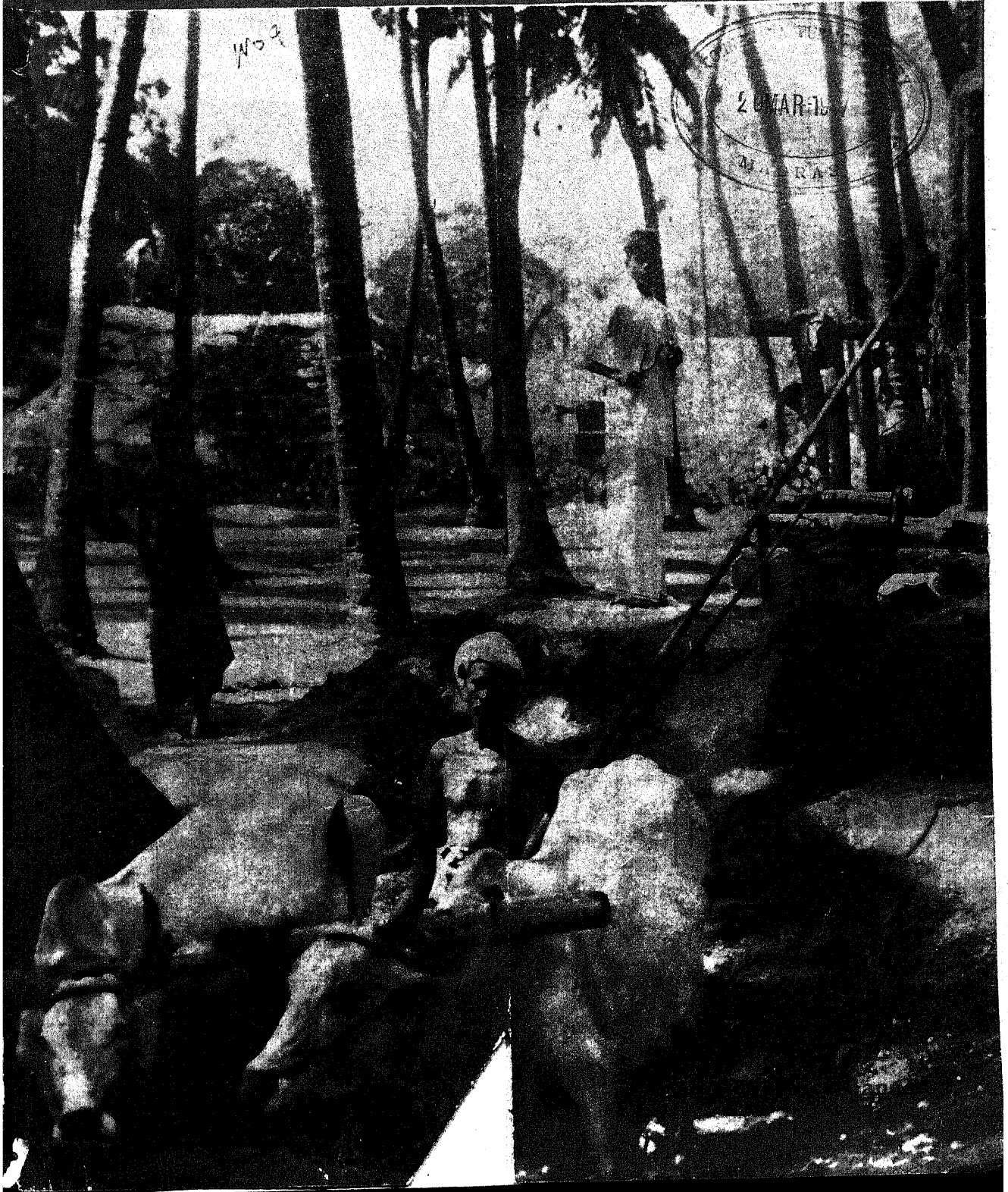


MADRAS INFORMATION



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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.

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WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE

March 15, 1947

Editorial Notes

PEOPLE'S BUDGET

Important features of the Madras Government Budget presented by the Honourable the Premier on 1st March, may be briefly mentioned. We have the continuance in an intensified form of rehabilitation schemes formulated last year, particularly in respect of Rural Reconstruction and Khadi, extension of the schemes in connexion with grow-more-food for which the Government of India have been giving some special grants, extension of prohibition to eight more districts, namely, Guntur, Nellore, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, Nilgiris, Malabar and South Kanara, expansion of the scheme of compulsory primary education to some more villages in each district, grants for water-supply schemes for Siruguppa, Arantangi and Tinnevely and for anti-malarial measures in Coimbatore, Malabar and Bellary districts, and enhancement of the scale of grants of local bodies for the maintenance of maternity and child welfare centres. Provision has, in addition, been made for improvement of the facilities for medical education by the conversion of the existing School of Indian Medicine into a college and for opening a research institute for Indian medicine in Madras, the reorganization and reconstruction of some medical institutions in the province, and for additional nursing staff in certain others. Out of the grant of Rs. 4 crores made in the current year for Rural Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift, Rs. 60 lakhs has so far been

spent and Rs. 340 lakhs is therefore available for expenditure next year.

Irrigation and Roads

The Honourable the Premier's Budget speech mentions that among the bigger irrigation projects, the Tungabhadra Project is now under execution and a sum of Rs. 143 lakhs will be spent on it in 1947-48. A sum of Rs. 15 lakhs has been set apart for expenditure on irrigation works which form an integral part of the drive to bring about an immediate increase in food production. Investigations on the Ramapadasagar Project will continue and a new project, namely, the Lower Bhavani Project has been provided for, though detailed estimates about the cost involved in and the revenue anticipated from it have yet to be prepared. Development of the road system and maintenance of the existing roads which had deteriorated during the war period has been provided for by an appropriation of Rs. 150 lakhs during the year 1947-48. A separate Highways Department has been constituted to look after the national highways and budget provision has been made for maintenance of the highways passing through the Madras Province. The total provision in the Budget for direct expenditure by the Government on the roads of the province amounts to Rs. 385 lakhs while another Rs. 18 lakhs has

been set apart for grants to local bodies for new road works.

State Trading Schemes

The Government's efforts to keep the province as well and as fully provided as possible with food and to ward off scarcity in respect of essential articles have been commended in the past by a number of competent observers. The Budget speech strikes the hopeful note that owing to the favourable seasonal conditions in the current year, the food situation will improve considerably and that an appreciable reduction may be possible in the imports of foodgrains from outside the province. This hopeful note finds concrete expression in the reduction in the anticipated net outlay in 1947-48 on wheat and wheat-products by about Rs. 148 lakhs as compared with the revised estimate for 1946-47. State trading in essential commodities like food and firewood has become an inescapable necessity owing to the special conditions created by the war, the effect of which persists even now, as indeed the maintenance a strict control over the prices and distribution of foodgrains and firewood. The whole problem is under constant examination and the question of effecting economies in the expenditure in and on the administration of controls is being examined by the Reorganization Committee of the cabinet.

Two New Proposals

The Budget will be remembered for two new proposals incorporated in it by the Honourable the Premier. The establishment of an Industrial Finance Corporation with a capital of rupees one crore to provide medium and long-term loans to industries, is one of these. The Budget provides a sum of Rs. 51 lakhs for the Government's subscription towards the share capital of the institution, and the remaining Rs. 49 lakhs will be raised from banks, insurance companies, investment corporations and big co-operative institutions. The criticism that the controlling interest in the corporation ensured to Government will be utilized for party or other purposes invalidates itself in the face of the consideration that Government's interest will be exercised solely in the public interest and that while in the case of an institution like the Reserve Bank for example, public opinion has been actively in favour of its being converted into a state-owned institution, the application of the same principle to the Industrial Finance Corporation cannot be inveighed against.

Nationalization of certain basic industries, such as the cement and the soda ash industry, is the second new proposal on which the Budget sets its stamp of approval. How the scheme is to be implemented in its details is still under examination, but the principle has been accepted and a provision of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made in the Budget to afford an unmistakable index to the Government's intentions. Practical steps towards nationalization are, however, being taken immediately in respect of the motor bus transport, and the sanction accorded to the running of a Government Bus service in the city of Madras is an important and significant initial step in this direction.

Producers-cum-Consumers' Societies

The Budget inheres a clear-cut indication of the Government's purposive and progressive outlook. The various schemes included in it have as their sole objective the promotion of the public weal as against the promotion of the interests of certain sections of the public. While the development schemes provided for in the last Budget are assured of uninterrupted assistance, financial and otherwise, a number of new schemes have been included in it, the execution of which will serve to accentuate the moral and material well-being of the population. The producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies scheme has come in for an unmeritedly large amount of criticism at the hands of various interests. The Honourable the Premier pointed out in his speech that the Government were fully aware of the criticisms, but they were equally aware of the fact that the criticisms proceed from an inadequate appreciation of the potentialities inherent in the new type of co-operative societies. Informed co-operative opinion, however, realizes that multi-purpose societies of the kind now being set up in parts of the province have a great future before them and will become a common feature of co-operative organization hereafter even if in the experimental or initial stages they may appear to impose hardships on certain classes of people like middlemen and traders engaged in the purchase and distribution of the commodities with which the societies are intended to deal. "The Government are convinced," said the Honourable the Premier, "that wealth arising out of the bare necessities of people's life should go back to the people rather than to a mere handful of persons. This is the cardinal principle of their policy which the Government want to be understood."

Madras Government Press Notes

Private Production of Khadi

As announced in the statement circulated by the Government recently to the Members of the Provincial Legislature, private producers and dealers in khadi will be eliminated, to the extent necessary, in order to ensure the development of khadi on sound lines. This action will be taken first in the "intensive areas" selected under the Khadi Scheme, viz.—

(1) The Vellakoil area, Dharapuram taluk, Coimbatore district;

(2) The Avanashi area, Avanashi taluk, Coimbatore district;

(3) Puliyanurichi Centre in Salem, Trichinopoly and South Arcot districts;

(4) Erragondapalem Centre in Kurnool district;

(5) Guruvareddipalem Centre in Guntur district;

(6) Kota-Uratla Centre in East Godavari and Vizagapatam districts; and

(7) Payyanur cum Nileshtar Centre in Malabar and South Kanara districts.

Persons doing business of the kind referred to above are accordingly warned, that, in their own interests, they should discontinue their business forthwith or continue to do so at their own risk. They should note also that it has been decided not to allow any export of khadi from this Province by private producers and merchants.

[February 24]

Special Tax on Motor Vehicles

The Government have received representations requesting them not to entertain any proposal to levy special taxes on motor vehicles using highway bridges. They wish to state that there is at present no proposal under consideration to levy any tax or toll on motor vehicles using highway bridges.

[February 24]

Permission for Rice Mills

It was mentioned to the Government that the greater the number of rice mills, the less would be the incentive to hand-pounding and the suggestion was made that the refusal of licences for fresh mills will aid the implementation of the announced policy of the Government to encourage hand-pounding. The Government accepted the

suggestion and directed on 8th January 1947 that no licences should be issued for the opening of new rice mills for converting paddy into rice.

It has since been brought to their notice that this prohibition will work hard on persons who had erected the necessary buildings and machinery and were only awaiting the grant of licences. The Government are therefore instructing all Collectors to issue licences if otherwise unobjectionable in all cases in which application for grant of licences were pending with them or their subordinate officers on 8th January 1947 and where the applicants had already completed the erection of the buildings and machinery and had obtained the requisite licences from the municipal and public health authorities.

[February 21]

Political Sufferers Reinstated

The Government have passed orders directing the restoration of 27 village officers and three village servants, who lost their office on account of their sympathy with, or participation in, the political movement of 1940-41 or the subsequent movement of 1942 and the activities that followed on it. In the case of a village servant who lost the post on the same account and who is old and physically unfit for the post, the Government have directed that his nearest qualified legal heir should be appointed to the post. A few more cases are still under consideration and orders are expected to be issued soon.

[February 17]

Control of Jaggery Relaxed

In November 1946 the Government fixed ceiling prices for cane jaggery, wholesale and retail, in all the districts in the Province. Many complaints have since been received that stocks of jaggery were going underground and that the commodity was not available for purchase by the public at controlled rates or indeed at any price. During the Pongal festival particularly, jaggery was scarce in the market in many important towns and the public were put to considerable inconvenience. To control distribution, this Government were forced to pass orders in January 1947 directing that no person holding stocks of jaggery shall sell his stocks to any person except to the Collector of the district or to any person authorized by him in this behalf. The position has slightly

improved in consequence and there have been several representations from the producers that new jaggery which is being manufactured is accumulating in their hands as a result of the restrictions. The Government have reviewed the position and have decided to allow free sales of jaggery in the markets. They have accordingly rescinded clause 6 of the Jaggery Control Order. Producers as well as stockists will in future be free to sell or buy in the markets. There will be no restriction on the movement of jaggery from one district to another in the Province. The Government trust that the relaxations now ordered will be appreciated and that jaggery will be freely sold to the consumers at the controlled rates already notified. If not, the Government will be compelled to reimpose such restrictions as they consider necessary.

[February 17]

Working of the Entertainments Tax Act

The following Press Note on the administration of the Madras Entertainments Tax Act, 1939, during 1945-46 is issued by the Director of Information and Publicity.

The last Administration Report of the Madras Entertainments Tax Act was for 1941-42, and the following changes have been introduced since then.

The Act which was being worked out in the Municipal areas by the Municipal Commissioners previously has been transferred to the Commercial Taxes Department from 1st July 1943 and this is the first report to be issued after the transfer. In the previous years the local bodies were paid fixed sums every year as compensation. From the year 1945-46 the Government have decided that the Commercial Taxes Department should take only 10 per cent of the gross proceeds towards the charges for working the Act and that the balance of the proceeds, i.e., 90 per cent of the collection, should be paid to the local bodies within whose jurisdiction the entertainments take place. The third change was that the rates of tax on payments for admission above 2 annas have been enhanced by 50 per cent with effect from 1st April 1945.

There were 259,859 entertainments in the 25 districts of the Province during 1945-46. For over 93 per cent of these entertainments the tax was paid on the basis of returns. This method was favoured most by the proprietors of entertainments, as they found it more convenient to pay the tax in arrears at regular intervals than to purchase stamps as required in advance for

affixing them to the tickets. Admission by mechanical contrivance was adopted only on the Guindy Race Course as in previous years.

The tax was compounded in respect of 45 entertainments during the year. These were generally very small entertainments.

The number of entertainments exempted from paying the tax under section 8 (1) of the Act is 1,251 and under section 8 (2), 204.

Collections Satisfactory

The total demand of tax under the Act during 1945-46 stands at Rs. 46,18,640. The revenue realized during the year under review is Rupees 43,95,147 in cash and cheque and Rs. 1,73,991 in the form of stamps. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 49,502 of which a sum of Rs. 43,383 was subsequently collected. The collection of the tax was on the whole satisfactory. There were only two cases of non-payment of tax in the districts of Chingleput and Tanjore.

