respect of the recipients of residential scholarships from the Labour department, should be insisted on generally, and that the Commissioner of Labour should address the Government for the relaxation of this rule in really deserving cases.

[March 30]

Lift Irrigation

Representations having been received from ryots, soliciting information about the availability and other particulars regarding oil engines and pumps, which are to be used for the purpose of lift irrigation, the following details are furnished:—

A limited number of small size oil engines of horse-powers, ranging from 6 to 16, and suitable for well-pumping, is available for direct distribution to agriculturists from the local importing representatives, on the recommendation of the Agricultural department. The approximate prices of the different types available are: *Crude Oil Engines*: Lister 8 h.p., 1,200 R.P.M., Rs. 3,700; Lister 16 h.p., 1200 R.P.M., Rs. 5,200; Pelapone 10 h.p., 1000 R.P.M., Rs. 3,600; *High Speed Diesel Engines*: A.B.C. Engines 13 h.p., 1000 R.P.M., Rs. 3,200; A.B.C. Engines 6.5 h.p., 1000 R.P.M., Rs. 2,000; Turner Engines 3.7 h.p., 1000 R.P.M., Rs. 3,000.

The small h.p. Engines normally consume nearly 1½ to 2 gallons of oil per day. The cost of crude oil varies between 9 to 10 annas per gallon and high speed diesel oil costs nearly Re. 1-4-0 per gallon. The consumption of high speed diesel oil will be somewhat less than crude oil for the same of engine.

Agriculturists, requiring any of the engines mentioned above, may apply either to the concerned District Agricultural Officer or the Director of Agriculture for further particulars.

[March 25]

Training of Clerks

In pursuance of the recommendation of the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee, the Government have directed that the scheme for training of clerks be abolished immediately after the present session of the training school at Cuddalore is over.

[March 31]

Cases under the Agriculturists Relief Act

The number of cases under the Agriculturists Relief Act disposed of by Civil Courts in the Province for the quarter ending 31st December 1947 was 351. For the period between 22nd March 1938 (when the Act came into force) and 31st December 1947 (covering 118 months) the total number of cases disposed of was 208,097.

The amount involved in applications disposed of under sections 8, 9, 13, 18 (1), 19 and 19-A of the Act for the quarter ending 31st December 1947 was Rs. 2,08,120. The amount involved in such applications for the period between 22nd March 1938 and 31st December 1947 stood at Rs. 9,82,48,118.

The amount scaled down by the courts on the applications of indebted agriculturists for the quarter ending 31st December 1947 was Rs. 1,21,236. For the period between 22nd March 1938 and 31st December 1947, the amount scaled down was Rs. 4,72,36,878.

The amount of reduction by scaling down of debts for the quarter ending 31st December 1947 was Rs. 86,884. For the period between 22nd March 1938 and 31st December 1947, the amount of reduction by scaling down debts was Rs. 5,10,11,240 and the percentage of reduction is 52.

The number of cases pending at the close of the quarter ending 31st December 1947 was 306.

The figures given above exclude the number of cases voluntarily settled by parties without recourse to courts.

[April 1]

Grant for Political Sufferers

In a Press Note, dated 10th January 1948, it was announced that applications for the grant of land to political sufferers should be made to the Collectors of districts before 29th February 1948. The Government desire to make it known to all concerned that the Collectors of the districts

have been instructed to treat applications received subsequent to 29th February 1948 and before 31st March 1948 as having been received in time. Such applicants who sent their applications subsequent to 29th February 1948 but before 31st March 1948 and which were returned to them as being "time barred" may again send their applications to the concerned Collectors immediately.

2. The Government have also decided to constitute a non-official Advisory Committee for each revenue district and assignments will be made by the Collector in consultation with the committee at an early date. [April 3]

Corruption among Government Servants

During the month of December 1947, corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 220 persons including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the previous month. Of these, 4 were let off as charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 203 were pending at the end of the month. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of the remaining 13 persons and they were suitably punished. The names and designations of these persons and the punishment awarded to them are as follow:—

T. S. Raghunadachari, attender, Education department (pay reduced by one increment for a year); Mr. Zawar Hassan Khan, Assistant Transport Officer, Anantapur (removed from service); Ramarao and Laxmayya, police constables, Vizagapatam South district, and Abdul Kareem, head constable, Chittoor district (dismissed from service); Thirugnanasambandam and Sodalaimuthu, police constables of 'X' Branch, C.I.D. (convicted and sentenced to six months R.I.); Kesavulu, police constable, Railway

Police, Madras (pay reduced for two years); T. Abubacker, acting record attender, Judicial department, North Malabar district (removed from service); Sri R. Chockalinga Vanniar, lower division clerk, Revenue department, Tanjore district (increment stopped); Mr. Susai Michael, clerk, Revenue department, Ramnad district (dismissed from service) and Sri Harkesava Raju, Tahsildar, Tinnevely district (sentenced by a Criminal Court); and Gopalan Nair, peon, Excise department, Tinnevely Circle (pay reduced to bottom of scale).

[April 6]
During the month of November 1947, corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 239 persons including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the previous month. Of these 239, seventeen were let off as charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 209 persons were pending at the end of the month. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of the remaining 13 persons and they were suitably punished. Particulars relating to the persons who were punished and the nature of punishment awarded are given below:—

Police department—Six persons—
(1) Udayanath Patnaik, police constable, Vizagapatam North district—Dismissed.
(2) P. Bapaniah, police constable, East Godavari district—Dismissed.
(3) Ramayya, police constable, Bellary district—Dismissed.
(4) Sreeramulu, police constable, Ramnad district—Pay reduced from Rs. 33-8-0 to Rs. 32 for two years.
(5) Muthuswamy, head constable, Salem district—Compulsorily retired.
(6) Sappani, recruit police constable, Trichinopoly district—Discharged.
Food department—Five persons—
(1) Sri V. L. Narasimhan, Deputy Tahsildar, Firewood Reception Depot,

Salt Cotaurs—Reverted to Revenue department, Nellore district.

(2) Sowrapa Pedda Narayana, chowkidar, District Rationing Office, Anantapur—Removed from service.

(3) Gopalakrishna Pillai, Enquiry Officer, II-A Circle Office, Madras—Services terminated.

(4) Alluru, clerk, II-A Circle Office, Madras—Services terminated.

(5) Mr. Mohideen Sahib, clerk, II-B Circle Office, Madras—Services terminated.

Revenue department—Two persons—

(1) K. Venkateswarulu, clerk, Guntur district—Removed from service.

(2) Sri R. V. Lakshmana Ayyar, permanent Tahsildar and acting Additional First-class Magistrate, Malabar district—Dismissed. [April 1]

Certified School Pupils

As the public are aware, the Government have sanctioned a scheme, granting scholarships to deserving pupils in the Junior Certified School, Bellary, with a view to enable them to pursue higher studies in an educational institution, or a higher course of training in an industrial school, after their discharge from the Certified School. A proposal to extend the scheme to other Certified Schools is under consideration.

Meanwhile, as it has been reported that pupils and ex-pupils of Certified Schools, and girls in the Stri Sadana (attached to the Vigilance Association) find it very difficult to get admission in the general schools under the Education department, the Government have directed that scholarship-holders from Certified Schools should be given preference in admission in all Secondary Schools under the management of Government, local bodies and private agencies. [April 5]

Departments' Corner

Revenue Department

Alternative employment for ex-tappers

An interesting experiment is being carried on in Madura in the marketing of palmyrah jaggery produced by the jaggery manufacturing co-operative societies formed for the benefit of the ex-tappers in the district. Eight societies have so far been organized of which three societies near Dindigul have provided work for about 200 tappers. To enable the ex-tappers to get the maximum price for the jaggery produced by them, it has been arranged to pool the jaggery manufactured by the members of the respective societies and sell it by public auction at Dindigul. The Dindigul Co-operative Sale Society, Limited has undertaken to transport the jaggery produced by these societies, conduct the auction sale every week and pay the sale-proceeds to the societies concerned after deducting a commission of 2 annas per maund (8 viss). The tappers appreciate the idea of jaggery being pooled and sold in public auction as the prices they obtain are fairly satisfactory. It is proposed to try this experiment of sale in public auction in other prohibition districts where jaggery is produced on a large scale.

Industries Department

Post-war schemes

Industrial and technical education form an important aspect in the advancement of education of youngsters of this Province. Industrial and trade schools under the control of the Department of Industries and Commerce are functioning at Bellary, Mangalore, Madura and Calicut. Subjects like weaving, printing, dyeing, etc., are taught in these institutions. The School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, has been expanded and the old Government School of Technology has been reorganized in the new name of the "Central Polytechnic" with full time courses of three years' duration. There are also 82 recognized aided industrial schools. Every year the Government are giving building and equipment grants to these schools. Industrial scholarships are awarded to pupils learning a trade or profession in recognized industrial schools and also

to provide facilities for deserving students of this Province to undergo technical training in well equipped institutes in India.

As a measure of Post-war Development, New Polytechnics at Madura, Madras, Calicut, Cocanada, Mangalore, Vyyur and Coimbatore have been recently started. These institutions impart education in civil, mechanical, electrical, fisheries, engineering, etc. A Technological Diploma Examination Board conducts a common final examination in the theoretical and practical subjects for all the institutions and arranges to issue 'Diplomas'.

The Government have also under consideration the opening of a "Technical Teachers Training Course" in the Central Polytechnic, Madras; the diploma holders in different subjects will be trained for technical teachers' course. Proposals for enacting an Apprentices Act providing for the apprenticeship in industrial subjects are also under the active consideration of this Government.

The Province produces the largest quantity of leather but the bulk of it is exported abroad for conversion into finished products. Although an extensive and valuable tanning industry has been built up in this Province, the methods adopted are still crude, and so far no attempt has been made to develop the leather industry on correct lines. The conditions created by the war have stimulated the manufacture of different kinds of leather but progress in this direction has been hampered by the dearth of trained technical personnel. The Leather Trades Institute, Madras, was engaged partly on research and partly in imparting instruction in the manufacture of leather goods to prospective workers in factories. There was a clear necessity for an Institute of Leather Technology to train the men necessary for the development of the leather industry on scientific lines in this Province. A proposal to this effect was therefore included in the post-war programme and has since been carried out.

The following new courses of study in the Institute have been established:—

(1) A diploma course of three years' duration in Leather Technology.

(2) A certificate course of three years' duration in Leather Goods Manufacture.

(3) Tannery operative course of one year duration.

(4) A part-time course of six months' duration in some special branches of the Industry.

Public Works Department

During February 1948, twelve items of road and bridge works at a total estimated cost of Rs. 30.39 lakhs were sanctioned by Government. They include the two major bridges costing each over Rs. 5 lakhs, one in Malabar district and the other in South Kanara.

Judicial Department

Civil Courts in 1946.

The permanent Civil Judicial Officers employed in the Province on 31st December 1946 were 14 High Court Judges, 1 Chief Judge and 1 Puisne Judge of the Court of Small Causes, 1 Principal Judge and 1 Additional Judge of the City Civil Court, 26 District Judges (including 1 Additional District Judge), 3 Agents to the Provincial Government in the Agency Tracts, 37 Subordinate Judges (including 2 Additional Subordinate Judges), 7 Special Assistant Agents in the Agency Tracts, 1 Revenue Officer (Deputy Collector), Cochin, exercising the powers of a Subordinate Judge, 140 District Munsifs (including 5 Additional District Munsifs), 11 Agency Munsifs and 4 Revenue Officers, exercising the powers of District Munsifs. Seventy-five Revenue Officers tried revenue suits as against 74 in the previous year; 5,763 village munsifs and 3,636 panchayat courts tried civil suits as against 5,674 village munsifs and 3,330 panchayat courts during the previous year. In the High Court, 2 temporary Additional Judges continued to sit throughout the year.

Suits

The total number of suits instituted in all the courts of the Province was 218,516 as against 218,160 in the previous year. Calculated on this basis, there was one suit for every 226 persons in the Province. The suits instituted in the Presidency town amounted to 1 for every 135 persons and in the mufassal to 1 for every 228 persons. There was an increase of 1,852 suits in the revenue courts, 5,628 in the mufassal civil courts, 492 in the Presidency Court of Small Causes, 24 in the City Civil Court, Madras and 90 in the High Court and a decrease of 7,730 in the village and panchayat courts. Eleven districts showed an increase in suits, while the remaining 13 districts showed a fall.

HARIJAN UPLIFT ACTIVITIES IN NORTH ARCOT



Hon'ble Mr. Kurmayya proceeding to the scene of the meeting.



A meeting organized by the Madras Friends Welfare Association was held in North Arcot. Hon'ble Mr. Sivashanmugam Pillai and Kurmayya were present.



Hon'ble Mr. Kurmayya inspected a chert with the Revenue Divisional Officer.

Original Suits in the High Court

On the Original Side of the High Court 440 suits were instituted during the year, as against 350 in the previous year, and the total number of suits for disposal was 756, as against 588 in the previous year. The number of suits pending at the close of the year was 388, as against 315 at the close of the previous year. Out of the suits disposed of, 177 were after full trial, and their average duration was 424 days. The Master disposed of 79 suits and settled issues in 272 suits. The number of interlocutory applications disposed of was 2,968 of which 1,571 were disposed of by the Master.

Revision and References

The number of revision petitions filed in the High Court was 1,510, of which 363 were under section 25 of the Provincial Small Cause Courts Act. The number of petitions disposed of was 1,281, 80 per cent of which was dismissed. At the end of the year 1,198 petitions were pending. During the year, 80 references (17 under the Indian Divorce Act, 2 under the Stamp Act and 61 under the Income-tax Act) were made and 20 references were pending from the previous year. Out of these, 19 were disposed of and 81 were pending. Out of the cases disposed of, 11 were under the Indian Divorce Act, 6 under the Income-tax and two under the Stamp Act.

Legal Practitioners

One hundred and sixty advocates were enrolled during the year and a sum of Rs. 99,375 was realized on account of fees; the sanads of 3,074 first-grade pleaders (of whom nine renewed their sanads for the later half of the year) and 179 second-grade pleaders were renewed. This yielded a revenue of Rs. 79,648. Twenty-six cases of alleged professional misconduct by advocates were brought to the notice of the High Court during the year. Twenty-nine cases of alleged professional misconduct by advocates were disposed of during the year under report. Out of these, 15 cases were summarily dismissed and 11 were dismissed, after calling for the explanation of the advocates concerned. Out of the three cases heard by the Full Bench, the case against one advocate was dismissed, while two advocates were struck off the rolls. Thirty-two cases of alleged professional misconduct by pleaders were brought to the notice of the High Court during the year. Thirty-seven cases of alleged professional misconduct by pleaders were

disposed of during the year. Of these, 16 cases were summarily dismissed, 2 were dismissed, after calling for the explanation of the pleaders concerned, and in 16 cases the report of acquittal by subordinate courts were accepted under section 15 of the Legal Practitioners Act. The three cases heard by the Full Bench ended in dismissal.

Electricity Department

The Government have recently sanctioned the following schemes involving the outlay noted against each :—

2. Eleven extensions costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 each were sanctioned during February by the Chief Engineer (Electricity) at an estimated total cost of about Rs. 2 lakhs.

3. One hundred and twenty-six agricultural pump sets were connected up during the month.

4. Work on 18 sanctioned schemes were progressing during February.

Work on the erection of two 2,500 K.W. Transportable power sets in the Madras station was nearing completion and the sets were expected to go into commission shortly.

Labour Department

Labour situation in the Province

The Government have ordered that the Court of Enquiry appointed to look into the conditions of work of labour in Engineering firms and type foundries in the Province be constituted into an Industrial Tribunal for adjudication of the various issues in the dispute between the workers and managements of all engineering firms and type foundries in the Province.

In seven cases the Government have referred labour disputes to various Industrial Tribunals.

The workers of Sri Lakshmi Engineering Works, Madras, who struck on 26th February 1948 resumed work on 10th March 1948.

The workers of the Nataraaja Engineering Works, Madras, staged a stay-in strike from 1st March 1948 and on this the management have declared a lockout on 3rd March 1948. The parties have been advised to make representations to the Industrial Tribunal. The award of the Industrial Tribunal is awaited.

Following an illegal strike by the workers of the Coimbatore Cement Works, Madukkarai, the management declared a lockout of the Factory

from 4th March 1948. The Government have advised the management to reopen the factory with the aid of Police if necessary.

The Press workers in Bezwada struck work on 28th February 1948 demanding D.A., dress, dispensary, canteen, bonus and provident fund, etc. The Secretary, Andhra Provincial Press Workers Union, Bezwada, has been advised to make representations to the Industrial Tribunal, Bezwada, to whom the dispute between the workers and the managements of presses in the Province have been referred for adjudication.

About 53 workers out of 700 of the Aaron Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd., Pappinisseri, North Malabar, struck work on 16th February 1948 as a protest against the management's dismissal of some workers. The Labour Officer, Calicut, is trying to bring about a settlement of the dispute.

The management of the Narasu's Manufacturing Company, Salem, have reported that their workers have struck work from 10th March 1948. The Labour Officer, Vellore, has been asked to bring about a settlement of the dispute. His report is awaited.

[First fortnight of March 1948]

Co-operative Department

Co-operation from June 1946 to June 1947

General trend.—The expansion of the co-operative movement in war-time has not only been maintained but progress in new directions has also been attained. The number of societies increased from 16,068 to 17,057, their membership from 18,82 lakhs to 22,10 lakhs, the working capital from Rs. 3,862.43 to Rs. 5,097.51 lakhs. Apart from this there were 309 societies with 3,16 lakhs members on their rolls and Rs. 228 lakhs as their working capital under the Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies and Director of Resettlement and Employment.

A brief account of the working of the more important societies is given below :—

The Provincial Co-operative Bank.—The total deposits of the Bank on 30th June 1947 amounted to Rs. 412.42 lakhs as against Rs. 350.97 lakhs in the previous year. The Bank worked at a net profit of Rs. 3.16 lakhs as against Rs. 2.40 lakhs of the previous year. The amount of loans issued by the Provincial Bank was almost three times the amount lent out by it last year.

District Central Banks were 30 in number. Their borrowed capital rose from Rs. 852.30 lakhs to Rs. 1,226.07 lakhs. Their working capital increased from Rs. 997.52 lakhs to Rs. 1,384.26 lakhs and their loan transactions from Rs. 1,942.61 lakhs to Rs. 3,246.55 lakhs. The position of bad and doubtful debts in relation to their reserve funds improved and all the Central Banks worked at a profit. The Central Banks have reduced their rate of interest on loans to agricultural credit societies to 4½ per cent to enable the latter to lend to agriculturists at rates not exceeding 6½ per cent.

Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank.—The loans issued increased from 42.78 lakhs to Rs. 47.66 lakhs. The Banks earned a net profit of Rs. 2.75 lakhs for the year.

Primary Land Mortgage Banks were 120 in number. Loans issued by them to the members increased from Rs. 41.18 lakhs to Rs. 46.96 lakhs. Though there has been an increase in membership, share capital and the loan transactions of the banks, the balance to demand both in respect of principal and interest has also risen.

Co-operative Sale Societies.—The number of societies increased from 189 to 193. They issued loans to the extent of Rs. 131.79 lakhs as against Rs. 118.64 lakhs last year. The value of produce marketed increased from Rs. 124.60 lakhs to Rs. 143.23 lakhs.

Fruit Growers Co-operative Societies.—There were 14 societies at the close of the year. There was a considerable fall in the business of these societies this year due to the cessation of supply of fruits to the army.

Milk Supply Societies and Unions.—There were 21 Co-operative Milk Supply Unions both at the beginning and at the end of the year, while the number of milk supply societies increased from 253 to 269. The total value of milk supplied to consumers by the Unions and Societies was Rs. 68 lakhs as against Rs. 69.59 lakhs in the previous year. The total quantity of milk supplied to consumers fell from 32 million pounds to 28 million pounds. The fall is due to the termination of milk supply to the army by the Madras and Coimbatore Milk Supply Unions.

Sugarcane Growers Co-operative Societies.—There were 16 societies of this type. The Agricultural staff sanctioned by Government helped the members to grow improved varieties of cane. The Hospet Sugarcane Growers Society and the Kirlampudi Sugarcane Growers Society did good work by advancing loans to the

members to the extent of Rs. 1.23 lakhs.

Cottage Industries Societies were 352 in number. The most prominent were 42 Egg Production and Sale Societies, 43 Women's Cottage Industries Societies; and 153 Palmyrah and Coconut Jaggery (tappers) Co-operative Societies.

Consumers' Co-operative Stores.—The number of retail stores rose from 1,346 to 1,688. The value of annual purchases and sales effected by the Primary Stores during the year was Rs. 1,713.55 lakhs as against Rs. 1,266.54 lakhs and Rs. 1,357.55 lakhs in the previous year.

District Co-operative Wholesale Stores were 22 in number. During the year the services of these stores were utilized to by the Civil Supplies authorities for procurement and distribution of foodgrains and imported commodities.

Producers'-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies.—The organization of Producers-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies was a new feature of the year under review. There were 274 societies of this type at the end of the year with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 166.34 lakhs. Their total purchases and sales during the year were 10.06 crores and Rs. 10.57 crores respectively. The scheme of procurement through the Producers-cum-Consumers Co-operative Societies has been suspended in the Circars districts.

Weavers Co-operative Societies.—The number of Weavers Co-operative

Societies rose from 336 to 659. The societies produced goods valued at Rs. 424 lakhs and their sales amounted to Rs. 456.54 lakhs as against Rs. 347.69 lakhs and Rs. 373.09 lakhs respectively of last year.

Land Colonization Societies.—There were 26 land Colonization Societies. The area actually brought under cultivation by these societies extended to over 8,891 acres. There were 19 Land Reclamation Societies as against 14 in the previous year. These societies have reclaimed an extent of 1,583 acres of land.

Co-operative Housing Schemes.—House building activities have received special consideration during the year. A number of 'House Construction Societies' have come into existence during the year, the prominent ones among which are the Madras House Construction Society, Ltd., and the Katpadi Co-operative Township, Ltd.

Jaggery Manufacturing Societies for ex-toddy tappers.—The formation of Jaggery Manufacturing Co-operative Societies for ex-toddy tappers also received special attention during the year. One hundred and fifty-three such societies were working on 30th June 1947.

Miscellaneous Societies.—There were 128 Co-operative Building Societies, 2,868 Scheduled Castes' Societies, 24 Labour Contract Societies, 4 Co-operative Insurance Societies, 4 Co-operative Printing Societies, 17 Irrigation Societies and 58 Agricultural Improvement Societies.

Topics of the Day

Rebirth of India's Shipbuilding Industry

On March 14, 1948, India's Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, launched S.S. *Jalausha*, the first steamer made in India by Indian labour and with the aid of Indian finance. This event will be long remembered as inaugurating the revival of a great industry in India, an industry which in all its glory of achievement had once fully symbolized her civilisation.

The event will make a landmark in free India's history also for another important reason, for hitherto the country's struggle for freedom and her people's struggle for acquiring

sufficient shipping strength had run a parallel course. When after nearly 20 years of plucky fight against foreign interests, the Scindia Company signalled their enduring stability by erecting their new office building "Scindia House" in Bombay, they celebrated its opening in December 1938 as a national event. Then Sardar Vallabhai Patel who performed the opening ceremony, declared, "It was twenty years ago that India launched the vessel of independence and it was about the same time on 5th April 1919, that the Scindia Company also first launched its first steamer on the high

waters. It was in this very April of 1919 that India began its struggle against the Rowlatt Act on the principles of truth and non-violence." In a message sent on the occasion, Shri C. Rajagopalachari brought out the significant relation between the nation's freedom fight and the struggle of Indian shipping. He added, "I may claim that this struggle started at Tuticorin with Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company for which the late Shri V. O. Chidambaram Pillai suffered. That Company broke on account of political complications."

If Indian shipping had thus to go through a process of overwhelming odds, the story of ship building in India remained for long one of complete obstruction. But Indian enterprise won through unremitting endeavour, when in 1941 a beginning was made with the establishment of a site for ship-building at Vizagapatam.

The site was called Gandhigram, where the foundation stone for the ship-yard was laid in June 1941 by Dr. Rajendra Prasad. This occasion was also treated by India's leaders as a national event, Mahatma Gandhi himself sending the Company the following message: "May your enterprise be successful and may it be beneficial to the whole country." Sardar Patel and his colleagues of the Congress Working Committee were then in jail, but from there they conveyed their blessings, to which Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, who was present at the ceremony, added her own "heartly blessings to the ships that would be built in the yard, to all merchandise that would go, to all the passengers that would travel by the vessels and most of all, to the ambassadors who will carry to the ends of the earth the message of the great Mahatma."

Growth of Gandhigram

Though the foundation stone of Vizagapatam Yard was laid in 1941 the progress of work was interrupted in 1942 owing to enemy air-raids, and the staff, machinery and equipment had to be shifted to Bombay. The construction of the Yard at Vizagapatam was resumed in 1943; but, owing to the war, the progress of work was severely retarded.

By 1947, however, the work had progressed to a stage, when the ship-yard consisted of two Slipways or berths for building the ships together with other necessary capital and technical equipment. The total amount invested in the yard comes to about Rs. 4 crores. At present the Yard has

a building capacity of two-8 to 10 thousand tonners per year; and a scheme for expansion of the existing lay-out into a eight-berth Yard, it is understood, under consideration. In order to construct ships with component parts manufactured in India as far as possible, plans are also being prepared to build marine engines in the Ship-yard.

The Ship-yard can build ocean-going vessels with a maximum length of 550 feet and a maximum carrying capacity of 12,000 tons cargo. The yard comprises several pucca-built workshops, such as Hull Shops, Machine Shops, a Carpenter's Shop, Joiner's Shop, Blacksmith's Shop, Foundry, Power House, a 1,000-foot long Fitting-Out Jetty, storage places, etc. In the Hull Shops all steel materials are fabricated for erection of the new ships. The ships are equipped with heavy machinery like one man punching machines, shaping, plate bending and shearing machines, etc., and also electric overhead travelling cranes. The 1,000-ft. Fitting-out Wharf or the Jetty is used for installing, propelling and other machinery as well as electrical equipment in the ship, after she is launched from the berth and towed to the Jetty. The Jetty is being fitted with Travelling Derrick Cranes and a 100-ton Hammerhead Crane for lifting heavy machinery. The Jetty can simultaneously accommodate two or three large ocean-going vessels. Sufficient storage spaces are provided for different materials, viz., timber, steel and general stores. A railway siding has been planned to run right into the yard to facilitate transport of materials. Overlooking the entire yard, situated on a hill within the yard premises, are the main administrative offices, including an up-to-date and well-equipped Drawing Office.

The Yard employs at present over 3,000 workers more than half of whom are skilled or semi-skilled in the various engineering trades. Several experts in ship-building who have visited the Yard have spoken appreciatively of the quality of workmanship at Vizagapatam. With efficient supervision and with the setting up of special trade-training schemes, the Indian workers will acquire proper technique in ship construction in next 3 to 5 years. The ships are built under the supervision of the Lloyd's Surveyor and they will be placed in the highest class, viz., + 100—A1 at Lloyds.

As ship building is a highly specialised industry, the Scindia Company engaged

from the very beginning seven European technical experts with considerable experience in British ship-yards. In addition, the Company has engaged several Indian technicians with previous experience in engineering workshops besides Bevin Boys and Degree and Diploma holders in Engineering engaged for training in various sections. Thus over 50 technicians are under training for supervisory work. The Company has also a scheme under which it has sent 10 tried Indian technicians to the U.K. for higher training in Ship-building and Marine Engineering in British Ship-yards and intends to send 10 more men as those now in the U.K. return to India.

The *S.S. Jalausha* is a single-screw cargo steamer having a deadweight capacity of 8,000-tons on a draft of 25 feet. The vessel's dimensions are: Overall length 415 feet, Moulded breadth 52 feet, and Moulded depth 30 feet 6 inches. The vessel is propelled by a single screw triple expansion reciprocating engine developing 2,600 Horse Power. The steam for the motive power will be supplied by three coal-fired single-ended Scotch boilers. The vessel is designed for a trial speed of 11½ knots and is expected to maintain a speed of 10½ knots in service. The accommodation for the officers and crew and 12 passengers is being arranged in accordance with the latest convention adopted at the International Maritime Conference at Seattle.

Government's Pledge to the Industry

Dr. Rajendra Prasad while laying the foundation stone of the ship-yard in 1941 had said, "Today we may not be able to give you anything more than our sympathy and moral support and even consolation in your disappointment, but there is always a tomorrow, and the brighter tomorrow for a nation can never fail to rise." And seven years after, on January 1, 1948, i.e., four months and half after India's achievement of political freedom, the Hon'ble Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, Minister of Industry and Supply, visiting Gandhigram declared, "I can give you this assurance that in the next few weeks, it will be possible for the Government of India to enunciate its main industrial policy and also to determine, in order of priority, the items of work that have to be taken in hand as soon as possible and, obviously, building of aeroplanes and ships will occupy a very prominent place."

The Scindia and its associated companies have at present 22 big and 18

small ships. They lost during the last war seven big and four small ships due to enemy action. These organisations had built in the United Kingdom eight big and ten small ships between 1927 and 1938 and one big ship in 1946. Their tonnage now on order in the United Kingdom consists of six big and two small ships which will cost over Rs. 5½ crores; two of these, viz., *S.S. Jalazad* and *S.S. Jalsawahar* were launched in September 1947. Of the two 8,000-tonners whose construction has been undertaken at the Company's Yard at Vizagapatam, the first, viz., "*S.S. Jalausha*" will be launched on March 14 and the second, six months thereafter.

In 1949, the Company expects to launch three similar ships. From 1950 onwards, the Company hopes to build every year five or more 8,000/10,000-tonners at the Vizagapatam Yard.

The tonnage on the Indian register to-day is in the neighbourhood of three lakhs. The target set by the Government and the country is 20 lakhs of tons for carrying India's entire coastal trade and for substantial carriage of overseas import and export trades in Indian bottoms.

According to the data submitted by the Government of India's Ministry of Industry and Supply to the Industries Conference there are six firms in India capable of undertaking new construction, three in Calcutta, two in Bombay and one at Vizagapatam. The target set for construction in the first instance is 10,000 gross tons per annum, which is their present productive capacity. This would, however, be followed by a second phase of development from 1950, when it is expected to build 50,000 gross tons per year. For this phase at least 50 building berths would be required, out of which provision for eight berths would appear to have already been made by Scindia Company. The note of the Ministry of Industry and Supply adds that it will be necessary to construct three more ship-yards in order to lay out the other building berths.

It is in the context of these facts that the Hon'ble Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee gave his assurance to ship-building industry in India. The Prime Minister's forthcoming visit to Gandhigram to launch "*Jalausha*" being a further token of the Government's interest. Meanwhile this latter event marks another occasion when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru will himself be inaugurating a national activity, which may result in realising one of his

earlier dreams. For exactly ten years ago, he had said wistfully, "We have been in the past a great maritime nation, and even to-day we have the talent, the trained men and the resources to build up great shipping services. The Scindia Company has been a pioneer in this field and in spite of opposition and obstruction, has made good. It has deserved its success. But this is only the beginning.

Role of Forests in Indian Economic Life

"The time has come when we must revise our entire outlook in the matter of utilisation of forests in India. Past policy, though based on essentially sound principles, appears to have been rather static in character, now it must be more dynamic," stated Mr. B. R. Sen, Agriculture Secretary to the Government of India, opening a three-day session of the Central Advisory Board on Forest Utilisation in Dehra Dun recently.

Emphasizing the importance of Indian forests in making India economically stronger, Mr. Sen referred to the existing forest policy, which was laid down in 1894. Its main principles were (a) that the need to preserve the climatic and physical conditions of the country, i.e., to prevent floods, soil erosion and dessication, must be the first consideration in any scheme of forest management, (b) that the preservation of the minimum amount of forests necessary to satisfy the wants of the local population for fuel and house building must come next in importance; and (c) that the exploitation of forest resources for commercial purposes is permissible only after the first two needs are adequately satisfied.

The essential soundness of this policy will hardly be challenged even to-day but the question which arises is whether in the new conditions in India the administration of that policy needs any change. To deal with this question we must take certain essential facts about Indian forests into account.

Forests in India

What proportion of a country ought to be forest land in the interests of the country as a whole is a problem on which various opinions have been expressed. Sir Herbert Howard, late Inspector-General of Forests on a study of European conditions, expressed the view that 20 to 25 per cent of the land in India ought to be covered with forests, properly managed and distributed, both for protective purposes

I am impatient to see Indian ships carrying the flag of India across distant seas to far away countries."

Ten years have passed since this statement was made, but with the nation's success in the freedom struggle there are ample signs to show that Pandit Nehru's hopes are bearing fulfilment. His launching of "*Jalausha*" on March 14 will be the first step taken towards that end.

as well as to supply the general and village consumers all over the country. Of the total area of 625,000 square miles in India about 155,000 square miles or about 25 per cent are estimated to be under forests. At first sight it might appear that the present area under forests in India should be adequate for her needs. This, however, is not correct. About one-third of the area under forests is under communal or private ownership which as in other countries, has been extremely wasteful in character. Within the definition of properly managed forests, we can include only about 11 per cent of the total land area which are of the reserved and protected types.

The present distribution of forests in India is also far from satisfactory from the point of view of meeting the needs of local village consumers. The Provinces north of a line from the Gulf of Cambay to Calcutta are particularly deficient in forests except in patches.

Soil Erosion and Forests

Floods and soil erosion are two of India's greatest problems in connection with the increased production of food. Though neither of these problems are new, there can be no doubt that in recent years floods are taking an increasing toll of our crops. The rapid progress of soil erosion in different parts of the country has also been a factor of grave concern. Both these problems are intimately connected with the management of forests in the hilly country and at the headwaters of rivers. Though a large portion of these forests is under the management of the Government quite considerable areas are under private ownership, which during the last few decades have been recklessly exploiting them for grazing or fuel, exposing considerable areas to the dangers of floods and soil erosion. The matter has now the fullest attention of the Government of India. Proper land management with a view to control floods and soil erosion

"I see God in every thread that

draw on the spinning wheel"—Mahatmaji

121



Group photo of Principal, Teachers and Students of the Veerpandy Khadi Vidyalaya, Tiruppur



The students of Takli Spinning. Those sitting are spinning in Charkha



Students are carding cotton lint and making slivers for spinning



Spinning and its allied activities in the Khadi Vidyalaya, Tiruppur.

will be an important subject for study by the Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission, which is already functioning, and the Land utilization and soil Conservation Board which is proposed to be set up at the Centre. Forests, however, are a Provincial subject and unless there is full and active co-operation from the Provincial Governments, success in this field must be limited.

Need of Fuel

So far as village consumers are concerned, while the policy of making the supply of fuel and timber to them as second in importance only to the control of floods and erosion is unexceptionable, the application of that policy does not appear to have yielded satisfactory results. Nine-tenths of the U.P., half of Bombay, most of West Bengal, much of Bihar and the whole of the coastal areas of Orissa are almost completely without any forests. The small quantities of fuel and timber required by the villagers in these areas cannot be transported across long distances within their purchasing power, the villagers therefore have been compelled to use one of their most valuable agricultural assets for fuel which has seriously affected their production. Agricultural crops depend very largely on the supply of manures. India's soils are particularly deficient in nitrogen. It has been calculated that the amount of nitrogen required to make up the loss through crops every year is about 2½ million tons.

In the past India has been very largely dependent on cowdung to supply the nitrogen deficiency. The total production of cattle manures in India is estimated to amount to 160 million tons of dry weight or 800,000 tons of nitrogen. Actually, however, 40 per cent of what is produced is used as fuel; thus about 320,000 tons of nitrogen which can produce an additional 1.75 million tons of rice is lost. The national importance of saving as much of this cowdung manure as possible will be clear. This saving can only be achieved if the rural population is provided with fuel in the form of some quick growing trees where there are no natural forests to draw upon. The question has been discussed in the past both by the Centre and the Provinces, but owing to the lack of a determined policy, there has been little progress in the growing of such trees. The implementation of such a policy must therefore constitute one of our most urgent and important problems.

Forests and Industry

When we come to the exploitation of forests for commercial and industrial

purposes we find the existing policy still more inadequate and lacking. Under the policy laid down in 1894, the uses of forests in India have been confined very largely to (a) the supply of railway sleepers and (b) furniture and house building. The bulk of the valuable hard-woods is reserved for railway sleepers but even then the supply has been found inadequate and the deficiency has been met by imported sleepers of timber and steel. For household purposes also large imports of teak came from Burma.

The insufficiency of the Indian forest is stated to be due to the scattered nature of her hard-wood trees which makes economic exploitation difficult and the reluctance of the consumers to use any timber other than those which belong to the primary species. In the India of to-day such a halting and unprogressive policy of exploitation can hardly be permitted to continue. Though India is largely an agricultural country the standard of living of her masses can be substantially raised only if India develops her industries simultaneously on a wide scale.

Timber to relieve Steel shortage

India has now vast schemes for industrial expansion based on the use of structural steel which is in short supply. Can treated timber replace structural steel to any extent? Persons of undoubted technical knowledge and experience have told us that treated timber can replace steel in the construction of highway bridges up to an extent, and completely dispense with steel for electric transmission and distribution lines, telephone and telegraph poles, and roof trusses for factories, godowns and workshops, aeroplane hangars, etc. The cheapest steel in the world is produced in Belgium and yet Belgium finds it more economical to use treated timber for telegraph and telephone poles than steel. In the United Kingdom also over 90 per cent of the poles for telegraph and telephone lines are from timber imported from Scandinavia. In U.S.A. up to 80 per cent of the bridges on most of the leading railways—which use much heavier locomotives than in India—have till recent years been built of treated wood and not steel. If the countries so highly industrialized can find such uses for treated timber, why should India not try and do the same, especially when her entire industrial progress is threatened to be held up or lack of steel? I have had an opportunity to discuss this matter with some of the major consuming departments of the Govern-

ment of India and I have been given to understand that the main obstacles in the way of great utilization of Indian timber in the past has been the non-availability of timber properly treated at centres convenient from the point of view of transport. This, however, is a problem which is surely not beyond administrative solution. I may say that the matter has already been taken up by the Government of India for examination. If the Advisory Committee can give us any practical suggestions in dealing with this problem, we shall be most grateful.

Plywood and Railway Sleepers

Apart from the use of treated timber in place of structural steel, there are other industries in which Indian timber can play a more positive and effective part than it has done in the past. Plywood, for instance, can be one of the most important timber industries in India. The annual requirements amount to 150 million square feet. Large quantities of plywood used for packing Indian tea for export are now imported. With a little more enterprise in research and organization on our part and a little more co-operation from the tea industry it should be possible for India to supply all demand from within the country.

The estimated annual requirements for railway sleepers amount to 3,600,000 B.G. sleepers and 2,600,000 M.G. sleepers. The present production from Indian sources amounts only to 1,500,000 B.G. sleepers and 1,500,000 M.G. sleepers. The Forest Institute has now offered 36 species of secondary timber for sleepers. It is hoped that the Railways will find it possible to eliminate their demand for steel for this purpose by making the utmost use of the available species, even though the latter may not be as satisfactory as hard woods.

The jute and cotton mills require 552,000 gross bobbins annually. Before the war almost the entire demand was met from outside. During the war the Indian industry was able to meet the entire demand. Imports have started again with the end of the war. It is clear, however, that if the Indian industry is properly organized and the supply of the timber required is attended to, India can be self-supporting in the supply of bobbins.

Newsprint

Another important industry which can be developed is newsprint. The present annual demand is 50,000 tons all of which is imported from hard currency countries. Valuable research

These ex-tappers do not lack jobs 190



Families of ex-tappers engaged in jaggery manufacture



Manufactured jaggery being loaded in the cart for being marketed

Sports in a Prohibition Area



Sports held at Michaelpat in Tanjore district



The Commissioner of Prohibition distributing the prizes

has already been carried out and we saw the paper produced from *broussonetia papyrifera*, popularly known as paper mulberry, tested by the "Statesman" the other day with very satisfactory results. If plantations of the fast-growing paper mulberry are taken up in right earnest there is every reason why within a reasonable time India should be able not only to supply but also to keep pace with her growing needs for newsprint.

Applied Research

There are other industries in which forestry can now play an important part. The time has come when we must revise our entire outlook in the matter of utilization of forests in India. The policy in the past, though based on essentially sound principles appears to have been rather static in character; now it must be more dynamic. While the prevention of floods and soil erosion and satisfaction of the fuel and timber needs of the local village consumers must continue to receive

priority, the use of our forest resources for the industrial development of our country must also be given a prominent place in our future programmes of forest development. The success of this policy will, however, depend on certain definite factors. We must extend and intensify our research activities to meet all technical needs and problems. We must overcome the prejudice of important industrial consumers against the use of the secondary species, which is holding up progress. And most important of all, we must revise our felling, regeneration and plantation practices to the extent necessary to cope with the growing volume of demand which will arise under the new policy. It will also be necessary to devise much more effective arrangements than in the past, to bring the uses of forest products for industrial and commercial purposes, in the light of the results of the latest research, to the notice of all concerned. Towards the success of this policy, quite apart from the Government, the industrialists can play a decisive part.

'National Employment Service'

The Mayor surveys position

That Employment Service is a real necessity in this country was stressed by the Mayor of Madras in the course of a broadcast talk recently. He said: "National Employment Service" bring employment seekers in close touch with employers; they do away with middlemen and jobbers and place before employers exactly the type of men they require. One should not, however, go away with the impression that such Employment Service can solve the problem of unemployment taken as a whole. It should not be thought that unemployment caused by a general economic depression could be solved by this service. They can only draw attention to the amount and nature of unemployed labour at any particular time so that the State can take suitable action for its utilization. This is necessary for any kind of planning for our country. There must be an accurate and sufficient data of available man-power. This can only be supplied by Employment Service.

The starting of such National Employment Service is not a new idea. The necessity for such service has been recognized by the International Labour Conference at its very first session in 1919 and since then all progressive countries have constituted such Employment agencies.

In our own Province we have a Regional Exchange at Madras and Sub-Regional Exchanges at Bezwada, Vizagapatam, Anantapur, Vellore, Calicut, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore and Madurai. Besides this there is a District Employment Office at the headquarters of every district except the Nilgiris which has been clubbed with Coimbatore. Besides Sub-Regional and Employment Exchanges we have Assistant Directorates of Regional and Assistant Public Relations Officers.

The first step in using this Employment Service is the registration of available man-power and the recording of the skill based on experience of previous employment of each worker. The second step involves an impartial assessment of the aptitude and skill of each worker. The third step is the listing of vacancies after a careful job analysis of each vacancy. Finally these Services scrutinize the categories of employment for which suitable candidates cannot be found and also ascertain the number of workers in each category for whom it is not possible to find suitable employment.

These Employment Service have another important function to perform. Their usefulness is certainly not restricted to the tackling of immediate problems. They can do much to

prevent mis-direction of manpower leading to future maladjustments. Thus Employment Service will have to anticipate the needs of the next generation and will have to provide for them by vocational guidance and training.

During the short period the existing National Employment Service were working a number of difficulties have arisen which have contributed to the rather slow development of this useful organization. One has been the reluctance on the part of many ex-servicemen to take full advantage of the employment facilities. It is but natural that ex-servicemen with money in their pockets and not having been with their families for some time naturally want to stay at home for a time and therefore do not show a keenness to take up the first job offered to them if they do not find it attractive. These ex-servicemen also found it difficult to reconcile themselves to the existing conditions in civil life. Not having been accustomed to manual labour they found it difficult to accept employment involving manual work. This resulted in a not too encouraging response by the ex-servicemen. But I am sure these are things of the past. I am certain that ex-servicemen will have realized the usefulness of such Exchanges and would accept the employment offered by such National Service.

The private employers also does not at present make full use of this new service because he fears that it will be linking up with official red-tape. Vested interests may add to the difficulties and try to impede progress of service which often cuts across a number of well-established malpractices. The main duty of any such National Employment Service is to bring employers and employment seekers together. Further cordial relations should be established by the employer and employment seeker only.

There is no doubt that ultimately the scope of Employment Exchanges should be extended to others besides ex-servicemen. At a meeting of the Conference of Labour Ministers held in Delhi sometime ago it was stated that the objects of Employment Service are (1) the placing of ex-servicemen and war-workers and ultimately all workers in employment, (2) to increase the mobility of labour, territorial and occupational, (3) to substitute a free, impartial and scientific system of recruitment of labour for the vicious system in vogue, (4) provide necessary machinery for the subsequent adoption

of special security measures by the State and (5) ultimately to promote full employment.

I will now tell you briefly the progress made in our own province up to the month of January 1948 with reference to Resettlement and Employment—

1. Number registered at the Regional Employment Exchange, Madras—208,491.

Agricultural Planning Commission

A number of interesting topics bearing an agricultural rehabilitation in this country were dealt with by Hon'ble Mr. Doulatram in his speech in the Dominion Parliament recently. He referred among other things to the proposed Agricultural Planning Commission, the Forest Research Institute, the Grow More Food Campaign and Land Reclamation schemes. The Hon'ble Minister said:

"I propose, with the collaboration of the House, to set up some kind of agricultural planning commission which will go to the bottom of the whole question, planning out something scientifically and also something which may be of practical achievement within a limited number of years. I do not know how far this planning commission will be able to achieve the purpose, but I can assure the House that it is the intention of Government to try to solve our fundamental problem of food in a fundamental manner. We are trying to deal with the question of defence, to deal with the question of industrial development; but agricultural development cannot wait longer. There is no doubt that Government have had a variety of schemes left to us by the former Government. I do not know how far they suit us; they will have to be examined. People talk of the self-sufficiency of India as a whole; people speak also of regional self-sufficiency; our country is vast enough, our soil is varied enough and our water resources also are manifold. It may be that it may be a wiser plan to have some kind of regional self-sufficiency on the whole; it might relieve a great deal of the strain on our transport system which may be available for other purposes. And so there are a variety of considerations that I think would have to be taken into account if we want to plan for our country in a proper manner.

Central Expenditure

There has been a complaint that the Central Government is spending so

2. Number of ex-servicemen registered at Employment Exchanges and District Employment Offices—193,956.

3. Number placed in employment by Employment Exchanges—34,675.

Of the people that have been employed by this Employment Exchanges 89 per cent were placed in the Central and Provincial Government vacancies and 11 per cent in private enterprises.

Jai Hind.

much on agriculture; it has increased its expenditure on agriculture, on forests, on food, etc. I hope that I will not be misunderstood when I say that in my opinion the Centre ought to spend much more on agriculture and much more on plans of production of food. I do not want to tire the House with figures because I am afraid I may have to place some figures in regard to some other points. There are other Federal or Central Governments also in the world. Powers with regard to agriculture and production of food there also lie largely with the provinces. But still with the Centre lies much more power and with the Centre are available far more funds than in our country. I will give you only three other instances of three major Federal institutions.

Here is the U.S.A. The Federal Government spend per head Rs. 80. We spend one anna per head.

The Central Government in Canada spends Rs. 21 on agriculture. We spend one anna.

The United Kingdom, a highly industrialised country, which should be expected to spend far less than India on agriculture, spends Rs. 2 per head on agriculture; we spend one anna per head.

It may be said that the income of those States is larger. I will, therefore, give you other figures.

The U.S.A. spends 3.3 per cent of the Central Budget on agriculture. Canada spends 1.6 per cent. We spend .75 per cent. I do not think it is possible with the funds at the hands of the Central Government we can make any greater progress in advising, guiding, helping and giving the lead to the provinces as it has been suggested.

We have in the Forest Institute probably the finest Research Institute in the world. Whatever may have been left to us by the foreign Government, let us make the fullest use of it. We are experimenting

and making research in that Institute on plywood, composite wood, paper, cellulose, rayon. We want to develop on these lines. We want to intensify research. We want to make it possible for us to reserve steel and iron for industrial and agricultural purposes. Research is going on, following the example of the U.S.A. and other countries to treat our timber, to make it available for telegraph and telephone poles; if possible to make it available for the construction of bridges and for a variety of other uses to which timber is being put in other countries. All this requires additional effort. All this requires additional concentration of research. Surely all this requires a host of men to conduct that research.

Grow More Food Campaign—Practical difficulties

I will read out to you in just three or four minutes a few interesting figures which might explain to the House the difficulties with regard to the grow more food campaign. We had, for instance, for the year 1947-48 a target of 9 lakh acres extra to be put under the plough. We planned a variety of methods—first minor irrigation works which meant wells, surface wells, tube wells, pumping plants, etc. For the implements we asked for only 3 lakh tons of steel and iron for agriculture generally. But all the provinces of India could get only 2 lakh tons instead of 3 lakh tons—and not for agriculture only but for all uses. So that, when we started the grow more food campaign, we found that though for that grow more food campaign we had budgeted for 30,000 tons of steel and iron for all those implements, tubes and pipes, etc., we got only 4,500 tons which is only one-seventh of the quantity on the basis of which the plans were made. Take fertilisers. For 1947-48 we budgeted for 3 lakh tons for the country. But the International Council—which still governs these things—allocated only 50 per cent of the demand to us. With regard to actual receipts that was even half of it. So that, grow more food campaigns dependent on steel, iron and fertilisers had to face these difficulties.

Coming to technical material and staff, we wanted for these drilling machines which drill tube wells, five drilling engineers; we secured only one. We wanted thirty subordinate staff. We secured them from the Pakistan area and after partition most of them went away. Today we are hardly with any staff for the subordinate drilling purposes. We wanted

29 rigs for drilling wells; we got only 8. We budgeted for 6,000 feet of pipes for these wells; we could not get any because the factory in Lahore was partitioned into Pakistan."

He then referred to Land Reclamation.

"I have got with me a plan for reclaiming 10 lakhs of acres. We have reclaimed already 10,000 acres. Probably by the end of this month we would have reclaimed 10,000 acres in the U.P., but they have no facilities for carrying on further agricultural operations. They have to come to the Centre for help with regard to preliminary cultivation of land and we are going to do the best we can. We have a plan for reclaiming about 20 or 25 lakhs of acres of weeded land in Central India, in Orissa and other parts of India where weeds grow and the land gives only 2 maunds per acre instead of 8. We have plans for reclaiming about 25 lakhs of acres which are not weeded and nothing is grown on them. Now of these 45 lakhs to be reclaimed, probably 5 lakhs—Rs. 50 lakhs is the

estimate—of these require oil, tractors, highly technically qualified people, and so on. If we plan on long range, possibly all these needs will be there, but it may be that if we so plan our arrangements that we depend entirely on mechanical cultivation, tractors and oil and other things, we may find that as in the case of the 'Grow More Food' Campaign, 1948, at the end of the year or at the end of the period we have not progressed as much as we should have done. I discussed with the Premier of Madras his plan, and after discussing wells he suggested that 'If the centre could give us Rs. 3 crores a year, I could make Madras insured against famine permanently,' and he suggested that hundreds of years ago our ancestors who ruled the country had built up tanks which stored water. The tanks were built long ago. The population increased. The need of more land to maintain that population increased. More area began to be cultivated from that limited source of supply and the tanks could not reserve water for 3 to 4 years as it

used to do formerly. Whatever water there was began to be absorbed and consumed in a shorter period of time. He says 'I do not want iron and steel, I do not want tractors and diesel oil. I want money. My people are here: they are without food because they have no share in the grain because there was no grain; there were no imports: they have neither grain nor income: if prices rise, they have got nothing to depend upon', and his plan is that the Centre should give Madras Rs. 3 crores a year. I am considering this plan and I have asked for details, and that is why I have suggested to the Foodgrains Policy Committee that 'in the second part of your labours which deal with the question of making India self-sufficient, of making India produce as much as she needs, you must give us plans which are practicable. We can have mechanical cultivation to the extent that is necessary and possible, but we must depend upon our other resources and build up plans which we can implement within a reasonable measure of time."

GANDHIAN GEMS

"NON-VIOLENCE is a quality not of the body but of the soul. Once its central meaning sinks into your being, all the rest by itself follows."

"THE hardest metal yields to sufficient heat. Even so must the hardest heart melt before sufficiency of the heat of non-violence. And there is no limit to the capacity of non-violence to generate heat."

"WHAT I want to achieve,—what I have been striving and pining to achieve these thirty years,—is self-realisation, to see God face to face, to attain Moksha. I live and move and have my being in pursuit of this goal. All that I do by way of speaking and writing, and all my ventures in the political field, are directed to this same end."

"I HAVE been practising with scientific precision non-violence and its possibilities for an unbroken period of over fifty years. I have applied it in every walk of life, domestic, institutional, economic and political. I know of no single case in which it has failed. Where it has seemed sometimes to have failed, I have ascribed it to my imperfections. I claim no perfection for myself but I claim to be a passionate seeker after Truth, which is but another name for God. In the course of that search the discovery of non-violence came to me. Its spread is my life mission. I have no interest in living except for the prosecution of that mission."

"I AM not a visionary. I claim to be a practical idealist. The religion of Non-violence is not meant merely for the Rishis and Saints. It is meant for the common people as well. Non-violence 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."

"IN my opinion, it is impossible for one to be internationalist without being a nationalist. Internationalism is possible only when nationalism becomes a fact, i.e., when people belonging to different countries have organized themselves, and are able to act as one man. It is not nationalism that is evil, it is the narrowness, selfishness, exclusiveness which is the bane of modern nations, which is evil. Each wants to profit at the expense of and rise on, the ruin of the other. Indian nationalism has, I hope, struck a different path. It wants to organize itself or to find full self-expression for the benefit and service of humanity at large. Anyway, there is no uncertainty about my patriotism or nationalism. God having cast my lot in the midst of the people of India, I should be untrue to my Maker if I failed to serve them. If I do not know how to serve them I shall never know how to serve humanity. And I cannot possibly go wrong so long as I do not harm other nations in the act of serving my country."

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

Special Articles

Food Problems in Asia

By GEORGE MARTIN

[NOTE.—Bitter experiences of a global war have taught us the importance of self-sufficiency in the matter of food. Even more than two years after the termination of the war the position in the food front is not what it ought to be. More production is the main solution of the problem and this has been stressed by Governments, both Central and Provincial, times out of number. 'Produce or Perish' is the maxim. It is therefore the bounden duty of all producers to spare no pains in contributing their share of efforts to increased production. The Agricultural Department in this Province has initiated a number of measures designed to this end. Agriculturists should avail themselves of these measures. In the present context of things more production is a matter of patriotic duty.]

The series of meetings on Asiatic food problems held by the Food and Agriculture Organization at Baguio in the Philippines, has again drawn attention to the serious food shortage which still confronts the countries of the Far East and India. Even before World War II, the population of this region numbering now about 1,125 million (including Japan and Korea) lived generally in conditions of extreme poverty by comparison with the people in most countries of western Europe. A large proportion of total family expenditure was spent on food so that there was little left for clothing and other requirements. The high percentage of expenditure on food did not mean, however, that the people were well fed. A high proportion of food expenditure was on cheap cereals and other carbo-hydrates. Not only was the caloric intake low, but there was a lack of balance in the diet and an inadequate consumption of protective food.

Population estimates

The reason for this poverty has been low productivity per head of the population and inefficient organization for increased production. Poverty, in its turn, presents a barrier to the development of new techniques and methods, and not all areas within the region have any substantial volume of natural resources to be developed even with new techniques. In some parts of the region the pre-war situation was tending to becoming worse, especially in relation to food supply, in view of the continued increases in population. Although population estimates for the whole region are unsatisfactory, an annual increase of eight million, as

assumed in a recent publication, probably indicates the order of magnitude of the problem. This is the opinion expressed in the Survey of Reconstruction Problems and Needs issued by the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, which has now been made available.

As agricultural production per head is low, the surplus available to feed those in other occupations is also low, while purchasing power per head for non-agricultural products is trivial. This is why the part of the population engaged in agriculture is high throughout the region, varying from 60 per cent to 80 per cent. Except in Japan and parts of India and China, industrialization is not greatly advanced.

In consequence, foreign trade did not show as great a proportion of total production before World War II as in Europe, but nevertheless, it was of great importance. Much of it was within the region, and this was especially true for rice, the staple food. The basic importance of rice and the nature of the trade in rice gave the region a certain homogeneity which is aptly expressed in the designation "the rice economy of Monsoon Asia."

Rice production statistics

About 95 per cent of the world's rice is produced and consumed within Asia. Out of a total annual pre-war world production of 106,600,000 tons, Asia accounted for 102,500,000 tons. International trade in rice is also largely confined to this area, which accounted for 5,300,000 tons out of 7,300,000 tons of rice imports before World War II. The main rice importers were India, China and Malaya.

Distribution difficulties

World War II brought a general economic dislocation and decline of food production in the areas where fighting took place. Damaged irrigation systems and storage facilities, depletion of working animals, shortage of agricultural and milling machinery and parts, and of fertilizers, scarcity of farm labour, damaged and inadequate transport—all these factors served to decrease production and to increase the difficulties of providing equitable and economical distribution of available food. To these difficulties must be added the effects of war and post-war conditions on the morale of producers. In certain areas, insufficient police protection to maintain law and order have deterred farmers from going far from their villages, and cultivation of outlying fields has been considerably curtailed. Political unrest and civil war have not only had an adverse effect on rice production, but have made effective mobilization of supplies and control of distribution far from adequate.

As a result of these factors, exportable supplies of rice are in the current year (July 1947 to June 1948) still less than one-half the quantity that moved in international trade before World War II, and about one-third of stated import requirements of the major rice-consuming countries. There is no simple solution for the world rice problem as the latest Report of the International Emergency Food Council, which reached London recently, indicates. In some countries economic factors are primarily responsible for the slowness in rehabilitating rice production; in other areas the difficulties are more deep-seated, since they have their roots in political and cultural maladjustments. In the British areas in south-east Asia—Ceylon and Malaya—rice production is increasing. Burma is making steady progress in the rehabilitation of rice output; exports are expected to reach nearly 1,200,000 tons in 1948 as compared with 865,000 tons in 1947. (This compares with 2,950,000 tons before World War II.) The current crop in India and Pakistan is expected to be lower than the estimated 28 million tons produced in 1946-47.

Sterling countries

The rice shortage increases the drain on the world supplies of other cereals. Thus India (including Pakistan) received over two million tons of grain in 1946-47 whereas before World War II she was a net exporter on a small scale. The additional grain

requirements of the sterling countries in Asia constitute a further strain on Britain's dollar reserves, which are the reserves of the whole sterling area. The special dollar needs of India and Pakistan were recognized in the recently concluded financial agreements.

Dislocation of agricultural production in Asia also affects the world's fat supplies. In India the over-all food situation is likely to remain so acute that import requirements of fats will probably well exceed such export supplies as can be made available this year. It is doubtful whether any

important volume of oil-seeds will be available from China in general and from Manchuria in particular. Only in the Philippines has production (of copra) been fully restored, although in Ceylon, too, progress has been made in the rehabilitation of the copra industry.

The most important need for the increase of Asia's rice crops is the provision of more fertilizers, especially nitrogen. In view of the continuing world shortage of nitrogen supplies, it is difficult to say at present where any additional nitrogen will be found for this purpose.

A Peep into the Museum

(The Zoological Galleries)

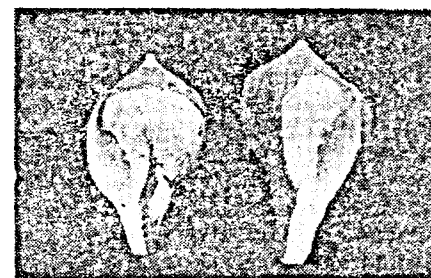
(Part II)

By S. T. SATYAMURTI, M.A., F.Z.S.

[NOTE.—The first part of the article appeared in the Madras Information, dated 1st April 1948.]

Mammal's gallery

Adjacent to the Bird gallery of the Museum is the equally large Mammalian gallery, in the centre of which stands a huge and predominating skeleton of a male Indian elephant displaying its enormous tusks in their full splendour. Many of the better known examples of South Indian mammals may be seen exhibited in this gallery. They include, among others, many carnivorous animals such as the leopard, sloth bear, hyaena, wild dog, jungle cat, mongooses, civet cats, otters and ratels, rodents or gnawing animals such as the various types of giant squirrels from Malabar and Bengal, the hare and the porcupine, and a variety of herbivorous animals such as the antelope, spotted deer, Nilgiri wild goat and the little chevrotain or mouse deer, which are peculiar in that they are the smallest deer known and walk about on the tips of their toes.



Sinistral (left) and Dextral (right) varieties of the Sacred Chank.

Marine mammals are represented in this gallery by specimens of the Elliot's dolphin and the Dugong or sea cow, both of which are elongated and fish-like in appearance, with a flattened tail fin. Though they superficially resemble fishes, their internal structure readily betrays their position among the mammals. The dolphin is a comparatively small animal belonging to the whole family, and is characterized by the habit of leaping over the waves of the sea in groups known as 'schools'. It has a narrow pointed snout equipped with a series of simple, uniformly developed, conical teeth, which are admirably adapted for a fish-eating mode of life. The Dugong, on the other hand, is a purely herbivorous marine mammal, frequenting rocky shores and browsing on sea weeds. When it raises its head and about half of its body erect above the surface, and happens to hold a young one between its paddle-like flippers, its appearance, to a distant observer, is so misleadingly human, that it has been surmised that the Dugong might have given rise to the myth of the mermaid!

There are also a few other notable examples of local mammals in this gallery, which are worth mentioning. The scaly ant-eater, with its peculiarly narrowed snout and invincible armature of plate-like scales, the little Loris (Tam. *thevangu*), with its round, owl-like countenance and slender limbs, a group of the large Indian fruit bats hanging by their claws from a portion

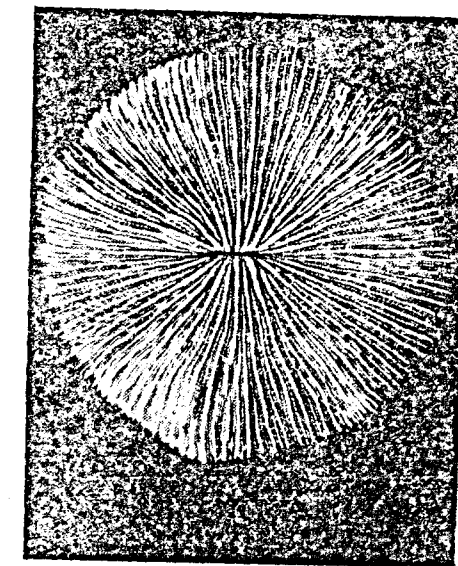
of a branched tree, and the various species of South Indian monkeys such as the Bonnet monkey and the Malabar and Nilgiri langurs, or Hanuman monkeys with their enormously long tails, and the lion-tailed monkey with a bushy mane around its neck are all exhibits of considerable interest and add much to the excitement which often accompanies a peep into this gallery.

If, after completing his survey of the mammal gallery, the visitor should retrace his steps to the staircase at the extreme right of the reptile gallery and ascend to the next floor, he would find himself transported to a world of creatures totally different from what he has been viewing so far in the galleries on the ground floor. The halls on the first floor are devoted to the exhibition of the more lowly organized animals such as animals without a backbone and fishes which rank lowest among the backboneed creatures.

The first of the series of three halls on this floor contains exhibits relating to the lowest members of the animal kingdom, such as the minute one-celled animals including disease-producing germs such as the malarial parasite, the hydroids, or plant-like marine animals, the jelly fishes, corals, and various kinds of marine, land and parasitic worms. Among these, however, it is the large and varied collection of corals that figures most prominently in this gallery and therefore deserve special mention.

Corals

Coral looks like a stone and appears to grow like a plant, and yet it is of animal origin. A single branch of



The Mushroom Coral.

living coral is made up of a very large number of very small marine animals called 'polyps' which form a sort of closely aggregated colony. The form and colour of colonies of coral animals differ widely, depending on the species. Most of the popular names of the various species of coral are derived from either the form or colour of the colonies, some of the most familiar being the mushroom coral, stag-horn coral, star coral, brain stone, sea fan and organ-pipe coral. Fine examples of all these varieties of coral, including a sample of the precious coral of commerce from which beads and cameos are manufactured, are placed on exhibition in this gallery.

Sea Shells

In the large, roomy gallery adjoining the coral room are exhibited several typical local representatives of all the other groups of invertebrate animals (i.e., animals without a backbone), above the level of the worms. At the entrance to the gallery may be seen a massive specimen of the enormous sea shell known as the giant clam. It is one of the largest bivalve shells known, and occurs at the bottom of the ocean in tropical regions. The animal inhabiting this shell possesses immense muscular strength; it is stated that a man's hand or foot, when once caught in the grip of their gaping valves, can scarcely be withdrawn. The shells exhibited weigh more than thirty pounds.

A rich variety of sea shells of divers colours and shapes adorn the cases along the wall on the side of the gallery adjoining the specimen of the giant clam. The group of specimens illustrating the formation of pearls in the pearl oyster, and specimens of the normal as well as the extremely rare and venerated sinistral (or *valamburi*) variety of the sacred chank together with the horny egg capsule of this species and the various ornamental products such as rings and bangles manufactured from this species—all contribute admirably to the interest which our shell gallery offers to the visitor.

Of the rest of the exhibits in this gallery, the members of the jointed-limbed group of animals such as insects, spiders, prawns and crabs constitute by far the vast majority. The commercial importance of the silk moth and the industry which has originated from it is well brought home to the visitor by the instructive display of the wide variety of silk cocoons and the samples of silks which have been reeled from them at the various silk filatures in the Madras Presidency. A brightly coloured and elaborately designed carpet made entirely of silk

reeled from Mulberry silk moth cocoons in Tanjore is also exhibited in this gallery. Various interesting features relating to the natural history of insects are instructively illustrated by a special introductory series of exhibits. They serve to explain to the visitor the evolutionary sequence of the various orders of insects, the outstanding sex differences in certain groups of insects, the variations in the wing characters of various insects and the adaptations of certain insects to an aquatic mode of life. Besides, there are a number of striking examples of insect 'homes' such as the termitarium, or white ant's nest, the tree ant's nest, the hive of the honey bee and the papery nests of different species of wasps.

Among the group of exhibits representing the spiders, scorpions and their allies, the attention of the visitor will be specially attracted by the large, highly venomous, hairy spider bearing bright metallic spots (Tam. *Joramandalam*), the trap door spider with its ingenious dwelling, the various large-sized scorpions including a double-tailed freak, and the immense king crab or horse shoe crab which, in reality, is not a crab at all but more allied to the spiders and scorpions. This is a curious marine animal whose body is made up of a large rounded, partially flattened and dome shaped forepart and a long, attenuated tail-like spine, and lives on the sandy bottom of the sea. The lobsters and prawns in some of the wall cases in this gallery will also interest the visitor considerably by reason of their large size. Before leaving this gallery, the visitor should not miss seeing the small display of star fishes, brittle stars, sea lilies, sea urchins and sea cucumbers contained in a separate group of cases against the wall at one end of the gallery. These are all marine animals, built on a characteristic five-radiate plan, and, except for the sea cucumbers, are all provided with a hard calcareous outer skeleton composed of numerous plates which are fused together and often bear strong spines. The sea cucumbers (so called on account of their cucumber-like shape), however, have a soft leathery skin, and are remarkable for their habit of casting out their entire internal viscera when irritated, and regenerating them all anew! Some species of the sea cucumber are commercially important as they are used in the preparation of a kind of soup known as *trepang* or *beche-de-mer*.

Gallery of Fishes

Finally, on leaving this gallery, the visitor will enter the adjoining hall,

namely, the gallery of fishes. Immediately on entering this hall, his attention will be drawn to a huge specimen of a fish suspended from the ceiling. This is a specimen of the Whale Shark—the largest of all living species of fish. The specimen exhibited measures more than twenty feet in length. It has been recorded both in the east and west coasts of the Indian Peninsula, but it is said to be only a seasonal visitor to these coasts, having their permanent homes in the Malay Archipelagoes. It has an extremely wide, gaping mouth, and is beautifully marked with round white spots all over the body in the living condition. Far from being a ferocious man-eater, as its immense size would readily lead us to believe, the Whale Shark appears to be perfectly harmless to man, and feeds on shrimps and other minute marine planktonic organisms. A giant Perch fish exhibited directly beneath this suspended shark is also remarkable for its size, and is reputed to be one of the largest of bony fishes recorded from the Indian waters.

Other large specimens of fishes may also be seen mounted on the walls in this gallery. Of these Tiger Shark and Rayner's Shark are perhaps the most formidable and have been known to attack sea bathers in the neighbourhood of the Madras shore. The Saw-fish and the Sword-fish which have, in their "saw" and "sword" remarkably powerful offensive weapons, also rank among the more impressive exhibits in this gallery. Besides these, all the common Indian species of the various cartilaginous fishes such as sharks, rays and skates, as well as bony fishes such as perches, eels, catfishes and a host of others, including game fishes such as the Mahseer, are all exhibited in this gallery in a fairly complete systematic series. Some of the principle edible fishes such as the pomfrets, seers and mullets found in the Madras waters, and various samples of oils, manures and isinglass derived from fishes are specially exhibited in a separate series on account of their commercial importance.

The visitor has now completed his tour around the various zoological galleries of the Museum, and it is hoped that the little glimpses into the manifold treasures of Nature which he might have gained through this visit will serve to awaken in him a deeper understanding of the marvels and beauties that abound in the fascinating realm of Natural History, and not dwindle into a mere evenescent experience.

(Concluded.)

Prohibition News Letter

The following is a brief summary of the reports on the ameliorative activities in the prohibition districts:—

Salem.—In the Rural Uplift School at Hosur the candidates are given instructions in a number of subjects like rural uplift, health, sanitation, co-operation, cattle care, etc. Volley ball is getting popular in the district. One village sangam organized a volley ball tournament in which 12 teams competed. The finals were conducted on 29th February and silver cups were presented to the winners. A cattle show was held in another village on the 10th March under the auspices of the Veterinary Department and the District Board, Salem. There was a large number of exhibits of all classes of livestock. In all 45 prizes were awarded to winners.

Bellary.—Three village committees were formed in the early part of March. Firka tournaments were also conducted during the period. A cattle show was held and prizes were awarded for the best animals. Dramas were staged in a number of villages under the guidance of the ameliorative staff. A radio set was installed in one village. A thrift campaign was launched and 20 hundi boxes were distributed.

Cuddapah.—Divisional tournaments took place during the early part of March. Several teams competed and prizes were distributed to the winners. A Co-operative Egg Production Society was organized at Proddatur as well as a Co-operative Building Society. The villagers showed great enthusiasm. They also asked for 100 hundi boxes. The public in one place have resolved to build a community centre with a reading room, library, park, radio and playgrounds at a cost of Rs. 15,000. They have agreed to collect half the amount from the villagers. So far Rs. 3,000 have been collected.

Trichinopoly.—During the early part of March a film was exhibited in seven villages and many including ex-addicts and ladies attended the shows. On the 1st March the second Rural Uplift School for the district was opened. There were speeches on the constructive side of rural uplift work.

Anantapur.—Firka tournaments were conducted on the 24th and 25th February in two villages. Several teams took part. A silver rolling cup

was presented to winners in tug-of-war. A notable fact was that a silver chain was won as a prize by a woman for pounding paddy. A cattle fair and agricultural exhibition were held during a festival. Prizes were distributed for the best exhibits in the shape of agricultural implements. A Labour Co-operative Society was formed in one place. A radio set was installed in another place. A new building for the Board Elementary School and a reading room and library were opened in one village. The Betterment Committee of the place collected Rs. 2,000 for this construction. The Special Development Officer suggested the running of a Night School and this was agreed to. There was also a cattle fair in Kalyandrug taluk. An agricultural exhibition was arranged in this connexion which was largely attended. A Taluk Tournament was also conducted. Dramas were staged and prizes were distributed on the final day in the shape of useful agricultural implements. Prizes were also given for the best exhibits in agriculture and handicrafts. A Labour contract Society for ex-tappers was given a contract for repairing a channel. A co-operative society was also organized for ex-addicts. The Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies organized another society for agricultural improvement.

Chittoor.—Eighteen Rural Recreational Clubs and 18 grama sangams were organized by the ameliorative staff in Chandragiri Division during the early part of March. Rural games were held as usual in all the divisions in the district. At another place there was keen competition between those who participated especially for Pandara Bajana, Kolattam and folk dance. In another village matches were also played in two places in which several villages took part. There were as usual bajanas and folk dances. The ballad singer performed harikathas in important places. Street Cleaning Drive was launched in one village and Thrift Day celebrations were conducted in several places. Several hundi boxes were also distributed. In the exhibition in Punganur taluk the Agricultural, Veterinary, Fisheries and other departments took an active part. Bajanas were performed in all the divisions in the district. A Harijan in one village donated a site for a Bhajana Madam.

The villagers in two places laid out approach-roads. Dramas were also staged during March.

The Nilgiris.—The closing function in connexion with the Rural Uplift School at Cooroor was celebrated on 29th February. There was also an exhibition in that connection. Products from the Forest, Agricultural, Veterinary and Co-operative departments were exhibited. One local cinema company gave a benefit performance in aid of the rural uplift fund.

Madura.—Two Milk Supply Societies for the benefit of ex-addicts and others were registered during the early part of March. Hundi boxes were distributed to the ex-tappers of the Jaggery Manufacturers' Society. A Co-operative Jaggery Society was formed during the second week of March and 12 licences were issued to ex-tappers. The jaggery produced by the Co-operative Society was pooled together and successfully sold in auction. Bajanas and harikathas were performed in some villages of Dindigul taluk.

North Arcot.—Korai Mat Weaving industry was introduced in one village on the 3rd of March. Mat looms were distributed to 13 Harijan women and they were exhorted to avail themselves of the free supply of looms, free tuition and free supply of raw materials. A programme of rural games, bhajana, music, etc., was gone through in this connexion. Harijan women showed keen enthusiasm in taking advantage of the new scheme.

Kurnool.—A new tea stall was opened in one village. Dramas were also enacted. Tournaments and music performance were the other important events during the early part of March. An ex-addict saved Rs. 100 through abstaining from drink. Another man saved Rs. 30; yet another Rs. 100; A fourth ex-addict purchased two buffaloes costing Rs. 150 in addition to saving Rs. 200. There was also a cattle show and this was opened by the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture. The show was largely attended. There was also a Cottage Industries Exhibition in connexion with the Sivarathri festival. Prizes were distributed for the best exhibits.

Tanjore.—A public library was declared open on the 29th February under the auspices of a grama sangam. One Rural Recreation Club and two Village Betterment Committees were organized during the early part of March in one taluk. In Mannargudi Division a Mat-Weaving Co-operative Society was started with 22 ex-tappers as members. Twenty-five hundi boxes

were distributed to ex-addicts. Thrift Day celebrations were conducted in one place.

Malabar.—During the early part of March a Coconut Jaggery Producers' Society in Chirakkal taluk started work. The total number of societies in the district now is 51.

South Kanara.—The Special Development Officer organized a Cattle Breeding Co-operative Society in Kasargode taluk.

Coimbatore.—There were indigenous games as usual. A Firka

Tournament was held in Pollachi Division in which several teams took part. Competitions in Chedugudu, tug-of-war, bhajana, volley ball, stick play, etc., were held. Grama sangams continued to do useful work. One grama sangam planted 29 trees in the early part of March. Another grama sangam is constructing a bajana mandiram.

Guntur.—A one-day cattle show was arranged in one village on the 7th of March by the Veterinary Department. The prizes distributed were valued at Rs. 300. There were also indigenous sports and entertainments.

and Radio Electronics, Calcutta University; Jaipur Vikram Deo College, Andhra University; Alagappa Chettiar College, Madras.

The Committee also approved a yearly contribution of Rs. 38 lakhs by the Central Government towards operation of the Workmen's Compensation Insurance scheme, the grants to continue for five years.

This scheme provides for certain benefits to persons employed in factories in cases of sickness, maternity cases and employment injury. It is mainly financed by contributions from employers and workers, but the Government of India has agreed to make a grant equivalent to two-thirds of the cost of administration of the scheme, excluding cost of benefits to be provided.

A non-recurring grant of Rs. 5 lakhs and a recurring grant of about Rs. 40,000 a year were sanctioned for the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan.

Founded in 1910, this Society's main object is to promote the spread of Hindi in Devanagari characters and to develop the language itself. It is also engaged in the production of high class Hindi literature.

The Sammelan has its own building at Allahabad, but with the expansion of its activities more accommodation is needed in that city. Also, it is proposed to establish a cultural centre at Delhi.

Railway Board's Complaints Section

Over 16,000 complaints were dealt with by the Railway Administrations during the period October 1946 to December 1947 and in the Railway Board Office itself 2,341 complaints were received and dealt with by the Complaints section. Most of the cases have been satisfactorily closed.

This was revealed in the Dominion Parliament by Hon'ble Dr. John Matthai, Minister for Railways. Individually with Railway Administration also dealt dual complaints. The number dealt with by M. & S.M. Railway is 1,229 and that by S.I. Railway 502.

Social Workers' Conference

Prominent social workers of Delhi and representatives of a number of social service and welfare organizations met recently at the Lady Irwin College under the presidency of Mr. A. V. Thakker and decided to organize a conference of social work to be held in Delhi in September.

The Conference would be the provincial branch of the All-India Conference of Social Work which has its headquarters in Bombay.

Although there seemed to be no dearth of social service agencies in the country, very little co-ordinated work had been done. It was precisely because these agencies had been

allowed to grow up and multiply without any definite plan, guidance or co-ordination that to-day instead of any decrease the country was witnessing an increase in destitution, disease, crime, unemployment and social vice. The remedy then seemed to be not to confine oneself to isolated batch work but to concentrate on pre-

ventive activities in fighting the giants of poverty, disease, squalor, illiteracy, neglect and unemployment.

In this task of co-ordination of course, the State would have to play an important and leading role. A free India must solve these problems permanently by the creation of a Ministry of Social Welfare.

Delhi Diary

Indian Industries

Comprehensive data on the state of India's industrial production, plans undertaken by the Government of India to develop them and the considered views of industrialists, labour leaders and Governments on industry in general and a number of specific problems are brought out in a two-volume report of the recent Industries Conference published by the Ministry of Industry and Supply. The first of the two volumes contains data, which though not complete in all respects, may still be considered the best available at the moment, especially in the absence of a regular organization for the collection of industrial statistics. The second volume may serve as a symposium of expert opinion on a number of general and specific problems of production, supply, transport and labour.

The Agenda and Notes prepared for the Conference, printed in the first booklet indicate the Government's general plans of industrial production and the special problems of shortages, personnel, transport difficulties, etc., which confront them. This section of the volume contains facts and figures relating to 32 industries, which have to be presently worked to existing capacity as the first phase of industrial planning, while data relating to long-term development of 31 industries are given in a series of summaries, most of them being based on the reports lately submitted by Industrial Panels appointed by the Government of India.

National Ill-health

It was a tragedy too deep for tears that today India stood lowest in the

whole world in the domain of health, said Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, India's Health Minister, in her presidential address delivered at the Lady Hardinge Medical College founders' celebrations today.

Your leaders, the Health Minister said, had brought you freedom. Perhaps it was only natural that political freedom when it came should bring in its wake an upheaval. As if the terrible happenings here and elsewhere were not enough they were called upon to bear yet another grievous calamity under whose dark shadow they still lingered and groped for light. Mahatma Gandhi, however, could not be killed by the foul assassin's bullet. The manner of his passing was the hour of his greatest triumph. He had joined the ranks of the great immortals and his soul shone for ever and would continue to beckon her to rise to the heights to which he had longed for India to rise.

Industrial Progress to be quickened

The Standing Finance Committee approved in principle a scheme to strengthen existing Engineering and Technological Institutions with a view to improving and expanding the facilities for technical education and of providing more technicians for the industrial progress of the country. After certain details have been worked out, grants for 1947-48 will be made by the Central Government.

Among the Institutions to benefit are the Jadavpur Engineering College, V.J.T.I. Bombay; various technological Colleges of Banares Hindu University; Department of Applied Physics

Other Provinces—Highlights

Grants for Backward Classes' Uplift in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned the payment of additional recurring grants of Rs. 20,800 to the voluntary agencies and associations like the Harijan Sewak Sanghs, etc., working for the amelioration of the conditions of the Backward Classes.

Police Reorganization in U.P.

The Police Reorganization Committee has now completed its work and submitted its report to the Government.

The Committee, it is gathered, has discussed the question of responsibility for law and order. At present the responsibility rests on the district magistrates although the police has primarily to maintain it. Although the committee realized that the dual responsibility resulted in friction between the magistracy and the police, it was considered unwise to put the police in sole charge of law and order. Certain witnesses suggested placing the police under local bodies, as in Great Britain, but the proposal was not acceptable. The Committee has, it is understood, recommended that more powers to deal with the law and order question should be given to the police, but the magistrates would be within their rights to interfere if they felt that a case was being mishandled.

Special investigating squads are understood to have been recommended for rural areas, while in cities with a population of over one lakh the separation of the investigation branch from watch and ward is suggested. There would be special investigation squads to deal with investigation of serious and important crimes at the headquarters of each district. The crime record section in each district will be linked with the provincial crime information bureau.

Education in West Punjab

The West Punjab Government is contemplating to revise the system of education in vernacular schools in the Province. The ideal, set before the Government, is that a vernacular school should become the nucleus of village life and a powerful vehicle of social emancipation, economic improvement and agricultural development. The vernacular education will have under the revised scheme, an essentially agricultural and vocational bias. Apart from instruction in Three R's, lessons will be imparted in Civics, Co-operation, Hygiene, improved methods of agriculture and programme of rural uplift.

The reformed system will be broad-based on community work, more on the actual observation of facts and things, than on more reading and cramming of a few fixed text-books.

Milk Production in West Punjab

The number of dairies and creameries in West Punjab will shortly be raised to 30. This step is expected to go a long way in meeting the shortage of 11,363,703 mds. of milk per annum in the Province.

The total milk requirements of the Province, at the average rate of 8 ounces per capita per day, which is considered essential for the maintenance of minimum health conditions for a population of 12,878,823, are roughly estimated at 29,379,814 maunds.

Bombay Rural Development Board

The Bombay Government have reconstituted the Provincial Rural Development Board. The main functions of the Board are to advise the Government on the general principles and

policy of rural development and cognate matters and such other matters as may be referred to it; to advise the Government on various Post-war Reconstruction and other rural development Schemes; to prepare schemes on its own initiative and submit them to the Government for consideration; and to assist the Government in implementing and co-ordinating these schemes and to review their progress from time to time.

With a view to accelerating the working of the Board and to deal with matters pertaining to it as they arise from day to day, the Board will be assisted by six sub-committees.

Bombay Scholarships

Sanction has been accorded to the institution of fifty additional sets of stipends for the Backward Classes—thirty sets tenable for two years for men and twenty sets tenable for three years for women, in Non-Government Primary Training Institutions in the Province, as a post-war reconstruction measure.

New Labour and Housing Department in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has formed a new Department in the Secretariat to deal with matters pertaining to Labour and Housing (Construction).

Potato Competition in United Provinces.

It has been decided to hold a potato competition in connexion with the Grow More Food Campaign. The grower who produces the maximum yield per acre from disease-free seed purchased from the Agriculture department will be awarded a silver cup as first prize. Government have under consideration the award of second and third prizes also.

Fuel Problem in West Punjab

"The outturn of firewood from Government forests is only a small fraction of the total requirements of the country and there is no hope of improving the position without drastic measures", stated the Chief Conservator of Forests, West Punjab, in the course of a report embodying recommendations for afforestation in the rural areas of West Punjab.

Of the 8 million acres of private and crown waste land, 5 million acres are recommended for afforestation by villagers themselves, to yield nearly 40 million maunds of fuel every year.

The total area thus afforested will be 7.69 million acres, representing 20.7 per cent of the total area of the West Punjab. The entire estimated outturn from all these sources will be available after about 20 years, but there will be an appreciable increase of supplies in five to ten years' time.

Road Development in West Punjab

In view of the commercial future of the Province, feeder and village roads are receiving special attention under the Five-year Road-building Plan of the Government. The plan envisages the construction of 1,535 miles of arterial and 1,856 miles of minor and village roads during the next three years.

Town-Planning in West Punjab

In order to organize town-planning and to meet the increasing house requirements, the West Punjab Government has opened the office of the Provincial Town Planner.

The office will draw up schemes and layouts for different parts of the Province which the local authorities will adopt, after necessary modifications, as their own. Planning for rural areas, directing the course of development along major highways, initiating plans and advising on acquisition of land for the improvement trusts at Lahore, Sialkot, Multan and Rawalpindi—all these responsibilities will fall within the scope of the new planning authority.

Anti-Corruption Drive in West Bengal

It is learnt that about 60 cases of alleged corruption among Government servants in West Bengal are under investigation by the Anti-Corruption department.

They involve Deputy Magistrates, Subdivisional Officers, Superintendents of Police, Police Inspectors and Constables, Officers of the Civil Supplies and Rationing Departments, and clerks in various Government offices.

Bihar Governor's Exhortation

"We must be prepared to do everything to uphold the rule of law and respect for the Constituted Authority. That alone will help the new democracy to create conditions under which Ram Rajya which Mahatma Gandhi of hallowed memory was always dreaming of, can be established"—So said His Excellency Shri Madho Shrihari Aney, replying to the addresses presented to him by the members of the Matihari Municipality and the District Board of Champaran. He added:—"You are living under the Government run by your chosen representatives and trusted leaders. The methods like civil disobedience, passive resistance, strikes, deadlocks, etc., which were used effectively and rightly by you against the old Government are entirely out of use in the present order. I will urge on you all therefore to try in your way to create respect for the laws and regulations promulgated by the existing Government".

Basic Education Plan for Delhi Province

It has been decided to implement the Basic Education Scheme in Delhi Province with effect from July 1, 1948. In the first year all children aged six and seven in the rural areas of the Province will be given free and compulsory primary education. In the following years the scheme will be applied to the successive age groups.

It is proposed to open about 150 new schools during the next year to put this scheme into effect. The first fifty schools will be opened next July. It is hoped that the experience gained in the implementation of this scheme in Delhi Province will prove useful to other Provinces in adopting similar schemes.

Agricultural Credit in Bombay

The recommendation of the Agricultural Credit Organization Committee that it is not necessary to establish an Agricultural Credit Corporation and that the co-operative agencies can carry out its work, has been accepted by the Government of Bombay.

Efficiency drive in U.P.

The Government of the United Provinces have prescribed compulsory retirement for inefficient officers. An elaborate set of procedural rules have been drawn up which are to be observed before an officer is decided to be retired.

New Taxation in West Punjab

The budget of the West Punjab Government for the year 1948-49 has forecast a deficit of 673 lakhs. The deficit is sought to be covered partially by a number of new taxation measures. These are mainly (1) tax on agricultural income, (2) increase in Urban Immovable Property Tax, (3) doubling of copying fees in courts and Revenue record rooms, (4) increase in tobacco licence fees, (5) increase in entertainment duty, (6) tax on consumption of electricity and (7) 25 per cent increase in the rate of stamp charges both judicial and non-judicial. The new taxes are expected to yield roughly 283 lakhs of rupees.

Prohibition in Bombay

The prohibition programme in Bombay Province got a good boost recently when Governor Maharaj Singh inaugurated recently a new publicity drive against the drink evil.

A crowd of several thousands had gathered to hear the Governor who illustrated his talk in simple Hindustani by calling up an addict to the platform to take the pledge of his own free will not to touch the bottle again. The Governor also called up a police inspector and asked him which of all the offences he had to deal with he found the most disgusting. Unhesitatingly, the police-man replied: "Drinking, Sir!"

Mr. G. D. Vartak, Minister for Local Self-Government and Chairman of the Prohibition Board's Propaganda and Publicity Committee, drew rounds of applause when he said that one of the greatest services which we could render to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi would be to abjure the drink habit.

Live-stock Improvement in Bihar

The Government of Bihar have prepared a few schemes for live-stock improvement and for dealing with the problem of live-stock production. The schemes formulated include improvement of "Goshalas" in the Province.

establishment of a model "Goshala" on Wardha lines, maintenance of 400 bulls in key villages, grading up village cattle with Tharpakar bulls, establishment of a Bachaur breed cattle farm, and establishment of a wool shearing and grading centre. It has also been decided to start a training class for imparting suitable training to the Goshala workers. Other schemes proposed in this connection are the establishment of a poultry farm sheep and goat breeding farm, training of ex-servicemen as stockmen training of personnel in India and abroad and appointment of Dairy Development Officers.

Physical Culture in U.P.

The Government of the United Provinces have decided to start a scheme of physical culture in the Province, which in the first instance, will be started at Lucknow. People ranging from the age of 12 to 40 years will be admitted to different training centres. They will be taught punctuality, clean habits, physical exercises and rhythmic movements, etc. It is also proposed to supply milk at reduced rates to the trainees after their continued association with centres for a specified period of time.

U.P.'s Blueprint for Labour Welfare

Mr. Sampurnanand, Minister for Labour, placed before the provincial Assembly Government's blueprint for improving the conditions of

industrial and agricultural workers in the Province. The high lights of the blueprint are, the setting up of new conciliation and adjudication bodies, appointment of Works' Committees consisting of representatives of employers and employees, to settle disputes arising out of the normal working of the industries and expansion of labour welfare activities.

Prohibition magazine in Bombay

The Bombay Provincial Prohibition Board will shortly bring out a monthly magazine "Sanjeevan" (or the New Life), edited by Prof. J. C. Daruvala. The magazine is priced at eight annas a copy.

Technical Education in Bombay

In order to provide for more efficient control and development of technical and industrial education in the Province, the Government have decided to set up a special organization with effect from the next financial year with headquarters in Bombay. This organization will ultimately form part of the Directorate of Public Instruction.

Bombay Advisory Board for Libraries

It is proposed to establish in Bombay a Central Advisory Board for Libraries for the proper and efficient supervision and inspection of and the provision of guidance to the libraries in the Province of Bombay.

The term of office of the Central Board will be for three years.

It is proposed to establish three Regional Advisory Boards for the libraries for the proper and efficient supervision of libraries in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Karnatak.

Prohibition—A Success in Central Province

A Government resolution on the progress made in respect of prohibition in the Central Province and Berar during 1946 states that prohibition had improved the moral, physical, social and economic condition of ex-addicts.

In 1938, prohibition was made effective for the first time in an area of 9,333 square miles. On October 1, 1946, 39,643 square miles, which are a little less than half of the area of the Province had been brought under the prohibition scheme.

