

REPORT

ON THE OPERATIONS OF

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR

1913-14.

MADRAS:
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.
1914.

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REPORT
ON THE
OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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I.—ADMINISTRATION.

A. STAFF.

I was in charge of the office of the Director of Agriculture throughout the year and was in camp 169 days full—i.e., exclusive of days partly spent in travel to and from Madras—visiting all centres of work except Kollegal besides conducting certain special enquiries under the orders of the Government. I also attended the Madura and Tiruppur Cattle Shows, the meetings of Agricultural Associations in Malabar, Coimbatore and Chidambaram, of the Planters' Association at Bangalore and the Cochin Exhibition at Ernakulam.

2. Mr. Wood and Mr. McRae were absent for six months on leave, Mr. Sampson and Mr. Shaw, who was lent from Pusa, taking their places temporarily. Thus for the second year in succession M.R.Ry. K. Ramasastrulu Nayudu was in sole charge of the Southern Division—an impossible task to do thoroughly. Four new gazetted officers joined the staff on probation during the year. Mr. Parnell from the Indigo Research Station, Sirseah, joined as Economic Botanist on May 13th, Mr. Thomas as a Third Deputy Director on November 7th, Mr. Mehta under the orders of the Government of India on December 13th and on January 6th Mr. Ballard from Nyassaland assumed charge as Government Entomologist from Mr. Bainbrigge Fletcher who in the previous month had been appointed Imperial Entomologist at Pusa. This post had been kept vacant at Pusa for Mr. Fletcher for nearly a year until his successor could be appointed to Madras. This was a great advantage to this department for which we are grateful for Mr. Fletcher has left his mark on the Entomological section and we all parted with him with regret. During his stay in Madras he prepared an excellent book—which will shortly be issued from the Press and to which allusion will be made later—on the Economic Entomology of South India entitled "Some South Indian Insects and other animals of economic importance." Mr. Thomas was under training at Coimbatore and in the Southern Division till the end of the year; but on Mr. Mehta's arrival a new Central Division consisting of the districts of Chingleput, North and South Arcot and Chittoor was created and as this officer had already had two years' experience in other parts of India he was placed in charge of it. On Mr. Parnell's appointment as Economic Botanist Rai Bahadur M.R.Ry. K. Rangachari Avargal was advanced to gazetted rank and placed in charge of the rest of the Botanical work.

3. In the report for last year it was stated that that year closed with seven vacancies in the district staff out of a sanctioned strength of 45 or 15 per cent. under strength. During 1913-14 six out of the twelve students who had successfully taken their diplomas joined the department, five to the District farms and one as a

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Government of Madras.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Recd.

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Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O. No. 2547, 2nd September 1914.

Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture

Recording, with remarks, the — for 1913-14.