Offences

With regard to offences under the Act, 672 cases were compounded for a total sum of Rupees 11,407 of which a sum of Rs. 10,534 was collected. Thirty-six prosecutions were launched of which 16 ended in conviction and 5 in acquittal. Fifteen cases are *sub-judice*. The Commercial Tax Officers received 6 appeals during the year and 4 were pending at the beginning of the year. Out of these 64 appeals 55 were disposed of during the year. The Entertainment Tax Commissioner disposed of 16 revision petitions during the year.

The working of the Act was on the whole satisfactory, no administrative difficulty being expressed. The assistance of the Police Department was not generally sought for the administration of the Act. There was no case in which the tax was collected with the assistance of the Revenue Department. In many districts the village officers were generally helpful to the Commercial Tax Officers by reporting unauthorized entertainments. Though there was an increase in the rates of tax there was no noticeable diminution in the number of persons who attended the entertainments.

[February 17]

Prohibition at Work

The following report on the working of the Prohibition Act in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Coimbatore, Salem,

Chittoor and North Arcot districts during December 1946 is published for information :—

Prohibition has been in force from 1st October 1946 in all the above districts. Its enforcement continued to be in charge of the Police in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, North Arcot and Chittoor and the Excise Department, in the other four districts.

Enforcement Work

Cases.—The total number of cases detected during the month was 1,291 as against 1,320 detected during the previous month. There has thus been a slight fall in the number of cases detected due probably to inclement weather which prevailed in many districts interfering with communications and restricting the mobility and activity of the enforcement staff, particularly in respect of raids. The number of cases of illicit distillation of arrack increased from 423 to 446, the increase being mainly due to the greater efforts made by the enforcement staff in Kurnool and Anantapur districts. The number of such cases detected in Coimbatore district continued to be low being only 9.

The number of cases of illicit tapping of fermented toddy detected during the month was 14 which is one less than the previous month.

There was a decline in the number of cases relating to intoxicating drugs from 196 to 156. The most noticeable feature was the seizure of large quantities of Mysore ganja.

Denatured spirit.—The sale of denatured spirit in the districts rose from 1079 gallons to 1,484 gallons. The sale was very high in North Arcot district being over 900 gallons. The number of cases of attempts to render denatured spirit fit for human consumption increased from 3 to 5 and all occurred in North Arcot district. Steps are therefore being taken to prevent misuse of the spirit in this district.

Border problems.—Large number of persons continued to visit border shops for drink. Border patrols were active during the month. The number of cases of smuggling of liquor increased from 65 to 83. There is however, no sign as yet of large scale smuggling into prohibition areas from outside. In order to assist in the effective tackling of border problems, arrangements have been made for border meetings between Police, Excise (Prohibition) and ordinary Excise officers.

Assistance given by officials of other departments and non-officials.—There was excellent co-operation by the Police in the Excise Prohibition

districts, no fewer than 155 cases being detected by them in those districts.

Fourteen cases were detected by village officers and 60 were detected with their assistance. The assistance given by village officers was particularly good in North Arcot. Village officers gave little assistance in Bellary and Coimbatore districts.

One hundred and thirty-three cases were detected by or with the assistance of outsiders. In Salem, as many as 16 cases of illicit distillation were detected on information furnished by Village Vigilance Committee members. In North Arcot, 31 illicit distillation cases were detected on the information given by or at the instance of outsiders other than regular informants. In Chittoor district, where the total number of cases detected was low, more than half were detected by or with the assistance of outsiders. Co-operation received in this respect is generally more noticeable in the Police than in the Excise Prohibition districts. The number of cases detected by or with the assistance of Taluk or Village Prohibition Committee members was disappointingly low being only 6. Now that most of these Committees have been formed better results may be expected. The formation of Taluk Prohibition Committees was complete in Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, North Arcot and Salem. In Coimbatore district, Taluk Prohibition Committees are in the course of formation. Taluk Prohibition Committees have been formed in a portion of Cuddapah district. Village Prohibition Committees have been formed throughout Anantapur and Bellary districts and in most parts of Cuddapah district. In Salem and North Arcot, the Committees were being formed during the month, while in Coimbatore the Collector is proceeding with the formation of Taluk Prohibition Committees and will take up appointment of Village Committees later.

Ameliorative Work]

Employment of ex-tappers.—The number of toddy tappers who were thrown out of employment on account of Prohibition is given below :—

Coimbatore	.. ..	15,000
		(approximate.)
Salem	.. ..	2,069
North Arcot	.. ..	1,085
Chittoor	.. ..	398
Cuddapah	.. ..	365
Kurnool	.. ..	2,378
Bellary	.. ..	1,400
Anantapur	.. ..	625

Most of them have adjusted themselves to the new situation by leaving the prohibition districts

or by seeking employment on agriculture or other work. The recent rains have helped them with field labour.

The number of co-operative societies for the manufacture of jaggery, the most useful organization for giving employment to ex-toddy tappers, which had been registered or were awaiting registration were 73 in Coimbatore, 32 in Salem, 25 in North Arcot and one in Chittoor. In Erode Revenue Division (Coimbatore district) 30 societies had been organized, 2,086 tappers enrolled and Rs. 14,000 collected as share capital. In Salem arrangements were made with the President of the Central Co-operative Bank for loans to be given to the members of the co-operative jaggery societies for the purchase of buffaloes so that they might make ghee and dispose of it through the society. The ex-toddy tappers of Ayodhyapatnam, a strong centre for toddy tapping in pre-Prohibition years, collected Rs. 10,000 in order to start a co-operative society for the manufacture of woollen carpets. This venture is expected to provide employment for 80 ex-tappers.

Instructions have also been issued that extappers should be given preference for employment on road works under the charge of the Highways department, in prohibition districts, like ex-servicemen.

Promotion of thrift.—The campaign instituted by the Co-operative department for collecting savings from ex-addicts and the general public in Hundi Boxes distributed by the Co-operative societies is gathering strength. Rs. 15,927 were thus collected.

Recreation and counter-attractions

Refreshment stalls.—Many of the Government refreshment stalls were closed as it was the intention to run them only in the initial stages of prohibition. Private stalls have, however, sprung up in most prohibition districts.

Bhajanas, Harikathas, dramas, cinemas, folk dances and other entertainments were encouraged in all districts. Ex-toddy tappers of Thimmayanapalli in Madanapalle taluk staged variety entertainments and street dramas and ex-addicts of the Narasimharu Kottala in Proddatur taluk enacted 'Jayanti Jayapala.' Rupees 1,450 were realised from one of the four dramas enacted in Anantapur district. The amount has been set apart for organising rural games and tournaments and for installing a radio at Thimmacharla. The cinema proprietor at Pamidi entertained 20 ex-addicts every day at his cinema free of cost.

Ballad singers have been appointed in all Revenue divisions except in Salem and Bellary. They toured in the villages entertaining the villagers with songs and also organising community singing. They also taught community songs to the village guides undergoing training in Rural Uplift Schools and assisted bhajana parties. Three new Rural Uplift Schools were opened during the month.

There were 2,618 gramasangams at the end of December 1946. In addition to organising rural games and other entertainments, they also assisted in general rural uplift work like the formation or repair of roads, the sinking of wells, the provision of adult schools, reading rooms, etc. The Gramasangham at Kondlarandapalli (Cuddapah) gave a hut for the location of a school, and those at Palageta and Gundlakunta (Cuddapah) gave Rs. 300 each for two radio sets. The Gramasangham at Kalesapakkam (North Arcot) raised Rs. 275 by organising a musical entertainment in order to purchase a building for itself. The Gumadakkampalayam Sangham (Coimbatore) sent about 50 new students to the local school.

Women.—The good work done by the workers of an Indian Women's Civil Corps at Salem in the direction of better sanitation, cleaner clothing, indoor games, singing, etc., deserves special mention.

Progress in ameliorative work has been steady. Better results are expected after the Rural Recreation officers, now under training, join duty.

Reports received from all the Prohibition districts show that there is a definite improvement in the conditions of the ex-addicts and that there is domestic peace and happiness in the labour and Harijan quarters as the money which would be wasted on drink is now being utilised for their betterment.

[February 14]

Pay of Teachers

The Government have been receiving certain representations from teachers' guilds and associations about the revision of salaries made by Government recently. Many of them are based upon a misapprehension and without a proper appreciation of the facts and so, the Government have thought fit to issue a detailed communiqué with a list of detailed revision of salaries so that a proper perspective of the whole scheme may be had.

The old grade for the higher elementary grade teacher was Rs. 20—1/2—30 in the majority of local boards where they are employed in such large numbers. This has been increased to those who know the craft to Rs. 30—45, i.e., Rs. 25—40 +5 for craft. This will be in addition to the dearness allowance of Rs. 16 which they are at present receiving. The Government expect everyone of them to learn the craft immediately and be entitled to this additional remuneration of Rs. 5. The intention of the Government is that even in our elementary schools we should have at least secondary grade teachers. Recently orders have been passed giving scope to the higher elementary grade teachers to qualify themselves for the secondary grade and become eligible for the secondary grade scales. The old basic grades of secondary grade teachers were Rs. 25—45 in elementary schools and Rs. 30—50 in secondary schools. These have now been raised to Rs. 40—70 and Rs. 45—75. These will be in addition to the dearness allowance which they are at present receiving. The Government have felt that the secondary grade teachers would be given further prospects and so, they propose to reserve a large percentage of posts in the junior Deputy Inspectors cadre to the secondary grade assistants to be recruited from all services, viz., Government, local boards and aided, so that efficient secondary grade teachers in all services will have a further and a larger scope for rise. The pay of the junior Deputy Inspectors has been fixed at Rs. 60—120 as against Rs. 50—70 which was the old scale and so, it will be seen that not only have the Government given initial increments to higher elementary grade and secondary grade teachers on a generous scale but also have given scope for such of those persons among them who can distinguish themselves for efficient service.

Now we come to the L.Ts. L.Ts. in Government service have been given two grades, viz., Rs. 80—170 and Rs. 160—240 plus Rs. 5 for craft training admissible to both grades. The selection grade has been increased from one-fifth to one-third so that all reasonably efficient men will reach the top and over and above that, there are the gazetted posts to which they may aspire. In the local boards, the rates have been fixed at Rs. 75—145 which are eight increments above in the existing scale, namely, Rs. 65—100. This difference between the Government and the local board schools has been necessary because of the administrative and executive work which those in Government service have to perform and the large financial responsibility

they have to bear from the very beginning. Besides, a welcome feature in the new scheme is allowances to headmasters in all grades of schools. It is further the intention of Government that recruitment of District Educational Officers should not be confined only to those in Government cadre, but that efficient men in local board and aided services should also be given scope for being recruited as District Educational Officers. The Government are actively considering the matter of fixing their proportion.

And now, we came to the aided schools. In this matter, the Government would like to remind such of those people as are agitating for equal pay to aided school elementary teachers along with local board services, that the Government grants are only an aid which Government give and the rest of the amount is expected to be contributed by the management. It is not possible to treat the aided schools on a par with local board or Government schools for the simple reason that these are private schools receiving only aid from Government and are not subject to the same control. But as far as elementary schools are concerned, the grants besides having been liberalised, have, in the new scheme, a further advantage, that is, they have definitely been put on the time scale in addition to the full dearness allowance which the teachers are getting from Government. That is, higher grade teachers in aided schools, instead of getting Rs. 14 previously, will get Rs. 20—25 + 16. Now, secondary grade teachers, instead of Rs. 18 previously will get Rs. 25 + 16 to begin with and will get more under the time scale with their service, i.e., Rs. 25—35 + 16.

As far as aided secondary schools are concerned the Government have received many representations that the aided schools should be compelled to give the local board rates. The Government have advised them to pay the local board rates and to show the earnestness of Government in this matter and to help them to do this, the aided secondary school will be paid, in addition to the grants to which they will be eligible under the Grant-in-aid Code, a special grant equal to one half of the difference between the average of the scales of pay laid down for similar posts in the service of local bodies and the average of the scales of pay actually adopted by the managements, subject to the condition that this additional grant is used entirely for payment to the teachers. The Government hope that the aided schools will recognize their duty by their teachers and come forward to meet their portion of the responsibility. This will not preclude the aided

schools from paying even at Government rates, if they choose to do so.

For the collegiate teachers, a rate has been prescribed which is well above the present rates. The scales of pay of the Instructors, etc., in the Engineering Colleges have been raised high enough so that the teaching posts will be able to secure men with high academic qualifications fit to train up engineers in their turn. These are higher than those offered in the P.W.D. in the non-gazetted services.

In the matter of pandits, the Government have recognised the importance of raising their status and paying them on the same level as other teachers and professors in the high schools and colleges. Those with proper qualifications have been brought to the front rank. The grades of even those who do not possess the requisite qualifications, have been substantially raised. The pays of others also have been suitably raised and the details will be found in the appendix to this note.

In consideration of the importance of education, the Government propose to issue orders that, as far as teachers in the service of local bodies and in aided institutions are concerned, the revision of the scales of pay should be given effect to from 1st January 1947.

To enable the local bodies, district boards and municipalities to meet the additional expenditure involved in giving effect to the revised scales of pay to the teachers in their elementary schools, the Government will bear the additional costs in the form of grants to middle class for one year and advances to district boards for the same period, repayable to the extent that the local bodies are able to pay back. All possibilities of enhancing the receipts under the Elementary Educational Fund accounts of each local body will be explored in due course. As regards the revision of salaries of teachers in their secondary schools, the local bodies will in future be paid grants-in-aid in a particular year on the basis of half of the approved net cost in the preceding financial year, after taking into account the subsidies now being paid. The grants to elementary schools under aided management and panchayats at the revised rates or scales will be paid in full by the Government themselves.