The Province lost Rs. 23 lakhs on account of the introduction of prohibition. The number of offences under the prohibition Act rose from 1,859 to 2,927, the increase being chiefly due to the extension of the area under prohibition. Illicit distillation of liquor topped the list of offences and the number of cases under this head increased from 4,423 to 4,738. More opium was smuggled into the Province from the Central India States and 186 smugglers were arrested. The total amount of opium seized was 19,410 tolas.

Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings

The Evil of Drink

[It has been said by more than one top rank leader in this country that the best way to perpetuate the memory of Gandhiji is to follow his teachings. During a period of over forty years of self denying service to this country, Gandhiji has given his views on almost all matters which are vital to the interest of the common man. To study them and translate them into action is the imperative duty of every true lover of this country.]

Hereunder is reproduced his writing on the evils of drink. No doubt this Province will become

completely dry shortly but all the same, critics continue to be vociferous in attacking prohibition as an unwanted or premature affair. To such of those who think that way this article will prove an eye-opener.]

"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 or license houses of ill-fame. We do not provide facilities for thieves to indulge 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?

Drink is more a disease than a vice. I know scores of men who would gladly leave off drink if they could. I know some who have asked that the temptation might be put away from them. In spite of the temptation having been put away at their instance, I have known them to steal drink. I do not, therefore, think that it was wrong to have removed the temptation. Diseased persons have got to be helped against themselves.

Having identified myself with labour, I know what ruin drink has brought to the homes of labourers given to drink. I know that they will not touch

liquor if it was not within easy reach. We have contemporaneous evidence that drinkers themselves are in many cases asking for prohibition.

The drink habit destroys the soul of man and tends to turn him into a beast, incapable of distinguishing between wife, mother and sister. I have seen men who forget this distinction under the influence of liquor.

The drink and the drug evil is in many respects infinitely worse than the evil caused by malaria and the

like; for, whilst the latter only injure the body the former saps both body and soul.

I would rather have India reduced to a state of pauperism than have thousands of drunkards in our midst. I would rather have India without education if that is the price to be paid for making it dry.

Nothing but ruin stares a nation in the face that is prey to the drink habit. History records that empires have been destroyed through that

habit. We have it in India that the great community to which Shri Krishna belonged was ruined by that habit. This monstrous evil was undoubtedly one of the contributory factors in the fall of Rome.

In no part of the world is prohibition as easy to carry out as in India, for with us it is only a minority that drinks. Drinking is generally considered disreputable. And there are millions, I believe, who have never known what drink is."

THE MIGHT OF NON-VIOLENCE

"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 a 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."

"THE spirit of non-violence necessarily leads to humility, Non-violence means reliance on God."

"INDIA'S past training for ages, I mean the training of the masses, has been against violence. Human nature in India has advanced so far that the doctrine of Non-violence is more natural for the people at large than that of violence."

"THE only virtue I want to claim is Truth and Non-violence. I lay no claim to superhuman powers. I want none. I wear the same corruptible flesh that the weakest of my fellow beings wear, and am therefore as liable to err as any."

"MY interest in India's freedom will cease if she adopts violent means, for their fruit will be not freedom but slavery in disguise."

"VIOLENT means will give violent Swaraj. That would be a menace to the world and to India herself."

"MY religion is based on Truth and Non-violence. Truth is my God. Non-violence is the means of realising Him."

"AHIMSA and Satya are as my two lungs. I cannot live without them."

"NON-VIOLENCE and cowardice are contradictory terms. Non-violence is the greatest virtue, cowardice the greatest vice. Non-violence springs from love, cowardice from hate."

"NON-VIOLENCE always suffers, cowardice would always inflict suffering. Perfect non-violence is the highest bravery. Non-violent conduct is never demoralising, cowardice always is."

"NON-VIOLENCE cannot be taught to a person who fears to die and has no power of resistance."

"NON-VIOLENCE is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man. Destruction is not the law of the humans. Man lives freely only by his readiness to die, if need be, at the hands of his brother, never by killing him. Every murder or other injury, no matter for what cause, committed or inflicted on another, is a crime against humanity."

"SHOULD India take to the sword, she would cease to be the India of my dreams and I should like to betake myself to the Himalayas to seek rest for my anguished soul."

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

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.

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Books and Publications

"MY EXPERIENCE IN SOVIET RUSSIA." By DR. MEGHNAD SAHA. Published by the Bookman, Calcutta—Priced Rs. 5.

The book is a reprint of some articles contributed by the author to newspapers on his return from a trip to Soviet Russia, as an Indian delegate to the 20th Anniversary of the Russian Academy of Sciences. A distinguished scientist, Dr. Meghnad Saha deals with the work of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the scientific progress made in the Soviet Union under the direct impulse of State encouragement and patronage. He emphasizes more than once the point that it was the freedom permitted to the scientists in Soviet Union to carry on their work in an atmosphere free from interference that has resulted in the great work turned out by the scientists and that enabled the Soviet Union to meet and successfully overcome the Nazi Blitz. He also points out that the scientists occupy a position of honour and responsibility in the State, because their contribution to the country's progress in several spheres is fully recognized.

In the chapter on "Transformation of the Country" Dr. Saha reports a conversation he had with Professor Krzizhenovsky, President of the Committee of Energetics, in which he explained how the Bolsheviks planned their programme of development of the country's natural resources like giants and finished like titans. The important and vital place that electrical power can play in the promotion of a nation's prosperity is clearly demonstrated by the conversation and it is a pointer to us in India with our vast undeveloped and untapped power resources. With freedom attained, we should get over as quickly as possible the drawbacks and deficiencies and proceed ahead with economic and industrial planning on a systematic basis. In this the vast natural resources of India should be utilized to the maximum possible extent.

It seems as though that Professor Saha has not much sympathy for small-scale industries. He says in reply to the enquiries made by Prof. Krzizhanovsky about "the spinning wheel and bullock cart economies of Gandhi" that "myself and many of my brother scientists have as little

regard for Gandhi's economic and social theories as you have for Tolstoy's." It is not always remembered by our scientists and administrators that India is essentially a land of villages and will remain so for years to come, perhaps always, and that for bettering the conditions of the villagers and utilizing their traditional skill in the crafts, there can be no better method than the encouragement and promotion of village or cottage industries. Of course, with the availability of cheap electrical energy, these industries can be better organized or worked.

In a big country like India, there is a place for big industries and big power and other schemes as well as for small industries and village economy."

—C.V.H.

WITTY TALES OF BADSHA AND BIRBAL

By M. S. PATEL.

Published by Messrs. N. M. Thakkar & Co., 140, Princess Street, Bombay 2.

Price—Rs. 6-12-0 (Postage Extra).

Among those luminous personages who adorned the Court of Emperor Akbar, Raja Birbal was an outstanding figure. Apart from being divinely gifted with ready wit, Raja Birbal was a brave warrior and a statesman. His rare and versatile talents have won for him an esteemed and elevated position in the Court of Akbar. The author of this book has to be congratulated for his efforts to compile so many witty tales, in which Birbal figures prominently. No doubt the authenticity of most of them cannot be verified. Yet it is the record of the unique tales, proving Birbal's superb intelligence and presence of mind. The book is written in a lucid style and easy language, with the humour in each tale clearly grasped and cleverly presented. The colour plates of Iqbal, artist have added charm to the edition. The book is chiefly meant for the English readers as the author himself has said in his preface. A Passage appears in Tale XVII, page 99, as spoken by Birbal: "Though possessed of great personal charm, is she not a witch fit to be burnt alive in the heart of the town?" Burning of witches alive in the heart of a town was a custom prevalent in medieval Europe and not

in India. The get-up of the book is excellent. The book, on the whole, deserves a place in the shelves of all libraries worth the name.

—S.A.H.

'FOOD AND NUTRITION IN INDIA'

By DR. D. N. CHATTERJEE.

Published by—The author, 3/2, College Street, Calcutta—Price Rs. 6.

The book deals with important aspects of food and nutrition in a practical manner and is written in a clear and simple language. It deserves a place as a text-book on the subject.

—B.G.K.

THE VISVA-BHARATI QUARTERLY EDUCATION NUMBER

[Edited by Kshitij Roy—Pages 215—Price Rs. 8].

It was Mahatma Gandhi who said that if India was to attain salvation, we have to unlearn, much of what we have learnt during the past fifty years. The problem of re-orientation of the educational system, with a view to evolve one suited to our cultural heritage and national genius, is to-day exercising the minds of all. The alien influences that have paralysed our faculties and stunted our growth have to be discarded and a true education that will help to draw out the lurking potentiality and latent talents, and lead to full and fruitful growth, is the need of the hour.

The Visva-Barathi, the eternal flame that was kindled by the immortal Gurudev, has done a distinct service to the nation by bringing out this number which is a symposium on the various aspects and theories of education. Each aspect has been dealt with in its proper place and in the proper perspective. An idealist interpretation of the Wardha scheme is given by Sri G. Ramachandran, while Sri P. S. Naidu subjects it to a psychological analysis. The Montessori system, the problems of teacher-training, education for rural India, etc., are some of the topics which have been dealt with in a scholarly way. There are three articles expressing, in his own words, the views of Gurudev Tagore on education.

This volume, which is packed with 28 learned articles, is at once, of topical and abiding value.

—K.D.

"INDIAN ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES"

Published by the Engineering Association of India, Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta—Price Rs. 16.

This is neatly got up volume running to 536 pages and giving a wealth of facts regarding Indian engineering industries. It is published by the Indian Engineering Association, Calcutta. The object of this Association and a brief indication of its activities are given in the introductory portion of the book. This is followed by a chapter in which matters connected with Indian engineering are explained. Part A of the book deals with (1) names and addresses of the engineering factories in the membership of the association, (2) their trade-marks and patents and (3) a buyer's guide from which the public could know from where to obtain their requirements of engineering products. Part B gives a survey of various engineering industries of the country. Part C concerns itself with the progress and development of individual member companies in the field of mechanical engineering, manufacture of machine tools, structural engineering, electrical engineering, ship-building and marine engineering, welding and press work. There are interesting photos also of personalities connected with the Engineering Association.

This is a useful reference book for businessmen and others interested in Indian engineering industries. It seems however quite possible to condense the information contained in the book and a more handy volume produced.. —T.K.G.

"MADRAS INDUSTRIES LECTURE SERIES"

No. 1: "Irrigation Projects" by Dewan Bahadur N. Govindaraja Iyengar.

No. 2 "Paint Industry" by P. Gopala Rao, M.A., M.Sc.

No. 3: "Coir Industry" by Syed Mohamed, B.A.

These booklets are published by the Madras Industries Association and contain within a brief compass interesting information on current subjects. The booklets are quite interesting and deal exhaustively within certain limits with the subjects treated in each of them. To lay readers especially these handy booklets are sure to prove a mine of general information. The Madras Industries Association deserves to be congratulated for this

commendable literary venture of theirs. Days, there were, when "ignorance was bliss and it was folly to be wise" but in this age of democracy the value and usefulness of that form of Government is in proportion to the intelligent interest which a citizen takes in the activities of the Government and to stimulate this intelligent interest, publications such as these are an important accessory.

—T.K.G.

"HEALTH NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION OF INDIA"

By K.C. K. E. RAJA, V. N. PATWARDHAN AND JOSEPH.

Published by Messrs. Padma Publications, Ltd., Publishers, Bombay—for Indian Council of World Affairs.

The pamphlet describes the relation between food, physical fitness and public health. The report of the Health Survey and Development Committee, commonly known as the Bhole Committee, has been referred to in some detail. The pamphlet deserves perusal by all those interested in knowing modern views on some vital problems requiring solution.

—B.G.K.

KHADI WORK IN TAMIL NAD

Annual Report, 1946-47—Published by the All-India Spinners' Association, Tamil Nad, Tiruppur.

This is a well documented report containing a wealth of statistical information about the progress of Khadi in Tamil Nad. The report runs to 30 pages and this is the second annual report under the programme of re-orientation.

According to the report, Khadi industry has made big strides during the period. There was an appreciable increase in production and sale as compared with that in the previous year. Spinning has become more popular in urban areas and the Khadi customers have found it easier to contribute the required yarn for Khadi on account of the rational change introduced in the yarn quota. Spinning for self-sufficiency gained a great fillip during the period and arrangements were made for weaving yarn by about 400 self-spinners.

That the development of Khadi industry is necessary to promote rural rehabilitation needs no argument now. Mahatma Gandhi has repeatedly emphasised this fact. There can be much improvement in the

rural standard of living if attention is concentrated on the promotion of Khadi industry in the village. In this as in many other things the enthusiasm of the rural folk counts for much and without it no headway can be made. The All-India Spinners' Association has by their commendable activities done much to stimulate the interest of the villager in this matter. In a Free India the usefulness of such organizations can never be over-estimated. In fact, to inculcate new habits and encourage new methods voluntary organizations are more effective.

—T.K.G.

Veterinary Department

The Seventh All-India Cattle Show was held at Delhi during February 1948.

The object of the show was to help cattle industry in India and to serve as a clearing house of ideas for cattle breeders all over the country. It also afforded a practical demonstration of India's wealth in good breeds of cattle and enabled breeders of Provinces and States to select the best suited breed for their purpose.

The following classes of animals were exhibited :—

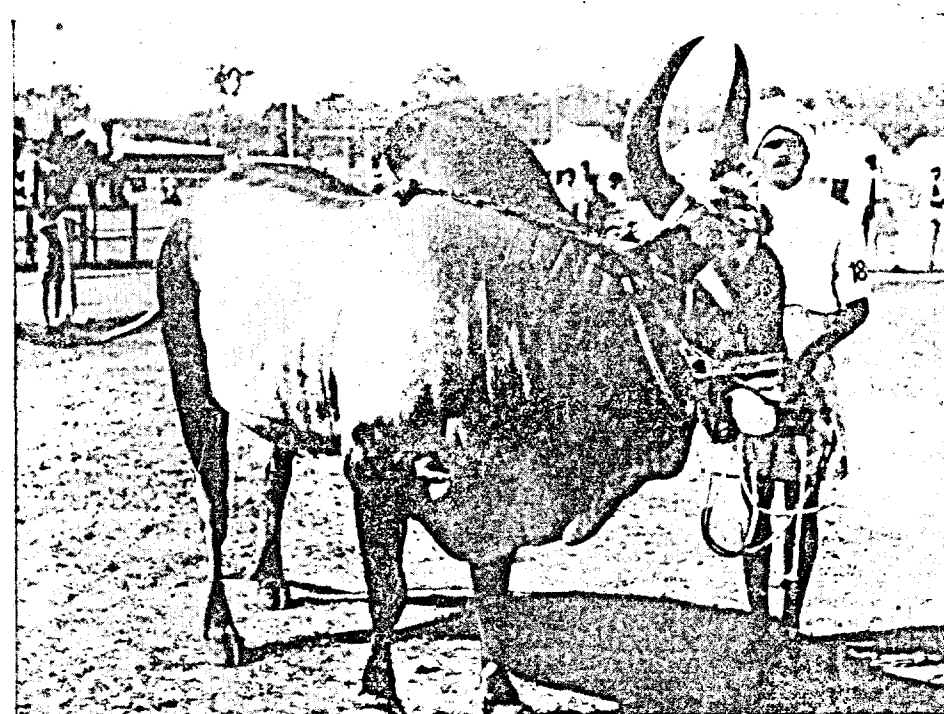
- (1) Cattle and buffaloes.
- (2) Sheep and goats.
- (3) Poultry.

The South Indian breeds were represented by Amrit Mahals, Hallikars, Kangayam and Ongoles. Red Sindhis were also at the show.

It is noteworthy that the animals from the South belonging to the Madras Government Cattle Farms knocked off many prizes and Challenge cups in the show. The Kangayam bull No. 555 of Government Cattle Farm at Hosur was awarded the Supreme Championship for the best bull in the whole show this year and knocked away the coveted Hyderabad Challenge cup. In the Championship class a Hallikar cow of the Government Cattle Farm at Hosur was given the Challenge cup for the best draught type cow. A "Red Sindhi" cow, again from the above farm, was declared the best milch type cow exhibited. An Ongole cow from Government Cattle Farm, Lam, Guntur, was the winner of the best milch type of cow of the southern indigenous breed except Red Sindhi. Ongole heifer from the same farm was the winner of the Pattagar of Palayakottai Challenge cup for the Breed Championship of the best animal of Ongole breed.

Cattle and Poultry Show at Delhi

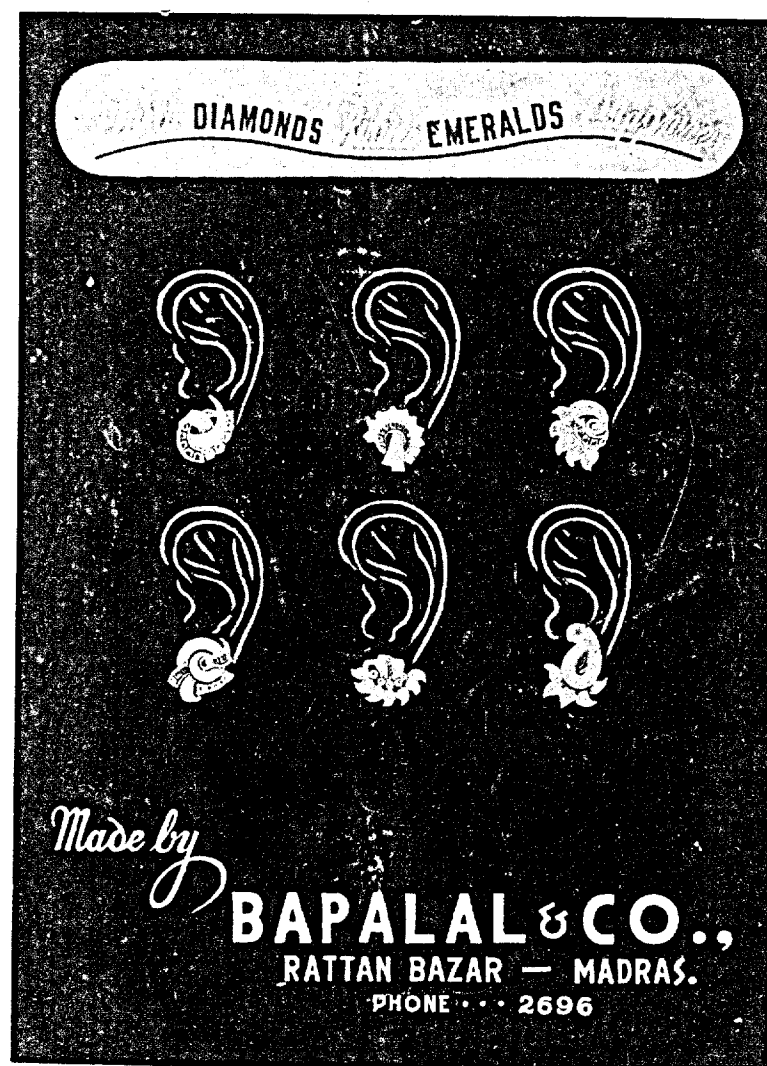
Bulls assembled at the judging ring



Kangayam Bull of Hosur Cattle Farm which won the supreme championship in the Show

Challenge Cups awarded at the Show





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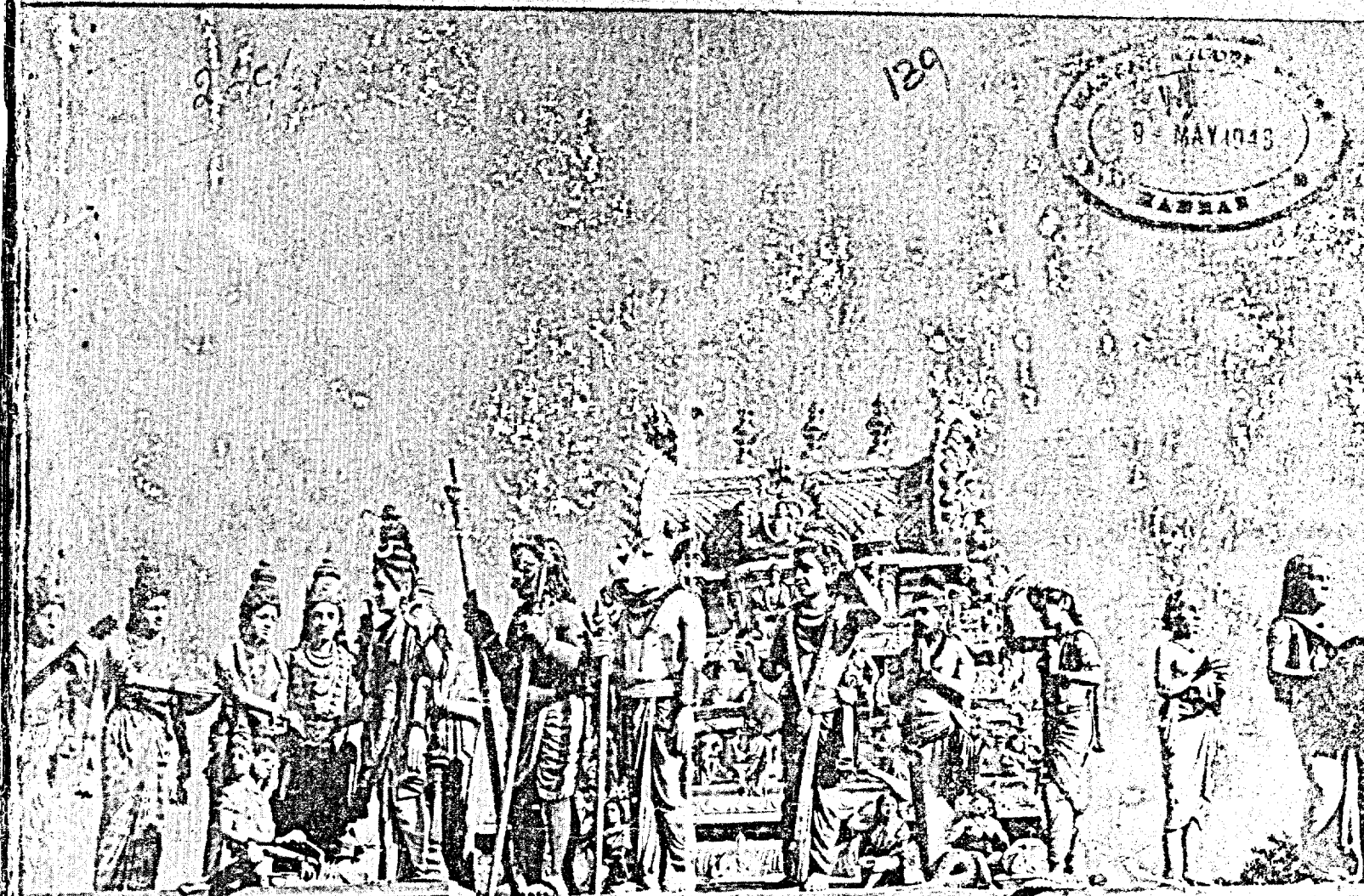
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NO. 8





Group photo taken on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Caste and Social Wing of the Indian Council at Agraharam, Resarah held in Madras on 7th April 1948. In the centre is Sri Jindar Singh, Chairman of the Wing and on his right is Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, Madras Food Minister and on his left is O. L. Ramaswami Reddiar, Premier of Madras.

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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

May 1, 1948

Notes and Comments

Our Problems and Solutions

In the course of his broadcast on the Tamil New Year's day, the Hon'ble the Premier referred to the problems confronting this Province and this country and appealed for public co-operation. He said:

"It is at once the privilege and the duty of those who are better placed by virtue of their knowledge and capacity to lend a helping hand to those less fortunately placed than others and help them to progress. The people and the Government must co-operate to this end and chalk out suitable programmes. The conscience of the people and the initiative of the Government must blend in true action. We must remember that only if the people are prepared to realize and rectify their mistakes and devote themselves to disciplined and constructive activities, common good of all can be achieved. Without strength and discipline, no people or Government can progress. In order that this strength may be built up quickly, it is necessary that caste differences or religious factions should not lead the individual or any community to work for its own advancement to the detriment of others."

About the food situation he said: "On account of the scarcity in the province, we have to pool the stocks internally procured and those sent to us by the Government of India and distribute them equitably among the people, so that they may be saved from starvation. This responsibility rests on the people as well as on the Government. So if in the surplus districts there are ryots who have not handed over their surplus stocks either to the authorities or to the wholesale dealers, I request them to do so immediately, and save their

brethren from starvation. When we are unable even to feed our people fully or with the best of grains, the situation is aggravated by the corrupt practices of rice mill owners and wholesale dealers. They exploit the situation with a view to mass profit and either due to their deliberate adulteration or to criminal neglect of proper storage, the rice that they supply stinks and becomes unfit for consumption. This is made possible only because certain officials of the Food Department and certain Public Health authorities also abet this. All those who indulge in these evil practices must be treated as traitors to the country. I trust that in the new year at least they will learn to treat others like their own selves and

help them by selling rice which is fit for consumption.

In spite of the vigorous propaganda conducted by the Central and Provincial Governments and crores of rupees spent on the Grow More Food campaign, the expected results have not been achieved. There are many reasons for this. Iron implements which agriculturists need, oil for the machines, oil-cake manure, etc., are not being distributed promptly to the agriculturists. Though coupons for the distribution of oil-cake manures have been distributed, much of it has not been distributed and is rotting in the godowns. I am not able to understand why this should happen. I trust that the concerned officials will rectify this and afford all facilities for increased production. Ryots should also abstain from selling these coupons in the black-market."

Continuing he stressed the importance of education and said: "If the condition of the masses is to improve, knowledge through education should spread. With the spread of education, agriculture and village industries will be benefited. The task of rural reconstruction will be made easier. Progressive measures like prohibition, removal of untouchability, etc., will take root. All these depend on our spirit of service and our capacity to spread the education among the masses. It is with this end in view that Gandhiji formulated the basic education scheme which aims at developing knowledge through crafts and helps the pupil to develop an integrated personality. This scheme is now being worked in our province but the elementary and basic school teachers and the higher officials do not seem to be doing this work quite efficiently. I trust this will also be rectified."

Proceeding he also spoke about prohibition: "From October this year," he said, "the whole of our province including the City of Madras will go dry. This noble reform will save the people from moral degeneration and help them to attain material and

IN THIS ISSUE

- A South Indian Work of Art—Frontispiece
- Notes and Comments
- Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest.
- Policies and Programmes
- Departments' Corner
- Prohibition News Letter
- Spotlight on Topical Subjects
- From India's Capital
- In Other Provinces
- Rubies and Emeralds
- Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings
- Books and Publications

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

spiritual advancement. The responsibility of attaining cent per cent success lies on the concerned authorities and on the public. It is the sacred duty of Congressmen and the legislators to spread the gospel of prohibition among the people. They must increase their endeavours so that they may meet with greater success. Total prohibition involves a loss of 17 crores of excise revenue to the Government but a gain of 70 crores to the poor people.

Tiruvalluvar has said that drunkards are like the sleeping and the dead in that they lose their consciousness and like the poison-eaters in that they die prematurely."

In conclusion, he observed—"If all these schemes are to work out successfully, Ramarajya as visualized by Mahatmaji must be established. What is Ramarajya! Truth and justice must prevail. The strong must protect

the weak. Equal opportunity must be granted to all. This was the spirit with which our national poet Bharathi proclaimed that the evil of want must be banished from the world. If that state is to be attained, the people and the Government must work out with faith and determination the constructive programme of Mahatma Gandhi. Our national leaders have opened the Gandhi Memorial Fund and have decided to contribute 10 days' income to the fund. A Committee has been formed in our province also. People of all castes, all classes and of every age should contribute to the fund. They should not wait to be asked but should themselves send the money to the banks in which accounts have been opened. This is their greatest opportunity to do service to the Daridranarayana and I request all of them to avail themselves of this opportunity."

Politicians and Public Servants

In a statement issued to the press recently, the Hon'ble the Premier of Madras deprecated political pressure on service personnel. "Certain politicians" he said, "who also hold a representative character do not content themselves with taking an interest in the administration, but they also interfere with the Administration. I have come across reports of undue pressure exercised by these gentlemen and sometimes even of threats on certain officers of Government for failure to comply with their requests or to pass a particular order." Against such threats or pressure the Premier has reassured the Government

servants that they would be supported in the efficient discharge of their duties and that so long as they act in accordance with Governmental rules and regulations, they would not suffer in any way.

The Premier's statement in this connexion has been very well received in the press and favourably commented on in many quarters. It has been characterized as 'a wise and courageous circular' and 'a timely warning.' Altogether it should reassure the services and enable them to discharge their duties towards the Government and the public without fear or favour."

Agricultural Rehabilitation

Inaugurating recently at Madras the meeting of the Crops and Soils Wing of the Board of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in India, the Hon'ble the Premier made a thought-provoking address. He pointed out India's backwardness in agriculture and indicated the possible lines of development. In the course of his speech he observed:—

"The soil is the most important factor in agriculture. All that man can do is to see that the God-given soil is not depleted by erosion, exhaustion and other causes. It has been calculated that nature is responsible for the provision of 95 per cent of the requirement of plant life and all that man can do is limited to 5 per cent, and even in this limited sphere all that he does is to see that the humus is not lost and the soil is not carried away by erosion and application of manure. Plants need 13

to improve fertility of the soil. "In China neither human faecal nor urinary matter is allowed to waste. It is used in liquid, solid and powdery states according to their irrigation facilities and condition of the soil. It has been calculated that each family gets about two rupees per head by selling its excreta. In India we pay for excreta being removed, whereas in China the holders are paid for allowing their excreta to be carried away. It is that a Chinese farmer raises on half an acre of land cucumber that is produced in four acres of land in America. In addition to this, he also raises other crops in the same plot. Cultivation in Japan is so intense that the Japanese farmer pays individual attention to almost each plant.

"It has been calculated that out of 72 lakhs of *pattadars* in the Madras Presidency, about 66 lakhs have only uneconomic holdings. Therefore these 66 lakhs of *pattadars* all the time have no other idea than to struggle to find ways and means of making both ends meet."

The Premier then referred to the services which Scientists can do for the promotion of agriculture and cited instances from countries such as California and Russia. In conclusion he made a fervent appeal for the cause of the agriculturists.

A remarkable fact in Free India is the strenuous efforts that are being made both by the Central and Provincial Governments to improve agriculture. But improvement is not something that can be achieved by Government action alone. The agriculturist has a greater part to play and unless he plays his part earnestly, Government efforts are not likely to bear adequate fruits. Denmark is an instance to the point. The prosperity of Denmark has been largely brought about more by the industry and perseverance of the peasant than by unilateral Government action. The same is the case with Italy, France, Belgium and other countries in the West and Japan in the East. The industry of the Chinese peasant is proverbial. The Indian Agriculturist has to learn from these examples and contribute his share of efforts to make the country self-sufficient.

DUTY OF PUBLIC SERVANTS

"If every Indian has a duty in these critical times, much more so is that duty incumbent on employees of the Government, who by virtue of their position, must be true servants of the public, and must always keep the public good before them."

—PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

Grants-in-Aid for Rural Reconstruction work

The Government have sanctioned a scheme for the payment of grants-in-aid to non-official institutions engaged in rural reconstruction work. Under the scheme, money grants will be given to private institutions engaged in furthering Gandhiji's constructive programme, wherever it is found that these institutions are unable to continue their work for want of adequate funds. Grants-in-aid will be given for any of the following purposes:—

- (1) Erection and enlargement of buildings and hostels or boarding houses for trainees attached to the Institutions.
- (2) Purchase of books required for the Institutions.
- (3) Training of Rural workers.
- (4) Purchase of implements required for the promotion of Agriculture and Cottage Industries, such as the implements required for carding, spinning, weaving, ginning, bee-keeping, jaggery-making and the allied industries; and
- (5) Any other item of expenditure for which the private institution is not able to find the necessary finance.

Grants will be restricted to fifty per cent of the total expenditure. The grants will be sanctioned subject to the following conditions:—

- (1) The institutions for whom grants are sanctioned should be engaged in constructive work under any of the following items:—

- (1) Promotion of communal unity; (2) Removal of untouchability; (3) Prohibition; (4) Development of Khadi; (5) Development of Village Industries; (6) Improvement of Village Sanitation; (7) Basic Education; (8) Adult Education; (9) Uplift of women; (10) Education in health and hygiene; (11) Provincial languages; (12) Spread of National language; (13) Economic Equality; (14) Improvement of Agriculture; (15) Organization of labour; (16) Services of Adivasis; (17) Improving the lot of lepers; (18) Constructive work among students;

- (2) The workers running the institution should be mainly trained in one of the following institutions:—

The All-India Spinners' Association, The All-India Village Industries Association, Hindustani Talimi Sangh, Harijan Sevak Sangh, Kasturba National Memorial Trust and any other

recognized institution engaged on constructive work.

- (3) The institutions to whom grants-in-aid are sanctioned should be situated in rural areas.

- (4) Buildings for the construction of which a grant is sanctioned should be of a type which is in consonance with the rural atmosphere. The plans and estimates should be approved by the Government technical authorities.

- (5) No aided Institution shall be allowed to spend any portion of the grant for any purpose other than that for which it is granted.

- (6) Grants for the construction of buildings will be disbursed under the part payment system as the work progresses on the production of certificates that not less than twice the amount of the grant has actually been expended on the work. The certificates regarding the progress and expenditure will be scrutinized by the Public Works Department.

Non-official institutions, who satisfy the conditions given above and who require monetary assistance are requested to apply to the Provincial Firka Development Officer, Firka Development Department, Fort St. George, through the Collector concerned furnishing full particulars regarding the activities of the Institution, the financial position of the Institution, the number of workers in the institution, etc.

[April 6]

Electricity for Agriculture

It has always been the aim of the Government to give the highest priority for extending electric supply for agricultural pump-sets and other agricultural and rural needs in the Province. Particular emphasis has been laid in this regard in recent years in view of the prevailing food shortage. Substantial progress in this direction has already been made and over 1,100

villages are now receiving supply. Over 8,000 pump-sets and 1,000 rural industries are being run on electricity. Within the next five years the number of villages electrified is expected to be doubled.

The demand for electric supply for not only agricultural pumps, but for rural industries, has recently gone beyond all expectations and in meeting this demand the Government are experiencing considerable difficulties. During the war years, schemes for expansion of generating capacity had been kept in abeyance. Severe restrictions were also placed on all extensions as stock materials were being diverted for military and essential civil needs. This resulted in an accumulation of a phenomenally large demand for power for agricultural and industrial purposes. There are at present over 12,000 applications on hand involving an aggregate connected load of about 50,000 K.W.

With the end of the war, a five-year plan for doubling the generating plant capacity in the Province and extending the area of electric supply at an aggregate cost of Rs. 15 crores was formulated and all the schemes have been sanctioned. As these schemes are completed one after another, the power position will steadily improve. From April 1946 to September 1947, rural extensions amounting to Rs. 135 lakhs and covering a supply of about 40,000 h.p. have been sanctioned by the Government. These involve the use of 35,000 poles, 6,000 miles of copper conductors, 50,000 H.T. insulators, 3,000 tons of hardware materials, 500 distribution transformers, 20,000 meters and other accessories.

Every effort is being made to give supply of electricity to as many agricultural pump-sets as possible to meet the food situation. The following table gives the number of agricultural wells supplied with electricity in the post-war period:—

Number of agricultural pump-sets connected during the year.		Total connected agricultural pump-sets to the end of the year.	
Government Electricity department.	Electric Licensees.	Government Electricity department.	Electric Licensees.
1945-46	497	235	4,419
1946-47	822	491	5,241
1947-48. April to September (6 months).	602	..	5,843

Besides this, the Government Electricity department has got the lines ready for giving connection to 450 wells and the concerned agriculturists are trying to secure the necessary equipment for availing of the supply.

Scarcity of supply of pump-sets and pipes has been one of the major factors in checking the progress of agricultural development. The Engineering Branch attached to the Agricultural Department has been attending to almost all the needs of ryots, including the supply of electric motors. At present it is passing on the demands for electric motors to the local producers and importers from abroad. The total number of electric motor pump-sets distributed so far to the ryots comes to about 3,000. In view of the large demand for electric motors, pipes, etc., proposals are under examination for the establishment of a Central Agricultural Engineering Store and Servicing Centre at Madras, for storing and distributing electrical and other engineering equipment required by the ryots for agricultural purposes. A proposal to supply electric motors and oil engine pump-sets to the agriculturists on hire-purchase system under which the price of the machinery can be paid in easy instalments, is also under examination. In view, however, of the restrictions in the import of motors and pump-sets from abroad and the short supply of essential materials such as steel and insulated wires for their local manufacture, it will take some more time before the supply and demand can be harmonized.

Agricultural load development in the electric licensees' areas suffers similar handicaps. The need for giving preference for agricultural loads has been impressed on all electric licensees. As an incentive for this purpose, the Government have sanctioned the grant of a rebate on the sale of energy for agricultural purposes in the case of all electricity distributing licensees receiving bulk supplies of electricity from the Government. The policy of construction of H.T. lines in electric licensees' areas at Government cost on guarantee basis has also been revived.

[April 12]

Civil Veterinary Department in 1946-47

The total number of veterinary institutions in the Province during 1946-47 was 136, excluding two institutions which were under private management. The total number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the veterinary

institutions during the year under report was 318,344, as against 319,957 during the previous year. There was need for many more veterinary institutions in the province, as the public demand for them was very great; but unfortunately they could not be opened, owing to the acute shortage of technical staff.

Itinerary Staff

The total number of touring posts at the end of the year was 165. The number of cases treated and castrations performed by the itinerary staff during the year was 198,004, as against 194,272 in the previous year.

Veterinary Education

During the year, the selection of candidates for admission in the Madras Veterinary College was restricted to Intermediates in Arts and Science or those possessing higher qualifications. In order to attract a large number of suitable candidates for admission in the College, Government ordered the abolition, as an experimental measure, of the payment of tuition fees by the students of this Province for a period of five years from the academic year 1946-47. Government sanctioned the grant of fee concessions and allowances to the demobilized personnel admitted in the College, in order to help them purchase books, equipment and towards maintenance. The number and the amount of scholarships tenable at the College were increased. The scale of pay admissible to Veterinary Assistant Surgeons was also revised. As a result of these measures, the number of students admitted in the College increased to 79, as against 64 in the previous year.

Serum Institute

The Serum Institute continued to function in the Animal Nutrition Unit attached to the Agricultural College at Coimbatore. The sub-station at Madras engaged in the production of anti-rinderpest serum and virus continued in the S.P.C.A. premises and in the laboratory extension of the Madras Veterinary College. Five hundred and seventy-five adult he-buffaloes, 309 buffalo-calves and 1,120 goats were purchased during the year on contract and on non-contract basis, as against 741 adult he-buffaloes, 347 buffalo-calves and 1,280 goats in the previous year. Four sheep were also purchased during the year for conducting experiments for the manufacture of sheep-box vaccine, fowl-cholera serum and fowl-pox vaccine. The mortality during the year was 16 buffaloes, 101 buffalo-calves, 1,067 goats one fowl, three chicks and 35 pigeons.

Livestock Section

There were 970 approved bulls and 319 approved buffalo-bulls at stud in the districts during the year. Forty-two thousand, three hundred and forty and 13,737 services, respectively, were performed by them during the year. Coimbatore district had the highest number of stud bulls, viz., 304. The cattle at the farm of the Livestock Research Station, Hosur, numbered 1,003 at the beginning of the year, including 62 work cattle. During the year, there were 172 births. The total stock on the farm at the end of the year was 1,041.

Dairying

Out of a total (average herd) of 293 cows at the Government Dairy Farms, about 121 cows were in milk, yielding 296,905 lb. of milk. During the year, the general health of the cows was good. The year under review experienced one of the worst summers, and there was practically no rainfall, till late in the year. Consequently, there was no grazing, and the supply of green fodder and silage was limited to far below the requirements. Due to poor grazing and irregular supplies of concentrates, etc., the production of milk was below the average.

Cattle Diseases

The incidence of cattle diseases for the year under notice was slightly lower than in the previous year, the total number of diseases recorded being 5,465, as against 5,490 in the previous year.

Kangayam Cattle Improvement Scheme, Palayakottai

This scheme, the object of which is to improve the milking qualities of the Kangayam cows, without impairing the draught qualities of the males, by selective breeding and feeding, continued throughout the year.

Indigenous Drugs Scheme

This scheme continued to function in the laboratories of the Research Unit attached to the Madras Medical College under the supervision of the Research Officer, Madras Medical College. During the year under report, investigations into the reported toxic qualities of two new plants, viz., "Barringtonia acutangula" and "Tecoma Stans" were taken up. Besides, work in "Prosopis glandulosa," "Clitoria Ternatea" and "Alstonia scholaris" were continued.

The Provincial Livestock Improvement Board constituted in 1940 to advise the Government on matters relating to the improvement of livestock in the province, met twice during

the year and made a number of recommendations, which were generally approved by the Government.

[April 12]

Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee

The Government have nominated the following persons as additional non-official members of the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee:—

(1) Sri B. Parameswaran, M.L.A., Chingleput, (2) Sri N. M. R. Subba-

raman, M.L.A., Madura, and (3) Sri N. Venkatasubbiah, Bezwada.

[April 14]

Ryots' Bonus

Several representations have been received by the Government regarding the delay in the disbursement of bonus amounts and distribution of bonus coupons to the ryots. This might be due to the fact that according to the present orders, the officers entrusted with this work have to disburse the amounts and deliver the bonus coupons to the proper claimants in person.

[April 15]

Policies and Programmes

Towards Amelioration of Labour

Dominion Minister explains measures

Explaining Government's labour policy and programme of legislation, the Honourable Mr. Jagjivan Ram, Minister of Labour, stated at a Press Conference held in New Delhi recently.

The aftermath of the war has brought a spate of industrial disputes in all industrialised countries. India is no exception. In 1945 the total number of working days lost on account of industrial disputes was roughly 4,050,000. In 1947 it rose to as much as 15,300,000 (up to November only).

What is now necessary is more and more production to make good the shortages of essential commodities.

The Ministry of Labour do not merely intend to pursue the purely negative policy of resolving industrial conflict, but have already embarked on a positive programme of labour legislation. The main features of our programme are as follows:—

Recruitment

The Government have therefore set up an Employment Service consisting of a network of Employment Exchanges, where records of recruits are maintained. The success of the Employment Service will depend entirely on its efficiency and the support which it receives from the employers.

Agricultural Labour

About agricultural labour, we have remained completely in the dark, not

knowing as to how they live, how they work and what they get. In this state of ignorance, it is not possible for Government to do much for agricultural labour and the first requisite is to know the facts. This we propose to do by our agricultural enquiry. A questionnaire is being prepared and we hope it will be finalised shortly. In this connection, it may be mentioned that our Minimum Wages Act, which has recently been brought upon the Statute Book, provides for wage regulation in agriculture.

Wages

The Minimum Wages Act, which has now come on the Statute Book, is our first approach towards wage regulation. This, however, is not the only approach because in labour matters co-operation is better than compulsion. Before compelling employers to pay a minimum wage, it is felt that some attempt should be made to induce them to agree to a wage which will be accepted as reasonable by both parties and the Government. Here too tripartite machinery has been most valuable. The setting up of Industrial Committees on a tripartite basis will, it is hoped, promote greater justice in the matter of wages than even the Minimum Wages Act.

Social Security

The Employees State Insurance Bill is our most important move in the direction of social security. It is a

Consequently in the districts where the volume of work relating to bonus claims is heavy, there is some unavoidable delay. In order to obviate this difficulty and to expedite the disbursement of bonus money and issue of bonus coupons, the Government wish to inform the public that the bonus amounts and manure coupons will be sent to the ryots concerned by money order and registered post respectively provided the claimants for the same make a specific request to the concerned authorities to send them by post at their cost and risk.

Other conditions of Employment

In regard to the other conditions of employment, our important measures are the revision of the Factories Act and the revision of the Mines Act, both of which will make these measures in keeping with similar measures in more highly developed industrial countries. We have also now provided for canteens, holidays with pay, etc., and in the mines for pit-head baths. These are modern features in which we are hoping to keep abreast with the rest of the world. Welfare schemes have been promoted in special industries, e.g., coal and mica.

For colliery workers, a modern housing scheme has already been put into operation and it is making commendable progress, having regard to

the difficulties in regard to the availability of raw materials. Government are also contemplating a large scale Workers' Housing Scheme throughout

the country which, it is hoped, will provide a million modern houses for workers in the course of the next ten years.

Development of Ports in South India

Flourishing ports are an important factor in the commercial prosperity of any country. India with a long coast line has many important ports and their development is a matter of vital concern to the State. Hence it is that Governments, both Central and Provincial, are devoting special attention to this aspect of economic development. In a broadcast talk recently Hon'ble Sri Bakthavatsalam dealt with the development of ports in this Province. The talk referred to India's maritime past, recent developments and Post-war programme. He said:

"In Vizagapatam last week, India's first Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, launched *Jala Usha*, the first Indian-built modern ocean-going ship. The ceremony is a land mark in the history of Free India. The launching of *Jala Usha* is the beginning of a great programme of ship-building that India has to undertake, if she is to survive as a great nation worthy of her history, tradition and culture. The launching of an Indian-built ship in Indian waters, is not a new adventure.

India's Maritime Past

From times immemorial, India had known the building of ships and Indian sailors with Indian merchandize have travelled the seven seas. The early growth of shipping and ship-building coupled with the genius and energy of her merchants, the skill and daring of the personnel, the enterprise of her colonists and the zeal of her missionaries secured to India the command of the sea and helped her to attain and long maintain her proud position as the mistress of the seas. India had colonies in Pegu, in Cambodia, in Java, in Sumatra, in Borneo, and even in the countries further East as far as Japan. She had trading settlements in Southern China, in the Malayan Peninsula and Arabia and in all the chief cities of Persia and all over the East Coast of Africa. In South India, small seaside villages, some of which are now in ruins, have once been prosperous trade centres and flourishing ports.

'Recent developments'

The importance of the ports, major as well as minor, received some attention of the Government of India, during the war time, when there was lack of shipping space as well as lack of ports for naval operations and military transport. It was then that a Technical Committee was appointed to enquire into the possibility of developing these ports. Now that India is free, the development of Indian Ports which alone can improve our ship-building industry as well as maritime trade, is

receiving greater attention. The importance of the development of ports is greater in South India. If you look at a map of the Madras Presidency you are struck by the long sea board of 1,250 miles which represents nearly half the total coastline of the Indian Union. Ours is a coastal Province and this natural facility must be exploited to the greatest advantage. The coastal trade, that was once flourishing along this sea board must be revived. At present we have three major ports and 35 minor ports in the Province. The control of the major ports is in the hands of the Government of India while that of minor ports is in the hands of the Government of Madras. The major ports are Vizagapatam and Madras on the East Coast and Cochin on the West Coast. Of the 35 minor ports, Kalingapatam, Bhimlipatam, Cocanada, Masulipatam, Cuddalore, Porto Novo, Tranquebar, Nagapatnam, Dhanushkodi, Tuticorin, Kulasekharapatnam on the East Coast and Ponnani, Calicut, Tellicherry, Cannanore, Kasaragod, Mangalore and Malpe and Coondapoor on the West Coast are of considerable importance. The conservancy of all the minor ports except Tuticorin is vested in the Port Department under the Presidency Port Officer. The bigger ports, viz., Cocanada, Masulipatam, Cuddalore, Nagapatnam, Calicut and Mangalore are in charge of gazetted officers called Port Officers. The smaller ports are in charge of the Port Conservators who also belong to the Madras Port Subordinates Service. The port of Tuticorin, though a minor port, is administered directly by the Government, through a board of trustees with the Sub-Collector of Tuticorin as the Chairman. The Port Department which administers other minor ports is in charge of providing facilities for the safe entry and berth of vessels, for the loading and discharging of cargo and cattle, 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 lighthouses. The

expenses of the department are met by the levy of duties, sanctioned from time to time, by the Government and credited to funds such as Minor Port Funds, and Landing and Shipping Funds and Pilotage Funds. All these funds are under the control of the Government of Madras and the surplus every year is lodged either in Government securities or in cash. Of the minor ports except Vadarevu, Tranquebar, Devipatnam, Kallai and Azikkal are open to both coastal and foreign trade. All the ports are open roadsteads where ships anchor off shore and the landing and shipping of cargo are carried on by the use of harbour craft from shore to ship and vice versa.

South Indian Ports development

The ports of Cocanada, Masulipatnam, Cuddalore, Porto Novo, Thirumalaivasal, Nagapatnam, Adirampatnam, Ponnani, Mangalore, Malpe and Coondapoor, are situated in the mouths of rivers or canals and facilities such as wharves are provided for landing and shipping of cargo and passengers by the harbour craft.

At the ports of Calicut and Tellicherry piers project out into the open sea where the harbour craft moor for landing and shipping operations. At other ports, landing and shipping operations are carried out in the open beach and no special facilities exist for the purpose.

At the ports of Cocanada, Nagapatnam, Calicut and Mangalore there are Port Conservancy Boards with the Collectors of the districts as Chairmen. The fees levied at the ports are utilised for the improvement of ports for facility of landing and shipping operations.

In 1938-39, the Minor Ports Fund had an accumulated balance of over Rs. 60 lakhs which could have been spent for the provision of improved amenities at the ports. In the absence of any definite programme of work in this respect, a sum of about Rs. 45 lakhs was then transferred to the Provincial Revenues. In view of the imperative need to improve the various

ports, the sum has been retransferred to the Minor Port Fund with compound interest.

Post-war Programme

The main items of this programme of Post-war port works are the reconstruction of the wharf-wall at the ports of Cocanada, Cuddalore, Negapatnam and Hangarkotta, the construction or extension of the wharf walls at Adirampatnam, Mangalore and Coondapoor and the reconstruction of the dry dock and workshops at Cocanada, the strengthening of the existing piers at Calicut, the provision of modern lighting equipment at some ports and certain minor works at other ports. For the improvement of the port of Tuticorin an expenditure of Rs. 4 lakhs has been sanctioned. The improvement includes the construction of a new wharf and the extension of the coal and firewood yards. 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 reopening of the ancient ports of Nizampatnam in Guntur district and Narsapur in the 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 is also under consideration 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 Mormugao on the West Coast is under active joint consideration of the Government of Madras and India.

A conference to discuss the development of minor ports in India was held in Bombay in June, last year. The Conference recommended the appointment of a fresh technical committee to go into the question. This Committee is expected to consider the subject in all its relative aspects in as short a time as possible.

By far the most important scheme of Port expansion in South India is that of the Madras Harbour. It is a well known fact that the Madras

harbour is not a natural one. But human ingenuity can overcome some of the greatest obstacles. A free India should concentrate on her defence. A country with a vast coast line has necessarily to expand her naval power, and provide naval bases and safe harbours in case of war. Not that India wants war of her choice, but, if a war is forced on us, we must not be found defenceless. During the recent war, the harbour in Madras could not berth war vessels. Even ordinary ships find it unsafe to stay in the harbour during storms due to what is called wave action. After examining all these aspects and the need for greater facilities to meet the expanding trade and industry in the country, the Ports Technical Committee in 1946, recommended the expansion of the Madras Harbour at a cost of five and a half crores in two stages.

The object of this expansion is to provide space for large ships so that they can be accommodated safely

throughout the year. The Government of Madras are now examining the proposals as now put forth by the Madras Port Trust.

Conclusion

From what Pandit Nehru has said in Vizagapatam and from what I know of the policies of the Government of India and the Provincial Governments, it will, hereafter, be a definite programme of the Governments in India to encourage the development of the major as well as minor ports. This is necessary not merely from the point of view of the defence of the country but from the point of view of the coastal trade and transport. The Bay of Bengal, the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea, which were once studded with majestic ships and boats built in Indian workshops sailing the oceans of the world, will once more come to life and will carry Indian merchandise to the far-off countries as they did in the days of yore.

—By courtesy A.I.R. Madras.

Departments' Corner

Food Department

Vegetables.—In view of the imperative need to encourage the use of vegetables as food stuffs in a large measure in these days of food scarcity and considering the general tendency towards an upward rise in the prices of vegetables indicating a growing scarcity of vegetables and the consequent increase in the demand for them in the local market, the Government have decided not to allow the export of any variety of vegetables to Ceylon from the Nilgiris or from the Province over and above the standing quota of 200 tons of vegetable per annum to Ceylon. They have also decided not to interfere with the existing procedure under which the necessary export licences are granted by the Export Trade Controller, Madras, to established shippers. All applications for permission to export vegetables to Ceylon or for inclusion of names in the list of established shippers should have to be addressed to the Export Trade Controller, Madras, direct.

With a view, however, to safeguard the interests of genuine growers of vegetables in the Province, the Madras Government have addressed the Regional Food Commissioner to move the Government of India for reserving 25 per cent of the standing quota of 200

tons of vegetables to Ceylon for export by bona fide growers on application.

Cattle feed.—In line with the policy of the Government of India to restore free trade in cattle feeds, the Government have decontrolled the price and movement of all cattle feeds except groundnut cake. (Please see the Press Note, dated 13th February 1948 and G.O. Mis. No. 194, Food, dated 6th March 1948.)

Grow More Food.—In order to encourage the immediate cultivation throughout the Province of sweet potatoes which can be harvested and made available for consumption in the months of July and August this year, the Government have sanctioned a bonus at the rate of Rs. 15 per acre to all ryots who commence cultivation of sweet potatoes during the month of April and May this year. The bonus will not be paid until the crop is established and a harvest is fairly certain.

Labour Department

Labour situation in the province

The Government have declared that transport by water in minor ports in the Province as Public Utility Service under the Industrial Disputes Act for

a further period of six months from the date of publication of the order in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. During the period the Government have referred three disputes to Industrial Tribunals.

The Workers of Associated Transport Services (Madras) struck work on 26th just before the date announced for strike (30th). The Labour Officer, Madras, is looking into the matter. The Government have referred the disputes between the workers and the managements of Messrs. Gordon Woodroffe Leather Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Pallavaram, and the Chrome Leather Co., Ltd., Chromepet, to the Industrial Tribunal, Madras (Industrial Tribunal for Tanneries in the Province) for adjudication in supersession of their previous orders in G.O. Ms. No. 5374, Development, dated 20th November 1947 and G.O. Ms. No. 587, Development, dated 6th February 1948, in which the disputes had been referred to the Industrial Tribunal, Madras.

The Government have also prohibited the continuance of the lockout in the East India Distilleries and Sugar Factories, Ltd., Ranipet, in existence at the time of reference to adjudication. The District Magistrate has been instructed to prosecute the management for failure to comply with the orders of Government.

In pursuance of the orders of the Government, all the mills in Coimbatore district were reopened for work in the morning of 22nd March 1948. It is reported that the attendance in the mills is very poor on account of violent picketing and intimidation.

The management of Sri Krishna Jute Mills, Ltd., Ellore, who closed their mills on 23rd February 1948 for want of raw materials have reopened their mills on 15th March 1948.

The workers of the Lakshmi Vilas Hotel, Guntur, who struck work on 13th March 1948 resumed work on 19th March 1948 on the intervention of the Labour Officer, Guntur.

About 152 workers of the Metal Industries, Ltd., Shoranur, struck work from 15th March 1948 demanding reinstatement of discharged workers, bonus, increased Dearness Allowance, etc.

[Second fortnight of March 1948]

Co-operative Department

The Government have sanctioned a scheme for the training of 200 persons in co-operation for appointment as managers in non-credit Co-operative

Institutions. The training will be given in the four training institutes at Anantapur, Rajahmundry, Coimbatore and Tanjore. After giving general training in Co-operation, specialised training in certain special types of societies such as weavers' societies, milk supply societies and cottage industries societies, etc., will be given. The training is open to employees of Co-operative Institutions and outsiders and it will be given free of tuition fees. Candidates other than Harijans and Muslims students who are eligible for college course or Public Service will be eligible for admission to this course. In the case of Harijans and Muslim candidates it is sufficient if they have appeared for S.S.L.C. examination. The minimum educational qualifications will however be relaxed in the case of persons who have put in three years service in Co-operative Institutions (if they are failed S.S.L.C. or read up to S.S.L.C.). The selection committee of the respective institute assisted by the Deputy Registrar of the district will select the candidates for admission. Candidates deputed by non-credit institutions and who have put in at least one year's service in the Co-operative Institutions will be given preference in the matter of selection.

The training will be for six months. The Provincial Co-operative Union will conduct an examination at the end of the course and issue certificates who pass the examination. An examination fee of Rs. 5 will be levied from the candidates. The Government have sanctioned in connection with this scheme one Co-operative Sub-Registrar, two Senior Inspectors, one Lower Division clerk and one peon for employment in each of the four Co-operative Institutes and also a subsidy of Rs. 1,000 to each of the institutes to meet the other expenditure.

Revenue Department

Resettlement Activities

Government of India have set up a special machinery of Employment Exchanges consisting of a Regional Employment Exchange at Madras and nine Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges at certain selected places to deal with the problem of resettlement and employment of ex-servicemen. As the area covered by the Sub-Regional Employment Exchange in this Province is large extending to two or three districts, the Government have established a District Employment Office in each district except the Nilgiris district and in the districts where there are Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges.

Though the scope of these exchange service was at first confined only to the ex-servicemen, the Government considered it necessary to extend the facilities of these organizations to all categories of employment seekers in order to overcome the growing unemployment problem in this Province. This will help the employers to make their choice in the right direction. This will also save a lot of time and energy on the part of the employment seekers. With these ends in view the Government ordered the Sub-Regional Employment Exchanges and District Employment Offices to undertake the task of registering and placing of all categories of employment seekers. The scheme will be tried as an experiment for six months, after which the position will be reviewed before final decision is taken in the matter.

Re-settlement activities in this Province are well under way. From time to time we have been publishing figures showing the progress of re-settlement. These figures would show that re-settlement activities have made substantial strides. Re-settlement is not a simple process. To fix up thousands of people who have been demobilised in suitable avocations is not a straight road but one that has to meet numerous practical difficulties. These difficulties have to be overcome. So the progress is bound to be slow. However, much headway has been made in this Province in the direction of re-settlement.

The Re-settlement Directorate are also running several technical training centres. One is at Bangalore for the war disabled and this centre is doing very useful work. Distinguished visitors have inspected this centre and have testified the useful work done in this centre. Personalities like Mr. K. T. Bashyam, Minister for Works, Mines and Power, Mrs. Rudra, wife of Major Rudra, Madras area and others have expressed satisfaction at the useful work that is being done at this centre.

Miscellaneous

Land Colonization Schemes

There are vast areas of land in this Province which are being uncultivated or very sparsely cultivated owing to the prevalence of malaria and black-water fever. These lie mainly in the hilly tracts of the Province which are otherwise, by reason of their inherent fertility and climate, eminently suitable for agriculture, fruit-growing and tree growing. With a view of exploit such lands for the benefit of the people so

that more employment could be provided and more food produced, this Government have started Land Colonization Schemes at Wynad and Araku. A short account of the two schemes is given below :—

Wynad Colonization Scheme

This scheme aims at reclaiming about 31,000 acres of lands in the four villages of Kidanganad, Nulpuzha, Muppainad and Nenmini in South Wynad in Malabar district and making it fit for colonization and cultivation. Most of the colonization area is situated in the triangular zone between three roads of

- (1) the Calicut Vayithri-Sultan Battery-Mysore road;
- (2) the Calicut Vayithri-Gudalur road; and
- (3) the Sultan Battery-Gudalur road.

The whole area is divided into six blocks and is served by two parallel fair weather roads approximately 21 miles in length connecting the two trunk roads, viz., the Calicut-Mysore road on the north and the Calicut-Ooty road on the south. The two parallel roads are also connected by a cross-road about five miles in length from Ambalavoyal to Chullioode. All these 26 miles of road are being converted into metalled road at a cost of over six lakhs. As the place is highly malarial, anti-malarial measures such as D.D.T. spraying of the residential houses, sluicing the canal, etc., have been undertaken during the past three years with the result that the incidence of malaria has considerably fallen down in the area. An agricultural farm has also been opened at Ambalavoyal in order to investigate and organize the various agricultural improvements for the colony. Opening of a dispensary at Ambalavoyal under an Assistant Surgeon has also been sanctioned. Suitable buildings have also been sanctioned for providing accommodation for the staff and office.

About 4,000 colonists are proposed to be settled in the whole area. Each colonist will be given either two acres of wet land, five acres of dry or 15 acres of dry land. The colonists will be selected from among the Ex-servicemen, existing owners and sivaajamadars and other civilians of Malabar. The proportion of different categories of colonists will respectively be 62½ per cent, 25 per cent and 12½ per cent.

The colony will be organized on co-operative lines. The colonists will be given advances for house construction, purchase of seeds, manures, etc.,

domestic expenditure and land reclamation purposes by the co-operative society. The advances will be recovered in a period of 20 years commencing from the sixth year onwards. The colonization work has begun in block IV which will be extended to other blocks later. It is expected to settle the first set of colonists in January 1948. The total cost of the whole scheme and the cost to the Government on account of the colonization of block IV are respectively estimated at Rs. 34.09 lakhs (non-recurring) and Rs. 8.34 lakhs (non-recurring) and Rs. 3 lakhs. The scheme is in charge of the Administrative Officer, Wynad Colonization Scheme. An *ad hoc* Committee consisting of the officers of the different Departments working in the Colony and five non-officials has also been constituted to prepare the budget and to make suggestions for the better working of the scheme.

Araku Valley Scheme

The scheme relates to the reclamation and colonization of an area of 5,000 acres in the Araku Valley in the Vizagapatam Agency and a further area of 15,000 acres at a later date. The area is a narrow strip of land, two miles in width and seven miles in length. In 1944, the Government of Madras laid down the following general principles for the development of the Agency in this Province.

- (i) Eradication of malaria from the Agency tracts;
- (ii) Protection of the rights of hillmen;
- (iii) All hillmen will be accepted as colonists in any scheme of colonization prepared for the area;
- (iv) Importation of plainmen for colonizing the surplus areas in the agency; and
- (v) Any scheme of colonization should be directly controlled by the Agent to the Governor.

The Government considered that while the rights of hillmen should be protected, their advance cannot be secured by merely protecting them from plainmen and doing little else. It was considered necessary to import additional population from the plains without interfering with the needs of hillmen and without danger to the peace of the Agency.

In accordance with the above principles, a scheme for land reclamation and potato cultivation was prepared and sanctioned by the Government in August 1944. Besides the general development of the Araku Valley, this

scheme had at that time an immediate aim, viz., cultivation of potatoes and vegetables for the army. After the close of the war, this part of the programme lapsed, and the scheme has switched over to the general development of the Araku Valley, as a colonization scheme.

The acquisition and survey of an area of 5,000 acres in the Araku Valley is nearing completion. Anti-malarial operations are being carried on in the Araku Valley and in the villages in the neighbourhood and up to Anantagiri and incidence of malaria has been considerably brought down. A medical staff is working in the Valley to give medical relief to the people. Government have sanctioned the construction of a hospital with laboratory at a cost of Rs. 1,79,000 and the work is under execution. A few buildings for officers and staff have been constructed already at Araku Valley and the question of approving the layout plan for the colony and of constructing buildings for settlers are under consideration. An agricultural farm comprising of 130 acres has also been established in the Araku Valley to teach improved methods of Agriculture to the people. The uplift of the hillmen by giving free supply of seeds, manures and free loan of ploughs, cattle, etc., also form part of the scheme. An area of 651 acres was under departmental cultivation for supply of potatoes and vegetables for the Army. After the cessation of the scheme of potato cultivation, an area of 130 acres was retained for the Agricultural farm control. Agricultural department for the working of the Agricultural farm and the rest were returned to the owners for cultivation of cereals, etc., on improved methods under the advice of the Agricultural department. The question of development of the areas in the neighbourhood of the Araku Valley has been taken up. The Agent to the Government, Vizagapatam, has been asked to draw up a colonization scheme for the Araku Valley and his proposal is awaited. An *ad hoc* Committee of officials and non-officials has been appointed to supervise the working of the Araku Valley.

Home Department

Nationalization of Transport

It was not possible to complete the scheme of nationalization of passenger bus service in Madras City by March 1948 as anticipated. This was mainly due to the delay in getting new vehicles. The Government Automobile Workshop is now building bodies for buses.

It is proposed to establish a coach building factory at Chromepet with the object of constructing bodies for the buses still required for the Madras City and to ensure a regular supply of buses required in connexion with the extension of the scheme of nationalization to the ghat routes and the mufassal.

At the end of March 1948 buses of Messrs. Public Passenger Service and S.R.V.S. were all replaced by the State buses. Messrs. Presidency Transport,

Ltd., and City Motor Service, Ltd., continue to ply their buses in the City along with State buses. The conductors, drivers and other staff of the private operators have been absorbed in the State Transport as far as possible.

The Advisory Transport Board constituted for the administration of the State Bus Service in Madras City held its fifth meeting in March 1948 and discussed the various problems of the City transport.

The Government Transport Service is fast developing in the Madras City and is found to afford great comfort and convenience to the public by the regular running of roomy buses.

It is proposed to extend the scheme of nationalization to Coimbatore and Madura and the ghat routes between Coimbatore and Ootacamund and Madura and Kodaikanal in the near future.

Prohibition News Letter

The following is a brief summary of the reports received on the ameliorative activities in the prohibition districts:—

Malabar.—The Rural Uplift School at Calicut which was started in the course of February 1948 was closed on 13th March 1948. A meeting was held in that connexion and prizes were distributed to the winners in the elocution competition held on that occasion. A Jaggery Producer Co-operative Society was organized in Chirakkal taluk during the latter part of March.

Cuddapah.—A Co-operative Milk Supply Union was organized at Cuddapah town. A Fruit Growers' Co-operative Society was also organized in Rayachoti. District tournaments were held on the 22nd March at Cuddapah and prizes to the value of Rs. 75 were distributed to the winners. A cattle show was held in another place as well as an agricultural and industrial exhibition.

Salem.—Two taluk tournaments were held during the third week of March. A programme of rural sports and games and variety entertainments were gone through. Appeals were made to the public to co-operate with the Government in the enforcement of prohibition. Prizes were distributed to the winners in the competitions. Spinning demonstrations in thaklies were arranged in three places. One co-operative society celebrated Thrift Anniversary Day.

Trichinopoly.—The members of the 28 Jaggery Makers' Co-operative Societies have produced jaggery worth of about Rs. 1.25 lakhs and have so far disposed of to the value of over Rs. 1 lakh. One grama sangham celebrated the health week. Rural sports and

games were also conducted as usual and this attracted considerable number of people. Prizes were distributed to the winners and the runners-up. Speeches were also made on Village Uplift Movement.

North Arcot.—Variety entertainments formed an important item of activity. Harijans freely took part in many of these entertainments which attracted a considerable number of people. A Firka Tournament was conducted on 21st March in South Vellore. The Special Development Officer spoke on the occasion on the significance of rural tournaments and exhorted the audience to take more interest in ameliorative activities. There was a competition in bhajana music and community singing.

Chittoor.—Two Firka Tournaments were held during the first half of March. Bhajanas and harikathas were conducted in several villages. Dramas were also staged. Reading rooms, libraries and adult education centres were opened. One grama sangham is encouraging sericulture. Another grama sangham assisted in detecting prohibition crimes. Two villages assisted in conducting street cleaning drives and celebrated Thrift Days. Five grama sanghams and 5 Recreational Clubs were newly organized in Chandragiri division. Two radio sets were also installed. Rural games were conducted in all the divisions of the district. An elaborate function was arranged by the Assistant Development Officer at the scavengers' colony in Chittoor town and scavengers were provided with entertainments by the ballad singer and the Rural Recreation Officer.

Bellary.—Firka and Divisional Tournaments took place during the

first half of March. A number of teams competed and prizes were distributed to winners. A gymnasium was opened in one place. Dramas were enacted in several villages at the instance of the ameliorative staff. Bhajanas and kalakshepams were also conducted. Three Village Betterment Committees were formed. Thrift Day was celebrated at the Tungabhadra dam site area where 6,000 labourers were employed. Forty hundi boxes were distributed and the Thrift Scheme was explained to the labourers. An interesting programme of music and cinema show was gone through. A rural exhibition was held in Adoni division. The Agricultural, Veterinary and other departments co-operated. The exhibition attracted a big crowd.

Anantapur.—A Taluk Tournament was conducted on 18th and 19th March 1948. A number of teams took part including many of the ex-addicts.

Coimbatore.—The Collector addressed several meetings on the importance and methods of rural uplift. Firka Tournaments were also conducted as usual. The Avanashi Taluk Tournament and Exhibition were held on a big scale on the 24th March. There were competitions in several items of sports and entertainments and prizes were distributed to the winners. Several departments of the Government co-operated towards the success of the exhibition. Prizes were awarded for the best exhibits. Grama sanghams continued to do useful work. In one place they settled a private dispute.

Madura.—Two Milk Supply Co-operative Societies for the benefit of the ex-addicts were organized during the month in Periyakulam. The production of jaggery during a week by the newly formed Jaggery Societies was about 1,075 maunds. Another Co-operative Milk Supply Society was organized at Bodinayakanur. One grama sangam in Madura taluk has resolved to construct a dam at a cost of Rs. 5,000. Another grama sangham

has employed street sweepers. It has also proposed to construct a road three miles long. Yet another is putting up a building for the residence of the village teacher. It has also rethatched the roofing of the school at a cost of Rs. 60. About 60 hundi boxes were distributed under the thrift scheme in one village in the Periyakulam taluk. In Dindigul taluk some of the ex-addicts have saved money and purchased brass vessels.

Tanjore.—One palmyra jaggery production and sales society started work during the first half of March. Two milk supply societies also commenced to work. A free library and reading room was declared open at the end of February in one village. Thrift day was celebrated in one place. Another free reading room and library were declared open on 6th March.

Guntur.—A one-day Cattle Show was held on 17th March and prizes were given for the best exhibits.

Kurnool.—Thrift day was celebrated in one place and in another place efforts are being made to organize a co-operative milk supply society. Two dramas were organized by a village sangam for the benefit of the villagers in connexion with the purchase of a radio and opening of a library. Tournaments were held as well as harikathas and bhajana. Lectures on various welfare schemes were also delivered. Magic lantern slides were exhibited.

Spotlight on Topical Subjects

Milk Supply Co-op. Societies in Prohibition Areas

NOTE.—Finding jobs for ex-tappers and others thrown out of work as a result of prohibition is one of the main problems in prohibition areas. Here, as in many other fields, co-operation can help very much. The possibilities of milk co-operative societies in prohibition areas were recently discussed by Mr. G. Chandrasekaran in the course of a broadcast. He said after referring to prohibition:

Any scheme of reform will of course affect a particular class of people adversely for a time. The immediate effect of prohibition was that a good number of poor people who were engaged in tapping toddy have been thrown out of employment. It is our duty to find alternative employment to the ex-tappers. You are probably aware that Government have been tackling this question on many fronts. Co-operative societies have been formed for the manufacture of jaggery from palmyra sweet juice in the districts of Chittoor, North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Malabar and South Kanara. The ex-tappers are admitted as members of these societies. They extract sweet juice from palmyra trees, convert it into jaggery and the co-operative jaggery societies assisted by marketing societies in the area find a sale for the jaggery produced. Wherever facilities exist, the ex-tappers are settled on land by forming land colonization societies. Possibilities of encouraging various types of cottage industries on a co-operative basis for the benefit of ex-tappers, such as Khadi spinning and weaving, coir industries, basket-making, etc., are also being explored.

Another useful direction in which employment could be found for ex-tappers is by enabling them to take to dairying as a subsidiary occupation. If the ex-tappers agree to buy a milch animal or two and supply milk, it is possible to organize a milk supply society for their benefit on co-operative lines. You are perhaps already aware of the very useful work the co-operative milk supply organizations are doing in this Province. There are about 300 of them handling in all about 14,000 Madras measures of milk a day. These institutions have been recognized as almost the only reliable agency for supplying pure and unadulterated milk. The 'goodwill' that has been established by these societies will form the foundation for the successful working of the milk supply societies formed for the benefit of the ex-tappers. Wherever a sufficient number of ex-tappers are residing in the same village or a group of compact villages, it will be possible to organize a co-operative milk supply society for their benefit. Government are giving loans to them for the purchase of milch animals on easy terms. These loans are interest free, and are repayable in monthly instalments, from the sale proceeds of milk supplied within a period of one year. The ex-tappers can usefully take to this as a subsidiary occupation because the maintenance of one or two animals in rural parts is not such a great difficulty. The milk supply society will collect the milk from them, both in the mornings and in the evenings, and arrange for its sale in the neighbouring town. When a group of such societies can be formed in a compact

area near urban centres, a milk supply union can be formed in the town which will undertake the distribution of milk. Thus, while the primary milk supply society consisting of ex-tappers will interest itself in the production of milk, its distribution will be attended to by the union, which is a federation of these societies. This division of functions between the two organizations results in increased efficiency, and establishes more or less a direct link between the producer and the consumer through the medium of co-operative effort. The society will also provide temporary advances for purchase of concentrates like oil cake for feeding the cattle against the value of milk supplied by ex-tappers. To encourage the formation of such societies, Government will be prepared to give some financial assistance to them in the initial stages. The ex-tapper can without much difficulty add a few more rupees to his income by availing himself of the concessions given by Government.

A beginning has already been made in this direction in North Arcot district. In six villages near Ambur town in North Arcot district, milk supply societies have been formed for the benefit of the ex-tappers. There are about 200 tappers as members in all of them. Government have granted interest-free loans to these societies for the purchase of milch animals to the extent of about Rs. 15,000. The societies have just started production of milk.

4. The lead given by the North Arcot district has already been followed by some of the other prohibition districts as well. Four societies each have been

formed near Trichinopoly, Tanjore and Kumbakonam for ex-tappers and arrangements are in progress to start production and milk by these societies. In the Madura district a milk supply union with a number of milk supply societies round about is being formed at Usilampatti, and the formation of half a dozen societies under the auspices of the Madura Co-operative Milk Union

is under investigation. The Co-operative Department and the Amelioration section of the Prohibition Branch are working together for the formation of at least one milk supply union with a group of milk societies for ex-tappers affiliated to it in each prohibition district. Where the ex-tappers are not available in sufficient numbers, some of the villagers in the locality may

also be admitted as members, if they agree to supply milk to the society. It may be that the ex-tappers may be reluctant in the early stage; but by useful propaganda, the more educated among the citizens can convince them of the utility of the scheme and bring them into the co-operative fold.

—By Courtesy, A.I.R., Madras.

Industrial Development in Madras

A General Survey

Speaking at the Rotary Club recently the Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Sri Sitarama Reddy dealt with the vast Industrial possibilities of the Province and indicated the lines of development. In the course of his speech he said: "If we look at the map of the Madras Province, we see that it has a long coast-line and big rivers. The Madras forests compare favourably with those of any other province except that we may not have a particular species of wood due to climatic reasons. We have adequate supplies of soft and hard wood and bamboo grows in plenty. The geological explorations so far carried on have revealed the existence of several important minerals which await exploitation. On the agricultural side, we have the proud place in the production of oil seeds and a high-class tobacco. Cotton, an important international commodity, is grown in plenty, though we have not been able to produce long staple cotton and the type that is grown in the Punjab or Sind. Plenty of fine fish is available around the Madras coast to provide enough scope for a big industry.

I should like to mention that in the production of vegetables and fruits we have been making a steady progress.

For the development of an industry, the existence of raw-products in plenty, and their easy accessibility is an essential factor. As I have stated already, there is enough raw-material awaiting exploitation in our Presidency. Mere existence and easy accessibility of raw-material alone is not enough but we require adequate man power. Madras has enough of man power to man the industries so that we may plan for the future without in any way impairing the efficiency of the present agriculture. Several people of our Province have been migrating to Burma and the Far-East in search of employment. It is now increasingly found difficult to find honourable

employment for our people in Burma. I have found that there is a great tendency for people who have settled in Burma to return to their Motherland. The people of our Province are reputed for their latent talents, whether it be in Administration, Engineering or the handling of mechanical equipment. The craftsmanship of the Madras workers is of a very high order and those who have had the opportunity of seeing the products of the Madras work-men, have testified to their great skill and capacity to adopt themselves to modern conditions.

Example of other Provinces.

The industrial progress of Bengal was partly due to the English and European entrepreneur. So far as Bombay is concerned, the early development of Bombay as an important international port and the business acumen of the local people has been the cause of its becoming a most important clearing Centre for one of the most important international commodities, viz., cotton. Thus, Bombay Province developed commercially and as a concomitant industrially. In Madras, we have been handicapped; our stocks and shares in the markets are guided by the trends in Bombay and Calcutta markets. For an ordinary investor, the constant fluctuation in the price of shares and the reason sometimes given in the short reports published in the newspapers, strike him as mysterious and incomprehensible.

Regional Developments

In the present context of world progress, it has been increasingly realised that the dispersal of industry is necessary. Concentration of an industry is likely to lead to deterioration in social and moral standards of workers. The cost of living will be comparatively higher in the areas where industry is concentrated.

The principle of regional development of industries based on the availability of raw-material and labour has been recognised by the Government of India and attempts are being made to co-ordinate the regional development of industries in India.

The statistical service in our Province has been poor. The Government intend to organise a Central Statistical Bureau for our Province and the trade and industry can play a dominant role, if they are prepared to give us active co-operation. It is necessary that besides the Governmental agency, various Chambers of Commerce and Associations of Industries must organise an *intelligence section* of their own and man their offices with skilled Secretarial staff. The sellers' market is slowly disappearing and if our Province is to survive competition, our trade and industry must be organised on a scientific basis.

The need for research in industry has been realised all over the world and the cost of research establishment is too high to be financed by individual industrialists of our Province. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has been set up by the Government of India and the various national research institutions and laboratories that are going to be set up all over India will help our Province and the unified research that will be conducted in these places will be made available for the development of our Province.

Power Resources

Madras Province has ample resources of power development. We have not fully exploited our water resources for power development and there are several schemes awaiting execution. I may mention, for instance, the Machkhund Hydro-Electric project and the Tungabhadra project. Besides a large amount of Thermal power is to be generated. Power and fuel are as essential for industrial development

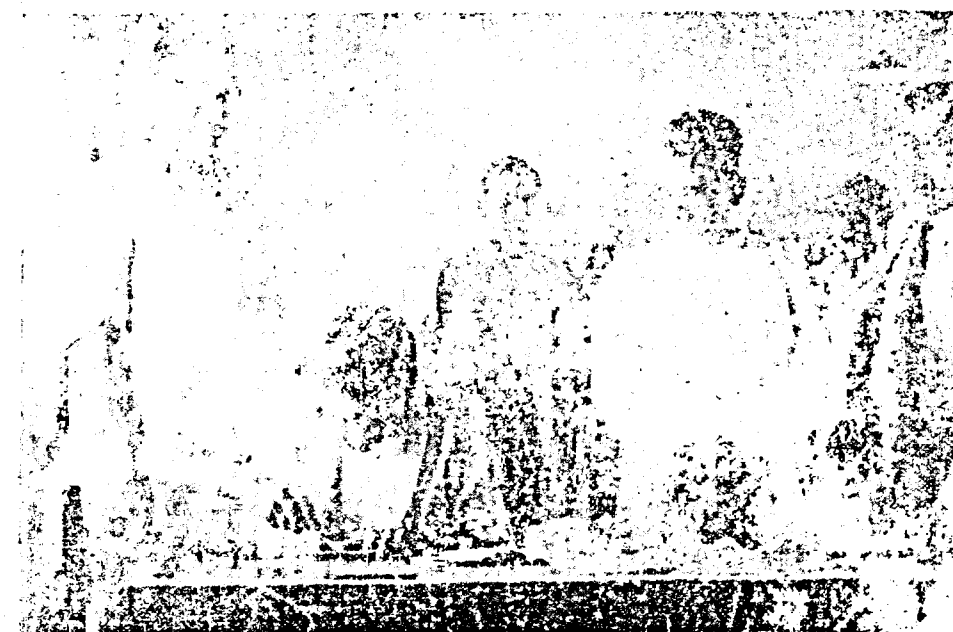
Spotlight on War Disabled Training Centre

Hon'ble Sri M. Balarasalam, Minister for Works and Industries, inspecting the Training Centre for the War Disabled at the port.



Hon'ble Sri M. Balarasalam examines the progress record of trainees.

Hon'ble Sri M. Balarasalam inspecting the progress of trainees at the centre.



These trainees are assets of India's future

Trainees at work. Hon'ble Sri Vopala
Rao, Finance Minister, and
Hon'ble Sri Ramalinga
Rao are looking on.

Trainees at work. Hon'ble Sri Vopala
Rao, Finance Minister, and
Hon'ble Sri Ramalinga
Rao are looking on.

to-day, as water and air are necessary for human existence. Though there are great potentialities of power development in our Province, the fuel resources do not seem to be inconsiderable. The lignite deposits of South India and the forest wealth of the Province are awaiting utilization. Small scale industries dispersed all over the country can be developed if cheap power is made available. The manufacture of components of various parts of machinery in different places under cottage industrial conditions and their assemblage in centralized places is one of the ways suggested to bring down the cost of production and this will also help the worker to continue to live in his own rural atmosphere with his family. This is quite possible in the case of several small scale industries.

Transport System

To organize effectively this system of dispersal, I believe, our transport system must be cheap and adequate. A systematic survey for the development of inland water navigation of our Province seems to be needed. Besides, we have a long coast-line where coastal shipping can be developed and the people of our Province can be employed in the movement of merchandise and raw-products all along the coast. This will add to the wealth of our Province.

There are good craftsmen in our Presidency who are capable of building boats for coastal trade and if we organize on a planned basis a big boat building industry can be brought into existence.

Raw Materials Utilization

I should like briefly to point out the possibilities of the industrial utilization of the various raw materials that are now exported out of our Province—one of the biggest vegetable oil-producing Provinces in India. Some experiments have been made to convert our vegetable oils as lubricants. The castor seed oil and the groundnut oil lend themselves for being processed into lubricants. Vegetable oil also has been experimented for fuel purposes but the economics of it seem to be unfavourable. But in times of scarcity, we have to depend for our fuel oils on foreign imports and it is necessary that we must have an alternative source of supply and the groundnut oil seems to be capable of replacing, in an emergency, the fuel oil.

The timber in our forests must be fully exploited in converting it into

building material and the manufacture of furniture. There is a vast scope from our timber resources for the manufacture of ply-wood and masonite. The vast bamboo resources of our Province have not been properly tackled. We must be able to evolve cheap furniture out of our bamboos to enable even the ordinary man to buy. Beautiful and artistic furniture can be made out of our bamboos. The bamboo pulp can be used for the manufacture of paper but there seems to be the difficulty of economically transporting it to the place of manufacture from our forest areas.

It is surprising why Madras has not developed the tobacco, and the paint industry. We grow vast quantities of fine tobacco and import vast quantities of finished tobacco products. There is a great scope for the development of industries for the utilisation of tobacco in our Province. Large quantities of barytes are being exported and finished paints made from them are bought from long distances. Good drying oils can be extracted from some of our oil seeds as an alternative to linseed oil and there is a vast scope for development of the paint industry.

The scope for development of fruit and food preservation and of deep-sea

fishing and preservation of fish is there.

The existing industries of our Province need to be rationalized and the full installed capacity utilized. There is vast scope for improving the production with the existing industrial equipment of our Province, if there is full co-operation between industry and labour. The cost of production of the various industries can be brought down by utilization of bye-products. In the sugar mills the utilization of molasses and bagasse will bring down the cost of production. There seems to be similar scope in other industries for the utilization of bye-products. To strengthen the competitive power of industry, utilization of bye-products is essential.

Government cannot naturally start all industries. It is for the people of our Province to come forward to do so. The Government is only too eager to help those who come forward to take up the industrial development of our Province. An Industrial Finance Corporation will be constituted very soon but its scope in financing industries will be naturally limited. It is the public co-operation and spirit of service of the industrialists that can help our Province.

ON NON-VIOLENCE, TOLERATION, ETC.

I hold that non-violence is not merely a personal virtue. It is also a social virtue to be cultivated like other virtues. Surely society is largely regulated by the expression of non-violence in its mutual dealings.

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.

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.

If not during my lifetime, I know that after my death both Hindus and Mussalmans will bear witness that I had never ceased to yearn after communal peace.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.



Useful activities of They practise a

Poultry is one of the trades taught at the Training Centre for the War Disabled at Bangalore.

the War Disabled variety of Trades

The Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi, Minister for Finance, examines a book at the Training Centre for the War Disabled at Bangalore.



The Hon. Sri Gopala Reddi, Minister for Finance, examines a book at the Training Centre for the War Disabled at Bangalore.



The Finance Minister and the President of the Legislative Council, Madras, are seen in the vegetable gardens of the Training Centre for the War Disabled at Bangalore.



Vegetable gardening forms an important trade at the Training Centre for the War Disabled at Bangalore.



Irrigation in Madras

The area growing rice in Madras Province was about 10,700,000 acres in 1944-45 and the yield of rice in that year was estimated at about 4,900,000 tons. The figure for rice production estimated by Sri S. Y. Krishnaswamy in his note on "Agricultural deficiencies in Madras Province" is about five million tons which nearly agrees with the above figure.

2. The population of Madras Province was about 44 millions in 1931 and 49 millions in 1941. It has been figured at about 51 millions in 1946 and about 54 millions in 1951. It has been worked out that the existing production of rice on the 1941 figures gives a ration per adult of population much below a normal ration of 1½ lb. required to maintain nutrition at the proper level. Statement in the Food statistics of India gives 0.92 lb. per capita in the 84 rationed towns in the Province. The quantity required to feed the population subsisting on rice in Madras Province is of the order of 7 million tons for the 1946 population and 7.4 million tons for the 1951 population. The average imports of rice during the years prior to 1940-41 to meet the requirements of the rice-eating population in Madras was of the order of about 500,000 tons. The above figures show that we have to make up the deficit of about 2½ million tons of rice to provide the present population subsisting on rice with a normal ration and about 2½ million tons for the anticipated increase in population by 1951 and about 3 million tons by about 1955. The level of production of rice has been more or less constant for the last fifteen years. The Province was probably self-sufficient about 25 years ago but since then the gap between production and consumption requirements of rice has been widening. The present gap is very great and can only be made up by imports or by cutting down the ration to a subnormal figure. This state of affairs cannot be looked upon with complacency and requires active steps to be taken to increase production. Improvements in yield by improved methods of cultivation and manuring is possible but this should be regarded as a supplemental and reserve phase of development and not the main phase. The programme of irrigation development must, therefore, aim at bringing under cultivation an area of more than 6 million acres under rice crop to bring production to a level with the demand and to provide a margin over it.

3. An examination of the district-war distribution of population and the requirements of rice for the population has shown, that after making due allowance for the share of the population subsisting on millets and food-stuffs other than rice 10 districts of the Province would be surplus districts while the others would be deficit ones. But it is not possible to make each district self-sufficient and to have schemes designed to supplement food production confined entirely to deficit districts and omit schemes in the surplus districts. The availability of water and the ground, soil, geographical and meteorological features of the tracts have considerable bearing on the development of irrigation schemes. Taking the Province as a whole, except the rivers Kistna and Godavari where about 90 per cent of the waters get wasted into the sea, the other rivers are either fitful and bring in small volumes of flow or have been exploited already very fully. These factors have to be borne in mind in assessing the possibilities of development on a districtwar basis.

4. The programme for the next ten years includes (a) short term schemes called G.M.F. Schemes for which a subsidy is claimed from Government of India. These number about 300, with a capital outlay of about 5 crores; (b) middle sized middle term schemes for areas between 10,000 and 1,00,000 acres; (c) Major and long term schemes for over a lakh of acres. The small schemes will cover about 3.7 lakhs of acres and the middle sized ones about 4.9 lakhs of acres costing about 30 crores, giving a total of about 9 lakhs of acres on small and middle sized schemes. Under the middle sized schemes, the important schemes are Malampuzha Project (40,000 acres) and Kanhipuzha Project (25,000 acres) in Malabar, Vamsadhara Project (30,000 acres) in Vizagapatam, Upper and Middle Pennar Projects (10,500 acres each), Relapad Project (14,800 acres) and Vaigai Project (12,500 acres). Under the major schemes we have the Kistna-Pennar Project (3,000,000 acres) for irrigating an extent of about 3.00 million acres lying in the Kurnool, Cuddapah, Nellore, Chittoor, Chingleput and South Arcot districts. This project is a mammoth project expected to cost roughly 78 crores and is under investigation. The Lower Bhavani and the Gandikota Projects (207,000 acres and 100,000 acres respectively) are for irrigation mainly of both rice and

irrigated dry crops such as millets and cotton, on about 300,000 acres. The Tungabhadra Project is also mostly for dry irrigated crops. It is a moot point whether the millet eating population will increase in proportion to the increase in millet production, in view of the general change over to rice that is taking place. Assuming for the present purpose that this area is equivalent to about half the rice area, we may take credit for about 150,000 acres, so far as rice production is concerned. The total area of the several schemes put together (excluding Ramapadasagar and Tungabhadra) is about 4 million acres (tentative figures) over the whole Province. Even taking into account the area under Tungabhadra and Ramapadasagar Projects, there is still a deficit of over 2 million acres for 1951 requirements to be filled up. Even this calculation is not strictly correct as many of the large projects including Ramapadasagar will not be completed before 1951. A project for utilising the waters of the Kistna has therefore been included in the programme, particularly as by the time the Ramapadasagar is executed and the anticipated results achieved—probably 1961—there would be a further increase of population in need of more rice. To the wisdom of the Governments of Punjab and Sind which carried out large projects long in advance of the actual need, we owe the prosperous position of those Provinces. In our own Province, to Kistna and Godavari ancient schemes planned and executed by Sir Arthur Cotton at a time when population of the Province had still not outgrown its productive capacity we owe large surplus production in these districts. So unless in addition to other projects, proposals and plans are now laid and pursued with vigour in the case of the Kistna Pennar Project for about 3.0 millions acres we shall always find Madras to be a deficit Province depending on external help for food. The failure of the recent North-east Monsoon has brought prominently to notice the great benefits conferred by the Mettur Reservoir on the Cauvery. But for this reservoir executed at a cost of about 6.5 crores, Tanjore delta would have lost nearly 6 crores worth of rice this year and Government 3 lakhs of tons of rice (nearly 40 per cent of the normal produce of rice in the district). The value of Kistna-Pennar Project to the districts affected in a year like 1947 is incalculable possibly of the order of 30 crores.

Again our experience in the matter of importation of food from external sources in India and abroad has not been altogether too happy. The allotments have been poor and the receipts have been poorer still. Apart from these, Government have had to pay sums amounting to crores for all grain purchased and bear the loss involved in re-sale and distribution through Government of India probably bear a share of this loss. These difficulties and losses are bound to persist until our Province is made self-sufficient in the matter of its main staple food, rice.

5. Irrigation projects take long to investigate and to execute. Measurements of river flow have to be taken for some years where these are not already available or reliable. Due to the policy of looking for a financial return on most irrigation projects, development of irrigation could not be undertaken in the past and if any scheme showed on superficial examination that it was not likely to produce the required return, no further action was taken on it. Since the advent of the new Government, attempts have been made to start investigation on many schemes. All avenues of possible developments are being explored but the feasibility of many has still to be investigated and determined. While engineering difficulties of a constructional character can be solved with modern engineering methods and research no project can be devised unless water is available in reasonable quantities. On the side of construction if quick results are to be achieved, mechanisation on much larger scale than hitherto envisaged will be necessary to put through the programme in the shortest possible time. What labour can usefully assist in the execution of the projects without

delaying progress can be employed but the bulk of manual labour can probably be usefully employed on reclamation of land to be made ready for cultivation. A large number of engineering personnel would also be required to implement the programme. These are only mentioned to show the magnitude of the programme and the limitations under which it will have to be worked.

6. The programme depends on the availability of technical personnel and materials, and on the policy of the Government of Madras and of Government of India in the financing of these projects and in the assistance asked for and given in various directions necessary to achieve the fruition of the several projects. Facilities given in matters affecting technical personnel, recruitment, and assistance given to procure machinery of the right and useful kind at an economic cost will be factors which would also set the pace of expenditure and progress. The greater the form of this assistance, the shorter will be the period of completion of the programme and the realisation of results which are expected to flow from it. The demands on personnel and the resources of Government, both Provincial and Central, will be indeed very great, but are not beyond the bounds of a planned economy taking into account all factors and the magnitude of the problem to be solved. If Government are to save large sums of money spent on foreign imports on the purchase of foodgrains and also avoid all expenditure in running various forms of food control and subsidy which they have to pay to maintain the prices at reasonable levels due to shortage of commodities, these projects are inevitable and the earlier necessary steps are taken to execute them, the shorter will be period

within which normal conditions of life and a better condition of economy can be achieved.

7. The schemes when carried out will not only result in increased production and direct revenues but also will add substantially to the revenues of Government indirectly by sales tax and income-tax on the turnover. There are also other sources of revenue such as customs, excise, stamps, posts and telegraphs, and railways, the receipts from which will certainly go up as a result of greater prosperity in the irrigated tracts.

8. In conclusion it may be stated that of all the provinces in India with the probable exception of Bombay, Madras is the greatest deficit province in the matter of food of any in the Dominion of India. It would be an impossible position for a major province like Madras to have to subsist on an 8 oz. ration of rice, the lowest in India, and look to other provinces and to other parts of war-stricken world for their daily food. This state of chronic and continuing deficits should be remedied. There is no known way of doing it except by stepping up production from land (i) by increasing production on existing land, (ii) by bringing new land under cultivation. The former depends on the continual and adequate supply of fertilizers while the latter is calculated to ensure permanent additions to the material wealth and prosperity of the land. The need for proceeding with the Madras Irrigation Projects, big or small, in full measure solving in the best way possible all problems relating to finance and personnel with a view to making this province self-sufficient in the matter of food needs no justification.

Madras Labour Policy

In the course of a broadcast Hon'ble Mr. Sitarama Reddy, Minister for Industries and Labour said:

The Government have always been anxious to evolve means whereby a settlement of outstanding difficulties can be effected without making it impossible for industries to survive and without affecting the primary needs of labour. Complaints have been made that the Madras Government have failed to put out a labour policy. People are well aware by now that the main intention of Government is to see that labour is given a fair deal without crippling industry.

Government's aims in regard to labour are "to secure to industrial workers a decent standard of living, hours of work and conditions of labour in conformity, as far as the economic conditions in the country permit, with international standards, suitable machinery for the settlement of disputes between employers and workmen, protection against the economic consequence of old age, sickness and unemployment and the right of workers to form unions and to strike for the protection of their interests." I claim that we have gone a long way to meet these criteria and that where we have

not, we are on the way to secure to the workers these aims through legislative and other means and with the co-operation of the Central Government.

To industrialists who are perpetually complaining that the Industrial Tribunals are giving awards which they do not like, I must say that the old days of uncontrolled profits are over and that while the wages of capital should and could be reasonable, the wages of labour should no less be reasonable. We have fought against exploitation for a century and a half and cannot tolerate the exploitation of one section

14.8 A

of the people by another in this country. Our view is that all exploitation is improper and therefore any attempt to exploit labour must be put down. I do hope that employers will appreciate the position and will not be slow in adjusting themselves to the new circumstances and would endeavour to set apart a fair share of the profits for the workers.

At the same time, I must also say that workers must realise that their millennium does not lie in getting more wages or bonus or leave or any other amenities, so much as in ensuring that by increased production, they get sufficient of the goods for a given amount to make up for the well-being of themselves and the public. It is the old story of enabling the goose that laid the golden eggs to do so and not to throttle it completely, otherwise there will be no goose to lay the eggs, golden or otherwise.

Not the time for strikes

I do not want to be misunderstood as meaning that the wage structure is satisfactory or that higher wages and other emoluments should not be paid to labour. That is for the wage boards and tribunals to determine according to the conditions in each industry. What I mean is that the mere payment of higher wages will only lead to inflation so long as there are not sufficient goods on which the extra money can be spent. When every country is working to the slogan of 'produce or perish' and we in this country are striving to keep back the threat of inflation, it would be suicidal and anti-national for labour to slow down production or go on strikes. As the Prime Minister of India has said recently at Vizagapatam, this is not the time for strikes in our country. At the Industries Conference held recently in New Delhi, our Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, appealed to workers and employers to agree to a three-year truce between employers and labour. The resolution on the subject was sponsored and supported by labour leaders and employers. The truce, however, proved to be illusory and incapable of achievement, as within a few days after that, the very labour leaders who supported the motion led strikes practically all over the country.

The position in this Province

In this Province, we have found the example of the Coimbatore Mills where while labour enthusiastically agreed to substantial increases in wages given

by the Industrial Tribunal, that Tribunal's suggestions in regard to standardization of work was opposed. For all types of work, I think that the minimum wages must be related to a normal quantum of work and that any extra work done by labour should be adequately rewarded on a sliding scale of wages. No employer would object to this. Labour cannot or ought not to object to this. The consumer who is frequently ignored by both sides will definitely stand to gain by this. I would, therefore, appeal to industrialists and labour to remember that in the interests of both, they should lose no opportunity to co-operate with each other, to understand each other's point of view and to accommodate each other with a view not only to benefit themselves but also the consumer which means the general public and the country at large.

It is a matter for deep regret that in spite of the best efforts of Government workers in thirty textile mills in Coimbatore should continue to be on strike for over two months. Two mills in Salem, one in Tiruchengode, one in Trichinopoly and one in Gudiyattam have also been on strike. This has meant a loss of about 34,000 bales of yarn and about 34 lakhs of yards of cloth to the consumer and a loss of wages of about Rs. 50 lakhs to the workers. The handloom weaver and the consumer have consequently been suffering.

There are in this Province about 80 spinning and weaving mills. That means that, as only 35 mills are on strike, the majority of the mills are still working. Why are they still working? It is because some of these mills have adopted the interim standardization scheme and the rest have work-loads approximating to or in excess of that prescribed in the scheme. The labour leaders of these places have not complained against the interim scheme. After the standardization scheme was published for implementation, one mill in Coimbatore has been working the interim scheme. Another Coimbatore mill gave effect to that scheme one forenoon, but had to give it up as the workers were persuaded by labour leaders to abandon it in the afternoon. Obviously, therefore, it is difficult for the layman to understand why labour leaders complain that the work-load is excessive. The real position is this. Before April 1947, the lowest wage paid to a worker in a mill used to be as low as Rs. 6 per mensem. In Coimbatore, for instance, the minimum was generally Rs. 11 per mensem.

But, in the spinning section, adolescents were employed to do half or two-thirds of the work of grown-up people and were called half-sider or three-fourths sider. They were paid correspondingly lower wages. The Industrial Tribunal fixed the minimum wages at Rs. 26 per mensem besides full dearness allowance. That meant that a half-sider would have to be paid Rs. 26 per mensem besides dearness allowance. The mill-owners would not naturally pay full wages for half the work. So, the Tribunal suggested the constitution of a Standardization Committee to rectify such anomalies. A committee was constituted and it gave an interim scheme and a final scheme.

The task before Government

We are now concerned only with the interim scheme as the final scheme is deferred. That some surplus personnel exists is admitted by the labour leaders themselves. The interim scheme involves the retrenchment of some work people consisting of wastepickers (old men and women and juveniles), carpenters, masons and maistris and other unskilled workers. We have arranged that the old people should be sent out with a gratuity. They cannot do hard work and their employment is uneconomical. In competitive industries, expenditure on such wasteful items would kill the industries. The juveniles can secure employment after they come of age. The carpenters, masons and mechanics will be found jobs elsewhere. The textile workers will be absorbed in extra shifts. The cry of unemployment is, therefore, only misleading slogan meant to put thinking people off the track. I trust that labour will at least now respond to the call of our Prime Minister and our Premier to report themselves for duty quickly as we can ill-afford to suffer loss of production much longer.

So far as Government are concerned they are prepared to implement their policy of fair wages for workers and a fair deal for them in case of a dispute with employers. They cannot however support or countenance extremist demands which will result in lowering the output of industries and interfere with the restoration of the economic equilibrium."

"For any Indian today to attempt to break down the productive and administrative apparatus of the country is the height of irresponsibility and unpatriotic behaviour."

—PANDIT NEHRU.

From India's Capital

Drive to make Public Nutrition-minded

"Scientists have carried out wide researches in recent years in the fields of nutrition. Their knowledge is at our disposal and it is up to us to take full advantage of it. Food is a bodily necessity. How, when and what to eat is a science which none of us may ignore. If we disobey the laws of life in this regard we do so at our peril. I do not suppose there is anyone here who has not suffered because of errors in diet! And yet man continues to commit those errors partly because the conquest of the palate is one of the hardest victories to achieve—food that is tasty is generally not the food that is best from the point of view of health—and largely because of our ignorance of food values," said Rajkumari Amritkaur, India's Health Minister, inaugurating a Nutrition Exhibition in New Delhi on 2nd April 1948.

Vegetable Conference

The two day session of the Fifth Vegetable Seeds Conference called by Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Agriculture and Food Minister to the Government of India, concluded after adopting several resolutions. Among them are the following:—

(1) That the Government of India should chalk out a long-term policy which will fully take into account and reconcile the larger interests of the country with those of the seed growers and with the necessity of maintaining foreign markets established during the last few years;

(2) That under the conditions caused by partition, a Central Vegetable Breeding Station on a permanent basis be set up immediately to produce mother seeds. It is desirable to have regional seed breeding stations;

(3) That the multiplication of the European types of vegetable seeds be encouraged under private enterprise in suitable areas approved by the Government and that the Central and Provincial Governments should assist in this, so that production is quickly organized and distribution arranged on the basis of quality standards prescribed by the Government;

(4) That as sufficient seeds are available in India, the export of

home-grown flower and vegetable seeds be permitted; and

(5) That since the Government's policy is to make India self-sufficient in vegetable seeds, no imports of vegetable seeds except mother seeds of vegetables and flowers be permitted. The imports of these latter should be allowed both from dollar and non-dollar areas.

Labour Ministry's Training Schemes

Four types of training institutions are run by the Labour Ministry. The two major ones are Technical Training Centres and Vocational Training Centres. The minor ones are for the disabled ex-servicemen and for ex-servicewomen. In addition there is a scheme for apprenticeship training. The total number of training centres is 274 at present, including centres for apprenticeship course.

The technical training scheme was initiated during the war to meet the demands made by the defence forces and war industries for technicians. With a view to the resettlement of demobilized soldiers and discharged war workers, it was decided to retain the technical training scheme and adapt it to postwar requirements. Vast plans of development had been drawn up for the post-war period and the country's need for technicians remained as great as ever. The technical training centres were, therefore, expanded to train ex-servicemen. The trades were selected with an eye on employment opportunities and the needs of industries. The suggestions of an Advisory Committee composed of representatives of Government, employers and workers and other interests, which reported in 1945, were incorporated in the scheme.

Nearly 75 technical training centres with a total capacity of 9,366 exist at present in the various provinces of India. Training is given in nearly 50 building and engineering trades up to grade II. The total number of trainees are at present 1,338 in grade II and 3,798 in grade III. The number of trainees in the main trades are: mechanics (general) 1,233, carpentry 481, mechanics (motor) 390, electricians 349, tin and coppersmiths 242, cabinet-making 243, radio mechanics 185,

turners 221, blacksmiths 225, brick-laying 178 and engine drivers (internal combustion) 174.

On passing the Trade Test, trainees are registered with the Exchanges for placing in employment. Special efforts are undertaken to overcome difficulties in placing them.

Under the vocational scheme, training in nearly a hundred different occupations connected with agriculture, cottage industries and commercial occupations is imparted. The object of this scheme is to equip men for independent trades which require skill, but little capital outlay.

There are at present 107 training centres with a capacity of 4,239. The total number of trainees at present is 2,816. According to trades there are: hand-weaving of cotton, art-silk and woollen fabrics 412 trainees; knitting, carpet-weaving, bleaching, dyeing, newar, etc., 313; cutting and tailoring 380; Typing and stenography 303; teaching 239; agriculture 341; metal-ware, utensils and metal toys 48, wood ware, wood-carving, fret work and toys 106; basketry 71 and leather-work, footwear and leather goods 113 and so on. There are also facilities for training in brushware, button manufacture, earthenware, glass-bangles, soap-making, manufacture of cosmetics, inks and shoe polishes, printing, lithography, book-binding, proof-reading, photography, cinematography, confectionery, etc.

Disabled ex-servicemen are provided training in three centres in India, in Aundh (near Poona), Jalahalli (in Mysore) and Meerut. Their total capacity is over 1,500 and 964 disabled ex-servicemen are now actually under training. They are given training in suitable selected occupations and are helped to find employment after training.

Disabled ex-servicemen are also given awards in cash to set up business independently as skilled tradesmen and artisans. A sum of Rs. 2,50,000 was placed at the disposal of the Government of India for this purpose by the Central Joint War Committee of the Indian Red Cross and St. John's War Organization. So far nearly Rupees 25,000 has been spent in awards to about 150 persons.

Training centres for ex-servicewomen total 11 at present, including private institutions which have been pressed into service for training them. Later the centres have been utilized for training refugee women also. The number of ex-servicewomen under training until recently was 640 and of refugee women 55.

The Government of India have accepted in principle the recommendations of the All-India Council for Technical Education suggesting the sanction of grants amounting to about Rs. 1.5 crores on capital expenditure and Rs. 30 lakhs on recurring expenditure to some of the important higher technical institutions in the country, with a view to their improvement and expansion. The All-India Council for Technical Education which met in Delhi last November had recommended that these grants be spread over a period varying from three to five years beginning with the financial year 1947-48.

In Other Provinces

Model Farms in Bombay

A proposal to open four model farms for the development of sericulture industry at Bellad Bagewadi and Arbhavi in the Belgaum district and Kallapur and Hirekerur in the Dharwar district, has been approved by the Government of Bombay.

* * *

Leprosy Relief Association in West Bengal

The Government of West Bengal have enhanced the original grant of Rs. 7,500 to the Bengal Branch of the British Leprosy Relief Association for leprosy work in West Bengal to Rs. 10,000 during the current financial year.

* * *

Social Welfare Centres in Bombay

The Hon. Commissioner for Recreation and Amenities toured Surat and Bulsar during the week end with a view to exploring the possibilities of starting Social Welfare Centres in those areas. Suitable places in labour localities were selected for opening such centres. The work of preparing will be taken in hand very shortly and it is expected that the Centres will function within another month.

The Commissioner is keen on starting Social Welfare Centres as soon as possible in such places where there are readymade facilities like a playground and a structure, even if the structure may not be the exact ideal which this Department has set before itself. It is expected that a model centre will be built in Bombay shortly so that it may be followed by those to be set up in the districts.

* * *

Industrial Development in Orissa

The Government of Orissa are in communication with the Government of India for the establishment of an iron and steel factory in Orissa. Of the other units allotted to Orissa, the Government have allotted two cotton mills and one oil mill to private companies and construction is going ahead. A sugar mill has been allotted

to the Maharaja of Parlakimedi and there also construction is going on. The Government are also encouraging cottage industries under the Bihar and Orissa State Aid to Industries Act. The Government of Orissa are also contemplating the starting of some institution like the Industrial Finance Corporation to help finance industries.

* * *

Physical Training for Women in U.P.

Efforts are being made by the women's sub-committee of the city Congress committee to start physical training for women in the Mahila Asram near Sarsaiyya Ghat. A grant of Rs. 1,000 a month has been provided for the purpose by the U.P. Physical Culture Council.

Women between the ages of 15 and 30 are eligible for admission in the one month training course to commence shortly at the camp. Applications for admission should be addressed to Mrs. Tarawati Agrawal, convener of the women's sub-committee of the City Congress.

* * *

Central Province's Social Education Scheme

The Government of the Central Provinces and Berar in pursuance of their social education scheme propose to hold social education camps in certain selected villages in the Province. Among other aims, the social education scheme will acquaint the people with the ever-changing currents in social, economic and political life, inspire them to take more interest in the affairs of the State and its programme of development and the many problems of social reconstruction and to combat anti-social activities.

* * *

Co-operative Farming in West Punjab

The West Punjab Government have decided to introduce co-operative farming in all the "Crown Lands" in the Thal area.

On completion of the Thal development project, about two million acres of land will be brought under the plough. A considerable part of the

Thal area is Crown land where a number of families will be grouped together to form co-operative societies.

This practice will facilitate the use of modern agricultural implements and go a long way in ensuring proper planning of crop cultivation.

* * *

Preserving Cow as Economic Unit in U.P.

The U.P. Government's policy regarding the prohibition of cow slaughter has been outlined by them in an official statement.

The Government say: "It may be recalled that even before the advent of the popular Government in the Province, the slaughter of cows and even of some specified animals was prohibited under the Defence of India Act to prevent further deterioration of live-stock in the country during the war."

After observing that the live-stock position and especially milk supply has greatly deteriorated, the Government go on to say: "The preservation of the cow, which represents the agricultural wealth of the country has become an economic question of primary importance."

* * *

Mass Literacy Work in Bihar

The Governor of Bihar has appointed the Hon'ble Acharya Badrinath Verma, M.L.A., Minister of Education and Information as Chairman of the executive committee appointed to carry on the organization and supervision of Mass Literary Work in the Province.

* * *

Tractor Stations in C.P.

With a view to help the cultivators to meet this situation arising from the shortage of bullocks, and to intensify the Grow More Food Campaign, Government have decided to open a few tractor stations where tractors and other agricultural machinery required for ploughing will be stationed. These tractors will undertake to plough the cultivators' fields on payment of the ploughing charges, which for the present have been fixed by Government at Rs. 20 per acre for depth of about eight inches.

As the tractors are heavy machines there will be considerable waste of time and power if the tractors are required to go from one end of the field to another for ploughing small

areas. It is therefore necessary to organize the ploughing work in big blocks of land in three or four continuous villages which can offer about a thousand acres for ploughing.

* * *

Labour Co-operative Societies in Bombay

In pursuance of its policy of progressive elimination wherever possible of the middleman and giving preference to co-operative organizations of producers and consumers, the Government of Bombay has issued instructions to all Public Works Department Officers that for the carrying out of minor works, i.e., those costing up to Rs. 20,000, such Labour-Co-operative Societies as are approved by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and the Director of Agricultural Marketing and Rural Finance or the Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies, should be given a trial and that works which are within their capacity to execute should be entrusted to them at the estimated rates and under the supervision of the Public Works Department, without calling for tenders.

The Government have also directed that in the event of such societies requiring technical help and supervision, such help should be given by the Public Works Department officers concerned, free of charge.

* * *

Stimulus to Public Spirit in Bombay

With a view to encouraging the spirit of public service amongst the villagers and other members of the public, the Government of Bombay have directed that a village approach road may be named after a donor offering a donation to the extent of one half of the cost incurred on such work.

* * *

Khadi self-Sufficiency Scheme for Bombay

The Government of Bombay has approved of a five-year Village Industries Scheme which involves a total expenditure of Rs. 9,36,125 paid from year to year on an increased scale.

The scheme is an extension of one approved last year and provides for grants of subsidies towards part of the weaving and the establishment charges of the 80 weaving centres in connection with the scheme for the

Khadi self-sufficiency work in this Province and the training of the workers in spinning, weaving and carving at these centres.

The intention underlying the scheme is that the self-sufficiency schemes should be worked for a definite period in order to achieve some concrete results. The 80 centres will be managed by the institutions approved by the Village Industries Committee. The work of spinning will be chiefly undertaken in the areas where very poor spinners are working at present. As the centres are situated in the interior, these spinners cannot secure sufficient labour for their maintenance. The scheme will, therefore, not only increase their earnings but will achieve also the aims of self-sufficiency and self-help in meeting the requirements of clothing in the villages.

* * *

Music Education in Bombay

In order to survey the whole field of music education and make recommendations, the Government of Bombay have appointed a committee.

* * *

Assistance to Bombay Agriculturists

In order that the agriculturists may be able to obtain their requirements of cement for the construction and repair of wells, fabrication of cement pipes, engine foundations, etc., in connection with the "Grow More Food" Campaign, as quickly and easily as possible, the Assistant Housing Commissioner (Materials), has made arrangements to distribute cement to the Taluka distributing agencies working in the Iron Supply Scheme, under the supervision of the District Rural Development Boards.

* * *

West Bengal Scholarships

The Government of West Bengal have decided to award six scholarships to candidates from West Bengal for training in U.K. for entry into the permanent Commissioned Cadre of the Royal Indian Navy. The scholarships are intended to cover the deficit up to £116 towards the cost of training according to the financial circumstances of each cadet.

* * *

Co-operation in U.P.

The United Provinces Government's multi-purpose society scheme enunciated last year by Dr. K. N. Katju (then

Development Minister) is making satisfactory headway.

Since April 1947, over 10,000 multi-purpose co-operatives have been organized in 900 development blocks with the Government seed stores as the production nuclei covering 14,000 villages. All the development activities of the Departments of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry are concentrated in these blocks—each having 10 to 15 villages round about the seed store.

* * *

New Village Libraries in Bombay

The Government of Bombay have approved the plan of opening 500 village libraries within a five-year period at a total cost of Rs. 2,59,500.

Every village in Bombay Province with a population of 1,000 to 5,000 and a full-grade primary school will have a library at the rate of 100 libraries each year. The libraries will be placed in charge of the Headmaster of the village school who would be paid an extra allowance.

* * *

Cottage Industries in Orissa

The Government are taking all possible steps to encourage cottage industries. The province is famous for its cottage industries, specially the horn works of Parlakimedi and the feligree works of Cuttack. Besides these, cotton and silk-weaving and brass and bell-metal works again are noteworthy. An industrial survey is proposed and it would extend to cottage industries also. The Government are extending their present industrial schools. It is also proposed to have a big technological institute at Cuttack. The object of these schools is to turn out expert workmen who would be able to produce quality goods on a full-time professional basis. But, in order to encourage the villagers to spend their time usefully, craft schools are being established, where instruction will be given in utilization of raw materials available in the villages. In order to organize the weavers a Handloom marketing organization has been started recently. The Government propose to start a Khadi organization with a three-fold object of encouraging cotton cultivation, training spinners and weavers and supplying improved implements in spinning, and organizing the marketing of Khadi.

it. We all are born equal, but we have all these centuries resisted the will of God. The idea of inequality, of "high and low" is an evil, but I do

not believe in eradicating evil from the human breast at the point of the bayonet. The human breast does not lend itself to that means.

Books and Publications

"ASPECTS OF EDUCATION." By B. G. KHER, Premier and Minister for Education of the Bombay Government. Published by the Directorate of Publicity, Government of Bombay.

This is a selection of speeches and addresses delivered by the Premier of Bombay at various places in India during 1947 on the different aspects of education. The book runs to 46 pages and deals with 8 subjects from "Challenge to Democracy" to "On Flower and Fruit Shows." The book covers some of the most vital aspects of modern education and stresses several salient points.

—T.K.G.

"ELEMENTS OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION AND LAW." By R. K. P. Published by All-India Spinners' Association, Sevagram, Wardha. Price Re. 1.

This book is written with the idea of giving the village worker the legal information required by him in the discharge of his work. The author has given a bird's eye view of the present-day village administration and legal problems involved in its day-to-day management. The accounts given in this book refer particularly to C.P. and Berar, but with minor modifications also hold good for villages in other parts of India as well. It is to be regretted that a large section of the so-called educated men in the community does not know even the rudiments of civics.

It is up to our social workers to educate the villager on his rights as well as responsibilities. In that respect this book will serve as a useful guide.

—M.A.K.

"INDUSTRIAL POLICY OF INDIA." By PROFESSOR R. V. RAO, M.A., B.T., Professor of Economics, Post-graduate department, Nizam's College, Hyderabad (Deccan). Published by N. R. Agarwal & Co., M.K. Garden, Agra. Price Rs. 1-8-0.

A perusal of this book will not only help the readers towards an understanding of the economic problems like tariffs, foreign capital, labour unrest and location of industries, which the author sets as the modest object of his brochure, but also stimulate their interest in the study of these problems further. India was till recently under the yoke of foreign rule which strangled her economic and industrial development. Now a plan for the industrial and economic development of India is on the anvil. Professor Rao's brochure contains valuable suggestions regarding tariff policy and labour policy which merit incorporation in the Governmental policies. Besides, the suggestion for the encouragement of cottage industries in a country like ours where there is plenty of manpower and paucity of capital deserves careful consideration of the Government. This brochure will undoubtedly prove a valuable possession to the students of industrial and economic problems.

—L.R.S.

"20th CENTURY URDU LITERATURE." By PROFESSOR MOHAMMAD SADIQ. Published by Padma Publications, Ltd., Sir Phirozshah Mehta Road, Bombay. Price Rs. 2-8-0

This small book is a mine of information about the development and history of the Urdu Literature in the 20th century. There is a good deal of information about the chronology of the Urdu Literature and research is still in full swing, but the necessity of bringing out a much abridged and useful review of the growth of the Urdu Literature in the modern era which would correspond with the rapid changes in the times was keenly felt. This book attempts to satisfy that demand to a certain extent. The author's remarks on the literary works and their utility value are healthy and agreeable. The picture of the influence of the Aligarh Movement over the public mind in general and on Urdu Literature in particular, has been clearly presented. The biographies of the poets, if they were to be called so, are informative and give the reader an idea of their contributions to Urdu Literature. The cardinal feature of the biographies of the selected poets like Akbar, Hali, Iqbal, etc., is the influence that the writings and messages of these poets exercised over the public mind and which had succeeded in moulding the political, social and religious ideas and outlook of the 20th century Indian Muslims in particular. The author deals with nationalism and Pan-Islamism and favours the former. Within the compass of this small book, the author has tried to deal with every aspect of Urdu Literature; hence he is brief in his treatment of the subject under review, and thus has failed to do full justice to every aspect of the Literature. The language of the book is fluent. The get-up is good and the style is lucid. The book is interesting.

—S.A.H.

PROHIBITION PREPARES FOR FURTHER CONQUESTS



Prohibition campaign was inaugurated in Madras City recently. The photo shows the Hon'ble Minister for Prohibition, Mr. V. N. Kudva, I.C.S., and others.



A public meeting was held in connexion with the inauguration of prohibition campaign in Madras City.

Rubies and Emeralds

Rajaji's Advice

Speaking at the social function organized by the Dawoodi Bohra Merchants' Association recently, His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari referred among other things to Mahatmaji's death and said that it was in the peoples power to keep Mahatmaji alive if they wanted to. By remembering him in the true sense, viz., remembering his spirit, his life, his activities and by following his advice we could keep his memory alive. Referring to the Association, His Excellency said that it was wrong to think that communal organizations were always bad. Each group and community had certain virtues and it was all to the good if by forming separate associations those virtues were conserved. What was wrong and undesirable was that such bodies should devote their energy in spreading the doctrine of separatism and hatred.

His Excellency went on to say that he was very pleased that an Association of merchants was still under the active guidance of religion and did not think religion irrelevant to the commercial world. It was possible, he said, for trade and commerce to serve society provided God was kept in their mind and trade and commerce

conducted in the presence of God unforgotten. India from time immemorial welcomed people of diverse faiths and because in the olden days religion was more intensely believed than now, they did not quarrel with one another. Religion was a reality with people unlike in the present day. They did not therefore waste their energies quarrelling with one another. We could even now, being the inheritors of that tradition of tolerance and active goodwill, revive those virtues of tolerance and love and substitute for hatred, suspicion and distrust positive goodwill and active love.

Negative peace, His Excellency said, was not enough. We should do more. We should actively each one of us try to understand one another, abstain from daily analysis and emphasis of wrongs done and set examples in our own lives of love and goodwill.

U.P. Development Minister on Self-help

'Self-help is the best help and God helps those who help themselves. The villagers should do everything by themselves and usher in a new era of prosperity by adopting the methods

of cultivation, observed the Hon. Pt. Kesho Deo Malaviya, Development Minister, recently. Pt. Malaviya advised the audience to produce large quantities of grain so that the U.P. might make up the deficit not only of U.P. but of the whole of India. He congratulated the people of the village on their efforts to clean and keep the roads in order and the entire village neat and tidy.

"Justice without Distinction": Advice to Police in West Bengal

Addressing a Parade of the Armed Police in West Bengal, Dr. Roy, Premier, *inter alia* said "In the battle of life they must remember that they should instil that spirit among their countrymen and by their conduct set an example to all who came in contact with them. He hoped that they should not only protect their country but maintain the glory of their country as well.

Sri K. S. Roy, Home Minister, addressing the force, stressed the need for discipline. He added, "Don't make any distinction between caste, creed and colour, don't make any distinction between one people and another. You shall dispense justice in such a manner that the people could feel and live in happiness and peace in their homes." He knew that if they would do their duty faithfully and loyally, he was sure that they would receive their support.

Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings

Mahatmaji's Views on Socialism

NOTE.—The first article in this series was published in the "Madras Information," dated 15th April 1948. The present article is the second and will be followed by others. The intention is to propagate the essential teachings of Mahatmaji. It is necessary in the larger interests of the country that every one should endeavour to translate these sublime precepts into action.

Socialism was not born with the discovery of the misuse of capital by capitalists. As I have contended, socialism, even communism, is explicit in the first verse of Ishopanishad. What is true is that when some reformers lost faith in the method of conversion, the technique of what is known as scientific socialism was born. I am engaged in solving the same problem that faces scientific socialists. It is true, however, that my approach is always and only through

unadulterated non-violence. It may fail. If it dies, it will be because of my ignorance of the technique of non-violence. I may be a bad exponent of the doctrine in which my faith is daily increasing. The A.I.S.A. and the A.I.V.I.A. are organizations through which the technique of non-violence is being tested on an All-India scale. They are special autonomous bodies created by the Congress for the purpose of enabling me to conduct my experiments without being fettered

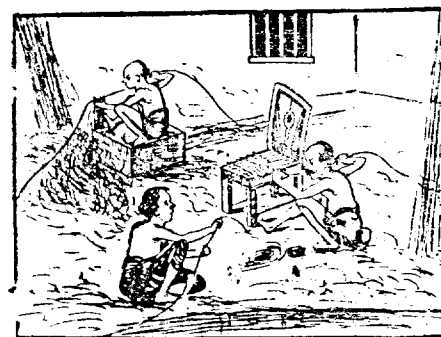
by the vicissitudes of policy to which a wholly democratic body like the Congress is always liable.

Real socialism has been handed down to us by our ancestors who taught: "All land belongs to Gopal; where then is the boundary line? Man is the maker of that line and he can, therefore, unmake it," Gopal literally means shepherd; it also means God. In modern language it means the State, i.e., the People. That the land to-day does not belong to the

people is true. But the fault is not in the teaching. It is in us who have not lived up to it. I have no doubt that we can make as good an approach to it as is possible for any nation, not excluding Russia, and that without violence. The most effective substitute for violent dispossession is the wheel with all its implications. Land and all property is his who will work for it. Unfortunately the workers are or have been kept ignorant of this simple fact.

I have claimed that I was a socialist long before those I know in India had avowed their creed. But my socialism was natural to me and not adopted from any books. It came out of my unshakable belief in non-violence. No man can be actively non-violent and not rise against social injustice, no matter where it occurred. Unfortunately western socialists have, so far as I know, believed in the necessity of violence for enforcing socialist doctrines.

I have always held that social justice, even to the least and the lowest is impossible of attainment by force. I have further believed that it is possible by proper training of the lowliest by non-violent means to secure redress of the wrongs suffered by them. That means is non-violent non-co-operation. At times non-co-operation becomes as much as duty as co-operation. No one is bound to co-operate in one's own undoing or slavery. 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. But the lowliest can feel its glow as soon as they learn the art of attaining it through non-violent non-co-operation. I am quite sure that non-violent non-co-operation can secure what violence never can, and this by ultimate conversion of the wrong-doers. We in India



Mahatma Gandhi has penetrated into the secret of India's poverty when he pleaded for the promotion of Cottage Industries

have never given non-violence the trial it has deserved. The marvel is that we have attained so much even with our mixed non-violence.

No man should have more land than he needs for dignified sustenance. Who can dispute the fact that the grinding poverty of the masses is due to their having no land that they can call their own? But it must be realised that the reform cannot be rushed, if it is to be brought about by non-violent means, it can only be done by education both of "haves" and "have-nots."

Who is a Socialist?

Socialism is a beautiful word and so far as I am aware in socialism all the members of society are equal—none low, none high. In the individual body, the head is not high because it is the top of the body, nor are the soles of the feet low because they touch the earth. Even as members of the individual body are equal, so are the members of society. This is socialism.

In it the prince and the peasant, the wealthy and the poor, the employer and employee, are all on the same level. In terms of religion there is no duality in socialism. It is all unity. Looking at society all the world over there is nothing but duality or plurality. Unity is conspicuous by its absence. This man is high, that one is low, that is a Hindu, that a Muslim, third a Christian, fourth a Parsi, fifth a Sikh, sixth a Jew. Even among these there are sub-divisions. In the unity of my conception there is perfect unity in the plurality of designs.

In order to reach this state we may not look on things philosophically and say that we need not make a move until all are converted to socialism. Without changing our life we may go on giving addresses, forming parties and hawk-like seize the game when it comes our way. This is no socialism. The more we treat it as game to be seized, the further it must recede from us.

Socialism begins with the first convert. If there is one such, you can add zeros to the one and the first zero will count for ten and every addition will count for ten times the previous number. If, however, the beginner is a zero, in other words, no one makes the beginning, multiplicity of zeros will also produce zero value. Time and paper occupied in writing zeros will be so much waste.

This socialism is as pure as crystal. It, therefore, requires crystal-like means

to achieve it. Impure means result in an impure end. Hence the prince and the peasant will not be equalised by cutting off the prince's head, nor can the process of cutting off equalize the employer and the employed. One cannot reach truth by untruthfulness. Truthful conduct alone can reach truth. Are not non-violence and truth twins? The answer is an emphatic "no". Non-violence is embedded in truth and *vice versa*. Hence has it been said that they are faces of the same coin. Either is inseparable from the other. Read the coin either way. The spelling of words will be different. The value is the same. This blessed state is unattainable without perfect purity. Harbour impurity of mind or body and you have untruth and violence in you.

Therefore, only truthful, non-violent and pure-hearted socialists will be able to establish a socialistic society in India and the world. To my knowledge there is no country in the world which is purely socialistic. Without the means described above the existence of such a society is impossible.

Communism

Communism of the Russian type, that is Communism which is imposed on a people, would be repugnant to India. If Communism came without violence, it would be welcome. For then no property would be held by anybody except on behalf of the people and for the people. A millionaire may have his millions, but he will hold them for the people. The State could take charge of them, whenever they would need them for the common cause.

What does Communism mean in the last analysis? It means a classless society—an ideal that is worth striving for. Only I part company with it when force is called to aid for achieving



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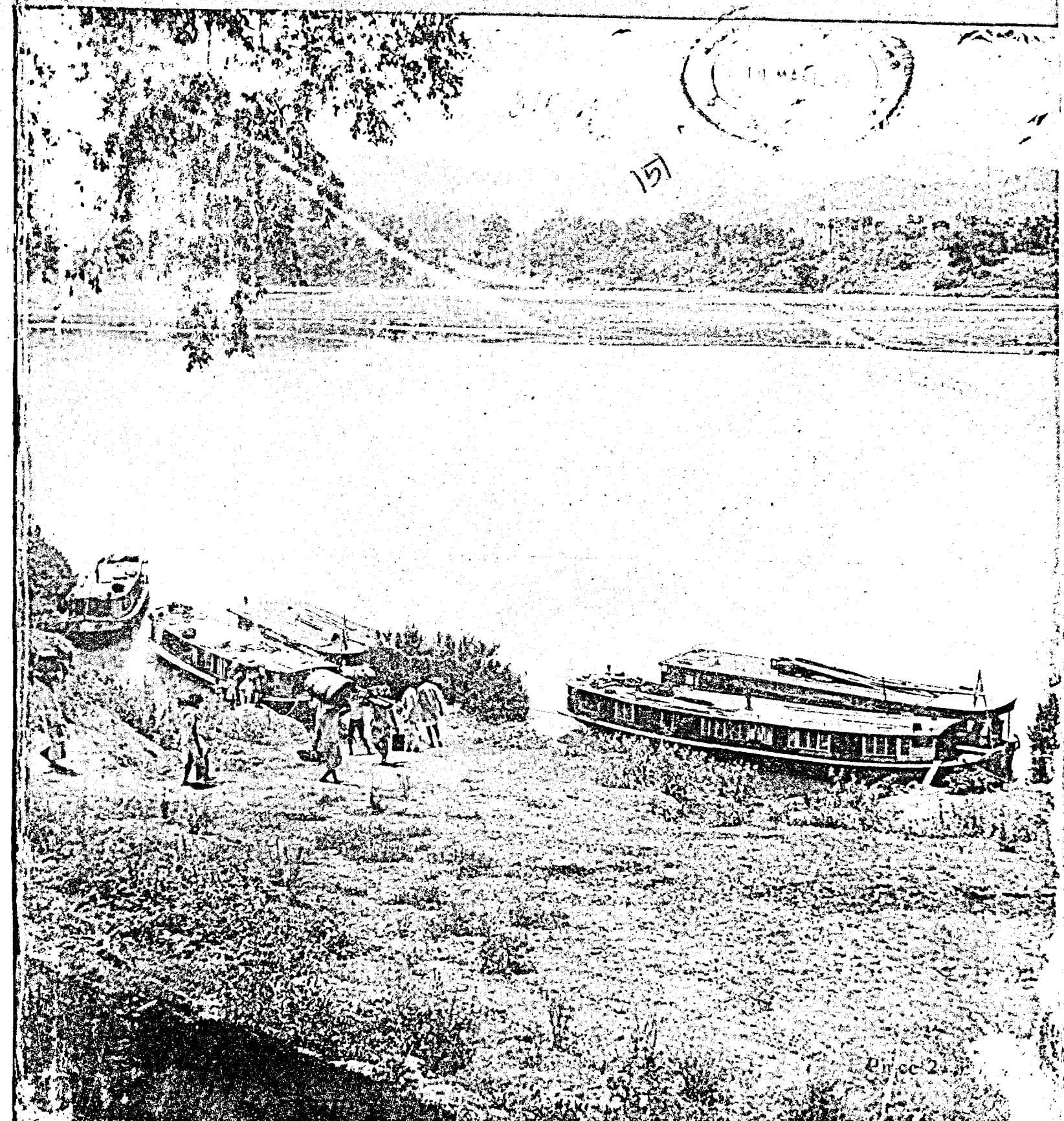
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MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II

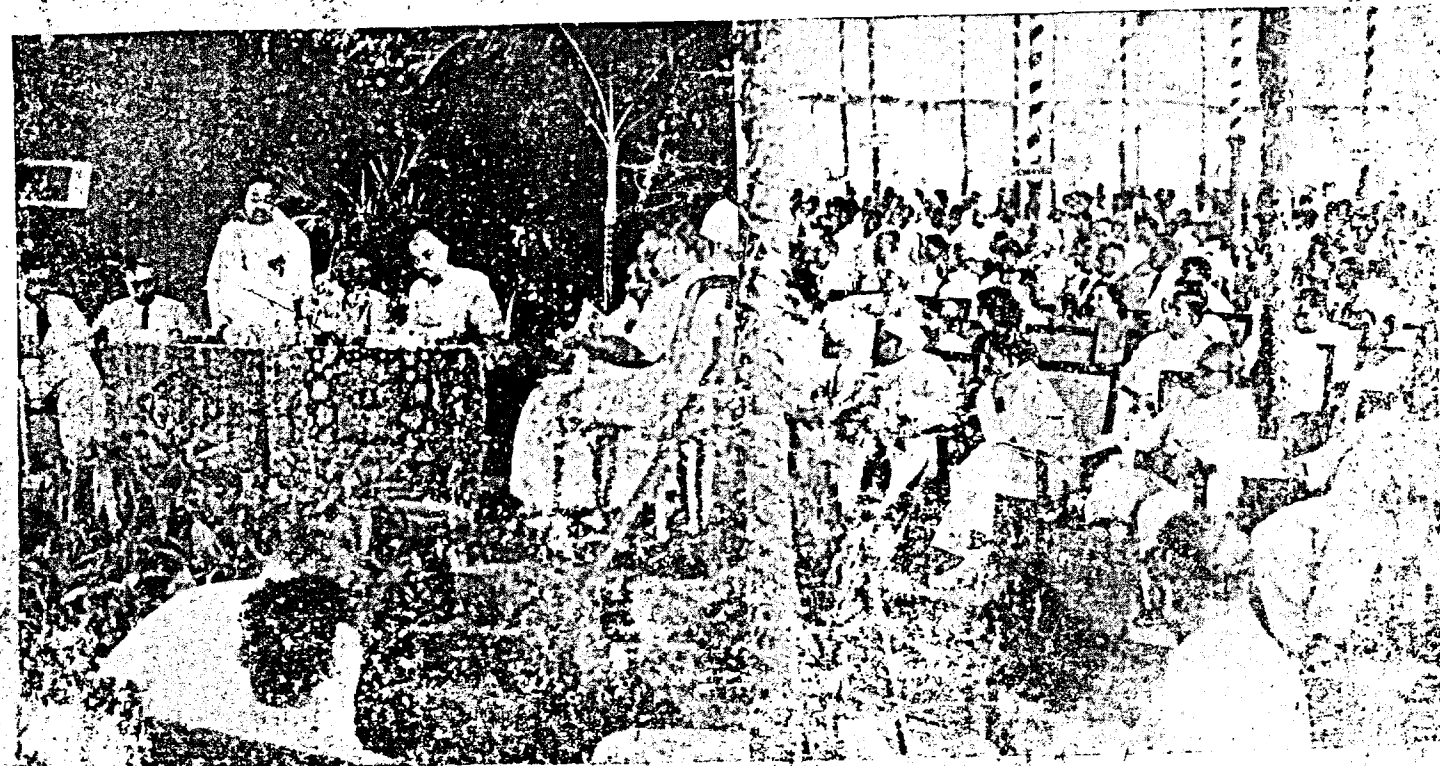
MADRAS, 15th MAY 1948

NO. 9





Honourable Sri S. F. Matherjee, Minister for Industries, Dominion Government, laying the foundation stone of the Central Leather Research Institute at Guindy, Madras



Honourable H. Seetharama Reddi, Minister for Industries, Government of Madras, speaking at the conference of the Leather Research Institute, Guindy, Madras

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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

May 15, 1948

Topical Notes

Improvement of Agriculture

The appalling poverty of this country is a grim fact. It has been said that more than one-third of the population live on the border line of starvation. The average income of an Indian is two annas per day as against Rs. 3 and more in England and America and other countries. The standard of living is consequently low. The basic cause for this state of affairs is easily traceable to the fact that agriculture which is the mainstay of more than 90 per cent of the population has not proved a remunerative occupation. An authority on agriculture has said that five per cent improvement in agriculture would add to general prosperity more than what 50 per cent improvement in industries can do. So improvement of agriculture is the first vital preliminary in any process of national re-building. This is not an easy process and cannot be done overnight. All the same the Government of Madras have started tackling the problem in all its aspects. In a recent broadcast, Hon'ble Sri Kala Venkata Rao, Revenue Minister, explained the various aspects of agricultural rehabilitation in the light of facts and figures. He observed: India is an agricultural country and for many years more has to rely upon agriculture as its mainstay. Agriculture has certain well-marked features. It will not be possible to step up agricultural production overnight. The people engaged in agriculture are generally conservative and rather slow to take up new methods and new devices. It is only through an efficient propaganda machine supplemented by demonstration farms and the like that we will be able to persuade the illiterate farmer to take to new and desirable methods. Improved

agriculture must result in increased food production, both qualitative and quantitative. To achieve this end we will have to do a number of things; land reforms, improvement of agriculture and the cultivation of crops that will not only raise the standard of the life of the farmer but also give a variety of nutritional food to the people at large. The first question is whether we have enough land which can be brought under fresh cultivation. In the Province of Madras there is a cultivable waste of 21,347,625 acres including forests, current fallows and uncultivated land. This is a fairly large area, but as has been pointed out, all this is not a potential asset from the agricultural point of view. If it had been readily possible to bring many of these areas under cultivation to yield

an economic output, the pressure of population and land hunger would have led to its cultivation long ago. It will be very detrimental to the progress of the Nation to reduce the forest area. The Madras Government have decided to allot the available cultivable waste to the Harijans, the backward classes and other poor people. All this being undeveloped, sub-marginal land, effort and capital are needed to put it into crop-yielding farm. By adopting co-operative methods, the poor man can be given the capacity and the efficiency to bring these sub-marginal lands under cultivation and to receive the benefit from out of them. This will be possible only in areas where large blocks of lands are available. The Government are already planning to have a few experimental co-operative farms started this season. That we cannot achieve the targets of maximum food production by simply extending the area of cultivation is apparent. Therefore the other alternative of getting the maximum out of the existing cultivated land has to be thought of. Even to achieve this we have to do many things. One of the first things to be done is soil conservation by the construction of contour bunds around steep areas thus helping the rain water to soak into the soil and lead the surplus water into safe channels. Secondly, we have to attend to drainage of good land in order to prevent the cultivated land from being submerged and to bring into cultivation land too wet for tillage now.

Methods for Better Production

Dr. Everest has estimated that the Ganges alone annually carries off enough soil which could only be removed by one thousand ships having one hundred thousand tons capacity working daily throughout the year. Based on this estimate we can imagine the loss of fertile soil through soil erosion by all the rivers, streams and rivulets in this country. Experiments to prevent this are being carried on under Government auspices. At the Poondi Irrigation Research Station,

IN THIS ISSUE

A river scene in the East Coast—*Frontispiece.*

Topical Notes.

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—
A Digest.

Departments' Corner

Prohibition News Letter

Towards Nation Building

Special Articles

Delhi Notes

Other Provinces

Agricultural and Veterinary
Notes

Opinions and Observations

Clippings from Gandhiji's
Writings

Our Book-shelf

even the taming of rivers is being studied.

Other important things are, (i) the use of selected good seeds of new strains, (ii) application of organic and artificial manures to soil depleted lands and (iii) the encouragement of growth of leguminous crops. One other important matter is the encouragement of agro-industries. This will solve two problems. Agro-industries will give better and more employment to the villagers and further agro-industries will bring higher prices for the raw material produced by the cultivator. The agricultural products may be marketed only after processing them into some manufactured form. The ryot may be encouraged to sell jaggery instead of raw sugarcane, oil and cake may be exported instead of oil-seeds. All agro-industries should be developed on an organized scale and far better marketing facilities than exist now must be provided for raw as well as processed products of the villager. All this can be done by the widespread organization of multi-purpose co-operative societies in the rural areas on the basis of a single village as a unit or in the alternative a unit of a group of villages.

Reform of Inheritance Laws

One grave defect in our social organization is the laws of inheritance which lays down that the property landed and otherwise should be divided according to the number of sons of a father. This has resulted in the fragmentation of the holdings. The holdings are so fragmented that it will be quite impossible to do any intensive cultivation on these fragmented holdings. We hear constant talk about the need of consolidating the holdings in each village. We have some co-operative consolidation of holding societies. But their success was very limited. If we want to achieve this object, we should do two things, namely, changing the Hindu law of succession so as to prevent subdivision of the family property below a certain limit. The present law of inheritance also has to be changed to suit this purpose. Otherwise, voluntary efforts at consolidation of holdings will not have much effect.

Tiller of the Soil

The success of agriculture is very much dependent upon the position which the tiller of the soil occupied in the society and also on the economic benefit he derives from his cultivation. Recent enquiries have disclosed that nearly 60 per cent of the ryotwari

pattadars cultivate their own lands and another 15 per cent of the small holders among them cultivate others lands on a tenancy system, so as to improve their income. There is a great demand from the public that the tiller of the soil should be made the owner of the soil. There is also the prevalent feeling that absentee landlordism is on the increase.

The recent enquiry made by the Special Officer on Land Tenancy Problems in the Presidency has disclosed that the estimated percentage of agricultural population who cultivate their own lands is 57 per cent, 14 per cent of the agricultural population leased out their lands, and 14 per cent of the tenants have no lands of their own, but cultivate the lands of others. Another 15 per cent of small holders also cultivate the lands of others. This survey is based on the results of enquiry into the conditions of about 20 villages in each taluk. Of course, to arrive at correct figures a more detailed enquiry is needed. The Government have recently appointed an Economic Adviser and he is organizing a Statistical Branch on modern lines. I am certain that at an early date we will have a more detailed and correct estimate of these matters. To solve the problem of giving strength to and creating efficiency in the small holders of land, co-operation must step in and help them. But more than this, the kisan must be provided with a living interest in the land which he cultivates. This can be assured to him by transferring proprietorship of land to the kisan if he cultivates the said land now. Alternately the tenant cultivator can be given statutory protection against eviction, fixation of the rate of rent according to quality of soils and the periods of leases can also be fixed. All these things are under the consideration of the Madras Government. These will take the shape of law as early as possible and soon after the Congress Committee on Agrarian Reforms reports.

This brings me to the problem of land tenures in the Presidency. Listeners are aware of the efforts of this Government to bring all the various kinds of land tenures prevailing in the Presidency to a uniform basis and that we have started with the abolition of the zamindaris. I need not go into those details over again. The present land revenue law is covered by the Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue and they have to be codified. Progressive taxation has to replace the present regressive land tax. All these varied problems are receiving the active consideration of the Government. Before another year will roll by we will be able to put a good many of these proposals on our Statute Book. Within the short space of time at my disposal now I am unable to present you with a full picture of all the ideas of our Government and the proposals for their implementation. I can assure one and all of you that the Government is earnest in bringing about a peaceful non-violent revolution in the rural areas, so as to re-adjust and revitalize the relations of those who are concerned with land and its cultivation in our Province.

This task is a big one when we know that the lot of our kisans is really poor.

Fifty-one per cent of the kisans hold less than 2 acres, 31 per cent 2 to 5 acres, 7 per cent have 5 to 10 acres and 11 per cent more than ten acres. If a detailed investigation reveals that the 11 per cent at the top who own more than 10 acres have in their possession a good portion of the total extent of the cultivated land, it would then be time for us to consider whether a top limit should be placed on the holding of agricultural land by a single individual.

In conclusion he said it is said that even in the highly literate countries it took more than two decades to persuade the farmers to adopt improved methods of agriculture. In our country it will take a longer time.

(A.I.L., Madras.)

Food Facts

In the recent Conference of Provincial Premiers and Food Ministers, the Hon. Premier of Madras made a stirring appeal for assistance from the Centre. After narrating the preliminary facts connected with the food problem the Hon. Premier said:

We are conscious that we cannot go on indefinitely depending on outside help for the primary need of life, namely, food. Vast irrigation under-

takings are engaging our attention and they have now passed the stage of investigation. The Tungabhadra, Rampadasagar and the Krishna Pennar project involving an outlay of 200 to 300 crores are expected to bring about five million acres under the plough. In addition they will also give improved water-supply to the existing lands, thus increasing the yield. About a dozen other major irrigation projects

are also being investigated and their execution would involve about 10 to 15 crores. Most of the anicuts are sand-filled and so don't hold water even if freshes come. So these should be reconstructed as regulators. The tanks have to be deepened and their full tank level raised so that their capacity to assure a water-supply to their ayacuts might be increased. They don't assure a water-supply now as they are all rainfed and are in areas where the rains come within a limited period. Nearly 40 to 45 lakhs acres out of total irrigated area of 80 lakhs depend on these sources and if rain fails as in this year, it is calculated that the ryots suffer a loss of Rs. 15 crores in cultivation expenses only. Even if the rains are good as they come in a limited period the tanks are not able to store them. So they must be improved. The renovation of the tanks, the reconstruction of the anicuts, a concerted scheme of subsidized well digging—these involve about 20 to 30 crores. All these will eventually make this Province self-sufficient in the matter of food supplies. Nay, we might even be in a position to export by that time, even conceding the normal increase of population. The application of science to agriculture such as improved seeds, better manuring, etc., will also contribute substantially towards this end, as also changes in the habits of people towards a balanced diet.

Effects of Decontrol

All these, however, is in the nature of long-term plans which might at least take a decade to fructify. Meanwhile, the problems of the living present are real and pressing and will have to be solved here and now without a moment's delay. The policy of decontrol which became necessary to put an end to the demoralization that came in the wake of controls has not however brought the beneficial results expected of it. Prices have shot up in several districts and while control has disappeared, the anti-social habits of hoarding and profiteering which it generated are still alive. Large stocks are being held by banks who have advanced considerable sums against them. This practice has not only affected the food situation but has also brought about a certain amount of tightness in the credit market. The working capital of banks gets frozen threatening the very stability of the banking system. In addition, there has been a deplorable paralysis in movement of foodgrains. A recent investigation shows that over 50 per cent of the stocks procured in the

districts are held up for lack of transport facilities. I would but make a passing reference here to the aggravation of difficulties brought about by the failure of the north-east monsoons or the unfriendly acts of Communist agitators who are always on the look-out to fish in troubled waters. While we have done all that we could and are trying to do much more by way of intensive procurement, compulsory levy and collection of grains, opening of grain relief shops, etc., the purchasing power of the non-agricultural and partial agricultural producers of the population has steadily deteriorated. The prices of jaggery and sugar produced by cottage workers have recorded a phenomenal fall. The handloom weavers too, are in a sad plight. It looks as though the long shadows of a depression have begun to envelop the handicrafts. Our revered Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the other day stated that in the development and support of cottage industries lies our hope of increased production. This policy should be translated into immediate practice and protection should be given to the products of the cottage industry so that the purchasing power of the large sections of the population would be increased and the pressure of higher prices of grain would be cushioned off. In addition to protection, the cottage workers should also be allowed freely to export their wares to other Provinces and countries.

Our Demands

In conclusion the Premier summarized the demands of the Provincial Government in this regard.

To sum up, he said "I would urge on the Government of India to take the following steps" immediately, if a large scale deterioration in the conditions of the Province is to be avoided:—

(1) An allotment of six lakhs tons of grain should be made and supplies completed between now and October 1948 in addition to the four lakhs already promised.

(2) Substantial improvement in transport facilities must be arranged. The canals in the northern parts of the Province are likely to be closed soon and that would cut off one mode of transport.

"If a man abuses me, it would never do for me to return the abuse. An evil returned by another evil only succeeds in multiplying it instead of leading to its reduction. It is a universal law that violence cannot be quenched by superior violence."

—MAHATMA GANDHI

Communist Menace

Some recent happenings in different parts of the Province, which affect prejudicially the law and order situation in the Province, give cause for serious thought. Communists and Communist sympathisers have been fomenting incidents and resorting to acts of violence which seem to be parts of a systematic and predetermined plan to exploit given situations to provoke trouble and forcing the police to open fire. In a recent Press Note issued by the Madras Government, details of a number of incidents illustrative of the tactics and the technique of Communists in certain parts of Malabar, South India and the Telugu districts, in which they resorted to wanton attacks against Congressmen and against the police, were recounted. It is clear from the Press Note that Communists indulged in acts of violence and came deliberately into clash with the forces of law and order. When recently, the Provincial Government ordered the arrests of some Communists, they tried to excite public sympathy for themselves by posing as the victims of persecution and repression.

In the Press Note referred to above, the Government have, however, made it unequivocally clear that they cannot tolerate conditions in which acts of violence are committed and law and order are challenged by any party. They have emphasized that they would use all the forces at their command to put down lawlessness and deal sternly with those who perpetrate or provoke violence.

Attention may be drawn in this connexion to the remarks made by the Hon'ble Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, about Communists, which provide an unerring clue to some of the recent happenings, in which they figure prominently in the Province and elsewhere. Speaking at a Press Conference in Bombay, he is reported to have said that "all those whose policies and actions led to reaction were reactionaries and as far as the Communists were concerned (and his remarks were confined to Indian Communists) the Government had evidence to show that they were planning a nation-wide sabotage and the like in certain parts of the country. They were also collecting arms to

achieve their ends. It was with a view to stop this kind of activity and nip it in the bud that many of the Provincial Governments had taken action and arrested certain of the Communists." In the reports of clashes between the Police and Communists in some places in Malabar and elsewhere, there has been specific mention of the fact that Communists were in possession of firearms and other weapons which they used for attacking parties of Malabar Special and the ordinary police.

Acts of violence like these cannot be tolerated by any Government and those who indulge in them necessarily pit themselves against the forces of law and order. Arrests of individual Communists and firings by police at some places have to be considered in the context of this fundamental consideration and it will be in their own interests that the people should appreciate the background of the incidents and the motives that actuate the Communists in creating them. In the words of the Prime Minister of India that motive is nothing else but and nothing less dangerous than "a nation-wide sabotage."

Press Notes, Releases, etc.—A Digest

Local Boards in 1945-46

The number of district boards in the Province continued to be 24 during the year under notice. There were 375 major panchayat boards at the end of the year. Sixteen panchayat boards were superseded and seven panchayat boards were reconstituted during the year. No major panchayat board was abolished. There were 6,757 minor panchayat boards at the end of the year under review. Thirty-two minor panchayat boards were abolished and 72 minor panchayat boards were reconstituted during the year. The Presidents of two panchayat boards were prosecuted for misappropriation of panchayat funds. Only 2 of the 19 casual elections held in respect of district boards were contested. In the case of major panchayat boards, there were 355 elections, of which 47 were contested, and 75 per cent of the electors went to the polls.

Communications.—The district boards maintained 32,284 miles of roads including 64 miles and 5 furlongs

of newly opened roads. The total mileage of district board roads for every 100 square miles of local fund area ranged from 15.0 in Nellore to 70.3 in Tanjore. The Government sanctioned an increase of 50 per cent in the provincial grants for the maintenance of trunk and important marketing roads in view of the increased cost of maintenance of roads. The cost of road maintenance during the year amounted to Rs. 161.73 lakhs. Thirteen schemes, financed from the Central Road Fund, were completed during the year.

Education.—The education Tax continued to be levied during the year under notice in all districts. The income from this tax during the year amounted to Rs. 71.76 lakhs. The number of centres in which compulsory elementary education was introduced in 1945-46 was 434. Out of 7,422 students, who appeared for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination from the district board secondary schools, 3,710 students or 50 per cent of the candidates sent up

for the examination were declared eligible for the University course of studies.

Public health.—The average area and population served by each public health centre in the Province were 93 square miles and 35,000 persons, respectively. The number of persons depending upon each centre ranged from 16,000 in the Nilgiri district to about 66,000 in the South Arcot district. The local boards maintained 70 hospitals and 764 dispensaries. The number of in-patients and out-patients treated in these institutions during 1945-46 was 34,560 and 9,723,787 respectively, as against 33,442 in-patients and 10,440,074 out-patients respectively during the previous year. The birth-rate for the year slightly increased from 29.2 to 29.7 per mille of the population. The death-rate per mille of the population was 20.8.

Epidemic and endemic diseases.—The number of deaths from epidemic and endemic diseases fell from 12,738 in 1944-45 to 7,053 in 1945-46. The

largest number of deaths from these diseases occurred in Guntur. The number of deaths from smallpox fell from 18,055 to 15,780. The district worst affected by smallpox was Tanjore where 2,587 deaths were recorded during the year. There were 1,854 deaths from plague, of which 1,383 occurred in Coimbatore district.

Administration.—The administration of the District Boards of South Arcot, South Kanara, the Nilgiris and Tinnevely was good. The remaining 20 District Boards presented fair records.

[April 16]

Sales Tax

It has been represented to the Government that it is inconvenient and extremely difficult for registered dealers to collect sales tax on fractions of a rupee. The Government have issued orders that for purposes of collecting tax under the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, the registered dealers shall ignore fractions of a rupee less than eight annas and treat fractions of a rupee of eight annas and more as one rupee.

[April 17]

Recruitment of District Educational Officers

In their Press Communiqué No. 45, dated 14th February 1947, the Government stated, inter alia, that it was their intention that recruitment of District Educational Officers should not be confined to persons in Government cadres but that efficient men in local board and aided services should also be given scope for being appointed as District Educational Officers and that they were actively considering the matter of fixing proportions according to which vacancies should be filled.

The Government have since taken the decision that one out of every four substantive vacancies arising in the Administrative Section of the Men's Branch of the Madras Educational Service (higher inspectorate of the Education Department) should be filled or reserved to be filled by direct recruitment from among teachers employed in recognized non-Government Secondary schools.

A degree in Arts of a University in the Province and the B.T. degree of the University of Madras or the B.Ed. degree of the Andhra University (or equivalent degree) are the qualifications that will be required of the

teacher-recruits. They should not have completed the age of 40 years on 1st July of the year in which the selection for recruitment is made. They should have had experience as teachers in a recognized school for a total period of not less than 12 years and a candidate who, in addition, has had experience as Headmaster of a recognized High School in the Province will be given preference.

Before commencing to perform his regular duties, the teacher-recruit may, at the discretion of the Director of Public Instruction, be required to undergo training for a period not exceeding 4 months under a District Educational Officer and during such training he will be given a salary calculated at the rate of Rs. 200 per mensem or the pay drawn by him in the non-Government institution at the time of his recruitment, whichever is less. The recruits will be admitted to the Madras Contributory Provident Fund and will not be governed by the ordinary pension rules.

[April 18]

Corruption among Government Servants

During the month of January 1948, corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 212 persons, including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the month. Of these, 4 were let off as charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 198 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 those persons and the punishment awarded to them are as follows:—

M. Mahadevan, Lower Division Clerk, Presidency Magistrate's Court, Madras (Pay reduced to a lower stage in the time-scale); Raghavalu Naidu, Forest Watcher (Services terminated), Sheik Badsha, Forest Watcher (suspended for 6 months); R. V. Ratnam Naidu, Forester (suspended); J. Raghunadhan, Sub-Inspector of Police, Guntur district (dismissed from service); Doraisingam, Checking Inspector, City Rationing Office, Saravana Pillai, Chowkidar, Rationing Office, Dindigul and D. C. Bheemappa and B. Madduleti, Chowkidars, Rationing Office, Anantapur district (Removed from service); P. Arunachalam, Chowkidar, Rationing Office, Mannargudi, Tanjore district (discharged from service).

Compost making

At the instance of Sir Datar Singh, Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, who returned to Madras after a tour to some places in South India, the Director of Agriculture, Mr. M. S. Sivaraman, I.C.S., convened a conference of some Heads of Departments on Sunday the 18th April 1948, at which questions connected with the manufacture and distribution of compost as manure were discussed.

Sir Datar Singh in the course of his remarks stressed the value and importance of compost as manure particularly in view of the great need for augmenting the food production in the country. He explained the Government of India's scheme for promoting the production and distribution of compost and the financial and technical assistance they will be prepared to offer the Provincial Governments in the execution of their schemes.

It was pointed out that in the Madras Province, the Urban Compost Scheme has been in operation since 1944; but during the last three years, i.e., 1945-46, 1946-47, 1947-48, both production and distribution of compost had been progressively increasing but production was still below the target. One of the bottle-necks in compost distribution was the transport from the place of production in the urban areas to the villages where it is needed. As regards production, some of the municipalities did not have the necessary space where the town refuse could be dumped for transformation into compost. The absence of a suitable agency to co-ordinate the work of the Agricultural, Public Health and the Local Administration Departments, which was essential if the scheme has to work successfully, was another handicap. Propaganda among the villagers for popularizing the use of compost in order to induce them to use it in large quantities would also probably be required on a larger scale to get them to increase their use of compost.

In this connexion the following note which explains the working of the compost schemes in Madras Province will be of interest.

There are two Compost Schemes in operation in Madras Province, viz., the Urban Compost Scheme and the Village Compost Scheme:

I. Urban Compost Scheme.—There are in all 1,012 towns containing populations of 5,000 and above, with a total urban population of 12,215 millions (1941 Census) in Madras Province. By systematic collection and

utilization of all the refuse material available in the above towns, it would be possible to prepare nearly 12 lakhs tons of manure per year. Out of the above 1,012 towns, 87 are municipalities and all the others are panchayat boards. Since these bodies generally maintain staff for the collection of urban refuse, it would be possible to extend the Urban Compost Scheme so as to cover all the above towns.

The Urban Compost Scheme was started in Madras Province in 1944. In 1944-45 the number of compost centres was 23 and the amount of compost produced and distributed were 41,300 tons and 5,400 tons respectively while in 1946-47 the number of centres increased to 113, and the amount of compost produced and distributed rose to 80,720 tons and 58,200 tons respectively. In 1947-48, it is estimated that the production would go up to 100,000 tons of which 78,000 tons is proposed to be distributed.

It would be noted from the above figures that the Urban Compost Scheme has remained at a stationary level in Madras Province during the last 3 years, while other Provinces like U.P. and C.P. have doubled and trebled their production at the same time.

If a Compost Development Officer be appointed to supervise the working of the scheme, it is felt that the production can be raised from the present level of 100,000 tons to a level of 200,000 tons within a year. The ultimate target is 10 lakhs tons per year. After the above officer is appointed, he may be asked to make a survey and prepare a detailed report indicating the difficulties met with at present by municipalities in expanding production and distribution of compost. He should prepare a three-year plan of development, so as to cover all the urban areas (1,012 towns) in the above period; and in the light of this Report, a suitable revised scheme of Urban Composting may be prepared, making provision for all help needed by municipalities in operating the scheme by way of:—(a) grant of loans or advances for purchase of carts or trucks for refuse collection; (b) expeditious acquisition or vesting of land required for Compost Depots; (c) grants or loans for undertaking Compost production; and (d) help needed to market the manure produced either in trucks maintained by the municipalities or through local co-operative societies or agricultural organizations.

II. Village Compost Scheme.—The Scheme is in operation at about 2,300 village centres and subsidies are offered for digging of pits and filling up the same with manure. The scheme was sanctioned by the Madras Government towards the end of 1944 (G.O. No. 4675, Development, dated 1st November 1944), but actual work of digging pits, etc., started only from August 1945. The quarterly reports sent in by Madras Government show that about 5,000 to 6,000 pits are in operation and about 50,000 tons of manure are prepared per year.

The present scheme is not prepared on comprehensive lines so as to indicate (a) the average quantity of manure prepared per village at present (say, in terms of number of cubic feet of manure per head of cattle maintained in the village, as determined from data for villages selected at random from each district of the Province), (b) the proportion of refuse and other waste material not collected in the villages, but allowed to go waste; (c) the average proportion of cattle dung used as fuel in the villages; (d) the average chemical analysis of manure prepared in villages, with special reference to the conservation of cattle urine for increasing the nitrogen content and improving the quality of manure prepared in villages; (e) scope for preparing extra manure from farm litter, forest leaves, water weeds, etc.; (f) scope for tree planting in villages, with a view to preventing the burning of cow-dung as fuel.

There are about 34,800 villages in Madras Province, with a total rural human population of 370 lakhs and a total cattle population (cows, bullocks and buffaloes) of about 226 lakhs. This works out to an average of about 1,050 humans and 650 bovines for each village. Taking two-thirds of the bovines to be adults, it should be possible to prepare about 50,000 to 60,000 cubic feet of manure (about 1,000 tons) for the average village, by complete utilization of all the refuse materials available locally. Statistics are not available to show the present quantity of manure prepared in the average village at the present time, but it is likely to be only about half the above figure.

[April 19]

Statistical Section

The Statistical Section which was hitherto under the Board of Revenue has now been placed under the Economic Advisor to the Government of

Madras with a view to giving prompt Statistical service to other departments of the Government and to the public. The new department will be located at a central place in the Fort and will be under the direct control of the Hon'ble Premier.

[April 21]

Oil Technological Institute for Anantapur

The Government of Madras have approved the proposals submitted by the Director of Industries and Commerce for the establishment of an Oil Technological Institute at Anantapur for the purpose of undertaking research in oil technology, and the training of apprentices for a diploma course. They have sanctioned the necessary expenditure and staff for a period of three years.

[April 24]

Grants-in-Aid under Firka Development Scheme

The Government have directed that the scheme of payment of grants-in-aid to private institutions, engaged in constructive work, sanctioned in their order, dated 25th March 1948, should be applicable to all private institutions in the province, irrespective of the fact whether they are located within the selected firkas and centres, or outside.

[April 24]

Training of Additional Midwives Sanctioned

The Surgeon-General had suggested that in addition to 474 midwives, who are being trained in various Government medical institutions in the province, 157 midwives more could be trained, as facilities for their training are available. In view of this suggestion, the Government have sanctioned the training of an additional number of 50 midwives. They have further sanctioned the training of 100 midwifery pupils in the languages of the province, in addition to the sanction ordered on October 25, 1947, for the training of 50 midwives with the help of the Provincial Welfare Fund.

The pupils, during their training, will be paid the usual stipends and allowances.

[April 24]

proposed to constitute a Soil Conservation Board for the Nilgiris with official and non-official members. Further Forest reserves to the Agrarian Reforms Committee constituted by the President of the Indian National Congress in accordance with the suggestion made by the conference of the Revenue Ministers of the provinces held in December 1947.

The object of the Agrarian Reforms Committee is to examine and report on the reforms relating to land tenure and allied subjects arising out of the proposed abolition of Zamindaris.

[April 24]

Resettlement of I.N.A. Personnel

The following resettlement facilities are at present offered by this Government to the ex-servicemen:—(1) Co-operative Land Colonization Schemes, (2) Training Schemes, (3) Ex-servicemen's Centres, (4) Co-operative Workshop Schemes and (5) Employment Exchanges.

(2) It has been learnt from the Government of India that they are agreeable to extending the benefits of resettlement schemes, financed wholly or partly by them or from the Post-War Services Reconstruction Fund, to only such of the ex-Indian National Army personnel as had gone over from the Indian armed forces, and not to those recruited from civilians outside India, the criterion being whether a particular individual is an ex-member of the Indian armed forces or not.

(3) The Provincial Government considered whether the policy in respect of their schemes mentioned in paragraph 1 should be brought into line with that of the Government of India or whether, in conformity with their previous decision in regard to public services, all Indian National Army personnel, irrespective of whether they once belonged to the Indian armed forces or not, should be admitted to the benefits of the resettlement schemes undertaken by this Government. After careful consideration, this Government have come to the decision that Indian National Army personnel, who were recruited from civilians outside India, should be admitted only to those concessions, which are within the competence of this Government to grant, and in respect of which no financial help is received either from the Central Government or from the Post-War Services Reconstruction

und. The following are a few examples of such concessions:—(i) Membership in Motor Transport Co-operative Societies for ex-servicemen; (ii) Allotment of isolated plots of land for cultivation and (iii) Assignment of house-sites.

[April 27]

Grant of land to Political Sufferers

In their Press Note No. 305, dated 23rd December 1947 the Government announced their scheme for the grant of land to Political sufferers. Necessary action in this regard is being taken in the districts. In their subsequent Press Note No. 88, dated 3rd April 1948, it was announced that a non-official Advisory Committee would be constituted for each revenue district and that assignments will be made by the Collectors in consultation with their respective Committees. The Government have accordingly issued orders appointing Advisory Committees, two in each of the districts of Vizagapatam, Kistna, Bellary and Madras and one in each of the other districts. In the case of districts for which two committees have been constituted, their jurisdiction will be coterminous with that of the corresponding District Congress Committees. The names of the members of each Advisory Committee are appended.

2. In accordance with the decision already announced, no lands will be assigned within the actual limits of towns and municipalities including the Corporation of Madras. The Political sufferer residents in Madras would therefore have preferred applications for lands in other districts. The two Committees appointed for the respective Congress Districts in the Madras City will act as liaison bodies between the political sufferer applicants and the Collectors of other districts. The Collectors of districts will therefore consult the concerned Advisory Committees for Madras before applications of the residents of Madras are disposed of.

3. The Collectors have been instructed to convene immediately a meeting of the Committee or Committees constituted for each district and make arrangements for the assignment of land as early as possible.

4. The local Revenue Officers have already been instructed to give every assistance to applicants who cannot furnish details of S. numbers, etc. The members of the Advisory Committee will also render the applicants all necessary help in this matter.

5. In the Ceded districts and other upland areas in the Province where the soil is poor, land (wet or dry) may not yield the same income as an equal area in other parts of the province. In such backward tracts, therefore, an area which will yield the same income as 5 acres of wet land elsewhere will be assigned. The Collectors have been instructed to decide the suitable extent for this purpose in consultation with the members of the Advisory Committees.

6. Porambores and village commons required for communal purposes and tank beds will in no circumstances be assigned to anyone. The current leases for lands granted under the Grow More Food campaign expire in many cases on 30th June 1948. Such lands also may now be assigned to political sufferers except when such assignment will result in a person of very poor means being dispossessed.

7. Applications for lands in zamindari areas will be kept pending until the Zamindari Bill becomes law.

8. The Government hope that assignment of lands will now proceed expeditiously so that it may be possible to bring the assigned lands into cultivation in the coming cultivation season.

[April 28]

Increase of Bed Strength in Medical Institutions

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the increase of the bed strength of the Governments Headquarters Hospital, Vellore, from 91 to 133 and a temporary staff for the hospital. They have also sanctioned a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 1,400 for the purchase of furniture, crockery, etc. for the hospital.

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the increase of the bed strength of the Government Hospital, Mayavaram, from 30 to 45 and a temporary staff. They have also sanctioned a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 3,700 for the purchase of medicines, furniture and hospital necessities.

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the increase of the bed strength of the Government Headquarters Hospital, Ramnad, from 61 to 70 and a temporary staff for the hospital. They have also sanctioned a non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 4,000 for the purchase of furniture, medicines and hospital necessities.

[April 29]

Thursday, the 10th June—King's Birthday; Thursday, the 1st July—Half-yearly closing of bank accounts; Saturday, the 7th August—Ramzan; Thursday, the 19th August—Avani Avittam; Friday, the 27th August—Janmashtami; Saturday, the 28th August—Sri Jayanti; Monday, the 6th September—Vinayaka Chaturthi; Saturday, the 2nd October—Mahalaya Arnavasai; Monday, the 11th October and Tuesday, the 12th October—Ayudha Puja; Thursday, the 14th October—Bakrid; Saturday, the 30th October—Deepavali; Friday, the 12th

Departments' Corner

Labour Department

Labour Situation in the Province

The Government of Madras have declared Electric Tramway Services, Motor Transport Services and Cotton Textile Industry as Public Utility Services under the Industrial Disputes Act for a period of 6 months from the date of publication of the above order in the *Port St. George Gazette*.

The workers of the Vinayagar Cigar Company, Madras, went on a stay-in-strike from 1st April 1948, demanding proper supply of leaves, etc. The Deputy Commissioner of Labour brought about a settlement of the dispute on 12th April 1948 and the workers were asked to resume work on 14th April 1948.

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the constitution of a second Industrial Tribunal at Madras.

The President, Skin Merchants' Association, Dindigul, has reported that tannery workers working in the tanneries in Dindigul have struck work from 7th April 1948. The Labour Officer, Madura, has been asked to

November—Muharram; Saturday, the 25th December—Christmas Day; and penultimate Saturdays.

Consequent on the abolition of all sectional holidays now being granted to the various communities, the Government have decided that the number of days of casual leave, permissible per year, shall, with effect from this year, be increased from 15 to 20 days. The maximum period for which a Government servant may absent himself continuously on casual leave (including holidays) shall continue to be ten days. [April 30]

Royal Indian Military College,
Dehra Dun

In connection with the admission of candidates to the Prince of Wales Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun, who desire subsequently to enter a cadet College with a view to obtaining commissions in the Indian Land Forces, the Royal Indian Air Force or the Royal Indian Navy, full particulars

adras with a view to giving prompt statistical service to other departments of the Government and to the new department will be given a place in the 4th

All applications should be submitted in the prescribed form in duplicate to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Madras Governor's Camp, not later than the 20th May 1948. Applications received after that date will not be considered. [April 27]

(3) *Management of Panchayat Forests*

—The management of the ryots forests by the Forest Panchayats has been a failure. The transfer of the management of these forests to the Forest Department has therefore been considered as a Post War Development Scheme. The question of transferring the Panchayat Forests in six selected districts to the Forest Department is under the consideration of the Government.

(4) *Control of Private Forests.*—

The object is to control the private forests, if necessary, by enquiring them. The report of the Special Officer on the conditions of the private forests has been received and is under consideration.

(5) *Extension of Casuarina Planta-*

tions.—The object of the scheme is to open about 150,000 acres of Casuarina plantations in suitable regions in the Province to augment fuel supplies. A total area of 12,902 acres have been planted till now. The scheme is expected to be remunerative.

(6) *Soil Conservation Circle*.—In order

to prevent soil erosion in the Nilgiris District and the adjoining Attapady Valley of the Coimbatore and Malabar Districts, Government have sanctioned a Soil Conservation Division in Ootacamund under a Forest Officer. For advising Government and for getting the co-operation of the public, it is

proposed to constitute a Soil Conservation Board for the Nilgiris with official and non-official members.

7. *Further Forest reservation including Village forests.*—Madras has reserved forests covering about 12 per cent of its total area against the accepted ideal of 20 per cent to 25 per cent by which the villager may be enabled to satisfy his requirements of agricultural timber and fuel within a reasonable distance of his home. It is proposed to vest with the Forest Department the control over the afforestation in the Rampa Agency, Kollemalais and in such areas as the Hagari and Pennar river banks and over the tank bed lands.

The scheme will take 20 years for its full development and will ultimately be largely self-supporting. The scheme has not yet been sanctioned.

8. *Extension of teak plantations.*— For the past 20 years the Forest Department has been converting all suitable and suitably situated land in its possession into teak plantations at the rate of 1,500 acres per year. The new plantations when they reach maturity will bring about a three-fold increase in the output of teak. But there will still be a deficit of about 20,000 tons a year if it is desired to cut out imports. This will need about 700 acres of plantations annually for the rotation period of 70 years. At rotation age the crop on an acre would be worth about Rs. 2,000 per acre and there would be substantial intermediate yields. The scheme has not yet been sanctioned.

9. *Softwood plantations*.—Supplies of softwoods to the West Coast mills have generally come from private forests. It seems highly probable that the present softwood plantation activities will have to be expanded on a considerable scale. It will be necessary to acquire private forests for this purpose. The tentative plan is to produce 10 lakhs of cubic feet a year, needing about 30,000 acres, raising 1,000 acres plantation annually on a thirty-year rotation. It has since been decided to conduct experimental cultivation of softwood species on an area of 1,000 acres and watch the results.

10. *Forest roads*.—Expansion and improvement of the road system in the Nilāmbur Forest Division.

The scheme contemplates improvements to certain forest roads which will facilitate the easy extraction of timber and bamboo from the forests and the easy transport of materials extracted. The scheme is expected

to result in an additional net revenue of about Rs. 1,09,500 annually. The scheme is under consideration.

Carrying the Mount Stuart Road system in South Coimbatore Division into the Ulandi Valley (a metalled road).

The road is necessary for the formation of teak plantations apart from timber extraction. If the road is not constructed we will have to depend on the good offices of the Cochin State for the transport of timber from the Ulandi forests at any future date.

Consideration of the scheme has, however, been postponed by two years.

11. *Improved amenities for forest staff and labour.*—The excellent results that have followed from the special attention paid to the housing of the subordinate Forest staff, the anti-malarial measures and the provision of simple medical care notably in South Coimbatore Division indicate the importance of the work of this kind in other Centres of activity. Further schemes are under consideration.

Veterinary Department

The Serum Institute has been transferred from the Agricultural College buildings, Coimbatore to the Meat Dehydration Factory Buildings at Ranipet with effect from 24th March 1948.

Electricity Department

During March 1948, ten extensions costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 each were sanctioned by the Chief Engineer for Electricity at an estimated total cost of Rs. 1,79,430.

During the month, supply to 131 numbers agricultural services and 21 numbers industrial services was given.

Work on the major schemes and extensions under execution was progressing. One of the 2,500 K.W. transportable sets in the Madras Power Station has been satisfactorily commissioned and is now in regular operation service. Measures for improving the electric supply position at Cuddapah were taken. Four small generating sets of 21.9 K.V.A. each were erected and commissioned and the Municipal Water Works and part of the Town loads were supplied. One number 170 K.W. set was also sent to Cuddapah and the civil work connected with the erection thereof was being taken up.

Resettlement Activities

March 1948—A general summary

Employment Office Statistics.—There is a marked increase in the registration from 6,465 in February to 8,376 during the month. This is due mainly to the rush of more ex-servicemen to the Exchanges for getting themselves registered or re-registered with a view to get at the Railway reserved vacancies for which the last date for receipt of applications was notified as 31st March 1948. It is also due to the intensive drive for recruitment to the Armed Police Units, and throwing open of the Employment Offices to civilians. Men thrown out of Government Offices due to retrenchment, as a result of decontrol, is also another reason for this increase.

The total number placed in employment during the month was 1,761 as against 2,151 during the previous month. The decrease is partly due to the higher placings of last month in the Armed Police Units and in the Muchkund Hydro-electric Scheme. The men recruited for this Scheme last month having decamped from the work spot, further recruitment has been suspended. The Railway reserved vacancies and the openings in the Army and Police are keeping up the placings which should otherwise have stopped steeply. Of those placed in employment 1,516 persons were ex-service personnel as compared with 1,850 in the previous month. Analysing the placings effected during the month 4 per cent are posts carrying increased salary of Rs. 60 to Rs. 100, 22 per cent are posts carrying a pay of Rs. 35 to Rs. 60, 47 per cent are posts carrying a pay of Rs. 21 to Rs. 35 and 27 per cent are posts carrying a pay of Rs. 20 and less. A further analysis of these placings shows 8·5 per cent of the placings are in private industries and the rest are in Government and Railway reserved vacancies.

Vacancy position.—The number of vacancies notified during the month was less than last month, and the vacancies outstanding under all heads, Government, Railways and Private, were also less than last month. It amounted to only 20 per cent of the number of persons on the live Register at the end of the month.

Difficulties in resettling ex-service-men.—In addition to the inherent disqualification in not possessing diplomas and certificates of proficiency to enable them to secure Government jobs, the ex-servicemen continue to

reject jobs and are unwilling to move out of their homes. The physical standards for enrolment in the Armed Police Units are found to act unfavourably in respect of their height and chest measurements, and some of those who are found fit, have not joined the Forces readily. Even in the matter of undergoing technical training the ex-servicemen are not joining the Centres quickly. The closing of the reserved vacancies and the large scale retrenchment in Government services are all factors adversely operating against ex-servicemen.

Disabled.—Nine disabled persons were placed in employment during the month and one of them was appointed as a Police Constable at Vizagapatam, though he was declared to be suffering from a disease incurable at the time of demobilization. He has completely recovered and was found medically fit for the job.

Employment trends and opportunities.—The labour unrest in some parts of the region still continues. Though the textile mills in and around Coimbatore were re-opened after the lock-out of nearly two months, it is reported that only 10 per cent of the workers have joined duty. In Malabar district there were strikes in three factories and in some other minor concerns, affecting about 1,000 persons. No new factory has come into existence during the month except the starting of the Tungabhadra Industries in Kurnool district. The other factories are under construction and there is difficulty in securing machinery. The unemployment in the educated middle class is likely to go up with the discharge of many thousands of clerks on account of retrenchment in Government service. The employment position has worsened, but there is enough work available for unskilled labour, if people are only willing to do hard manual labour.

Labour shortages and surpluses.—The bulk of men on the Live Registers of Employment Offices are for the posts of peons, watchmen, clerks, motor drivers, fitters (General), postmen, duffries, motor mechanics, police constables, coolies, cleaners and carpenters. The technical tradesmen are not sufficiently experienced, and the demand for really qualified men for the posts of fitters, welders, tracers, blacksmiths, carpenters, moulders, overseers and engineers could not be met. Unless unskilled and unqualified persons join the army, and police, and come forward to do manual work in the fields and in the projects, there is no help for them.

TABLE I.
Registrations and Placings—March 1948

Name of Sub-Regional or District Employment Office	Number of Registrations during the month including re-registrations.		Applicants placed in employment by Officers during the month.		Number of applicants on the live register at the end of the month.	
	ALL.	EXS.	ALL.	EXS.	ALL.	EXS.
Vizagapatam (S.R.E.) ..	331	256	55	36	1,791	1,290
East Godavari (D.E.O.) ..	153	101	23	13	2,184	1,682
Bezwada (S.R.E.) ..	156	121	45	34	1,521	1,238
Guntur (D.E.O.) ..	159	130	30	29	1,171	1,039
West Godavari (D.E.O.) ..	114	94	10	10	521	428
Anantapur (S.R.E.) ..	55	31	38	35	684	606
Bellary (D.E.O.) ..	62	44	45	33	786	694
Cuddapah (D.E.O.) ..	53	47	43	41	1,554	1,470
Kurnool (D.E.O.) ..	80	44	67	35	1,154	1,112
Vellore (S.R.E.) ..	459	405	127	118	3,779	3,502
Chittoor (D.E.O.) ..	98	83	36	36	380	337
Coimbatore (S.R.E.) ..	368	259	167	143	2,941	2,380
Nilgiris ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salem (D.E.O.) ..	164	138	84	80	2,038	1,809
Madras (S.R.E.) ..	1,527	864	167	124	7,043	4,358
Chingleput (D.E.O.) ..	464	386	43	37	1,617	1,254
Nellore (D.E.O.) ..	231	186	44	36	736	621
Trichinopoly (S.R.E.) ..	529	371	118	101	2,701	2,137
Tanjore (D.E.O.) ..	474	409	42	40	2,019	1,708
South Arcot (D.E.O.) ..	397	251	80	64	2,058	1,532
Madura (S.R.E.) ..	478	378	112	103	1,924	1,687
Ramnad (D.E.O.) ..	509	401	51	50	1,198	1,055
Tinnevely (D.E.O.) ..	491	455	116	113	1,136	1,051
Calicut (S.R.E.) ..	816	772	154	151	2,215	2,116
South Kanara (D.E.O.) ..	101	89	45	44	811	758
Madras (R.E.E.) ..	107	37	24	10	522	270
Total ..	8,376	6,352	1,761	1,516	44,484	36,134

TABLE II.
Number of Employers using Employment Offices, Vacancies notified and vacancies outstanding—March 1948.

Name of the Sub-Regional or District Employment Office.	Number of employers using Employment offices during the month.	Number of vacancies notified during the month.	Number of vacancies outstanding at the end of the month.			
			Reserved.	Central and Provincial.	Others.	Total.
Vizagapatam (S.R.E.) ..	27	79	116	116	36	271
East Godavari (D.E.O.) ..	10	22	..	56	3	59
Bezwada (S.R.E.) ..	19	43	..	7	10	17
Guntur (D.E.O.) ..	4	57	..	75	3	78
West Godavari (D.E.O.) ..	8	11	..	2	..	2
Anantapur (S.R.E.) ..	16	36	..	35	3	38
Bellary (D.E.O.) ..	26	71	..	66	..	66
Cuddapah (D.E.O.) ..	24	51	..	18	3	21
Kurnool (D.E.O.) ..	14	64	..	23	17	35
Vellore (S.R.E.) ..	12	58	..	12	43	55
Chittoor (D.E.O.) ..	12	41	..	14	4	18
Coimbatore (S.R.E.) ..	61	203	..	123	12	135
Nilgiris ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Salem (D.E.O.) ..	11	76	..	32	13	45
Madras (S.R.E.) ..	72	189	..	162	43	205
Chingleput (D.E.O.) ..	4	59	..	41	7	48
Nellore (D.E.O.) ..	15	59	..	82	..	82

Name of the Sub-Regional or District Employment Office.	Number of employers using Employment offices during the month.	Number of vacancies notified during the month.	Number of vacancies out standing at the end of the month.			
			Reserved.	Central and Provincial.	Others.	Total.
Trichinopoly (S.R.E.) ..	28	123	..	76	20	96
Tanjore (D.E.O.) ..	33	53	..	25	5	30
South Arcot (D.E.O.) ..	16	88	..	30	32	62
Madura (S.R.E.) ..	23	120	..	54	..	54
Ramnad (D.E.O.) ..	10	48	..	30	..	30
Tinnevely (D.E.O.) ..	29	88	..	9	..	9
Calicut (S.R.E.) ..	19	151	..	40	7	97
South Kanara (D.E.O.) ..	5	62	..	27	7	34
Madras (R.E.E.) ..	15	44	6,208	68	22	6,298
Total ..	513	1,896	6,327	1,223	335	7,885

TABLE III.
Number of persons placed in employment by Employment Offices classified according to wage groups—March 1948.