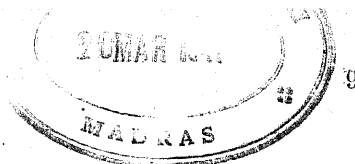
The Government, consistent with their financial position, have gone to the greatest extent possible. The matter of raising the status of elementary school and other teachers in various other ways is also under the active consideration of Government. The total ultimate cost of the salaries revision is Rs. 267 lakhs. Out of this, the revision of the posts in Government Educational institutions alone costs about Rs. 10 lakhs while the

cost of the revision of pay of teachers in aided institutions and institutions under local bodies is estimated at Rs. 81 lakhs. These figures do not include the cost of revision of salaries of teachers in elementary schools under local bodies, viz., Rs. 80 lakhs ultimately. From this will be known, the extent of the increase that has been given to those in the educational services. It may be that there is still more scope for improvement but it must be always remembered that the money has to be drawn from the people. With the loss of Rs. 16.80 crores of revenue by enforcement of prohibition, the Government have suffered a set-back in their financial resources and in spite of these set-backs, the Government have thought fit to come forward with this large item of expenditure to relieve the present difficulties of their non-gazetted services. It is not that this cannot admit of improvements; but only it must await better times. Now that the Government have come forward to do their best, the Government expect that the teachers will do their part by increasing the quality and efficiency of their work. It cannot be gainsaid that in our elementary schools as well as our other schools and colleges, a great deal of improvement is necessary and possible. The emoluments of any service must depend upon the efficiency with which that service serves the country and if we are to raise further the status of the teachers and make demands upon the people of this country, that must and will depend to a large extent upon the quality of service which these services will render to the nation. In this note, they address themselves to the educational service and the Government expect that they will come forward to do their best by the nation. [February 14]

Kurnool Thermal Scheme

The Government have sanctioned an estimate for Rs. 4.95 lakhs initially, rising to 11.1 lakhs within five years, for the Kurnool Thermal Scheme. Under the scheme, the Kurnool Municipal Electrical undertaking, which has not been working satisfactorily, will be acquired by the Government as requested by the Municipal Council, Kurnool, and the Government will organize the repairs and rehabilitate the power house and distribution system. Additional generating set of about 150 K.W. capacity will be installed immediately and 2 more 200 K.W. sets will be installed within five years to meet the anticipated increase in load in and around Kurnool. Ultimately Kurnool will receive its supply from the Thungabhadra Hydro-Power Station which is expected to be ready by about 1952. [February 25]

MARCH 15, 1947]



MADRAS INFORMATION

Abolition of the Zamindari System

The Madras Legislative Council passed a resolution moved by the Hon'ble Sri K. R. Karanth, accepting the principle of the abolition of the zamindari system in the Province and recommending to the Government to bring in, at an early date, legislation for it and "providing for payment of equitable compensation to zamindars and other intermediaries whose rights are to be acquired." The resolution inheres a response to the persistent demand that is being put forward for the implementation of the proposal of abolition of the zamindari system, and provides an unmistakable index of the Government's intentions in this regard. The question is not one which has cropped up suddenly or has been sprung upon the public or the zamindar class without previous notice. It has been engaging the Government's attention for nearly a decade and more seriously subsequent to the publication of the report of the Prakasam Committee of 1938. The Advisors' Regime had its own scheme in this regard, which, while differing in the matter of details, provided for the elimination of the zamindari system under certain conditions.

The principle of abolition of zamindaris having been accepted by the Government and the Legislature, the main points that remain for consideration are the method and the manner of compensating the zamindars and the determination of what "equitable compensation" means or should mean. On this question, Mr. Karanth emphatically declared that "the Congress has accepted the principle of compensation and, I for one, will not question it." Indubitable different ways of dealing with this question may be proposed and in Bengal and Bihar, two or three formulæ bearing on the method of compensating the zamindars have been under examination. Sections of opinion are there which maintain that compensation can neither be claimed nor is due to the zamindars,

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but as the Revenue Minister maintained, "this country does not wish to deal with them on this basis." At the same time Government's viewpoint on the question was clearly explained by him when he said "that if any Government thinks still of using the word equitable, it will not be in the sense where we shall have to pay large sums to them, but something fair and just, regard being had to all the circumstances of the case. Certainly it will not be according to the Land Acquisition Act."

While the decision on the question of the abolition of zamindaris stands and while the Government are irrevocably committed to effecting the reform, a number of details involved in the matter have to be worked out and settled and are being worked out. To uproot a system which had been in existence for nearly a century and a half with all the ramifications it has developed around itself and to plant in its place another and a different system is a complicated business from a number of standpoints. But the system has become an outmoded one and many zamindars themselves, as the Revenue Minister pointed out in his speech, realize the changed times and are prepared to relinquish their rights on the payment of a fair compensation. As a preliminary to undertaking this bigger and drastic reform, the Government have decided to introduce the Madras Estates Land Revenue Bill which seeks immediately to reduce the burden of rents on the cultivators to the level at which they stood at the time of the introduction of the permanent settlement. This measure has to be regarded more as an earnest of the Government's intention to undertake the bigger and more comprehensive reform of the abolition of the zamindari system than as an attempt to evade it or postpone it, as some have tried to make out.

Government Departments At Work

I. Labour

The Government of Madras have accepted the findings of the Court of Inquiry appointed under the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, to settle the dispute between the workers and the management of the Madura Mills Company, Limited, Tuticorin, and have ordered the publication of the report of the Court in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

Sri Rao Bahadur M. Venkataramayya, sole member of the Court of Inquiry for textile mills in the Province, visited Madura in the first week of February 1947 and discussed details with representatives of employees.

The Court of Inquiry for beedi, cigar, tobacco-curing, snuff, etc., has applied for extension of time till the end of April 1947 to complete the inquiry. The orders of Government are awaited.

The awards of the Adjudicators to whom the disputes in the following undertakings have been referred for adjudication under the Defence of India Rules are awaited :—

- (1) The Ganeshar Aluminium Factory, Madras.
- (2) Sayani Glass Works, Madras.
- (3) Messrs. Parry & Co., Ltd., Madras.
- (4) The Binny's Beach Engineering Works, Madras.
- (5) Messrs. Parry & Co., Ltd., Ranipet (Pottery Section).
- (6) The Chittivalasa Jute Mills Company, Limited, Chittivalasa.
- (7) The Nellimarla Jute Mills Company, Limited, Nellimarla.
- (8) The Andhra Paper Mills, Rajahmundry.
- (9) The Vizagapatam Sugars and Refinery, Limited, Thumapala, Anakapalle.

There has been a good deal of agitation for increased wages, dearness allowance, bonus, leave facilities, etc., from the employees of motor transport services both in the city and in the mufassal and there have also been representations and threats of strikes from workers employed in the workshops attached to transport services and other engineering firms and type foundries doing work similar to that done in the workshops attached to transport services. As the parties to the dispute are unable to arrive at an amicable settlement, the Commissioner recommended the appointment of a Court of Inquiry under the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, to enquire into the conditions of the labour in motor transport services, motor transport workshops, engineering firms and type foundries. The Government have accepted his recommendations and decided to appoint a Court of Inquiry.

In the meanwhile, the Working Committee of the Madras Provincial Transport and General Workers' Federation has, at its meeting held at Nellore on 15th December 1946, decided to issue a strike notice to the employers of motor transport services to conduct a Province-wide strike from the 25th February 1947, if their demands are not conceded. The Government requested the employers in motor transport services not to precipitate matters by striking work but to await the report of the Court of Inquiry proposed to be appointed.

The Government have under consideration a proposal to appoint a Court of Inquiry to examine conditions of labour in the rice and oil mills of this Province.

The mill-owners at Coimbatore announced the grant of a three months' bonus to the workers in the textile mills in September last year. Representations were made to the Minister for Industries and Labour by the Coimbatore Textile Mill workers urging the raising of their basic wages and for an increase in the quantum of bonus. The Minister for Labour met the representatives of the mill-owners and the Coimbatore District Textile Workers' Union in the last week of October 1946, and discussed the issues raised, but no settlement could be effected, as neither of the parties were willing to come to an agreement.

In July 1946, the Government of Madras had appointed a Court of Inquiry to examine the conditions of service of labour in the textile industry of this Province with a view to better the lot of the workers and its work is nearing completion.

However, in view of the fact that the workers demanded an interim award with respect to wages and an immediate decision on the question of bonus, these demands were referred for adjudication under rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules.

This Adjudicator's award gave the workers at Coimbatore substantial increases in the basic wages, which in 75 per cent of the cases were over 80 per cent of the existing wages, some getting 100 per cent or more. The Adjudicator also considered that the bonus already declared, viz., three months' basic wages, was adequate. At the same time he announced that the substantial increase in the basic wages would take effect from 1st October 1946 and that the retrospective effect thus given to the enhanced rates of wages would result in the workers getting another three months' wages. These findings were accepted by Government.

The District Textile Workers' Union, however, persisted in their original demand for payment of six months' wages as bonus instead of three months declared by the mill-owners and issued a notice of strike from 13th January 1947.

Once the award is given by the Adjudicator and approved by Government it is final and binding on the parties.

After the present Government took charge awards of Adjudicators have been respected in all cases. The Prime Minister who was in Delhi about the time this dispute arose flew to Madras and proceeded to Coimbatore the same day along with the Commissioner of Labour. He met the representatives of both the parties on 12th January 1947 and tried his best to intervene and

effect a settlement of the dispute apart from the award of the Adjudicator which cannot be questioned under the law. At the Prime Minister's request, action was postponed pending further discussions at Madras. The parties met the Prime Minister at Madras on 17th January 1947, 18th January 1947 to 1st February 1947 and 7th February 1947 and voluntarily agreed to discuss the matter further amongst themselves, the discussion covering not only the question of bonus but other matters affecting future peace in the industry.

The Prime Minister was glad of this decision and he desired the parties to come to a voluntary agreement and it was understood after the discussion on 7th February 1947 that the strike would be postponed to a date after 12th February 1947 but the strike was declared on 12th February 1947.

Except the workers of Gnanambika Mills in Vellakinar about 5 miles from Coimbatore and two mills in Tiruppur (Dhanalakshmi Mills and Asher Textiles), the workers of the textile mills in Coimbatore went on strike. The strike was called off on 21st February 1947 on the interventior of the Premier.

The Commissioner of Labour has recommended to Government that the dispute between the workers and the management of the Standard Furniture Co., Ltd., Kallai, regarding increased wages, reinstatement of workers, etc., may be referred to the District and Sessions Judge, South Malabar, for adjudication under the Defence of India Rules. The workers of the factory who struck work on 10th February 1947 have been advised to resume work pending the orders of Government.

It is reported that the tile workers of South Kanara (Mangalore) have struck work from 7th February 1947. The Labour Officer, Calicut, has gone to Mangalore to settle the dispute. The District Magistrate, South Kanara, has been requested to assist the Labour Officer in settling the dispute on the lines of the settlement approved by the Commissioner of Labour at Calicut on 28th January 1947.

The Commissioner of Labour has recommended to Government that the dispute between the workers and the management of the India Ceramics, Limited, Nellore, may be referred to the District and Sessions Judge, Nellore, for adjudication under rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules. Eighty-five out of 145 workers of the factory who struck work on 10th February 1947 have been advised to resume work pending the orders of Government.

The workers of the Mahalakshmi Textiles Limited, Pasumalai, struck work on 28th January 1947 as a protest against the refusal of the management to pay the interim relief to textile workers sanctioned by Government in their Order Ms. No. 4637, Development, dated 18th December 1946. The Commissioner of Labour, Madras, has recommended to Government that the management may be directed to give effect to the terms of the award.

The contract labour working in quarries of the Coimbatore Cement Works, Madukkarai, struck work on 9th December 1946, demanding higher rates of pay, the payment of dearness allowance and bonus, shorter working hours, the provision of accommodation and the other facilities and the supply of gunpowder and fuse at the rates at which the company sold them. Various efforts have been made to effect an amicable settlement but all these failed.

It was represented to the Government that as an Adjudicator found recently in favour of abolition of contract labour, the workers would go back to work, if the Government made it clear to them that they proposed to implement the award.

The Government have made it clear that the acceptance of award by them was tantamount to an assurance that the findings of the award would be implemented. They have assured the workers that management will be moved in the matter of supply of gunpowder and fuse at the Company's rates. The quarry workers resumed work on 12th February 1947.

The Government of Madras have informed the management of the Coimbatore Cement Company, Madukkarai, that the practice of obtaining labour through contractors is undesirable and should not be permitted.

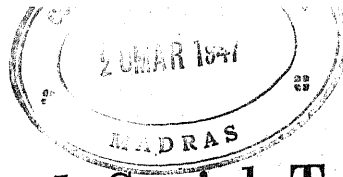
The Secretary, Metal Workers' Union, Shoranur, has wired that the dispute between the workers and the management of the Shoranur Metal Industries, Limited, Shoranur, has been settled and that the workers who were on strike from 9th January 1947 have resumed work on 13th February 1947.

The dispute between the workers and the management of the New Era Manufacturing Company, Limited, Palghat, has been settled and the workers who were on strike from 23rd December 1946 called off the strike on 4th February 1947.

II. Education

Elementary Education.—The Government have ordered that with effect from 1st January 1947 grants to aided elementary schools should be paid

(Continued on page 17)



[MARCH 15, 1947]

Insurance, A Sacred Social Trust

Hon'ble Mr. Kumaraswamy Raja's Address

[The following is the address delivered by the Hon'ble Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja, Minister for Agriculture, at the South India Insurance Association on 3rd February 1947.]

Insurance is a term which literally means "making oneself safe against" something but it is specially used in connexion with making financial provision against certain risks in business or life. Technological advance has brought with it new and formerly unknown dangers to life and property.

The essence of insurance lies in the elimination of the uncertain risk of loss for the individual by means of foresight and co-operation with other members of the society. A large number of similarly exposed individuals combine together and each contributes to a common fund small sums sufficient to make good the loss caused to any one individual. The economic function of insurance is not the elimination of the risk, because some of them are beyond the control of man, but rather the substitution of a known small loss for an uncertain large loss.

The necessary pre-requisites of a sound system of insurance are a clear knowledge of the nature of the risk, its probable occurrence and the resulting loss. In the case of losses caused by fire or ship-wreck, accurate measurement of the loss is possible for the value of the building gutted or the cargo lost by the ship-wreck can be easily calculated. In the case of human life, although accurate estimate of the loss of earning power is difficult to arrive at, a fixed value, previously agreed upon, may be paid. Devices resembling insurance were not unknown in antiquity. In Imperial Rome there existed Collegia, associations of artisans, which paid the surviving dependents of their members a funeral sum in return for the payment of an initiation fee and monthly premiums. The medieval guilds had also devised methods to protect their members from unforeseen accidents or death which might otherwise leave their dependents in utter destitution. The first glimmerings of marine insurance are found among the ancient Greeks. Money was advanced on a ship or cargo, to be repaid with large interest if the voyage prospered, but not repaid at all, if the ship be lost, the rate of interest being made high enough to pay not only for the use of the capital but for the risk of losing it.

Origins of the system

I have referred to the origins of insurance only to show that human mind has been always in

search of mitigating, if not eliminating, the risks which have necessarily to be met within the ordinary business of life. This search for methods of avoiding the losses due to risks has attained a high degree of success only in recent times. Since the middle of the last century, the practice of insurance extended with unprecedented rapidity, partly in novel forms. Fire and marine insurance has been in vogue from the middle ages. The period between the beginning of the eighteenth century and the middle of the nineteenth witnessed the establishment of insurance companies on the joint stock basis. In the latter half of the last century, social insurance was developed in Germany where Bismark introduced sickness insurance and accident insurance in 1884 and old age insurance in 1889.

In Advanced Countries

At present in all advanced countries, insurance occupies a prominent position. The success of industry in a country is both fostered and measured by the degree to which insurance has been developed. In the decade prior to the war in the U.S.A., the aggregate insurance premiums of all classes of carriers for all types of risk was nearly 6,000 million dollars annually. The advantages of insurance are too well known to need elaboration. Society as a whole benefits through the accumulation of capital reserves which will make good the loss resulting from the destruction of valuable assets. In 1945 the total premium income from non-life business in India amounted to Rs. 9.20 crores, and that from life business was of the order of Rs. 28 crores. The assets of the Indian insurers exceeded Rs. 137.8 crores on 31st December 1945. These figures will indicate how small dribblets of premium payments make a mighty reservoir of investable funds. In life insurance, reserves assume the greatest importance and they may be utilized for the industrial development of this country which will exert an insatiable demand for capital. The insurance companies are the greatest institutional investors and as such they do a great service to the country.