Wage/Salary Group.	Number placed in Employment by Employment Offices.		
	Ex-Service.	Others.	Total.
Rupees 35 per mensem and below ..	1,159	153	1,312
Rupees 36 per mensem to Rs. 60 per mensem.	303	77	380
Rupees 61 per mensem to Rs. 100 per mensem.	53	14	67
Rupees 101 per mensem and above ..	1	1	2
Total ..	1,516	245	1,761

TABLE IV.
Number of persons who refused to accept appointment offered for or failed to attend interviews with the employers—March 1948.

Category of personnel.	Number of applicants who refused to accept appointments offered to them.			Number of applicants who failed to attend interviews without satisfactory explanation.
	The pay was inadequate.	For other reasons.	Total.	
Ex-servicemen ..	174	212	386	867
Others ..	31	41	72	43
Total ..	205	253	458	1,541

* This figure includes both ex-servicemen and others.

TABLE V.
Number of ex-servicemen recommended for training and number selected and posted to Training Centres (March 1948).

MADRAS REGION—

I. Recommended for Training—

A. Technical Training—

1. During the month ..	..	..	270
2. Cumulative to date ..	..	..	31,167

B. Vocational Training—

1. During the month ..	..	..	20
2. Cumulative to date ..	..	..	8,125

Miscellaneous

Yarn control.—The Madras Yarn (Dealers) Control Order was repealed with effect from 16th March 1948 and the movement of yarn within the Province has been made free. The 'B' and 'C' class dealers in yarn have gone and the 'A' class quota holders continue. The mills will supply yarn only to the quota holders. The mills have undertaken to supply yarn direct to the co-operative societies as before. The quota of yarn for the co-operative societies will be fixed by the Provincial Textile Controller on the basis of the number of looms in the societies.

Movement of handloom cloth.—In pursuance of their liberal policy the Government have allowed the free export of handloom cloth from this Province to Coorg and the States of Sundur, Cochin, Travancore and Mysore.

The following concessions were allowed to exporters of handloom cloth:—

1. Consignee's name and address need not be given in application for permits.

2. Means of transport need be shown only as "rail" thus permitting the exporters to send the cloth by goods or passenger train.

3. The exporters will be allowed to send the cloth in consignments.

Credit Agricole in Bihar

In the recent past, much progress has been made in the distribution of seeds, manures and cattlefeed to cultivators at cheap rates. The Credit Agricole functioning under the Bihar Co-operative Department has been expanded and a special committee has been appointed to look after its working and suggest suitable ways and means for its improvement and development.

During the first 18 months of the present Government, 20,000 maunds of seeds, 6½ lakh maunds of oil-cakes for manufacturing and cattlefeed and 21,000 tons of chemical fertilizers for manuring were distributed. The entire distribution of oil-cakes and a part of the chemical fertilizers has been made on a subsidy basis. The province's demand of oil-cakes is about 12 lakhs maunds per year and a similar quantity for cattle-feed and the supply is much less than the demand. During war years, there has been considerable decrease in the acreage under oil-cakes. Similar is the case of the chemical fertilizers. The Province of Bihar also

Number of ex-servicemen recommended for training and number selected and posted to Training Centres (March 1948)—cont.

MADRAS REGION—cont.

II. Selected and Posted—

A. Technical Training—				
1. During the month	..	..	..	767
2. Cumulative to date	..	..	..	13,385
B. Vocational Training—				
1. During the month	..	..	..	35
2. Cumulative to date	..	..	..	2,521
C. Training for War Disabled—				
1. During the month	..	..	..	} Not available.
2. Cumulative to date	..	..	..	
D. Women—				
1. During the month	..	..	..	Nil.
2. Cumulative to date	..	..	..	330
E. Apprentices—				
1. During the month	..	..	..	70
2. Cumulative to date	..	..	..	172

Progress report of the resettlement and employment of men in the Madras Region up to March 1948.

A. Total Recruitment	..	..	..	413,807
B. Index cards of ex-servicemen of the Madras Province (British India) received in the Muster Register Section at the Regional Exchange, Madras, up to 30th September 1947	..	..	..	208,491
C. Ex-servicemen registered at Employment Exchanges and District Employment Offices (including re-registrations up to 29th February 1948)	..	..	..	204,323
D. (a) Placed in employment by Employment Exchanges and District Employment Offices	..	..	..	38,041
(b) Recruiting and Employment Offices and Special Assistants to Collectors	..	..	..	21,638
E. Found Work	..	..	..	3,778
Total, D. & E.	..	..	..	63,457
F. Undergoing training under the Technical Training Scheme of Government of India	..	..	..	2,542
Vocational Training	..	..	..	740
Disabled Training	..	..	..	312
Apprenticeship Training	..	..	..	134
G. (a) Ex-servicemen who have not availed of opportunities for training	..	..	..	9,949
(b) Who are considered unsuitable for employment by Special Assistants	..	..	..	2,204
(c) Whose registrations have lapsed	..	..	..	108,719

* This figure represents the number of women under training.

TABLE VI.

Number of training centres, seats sanctioned and number of ex-service personnel undergoing training as on the 31st March 1948.

Type of Training Centres.	Number of training centres.	Number of seats sanctioned.	Number of persons undergoing training.
Technical	32	3,234	2,542
Vocational	16	1,073	740
Disabled	1	480	312
Women	62	..	275
Apprenticeship	15	291	134
Total	125	5,084	4,003

requires 40 to 50 thousand tons a year of ammonia sulphate and the quota allotted to it is barely a third of that. The supply of phosphate manures is also not better. Now that the Government have decided to expedite the establishment of super-phosphate factory and ammonia sulphate factory in the Province, the future seems promising.

The Government of Bihar propose to make the distribution of cheap and good manures and seeds to cultivators, if necessary on credit, a permanent feature of rural economy of the Province. A large number of distribution depots will be set up all over the Province. The construction of these depots will cost about Rs. 30 lakhs and the amount has already been sanctioned by the Government.

The Charka Programme

The charka programme need not displace other efforts toward reform, but it seems to possess certain advantages which make one wonder whether it does not deserve the strongest emphasis among them all. These advantages are the closeness of its adaptation to the ingrained habits and modes of thought, action and institutions of the great majority of the people, its simplicity, its ability immediately to produce necessities, the relative ease of learning, its cheapness of installation and operation, the relative simplicity of organization required, its absence of need for special legislation or Government aid of any sort, its ability to do without foreign capital or indeed of great capital from any source. It taps very great existing but unused sources of physical power and raw materials by simple, inexpensive means requiring slight skill. It provides one elemental security and removes its provision from the field of profiteering. It does not need as much capital or education as either agriculture or sanitary reform. It is an indigenous industry. It tends immediately to develop the moral qualities of the people: hope, initiative, perseverance, self-reliance, self-respect. It needs a minimum of assistance from "educated people."

The practice of spinning will lay the foundations, both economically and by reformation of individual and group habits of reforms of other kinds. As Mr. Gandhi wrote in YOUNG INDIA of November 1, 1925: "Round the charkha, that is amidst the people who have shed their idleness and who have understood the value of co-operation, a

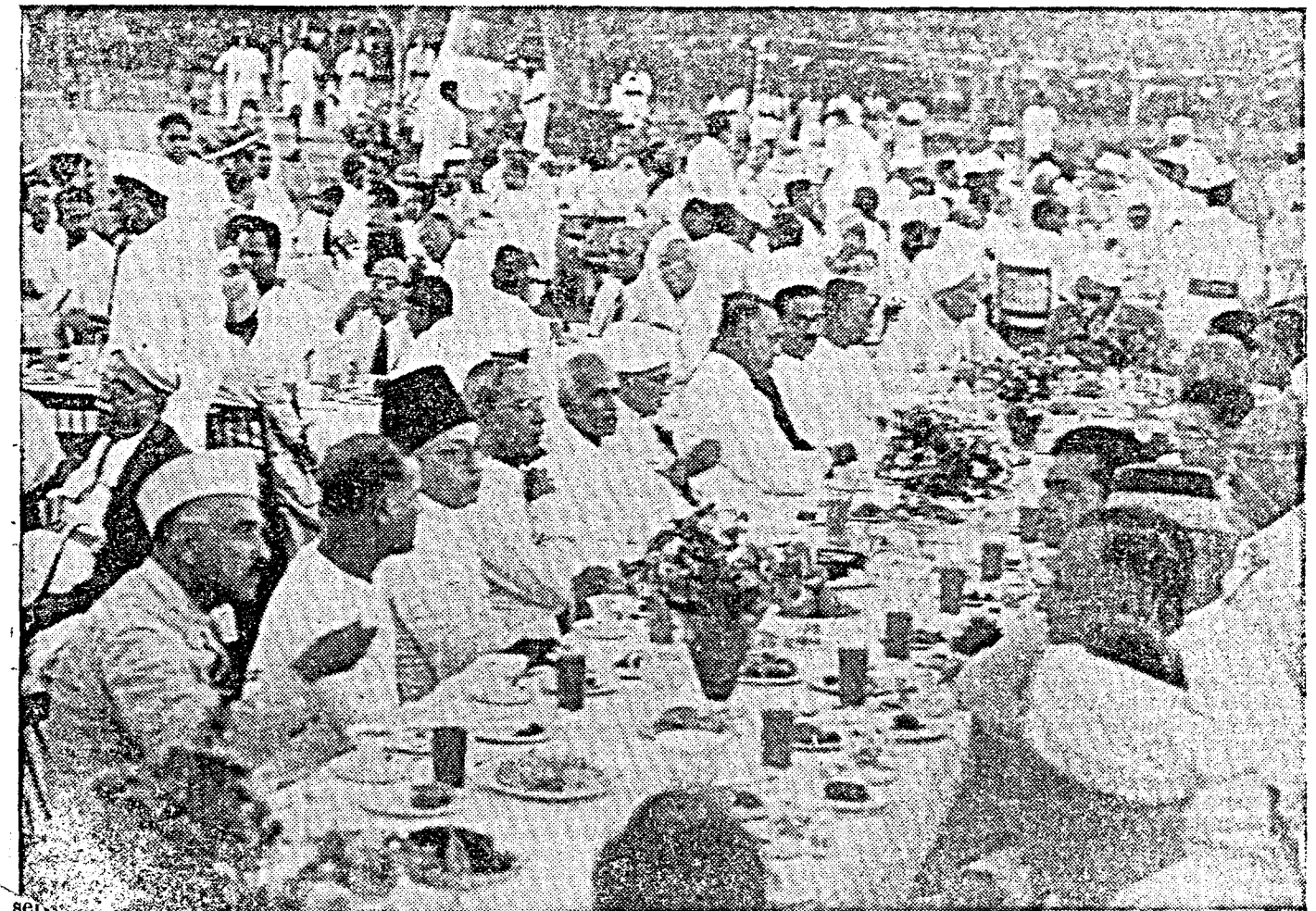
TABLE VII.

Number of persons who have passed trade test in the month of March 1948.

Description.	In March 1948.	Cumulative.
Technical Trainees—		
Grade II	55	497
Grade III	119	1,399
Vocational Trade	10	10
War Disabled—		
Technical Grade III	2	38
Vocational Grade III	15	108
Total	201	2,052

Railway Traffic—Comparative Figures—March 1948

	South Indian Railway			Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway	
	March 1948.	March 1947.	February 1948.	March 1947.	March 1948.
Coaching traffic—					
Number of Passengers	12,720,486	13,458,236	11,514,103		
Earnings	Rs. 78,37,027	71,21,113	72,14,975		
Goods traffic—					
Weight in tons	611,494	588,334	534,134		
Earnings	Rs. 53,37,613	44,65,943	52,27,793		



Hosts entertained the Hon'ble Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar at a Garden Party. Seated in the centre is the long range of his right is the Hon'ble Sri R. K. Shanmugham Chettiyar, Finance Minister, Government of India

Prohibition News Letter

The following is a brief summary of reports received from Prohibition districts regarding the ameliorative activities. The period covered by the reports ranges from the last week of March to the first week of April 1948.

Trichinopoly.—There was a conference of the Uplift Associations in one firka which was largely attended. Rural games and sports were played as usual. Chedukudu, long jump, sack race, kummy, kolattam were among the more important events. Prizes were distributed to winners. School children also participated. During the last week of March, there was a Taluk Tournament in chedukudu as well as a volley-ball tournament. The closing functions of the Trichinopoly division Rural Uplift School came off on the 29th March. There were rural games in which a good number of villagers competed. The occasion was availed of by more than one Department to publicize their activities. The Egg-Marketing Society, Trichinopoly, exhibited their eggs while the Agricultural Department put on show their implements. A park and a volley-ball court were opened early in April. Ex-tappers of one village have taken to spinning and weaving.

North Arcot.—One panchayat board has resolved to contribute Rs. 4,000 for the main purpose of constructing a village hall to serve as a community-centre. The North Arcot District Rural Tournament was conducted at Vellore on 8th and 9th April 1948. In all, teams from 11 taluks participated, 110 villagers competing in the various events. Seventeen schools also entered the lists. There was also a variety entertainment in Wandiwash taluk.

Chittoor.—Rural games were played in all the divisions as usual. Two firka tournaments and six inter-village matches were conducted during the last week of March. Bhajanas and folk dances were performed in several centres. Also harikathas were performed. Dramas were staged and, community singing was popularized. A reading room was opened during the last week of March. The opening ceremony attracted a good deal of public interest. A Rural Exhibition was held in one place on 29th March; folk dances were also performed as well as variety entertainments. One night school was inaugurated in one place by a gramasangham. Thrift Days were celebrated in two places.

South Kanara.—An Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition was held in connection with the last day of the Rural Uplift School. Certificates were given for the best exhibits. At the instance of a gramasangham a library and reading room were declared open on 4th April. Propaganda was also done among ex-tappers. They were exhorted to adopt improved methods of jaggery manufacture.]

Bellary.—Firka tournaments were conducted in which several teams took part. A gymnasium was also opened; dramas were enacted. Two Betterment Committees were started; Thrift Day celebrations were held at two places and hundi boxes were distributed. Proposals to form a Brick-layer's Co-operative Society and Mat-weavers' and Potters' Co-operative Society were examined. A Co-operative Building Society was started in the last week of March. A Cleanliness and Sanitation Day was organized by Harijans in one place and the owner of the most well-kept house awarded a prize. A Village Industries Conference was held. As a measure of co-ordination, ameliorative staff and workers in the Department of Women's Welfare, have made joint visits to villages. Thrift campaign was also conducted.

Guntur.—A one-day Cattle Show was held in a few centres. The show attracted a good deal of public interest. The propaganda van entertained the gathering. The Special Development Officer spoke on prohibition, rural uplift, milk supply and cattle breeding.

Madura.—A drama was enacted by students of Rural Uplift School, Dindigul. It depicted the evils of drink and black-marketing and brought out among other things, the advantages of the Thrift Scheme. Two Milk Supply Societies for the benefit of ex-addicts and others were organized in two places. A Thrift Day was also conducted.

Tanjore.—One Palmyra Jaggery Proudetion Society was organized during the last week of March. One Milk Supply Co-operative Society, as well as a Co-operative Credit Society was also organized for the benefit of the ex-tappers. Sixty hundi boxes were distributed.

Cuddapah.—A Cattle Show and an Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition were held in the last week of March. In this connection the ameliorative staff put up a stall for handicraft articles.

Anantapur.—A Cattle Show and an Agricultural Exhibition were held in one place from 20th to 22nd March. Prizes were awarded for the best exhibits. Prizes were in the shape of agricultural implements. Firka tournaments took place as usual. The annual festival at Kadiri took place in the last week of March. The occasion was availed of for holding an Agricultural Exhibition. Propaganda was also done on prohibition.

Salem.—In connection with the closing of the Rural Uplift School, there was a special tournament. There was also a rural exhibition in which several departments took part. Two public radios were installed by the villagers in two places. One Wool-Weavers' Co-operative Society is training ex-addicts in the art of manufacturing woollen carpets. Two Mat-Weavers' Societies were also organized. A Milk Supply Society conducted a Cattle Show.

Kurnool.—Firka tournaments, cattle show, agricultural and industrial exhibition, rural games and sports were among the important items of activities during the period. All these evoked considerable public interest and were successful. Thrift Day Celebrations were also conducted. A Night School for adults, mostly Harijans, was opened. Ex-addicts, it is reported have turned a new leaf and many of them are financially reviving.

The Nilgiris.—There was a tournament in the last week of March in which there were 16 events including mass drill.

Malabar.—During the first week of April, 104 hundi boxes were distributed.

MY KAMADHENU

"... But I can instil my faith in the potent spinning in the minds of the toilers of India not speeches but only by spinning myself. They described my spinning as a penance or sacrament. I believe that where there is pure and active there is God also. I see God in every thread spinning wheel."

—MAH

Towards Nation Building

Role of Cattle Wealth in India

Dominion Agriculture Minister's Speech

Animal husbandry is the hand-maid of agriculture. Much of the efficiency of the latter depends on the former. The role of cattle wealth in India was recently emphasized by Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram while opening the Seventh Indian Cattle Show in Delhi. He said:

"The cattle problem in India is not merely a humanitarian problem of animal welfare but in it are substantially involved both the health and wealth of our nation. The earlier we realize this the sooner shall we see the end of poverty and disease in the country," stated Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Agriculture and Food Minister of the Government of India when he opened the Seventh All-India Cattle Show in Delhi in February 1948. The following is the full text of his speech:—

"I am glad it has been possible for me to snatch some time from other urgent duties and come and open this All-India Cattle Show. I have come because I realize the important place which the cattle problem occupies in the national economy of our country. With so many big questions confronting the nation at the present moment, it may appear as if one were diverting time to a small affair in performing the opening ceremony of this cattle show. Clouds are still thick over Kashmir, scarcity and who knows worse is in the offing in Madras, our fellow Indian evacuees from Pakistan are still awaiting full response from the people of India. Other problems also occupy our present thoughts.

"But despite these urgent calls on our time and attention, we cannot afford to ignore those problems the far-sighted solution of which affects the very foundation of the nation's economic life and, therefore, the happiness and well-being of our people. Our country has achieved its freedom. Let us fill in now the true contents of such freedom. Let us reconstruct the nation's economic life on right lines. And so in the midst of other demands on us, we cannot but spare time and energy to concern ourselves with programmes which are intended to give a proper direction to long range plans for our country's

economic welfare. Hence it is that you find me in your midst even though it be for a brief while. I have agreed to participate in to-day's functions because I fully appreciate the importance of cattle wealth to our predominantly agricultural nation and, therefore, its close connection with the vital interests of the people.

"I congratulate the workers of the All-India Cattle Show Society for the good work it has been performing. The Society was started by the Government of India in the year 1938 with the object of organizing and establishing periodical shows of cattle and poultry and to carry out all activities for the furtherance of breeding and improvement of livestock in India, to undertake propaganda for the improvement of animals and poultry in India and to spread the knowledge of the principles upon which better animals and poultry may be bred. Besides the central show held in Delhi, two regional shows and several smaller shows in the well-known breeding tracts are held annually with the help of Provincial and State Governments. I know the Society can do far more service if its financial resources were greater and I hope it will not be long before its funds are substantially augmented to help it to serve better the cause of agriculture.

Two-fold Problem

"You know that India is essentially an agricultural country and cattle are the backbone of agriculture. About 80 per cent of India's rural population is agriculturist, for whom cattle have an importance of their own. They occupy a unique position in the rural economy of this country and have therefore been an object of special care and affection in India from the most ancient times. Our problems are two-fold. We need more milk and milk products to provide an adequate diet to our people and we need better, healthier and stronger bullocks, for in all agricultural operations oxen are indispensable to the Indian farmer.

We possess one-third of the total cattle population of the world. According to the 1941 census report, the total

bovine population (cattle and buffaloes) of undivided India was 208.2 millions. It is estimated that as a result of the partitioning of the country, about 30 million cattle have gone to Pakistan. In spite of our huge cattle population, the country is in short supply both with regard to bullocks as well as milk. One of the main reasons is that our cattle suffer essentially from food shortage. The slow process of starvation to which our livestock is exposed, is evident from its unthrifty condition, poor productive capacity, stunted growth, late maturity and long-interval calving period. We thus lose millions of tons of milk and an enormous amount of horse power. Do we realize what this means in terms of national health and production and therefore of national wealth. As matters stand at present, not more than 60 per cent of the fodder required is available and only one-fourth of the total concentrates needed can be obtained. The position with regard to the supply of milk is still worse. About 22 million tons of milk are produced annually from cows and buffaloes in India. This must be increased to about 65 million tons to meet the minimum nutritional requirements of our people when calculated at the rate of 1 lb. of milk per day per head of the population (8 oz. in milk and 8 oz. in the form of milk products, ghee, butter, etc.). To allow for the feeding of calves, another 10 million tons is needed. The present per capita consumption of milk in this country is only 5 to 6 oz. In some of the other countries, it is far greater. It is as much as 40 oz. in Denmark, 45 oz. in Australia, 35 in U.S.A. and 39 in Great Britain. It would thus be seen that although we possess the largest cattle population in the world, we supply the least quantity of milk per head for human consumption. Cattle rearing in this country is carried out under a variety of adverse climatic and other environmental conditions. The average cattle breeder is poor. He lives on small fragmented holdings, the large majority of which are less than 5 acres. The average size of his herd consists of only two or three animals as against 27 to 28 in countries like England and U.S.A. The units are thus uneconomical and the individual owner cannot by himself introduce any appreciable improvement.

indication of the existing conditions in industrial centres—

"The filth and squalor which we saw in Cawnpore or the *bustees* of Calcutta are indescribable. A dark dingy room of about 10 feet by 8 feet in size, built in such a manner that neither light nor air can enter it and with, as in the case of the coal mines area, as many as 8 or 10 persons not infrequently living in it, represents the type of living accommodation which workers have to accept in these congested industrial centres. Washing and bathing facilities as well as latrine accommodation are often non-existent. Indeed, men and women have to go sometimes two or three furlongs in muddy roads and without light to answer the calls of nature. The inconvenience they have to undergo is aggravated during rains.

We have taken Cawnpore and Calcutta as examples. The position is no better in other large industrial cities such as Bombay, Ahmedabad Madras and Coimbatore. In the plantations we were shown quarters into which we could enter only by crawling. In the coal mines area housing conditions are equally unsatisfactory."

Water Supply

It is this depressing state of existing housing conditions which will have to be altered and improved considerably as an essential part of our health campaign. Certain minimum standards for housing have been recommended by the Bhoze Committee, suggesting certain requirements in respect of floor space, ventilation, built-up area and the provision of essential sanitary conveniences. These requirements should, in my opinion, be kept in view as the standards to be achieved in respect of all housing construction.

The Bhoze Committee reported that the proportion of population served by protected water supplies was about 4.5 per cent for the country as a whole and that this percentage varied in the different provinces from about 4.1 to 9.0 per cent. Presumably, in the absence of safe drinking water for an overwhelmingly large section of the population the existing high incidence of cholera and other bowel diseases from year to year can hardly be checked.

Provincial Governments have, it is understood, begun to realise the importance and urgency of this problem and, in practically every province, the five year post-war plans provide for the expenditure of large sums of money on the improvement of water supplies.

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But the success of these schemes will depend to a large extent, it seems to me, on concerted action in which the Centre and the provinces should fully co-operate with one another.

In the first place the necessary expenditure may have to be financed largely from loans and co-ordinated effort to raise funds would, therefore, seem to be a wise step towards the fulfilment of the programme.

Secondly, the water-supply problem is interlinked, particularly in certain provinces, with the conservation of river water on an inter-provincial basis. The training of public health engineers, the production of pipes and other appliances that are necessary on an adequately large scale to meet the country's requirements, the enforcement of certain desirable standards of purity on a common basis—these are also matters in which inter-provincial co-ordination can usefully be developed to the advantage of India as a whole. It is hoped that these and similar questions will receive the consideration of the authorities concerned.

Health Services

I do not propose to elaborate here any detailed plan for the development of health services. The Bhoze Committee has, after considerable study, put forward certain proposals of a short-term nature to facilitate the development of these services. These proposals deserve the serious attention of all administrators. The Committee itself emphasised the fact that it

had put forward no blue-print for adoption by health administrations and that its recommendations should be modified conditions. Such changes would seem to be necessary and desirable now, particularly because recent events following the partition of the country have brought to the fore the refugee problem and other matters, the demands of which on the public purse are so insistent as to necessitate a more attenuated health programme than the short-term ten-year plan of the Bhoze Committee.

In a convocation address last month at Bombay to those who received the diplomas of the College of Physicians and Surgeons I put forward certain proposals which included concentration of effort on rural medical relief through the establishment of hospitals or expansion of existing ones at the headquarters of taluka and subdivisions and leading up to the provision of 250 bed hospitals at the headquarters of districts, the medical aid available at these smaller institutions being supplemented by a travelling team of experts. This is a line of development which, is, I believe, well worth consideration.

In order to promote such expansion of medical relief I advocated the training of an increased number of doctors in existing medical colleges through the double-shift system. Side by side with such developments preventive health work should also be expanded through the utilisation of large numbers of non-medical personnel, who can

carry out a variety of preventive duties such as inoculation against epidemic diseases sterilization of water supplies and control of the insect vectors of disease. The idea was put forward that instruction for such workers should be in the local mother tongue in order to promote a large out-turn of trained personnel than in the past.

also emphasised that cheaper methods of construction should be adopted in order to provide the large number of hospitals, dispensaries and other medical institutions that will be required and urged that research should be undertaken in regard to building construction so as to ensure reasonable efficiency and cheapness, all useful methods, such as the use of local material and the standardisation and mass production of necessary parts such as doors, window-frames, etc., being pursued towards the achievement of this end.

I recognise that these suggestions do not constitute in themselves an integrated plan of health development but these proposals, if carried out, will help materially towards an expansion of existing medical and preventive health activities. What is more, they can fit in eventually into any larger scheme of health services which may, in due course, be developed throughout the country.

An essential condition for an adequate expansion of medical care, curative and preventive, is the production of necessary drugs and other medical supplies in the country itself so as to make India largely self-sufficient in these directions. Failure to pursue this policy with vigour will retard materially the development of the health programme and will also place the country in a position of great disadvantage in the event of an international emergency impeding the free flow of such supplies from abroad to this country. No time should, therefore, be lost in proceeding with the measures necessary to achieve this end.

Hygienic Living

The need for pressing forward with plans for raising the nutritional standard of the people, for promoting physical culture and for their education in the hygienic mode of life is so obvious that no special emphasis seems necessary. Without adequate efforts in these directions much of the work that the health services can accomplish will fail to achieve adequate results. Efforts in these fields require concerted action by a number of Departments of Government such as the Agriculture,

Education, Co-operative and Health Departments and the machinery for planning and execution should, therefore, be broadbased enough to include them all. I would urge that, in the Central and Provincial spheres, the establishment of such co-ordinated effort should receive early attention.

Lastly, all the suggestions put forward here require for their fulfilment the active support of the people. Such support can be forthcoming only if they participate in the programmes of development. Any process of spoon-feeding, whereby the measures introduced have behind them only or mainly the support of the authorities, is bound to fail because, as soon as such support is withdrawn, there will surely be retrogression and an eventual stoppage of the beneficent activities which have been brought into existence.

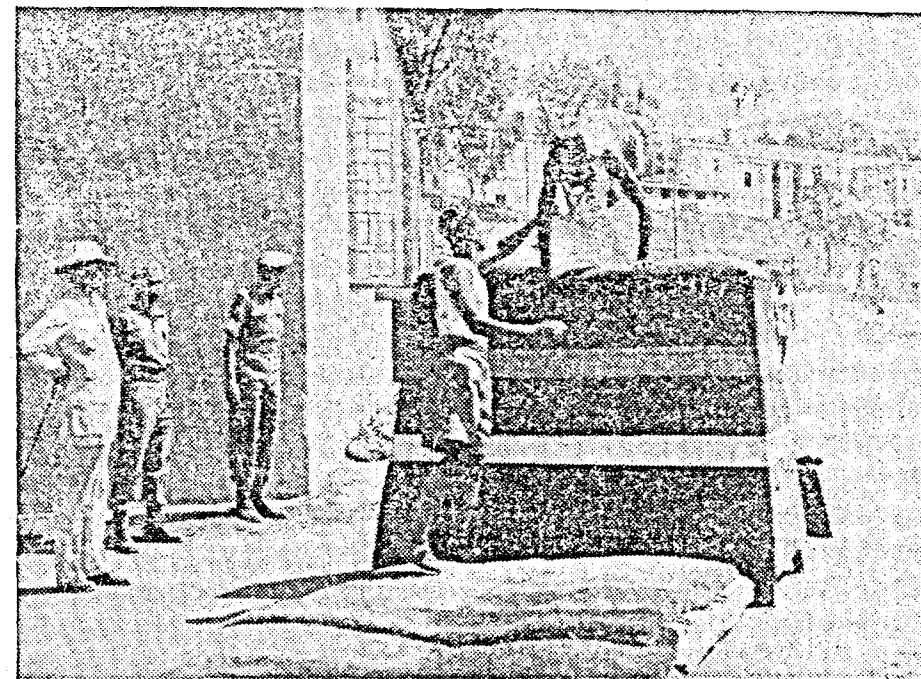
A practical approach towards the enlistment of the support of the people appears to be through the utilisation of the co-operative movement in the development of as many activities as possible, multi-purpose co-operative societies being promoted towards this purpose. A many sided attack on community life so as to improve the economic and cultural standard of life can alone place the building of national health on firm and secure foundations.

Today, the common man, and even; the educated section of the population is apathetic to the large amount of preventive suffering through sickness and mortality that exists in our country. A sufficiently broad programme of national regeneration will, by its own momentum, sweep away this cloud of apathy and should also help, it is to be expected, to promote the progressive realisation of improved national health and prosperity.

Prime Minister Nehru's National Relief Fund

The main purpose for which this fund has been organized is now fairly widely known. This fund is primarily intended for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees. The refugees constitute a problem of staggering magnitude in Free India and there is ample scope for private donations to go to

their assistance. This fund has been organized in all provinces and in this province its President is His Excellency the Governor of Madras Sir Archibald Nye. So far a sum of Rs. 48,294-8-0 has been received as donations to this fund.



Hon'ble Minister B. Gopala Reddy at the Madras Regimental Centre, Wellington. Recruits are under Training.

Considering the immensity of the task and the numerous complications, the solution is not easy to find, but it is evident that we must endeavour to improve our cattle by better feeding, breeding and management.

Better Feeding

The problem of providing more fodder and concentrates for our cattle is indeed difficult, for pressure on land is already heavy and there is serious competition between man and animal. In any plan to bridge the gulf between supply and demand as regards deficiency in cattle feed, the requirements of human beings must of course receive primary consideration, but on a careful review of the entire position in regard to cultivation and yield as a result of introduction of the latest scientific methods, it appears possible that by re-adjustment of our cropping programme some extra feed can be made available for cattle. But their total requirement can only be met if production from land can be increased by about 50 per cent. We must, therefore, tap every other source to supplement food for cattle. These sources can be:—

(1) Hay and silage making out of the surplus grass which is available during monsoons should be practised all over the country. There are 136 million acres of grazing land in India. No precise data are available as to how much grass this land produces, but the limited information we have, goes to show that the production of grass is about 2 tons green per acre. At least one-third of it could easily be preserved as hay or silage. All this now goes to waste.

(2) A number of forest areas under the forest Departments grow large quantities of grass which would be made use of by cutting and preserving as hay or silage.

(3) Crops which are known not only to increase the quality of nutritious fodder but also improve fertility of the soil such as Barseem should be extensively grown wherever possible.

(4) Large quantities of oilcakes are at present used entirely for manurial purposes. It is a matter for consideration if this cake would not equally serve the object in view if some of it is passed through cattle.

(5) The Nutritional Laboratories of the Indian Veterinary Research Institute have extensively explored the possibility of new sources of good stuffs and it has been shown that mango seed kernel, munj, kans, jammun seed, acacia

pod, groundnut husk, bawar seed are rich in feeding value and can be extensively used as feed for cattle. The methods of their preparation and use have been described in detail in one of the issues of the *Indian Farming* published by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(6) The deficiencies in rice straw, if corrected by the addition of bone ash, will increase the utilization of this food stuff.

(7) A great deal can be accomplished if the mixed farming practices are more widely adopted.

(8) Thirty per cent of waste can be saved if all fodder is chaffed before being fed to cattle.

(9) More use should be made of fodder bearing trees, as their leaves and pods provide excellent fodder.

(10) The fish meal industry in the country should be developed so that more of highly concentrated protein food is made available in the form of fish meal for cattle.

Improvement by Breeding

Planned scientific breeding of animals is also necessary for improvement of our cattle. A number of Government farms are at present producing pedigree bulls of various breeds and these animals are distributed in the villages for the improvement of local stock. There are about 45 such farms in India which annually issue about 1,868 bulls. Considering the requirements of the whole country, these 1868 bulls distributed annually do not meet even 1 per cent of our annual requirements. To produce the bulls required annually for the whole country at the Government farms is not a practical proposition. Our efforts to improve the village cattle should, therefore, be concentrated in the following directions:—

(a) All bulls issued from farms should be located in a specially selected breeding tract and concentrated in a few villages, so that casualties and replacements are assured. From this area all other male stock should be removed. In due course, these "Key villages" would be in a position to supply the better bred animals for distribution in other areas.

(b) Efforts should be made to evolve dual purpose breed, that is, breeds which would produce good working bullocks and also yield a fair amount of milk. Work in this connection is in progress with some of the indigenous breeds such as the Harianas and the Hallikar. The Government of India

are now setting up a farm at Jubbulpore where it is proposed to study this problem in great detail.

(c) The method of artificial insemination is being widely practised in several other countries, where it has definitely proved its value. Work done at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute has shown that a great deal can be achieved even under Indian conditions. Four experimental field centres set up recently have yielded very promising results. By the adopting of this method one bull can do work of 10 and extensive use can be made of really superior sires. It is, therefore, essential that necessary steps should be taken by all Provinces and States to explore the possibilities of the use of this method to the fullest extent.

I do not propose to deal in to-day's speech with all the problems relating to our cattle wealth and thus blur the main outline of the picture. I want on the contrary to draw particular attention to that outline alone. Hence I propose to content myself with this brief reference to the outstanding features of the cattle problem in our country. The topical question of the prevention of slaughter of cattle or the salvage of the useful cattle from slaughter, and the insurance of cattle are all under examination by Committees and I hope their results will be before the public ere long. These and other allied questions will be, I trust, satisfactorily dealt with in due time. This will however be only possible if we realise that the cattle problem in India is not merely a humanitarian problem of animal welfare but that in it are substantially involved both the health and wealth of our nation. The earlier we realise this the sooner shall we see the end of poverty and disease in this country.

We have met under the shadow of a great national tragedy. Within a yard from here lies a simple memorial of the life and work of the greatest well wisher of the animal world. Let us follow his lead in solving the cattle problems of our country and so do our duty even in a small way in keeping alive our departed leader's memory in this land.

In welcoming Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Sir Datar Singh, Vice-Chairman, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, traced the history of the All-India Cattle Show Committee which was formed in 1939. Its aims were to organise and establish an annual cattle show in India, and to carry on activities such as the furtherance of cattle breeding and the improvement of stock, and to

spread a knowledge of the principles of good animal and poultry breeding.

In a fitting reference to Mahatma Gandhi, "a real benefactor of the poor cow", Sir Datar Singh said: "I cannot say whether it is mere chance or it is the result of the affection and love, Bapuji

had for the cow that the site selected for his last remains is the one where we had last year's All India Cattle Show. The spot where he has been cremated is exactly where he had the collection of our best cows last year and were going to have the competition for the highest milk-yielding cow this year."

Freedom without Health is Meaningless

The importance of public health cannot be overstressed. It is a basic condition for progress in every country. The mass of people has yet to realise fully this fundamental fact. The individual who compose the nation have a great part to play in the formation of public health and in a free India, they cannot shirk their duty.

"Freedom without Health is meaningless," said Dr. J. N. Mehta in a recent broadcast survey of the health problems in this country. He said:

What is the background of the public health in India today against which we have to plan a healthier and happier India without which the freedom we have achieved after several years of arduous struggle and with the sacrifice of many lives has no meaning to the people of this country? Judged by the commonly applied standards of mortality sickness rates we are far behind most of the civilised nations of the world.

Our general death rate is about two and a half times those of the more progressive countries; more than five times as many infants die in India as in Australia and New Zealand, two of the healthiest countries: the mortality rate among women as the result of child-bearing, which should normally be a physiological process, is about seven times that of England, and, in respect of certain infectious diseases such as cholera, small-pox and plague, we have in India such a high incidence that our country is considered as a reservoir of these infections and the enforcement of quarantine measures by various governments for regulating the entry of men and goods from India is a common feature of international sanitary control.

The incidence of certain diseases in India is so high that the morbidity figures are truly staggering to contemplate. For instance, it is stated that 100 million cases of malaria take place every year or every fourth man falls a victim to the disease. Tuberculosis experts hold that at least two and a half million active and infectious cases of this disease exist in the country while the number of leprosy patients

is considered to be in the neighbourhood of one million.

Public Health Programme

Many other forms of sickness, such as hookworm, filariasis and guinea-worm infection are also prevalent in different parts of the country and these, although they may not contribute appreciably to the mortality rate, help to reduce the vitality of the affected persons and to decrease their working capacity as well as their enjoyment of life.

It is against this background of ill health that we have to plan a programme of public health endeavour in free India. In attempting to do so let us consider what the essential conditions are for enabling our people to lead healthy lives.

In the first place let us recognise the supreme importance of hygienic environment for our urban and rural populations, without which medical care, however, elaborately planned, will largely fail to achieve permanent results. A healthy environment will include hygienic houses and clean surroundings, the provision of a proper drainage arrangement and of safe water supplies, adequate supervision over the quality and purity of the food made available to the people, effective control of the breeding and dissemination of insect vectors of diseases such as mosquitoes, flies, fleas and lice and the provision of parks, gardens and other open spaces with the necessary facilities to promote recreational and cultural activities.

No less important than environmental hygiene is the expansion of existing health services in order to provide adequate curative and preventive medical care to the many millions of patients that exist in the country. While it is true that an effective improvement of the environment on the lines indicated is essential to remove the causes of sickness and thus promote a permanent raising of the standard of the public health, there is equally an insistent demand for the relief of suffering and for the restoration of working capacity as far as possible to those who are today not only deprived of the enjoyment of

life but are also a burden on others as the result of ill health.

Raising Health Standard

Moreover in respect of many diseases, the patient is often an active disseminator of infection and the treatment undertaken for his cure forms an important part of the preventive campaign. Thus it is clear that a combined attack on the problems of ill health is necessary in order to achieve satisfactory results. The conditions essential for healthful living should be secured through a concentrated effort to improve the environment. At the same time as comprehensive a provision as possible should be made to provide remedial and preventive care to the sick and to the healthy who are exposed to infection.

Other measures which are necessary for raising the standard of the public health include an improvement of the standard of nutrition, an extensive programme of physical education and of recreational activities including within its scope both sexes and different age groups of the community and education of the people in personal and communal hygiene in order to enlist their active co-operation in the preservation of their own health.

Having thus enumerated some of the essential elements of a national plan for improved public health let me now proceed to suggest certain standards in respect of the necessary provision under various heads as well as put forward some proposals which, in my view, deserve earnest consideration by the authorities concerned. It is obviously impossible to deal here with these matters at any great length and my remarks are only intended to stimulate thought and discussion so that an intelligent appreciation of the urgent needs of the country in the field of public health may be promoted.

Housing Conditions

Housing conditions in India today are extremely unsatisfactory, both in urban and in rural areas. In rural areas houses have often no water supply and latrines, lighting is insufficient and inadequacy of ventilation is a common feature. Many houses are in state of disrepair. Overcrowding exists to an extraordinary degree in towns, particularly in industrial centres, while the hygienic condition of the houses occupied by the lower sections of the community is far from satisfactory. The following quotation from the Report of the Bore Committee gives some

Special Articles

Military Training in Schools

By MR. KURUVILLA JACOB

In the terms of reference of the National Cadet Corps the Government of India has said, "During the recent war, difficulty has been experienced in finding a sufficient number of suitably qualified Indian Officers for the Armed Forces. Although a large number of applicants for commissions came forward, the greater proportion were lacking in the necessary qualities of initiative and self-confidence and a sense of responsibility. These essential ingredients of leadership which are as necessary in an officer as physical courage and bodily fitness, do not necessarily develop naturally nor is it always easy to develop them after a man's character is formed. They have usually to be brought out by training during the impressionable years of a man's life. That absence in so many candidates would seem to point, therefore, to some defects in the present system of education. It is believed that the institution throughout India of a National Cadet Corps might go far towards putting this right."

The Government have decided, therefore, to set up such a Cadet Corps which would have as its aim:

- (a) The development of leadership, character, comradeship and the ideal of service, and
- (b) the stimulation of interest in the defence of the country to the widest possible extent.

These are, in fact, the objectives of the National Cadet Corps as well as of the Madras Scheme.

Defects of Educational System

No one who has seriously examined our present educational system will deny that our schools are very much places of book learning and that we neglect many important factors in the life of the pupils. What opportunity do they get for developing their initiative, self-confidence or a sense of responsibility? The chances are that boys who have a little of these already developed, may get them rubbed out. In a few schools and in a few scout troops perhaps, something is being done to give facilities for a fuller

development of the young citizens, but the training of the majority of pupils consist in the daily five hours of class room drudgery.

Another common weakness in our schools is the lack of orderliness. Even at ordinary times this is a nuisance, but in a time of crisis lack of orderliness can be positive danger. Instead of being useful, young citizens can be a source of trouble. Orderliness again is something which can be achieved by orderly activities and not by "the dictation of notes and lecturing."

Lethargy and softness is another weakness which is common among our young people. I do not believe that we are born with these traits; circumstances have turned us that way. Children who are born active with an urge for working with their hands and to run about are put through an educational system which make them unfit for any hard physical work or for adventure of any kind.

Lack of Loyalty

One of our distinguished Indian Military leaders said the other day that we as people seem to lack 'loyalty.' There is plenty of verbal expressions of loyalty to our country and Gandhiji and so on, but not enough of that practice of loyalty which should be expressed in our loyalty to our institutions, loyalty to our immediate superiors and colleagues. We can be loyal citizens of the country only by being loyal to the group or class or institutions in which we work. Finding excuses for evading instructions and criticising your immediate superiors and colleagues behind their backs are typical of an ill-ordered society. One who has not got loyalty to his group or class can never be truly loyal to the wider groups of the country and the nation. It is therefore of the greatest importance that children should be given opportunities in their school life where such loyalties can be built up.

The problem is, therefore, one of education, of modifying our educational system so that various types of activities can be included in the school

programme giving the children opportunities for becoming efficient, useful and hardy citizens.

Reform

In the scheme of Reorganization of Secondary Education an effort has been made to face these problems. In forms 1 to 4 there is provision for Citizenship Training (not through class room textbooks) but through activities similar to those in scouting and Junior Red Cross. The Government is making arrangements for training teachers for the course and let us hope that the teachers will co-operate with this scheme and make it a success.

In forms 5 and 6 the problem is to be met by a scheme of "Military Training" for all boys who are physically fit. The term Military has given rise to some misunderstanding. While some are attracted to it by the spirit of manliness, strength, courage and discipline which are characteristics of Military Training, others are horrified by its association with all the brutalities and sufferings which all wars have caused.

However, it is a fact that in Military Science there are many activities which are of educational value for the training of useful and hardy citizens and in the methods of Military Training there is a thoroughness and efficiency which we seem to lack in our schools.

The programme of training in this scheme includes a carefully worked out syllabus in Physical Education and also certain activities in Military Training which can be included in the school programme with benefit. I give below a list of the main activities, which, I am sure, you will agree, as suitable for the training of citizens for peace or war:—

- A
- 1 Body-building exercises.
- 2 Indigenous exercises.
- 3 Yogasana exercises.
- 4 Minor Games.
- 5 Fundamental skills in athletics.
- 6 Rhythmic activities.
- 7 Set drills and stunts.
- B
- 8 Drill and marching.
- 9 Map reading.
- 10 Route march.
- 11 First Aid and Ambulance.
- 12 Elementary field craft, including field signals, field formations and camouflage.
- 13 Elementary field engineering including wiring, digging, rope work, minor mechanics, swimming and boating, model making.

- 14 Elementary weapon training consisting of demonstrations and lectures on service weapons and shooting with sport 22 rifle.
- 15 Organized visits to places of interest.
- 16 Annual camp.

Military Aspect

Except for the provision for shooting practice with Sport rifles it is doubtful whether anyone can criticise the scheme on educational grounds. On the other hand for Military efficiency this item is not of much importance and the main reason for its inclusion is to familiarise the boys with the rifle and with the art of marksmanship. If there is conscientious objection to the use of it as a compulsory training it may be left as optional.

The scheme is organized on the lines of military training because if efficiency and precision are to be expected we must adopt methods of proved efficiency. Anyone who has tried to organize any activity will confess the amount of sloppiness and slackness one has to encounter. If a scheme like this is drawn up and left to the schools to work them out in their own way it is possible that it may have the fate of the Manual Training and Physical Training in Schools.

The Cadet Training Scheme of the Government of India and the Madras Scheme have many points in common, and the main differences are—

- (a) The Cadet Training is controlled by the Defence Department of the Government of India and it is a more advanced kind of training for a select number of pupils.

Manure Position in India

One of the more important causes of the slow progress of food production in many parts of the country and the failure to expand it in others has been an extreme shortage of fertilizers particularly nitrogen. The other important factor of course is timely water. Where water is not available and the crops have to depend upon the monsoon the results are not so satisfactory. The present manure and fertilizer position in the country is briefly as follows:—

Indian soils are particularly deficient in nitrogen and for the bulk of her requirements of nitrogenous fertilizers, India has to depend upon imports. It is estimated that India's total requirements of nitrogen for all crops is 2,000,000 tons per annum as

- (b) The Madras Scheme is controlled and organized by the Education Department of the Province and is meant for all boys who are physically fit.

The main items of expenditure for the Madras Scheme are for uniforms, annual camps, allowances for members of the staff and for other expenses of technical staff and Training Stores.

If this training is an educational activity in the school it is only logical that the expenses should be met in the same way as other school activities through school fees and Government grants. If it is a purely military training under the Defence Department certainly we can ask the Government to find the entire cost.

The questions will be asked what will be the relation between the two schemes. It seems to me that both the schemes can work together provided that the pupils who are selected for Cadet Training are exempted from the School Training of the Madras Scheme.

While I would have some hesitation in recommending the Cadet Training for girls, I cannot see any reason why the Madras Scheme should not be adapted for High School girls also, because it is mainly citizenship training.

I am afraid that the term Military Training has given the impression to some that we are planning something against the spirit of the Teaching of Christ and Gandhiji. An orderly, healthy, efficient citizen who is trained to serve his country and to risk his life if necessary in the service of his fellow-men is what this training contemplates, and I believe it is in the best interests of peace and the well-being of the citizens.

against an allocation of 40,000 tons for 1948. At present there are only 5 net exporters of nitrogen—Chile, Canada, U.K., Norway and Belgium. It is the exports of these five countries that have to supply the needs or supplement the domestic production of nearly 100 importing countries. That explains briefly the reason why India has been able to secure only a small fraction of her chemical fertilizers from abroad.

Manures may be classified broadly into two categories: (a) organic and (b) chemical fertilizers.

Organic Manures

- Organic manures comprise of (i) farmyard manure, (ii) compost, (iii) greenmanures, (iv) oil-cakes and (v) bonemeal.

The value of organic manures lies not only in their supply of nitrogen but also because they contain that very essential complex compound called 'humus' which is vital for maintaining soil fertility. Large quantities of humus are available in greenmanures, compost and cowdung.

Although the total production of cowdung in India represents about 800,000 tons per annum the total quantity of cowdung is not used for manure. Thus from cowdung, India gets a little more than 300,000 tons per annum.

Compost is manufactured from town refuse, sweepings, fodder refuse and nightsoil. During the last 3 years the Ministry of Agriculture has devoted some attention and a great deal of effort to produce compost from nightsoil. Out of 4,000 municipalities, 600 are working on such schemes and the total annual production is estimated at 600,000 tons. Although the major production of this manure is used for market garden crops some of it is also used for cereals and other crops. This manure provides much needed humus for the soil.

The total estimated production of compost in about 7,000 villages is about 1,000,000 tons a year.

Green Manure and Oil-cakes

Large scale tests have been carried out by the various departments of Agriculture in India on the value of green manures in practically every Province. The practice has become popular both in Madras and Bengal under conditions of assured water-supply.

The nitrogenary from 1.5 per cent to about 7 per cent. The total production of India's require oil-cakes in India which are used for manure is about 250,000 tons.

Bonemeal

pre-war times India's export in bone averaged 2 lakh tons. These are crushed at the ports and shipped abroad. During the process of crushing, bonemeal was produced which is a valuable manure. The quantities of ground bones exported has now been reduced to 40,000 tons per annum which means a reduction in the quantity of bonemeal available for manurial purposes.

Chemical Fertilizers

These may broadly be classified into (a) nitrogenous manures, (b) phosphatic

manures and (c) compound manures of the first two.

Among the first those useful to India are (i) ammonium sulphate for all crops, particularly rice; (ii) ammonium nitrate, (iii) sodium nitrate, both useful for dry crops, (iv) calcium cyanamide useful for all crops and (v) potassium nitrate useful for dry crops.

With the exception of potassium nitrate and to some extent ammonium sulphate, no other manure is manufactured in India. Ammonium sulphate is now available to the extent of some 45,000 tons a year from within the country. When the Sindri factory goes into operation the production will be about 420,000 tons per annum.

Phosphatic Manures

India's requirements for manuring 3,000,000 to 5,000,000 acres of cereals,

Rice Production in the Far East

By GEORGE MARTIN

Although world rice production this year is estimated to reach 93 per cent of pre-World War II level, quantities available for export will still be less than one-half of those then available. In view of the low nutritional standards of the rice-eating countries of Asia even before World War II and additional demands of an increased population during the last decade, restoration of rice production is the only way to overcome the food shortage in the deficit areas of Asia.

It will hardly be possible to solve Asia's food import within a short fact that in 1947 is shown by the cluding India) impose Far East (in tons of food prodced about 6,500,000—from the Unitets—mostly cereals and Argentina, wheStates, Australia it exported about 2, before the war rice, sugar, oilseeds and 90 tons of products annually.

Mechanical Cultivation

British Guiana is the only place in the British Commonwealth where rice is mechanically cultivated on a reasonably large scale. There, 4,000 acres of Government land are cultivated by mechanical means, and it is intended to increase the area to 10,000 acres in the near future. American wheeled and crawler tractors are used for drawing the ploughs and harrows. The seed is drilled. Combines have been tried for harvesting the crop, but

particularly rice, are estimated at 100,000 to 150,000 tons a year. Superphosphate can be produced from bone as a by-product of the glue and gelatine industry. Without this industry the production of superphosphates alone from bones is expensive. Experts, however, are of the view that cheap superphosphate can be produced in India by utilizing surplus sulphuric acid and importing ground rock phosphate from North Africa.

It has sometimes been stated that chemical fertilizers are harmful both to land and crops. This question was discussed in detail at one of the meetings of the F.A.O. and the recommendation of this world authority is that the rational use of chemical fertilizers has no deleterious effect on soil or crops. It is unlikely therefore that any Department of Agriculture in the country could have advocated the straight use of chemical fertilizers.

the weather at harvest-time is too uncertain to ensure that the crop can reach the "dead-ripe" stage before harvest. It has been found that in these conditions binders are better, but these need driers to deal with the grain. British Guiana produces already a rice surplus of up to 30,000 tons, and prospects for further expansion appear to be good.

Trials are also being carried out in Malaya. There, amphibious vehicles—"weasels"—are being used for ploughing wet paddy lands and, on the dry paddy land, wheeled tractors. They have successfully surmounted cultivation difficulties, but seed is still sown by hand although drilling of the seed is being tried. Harvesting is also done by hand; but it is intended to try out combines which might be more successful under Malayan conditions with a more clearly defined dry season. Similar experiments are to be undertaken in the near future in North Borneo.

Mechanisation of rice production will probably only be economically successful when all the three operations—cultivation, sowing and harvesting—can be done by machines. It looks as if this is quite possible, even where the land is flooded, by the use of amphibious vehicles. Sowing by machine is, however, much more difficult. Final harvesting presents special problems and different sorts of machines will be tried according to the

area concerned. A great deal of experimentation remains to be done, but all the methods now employed in the United States, Australia and elsewhere will be tried in suitable areas in the British Commonwealth. From these small beginnings mechanisation may well come to play a vital part in the rice production of Malaya and Borneo.

In West Africa

Plans are also being made for expansion of rice production in British West Africa. Although there is already some peasant cultivation, increased production seems possible. As there is a large unsatisfied local demand, it seems unlikely that there will be any large exportable surplus for some time to come. An ample domestic supply of rice might well, however, contribute to world food needs by releasing more or other kinds of export crops at present consumed locally, such as groundnuts.

These plans for increased rice production are only part of the programme for increased food production in the British Commonwealth, which are designed at the same time to raise the standard of living of the local population and to help overcome the world food shortage.

Bihar Premier on the Role of Policemen

"Policemen are like gardeners. They tend and nurse the delicate plant of society. They pour out their entire being into its development to maturity. They weed out the poisonous cut-growths that threaten to envelope and overwhelm the society", thus observed Dr. Sri Krishna Sinha, the Bihar Premier, while speaking after giving away the prizes at the final of the Inter-District Police Hockey Tournament on April, 1.

"Policemen are my right hand. They are my left hand. Indeed they are indispensable for the peaceful functioning of the State. Ten years back I had made similar remarks. Then I was laughed at by some people. There may be still some people who may laugh at my to-day's remarks. I would proclaim from house-tops that the police are the most vital part of modern State" the Premier added.

Emphasizing the utility of sports in national life of a country, he said: "Sports foster a feeling of brotherliness on the field. Players are trained in the habits of discipline and a capacity for taking right decisions is developed."

Delhi Notes

Salt Production to be Stepped up

The Government of India are formulating comprehensive measures to step up indigenous production of salt so that India attains complete self-sufficiency in this vital commodity in as short a time as possible. Details of the Government plan including a licensing system for large scale manufacturers and measures to encourage production by co-operative societies will be published shortly.

Meanwhile Government consider that the first instalment of the plan should be made public immediately so that small scale manufacturers may take full advantage of the current salt season.

Henceforth individuals or groups may freely produce salt in any land to which they have lawful access for this purpose and by whatever process they desire, i.e., construction of pans and solar evaporation or boiling of brine or scrapping or excavation of saline earth or natural formations of salt provided that the total area of land covered by the salt works set up by any individual or group is not more than 10 acres. No licences are needed and no applications for licence need be sent to any Government authority in such cases. The provisions of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944, will not stand in the way of the right of the small scale manufacturer mentioned above.

West Coast Major Port Development Committee

The Government of India have constituted an expert committee known as "The West Coast Major Port Development Committee" to carry out the following two investigations:—

1. (a) whether a deep-sea port on the stretch of coast covering Kathiawar and Cutch for the accommodation of ships of large size and tonnage at all seasons of the year is required;

(b) if so, where it should be sited, having regard to construction and maintenance costs, allied transport developments, possibilities of developing existing ports and the needs of the entire area to be served.

2. (a) whether a deep-sea port between Mormugao and Cochin for the

accommodation of ships of large size and tonnage at all seasons of the year is required;

(b) if so, where it should be sited, having regard to economy of construction and maintenance of the port and allied transport developments required and having regard to the needs of the entire area; also what measures are necessary for establishing it;

(c) what improvements are necessary in communications to the existing ports; also what other measures should be taken for the development or provision of additional facilities in these ports as may be found necessary or desirable.

2. The composition of the committee will be as follows:—

Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai—Chairman.

The General Manager, B. B. & C.I. Railway, Bombay, for the former investigation, and the General Manager, M. & S.M. Railway for the latter.

Mr. S. N. Haji, Scindia Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., Bombay.

Mr. K. Mitter, Docks Manager, Calcutta Port Commissioners, Calcutta.

Mr. J. B. Murray, Chief Engineer, Calcutta Port Commissioners, Calcutta.

Commander D. Shankar.

Mr. V. V. Bhide, Secretary to the General Manager, B.B. & C.I. Railway, Bombay—Secretary.

The Committee is requested to submit its recommendations to the Government before the end of April 1948.

Roads—Arteries of Body of Nation

"By their advice, practical work and guidance Indian Roads Congress are doing immense good to the country. They are successfully pioneering the way to progress and advancement through Roads—arteries of body of Nation or National body" declared the Hon'ble Hafiz Muhammad Ibrahim, Minister for Communications, United Provinces, in his inaugural address at the twelfth session of the Roads Congress in Roorkee on April, 10.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of the Minister his address was read by Mr. S. N. Chakravarti, Chief Engineer, United Provinces.

Over two-hundred Engineers and Road experts attended the session which was held in the hall of Thompson Engineering College. Mr. C. G. Kale presided. Those present included the Chief Engineers of United Provinces, East Punjab, West Bengal and Assam, Mr. G. M. McKelvie, Consulting Engineer to the Government of India and Mr. B. D. Puri, Principal of Thompson Engineering College.

Welcoming the delegates Mr. Hafiz Muhammad Ibrahim, Minister for Communications in United Provinces said inter alia:

"Unless our villages were connected with roads, it will not be possible to improve the lot of the common man. His economic, social and cultural development depends on this to a great extent. But it is not possible within our financial resources to have a vast mileage of first-class metalled roads specially at this time when there is scarcity of material and lack of transport facilities. Therefore we will have to depend on cheaper quality of roads constructed out of the material that may be available in the locality. I hope it will be possible for the Congress to devise ways and means which, while giving to the tax-payer the best value for the Rupee, will enable the road work to be pushed in spite of the existing difficulties. What I mean to say is that the Congress will not base its suggestions purely on scientific principles but in formulating them also take into consideration such factors as the vastness of the country, its financial resources, the present day conditions in the country and difficulties in obtaining machinery from abroad. Now as we are a free nation, there should be no difference between Government point of view and the point of view of their experts and Government should have no difficulty to act according to their guidance."

The minister supported establishment of a Road Board and stressed the importance of a Non-lapsing Road Fund. In United Provinces, he added, they had already a Road Fund the continuity of which was being maintained.

Salt Experts Committee set up

A Salt Experts Committee has been appointed by the Government of India with the function of advising the Government on measures necessary to place the Salt Industry on a sound footing.

Mr. P. A. Narielwala of Messrs. Tata Sons, Ltd., is the Chairman of the

Committee, which consists of three other members, viz., Dr. K. L. Moudgill, Director of Scientific and Industrial Research, Travancore, Rai Bahadur Shiv Charan Das, Salt Controller to the Government of India and Dr. M. D. Mithal, Director, Central Waterpower Irrigation and Navigation Commission.

The Committee's terms of reference are—

(i) To examine the existing methods of salt production in Government and private-owned salt works, and to make recommendations as to what steps should be taken to increase production, etc.

(ii) To indicate the areas in which now salt works may be established with advantage and the technical standards which should be prescribed for these works.

(iii) To examine and report on the best method of enforcing minimum standards of quality of salt offered for sale and methods to prevent wasteful production of salt below such quality.

(iv) To report on the necessity and or usefulness of model factories to guide production and to give concrete proposals for their establishment.

(v) To report on the character and extent of the technical assistance and supervision which must be provided to private Salt works.

(vi) To report on the desirability and possibility of establishing whether under State control or otherwise, modern installations for the production of salt otherwise than by solar evaporation, particularly for the manufacture of high quality edible salt, salt for industrial use and by-products of salt.

National Central Library for India

The Government of India have appointed an expert committee to consider and report on the advisability of establishing a National Central Library in India. It is proposed that one of the sections of this Library should be a Central Copyright Library to which a copy of all publications published in India will be sent.

The terms of reference of the Expert Committee are as follows: To consider and report on—

(a) the scope of legislation, if any, for establishing a National Central Library;

(b) the functions of the Library;

(c) the administration and staff, building, etc., needed;

(d) finances; and
(e) the relation of the National Central Library with (i) the Imperial Library, Calcutta, (ii) the Central Secretariat Library and other Central Government Libraries and (iii) Provincial Libraries.

War on Tuberculosis

In practically all the civilized communities of the world tuberculosis as a cause of death is undoubtedly the most important among the infectious diseases. Based on a few surveys it has been estimated that over 500,000 people die from tuberculosis every year in India. It is responsible, in addition, for an enormous amount of prolonged disability, suffering and economic loss.

The wide prevalence of the disease is shown by the fact that more than half the population, particularly in urban areas, becomes infected by the age of 20, and nearly all sometime during life. Fortunately for us, however, only a small proportion of those who are infected develop the disease in a progressive or fatal form. It is also estimated that, in at least 80 per cent of patients, spontaneous healing occurs. The primary infection appears therefore to be able to stimulate the production of adequate protective power in the vast majority of people, to a degree sufficient to enable them to escape further infection.

Ever since the discovery of the tubercle bacillus by Koch in 1882 research workers have been trying to evolve an effective method of artificial immunization. So far the most promising results have been produced through vaccination with an attenuated strain of the tubercle bacilli called B.C.G.

B.C.G. vaccination was first introduced in France by Calmette in 1921. Since then it has been used in an every increasing measure in most of the European countries, particularly in the Scandinavian countries. When Calmette advocated the administration of B.C.G., to new-born infants it was with no confidence that a strong and lasting immunity would result. He believed, however, that it would provide sufficient protection to save the child from contracting the disease during the first few years of life, then the chance of getting infected with tuberculosis is the highest. B.C.G. vaccination was particularly advocated for children exposed to serve natural infection from parents or relatives suffering from the disease and

it was among such classes that the most successful results have been claimed in France.

The harmlessness of B.C.G. has been established beyond doubt by its practical application on a scale exceeded only by a few proved methods of immunisation such as those for small-pox, diphtheria and enteric fever. A considerable measure of protection has been demonstrated for this form of vaccination against tuberculosis by the reliable data which have accumulated in the countries concerned, particularly those from Norway and Sweden. Though Calmette gave the duration of immunity following B.C.G. vaccination as of the order of 2 to 4 years, recent studies from Norway and Sweden suggest that the immunity might last for 5 to 6 years or even more.

The Ministry of Health in the Government of India, after careful consideration of the question in all its aspects, has come to the conclusion that mass vaccination with B.C.G. constitutes a potent and speedy method of bringing under control the high incidence of tuberculosis which has been spreading rapidly through the country. It is recognised that other measures directed towards improving the standard of life of the people and isolating infective patients are also essential for developing a comprehensive plan of attack. But B.C.G. has its known definite place in the campaign against the disease in order to achieve demonstrable results in its control within relatively short time. It has therefore been decided to introduce B.C.G. vaccination, in the first instance, on a limited scale under the strict supervision and control of the Central Government.

New Food Production Drive

A plan aimed at increasing the food production of the country by ten million tons within the next five years in order to place the food economy on a sound footing is understood to have been recommended by the Foodgrain Policy Committee appointed by the Central Government under the chairmanship of Sir Purushottamdas Thakurdas.

A Foodgrain Policy Committee, it may be mentioned, was appointed by the Government following the acceptance of the recommendations of the Famine Enquiry Commission.

The total requirements of India on the basis of the rationed quantity of sixteen and twelve ounces per adult per day for rural and urban population

respectively are 44.4 million tons while the total production is 39.9 million tons, the shortage being 4.5 million tons. But the shortage should be much more than this to attain the standard balanced diet of forty ounces per adult per day. This, of course, includes milk, pulses, vegetables, fruits, etc.

Asking the Government to make all-sided efforts to secure the target, the Committee suggests development of large-scale multi-purposes storage dams on the major rivers of the country, rehabilitation of famine tracts, intensive cultivation of areas already cultivated through better supply of irrigation, manure and seed, and extensive cultivation by bringing under plough a portion of the cultivable waste land of all types through rapid survey and development of selected suitable blocks of such land.

The Committee has asked the Government to maintain a central reserve of a minimum of one million tons of wheat and rice throughout the five-year period to meet any emergency. The dependence of the country on the imports of foodgrains, the Committee says, should be ended and steps taken to terminate all need for imports after a period of not more than five years. The Committee, however, recognises that in the immediate future, for five years, that is, before the new scheme of food production begins to show results, imports of foodgrains would be necessary for current consumption and the maintenance of the central reserve, but directs that the scale of imports should be restricted to quantities needed for the maintenance of the central reserve and to meet any emergency such as failure of crops in any year.

The imports of grain should continue to be a monopoly of Government during the next five-year period as, in the opinion of the Committee, it would help the Government to prevent falling of prices of principal grains below unremunerative level in case of slump in the prices of agricultural commodities.

For the success of the food production drive the Committee has recommended establishment of a Central Board of Agricultural Planning with twenty-five members representing the provinces and States to co-ordinate food production plans, to determine priorities, to allocate supplies and to examine and approve plans for reclamation of cultivable waste land, appointment of an autonomous central land reclamation organization with a capital of Rs. 50

crores to be given by the Centre with a full time Board of Directors to undertake the planning and the execution of land reclamation projects, setting up of Provincial Boards of Agriculture to advise the Central Board and the Provincial Governments and to assist the central land reclamation organization.

The Committee also recommends that the development of agriculture must remain primarily the responsibility of the provinces and States.

Provinces and States are asked to pay the greatest attention to (1) minor irrigation projects such as open surface wells, bandharas, tanks, etc., (2) development of local natural composts. Development of co-operative societies or gaon panchayats to handle the food-production drive are also suggested.

The Central Government is also asked to set up a Committee of experts to examine in all its aspects the possibility of establishing additional unit for the production of suitable types of fertilizers.

In regard to the handling of the imported stuff the committee recommends that an enquiry should be made into the desirability of setting up an autonomous executive organisation to handle the imported foodgrains under the Government's auspices. In the view of the Committee, the departmental handling of the foodgrains suffers from certain defects which must

be removed if Government is to continue to handle the imports of foodgrains for the next five years.

The function of this Committee would be to receive grain, keep it in suitable storage and dispose of it at prices determined by the Government from time to time. It would also maintain and turn over the central reserve.

The Committee has also suggested increase in production of substitute food, such as, potatoes and sweet potatoes. Development of deep sea fishing and inland fisheries are also recommended to both the Central and Provincial Governments.

Gesture to Aborigines and Hill Tribes

The Government of India have decided to award a certain number of scholarships during the year 1948-49 to students belonging to the Aboriginal and Hill Tribes who wish to pursue their studies beyond the Matriculation stage. For this purpose the Government of India have appointed a Special Board to administer this scheme.

Applications for these scholarships will be invited shortly through advertisements in the press. No applications will be entertained or acknowledged unless they are submitted in the manner which will be indicated in the advertisement.

Other Provinces

War on Illiteracy in East Punjab

A scheme to launch a vigorous campaign against illiteracy in the province is reported to have been prepared by the Education Department of the East Punjab Government. Besides the usual annual expenditure of approximately Rs. 8,00,000 an extra expenditure of Rs. 47,86,830 has been sanctioned for opening hundreds of new schools for boys and girls. It is proposed to have some model schools at suitable places.

Village Improvement Prize in Bombay

The District Prize of Rs. 100 has been awarded by the Government of Bombay to Masma village of Olpad taluka in the

Surat district in recognition of the best village improvement work done by it during the year 1946.

Co-operative Movement in Bombay

As many as 235 co-operative societies embracing a wide range of activities were registered during the quarter ending December 1947. The progress in co-operative organisation is marked by a remarkable increase in the number of agricultural thrift and credit and multipurpose societies. There was an increase in housing societies also while one society for women in Nasik district was registered.

The 144 societies in the rural areas include better farming, crop protection, joint farming and cattle-breeding

societies. Out of 91 societies registered in the urban areas, 27 were consumers' societies, 27 housing societies, 18 producers' societies and the remaining ones include salary earners', colonization and co-operative workshop societies.

The progress of co-operation in rural areas continues to be satisfactory.

Amongst the housing societies is included one for the Harijans at Modasa in Ahmedabad district which was established with the help and efforts extended by the Gujarat Harijan Sangh. Similarly, the efforts of the Dang Seva Mandal to popularize the co-operative movement amongst the forest workers were responsible for the formation of a society for the economic uplift of these workers in the backward tract of Nasik district.

The co-operative workshop at Karad will maintain mechanical and carpentry departments and undertake repairs of bullock-carts, agricultural implements, motor-buses, sugarcane crushing machines, etc. The membership of the society consists of ex-servicemen possessing mechanical and technical knowledge as well as the others interested in the co-operative enterprise.

New Deal for Backward Classes in Bombay

Various subjects affecting the welfare and social progress of the backward classes were discussed and several resolutions passed at a recent meeting of the Provincial Backward Class Board.

A resolution recommended that the Constituent Assembly should be approached for special provision being made for the protection and development of backward classes in Bombay Province like the Harijans and Adwasis, who are socially, culturally and economically backward, on the lines of a similar provision in the Indian constitution proposed for the Scheduled Castes and scheduled tribes.

The Board stressed the need for making adequate provision for medical relief in the interior of backward tracts through the establishment of mobile medical units and recommended the necessary arrangements for such organization.

Audio-visual Education in Bombay

The supply of 16 mm. sound projectors and educational films, import and

local production of such films and their large-scale exhibition for instructional purposes constitute some of the features of the Bombay Government's audio-visual educational drive.

Nearly half the Government educational institutions have been equipped with 16 mm. sound projectors. More silent and sound projectors will be made available to the educational institutions in the Province. The existing stock of films will also be increased. At present, the Central Film Library is stocked mainly with foreign films and, pending production of local films, the possibilities of adapting them with the use of commentaries in various regional languages will have to be explored.

The Government has appointed two Advisory Boards for Visual Education for organizing audio-visual education. The Technical Advisory Board will also implement the scheme for the local production of films in collaboration with the cine-industry. The organization that is already functioning marks the beginning of the 5-year scheme that is going to be implemented in the province-wide introduction of audio-visual education.

Hirakud Project in Orissa

The salient features of Hirakud dam project may be briefly stated. A dam is proposed to be constructed across the Mahanadi at Hirakud—nine miles upstream of Sambalpur. It will be 150 feet high and three miles long. Nearly one-third of the dam will be reserved for surplussing the flood water of this giant river. Six irrigation channels will be taken out from the dam to irrigate 11 lakhs of acres of land annually. Hydro-electric power will be generated firstly at the dam site and secondly at a place 12 miles downstream where on an average a head of nearly seventy feet is available. It will have a flood absorption capacity of 2.8 million acre feet.

The area submerged under the proposed Hirakud Reservoir will be 135,000 acres, out of which nearly 70,000 acres will be cultivated land. The programme of constructing the dam will be so arranged that the actual submergence of the above is gradual and spread over a period of about five years. It is proposed to pay generous compensation to the dispossessed people. Land will be given for land as far as possible, and dispossessed inhabitants settled on new land, will be helped and encouraged to construct and live in model villages with provision for

incorporating modern amenities in due course. New village sites will be located after careful consideration of the various factors so as to make the community life happy and full.

The total cost of the Hirakud Dam has been estimated at 47.81 crores of rupees, which is expected after some years to yield a return of more than four per cent. Over and above the financial returns, it is felt, there will be appreciable indirect benefits, such as increase in food production which at present is the crying need of India, development of basic industries (thereby providing employment to millions) provision of almost complete flood control and provision of navigational facilities and clear domestic water supply in thousands of villages.

Tractor Works in U.P.

The first tractors and implements assembly Works in U.P. were opened here on April 20 by the Industries and Development Minister, Pandit Keshav Deva Malaviya, when he visited the United Provinces Commercial Corporation.

This agriculture machinery works have been started in the province, as a sequel to the Government's big mechanised agriculture drive.

Education Drive in U.P.

The Hon. Babu Sampurnanand, Minister of Education, who has been planning to make the province as widely educated as possible within the shortest period, has begun 'attack' on all fronts. In the first year he concentrated on a scheme of expansion of rural education and formulated a scheme to open 22,000 schools in five years. He has now decided to introduce compulsory primary education in all the Municipalities in the province within a period of two years.

Exhibitions in Assam

In view of the importance of exhibitions as an effective means of imparting to the people, specially those in the rural areas, visual education through demonstration both of Government activities and of non-official agencies interested in rural upliftment, Government have decided to participate in, and give financial aid to, one exhibition annually in each subdivision. The aim of an exhibition is to give a real insight and concrete view of cottage industries and local products, with their future possibilities, so that the

economy of the country may develop and flourish at the hands of the people.

The responsibility of organizing exhibitions will, however, rest with the officers of the Rural Development Department when appointed.

Uplift of Backward Classes in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has reconstituted the Special Development Fund with the object of financing a programme of special uplift of the backward classes and has earmarked a sum of Rs. 100 lakhs in addition to the unutilized balance out of the Rs. 25 lakhs previously allotted for such programme.

According to the principles laid down for incurring expenditure the Fund can also be utilized for experimental schemes for the uplift of backward classes and the expenditure should either be non-recurrent or spread over a limited period not extending ordinarily beyond five years. Schemes involving permanent recurring expenditure may not be financed from this Fund.

Anti-Corruption Drive in Bombay

Nine Government servants including a Station Master were caught red-handed just after they had received illegal gratification and one probationary Sub-Inspector of Police, one Post-Master and one Rationing Inspector and one clerk detected on the basis of complaints and information received from the public by the Provincial Anti-Corruption Branch during February 5 to April 7, 1948. The Branch also hauled up three persons in Belgaum for black-marketing kerosene.

Adult Education Campaign in Bombay

With a view to launching the adult education campaign on a bigger scale, the Government of Bombay had recently appointed three Regional Committees for Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnatak. The Post-war Reconstruction Scheme for Adult Education sanctioned by the Government contemplates the opening of 165 centres of Adult Education during the period of five years ending 1951-52. In order to ensure that the large amount of money to be spent is properly spent and also to enable the Regional Committees to function satisfactorily and speed up the

adult literacy campaign, the Government considers that there should be an organizing agency to attend to the Special problems and difficulties of adult education.

The Government has accordingly sanctioned the creation of the nucleus organization consisting of five posts of officers in the Bombay Educational Service Class II as a temporary measure, for a period of four years in the first instance with effect from April 1, 1948. Out of these five posts four will form part of the offices of the Regional Adult Education Committees, and will be under the administrative control of the Educational Inspectors of the Divisions concerned. The officers will work as Secretaries to the Regional Committees and will attend to the work of expansion and organization of Adult Education Centres for which they will have to tour over their respective regions.

The fifth post will be for the whole of the Province for Urdu Adult Education.

Augmenting Food Production in Bombay

The Conference of Vice-Chairmen and Secretaries of the Rural Development Boards in the Bombay Province, which met in Poona under the presidency of the Honourable Mr. M. P. Patil, Minister for Forests and Agriculture, on Monday, April 19, held discussions on various important problems confronting the workers in that field, at present. The lines on which close liaison should be kept between the District Rural Development Boards and the Agricultural Department were laid down. The various Grow More Food Schemes of the Bombay Government were discussed in detail. The need for the public workers in the districts taking a more active interest in the Grow More Food Campaign was emphasized. It was decided that all the District Rural Development Boards should formulate comprehensive schemes for their own districts for augmenting the production of food.

The indiscriminate cutting down of trees for the past many years has caused serious damage to the countryside. The Conference therefore recommended that a 'Tree Planting Week' commencing from the Independence Day, namely, August 15, each year should be observed throughout the Province. The Conference also decided that in order to give a stimulus to the campaign for utilizing all the farm refuse and other waste material as manure by the composting process a 'Compost Week' should be observed every year

at such time as is suitable for the purposes according to the climatic and other conditions in each district. The dates are to be fixed by each District Development Board.

Cattle Dung Manure in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has approved of a scheme for the utilization of cattle dung, lying waste on the Bombay Suburban Area, as manure in connection with the "Grow More Food Campaign." The total expenditure on the scheme is estimated to be Rs. 1,72,960 and the application of 20,000 tons of manure to vegetable and other food crops is expected to increase the food production by about 2,000 tons valued at Rs. 2,50,000.

There are about 50,000 heads of cattle in Bombay City and suburban area and it is estimated that about 50,000 tons of manure would be available each year for supply to the surrounding vegetable and foodgrain area. Most of it is at present wasted by being thrown into the drains or burnt. It is proposed to make a beginning by utilizing this valuable manure for agricultural purposes by engaging motor trucks on hire for the purpose of taking the stocks of dung from the suburban area to the nearest railway station and arranging for the transport by railway to the distributing centres in Thana, Surat and Kaira districts.

The scheme will be under the charge of the Provincial Biochemist, Town Refuse Composting Scheme, Bombay Province, who will be assisted by an Assistant Compost Development Officer stationed in Bombay for the purpose of supervising the operations of the Scheme. It is proposed to arrange on contract through the Bombay Humanitarian League for the collection and removal of 5 wagon loads (10 tons) of cattle dung daily from the Andheri-Jogeshwari-Goregaon area, to be loaded at Andheri Railway station at Rs. 95 per wagon load (20 tons). Arrangements would be made with the railway authorities for the supply of 5 wagons (20 tons capacity) each day. Assuming that the operations cover 200 working days per year, a target of 1,000 wagon loads (20,000 tons) is aimed at for distribution during the year 1948-49.

Bombay Government's Apprenticeship Scheme

The Government of Bombay is inviting applications for admission to the Apprentice Scheme under which

training in a number of industrial establishments in Bombay and Ahmedabad cities will be given.

The scheme was first introduced in 1936 and was, and continues to be, intended to provide suitable vocational training to the boys of the educated classes who cannot afford expensive University or technical education.

The period of training extends from three to five years depending on the course of training selected. The trainees are required to attend technical classes in the evening and their practical and theoretical training is carried out simultaneously.

The candidates for admission to the scheme must be between the age of 16

and 20 years and should have completed pre-matriculation education. They must possess good physique and be prepared to engage themselves in manual work. As a rule, the boys selected for training are paid about Rs. 50 a month as wages and dearness allowance at the commencement by the industrial establishments to which they are apprenticed.

Agricultural and Veterinary Notes

Manurial Requirements of Paddy in Madras Province

Rice forms the staple cereal food crop of the Province and as such special attention has been devoted to the study of the crop by the Agricultural Department with a view to increase its yield by resorting to improved methods of cultivation, selection of seeds, timely sowing, proper irrigation, manuring, etc. Among the various factors contributing towards increased production, the role of manuring is probably the greatest and this has been well established by the series of manurial experiments carried out in the several Agricultural Research Stations of the Province representing different types of soils, climate, environmental conditions, etc. Will all the efforts of the Department to augment the target of production, the average yield for the Province is still as low as 1,400 lb. per acre for wet paddy. The defect is mainly due to lack of water and manures. Given, therefore, ample water and sufficient manures the average yield can be forced up at least by 30 per cent from the present level, i.e., about 2,000 lb. per acre. That this achievement is possible has been clearly demonstrated by the responses obtained in manurial experiments conducted during the past two decades and more in the Government farms located in Godavari, Kistna and Cauvery deltas and in Malabar.

The soil survey studies have also shown that our paddy tracts are generally deficient in nitrogen, phosphoric acid and organic matter, excepting perhaps potash which is found to be present in adequate amounts to meet the normal requirements of the crop in the several areas. Supply of these deficient and essential plant foods in easily available forms according to the nature of the soils,—namely, nitrogen in the form of ammonium sulphate or oil cakes and phosphorous

as super or ammonium phosphate—preferably with green manure, either grown 'in situ' or brought from outside, has invariably proved extremely beneficial to rice crop. The need for the concentrated nitrogenous and phosphatic measures as well as bulky organic manures has been keenly felt both for the maintenance of the inherent fertility and stepping up the productive capacity of our rice soils.

Nitrogen in organic and inorganic forms with the exception of sodium nitrate has been found very effective in enhancing the yield. Of the various bulky organic manures, green manure by itself when applied at the rate of 4,000 to 5,000 lb. per acre, having a nitrogen content of 30 lb. has resulted in a good yield of the crop, i.e.,—above 2,000 lb. per acre in most of the centres,—apart from its being very economical. The manure may be grown 'in situ' where water-supply can be had during the off-season after the harvest of the paddy crop or obtained from special trees, shrubs and plants rich in foliage and nitrogen, such as Glyricidia, *pungum*, etc. The oil cakes irrespective of their nature—whether groundnut, castor, *pungum* or tobacco seed cakes—have all been found equally efficient in increasing the yield throughout the Province when applied on equal nitrogen basis of 30–60 lb. per acre. Fish guano which is rich both in nitrogen and phosphoric acid (8 per cent each) has appreciably increased the yields of the first and second crops of paddy in the West Coast at Pattambi. The minimum dose of N would appear to lie somewhere about 30 lb. for normal production of the crop at 2,000 lb. level per acre for most of the centres. The optimum dose for ammonium sulphate can be fixed at 150 lb. to supply 30 lb. N while for groundnut, castor and neem

cakes, the relative doses to supply 30 lb. N are 400, 600 and 600 lb. respectively.

The trials with phosphates, especially the easily available ones such as super, amophos or Nicphos have indicated that these are more effective in enhancing the yield when applied in presence of organic nitrogenous manure. Oil cakes, green leaf, etc., than when supplied alone. The optimum dose for super for our soils can be fixed at 1½ cwt. per acre to furnish 30 lb. P 205 per acre.

Based on the intensive studies on manuring of paddy in the typical rice growing centres of the Province, the following manure schedule may be adopted for all the rice tracts, selecting suitable manures according to their availability and cost in the respective areas.

Green manure 5,000 lb. per acre to provide 30 lb. N either alone or preferably in combination with the following:—

1. Oil cakes—	LB.
Neem	330
Castor	300
Tobacco seed ..	330
Groundnut	200
2. Ammonium sulphate.	75
3. Ammonium phosphate.	100
4. Fish guano	200
* Supplying 15 lb. N.	

NOTE.—Items 3 and 4 supply phosphoric acid also, 20 and 15 lb. respectively. Subject to availability farmyard manure and/or compost may also be applied in the place of green manure on the same dosage in 5,000 lb. per acre.

In addition easily available phosphates such as super (1½ cwt.) or fish guano (400 lb.) or amophos to provide 30 lb. phosphoric acid may also be added as often as possible, at least once in 2 years to assure the maintenance of soil fertility and production of quality grain.

Common Contagious Diseases of Bovines

It is very necessary that the Agriculturist should have some knowledge of the fatal diseases which attack cattle in this Presidency.

The most common diseases are dealt with below.

Rinderpest.—Rinderpest is the most serious contagious disease of cattle and causes enormous losses. This disease breaks out in a village by the introduction of an infected animal from outside. The disease is caused by what is called a virus, a very small thing which cannot be seen by the most powerful microscope. This virus is present in the various discharges of an animal suffering from the disease and these discharges contaminate other objects like food and thus the disease spreads. The disease can be easily recognized by its characteristic symptoms of high fever for three or four days accompanied by dullness, staring coat, shivering, loss of appetite, suspension of rumination and discharges from the eyes, nostrils and mouth. From the fourth day, the fever goes down and diarrhoea sets in. This diarrhoea lasts for another four or five days during which time the animal becomes very weak and finally dies of exhaustion. If the mouth is opened, ulcers and a bran-like deposit will be found in it; about 50 per cent or more of sick animals die.

The disease spreads by contact and the infection is carried to healthy animals by such objects as the feet and cloths of attendants, food materials and utensils.

Treatment of sick animals is of very little value, but an animal that has recovered is immune from further attacks. Therefore to prevent the diseases, the following measures should be adopted. Send a report immediately to the nearest Veterinary Assistant Surgeon. Isolate the sick animals and burn the litter, droppings, etc., and disinfect the place. When the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon arrives, he will protect all your animals and the animals in the neighbourhood by inoculation and give you further advice about its control.

Malignant sore-throat.—Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia, as it is technically called, is another serious contagious disease of cattle which causes the next highest number of deaths as rinderpest. Buffaloes are more commonly affected than cattle and it is sometimes called buffalo disease. The cause is a micro-organism which lives in the soil and is



Artificially inseminated cow with the calf born
Cow inseminated on 13th January 1947; Heifer calf born on 22nd October 1947

taken into the animal's system by grazing or through contaminated water.

An animal attacked with this disease will be obviously ill, not inclined to move with the herd, off its feed, shivering with staring coat, dry hot muzzle, hurried breathing and if it is a milking animal there will not be any milk yield. In a few hours, the symptoms become alarming. A swelling appears at the throat and sometimes extends to the dewlap. The swelling is hot, painful and tense. The lining membranes of the eyes, nostrils and mouth become dark red and blood spots may be seen. The tongue becomes swollen and may hang out of the mouth with a sticky saliva running from it. The animal will not be able to swallow. There is difficulty in breathing and a characteristic grunting noise. The animal finally dies within a day or two. Then the disease breaks out, many animals especially buffaloes will be found to die in quick succession and practically all the sick animals die.

Just like rinderpest, treatment is of no avail. Therefore, the following preventive measures should be taken. Send a report to the nearest Veterinary doctor at once. Grazing and watering places should be immediately changed, if possible, and the cattle driven to new pastures. The Veterinary doctor on

arrival will diagnose the disease and he will then protect all the other animals likely to get the disease by inoculation.

Blackquarter.—This disease of cattle unlike malignant sore-throat occurs more in dry and arid tracts than in wet areas. Young cattle from six months to three years are the most susceptible. The disease is characterized by the appearance of a rapidly increasing swelling containing dark decomposed blood and gas usually found at the hind quarter or the shoulder or neck. This disease is also caused by a micro-organism which lives and multiplies in the soil and remains alive for a very long period which may be years. An animal attacked with this disease shows dullness, loss of appetite, disinclination to move due to lameness and high fever. A swelling appears at the hind quarter or some other part of the body which is hot and painful. The swelling later crackles, becomes cold and painless. The temperature now falls below normal and the animal dies from 12 hours to two days. There is also no curative treatment for this disease. Preventive measures such as isolation of the sick animals, turning the healthy animals on to clean pastures and protective inoculations to be carried out by the Veterinary doctor should be adopted.

Anthrax is another rapidly fatal disease of all animals. In cattle, buffaloes and other animals, the disease runs such a rapid course that the affected animals are sometimes not noticed ill at all, but are found dead. The carcass will be bloated with the rectum protruding and blood escaping from the natural openings. When an animal is affected, the first symptoms noticed are high temperature, shivering and suspension of rumination. The eyes are red and there is difficult breathing. The animal shows colic pains and passes dung stained with blood. The disease is caused by a micro-organism called the Anthrax Bacillus. These organisms are commonly found in the soil and are taken in with grass and gain entrance into the blood stream and multiply. Other sources of infection may be from contaminated fodder, oil-cake, etc. The disease is important because it is also dangerous to human beings. Therefore, any animal which dies suddenly without showing any symptoms should be suspected for anthrax and great care should be taken to prevent infection of the soil by contamination through the discharges of a dead animal. The carcass should not be cut open and the natural openings should be plugged with cotton wool or straw soaked in strong disinfectants. Human beings get Anthrax by the organisms entering through a cut or abrasion

while skinning an animal which died of the disease or by eating uncooked flesh of such animals. The same preventive measures mentioned for the other diseases should be adopted, report the incidence at once, isolation of the sick, disinfection of infected places and protective inoculation of the healthy stock.

Foot and mouth disease.—Although the mortality from this disease is not so high as the ones already mentioned, it is highly contagious and affects cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats, pigs and even human beings. The infection is spread by contaminated fodder, litter, food material, water and infected milk. Attendants, milkmen and small animals like dogs, cats and birds may carry the infection. Very often the disease starts from one end of the Presidency and spreads along the cattle routes to the other end. The first symptoms noticed in an affected animal are high fever, dry muzzle, depression, shivering and stoppage of rumination. After two days, the animal smacks its lips and saliva dribbles from the mouth. On examining the mouth, there will be redness of the membrane and small blisters appear on the tongue, gums and inside of the cheeks. At the same time, there may be constant shaking and kicking of the hind limbs. There will be heat and pain in the place between

the hooves and vesicles may be seen there. The blisters in the mouth burst and leave a raw surface and later join altogether. In milch cows the milk yield diminishes greatly and the milk becomes thin and slimy. Occasionally, vesicles may appear on the udder and teats. Neglected cases may become fly-blown at the angles of the mouth, nostrils and in the interdigital space. This disease though not fatal causes great inconvenience to the farmer by rendering work animals unfit for work. Milk cases run a course of one or two weeks and require no treatment. But, when they are subjected to unfavourable conditions such as dirty cattlesheds, wet weather and long walks, the disease becomes aggravated and complications such as fly-blown conditions and shedding of the hooves occur. The disease can be easily treated by keeping the cattle shed dry and clean and dressing the ulcers with mild disinfectants. The mouth may be washed with weak solution of alum, permanganate of potash or common salt and the ulcers dressed with margosa oil. The feet can be attended to by spraying with mild phenyle solution or by keeping in a foot bath made with some disinfectant solution. If the ulcers are severe, they may be dressed with a solution containing coconut oil, tar and copper-sulphate. The milk from sick animals should not be consumed.

New Machines to Help Food Production in Britain

By A. B. LEES, Assistant Editor of the "Farmer and Stockbreeder", London

Farmers in Britain, faced by rising labour costs and a shortage of skilled workers, are coming to depend more and more on machinery, particularly in dairy farming. New electric milk floats, hammer mills, green-crop loaders and muck-shifters—these are some of the latest machines which farmers in Britain are adopting increasingly.

Petrol rationing in Britain is responsible for the increasing popularity of electric battery-operated milk delivery vehicles.

For sterilizing dairy equipment, and for steam raising purposes, many dairy boilers were converted to oil burning during the coal shortage in Britain a year ago and many makers now offer standardized oil-burning units to fit existing hard fuel boilers with a minimum of adaptation.

Ventilation in ordinary cowsheds is being brought up-to-date with the introduction of electric fans mounted in special cowls on the roof.

When a portable milking plant, known as a bail, is taken to the fields where the cows are, they are collected within a fence of single-strand electrified wire. The advantage of this wire is that it avoids waste of grass by trampling.

Of recent years, when home-grown feeding stuffs have become the rule, few machines have proved their worth more thoroughly than the hammer mill. Its great virtue is adaptability. Whole grain may be merely bruised for use as livestock feed or ground to powder merely by changing the screen against which the rotor thrusts the grain.

For the loading of green crop either for ensilage or for feeding fresh, most of the well-known hay loaders have been satisfactorily adapted. Two new machines are towed behind the vehicle especially for green crops.

Marrow stem kale has become a firm favourite as a milk-producing food during the autumn months.

Much work has been directed to the development of machines to load and distribute farm-yard manure. The Rapier muck-shifter takes the form of a self-propelled crane with different grabs and buckets for manure loading, ditching, turning compost, covering clamps of roots, or loading roots.

At least three old established engineering firms are making tractor-drawn farm-yard manure distributors.

The dairy farmer needs a speedy and manoeuvrable power unit, and because of its press-button starting and its adaptability for the whole range of work, the Ferguson tractor has been warmly welcomed.

In conclusion, some measure of Britain's progress in milk production may be cited. Official figures show that whereas 1,210 million gallons were sold off farms in 1938, no fewer than 1,424 million gallons were sold in 1946, an increase in World War II of no less than 214 million with bought feeding stuffs reduced to negligible proportions.

Opinions and Observations

C.P. Minister on Public Health

"The main task of public health does not consist in merely opening more and more dispensaries in the Province or in providing for a large-scale distribution of medicines. It is my firm belief that we shall not be able to check the spread of diseases until we do away with the insanitary conditions obtaining in our villages," observed Dr. W. S. Barlingey, the Hon'ble Minister of Law, in the course of a recent address. The Hon'ble Minister referred to many wrong notions held by the general public in the matter of public health and explained to the public the vital importance of the subject in a nation's life. Continuing Dr. Barlingey said, "we are now a free nation and our goal is to establish democracy in this country. Public health and democracy are closely connected. The average longevity in this country is so poor that the people die before they attain the age qualifying them for franchise. If the citizen of this country does not survive the age of 20 or 21 and if he does not live for

exercising his right of voting, will it not be a great blow to the establishment of democracy? You will, thus, realize how essential it is to evolve a higher standard of public health which can be maintained only by expunging all the insanitary conditions and habits obtaining in our society. The main problem to tackle in this connexion is the proper disposal of human excreta. It is a well-known fact that our revered Gandhiji attached great importance to this matter. We have yet to develop the sense of cleanliness in our social environments. To infuse this spirit and to bring about sanitary conditions particularly in our villages is our primary duty.

Bombay Minister on "Rest and Recreation"

"The toddy-booths and wine-shops are frequented by the poor labourers because they have no other place where they can relax their tired limbs, recreate themselves and enjoy a social life and

thus refresh their minds and bodies. Their houses are usually the haunts of scarcities and as such cannot attract them. Poverty leads them to drink and the drink leads them to poverty. They are thus moving in a vicious circle and I think it is our duty to break up this circle." Thus observed Mr. L. M. Patil, Minister for Excise and Reconstruction, inaugurating a Recreation and Amenities Centre at Kalyan, recently.

Jaipur Dewan on Co-operation

India can get rid of poverty and want by a widespread application of the co-operative movement to agriculture. This view was expressed by Shri V. T. Krishnamachari, Dewan of Jaipur, in his presidential address at the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Conference. He hoped that the co-operative principle would bring about a dynamic psychological change in the rural population and this new outlook would give them a passionate desire to "live better."

In spite of all the industrialization agriculture was still the pivot of India's economy and any great progress in this direction would certainly be reflected in other spheres of the nation's life, he explained.

Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings

Strikes

Strikes are the order of the day. They are a symptom of the existing unrest. All kinds of vague ideas are floating in the air. A vague hope inspires all, and great will be the disappointment if that vague hope does not take definite shape. The labour world in India, as elsewhere, is at the mercy of those who set up as advisers and guides. The latter are not always scrupulous, and not always wise even when they are scrupulous. The labourers are dissatisfied with their lot. They have every reason for dissatisfaction. They are being taught, and justly, to regard themselves as being chiefly instrumental in enriching their employers. And so it requires little effort to make them lay down their tools. The political situation too is beginning to affect the labourers of India. And there are not wanting labour leaders who consider that strikes may be engineered for political purposes.

In my opinion, it will be a most serious mistake to make use of labour strike for such a purpose. I don't deny that such strikes can serve political ends. But they do not fall within the plan of non-violent non-co-operation. It does not require much effort of the intellect to perceive that it is a most dangerous thing to make political use of labour until labourers understand the political condition of the country and are prepared to work for the common good. This is hardly to be expected of them all of a sudden and until they have bettered their own condition so as to enable them to keep body and soul together in a decent manner.

Strikes, therefore, for the present should only take place for the direct betterment of the labourers' lot, and when they have acquired the spirit of patriotism, for the regulation of prices of the manufacturer.

The conditions of a successful strike are simple. And when they are fulfilled a strike never need fail.

1. The cause of the strike must be just.
2. There should be practical unanimity among the strikers.
3. There should be no violence used against non-strikers.
4. Strikers should be able to maintain themselves during the strike period without falling back upon Union funds and should therefore occupy themselves in some useful and productive temporary occupation.
5. A strike is no remedy when there is enough other labour to replace strikers. In that case, in the event of unjust treatment or inadequate wages or the like, resignation is the remedy.

Our Book-shelf

"CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAMME."
By MAHATMA GANDHI. Nav-jivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad. Pages 31. Price 6 Annas.

The eighteen-point programme which Gandhiji drew up for the constructive development of the nation in the material, moral, and political spheres is explained in this brochure. Freedom is not an end in itself, but only a means; it is the beginning and not the end of our responsibilities. The independence which we have won by non-violent strength can be preserved and stabilised only by faithfully following the constructive programme.

It was the favourite quip of a few radicals, that the constructive programme had yet to be constructed. It was being cynically remarked that a nation cannot spin its way to Swaraj. Yet the achievement of Indian independence has come as the crowning triumph of the silent revolution set in motion by the constructive programme. Communal unity is its corner-stone; Khadi points the way to the economic emancipation of the Daridra Narayans, whose number is legion. The constructive programme is more than a political weapon; it is in its truest sense, a way of life itself.

In the few pages of this little booklet, one sees a great mind working, and a noble vision unfolding itself.

—K.D.

"MR. JINNAH." By V. N. NAIK. Sadbhakti Publications, Bombay. Pages 85. Price Rs. 4-8-0.

This book is an interesting study of the political career of one of the greatest men of our times. The course of Mr. Jinnah's public life is traced through all the different stages. It was a far, far cry from Jinnah, the fiery nationalist who raised a furious protest against the Willingdon Memorial meeting at the Town Hall of Bombay, to Jinnah, the President and Mentor of the Muslim League. Yet all through the colourful romance, which his political career has been, his sturdy independence, his moral integrity and his political sagacity marked him out to be a born leader.

This book has attempted the difficult task of interpreting one of the most challenging personalities of our age. The author, who, we are told, is a liberal in politics is indeed quite liberal

in apportioning blame between both the Congress and the Muslim League. It is however, difficult to agree with his analysis that had there been no Gandhism in India, there would not have been any scope for the menace of Pakistan. In the concluding portions of the book he puts in a plea for restraint and understanding between the two dominions. He, however, over-shoots the mark, when he gives himself up to rhetorical extravagance and says "The 9th of August has been wiped out and the 15th August takes its place. The 26th of January has fallen behind and the 3rd of June supersedes it. Time has now come to write upon the Congress agitation from 1921 to 1942, the one word, antiquity." The truth is that the 15th August was born out of the 9th of August. The struggles of the past can never become part of antiquity; they are a rich heritage that has got to be cherished, a legacy that has to be enriched and a living reminder to keep the spirit of freedom always aglow.

—K.D.

"THE BRIDES BOOK FOR INDIA."
By SIDNEY RALLI. Publishers: Hind. Kutab, Ltd., 261-263, Hornby Road, Bombay. Price Rs. 5-8-0.

The Brides Book for India is interesting, easy, and in many ways a delightful book. The style and easy expression with a touch of humour here and there makes it interesting reading too. It provides useful information and very helpful hints for the newly wedded wife in India.

The book however is meant for the Bride who is fortunately well placed in life and in particular for the Anglo-Indian young lady taking up her new responsibilities. This Bride in the book is one who can easily take frequent trips to the hills, and afford to have a good cook in aprons, can play golf, go racing and take part in politics, can freely give her time to her wardrobe, her toilet and make up accordingly as she happens to be a blonde or a brunette and who can give and attend dinner parties. Very interesting facts are attractively presented to the reader on such matters as "a really good nose"; "If you are a blonde," "when you are packing for a summer flitting," "Head first into beauty" and "Are you the perfect Venus." While the author is to be

congratulated on the delightful exposition of these mysteries, these obviously will interest only a small section of the young women.

Nonetheless there are some chapters which provide certain useful hints of common interest. Such for instance are the chapters dealing on "Personal relationship between husband and wife," "Ready Reckoners"; "Chins up," "Do it with disinfectant," "Are you hip-heavy?" "Two letters," "Perfect Guest and perfect Hostess," "The other side of the medal," and in particular the last chapter to which we invite very special attention "Are you the perfect wife." The author has done well to realise that this chapter is incomplete without its complement and to add the chapter on "And you—the perfect husband" containing very practical hints which we earnestly commend for careful reading.

—P.P.N.

"THE CONSTITUTION OF THE DOMINION OF INDIA." By MR. P. N. MURTHI, B.A., LL.B., Registrar, Federal Court of India and MR. K. V. PADMANABHAN, M.A., LL.B., Under Secretary, Constituent Assembly of India, with a foreword by SIR PATRICK SPENCE, ex-Chief Justice of India. [Published by Metropolitan Book Company, Faiz Bazaar, Delhi.] Price Rs. 6-12-0.

The title of the book explains the nature of its contents. The authors have endeavoured to give an idea of the present constitutional and legal position of the Dominion with relevant details. The Book runs to 328 pages including appendices and is divided into three parts. The first part contains the Indian Independence Act of 1947 and the reports of the Boundary Commission relating to the Punjab, Bengal and Sylhet district in Assam. In the second part is given the Government of India Act of 1935 incorporating the various amendments, adaptations and modifications from time to time ending with India Provisional Constitutional Order of 1947. Part 3 contains the various orders of the Governor-General in exercise of the powers conferred on him by Section 9 of the Indian Independence Act. All orders made up to the end of October 1947 are included in the book. The three parts are preceded by an introduction which gives a general survey of the constitutional position. The book is sure to provide useful guidance both to lawyers and laymen.

—T.K.G.

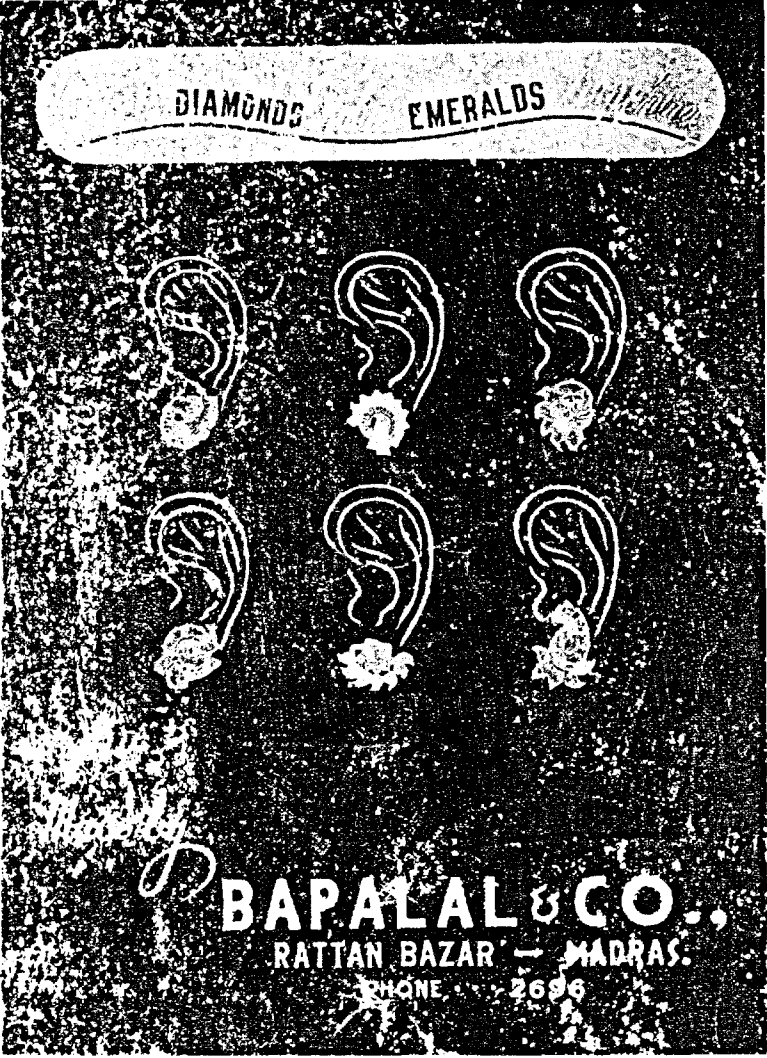


Eleventh All-India Depressed Classes League Conference, Vijaywada. Hon'ble Mr. Tejase, Harijan Minister, Bombay Government, Mr. H. J. Khandekar, President, and Hon'ble Sri V. Karmayya, Minister, Madras Government are seen in the group (with garlands)



Harijan Welfare Committee Meeting held at the Secretariat on 23rd April 1948

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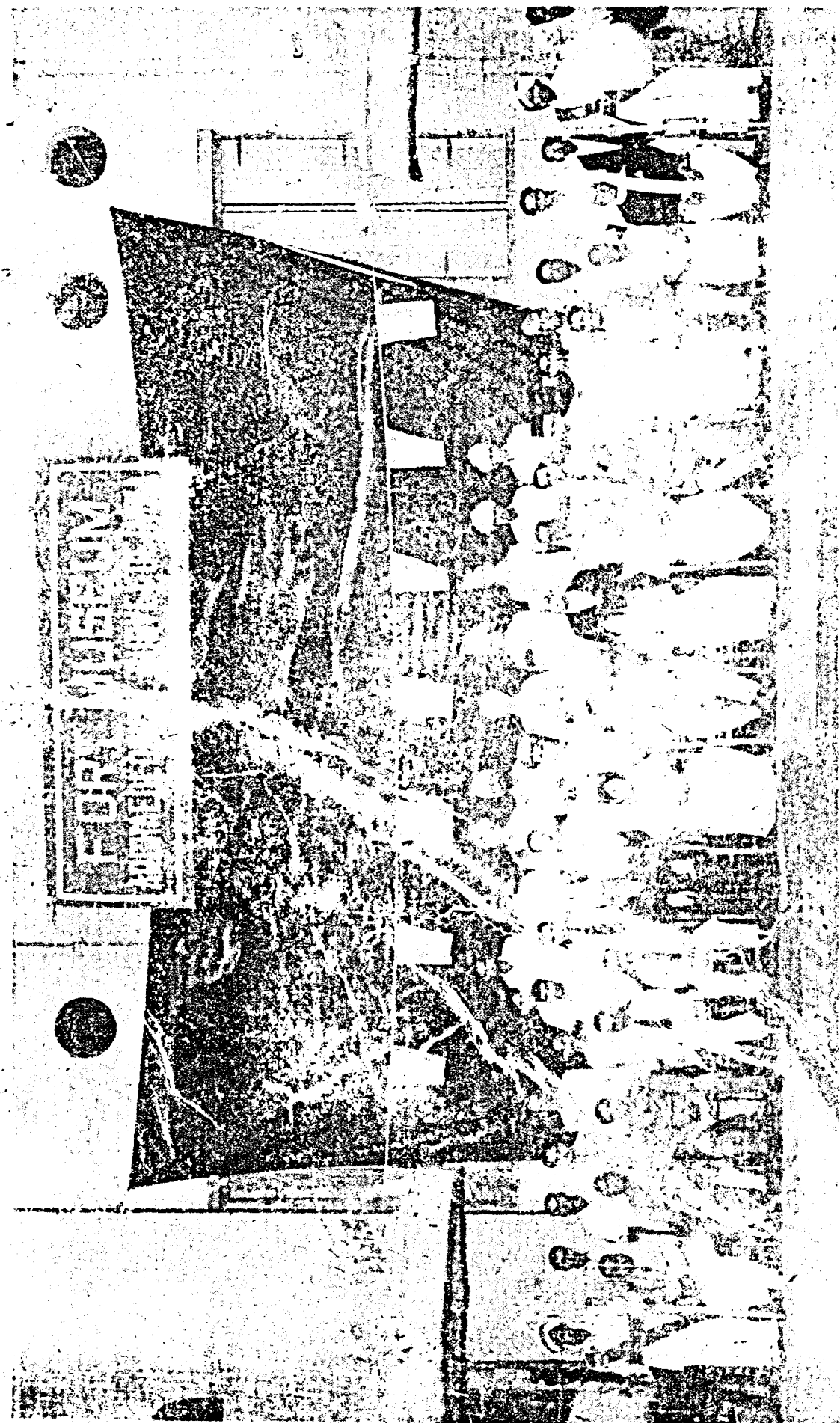
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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

June 1, 1948

CURRENT TOPICS

Dominion Food Minister in Madras

For the second time in the recent past, this Province has been honoured with a visit by Hon'ble Jairamdas Daulatram, Food Minister to the Dominion Government. The Hon'ble Minister had a busy time in this Province. He toured the deficit areas and acquainted himself first hand with the food situation. Wherever he went, he made detailed enquiries and looked beneath the surface to understand the real shape of things. No doubt this Province is expecting reinforcements from the centre, but the point stressed by the Hon'ble Minister was that the tillers of the soil should help the Government in ending the present unwholesome dependence on foreign imports of foodgrains. It has been repeated again and again that self-sufficiency in food is the foundation on which progress in other spheres of activity rests and unless this is achieved it is not easy to achieve progress in other fields of activity. And to achieve this end the primary responsibility rests with the tiller of the soil. "If each cultivator," he observed, "puts forth even one-tenth more effort than what he is really doing today, the nation's immediate need would be well nigh met." "Are we so utterly helpless?" he exclaimed, "as to be unable to produce the eleventh stalk of wheat where today we produce only ten? Is it not a fact that here and there our neighbouring tillers produce twice the yield per acre? Shall we not begin to think why we should fall behind? Your comrades in Europe are putting forth efforts to increase the wheat yield by 40 per cent in a single year. Your comrade in the western countries feels that he is not working only for the needs of his family but he realizes that he is producing for the needs of his country also

The same ambition should fill your heart. Sow and reap for yourself by all means but also sow and reap for your country." This stirring appeal needs no special underlining. It has been pointed out time and again that more production is a national duty in the context of the present-day conditions. The Hon'ble Minister also incidentally referred to the constructive schemes of the Madras Government for increased production. It is the duty of every tiller of the soil to avail himself of the facilities granted by the Government and contribute his mite to make this Province self-sufficient.

During his stay in Madras City the Hon'ble Minister inaugurated the second All-India Horticultural Research Workers' Conference. A very thought provoking address was made by him on the occasion. He appealed to the horticultural research workers not to look upon the horticultural industry purely from the industrial and commercial points of view but to help production of fruits and vegetables for the masses particularly in the rural areas. Fruit is a protective food and nutritious experts have pronounced that the fruit element in the Indian diet falls far below the prescribed minimum. The fruit growing industry has to be developed considerably if every person in this country should have the minimum quantity of fruits for his diet. The scope for fruit development in this Province is vast and horticulturists should avail themselves of the Government schemes for fruit development.

Adult Education

Ever since the Congress Ministry assumed office in this Province, it has

been one of their major tasks to devise ways and means for liquidating the widespread illiteracy in the Province and also for improving the knowledge possessed previously by adults through education centres, libraries, cinemas and other media of visual education. The Government's efforts in this direction have now crystallized and they have prepared a scheme for adult education which is expected to be put into operation shortly. The main features of the scheme are—

IN THIS ISSUE

Hon'ble Sri Jairamdas Daulatram, Minister for Food of the Dominion Government
—Frontispiece.

Current Topics
Press Notes, Releases, etc.
Departments' Corner
Land-marks in Nation Building
Topics of the Day
Building up the Nation
Prohibition News Letter
Delhi Notes
Other Provinces
Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings
Correspondence column
Our Book-shelf

- (1) Adult literacy schools for liquidating illiteracy among adults.
- (2) Training of staff for adult literacy work
- (3) Rural colleges for giving higher educational training, for persons who have had some school education already.
- (4) Training camps for social service workers.
- (5) Training camps for citizenship and youth workers.
- (6) Visual instruction.

It is proposed to start 100 adult literacy schools in the course of 1948-49. Sanction has also been accorded for the opening of 3 colleges under Government, one for each linguistic area and for grant of recognition to 20 colleges if opened by private agencies or local bodies. Similarly, it is proposed to open 5 camps for the training of social service workers, two in Tamilnad, two in the Andhradesa and one in the West Coast. A series of courses for training for citizenship and for leaders is also envisaged. The first course will provide for the training of 150 persons for 15 days. Training courses are proposed to be organized in a number of centres. As regards visual education sanction has been accorded by the Government for the purchase of 8 projectors and films for 8 districts.

The foregoing facts give in broad outline the scheme to promote adult education. The scheme is comprehensive in character and is expected to yield good results provided—and this is very important—there is adequate response from the people. Educational backwardness of this country is an oft-repeated fact. It was said some decades ago that 3 out of every 4 villages in this country were without education and 4 out of every 5 boys stayed at home. No doubt things have improved much since then but still much remains to be done. So steps are being taken to this end and the success of these steps depends on the wholehearted co-operation of the masses. Education is not something that can be thrust upon

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people, or that can be inculcated by a State fiat. The people themselves have to realize the value of education and

take to it availing themselves of the numerous facilities afforded by the Government.

Reorganization of Secondary Education

More than one educationalist has said that the present system of secondary education is not so much a preparation for life as a preparation for a university career. The extremely academic character of secondary education has often been the subject of well-

founded criticisms and has not a little contributed to swell the ranks of the educated unemployed in this country. The reorganization of secondary education is therefore imperative in the process of reconstructing a new India. The chief features of reorganization as recommended by the Secondary Education Board and accepted by the Provincial Advisory Board are the provision for trade schools as alternatives to high school course after Form III and two diversified courses of study in high schools from IV to VI Forms with a corresponding revision of the courses and approach to teaching from Forms I to III. Details are being worked out and when the reorganized scheme comes into operation, it is hoped that it would prove a useful accessory in the full-scale rehabilitation of India.

"INDONESIAN ECONOMICS"

Published by the Netherlands Indies Government—100 pages.

This small book which is a corollary to the "Indonesian Problem" sets out economic facts and figures regarding Indonesia. It is also beautifully illustrated and contains a mine of information to students of Indonesian Politics.

—T.K.G.

The Shanti Plough—A Multi-purpose Agricultural Implement

Elsewhere in this issue appear photographs of different kinds of Shanti plough. One of the reasons for the low production in agriculture in India is admittedly the use of inadequate or inefficient implements. It is said that the traditional wooden plough scratches only the surface of the land and does not help the agriculturists to get the maximum out of the land. So the use of improved implements in agriculture has been pointed out as a necessary requisite in its rehabilitation. The Shanti plough is one such implement and serves a number of purposes.

Probably the most important reason why the iron mould board plough and other improved forms of animal drawn agricultural implements have not received much favour with the small scale agriculturist in India are—

(1) The comparatively high capital cost of these implements and

(2) the difficulty of obtaining spares for replacement of wornout and broken parts.

The "Shanti" plough designed by Major Steinmetz, specially to suit the Indian conditions, aims at overcoming the first difficulty by providing a number of useful attachments, with the aid of which the plough can be used for ridging, harrowing, hoeing, etc. Fixing or removing of these attachments on the fields does not present any serious problem as this is done by means of just one or two bolts.

The second difficulty is overcome by making the various parts so simple in design that they can be manufactured by most village blacksmiths. The plough and accessories are not unduly heavy, can be easily transported and can be drawn by a pair of average bullocks.

PRE-S NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

Panchayat Forests

The Forest Sub-Committee of the Post-war Reconstruction General Committee had recommended that the management of the panchayat forests in this Province be transferred to the Forest department. In accordance with this recommendation, the Government have directed that, to begin with, the panchayat forests in Bellary, Apantapur, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Salem and Nellore districts be transferred forthwith, to the control of the Forest department.

The Government have sanctioned in this connexion an additional staff for work connected with the management of the panchayat forests in the six districts referred to above.

[May 3]

Women's Welfare Department

In connexion with the reorganization of the Department of Women's Welfare, the Government have decided to start a Service Home in the City of Madras, in the first instance, and to open 11 more branches of the Department of Women's Welfare in the mufassal, and have sanctioned a temporary staff, till 31st March 1949, for the Service Home and the mufassal branches.

[May 3]

Corruption Among Government Servants

During the month of February 1948, corruption among Government servants was brought to notice against 219 persons including those against whom proceedings were pending at the end of the previous month. Of these, 13 were let off as charges against them were not proved and proceedings against 190 were pending at the end of the month. Corruption was successfully detected in the case of the remaining 16 persons and they were suitably punished. The names and designations of these persons and the punishment awarded to them are as follows:—

Hafeez Muhammad Khan, Sub-Registrar, Omalur, Salem district (dismissed); G. V. L. Narayana, Head Clerk, Regional Malarologist's Office, Vizagapatam (dismissed); Devaraj, Sub-Inspector of Police, North

Arcot district (awarded a deferred censure); Srinivasan, Head constable, Sivasankaran and Mannu Odayan, Police constables, North Arcot district, Ramaswami Nayudu, Head constable and Arumuga Thevar, Police constable, Tinnevely district, Ramaswami, Head constable, Salem district and Mahaboob Shariff, Railway Police constable, Madras district (dismissed); A. B. David, Assistant Transport Officer, Civil Supplies Unit, Cuddapah (discharged from service); Pooliah, messenger, Agricultural Depot, Tinnevely (services terminated); Ramasami Thevar, peon, Tinnevely Circle, Excise department (dismissed); Nabi Sahib, temporary Prohibition Guard, Anantapur district (discharged); Ghulam Dastagir Sahib, Shroff, Cuddapah district (dismissed); P. Muthuramalingam, Upper Division Clerk, Revenue department, Madras district and acting Manager, Dodappa-naicken Estate (Dismissed).

[May 7]

New Well Subsidy Scheme

The New Well Subsidy Scheme explained in Press Note No. 58, dated 3rd March 1947, has come to an end on 31st March 1948. There is still an urgent need to stimulate food production. The Government have, therefore, sanctioned the extension of the scheme for another year from 1st April 1948.

2. The new scheme applies to all the districts in the Province except Madras. In the districts of South Kanara and Malabar not only wells but also tanks, new and old, used for irrigation purposes, will be eligible for subsidies.

[May 7]

Buildings on Wet Lands

Reports have been received by Government that in some areas in the Province, building operations are proposed to be carried on an extensive scale on wet lands. Such building will be prejudicial to the interests of the Province, as it will reduce the food supply and thereby aggravate a situation which is already serious. Wherever dry lands are available, it is clearly most desirable that they should be utilized for building purposes.

This will also be in the interests of the health of the people. It is, therefore, proposed to bring forward legislation prohibiting the erection of buildings on wet lands, except with the permission of the Collector of the district. The Collector will give permission only in exceptional cases where no dry lands are available for building purposes. The legislation proposed will be given retrospective effect as from the date of issue of this communique. The Government trust that nobody will hereafter undertake any building operations on wet lands without obtaining the previous permission of the Collector of the district. Those who ignore this warning will be acting at their peril, as the buildings put up by them will, under the new Bill, be liable to demolition.

[May 11]

Service Associations

*In supersession of their order, dated 30th June 1938, the Government of Madras have issued the following revised instructions regarding the recognition of Associations of Government employees other than industrial employees. The instructions will come into force immediately.

Instructions regarding the recognition by the Government of Madras of associations of their employees other than associations of industrial employees.

Definition.—In these instructions, "Government" means the Government of Madras.

Part (a)—Associations of Government employees serving in the departments of Government other than those in the Police and Jail department:—

1. Government are prepared to accord official recognition to associations of their employees which comply with the conditions set out below.

2. The association must ordinarily consist of a distinct class of Government employees.

3. Every Government employee of the same class must be eligible for membership of the association.

4. Persons who are not in the active service of Government shall not be office-bearers of the association.

5. Representations from such associations whether made orally by

deputation or presented in writing, may be received by Government officers notwithstanding anything contained in the rules relating to the submission of petitions and memorials by Government servants. Provided that—

(a) no representations or deputations will be received except in connection with a matter which is, or raises questions which are of common interest to the class represented by the association; and

(b) nothing in these instructions affects the discretion of the Governor, the head of a department or any other officer of Government to receive or not to receive a deputation from any association.

6. Recognition is accorded for the purpose of enabling the employees of Government to communicate their needs and grievances to Government or to Government Officers and it may be withdrawn by Government if the members adopt other methods of ventilating those needs and grievances.

Note.—For the purpose of this Instruction, 'other methods' shall include seditious propaganda, expression of disloyal sentiments, publication in the press, engaging or inviting the assistance of political and other parties for the representation of grievances and threat of strike.

7. Government may require the regular submission for their information of copies of the rules of the association and the annual statement of its accounts and of lists of its members.

8. Government may specify the channel through which representations from the association shall be submitted and the authority by whom deputations may be received.

9. The association shall not seek the assistance of any political party or organization to represent the grievances of its members.

10. The association shall not, without the previous sanction of the Government, permit its proceedings to be open to the press.

11. The association shall have the following rule incorporated among its rules:—

"A strike or the threat of a strike against the Government shall never be used as a means of achieving any of the purposes of the association."

Part (b)—Associations of employees in the Police and Jail departments—

The instructions in Part (a) shall be applicable to associations of employees in the Police and Jail departments with the following modifications:—

Instruction 2—To this instruction the following sentence shall be added at the end, namely:—

"The associations shall also consist of such distinct rank or ranks of employees as Government may prescribe, provided that Government may accord recognition to particular associations of specified ranks of employees in the Police department of which specified ranks of employees in the Executive department are also members."

Instruction 5—For proviso (a) to this instruction, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:—

"(a) No representation or deputation will be received on questions of discipline or of promotion affecting individuals; but representations or deputations may be received in connection with any other matter which is, or raises questions which are, of common interest to the class represented by the association."

Instruction 7—To this instruction, the following sentence shall be added at the end, namely:—

"No rule of the association shall be valid until it has received the approval of Government and Government may from time to time require the modification of a rule or proposed rule in a particular manner."

[May 12]

State Emblem for the Government

The Government of Madras have approved a design for state emblem for the Government of Madras, and have decided that it should be adopted on all stationery. This emblem will depict a Gopuram of the South Indian temple with the Sarnath Lion Capital of Asoka (the State Emblem of the Government of India) at its base.

[May 13]

Premia for Breeding Bulls Increased

The Government have directed that the rate of premium for breeding bulls under the "Premium Scheme" be increased, with immediate effect, to Rs. 200 per annum, i.e., Rs. 140 for proper maintenance of the bull, and Rs. 60 for service. In the case of

Ongole bulls and Murra Buffs (heavy breeds) the maintenance allowance will be Rs. 160.

[May 13]

Petitions to Hon'ble Ministers

The following press statement has been issued to the press on the authority of the Hon'ble the Premier of Madras:—

Hundreds of petitions addressed to the Hon'ble Premier are being received every day. Some of them are copies of petitions sent to the various Hon'ble Ministers and some are copies of petitions sent to various officials of Government and Heads of Departments. Many persons send copies of their petitions to all officials from the lowest rung of the ladder to the highest, including the Hon'ble Ministers and the Hon'ble Premier. Petitions about the most trivial matters are sent to the Hon'ble Ministers and the Hon'ble Premier. This practice leads to an enormous increase of work at every stage; it leads to a huge waste of the very valuable time of all officers and Ministers. The time and energy of the Ministers, which ought to be spent on important matters and matters concerning the departments and the Province as a whole is flittered away over trivial matters with the result that important things have to go unnoticed or unattended.

The public are hereby informed once again that unless they have failed to get redress from the officers concerned, or from the immediate superiors of the officers, they should not address the Hon'ble Ministers direct. Only petitions which on their face show that the concerned officials and their immediate superiors have been approached, but without success will be attended to. Others are liable to be summarily rejected. No notice will be taken of copies of petitions sent to the Hon'ble the Premier and the other Hon'ble Ministers at the same time as they are sent to the officers concerned and their immediate superiors.

[May 14]

Small Savings Scheme

The object of the Small Savings Scheme introduced in this Province in February 1944 was to encourage the poor and middle class people to improve their condition by saving money regularly and investing the savings and at the same time help the State in checking inflation. National Savings Certificates have a currency of twelve

years and are encashable after a period of 1 to 1½ years—one year in the case of certificates of the denomination of Rs. 5 and 1½ years for certificates of higher denominations. They are the best investment of the day and the safest, as they are guaranteed by the Government of India.

2. Recently, the Government of India have also announced the introduction with effect from the 1st June 1948 of two more series of National Savings Certificates, one with a currency of five years and the other with a currency of seven years. The new issues will be encashable at any time the holder desires. The redemption of the 5-year certificates will be at 100 per cent and of the 7-year certificates, at 110 per cent. Arrangements are being made by the Government of Madras for accepting subscriptions for the new series with effect from the 1st June 1948. With the issue of this new series, the National Savings Certificates will provide a full range investment in respect of which people who prefer it to the purchase of Government securities may resort to it.

Government understand that there has been a tendency on the part of holders of the National Savings Certificates to have them cashed to obtain payment. It is hoped that the new series will induce them to invest in the new securities.

The Government from the point of view of the public, the purchase of National Savings Certificates is the safest form of investment available, as they are exempted from income tax. The rate of interest on the said certificates is the rate of interest on Government securities but the interest is also

(1) A part of the payment of income tax.
(2) Longer the certificates are held, the higher is the interest earned. With the introduction of the new series, the country's financial outlook has changed and it is essential for the people to give all the assistance they can to the Government in mobilizing savings to be utilized for large-scale plans of development contemplated by the Government of India. Besides, the scheme has assumed a definite social and economic aspect, and in order to achieve maximum production, it is essential for the people to save and to maintain an equilibrium between savings and investment. The investors are therefore advised not only to take full advantage of the facilities for investment provided by National Savings Certificates, but also to derive the full benefits of the attractive terms on which they are offered by refraining from premature encashment of the certificates.

[May 18]

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.

Shark Liver Oil for Refugees

Shark liver oil produced at the Government Oil Factory, Calicut, is now being supplied to the East Punjab Government for the purpose of distribution amongst the vulnerable groups of the refugee population there.

The following supplies have so far been made: (1) Inspector of Hospitals, Nabha State Government—40 gallons, (2) Foreign Secretary, Bilaspur State—12 gallons, (3) Medical Commissioner, Refugees, Jullunder—100 gallons, (4) Political Minister, Rampur State—75 bottles of 10 oz. each and (5) Chief Medical Officer, Bughat State—2 gallons.

[May 19]

Protection to Minorities

The Governments of India and Pakistan have agreed that mass exodus

of minorities is not in the interests of either Dominion, and the Governments have decided to take every possible step to discourage such exodus, and to create such conditions as would check mass exodus in either direction and would encourage and facilitate, as far as possible, the return of evacuees to their ancestral homes. With this object in view, an agreement has been reached between India and Pakistan at the Inter-Dominion Conference held in Calcutta in April 1948. The following are among the decisions arrived at in the Conference:—

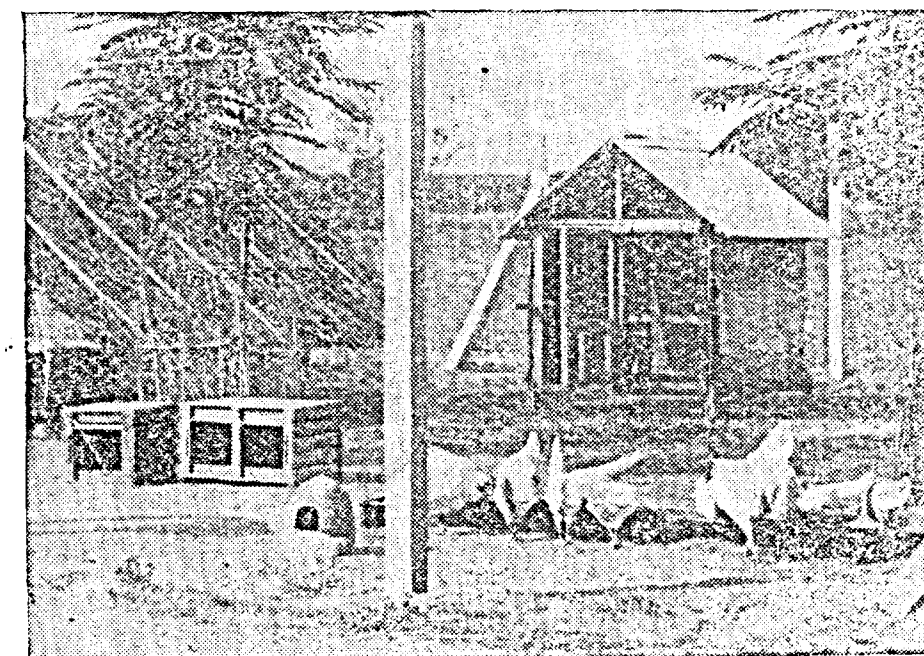
(1) Propaganda for the amalgamation of India and Pakistan or portions thereof should be discouraged.

(2) Severe action should be taken against any person creating apprehension, fear, etc., in the minds of minorities.

(3) All tendencies towards an economic boycott of minorities or strangulation of their normal life should be curbed.

The Government of Madras have instructed the Heads of Departments, Collectors, etc., to bring the above decisions to the notice of all officers and subordinates under them, especially the Magistrates, Police Officers and village officers, so that they may bear them in mind and implement them both in letter and in spirit. The Government wish to make it clear in this connection that any Government servant or member of the public acting in disregard of these decisions would be severely dealt with.

[May 21]



A view of an Improved Poultry House

Highways Department

The total cost of the works on national highways in the province was expected to come to about Rs. 7.71 crores and not Rs. 77.1 crores as reported in the Madras Information, dated 1st April 1948.

Local Administration Department

The Municipal Councils and Local Boards and their executive authorities in the Tiruchirappalli and the East Godavari districts have been permitted to conduct official proceedings and correspondence within the districts in Tamil and Telugu respectively as an

experimental measure from 1st May 1948.

Electricity Department

During April 1948, the following schemes were sanctioned by Government :—

Name of scheme and estimated cost in lakhs.

- (1) 66 K.V. Extension from Papanasam to Tinnevely and Kayattar—Rs. 17.67 lakhs initially rising to Rs. 18.17 lakhs in ten years.
- (2) Gudivada-Pamaru-Vuyyur 11 K.V. Extension—Rs. 2.27 lakhs.
- (3) West Godavari Scheme—Rs. 29.55 lakhs initially rising to Rs. 36.6 lakhs in five years.

- (4) 66 K.V. Extension to and construction of sub-station at Pollachi—Rs. 16.36 lakhs initially rising to Rs. 21.0 lakhs in eight years.

2. Five extensions costing over Rs. 10,000 and less than Rs. 30,000 each were sanctioned during the month by the Chief Engineer (Electricity) at an estimated total cost of about Rs. 87,376.

3. During the month, supply to 765 new domestic services, 129 agricultural services and 24 industrial services was given.

4. Work on the major schemes and extensions under execution was in progress. The 33 K.V. line from Villivakkam to Tiruvallure was completed.

LAND-MARKS IN NATION BUILDING

The Co-operative Principle

NOTE.—The possibilities of co-operation in achieving the economic improvement of the rural masses in this country were stressed by Hon. Sri Chandramouli in the course of his address at the Co-operative Conference held at Calicut recently. He observed among other things:

“This principle of co-operation, however, is not a new thing to India. Our ancient village economy was based on this principle. In olden days, our forefathers in villages looked after their common economic and social interests in a spirit of helpful fellowship. Individual greed and rivalry, among each other were a later growth, which gave rise to factions and quarrels and unhappiness. To a certain extent, the foreign rule to which we were subjected, with its highly centralized administration, promoted the disintegration of our ancient happy village economy; but, thanks to the supreme efforts of the late lamented Mahatma Gandhi and that great organization known as the National Congress we have regained our independence wielding the weapons of Satya and Ahimsa. Now is the time to turn our political independence to good account and introduce in its wake economic and social independence.

As in many other countries of the world, no form of organization will help us in attaining this ideal than the

co-operative form. A co-operative society is primarily a democratic organization in which there is no distinction of caste or creed, rich or poor. It is an organization in which people join as members on a footing of equality each one exercising a single vote and not as many votes as the number of shares he holds in the institution. It is a business organization in which some business or other is transacted, but the spirit which animates the business is not greed for profits but a desire to serve each other. A co-operative institution promotes the economic strength of its members on the basis of self-help, mutual help and thrift and not on the basis of selfish help and competition. Whatever be the line of business which a co-operative institution undertakes—be it credit, or marketing, or farming, or distribution—its aim always is to impart to every member the satisfaction of his wants on an equitable basis and to promote the fuller realization of his own individuality.

Stock-taking

The time is up for us co-operators to readjust our methods of distribution in accordance with the changes in the Government's policy of distribution and our own fundamental principles of co-operation. A check-up has to be made regarding the nature of

members in our distributive co-operatives. We have to eliminate from them traders and others who became members not for the sake of satisfying their own consuming needs but for other considerations. In the case of Producer-cum-consumer societies in particular the check-up has to be done in an elaborate manner. They are institutions which were brought into being in order to serve the needs of the Government to distribute foodstuffs in an equitable manner. Like all other co-operative societies, they have now to be asked to state what their respective needs will be in the restored free market. They should, in other words, be re-organized from the bottom with reference to the needs of the members who constitute them, and of the localities which they are intended to serve, instead of with reference to the needs of the Government. I am glad to state that the co-operative department has already taken up this task and is examining what variety of business will be best suited to the needs of the members who constitute each Producer-cum-consumer society or the locality in which each is situated.

Cooperative Housing Scheme]

In recent times, co-operative housing has come into prominence in this province and Government have provided Rs. 79 lakhs during the year 1948-49 to be given as loans for building houses in urban areas through

co-operative societies. There is also a scheme under consideration for providing Rs. 2½ crores during the next two years for constructing dwelling houses in villages through co-operative societies. It may be that the members of some of your producer-cum-consumer societies may be more in need of houses than in need of marketing their produce or purchasing their provisions. These members are likely to transform their societies into co-operative housing societies. As they hold large share capital, they may choose to employ this capital itself on the construction of houses instead of borrowing funds from Government at 3½ per cent or they may keep down the borrowings from Government at as low a level as possible. The lending rate today in co-operative housing societies is 4½ per cent, so that the shareholders of some of the producer-cum-consumer societies may be glad to re-invest their shares on house building which will yield them perhaps higher dividends than investments in Government securities, without being any the less secure.

Other Forms of Co-operation

These are but some of the many forms into which the producer-cum-consumer societies can be reorganized. They are by no means exhaustive. Co-operative Banks, Co-operative Milk Supply Societies, Co-operative Land Colonization Societies—these are some more forms whose business and by-laws may be adopted by some of the producer-cum-consumer societies. But I should like to draw your attention to another form of co-operative society which is much talked of today, but about which many people seem to have confused ideas. I refer to the co-operative multipurpose society. Very often, the Registrar and the Government have received proposals from enthusiastic people for the registration of multipurpose societies over a firka or a taluk. They have asked that one and the same co-operative society should undertake banking, trading, dairying, cottage industries, etc., etc. This question was gone into at great length by the All-India Co-operative Planning Committee and by the 15th Conference of the Registrars of Co-operative Societies. They came to the definite conclusion that every one of the rural credit societies should be reorganized so as to function as a multipurpose co-operative society. But they did not recommend that there should be a multipurpose society for an area covering more than one village. The point is that the various

activities proposed to be conducted by a multipurpose society are to be carried out with the share capital of the members and funds borrowed from Central Co-operative Banks on the security of this share capital. Every member will be interested in securing a reasonable dividend on his share-capital and will not like it to be endangered. In a wide area, all members will not be interested in, say, dairying or leather-goods manufacture. If dairying succeeds and leather goods manufacture fails, it would be unfair to make good the losses in the latter out of the profits of the former or their share capital. Indeed, enlightened members may complain even if the large profits on dairying are utilized to declare an equal dividend to the

leather goods manufacturer. It may be argued that even where the area of operations of a society undertaking more activities than one is restricted to one village this difficulty will arise; but, in this case, the members are likely to ignore the anomaly for the reason that, after all, they belong to the same village, whereas in a multipurpose society organized for an extensive area not only will a common economic interest be absent but even local patriotism may not support it. Therefore, if any of your producer-cum-consumer societies should decide in favour of undertaking a variety of activities on behalf of its members, I would suggest that such a society should cut down its jurisdiction to a single village.”

Elementary Education

NOTE.—The promotion of Elementary Education is one of the main planks in the Post-war Educational Programme of the Provincial Government. They have chalked out an elaborate programme in this regard. Reference to the Elementary Education problem was made recently by Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar, while addressing a conference of the representatives of Local Boards and Municipal Councils. He observed inter alia:

“It has been estimated that there are about seven million school-going children in this province. Of these, nearly half the number has been provided accommodation in schools. We have got the tremendous task of providing accommodation for the rest. It is interesting to see how much money we had been spending in 1939-40 on elementary education and how much money we are spending in 1948-49. The total number of schools in 1939-40 was 40,796 with 2,997,498 children. In the following years many of the uneconomic schools were eliminated and consequently in the year 1945-46, though the number of schools was reduced to 35,929 the number of children increased to 3,244,261. In 1945-46, compulsion was introduced in selected villages in each district and this was followed up in 1946-47 and 1947-48 with the result that roughly 5 lakhs of more children have been brought into school. The number of children for whom increased accommodation has been given in 1947-48 is roughly 16 per cent more than the accommodation given in 1939-40. But when we compare the expenditure between

1939-40 and 1948-49, we find a colossal difference. The expenditure by Government in 1939-40 for elementary education was 173 lakhs and the expenditure in 1947-48 was 413 lakhs and in 1948-49, it has increased to 501 crores. While there has been an increase of only 16 per cent of the school-going children, the increase in expenditure has been more than two and half times of what it was in 1939-40. This is in addition to the increased expenditure on elementary education by local bodies from 65 lakhs to nearly 160 lakhs in the same period. This does not take into account the additional expenditure of 33 lakhs that will have to be spent to meet the recent increase in the dearness allowance to elementary school teachers. This large increase of expenditure is mainly accounted for by the increased salaries and dearness allowances that have been given to the elementary school teachers.

This large increase in expenditure would not have really mattered if we had the satisfaction that the amount spent for the purpose has been well spent and the schools conducted efficiently and economically. It is unfortunate that we have received constant complaints that large number of schools have not been working efficiently.

Causes for Inefficiency

One of the main reasons for the present inefficiency in administration of elementary education by the local boards is said to be the large area which the District boards have to administer and the large number of schools under their control. The

DEPARTMENT'S CORNER

Agricultural Department

(1) *Vegetable cultivation in and around Madras City.*—The Government have sanctioned the continuance during 1948-49 the scheme for increasing the production of vegetables in and around Madras City. Under this scheme the special staff employed are engaged in doing intensive propaganda for bringing more areas under vegetables and advising people to grow them in their compounds and vacant sites adjoining houses. The City of Madras and the surrounding area within a radius of 15 miles are divided into three zones and each zone is attended to by a Special Agricultural Demonstrator who gives all possible help like supply of seeds, manures, demonstration of the methods of manuring, combating of pests and diseases, etc. Two jeeps have been provided to these Special Agricultural Demonstrators for quick transport. On the city there are three agricultural depots, one in the north, one in south and the third in Mount Road to enable the vegetable growers to get their requirements of seeds, etc., and technical advice near at hand.

(2) *Distribution of manure and seeds at half cost to the ryots of Cuddapah district affected by floods in December 1946.*—The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 37,710 for subsidizing the sale of manure and seeds at half cost to the ryots of Rajampet taluk, Cuddapah district, whose lands were affected by floods in December 1946, at the rate of four bags of groundnut cake and Rs. 2 worth of seeds per acre for a total area of 2,090 acres. Only ryots who own less than 5 acres of land or who pay an assessment of less than Rs. 30 and who grow food crops on the lands are eligible for the concession.

(3) *Decontrol of green manure seeds.*—In their notifications, dated 26th July 1947, the Government declared under the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946, the following green manure seeds as essential articles, fixed their prices and empowered all Collectors, District Agricultural Officers and certain other officers to procure stocks and control or restrict their movement within their respective jurisdictions, if necessary:—

(1) Kolinji or wild indigo, (2) daincha, (3) pillipesara, (4) indigo,

(5) sunn hemp and (6) sesbania speciosa.

With a view to restore free trade in green manure seeds, the Government have rescinded the above notifications.

(4) *Purchase of more tractors and oil engines for Grow More Food work.*—The Government have sanctioned the purchase by the Director of Agriculture of 100 tractors and allied equipments, at a capital cost of Rs. 25,10,000 under scheme No. 2 of the Grow More Food five-year plan, for hiring to ryots.

The Government have also sanctioned the purchase by the Director of Agriculture of 100 oil engines with necessary tools, spares and accessories for supply on hire or on sale to the agriculturists, at a capital cost not exceeding Rs. 4,73,000 under scheme No. 2 in the Grow More Food five-year plan.

Artesian Springs in South Arcot

The Department of Industries and Commerce is sinking several borewells in the districts to tap underground water for irrigation. In the South Arcot district two such wells struck artesian springs recently.

(1) In a 6-inch diameter borewell put down for Sri V. Rangaswamy Reddiar, Oomangalam village, Vriddhachalam taluk, to a depth of 163 feet below ground level a strong artesian current was met with and it rose to a height of about 9 feet above ground level yielding as much as 48,000 gallons of water per hour continuously. The borewell cost Rs. 2,000 only including the cost of steel lining pipes. Sri V. Rangaswamy Reddiar proposes to utilize this supply to irrigate 80 acres of land to raise paddy.

(2) A 6-inch borewell put down for Sri T. Manikka Padayachi in T. Pavangudi village, Vriddhachalam taluk, South Arcot district, struck artesian spring at 247 feet below ground level after passing through a lignite stratum of 20 feet thickness. As the discharge of this spring was only 80 gallons per minute the well was deepened and at 267 feet a strong artesian current was tapped. Water rose to a height of 13 feet above ground level discharging 54,000 gallons of water per hour

continuously. The quality of water is good. The total expenditure incurred in sinking this well is Rs. 3,200 approximately including the cost of lining pipes. Sri Manikka Padayachi proposes to irrigate about 90 acres of land to raise paddy and ground

Education Department

The question of introducing "Teaching Practice" as one of the subjects in the scheme of "Bifurcated Courses" in secondary schools is receiving active consideration of Government.

Government have sanctioned a scheme for the spread of adult education with the two-fold object of liquidating illiteracy of adults and improving the knowledge and highest education already possessed by adults.

A programme of literacy is about to be launched through student volunteers and has been envisaged. For this Hon'ble students of the Madras Colleges to an and Arts Colleges for at every Women) have been enrolled, some of the being given a short course of instruction during the vacation in the energy of the teaching adults and in the best spent on of work in the villages. Matters concerning

An adult Education Officer of the Province has been appointed in this way over the

The Government have sanctioned a proposal of the Director of Education for the ten Basic Training schools during 1948-49. The by informed sites and places for the construction of buildings is under officers consideration of the separate superiors.

The 40 per cent limit not admitting admission of non-European. Only Indian pupils in the school that the European and Anglo-Indian immediate raised to 49 per cent, but educational facilities for refugees from Western Pakistan are taken

The Training-School Leaving Certificate Board's recommendation that the number of question papers for the Training-School Leaving Certificate Examination in Elementary Grade be reduced from 8 to 6 was approved by the Commissioner for Government Examinations. This change will take effect from the examination of March 1949 onwards.

Government have approved the proposal that candidates without previous study in any school may be permitted to appear privately for the VIII Standard Public Examination without English as optional and that in the case of these private candidates a fee of Rs. 4 from each may be levied for the examination subject to the condition that the following classes of candidates

will not be permitted to take the examination privately, viz.:—

(1) Pupils of standards VI and VII of a higher elementary school and pupils of secondary schools, (2) pupils who left the school within a year of the date of application and (3) candidates below a minimum age to be prescribed by the Director.

In respect of condition (B) above, the Director has fixed 15 years as the minimum age for such candidates.

A paper of 1½ hours duration on "Elementary Science" has been included as an additional compulsory subject for the VIII Standard Public Examination with effect from the examination of 1949 and the examination fee for all the subjects (including Elementary Science) has been increased from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8-0 consequently.

Madras Educational Rules—Educational Concessions.—The Government have ordered that educational concessions granted under rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules be cancelled in respect of pupils in secondary schools who are in receipt of the concession, if they resort to or participate in strikes, etc.

Labour Department

Labour Situation in the Province

The Government of Madras have, under section 6 of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act, 1947 (Madras Act XXXVI of 1947), permanently exempted from all the provisions of the said Act the following classes of establishments, namely:—

- (1) Advocates chambers.
- (2) Doctors' consulting rooms.
- (3) Dispensaries attached to Doctors' consulting rooms.
- (4) Nursing homes, hospitals and other institutions for the treatment of the case of the sick, the infirm, the destitute or the mentally unfit.

Persons employed on contract for fixed periods have been exempted from the provisions of section 41 of the said Act.

The Government also have authorized deductions from wages of employees for amenities and services supplied by employers, under section 34 (2) (e) and section 38 of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act, 1947 (Madras Act XXXVI of 1947).

The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal (Sri Rao Bahadur M. Venkataramayya, B.A., B.L.) in the dispute between the workers and managements of Motor Transport Services and Motor Transport Workshops in the Province.

The workers of the Government State Transport struck work on 27th April 1948 as a protest against the dismissal of a conductor for misconduct. On the intervention of the General Secretary of the Union, the workers resumed work on the same day at 7-30 p.m.

The tramway workers struck work on 28th April 1948 as a protest against the appointment of an outsider as Special Inspector. On the intervention of the Secretary to Government, Development Department, the workers resumed work on 30th April 1948.

The workers of Pragati Pictures (Madras), Ltd., 37/38, Brodies Road, Mylapore, have gone on strike from 29th April 1948. The Labour Officer, Madras, is looking into the matter.

Sri Ramachandra Spinning and Weaving Mills, Pandalapaka, have been reopened and the workers resumed work on 2nd April 1948.

The workers of Sri Satyanarayana Spinning Mill, Rajahmundry, who struck work on 14th April 1948 resumed work on 16th April 1948.

Sri Bhairang Juto Mills, Ltd., Guntur, were closed on 5th January 1948 for want of raw materials. They were reopened on 22nd April 1948.

The tannery workers in Dindigul struck work on 7th April 1948 and resumed work on 10th April 1948.

The Government have warned the tannery workers in the Province that any strike during the pendency of proceedings before the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, to whom the disputes have already been referred for adjudication, is illegal.

About 300 workers of tea plantations in the Nilgiri district struck work on 14th April 1948. The Commissioner of Labour is trying to bring about a settlement of the dispute between the parties.

In three cases the Government have referred industrial disputes to Tribunals.

[Second fortnight of April 1948.]

Jail Department

The Government have sanctioned the introduction of hand spinning and handloom weaving in all jails in the Province and the Special Sub-Jails at Nellore, Calicut and Mangalore.

Recently the Chief Engineer (Special) offered to provide work for prisoners in the Tungabhadra Project. In view of the overcrowding in jails, the Inspector-General proposed that 2,000 prisoners might be employed for excavation of canals in the project. The Government have approved the proposal to employ 2,000 prisoners in the

project works and have sanctioned the opening of a camp jail to accommodate 2,000 prisoners at the site of the project.

The Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930, has been in force, in whole or in part, in the City of Madras and in about 65 places in the mufassal. Vigilance work under the Act was till recently carried on by the Madras Vigilance Association who met the salary, allowance, etc., of the staff employed by Sri Sadhana Training Home and Shelter from the grants made both by the Provincial Government and from contributions from local bodies and other sources. The expectation that private bodies would maintain Rescue Homes did not materialize in spite of the assurance given by the Government that they would render such financial assistance as was necessary. The Government have therefore decided to provincialize the Madras Vigilance service.

The Vigilance Association both in the City and in the mufassal will in future have no control over the staff or funds of the Rescue Homes and Shelter. They will function only as advisory bodies and confine their activities to propaganda work.

The Government have sanctioned the employment of certain additional staff for the Sri Sadhana Training Home and Shelter in addition to the existing staff. They have also sanctioned the opening of two Rescue Homes with an initial capacity for 50 girls with provision for enlargement up to 100, one at Ellore for Telugu girls and the other at Coimbatore for Malayalee, Kanarese and Tamil girls, with necessary staff and of four shelters with necessary staff at Madras, Trichinopoly, Salem and Calicut. Grants have also been made for transport, medicine, stationery, etc., for each Home and Shelter.

Miscellaneous

The Government made arrangements for the purchase of the Gosthani military water-supply installations for the Vizagapatnam Municipal Council at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs and also advanced this amount from Provincial Funds, pending adjustment of the cost with the municipal council.

2. The Government passed orders deputing at their cost, five Municipal Engineers, to the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta, for higher studies for the Degree of Master of Engineering (P.H.) of the Calcutta University. The candidates are to join the Institute on 2nd June 1948.

provided financial assistance to these societies in the shape of free grants and loans and have also sanctioned a Senior Inspector of Co-operative Societies free of cost for attending to their work.

Land Colonization

In addition to providing alternative employment in cottage Industries like jaggery manufacture, etc., the tappers are encouraged to settle on land and take to agriculture through land colonization Co-operative Societies. In fact, the future membership in the Woodapatti Kannavoipudur, the Mettupatti and the Mohanurpatti Land Colonization Co-operative Societies in the Salem district are exclusively reserved for ex-tappers. The tappers are encouraged to join in the land colonization co-operatives in the other districts also. As the tappers are rural folks and a good number of them are already engaged in agriculture also, the land colonization societies open up to them a convenient form of employment. Under the scheme of Land Colonization societies, Government grant large blocks of lands to the societies for cultivation and the societies in turn parcel out the lands to the members. In some cases, the value of the land is collected in a period of 20 years in easy instalments, and in others the lands are granted free of

cost. Government also arrange for irrigation facilities wherever possible. The following further concessions are enjoyed by these co-operatives:

(a) A free grant of Rs. 5 per acre will be made for manure for the first year. If larger grants are found necessary in the case of dry and garden lands, such grants will be given subject to a maximum of Rs. 10 per acre in each case.

(b) Seed will be distributed free of cost upto the limit mentioned below for the first year only. The amount of grant will ordinarily be limited to Rs. 2 per acre but larger grants subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 per acre wherever necessary will also be granted.

(c) Good bulls will be purchased and supplied to the societies. The Government will meet half the cost the other half being met by the member to whom the bull will be entrusted under certain conditions. A loan will be advanced to such members where necessary to meet the half cost. The loan will be interest free and repayable in five equal annual instalments. The cost of each pair of bulls should not exceed Rs. 250.

(d) An advance for the purchase of implements subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 per member, will be given. It is free of interest and is repayable in fifteen equal annual instalments.

(e) For reclamation of land, a loan of half the reclamation charges subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 per acre will be granted free of interest. This is repayable in ten equal annual instalments.

(f) Land revenue assessment and water cess will be waived for first three years.

(g) The free services of Senior Inspectors of Co-operatives Societies to be in charge of these societies are sanctioned by the Government besides the services of agricultural demonstration maistris to guide the members to undertake improved methods of agriculture.

It may not need mention that the jaggery co-operatives the land colonization co-operatives and the other cottage industries co-operatives afford vast scope for the resettlement of ex-tappers on alternative employments. These co-operatives not only help them in finding useful employments but also foster the habit of thrift among them. Besides they arrange for the joint purchase of their domestic and other requirements and the joint sale of their produce. As it may require volume to speak about the potentialities of "Co-operation" as a means of providing alternative employments to the ex-tappers, let me conclude for the present with what I have so far told you.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Mechanization in Britain

By A. B. LEES, Assistant Editor of the "Farmer and Stockbreeder," London.

Shortage of farm workers and big wage increases have resulted in farmers in Britain doing all they can to reduce the labour involved in tending livestock, particularly dairy cattle. Mechanization has for a long time been applied by leading farmers to milking itself and the growing and preparation of fodder. It is now being applied more generally, and equipment is being constantly improved to make cleaning easier, to increase output, and to simplify technique.

After milking and the preparation of food it is the tying and untying of the cows in the cowshed which takes up most time. The present trend, therefore, is to do away with the cowshed

and its conventional stalls and yokes, which involve walking up and down between each pair of cows several times a day for feeding and cleaning purposes.

Where the land is dry and the climate mild, pioneer dairy farmers keep their cows out of doors night and day, winter and summer. A portable milking plant travels from field to field with the herd, and during milking the cows are collected within a fence of single-strand electrified wire in which stands the bail, or portable outdoor milking plant. At least five of seven British manufacturers of milking machines make portable bails as standard equipment.

As a rule one man can attend 30 cows and still have time for general farm work during the middle of the day. To milk and feed concentrates each end of the day occupies about half-an-hour—three minutes each cow with three animals being machine milked simultaneously.

Dehorned cattle are an asset in both these milking systems, and quite recently electric appliances for dehorning have been introduced. They are no more than adapted soldering irons which can be plugged into any electric point. Two dabs on the horn buds of a four-week-old calf prevent horn growth without fail. Nor is the normal development of the calf upset.

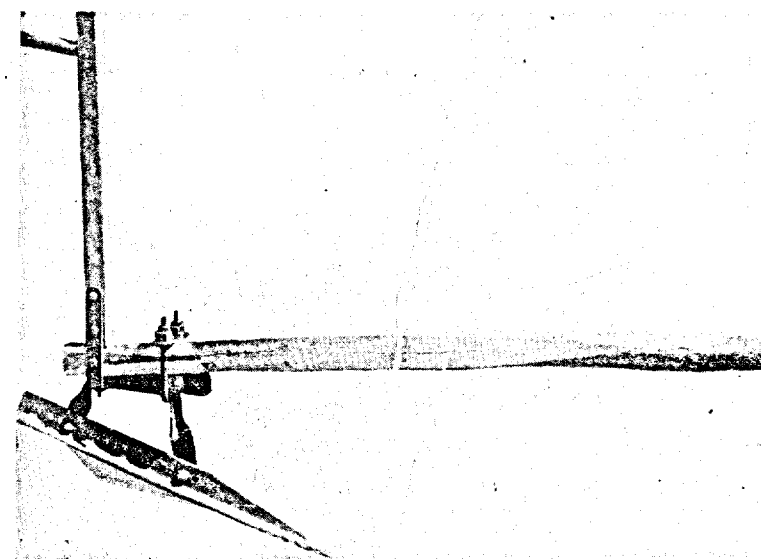
The object of *Madras Information* is to give a brief record of the Madras Government's activities and to educate the public opinion on the Government's policies.

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

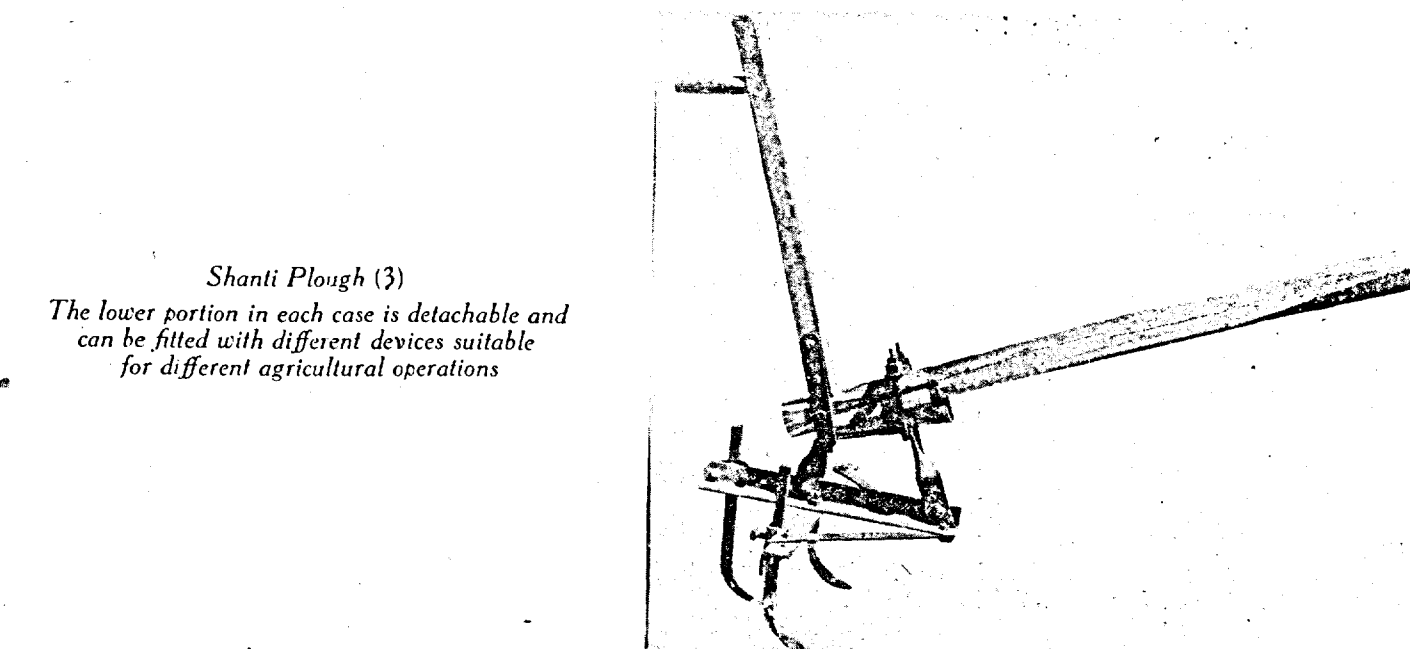
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Shanti Plough—A Multi-purpose Agricultural Implement

Shanti Plough (1)



Shanti Plough (2)



Shanti Plough (3)

The lower portion in each case is detachable and can be fitted with different devices suitable for different agricultural operations

Government are having under consideration a proposal to take off elementary education from District Boards and create separate Taluk Councils for taluks with the hope that these smaller bodies will be able to manage and supervise the elementary schools better.

One of the reasons for the inefficiency of our elementary schools has been said to be want of good teachers. Any reorganization which does not take into account these factors and effect improvement in the status of the elementary school teachers in their daily life cannot succeed in its object and so, it is under the contemplation of Government to consider ways and means by which this can be done consistent with our financial resources.

Finance

The next big problem which I would like to place before you is the matter of financing of elementary education. In fact, it is finance that stands in the ways of the spreading of elementary education. Before 1920, there were only a few schools and many of these were maintained by Government. After 1920, when the Elementary Education Act was introduced, the Government provided for the levy of an education cess and promised that an equal amount to the cess, collected in the various Municipalities and District Boards will be paid by Government for the elementary education fund, in addition to the amount which was already being spent in the various District Boards for elementary education. After some time, subsidies for pre-vocational training were given. In 1941, the Government introduced an amending Act by which the responsibility of Government to pay an equal amount for the elementary education cess collected by the Municipalities and District Boards was taken away. Later on, due to agitation, the Government conceded that in cases of certain Local Boards where the elementary education cess was not high, they will meet the raising of the education cess up to 3-1/3 pies. But in spite of the ban under the Act, the Government continued their subsidies for compulsory elementary education which was started in the year 1945. Subsidies for dearness allowance were also given and are being given up to this date. In case of certain backward districts like the Ceded Districts, Chittoor and Salem, special subsidies were given for expansion of elementary education. Thus, it will be seen that the Government are making considerable

contributions towards the expenditure on elementary education in spite of the amendment of the Elementary Education Act in 1941.

The education tax levied by the Local Bodies and the Municipal Councils comes to nearly one crore. The contribution of the local bodies from the general fund towards elementary education is nearly 60 lakhs. And so, the total contribution of local bodies for elementary education is one crore and 60 lakhs. In the case of many local boards, the education cess has been fairly heavy. The lowest rate is in Tanjore at the rate of 10 pies per rupee in the land cess and the highest is in Salem at the rate of 37 pies per rupee. It has been said that land cannot bear any more taxation even for education. On the other hand, we have yet to provide for an equal number of seats in elementary schools as exist at present. Ten years must be the maximum time within which we must spread compulsory elementary education throughout the Province. If that is to be done, we will have to

Technical Education

NOTE.—It is an established fact that agriculture cannot alone support the teeming millions of India. The Country needs planned industrialisation and promotion of technical education is one of the necessary pre-requisites in industrialisation. The subject of technical education is therefore of special significance in the present context of things. Recently Mr. Govinda Menon, Joint Director of Industries and Commerce dealt with this subject in the course of a broadcast from the A.I.R., Madras. He said inter alia,

“The primary function of technical instruction is that of satisfying the needs of industry and commerce for skilled craftsmen, intelligent foremen and executives and research workers and chief executives.

The need for a considerable expansion in this branch of education in India is urgent. Hitherto the demand for technical personnel has been restricted partly by the limited number of openings which have been available in industry and commerce, and partly by the practice of filling the more remunerative posts with imported technicians.

No country can initiate and carry on industries on a large scale, unless it has an adequate supply of men specially

provide progressively additional places for 3½ lakhs of children every year for the next 10 years, not taking into consideration any increase of population that may follow in the meantime. If such a provision is to be progressively made, it may be roughly as follows :—

	LAKHS.
	RS.
For the first year ..	63
For the second year ..	126
For the third year ..	189
For the fourth year ..	252
For the fifth year ..	315
For the sixth year ..	378
For the seventh year ..	441
For the eighth year ..	504
For the ninth year ..	567
For the tenth year ..	630

How to find the necessary finance for the purpose is the very important question that we have to tackle to-day. If we are not going to increase the land cess, we must evolve some other methods of taxation. From which source this money will come is the matter which we will have to consider in the course of our conference.”

trained for the direction and management of large industrial concerns as well as of others qualified for the minor, but very important supervisory posts in them. On the other hand, it cannot be expected that capable and ambitious men will devote themselves to acquiring this special knowledge and skill unless they see a reasonable prospect of exercising it, gaining a decent livelihood thereby.

The experience of the war, however, has already led to a number of salutary changes; it has compelled a large expansion of industry and created a greatly increased demand for technicians of all grades, while at the same time, the need for skilled and semi-skilled workmen and led to almost every technical institution in the country becoming a centre for Technical Training schemes.

In 1944, the Government of Madras appointed a special Committee on Technical Education to report on the expansion of Technical Education in all its branches with particular reference to the immediate need for technical personnel to carry out the various plans of Government for post-war development especially in the first five years. The main recommendations of this Committee are:

That development of all grades of Technical Education should be on a regional basis;

That three more Engineering Colleges be started in the Province, one being in the Ceded districts;

That more Polytechnics and Industrial schools should be started on a regional basis;

and that there should be an Apprentices Act enabling Government to make it obligatory on the part of employees to admit apprentices under a regulated scheme.

The Department of Industries and Commerce submitted to Government proposals to open new Polytechnics at Madurai, Calicut, Mangalore, Vuyyuru, Coimbatore, Cocanada and Bellary and establish six new Government Industrial schools. Government have sanctioned all the Polytechnics, and these will cost Government Rs. 93½ lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 78 lakhs recurring in the first five years. Proposals for the Industrial Schools are under Government's active consideration. The Poly-

technics will teach to the diploma standard in Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Radio Engineering, Sound Engineering, Automobile Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Food Technology, Printing and Fisheries Technology and Navigation. The Industrial Schools will train technical persons to the certificate standard in as many as 52 trades including black-smithy, cabinet-making, carpet weaving, fish processing, light metal casting, pottery, Tailoring, toy making, etc., etc. Examinations of the diploma standard will be conducted by a Technological Diploma Examination Board constituted by Government and representing the various Industries and Engineering Colleges in the Province.

The ground is therefore being rapidly prepared for the development of technical education in Madras on practical and up-to-date lines.”

Delhi Conference and After

In the course of a broadcast Hon'ble Dr. T. S. S. Rajan referred to the recent Delhi Food Conference and outlined the present food position in this Province. The facts bearing on these are now familiar. Concluding his talk the Hon'ble Minister observed: “I will end this talk by giving an idea of the present food situation. Against the procurement of 1,062,000 tons of rice in the surplus districts, we have so far procured 5,53,000 tons or a little over 50 per cent. In the levy districts, about 90,000 tons have been procured so far against a target of 182,000 tons. The quantity procured is, as is to be expected, falling week after week, in view of the fact that the main harvest took place months ago.

The weekly issues of rice from the ration and the relief shops amount at present to about 17,000 tons of rice, 3,300 tons of maize and 900 tons of other foodgrains making a total of 21,200 tons of all foodgrains. The off-take will however increase during the succeeding lean months.

The Provincial stock position on 1st May 1948 was as follows :—

Rice	85,642 tons.
Maize	78,607 „
Wheat and wheat products ..	6,667 „
Other foodgrains ..	22,485 „
Total	495,401 „

With these stocks and with the additional help which has been asked for from the Government of India, I am confident that we could tide over the difficult months which are ahead with some co-operation from the public. I therefore make an earnest appeal both to the producers and the merchant classes not to take undue advantage of the existing difficult conditions and add to the suffering of the masses. The Government have got ample statutory powers to proceed against those who indulge in such anti-social activities and would not hesitate to use them but would be very glad to depend upon the voluntary cooperation of all concerned for the common good.”

Ex-Tappers in Prohibition Areas

In order to find congenial avocations to the ex-tappers, Government have permitted in the districts of North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Chittoor, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Madurai, Guntur, Nellore, Malabar and South Kanara the tapping of sweet juice from Palmyrah trees for the production of

palmyrah jaggery and co-operative societies have been formed for the purpose. There are 338 such societies in the 16 districts. The jaggery societies handled jaggery valued at Rs. 4.68 lakhs for the period for the season ending with 29th February 1948. In these days when refined sugar is in

short supply, the jaggery societies can play a useful part not only in providing alternative employment to the ex-tappers but also in contributing their quota in the supply of jaggery. We have seen people taking palmyrah jaggery as a good substitute for sugar even from the point of view of its nutritive value. Let me not further dwell on the food value of palmyrah jaggery as it will be an encroachment on the domain of the Nutrition expert. In the districts of Malabar, South Kanara and Coimbatore, Government have permitted the tapping of sweet juice from coconut trees also subject to certain special conditions as these districts abound in coconut palms. As for the organisation and supervision of these societies, Government have sanctioned a staff of Senior Inspectors of Co-operative Societies. As the manufacture of palmyrah jaggery is only a seasonal industry, the introduction in these societies of Cottage Industries like Leather goods manufacture, dairying, poultry farming, etc., is also undertaken. The societies situated near urban areas can encourage the tappers to take to dairying as they can easily find a ready sale for milk. If they are situated in remote villages not connected by proper communications to facilitate easy transport of milk, the milk can be converted into ghee and sold in urban areas. As the tappers are generally too poor to have any financial resources to purchase milch animals necessary for running dairies, Government have extended the scheme of state help to milk supply co-operative societies to the Jaggery Manufacture Co-operatives working in the prohibition districts. To start with, the concession is made applicable to the jaggery co-operatives in the six districts of Coimbatore, North Arcot, Salem and Chittoor. Under the above state help, Government grant interest-free loans to members of jaggery societies for the purchase of milch animals. The loans granted for the purchase of milch cattle shall be repayable within a period of one year and shall be free of interest.

Cottage Industries Societies

Besides jaggery co-operatives, separate cottage industries societies for ex-tappers have also been formed at certain centres. For example at Ayothipatnam in Salem district, a carpet Weavers' Co-operative Society has been formed. At Ambur in the North Arcot district a co-operative Milk Supply Union has been formed with half-a-dozen feeder societies in and around Ambur. Government have

TOPICS OF THE DAY

Eating for Health

In the course of a broadcast, Hon'ble Rajkumari Amrit Kaur said :—

“ Our diet must contain (1) body building foods, (2) protective foods and (3) energy foods.

(1) Milk, cheese, meat of every kind, fish, poultry, eggs, beans, pulses (dals) and nuts are some of the body building foods. Cheese and *khoa* of milk are just as good as meat for body building.

(2) Some of the protective foods are milk, butter, green vegetables and fruits which contain proteins, minerals and vitamins. They protect our body against infections and diseases.

(3) Bread, rice, sugar, butter, oils, honey and *gur* are some of the energy foods which keep us active, including strength for work and blood circulation, breathing, etc.

You will see from this group that some foods are ‘all purpose type.’ They supply the three needs of the body. We should, therefore, give them preference to other foods.

All foods give us energy but the primary source of energy is grain products. Fats and sugar are additional sources of energy in the diet. In many parts of India people are in the habit of using polished rice or sieving their grain products before eating. When they make flour from the wheat, they remove the bran-layer which is usually given to cattle. Rice is so refined by various methods before eating that nothing valuable is left. These methods of refining remove most of the protective minerals and vitamins which lie in the bran-layer.

Proteins and Minerals

The food required for growth are called proteins. Proteins build and repair our tissues, and out of proteins the cells, nerves, skins, hair and nails are formed. Without it life cannot exist. If the diet continues to be low in proteins, the result may be, stunted growth, general ill-health, fatigue, lack of resistance to infections, low blood pressure and low red colour of blood which makes us look pale and haggard and often feel “too tired.” Protein is widely distributed in natural foods but meat, fish, eggs, pulses (dals), nuts,

soya-beans, rice, wheat-atta and other cereals are the best sources. The good rule to follow is to eat some proteins from plants such as grains, pulses, nuts and some from animal source such as fish, meat, cheese, eggs and milk. During pregnancy, lactation and growth the requirement of proteins is greater.

The frame-work and the functioning of the body are dependent upon the supply of minerals. The most important minerals are calcium, phosphorus and iron. Many of the other minerals needed are so widely distributed in ordinary foods that we rarely fall short of them.

Calcium is needed for growing bones and teeth. A rich supply of calcium will increase the general vigour, promote a better state of health and in old age keep the blood vessels in smooth working order, thus even help in living longer. The best source of this mineral is milk. Therefore, liberal supplies of milk and milk products are needed in abundance for growing children. Children who do not get enough calcium grow with weak and badly shaped bones. Their teeth do not develop properly and they lack in strength. During pregnancy and lactation the need for calcium is greater and a diet rich in calcium is necessary. Besides milk other calcium-rich foods are *khoa*, green leafy vegetables like *sarson-ka sag*, palak, salad, etc.

When we lack iron we become pale, anæmic and may get very ill. Our body cannot store much iron; therefore every day we must eat foods containing it. Iron gives our body rich blood colour and pink cheeks. If your body has not rich red colour it will not be able to carry oxygen to all parts of your body. During growth children need a good supply of iron. A few examples of the foods which contain iron are liver, egg-yolk, *gur*, dates, tamarind, whole wheat, peas, spinach (palak), chicken and oysters.

‘Life-giving’ Substance

We have been hearing quite a lot about vitamins. Have you wondered what this word means? This word means ‘life-giving’ substance. Now you can imagine from the meaning how important these vitamins are for our

body. An eminent scientist has said that ‘Vitamins are to your body-engine what spark plugs are to an automobile; vitamins supply the spark that makes your engine go.’ Vitamins help you to grow and keep well. It is fortunate that foods which are useful in supplying minerals are also useful in supplying vitamins, as for example, cheese, milk, green leafy vegetables which contain calcium, and they are also rich in all the important vitamins.

The vitamin exists in minute quantities in food. Scientists have discovered a number of vitamins and have given names by the letters of Alphabets. The most important vitamins are A, B, C and D.

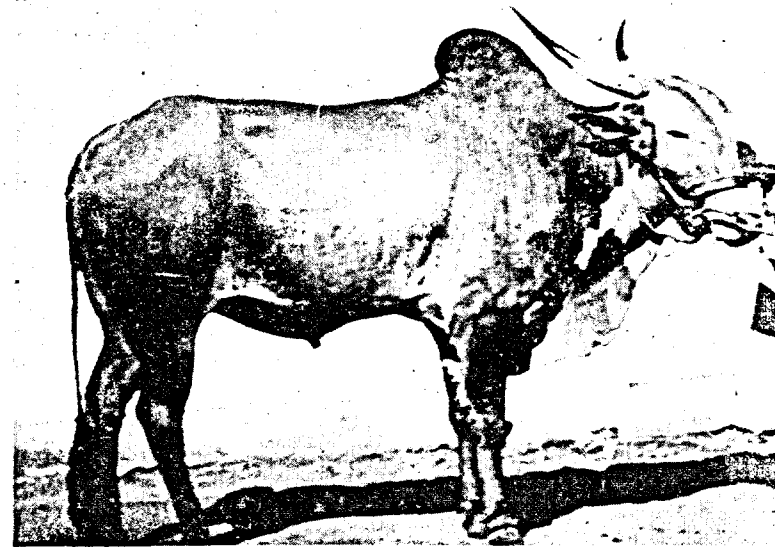
Vitamin A is necessary for promoting healthy growth and the proper functioning of the eyes, the skin and the digestive tract. It also has an influence on the body reactions to infection. Lack of this vitamin results in night-blindness. We can get this vitamin from butter, ghee, cream, eggs, milk, yellow fruits and vegetables such as papaya, mangoes and carrots and amaranth leaves, *palak*, etc. Fish liver is richer in it than any other food. Also the red palm oil. The habit of frying things in ghee destroys much of the vitamin contents from it.

Vitamin B is a term which refers to a group of vitamins. This group of vitamins reduces fatigue, increases appetite, improves digestion and intestinal health and builds strong nerves. The foods containing Vitamin B are liver, kidney, heart, fresh peas, pulses (dals) meat, milk, whole wheat, green vegetables, fish, eggs, groundnuts and potatoes.

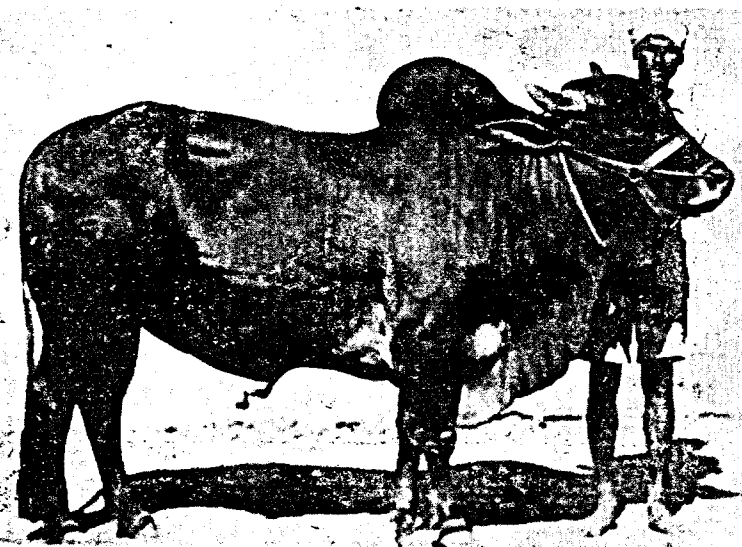
Vitamin C is necessary for healthy functioning of blood vessels and for strong bones and teeth. Deficiency of this vitamin leads to scurvy. In olden days thousands of sailors died of this disease because their diet consisted of only salted meat and dried bread. It was completely lacking in vitamin C. Most foods such as raw vegetables, lemons, tomatoes, oranges, guava fruit (amrood), sprouted whole grams, contain this vitamin. But the richest source of this vitamin is “Amla” or Nellikai, known to the Indian Vidyas and ‘Ayurveda,’ ‘the science of longevity,’ in India from time immemorial as a great saviour of health and preserver of life. Therefore ‘Amla’ chatni or murrabba, jam or pickles are a very helpful addition at meals.

Vitamin D is called sun-shine vitamin because you get this vitamin through

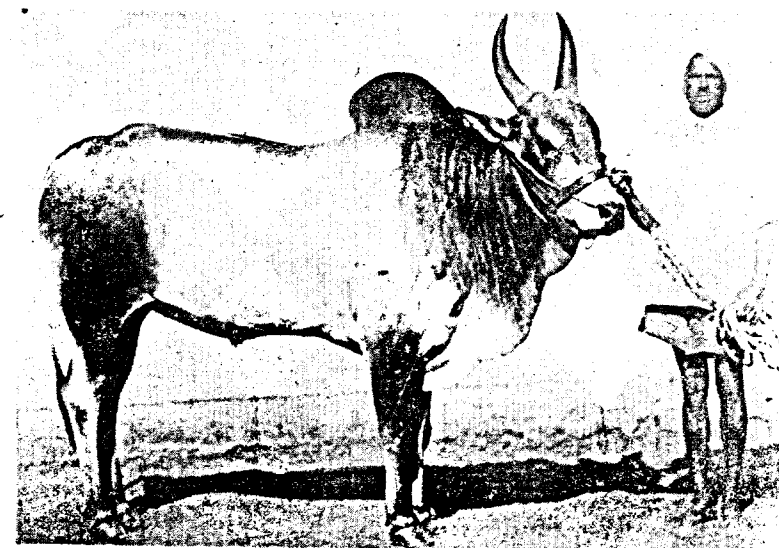
Hallikar Breeding Bull at Livestock Research Station, Hosur



A Scindhi Breeding Bull



A Kangayam Bull

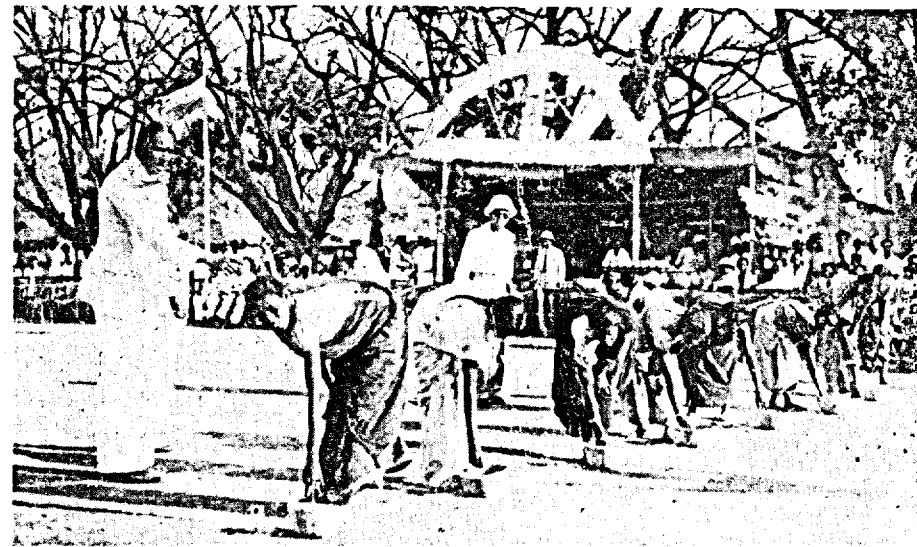


Entertainments in Prohibition Area



Mayakrishna dance

Basket race



Musical chair. Ex-addicts are now greatly interested in witnessing or taking part in entertainments

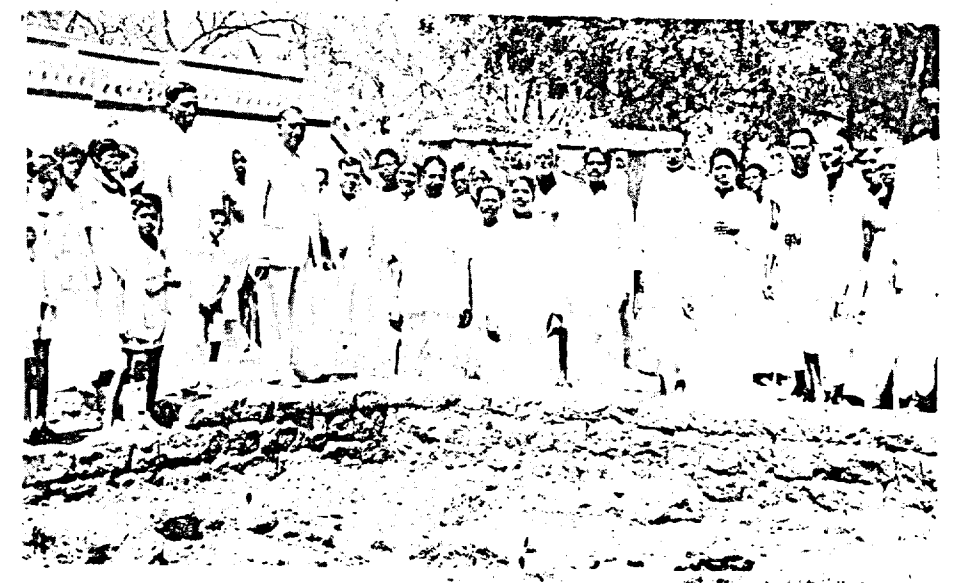
Varied Activities in Pictures

A scheme is under consideration to reclaim these backward people in Anantapur District from the practice of illicit distillation by providing employments in cottage industries such as the manufacture of palmyrah products



The ballad singer at Chittoor training the villagers in community singing at Bengarikunda, Chittoor District

Leading men of Pallacheruvu village in Chittoor District who have donated for the construction of a building to be used as a community centre



the rays of the sun. This vitamin helps your body to build strong and sturdy bones and sound teeth. People living in cold countries where winters are severe and the sun does not come out for weeks or people living in congested parts of the town should use cod-liver oil which is rich in this vitamin. But the regular sun-bathing habit will be excellent and prevents bad formation of bones.

Planned Meals

Years of scientific investigation have made it possible for us to determine what kind of food is required for the maintenance of good health. We can plan our meals in such a way that we may get all the vitamins and minerals which are needed by our body. We should eat raw vegetables and fresh fruit every day because a large part of vitamins are lost in cooked foods, and remember that proper methods of cooking are necessary in conserving vitamins and minerals in the foods. But vitamin C is always lost in cooking. We should never throw away the water in which the vegetables have been cooked because certain vitamins and minerals are dissolved in the water. The waste of this water is a nutrition crime. It means a serious vitamin and mineral loss. Cooking vegetables in iron pans is a very good habit. Milk is deficient in iron and so boiling milk in iron pans provides the iron needed for the body. Among certain sections there is a common belief that by using more and more ghee their children would develop into vigorous adults and they themselves will maintain good health for the longest period possible on a diet rich in ghee. No one denies that ghee has its use in the diet but within certain limits. The excessive use of ghee or any other fat may lead to positive deterioration in health in the long run. An intake of 1 to 2 ounces of fat has been considered by physiologists adequate for maintenance of prolonged healthy life. There are some scientists who are of the opinion that about 30 per cent of the fat should preferably be of animal origin.