The second advantage of insurance is that in so far as risks associated with business are eliminated or completely covered, the credit of the

business firm is strengthened and the business costs are lowered. Thus unit costs are reduced and the consumers as a class are benefited by the availability of goods at cheaper prices. The third and the chief advantage of insurance is that it enables the individual to obviate poverty and destitution for himself and his dependents through mutual action.

In India

Insurance in India has grown and expanded remarkably in the inter-war period. Especially in the decade prior to the war, the total business remaining in force rose from Rs. 82 crores at the end of 1929 to Rs. 219 crores in 1938, registering an average annual increase of Rs. 13·7 crores. After a slight set back in the first two years of war due to the unsettled conditions, there has been a substantial improvement. But there is no reason for self-complacency. In this connexion, I would like to point out certain lacunae in the insurance business in our country, which need early rectification. The non-Indian insurance companies, especially in non-life business, have a disproportionately large share. Of the total premium income of Rs. 9·20 crores in 1946, Rs. 4·26 crores or about 46 per cent goes to the non-Indian concerns. About 101 insurers out of 340 operating in India in 1946 were constituted outside India. It is interesting to note that 86 out of 101 non-Indian companies are engaged only in business other than life while 152 out of 239 Indian concerns do only life business. Although the dominance of foreign concerns has been reduced since the first decade of the present century, much leeway has to be made by Indian insurance.

The second defect in the Indian insurance structure is the almost complete neglect of the agricultural sector of our national economy. As a Minister in charge of Agriculture, I strongly feel that the greatest risks to which the ryot is exposed should be covered by a system of insurance. The sudden death of his cattle and the failure of crops due to one or other of the various reasons are the twin-evils which must be remedied by a scientific development of insurance. It is common knowledge that the principle of mutuality is the corner stone of the insurance system. The more numerous the individuals of each class who share the risk, the more exactly can it be estimated and the more cheaply can it be covered, and protection administered. With regard to cattle and crop insurance a vast unexplored field remains open. If private enterprise and initiative do not come forward to do good to the ryots and harvest decent profits for

themselves, the Government will have to undertake it sooner rather than later.

The third major deficiency in the Indian insurance system is the tardy growth of social insurance. Ever since the publication of the monumental report on Social Insurance and Allied Services by Sir William (now Lord) Beveridge, the problem has assailed the minds of the greatest social reformers and Governments in all countries especially the U.S.A. and Canada.

Social Insurance

Social insurance is an omnibus term which includes an adequate cover against all the well-known contingencies from which workers or people might probably suffer and which deprive them of the opportunity to earn. The chief constituent of a comprehensive social insurance system are (1) sickness insurance, (2) maternity insurance, (3) industrial accident insurance, relating to accidents met with in the course of doing one's allotted work, (4) non-industrial accident insurance, (5) invalidity insurance, (6) unemployment insurance, (7) old age insurance and (8) survivorship insurance. India is admittedly one of the most backward countries in regard to social insurance. The need for such insurance had been stressed ever since the Royal Commission on Labour submitted their report. The Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923 provides for industrial accidents, but in the practical administration it suffers, as the Maternity Benefits Acts do, from numerous defects. No country, deemed civilised, can tolerate the working classes to live under perpetual fear of unemployment, sickness and accident. The wage earners are very poorly paid; yet a system of compulsory insurance requiring a low rate of payment from the workers and a heavier rate from the employers, supported by the Government, is an urgent need. I may add that social insurance is not so much a new principle as the combination of various elements which may be found separately in individual insurance, whether private or mutual; three prominent characteristics of social insurance are compulsion, partial support by the treasury funds and the levy upon employers for premium payments.

The rectification of these defects will enable Indian insurance to expand in an unprecedented degree in the next decade or two. Hence none can deny that a great future lies ahead of insurance workers in this country. Rapid industrialization, which is held as the objective by the Governments as well as public will create further opportunities

(Continued on page 19)

Reconstituted Milk Factory Opened

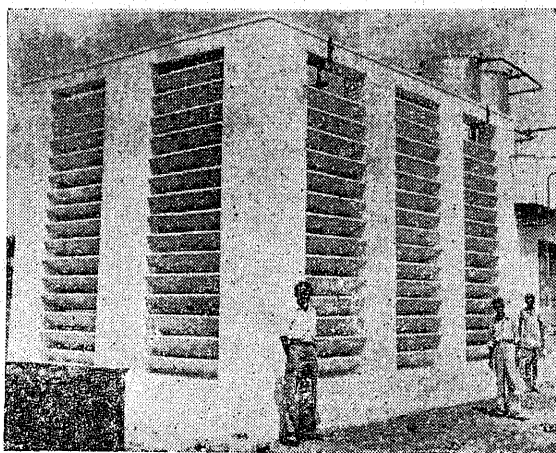
The Government of Madras have opened a Reconstituted Milk Factory at Saidapet. The opening ceremony took place on the 16th of January, with Mr. W. Scott Brown, then Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras in the chair.

Messrs. Binny & Co., had taken up the scheme after visiting several countries and acquainting himself with the methods of production of reconstituted milk. He hoped that his venture would ease the milk situation in Madras.



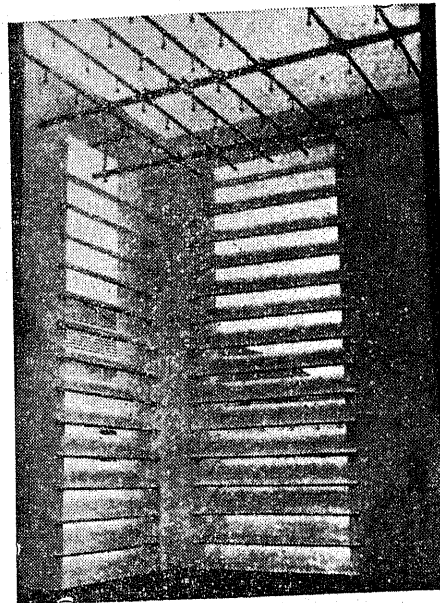
Factory view

Mr. C. H. Masterman, Commissioner of Civil Supplies, said the need for more milk has been felt in Madras for a very long time. He thanked Messrs. Binny & Co., for this venture, which they had undertaken on behalf of the Government.



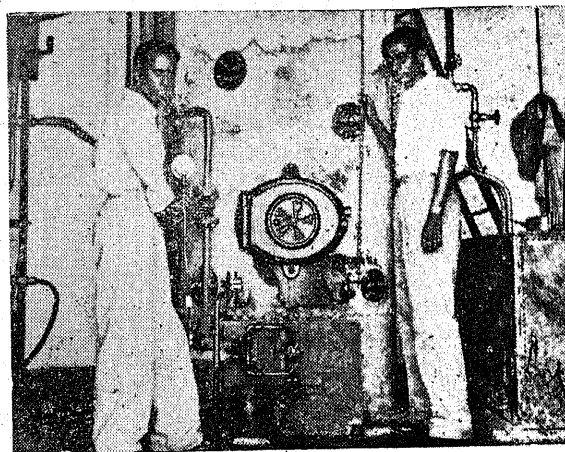
Spray tower and overhead tank

Mr. Scott Brown, said the people of Madras had been suffering for want of pure milk. It was gratifying that Mr. R. W. Theobald, Director of



*Inside view
of the spray
tower*

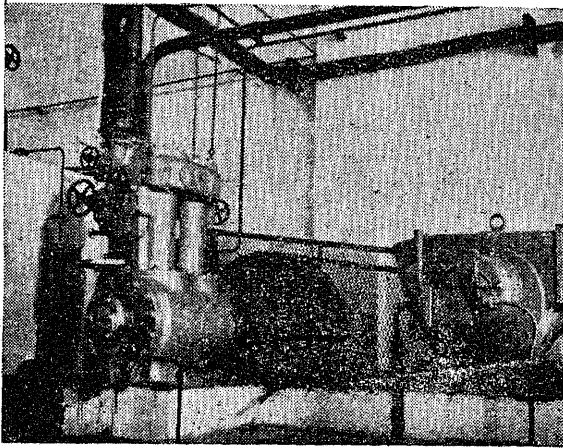
Mr. R. W. Theobald said about 18 months ago, he visited Ceylon, and first learnt of the



Boiler

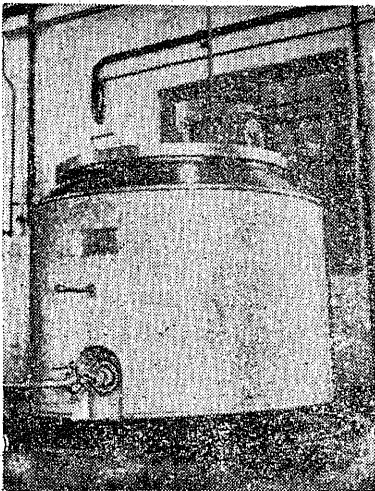
great possibilities of reconstituting powdered-milk into a delicious beverage. He visited a factory

run by the Colombo Cold Store Company, and was asked if he would like to taste a glass of reconstituted milk. He asked what was in it and was told water, milk-powder, deodorised coconut oil, and vitamin content. To him it did not sound



Refrigeration room showing the compressor, motor and Brine tank

very attractive, but he was persuaded to try a glass, and it was so nice that he immediately asked for another.

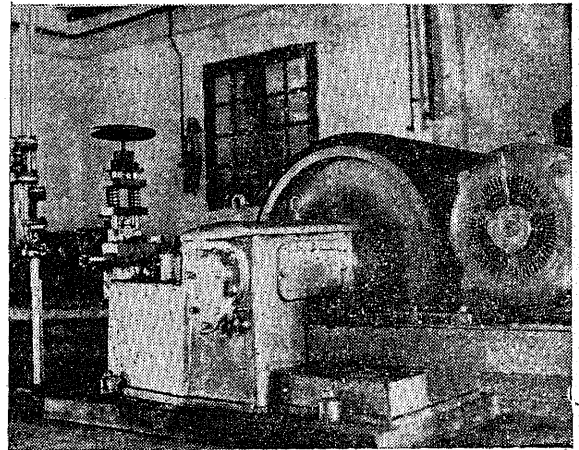


Steam vat (pasteuriser) in this vat, separated milk-powder, vegetable fat and Vitamin A with the proportionate quantity of water are heated up to 145 to 150 degrees for half an hour

He was then told that the labourers working in the factory were given a bottle of milk every day, and there had been a remarkable improvement in their physical condition. Hundreds of gallons of this milk were sold daily to the people of Ceylon,

The milk for the well-to-do people had the fat-content returned by the additions of butter imported from Australia, but there was nothing to choose between the two grades. He thought that here was an opportunity provided it could be worked in Madras.

Mr. Theobald hoped that many more factories of this type would be in operation soon. It had



Homogeniser.—This ensures complete emulcification of the mixture coming out of the steam vat under a pressure of 1,400 lb.

been proved beyond doubt that the milk supplied brought health and renewed life and vigour to those who drank it and there was no need for the Government to incur any loss. The schemes would pay for themselves.



Milk cooler.—This serves cool the milk pumped out of the homogeniser 40 degrees, and the milk cooled is collected in sterilised cans and pint bottles

The plant was capable of producing 75 gallons of milk every hour. The additional plant which

(Continued on page 17.)

Intensive Procurement

Need for it

The Madras Province was deficit in foodgrains even during the pre-war years which was made up by imports chiefly from Burma and other Eastern countries. The average net import of rice per year during the five years ending 1939-40 was 451,000 tons and of millets 9,600 tons. With the stoppage of imports on the outbreak of war with Japan, the Province had to face a serious problem in regard to the supply of rice and millets. Ceylon, Travancore, Cochin, Mysore and parts of Bombay which depended for their imports on Burma and Eastern countries to a great extent for their requirements, began to draw their supplies from this Province, thus creating a serious situation in the Province by 1942. To tide over this serious situation the Government started a drive to grow more food by bringing new areas under food-crops, increasing double-crop cultivation, diverting areas under non-foodcrops to foodcrops, executing irrigation projects to bring more areas under cultivation and granting loans to cultivators. The Government have assumed the responsibility for the proper distribution of foodgrains grown in, and imported into, the Province.

The entire province is now under food rationing. Rationing is of two kinds—Statutory and informal. The latter is otherwise known as rural rationing. The general features of the forms of rationing are practically the same, the main difference being that rural rationing dispenses with a number of forms, reports and rules. It also enables changes in rationing temporarily with reference to the supply position without the necessity to observe any formality. The object of rationing in either case is to make an equitable distribution of the supplies available.

As the State has taken up the task of rationing, the duty is cast on it to have sufficient stocks of foodgrains for distribution to the public through ration shops. This policy adopted by the Government is in accordance with the recommendation of the Famine Enquiry Commission which emphasised that the problem of food supply and nutrition are fundamental and must at all times be the primary concern of the Government. It also suggested that in times of emergency the surplus of foodgrains grown by the producer should, after his needs have been met, be regarded as the property of the community. It further observed that monopoly procurement by the State under which the surplus of every producer is at the

disposal of the Government is the only satisfactory system of procurement.

Two different schemes of procurement were introduced, one in rice surplus districts and the other in the deficit districts. In the surplus districts purchases were made for supplies to the deficit districts. In the deficit districts the system of monopoly purchase and distribution was in force. Owing to the general failure of the monsoon in the province in 1946 and owing to the damage caused to crops by the cyclone in October 1946 in the circars, the need to procure the entire surplus in the rice surplus districts arose. Side by side with procurement, district-wide rationing was also introduced throughout the Province.

The main features of the procurement scheme are these—

Every producer and every person who receives produce as rent or interest or repayment of loan in kind is required to sell the surplus of such foodgrains as determined by the Collector or any officer authorised by him for the purpose to an agent appointed and notified by the Collector. The surplus with each producer is worked out by village karnams by means of special registers known as A, B and C registers. In determining the surplus allowance is made for (i) consumption by the producer and his household at 1 lb. per day per adult, (ii) payment of rent or interest in kind, (iii) payment to his tenant by way of advance for agricultural expenses, (iv) wages in kind, and (v) seeds for cultivation.

The scale for the allowance for agricultural expenses and seeds is fixed by the Collector with reference to the conditions prevailing in his district. After working out the surplus a notice is served on the producer to deliver it to the agent appointed by the Collector at the price notified by him.

Procurement was originally entrusted to private merchants who worked under the supervision of the district Revenue and Civil Supplies staff. In most of the districts the Wholesale Co-operative Stores are now the agencies for procurement. In G.O. No. 450, Food Department, dated 11th June 1946, the Government directed that with a view to render the food administration popular and effective non-officials should be associated with the work. Village, Taluk and District Committees were formed in every district with a view to exercise an effective check over the equitable

distribution of foodgrains. The Government also directed that procurement work should be entrusted as far as possible to co-operative institutions with a view to foster the co-operative spirit among the villagers. Wherever a co-operative organization is unable to cope with the procurement work, private wholesalers are functioning.