Danger of Patent Medicines

To-day the market is flooded with numerous patent tonics and vitamin pills which are widely advertised and for which special propaganda methods have been devised by the manufacturers which are not only dangerous but are also usually expensive. These tonics should not be used unless 'prescribed' by a competent physician.

Remember there is no such thing as 'Brain Food' as is often advertised nor is there any particular medicine which will stimulate the secretion of

milk in a nursing mother. If you supply your body with the various nutritious food of a 'mixed' but "balanced diet", you will keep yourself healthy and strong.

A Balanced Diet

A balanced diet will be 4 chhataks of wheat chapaties or 6 chhataks of cooked rice, $\frac{1}{2}$ chhatak of ghee, or butter, or oil, $\frac{1}{2}$ seer of milk or curds, 2 chhataks cooked vegetables, preferably 1 chhatak of green leaves, 2 chhataks meat or dalls or $\frac{1}{2}$ chhatak of nuts and $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ seer of fruit. If good foods are not available, there should be

changes in the variety of dalls used, changes in the vegetables, fruit and nuts, especially where rice is the staple food, green leafy vegetables and variety of dalls or chana and oil or ghee should be used without missing a fresh fruit or raw vegetable to compensate for the lack of vitamin C which is destroyed in cooking. A little "Amla" chatni and mango chatni will be all that you want to add to the palate and preservation of health.

If everyone were to observe these simple laws of nutrition in their daily lives, there would be far less ill-health in our country."

Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East

NOTE.—The United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and Far East is in session at Ootacamund now. This article is therefore of especial topical interest.

I. *Historical background.*—The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East was established by the Economic and Social Council on March 28, 1947, on the recommendation of a Working Group for Asia and the Far East which had been set up by the Temporary Sub-Commission on the Economic Reconstruction of Devastated Areas. (This Temporary Sub-Commission was established by the Economic and Social Council on June 21, 1946, upon the recommendation of the Council's Economic and Employment Commission, for the purpose of making inquiries in the countries which had been occupied or devastated during the war except Germany and Japan.)

II. *Terms of reference.*—The Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East is charged among other things, with initiating and participating in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction of Asia and the Far East, with raising the level of economic activity in Asia and the Far East and with maintaining and strengthening the economic relations of these areas both among themselves and with other countries of the world.

Not later than 1951, the Economic and Social Council is to make a special review of the work of the Commission with a view to determining whether the Commission should be terminated or continued, and if continued, what modification if any should be made in its terms of reference.

III. *Membership.*—Membership on the Economic Commission for Asia

and the Far East is of two kinds: full and associate. Representatives of associate members are entitled to participate without vote in all meetings of the Commission, whether sitting as Commission or as Committee of the Whole; and are eligible to be appointed as members of any Committee, or other subordinate body, which may be set up by the Commission and are eligible to hold office in such body.

The following countries are members of the Commission: Australia, China, France, India, the Netherlands, Pakistan, The Philippine Republic, Siam, the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom and the United States.

The Commission at its second session unanimously approved a recommendation to the Economic and Social Council that the Government of New Zealand be admitted to membership of the Commission and that, pending action by the Council, that Government be invited to send an observer to attend the second session.

The following territories are associate members of the Commission: Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Hongkong, Laos and Malayan Union.

Consideration of the application for associate membership for Indonesia was postponed by the Commission to the third session.

IV. *Work of the Commission.*—To date, the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East has held the following meetings: first session of the Commission held in Shanghai from June 16 to 25, 1947; session of the Committee of the Whole at Lake Success, New York, from July 10 to 17, 1947; second session of the Commission held in Baguio, Philippine Republic, from November 24 to December 6, 1947.

A. *First Session of the Commission.*—At its first session the Commission's main task was to draw up an immediate programme of investigations. It resolved that steps should be taken to complete the study begun in the report of the Working Group and to analyse the short term requirements of the various countries within the geographic scope of the Commission in respect of essential reconstruction needs, such as food; seed; fertilizers; textiles; raw materials; industrial; agricultural, mining and transport equipment; coal and other fuel.

It resolved that steps should be taken to ascertain the extent to which these requirements could be met, and to suggest appropriate measures for meeting them.

The Commission also resolved that steps should be taken to suggest the measures necessary to facilitate training in the economic field of administrative and technical personnel of the countries concerned and the obtaining of competent technicians from outside by countries in need of them.

B. *Committee of the Whole of the Commission.*—The Commission had

been asked to appoint at its first session a Committee of the Whole to submit recommendations with particular reference to the membership of the Commission, its geographical scope and other changes in, or additions to, its terms of reference. At its meeting in July the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East might admit certain non-self-governing territories within its geographical scope as associate members. This can be effected on their application through the metropolitan power or, if they are responsible for their own international relations, on application presented direct to the Commission. If not admitted as associate members, such territories may be admitted in a consultative capacity. It also proposed the following additions to the Commission's terms of reference: provision for direct recommendations to member governments, regular reports to the Economic and Social Council and consultative arrangements with representatives of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Japan and the Control Authorities in Korea.

The Palm—Source of 'Nira' and Gur

New Direction to Ancient Industry

[The palm, a tree which needs no introduction to the Indian people will now under the advice and guidance of the Central Ministry of Agriculture, be increasingly used in the manufacture of gur and sugar. The article below describes how its juice—the 'nira' usually fermented into intoxicating toddy can help to resuscitate a dying industry and provide supplementary occupation to our cultivators spread over lakhs of villages.]

Anyone who has lived in South India or Bengal will have often seen men climbing palm trees and tapping them for toddy, but few of them know that from the juice of the palm tree gur has been manufactured for centuries. Despite all the progress made in the production of factory sugar, the indigenous palm gur production has survived to this day. In the days of the East India Company palm gur formed an important item of our export trade and even to-day about 175,000 tons of gur is made from the juice of palm trees in the villages of Bengal and Madras. No large investment is necessary and no elaborate technique is involved; the tools for tapping

are prepared by village smiths and there are no inherent dangers of centralized production leading to the accumulation of wealth in the hands of a few.

There are three species of palm, the date, palmyra and sago; the tree can be grown on non-agricultural waste land and needs neither manuring, irrigation nor protection against wild animals. If grown on the bunds of fields or banks of rivers and canals, the palm prevents land erosion, and as a wind breaker it protects crops in the fields. Its various parts, the leaf, stalks, trunk and fibre, are all useful to the agriculturist for making matting, ropes, baskets, water drains, fencing and sheds. Its tender leaves provide useful fodder for cattle. Unlike the sugarcane, which perishes seasonally the palm is a perennial supplier of sugar and the palmyra variety is a centenarian.

The palmyra yields 6,000 lb. per acre of gur; the yield from the sugarcane is about just half. Even on the assumption that palmyra gur and sugar cannot compete against the mill product, the need for an increase in gur production will be clear from the

figures of per capita consumption of gur and sugar in India with those in other countries. As against an annual average of 26 lb. in India it is 75 lb. in U.K. and 85 lb. in U.S.A.

Ideal Cottage Industry

One of the greatest handicaps of the Indian agriculturist is the lack of subsidiary occupation for guaranteeing an equilibrium in his agrarian economy. As about 80 per cent of the population depends on agriculture, only decentralized industries requiring small investments, handy tools and simple technique can adequately serve the purpose. All these requirements are fulfilled by palm gur manufacture. The men tap the juice and the women boil it. All village artisans, the potter, the smith, the tanner and the carpenter contribute to the successful prosecution of palm gur production.

Although there are thousands of palm trees in other provinces besides Madras and Bengal, palm gur is almost unknown in other areas. Only about 10 per cent of the trees are used in the manufacture of toddy by fermenting the juice; the other trees serve no purpose. Because of the rapid progress of prohibition, even these few trees will remain unutilized and a large number of tappers will have to find alternative employment.

Realizing the importance of palm gur manufacture as a cottage industry and as a means of providing employment to a large number of toddy tappers, the Central Ministry of Agriculture has sanctioned a sum of over Rs. 1,40,000 for the current year for developing palm gur scheme in the provinces. This work has been entrusted to Mr. Gajanan Naik, an inmate of Mahatma Gandhi's ashram at Sewagram, Wardha, who has to his credit a great deal of pioneering effort in connexion with the preparation of gur and sugar from palmyra juice.

He is at present engaged on three aspects of the problem, the collection of statistics regarding the number of palm trees of different kinds and state of industry in various provinces, (2) the importance and standardization of the methods of tapping and (3) standardization of the methods of preserving tapped juice to prevent fermentation and improving the final product. Considering that the number of tappable palm is estimated at 5 crores the annual gur production in India can be increased by about 10 lakh tons.

(Continued on page 27)

BUILDING UP THE NATION

Madras Government's Schemes

"Take care of the villages and the country will take care of itself"

"I would say that if the village perishes, India will perish too. India will be no more India. Her own mission in the world will get lost"—GANDHIJI.

The Madras Government have already committed themselves to the policy of bringing the entire province under prohibition by October 1, 1948. That it is a big and far-reaching decision there is no doubt. The decision entails sacrifice of a further revenue of Rs. 6 crores in addition to the Rs. 10 crores sacrificed already. But of far greater significance than the loss of revenue is the effort that has to be put forth to enforce prohibition throughout the whole province. It is a huge task in spite of the general goodwill and support for the policy that is prevalent among the public. The point, however, is that every society has its unsocial elements and these latter, while not being able perhaps to prevent implementation of a scheme like this, may interpose spokes in the wheel, which may cause minor annoyances and difficulties in its successful implementation. These black sheep have nevertheless to be reckoned with and their activities counteracted if prohibition is not to make but limping progress. The worst enemies of prohibition enforcement are the secret distillers even as the worst enemies of successful implementation of price or economic controls are the blackmarketeers among traders. We cannot change human nature, which everywhere has embedded in it the mischievous, the selfish and the self-seeking elements and Governments can only take such action in dealing with these elements in human society as is conditioned by the limiting factor that they cannot be obliterated altogether. Those who indulge in illicit distillation and other prohibition offences belong to the category of people referred to her.

Fortunately the Government will have the experience of two years of working of prohibition in a major portion of the province by the time the whole province is brought within its compass. They have also before them the report of a Committee of non-officials, who had investigated into its working so far and have made some important suggestions in regard to both

the enforcement and the ameliorative sides. When the report is published, the public will be in a position to judge for themselves the value of the recommendations made by the Committee with regard to important connected questions such as the best agency for enforcement, the worth and usefulness of the beneficent and ameliorative programme now being worked out and the manner in which public co-operation can be evoked in making prohibition a success and in checkmating the activities of those who are out to defeat the aims and objects of the policy. Government will doubtless take stock of the existing defects and successes as revealed in official reports and the suggestions and recommendation of the Committee will serve both as warnings and assurances for the future.

Let there be no mistake about it that the enforcement of province-wide prohibition is an exceptionally bold experiment and that in undertaking it the Madras Government are taking some risks. But they are doing it with open eyes and with a full realization of the responsibilities that are inherent in it. They are also doing it in the full hope that the public will give them the maximum possible support and that they will co-operate with official efforts for bringing about their amelioration economically, morally and physically. Public co-operation is needed in regard to more than one aspect of the policy of successful extension of prohibition. It is required in the negative programme of checking the evil of illicit distillation and illicit sale of liquor; it is needed in regard to the positive aspect of improving the economic conditions of the villagers; it is required also in the detection of prohibition crime, irrespective of those concerned in committing it. The programme of stimulating the savings habits among ex-addicts, encouraging the people to participate in healthy village activity which will wean them away from the temptation to drink,

and so on is relatively speaking the more important and the more beneficent aspect of the prohibition scheme.

The Grama Sanghams, Prohibition Committees and other village organizations, brought into existence in connexion with prohibition, obviously require to be more active and take a more real interest than what they are probably inclined to do so far in making prohibition evasion-proof. With their aid and co-operation, it should be possible to eliminate most of the existing drawbacks in the enforcement programme and of facilitating the work of the police who have to enforce it. There are of course a certain number of people, both educated and uneducated, both in towns and villages, who find it difficult to overcome their drink habit and who constitute a tough problem for the prohibition staff. To them our advice would be: "Reform yourself before someone else comes to reform you." They should realize that they cannot by-pass the time-spirit and that they have to fall in line with their fellowmen in becoming sober not so much as a matter of enforced necessity but as a matter of cultivated habit. Our educated men should set an example to their less educated and less favoured fellows. It involves practice of both an individual virtue and the performance of a social service, which should elevate those who practise or perform it.

When the whole province comes under prohibition, it will be the biggest area for carrying out the programme of rural reconstruction; for prohibition is an essential and fundamental part of rural reconstruction. It means, in other words, that the whole province will be unofficially brought under the scheme for village development now officially confined to a few selected firkas. In these latter, development will naturally be on an extensive scale; but throughout the province, efforts can be made to ameliorate the

conditions of the people by organizing them on a co-operative basis for promotion of rural welfare under the Prohibition Scheme. The entire programme may seem too good and too cheerful in the prospect to be true; but it will become true and it will have to become true after October 1, 1948. We have Firka Development now as the official response to the demands of our neglected villages; we will hereafter have a province-wide drive to achieve the same end through the introduction of prohibition and other incidental steps measures.

Among the essential things which will conduce to the success of the ameliorative scheme efforts which are to be made to should be reckoned to wean away the people from the evil of drink and enable them to utilize their leisure and savings for their self-improvement. An educational and entertainment programme has to be evolved in which the spread of adult literacy, provision of audio-visual aids like the cinema, the drama and the harikatha, etc., and propaganda and publicity through the spoken-word—both directly by means of lectures in the villages and indirectly through the radio—will occupy a prominent place. The Co-operative department should be the medium through which a good deal of village uplift can be carried on and the principle of co-operation can be extended to cover all activities comprehended in the ameliorative scheme. When every available agency is thus switched on to the central object of banishing the temptation to indulge in the deleterious habit of drink, which holds so many of our village population in its grip, we will have literally killed two birds with one stone. We will have enforced prohibition of intoxicating drugs and drinks on the one hand and on the other hand we will have laid, well and truly, the foundation for rehabilitating the villages and village economy.

Firka Development

Our Firka Development Scheme has now got a new orientation, which should serve to make it a boon to the concerned villagers. As one studies the problem more and more closely, one will realize in a greater and greater degree that we cannot escape the village and the villager, which are so much with us. They are an ever-present and omni-present reality demanding attention and ever more attention. The unfortunate fact is that so little had been done in the past

for villages and so much remains to be done to make them entities worth consideration. The Firka Development scheme is a concession to this fact and on its effective working will depend to a large extent the worth of the National freedom that we have won. While opening the Fruit Exhibition in Madras the Food Minister to the Government of India pointed out to us how freedom has imposed newer responsibilities on the Governments while it opened out the vision of the masses and entitled them to demand that Governmental policies should all be attuned to the comprehensive objective of enabling them to live better and happier lives. The Firka Development scheme aims at the same goal and in regard to its scheme as in regard to the Prohibition Scheme, the drive for self-improvement among the people has to be systematically undertaken and they should be encouraged to participate in an enthusiastic manner in what the Government are doing in this regard.

Our villagers are becoming keenly alive to their requirements and are prepared to take advantage of modern devices like electricity and power-driven machinery as aids to their improvement. The demand for electricity for agricultural purposes, for working small scale or cottage industries and for other purposes, the demand for improved varieties of implements, manures and other appliances for successful husbandry is on the increase. The Government are making every effort to meet these demands. Two items of special importance to the villages for which special grants have been made are improvement of rural water-supply and village communications, for which each firka has got Rs. 50,000. In two selected firkas intensive work is being carried on on various items so as to bring about their all-round development. Khadi production in seven centres has also made considerable headway. The quantity of cloth production up to 31st December 1947 in all the centres was 638,881 yards out of which a quantity of 171,920 yards was got woven by self-spinners. Out of the remaining 466,961 yards, 264,090 yards were disposed of, the value realized being Rs. 3,90,771. The net expenditure on the Khadi Scheme up to the end of 1947, after taking into account the value of stocks, was Rs. 1,90,000 out of which Rs. 1,20,000 was incurred on training courses, exhibition, publicity and subsidy and Rs. 70,000 on establishment and contingencies.

Both the Firka Development Scheme and the Khadi Scheme, which are integral parts of the rural reconstruction plan, are presently being reoriented with a view to being given a fresh and further push. The sub-committee appointed by the Firka Development Board to formulate an over-all scheme for Firka Development has presented a scheme, which has been approved by the Government. Comprehensive and all-embracing, it provides for agricultural renovation, development of cottage industries, village education, sanitation and housing, village organization, propaganda and publicity and above all for the training of field workers, who will carry the message of villagism to those who while being from the villages have not been of them in a real sense so long. Co-ordination among Governmental agencies and departments and public co-operation to Government's efforts are the two central features of the scheme on the adequate evocation of which will depend the pace of its progress in practice. Work has already commenced in pursuance of the scheme.

About khadi production, the extensive part of the scheme, which had hitherto not been properly organized or attended to will receive a fillip hereafter with the transfer of control over khadi work to the Firka Development department. To facilitate advance of the khadi movement, private trading in khadi has been prohibited in the centres and export of khadi has been stopped except under the auspices of the A.I.S.A. The elimination of private dealers leaves the field clear for the A.I.S.A., which can now concentrate both on production and distribution. The propaganda and publicity for the Khadi Scheme, which was originally regarded as a *sine qua non* of its success, had not been taken up so far in any systematic manner. But under present conditions, when the Government have abolished the machinery for textile control, propaganda is the one effective substitute that can be thought of to popularize the scheme. It will have to be undertaken hereafter and its results may in fact be more permanent than results produced under the shadow of officially enforced controls. When we are considering schemes for raising a suitable memorial to Gandhiji's memory, the successful working of the khadi scheme in Madras will be the most appropriate form of memorial that we can raise.

PROHIBITION NEWS LETTER

The following is a brief summary of the reports received from the Prohibition districts regarding ameliorative activities. The reports deal mainly with the activities in April 1948.

Madura.—Thrift Day was celebrated in many places. Hundi boxes were distributed. Grama Sanghams continued to do useful work. One Grama Sangham assisted in the observance of a cleanliness day. Another repaired a cart-track 6 miles long. Similar repairs were carried out by other Grama Sanghams also. One Grama Sangham has started a reading room. Many instances of economic improvement as a result of prohibition are also reported. One ex-addict saved Rs. 100 and discharged his debts. The savings of a few others were similarly utilized in discharging prior liabilities. Other ex-addicts utilized their savings for purchasing drought animals. Ex-addicts who neglected cultivation of their lands have now taken to it.

Ootacamund.—Games took place as usual. Propaganda was done in connection with rural activities. The Special Development Officer made a fervent appeal regarding the savings scheme.

Coimbatore.—The Grama Sanghams in the district continued to maintain their good record of work. Repair of a village chavadi, opening of parks, sinking of wells in Harijan localities are among the more useful items of work done by the Grama Sanghams. A Firka tournament was also held in one place and inter-village tournaments were held in another. Rural sports took place as usual. The 7th Rural Uplift School was declared open on 5th May. One Grama Sangham provides street lights in the village incurring an expenditure to the extent of Rs. 500. Another amicably settled a longstanding dispute between two factions in the village.

Anantapur.—Health and Baby week was celebrated by a Panchayat Board. Rural games and sports were organised by the ameliorative staff and prizes distributed to winners. A co-operative society for basket and rope making was organised for the benefit of the Koricha community, who were notorious addicts. One Village Betterment Committee has decided to erect a school building. Rural games

and tournaments also took place. A co-operative credit society has been organized for the Harijans in one village. The Village Betterment Committee in one place has collected funds to defray the cost of a radio.

Chittoor.—Rural games, Harikathas, Thrift Day celebrations are among the more important items of activities. A Divisional Welfare Committee was formed in Madanapalli division. Street cleaning drives were conducted in some places. Four Grama Sanghams and 4 rural recreation clubs were organised in Chandragiri division. Dramas were also staged in some places. One Grama Sangham has opened a library and has taken in hand the construction of a school building. Some other Grama Sanghams put up sign boards indicating the names of villages. Medicine chests were introduced by some Grama Sanghams. A night school was started in one place. Longstanding disputes were settled through the good offices of the Grama Sanghams.

Kurnool.—Rural games took place as usual. Lifting of weight, stone dragging by sturdy bulls, chedu gudu, folk dances and Pandarabajana were among the more important of the items. Prizes were distributed to winners. Street cleaning days were observed. Arrangements were made for the free admission of two ex-addicts at a local cinema show. In has also been proposed to start a co-operative agriculture society in one place. A noteworthy fact is that one ex-addict saved to the extent of Rs. 1,000 and utilized the amount for purchasing cows. Dramas were staged during the latter part of April. Street cleaning drives were also conducted and thrift days were observed. Ex-addicts took active part in rural sports.

Malabar.—A Co-operative Coconut Jaggery Production Society was organized during the earlier part of April, and 150 ex-tappers were enrolled as members.

Bellary.—Harikathas and bhajanais were performed in a number of places. An Adult School was opened in one centre. Sanitation day was observed in one centre. A gymnasium was opened in another. Village Betterment Committees were formed in some places. A Hand Spinners and Weavers.

Co-operative Society was registered. Street cleaning was undertaken in one place, and on the occasion free distribution of quinine was also arranged. Thrift day was also celebrated. Cattleshow were conducted in some places and the best cattle were awarded prizes. The possibilities of organizing cattle breeding societies were enquired into. Arrangements were made to start a hand-spinning and khadi production society. Village Betterment Committees in two places have undertaken to construct community centres. Dramas were also staged. Two new Grama Sanghams were organized and a Village Betterment Committee was formed.

Trichinopoly.—During the latter part of April 67 Grama Sanghams were organised throughout the district. Volley ball courts were opened in three villages. Village dramas were also staged. Firka tournaments were also held. A night school was opened in one place. Ten sports clubs were organized during the latter part of April. On community centre was constructed by villagers at one place at a cost of Rs. 1,500.

North Arcot.—Firka and rural tournaments took place as usual. One gramasangham is constructing a village hall at a cost of Rs. 2,000. A rural housing scheme has been formulated by the Special Development Officer.

Salem.—Firka tournaments were held. One Grama Sangham is constructing a reading room. Another Grama Sangham constructed a new village road. A free reading room was opened in one place and a park in another.

Tanjore.—Thrift Day was celebrated in some villages. A free reading room and library was declared open. Two palmyrah jaggery manufacturing societies were started. One milk supply co-operative society was also started.

Cuddapah.—A Divisional Development Committee in one place has sanctioned Rs. 25 for the purchase of 200 copies of agricultural calendar for distribution in elementary schools. The Committee has also sanctioned Rs. 50 for three libraries.

Nellore.—Three co-operative societies for manufacturing palmyrah jaggery were formed during the latter part of April. Thrift schemes were introduced in some villages. Firka tournaments were also held. Entertainment was also provided through benefit performances.

DELHI NOTES

Delhi Drive to Stimulate Food Production

The Agriculture Ministry in consultation with the Delhi Administration, it is gathered, is considering a proposal for awarding prizes to farmers for stimulating food production in Delhi province.

Other steps to improve production include sinking of tube-wells, increasing the area under canal irrigation, distribution of better seeds, and supply of improved implements. It is also proposed to sink 2,000 wells in the rural areas at a cost of Rs. 20,00,000. Half of this expenditure would be met by the villagers and the other half by Government grant.

During the last two years, 500 new wells fitted with Persian wheels were constructed. About 100 new wells are expected to be fitted with Persian wheels.

Delhi is a deficit area as regards food production. The normal yield of foodgrains in the Province is estimated to be 1,408,000 maunds while the consumption of foodgrains is about 4,500,000 maunds a year. Seventy-five per cent of the land under cultivation (167,714 acres) depend on rain for a good crop. Irrigation by pumps is also being considered. It is proposed to use 100 pumps.

For composting farm manure, it is proposed to acquire manure pits in 300 villages and to encourage the cultivation of sunnhemp and gowar in 20,000 acres for green manure.

The scheme for the supply of improved seeds in rural areas is expected to cost Rs. 1,50,000 and the supply of improved implements Rs. 1,47,000.

It is also proposed to undertake cultivation by tractors in 3,000 acres of land in three villages.

Education and Welfare of the Blind

To promote the cause of education, training and welfare of the blind, a special unit has been instituted in the Ministry of Education whose main object is to co-ordinate the activities in blind welfare throughout the Indian Union. It will also act as a clearing-house for all matters pertaining to blindness.

The St. Dunstan's hostel for Indian War-Blinded at Dehra Dun, which is responsible for training and resettlement of blinded ex-servicemen has also been taken over by the Ministry of Defence recently in pursuance of the Government's general policy in this matter.

There are about 38 other institutions for the blind in different parts of the country which impart education and vocational training to the civilian blind. Most of these institutions are aided by their respective provincial or State Governments and are doing useful pioneering work in the field of blind welfare. But it is realized that these institutions are not sufficient in number to meet the needs of the entire blind community.

Framework of Secondary Education in India

The Committee on Secondary Education in India appointed by the Ministry of Education has just held its first meeting in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Dr. Tara Chand, Education Secretary to the Government of India.

In his inaugural remarks, Dr. Tara Chand pointed out that, although Education was a provincial subject, it was desirable to maintain uniformity throughout the country. The Government of India, therefore, felt that the Committee should prepare a framework within which the provinces could fit in their schemes for Secondary Education.

The Committee then took up the agenda and recorded unanimous decisions in all cases but one in which there was one dissident. With regard to the period of and gradations in Secondary Education, the Committee recommended that, after a compulsory Junior Basic Course of five years, there should be a Senior Basic or pre-Secondary Course for three years and then a Secondary Course for four years. The Committee was unanimous that, before joining the first year of a degree course, the student should undergo a course of education for twelve years.

The Committee resolved that the teaching of the federal or national language should be started at the end of the Junior Basic stage and should be

compulsory throughout the pre-Secondary stage but may be optional thereafter.

With regard to English, the Committee were of the opinion that it should not be taught in the Junior Basic stage. As for the students who take up the Senior Basic Course, it should be optional but compulsory for those who take up the pre-Secondary Course. They also resolved that English should be compulsory at the Secondary stage, as long as it remains the medium of instruction in the universities. The Committee further recommended that the federal language should become a compulsory subject at the Secondary stage when English ceases to be the medium of instruction in the universities.

The Committee were in favour of multilateral schools, i.e., schools with varying bias, as for example, Agriculture, Commerce or Technical, as variety was encouraged in such institutions. They were, however, of the opinion that unilateral schools should not be discouraged where local circumstances demand.

The Committee held that the stage had not yet been reached when a form of selection for the Secondary stage could be discussed.

Regarding examinations, the Committee resolved that there should be only one examination at the end of the Secondary stage and, as far as possible, it should be such as to meet the requirements of the universities.

On the question of steps necessary for training an adequate number of teachers, the Committee recommended that as an emergency measure Matri- culate teachers may be required to undergo training for one year only in the first instance. After teaching in schools for a certain period, these teachers should again undergo refresher courses. It was also recommended that for the benefit of the students who intend to take to teaching as their profession, Education should be one of the subjects in the universities.

The setting up of Provincial Boards to advise provincial educational authorities on problems connected with Secondary Education, viz., examinations, courses of studies, text-books, etc., was recommended by the Committee in another resolution. It further recommended that an All-India Council should be established at the Centre with a view to act as a co-ordinating body for the proposed Provincial Boards.

The Committee stressed the need for encouraging youth movements, scouts associations, etc., in all schools and

recommended the establishment of a few public schools which will specially cater for the requirements of the military academies. Admission to these public schools would be on merit only and there would be a provision for at least 50 per cent of the seats in these schools being free.

Central College of Physical Education

The Ministry of Education, Government of India, have recently appointed a Committee on Physical Education to prepare a scheme for a Central Training College of Physical Education. Dr. Tara Chand, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, is the Chairman of the Committee.

At its first meeting held in New Delhi recently, the Committee defined the purpose of the proposed Central

College of Physical Education as training of teachers for Physical Education for the Centrally Administered Areas, advanced course in Physical Education for training teachers in organization and administration, training of coaches as well as play and recreation leaders and publication of information and literature on Physical Education. The Committee also decided that in the proposed college research work on Physical Education would be carried on by students as well as teachers.

The Committee appointed a Sub-Committee to work out the details regarding the preparation of the syllabus and the duration of the course.

It was also decided that individual members of the Committee should prepare memoranda on a programme of physical Education and recreation for the country as a whole which would be considered by the Committee at its next meeting on June 24, 1948.

Competition organized by the Provincial Prohibition Board of the Government of Bombay recently. The second and third prizes were not awarded for want of suitable entries. The prize winning poster forcefully illustrates an addict being drowned in his own vice.

This is the first poster to be issued by the Provincial Prohibition Board in their campaign in the Province.

Village Panchayats in East Punjab

With a view to associating the villagers with the local administration and making the villages self-sufficient units, the East Punjab Government have prepared a scheme to bring the villages under panchayat area and to make them an ideal place from the social, economic, moral and hygienic points of view.

According to the new scheme, it is proposed to establish 5,600 new panchayats during the year 1948-49. The aim is to cover 15,000 revenue estates in the province with a net work of panchayats.

Rural reconstruction activities in villages are also proposed to be undertaken by the panchayats on an extensive scale.

Bombay Training Scheme

The Government of Bombay have approved the village Industries Committee's Scheme for imparting training to 200 Harijan families of hereditary rope-makers, in improved process of rope-making in 50 villages in the Dharwar district. The Government has also sanctioned to the Committee a grant-in-aid of Rs. 8,000 for expenditure on the scheme during the current year.

C.P.'s Multipurpose Project Plan

The Central Province and Berar Government plan to undertake a large and multipurpose project on the Wain-ganga River, which will provide 250,000 kilowatts of electric power, irrigate 1,000,000 acres of land and 320 miles of navigable waters in the first stage. The power generated will be increased to 600,000 kilowatts later by constructing subsidiary dams. The estimated costs are Rs. 34 and Rs. 50

OTHER PROVINCES

Literacy Campaign in Assam Villages

Mobile cinema projectors, radios and microphones are being used by the Mass Literacy Department of Assam for intensive visual and oral education in the rural areas of the provinces. The department is now being reoriented under the post-war development plan for more efficient working.

The department has already started village libraries in the subdivisions of the province.

In view of the importance of exhibition as an effective means of imparting instruction to the people, specially those in the rural areas, visual education through demonstration both of Government activities and of non-official agencies interested in rural upliftment in its various aspects, Government have decided to participate in, and give financial aid to, one exhibition annually in each subdivision.

While sponsoring and participating in exhibitions, Government will endeavour to fully exhibit the new and modern methods adopted by the nation-building departments.

The responsibility of organizing exhibitions will rest with the officers of

the Rural Development Department when appointed.

Normally exhibitions will be held in some rural areas, instead of in big towns as has been the practice hitherto and Government believe this will yield full benefit to the rural population for whom the exhibitions are meant.

Basic Education Centres in Bombay

At a cost of about Rs. 1,28,000 during the current year the Government of Bombay has sanctioned the starting of three Graduates' Basic Training Centres in the Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka regions of the Province from June 1948.

First Prohibition Poster in Bombay

Messrs. P. D. Abhyankar and P. B. Kavadi, Lecturers in the Commercial Art Section of Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay, equally share the First Prize of Rs. 250 for their poster depicting the evil of drink in the open Poster

crores for the first and second stages of the project.

Better Irrigation Facilities in U.P.

The figures collected by the Public Works Ministry show that the irrigation facilities extended during the last two years will result in production of about extra 96,800 tons of food grains every year. Water has been made available for about 480,000 acres of dry land. During the years 1946-48, 550 miles of new canals

have been constructed, bringing the total mileage in the province to 18,370. The target in the 5-year programme is 7,600 miles; with only 550 miles having been constructed in two years, it may take the Department longer than five years to reach the target. The major portion of the extension has been constructed on the Sarda Canal system. New channels have also been extended over an area of 780 miles. All these new constructions are expected to yield an extra amount of about 23,000 tons of food grains.

About 600 new tube-wells have been dug up during the same period; these

are expected to increase production of 54,000 tons of food grains, by bringing another 240,000 acres of land under irrigation.

One hundred tube-wells, each with a discharge of 30,000 gallons per hour, are proposed to be sunk in the districts of Basti, Deoria and Gorakhpur. Each tube-well is to command 880 acres and irrigate 178 acres of Rabi, 133 acres of sugarcane and 133 acres of rice crops. This would bring under irrigation 44,400 acres to give an additional yield of 9,000 tons of food grains. These tube-wells are also intended to supply drinking water to 398 villages in the area.

CLIPPINGS FROM GANDHIJI'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 realise 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 of non-compliance! They will bring the whole legislative and executive machinery to a standstill. The police and the military are of the 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 uttermost.

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 power 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.

Prohibition

Although like communal unity and removal of untouchability prohibition has been on the Congress programme since 1920, Congressmen have not taken the interest they might have taken in this very vital social and moral reform. If we are to reach our goal through non-violent effort, we may not leave to the future Government the fate of lakhs of men and women who are labouring under the curse of intoxicants and narcotics.

Medical men can make a most effective contribution towards the re-

moval of this evil. They have to discover ways of weaning the drunkard and the opium-addict from the curse.

Women and students have a special opportunity in advancing this reform. By many acts of loving service they can acquire on addicts a hold which will compel them to listen to the appeal to give up the evil habit.

Congress committees can open recreation booths where the tired labourer will rest his limbs, get healthy and

(Continued on page 26)

CORRESPONDENCE COLUMN

Juvenile Delinquency

To the Editor, "Madras Information."

With reference to the articles on juvenile delinquency appearing in the issues of "Madras Information," dated 15th February and 1st March 1948, I beg to make the following observations.

In dealing with the above a good amount has been said by you about the unsatisfactory conditions of certified schools where children are sent for a period of training. So far as it goes the whole thing has been well covered.

You have made a reference in your first article about the destitute children wandering on the city streets who from the way of their upbringing form a real menace to the society. In your second article you have devoted one paragraph as regards the problem of destitute children of whom there are several lakhs in this province alone as against five thousands of children in certified schools.

Apart from the humanitarian point of view, the problem of dealing with the destitute children can prove to be a matter of paramount national importance at the present juncture. With the advent of Independence, India has attained a separate individuality and has an independent role to play in the world. She requires a strong and well organized manpower not for the sake of aggression but to defend herself. Further in this age of constant menace to the peace of the country from the communist and secular organizations a strong Home and National guards are very essential to maintain the peace and tranquility of the country. I would therefore venture to suggest a bold novel method of dealing with these destitute children which can ultimately envisage the creation of a strong and ideal national army for India.

Before dealing with the above I would like to offer the following comments on what has been stated by you on the problem of destitute children in the single paragraph allotted for it. You have stated that—

(1) It is impossible for the Government to build schools to accommodate them all as boarders and

(2) that the five crores of people in this province must have their consciences so aroused that these

children will be taken into private families and cared.

I beg to prove below how while item 1 is certainly a possibility, item 2 is definitely an improbability and shall take up item 2 first.

What has been stated here that these destitute children should be taken into private families and cared is an improbability even in an ideal age of what we may call "RAM RAJYA" and much more so in the present age. I can boldly assert that there is not even one in thousand who has come forth to foster destitute children. We are now in an age where we find that in a majority of cases the avarice and selfishness of the rich, with all due reverence to them, increases with their amount of wealth and their constant aim is to further increase their wealth with no tendency whatsoever to partake it with their less favourable brethren or near relatives. Even the fat monied people with no issues behind them very rarely foster the idea of bringing up or helping the members of their near kith and kin.

What can at the most be expected of a liberal minded family (a very low percentage) is that they are willing to spare some of the remnants of their daily menu to the destitute children on the streets and more than this their generosity has never extended. In fact I have never come across a single family taking destitute children except in what I hear from you in your case. Therefore what has been stated by you can find a place only in the pages of a book and not in the realms of this mundane world.

With reference to letter from Sri N. V. Srinivasan above, I may say as follows:—

1. The criticism that the hundreds of thousands of destitute children are given scant attention in favour of concentration on a few thousand delinquent children would appear to be a valid one, were it not for two points which the writer of this letter has not taken into consideration. These are—

(a) Children who definitely show signs of criminal tendencies are a poten-

Now I shall deal with the question of Government taking up the care of these destitute children. I do not see how it has been so categorically asserted by you that it is impossible for the Government to take care of these destitute children. Taking roughly the average cost of bringing up the child at Rs. 20 to Rs. 25, total cost of bringing about 3 lakhs of destitute children in this Province will come to about to Rs. 75 lakhs. This is not after all a very huge figure. By judicious economies in a good number of directions and avoidance of wasteful expenditure of which there are innumerable items, a good portion of the money required can be got. We can also stop such of those activities which simply overfeed the already overfed. When a good number of children who by proper bringing up, can form the best national asset, have to live in a state of semi-starvation, it is no logic to see what luxurious amenities are to be provided to the easy-going middle class people.

Therefore in conclusion, I have to point out that it should be made possible for the Government to take care of all these destitute children. How best to achieve it, by a well chalked out plan and programme, is a larger issue which I cannot exhaustively deal in this article. Briefly, it should be laid out in the following thesis:—

(1) Government should take care of these destitute children as state property.

(2) Citizens of each town should be made to bear a moiety of expenditure in bringing up these children.

(3) These children should be mainly trained so as to form a strong army of national and Home Guards to which they will be best suited.

These are problems that can better engage the good time of the legislature instead of some social problems which are nothing short of academic interest.

—N. V. SRINIVASAN.

Lt.-Col. Ford Thomson's Reply

tial menace to the community as a whole, since if these children are not corrected and led into becoming useful and social members of the community, they will spend their lives praying upon the community, and far more money would ultimately have to be spent keeping them in jails for long periods of their lives than would have to be spent in reforming them as children. Their rehabilitation is therefore, a profitable one for Government, quite apart from any question of humanitarianism.

(b) When one talks about destitute children one means children who are without a proper home, and are not being given adequate education and training through being in charge of a responsible adult. It does not mean that these children are starving. The population of Madras Province see to it that through giving them, as you say, remnants of their menus, and as far as I am aware there are very few children in the Province who are actually starving.

2. I made the following statements to which Mr. Srinivasan draws attention to:—

(i) It is impossible for the Government to build schools to accommodate all the destitute children as boarders, and

(ii) that the five crores of people in this Province must have their consciences so aroused that these children will be taken into private families and cared for.

I adhere to this statement, while admitting that the road ahead towards awakening social conscience among the people will be a very hard one. I still adhere to this statement, because alternative (i) would cost Government not as you suggest 75 lakhs of rupees per year, but to take your own estimate, nine crores, since you have apparently made the mistake of thinking of the cost per month as being the cost per year. It is surely not suggested that the Government of Madras should spend approximately 20 per cent of its income on three-fifths of 1 per cent of the population. That, I think, is sufficient argument to justify my categorical statement (i) above.

As regards (ii) it is an unfortunate fact that at present the amount of social conscience among the people of the Province in this respect is negligible; and a recent appeal for funds to start a home for a hundred destitute children in three of the leading newspapers has so far brought little response from the people of the Province. This to me is a great shock and certainly bears out that you have to say about the unwillingness of the people to support genuine efforts to care for the unfortunate children of the nation, for children of the nation they are. Having this admitted that little social conscience exists among the people, are we to admit defeat, and say, "why bother; nobody will ever have his conscience awakened." For frankly to say that, is to make a declaration to the effect that India is not, and never will be, a nation in the truest sense of the word. No, what I said

stands; that the social conscience of the people must be awakened and as soon as possible.

Now I should like to address a few words to the public generally. I should be very glad and grateful, in my capacity as Chairman of the Destitute Children's Committee, to hear from every one of those people, that there must be many scattered throughout the Province, who feel as I do over this matter; and who are willing to give of their time, and, if they can afford it, of their money, to prosecute this great task of awakening the social conscience of the people. My address is—

Lieut.-Col. J. Ford Thomson,

"Sandown,"

Sterling Road,

Nungambakkam, Madras.

If you are willing to help, please write to me now. Don't put it off.

Madras, 7-5-1948.

[We are glad that Lieut.-Col. J. Ford Thomson's article has evoked considerable interest among our readers. The letter from Mr. Srinivasan is an indication of this interest and it is to be hoped that there are many others too who are devoting their attention to a problem, which had been neglected for a long time, but which should not have been so neglected, as destitute children are as much a part of the nation as any other class of children, and have to be looked after and cared for. There is no doubt that the Government will play their part in the matter—Ed. "M.I."]

(Continued from page 19)

It may not also be beyond the possibility of science to develop shorter varieties of palmyra trees not higher than 8 or 10 feet which can be more easily tapped than at present. For one of the greatest handicaps in the development of this industry is the high labour cost involved, because the climbing of trees is more laborious than the actual tapping.

Among the cardinal features of the present exploratory scheme of Ministry of Agriculture is to evolve methods suited to village conditions and in keeping with the capacity of village workers, who are not familiar with the handling of complicated machinery and cannot afford expensive chemicals.

The juice of the palm, which for ages past has been used to intoxicate the masses can now help in increasing India's gur production, in improving the low nutrition of her undernourished people and in adding to the country's national income.

Civil Services in Free India

Delivering the inaugural address at the fourth annual conference of the U.P. Federation of Ministerial Service Association Mr. Gopinath Srivastava said:

"It was Sir Warren Fisher who stated what I still consider to be the soundest and most healthy convention in this regard. Sir Warren observed: 'Determination of policy is the function of ministers and once a policy is determined it is the unquestioned and unquestionable business of the civil servant to strive to carry out that policy with precisely the same energy and precisely the same goodwill whether he agreed with it or not. At the same time it is the traditional duty of civil servants, while decisions are being formulated, to make available to their political chiefs all the information and experience at their disposal, and to do this without fear or favour irrespective of whether or not with the minister's initial view.' It is the duty both of the ministers and higher civil servants to help the growth of healthy conventions in this regard. Our ministers, now and of the future, should not deny themselves the advantage and benefit of the expert opinion of the services, even though it may not run parallel to their own, and our civil servants should, once the policy is formulated, carry it out as if it was their own.

During the short period of my experience as Chairman of the U.P. Public Service Commission, I have often felt the necessity of closer co-operation between the State as employer and the State as educator, for there is a very close relation between the system of education and the educational tests imposed as a condition for entering Public Services. I am of the opinion that training at social service camps like the one at Faizabad, would greatly facilitate in securing a more suitable type of recruit for Government service than available hitherto. I particularly congratulate our Ministry of Education in establishing a Bureau of Psychology and would suggest that the Bureau should be utilized for psychological tests of the students at these camps and the maintenance of that record duly indexed, preferably at the office of the commission. I quite appreciate the value of the *viva voce* test for those desiring to enter Public Services as, through it can be judged the genuine character of candidate's knowledge in relation to those qualities which cannot be easily elicited through a written test."

OUR BOOK-SHELF

"POLITICS" OF THE PARTITION By BIJOY BANERJI.

Published by The News and Literature Society, 161-1, Harrison Road, Calcutta—Price Rs. 1-12-0.

The book under review may be called a record of the events that made the partition of India constitutionally inevitable. The author gives an account of the events that made the British transfer power to the peoples' representatives in India and Pakistan. The Congress, with its indomitable fight for self-determination, and the impact of the world war II, were the chief causes for the early achievement, if it can be termed as early, of the much cherished goal of independence. The texts of the Cripp's Proposals of 1942, Wavell Plan, Cabinet Mission Plan, Mountbatten Plan and Radcliffe Commission Report and the Resolutions and statements of the Congress and the Muslim League are given in full. The book is informative, and should be found extremely useful as a book of reference to students of India's recent constitutional history. The texts of the documents and announcements of the British Government and the resolutions of the Congress and the Muslim League are arranged in proper sequence so as to give a complete picture of the events leading to the division of the country and the attainment of Dominion Status by India.

—S.A.H.

INCOME-TAX READY RECKONER FOR THE ASSESSMENT YEAR 1947-48.

By BHOGILAL C. SHAH.

Published by N. M. Thakkar & Co., Bombay 2—Price Rs. 2.

The calculation of Income-tax which is one of the really difficult tasks of the Accountant in any Commercial or Government Office, is made easy in the book under review. Besides a series of tables which give information regarding the tax on various grades of incomes at a glance, the rules regarding the calculation of income-tax, capital gains tax, super-tax and business profits tax, have been briefly but clearly explained. The book has been prepared with great care and is sure to be of great help to the wide circle of business accountants.

—K.C.N.

"INDONESIAN PROBLEM—FACTS AND FACTORS"

Published by Netherlands Indies Government Information Service, Batavia, September 1947.

For some time in the recent past, Indonesia has been much in the news. Its fight for freedom is well known, and it is a matter of common knowledge that in that fight she had the full sympathy of India. The present book is a neat volume adorned with delightful photographs of men and things in Indonesia. It sketches the events that have happened since the end of the Pacific war. It may be recalled that in the Inter-Asian Conference, which was held more than a year ago at New Delhi, Mahatma Gandhi stressed the idea of "one world." The promotion of this "one world" idea needs as a requisite the establishment of closer understanding between one country and another.

To this end publications such as this are valuable. They give correct ideas about men and things in a particular country and thereby preclude possibilities of misunderstanding and false propaganda. Publicity in the set up of modern society is a mighty weapon capable of incalculable good, and publicity such as that given by such books will surely help to create a more harmonious world.

—T.K.G.

"CONGRESS AND LABOUR MOVEMENT IN INDIA"

By P. P. LAKSHMANAN with a foreword by SHANKERRAO DEO, General Secretary, All-India Congress Committee—Price Rs. 2-8-0—Published by the Economic and Political Research Department, All-India Congress Committee, Allahabad.

This is an opportune publication and serves to clear a good deal of misunderstanding regarding Congress attitude towards labour. When labour leaders attack Congress, they often forget that in its early stages, the labour movement owed much to the inspiration of the Congress. The history of the labour movement in India dates practically from the end of the first world war. The All-India Trade Union Congress was formed in 1920 with Lala Lajpat Rai, the president of the Indian National Congress as its first President. The

organization was sponsored and supported by the Congress and it was common practice then that the Congress Presidents and Secretaries functioned as its President or Secretary at one time or other. But with the march of time, fissures developed between the Congress and the labour movement until after the end of the second world war when the gulf between them looked almost unbridgeable. This is traceable to a number of causes. Labour, in this country is largely illiterate and self-seeking politicians posing as labour leaders exploited labour to promote their own ends. In the recent past, there has been widespread labour unrest and unsettlement which has to a material extent hampered production. If Independent India is to forge ahead despite difficulties in a competitive world, the labour movement in this country has to shed its prejudices and fall in line with the main political party in the country, which is at the helm of affairs. Now more than ever, unity is a vital imperative and this fact has to be fully realized by labour in this country.

To enable Labour to understand how far the Congress has assisted it in the past and how unfounded is the notion of Congress antagonism to labour movement, the present book is extremely helpful. It gives a correct picture of the entire position in the light of well documented facts and figures and will certainly remove genuine misunderstandings regarding the attitude of Congress towards labour.

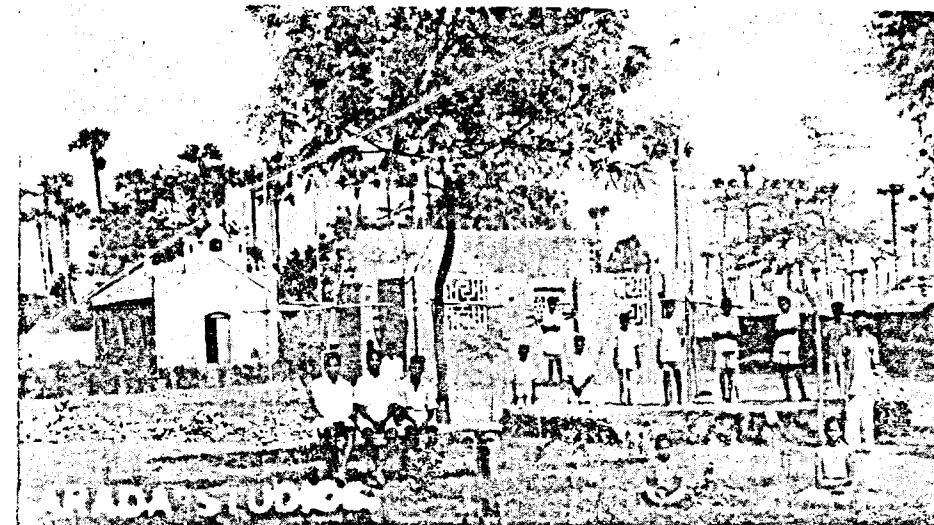
The book runs to 174 pages and is divided into six chapters. It is packed with information and would serve the very useful purpose of assisting in the smoothening of the relationship between the Congress and Labour.

—T.K.G.

(Continued from page 25)

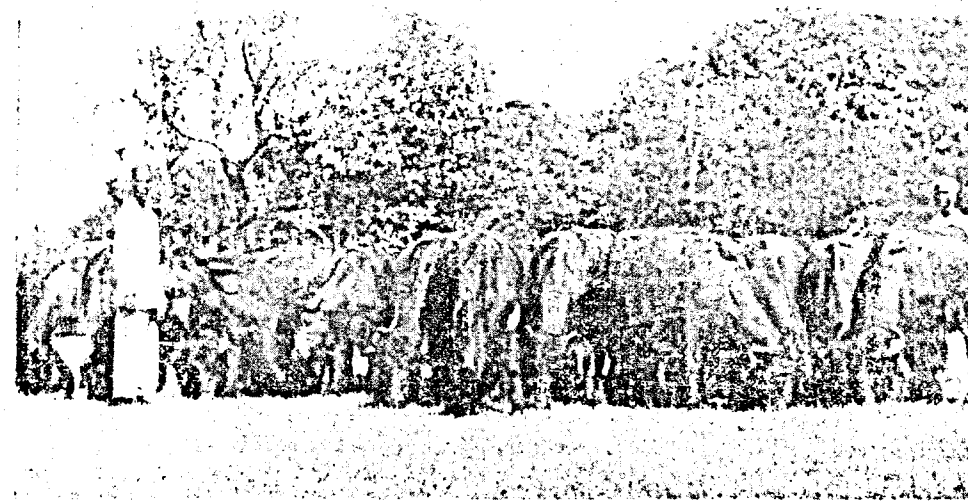
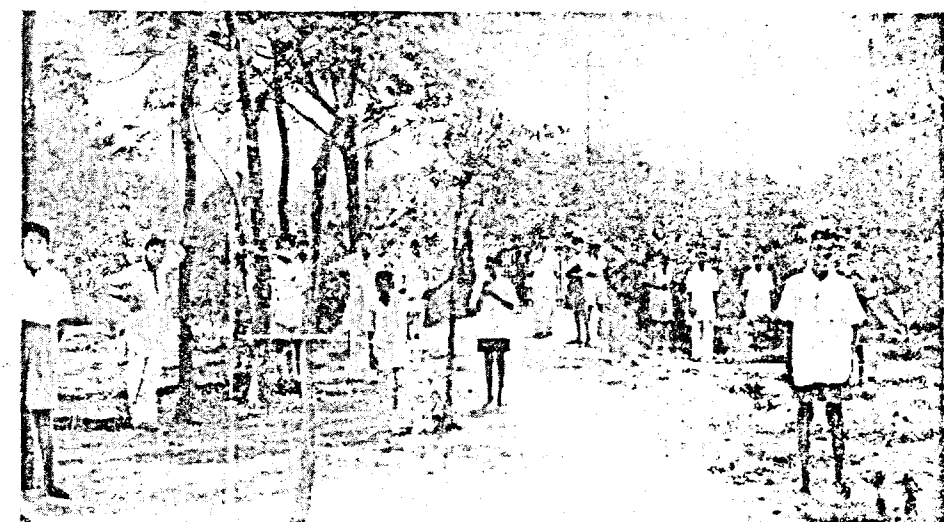
cheap refreshments, and find suitable games. All this work is fascinating and uplifting. The non-violent approach to Swaraj is a novel approach. In it old values give place to new. In the violent way such reforms may find no place. Believers in that way, in their impatience and, shall I say, ignorance, put off such things to the day of deliverance. They forget that lasting and healthy deliverance comes from within, i.e., from self-purification. Constructive workers make legal prohibition easy and successful even if they do not pave the way for it.

A Mixed Bag of Pictures

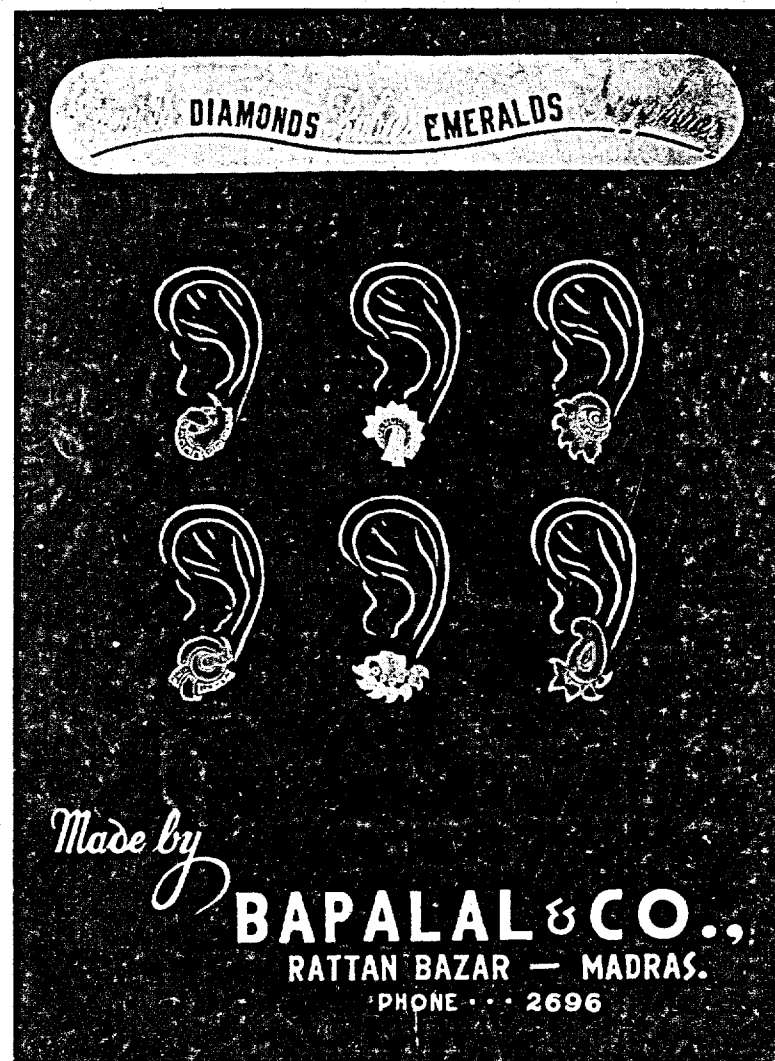


View showing the Building under construction as Mahatma's Memorial. It is intended for free library by the Panchayat Board, Mangalagiri. The boys are the inmates of Sri Kasturba Technical Institute and orphanage opened by Hon'ble Mr. K. Chandramouli. All the inmates are Harijans learning in the High School classes and other Handicrafts.

The interior view of 'Chandramouli' Park, owned by the Panchayat Board, Mangalagiri.



Group of Pedigreed Murrah Buffaloes at the Hosur Cattle Farm.



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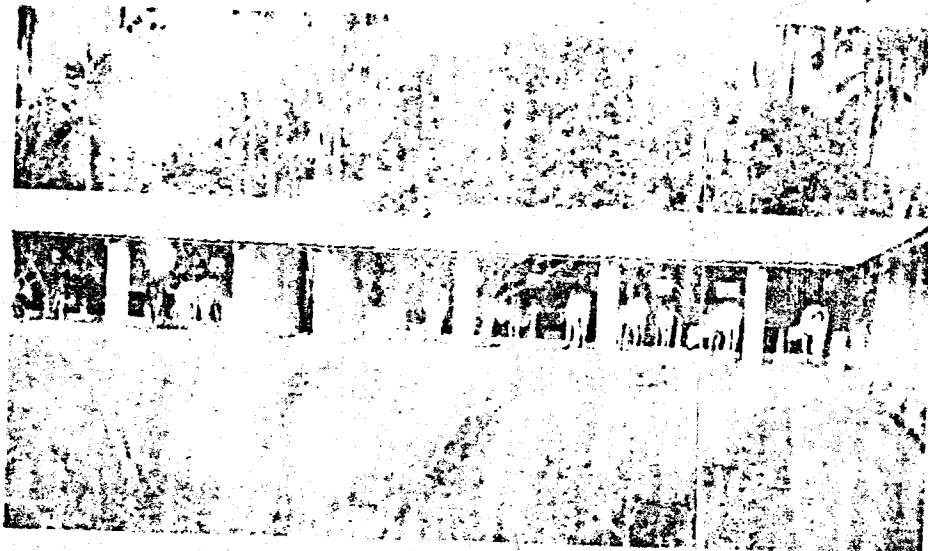
MADRAS, 15th JUNE 1948

NO. II



Dairying is a Paying Industry

Picture taken on the occasion of the
Premier's visit to the Ideal Dairies,
Saligram, Kumbhakkam,
Madras



Cattle shed in the Ideal Dairies.

Another view of the Cattle
in the Ideal Dairies



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"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

June 15, 1948

SPARKS FROM THE ANVIL

The New Ordinance

The Public are aware of the lawlessness that has been prevailing in North Malabar, Kistna, Tanjore and certain other parts of the Province during the past few months. Recent developments in Hyderabad with the organized raids by Razakars on border areas have made the situation appreciably worse and the Government are apprehensive that unless adequate measures are taken, the situation may deteriorate further. They have therefore been constrained to promulgate an Ordinance tightening up the provisions of the Maintenance of Public Order Act.

The main provisions of the Ordinance are firstly that persons who harbour or give shelter to those against whom orders of detention have been passed will render themselves liable to imprisonment and secondly that those who print or publish leaflets, appeals, etc., purporting to be from such persons, i.e., persons against whom orders of detention have been passed, will be equally liable to punishment. These provisions have become necessary as many of the wanted men among the Communists have gone underground and are pursuing their activities from their places of hiding. Several leaflets purporting to be from leading members of the Communist Party have also made their appearance in Madras and elsewhere preaching defiance of authority. Government cannot permit subversive activities of this type to continue and it is for this reason that the Ordinance has been promulgated. The Government have also taken this opportunity to make clear the intention underlying section 16 of the Act which says that no order made in exercise of any power conferred by the Act shall be called in question in any Court. At the time when the Act was passed it was the intention of Government that there should be only one remedy open to the detenus,

namely, the review of each case by the Advisory Council constituted under section 3 of the Act. This Council consists of a Judge of the High Court and two eminent lawyers and they may be trusted to deal with each case having due regard to judicial principles. This Council has already been examining cases of those who have been detained.

Agricultural Labour

A note of warning was sounded by Hon'ble Sri V. Karmayya, Minister for Rural Development, recently while addressing at conference of agricultural labourers in Nellore district. He warned agricultural labourers not to be misled by Communists and not to go on strike against ryots and landlords. "The Government," he said, "would not tolerate any illegal strikes

by any organization." The advice contained in his words cannot be over-emphasised. The supreme need of the hour is increased production and any factor tending to hamper production has to be eliminated. For increased production in agriculture, the responsibility lies as much on the shoulders of agricultural labour as on the landlords and it will be nothing short of a breach of national duty if agricultural labourers allow themselves to be exploited by self-seekers and fail to contribute their quota for augmenting production in these critical days. When a popular Government is at the helm of affairs, agricultural labour has no reason to fear that their interest would be left unguarded. The Government are fully aware of the vital part agricultural labour plays in the economy of this Province and they have already taken several measures in furtherance of their well being.

The Hon'ble Minister also referred to the various ameliorative measures launched by the Government to promote the well-being of Harijans. "The Madras Government," he said, "had set apart one crore for Harijan uplift. They have exempted all Harijan students in High Schools from payment of tuition fee for ten years. All Harijan students of Colleges have already been exempted from the payment

IN THIS ISSUE

Sunset at Cape Comorin. In the picture are the Dominion Food Minister (right) and Travancore Premier—*Frontispiece.*

Sparks from the Anvil
Press Notes, Releases, etc.
Departments' Corner
Highlights of the Day
Prohibition Page
Special Articles
Agricultural Notes
Aims and Attitudes
Delhi Notes
Other Provinces
Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings
Books and Publications

of tuition fees. These concessions are substantial and are sure to go a long way in promoting the well-being of Harijans. The Hon'ble Minister also

Prohibition Propaganda

It is an axiomatic truth that without the co-operation of the public Prohibition cannot be a success. Prohibition is a moral reform and no moral reform can make any headway unless the people for whom it is intended feel convinced of the necessity for the reform, in the larger interests of the community. Propaganda is designed to create such conviction and thereby induce the co-operation of the people in the enforcement of Prohibition. America is a classic instance where Prohibition was tried for more than 10 years and was withdrawn afterwards. Many writers on the subject of American Prohibition agree that one of the causes for the failure of Prohibition was the lack of public co-operation. But in India such co-operation cannot be difficult to obtain because as Mahatma Gandhi observed once, the percentage of people who drink in this country is negligible compared to that in America.

exhorted the Harijans to support the Congress Government in their activities. He asked labourers to help Government in maintaining law and order.

The Government are devoting special attention to the propaganda side of Prohibition. Recently a plea for the co-operation of the public to make Prohibition a success when the entire province goes dry in October was made by Mr. V. N. Kudva, Commissioner of Excise and Prohibition, presiding over a meeting in the City. Mr. Kudva said that the Police alone could not make prohibition a success. It depended to a large extent on public co-operation. Another speaker stressed the fact that Madras had the honour of being the first province in India to introduce complete Prohibition and added that women could play an important part in making it a success. Yet another speaker suggested that mere propaganda was not enough and that there should be agitation, education and legislation for the success of Prohibition.

Electricity Department

The administration report of the Electricity Department during 1946-47 makes interesting reading. It is packed with facts and gives an idea of the considerable strides made by the department in the recent past. The post-war schemes of the Government involving a capital expenditure of roughly Rs. 1,755 lakhs. These schemes are being pushed through.

It is the aim of the Government to make electricity available in all the villages at as cheap a cost as possible. The major role which electricity has to play in the rural regeneration of the province is now a recognised fact and the Government are taking all measures to see that electricity is made available in as many forms as possible for both industry and agriculture as well as for the promotion of rural amenities. We may very well look for the day when "power that comes over the wire" will be as common as air and as universally used."

rendered temporary Civil Service, the orders in paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 217, Public (Services), dated 29th January 1948, will apply; (4) The record of temporary services, including experience in teaching and specialist departments, high qualifications and research work will be taken into account in making selections. In the selection for the vacancies of certain specialist posts, candidates with the specialist qualifications, training or experience noted therein, will be given the first preference, and other candidates will be selected for these vacancies only to the extent candidates with the necessary specialist qualifications, training or experience are not available.

[May 27]

Grant to aided secondary schools

In their Order, dated 10th May 1947, the Government undertook to pay to the managements of aided secondary schools, which did not adopt at least the revised scales of pay fixed for teachers in secondary schools under local bodies, a special grant calculated at one-half of the difference between the average of the scales of pay actually adopted by the managements and the average of the scales of pay laid down for similar posts under local bodies, subject to the condition that this additional amount was used entirely for payment to the teachers. The intention was that teachers in those schools should not be placed at a disadvantage, compared with those schools where revised scales of pay have been introduced. As the order was issued only in June 1947, any decision by the managements to adopt regular time-scales of pay in cases where no such scales were previously in force, would have been taken only subsequent to the issue of the order referred to above. As additional expenditure, if any, on account of the adoption of the time-scales of pay retrospectively from 1st January 1947 could have been incurred only on or after 1st June 1947, the Government ordered on 17th December 1947 that the teaching grant for 1946-47 and for the period from 1st April 1947 to 31st May 1947 should be assessed only on the basis of half the net cost, as was done in previous years. This order has not rescinded the previous orders on the subject.

The Government are considering the question of making a special grant to those managements which have not adopted at least the scales of pay of local bodies for the period in

question, and orders in this regard will be issued, as soon as information has been obtained regarding the managements which had adopted the revised scales of pay, and those which had not, and regarding the dates from which the revised scales of pay or any other time-scale of pay had actually been adopted by them.

[May 27]

Reorganization of Secondary Education

The Government have passed the following orders:—

(1) With regard to the opening of separate technical high schools they have decided that it would be sufficient if the diversified secondary school courses are introduced in the existing high schools providing for literary or academic courses. They have therefore sanctioned the introduction of certain bifurcated courses of studies in selected high schools commencing from Form IV in the current year.

(2) With regard to the abolition of optionals in high school classes, the Government have decided 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 from the year 1949.

With regard to the position of various languages the Government have considered the recommendations of the Provincial Advisory Board and of the Universities. They have decided that as Hindustani is to be taught from Form I, it will be sufficient if English is taught in Forms II to VI. On the question of the study of Hindustani and of Sanskrit and other languages in future, the Government, after reviewing the recommendation of the Provincial Advisory Board, have decided as follows:—

(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 classical language such as Sanskrit, Arabic or Persian, or Urdu, in Forms I to III and once they exercise that option they should appear for examination in that subject. Students who offer Urdu should learn the Nagari script also at both stages of Forms I to III and Forms 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; and

(iv) that the study of Hindustani or its alternative in Forms I to III should be compulsory in Andhra, Kerala and Karnataka but optional in Tamil Nad. In Tamil Nad unless the parent expresses his wish not to exercise the option for one of the languages in the group, it will be presumed that the boy has exercised the option if he attends the class for any of the languages. Examinations will be held for these languages also. 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, Persian or Arabic or Urdu or any foreign language, and in the case of those students the regional language should be taught for four periods in a week and the other selected language for four periods and that those who want to take the regional language alone should take eight periods in that language. Pupils will be permitted to study a language different from the one studied by them in Forms I to III provided their attainments in that language are up to the standard.

(v) The Government have accepted the recommendations that formal, moral and religious instruction should be avoided without prejudice to the existing provision for religious instruction under a conscience clause. In schools specially intended for Muslims religious instruction will be regulated with reference to G.Os. No. 1727, Education, dated 22nd September 1933, and No. 266, Education, dated 7th February 1948.

The Government have considered that it is very necessary to have citizenship training and accordingly direct that it should be made a part of the school curriculum. The syllabus for Forms I to VI has been prepared and will be approved separately.

The Government consider that education in Forms I to III of Secondary schools should be a natural continuation of Basic Education in the Elementary Schools and that the curriculum of studies for Forms I to III should be based on a main craft and the teaching of all subjects should be correlated with that craft. They have approved for the present three crafts for boys' schools, viz., Handloom Weaving, Wood Work, Gardening and Agriculture among which one or more may be chosen. In girls' schools Home Craft will be the basic craft in Forms I to III and after Form III Domestic Science will be a specialized subject of study and examination in High Schools for Girls.

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

Revenue and expenditure figures

According to the Budget Estimates for 1947-48, the revenue to the Government of Madras totals Rs. 4,973-38 lakhs. Revenue Accounts to the end of January 1948 total Rs. 3,042-86 lakhs, as against Rs. 3,181-95 lakhs for the corresponding period in 1947. Expenditure on revenue account to the end of January 1948 totals Rs. 3,276-78 lakhs, as against Rs. 3,015-33 lakhs for the corresponding period in 1947.

[May 26]

Intensive Khadi Scheme

Consequent on the removal of control on textiles, the Government have directed that the administration of the intensive Khadi Scheme be transferred from the Provincial Textile Commissioner to the Provincial Firms Development Officer, who is already in charge of the extensive Khadi Scheme.

[May 26]

Recruitment to posts of school assistant

Under the special rules for the Madras Educational Subordinate Service, as they stand, the age limit for direct recruitment to posts of School Assistants, both in the Men's and the Women's branches, is 30, and the possession of the degree of B.T. (Madras) or the degree of B.Ed. (Andhra) is one of the qualifications for appointment to the posts. In order to attract to the Education Department the right type of men and women at a fairly young age, the Government have decided to reduce the age-limit for direct recruitment to the posts of School Assistants, II Grade, to 25 years, and also to waive the requirements regarding the possession of the degree in teaching at the time of selection for direct recruitment, but to depute the selected candidates before actual appointment for the B.T. or the B.Ed. training and also for the crafts training to be conducted by the Government. The candidates will be

given, during the period of training, a stipend of Rs. 50 each per mensem.

[May 26]

Civil Assistant Surgeons, Health Officers, etc., for de-reserved vacancies

(1) The rules relating to communal rotation and other service rules will apply to candidates recruited against these vacancies. (2) The provision in the Special Rules for the Madras Medical Service in regard to prior experience as House Surgeon or House Physician, Clinical Assistant or Demonstrator, etc., as a qualification for appointment as Civil Assistant Surgeon will not apply to temporary Civil Assistant Surgeons applying for these vacancies. (3) Candidates, who have held temporary appointments before 1st January 1948 only will be eligible to apply for these vacancies; they will be permitted to deduct the total period of their temporary service from their age. In the case of war service candidates, who have also

The other subjects to be taught in Forms I to III will be the first and second languages, from Form I, third language (English), from Form II, Mathematics, General Science, Social Studies, Citizenship Training, Arts, Physical Education and religious and moral instruction. The Director of Public Instruction is authorized to finalize the syllabuses in these subjects.

[May 30]

Staff in Aided Educational Institutions

The Government have decided that the revised rates of dearness allowance allowed to Government servants from January 1, 1948, should be made applicable to the members of the staff in aided educational institutions and have directed that the managements of aided educational institutions should be permitted to pay dearness allowance to the staff at the revised rates with retrospective effect from January 1, 1948, and that the expenditure incurred by them on payment of allowance at rates not exceeding the revised rates should be taken into account in assessing the teaching grants payable to them for 1948-49 and subsequent years.

The grant will be limited to one-half of the expenditure incurred on payment of dearness allowance to the staff of educational institutions aided under the Grants-in-Aid Code, and will be payable only to those institutions which worked at a deficit. The arrangement referred to above will be enforced so long as the scheme of dearness allowance for Government servants is in operation.

[June 1]

Training in the use of Fire-arms

In their order, dated February 26th, 1948, the Government had directed that Police officers should, to the extent to which their duties permitted, help suitable gazetted officers of the Government to familiarize themselves in the use of fire-arms, and that licensees, who have no weapons or ammunition, may be given the theoretical training to familiarize themselves in the use of fire-arms, and licensees, who bring their own weapons and ammunition, may be given practical training.

On reconsideration of the orders referred to above, the Government have directed that training in the use of fire-arms may, in addition to gazetted officers of the Government, be given to non-gazetted officers of the Government also. The District Magistrates in the mufassal and the Commissioner

of Police in the City have been directed to take into consideration the existing conditions in the locality, and determine the suitability of the officers for training in the use of fire-arms.

[June 1]

Bifurcated Courses in Secondary Schools

The question of opening Trade Schools is being examined and orders will be issued separately. In regard to Technical High Schools, the Government do not consider it necessary now to establish separate high schools and they consider that the purpose will be substantially served if these technical courses are provided in the existing high schools which provide academic courses and that the diversified courses may be introduced from Form IV, as recommended by the Board. The Government have decided that to begin with the following courses of studies would be introduced in 50 selected high schools from the school year 1948-49 and that 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 consideration. Other subjects will be added as and when necessary.

The draft syllabuses for these courses will be placed before the Board of Secondary Education and finalized shortly. The S.S.L.C. scheme will also be amended embodying the revised syllabuses. Pupils taking the academic courses will move on to University courses as they do at present. It is the intention that pupils taking the technical courses should also be enabled, if they wish to do so, to move on to University courses. The question of admission of the students taking the technical courses into University courses has been taken up with the Universities and a final decision has not yet been arrived at but the Government consider that the introduction of the bifurcated courses in the selected high schools need not be delayed on this account. On the other hand 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 Polytechnic courses appropriate to the particular subjects 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 posts of lower division clerks and similar post in Government service except that this would not preclude Government from fixing higher qualification for such posts in any department or office where the special nature of the work requires it. However, until the Secretarial courses are opened in a large number of schools in the Province, the number of candidates who have undergone the Secretarial course may not be sufficient to meet the demand; when candidates who have undergone the course are not available, others will continue to be appointed to service as at present.

Teaching Grants

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 a 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 revising the arrangement should be considered at the end of the period.

[June 1]

Adult Literacy Campaign

As a part of their adult literacy campaign, the Government propose to invite authors to present continuation reading books in Tamil and Telugu for use by new literates. The best of the series of ten books in each language will be bought by the Government at Rs. 50 per book. These will be printed and supplied at cheap cost to adult literacy centres as Government Publications.

The theme of the books should be such as will be highly appealing to adults and the language at once simple and idiomatic. The manuscripts should reach the Director of Public Instruction on or before the 1st July 1948.

[June 3]

Educational Concessions

I

In G.O. No. 1954, Education, dated 6th September 1947, the Government directed that children and dependents of ex-service personnel would continue to be eligible for the educational concessions admissible to them, even after the death of the ex-service persons on whom the concession-holders were dependent, provided that they were otherwise eligible for the concessions. A question has now been raised whether the concessions may be granted also to those who apply for the first time only after the death of the ex-service personnel in virtue of whose military service the concessions are claimed. The Government direct that the concessions be granted in such cases also provided that the applicants are otherwise eligible for the concessions.

[June 4]

II

The Government have issued certain orders clarifying and amending the conditions under which educational concessions to the children and dependents of the Defence Services Personnel are granted.

DEPARTMENTS' CORNER

Labour Department

The Government have appointed the Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Madras, to be conciliation officer for the purpose of mediating in and promoting the settlement of industrial disputes in the whole of the Madras Province.

The Government have also accepted the interim award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras, in respect of the dispute between the workers and the managements of the tanneries in Sembiam and Madhavaram area. The Government have accepted the award of the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, in the dispute between the workers and the management of the Gnanambika Mills, Coimbatore.

The Government have accepted the interim award of the Industrial Tribunal, Madras (for tanneries) in the dispute between the workers and the managements of tanneries in Ranipet, Pernambut and Ambur areas.

The dependents of those who died otherwise than in action while in military service will also be eligible to the concessions.

The question has been raised whether the wives of ex-service men who married after their discharge are eligible for these concessions. The Government direct that these concessions be granted to the wives of only those personnel who had got married on or before 23rd February 1947.

It has been stipulated that the educational concessions will be withdrawn from those who stay for more than two years in one and the same class but will be regranted on promotion to the next higher class. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that in applying this instruction to medical colleges where University examinations are held twice a year, a student is enabled to appear four times in one and the same University examination. As this was not the intention of the rule the Government have directed that in so far as medical colleges are concerned, the concession should be withdrawn from those who fail twice in one and the same subject at the University examination.

These concessions were originally meant to be available only for Madras

and only in the schools and colleges of this Province. They were extended in the year 1944-45 first to those students belonging to the Central Provinces and Berar and thereafter to those belonging to other provinces and local administrations except Bombay, reading in the educational institutions of this Province provided they would have been eligible for similar concessions provided by the Provincial Government or Local Administration concerned. An understanding had also been reached that Madras students, if eligible for concessions in this Province would be entitled to the concessions admissible in the other provinces, should they have to carry on their education there. The Government of India have since stated that certain Indian States are also agreeable to enter into similar reciprocal arrangements with this Government. The Provincial Government have, therefore, decided that the concessions in question be granted to students belonging to such Indian States subject to the same conditions as are laid down in the case of other Provincial Governments.

The States with which such a reciprocal arrangement has been entered into are mentioned in an appendix to the Government Order issued on 6th April 1948.

[June 7]

Basic Education.—The Government have sanctioned during 1948-49 the conversion of seven of the existing Training Schools into Basic Training Schools.

The Government have approved the proposal of the Director that teachers holding Basic Training Certificates issued by the Hindustani Talimi Sangh after their training at Trichengodu or Kanelipuram and possessing no general education certificate or having certificates of less than III form or VIII standard may be treated on a par with the Lower Elementary Grade trained teachers for all purposes.

The Government have also permitted the Higher Elementary Grade teachers who have passed the Matriculation examination or the S.S.L.C. examination to take a short course for five months in the Basic Training School and to declare them as Basic Trained Teachers of the Secondary Grade so long as they are employed in a Basic School.

Citizenship Training Course.—In connexion with the introduction of Citizenship Training in the curriculum of

The Coimbatore District Textile Workers' Union, Coimbatore, has formally called off the general strike in the Coimbatore Textile Mills. It is reported that all the mills have been working smoothly.

[First Fortnight of May 1948]

Education Department

Inspection.—The Government have directed that all the Elementary Schools for Girls now under the control of the Inspectress of Girls' Schools should be transferred to the District Educational Officers. The Inspection of Elementary Schools for Boys and Girls will be conducted by the Deputy Inspector (including women). In districts where the medium of instruction in Elementary Schools is Urdu, the Muslim ranges will be retained but they will be called Urdu Ranges. The existing number of eight Inspectresses has been reduced to six and their jurisdiction have been revised.

Secondary Schools under the reorganization scheme the first certificate course for citizenship for teachers in Secondary Schools has been started on the 6th May 1948 at the Teachers' College, Saidapet. One hundred and twenty teachers have been selected for the course. The course will last for 15 days.

Resettlement Activities

As a subsidiary measure to facilitate the resettlement of ex-servicemen in civil life, the Employment Exchanges helped 2,490 ex-servicemen, between December 1946 and March 1948, to secure yarn quota from the Regional Textile Controllers, with a view to enabling them to set up their own hand-looms. As a general rule each ex-serviceman entitled to yarn quota was permitted to set up only one loom to be worked by himself.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY

Leather Industry in India

The important role played by leather industry in India's national economy was brought out in a speech delivered by Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, Director, Scientific and Industrial Research, while requesting the Hon'ble Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerji to lay the foundation stone for the building of the Central Leather Research Institute at Madras. He said:

"The leather industry plays an important role in India's national economy. India has the largest herds of cattle in world—about 180,000,000 cows and oxen, 50,000,000 buffaloes, 46,000,000 sheep, 58,000,000 goats and 12,000,000 of other kinds; and her estimated leather production which include 20 million cow hides, 5.7 million buffalo hides, 27.5 million goat skins and 17 million sheep skins, ranks the highest. The Indian Hides Cess Committee has valued the nation's normal production of raw leather at about 19 crore rupees with a present value about twice this. Hides and skins, raw as well as tanned, form a big item in India's export trade. As a result of partition approximately one-sixth of the bovine population and one-eighth of the goats and sheep are included in Pakistan area. The production of hides and skins will also be reduced roughly in the same ratio.

An Appeal

The National Government of India have organized a new Museum known as "The Fort Museum" in the City of Madras, with the specific object of collecting together, for public display and enlightenment, all vestiges and relics bearing on the evolution of this Province from the days of the East India Company.

There is no doubt that specimens of old arms, armour, dress, pictures, wood carvings, etc., are still held as private collections in the ancient houses of the nobility which remain a sealed book to the general public.

The Museum authorities take this opportunity to request all individuals and institutions in possession of such relics to offer them to the Museum for permanent display and preservation.

deal to science; scientific methods are being applied to it to an ever increasing extent effecting continual progress in the techniques of production. To develop and maintain the Indian leather industry in the forefront of progress demands, in the face of world wide competition, ready access to new discoveries in science which are the raw material of all new development. This being so, a national research effort adequate to produce these basic discoveries must be there.

Scope of the Institute

Hides and skins to be converted into leather have to go through the following general operations: soaking, liming, deliming, bating, pickling, tanning and finishing. These include a number of detailed operations making the whole process highly complicated. Each operation alters the skin physically as well as chemically; and chemical bacterial and enzymic reactions, influenced by temperature, concentration acidity or alkalinity, age of the liquor and period of treatment, play great part in these operations.

The chemistry of leather manufacture is so complex that in order to understand it one has to possess good knowledge of chemistry, physics, bacteriology and physiology. Nowhere is the need for research so essential as in these complex processes, the understanding of which still defies the scientist in spite of rapid advancement made during the last few years. The industry elsewhere has advanced rapidly by the application of scientific methods in controlling these processes by introducing mechanized forms of production and by standardizing the physical properties of leather required by the consumer by means of approved physical tests. Revolutionary changes have been introduced in the use of materials in liming, bating, tanning, dyeing, fatliquoring and other processes. Equipment and machines have been developed for operations such as un-hairing, fleshing, scudding, drying and finishing.

Research as applied to the leather industry may be classified under the headings: (i) basic or fundamental research; (ii) applied research; and (iii) development research including pilot plant work.

The Indian leather industry has many pressing problems, big and small, upon which its future prosperity depends. Hitherto whatever progress was noticed it came from individual firms but henceforth the Leather Research Institute will form the focus of all scientific activity of this industry."

Economic Commission for Asia and Far East

NOTE.—The session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and Far East at Ooty has focussed considerable public attention on this organization. In our last issue, we published certain background facts on this subject. Since then, Dr. P. S. Lokanatham, Executive Secretary of the Commission, has, in the course of a broadcast dealt more elaborately with the constitution and functions of the Commission. He said:

"This Commission was set up in May 1947 by the Economic and Social Council in response to an intense desire on the part of the United Nations to promote rehabilitation and reconstruction of the economies of countries damaged and destroyed by the war. A Commission for Europe was set up and simultaneously, also a Commission for Asia and the Far East, with its temporary offices at Shanghai in China. The territory within the scope of the Commission is very extensive and covers the area from Pakistan in the west to China in the east, and includes Pakistan, India, Burma, Ceylon, Siam, Indo-China, Malayan Union and Singapore, Hongkong, Indonesia, the Philippines and China. Japan and Korea are not part of the territory within its scope but the Commission has been asked to establish working relations between the Allied Control Authorities in these countries in so far as their economies are of significance to the economy of Asia and the Far East. Membership of the Commission, however, is differently constituted; only those countries of the region which are full members of the United Nations are members, that is to say, India, China, the Philippines, Siam, and more recently, Pakistan and Burma. Australia, and more recently, New Zealand were admitted as members because of their geographic relation to the problems of the Far East. The United Kingdom, France and the Netherlands are members by virtue of their political relations to some of the countries of the region. The United States and U.S.S.R. are also members on account of their dominant importance in the general welfare of the peoples of the world.

Functions

The functions allotted to the Commission are indeed very wide and important; the Commission has been asked to initiate and participate in measures for facilitating concerted action for the economic reconstruction of Asia and the Far East, and for

raising the level of economic activity; in other words, to take all measures to stimulate and inspire action, to raise the standard of living of the hundreds of millions of people who live in these countries. The Commission has also been asked to make investigations and studies of the economic and technological problems and undertake the collection of economic and statistical information which is necessary for the work of the Commission. The sense of urgency which should inspire the Commission in its work has been indicated by the fact that the work of the Commission is to be reviewed at the end of three years, and hence the Commission is expected to make an immediate contribution to the rehabilitation and restoration of the war-damaged economies of this region and to promote reconstruction.

A Retrospect

Since the Commission was constituted, it has met twice; the first meeting at Shanghai was essentially of a preliminary and preparatory character. It directed the Secretariat to make a factual study of the requirements of the region in respect of essential reconstruction needs such as food, seed, fertilisers, textiles, raw materials, industrial and transport equipment, coal and other fuel. In making those estimates, the Secretariat was asked to find out how much could be met from domestic and regional sources and how much will have to be imported from abroad. On the basis of the study which was undertaken by the Secretariat, the Commission was able to make more precise recommendations when it met at its second session in Baguio in the Philippine Republic in November last. That meeting marked a decisive stage in the career of the Commission. It laid out certain broad lines of programme for the region. In the first place, it invited the Food and Agriculture Organization to give immediate attention to the problems of food and other essential requirements of the region, and to secure a proper co-ordinated agricultural programme for the entire region in order to make food and agricultural supplies adequate to its needs. Secondly, and this perhaps is one of the most important lines of future activity of the Commission, it established a working party consisting of nominees of four Governments of the region, India, China, the Philippines and Indo-China, to study the industrial plans of these countries, to co-ordinate

them wherever possible, and to give special attention to their technological and financial aspects and make concrete proposals for the financing of those plans which are regarded as significant to development. While there are specialized agencies operating over the whole world in the fields of agriculture, labour, finance and credit (e.g., FAO, ILO, the Fund and the Bank), there is no specialized agency concerned with industrial development as such, and therefore the Commission in establishing a working party for making recommendations regarding the industrial development of this region, has taken a very essential step and filled a gap. Thirdly, the study of reconstruction needs in these countries has revealed the inadequacy of technical personnel for reconstruction purposes in every country and hence the Commission has recommended the establishment of machinery which will give impetus to the creation of training facilities in the region and also assist these countries in getting expert assistance from abroad. Another recommendation which was adopted at the last meeting was the setting up of a working section under the Secretary to promote inter-regional and international trade in the region. Since most of the countries suffer for lack of foreign exchange, any step intended to promote exports would automatically increase the capacity to acquire necessary imports, thereby assisting reconstruction. Finally, the Commission, impressed by the damage caused by unregulated floods of the rivers of the region, has recommended the setting up of a Bureau of Flood Control to assist Asian countries in regulating and controlling water.

The Future

The reconstruction and development of Asia requires large expenditures and fullest utilization of all available resources. For this purpose every country must put forth its best, and hence national and regional efforts must remain the basis of all developmental programmes. Nevertheless, it is clear that whatever be the extent of self-help, supplementary assistance will have to be forthcoming from countries which are in a position to supply such aid; for, without imports, reconstruction would be held up. It is therefore an obligation of the advanced industrial countries to give special attention to the capital goods needs of the countries of this region. The Industrial Working Party which was set up in response to the Commission's directive has recommended that the possibilities

PROHIBITION PAGE

The following is a brief summary of the reports received from Prohibition districts on ameliorative activities. The reports relate largely to the activities during May 1948 :-

Tanjore.—Thrift day was inaugurated in five villages and thirty hundi boxes were distributed. Four palmyrah jaggery co-operative societies have started functioning and twenty one licences were issued to ex-tappers.

North Arcot.—One village grama sangham has decided to purchase a site for a village community hall and has collected funds for the purpose. Thrift campaign was launched in some places. Public meetings were convened in this connexion and speeches were made stressing the benefit of savings. Twenty hundi boxes were issued to members and non-members in two villages. One grama sangham has decided to construct a village community centre at a cost of Rs. 7,000.

Chittoor.—Rural games were conducted in several villages. Bhajanams were also performed as well as Hari-kathas. Folk dances constituted another feature of the activities during the period. The Harijans in one village staged a drama. Thrift day celebrations were conducted in some places. Two grama sanghams repaired approach roads. Sign-posts were put up by few other villages. Two villages have opened libraries. An egg production society as well as a credit society were organized during the period. Street-cleaning drives were launched in several villages. A community centre was opened in one place by the Chief Physical Instructor, Madras. A grama sangham and a recreation club were organized in one village in Chittoor Division. In another village a village playground was marked out. A post office was opened through the efforts of one grama sangham.

Cuddapah.—A cattle show was opened in one place. A weavers' co-operative society was started in another.

Tiruchirappalli.—Six grama sanghams were organized during the week ending 13th May. A night school was organized in another place. A volley ball court was opened in another. Thrift day was celebrated by the Harijan Co-operative Society in one place and the rural reconstruction centre in another. An ex-addict is reported to have saved Rs. 200 after

the introduction of prohibition. During the week ending 20th May, four further grama sanghams were organized.

Coimbatore.—Rural sports and amusements were held on a considerable scale in some places. There was competition in various items such as chedu-gudu, tug-of-war, folk dance and prizes were distributed to winners. The Collector spoke on the duties of grama sanghams and aims and methods of rural uplift. One grama sangham is sinking a well at a cost of Rs. 2,000. Another is constructing a school building.

Malabar.—Thrift day was celebrated in one place under the auspices of the jaggery production co-operative society.

Madura.—Two night schools were started by two grama sanghams. Fifty-six persons have joined one school and sixteen the other. Economic improvement of ex-addicts is also reported. In one case an ex-addict has saved Rs. 800 and has utilized the amount in discharging previous debts and purchasing bulis and similar other enterprises. Another has utilized his savings to purchase a plot of land. Nine ex-addicts, who are scavengers in a panchayat board at one place, are reported to have saved Rs. 680 and utilized the amount for discharging prior debts. It is also reported that petty thefts of cash by ex-addicts have ceased to exist.

Kurnool.—Two street cleanliness days were observed at two places. Thrift day was also celebrated.

Ootacamund.—Rural sports took place as usual. The second rural uplift school was started on 12th May. The Special Development Officer toured some places and explained the advantages of co-operative milk supply and Egg-marketing societies. Grama sanghams were formed in two villages. Propaganda was done in furtherance of thrift also. Cases of economic improvement of ex-addicts are also reported. One labourer has saved Rs. 150 and some others have utilized their savings for clearing off prior debts.

Bellary.—There was a firka tournament in one place. Rural sports were also conducted. Dramas were enacted. Lectures on sanitation were delivered. Special attention for cleaning Harijan quarters was also given. Betterment committees were formed in two places.

One betterment committee has resolved to construct a school building at a cost of Rs. 3,000. A youth league, with the object of undertaking social welfare work, was also organized. Some of the village betterment committees have decided to take action to combat malaria and guinea worm. A library and reading room was opened in one place.

Nellore.—A firka tournament took place in one place and prizes were distributed to winners. Dramas were also staged. One grama sangham has arranged to construct a village hall.

Guntur.—A burrakatha performance was given in one place, and this was largely attended.

Salem.—A new volley ball court and public reading room were opened in Namakkal Division. The villagers in one place have offered to form a village road and also to construct a school building. The Tamilnad Co-operative Federation conducted its Fifth Conference in Salem on 14th May. The occasion was availed of for an exhibition of cottage industries and other products.

Benefits of Prohibition

A page from the past

When the benefits of prohibition are being doubted in some quarters it is worthwhile summarizing the effects of prohibition as recorded during the regime of the former Congress Ministry.

It could safely be stated that more than 90 per cent of persons formerly addicted to drink had become teetotalers in the fullest sense of the term. There had been appreciable decrease in murder and other crimes including property crimes. Economic condition of the former addicts considerably improved and special deposit accounts were opened for them by the Co-operative Department. People lived better and ate more sumptuously. In many cases they bought sheep or purchased jewels. Those who got out of the district to drink were socially ostracized and treated with indignity. Village squabbles ceased; small borrowing disappeared; petty money lenders found fewer and fewer victims; food replaced poison; the faces of women hid no cares and beamed with delight, but got easily overcome with fright when the faintest suggestion of the restoration of drink-shops was made; in short, the dread and despair of the village homes became a story of the past. People gathered daily before temples and offered worship and drank the spiritual liquor of devotion to God. Spirituous liquor had been prohibited and the way opened for spiritual uplift.

DOMINION FOOD MINISTER LOOKING BENEATH THE SURFACE



India's Food Minister Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram and Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, Madras Food Minister examining the quality of rice supplies in a relief shop at Aucharapakkam, Chingleput district



Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Food Minister, inspecting foodgrains in a grain shop at Guduvancherri, Chingleput district

of utilising Japan's industrial capacity for the development of the rest of Asia should be fully explored and utilised. The Working Party has also recommended the setting up of *ad hoc* committees to assist in its work of estimating the need in respect of finance, transport, fuel, basic materials, etc. When these studies are completed they will form the basis of a blueprint for the economic development of this vast region.

Some of the countries in Asia are not yet free and self-governing. Even those that are free are not necessarily members of the United Nations and hence not qualified to become full members of the Commission. Nevertheless it was rightly felt that unless these countries were associated in an intimate way in the work and activities of the Commission, the Commission would suffer from a lack of realism and understanding. Hence at the last meeting the device of Associate Membership was adopted and non-self-governing countries were admitted as associate members sponsored by the metropolitan powers which were responsible for their international relations. Thus, Ceylon, the Malayan Union and Singapore, Hongkong, Cambodia and Laos were admitted as associate members. At this meeting at Coty the question of admitting Indonesia will be taken up.

The countries of Asia have for centuries had spiritual, religious and cultural bonds but at no time in their history did they ever have a chance of coming together to discuss common economic problems of vital importance to them. The Asian Relations Conference inaugurated by Pandit Nehru in March last year was the first step on an unofficial level in bringing the countries together, but it has been left to the

United Nations to bring together these countries on an unofficial governmental level at which accredited representatives of the governments can come together to discuss their common problems and take concerted action for solving them. There is no impairment of national sovereignty because it is one of the basic principles of the Commission that no action will be taken in respect of any country without the concurrence of the Government of that country. Nevertheless, the fact that decisions are taken with the approval of the participating governments in a spirit of co-operation and goodwill is an assurance that whatever recommendations are adopted by the Commission will be implemented by them. Again, although the Commission is not an operational body in the sense that it cannot directly undertake projects of development, there is nothing to prevent it from recommending to governments to set up institutions for the development and execution of such projects. The steps that the Commission is already contemplating to take in the field of technical training, trade promotion, flood control, and above all, in industrial development, are all such as are bound to promote the development of this region. The Commission cannot of course compel any country to assist in the task of reconstruction but it can do a great deal by bringing into focus the urgent problems of Asian economy, by pointing out that in any plan for the reconstruction of the world, this region where live more than half of the world's population, cannot be ignored and that it is to the interest of the more advanced industrial countries themselves to assist these countries in their efforts towards reconstruction and development."

By courtesy—A.I.R., Madras.

Increased Food Production

Production, more production and maximum production is the slogan now. Increased production has been described as a national duty in the present day. It is considered as the supreme need of the hour. Some aspects of the problem of agricultural production were analysed lucidly in a recent broadcast by Mr. M. S. Sivaraman, I.C.S., Director of Agriculture.

He said: "How shall we increase our food production? With war three years in retrospect, we still find ourselves in want of our basic cereal requirements, let alone protective foods such as eggs, milk, meat, vegetables and

fruits. A war, an increasing population without an increasing food supply and unfavourable seasons, have all combined to produce an exceptionally acute food shortage. Attempts have been made to tackle it through various approaches; by imports, by extending cultivation to submarginal lands, by intensive cultivation of food crops and by more equitable distribution of the available supplies.

2. It is an irony that a tropical country like ours should have to seek for food supplies from countries less favoured by nature. Imported supplies may help to tide over the present crisis, but the basic remedy lies in a

reorientation of our national agricultural, industrial and economic policies in improving agricultural production and simultaneously increasing the purchasing power of the masses so they can afford the necessary food giving and protective foods at a level which will foster agriculture as a competitive occupation.

3. Protective foods like eggs, and meat are luxury articles of agriculture, the production of which requires several times the area necessary for raising cereals giving the same amount of food energy. As the area of profitable cultivation in the province is limited, no general improvement in the nutritional standards can be brought about unless the yield of cultivated land is increased appreciably.

4. The problem of improving agricultural production is a complex matter involving not only agricultural technique but also different aspects of our social and economic life such as systems of inheritance, tenures, transport, marketing, credit, etc. All the various forces that tend to adversely affect agriculture, have to be surveyed and eliminated. The farmer's problems are really the nation's problems and the state has to step in to create the necessary atmosphere for stimulating the maximum of economic production from every acre of land.

Factors in Production

5. Granted all this, agricultural production itself is an uncertain element. It is a function of different variables such as manures, soils, cultural practices, seeds, water-supply, climatic conditions, pests and diseases and other environmental factors each of which may be as important as any of the others depending on the quantity, time and duration of its incidence in the several stages of plant growth. In the present state of our knowledge, some only of these variables can be changed for the better. I shall confine myself in this talk to soil fertility and organic manures which are fundamental factors affecting food production and suggest tackling them through ways which are within the powers of every cultivator.

Soil

6. It must be remembered that the soil is not a static mass. It is a dynamic living organism subject to constant physical, chemical and biological changes which essentially determine its fertility. The soil is the home of myriads of micro-flora whose vital activity helps to disintegrate the remains of dead plant and animal matter into a spongy amorphous mass called humus which again is slowly changed

by other bacteria with the incidental formation of plant nutrients like ammonia and nitrates. There is a constant resurrection of dead matter which goes on continually in the soil under favourable conditions.

7. The presence of humus in sufficient quantities in the soils ensures among other things the requisite conditions necessary for crop production like proper tilth, temperature and aeration. The soil retains moisture better and there is considerable biological activity leading to a steady and balanced supply of plant nutrients. The first task of a successful farmer is, therefore, to keep up the life cycle in the soil and maintain and improve its humus content. Unfortunately the soil in our country is in general badly deficient in humus as the tropical sun depletes the soil of its organic matter. The unmanured land depends on the rotting of weeds and roots of the previous crop for its humus content and this in turn leads to the formation of just enough plant nutrient to keep up a low-turn. The chief manurial problem in India is, therefore, not merely the deficiency of nitrogen as observed in the Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. It is the deficiency of humus and nitrogen. Of these nitrogen can be synthesised but humus has to be grown.

8. Humus production and crop production cannot go on simultaneously in the same land in the absence of sufficient moisture and nutrients. Humus has, therefore, to be produced separately before applying it to fields on which rainfed crops are raised. All organic matter can be converted into humus with the help of soil bacteria by composting it in shallow pits not more than 2 feet in depth. For this purpose the leaves and agricultural wastes are placed in pits and moistened with the addition of wood ash and a small quantity of cattle dung mixed with water. The contents of the pits should be turned over after fifteen days and once a month thereafter. Artificial farm yard manure can thus be produced in three months time. Such careful husbanding of all organic wastes is the secret of success of the Chinese farmers who have kept up the fertility of their soils at a remarkably high level for over four thousand years.

9. In respect of irrigated paddy lands, the problem is simpler: for green leaves and organic matter can be applied directly to the fields. Innumerable experiments in the Agricultural Research Stations and on ryots' lands all over the Madras Province have

shown that green leaves constitute the main bulky organic manure needed for paddy fields. Application of green leaves ranging from 4,000 to 6,000 pounds to an acre has increased the yields of paddy from 25 to 45 per cent. For this purpose quick growing shrubs have to be raised all over the countryside, along the sides of roads, railways, canals and tanks, on waste lands and in all places which are not put to a more profitable use. Green manure crops like Sunnhemp, Daincha, Sesbania Speciosa, etc., should be grown on paddy lands wherever possible after the harvest of the paddy crop. An acre of Sesbania Speciosa may yield as much as one lakh of pounds of green matter in five months sufficient to manure 25 acres of paddy fields. A Glyricidia stump planted on a canal or field bund will produce 40 lb. of leaves in the first year and 300 lb. every year after three years. Unless we produce more leaves and organic matter and apply them directly to wet fields or compost and use the artificial farm yard manure on dry fields, there can be no permanent solution of the food problem. Every ryot has therefore, to take up seriously the production of more plants, shrubs, leaves and green manures in every possible area without detriment to his cultivation. Where green manures can be raised on the fields, the ryot has to learn to produce his seed requirements by setting apart, if need be, a part of the cultivated land for the purpose. If by sacrificing one cent of land to produce green manure seeds, sufficient

green manure can be raised on an acre and thereby the yield of paddy can be increased by over 20 per cent, surely this sacrifice of one cent is worth it. If by planting 15 cuttings of Glyricidia on the bunds of paddy fields, the ryot can get his manure on the spot, surely the practice should be taken up at once.

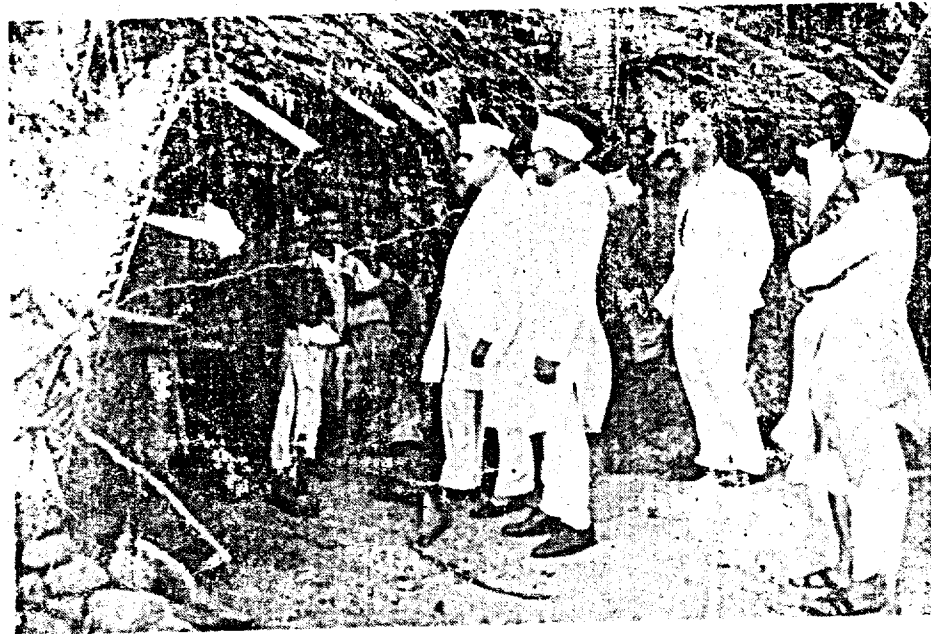
Importance of Manure

10. In order to intensify production every farmer has to learn to be a chemical manufacturer employing countless millions of bacteria as willing workers in his field factory. Increased food production depends largely on increased production of manures and the possibilities are very great as nearly 80 per cent of the cultivated lands is not manured at all. Substantial increase in the acre yields, leads to greater output of cereals. More cultivated lands can then be released for larger production of protective foods and industrial crops so essential for a balanced abundance in the country. The Madras Department of Agriculture has started an allot drive to plant quick growing shrubs, to spread green manures and to collect and supply free to all ryots seeds and plant materials of several trees of economic importance. Once the cultivators' enthusiasm is roused and his co-operation secured, we can confidently hope for striking progress towards the solution of our food problem."

—By courtesy—A.I.R., Madras.



Food Ministers discussing the complicated food problem in the South



MISCELLANEOUS OF THE FOOD

*With Sri P. V. Narayana Murthy, Minister
of Travancore, the Minister of Food
is seen talking to the Minister of
South Travancore*

ENGAGEMENTS MINISTER

*A village woman showing a tasty maize
dish to the Madras Food Minister*



*Examining a maize dish prepared by a
village woman. She has set an
example to others*

*Maize Recipes discussed with
village women*



*A village woman showing a tasty maize
dish to the Madras Food Minister*

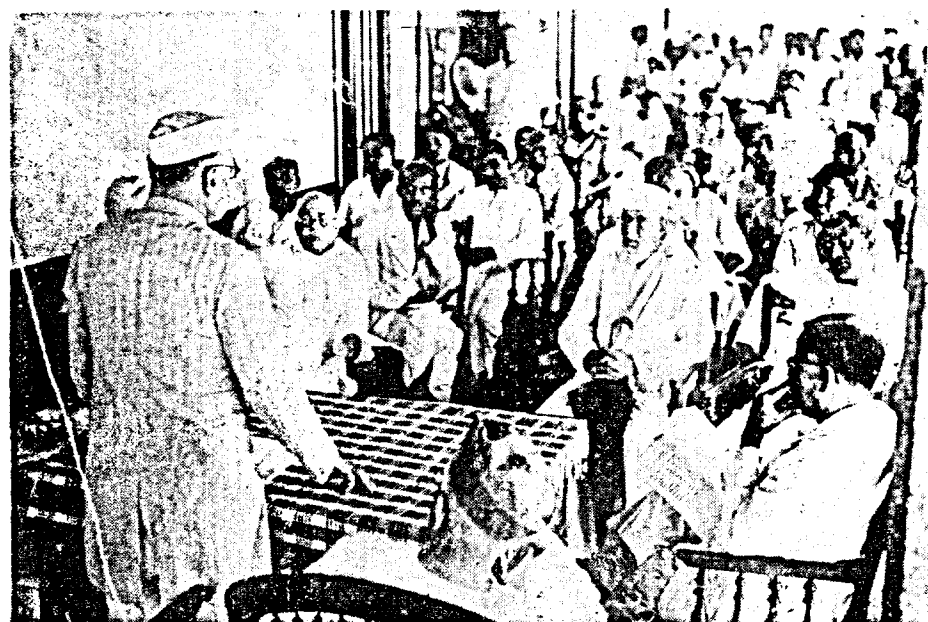
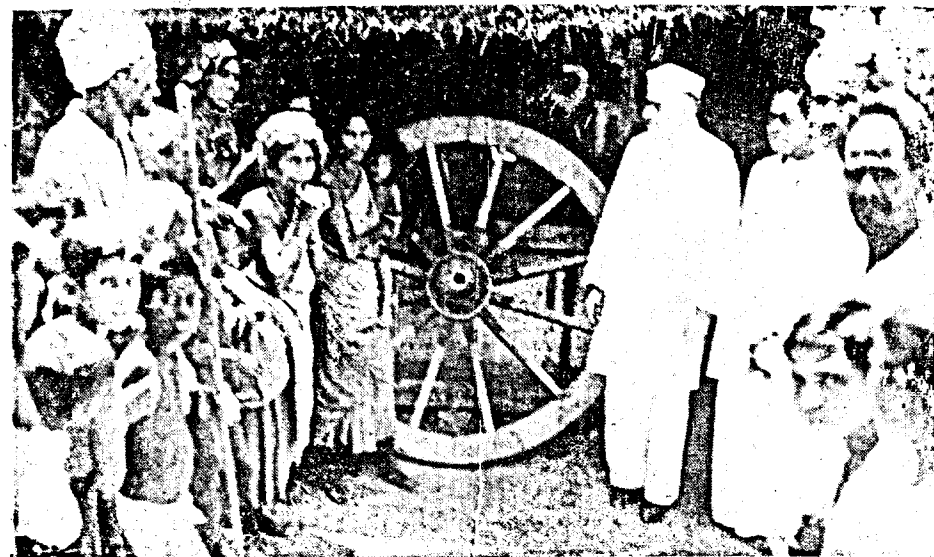


*Distributing maize dishes to youngsters
in Tinnevely. They are very tasty*



THE MINISTER AND OTHERS LOOKING INTO THINGS

India's Food Minister, Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram enquires about the food rationing from a group of women during his visit to Kathirampet, South Arcot district



The Minister meets a deputation at Madura

Mr. B. R. Patel, I.C.S., Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food, Government of India, and Mr. V. S. Hejmadi, I.C.S., Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, instructing a poor villager regarding maize recipes



SPECIAL ARTICLES

A Gift of Modern Medicine Corneal Transplantation

You can get back your sight if you have lost it on account of a corneal opacity



Picture 1 shows an eye with an extensive and dense corneal scar

Picture 2 shows an eye after operation. The clear dark circular portion in the centre of the cornea is the graft

The cornea is what is commonly known as the "Black" of the eye. It appears black on account of the pigmented iris diaphragm behind it. The cornea is really transparent and it has to be clear for purposes of good vision for light rays to pass through. If the cornea loses its transparency, sight is interfered with, the degree of visual disability depending on the density, the situation and size of the opacity. The cornea may become opaque from injury or as the result of disease. A very common cause of opacification of cornea is an ulcer of the cornea leaving behind an opaque scar when it heals.

Prevention is always better than cure and prevention of the conditions or prompt treatment of these which result in corneal opacities should receive the foremost attention. Preventive medicine has reached such a high pitch of efficiency in the Western countries that corneal scars are comparatively rare to come across there. However we are not concerned with prevention at the moment.

Here in our country, corneal opacities are extremely common. In other words there are many blind or partially blind from this cause and the curative aspect of this is of greater importance here than elsewhere. Thanks to modern surgery, it is now possible

to restore sight to many of these unfortunate persons hitherto deemed to blindness for life.

The operation in corneal transplantation (corneal grafting, keratoplasty). It consists in removing the central position of the opaque cornea of the patient (recipient) and replacing it by a clear piece of cornea (graft) of equal size from the eye of a dead person (donor). A live person whose eye with a clear cornea has to be removed for some reason or other, e.g., a malignant growth in the eye can also be a donor. The operation is done under local anaesthesia. The graft is helped to stay in place by supporting sutures which are removed on the 8th day without any anaesthesia.

The graft takes easily but it is more difficult for it to remain clear. For corneal grafting to be successful as a sight restoring measure, the eye of the recipient must be healthy

apart from the opaque cornea. The operation is of no use where parts of the eye other than the cornea, e.g., retina or the optic nerve or its connections are diseased. It is not also possible to perform it in all cases of corneal opacities. The scope of the operation is therefore somewhat restricted but this does not detract from its utility. Where the operation is indicated, the result is spectacular, the vision improving practically from blindness to normal.

The donor's eye is removed as soon as possible after death and is preserved in a refrigerator till it is required. It has to be used in a day or two. A place for the storage of such eyes for keratoplasty is an "Eye Bank." Selected patients are kept in readiness on a waiting list and the operation is performed at the earliest opportunity when a graft is available.

The public are hereby informed that an Eye Bank has been opened at the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Egmore, Madras, and that corneal transplantations are being performed in the same Institution.

—This patient had an injury to his eye with a piece of steel which resulted in an ulcer of the cornea. With energetic treatment the ulcer healed and the eye was saved but the scar left behind by the ulcer reduced his vision to practically nothing. Now after corneal grafting he has almost normal vision and has returned to work.

If your sight is defective on account of a corneal opacity, seek the advice of the Government Ophthalmic Hospital at Egmore. You may be a suitable case for corneal grafting. You may be destined to regain your lost sight.

In New York, some persons about to die make provision in their will for the presentation of their eyes after their death to the Eye Bank. These men have set the example for others to follow. In death, you can give light and bring happiness to your less fortunate fellow beings who tread the path of life in darkness and in distress.

Will you do it?

Steady Progress on World Food Front

By Mr. GEORGE MARTIN

Cautious optimism for the future is warranted, according to the report submitted by the International Emergency Food Council to the April session of the Council of the Food and

Agriculture Organisation, which has been released recently.

It is warranted as a result of three favourable and unforeseen developments which occurred during the last

six months, and have taken the worst edge off the anticipated world food crisis during the current crop year 1947-48. These developments were; first, the unusually mild winter in Europe; secondly, the record harvest in Australia; and thirdly, the recent doubling of the monthly grain exports from Argentina, which are supported by much larger crop yields than could normally be counted upon. In addition the anticipated exports of cereals from the U.S.S.R. are, in fact, materialising.

Larger Milk Production

The unusual mild winter in Europe has moderated the shortage of feeding stuffs. The unusual availability of feeding stuffs resulted in a much larger milk production than was anticipated. Livestock slaughtering owing to insufficient supplies of feeding stuffs could not be avoided (for example, in Denmark cattle numbers fell by 11 per cent., during 1947), but its extent was less than seemed inevitable six months ago. Another important factor in the improvement of the general situation was that governments made much stronger efforts for the conservation and collection of grain.

All this does not mean, however, that the world food situation of the last six months has been satisfactory or that no more real problems remain to be solved. On the contrary, rations in a number of countries have been lower and operating stocks less adequate than in the winter 1946-47. The gap between supplies and requirements has not been wholly closed, but "the job of closing it just looks less imposing than it did last autumn."

World sugar production has equalled, if not exceeded, earlier expectations. Allocation recommendations for this commodity were discontinued several months ago, partly, of course, because lack of dollar exchange has limited the ability of many countries, where sugar consumption is still well below pre-war levels, to purchase supplies from dollar areas, and most of the world's exportable supplies this year are in the dollar areas. Over 1,500,000 tons of sugar have been bought for use in occupied territories. This has reduced by an almost corresponding amount the quantity of cereals required to maintain any specified level of caloric intake in these territories.

Rice Exports

Slow, though steady, progress is being made in the recovery of world rice production, but exports from the countries of South-East Asia are still far below the pre-war level. Moreover, there has been a large

increase in the rice eating populations of the world during the last decade, and continuing deficiencies in available rice supplies will exist which can be met, if at all, only by the substitution of wheat or coarse grains.

The supplies of fats and oils have also slightly improved. Before World War II, the caloric content of exported food fats and oils was nearly 50 per cent. of that of exported food grains. At present, the world trade in fats and oils is still less than one-half of the pre-war trade. No real optimism is warranted for the next year or two at least, and deliberate effective efforts to increase world production of fats and oils (such as the East African Groundnuts Scheme) remain of primary importance.

The supplies of animal and vegetable proteins are still far short of meeting requirements, but, particularly in the case of animal proteins, lack of foreign exchange is severely limiting the effective demand. The production of meat is dependent on the supplies of feeding stuffs. It is too early to forecast the availabilities of cereals in the next crop-year. Between now and the new harvest no major general improvement is possible in the supply of concentrated feeding stuffs. An improvement in the food grain situation after the new harvest would reduce the diversion of food grain to direct human consumption and increase the supply of milling offals through the possibility of adjustments in the extraction ratios for flour.

Europe's meat production is estimated at 16,700 million pounds and her meat imports at 3,500 million pounds in 1948, compared with a production of 17,500 million pounds and imports of 4,000 million pounds in 1947, and a production of 27,100 million pounds and imports of 3,058 million pounds in pre-war years.

Future Prospects

For the first time since the end of World War II, the report says, it is possible to express some cautious optimism about future prospects for food grains. Shipments from Australia and Argentina are certain to be larger in the first half of the 1948-49 crop year than they were in the first half of the current crop year. It is also certain that this year's crops in Europe will be larger.

If favourable weather conditions continue all over the world (which, in the words of the report, is a "most unlikely gamble") world production of food and food grains may return to pre-war levels in 1948-49, if not slightly above, but "these are only prospects" and until they materialise, governments will be well advised to refrain from making any premature changes in their present distribution programmes. The need for careful management will continue in any case, since even if pre-war supplies were available, they would have to be shared among an increased world population; but a moderate improvement in rations and working stocks can be anticipated for the next crop year.

In many countries, however, supplies will remain short in terms of pre-war consumption, which, in some instances, was far short of meeting minimum nutritional requirements.

Food shortages will continue to affect industrial production and to constitute a heavy drain on the foreign exchange resources of numerous importing countries. However, the unbalanced geographic distribution of production (with the largest decrease in importing areas with large population), which has characterised the past two years, will be improved if present weather conditions continue.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Improved Varieties of Sugarcane

Sugarcane is an important money and food crop which has a great bearing on the Agricultural economy of this province. It is this crop which has lifted many a ryot from the slough of debt and despondency by its better return even during the prewar days and has now placed them on sound economic basis.

The total area under cane in Madras Province is roughly 1½ lakhs of acres of which the central districts comprising North Arcot, Chittoor, Salem and South Arcot grow nearly half of the total area under cane. Sugarcane is grown in a variety of soils varying from deep loam as in the northern districts of Vizagapatam tending to be

clayey further down in the Godavari delta to light loams tending to be sandy in the central and parts of southern districts. Irrigation is mainly from channels in the northern districts while lift irrigation from wells supplemented by water-supply from rainfed tanks form the main source of water-supply in the central districts.

The Sugarcane Research Station, Gudiyattam, was started in the year 1935 to solve some of the problems of sugarcane growers of the central districts wherein the conditions of soil and cultivation differ in certain respects from other parts. The area of the station is 35 acres, of which 29 acres are under cultivation. Normally sugarcane occupies an area of 8 acres every year on the basis of a three-year rotation and the rest of the area is devoted to foodcrops like paddy, ragi, cholam, etc.

The object of the station is to increase the yield of sugar per acre by varietal, cultural and manurial methods and also to increase the income of the cane grower by reducing the cost of cultivation. Introduction of better varieties is the potent method of increasing the yield of any crop on a wide scale and hence it formed the main programme of work on this station.

The varietal position in the district at the time of inception of the station and the results achieved so far are briefly given below:—

In 1935, at the time of inception of the station, J. 247 was the predominant variety grown in the district of North Arcot as also in other parts of the Presidency while Tellacherukku and stripped Mauritius were occupying almost the entire area under cane in Chittoor district. These varieties were poor in drought resistance and habit, consequently they required frequent irrigations and also elaborate method of wrapping and propping which only increased the cost of cultivation. Their yields were low averaging to 20 to 25 tons of cane per acre. The varieties were all introductions from Java, Barbados and Mauritius and were under cultivation for nearly three decades. Besides the above, the new introductions of Co. 213, Co. 281, P.O.J. 2878 and Co. 290 were slowly finding their way. But at present we can hardly see any trace of them. Within less than a decade from the inception of this farm they have been practically replaced by better varieties that were bred at Coimbatore and tested and released for cultivation from this station.

The economic characters of varieties that were tested on this station and recommended for cultivation are given below:—

Co. 419—Sugarcane.—It is a very vigorous growing variety, thick and juicy, with fairly good tillering, good sucrose (18 to 19 per cent in juice) capable of withstanding drought and also water-logging. It gives an yield of 37 to 40 tons of cane or 41 to 46 pothis of jaggery (pothi is 250 lb.) per acre. In favourable situations, yields over 60 tons of cane per acre are also not uncommon. It attains maturity in 11½ months when planted in February-March and is suitable for crushing in February-March. Jaggery is of good quality. Maximum recovery of jaggery is 12 to 13 per cent of cane weight. It can also be ratooned for one season. Co. 419 has almost completely replaced the previous local varieties of J. 247, Tellacherukku and stripped Mauritius owing to its high yield of over 60 per cent than the local varieties and also to its other good qualities of withstanding drought and capacity for ratooning. It is no exaggeration to say that by the introduction of Co. 419 the increase in the income of the ryot even at a most conservative estimate under ryots' conditions is Rs. 250 per acre and the increase in the national income for the North Arcot district alone is about 4.5 lakhs of rupees.

Co. 421 is a vigorous growing variety, medium in thickness, with fairly good tillering. It develops fairly high sucrose of 16 per cent by November-December and is suitable for crushing in the early season. It attains a maximum sucrose of 18.15 per cent in January when harvested in December for early crushings it gives an yield of 30 tons of cane or 31 pothis of jaggery per acre. The advantages of growing an early variety of cane are (1) Sugar factories can start work early in December, (2) jaggery marketed in the

early season at Pongal fetches a better price, (3) a short duration grain crop of paddy, ragi, cholam, etc., can be grown during the Navarai season (January to April) as the cane leaves the field by December.

Subsequent trials have shown Co. 449 to be a better variety for crushing in the early season with 31 per cent more yield.

Co. 449 is a tall growing variety, medium in thickness, with good tillering and late vigour. The initial growth of the variety may be slow up to August, but it attains a high sucrose of 18 per cent even in January and maintains for a long time till April. Hence it is suitable for crushing even in the early season and also in the mid and late seasons. It attains a maximum sucrose of 19.18 per cent in March which is the best time for its harvest. It gives an yield of 34 tons of cane or 34 pothis of jaggery when crushed in December and up to 48 tons of cane or 50 pothis of jaggery when crushed during the late season in April-May. It is not a brittle cane and does not break like Co. 419. Jaggery is of very good colour and quality. It comes up well in situations of normal water-supply. It can be particularly grown in factory areas as it is a high-yielding cane with rich sucrose fit for crushing in the early, middle and late seasons.

Co. 467 is another vigorous variety coming to the fore. It has very good tillering and habit with fairly good sucrose and high tonnage and promises to do better than Co. 419 or Co. 449. The variety has not yet passed the experimental stage. Search for still more better varieties is being continued.

Ryots interested in sugarcane cultivation are welcomed to visit the farm which is situated close to the Melalathur Railway station on the Madras-Bangalore line and about two miles from the Gudiyattam town.

Long Staple Cotton in South India

The bulk if not the whole of the long staple cottons of the work exceeding 1½ inch comprises of varieties named in trade as Sea Island, Egyptian Peruvian. They belong to the same botanical group known as *Gossypium barbadense*. Every spinning mill engaged in the production of yarn of counts over 80s will need one or more varieties belonging to this class of cottons. No part of India grows these fine styles and therefore we are obliged to depend on and import from

the foreign countries. Of these three groups mentioned above, Sea Island grown in West Indies is the longest and finest. Second in order of merit is the Egyptians and Sudens. The last is the Peruvian cultivated in South America which though coarse is very strong.

Previous experiments conducted in Sind at acclimatization of the varieties ended in failure. The experiments carried on in Mysore have not yet been concluded. Sea Island cotton from

Montserrat and St. Vincent in West Indies, comes up fairly well on the well drained laterite soils of South Kanara as a well known crop when planted in the monsoon May-June. Examination of samples of lint revealed that staple length up to 1½ inch could be secured. The variety stood pruning and shading. Insect attack during the monsoon months very low and the quality of the harvests was good. A scheme of experiments for cultivating them as purp crop at Mangalore, as subsidiary crop in coconut plantations in South Kanara and Malabar and as mixed crop in the Modan lands of Malabar, will be started during this year. It is also reported that Sea Island variety is coming up well as a summer crop at Palur in the South Arcot district especially in places favoured with the humid sea breeze. If the experiments prove entirely successful,

one lakh of bales could be produced in Madras Province.

A South American variety Quebradinho is doing very well in Aduturai in Tanjore district and satisfies both the productivity and quality standards. It is a hardy type capable of withstanding drought and putting on good growth on fertile lands. There are great possibilities of extending its cultivation in Tanjore delta as a hedge plant in padugai lands, betel vine and plantation gardens, as a bund crop on sides of canals, as a subsidiary crop in coconut plantations, as a mixed crop in rain-grown groundnuts and millets, and as a backyard plant in homesteads.

Little drops of rain make the mighty ocean. Small bushes of the Quebradinho cotton grown over a vast area of the delta will make thousands of bales of long staple cotton badly needed by the Indian Mills.

AIMS AND ATTITUDES

Madras Premier on Basic Education

"The more I see Basic Education at work, the more I am convinced that the only way of promoting permanent constructive work among our people is by taking up Basic Education", said Mr. O. P. Ramaswamy Reddiar, Premier of Madras, in his address at the Convocation held to distribute certificates to the first batch of 20 women Basic Education teachers, on the completion of their two-year period of training under the Tamil Nad Kasturba Trust in Gandhigram, Chinnalapatti, Madura district, yesterday.

The Premier said: "While there is no doubt in my mind that each of the great movements of constructive work started by Mahatma Gandhi, i.e., the Khadi movement, the village uplift movement and the Kasturba Trust, etc., is of the utmost importance for the building-up of our nationhood, it is my faith that all these are comprehended by and in the revolutionary scheme of Basic Education. A Basic teacher merits the whole of the constructive programme, and must be worthy of it, to be a Basic teacher."

The Premier added that he was convinced that the Government and official agencies were incapable of doing all that was necessary to-day

in the reconstruction of village life in the country without which India could not progress in any direction whatsoever. He was more happy that he was distributing Basic Teachers' training certificates specially to women teachers, than he would be if he were presiding over the Convocation of any university in India. He exhorted the teachers to carry the message of Gandhiji to the villages.

Absentee Landlordism

"We must create an interest, an incentive in each cultivator which will make him devote all his energy to his task so that every inch of cultivable land may yield its maximum output. We must not permit absentee landlordism, rack-renting and other evils inseparable from a system which permits men to hold large areas of land who do not themselves cultivate and are not interested in cultivating it, but only in getting rich at the expense of other people's toil." Thus declared Mr. B. G. Kher, while inaugurating the second Conference of the Bombay Province Landholders' League, at Poona, recently. Continuing he said: "It is the duty of citizens of a free nation to serve the motherland and be prepared for self-sacrifice as and when necessary. Neither Communists

who are wedded to internationalism and take their orders from Russia nor Communalists who put the good of their own community or caste above that of the country can give us any sound solution of our problem in the name of whomsoever they may claim to speak. It is our first duty to preserve our freedom and do our best to support all programmes chalked out for betterment of the economic and social conditions of the bulk of our countrymen who are poor, regardless of class, caste or community. This was the object for which Mahatmaji—the architect of our freedom—strove throughout his life and though he is not physically among us now, his ideals inspire and his principles guide our footsteps."

Stressing closer contact between the cultivator and the Government, he said: "An actual cultivator of land is removed from the State by the presence of intermediaries and any help which the State may give for improvement of agriculture does not very often reach the actual cultivator. It is necessary that a peasant cultivator should have direct contact with the State so that he can feel that he also can do a great deal not merely to improve his own condition but also to contribute towards preservation of his country's freedom."

Economic Ideals of Gandhiji

"It is often said these days Gandhiji was the greatest Socialist of the age. One might go further and say he was even a Communist in so far as he believed in and advocated community life for the people of the world to the utmost extent possible. His own ashrams in which he lived were the most complete examples of community life where each had according to his needs and each served according to his capacity. But describing Gandhiji as a Socialist or a Communist would be describing him very imperfectly and even in a misleading manner." Thus observed His Excellency Dr. Katju, Governor of Orissa, broadcasting recently over the All-India Radio, Lucknow, in the series "Fundamentals of Gandhiji."

All conflict, he continued, was foreign to Gandhiji's way of living and to him end did not justify the means, if the means were not legitimate and peaceful in themselves. He wanted to secure his object not by force but by moral persuasion.

Explaining how Gandhiji proposed to liquidate capitalism, His Excellency said: "Gandhiji believed in the ideal of a classless society, society in which men and women would be bound to each other by ties of goodwill and fellowship. Liquidation of any class or group was hateful to him. He wanted to liquidate capitalism by persuading capitalists to convert themselves voluntarily into trustees for the benefit of the State and their fellow citizens."

His Excellency continued: "If this theory of Gandhiji's were accepted largely, capitalism itself would lose all its vice by losing all its grossness and power of mischief. If a capitalist were to consider himself truly a trustee of the wealth he acquires, then obviously there would be no desire on his part to treat his workers unfairly, give them low wages or impose upon them unreasonable conditions of work."

Stating that Gandhiji's conception of proper way of living influenced his "arthik adarsh" (economic idealism), His Excellency said Gandhiji preferred simple life in clean homely surroundings with plenty of fresh air, trees and shrubs and flowers and flowing water near about. He wanted happy homes with limited families so that the burden upon the householder and particularly on the housewife should not become unbearable. "This endeavour to simplify life and the manner of living," added His Excellency "led Gandhiji to glorify and even idealise cottage industries. The spinning wheel was to Gandhiji the symbol of clean and ideal life, something around which whole life should revolve; and the spinning wheel naturally excluded all heavy machinery which became useless and needless; and if you once exclude heavy machinery you also avoid all complicated questions of nationalization of industries."

Proceeding, His Excellency said: "I think Gandhiji did not want to kill individual enterprise. Indeed he wanted to encourage individual skill and individual effort. But the field for play of such skill and such enterprise in Gandhiji's scheme of things was very limited. And profit incentive having been largely excluded, individual skill and enterprise would have been solely actuated by considerations of service of community. A spirit of unselfish service may make all the difference in the world in the exercise of one's calling."

His Excellency concluded: "Non-violence held the key to his economic

idealism. You ignore non-violence and then his 'arthik adarsh' may seem impractical, even Utopian to you. But once mankind accepts the doctrine of non-violence then Gandhiji's 'arthik adarsh' seems noble and inspiring, thoroughly achievable in its completeness and simplicity."

Aim of Basic Education

"What we want is a revolutionary change in the outlook and methods of education and not mere re-allocation of the syllabus of various studies," declared the Education Minister Hon'ble Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar, addressing the trainees of the citizenship training camp at the Teachers' College, Saidapet, recently.

The Minister said that till now the objective of education had been merely imparting knowledge to children, but

in future the objective had to be, apart from giving knowledge, to develop children into men and women of character and initiative.

He added: "Our objective is to build a casteless and classless society based on a co-operative commonwealth in which everybody will have a chance of leadership according to his own effort and initiative. We should build a society based on character, love and service," the Hon'ble Minister concluded: "Basic education is the declared policy of Government with regard to elementary education. In the present reorganization of secondary education, the principles of basic education have been extended to secondary education also. Education based on activities with the intention of bringing out the qualities of co-operation, service and leadership are the main elements of basic education which have been adopted in secondary education through this citizenship training."

DELHI NOTES

Six Thousand New Tube Wells Planned

The Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, has drawn up a programme of construction of 6,000 tube wells in various parts of the country over the next five or six years as an aid to the Grow-More-Food campaign.

This was revealed by Mr. B. R. Sen, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, at a conference held at New Delhi recently at which the Irrigation Adviser, Government of India, the Technical Officer to the Electrical Commissioner, Government of India, and Chief Engineers of the United Provinces and Bihar Governments were present.

The conference also discussed the manufacture of bore-hole pumps in India. It was suggested that further particulars about cost, etc., should be obtained before the Provinces could express a definite opinion.

Foodgrains Policy Committee's Recommendations

"With a view to removing the constant threat of scarcity, famine and helpless dependence on imports to

which the country is exposed at present, it must set before it the task of increasing the foodgrains production annually by 10 million tons within the shortest possible time."

Large-scale multi-purpose projects to 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 cultivable waste lands must be an integral part of a comprehensive food production policy for the immediate future.

To put this plan into effective operation, it will be necessary to establish a Central Board of Agricultural Planning, to set up Provincial Boards of Agriculture and an autonomous Central Land Reclamation Organization with a capital of Rs. 50 crores.

These are the main recommendations of the final report of the Foodgrains Policy Committee which has been published to-day. The Committee was set up by the Government of India in September 1947 to examine the possibilities and to recommend measures for securing a definite increase in the food production within the country in the next five years.

OTHER PROVINCES

Co-operation in Bombay

Many co-operative societies embracing a wide range of activities were registered during the quarter ending December 1948. The progress in co-operative organisation is marked by a remarkable increase in the number of agricultural thrift and credit and multipurpose societies. There was an increase in housing societies also while one society for women in Nasik district was registered.

One hundred and forty-four societies in the rural areas include better farming, crop protection, joint farming and cattle breeding societies. Out of 91 societies registered in their urban areas, 27 were consumers' societies, 27 housing societies, 18 producers' societies and the remaining ones include slary earners', colonization and co-operative workshop societies.

Amongst the housing societies is included one for the Harijans at Modasa in Ahmedabad district. The effort of the Dang Seva Mandal to popularize the co-operative movement amongst the forest workers were responsible for the formation of a society for the economic uplift of these workers in the backward tract of Nasik district.

The co-operative workshop at Karad will maintain mechanical and carpentry departments and undertake repairs of bullock-carts, agricultural implements, motor-buses, sugarcane crushing machines, etc. The membership of the society consists of ex-servicemen possessing mechanical and technical knowledge as well as the others interested in the co-operative enterprise.

Fisheries Development in Bombay

The annual report of the Bombay Government's Department of Fisheries for the year 1946-47, which had been published recently, records considerable progress in the organisation and activities of fishing, aid to fishermen, scientific research, administration of fish-curing yards and various other departmental activities.

The number of steam launches in operation during the year under review increased from 17 to 29. A co-operative society of fishermen in Bingi near Karwar bought a launch for Rs. 49,000

out of the loan granted by the Government along with a subsidy of Rs. 10,000.

During the year, the possibilities of establishing better landing facilities and provision of more fish-markets in Bombay were explored. The Department helped owners of ice factories in obtaining essential materials and stores at controlled prices. The fisherman, too, were helped to obtain their requirements of twine, coaltar, timber, etc. (The total of loans granted to fishermen during the year amounted to Rs. 1,55,850.)

A man whose wisdom is not steady is liable to be betrayed into anger, evil thoughts or abuse. On the contrary, the man with the steady wisdom will remain equally unaffected by adulation or abuse. He will realize that abuse fouls only the tongue that utters it, never the person against whom it is hurled. A man of steady wisdom will therefore never wish ill to any one but will pray even for his enemy with his last breath.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

Stipends of Rs. 30 a month were given to fishermen youths to obtain training in engine-driving to enable them to operate steam-launches and another scheme of training in navigation was also approved by the Government. It was decided to send a couple of students to foreign countries for higher training. The scheme for construction of a research centre in Bombay was sanctioned during the year.

Large quantities of fish were cured at the 34 fish-curing yards managed by the Department. Demonstrations were given in improved methods in curing.

The other activities of the Department included production and sale of shark liver oil, manufacture of gelatine, fish glue, fish meal and utilisation of shark fins, etc.

Rural Development Funds in Assam

The Government of Assam have started Rural Development Funds. One of the purposes for which these funds will be used, to start with, will be the granting of prize money to villagers who satisfactorily carry out any village Self-Help enterprise, such as the building of a road, sinking of a well, improvement of village sanitation, compost making, etc.

Self-Help Advisory Boards have been formed in each subdivision. These boards will examine the work done by the villagers applying for grants and will recommend to the Director of Rural Development the prizes which should be awarded for satisfactory Self-Help enterprises.

Educational Survey in West Bengal

The Government of West Bengal have undertaken an educational survey of the Province and propose to set up an agency in each district for the compilation of various data and materials needed for the planning of the future development of educational facilities for the people.

The agency employed for conducting this educational survey will consist of enumerators and supervisors working under the direct control of the District Inspectors of Schools. Enumerators and supervisors will go round each village and each ward in a town or city, making house to house visits and contacting all educational institutions for collection of relevant materials.

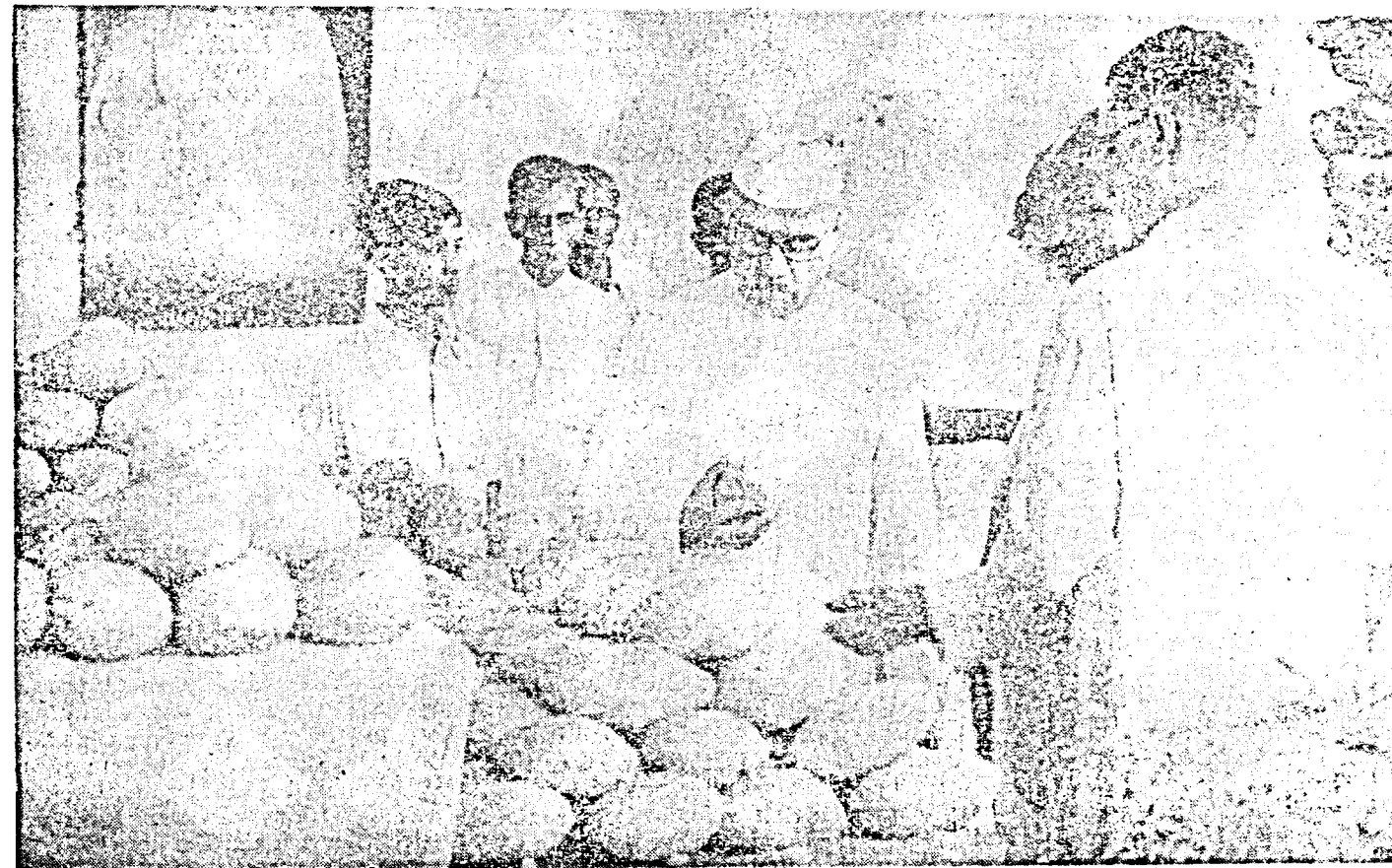
Pollution of Drinking Water in Bombay Villages

In order to prevent the misuse of fouling of drinking water in villages the Government of Bombay has brought it to the notice of the village panchayats and the village officers that there is ample provision in the existing law to prevent such pollution. Under section 277 of the Indian Penal Code, it is an offence to corrupt or foul any source of water-supply and the village Benches duly authorized by the Government under section 41 of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1933, are competent to take cognizance of such offences and award fines up to Rs. 20.

Fruit Development in Madras



Dominion Food Minister declaring open the Fruit Show in Madras



The Food Minister examining some fruits

CLIPPINGS FROM GANDHIJ'S WRITINGS

Khadi

Khadi is a controversial subject. Many people think that in advocating *Khadi* I am sailing against a headwind and am sure to sink the ship of Swaraj and that I am taking the country to the dark ages. I do not propose to argue the case for *Khadi* in this brief survey. I have argued it sufficiently elsewhere. Here I want to show what every Congressman, and for that matter every Indian, can do to advance the cause of *Khadi*. It connotes the beginning of economic freedom and equality of all in the country. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating." Let everyone try, and he or she will find out for himself or herself the truth of what I am saying. *Khadi* must be taken with all its implications. It means a wholesale swadeshi mentality, a determination to find all the necessities of life in India and that too through the labour and intellect of the villagers. That means a reversal of the existing process. That is to say that, instead of half a dozen cities of India and Great Britain living on the exploitation and the ruin of the 700,000 villages of India, the latter will be largely self-contained, and will voluntarily serve the cities of India and even the outside world in so far as it benefits both the parties.

This needs a revolutionary change in the mentality and tastes of money. Easy though the non-violent way is in many respects, it is very difficult in many others. It vitally touches the life of every single Indian, makes him feel aglow with the possession of a power that has lain hidden within himself, and makes him proud of his identity. This non-violence is not the inanity for which we have mistaken it through all these long ages; it is the most potent force as yet known to mankind and on which its very existence is dependent. It is that force which I have tried to present to the Congress and through it to the world. *Khadi* to me is the symbol of unity of Indian humanity, of its economic freedom and equality and, therefore, ultimately, in the poetic expression of Jawaharlal Nehru, "the livery of India's freedom."

Moreover, *Khadi* mentality means decentralization of the production and distribution of the necessities of life. Therefore, the formula so far evolved

is every village to produce all its necessities and a certain percentage in addition for the requirements of the cities.

Heavy industries will need to be centralized and nationalized. But they will occupy the least part of the vast national activity which will mainly be in the villages.

Having explained the implications of *Khadi*, I must indicate what Congressmen can and should do towards its promotion. Production of *Khadi* includes cotton growing, picking, ginning, cleaning, carding, slivering, spinning, sizing, dyeing, preparing the warp and the woof, weaving, and washing. These, with the exception of dyeing, are essential processes. Every one of them can be effectively handled in the villages and is being so handled in many villages throughout India which the A.I.S.A. is covering. According to the latest report the following are the interesting figures:—

275,146 villagers, including 19,645 Harijans and 57,378 Muslims, scattered in at least 13,451 villages, received, as spinners, weavers, etc., Rs. 34,85,609 in 1940. The spinners were largely women.

Yet the work done is only one-hundredth part of what could be done if Congressmen honestly took up the *Khadi* programme. Since the wanton destruction of this central village industry and the allied handicrafts, intelligence and brightness have fled from the villages, leaving them insane, lustreless, and reduced almost to the state of their ill-kept cattle.

If Congressmen will be true to their Congress call in respect of *Khadi*, they will carry out the instructions of the A.I.S.A. issued from time to time as to the part they can play in *Khadi* planning. Only a few broad rules can be laid down here:—

1. Every family with a plot of ground can grow cotton at least for family use. Cotton growing is an easy process. In Bihar, the cultivators were by law compelled to grow indigo on 3/20 of their cultivable land. This was in the interest of the foreign indigo planter. Why cannot we grow cotton voluntarily for the nation on a certain portion of our land? The reader will note that decentralization commences from the beginning

of the *Khadi* processes. To-day, cotton crop is centralized and has to be sent to distant parts of India. Before the war, it used to be sent principally to Britain and Japan. It was and still is a money crop and therefore, subject to the fluctuations of the market. Under the *Khadi* scheme, cotton growing becomes free from this uncertainty and gamble. The grower grows what he needs. The farmer needs to know that his first business is to grow for his own needs. When he does that, he will reduce the chance of a low market ruining him.

2. Every spinner would buy—if he has not his own—enough cotton for ginning, which he can easily do without the hand-ginning roller frame. He can gin his own portion with a board and an iron rolling pin. Where this is considered impracticable, hand-ginned cotton should be brought and carded. Carding for self can be done well on a tiny bow without much effort. The greater the decentralization of labour the simpler and cheaper the tools. The slivers made, the process of spinning commences. I strongly recommend the *dhanush takli*. I have used it frequently. My speed on it is almost the same as on the wheel. I draw a finer thread and the strength and evenness of the yarn are greater on the *dhanush takli* than on the wheel. This may not, however, hold good for all. My emphasis on the *dhanush takli* is based on the fact that it is more easily made, is cheaper than and does not require frequent repairs like the wheel. Unless one knows how to make the two mals and to adjust them when they slip or to put the wheel right when it refuses to work, the wheel has often to lie idle. Moreover, if the millions take to spinning at once, as they well may have to, the *dhanush takli*, being the instrument most easily made and handled, is the only tool that can meet the demand. It is more easily made even than the simple *takli*. The best, easiest and cheaper way is to make it oneself. Indeed one ought to learn how to handle and make simple tools. Imagine the unifying and educative effect of the whole nation simultaneously taking part in the processes up to spinning! Consider the levelling effect of the bond of common labour between the rich and the poor!

Yarn thus produced may be used in three ways: by presenting it to the

A.I.S.A. for the sake of the poor, by having it woven for personal use, or by getting as much *khadi* for it as it can buy. It is clear enough that the finer and better the yarn the greater will be its value. If Congressmen will put their heart into the work, they will make improvements in the tools and make many discoveries. In our country there has been a divorce between labour and intelligence. The result has been stagnation. If there is an indissoluble marriage between the two, and that in the manner here suggested, the resultant good will be inestimable.

In this scheme of nation-wide spinning as a sacrifice, I do not expect the average man or woman to give more than one hour daily to this work.

Other village industries

These stand on a different footing from *khadi*. There is not much scope for voluntary labour in them. Each industry will take the labour of only a certain number of hands. These industries come in as a handmaid to *khadi*. They cannot exist without *khadi*, and *khadi* will be robbed of its dignity without them. Village economy cannot be complete without the essential village industries such as hand-grinding, hand-pounding, soap-making, paper-making, match-making, tanning, oil-pressing, etc. Congressmen can interest themselves in these and, if they are villagers or will settle down in villages, they will give these industries a new life and a new dress. All should make it a point of honour to

use only village articles whenever and wherever available. Given the demand there is no doubt that most of our wants can be supplied from our villages. When we have become village-minded, we will not want imitations of the West or machine-made products, but we will develop a true national taste in keeping with the vision of a new India in which pauperism, starvation and idleness will be unknown.

Village Sanitation

Divorce between intelligence and labour has resulted in criminal negligence of the villages. And so, instead of having graceful hamlets dotting the land, we have dunghills. The approach to many villages is not a refreshing experience. Often one would like to shut one's eyes and stuff one's nose; such is the surrounding dirt and offending smell. If the majority of Congressmen were derived from our villages, as they should be, they should be able to make our villages, models of cleanliness in every sense of the word. But they have never considered it their duty to identify themselves with the villagers in their daily lives. A sense of national or social sanitation is not a virtue among us. We may take a kind of a bath, but we do not mind dirtying the well or the tank or the river by whose side or in which we perform ablutions. I regard this defect as a great vice which is responsible for the disgraceful state of our villages and the sacred banks of the sacred rivers and for the diseases that spring from insanitation.

with very interestingly. There is also the fact that fundamental discoveries relating to malaria have taken place in India and scientific research of a high order has been carried out. The whole exciting story of Ross's discovery of the malarial parasite, the work of Grassi and the discovery of cinchona have all been related in a very readable way and the account is led up to the most recent discoveries of effective insecticides like DDT and anti-malaria drugs like Paludrine.

The part played by the discovery of microscope in the development of science receives two interesting sections. The work of Robert Koch has been well illustrated in discussing anthrax, tuberculosis and cholera. The work of Pasteur however does not receive its due share.

The chapter on tuberculosis is informative and is a good exposition of the factors involved in its causation and lays emphasis on the need for prevention, cure as well as rehabilitation. The chapter has dealt with the recent developments of mass miniature radiography, B.C.G. vaccination and streptomycin.

Interesting accounts are given of cholera and smallpox and how we have arrived at the present day measures of control. The work of Kitasato and Yersin in connexion with the discovery of the plague bacillus has been well described and an account of the experiments of the Plague Commission in Bombay is also included in the chapter on Plague.

The chapter on quarantine shows that any instrument placed in the hands of man can be either beneficially or oppressively used. Some of the cruel practices associated with quarantine when the aetiology of disease was little understood in medieval times are exemplified by the way in which lepers were segregated, whereas the modern beneficial practices are illustrated by the international (sea and air-port) sanitary conventions.

As Dr. Cooper observes in his illuminating foreword to the book, it is a sad commentary on the medical profession in India that they have not produced any literature on the subject. That is perhaps the reason why all the evolutionary history detailed in this book relates to the events and happenings in European countries and practically nothing in this country. This should serve as a filip for responsible members of the medical profession to write up books on history of medicine, epidemiology and other subjects. There is however this to be said in favour of

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"TO THE BUILDERS OF TOMORROW"

By MADHURI DESAI, published by Geoffrey Cumberlege, Oxford University Press.
Price Rs. 8-8-0.

This is a book on the evolution of modern medicine treated from a historical perspective and written in the form of a number of letters to two young people, Lina and Vijay. The book consists of 22 sections or letters. It is attractively got up and well illustrated.

The first three chapters bring out very interestingly the sway exercised by the medicine-man, the priest and the charlatan. They treat of black magic,

of exercising spirits, and of the way in which some clever adventurers made capital out of the credulity of the people and the hoaxes perpetrated by some of them. Religion, education and Medicine have been from time immemorial, prolific fields which have lent themselves to be exploited in this way, because there was little exact knowledge and therefore much dogma. There is a period between the dark primitive age and the Bacteriological era and some account of it could have been given.

Then the book proceeds to deal with the more important endemic and epidemic diseases. Malaria necessarily takes the pride of place and is dealt

the lay person writing it that the book is more easily readable and understandable to the lay public. It must be stated that the author has succeeded in writing a very readable, informative and interesting book. One has no hesitation in recommending the inclusion of a study of this type in the curricula of schools. The message conveyed by the book should also reach the largest possible public so far as may be in their own languages.

The last chapter entitled "No longer the distant glow" is an extraordinarily well written chapter on which the author deserves to be congratulated. The author forcefully brings out the fact that there has been an enormous saving of life as a result of the control of epidemic diseases. The daily loss of human lives in our country from various causes is given. Even here, we see the loss due to other diseases is very much greater than that due to the epidemic diseases though the latter is spectacular.

The dismal state of medical aid in this country is brought out by a comparison of the number of trained personnel available in proportion to the population in comparison with the various countries of the world. But the author draws hope for the future from the examples of Europe and America and especially of Soviet Russia. A very good account is given of the experiment in socialized medicine that the Soviets successfully worked out. It is a far cry indeed from sorcery to socialized medicine.

The view is expressed that socialized medicine adapted to our needs and conditions is the only solution of our task in India, and that health will have to be a central subject directed and planned for the whole country and financed from the resources of the State and from Social Insurance funds. The salient features of socialized medicine are listed; it does not tolerate business or trade medical service and drugs. It has another characteristic feature; it does not distinguish between curative and preventive branches of medicines. The idea of prevention dominates the whole medical organization. Every physician is also a health worker interested in sanitation and preventive medicine. The principle on

which the medical-man works is that health is to be safeguarded all through the life of every individual. He must be medically supervised from embryo to old age, at home and at work.

It is worth quoting the author: "that our country needs some such scheme, no medical man I have so far met has denied. Some of them, however, feel that the corroding of the conscience of the present generation of medical-men by the profit-motive will present the nation with many obstacles, before the new social values are accepted by the medical fraternity. And yet, without it, all attempts to solve our medical problems are mere stop-gap arrangements bound to be unsatisfactory and hence will fall short of the mark."

The problem is urgent and cannot wait. The world is moving ahead at a terrific pace. Our country must have health."

—R.M.M.

"BENARES AND SARANATH (PAST AND PRESENT)"

By PROFESSOR A. S. ALTEKAR
(second edition) Culture Publication
House, Benares Hindu University.
Price Rs. 1-4-0.

"Benares adorned by Ganges" has been acclaimed by Lord Shankaracharya as the blessed city for salvation; and greater in sanctity than even Heaven. While Benares is the holiest tirthas of the Hindus, Sarnath is the holiest place for the Buddhists being the very birth-place of their religion. In the book under review, the author tries to give to the cultured visitor of the two sacred cities, a brief idea of their past history and achievements as well as their present condition and activities. Any new visitor to these holy places will surely find this publication an invaluable handbook of information.

—K.C.N.

"A HINDU JURIST IN THE WEST (ILLUSTRATED)"

By PROFESSOR K. R. S. R. SASTRY,
Allahabad University. Published by
the author. Price Rs. 3.

In this small illustrated book the author, an eminent Jurist, describes the

impressions of his cultural trip to London, Oxford, New York, Harvard, Yale and Washington. He discusses the questions as to why a Hindu should visit the West and whether there is anything special in the West which is not found in the East. He lays stress on cultural harmony and observes that members of all Nations belong to the same human family. The book is written in a simple style and is interesting to read. The price fixed for the book seems to be high.

—Y.S.R.

"IMPERIALISMS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA"

By PROFESSOR D. S. NAG, with foreword by DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD—
Published by Hamara Hindoostan Publications, Bombay—Pages 50.
Price Re. 1-4-0.

The book is a call to the peoples of South-East Asia to forge and develop a Pan-Asiatic Federation which alone can ensure economic stability in the world based on the raising of the standards of living of the colonial and erst-while subject peoples who, unfortunately, have been, through centuries of imperialist exploitation, constrained to play a role of economic and commercial subservience to the dominating powers.

Prof. Nag also reviews in brief the diplomatic relations of the British, the Dutch and the French in the East and throws light on a rather complicated phase in the progress of the imperialist games played by those nations in the East.

The many errors in printing that have crept in should have been avoided.

—M.A.K.

"BUSINESS WEEK"

Published in Madras. Annual
subscription Rs. 24

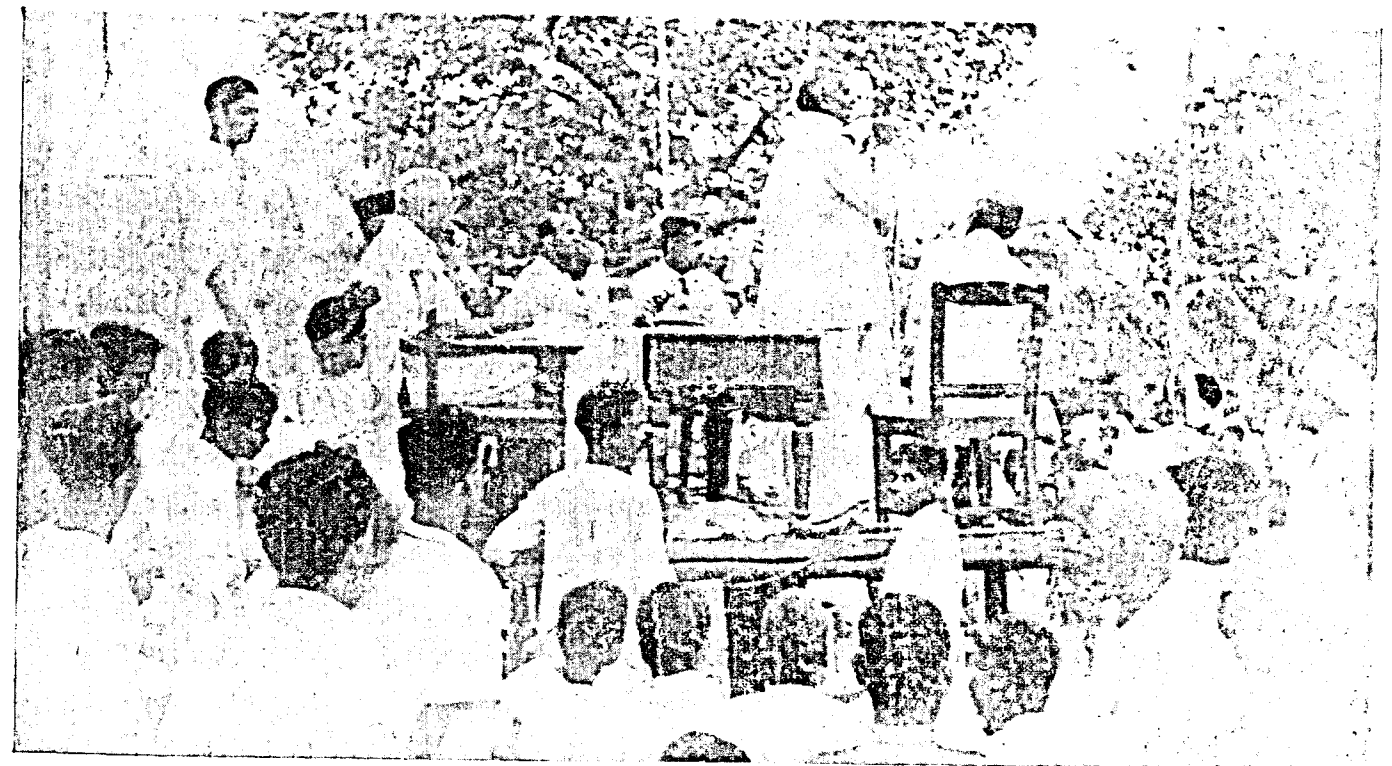
This is a weekly dealing mainly with business matters. Apparently it is intended primarily to cater to the tastes and interests of the business class. The weekly contains a number of articles on a variety of subjects interesting to all.

—T.K.G.

Prohibition Propaganda in Full Blast 190



Prohibition propaganda meeting at Nochikuppam, San Thome, Madras



Another view of the meeting



Bust of Gandhiji in clay executed by Sri Devi Prasad Roy Chowdhary

Madras Information

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Vol. II, No. 12

"WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE"

July 1, 1948

Late Mr. DANIEL THOMAS

In the death of Mr. Daniel Thomas, which sad event took place on the night of 15th June 1948, the public of this Province has lost a distinguished figure, the Indian Christian community, an ornament and his friends a sincere counsellor. Mr. Thomas was ailing for some time past and had been discharged from the hospital a few days prior to his death. He seemed to be on the way to recovery and nobody thought that the end would come so suddenly. He was aged 59.

Mr. Thomas had lived a useful and successful life. He graduated from the Christian and Law Colleges and started practice in 1918 at Tinnevely. For over 35 years, he had been one of the dominating members of the Tinnevely Bar and built up an extensive practice especially on the criminal side. He was the Municipal Chairman of Palamcottah for ten years and was also the Vice-President of the Tinnevely District Board for six years. He was also the President of the District Education Council for the same period. He took keen interest in Y.M.C.A. activities, was the President of the Y.M.C.A. at Palamcottah for 15 years and an active member of the church and diocesan councils. He had also been a member of the Madras University

and a member of the old Legislative Council under dyarchy for 12 years. When Mr. Prakasam formed his Ministry in 1946, Mr. Daniel Thomas joined as a Minister for Local Administration. Under the present Ministry he was holding the portfolio of Prohibition and Transport.

To his abilities as Minister, the Hon'ble Premier has testified in his funeral speech. Prohibition and Nationalisation of Motor Transport owes much to his enthusiasm. His interests were wide and varied, and ranged from social work to administration. He was a wide reader and possessed one of the biggest private libraries in South India.

Uniformly courteous and affable, he won the affection of all who knew him and his death is widely regretted. His Excellency the Governor of Madras in the course of a message has testified to his wholehearted work for the Province.

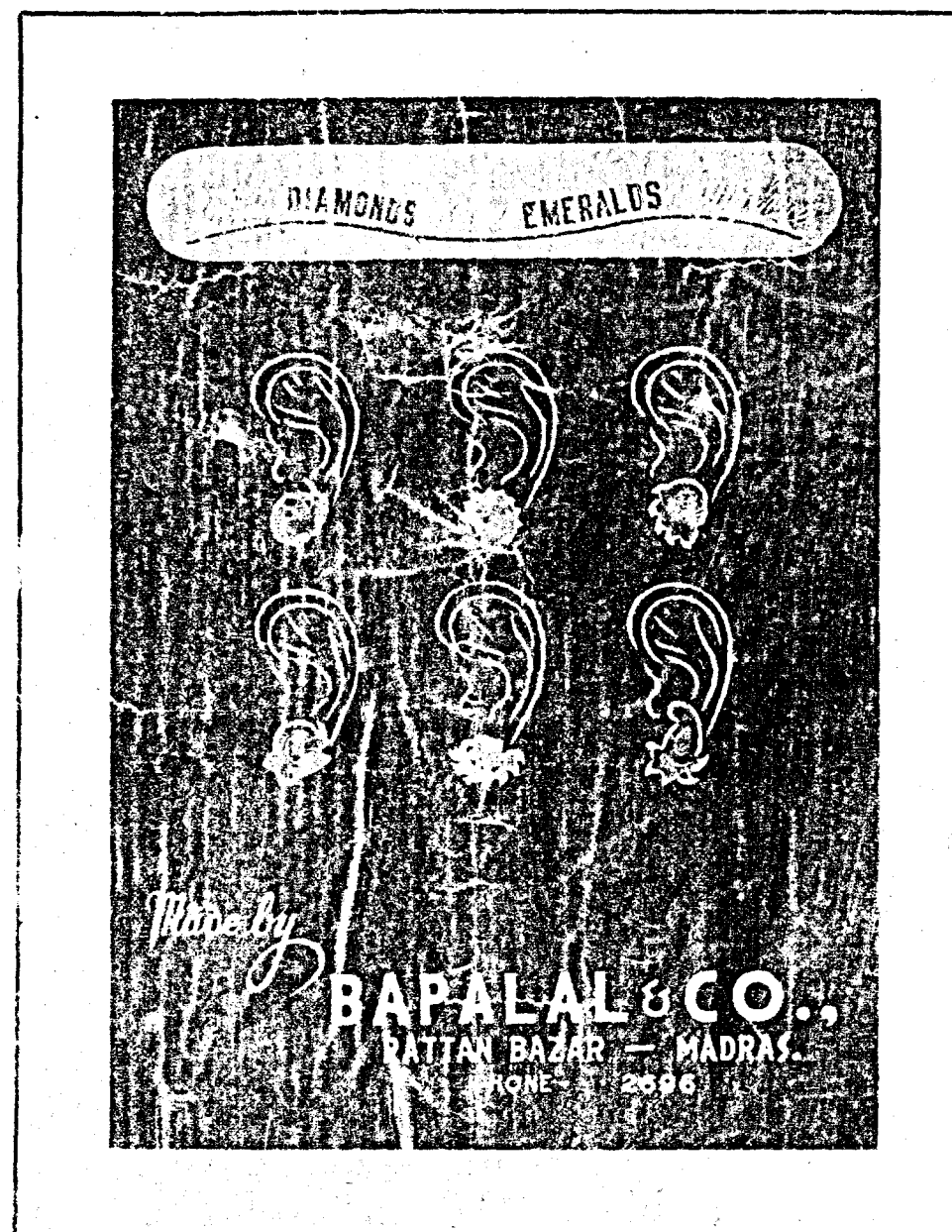
His death is an irreparable loss to this Province. In their hour of sorrow, Mr. Thomas's family has the heart-felt condolence of the entire Province irrespective of caste, community or creed. May his soul rest in peace!

IN THIS ISSUE

Late Mr. Daniel Thomas—*Frontis-piece.*
Notes and Comments
Press Notes, Releases, etc.
Departments' Corner

Prohibition Jottings
Agricultural Notes
Problems and Solutions
Special Articles

Other Provinces and States
Editorial Dicta
Clippings from Gandhiji's Writings
Our Book-shelf



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NOTES AND COMMENTS

The First Indian Governor-General

Twenty-first June 1948 is a memorable day in the history of India, for on that day the first Indian Governor-General entered upon his high office. His Excellency Sri Chakravarty Rajagopalachariar's appointment as the first Indian Governor-General has been welcomed in all parts of the globe. Lord Mountbatten, the last British Governor-General, observed that no one was better qualified to fill up the responsible office of the Governor-General. *The London Times* said that the successors of Sri Rajagopalachariar as Governor-General of India "will include no one with a clearer record of long and independent minded service to India. He is a patriot and a statesman," the paper added. In similar strain the press and the public in the various parts of the world have paid warm tributes to the new Governor-General. The nation as a whole has welcomed the appointment with unique pleasure. Sri Chakravarty Rajagopalachariar combines in himself courage with experience, tolerance with probity and a long career of self-less service to the country. He brings to the responsibilities of his high office a mind enriched with hoary wisdom and inspired by high ideals. These qualities are sure to stand him in good stead in the days ahead. His speech at the swearing in ceremony was typical of his eminent qualities of head and heart. His Excellency observed: "Our problems have multiplied beyond

all expectation, and are such as may perturb even the most adventurous spirits among us. The only remaining interest in life, which moves my colleagues who are entrusted with the charge of the affairs of India, is the happiness of our people and the good name of our country. This is the passion that binds them together. India is unchangeably committed to the policy of making everyone within her borders find pride and joy in citizenship irrespective of caste, creed or race." He pleaded for the abandonment of all communal and territorial isolationism. "No one will suffer any disability by reason of the community to which he or she belongs. It is necessary that all communal and territorial isolationism should be abandoned and the best talents in every community should seek to serve the whole State. Communities should spread themselves rather than build walls round themselves. Whatever be the technical phraseology which public law may use to describe it, what disturbs the peace of India now is internecine discord, pure and simple, and it is utter folly." These noble sentiments need to be noted and acted up to by every citizen in this great land. Only then will India be able to pull through the difficult days ahead. It is indeed a happy augury that at this juncture there is at the helm of affairs such a great statesman as His Excellency Sri Chakravarty Rajagopalachariar.

Communists

In the recent past some of the world's greatest leaders have had occasion to warn the world not to be misled by communists' activities. Speaking at Ootacamund, India's Prime Minister in the course of a speech said that the communists had gone the wrong way. The Prime Minister pointed out that the economic problem of India was the biggest that remained to be solved. While admitting the disparity between the rich and the poor which needed levelling up, he condemned the activities of the communists and categorically stated that no State could tolerate murder and arson. Personally he was not opposed to communistic principles called scientific socialism.

Even socialism, he said, could not be introduced overnight.

These words need pondering over. Speaking about communists as a whole one writer recently dwelt at length on the method of their operation. The communists worm themselves into the ranks of all kinds of organizations, communal, sectional or national and try their perfected technique of intrigue and manoeuvres. Before long by means fair or foul they capture places of responsibility and make use of their position to consolidate their power still further and dominate the organization.

It is said that once we permit them to get anywhere near us, we can

be sure that in nine cases out of ten they would not leave us till they have strangled us. This statement has been made primarily with reference to the communist activities in the west. In the east, however, the communists may prove a similar menace unless effective steps are taken in time. It is in this light that we have to view the Government's new ordinance. Much has been made in certain quarters about the effect of this ordinance on civil liberties. It is too easy to cry "wolf" at any restrictive ordinance but ordinances which are primarily intended to safeguard law and order, are to be judged in the light of the conditions which they are sought to remedy. A serious malady needs a drastic remedy. When communists have taken law into their own hands and when murder and arson are frequently resorted to, it is incumbent on any Government which possesses a sense of responsibility to devise ways and means whereby such atrocities can be put an end to and the life of the peace-loving citizen made safe. To allow subversive elements to have free play in the name of democracy or civil liberty is to betray the fundamental functions of a Government. It has been pointed out that the communists constitute a rival party and measures against them are not in keeping with the traditions of a democratic state. But a rival party has to function constitutionally if it has to become eligible for democratic treatment. When on the other hand the party descends to criminal activities, then it ceases to have any claim for such treatment.

Political facts have to be faced squarely without sentiment or prejudice. No constructive activities are possible anywhere without peace and order, and to maintain these, every Government has a right to use the resources at its disposal.

To die without killing requires more heroism. There is nothing very powerful in killing and being killed in the process. The man who offers his neck to the enemy for execution but refuses to bend to his will shows courage of a far higher type.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

DEPARTMENTS' CORNER

Labour Department

Labour Situation in the Province

The Government of Madras have, under section 45 of the Madras Non-Power Factories Act, 1947 (Madras Act XXXVII of 1947), permanently exempted the Non-Power Factories belonging to or under the control of the Government of India from the provisions of the said Act.

The Government have referred the disputes between the workers and the managements of Cigar Factories in Madura, Ramnad, Tiruchirappalli and Tanjore districts to the Industrial Tribunal, Madura, for adjudication.

The Government have appointed Sri M. V. Hayagriva Rao and Sri C. Bhaktavatsalu Nayudu (retired District and Sessions Judge) as Industrial Tribunals, Vijayawada and Madura, respectively.

The Government have appointed Sri P. Markandayulu, retired Judge, City Civil Court, Madras (who has been a District and Sessions Judge) to be Industrial Tribunal, Madras, with effect from 1st June 1948, in place of Sri Rao Bahadur M. Venkataramayya, Industrial Tribunal, Madras, resigned.

The Government of Madras have referred the dispute between the Cochin Commercial employees and the members of the Cochin Chamber of Commerce, to the Industrial Tribunal, Coimbatore, for adjudication.

The workers of Messrs. Lipton's and Planters' Company, Limited, of Brindavan Properties, Limited, Coonoor, who struck work on 14th April 1948, resumed work on 3rd May 1948 on the advice of the Commissioner of Labour and the Labour Officer, Coonoor.

The workers of the Chittivalasa Jute Mills Company, Limited, Chittivalasa, struck work on 11th May 1948 as a protest against the dismissal of five workers convicted in a trespass case. The workers have been advised to resume work immediately as any strike during pendency of adjudication is illegal, and to make representations to the Industrial Tribunal, Bezwada, to whom the dispute between the workers and management has been referred for adjudication.

In more than half a dozen cases, the Government have passed orders on the awards of Industrial Tribunals.

[Second Fortnight of May 1948.]

Miscellaneous

(1) The Government have sanctioned a scheme of anti-malarial measures for controlling malaria in the Kodaikanal and Palni Hills in the Madura district.

(2) The School of Indian Medicine, Madras, which was abolished in 1947 has been revived with effect from July 1948. It will be run side by side with the College of Indian Medicine. The Government have also sanctioned the construction of temporary buildings at a total cost not exceeding Rs. 1 lakh to provide additional accommodation for the college and school and for the Hospital of Indian Medicine, the bed-strength of which has been raised from 110 to 210. An additional staff of 5 Professors, 6 Assistant Professors, 13 Tutors, 8 nurses, etc., has been sanctioned.

* * *

(1) *Free Seeds for Yenadi Colonies.*—In pursuance of the Grow More Food Campaign, the Government have sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 6,180 for the free distribution of paddy, ragi and horsegram seeds to the members of the Yenadi Reclamation Colonies in Chittoor district during 1948-49.

One of the most effective measures to increase the yield of paddy to meet the deficit on account of the failure of the last North-East Monsoon is the extensive application of green manure to the paddy crop in areas where there are irrigation facilities for green manure. [The Government have therefore sanctioned a scheme for the distribution of green manure seeds to the ryots in the Cauvery-Mettur Project area to enable them to grow green manure crop between June and September 1948, immediately after water is available from the Mettur Reservoir, so

that the green manure leaves could be ploughed into the land for the Samba crop of paddy in September-October 1948. The seeds will be distributed by the Agricultural Department at the rate of 10 lb. per acre at half the cost price to ryots owning three acres and less and at cost price to others.]

The Government have sanctioned the opening of an Agricultural Training School in Orathanad, Tanjore district. The school is expected to begin to function in June 1948.

Public Works Department

Tigaluru Scheme

The Government have sanctioned the execution of the scheme for the formation of a tank across the Tigaluru near Eguvacherlapalli in Markapur taluk of the Kurnool district at an estimated cost of Rs. 7,29,180 including direct and indirect charges. The scheme is expected to bring under irrigation an additional extent of 600 acres and to produce 300 tons of rice yearly. The return from the scheme is expected to be only 0.77 per cent which is very poor. The scheme was, however, sanctioned in May in view of its Grow More Food value and in view of the fact that it is to serve a famine affected area.

The question of revival of the Tank Restoration Scheme operations was under the consideration of the Government for some time past. Owing to the shortage of technical staff, it was considered that it would not be possible to revive the Tank Restoration Scheme operations immediately in all the districts of the Province. The Government have decided that they should be revived at the earliest opportunity at least in some of the districts which are badly in need of irrigation facilities. The formation of a subdivision has accordingly been sanctioned for a period of one year in each of the districts of Anantapur, South Arcot, Ramnad and Chittoor, for the carrying out of Tank Restoration Scheme Operations.

MADRAS MINISTRY'S RECORD

"MADRAS MARCHES ON" is the title head of a new publication of the Provincial Government recording the activities of the Ministry during 1947-48. It is packed with information and throws a flood of light on the various directions in which this Province has made strides. It is priced only As. 12 a copy and can be had of the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras.

PROHIBITION JOTTINGS

Ameliorative Activities

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

Tanjore.—One Palmyra Jaggery Manufacturing Society was started on its work on 13th May. Twenty-seven licences were issued to ex-tappers. Firka Association for one firka was organized and was started on its work.

Kurnool.—Street cleaning days were observed in some villages. Reading rooms were started in two places. Prohibition is having a wholesome effect on ex-addicts. One ex-addict was able to discharge a prior debt of Rs. 170. A firka tournament was conducted. Two dramas were staged. Rural games, bhajanas, and music performances formed other important items of activity.

Bellary.—Rural games took place as usual. Dramas were staged frequently. An Agricultural Exhibition was also arranged on the occasion of a jatra. A radio set was installed in one place. A Conference of District Ameliorative Staff was held on 21st and 22nd May. Useful subjects were discussed and decisions taken. The conference proved extremely useful. A firka tournament was conducted in one place.

Nellore.—Thrift days were celebrated in some places. Thirty hundi boxes were distributed among the members of two co-operative societies. Weavers' Co-operative Societies in three places have accepted a housing scheme.

Chittoor.—In Chandragiri division, a grama sangam and a rural recreation club were organized. Rural games were conducted in 39 villages in three divisions. There was a taluk tournament also in which several teams competed. Inter-village matches also took place. Bhajanas were performed in six villages in Chittoor and seven villages of Chandragiri division. There was a competition in singing among school boys and girls in one place. Harikathas were performed by ballad singers in several places. Thrift days were also celebrated. Street cleaning drives were launched in several villages. Stone sign posts indicating names of villages were put up in a few villages.

A school building is being constructed in one village as a result of public effort.

Trichinopoly.—Fifty hundi boxes were distributed free to Harijan ladies in one place.

Malabar.—There was a function in connexion with the closing of the rural uplift school at Tellicherry on 18th May. Prizes and medals were distributed to winners in sports and firka tournament held during the week. A drama was also staged by the students.

Salem.—The Salem Firka, Taluk and District tournaments were held during the latter part of May. A cattle show and rural exhibition was held in Salem Municipal College premises in this connexion. There were also entertainments provided by students. There were exhibits from the departments of Agriculture, Forest, Health, etc. Demonstrations in khadi spinning and palmyra jaggery making were arranged. Prizes were distributed to winners and certificates awarded for the best exhibits. There was also a display of fireworks.

Coimbatore.—Rural sports were held as usual. There was competition in many items and prizes were distributed to winners.

Cuddapah.—A Committee of eleven was formed to assist the prohibition staff in the detection of crimes.

South Kanara.—There was a chedugudu tournament in one place. Seven teams competed. A Weavers' Co-operative Society presented a silver trophy to the successful team.

North Arcot.—A grama sangam has purchased a site for the construction of a village community centre. There were rural sports as usual. The Youths Tamil Association in another place has purchased a site for Rs. 500 for building a library and reading room. A firka tournament was held in one place and competition took place in several interesting items. Physical exercises were also demonstrated in one place.

Madura.—Thirty-seven grama sanghams were formed during the week ending 27th May. A co-operative society for the coir workers of Sholavandan was organized with a view to

providing credit and marketing facilities for the members. A night school has been started in one place. One grama sangham repaired a path at a cost of Rs. 300. Street cleaning was arranged in one place. A school building is being built out of public donations. Bhajanas were held on every Saturday. Ex-addicts have saved substantially as a result of prohibition. Scavengers in one panchayat board saved to the extent of Rs. 460 and discharged prior debts. One is spending Rs. 10 a month on the education of his son. Another ex-addict has saved Rs. 100. Yet another has saved Rs. 150. Another saved Rs. 75 and purchased a cow for Rs. 60. There are several cases in which savings had been utilized for discharging prior liabilities and invested in capital items.

Nilgiris.—Sports and games were organized in some villages. Bhajanas were also held in a few places. Women folk in one place are saving substantially through hundi boxes.

Prohibition—People's Primary Need

"A better deal for the bottom dog is the guiding principle of the Government. The Government has accepted the task of building up a strong State based on the principles of equity justice and fair deal; 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. The meeting was attended by about four thousand persons.

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 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.

Earlier, the Home Minister gave away prizes to successful participants in the contests organized by the Centre; and the function concluded with an interesting programme of entertainment with song and powada recital, dance and exhibition of cine-films.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Cultivation of long staple cotton in Madras

The references to cotton in the Law Books of Manu place its cultivation and conversion into fabrics in India earlier than 800 B.C. Most of the subsequent reports on the cultivation and manufacture of cotton in Asia, Europe and Africa up to until the discovery of American cotton in the New World by Columbus in 1492 A.D. relate to varieties of Levantine and Occidental cottons which correspond to the present day desi group. The New World cotton was grown for the first time by the Colonists on the rivers of Virginia in the year 1619 A.D., and the later expansion to the present production targets was entirely due to inventions in spinning machinery and remarkable achievements in cultural methods.

A Retrospect

The first efforts for the introduction of the American varieties of cotton in India were made by the Court of Directors of the East India Company who in the year 1790 distributed about 420,000 pounds of Malta and Mauritius seeds throughout the peninsular India. They met with little success and the only surviving relic of these trials is the naturalised Bourbon cotton now found as a sprinkling in the perennial indigenous types of Nadam or Ladan cotton grown in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem and Tinnevely. The experiments conducted on four cotton farms established in 1819 at Tinnevely, Coimbatore, Masulipatam and Vizagapatam met with no greater success than before. Three American planters were brought to Madras in the year 1840 and they started work at Tinnevely where the farmers declined to sow the American seed or adopt the American method of cultivation unless they were assured of the purchase of the produce by the Government. The venue of the trials was shifted to Coimbatore in 1842, and continued till 1845 with New Orleans Bourbon and Sea Island varieties. The Government were so dissatisfied with the results that two of the planters were sent to Bellary and Tinnevely respectively. Dr. Morris who was in charge of Bellary met with failures and died in 1846. The final period of 1847-1849 marked the commencement of a heated controversy between Dr. Wright and Mr. Finnic regarding their respective methods of cultivation which

led to the termination of both their services by the Madras Government in 1849. Dr. Wright, however, succeeded in his appeal to the Court of Directors who allowed the experiments to continue until 1853 when he had to retire consequent on severe criticisms passed on his work. His departure marked the end of endeavours by East India Company in the introduction of exotic cottons in India.

The interest in the American varieties was once again revived with the opening of the Saidapet farm in 1878 when systematic experiments were conducted on New Orleans, Upland American, Brazilian, Yea Valley, and Sea Island varieties. Later in 1905, other varieties like Egyptian, Caravonica and Peruvian were also tried at the new farms opened in Bellary, Hagari, Attur and Taliparamba but in all cases without any success.

The year 1906 is memorable in that it marks the successful introduction of an exotic type from Cambodia in Indo-China by Mr. Steele of Harvey & Co., Virudupatti, and Mr. Benson of the Madras Agricultural Department. Its response to irrigation when grown in the backyards at Virudupatti, and the sustained interests evinced by some of the enterprising cultivators in the earlier years, brought it to the lime light and hastened its spread. The subsequent extension of the acreage was rather spontaneous, and reached the figure of 305,000 acres in 1920 with the assistance rendered by the Agricultural Department in the shape of seeds and propaganda.

The acclimatization of the exotic Cambodia created new problems in the matter of quality, yield, pests and diseases. In order to tackle them properly and stabilize the cultivation of American varieties in Madras, a whole time cotton specialist was appointed in 1921. The first fruits of selection were two new strains, viz., Co. 1 and Co. 2. The latter proved to be a hardy, vigorous, productive and quality strain.

It was also found suitable for cultivation as unirrigated crop in red soils receiving adequate rains. Its release in 1929 helped considerably the extension of cultivation to new tracts, and added to the profits of the farmers both

on account of increased yield per acre and better quality of lint. Its staple length of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch was about the best available in Madras at that period and the variety formed the main stay of the expanding mill industry of southern districts in their spinning of 20's and over.

Later Developments

The taste of the consumers on the matter of manufactured textile goods was undergoing a steady change towards finer cloth, and the varieties grown in India were unsuited for spinning higher counts of yarn than 40's. This meant that we should either continue to import finer yarn and piecegoods, or long staple raw cotton needed by the mills. Both these steps would adversely affect the monetary resources of the country and would reduce as to a state of dependency on foreign countries for regular supplies. It was therefore thought imperative that Madras should look ahead and concentrate her efforts, on the evolution of staple cotton equivalent to the foreign imports. A very large number of varieties from countries like America, Africa and Russia was obtained, studied and crossed since the year 1932. Early success was obtained in crosses involving local strain Co. 2 and South African varieties from Uganda. Remarkable improvements were registered in habit, and quality. The growth period of Cambodia which was roughly seven months was brought down to six months, and the staple length was advanced by about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. These changes were reflected in the agronomy of the cotton tracts. The Coimbatore taluk which adhered to the intensive cropping of sorghum-cotton preferred to grow 4463 in place of Co. 2. The water stress open soils, and poor quality of cotton in Salem district improved under a switchover to the new early maturing strain Co. 3 both as irrigated and rainfed crop to the exclusion of other indigenous varieties. The release of Co. 4 marked a mile-stone in the progress of the cotton improvement in Madras on account of its spread as off-seasonal crop in tankfed paddy lands of the southern districts in summer months. All the three new strains represented cottons which could be classed equal to the imported styles, and of which Co. 4 by virtue of the season of its growth would fall under 1-1/16 inch staple like the bulk of the East African varieties. Its present estimated annual production of 30,000 bales is likely to mount up to about 50,000 bales in the near future, on account of intensive cultivation of lands receiving supplementary

sources of irrigation water from new wells dug during the recent food campaign. A modest estimate of ten lakhs of rupees would represent the extra income the farmers of masipattam cotton are realizing annually since the evolution and introduction of the strain Co. 4. In order to ensure the pure seed supply to growers and to make available large quantities of good staple cotton to textile mills, a scheme for the multiplication and distribution of Co. 4 in Ramnad district has been inaugurated in February 1948.