With a view to eliminate middlemen and reduce the overhead charges, Producers-cum-Consumers' Societies were first formed in Malabar district in June 1946 for the purpose of procuring the surplus foodgrains and for their distribution as also of imported foodgrains. The societies have been completely organized and they have started work. With the experience gained in Malabar, the Government introduced a scheme in the delta districts of West Godavari, East Godavari, Kistna and Guntur in November 1946. A Special Officer of the grade of a Deputy Commissioner with the assistance of the district officials and District Food Reorganization Officers has been engaged in forming the societies. With the complete formation of these societies it is expected that all the surplus in these delta areas will be procured by the societies which will distribute them locally and also export the surplus. The profits will go to the societies' funds.

The present policy of the Government is to eliminate middle-men in other areas also by entrusting the work to co-operative organizations and it is expected that gradually the co-operative organizations will take up the entire work. It is not possible to form societies in each and every village immediately as the Co-operative department cannot find the staff to control them. Until such time as the societies are formed private merchants will have to be employed on the work. The members of the village, taluk and district committees have been empowered to inspect the stocks in depots and ration shops to see whether they are adequate.

The surplus of each village is to be determined by the village committee and is to be passed by the taluk committee. The taluk committee has the power to enhance the surplus determined by the village committee if it finds the figure is low. If any producer is not satisfied with the decision of the village committee he may appeal to the taluk committee. The taluk committee will send the summaries of the village surplus to the district committee from time to time. The district committee will scrutinize the assessments settled in the taluk and finalize the position in the district. The Collector will revise the list in consultation with the district committee if he finds that the estimates made by the taluk committees are low. The

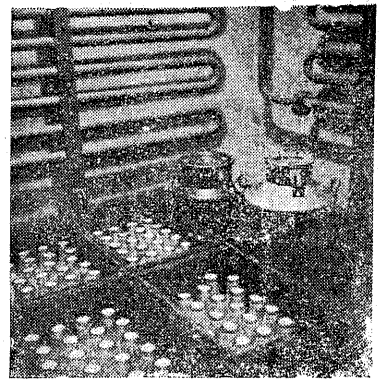
functions of the village, taluk and district committees are more or less advisory and they are expected to render assistance to the district staff employed on procurement work.

Reconstituted milk factory opened

(Continued from page 15)

had been ordered, and should be in Madras about April this year, would increase the output to 225 gallons per hour.

Cold store room.—Shows the cans and bottles kept inside it ready for issue. This room is always kept below 40 degrees



A complete bottle-washer sterilizer and filler had been ordered, and should be working in the next few months.

If the day came when there would be plenty of milk the same factory could be used and milk kept good in the coldrooms.

Future schemes could be housed in buildings specially built for the purpose. There should be one pattern for the whole Presidency. That would enable prices to be cut to the minimum. Future schemes could be worked out for approximately 20 per cent less than the present.

Mr. Scott Brown then turned the handles of two electric pipes through which the reconstituted milk poured out. Mr. Brown humorously remarked: "This cow does not kick, but gives pure milk."

(Continued from page 11)

monthly instead of quarterly. The grant for January and February 1947 will be paid in April 1947 and monthly payments will be made in succeeding months.

The first meeting of the Provincial Advisory Board of Education was held on 18th January 1947 in Madras. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister opened the Conference.

Madras City Firewood Rationing Scheme

As a result of the war there was a very great demand for Casuarina wood, junglewood poles, etc., and consequently most of the Casuarina topes and junglewood plantations in the Chingleput, South Arcot and Nellore districts were felled and the stock sold for very high prices. This wholesale exploitation naturally affected adversely the supplies of firewood to Madras City and in November 1943 the City experienced a fuel famine and the poor people found it impossible to obtain fuel for their domestic requirements. The rapid increase in the City's population and consequently the increase in the City's requirements was also a contributory factor, leading to a fuel crisis. The Government therefore decided to introduce a scheme of statutory rationing of firewood and the scheme was brought into force from 5th February 1944.

By introducing statutory rationing the Government have assumed the responsibility for the procurement, reception, storage and issues of firewood to the civil population and establishments in the City. The scale of rations allowed to the civilian cardholders is as follows :—

	<i>Quantity allowed per mensem. GUNDUS.</i>
Group I (monthly income of Rs. 30 and below)—	
Category I (1—49 units of food ration)	2
Category II (50—126 units of food ration)	3
Category III (above 126 units of food ration)	3
Group II (monthly income of Rs. 31—50)—	
Category I	3
" II	3
" III	3
Group III (monthly income of Rs. 51—100)—	
Category I	3
" II	4
" III	5
Group IV (monthly income of Rs. 101—200)—	
Category I	5
" II	6
" III	7

	<i>Quantity allowed per mensem. GUNDUS.</i>
Group V (monthly income of Rs. 201—500)—	
Category I	7
" II	8
" III	9
Group VI (monthly income of Rs. 501—1,000)—	
Category I (1—126 units)	10
" II (above 126 units)	12
Group VII (monthly income of Rs. 1,000)—	
Category I (1—126 units)	12
" II (above 126 units)	15

For establishments a total quantity of 3,000 tons per mensem is set apart and the City Firewood Rationing Officer passes indents in respect of each establishment within the total quantity allotted.

The total quantity of firewood required by the Madras City for issues is estimated at 24,000 tons per mensem as indicated below :—

	TONS.
For issues to civil population	20,000
For issues to establishments	3,000
Provision for dryage in stocks at 4 per cent	920
	23,920
	or
	24,000

The above quantity of firewood is mostly obtained from private forests, Government forests and Panchayat forests in the adjacent districts of Chingleput, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, North Arcot, Chittoor, Cuddapah and Nellore. The quantity proposed to be drawn in 1947-48 is about 14,500 tons from private forests, 9,000 tons from Government forests and about 2,500 tons from Panchayat forests. As the full quota of supplies cannot be expected from all sources, in view of various difficulties—transport, seasonal weather conditions, fall of water level in the Buckingham canal, non-supply of wagons by the Railway, dearth of labour, etc.—it is often found necessary to draw special bulk supplies from

distant sources like Malabar and Cochin, to build up reserve stocks.

Under the scheme of statutory rationing the Government are bound to issue firewood to all cardholders in accordance with the prescribed scale. In case there is a breakdown in supplies owing to dislocation of Railway communication, it will not be possible to maintain the rationing arrangement unless there is a reserve buffer stock. The Government, as a matter of policy, are maintaining a reserve stock up to 30,000 tons, which stock is rotated periodically so that the loss on account of dryage may be kept at the minimum possible.

The following statement shows the total receipts and issues of firewood in the calendar year 1946 :—

1946—	Receipts.		Issues.	
	TONS.		TONS.	
January	21,279	21,433		
February	10,773	19,335		
March	13,008	20,081		
April	13,548	18,802		
May	17,967	18,140		
June	26,571	17,133		
July	23,650	19,461		
August	25,012	19,955		
September	25,995	19,356		
October	25,983	22,054		
November	18,130	21,673		
December	8,365	22,843		

The firewood received by Rail is issued mostly to retail dealers at the Railway yard and the surplus quantity is diverted to the Government depots at Basin Bridge, Perambur and Egmore for storage. The firewood received by canal is stored at the respective depots, viz., Basin Bridge Depot and the Adyar Depot. The Government's overhead charges in maintaining the Government Firewood Depots, and the officers of the Rationing and issue branch, the patrol staff and the Firewood Movement Officers in the interim districts, are estimated at Rs. 5-12-0 per ton. The Government are bearing themselves this expenditure without passing it on to the consumer. The Government are also bearing the charges on the transport of firewood in Civil Supplies lorries to the retailers' shops and a portion of the retailer's overhead charges. The total subsidy on this account is estimated at Rs. 5-4-0 per ton. All this is being done by Government with a view to keep the price of firewood, an essential commodity, as low as possible, so that the poorer section of the

population may not suffer. The present retail selling price of firewood in the City is as follows :—

		Per gundri.	
		RS. A. P.	
Inferior wood	0 11 0		
Jungle wood	0 11 6		
Casuarina wood	0 12 6		

The total subsidy borne by Government on account of the rationing of firewood in Madras City in 1943-44 was 1.22 lakhs, in 1944-45, 13.58 lakhs, in 1945-46, 24.5 lakhs. The subsidy estimated in 1946-47 is 24.30 lakhs.

The Government have now sanctioned the continuance of the scheme of rationing in Madras City for a further period of six months from 1st April 1947.

INSURANCE, A SACRED SOCIAL TRUST

(Continued from page 13)

for the development of insurance. When the prospect is so attractive, it is necessary to maintain a rigid discipline among the insurance workers lest the whole field should be infested with adventurers and selfish profit-seekers. Insurance is strictly speaking a quasi-public utility. It must be organised and worked as a sacred trust. The expense ratio and commission must be kept down as low as possible. The good of the community must be held as the paramount objective. You have before you a great and glorious opportunity to serve the community. By your unstinting work, you help to save thousands of families from destitution and misery. Your work is noble and elevating.

I am very anxious that the Province of Madras should forge ahead of other provinces in regard to Insurance of all types. We are lagging in many directions particularly in business other than life. Our Province can take its rightful place in this field only by your sustained efforts. An Association of this type, I am confident, will help you immensely in all your endeavours. I pray for a long, vigorous and prosperous life for the Association.

RE-SETTLEMENT NEWS

Chingleput

The District Employment office is functioning in this district with effect from 1st January 1947. The Assistant Manager in charge of the District Employment office has interviewed 343 ex-service men during the fortnight and registered them for employment. The total number registered up to the end of the fortnight is 3,249 and the number placed in civil employment is 464.

Trichinopoly

So far 94 ex-servicemen have remitted the initial share capital amount of Rs. 26,393-12-0 and registered their names for selection as members of the Trichinopoly Motor Transport Co-operative Society. By-laws have been received from the Regional Director, Madras, and a preliminary meeting to explain them and to get their signatures on the applications have been posted to 24th February 1947. It is hoped that this society will be functioning very soon.

Madras

The number of ex-servicemen registered from 1st to 14th February 1947 is 680. During this period, demands for these men numbering 115 were received from various offices in the city for appointment and in most cases they have been complied with.

A co-operative society for tailors' (ex-servicemen) has been formed and it has started working. A sum of Rs. 31,000 has been collected for the proposed Motor Transport Co-operative Society.

South Kanara

Out of nearly 6,000 persons recruited from the district of South Kanara, 2,082 persons have registered their names for civil employment after having returned home on demobilization.

Five hundred and eighteen persons out of these, have been placed in employment, 111 have started their own business or are not in need of assistance, 75 have left the district seeking employment elsewhere and 1,378 remain to be employed.

Cuddapah

Fifty five ex-servicemen have been registered during the fortnight bringing the total number registered to 1,544. The number of ex-servicemen placed in employment during the fortnight is 31, and the total number appointed up to the fortnight is 410. The placements so far made in Governments are temporary. On 8th February,

the Special Assistant and the District Superintendent of Police jointly selected 9 candidates for constables' posts.

The Special Assistant, Ex-servicemen Resettlement, toured in Proddatur and Rayachoti taluks, contacted the ex-servicemen and discharged war workers and gave them suitable advice and instructions. Propaganda is being done to popularise the proposed Motor Transport Co-operative Societies for ex-servicemen.

The land colony at Pullampet is being got ready. Trial borings have been made ready for six wells. Two irrigation wells and one drinking water well are under execution. The matter is under correspondence with the Brigadier, Headquarters, Vizagapatam sub-area, with regard to the availability of Army bull dozers for reclaiming the scrub growth in colonization area. Thirty applications for membership in the Land Colonization Co-operative Society have been received.

Nellore

Nineteen ex-servicemen have been submitted for employment during the fortnight. Four ex-servicemen have been placed in employment and three have found work.

Tanjore

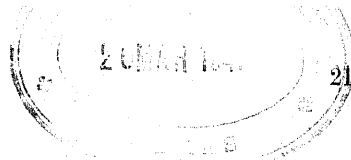
The Government have started the Kumbakonam Co-operative Metal Works for providing employment for discharged ex-services personnel. The institution has been registered under the Co-operative Societies Act. Membership is open to all discharged ex-services personnel who have had at least six months service in units and who had undergone training in any metal trade under the Government of India Technical Training Scheme. The ultimate total number of members of the society is 200 with a share capital of Rupees 40,000. There are now eighty members.

The Government have sanctioned the settlement of about 285 ex-servicemen in agricultural employment in a land colony at Thirumangalakkotai east and west villages of Pattukkottai taluk in this district.

Salem

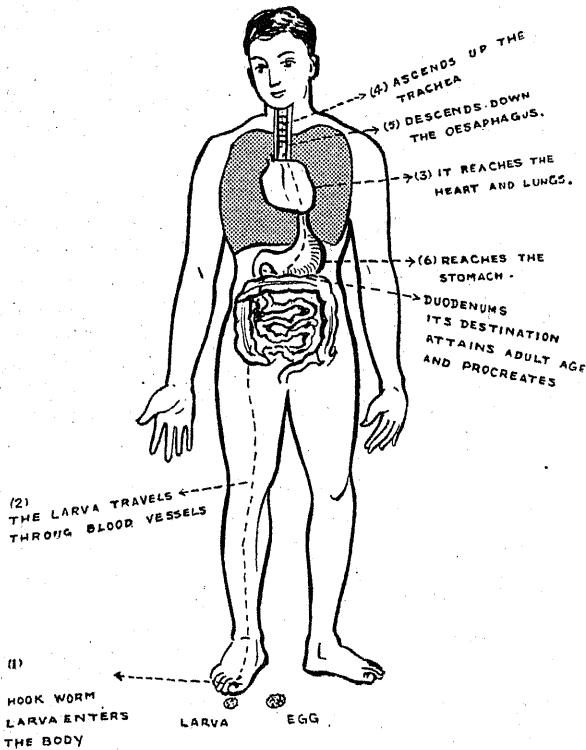
For the fortnight under report, 283 ex-servicemen have registered themselves in the District Employment office at Salem. During the fortnight, 13 men have been placed in different jobs.

(Continued on page 28)



Hook-worm infection and its prevention

By DR. V. KRISHNAMURTHI RAO, D.M. & S., L.P.H.
(Municipal Health Officer, Dindigul.)



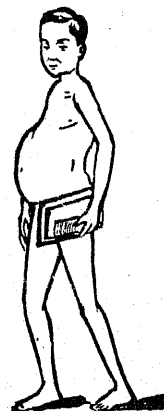
Hook-worm disease is widely prevalent in tropical and sub-tropical countries and it is considered that in India a majority of the population is infected with hook-worm. The disease is due to careless filthy habits and can be cured and prevented easily.

Life cycle of worm.—The rural and even urban folk of India do not hesitate to commit nuisance around dwelling houses, river banks, tank bunds, road margins, open fields and almost anywhere, and some of them being infected with hook-worm the eggs are deposited on the ground in large numbers along with faeces. These eggs hatch into infective worm like larvae and begin to move about. The peculiarity of this larvae is that it can move vertically up the blades of the grass, leaves, etc. These larvae bore through the delicate skin between the toes of the feet of persons who walk bare footed and thus produce ground itch (an itching sore on the foot which

lasts only for a few days). A papule at the site of the entrance of the worm, if infected with other pus-producing germs, may develop into a sore. The larvae thus gaining access into the lymphatics and blood stream enter into the heart and then into the lungs and ascend up the wind-pipe (trachea), being caught in small capillaries, and descend down the gullet (pharynx) and oesophagus (food-tube) and are swallowed back into the stomach where they undergo certain changes and reach the upper parts of the intestines called duodenum and jejunum. There they attain maturity and develop into adult male and female hook-worms and procreate.

The adult hook-worm will be $\frac{1}{2}$ " long and looks like a stitching thread. The anterior part of the hook-worm at the head is bent like a hook from which it derives its name "Hook-worm." The female is bigger than the male and ash grey or black in colour owing to sucking of blood. In the small intestine of man these adult worms bite the inner layer (mucosa) and cling to the intestinal wall. They break capillaries and set up neurosis and oozing of blood in different parts. The worms live on human blood causing bloodlessness (anaemia) which later on leads to general debility. Due to oozing of blood in the intestine the stools are coloured dark (malena).

Symptoms of infection.—The earliest symptoms are indigestion and dyspepsia with occasional dull pain in the abdomen.

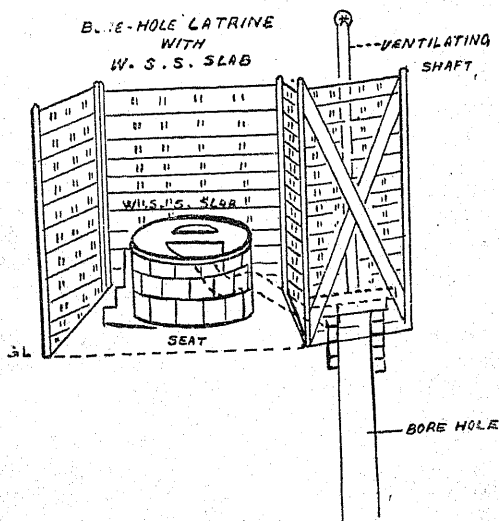


A HOOK WORM PATIENT.

Anaemia later develops as the parasites live on the blood of the host. Due to anaemia there is extreme weakness and the patient complains of laziness from the start. In advanced cases severe anaemia, dropsy, palpitation and difficult breathing are noticed. The patient has a tendency to eat articles like ash, mud, etc., which is not eaten normally.

Prevention.—Sanitary education of the public contributes a great share in the prevention of diseases and especially hook-worm infection. Indiscriminate defaecation should be put an end to by extensive propaganda. Construction of proper latrines in every dwelling house should be insisted upon. In rural areas where the services of a scavenger could not be secured bore-hole latrines connected with a water seal should be constructed as shown in the figure.

Bore-hole latrines.—This latrine could be constructed easily at a very little cost. A long deep hole (12 to 20 feet long) with a diameter of 14" is



dug with the aid of a special borer in earth and its upper portion is elevated to prevent entry of rain water into the bore-hole. The bore-hole is connected with the hole in the W.S.S. (water seal squatting) slab in the elevated platform by a chute. The top of the bore-hole is covered with a lid and

fitted with a ventilator. (See Fig. 3). To secure privacy a zinc sheet or bamboo thatty or mud wall enclosure is erected. This latrine should be at least 50 feet away from drinking water sources. As soon as the bore-hole gets filled up to about 3 feet below the ground level it should be covered with earth and a similar bore-hole made near it. After six months the closed bore-hole contents when dug out by the same borer yields valuable manure to the farmer. The latrine can be shifted from one place to another similarly at any time and the manure saved. The advantages of this bore-hole latrines are—

it is (1) Hygienic, (2) clean, (3) cheap, (4) can be accommodated in very little space, (5) yields manure to the fields, and (6) there is no need of the services of the scavenger.

(2) *Foot wear.*—Wearing of slippers or stockings and shoes is not in vogue in rural parts. Even though it is not a very effective preventive method this may be encouraged. The larvae of hook-worm are said to enter through the stitch holes of shoes.

(3) *Treatment.*—The adult worm should be destroyed by extensive treatment of infected persons. Periodic microscopic examination of stools of these infected persons should be continued after treatment. Routine examination of stools of inmates of boarding houses and servants in mills, factories, hospitals, etc., are to be done and treatment given. Calcium lactose and glucose mixture is given before treatment to strengthen the liver. The next day a mixture of oleum chenopodium and carbon tetrochloride is given in 3 or 2 ounce of concentrated mogsulph solution. This paralyzes the adult hook-worms in the intestines and they lose their hold from the intestinal mucosa and are driven out by the purgative. On reaching the ground they die owing to the tropical heat of the sun.

Balanced Diet

What do we mean by a balanced diet? We mean one that contains all the essentials for the promotion of growth and the maintenance of health. We are beginning to realize more fully the necessity for this as we see the life span being prolonged by improved methods of medicine, surgery and nutrition. Because we are finding that many more people reach old age only to find themselves beset with physical and mental

conditions which are due to improper diets during their youthful years.

People have tried to approach the planning of balanced diets in several ways. One of the newer methods is to judge your own diet by "the Basic Seven". This means that essential foods have been divided under seven groups and each day's diet must include some food from each

of the seven groups. The "Basic Seven" are as follows:—

Group I.

Green and yellow vegetables; some raw, some cooked. These supply vitamin A as carotene and green leaves supply vitamin C some B vitamins especially B 2 and minerals especially calcium and iron; roughage and attractiveness.

Group II.

Oranges, tomatoes, all citrus fruits, amla, guava, sprouted gram. Vitamin C; but other minerals and vitamins too.

Group III.

Potatoes, yams and other vegetables and fruits raw, dried or cooked. More vitamins, minerals, calories, carbohydrates and variety.

Group IV.

Milk and milk products fluid, evaporated dried milk or cheese. Proteins of high value, calcium and riboflavin or vitamin B2 in larger amounts than any other source; some vitamin A, phosphorus and thiamin in small amounts.

Group V.

Meat, poultry, fish or eggs or dried beans, peas, dhals, grams, soya bean, nuts. Protein—the animal protein being considered somewhat better than the vegetable but all making an important contribution. You get B vitamins. Also iron from liver and kidney. Iodine from salt water fish. Calories.

Group VI.

Cereals, bread, flour, natural whole grain cereals or enriched cereals. B vitamins, some minerals, roughage and calories.

Group VII.

Butter, ghee, or fats to which vitamin A has been added. Vitamin A, essential fatty acids and calories.

If you have some food from each group each day then in addition you can eat any other food you like to satisfy your appetite.

The two groups of people who are most apt to have badly balanced diets are the low economic groups and the highest groups. The lowest groups because they cannot get enough food and the highest groups are often misled because of fads, bad habits formed as children and bad social customs. The people in the lowest level often save themselves by their use of green leafy vegetables while the higher groups eat too many carbohydrates and fats.

The great difficulty with a balanced diet is that it is expensive. At the present prices you cannot have an ideal diet much under Rs. 30 per month per person. A diet can be theoretically balanced using mostly vegetable proteins at approximately Rs. 13 per month. Below this you can get quality but there will not be enough. This means that we have to find ways and means of improving diets at low cost without raising the price so that they will be of the best quality possible at that level.

Where cereals are the main part of the diet, it is very important that several cereals are used as one cereal tends to supplement another, especially in protein. Diets should never contain more than 50 per cent rice and if cereals are used above that they should be ragi, wheat, maize or cholam. Greens or "kerai" can generally play an important part as there is such a variety of edible greens growing in almost any compound and they are very easily grown in any small plot of ground. If you cannot afford oranges or guavas you can sprout green gram and Bengal gram for vitamin C. Using parboiled or home pounded rice and some whole cereal you get phosphorus and part of your B vitamins. There should be some dhal or gram in the diet daily. If possible liver, other meat, fish or eggs should be had at least three times a week. If only small quantities of milk or curds are available and not enough for a whole family they should be reserved for the mother and the growing children. Very often the mother is the worst-fed person as she sees the father and children get their food first and it is the mother that needs the food if she is to produce strong healthy children.

Theoretically a diet can be balanced with raw foods but when the foods are cooked the value may be lost. Do you throw away conjee water and the water vegetables are cooked in? If so, you are throwing away vitamins and minerals that have dissolved in the water. Have you overcooked your vegetables or prepared them half an hour before the meal? If so, your vitamin C

(Continued on page 32.)

India and World Food Plan

By SIR S. V. RAMAMURTHY

The Food and Agricultural Organization—the F.A.O. as it is called—has fifty-four nations as its members. It met in Conference at Copenhagen in August last and appointed a Commission of eighteen nations to prepare a World Food Plan. The United States of America, the United Kingdom and India took the leading part. Among other nations represented were France, Holland, Denmark, Canada, Australia, China, Egypt and Brazil. Russia has not joined the Conference. Argentine sent an observer. Mr. (now Viscount) Bruce was the Chairman and did his duty admirably. It was an education to see how he guided the Conference with the lightest of reins. The leader of the Indian delegation was Dr. Katju. He was keen, intelligent and selfless. As alternate leader, I found it good to work with him.

When he went to Washington, we found that a change had come over the United States of America and United Kingdom in their attitude towards the proposal of Sir John-Boyd Orr, the Director-General of the F.A.O., to establish a World Food Board. Since the Copenhagen conference on food, there was a conference on International Trade in London of the same nations. The desire of the leading Western nations to form a world organization for food had been replaced by the desire to negotiate trade agreements between individual nations. On the first day of our Conference at Washington, everybody was taken aback at the change in view of United States of America and United Kingdom. The smaller nations found it difficult to stand against the lead of the United States of America backed by United Kingdom. India was the only nation which stood firm for the formation of a World Food Board. For two months we stood almost alone. The smaller nations however began to take courage and we found a steady change of sentiment towards our view. When the matter came up for a final decision, United States of America, after watching a whole day's discussion, joined us. United Kingdom followed.

India stepped in to save

It was India that saved the proposal of Sir John Orr that food needed a world organization. We did not support a World Food Council for any benefit we might specially derive from it. We said that India was big enough, strong enough, had enough of resources, to live sufficient unto

herself, even if the rest of the world were not. We stood for a world food council because of our faith in the one world. For thousands of years, it was the basis of our faith that the world was One. Other nations have been seeking the one world of late. But their faith still wavers. They were moving towards the hypothesis of the one world or receding from it as the mood changed. We stood at the centre, firm in our faith, while other nations moved to and fro at the circumference. The formation of a world food council was a translation of Indian faith into world practice.

Having agreed to the formation of a world council for food we got the Conference to agree next to its exercising the same functions in respect of food as the proposed International Trade Organization through its commodity commission could exercise in regard to commodities in general. Food, we argued, is hardly a commodity. It is a vital necessity of life. The Earth is the heritage of all men and no nation has a right to withhold food which it can produce when others starve. It is open to nations to bargain with each other in trade and give or not give their goods in return for others. But in respect of food, it was the welfare of the whole world and not the profit of any nation that was relevant. The spirit of the Food and Agricultural Organization is thus different from the spirit of an International Trade Organization. We insisted that the basic foods, namely, rice, wheat, other cereals and sugar should be under the supervision of the World Food Council and not a trade commission. The final decision that the World Food Council which *can* deal with basic foods *will* deal with them will have to be taken at the next conference of the F.A.O. when the Washington Report will be discussed.

Need for World Board

The need for a world food organization arises in our point of view from the need to feed the hungry and to avoid famines. Member nations therefore are to maintain famine reserves which will be used internationally under the direction of the World Food Council. From the point of view of producing nations, the World Food Council has to so arrange the disposal of food stocks in the world as to prevent a slump when supply exceeds demand, as it will in a couple of years, when

Europe rehabilitates herself. The production potential of the world has been raised during the War years and since. It is no longer permitted by the world conscience to burn excess production or use it for feeding animals or manufacture alcohol when there are hungry men in need of food. Production therefore must be maintained. But slumps must be avoided. We therefore arranged for national buffer stocks which will act in international federation under the direction of the World Food Council.

Buffer stocks, however, correct only seasonal variations in production. It seems likely that there will be continual surpluses of food which cannot be disposed of in normal markets. At the same time there are countries with inadequate nutrition which can consume food, if it is sold to them at prices they can pay. We therefore evolved the method of special prices for sales of such surpluses. A Committee of leading producer nations stated that if they reduced production of food, the cost of production would rise and not fall. It is not therefore to the interest of the normally consuming countries to reduce production. The surplus production can not be consumed by them because their need is not elastic. For instance, the United Kingdom will not eat more wheat if its price is less. They consume all they can at either price—no more and no less. Surplus sales, however, should not be spasmodic, for then no nutritional programme for the under-nourished can be drawn up by countries like India and China. The producing countries therefore agreed to produce a surplus for, say, 3 or 4 or 5 years and sell an agreed quantity at an agreed price lower than the normal price to countries in need of more food. This arrangement at the same time was subject to safeguards by which the normally consuming countries would not have to pay a higher price than they might otherwise.

Our Special Contribution

The device of special prices was one for which the Indian delegation was specially responsible. Here, too, we had to stand alone for two months before the United States of America veered round in its support. It introduces a new principle in production and distribution. It is a human rather than a national arrangement.

When these two provisions were about to be agreed to, Viscount Bruce told Dr. Katju that the Conference was coming round to the Indian view,

Dr. Katju said it was the wisdom of the East. Viscount Bruce called it the wisdom of the ages.

I have a feeling that the wisdom of the East is indeed the wisdom of the ages.

Besides these two provisions, we also pressed for the transfer of rice administration to South-East Asia where 80 per cent of the production and consumption of rice takes place. Indeed, 95 per cent of such production and consumption takes place in Asia and only 5 per cent outside Asia. Rice is the domestic cereal of Asia. Its original home was South-East India and southern China. We claimed that Washington and London were not competent to control rice as they have been doing, due to the exigencies of War. I went last year to Washington to beg for food when India was threatened by a famine, mainly of rice. I was then asked why I came to Washington for rice when it was produced next door to India. I pointed out that tickets for Burmese and Siamese rice could be obtained only at Washington. This time I was determined to end that procedure. I am glad that we got the Conference at Washington to agree to this. A preparatory Committee will meet in India by May to prepare an agenda for an International Rice Conference in South-East Asia, probably in India itself, by July. This transfer of control of rice to Asia is one of the first fruits of the economic autonomy of Asia.