In addition to the crosses made between similar foreign groups, dissimilar varieties like Sea Island and Egyptian were also employed. The type of work is very difficult and time consuming. In slow stages two strains, viz., 7682 and 7733 were evolved but they lacked the requisite vigour and adaptability of local varieties. Continued selection has removed the defective traits in them and one of them, viz., 7682 has acquitted itself better than Co. 4 in the summer trials at Palur for the past three years, in yield earliness and quality. The reduction is maturation period by one week opens up vast possibilities in the programme of area extension to new tracts especially paddy lands which can be cultivated with such cotton during summer between two paddy crops.

The next phase of attack on the problem of staple improvement was directed towards the conversion of all winter cropped area and coastal as well as inland belts receiving adequate rains, into regions cultivable with 1½ inch staple varieties. The work was commenced in the year 1943 and the experiments conducted so far have amply demonstrated that it was only a matter of time for the realization of the objectives. The preliminary experiments have further shown that a common upland variety of 1 3/16 inch staple length for the whole of the American cotton belt—whether winter or summer cropped—could be evolved and that Sea Island cotton could be introduced in parts of South Kanara and Malabar especially as subsidiary crops in coconut plantations and modan lands.

The small-scale experiments conducted by a gentleman at Udipi in his backyards, showed that rain grown Sea Island crop, planted in June and harvested in October, was free from pests, diseases and defective boll opening, that the staple length reached 1½ inches, and that fineness and maturity were as good as West Indies cotton. Intensive experimental research is proposed to be

undertaken at Coimbatore, Salem, Ramnad, South Kanara and Malabar districts very shortly.

Greater Production Needed

A developmental plan for greater production of quality cotton without encroaching on the food campaign is an imperative need. Madras has to clothe a population of fifty million, has to look ahead in the matter of changing fashions and demands for finer fabrics and has to provide for increasing spindlage, local consumption and yarn exports. The estimate in the postwar period is placed at 8½ lakhs of bales of which more than half should be long staple American. The present imports of American cotton into Madras account for 167,000 bales from Pakistan, and 40,000 bales from other countries. The division of India and rehabilitation of war scarred countries have already created problems of supply and the prices of good cotton have soared very high in recent months. The price of East Africans which was round about Rs. 900

per candy during last year, is now quoted at Rs. 1,300 per candy. The cost of Egyptians is fabulous, the rate being over Rs. 2,200 per candy. If the textile goods produced by Indian Mills should sell cheaper than foreign and if the textile industry should survive competition from other countries and alternate sources of supply like rayon, India should develop her resources of raw materials and produce them cheap. In order to achieve these, the co-operation of the farmers and traders are needed. Use of pure seeds adequate manuring, proper cultivation care in processing stages, and sale after grading in regulated markets would be indispensable. If all these are done, India can rely on herself for long staple cotton and shake off her dependence on foreign supplies as she shook off the foreign domination. I appeal to the farmers of Madras to pay frequent visits to the experimental farms and follow the advice given to them by the Agricultural Department in all matters pertaining to cotton.

Biological control of insect pests

One of the latest advancements in the science of Entomology is the control of these pests by their own natural enemies, which is popularly known as the Biological method of control. The main principle involved in this method is the fact that a certain balance of life is maintained in nature wherein either the undue multiplication or decimation of plant and animal life is controlled by certain natural agencies such as weather and climatic conditions, availability or otherwise of food, the activity of parasites and predators which prey on other organisms, etc. The object of this short note is to deal with the last aspect of the phenomenon and as to how it could be utilised for our advantage. It is a well known fact that insects form the main item of food for a number of animals, reptiles, rodents and birds. Besides these, certain categories of insects like Mantids, beetles, bugs, flies, wasps, etc., have specialised in their habit of feeding on other insects. Mantises, assassin bugs, beetles, dragon flies, etc., devour their prey on the spot. Some groups of wasps like the digger wasps, potter wasps collect their prey, paralyse them by stinging and store them as food for their young ones which feed on them and reach the adult stage. Yet a few more species of wasps and flies have the habit of seeking out their hosts and lay their eggs either on their body or thrust them inside. The young

ones hatch out and in their turn feed on the tissues. The evolution of the parasitic habit is so perfect that most of the parasites have their own specialised range of hosts. It has been computed that the largest amount of benefit is accrued by this category. Lastly there are one or two outstanding examples where the aid of insects has been called in for the destruction of obnoxious weeds. Entomologists have taken advantage of these facts and utilised these agencies for pest control wherever it was possible.

A short account of the work done by the Madras Agricultural Department in this line and of the results achieved thereof is given below :—

1. *Nephantis serinopa*—The black headed caterpillar of coconut.—This is a serious pest of the coconut palm. The caterpillars scrape up the lower surface of the leaves and construct long galleries of the frass inside which they live. The pest has now become more or less a permanent feature over some areas along West Coast, Coimbatore, Salem, Northern Circars, etc. The damage is serious and the infested plantations present a scorched up appearance. Investigations have shown that the pest is attacked by a number of natural enemies, of which two are comparatively more efficient and easily rearable in the Laboratory. One is a Bethyloid wasp feeding on the

caterpillars and the other an Eulophid attacking the pupae only. These two parasites have since been reared in their thousands under artificial conditions and liberated in the infested areas all over the Presidency. Spectacular results have been achieved in most of the areas.

2. *Icerya purchasi*—The cottony cushion scale.—This is a foreign insect which has earned great notoreity as a serious pest of fruit trees. It got an entry within our shores recently probably along with some exotic plants. It has since established itself on the Nilgiris and Kodaikanals and spread to an alarming extent on a variety of wild vegetation. It has also taken to Wattles *Acacia decurrens*—on a severe form and to a mild degree on casuarina and loose jacket oranges. The only recognised method of control of this scale is the introduction of the predaceous beetle—*Rodolia cardinalis*—the adults and grubs of which feed voraciously on all the stages of the pest. Efforts were immediately taken to address Entomologists all over the world and a few specimens were ultimately procured. With this nucleus stock, thousands of beetles have since been bred in the Laboratory and liberated in the infested areas. A proper host—predator ratio has not been established and the work is being continued to prevent the recrudescence of the trouble.

3. *Argyria sticticrasis*—the early shoot borer.—This is a serious pest of the young sugarcane crop, causing a high mortality among the germinating cane shoots. A minute wasp—*Trichogramma minutum*—has been found to parasitize the eggs of argyria. The parasite is a polyphagous creature capable of thriving on the eggs of most other insects. It is being bred in its

Do You Know?

Facts about the Madras Presidency

The total area of the Presidency including the States of Pudukotta and Banganapalle is 127,768 square miles with 420 towns and 36,000 villages.

The distance separating the farthest points in the country North to South is 900 miles as the crow flies.

The longest distance from Madras City to the Northern frontier is 500 miles.

The total population is 49,840,564.

The main towns are about 50 in number including Madras and the headquarters of the 25 other districts. The population ranges from about 12 lakhs in the City of Madras to about 50,000 in the small towns.

According to the 1941 census 41,879,082 people live in villages and 7,961,482 live in towns.

The number of elementary schools in the Presidency is 37,239 and the number of pupils attending is 3,456,445. The number of secondary schools is 901 and the number of students is 441,425. The number of Colleges including technical colleges is 103 and the number of students 38,644.

millions on the eggs of the meal moth—*Coreyra cephalonica*—and liberated in the sugarcane fields at Nellikuppam. The trials have given encouraging results since the incidence of the borer has been considerably reduced in the fields where the parasites were liberated.

4. *Prickly pear*.—This was originally used as very useful fence; but subsequently proved to be an obnoxious weed, encroaching on cultivable lands, the check of which was not only costly but impractical too. A small mealy bug—*Dactylopius tomentosus*—has been found highly destructive to this thorny bush.

Systematic colonisation of these humble insects in different parts of the country as decimated the troublesome prickly pear which would not have been possible by any other agency.

While presenting the encouraging picture of the beneficial activity of the parasites, it has also to be admitted that it is not a panacea for all insect pests and are effective application of the method is subject to a number of limitations.

The Government Entomologist, Lawley Road P.O., will be glad to furnish any further information on the subject.

PREPARATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Research is an important activity of the Agricultural department. In the recent past the researches have borne ample fruit. Here are two of the preparations of the department.

1. **Agri Tree Killer**.—This kills unwanted trees. It is manufactured and supplied by the Government Mycologist, Lawley Road, P.O., Coimbatore.

2. **Food Yeast**.—This is another valuable preparation. It contains 100 per cent Vitamin B. It can be taken with milk, coffee, tea, etc. It is also manufactured and supplied by the Government Mycologist.

PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Rent Reduction Work

NOTE.—The Government have decided upon the abolition of zamindaris. As a preliminary step they are engaged in the reduction of rents in zamindari and whole inam areas. These rents are exorbitant now and need levelling down. The procedure adopted in levelling down the rent was lucidly explained by Mr. S. K. Chettur, I.C.S., in the course of a broadcast recently. He said:

The elementary fact that the zamindari ryots were paying rents to the zamindars which were comparatively much higher than the corresponding assessments paid by the pattadars of Government land for soils of similar fertility, has been a source of much dissatisfaction for several years. There are many causes for this disparity in rates. The first and most important is that the land under the direct control of Government was carefully surveyed, and the assessments of soils of different fertility was accurately fixed by settlement parties who worked in district after district until the work was completed. It has been computed that the process of land revenue settlement in the ryotwari tracts of the presidency took as many as 87 years to complete. This is longer than the biblical three score years and ten which is supposed to be the life of a healthy man.

Disparity in Rent—Reasons

2. On the other hand, in the zamindari tracts, there was often no regular survey in large areas, and even where they were surveyed, the rents were often fixed on a rough-and-ready basis without any accurate classification of soils which is an essential prerequisite for any scientific determination of the assessment. Moreover, before 1908 the zamindars from time to time increased the rents as his fancy or cupidity directed him and in some cases he gave lands at favourable rent to his favourites with the result that the prevailing rates of rents in the zamindaris seem to be based on no scientific principles whatever. But when the zamindari ryot compared his rent with a Government tenant who was his neighbour and found that he was paying more for the same

kind of land he naturally became incensed at the injustice of it and the agitation for reduction of zamindari rents gathered in volume.

Government's Solution

3. Obviously, the only sound way of reducing zamindari rents to the ryotwari level in the adjacent areas is to do a regular survey and then carry out detailed settlement operations with the large and well trained field staff that is required for soil classification, accurate inspection and classification of irrigation sources, and the determination of crop out-turns on the various types of soils in order to assess their fertility. As these operations will take several years to complete, the present Madras Government has introduced a preliminary measure, the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Act, 1947, the object of which is to provide for the reduction of rents payable by ryots in estates governed by the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, approximately to the level of the assessments levied on lands in ryotwari areas in the neighbourhood.

How the Solution Operates

4. The *modus operandi* set forth in the Act is as follows. The Special Officer appointed under the Act shall first of all determine the average rate of cash rent per acre prevailing at the commencement of the Act for each class of land in the zamindari village such as, wet dry or garden. The Special Officer shall then select a Government village in the vicinity which has similar soils, irrigation sources, marketing facilities and means of communication and proceed to find out the average rates of cash rents for the various classes of land in that village. By making a comparison of these averages he can determine the ratio by which the zamindari wet rates must be reduced to be levelled to the Government wet rates and so on for the zamindari garden rates and zamindari dry rates. Suppose the proportion arrived at is 8:3 for wet lands, it follows that all zamindari wet rates in that village will be reduced to 3/8 of what they are now and the new rates alone will be operative

as from fasli 1557. A practical example will make this clear. A certain zamin village 'A' of Narasannapeita taluk, Vizagapatam district, has soils of the black regar loam variety and is irrigated by channel water taken from the Vamsadara river. An ordinary field bund separates these wet fields from the wet fields of an adjacent Government village 'B'. Here also the soils are black regar loam and irrigation is by Vamsadara channels. Yet, on examination, it is found that the zamin ryot of 'A' is paying on the average Rs. 22-8-0 per acre for his wet land whereas the Government ryot who is ploughing the field next to him in village 'B' is paying only Rs. 7 per acre. Both these cultivators raise paddy crop on their lands and the yield per acre is identical. The comparison of the rates in these two cases clearly shows that the zamin wet rate is just over three times the Government wet rate. The Special Officer in this case will obviously suggest a reduction of the zamin wet rates to 1/3 of what they are now in order to bring them approximately to the level of the ryotwari assessment. This, of course, is a simple but typical case. Over ten thousand and odd zamin villages are scattered in 18 districts of this presidency. Apart from this there are several hundreds of so called "whole-inam" villages which are technically "estates" under the Estates Land Act of 1908, to which also the Rent Reduction Act will apply. The proportions that are arrived at are much more complicated and intricate than a simple one-third and when studied the comparisons show a very wide diversity in the proportion between the zamindari and the Government rate of assessment from estate to estate and from district to district, and even as between villages in the same estate. Nevertheless the Act is being pushed through and the cash rents are being reduced and the new rates will be duly notified by Government in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

Complications

5. Complications also arise where the collections of rents in the zamin village are not in cash but in kind. Where rent is paid by the waram or sharing system or by way of grain rents a special proviso in the Act enables the Special Officer to arrive at the proportion of reduction in the following manner. He first of all selects a village in the same estate having cash rents which is similar in soils and fertility and irrigation sources to the waram village and

proceeds to find the average rate of cash rent in that village. If there is no such cash rent village in the same estate he must find a similar cash rent village in the nearest adjacent estate. He then proceeds to compare the rate of rent in this cash rent village with the rates prevailing in a Government village which is similar to the original zamin village. In other words the proportion of reduction is arrived at by a double comparison. Zamin village A having waram shares for rent or rents paid in grain is compared with zamin village B with cash rents which is similar to it. Zamin village B is then compared to Government village C and the ratio of reduction arrived at between B and C is applied to the waram shares or grain rents in village A. Suppose the waram is the sharing of the produce half and half on the

threshing floor between proprietor and ryoti tenant. Suppose the proportion of reduction arrived at by the comparison of village V and village C is 4:3 this means that all waram rents in zamin villages. A must be reduced 3/4th. Hence the proprietor will get not a half share but only 1/4 of 3/4th share or 3/8th of the produce. The ryot will get the remaining 5/8th. All this sounds complicated, but is really quite simple.

6. It remains for me to indicate what progress has been made in this rent reduction work. The staff of 12 Deputy Collectors Special, Assistants working under me each in one of the 12 zonal areas into which the Presidency has been divided have succeeded in submitting preliminary proposals already for as many as 2,000 villages.

—By courtesy A.I.R., Madras.

Increased Production

Some important aspects of food production were dealt with by the Hon'ble Jairam Das Daulatram in the course of a broadcast recently. He said "I do not know how far my voice to-day through this radio talk will reach those whom I would fain address face to face on a topic of the greatest national importance. I want to speak out my thoughts to those great builders of a prosperous India whom we know as the tillers of the soil. Scattered in lacs of villages, working on millions of fields, it is you who are creating the basic wealth of India. More than even those citizens of our country who labour over the desk or in the factories, it is you who sow and reap in numberless farms of India, who make the life of the people of this country happy and contented.

You and the rest of us have laboured and striven hard these thirty years to end India's political bondage and win for its people freedom from foreign rule. You and the rest of us have been yearning to harvest the fruits of this struggle in terms of peace, justice and prosperity for all. But this process of harvesting these fruits is proving to be tedious and tiring. It needs the co-operative effort of us all to shorten this process and bring soon within the nation's homes a sense of both freedom and happiness.

But how can such feelings fill people's hearts if, in spite of our political liberty, we are yet under foreign domination in a matter so fundamental as the economy of our national life? There can be no true political freedom

unless it also spells full economic freedom. But economic freedom has no meaning, if in a matter so basic as food our country is every year at the mercy of some international council or other to give us rationed doles of rice and wheat and other grains for the poor man's hearth in every one of the numberless hamlets that fill our countryside. Distant Australia, and more distant Argentina, have now to feed the villager in the remotest corner of our land.

'End Dependence on Foreign Doles'

It was with a view to end this unwholesome dependence on foreign doles that your Government felt that it was time we planned out a programme for India's freedom of food to supplement the political freedom we have just gained. A Committee on which able men worked vigorously and hard has recently reported upon the measures which must be taken to achieve this freedom of food. That report is now before us. The Committee has made valuable recommendations and Government will be coming to their conclusions in regard to these recommendations as soon as Provinces and public organizations have expressed their view on the contents of the Committee's Report.

Large multipurpose projects, coupling irrigation with electric power, and stupendous schemes for the reclamation of waste and weeded lands have been broadly outlined by the Committee. These will no doubt cost much money and occupy several years

of strenuous, efficient and co-ordinated work. This task will fall within the jurisdiction of Government. It is in this field that we must work with a far-seeing mind and a big heart and draw in and secure the co-operation of various elements of our national life, whose conjunction would lead to quickest success.

Measures for Immediate Adoption

"It is not the purpose of my to-day's talk to dilate on these projects and schemes. These must await consideration and implementation by the Government of the country in such a manner as may give us the best results. Other proposals of smaller dimensions and well within the power of Provincial Governments have also been recommended for immediate adoption. They relate to more intensive cultivation and use of improved methods on the very farms which to-day cannot fully feed us. It is in this sphere of action that every one of us is to be tested in the coming few years. You, the tillers of the soil, have also to share in the test. And after all, what is the effort which you have to put forth?

Public Servants' Duty

I cannot but think at this moment of the thousands of those public servants of the Agriculture Departments of our Provinces and States, who on an occasion like this, can fittingly function as the true guides, philosophers and friends to those who produce the nation's food. These, the creators of our basic wealth, need individual help and guidance to overcome their numerous little difficulties. There could be no nobler mission for the officials of the Agriculture Department than to move in the midst of the nation's producers and help them with materials and advice so as to liberate India from its bondage for food. The rule of the tiller of the soil can be as great as that of the greatest architect of India's biggest projects, and those officials of Government, who with earnestness and assiduity guide the cultivators to achieve the national goal of economic freedom, can share with them the glory of the achievement. Should we not all, non-officials and officials, feel the tragedy of the situation?

With nature's magnificent gifts of the Himalayas and the Vindhyas and their daughters, the mighty rivers, which supply the bloodstream of our economic life, with a soil which, if well tended, is suited to vast multipurpose agricultural production, with a man and cattle power which has the potentiality, if properly used, to feed half

the world and feed it well and sumptuously—with all these factors in our favour—we in India seem to be destined to beg our food from half a dozen countries in the East and West for several years to come. This is a position which no self-respecting nation can tolerate. It is a position which no self-respecting member of our nation should long tolerate.

Have we ever realized that, if anything happens to interrupt the free passage of food ships across the seas, India would have to face relentless starvation?

It is a great national task which is making its call both to the tiller and to the official, and all great tasks well done cannot but evoke appreciation and recognition. Let us all fulfil our parts in the great task of making India self-sufficient in food for its rapidly growing population.

Food, the first priority

Agriculture is the fountain of national wealth. Food must form our principal agricultural product. We must plan for food production along more than one line.

Schemes which will take some time must be coupled with schemes which can be implemented immediately. Both need our attention. It is these latter which I am anxious to-day to commend both to the agriculturists and the officials of our numerous Provinces and States. It is in this sphere that our own will and determination can largely give us the fruit. It is in this sphere that our own capacity for co-operative work can produce certain results. It would be a great pity if the qualities, which carried us through to success over thirty years of political struggle, should now suddenly be unavailable when the battle for the economic freedom of India has yet to be won to supplement the achievement of political liberty.

Pass the Test

The nation is, as I have ventured to suggest, passing through a fresh test. I hope we shall pass the test successfully. We are even now entering upon the next sowing season in the country. Our efforts during this season are to be the beginning of that test. I know that many Provinces have been planning for this season. I hope full and free co-operation between the officials and the agriculturists will help the nation to achieve its first success in its march to economic freedom. Will the tiller and the public servants disappoint the nation's hopes?

Educational Reconstruction

Education Minister's Address

Speaking recently at the Local Board Educational Conference at Masulipatam, the Hon'ble Minister for Education said:

Elementary education is the foundation on which the whole edifice of the country must be built. To-day, the type of education that we want to introduce in elementary schools is basic education; basic education has within itself the seeds for developing the minds and the personalities of our children. By being educated through activities and experience in basic education, children will be intellectually better equipped and become physically more fit. A basic craft provides a constructive activity to the child. I would like to make it clear that education through a craft does not mean that everything should be taught through the craft alone. Utilizing all our experience round about our life such as school garden, school hygiene, the kitchen, the village festivals and every other aspect of social life is also part of basic education. In basic education, every child is trained to take up responsibilities as the future citizens of this land. I hope both the teachers and the parents will appreciate these implications of basic education. I must hasten to make it clear that mere spinning is by no means basic education.

Ideas behind reorganization

The Government are anxious to apply this salutary principle of education through activity in the secondary schools also. In fact, the reorganized scheme of secondary education provides for extension of the principles of basic education in secondary schools. The introduction of crafts and the introduction of citizenship training and the bifurcation at the IV Form stage for technical education, etc., are the important elements that have been newly introduced in the reorganized scheme of secondary education. It is not enough if a man merely grows in intellect. It is absolutely essential that he must grow with a social sense, with the full consciousness of his being a part of the society in which he lives and to which he owes a duty. Developing the intellect without character is a danger. The citizenship training aims at training children with a social sense and character. What we want is a complete change of outlook in education. Mere mugging of a few lines or getting marks in examination should not be construed as the mark of

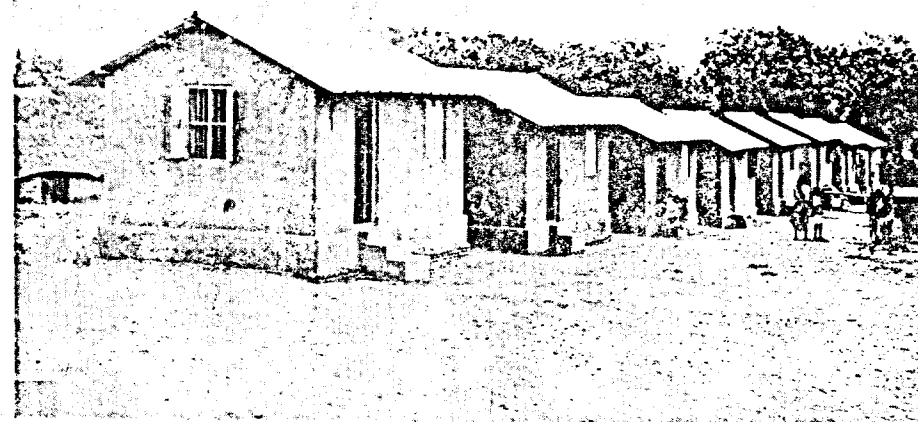
education. Character, devotion to duty and to service and a striving for higher ideals should be the hallmark of culture. The new reorganization of elementary and secondary education has been done mainly with these great ideals in view. On this point, I would like to point out that the matter of reorganizing the examinations is also receiving the attention of Government. The test of one single examination at the end of six years cannot be presumed to test properly the development of the child or even his knowledge. Consistent with the reorganized curricula, our tests must also undergo a change. While there will be some examinations in future also, the value to be attached to them will certainly change. The development of the child's personality and qualities of leadership must also be measured through his efficiency in activities and social service. This matter of reorganization of examinations on old and modern lines is under active consideration of the Board of Secondary Education. The Government hope that they will be able to issue orders in the matter before the end of this calendar year.

Efficiency in Education

Efficiency in education is one of the most vital matters in our country if we are to keep pace with the rest of the world in every direction. One of the main reasons for inefficiency has been said to be indiscipline among students in this area. Strikes in the schools and colleges in the northern region of our Province have been too many. In the year 1946-47, the worst year for strikes, there have been as many as 95 strikes, of which 52 were in Andhra, 17 in Tamilnad and 26 in the West Coast. In the year 1947-48, there were 29 strikes, of which more than half, i.e., 15 were in Andhra, nil in Tamilnad and 14 in the West Coast. These strikes have resulted in dislocating work in schools and colleges and have also created an atmosphere which is not congenial for academic purposes. Whatever may be the reason for these strikes before, after August 15, they have no meaning. These strikes in these days are tantamount to suicide in that they are sabotaging the studies and the equipment of the future citizens of this great country. A calm and an even tenor of life is absolutely essential for scholastic life whether in the school or in the college. I

SLUMS ARE PLAGUE-SPOTS GOVERNMENT HAVE PLANNED TO WIPE THEM OUT

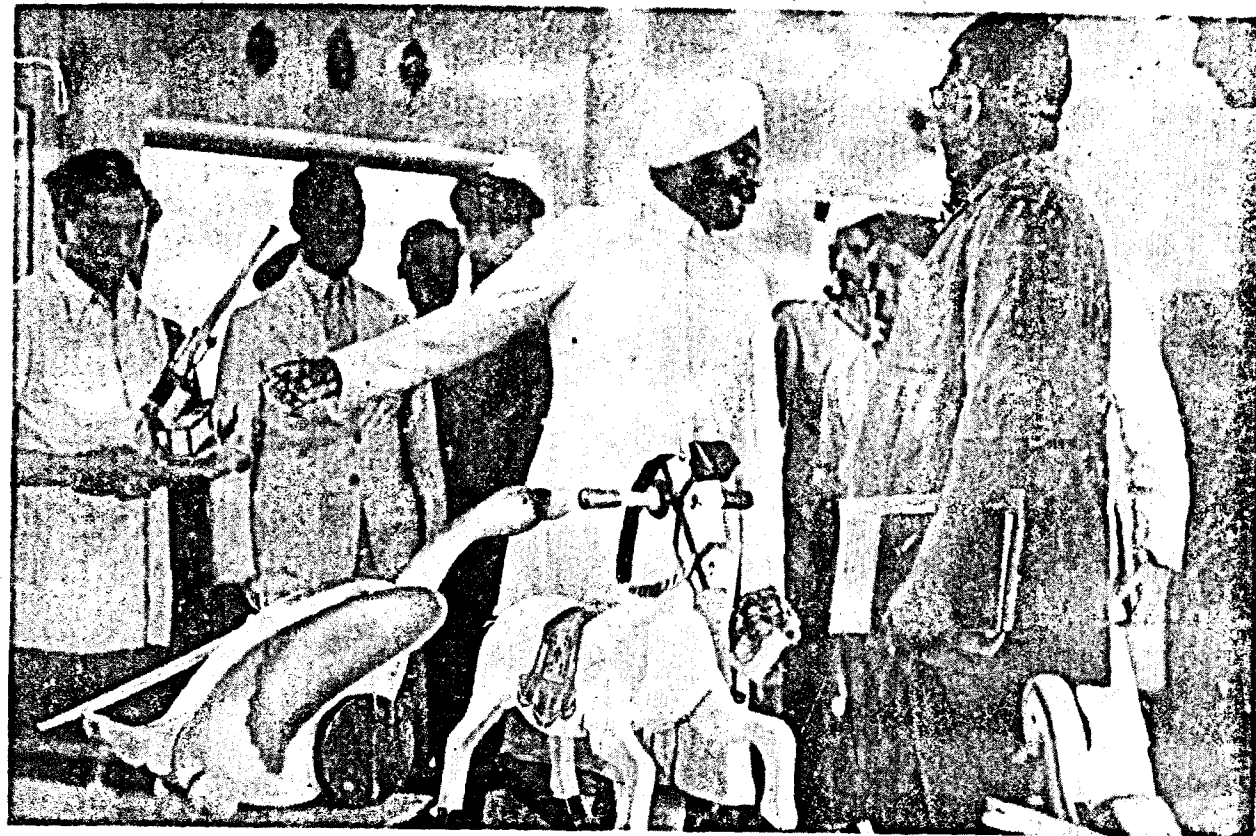
A typical slum in Madras City



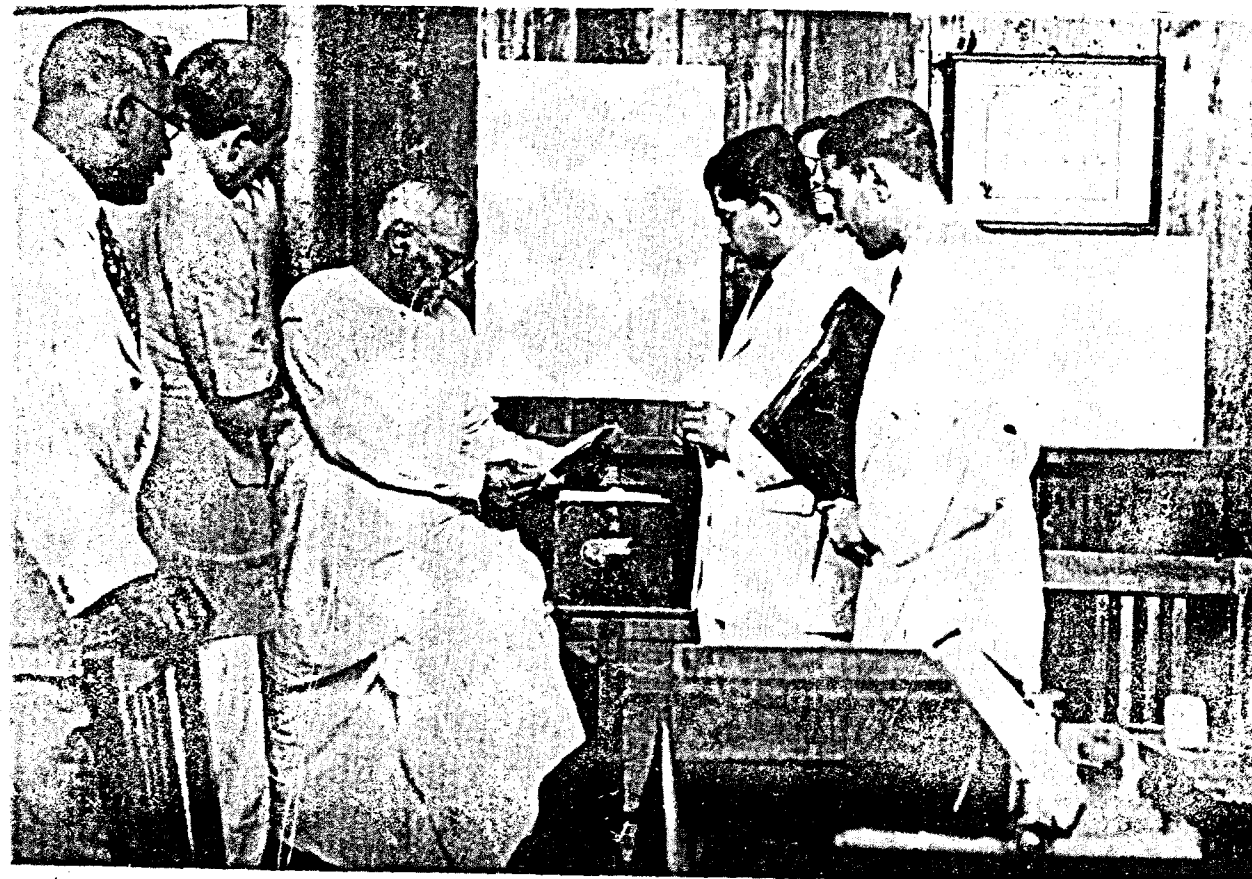
The old slum has disappeared and new houses have been built

A model new house in an old slum area





A disabled ex-serviceman presented the Defence Minister a toy anti-aircraft gun when he visited the toy-making section. "An excellent workmanship indeed!" observed the Defence Minister



The Employers' Index Cards being scrutinized by Mr. V. V. Giri, High Commissioner for India in Ceylon and Mr. Azeez, President, Ceylon Indian Congress during their visit to the Regional Employment Office, Madras

would appeal here to students as well as public men who have influence with the student community to help in the creation of such an atmosphere in our educational institutions, for that will be in the best interests of the students and the country. The Government on their part have determined to do what all they can to create the desired atmosphere.

Discipline

I would like to point out that the matter of maintaining discipline is a psychological problem. It must be dealt with by positive rather than negative measures. The young throughout the world are restless to-day. They are conscious of a new power within them but unfortunately, this enthusiasm and power have not been properly channelized. When they are not used properly, they sometimes get into the hands of people who cannot guide them properly which results in such undesirable activities as strikes. We must recognize the new spirit in the minds of our boys and girls. We must channelize their new energies and their new consciousness of power to a good purpose. Active organization of social help, presenting them with new ideals of service to the country, giving them new scope for sharing responsibilities in schools and in colleges will, I am sure, go a long way in changing their outlook. The introduction of crafts and citizenship training and military training in schools and colleges about which the Government are contemplating will, I hope, go a long way in utilizing their energies.

One other important reason for this indiscipline in schools is to be found, if I may be pardoned for saying so, in the teachers and managements of schools. In a school where there is unity and respect between teachers and where a common ideology prevails, there have rarely been problems of indiscipline. But, in schools where one set of teachers abuses another secretly or in the open or proclaim their differences in public, indiscipline is bound to result among the students and the students are bound to be divided into two camps. This is what I have found wherever I have gone throughout the province. If the students are to live in discipline, we, who are in charge of the teaching profession, must learn to be disciplined. There are many schools in which teachers actively join the political parties, abuse each other and canvass against each other. In such a school, it is no surprise that the

students fight against each other. The discipline amongst students therefore is to a great measure dependant on the teaching staff in each school and this equally applies to managements, whether it be local board or aided institutions. Where there is division of opinion within the local boards and the managing committees, this is bound to be reflected in the schools themselves.

In the interest of the proper upbringing of our children who are the greatest treasure that the nation possesses, I would like to make an earnest appeal to the members of the teaching profession as well as to those who have the management of schools under them to kindly eschew politics, party or personal differences out of schools. There are some things too sacred for us to quarrel about. The atmosphere in the school must be considered too sacred to introduce party politics or any other differences, for by such acts we soil the minds of our children throughout their lives. I would earnestly appeal for your best co-operation in this great task of creating a better and a happier atmosphere in our schools so that these little ones may study and carry on the work which we have to hand over to them.

Elementary Education—Slow progress

You would have seen from figures that have already been published that collegiate education has expanded by 100 per cent or more in the last eight years. The number of students that studied in the colleges increased from 19,416 in 1940-41 to 38,590 in 1946-47. Secondary education has increased by nearly 60 per cent. The statistics for 1947-48 will also show that there is a steady increase in the number of students admitted in colleges and high schools, but unfortunately, elementary education has increased only by about 16 per cent in the last five years, in spite of the fact that for elementary education, the Government are spending now nearly three times as much as before. This cannot be said to be a very satisfactory state of affairs. The reasons for this poor progress in elementary education have been dealt with in my speech at the Madura conference which has already been distributed to you. It is necessary that we should tackle these problems earnestly and well. To avoid inefficiency and waste in elementary education, Government have already issued orders with regard to the amalgamation of the boys' and girls' ranges in elementary schools and also

the amalgamation of uneconomic schools of whatever management.

Compulsion in Elementary Education

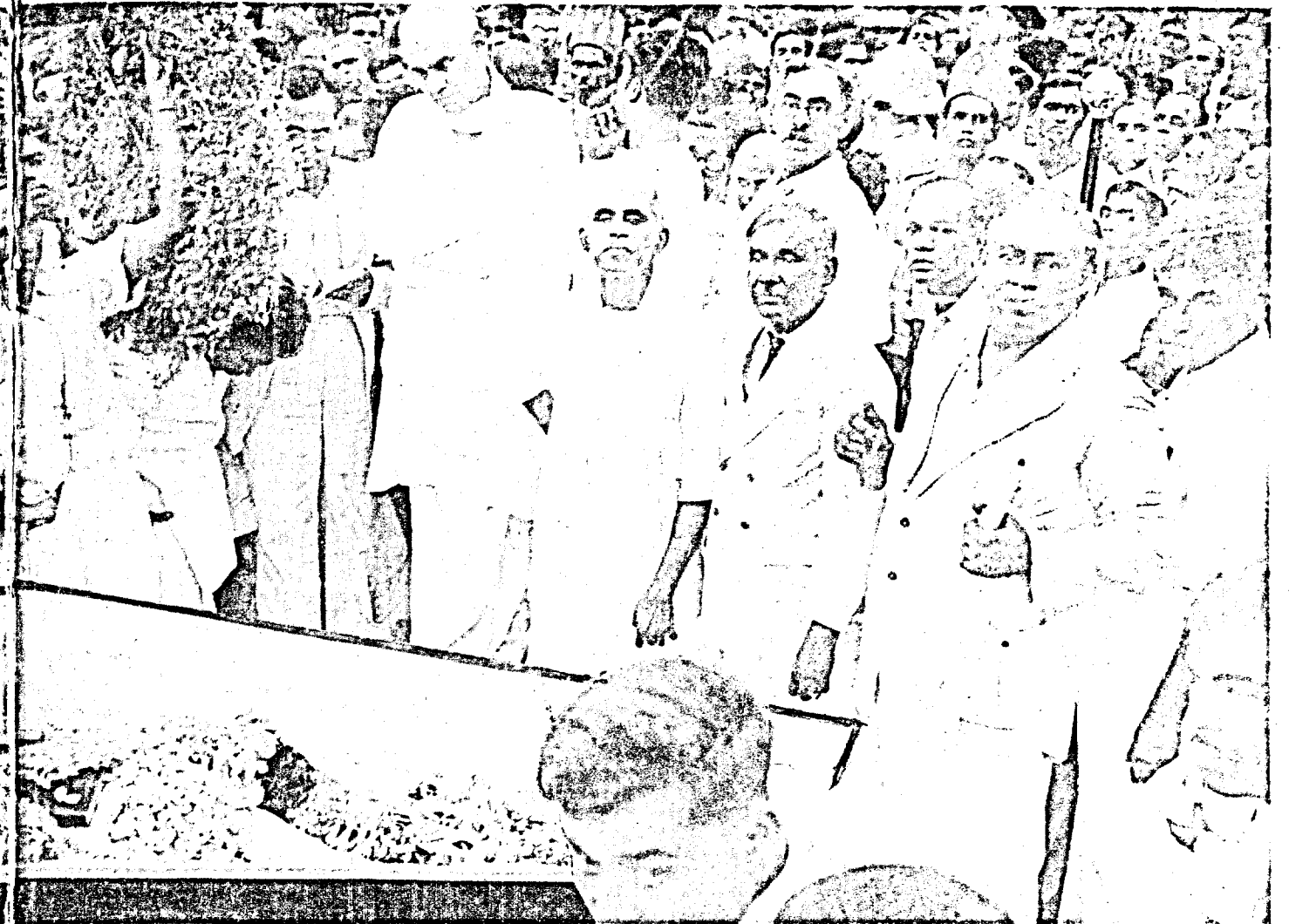
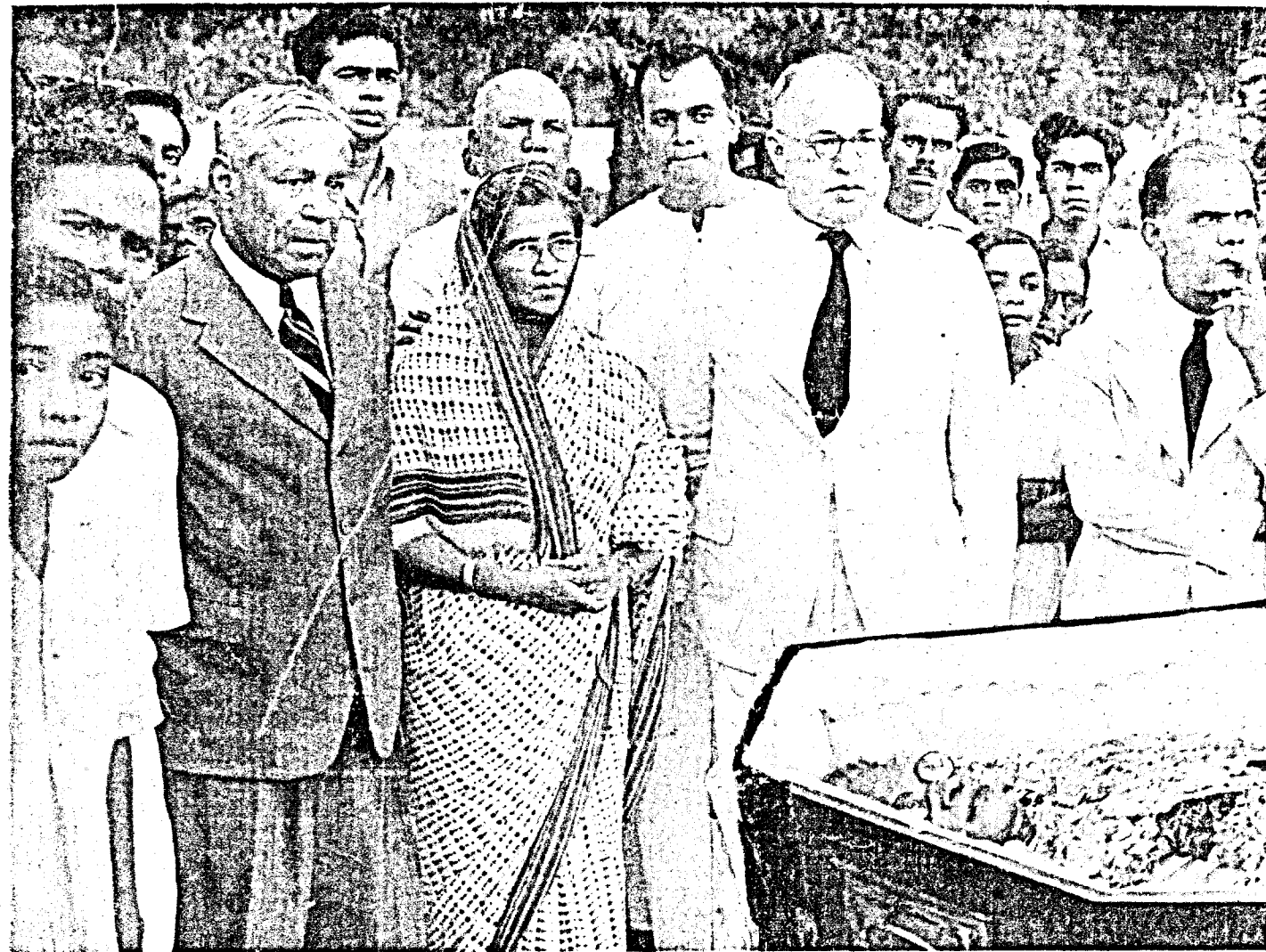
The Government, as you all know, have been trying to spread compulsory elementary education in the various areas of the province in a progressive manner. In connection with this, there is one other aspect of the problem which I would like to put before you. On the one side when we are trying to do compulsion, a great deal of resistance is found in the working of compulsion, many of the parents being unwilling to send their children to schools. Local people are not readily co-operating with the educational authorities in sending children to schools and finding place for them in villages.

On the other hand, it is a matter for deep regret that about 3,764 places with a population of 500 and above, where a school can easily exist, have not been provided with schools till now. I am sure that providing opportunities for education in places where there is a good number of school-going children will be by itself a very good method of spreading elementary education. I would request the local boards and municipalities where money is saved by the amalgamation of schools and the elimination of uneconomic schools that money may be utilized to open schools in these schoolless areas. I would like to invite aided agencies and public spirited men who want to open schools and endow for educational purposes to come forward to do so in these schoolless areas and I promise on behalf of Government that the department will be willing and anxious to co-operate with these philanthropic friends in this great war.

Swaraj has been won. It must be retained and maintained properly and to do that, every one of us must put up tremendous efforts. It is only by striving to work hard that we can succeed in building up a great future for this great country. Spreading education is very essential to achieve this. We must also give a new meaning to education. It is not merely learning to read and write or merely to equip for a job. Education must give us the qualities to make us men, in the words of the Great Swami Vivekananda; it must give everyone of us the courage, the strength, the daring and the capacity for continuous effort which alone will succeed in building up a glorious future for our country.

Scenes from the Funeral of Mr. Daniel Thomas

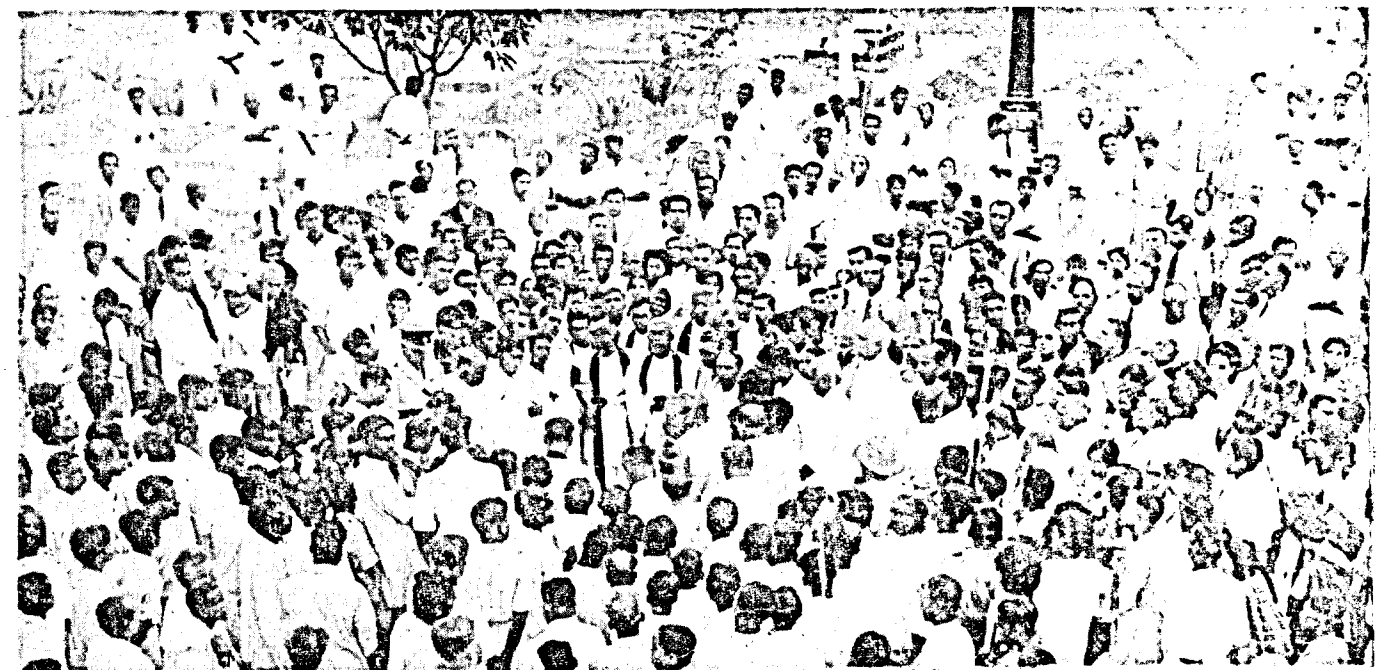
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The body of Mr. Daniel Thomas lying in State. In the picture are seen Hon'ble the Premier of Madras with other Ministers as well as Dr. and Mrs. John Mathai.



The Funeral Procession



In the cemetery where Mr. Daniel Thomas was interred

Prohibition—a vital experiment in Social Reform

Speaking recently at a meeting in Madras Sri A. Palaniappa Mudaliar, Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition, referred *inter alia* to Prohibition. He said :

Prohibition was a cause which was most dear to the heart of the late lamented Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Indian Nation. It 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. He has no respect for his neighbour and besides himself becoming a physical wreck, he sadly neglects his family and other immediate responsibilities. 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.

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, as 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, 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 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 introduction of prohibition involves a loss of nearly Rs. 17 crores of rupees to the Madras Government. They are nevertheless prepared to forego this revenue for the reason that the introduction of this reform will save millions of our people from starvation, misery and debt and help them to lead a life of peace and prosperity in happy surroundings and they are convinced that this policy will ultimately enrich the wealth of our province. In October 1946, prohibition was introduced in the eight districts of North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Chittoor, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Bellary and Anantapur. It was extended to eight more districts on the 1st of October 1947, viz., Guntur, Nellore, Madura, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, The Nilgiris, Malabar and South Kanara. Two-thirds of the Madras Province have thus become dry. The programme of the Madras Government is to complete the introduction of prohibition all over the province by October 1948. 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. In a recent message on the occasion of the Madras Budget in the Legislature in March last to the Hon'ble Minister for Finance, whom we have the privilege of having in our midst today, His Excellency Sri C. Rajagopalachari, Governor of West Bengal and Governor-General designate of the Indian Union congratulated the Madras Government on the extension of prohibition throughout the province and observed as follows :—

'It makes me feel a sense of achievement when you have extended prohibition to the whole of the province. I hope the people and especially the de facto leaders of men in the rural areas will co-operate with officials and make this great reform the Kama-dhenu, it can be . . . I convey to you and to your Premier my grateful appreciation of courage and enterprise shown in completing the edifice of prohibition in Madras which was my

dream. You have by this raised a great memorial for Mahatma Gandhi.'

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 to eight more districts in October 1947, Mahatma Gandhi enquired as follows :—'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 referred to the measures which the Madras Government have adopted such as the opening of refreshment stalls, organizing games and counter attractions, etc. Sri C. Rajagopalachari stressed the same point of view in his recent message to the Hon'ble Minister for Finance. In the course of that message, His Excellency has said: 'We should immediately devise effective measures for a widespread savings bank movement and for a programme of joy in rural and industrial areas to replace the undoubted physical consolation that drink had hitherto been given to the miserable. Without this total prohibition would become a dead-fruit however great the enterprise might have been.'

The introduction of prohibition is not for its own sake but to promote the well being of the poorer classes. It is not a mere negative programme of abolishing the drink evil. It is a positive programme of reconstruction of rural life. Simultaneously with the introduction of prohibition, thrift campaign should be launched and full use made of the occasion for organizing rural uplift work. It aims at building up a more healthy and prosperous society of men and women of the land. It therefore behoves one and all of us to do our mite and make the cause of prohibition a great success. One of the greatest monuments that could be ever raised to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi is to the work of prohibition successfully. And it is the fundamental duty of every citizen to co-operate with the Government and make this reform a complete success.

SPECIAL ARTICLES

Government and Publicity Work

NOTE.—This article embodies extracts from a pamphlet put out by the Department of Information and Publicity some time ago. It is important to realize the place of publicity in a modern State. Days were when Governments functioned under *purdah*, but they are gone for good. Democracy has come to stay and a democratic Government lives on public opinion. Hence the education and nourishment of public opinion is one of the fundamental duties of a modern State. This work is done by the Department of Information and Publicity. It is said that an ignorant man is a danger to democracy. The aim of publicity is to dispel such ignorance as far as possible and to disseminate correct information among the masses.

Criticisms have sometimes appeared in the press questioning the necessity for a Publicity Department for the Government. The critics urge that Government do not require a publicity organization when there is the newspaper press to publicize Governmental activities, that there is a forum provided by the Legislatures which can be utilized for the purpose, and that the Ministers can avail themselves of opportunities during their tours to publicize the activities of the Government. The conclusion is drawn that Government do not need a Publicity Department.

Such criticisms do not take into account all the relevant considerations. Publicity has many highways and by-ways. It can be done on many fronts and from numerous angles. The methods vary with the subject and it is not the monopoly of any one organization or agency. The field for publicity is vast and there is room for any number of organizations. It is common knowledge that commercial organizations and social, political or humanitarian associations employ publicity officers to popularize their causes. Such a well-known millionaire as John D. Rockefeller found it necessary, about 1912, to employ a Public Relations Officer in order to remove public misapprehension about his business and to counteract the sinister propaganda against him. Different

organizations do publicity work from different angles. No doubt the newspaper press occupies a unique position in the field of publicity, but it is not necessarily in a position always to interpret Governmental policies or publicize Governmental activities as effectively as the Government themselves, as the authors of these policies or activities, can do. It is a commonplace that an author is in a better position to explain his writings than a third party, and Government are in a better position than any other organization to explain their principles and policies and publicize their activities in the most effective manner. Moreover, newspapers are not unattached entities. They generally support a particular political party or school of thought. In England, for example, the great political parties, e.g., the Conservative, the Liberal or the Labour Party control a considerable section of the press while in India there are many papers supporting the nationalist school of thought, while others are controlled by communal organizations. These interpret men and events from their respective angles and their interpretations often differ widely. Of late, there has been a tendency for "Big Business" also to control the press. Newspaper chains are a familiar phenomenon in America. A Government cannot reasonably be expected to leave its entire publicity business in the hands of newspapers which in the nature of things may not be to do publicity work from the Government's angle.

Again, the forum provided by the Legislatures suffers from the handicap that the Legislatures do not meet daily or even monthly but only for limited periods and occasionally during a year. The Government cannot always afford to wait till they meet. Public reactions to Government measures are quick and these have to be followed up quickly when it is desirable to do so. The same argument applies to some extent as regards Ministers doing publicity work during their tours. They do not tour regularly and they cannot afford to be away from headquarters for long periods. The time at their disposal during tours is short and is generally fully occupied by engagements. It is

hardly possible for them while on tour to explain the intricacies of Government's policies in detail. Publicity is a technical affair and, as has been said by more than one writer, it is one thing to have a message for the villagers and another thing to deliver that message effectively. For the latter, the technique has to be studied and learnt, and has necessarily to form the special field of persons technically qualified for it. It is thus obvious that Government's publicity work cannot be done effectively without some Government organization to supplement other forms of publicity.

The State and Publicity

In this connexion, it is often asked whether publicity is one of the legitimate functions of the State. There would have been some point in such a question some decades ago when the conceptions of the functions of the State were much narrower. The modern State is an 'all-pervasive' structure and includes within its range activities of all kinds which affect the well-being of human beings in every way. In earlier days, the State, which was generally authoritarian in character, concerned itself mostly with the maintenance of peace and order and the collection of revenue. The ruler acted largely on his own without consulting the wishes of the people. The position is different now. If the State in earlier days depended mainly on the army, the modern State depends upon the opinion of the people. Under a democratic dispensation, the opinion of the people counts for much and it is one of the fundamental functions of every Government to see that the people are enabled to form correct opinions on the activities of the State. This postulates the need for publicity by Government. The functions of publicity have been defined as 'to instruct, to inform and inspire,' and that is indispensable in the modern State.

Publicity in the Post-War Era

If publicity should be a normal function of a democratic State, it is all the more necessary in the post-war era. The second World War marked the end of an era and the beginning of another. The common man has come into his own and everywhere Governments have initiated schemes to ameliorate his lot. Post-war Reconstruction, Rural Reconstruction and the like are things with which everybody is familiar now-a-days. In this country, almost all Governments have got big schemes

of rural reconstruction involving expenditure of crores of rupees. Incidentally, there is some misapprehension about the term "Rural Reconstruction". One author has observed that people talk of rural reconstruction as they talk of patent medicines. It is regarded almost as something which by mere application would produce the desired result. This is clearly an erroneous notion. Rural reconstruction is a complex affair and its success postulates full co-operation between the Government who spend money and carry out the plans on the one hand and the masses for whom these plans are intended on the other. Government can only implement schemes and unless enthusiasm is created in the people to take advantage of the schemes and to utilize them to the fullest extent possible, then the amount spent cannot yield the full return. The Government have to mobilize this enthusiasm and this can be achieved mainly through publicity work. In this connexion, the words of Sir Sultan Ahmed, ex-Information Member of the Government of India, may be recalled. Addressing the Publicity Advisory Committee in September 1945, Sir Sultan said:

"We may go ahead and build our roads, electrify the countryside, establish flourishing industries, produce more and better crops, build schools and train teachers, but we still both delay our progress and lose much of the value of our effort if we do not also make a heroic effort to explain to as many people as we can reach what the ultimate purpose is, what the steps that we propose to take are and what assistance we need from the public at large."

These words indicate the importance of publicity in the working of the state machinery. Publicity is otherwise defined as preparation. It consists of preparing the mind of the people, so that the reforms initiated by the Government, the reforms they carry out or the schemes they implement may find a ready response from the people. This preparation, which is a necessary preliminary, cannot be overlooked. Publicity is also information, its main objective in this regard being to interest the masses in the plans and schemes of the Government and to make them anxious and eager to make the best use of, and desire the maximum advantage from, those schemes. Publicity is also education in the sense that it seeks to disseminate correct ideas about things, and thereby dispel

ignorance, prejudice, and misunderstanding. The present age is, therefore, one in which Governments require publicity organizations just as much as they require nation-building departments.

Publicity in Post-War India

It is a happy augury that there is in the present era, a widespread realization of the importance of Government publicity, judging from the fact that in almost all the major Provinces in India as well as in the major states there are separate departments for publicity work. Bombay, Bengal, the Punjab and Bihar to mention a few, are reported to have efficient publicity organizations doing useful work. It was recently reported that in the Punjab, during the riots, the Directorate of Public Relations had been able

to do much through pamphlets, posters and otherwise, towards the restoration of communal harmony. The same thing is said of Bihar also. In some Provinces there are also District Publicity Units to carry on educative publicity work among the masses. States like Hyderabad, Mysore, Travancore and Cochin also have elaborate publicity organizations. In Hyderabad the department was recently expanded and a similar expansion is being carried out in Mysore where provision has even been made for propaganda vans. Madras is the biggest Province in the country and if smaller administrative units cannot dispense with publicity organizations, Madras can do so only with greater prejudice to her interests.

Publicity is preparation, publicity is information, publicity is education.

A Peep into the Museum

Botany Galleries

By SRI M. S. CHANDRASEKHAR, B.Sc.

There are still some people who, without paying a single visit to the Botanical galleries of the Museum, think it a fashion to say "Oh, these galleries contain only trees with which we are more than familiar." Their number is now fast dwindling down, which is certainly a change for the good. When such people are somehow induced to go round these galleries, and then asked if they are "familiar" with at least 10 per cent of the "trees" exhibited, they try to smile and attempt to change the topic. This only shows the general disregard for exact knowledge. What exactly then is the type of knowledge imparted here? This question can, by no means, be answered in a word or two.

The importance of plants in our daily life requires no special mention, as most of the things we need, have got their origin in some plant part or other. Although our country is very rich in natural resources, a vast variety of goods are imported from abroad. A good number of imports can be avoided by a knowledge of the various plants and plant parts from which the raw materials can be tapped with best advantage. Mere theoretical knowledge on these matters, which can be easily obtained from books, leads the industrialists nowhere, as accuracy in identification of plants and plant parts is an indispensable factor for success in industrial enterprises. It is only this practical knowledge that forms the main objective of these

galleries where the actual specimens themselves are shown to the public, with explanatory labels which are brief and to the point.

Prominent index labels for the respective groups of exhibits serve as a good guide in the galleries. In addition the labels relating to the individual exhibits contain, wherever possible, vernacular names, too. As it is impossible in this article to describe in detail the large number of exhibits in the galleries only a few of outstanding interest are enumerated here.

A mushroom or toadstool of gigantic size, near the entrance to the Botanical gallery is worth a few minutes' attention. It is one foot tall with a circumference of 8 inches at the base, while the top spreading portion has a diameter of 7 inches. How many of our readers have seen its equal?

Exhibited among the various South Indian timbers which number well over 300, are transverse sections of large trunks of two timber trees. One is rose-wood and the other, teak-wood, the circumference of the former being 21 feet, while that of the latter, 23 feet 9 inches. The rose-wood is claimed to be 200 years old at the time of felling, and the teak-wood, a little over 500 years. The age is calculated by counting the number of annual rings on the specimen, each ring corresponding with a growing season of each year of the plant's life. Starting from the centre every hundredth ring on the specimen

of teak wood, is painted in white, so as to represent the circumference of the plant at the end of every hundred years of its growth. The size of the trunk in the year, 1400, when the tree began growing, is indicated by a dot. Mentioned on the specimen, are also a few historical events, with dates, that took place during the lifetime of the tree.

Large-sized bracket fungi, not commonly met with by the public, are also on show here. The largest specimen in the collection measures more than a foot in diameter and at least three inches and a half in thickness.

Herbarium sheets of the Flora of the City of Madras, lie accommodated in drawers specially devised for them. Residents of the City would derive help from these exhibits in identifying plants which they see every day in their neighbourhood.

Visitors would, indeed, develop an urge to beautify their gardens with varieties of ferns, on seeing the different types of ferns in the herbarium collection.

It may, at first, sound strange to city-bred people if they are told that plants bear seeds of the size of beans. The statement is true to the letter; and the author would only request the stay-at-homes to personally verify it by looking at the exhibits ere.

Those interested in pencil manufacture will always stand to gain from a visit to these galleries where the different stages in the manufacture of pencils are exhibited.

Among the numerous exhibits that ring out the importance of cotton, a miniature model of a handloom will be found very interesting to many of the visitors, although the technically inclined few will study only the various staple-lengths shown.

A couple of show-cases of toys not only provide amusement to children but also furnish valuable information on raw materials required for making toys.

A large collection of plants and plant parts which are required for extraction and manufacture of various drugs, and some of which are indigenous and some others cultivable in our own country, occupy a considerable portion of the galleries. These are, however, not exhaustive. Our country's resources are, indeed, vaster.

Raw jute fibres which are not quite familiar objects in our Province, are attractively displayed.

An exceedingly wonderful specimen of the bark of "Upas tree" measuring

over 5½ feet × 3 feet commands admiration from one and all. The "Rishis" of yore perhaps clothed themselves in such barks, as this! In some parts of the Western Ghats, it is still employed as a ground sheet, while its chief use is in making bags and paper.

It is gratifying to observe that Botany is becoming more and more popular now a days, and that men and women of all ages who come here, never go back disappointed. It is, therefore, high time for our readers to visit these galleries of the Museum if they have not already done it.

OTHER PROVINCES AND STATES

Gram Panchayat in Bombay

Every revenue village in the Province of Bombay with a population of 1,000 and over will have a village panchayat as a result of the decision taken by the Government of Bombay. Revenue villages with populations of less than 1,000 can have a Gram Panchayat if at least 50 adult residents of the village apply for the same.

The Government has further decided that where a revenue village consists of hamlets or wadis or groups of hutments situated at such distances as to render their grouping into one panchayat administratively inconvenient, or where grouping of hamlets is likely to cause friction or arouse animosities, then separate panchayats should be constituted for such areas.

Village Panchayats already established in areas with population of less than 1,000 will continue to function as before.

No group Village Panchayats (i.e., two or more villages combined for the purpose of establishing one panchayat for the whole area) will be established, unless a large majority of the residents in each village agree to such a grouping or such panchayats have already been established and are working satisfactorily.

Tanning in Bombay

A scheme of starting the Tanning Demonstration Centre (Finishing Unit) at Satara, with a view to providing facilities to the tanners in their profession, has been approved by the Government of Bombay.

Eradication of illiteracy in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has approved the ten-year scheme of the Bombay City Adult Education Committee for eradicating illiteracy in the

City of Bombay and has agreed to help the committee with a grant of 50 per cent of the cost of the scheme. A provision of Rs. 2,07,000 has accordingly been made in the current year's budget.

Scholarships in Bombay

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned the institution of five scholarships to the students belonging to the Province of Bombay at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, with effect from the academic year 1948-49.

The scholarships will be open to the candidates of either sex and the value of each scholarship will be Rs. 60 per mensem.

Aid to Physical Education in Bombay

After having considered the recommendation of the Physical Education Committee (1945-46) that the grants-in-aid on physical education—recurring and non-recurring should be 50 per cent of the admissible expenditure, the Government of Bombay has decided to pay physical education grants at 33 1/3 per cent of both the recurring and non-recurring admissible expenditure to the non-Government secondary schools from the current financial year for a period of ten years in the first instance.

Spinning Wheels for Schools in Gwalior

During the course of inspection of Middle Schools at Kolaras, Pachhar and Bhilsa, the Hon'ble Minister for Education, Sri V. C. Parashar, noticed that the School libraries did not contain enough books on nation-building subjects. The Education Minister, therefore, ordered that such books be immediately sent for the School libraries. Orders have also been passed

for sending Yerwada spinning wheels for Middle Schools at Ater, Kolaras and Pachhar.

Adult Education Centres in Gwalior

A large number of adult education classes for spreading literacy amongst the masses are being opened in the State. An adult literacy camp, where 51 teachers are being trained, was recently inaugurated at Shivapuri by Hon'ble Shri V. C. Parashar, Education Minister, Gwalior Government. It is understood that by the end of July 1948 nearly 100 such classes would start functioning in the State.

Military Training in Gwalior

A military training class, organized by the Education Department, Gwalior Government, was opened at Ujjain on 24th May 1948. Addressing the trainees on parade ground at Ujjain, Hon'ble Shri V. C. Parashar, Education Minister, Gwalior Government, said that they should even be prepared to go on active service whenever required for the service of the motherland. After the completion of the training, the trainees are expected to serve as instructors in their respective educational institutions.

A large number of applicants had to be refused admission on account of limited number of seats. The present class consists of 192 trainees.

Anti-Malaria Exhibition in C.P.

The Central Provinces Public Health Department arranged a Public Health Exhibition at the Ramtek fair last month. About 25,000 persons visited the Exhibition stall, looked at the models with keen interest and would not budge unless they had a full round of sections in the exhibition and understood the details, which normally took about an hour.

The exhibition depicted a typical village, showing actually how malaria is made by man, peasant, engineer and natural breeding places. Models explaining these were made in proportionate sizes out of clay, cardboard and earth in colours. Both protections and cures of the disease were explained. Protection included mosquito-net and its proper uses, repellents (Culicifuges) and screening of houses. It was illustrated as to how the destruction of adult mosquitoes and its larvae

could be done through traps, fumigants, sprays, chemical and vegetable larvicides, proper drainage and use of oil. Amongst cures, were included Ayurvedic and Allopathic systems.

The nutrition section presented its instructive charts, diagrams and natural food stuffs which explained how by eating plenty of green leafy vegetables and a balanced diet, a person could keep fit and free from most of the diseases.

National Cadet Corps in Assam

Following the proposal for the introduction of military training in the schools and colleges of India, the Government has drawn a scheme for the raising of a National Cadet Corps to be composed of suitable school and college students. The launching of this ambitious scheme required in the first place, the training of capable professors and teachers who, after completion of their course will be charged with the task of putting the scheme into operation.

Irrigation in C.P.

A scheme for the world's biggest multi-purpose project is under examination of the Provincial Government. The project will be constructed on the Wainganga River and when completed will be providing 250,000 k.w. of electric power, 1 million acres of irrigation and 320 miles of navigation in the first stage, power generated increasing to 600,000 k.w. later by the construction of subsidiary dams. The estimated costs are about Rs. 34 crores and Rs. 50 crores for the first and second stages, respectively. This will be the biggest man-made lake in the world when constructed. It is proposed to construct a storage reservoir on the Wainganga to impound water to be utilized partly for irrigation and partly for power supply; incidentally navigation is also facilitated. An important feature of the proposed reservoir is that the entire flow is bottled up, as at the Boulder dam, and the outflow is regulated as not to exceed ten feet depth of tail water. The total storage capacity of the reservoir up to 145 feet will be 33.3 million acre feet. After deducting the utilized level of the dam, the net available storage will thus be 30 million acre feet. At the full supply level, 640,000 acres will be submerged. Of these 248,000 acres will be under cultivation and 392,000 uncultivable waste. As the productive power of the area

brought under irrigation will increase the area can support four times the population.

Government have sponsored schemes for developing aluminium, newsprint, paper, cement and other minor industries in this area.

Basic Education in Bihar

The basic education in the province is managed and looked after by the Bihar Basic Education Board appointed by the Government for the purpose. The system, according to the report submitted at the Fourth Session of the All-India Basic Education Conference held at Bikram (Bihar) recently, has been vastly expanded and developed. The best work has been done during the last two years. At present there are 7 basic training centres and 55 basic schools in the province. The Government have further decided to start 6 more training centres and 45 more basic schools by the end of July 1948. During the coming five years, the Government propose to open 32 training centres and 1,600 schools besides 160 schools for post-basic teaching. The Government's basic education scheme also makes provision for the expansion and development of the non-basic primary and middle schools on similar lines in order to convert them into basic schools after five years when sufficient trained staff will be available.

Improved Paddy Seeds Scheme in Bihar

Under the Agricultural Department of the Provincial Government, a scheme for the multiplication of improved paddy seeds is functioning which produce 15 to 30 per cent extra yield over that of the local paddy. These paddy seeds are sold to the cultivators through the Credit Agencies. With a view to arranging the sale of these seeds to them, the Government have opened a number of sales depots in the various parts of the province.

Those cultivators who have mated their requirements to the Department will be supplied the seeds on credit. The cost will be realized at the time of harvest. The registered growers, have however, to deposit cash security of Rs. 50 each. Cultivators who can provide acreage for the multiplication of improved seeds can also utilize the services of the Agricultural Station for necessary guidance and supervision.

Irrigation Facilities in Bihar

In order to protect and irrigate about 50,000 acres of lands in the district of Monghyr, the Government of Bihar have decided to build a headwork and take off a canal on the right bank of the river Sakari at Powrah. This river changed its original course about 25 years ago and thereby rendered a large area of land barren. The Government are also considering, it is understood, the construction of two canals on the river Gandak in the north Bihar which will provide irrigational facilities in the districts of Saran and Champaran. These districts at present have no such facilities. It is proposed to cut an anicut at Tribeni, just below the off-take of the Tribeni Canal. The construction of this canal will be complete in about 6 years and will cost Rs. 11 crores.

Social Service Training in U.P.

Five hundred and fifty young graduates are working as "labourers" in the Almora hills—ploughing fields, felling trees, breaking stones and constructing roads.

These young men are cadets at the social service training centre under final training.

At present the scheme is introduced on an experimental basis, but if it proves successful, training under the scheme will be a compulsory qualification for service under the U.P. Government.

Roads in East Punjab

The East Punjab Government have prepared a comprehensive scheme for the construction of 2,189 miles of roads in the province. About 1,435 miles of roads will be constructed in rural areas and 699 in villages.

Anti-corruption Measures in West Bengal

The West Bengal Government have set up an anti-corruption department at the provincial headquarters and appointed district anti-corruption officers in each district, in implementation of their declared policy of stamping out dishonesty and corruption from every sphere of the administration.

A Press note issued in this connection states that the organization has been investigating such complaints and a large number of cases of

corrupt practices have been detected and investigated.

Inviting further co-operation from the public, it adds that if anyone who has personally been a victim and who has been compelled in the past to pay any illegal gratification or bribe to any

Government servant, now admits the full and true facts of such cases in writing to the anti-corruption officers within two months, the Government would not prosecute him for the offence of having offered illegal gratification or bribe.

OBITER DICTA

Rajaji's advice

"Whatever the constitution may be, the Governor of a province should, I think, consider it his particular duty to give friendly personal advice to everyone of the permanent service who comes to him with any difficulty or problem," said Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, speaking at a farewell party given in his honour by the staff of the West Bengal Secretariat recently.

His Excellency said that it was the Governor's function and duty to foster a spirit of mutual helpfulness between all classes of public servants and also between them and the ministers.

When they had settled down to democracy, he felt sure that the permanent service in India would feel as happy and proud in the discharge of their duties as the permanent Government servants did in England. He mentioned England because, in his view, democracy which functioned in England, had by age-long test and trial and adjustment, become more efficient than any other democracy functioning anywhere else in the world.

Mr. Rajagopalachari continued that Government was a many-limbed organization and it was very necessary that every limb should be properly adjusted and function with smoothness and efficiency. Otherwise the best Government would fail. He had found by experience that the people of our country appreciated the proper discharge of duties by officials quite as much as the people of other countries.

Young men sitting in offices and working day after day in the same kind of monotonous atmosphere might often fall into a feeling of depression and bitterness, said His Excellency. They should realize that every screw in a machine was equally important and when a machine was set up, each screw must remain in its proper place and must not try to move about. Everyone must be content and find joy in doing the work allotted to him.

He remembered that in the Spinners' Association young men used to complain to him that in looking after carders and spinners and weavers they were not doing national work, but mere routine work of no importance or variety. He told them that no one could have the pleasure of growing cotton, carding, spinning, weaving and finally wearing the cloth thus produced, all by himself. When properly organized, however noble and patriotic any work might be, it tended to become mechanical and each part of that machine would have to be content in its own sphere.

Value of Social Education

"Every uneducated person is a social danger. Education of the masses of people is vital for building up of a safe future for the country. The cost of such education is insignificant, considering the risk without it," said Hon'ble Pandit Dwarkaprasad Mishra, Originator of the Central Provinces Government's Social Education Scheme and Minister-in-charge, in a broadcast appeal calling upon literary men and women throughout the country to take a hand in the Provincial Government's battle against ignorance.

"Ignorant masses cannot build up a true democracy. A society with its bulk of people ignorant is potentially insecure."

Value of 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 the books but will try to organize various kinds of literary and cultural activities suited to the needs and psychology of the people," said Mr. B. G. Kher, Premier of Bombay, on the occasion of laying the foundation-stone of the Khar Residents' Library and Free Reading Room recently.

CLIPPINGS FROM GANDHIJ'S WRITINGS

New or Basic Education

This is a new subject. But the members of the Working Committee felt so much interested in it that they gave a charter to the organizers of the Hindustani Talimi Sangh which has been functioning since the Haripura Session. This is a big field of work for many Congressmen. This education is meant to transform village children into model villagers. It is principally designed for them. The inspiration for it has come from the villages. Congressmen who want to build up the structure of Swaraj from its very foundation dare not neglect the children. Foreign rule has unconsciously, though none the less surely, begun with the children in the field of education. Primary education is a farce designed without regard to the wants of the India of the villages and for that matter ever of the cities. Basic education links the children, whether of the cities or the villages, to all that is best and lasting in India. It develops both the body and the mind, and keeps the child rooted to the soil with a glorious vision of the future in the realization of which he or she begins to take his or her share from the very commencement of his or her career in school. Congressmen would find it of absorbing interest benefiting themselves equally with the children with whom they come in contact. Let those who wish, put themselves in touch with the Secretary of the Sangh at Sevagram.

Adult Education

This has been woefully neglected by Congressmen. Where they have not neglected it, they have been satisfied with teaching illiterates to read and write. If I had charge of adult education I should begin with opening the minds of the adult pupils to the greatness and vastness of their country. The villager's India is contained in his village. If he goes to another village, he talks of his own village as his home. Hindustan is for him a geographical term. We have no notion of the ignorance prevailing in the villages. The villagers know nothing of foreign rule and its evils. What little knowledge they have picked up fills them with the awe the foreigner inspires. The result is the dread and hatred of the foreigner and his rule. They do not know how to get rid of it. They do not

know that the foreigner's presence is due to their own weaknesses and their ignorance of the power they possess to rid themselves of the foreign rule. My adult education means, therefore, first, true political education of the adult by word of mouth. Seeing that this will be mapped out, it can be given without fear. I imagine that it is too late in the day for authority to interfere with this type of education; but if there is interference, there must be a fight for this elementary right without which there can be no Swaraj. Of course, in all I have written, openness has been assumed. Non-violence abhors fear and, therefore, secrecy. Side by side with the education by the mouth will be the literary education. This is itself a specialty. Many methods are being tried in order to shorten the period of education. A temporary or permanent board of experts may be appointed by the Working Committee to give shape to the idea here adumbrated and guide the workers. I admit that what I have said in this paragraph only points the way but does not tell the average Congressman how to go about it. Nor is every Congressman fitted for this highly special work. But Congressmen who are teachers should find no difficulty in laying down a course in keeping with the suggestions made herein.

Women

I have included service of women in the constructive programme, for though *Satyagraha* has automatically brought India's women out from their darkness, as nothing else could have in such an incredibly short space of time. Congressmen have not felt the call to see that women became equal partners in the struggle for Swaraj. They have not realized that woman must be the true helpmate of man in the mission of service. Woman has been suppressed under custom and law for which man was responsible and in the shaping of which she had no hand. In a plan of life based on non-violence woman has as much right to shape her own destiny as man has to shape his. But as every right in a non-violent society proceeds from the previous performance of a duty, it follows that rules of social conduct must be framed by mutual co-operation and consultation. They can never be imposed from outside. Men have not realized this truth in its

fulness in their behaviour towards women. They have considered themselves to be lords and masters of women instead of considering them as their friends and co-workers. It is the privilege of Congressmen to give the women of India a lifting hand. Women are in the position somewhat of the slave of old who did not know that he could or ever had to be free. And when freedom came, for the moment he felt helpless. Women have been taught to regard themselves as slaves of men. It is up to Congressmen to see that they enable them to realize their full status and play their part as equals of men.

This revolution is easy, if the mind is made up. Let Congressmen begin with their own homes. Wives should not be dolls and objects of indulgence, but should be treated as honoured comrades in common service. To this end those who have not received a liberal education should receive such instruction as is possible from their husbands. The same observation applies, with the necessary changes, to mothers and daughters.

It is hardly necessary to point out that I have given a one-sided picture of the helpless state of India's women. I am quite conscious of the fact that in the villages generally they hold their own with their men folk and in some respects even rule them. But to the impartial outsider the legal and customary status of woman is bad enough throughout and demands radical alteration.

Education in Health and Hygiene

Having given a place to village sanitation, the question may be asked why give a separate place to education in health and hygiene? It might have been bracketed with sanitation, but I did not wish to interfere with items. Mention of mere sanitation is not enough to include health and hygiene. The art of keeping health and the knowledge of hygiene by itself a separate subject of study and corresponding practice. In a well ordered society the citizens know and observe the laws of health and hygiene. It is established beyond doubt that ignorance and neglect of the laws of health and hygiene are responsible for the majority of disease to which mankind is heir. The very high death

rate among us is no doubt due largely to our gnawing poverty, but it could be mitigated if the people were properly educated about health and hygiene.

Men's Sana in corpore sano is perhaps the first law for humanity. A healthy mind in a healthy body is a self-evident truth. There is an inevitable connection between mind and body. If we were in possession of healthy minds, we would shed all violence and, naturally obeying the laws of health, we would have health bodies without an effort. I hope, therefore, that no

Congressman will disregard this item of the constructive programme. The fundamental laws of health and hygiene are simple and easily learnt. The difficulty is about their observance. Here are some:

Think the purest thoughts and banish all idle and impure thought.

Breathe the freshest air day and night.

Establish a balance between bodily and mental work.

Stand erect, sit erect, and be neat and clean in every one of your acts,

and let these be an expression of your inner condition.

Eat to live for service of fellow-men. Do not live for indulging yourselves. Hence your food must be just enough to keep your mind and body in good order. Man becomes what he eats.

Your water, food and air must be clean, and you will not be satisfied with mere personal cleanliness, but you will infect your surroundings with the same threefold cleanliness that you will desire for yourselves.

OUR BOOK-SHELF

"ESSENTIALS OF HINDUISM"

By PROFESSOR P. N. SRINIVASA ACHARI, *Visistadvaita Sabah, Mysapore.* Price Rs. 2-8-0.

Professor Sreenivasachari is well known in the world of Indian Philosophy as a lucid exponent of its principles and precepts. He is one among the very few Indian Philosophers who can take a detached and impartial view of things without much of sectarian predilections. Though an ardent student of Visistadvaita, he is able to give an impartial survey of the other systems of Philosophy about which a specialist or an expert will have no reason to complain. The book under review coming as it does from his mature pen is an excellent manual on Hindu religion dealing with the fundamentals of its different aspects; and can be recommended as a suitable text book for beginners.

There is one aspect of the Professor's survey which deserves some comment. That Hinduism as he rightly observes is not capable of definition as it cannot be traced to any one particular prophet or seer like other religions of the type of Christianity, Islam, etc. no one will deny. But to say that its sources such as Shashtra or Veda or Sruti are "not composed by any one, at any time and in any one place and that it is not even the word of Iswara" is to beg the question. Hinduism must have had some origin. It could not have dropped from heaven or any other place in a finished form. Recent researches have revealed that the "Veda" did not exist at the time of the Indus Valley or Mohenjo-Daro civilization. But we have

sufficient evidence to show that Siva cult and Mother cult were in vogue at that time. These two have been later absorbed into Hinduism. This takes us to the view that Hinduism is an Aryan religion and that non-Aryan elements have crept into it in the course of its evolution which fact the Professor, however, does not take cognisance of. We have the authority of the Puranas that the Veda was divided into four parts by Vyasa, the reputed compiler of the Puranic lore and some of the Vedic hymns were definitely assigned to Yagna-Valkya and Gargi and a few others. So the conception that "it is impersonal and that it, even in Pralaya, is not destroyed", needs to be qualified. This theory also implies that we have had no progress for the last several centuries which hardly redounds to our credit. While the hands of the Rishis are traceable in the Upanishads, etc. and that of Lord Krishna in the Bhagavat Geetha, that the Veda alone could not be assigned to any definite source or authorship hardly stands to reason. It is possible that one individual or Iswara is not responsible for its creation and it is a compilation of fundamental truths or hymns by different Rishis, who have realized the Brahman. But that is, however, by the way. Its innate virility is unquestionable. Else it would not have withstood the onslaught of adverse forces for centuries.

A few statements of the Professor stand in need of further elucidation. "A Jiva belongs to God and is essentially pure and perfect; but somehow it forgets its divine home and heritage and wanders in the world of Samsara and suffers from its sorrows".

(Page 20.) This lapse of Jiva into Samsara is ascribed to Avidya or Karma whose origin according to our Professor is again a mystery, although Jiva is responsible to no one else either to Satan or God for this degradation. (Page 21.) He therefore makes the frank statement of "The question why virtue is swayed by vice and becomes its victim stares us in the face and it is the complaint of the common man as well as the riddle of the Philosophers. (Page 22.) It is high time that thinkers like the author of this book should investigate this problem and find out a solution especially in view of the fact that Hinduism has solved many of the great mysteries of the universe. The nature of Prakriti is again another bedrock on which many other solutions depend. "The study of philosophy, the Atman or self," the professor says, in one context, is of greater value than that of prakriti though both are eternal. (Page 32.) In another context, he refers to Prakriti as a *perishing phenomenon*. These two contexts need reconciliation. In a third context, he discards the theory that the Hindu idea of God "starts with the crudest forms of Fetichism and Totamism like the worship of stones, trees, animals and departed spirits". (Page 34.) While describing the scheme of the four asramas, Pithr Yagna or offering to the ancestors (Page 55) is recognised as an item of Grahasta-Dharma. The worship of ancestors is supposed to be a non-Aryan practice. Such practices lend weight to the view that several non-Aryan elements have also been absorbed into the Aryan religion as the Dravidian Gods like Muruga and Ayyanar have found their way into the Hindu Pantheon. These are a few points for the earnest consideration of the Professor. The chapters on the Philosophy of Hinduism and "Modern Hindu Movements" are

particularly has been illuminating. One would like to ask in this connection why theosophy is omitted. Does not the author believe in its fundamental appeal? The essence of Hinduism as a universal religion is admirably summed up in the immortal words of the Geetha—"Whoever worships me in whatsoever form reaches me through that form".

—K.C.N.

"THE BOOK OF INDIAN ANIMALS"

By S. H. PRATER, O.B.E., C.M.Z.S.,
Published by the Bombay Natural
History Society, Bombay.
Price Rs. 16.

This is an attractive publication of the Bombay Natural History Society, providing a popular and profusely illustrated account of the commoner or more conspicuous mammals of India. The author has endeavoured to create and stimulate in India an intelligent interest in the fauna of the country and a clear understanding of the role they play in maintaining the balance of life. Some of the Indian species have no parallel in the world, e.g., the Indian bison is the largest of existing bovines, the lion and the tiger the most magnificent of all great cats, our painted bat, the most vividly coloured animal in the world. The wild life of a country, apart from the interest evoked by their symmetry of form, largeness of size, beauty of colouring, strangeness of structure of habits, is a source of game and enjoyment to its people and a magnificent asset to the land. But the gradual conquest of forests and waste lands by man have had a disastrous effect on the wild life of our country. To quote the author's own words "The magnificent fauna is being driven to its ultimate retreat into the fast diminishing forests and is today threatened with extermination." Therefore it is urged that there should be certain areas where the shooting of animals is regulated and where the laws for their protection are rigidly enforced. Further there is need for the creation of some public opinion on the subject of protection of wild life in India by producing cheap and popular literature dealing with the natural history of the land, intelligible to the average reader. That is the main object of this book.

The author under the topic "What is a mammal?" describes some of the

characteristics which distinguish mammals from other animals, their diversity of structure, life and habits; ability for self-protection from enemies and nature, the care of the young, etc. The classification of mammals which have the same relationship and affinities and their zonal distribution with special reference to the animals which inhabited in the country during past eras are dealt with in the succeeding pages. The species are broadly grouped according to "Natural Order" into the following sections, with a detailed general description for each section. They are, apes, monkeys and lemurs; the bates; civets; mungoses; hyaenas; the dogtribe; bears; the weasel tribe; insectivores; bats; rodents; elephants; horses; rhinoceroses; tapirs; wild oxen; sheep; goats; goat antelopes and gazelles; deer; pigs and pangolino. Individual descriptions of species which fall under each section are given with local names, distinctive characters, size, distribution and habits, together with their illustrations. As the author has stated in the preface the information is based on the observation of sportsmen and naturalists who have contributed to the pages of the journal of the society and much remains to be learned by scientific and systematic experiments and investigations about the animal life "whose kingdom is the whole world and whose most perfect the man." This fascinating book is excellently got up and will serve as a valuable reference book on Indian wild life. Seventy-three plates in colour, 17 in line, 86 in half-tone and a map showing the geographical races of Indian giant squirrel enhance the value of this book.

—M.A.K.

"THE LITTLE SAILOR BOY"

By K. S. CLARK. Published by the
"Times of India," P.B. No. 213,
Bombay. Price Rs. 3.

This nicely got up and well bound book is bound to be entertaining and instructive to youngsters. Although the Sailor Boy is an English, yet an Indian reader will feel the thrill of seafaring with him and aspire to visit the various parts of the world and learn about the habits and customs of the various peoples inhabiting the Universe. Such literature is very essential in moulding the thoughts of our youngsters, the future citizens. English libraries abound in Children's

literature but in India such attention is yet to be paid to this important step towards nation building. Publication of several books on such diverse subjects instilling courage and love in the hearts of children is an imperative need. The price of the book under review is very high and it ought to have been less to suit the Indian purse.

—S.A.H.

"HEROIC STRUGGLE IN HYDERABAD"

By KESHAV ABHYANKER. Published by Union Publications,
Mylapore, Madras. Pages 66. Price
Rs. 1.

The decision of the Nizam of Hyderabad to remain independent and Sovereign on the lapse of paramountcy has in its trail brought about many political deadlocks. This booklet exposes the adroit political manoeuvring of Hyderabad Government, the fanatic attempt made by the Ittihadu-Mussalmeen, a communal organization which is said to be dictating and shaping the policies of the Government, and the consequent hardships and miseries of the vast majority of the population. The author blames the Nizam for tyrannical administration and bigotry and also for encouraging separatist tendencies to form a purely Islamic State by developing communal bond with other Muslim countries and the infiltration of foreign Muslims; the British for unholy alliance with the Nizam and the Government of India for tactlessness in handling the Hyderabad situation. He talks in glorious terms of the heroic struggle of the State Congress, under the guidance of Swami Ramananda Teerth with indomitable courage and grim resolve, against the age-old tyranny, despite the third degree methods employed by the police and Military, the rank communalism of certain organizations and the fabrication and pampering of communist opportunists.

While admitting the political danger to the peace and security of South India created by the Hyderabad tangle, the reviewer is constrained to remark that the author himself succumbs to the disruptionist tendencies which he himself has vehemently condemned in the course of this present volume.

—M.A.K.

"DELHI DIARY"

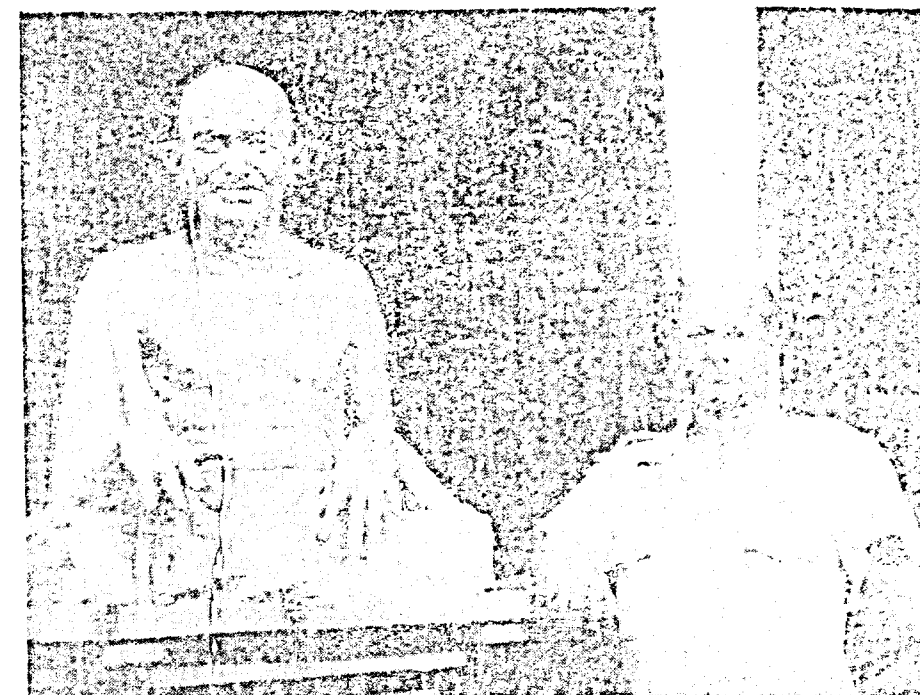
By M. K. GANDHI. Navjivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad. Pages 406. Price Rs. 3.

This volume is a collection of the post-prayer speeches delivered by Gandhiji in Delhi.

The cry of anguish that was wrenched from the heart of Bapuji, who was afflicted with sorrow, at the sins of his fellowmen, rings poignantly through these pages. Every speech is in itself a Gita, a sermon showing the true way of life. Every problem, from cleanliness to communal unity, has been discussed in its true perspective. The clarity of thought and sincerity of feeling that are the true characteristics of words spoken from the heart, leave a profound impression on the readers.

This is Bapuji's last testament, and is worth cherishing as a book of all times. The light that was guiding us in the darkest hours in the history of our nation has been cruelly put out. But the living words which he has left behind him will resound and re-echo, as long as truth and justice live.

—K.D.



This bust in clay of Gandhiji has been commissioned by the Madras Government and executed by the well-known sculptor Devi Prasad Roy Chowdhury. It is the Government's plan to make replicas of the bust available to the public at a moderate price. Acclaimed his 'magnum opus', Chowdhury took three months to make it, often putting in 12-hour day.

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