Contact with South America

Before leaving North America, I paid a short visit to South America. Till last year, South America was not relevant for us. But last year Argentine supplied us with maize, and Brazil with rice. At Washington, too, we talked of the One World. South America is a big chunk of the One World. I wished to see its conditions and potentialities. When I visited Argentine and Brazil, I felt as if I had discovered a new Continent. South America in its agricultural condition is an image of India. There is hardly a tree or crop in Madras that does not grow in Brazil. Argentine resembles North India. South America can gain from India greatly improved varieties of its crops and trees. It is worth while for Madras to send one or two Forest officers to bring to us new trees yielding oil seeds and timber of considerable economic value to us. I trust that there will be increased contacts between India and South America to our mutual advantage. It is not Europe but Asia and particularly India that can help to develop South America and thereby increase the world food supply.

Kerala's Contribution to India's Glorious Heritage

By K. V. KRISHNA AYYAR, M.A., L.T.
(Zamorin's College, Calicut.)

Confluence of Many Races

Walled off from the rest of India by the Western Ghats, Kerala, covering an area of 14,826 square miles and comprising British Malabar and the native states of Cochin and Travancore, has been a geographical and cultural unit from very ancient times. Peopled from days when man made his first appearance on this sub-continent, she has within her boundaries representatives of every race and cult in India. Mentioned in the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata*, she had trade relations with Harappa in Sind and Ur in Sumeria from as early as the beginning of *Kali Yuga* (B.C. 3102), spices, teak, and coir being her staple exports. Till the eighteenth century Europe depended on her spices for salting winter food, and on her teak and coir for ship-building and rigging.

On account of her geographical conditions, especially the slope of the land, the flow of peoples had, till the construction of the railway, been only in one direction. Hither came the Aryan colonists under the leadership of the mythical Parasurama. Asoka sent his missionaries to the land of *Keralaputra*, and established hospitals for man and beast. St. Thomas, the Apostle, came by sea and erected the first Christian Church in India at Palayur in British Malabar. The capture of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 68 drove some of the Jews to take refuge in Kerala, and the first synagogue on Indian soil was constructed near the imperial capital of the *Cheras* at Cranganur in the Cochin State. The first converts to Islam in India were also her sons, and the modest mosque at Tiruvanjikkulam, a suburb of Cranganur, was one of the twelve original mosques built by Malik Bin Dinar and his missionary band.

But Kerala did not remain in a mere museum of races and religions. Thanks to the climate, the people became adaptive and eclectic. Their genius was not only receptive but responsive, not only conservative but constructive. Preserving and assimilating whatever came to them they had their own contribution to make to the glorious heritage of India.

Matriarchy

Alone among the civilized peoples of the modern world they retain their ancient matriarchy. Succession to the *gadi* and inheritance to property are still traced through the female. Freedom of women and free love have neither broken up their homes nor made them licentious. Under the stress of the new ideals of the west, polyandry, a sign and symbol of woman's superiority as polygamy is of man's, has indeed retreated to remote and inaccessible nooks and corners, but woman still remains the centre of the household. Matriarchy has been in fact the most decisive factor in Kerala history.

Chavar and Chekavar

Freed from all parental responsibilities and worries, men devoted themselves to a life of war and fighting. The Nayar knew no fear; he sported with death. No foreigner has come to Kerala but has paid his tribute of admiration to the Nayar's bravery and skill in fighting, suppleness of body, agility of limbs, deftness of hand, quickness of eye, and deadliness of the stroke. What the *Kirpan* is to the Sikh, the sword and shield were to the Nayar. The *Chavars* and the *Chekavars* were two of their characteristic institutions. The former were soldiers who were bound by the tenure of their lands to die for their lords; the latter were professional champions who helped the people to decide their disputes by wager of battle. *Chavars* like the sixteen-year old Chandunni, who hurled himself to certain death on the pikes of the serried ranks of the Zamorin's soldiers at Tirunavayi, and *Chekavars* like Odenan, the Robin Hood of Malabar, must be a source of pride and inspiration even to the most warlike nations of the world.

Kalaris

Their military gymnasiums were called *Kalaris*. The *Kalaris* of each *nad* or district—Kerala was divided into eighteen *nads*—specialized in one particular branch of fencing, and some of the passes and thrusts were kept a jealously guarded secret. By a simple touch of the forefinger

they claim to have caused death or permanent disablement, so correct and exhaustive was their knowledge of the *marmas* or vital spots of the human body. At the same time they maintained a high standard of honour in fighting. They never fought after sunset. They never stabbed in the dark or from behind. Ambushes and surprises were unknown to them before the coming of the Portuguese and other Europeans. They even used to inform the enemy in advance of their intended attack.

Religion and Philosophy

In Kerala can be found every variety of belief and worship from the most primitive animism and sympathetic magic to the highly advanced meditation of the *Yogi* and the *Vedantin* without temple, image, or ritual. Vedas and Vedic rites were brought by the Namputiri Brahmins. They first came to Kerala as priests or *Nampis*. They came at a very early date when the custom of performing the annual ceremonies of the departed forefathers according to the asterism, or the constellation in the ascendant at the time of the death, was in vogue, and had not been superseded by the practice of reckoning according to the *Tithi* or lunar phase. It is still incumbent on the eldest son to maintain the sacrificial fire as of old. Isolated and protected against all outside influences by the Western Ghats, the Namputiris still chant the Vedas with the same intonation and accent as their ancestors had done when they entered Kerala.

Kumarila Bhatta brought his *Mimamsa* to Kerala. Prabhakara modified it by rejecting *Abhava* or non-existence as a source of knowledge, and founded a school of his own. And Prabhakara was a Namputiri of Kuttulli Illom at Sukapuram in British Malabar. The great Sankaracharya, who established the supremacy of the *Vedanta*, was born at Kalati near Alwaye in the Travancore State. His contemporary, the Chera emperor, popularly known as Cheraman Perumal, was one of the sixty-three *Nayanmars* or saints of South Indian *Saivism*, and his songs are sung during divine service in all Siva temples. At Tiruvanjikkulam, where he died, the day of his ascension is celebrated with great pomp and eclat. He possessed the miraculous gift of reading the thoughts of man, bird, and beast, for which reason he was known as *Kazharittarivar Nayanar* or the saint who knew the language of every creature that could make any sound. Another Chera emperor, Kulasekhara, who had lived before Cheraman Perumal, enjoys an honoured place in South Indian *Vaisnavism* as one of its

twelve Alvars or apostles. Songs from his *Nalayiraprabandham*, or collection of four thousand stanzas, are recited in all Vishnu temples even now. The contribution of Kerala to Buddhism and Buddhist philosophy has yet to be recovered by future research. In many a hill in this land of hills and valleys are found caves excavated by Buddhist and Jaina monks. There cannot be any doubt that Kerala's services to the religion of Sakya Muni must have been as great as to orthodox Hinduism; for at the beginning of the Christian era it was to Cranganur that Manimekhalai, the daughter of Kovalan, is said to have come to be enrolled in the Buddhist order. The genius of the people has transformed even Christian practice and Muhammadan law to suit their peculiar conditions.

Sanskrit Literature

Kerala's achievements in Sanskrit literature were on a par with her attainments in religion and philosophy. Nowhere else in India was Sanskrit studied with so much avidity both by man and woman. Kerala has the unique distinction of being the first to extend a knowledge of the language of the gods to those who did not belong to the sacerdotal caste. Its study was not also confined to the Hindus. The annual *Pattattanamams* at Calicut, originally intended to encourage the *Mimamsa* of Kumarila Bhatta and subsequently extended to *Prabhakara*, *Vyakarana*, *Vedanta*, and even *Ayurveda*, attracted learned men from far and wide, as did the assemblies of Janaka of Videha. Prizes, in the form of purses, were awarded only to original works. Even the famous devotee and poet, Meppattur Narayana Bhattatiri, who anticipated Bhattoji Dikshita's *Siddhanta Kavumudi*, had to wait for seven years before he was recognised as a *Vidvan* and admitted into the *Vidvalsadas* of Calicut.

Science

The great names in medicine, Charaka, Susruta, and Dhanvantari, belong to North India. But Kerala had her eighteen (now reduced to eight) families of hereditary physicians known as *Ashtavaidyans*. Some of their cures were miraculous. Though they generally followed the principles and traditions of the North Indian masters, they have also struck out new paths of their own, new methods which are not yet fully known in India beyond the Western Ghats. *Dhara*, *Pizhichal*, and *Uzhichal* for debility, blood pressure and rheumatism, are practised only in Kerala. Further, living in a land infested by snakes, the people had to build up a system for

the cure of snake-bite. In ancient days both incantation and medicine were employed. It is even said that the *Vishahari* could, by his magic power, bring the snake and make it suck up its own venom from the body of its human victim. At any rate the Namputiris of Pampumekkat seem even now to wield considerable influence over these denizens of the underworld, who freely move about the house like members of the family doing no harm even to strangers.

Exorcism

Malabar is famous for its *Mantrikans* or exorcists. The Malabar *Mantrikan* is very much in demand in Tamilnad. The families of Kallur and Kattumatam are believed to possess some control over the imps and devils that torment and harass us. Mental delusions and obsessions are generally attributed to them, and the Ezhuthachans of Chembra near Kuttipuram are famous for their skill in the cure of insanity.

Astrology

Physician, exorcist, and astrologer form an inseparable triad in Kerala. Through the stars are divined the nature of the affliction, the particular deities to be propitiated or the particular devils to be cast out, and even the particular persons who alone are capable of doing it. In fact the people of Kerala never did anything before discovering the will of God through the oracle of the village deity or, what is more easy, through the astrologer. The most famous of Kerala astrologers was the Pazhur Kanishans, whose predictions from his seat in his *Patippura*, or gate-house, had never been known to fail. The peculiar contribution of Kerala to astrology is the method of recording events and their dates in a single word or phrase through the *Ka-ta-pa-ya-di* system, in which each of the consonants stands for a certain number between one and nine.

Bharatanatyam

Lastly, in *Bharatanatyam* also Kerala has made its distinctive mark. The great Malayalam poet, Vallathol, has laid the whole of India under a deep debt of gratitude to him by reviving this ancient art and revealing it to the western world. The *mudras* and poses must have had their origin in temple worship and ritual. The necessity for protecting the mystic *mantra* from being overheard made them a peculiar feature of temple worship in Kerala. One of the Zamorins of Calicut, who was both a devotee and a poet,

introduced them in his *Krishnattam*, and a Rajah of Kottarakkara in his *Ramanattam*. Finally, the Rajah of Kottayam amplified Bharata's scheme and produced the inimitable *Kathakali*.

RESETTLEMENT NEWS

(Continued from page 20.)

The Municipality has been selected to house the Ex-servicemens' centre at Salem. Proceedings under the Land Acquisition Act have already been taken for acquiring the building for Salem Ex-servicemens' Centre.

The formation of the Motor Transport Co-operative Society at Salem, is in good progress. So far, 219 men have consented to become the members of the Society. Out of these, 112 members have already paid their share capital amounting to Rs. 25,422-12-0. This Society, to be formed soon, has got a bright future in the district.

North Arcot

Co-operative Land Colonisation Scheme.—Ten more persons have been admitted as members of the Society, the total admissions, so far, up to this date being 20.

Co-operative Workshops for Ex-servicemen, Metal and Timber Works, Katpadi.—The construction of one M and B shed is over and that of another is also almost complete. The first meeting of the Board of Directors was convened on 5th February, 1947, and the President was elected.

Motor Transport Co-operative Society for Ex-servicemen.—So far 64 persons have applied for membership in the Society. Out of them one has paid Rs. 500, 11 have paid Rs. 250 each, and the rest Rs. 50 each towards the share capital to become eligible for appointment as drivers. A site for the location of the transport stand has also been selected.

Anantapur

Two hundred and sixty-nine Ex-servicemen were allotted to several departments in the district of whom 30 have been placed in the Provincial departments. Result about placement of others is awaited from other heads of offices.

One thousand nine hundred and seventy-one men have so far been found employment in Tinnevely district. In South Arcot, the number of men placed during the last fortnight is 30.

The Philosophy of Basic Education

By R. VINAYAKAM, B.A., B.L.

(Assistant Development Commissioner, South)

'Nai Talim' is the new scheme of Basic National Education evolved by Mahatma Gandhi and approved of by the Indian National Congress as the future educational system for the country. The Sargent Scheme of the Government of India is also based on this, though with some modifications.

The Congress Governments in the provinces have now taken it up and adopted it in greater or lesser measure. Bihar, United Provinces and Bombay started work even during the time of the previous Congress Ministries in 1937, and have now many scores of Basic Schools in working order. Kashmir, a Native State, also adopted it in large measure from the beginning. Madras has just started with a training centre for Basic School teachers in Coimbatore district and another in Guntur district. Basic Education work by private institutions is also going on in our province. The Andhra Kasturba Fund are conducting a training centre for women teachers in Sitanagaram and the Tamil Nad Basic Education Society, a recognized branch of the Hindustani Talimi Sangh, has at present under its supervision about eight Basic Schools.

What is this Nai Talim or Basic Education? It owes its origin to Mahatma Gandhi who has been exercising his mind, from the beginning of his public life and in the midst of his many and arduous responsibilities, on the search for a truly national educational scheme, suited in its method and objective to the character and conditions of our people. In a rough and ready manner he had tried the essentials of the Basic Scheme even while he was doing teaching work in his Tolostoy Farm, South African Colony, in the early years of the present century. When, as a result of the Non-Co-operation Movement in 1920, he had to start his educational institutions in many parts of the country, these latter took on a definitely national bias, but followed the old scheme more or less in educational method. It was only in 1937 that he formulated the essentials of Nai Talim before a conference of national leaders and educationalists in Wardha. The Conference thereupon constituted a Committee to study and report on the details of a scheme based on his ideas, which report has now come to be called the Zakir Hussain Committee Report. Basic Education work that is now going on in many parts of the

country is based on the recommendations of this Committee.

Before considering the broad features of Nai Talim which came as a welcome substitute for the existing educational grind through which the youth of the country is passing, we should say a few words about the latter. All our top ranking leaders and our most distinguished educationalists are unanimous in condemning the present educational system as wooden and outmoded, backward and unsuited to the needs and spirit of the times. It arose out of a narrow administrative need of the British Government established in India, to man their clerical and administrative services. Its educational content is wrong; its method is mediaeval; it robs the youths of all self-reliance, initiative and sense of responsibility.

But the main body of our educationists, while they seem to agree with all these charges, are content to tinker with the problem here and there. This has gone on too long and we have reached a stage when, unless there is a radical reshaping of the educational system, the very vitals of our nation will be affected.

Nai Talim has come therefore none too soon. Its first canon, that all education, from the lowest to the highest, should be imparted through the mother tongue, has gained acceptance at all hands, and, to a large extent, is in practice. It is only in Higher Education, in Colleges and Universities, that the logical step of vernacularizing the medium of instruction has not been taken everywhere. It is too late in the day to urge on the indispensability of imparting instruction in the mother tongue at all stages. It is the thing to be done, and if only our college professors and Vice Chancellors, in the wake of the Zamia Millia Islamia, the Osmania University and the Nagpur University, took courage in their hands and started it, they would be only doing what is done in all other countries in the world.

The second canon of Nai Talim is that education should be imparted through the physical and mental activity of the pupil in the form of craft work. This too has found favour in the eyes of progressive educationists all over the world. Teaching, that is rousing the physical and mental potentialities of the child, through the medium of a book, defeats the purpose. Such a method

forces a child to a passive state, most unnatural and most harmful for the development of body and mind. The senses are the fine tendrils of the human body and the mind is the flowering out of the senses. Should not education therefore start from physical activity, go on to exercising the senses and then enrich the mind? How could printed matter do this job? Is not a craft through all the manifold processes which the pupil joyfully passes, the ideal medium for development of body and mind? The Hon'ble Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar said recently that education must be founded on the joy of the child. Is not putting the child on a craft work suited to its age and growth, the ideal method?

Education through craft should again be distinguished from book education plus instruction in a craft, such as is done in the old schools. In Nai Talim, the craft takes the place of the book and all instruction in the subjects, sciences, language, social studies, etc., is correlated to the daily craft work.

But Nai Talim is not merely the activity method. The activity medium is confined here to one craft chosen with due regard to its educative possibilities. The child going through all its processes one after another gets a training in integration and organization such as miscellaneous items of activity can never impart. Through a single craft, the child is also put through a drill of physical and mental work which is very necessary for its development.

The craft chosen should also, if widely practised, be of use to the community. It should therefore be one which caters to the essential needs of human beings such as spinning and weaving, gardening and agriculture, carpentry and house-building, etc. The social and economic effects of this condition in craft selection should be realised. It ensures in increasing measure the voluntary and automatic liquidation of all unnecessary barriers in the community like rich and poor, high and low, skilled and unskilled, which are the root of all social exploitation and individual misery.

The third canon of Nai Talim is that the products of the pupils at school should be assessed at commodity value and an honest attempt be made to see that the income from this source is enough to pay the salary of the teacher. This principle has been and continues to be the target on which all critics of Nai Talim turn their wrath. On this score it has been castigated as child slavery, and exploitation of the teacher, etc. We must first remove one or two misapprehensions that have crept into the consideration of this subject. It is not said that salaries of the teacher

should tally, willy nilly, with the sale value of the school products. We have only to attempt to make education self-supporting on this basis. If after honest and strenuous efforts this is not found possible, Mahatma Gandhi and the Hindustani Talimi Sangh would be ready to modify or reject it. But a refusal to accept even a trial shows an unscientific and frightened attitude which is not conducive to progress. Nor is it the intention of the exponents of Nai Talim that the teachers of basic schools should be left for their living to the vagaries and uncertainties involved in the sale of school products. Their salaries would be as secure and payment as prompt as for any others. They only insist that in assessing the work of the pupils and his progress as well as the efficiency of the school, the produce income should be an important consideration.

And why should it not be? The school is indeed not a workshop where maximum production is the objective. It is a training ground for developing human faculties where the training is to be through a craft; what better method can there be to assess the progress of the training? If a pupil is to work at a craft and his products not to be valued, how could he get any training? Even where training, and not production, is the objective education through craft work becomes way-ward and frivolous; it can never properly exercise the body, or train the senses or develop the mind. Even to-day, in spite of pronounced disabilities, the village artisan is, on the whole, much smarter, physically and mentally, than the University graduate. Why should it be?

Besides, critics fail to see that though the present system is condemned on all hands, no workable, practical alternative, capable of universal adoption in the near future, has yet been offered. Then why not give a trial to these principles?

Apart from these principles, the chief merit of Nai Talim is that it is education for life; it is not a mere passport to a job and a wasting of your faculties in the process. The present educational system has reduced our educated youth to the position of automatons. Nai Talim brings us fresh hope. It not only trains our faculties but equips us to a life of responsibility, independence and self respect. Joy and activity are ensured to the pupil, and proper citizenship in a free and equal community ensured after education. It is with this objective that the curriculum, method and school organization in a basic school are evolved. An organic link between the school and the community, such as could never be dreamed of in the older schools, is evolved by the very method and objective of Nai Talim.

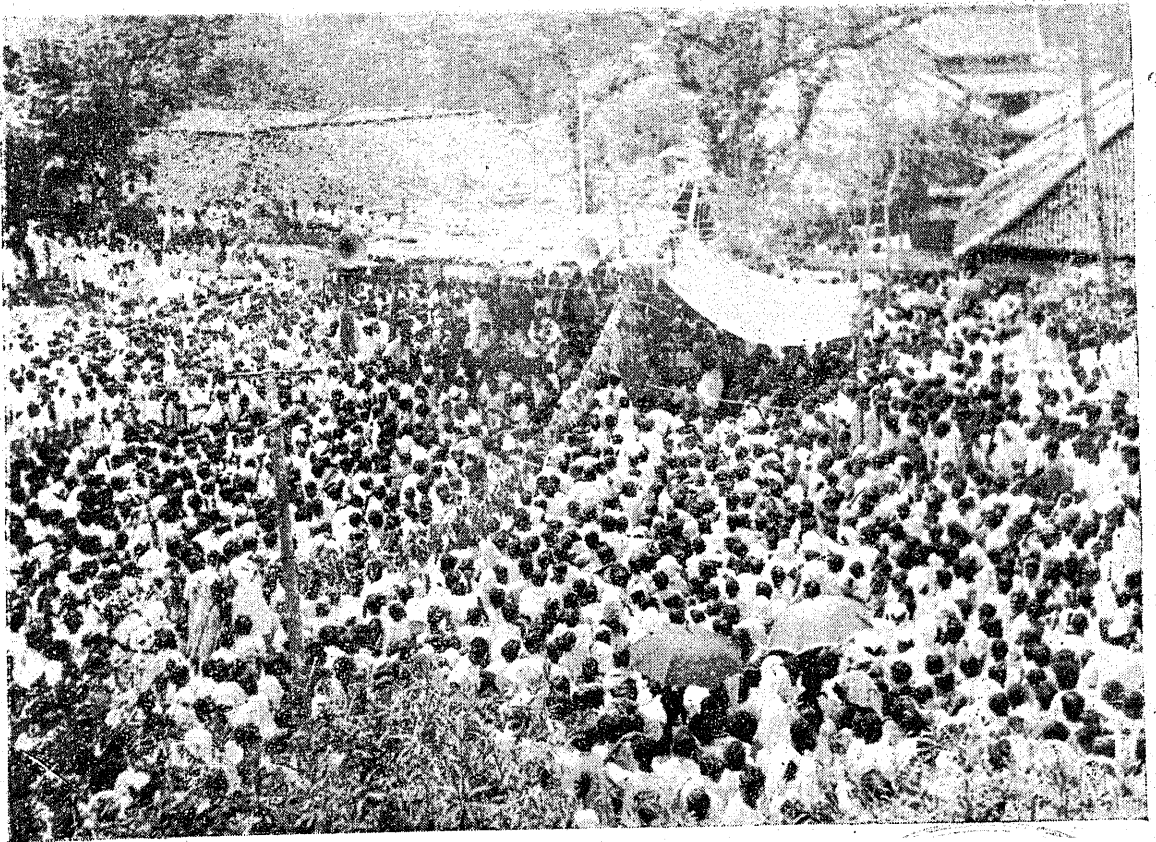
Prime Minister's Tour in Telugu Districts

Government's Ameliorative Schemes Explained

(From our Special Correspondent)

In a tour extending over nearly 800 miles, the Hon'ble the Premier of Madras covered between 20th and 25th February 1947, six districts, viz., Nellore, Guntur, Kistna, West Godavari, East Godavari and Vizagapatam and addressed nearly 50 big public meetings besides innumerable smaller wayside gatherings. Some of the biggest public gatherings of recent years, according to local people, were held at Nellore, Bezwada, Guntur, Rajahmundry, Cocanada, Anakapalle, Vizagapatam and Vizianagram. At almost everyone of these meetings the Premier explained the important ameliorative and nation-building schemes of the Madras Government. Particular emphasis was laid on the Khadi Development

scheme and the establishment of a separate Khadi department to work out that scheme. The Khadi policy of the Government, he pointed out, was formulated in accordance with the advice tendered by Gandhiji while Mr. Kripalani, the Congress President, has accorded his full support to it in the course of a letter to the Hon'ble the Premier. Referring to the controversy about the cancellation of spindles allotted to Madras, the Hon'ble the Premier said that the Government were fortified in their view that they could surrender the spindles and stop expansion of the mills by the legal opinion of the Advocate-Genera, which was sought at the instance of Gandhiji himself.



At Ellore

Government Schemes Explained

Among other points mentioned by the Hon'ble the Premier, one pertained to the producers-*cum*-consumers' co-operative societies scheme, the implications of which were explained. Throughout the world, he pointed out, co-operation was regarded as the one method by which great good was derived by the common people. The scheme sponsored by the Madras Government aimed at eliminating profiteering middle-man in the purchase and distribution of essential commodities and to benefit the common man. The popularity acquired by the scheme during the short period it has been tried in the four Andhra districts, is evidenced from the fact that 170 societies of the new type have been registered so far and a share-capital of 130 lakhs has been subscribed. The Hon'ble the Premier assured the public that it was not the Government's intention to ruin the merchants or the moneyed people. It was fully realized by them that they had the responsibility for safeguarding the interests of every section of the people and when the Government's schemes were fully developed ample opportunities would be available to the rich and the moneyed people for beneficial investment of their savings which would contribute to the prosperity of the country.

Estates Land Act Bill

Explaining the implications of the Estates Land Act Amendment Bill, the Hon'ble the Premier pointed out that the Bill should have been passed even during the previous Congress regime but as circumstances conspired against it, it could not be done and the Ministry went out of office leaving the matter undecided. Relief for the ryots in the Zamindari areas was, however, essential and could not be denied or delayed any further and the Bill now proposed to be introduced in the Legislature would afford them such relief pending implementation of the policy of the Zamindari abolition. The relief to the ryots would come in the shape of an immediate reduction of rents and such reduction would also be advantageous to the extent that it would facilitate a corresponding reduction in the amount of compensation that will have to be paid to the Zamindars when Zamindaris are actually abolished.

Referring to Prohibition, the Hon'ble the Premier explained that even at the risk of losing a considerable amount of revenue, which would come up nearly to 10 crores of rupees, the Government had decided to extend prohibition to eight more districts in addition to the eight districts

in which it was introduced last year. When this is done nearly 2/3 of the province will go dry and the people of these districts will be in a position to benefit from the stoppage of the drink evil.

Anti-corruption Measures

At the public meeting at Nellore, a question was asked about the prevalence of corruption and black-marketing and what the Government were doing about it. The Hon'ble the Premier, in reply, pointed out that corruption was such a long-standing and deep-rooted evil in this country that it would take time to eradicate it completely. The Government have appointed a special staff to investigate into cases of complaint about corruption on the part of officials and when the results of these investigations are published, the public would realize what has been done and what is being done in the matter of suppressing corruption.

The tour was on the whole a great success and the people heard directly from the Hon'ble the Premier what the Government have been doing for them and the various schemes and the potentialities for good inherent in the various schemes adumbrated by them. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister also referred to the one crore of rupees set apart for Harijan uplift work and stated that schemes for spending that money on the amelioration of the Harijan community are being worked out.

BALANCED DIET

(Continued from page 23).

will be destroyed and other values also. Do you cook meat and eggs at too high a temperature? If so, you may be coagulating the proteins so that they won't digest easily. Do you allow a scum to form on top of your milk? If so, don't throw it away as it contains protein and calcium that you need badly. Do you cook your cereals and grams long enough? If so, you are improving their nutritional value as they are more completely and easily digested. Do you buy only fresh vegetables and fruits? If so, you are getting the best value. Withered and dried up vegetables and fruits result in a heavy loss of vitamins.

Remember that proper cooking is as important as choice of foods in the choosing of a balanced diet.

—DOROTHY M. PEARSON.

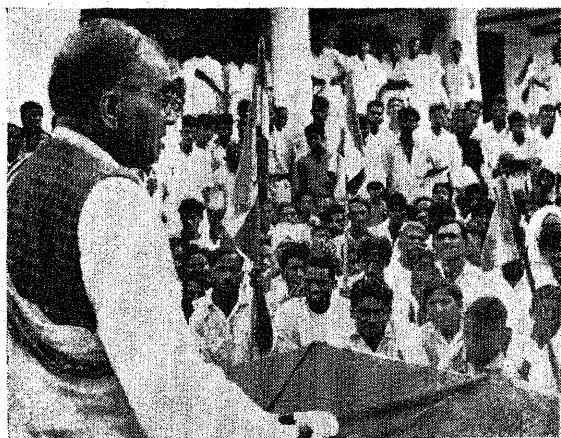
Premier Prakasam's Tour in Andhradesa



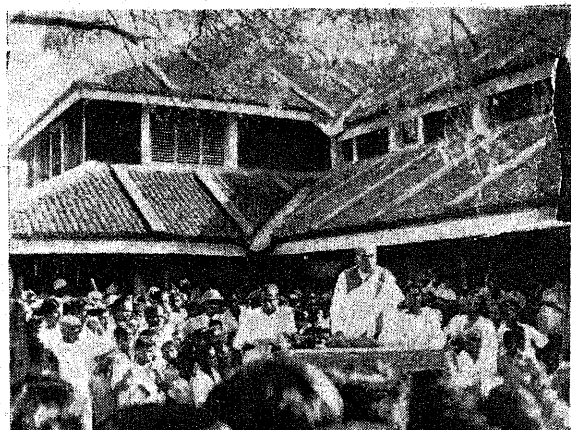
At a way side gathering



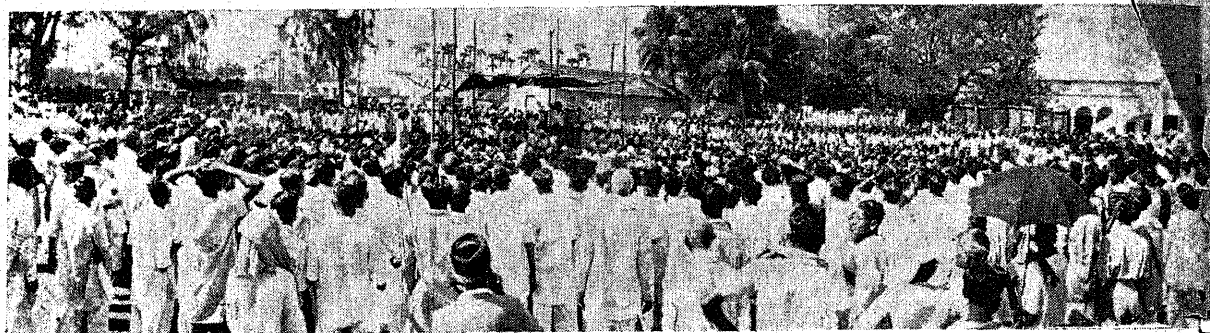
At Vuygur



At Vuygur



At Kavali



At Cocanada

